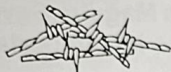


# SAOIRSE



## IRISH FREEDOM

UIMH. 2 MEITHEAMH — JUNE 1987

20p

### RADICAL VOTE INCREASES IN 26 Cos.

In spite of RTE's Section 31 ban and a complete black-out by the newspapers, Republican Sinn Féin took an active part in the campaign against the Single European Act, putting up 5,000 posters, distributing 100,000 leaflets, canvassing and holding public meetings.

Republican Sinn Féin is gratified that in the short time available and against the combined forces and resources of all the main political parties together with EEC agencies official and unofficial, the basic radical vote in the 26 counties has increased by 113,000 from 212,000 on a poll of 71% in 1972 to 324,977 on a much lower poll of 44% in 1987.

Similarly, and in general terms, the pro-EEC vote has shrunk from 1,060,000 to 755,425 in the same period.

The four major parties who campaigned for a "Yes" vote and claimed 95% of representation have been shown to have secured only 31% of those entitled to vote.

#### Alternative Politics

The emergence of a substantial radical vote of 324,977 in a period of clear disillusionment with Leinster House politics points towards a widespread desire for the development of an alternative kind of politics.

Clare Republican Sinn Féin were extremely active and addressed after Mass meetings on the weekend before the poll. The highlight was a public meeting in the Square, Ennis, on Saturday, May 23 at the height of the Fleadh Nua organised by Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann.

A packed audience heard Cathaoirleach Michael Hegarty, Clarecastle introduce  
(To Page 3)



What has changed since the Hillsborough Deal? RUC baton mourners at Finbar McKenna's funeral on May 6 last.

#### BODENSTOWN 1987

Sunday June 14

Assemble: Sallins Field 2.30pm

Óráid: Pat Ward, Donegal

Cathaoir: Liam Cotter, Kerry

Eagar: Peter Cunningham, Dublin

Contact 21, Shaw Street or your local paper seller for details of buses.

#### Céilí Dinnéar

Republican Testimonial  
in honour of

Katie B. Keaney — Connacht

Seán Keenan — Ulster

Mike O'Neill — Munster

Ned Gargan — Leinster

Joe Stynes — USA

Saturday June 13, 1987

West County Hotel

8pm to 1am

Éamonn Ceannt Céilí Band

Dinner 9pm sharp

Táille £10.50

#### Westminster Election

The following press statement on Republican Sinn Féin's attitude to the upcoming election in the Six Counties was drafted at a meeting of Comhairle Uladh on May 17 and approved by An Bord Oifigeach of RSF on May 22.

1. Republican Sinn Féin will not be availing of the current Westminster Election to put forward candidates to an All-Ireland Parliament. Neither will Republican Sinn Féin be supporting any other candidates or party in this election.

2. At this time and particularly in the aftermath of the Loughgall killings, we reiterate once more that "we uphold the historic right of the Irish people to use whatever degree of controlled and disciplined force is necessary in resisting

(To Page 8)

# British Injustice

"In October 1985, after a World in Action TV programme, the Home Secretary ordered a review of our case — the case of the Birmingham Six. In November last, Tom Clarke, a former Birmingham City police officer came forward with new evidence which substantiated our claim that we were subjected to mental and physical torture at the hands of Birmingham police. Still, the Home Secretary dithered on making a decision on our case.

Finally in January this year — a full 15 months after the first TV programme — Douglas Hurd referred our case to the Court of Appeal. We were not totally satisfied with this decision or the length of time it took to reach it. But, owing to the political climate in this country (with regard to Irish cases) and the fact that there is involved the reputation of the police and judiciary, we considered that we were fortunate (though we are innocent) to receive even that much from the Home Secretary.

Now we have been given the date for our appeal. It won't take place until next November. This is more than two years after Douglas Hurd first ordered a review. It is the equivalent of a three-year prison sentence.

And in the event of the Court of Appeal granting us a retrial, it is our understanding that we could have to wait for up to a further year for the new trial to take place.

We believe that this is a political decision — prompted by the fact that there is likely to be this year a June or October general election. So our appeal has been shunted back until November.

Justice is supposed to transcend religious and political boundaries, but as the Maguires, the Guildford Four and ourselves testify, this is certainly not the case. After 12 years in prison, we feel we have suffered enough and to prolong this suffering for a further year or 18 months is inhuman. It is contrary to Douglas Hurd's announcement when he assured the House of Commons that our case would be dealt with urgently.

Because of this double-dealing, we have now instructed our solicitors to make an application for bail. But, if past actions are anything to go by, we don't hold out much hope in the application succeeding"

**Gerry Hunter  
Richard McLkenny  
Billy Power  
John Walker  
Paddy Hill  
Hugh Callaghan  
LONG LARTIN PRISON,  
SOUTH LITTLETON,  
EVESHAM,  
WORCESTERSHIRE.**

First published in 'The Irish Post' on April 4, 1987.

**In the light of the increased public awareness of the framing of the Birmingham Six, the Guildford Four and the Maguire Seven by the British legal system in the mid-Seventies it is important that the plight of Judith Ward be exposed.**

**Currently the longest serving woman prisoner jailed for political offences arising out of the war in the Six counties, it has been evident from her conviction in November 1974 that she was an innocent and disturbed woman caught up in the wave of anti-Irish hysteria in England at the time.**

Born and reared in Stockport, Cheshire, Judith worked in Ravensdale, Co. Louth between 1965 and 1971 at a riding stable. Said to be a shy, withdrawn young woman, she suddenly joined the British Army on her return to England. Six months later she went AWOL and returned to the Dundalk area where she tried to associate with Republicans.

According to those who met her she showed signs of being emotionally unbalanced — a person who 'desperately wanted to be accepted'. Sinn Féin in Dublin at that time refused to accept her as a member and she returned to London in August 1973.

Judith Ward was arrested a short while later for shouting abuse at police following a bomb explosion at Euston station — a policeman later said that 'she seemed to be inviting arrest'. The police soon released her. It transpired at her trial later that she had confessed to an RUC special branch man in September 1972 to helping the "Official IRA" bomb Aldershot barracks in that year. She had also been let go in this instance, again obviously because her claims were not taken seriously.

## Discredited Forensic Test

Ten days after the M62 motorway bombing of a British Army coach in February 1974 she was picked up in Liverpool docks waiting for a boat to Belfast. Forensic tests by the now-discredited Dr. Frank Skuse proved positive, as they did a few months later when the Birmingham Six were examined by Skuse. He has since retired following a TV expose which showed that contact with items such as plastic-coated playing cards could also give positive results to the explosive test.

Two days after her arrest, Judith Ward signed a statement admitting carrying out the bombing. She claimed she was the girlfriend of Captain Michael McVerry from South Armagh. Police enquiries proved she could not have planted the bomb and she then admitted to delivering the bomb and to

planting another one at a British Army Officers' college in Buckinghamshire two days before her arrest.

A witness later proved that she was in Cardiff when the latter explosion took place. At the trial the only evidence was her statements, which she had later repudiated, and the forensic tests. The prosecution tried to cover up the discrepancies in her admission by stating that: '*In some of her statements she is lying and in some she is telling the truth*'.

The IRA denied that she was ever involved and suggested that she needed medical treatment. However, further explosions in Guildford while the trial was on resulted in a travesty verdict of guilty. She received 12 life sentences plus ten years as a 'Category A' (top security) prisoner.

## Health Danger

Since then she has been in Durham, a Victorian prison condemned by women's groups for its effect on non-political prisoners. Aine Nic Giolla Easpaig, who served almost ten years with her, has testified to her innocence and to the increasing dangers to her physical and mental health. Judith Ward should be immediately moved to a more humane and open prison and her wrongful conviction should be fought by all concerned people in Britain and Ireland. Only by mobilising public opinion and thereby exposing the British establishment to world attention and condemnation for her human rights violations can this be achieved.

## Comhbhrón

The National Organising Committee expresses sincere sympathy with Maurice Dowling, Mounthawk, Tralee, Co. Kerry, on the recent death of his uncle, Tom.  
Solas na bhFiaitheas dá anam.

## Dublin May Draw

£100: Patrick Patchell, Tallaght; £50: M. Ua Ceallaigh, Finglas; £25: Wolfe Tone Cumann, Tallaght; £5: Jim Stapleton c/o Wolfe Tone Cumann

## Leabhar

# Interned in Wales

**FRONGOCH**  
**University of Revolution**  
 by Seán O Mahony  
 FDR, Dublin. £5.95

"If the execution of the leaders was a major mistake by the British in their reaction to the rebellion, the second major mistake was Frongoch."

What and Where was Frongoch? To many Irish people the name means nothing, especially those young people who have grown up in the generation since 1966 when our establishment began to 'revise' the national struggle to suit their contemporary political ideas.

Originally a German POW internment camp, situated in North Wales, it was quickly converted to house over 1800 Irishmen rounded up after the Easter Rising. It was in operation from June 9 to December 23, 1916 when the remaining internees were released amid a blaze of publicity.

In this book, the story of the internment camp, its 'graduates' and the important consequences which flowed from its operation are told.

It should surprise us in 1987 to realise that no major study has been undertaken of Frongoch in the 71 years since it was opened. Seán O Mahony has filled the gap in this respect and provides a comprehensive and detailed account of seven crucial months in Irish revolutionary history.

From the conflict between the civilian General Council and the IRA military staff who superceded them to the everyday routine of camp-life the author builds up a

convincing and probably definitive picture of Ireland's Republican leadership 'behind the wire'.

The constant battle with the British is described with the recurrent creaming-off of any emergent leadership in Frongoch to other prisons, the better to control the remaining detainees.

The 'battle for the hearts and minds' at home is illustrated well by the reference to the professional classes in Ireland who were increasingly subscribing to the various prisoners' funds.

The importance of Frongoch to the author is summed up concisely in the foreword. It operated as the first All Ireland Republican Convention and fashioned an army of national liberation.

Secondly the re-organisation of the IRB inside the camp had major implications for the revolution and counter-revolution that followed. Finally de facto political status was won by the Irish POWs in Frongoch and the policy of Republican prisoners towards their captors from that time on was formulated.

Founded on an exhaustive body of primary-archival and secondary-published material, as well as photographs, sketches, paintings, maps, photostats of documents, biographical notes and a county breakdown by name of 1,804 prisoners from all 32 counties of Ireland, this book is one to have and to treasure. Frongoch, for its part, has found its historian.

— Ruairí Ó Conchúir

**N.B. Sean O Mahony will be present at Bodenstown to autograph copies on June 14.**

## RADICAL VOTE INCREASES

(From Page 1)

Máirtín Calligan, Kilmurry/MacMahon and Urlabhraí Ruairí Ó Brádaigh as the speakers.

Máirtín Calligan stated that at a time when hospital wards and schools were being cut back the 26 County government could afford to build a new Garda barracks in Galway costing £1 million and another new one in Ennis. They could also suddenly put new uniforms on the backs of 11,000 Gardaí.

In Cavan "EEC No" and "SEA No" slogans appeared on "dead" walls and roads throughout the county.

The high turnout of 40% 'No' votes in Kerry North was due in no small measure to an energetic Republican Sinn Féin leafletting and poster campaign.

A house-to-house leafletting campaign in the cities of Limerick, Cork, Galway and Dublin over a ten-day period established a distinctive voice for Republican Sinn Féin

as the only serious political party calling for a 'No' vote with a 26-County wide distribution of our own leaflets and posters.

The strong 'No' turnout and the fact that only 44% voted was a serious cause of worry to the establishment parties and media. The *Irish Independent* on May 27 said the turnout 'indicates a growing disenchantment here with the EEC'.

The high 'No' vote, up to 50% in the constituencies of Dublin Central, North-West and South-West as well as in Cork North-Central highlighted the dissatisfaction of the urban working classes with the political establishment.

The Organising Committee of Republican Sinn Féin extends deepest sympathy to Leo and Gobnait Dúignan on the recent death of their son, Dr. Patrick Naoise.

## RSF UNDER ATTACK

During the first fortnight in May several members of Republican Sinn Féin in the Leitrim — Fermanagh border area were subjected to a co-ordinated series of raids which underlines the continuing abject collaboration between the Dublin government and occupying forces in Ireland.

At 8am on May 6 Seosamh Ó Gallchóir, Rúnaí Chomhairle Chonnacht, was raided at his home in Kinlough and arrested under the Offences against the State Act. He was taken to Manorhamilton Barracks.

Across the border in Belcoo, Co. Fermanagh Patsy Magee and his family were the targets. A British helicopter made five journeys ferrying troops on to his land and when a complete cordon was established, the RUC raided the house for two hours reading documents, bank statements and private letters. Mrs. Magee is a first cousin of Pat Kelly from Dungannon, killed by British forces at Loughgall on May 8.

When they left the family discovered a dugout used by British undercover troops fifty yards from the house.

Also in the first week in May the house and farm of Tom Keane, Cashel, Garrison, Co. Fermanagh received similar treatment.

On May 12 Michael Lavelle's house in Donagh, Co. Fermanagh was raided by British forces and he was arrested under Section 11 of the Emergency Provisions Act. After being taken to Gough Barracks, Armagh, he was interrogated for a day and a half.

## I gCuimhne

**Ahern, Tony — 14th Anniversary**

In proud memory of Volunteer Tony Ahern, Cork Command Óglaigh na hÉireann, who was killed in action at Roslea, Co. Fermanagh, on May 10, 1973. Always remembered by Cork Comhairle Ceantair Republican Sinn Féin.

**Crowley, Dermot — 14th Anniversary**

In proud memory of Volunteer Dermot Crowley, Cork Command Óglaigh na hÉireann, who was killed on active service in County Fermanagh on June 25, 1973. Always remembered by Cork Comhairle Ceantair Republican Sinn Féin.

## Comhbhrón

The National Organising Committee of Republican Sinn Féin extends deepest sympathy to the families of Volunteers

Jim Lynagh, Monaghan  
 Pádraig McKearney, The Moy, Co. Tyrone  
 Pat Kelly, Dungannon  
 Eugene Kelly, Cappagh  
 Gerard O'Callaghan, Benburb  
 Declan Arthurs, Galbally  
 Seamus Donnelly, Galbally  
 Tony Gormley, Cappagh

I measc laochra na nGael go raibh a n-anam uasal.

Deepest sympathy is also sent to the family of Anthony Hughes, Caledon, Co. Tyrone on his tragic death.

Gabhann Sinn Féin Poblachtach comhbhrón lena n-aois ar fad.

# A Europe of Peop

Republican Sinn Féin was represented by spokesperson Ruairí Ó Brádaigh at a convention for the national independence of Catalonia held in Barcelona on March 14 and 15 last.

Catalonia has a history of struggle for independence against the centralised Spanish state. Its language, Catalan, was suppressed by Franco but is in daily usage by more than 60% of its 6,000,000 inhabitants.

The conference focused on the failure of the limited "Home Rule" granted by Madrid to meet Catalan aspirations. The situation of Catalonia is politically parallel to that of the Basques.

Fraternal salutations were conveyed to the conference by Robert Davezies, a worker-priest from Paris who spent four years in a French jail because he assisted the cause of Algerian independence during the 1954-62 struggle. He was also prominent in Paris in his support for the Irish hunger-strikes in 1980-81.

Ruairí Ó Brádaigh's address to the conference of several hundred people was warmly received. Catalans regard Ireland as a "sister country" because of historical similarities and Barcelona has a street called after Terence MacSwiney just as several in France are named in honour of Bobby Sands and his comrades.

"*The Irish Experience and Some Comparisons with Catalonia*" was the title of the Republican Sinn Féin lecture, a summary of which is as follows:

A Chomrádaithe, a chairde,

Tá sé de phribhléid agam a bheith mar aoí agus mar chainteoir agaibh anseo inniu thar cheann na muintire atá i gcoimhlint i gcoinne an Impiriúlachais in Éirinn, thar cheann Shinn Féin Poblachtach. Tá an dá thír, Éire agus an

## Ruairí Ó Brádaigh addresses Convention for National Independence in Barcelona

Chatalún snaidhmithe le chéile le fada an lá — deirfiúracha sa troid a tugadh ortha 70 bliain ó shoin.

Coinníodh muid an ceangal stairiúil eadrainn agus déanaimis é níos láidre agus muid ar bhóthar mór achrannach na saoirse.

The Irish patriot, Robert Emmet, on being condemned to death by an English court at the beginning of the 19th century told those who sentenced him that his spirit would not rest until Ireland "took her place among the nations of the earth".

### From the Atlantic to the Urals

Similarly, I take it that the theme of this week-end's conference, "Catalunya, nou estat Europeu" means that Catalonia can only find her destiny in complete control of her own affairs — not as a region of a greater Spanish state — but on taking her own place in a Europe "from the Atlantic ocean to the Ural mountains", to use a famous phrase, and also as follows naturally, on the world scene.

Catalonia has much to say to Europe and to the world, not least through her rich and vibrant culture, which would, on her formal admission to the international circle of

nations, contribute so much to that great diversity of cultures which enriches mankind.

The Irish experience of struggle to regain national independence is centuries-old and perhaps some lessons may be learned from it. It took more than 400 years from the first invasion of Ireland by the Anglo-Normans in the 12th century to subdue the whole island.

Wave after wave of colonists from England were assimilated into the Irish way of life and became in the expression of the time "ipsis Hibernicis Hiberniores" — more Irish than the Irish themselves. Such processes were specifically forbidden by English law.

However, following the full conquest of the island by the Tudor dynasty and the Protestant Reformation, the dispossession of native Irish and Anglo-Irish alike from the land and large-scale colonisation, especially in Ulster in the 17th century, defied absorption into Irish culture. Perhaps there are lessons here for Catalans.

It should be emphasised that such invasions and colonisation was resisted at every stage down the centuries and that whenever they considered themselves strong enough the Irish engaged in armed struggle to regain their freedom.

**Following on the American and French revolutions the Irish movement for independence was modernised with the adoption of the new ideas and the struggle took on a democratic and republican dimension.**

The 20th century saw the whole people in revolt against English rule which in turn was met by counter-revolution at the instigation of the English ruling class. Ireland was divided into an old colony in the North-East under direct British rule and a neo-colonial state in the South with formal independence but continued social, economic and cultural domination from England. A bitter civil war enforced this alternative to national independence in all its aspects.

Not alone did the Peace Settlement of 1921 not deliver peace to Ireland — the cycles of violence and repression increased in intensity and in frequency. The working class in the North was divided by giving a marginal economic privilege to the descendants of the old colonists, identified on the basis of religious affiliation. Religion is used by imperialism in Ireland in the same way as differences of colour, tribe



# ples

and region are used elsewhere. Both sections are exploited in turn but at different levels.

The experience of the new state in the South — a classic neo-colonial situation — is surely of interest to Catalans. From the outset and to this very day it has collaborated fully and totally with the British occupation forces in the North of Ireland, culminating in the extradition of political prisoners to the British in the 1980s.

This process was formalised in the "Anglo-Irish Agreement" of November 1985 when in return for the full integration of Southern Irish forces into the British repression of the liberation struggle, the Dublin government was given an **advisory role** in administering the North but no part in decision-making, i.e. responsibility without power.

Economically the neo-colonial state has failed completely. Tariff-barriers and state investment were attempted in the 1930s and 1940s; foreign capital was invited in and a free-trade area established with England in the 1950s and 1960s. Full membership of the EEC was sought and obtained in the 1970s, yet social and economic disintegration is at hand.

Public debt is now £24 billion, most of it owed to foreign bankers. All of the income tax raised is used to pay the interest on this. Unemployment is at 20% and emigration has resumed — mainly on the basis of illegal entry to the United States. Collaboration with the British, especially along the frontier, is costing £1 million per day and increasing.

## Total National Reconstruction

Irish mineral wealth is exported in raw ore to the EEC. There is no smelting, which would double the value and no fabrication, which would multiply it by four again. Ireland has 25% of the fishing waters of the EEC yet is allowed to take only 4% of the total catch. The Irish merchant shipping company — a state agency — was disbanded in 1984 due to mismanagement. If necessary we must leave the EEC in order to have total national reconstruction of our under-developed economy based on our land, fisheries, re-afforestation and minerals, etc.

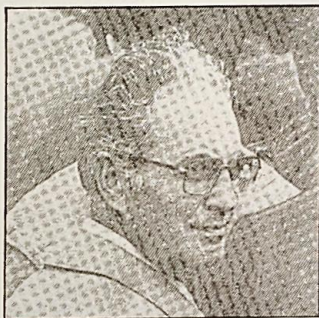
Culturally, we have become a wasteland, sandwiched in the Anglo-Saxon way of life, in what is called "Mid-Atlantic culture". The state-monopoly television and radio give less than 2.5% of air-time to Irish language and culture. Activists in the cause of the language go to prison regularly because they refuse as a protest to pay the licence fee.

In the schools, Irish has in most cases ceased to be a medium of instruction. The language is now treated as just another school subject. The progress made in this

## The Irish Experience and some Comparisons with Catalonia

connection up to the 1950s has been systematically reversed ever since. As foreign capital made increasing inroads into the Irish economy, so did the position of the language restoration deteriorate.

At this juncture, Catalans may well ask why has our language been lost to the great majority of the Irish people? The overthrow of the Gaelic social order by the Tudor conquest did not destroy the language but the final defeat of the Jacobite cause in the mid-18th century made for abandonment of hope because of misplaced trust in the Scottish Stuarts.



Ruairi Ó Bradaigh

The espousal of the English language by Irish reformist and constitutional politicians in the 19th century and the Great Potato Famine — or in truth the Starvation and Genocide of our people — in the 1840s and the consequent exodus to English-speaking North America hastened the decline. The number of native speakers on the western seaboard fringe of our country is now less than 5% of total population but very many others born to English have a competent knowledge of Irish. The language and culture must have in Ireland, as in Catalonia and in the case of all nationalities struggling for liberation, a central role.

**This is recognised in the North of Ireland where the language is progressing. The only daily newspaper entirely in the Irish language named "Lá" (the day) is published in Belfast. We in Ireland, we must confess, are very envious of the strength of Catalan culture. In Barcelona ten years ago an encyclopaedia in Catalan was produced. With a government in Dublin since 1922 there is as yet no encyclopaedia in the Irish language.**

In Wales our Celtic cousins have a stronger cultural position too, but then they did not suffer from systematic colonisation

as did the Irish. And the Welsh reformed churches gave Welsh a full place in their affairs, something that could not be said of the Roman Catholic Church in Ireland — a very powerful force.

But even in Wales the first decade of television 1961-1971 reduced Welsh speakers from 30% to 20% of the population. But the Welsh fought back through agitation and hunger-strike until they forced from the London government an all-Welsh language television channel.

Further, Catalans may ask of the Irish why the necessity for armed struggle? For one thing our deficiency in the cultural sphere and our weakness socially and economically demands that the situation be brought to crisis point in the short-term and not over a period of several generations. It is historically necessary in our case; and we acknowledge that your tradition is a peaceful one. We agree with and support your aim of independence but we would not presume to tell you what methods to use in order to achieve it.

One aspect we would underline, however. There is no connection between the Irish armed struggle and the Red Brigade in Italy, the Red Army Faction in Germany, Action Directe in the French state or Grappo in the Spanish state. They are totally different from the armed struggle for national liberation of the Basques, the Palestinians and the Corsicans. In point of fact, the European states have used the opportunity afforded by the actions of the former groups to repress and extradite national liberation forces who have the genuine mass support of their populations.

## Build on Firm Foundations

In addition, we would point to the developments on many fronts over 50 years which brought the whole people of Ireland to a crescendo of struggle from 1916 to 1921. First there was the successful agrarian struggle against the landlords imposed by England. Then the great organisation to foster Irish games was founded and is now the largest amateur sports body in the world.

Following on that came the cultural and literary revival, the break-through to intellectual freedom, the building of national self-respect and finally the labour strikes and struggles — all of which united for the final confrontation with British rule.

What is needed then in Catalonia is to build securely on firm foundations. A many-

# A Europe of Peoples

(From Page 5)

sided approach is appropriate but beware of being drawn into and weakened by the institutions implanted by the opposing power.

If you wish to be a state, you must act accordingly. No one will give you national sovereignty. You must think of yourselves as a state and build the organs of statehood within the status quo.

For instance, a separate Irish Trade Union Congress was established as early as 1894. Later Irish-based unions were formed. As the native organs of state grow within the old order, they will eventually burst it — as the chicken bursts the eggshell. Above all else, it is courage and conviction which are required. Think of the Irish hunger-strikers, Bobby Sands and his comrades that the Thatcher government allowed to die. Think of your own President Lluís Companys who made the supreme sacrifice before the firing squad here on Mont Juich in 1940.

Courage then, and a parallel development among the other nationalities

of Europe and the strengthening of the non-aligned movement of Third World Peoples against the superpowers East and West. Without changes in the political geography of Europe, the small nationalities cannot come into their own and remain in charge of their own destinies.

A Europe of peoples must be the aim, rather than a Europe of the existing states. Courage, then, and build. Long live the sister nations of Ireland and Catalunya! May their peoples advance and build a future which will be a shining example to the world in its achievements in justice and the dignity of man.

Visca Catalunya i Irlanda Lliures!

## Guess Who?

Included in the various begging-letters to a Republican Sinn Féin local councillor during the 26 County Senate elections in March was the following snippet:

"I know that in the Senate he will be available to render assistance to all these people like yourself who are struggling to achieve justice, equality and peace for all the people of Ireland".

The writer? Tomás MacGiolla of the Workers' Party.

The candidate for the Senate? None other than Seán Garland of the W.P. Despite the ingenuity of the appeal for a vote, Mr. Garland will have to wait until the next election before he gets the chance to 'render us assistance'!

## KERRY

The following Cumainn are now functioning in County Kerry:

1. Ardfert/Ballyheigue
2. The Spa
3. Tralee
4. Ballymacelligott
5. Ballyfinane/Firies/Castlemaine
6. Castleisland
7. Derrymore
8. Cloghane/Castlegregory
9. Killarney
10. Cahirciveen
11. Listowel

The secretary of the Comhairle Ceantair is: Matt Leen, 257 St. Brendan's Park, Tralee, Co. Kerry.

A picket was held on Saturday, March 7, at the Fine Gael Head office in Cork City. The protest against extradition was held to coincide with the attendance of Peter Barry at the office. During the two hours leaflets on extradition were distributed to passers-by.

The protest attracted the attention of the Special Branch but passed over without incident.

## THE SHAKY STEPPING STONE

We were given 'national independence' in 1922. It was supposed to be a stepping-stone (we were told) to something greater. A great lot of water has flown underneath the bridge since. In retrospect our country and our people have been very badly treated.

We are told we should be thankful to be living in a democracy. I was always given the impression that a democratic government is 'of the people, for the people, by the people'. So much for our 'democracy'. In this day and age young men and women are going to America almost like a wild stampede to get away from unemployment, the dole queues and the miserable way they are expected to live.

There is no reason why there should not be full employment in this country. We have a mild climate for crops. There is a vast industry right around our shores which has never been tapped. To start with there is a vast industry for our fishermen which is being snatched from under our very noses by foreign trawlers. There is sea sand which is great for making our land fertile as well as perywinkles and carrageen moss.

The fishermen are here, willing and able, but the government has not and is not giving them the trawlers like other countries have. When the fish are caught they could be processed in the trawlers and exported. We have fishermen who risk their lives in 40-foot boats and I know from my younger days the risk those men take when a heavy swell catches them a few miles from the shore and indeed a few miles in a heavy swell is an awful long distance — so many all down the years have been drowned.

Our government is spending a lot of money on the revival of our native language but do not give any encouragement. Our ministers and TDs rarely speak it and in 'Dáil Éireann' I do not think it is ever spoken. Thomas Davis once said: 'The tongue of the conqueror is the badge of slavery upon the lips of the conquered. It is a greater shield than fortress or river, it is stronger than the sea'.

We need a government that will look after the most vulnerable and not make the poor poorer and the wealthy more wealthy. We have the Hillsborough pact but our people are leaving this country and the foreigner coming over on the same boats and planes.

Is Mise le Meas,  
Seán Shaw,  
Corcaigh.

Greetings to Vince Donnelly, POW in solitary, Wormwood Scrubs, London W12. LOVE AND BEST WISHES — AS ALWAYS — Treasa, London XxX

Comhairle na Mumhan Republican Sinn Féin passed votes of sympathy at their meeting on May 3 last with the family of James Lowe, Kilrush, Co. Clare, who died that week-end and with the family of Willie Ryan, Doon, Co. Limerick on his recent death.

## Liam Mellows Cumann

On March 22, 1987 the Liam Mellows Cumann in Dublin held a general meeting at which a new Officer Board was elected as follows:

Cathaoirleach: Jack Murphy  
Rúnaí: Mary Moynihan  
Cisteoir: Joseph Moynihan  
Eagraí: Joseph Moynihan  
O.C.P.: Mary Moynihan

Tony Ruane was elected Honorary President of the Cumann

## Cumann Na gCailíní

CUMANN NA gCAILÍNÍ is a body of Republican Girl Scouts, whose aim is to promote Irish Republicanism amongst young girls between the ages of 7 — 18.

Set up by Cumann na mBan in 1927, it has always remained true to the ideals and aspirations of the Proclamation of the Irish Republic of 1916.

It's activities include: hiking; camping; Irish language and culture; selling of Republican literature and taking part in Republican parades. It is divided into two sections:— CUBS:— aged from 7 — 12 years and SCOUTS:— 12 — 18 years.

Cumann na gCailíní is now re-organising following the recent defections from the Republican Movement and we are looking for new members in both categories. We ask anyone interested in joining to fill in their name and address on this form and return it immediately to:— Cumann Na gCailíní, 21, Shaw St., Dublin 2.

NAME ..... AGE .....  
ADDRESS .....

## AISÉIRÍ CÁSÇA?

Ceann de na nithe is mó atá ag cur faitise ar mhaorlathas na Bruiséile agus go deimhin ar throllach na bpolaiteoirí in Éirinn faoi bhua cúirte Réamainn Crotty ná an "drochshampla" atá tugtha ag fear amháin i gceann de na náisiúin is laige sa Chómhargadh.

Tá caidreamh dlúth ag an Irish Sovereignty Movement agus daoine eile a sheas go daingean le Crotty le go leor leor daoine eile sa Chomhphobal féin atá in aghaidh an Aon Achta Eorpaigh freisin agus cheana féin tá an brú ag teacht fiú sna tíortha inar ghlac na párlaimintí leis, chun tuilleadh machnaimh a dhéanamh nó go deimhin an scéal ar fad a chur ar athló.

Ní deas ar fad an feic a bhí againn i mBaile Átha Cliath chomh luath agus a fógraíodh an bhreith. Oiread sin deifir ar pholaiteoirí áirithe cosúil le Deasún Ó Máille ón bPáirtí Daonlathach, mar shampla, chun reifrinng go mbeadh sé sásta an reachtaíocht a chur tríd an Oireachtas le linn an deireadh seachtaine, agus an chéad chúpla lá den tSeachtain Mhór — d'ainneoin go raibh Seanad amháin ag éirí

as ar an Luan agus Seanad eile le toghadh ar an Mháirt/Chéadaoin.

Ar ndóigh rud eile nach maith leis na "hEorpaigh" faoin scéal go léir ná an mhí-fhoighid atá ar an mBruiséal, mar is léir, leis an bpróiseas daonlathach. Féach fós fiú amháin gur beag ar fad polaiteoir "daonlathach" in Éirinn féin ach an oiread nach ndúirt gur cheart brostú leis an reifreann "ach nach raibh aon rogha againn i ndáiríre ach glacadh leis an Acht".

Nil an leasú is lú inghlactha, deir siad. Más fíor, cén chiall atá leis an vótáil — gan trácht ar an díospóireacht fhairsing náisiúnta a ba cheart a bheith ann faoi shaoirse, neamhspleáchas agus neodracht na tíre go léir anois ó bhuaigh Crotty an deis dúinn chun an scéal a phlé agus a chinneadh.

Tá sé iontach suimiúil freisin laghad na nguthanna ar an "eite chlé" féin a throid go láidir in aghaidh an Chómhargaidh i 1972 nach raibh gíog astu faoi bhuncheist na ballraíochta ag an bpointe seo. Ach deir an mionlach de dhaoine agus eagrais a d'fhan dílis dá seasamh ar an gceist agus atá ar ais ag meabhrú don saol go raibh muid "san

## Comhbhrón

Republican Sinn Féin expresses its deepest sympathy to Tom Mitchell, former TD for mid-Ulster, on the death of his wife, Ita, on May 19 last.

Eoraip" sar ar bunaiodh an Comhphobal Eorpach, nach ionann "an Eoraip" agus an Comhphobal agus go mbeidh muid san Eoraip, fiú má thiteann an EEC as a chéile, go bhfuil athnuachan spéise bunaithe ar dhíomá le brath sa phobal maidir leis an aisling nár fíoraíodh le 15 bliana anuas.

Is tráth díospóireachta é faoi bhunseasamh agus bhunsaoirse, cinnte, bhí óráidí na ndreamanna a bheas ag comóradh Éirí Amach na Cásca spéisiúil i mbliana. Ach is spéisiúla fós an ciúnas, an méid nach raibh le rá faoin ábhar seo, ag dreamanna eile a bhí ag ullmhú do reifreann ina rabhtas ag moladh d'Éireannaigh tuilleadh ceannais náisiúnta a ghéilleadh go háirithe trí thoilú chuig córas vótála i gComhairlí Airí sa Bhrúiséal a chealódh cibé beag dóchais a d'fhág leithscéal an 'Veto' náisiúnta againn ó 1972 i leith.

— Tomás Ó Neachtain

## CONCENTRATION CAMPS

Again I chose a title which is all too familiar to Republicans. I do so deliberately for two reasons: (1) To point out how successfully Republicans mastered Irish in those hell holes often under the most adverse conditions; (2) I reiterate the point made previously that learning to speak a second language had nothing to do with being clever or intelligent — it needs *concentration*.

If the desire to learn to speak and to use Irish is strong enough the necessary concentration will follow.

I promised to deal with the difficulties which arise where opportunities to *listen to the spoken language* do not obtain or are difficult to come by.

If the learner of a second language were placed among people who constantly spoke that language and could not, or would not, speak the learner's first language, the learner's desire to learn the new language, coupled with the concentration of that language all around him, would enable him to be fluent in a very short period.

The first language which the learner had would gradually cease to be a barrier because of its uselessness in this situation. Those around him would not allow him to use it for comfort. He would go through the same process that he went through in learning his first language. His efforts of imitation would probably often be laughed at or even derided. But such laughter or derision would only strengthen his resolve. He would sharpen his ear, so to speak, in order to be able to imitate *exactly* the sounds going on around him.

This desire to communicate with his peers would speed the process. His desire to have the last laugh at those who derided his initial efforts would strengthen his determination.

Such situations seldom exist. We learners must therefore *create situations*. Such *necessity to communicate* also seldom exists since those who speak Irish are generally too polite

## REPUBLICANS AND IRISH

(even if often mistakenly so) to refuse to speak English to learners.

All learners can create situations and necessity to communicate if they have one friend who is of a like mind. Remember I said that *you learn to speak by speaking*. You will probably answer that your friend has little Irish either. I reply "all the better". In this situation you can both laugh at each other's efforts without giving offence. Both of you are under the same disadvantage. Both of you are *creating a situation*. Both of you are creating a necessity to communicate since either of you will refuse to relapse into English for comfort.

"But" you may argue, "neither of us has *any* Irish. No Irish was taught in our school". I answer "Not so. You have far more Irish than you realise. Look at the words which remained in use in your area — bóithrin, a mhic, a stór, ceannabhán, póg, etc. Look at the words which are used by the media — Bord na Móna, Sinn Féin, etc. You certainly have a much better knowledge of Irish than you have of Chinese!"

The learner therefore must start to concentrate on what he knows already and upon that foundation, be it ever so small, he starts to build

This concentration will entail a mental conditioning not to use an English word where the Irish word has been learned. That takes determination, it does not, as I have said before, have anything to do with being clever.

So now, take your first baby steps. Can you use *Slán leat* (libh), go raibh maith agat (agaibh), oíche mhaith, Beannacht Dé leat? Of course you can. But will you?

Let me finish this time by asking a question which will test your determination. "Are you prepared to use your name in Irish only, at all times and to refuse to allow anyone to refer to you in any other version?"

An chéad cheann eile "Determination".

— Domhnall Ó Lúbhlaí

## Loughgall Sympathy

'Once again the curse of British rule has extracted an immense toll in young Irish lives and every sincere Irish person will identify with the grieving families, some of whom have already lost sons in the fight for Irish Freedom', said Dáithí Ó Conaill, Cathaoirleach Sinn Féin Poblachtach in a statement expressing heartfelt sympathy to the families of the eight Volunteers killed on active service at Loughgall on May 8.

Beama Uladh — South Armagh Republican Sinn Féin, meeting on May 14, offered condolences to the Volunteers' families and in a statement added:

'We remember also the tragic loss felt by the family of Anthony Hughes and extend deepest sympathy to them'.

Hundreds of RSF members travelled to the funerals from all over Ireland and telegrams of sympathy and Mass offerings were sent to the families by many cumainn. Ulster Organiser Bob Murray and Seán Keenan of the National Committee attended most of the funerals and they were joined by Urlabhráí Ruairí Ó Brádaigh at the burial of Jim Lynagh in Monaghan on May 13.

Those who could not travel from Dublin attended a special Mass on Friday May 15 in Church Street celebrated by an t-Athair Piaras ó Dúill OFM. Cap. The large congregation included Margaret McKearney, sister of Volunteer Pádraig McKearney of the Moy, Co. Tyrone and Al Lynagh, an uncle of Volunteer Jim Lynagh of Monaghan.

### Forthright Statements

One of the remarkable features of their funerals were the forthright statements made by several of the officiating priests. At the Requiem Mass for Volunteer Gerard O'Callaghan at Tullysarran church on May 12 Fr. Patrick Campbell told mourners that:

'As long as injustice exists in any of the areas which touch upon the dignity of the human person, there will be a violent reaction.

We Catholic Nationalists of the North have been victims of gross injustice since the partition of this island and that oppression which has continued now for nearly 70 years is no more legitimate, no less immoral now than then.

This we must not be afraid to say, welcome or unwelcome, because it is the truth. Everybody on this island, in Britain and in the world must hear us. Our political situation is intolerable and there is little sign of redress'.

Fr. Brian MacNiece, speaking at Volunteer Pat Kelly's funeral in Dungannon on May 11, spoke of him as being an 'upright man'.

In contrast the priest at Volunteer Jim Lynagh's funeral in St. Macartan's

Cathedral, Monaghan made no reference to either his dedicated life or his noble death.

### Roscommon Link

Among those killed in the attack on the RUC Barracks at Loughgall, Co. Armagh on Friday, May 8 was a Tyrone man with Roscommon connections.

The mother of Pádraig McKearney, (33) comes from Carnalasson, Four-Mile-House. She was formerly Máire Murray, and is married to Kevin McKearney, butcher. They live at The Moy, Co. Tyrone. Pádraig's grandfather Tom Murray from Four-Mile-House was active with the South Roscommon Brigade of the IRA in 1919-23.

Another of the McKearney family, Tommy, is a Republican prisoner in the H-Block of Long Kesh where he underwent a 53-day hunger strike in 1980. The strike ended in an agreement which was not implemented.

On Sunday last Roscommon Comhairle Ceantair of Republican Sinn Féin sent a telegram expressing heartfelt sympathy to the McKearney family. It was signed by Farrell Conry, Elphin, Cathaoirleach; Ruairí Ó Brádaigh, Roscommon, Rúnaí; and Dermot Mullooly, Strokestown, Cisteoir.

### Mayo Sympathy

Sean Corcoran Cumann, Republican Sinn Féin, Kiltimagh, Co. Mayo obtained a special Novena of Masses at Knock Shrine for each of the men killed at Loughgall on May 8. They have been sent to the families and relatives of each Volunteer.

### Blacked and Blocked

On Jan. 19 last Jim Mitchell, Minister for Communications (sic?) signed the directive under Section 31 of the Broadcasting Act for 1987, Part 2, (1) (c) and (3) specifically include 'the organisation styling itself Republican Sinn Féin'.

The 'Northern Ireland Office' on March 22 in a letter to Ruairí Ó Brádaigh, Urlabhráí told him that his exclusion order from the Six Counties was extended for a further 3 years. Infringement of this British law in Ireland carries a penalty of 5 years imprisonment, the notice said.

## Westminster Election

(From Page 1)

English aggression and bringing about an English withdrawal from our country for ever".

3. Further, we seek to have the people of the British-occupied area of Ireland consider the following:

(a) several of the parties in this election uphold British rule without reservation;

(b) another party calling itself "constitutional nationalist" collaborates with the British presence and in furtherance of the Hillsboro' Agreement encourages the Dublin government to collaborate in turn;

(c) another party still has accepted the Free State set-up at Leinster House with all that implies and has discussed on an on-going basis acceptance also of Stormont and Westminster;

4. For our part, our position is clear. We stand by the Republic of 1916 and the First All-Ireland Dáil of 1919. In keeping with that basic Republican position, Republican Sinn Féin says "no" to Leinster House, Stormont and Westminster as instruments in varying degree of British rule in Ireland.

### Statement From Ulster Councillors

In a statement issued by the four Ulster councillors on June 1 Republican Sinn Féin asked what weight the people of the Six Counties should attach to Gerry Adams's reported statement that there is no possibility of his organisation taking seats in Westminster if elected, adding that it was "no place for a Republican to be".

Mr. Adams said at the 1983 Ard-Fheis of Sinn Féin that he would not, as president, lead the organisation into Leinster House but that he would do whatever the Ard-Fheis told him.

In 1987 he led a section of that organisation in attempting to enter Leinster House. He now says he will not enter Westminster. He does not mention Stormont although a new Stormont may well be on the way.

The question is: if his Ard-Fheis tells him to enter Westminster and/or Stormont, will Mr. Adams then sit in either or both a foreign or a puppet parliament as the case may be?

The people of the Six Counties are entitled to an answer now and not after June 11th.

The statement was issued by:

Councillors Eamonn Larkin, Newry & Mourne District Council; Michael MacGonigle, Limavady D.C.; Frank MacCarry, Moyle D.C. and Joe O'Neill, Bundoran U.D.C.