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# TACKLING DISCRIMINATION

BRITISH ATTEMPTS to play down the issue of sectarian discrimination have been frustrated with the publication of a proposed Sinn Fein policy document, Setting the Criteria — Tackling Discrimination (see pages 8, 9 and 10).

This document will provide one of the main focuses for debate at this year's Sinn Fein Ard-Fheis which takes place in Dublin's Mansion House on Friday, Saturday and Sunday October 30th and 31st, and November 1st.

# Britain Wields the Big Stick

WHAT EMERGED most clearly from the 12th Inter-Governmental Conference which took place in Belfast yesterday was that the British are still prepared to wield the big stick and threaten dire consequences on the Dublin government if more and more concessions are not made.

The temporary frustration of the British demand for the extradition of political refugees has provoked the latest threat from Tom King who said that failure to implement the Extradition Act would have "serious implications for Anglo-Irish relations". There is nothing new in this tactic. Again and again loud demands have been made by the British, the pretence of negotiation has been acted through and, inevitably, the Dublin government has given in.

And the price to be paid for this mockery of reform is the Extradition Act.

## PRINCIPLE CONCEDED

Already the principle has been long conceded and what remains is the timing of implementation. This is now being used as a negotiating chip ready to be thrown into the British pocket as soon as any semblance of a concession is made. But even this is not enough for the British government. It wants extradition now and is pressurising Dublin to follow through on its latest and most blatant surrender of Irish sovereignty.

The inherent weakness of Dublin's position was plain for all to see in the contrast between Tom King and Brian Lenihan in their interviews after the conference. King was dominant and threatening; Lenihan blustered and attempted to play down King's threats. Lenihan denied there was any impasse and repeated the Dublin government/SDLP claim — constantly stressed as if repetition would make it come true — that the

administration of justice had improved in the Six Counties since Hillsborough.

The inability of successive Dublin governments to secure any meaningful reforms is, of course, due to their lack of any real interest in the plight of nationalists — they are more interested in their own ability to continue and increase collaboration with the British and to secure the political fortunes of the SDLP. From their point of view, the sooner the better this sham debate on Diplock courts is over and they can let extradition go through.

## WILLING ALLIES

It is all a measure of what the British government has achieved in recruiting willing allies in the Dublin government and the SDLP to shift the spotlight from the real problem — the British veto on Irish democracy to tinkering with the colonial judicial system.

The Hillsborough roadshow — the "ongoing process" which Lenihan kept emphasising this week — is rolling on. But fewer and fewer of those at the heart of the process — Northern nationalists — are turning up to watch.

Reality for them has not changed; laws have been brought in and more are on the way to curb what little expression they have in the Six-County state.

Soon after the signing of



# KING SAYS EXTRADITION OR ELSE!

Hillsborough, Tom King boasted that it was "a bulwark against a united Ireland". The Extradition Act is the biggest block in

that bulwark to emerge from Hillsborough and the British are relying on Dublin to put it in place.

Real change can only

come when that bulwark is removed for good and national self-determination is won. Everything else is a diversion.

# OPINION

## Part of the process

THE STATEMENT from John Stanley of the Northern Ireland Office regarding the Irish language will come as no surprise to Irish speakers and language activists in the Six Counties.

It represented an outright rejection of any call for bilingualism to be officially recognised. Stanley's private secretary said:

"The government does not intend to promote the creation of a bilingual society in Northern Ireland."

She went on to claim that the NIO will respond to "genuine interest" in the language.

On the contrary, bilingualism already exists in many areas and where progress has been made in winning a few grudging concessions from the British administration it has been through constant pressure and agitation from Irish-language groups and communities. Despite cosmetic measures Irish remains an outlawed tongue in all official dealings with the administration in all its forms. Academic innovations like the appointment of five people to produce an Irish-language map of the Six Counties, additional Arts Council grants for traditional arts, and the appointment of an Irish writer in residence at Queen's University are to be welcomed, but they belie the real status of the language in the Six Counties.

Officially the Irish language has no status.

The advances which have been made in promoting the Irish language in the Six Counties have been in the teeth of ill-concealed hostility from the state. This is at its most blatant in the area of education.

The growth of Irish schools has been one of the main signs of hope for the language and has been the engine which has driven the revival in the cities in the 26 Counties as well as in the North. The British response has been to starve these schools of funds, as witnessed by the withdrawal of the ACE scheme from Naiscoil Mhic Airt in Belfast. There is no funding at all for Irish nursery schools which are helped to the tune of £1 million in Wales.

The two-faced nature of the latest British response can also be seen on the issue of place-names. For years Irish name-signs have been erected in nationalist areas against British law and this continues to be done 'illegally'.

Irish, of course, completely outlawed in the courts and at every level of government. The language is officially banned in the prisons and prisoners are not even allowed to wear a cloth *fainne* or play Gaelic games.

None of these apartheid-style laws have ever stopped Irish people asserting their right to speak their own language and promote their culture. Raising demands for official recognition is not to have any illusions about the essential anti-Irish nature of the British administration. It is to assert people's strength and force into the open the inherent contradictions in the system which claims to give equal status to the so-called 'two traditions'.

The demand of the language movement remains the creation of a bilingual society in all 32 Counties in which the Irish language takes its proper place as the clearest expression of our nationality. Those who hold this belief have a hard fight on their hands just to maintain what advances have already been made, both in the Six and 26 Counties.

As the response of the British has shown, raising this central part of our struggle is a vital part of the revolutionary process.



# Grenade makes impact

THE BRITISH ARMY AND THE RUC were hurriedly trying to fit additional armour plating to its vehicles following the IRA's development of a new impact grenade, according to the London-based *Independent* newspaper's Irish correspondent, David McKittrick.

Describing the weapon as "a significant advance in the IRA arsenal", McKittrick says that it can penetrate the "special steel-plated skin of the Land Rovers which, for years, have been regarded as invulnerable to most IRA attacks".

The grenade contains a pound of plastic explosive and has a copper core in the head. A British army explosives expert is quoted by McKittrick as saying:

"The shape of the cone focuses the explosive charge into a jet of flame, and it punches and burns its way through the armour. The copper vaporises and makes the flame more intense... Even a rudimentary hollow-charge device goes through Land Rover armour with no trouble at all."

### QUEEN STREET BARRACKS

A 500lb bomb placed outside Queen Street RUC Barracks in

Belfast was defused by British army engineers last week.

The huge device, which was in a van commandeered earlier in West Belfast, was packed into five metal drums and driven through a permanent security barrier at Queen Street at 11.30am on Thursday morning, October 15th. An IRA Volunteer travelled with the bomb until a short distance from the barrier, where the firing set was primed.

A warning was given and the area was sealed off. The bomb was defused about 30 minutes later. In a statement after the attack, Belfast Brigade pointed out that despite several warnings about the location of the bomb "the RUC refused to clear the area adequately"

### JOY-RIDER PUNISHED

On Wednesday morning, IRA Volunteers in Turf Lodge punished a 16-year-old youth, Francis



Finnegan, after a woman and child were injured in a crash involving a stolen car. Marion Baker and her son, Ryan, were driving along the Monagh by-pass at lunchtime on Monday, October 12th, when a blue Vauxhall Astra, driving at speed, deliberately rammed her car twice. In the crash, the child's leg was broken and he will remain in hospital for six weeks with it in traction. His mother suffered chest and whiplash injuries.

After the incident the IRA's Belfast Brigade issued a lengthy statement in which it condemned the attack. It identified those responsible as part of a "small number of thugs in that area" responsible for assaults and general intimidation of local people. The IRA went on to say:

"While we are engaged in the armed struggle against the crown forces, we are not prepared to stand by and allow this terrorising of the community to go unchecked. In the past our Volunteers have taken action against individuals where there was clear evidence of sustained involvement in this kind of thuggery.

"A number of other individuals and their parents have been warned to cease these activities. We have fully supported, and will continue to do so, concerned groups who take action in defence of our communities.

"Those involved in organising and perpetrating these acts are known to the community and the IRA. It must be remembered that the role of these thugs, fostered by the RUC, is to undermine our struggle by demoralising the community from which we derive our support."

The IRA continued by warning that it would take stern action.

The punishment of Francis Finnegan followed directly on from that incident and statement. In accepting responsibility the IRA revealed that Finnegan, from Turf Lodge is a "persistent joy-rider".

The statement said: "Finnegan admitted to our Volunteers that he was the driver of the stolen car which repeatedly rammed a car on the Monagh by-pass, nearly killing the occupants. Despite the extreme seriousness of this incident, the Belfast Brigade took into account Finnegan's age in determining his punishment. Finnegan was tied to a lamp-post at the Turf Lodge shops, painted and covered with feathers."

The IRA concluded by warning those involved in terrorising the community that they would be severely dealt with:

"We advise those individuals involved in these kinds of thuggery in nationalist areas to desist immediately or risk the consequences.



At its meeting on Tuesday, October 20th, the council unanimously called on the Dublin government to get aside the Act and demanded that "the handling over of Irish people for trial to a corrupt and unjust system not take place now or in the future".

The motion was tabled by Sinn Féin Councillors Mel Farrell and John Joe McGill. The Independent Fianna Fáil chairperson, Larry McGowan, spoke in favour, as did several Fianna Fáil councillors.

**HAUGHEY RELATIVE AGAINST EXTRADITION**

The National Commemoration Day Association has also joined the opposition to the Extradition Act. It called for its complete repeal and the resolution was supported by Jack O'Brien who is a brother-in-law of Charles Haughey and a commandant in the 26-County army.

The Anti-Extradition Campaign in Kerry focused last week on a public meeting attended by over 100 people in Tralee.

The meeting took place in Horan's Hotel on October 15th and was addressed by James Kelly of the Fianna Fáil National Executive. A Kerry committee of the campaign was formed out of the meeting. Already Listowel, Tralee and Killarney Urban District Councils have called for the repeal of the Extradition Act.

**WATERFORD**

Also on Thursday, October 15th, a successful meeting was held in Waterford city. It was chaired by Davey Lane (ITGWU) and was addressed by Charlie Spillane, president of the Waterford Trades Council. Spillane quoted the motion calling for the repeal of the Extradition Act which was passed by the trades council.

Other speakers included Ann O'Rourke and Kevin Boland. Boland emphasised the diversion being carried on with regard to three-judge Diplock courts. He pointed out that this could be conceded and emphasised that extradition must not be allowed under any circumstances.

The Waterford meeting succeeded in showing wide support for repeal despite the disruptive efforts of members of an ultra-leftist group who attempted to split the meeting on issues totally unrelated to extradition.

On Wednesday, October 21st, members of the Anti-Extradition Campaign picketed Leinster House as deputies returned from their 'summer' recess. The picket also coincided with the high-profile address to Leinster House by Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke.



**Repeal**

**not**

BY MAIRIN MacDIARMADA

**postponement**

**THE DOUBLE STANDARDS** of the British establishment with regard to extradition and the true nature of the Extradition Act now on the statute books in the 26 Counties has been highlighted by the debate this week in the House of Lords over proposed changes in British legislation.

The Tory government announced its intention to change the law by ending the rule requiring a prima-facie case to be presented against people sought for extradition from Britain.

This provoked a wave of protests from opposition peers in the House of Lords who said that British citizens could be extradited without proper legal safeguards. Lord Hutchinson of

Lullington said that extradition "would be reduced to an executive act between government ministers".

While the British are demanding open-door extradition of Irish citizens into their hands, they cry loudly against any possible infringement of their own citizens' rights. This is in contrast to the main Leinster House parties which have already conceded the principle of extradition of political refugees without any prima-facie requirement or other real safeguards. The statement by Lord Hutchinson will apply even more

strongly to Irish citizens:

"There will be nothing to stop a British citizen being extradited on hearsay evidence. It is an automatic procedure. There will be no right of appeal against the facts when a British citizen is to be tried under unfamiliar procedures in a foreign town without our safeguards."

**LEITRIM**

Leitrim County Council has become the 15th local authority to call for the repeal of the Extradition Act as pressure grows around the country for Fianna Fáil to scrap the legislation.

The following organisations and individuals have called for the repeal of the Extradition Act. Local authorities: Sligo County Council, Leitrim County Council, Letterkenny UDC, Letterkenny UDC, Listowel UDC, Clones UDC, Monaghan UDC, Killarney UDC, Tralee UDC, Carlow UDC, Shannon TC, Kilkree TC, Passage West TC, Tramore TC, Newbridge TC, Ballyshannon TC, Tuam TC. Trades councils: Dublin, Meath, Galway, Derry City, Clonmel, Waterford, Sligo. Organisations: Irish Council for Civil Liberties, Conradh na Gaeilge, AFRI (working for justice and peace in Ireland and the Third World), National Commemoration Day Association, Ireland Information Centre (Netherlands), Swiss Labour Party. Individuals: Sean MacBride SC, Capt. James Kelly (Fianna Fáil National Executive), Senator Brendan Ryan, Tony Gregory TD, Matt Merrigan (former ICTU president), Kader Asmal (Trinity College law professor), Michael Farrell (historian and author), Raymond Crotty, Emmet Stagg TD (Labour), Brian Swift TD (Fianna Fáil), Senator Tom McEllistrim (Fianna Fáil), Fr Des Wilson, Charles Rice (Notre Dame University law professor), Jim Shannon (US attorney), John Mitchell (general secretary IDA/TU), Tony Coughlan (Irish Sovereignty Movement), Mary Pike (US attorney), Desmond Kennell, Fr Denis Carroll, Joe Costello (Prisoners' Rights Organisation), Senator Brian Friel, Fr Piaras O'Duill, Paul O'Dwyer (US attorney), Mick Murphy (AOH president), Dáithí Ó hAgin (Roilín an Shealaithe, Coiste na hOileáil, Ath Cliath).

**FF PAY PLAN EXPOSED**

**'Reject Haughey' says LGPSU**

**LEADERS** of the largest Irish public sector union called for rejection of the Haughey government's pay-and-jobs deal (the 'Programme for National Recovery') this week as anger rose over expenditure cuts which exposed Fianna Fáil's real intentions to reduce wages and increase unemployment.

Executive members of the Local Government & Public Services Union (LGPSU) voted eight to five against recommending the deal to their 17,000 members who will soon be voting on the matter. A total of 450,000 workers will have been balloted on the agreement before a special conference of the Irish Congress of Trade

Unions (ICTU) decides the issue on November 19th.

If this conference accepts the programme, unions will be tied to pay increases in many cases less than the rate of inflation while real income is further reduced by increased service charges. The agreement does include a promise to give low-paid work-

ers an extra £4 per week which could mean a 17% increase over three years for those on £70 per week. But low-paying employers are given a set of excuses to avoid paying this increase and it's unlikely their workers will get anything near the promised amount.

**MINIMUM NOT PAID**

Employers paying £70 are already giving £24 less than the minimum agreed by any of the Joint Labour Committees which regulate low pay. They aren't

likely to suddenly change their tune unless forced to.

The real answer to low pay is a minimum wage backed by law and promises like those in the Programme are a very poor substitute.

Workers earning £140 per week (£47 less than the average wage) and over will receive increases totalling 8.7%. But the rate of inflation is expected to stay around 3% per year, leaving the vast majority of workers with a pay cut in real terms by the end of the period.

**LITTLE CONFIDENCE**

An even stronger case for rejection of the Programme was made by Fianna Fáil itself when, five days after the agreement, the government announced £485 million cuts which would lop off over 8,000 public sector jobs on January 1st. The Programme promises to create "20,000 extra jobs on average per year over the next ten years" in manufacturing industry. But workers can have

little confidence in such promises from a government bent on Thatcherite policies.

The leadership of both the ITGWU and the FWUI haven't changed their position of support for it since the cuts were announced. They fear that rejection of the Fianna Fáil Programme will mean prolonged strikes which the workers may not win.

But if the Programme for National Recovery is accepted next month, Fianna Fáil will take this as a signal to continue along the Thatcherite road. Haughey's cutbacks leave trade unionists little alternative to voting it down.

The 5,000 members of TASS (the Technical and Supervisory Section of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers) were advised by their leaders on Tuesday to reject the deal. As AP/RN goes to press, the LGPSU executive and the divisional council of TASS are the only union bodies to oppose the new agreement.



● (Above and below) Mairtin O Muilleoir and Gerry Adams canvassing for Sinn Fein in the Upper Falls



● Sinn Fein candidate Fra McCann canvassing in the Lower Falls constituency

# Council contest in West Belfast

AS AP/RN GOES TO PRINT, polling is taking place for the two West Belfast council seats left vacant by the resignation in July of Alliance Councillors Will and Pip Glendenning. Sinn Fein's two candidates, Fra McCann and Mairtin O Muilleoir, are both confident of doing well.

In the Lower Falls constituency, where, in 1985, Sinn Fein had a comfortable majority of 1,693 first preference votes over the total vote of all the other candidates, Fra McCann is almost certain of victory. In the final week of the election he and his

workers have been putting the final touches to what has been a well-planned campaign.

The final canvass has taken place, posters and Freepost have been distributed, and thousands of leaflets have been handed out. According to McCann, who narr-

owly missed taking the seat in 1985 despite having more first preference votes than the successful Alliance Party candidate, success or failure will depend on the work done on polling day:

*"By-elections normally have a lower than usual turn-out. The response on the canvassing has been excellent, so clearly our vote is there. The key to success will be getting it out."*

## UPPER FALLS

Although Sinn Fein is the largest single party in the Upper Falls district, receiving 5,616 first preference votes to its nearest rival, the SDLP's 4,987, Mairtin O Muilleoir, while confident, has known throughout the campaign that he has been fighting the more difficult of the two by-elections.

In a PR by-election the successful candidate must either win 50% plus one of the total valid poll or take so many transfer votes that eventually their position is unassailable. In the Upper Falls, the total non-Sinn Fein first-preference is 7,105, 1,498 votes more than the Sinn Fein total.

O'Muilleoir's campaign has been vigorous and determined. One immediate advantage was the Sinn Fein candidate's high public profile in the area. O Muilleoir, from Andersonstown, is a well-known Irish-language activist and has played a prominent public role in the cultural revival of West Belfast in recent years. By contrast, his opponents are virtually unknown.

Bairbre de Brun, O Muilleoir's director of canvass, told AP/RN:

*"The canvass returns have been very encouraging. Areas which we identified as being electorally weak have surprised us with their support. There is a clear recognition, even by our opponents, that Sinn Fein has been very effective in local council politics."*

The results are expected by Friday lunch-time.

# RUC MAN PLOUGHS INTO PICKET

A 14-YEAR-OLD BOY has just been released from the Intensive Care Unit of the Royal Victoria Hospital after an RUC man's car deliberately ploughed into a residents' street protest against sectarian attacks in the Colinward/Springfield Road area of West Belfast on Thursday, October 15th. A young girl who, only minutes earlier, had lifted a baby out of a pram was also struck by the car. The empty pram was crushed.

Although Jason Deacon is now out of intensive care — he suffered a broken arm, leg and collar bone and lost all his front teeth — he is expected to be hospitalised for some time.

Residents of the Colinward/Springfield Road area have been holding a picket every afternoon for the last six weeks in an effort to have Lanark Way, which leads to the Shankill Road, sealed off.

Their action follows two recent sectarian murders in the area in which Danny O'Connor and Patrick Hamill died.

Local people said that the RUC man, who was driving his own car, made no attempt to stop when he came to the protesters. He knocked down Jason Deacon and then reversed the car back over him. The car then mounted the pavement and struck 14-year-old Louise McConnell and the pram.

The RUC man appeared to be

A local man followed the RUC man as he drove off up the Springfield Road and said he went into the Springfield Parade RUC Barracks. The RUC later admitted that the man was one of its members.

## PICKET CONTINUES

The residents are continuing the picket every afternoon between 4pm and 5pm. Over 100 people turned up on Friday October 16th, to block Springfield Road and Lanark Way.

The residents' committee issued



● Residents blocking the Springfield Road near Lanark Way in protest against sectarian attacks

an invitation to politicians to attend the protest but only the Greater West Belfast Community Association and Sinn Fein sent representatives.

Commenting on the events, the Colin Area Residents' Committee said:

*"We, the residents, will be continuing in this protest until our streets are secure from loyalist assassins and above all until Lanark Way is closed permanently."*

*"We trust that those parties who have not supported us today*



*(October 16th) will not be trying to jump on the bandwagon as we condemn outright those parties who won't stand with the people in protest, but issue statements to the media for their own political gain."*

Sinn Fein Lower Falls by-election candidate, Fra McCann, congratulated the people on "refusing to be intimidated off the streets". He pledged Sinn Fein's support for the residents' campaign to have Lanark Way closed.



● Green Street Special Court, Dublin

# Cork SF organiser

## arrested

THE CORK CITY Sinn Fein organiser, Don O'Leary, has been charged with IRA membership and possession of "incriminating documents" on Easter Saturday, April 18th - the "documents" were 37 IRA Calls the Shots posters.

O'Leary was arrested at 8am on Friday, October 16th, and driven by three Special Branch men the 160 miles to Dublin to appear at the Green Street Special Court, where he was released on his own bail of £500 till November 3rd.

The arrest of O'Leary comes after a prolonged campaign by Special Branch gardai against the very active Cork city Sinn Fein

members who have helped to reduce the joy-riding problem in the Knocknaheeny area by bringing tenants and youngsters together in a youth club project.

Sinn Fein party chairperson Sean MacManus denounced the Garda action as "an attempt to undermine Sinn Fein's successes in the city".

### THE COST

Don O'Leary questioned the cost of the security operation

to bring him to court:

"At a time when the Cork North Infirmary is being closed due to an alleged lack of finance, it's interesting to note the amount it must have cost the taxpayers for three Cork Branch officers and a uniformed inspector to spend a day in Dublin, and for an eight-man/two-jeep Free State army escort, along with a Garda minibus and four prison officers, to travel to Dublin and back from Portlaoise when I was told upon



● DON O'LEARY

my arrest that the gardai would not oppose bail. It seems that Fianna Fail can find money when it wants to, but not for hospitals."

# Anger in Ballyfermot

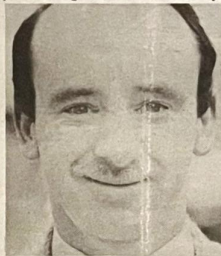
ANGER swept through Dublin's Ballyfermot when the news broke of the arrest of two local anti-drugs activists. The men were arrested by gardai in early-morning raids last Monday, October 19th.

Alan O'Hanlon, a member of the Ballyfermot Concerned Parents Against Drugs, and CPAD supporter Brian Quinn were taken from their homes at 8am under Section 30 of the Offences Against the State Act to Ballyfermot and Ronanstown Garda Barracks. Within hours local people staged a picket of the Department of Justice, with 30 CPAD members blocking Dublin city centre traffic for 15 minutes in protest at the arrests.

That evening, over 200 people took part in protests outside the two garda barracks that the men were held in. The pair were later released.

### ABUSE

Ballyfermot CPAD activist Jimmy Delaney described the Garda action as "a blatant abuse citizens under the Offences Against the State Act", and pointed out that the authorities have arrested



● JIMMY DELANEY

nine CPAD members under Section 30 and released all without charge. "It is clear that they are abusing the law to update their files on the Concerned Parents," he said.

CPAD spokesperson Hughie Cahill told AP/IRN that although there was sometimes media coverage of arrests of CPAD activists, it is never announced when they are released without charge.

## Collaboration with Apartheid

AS THE Irish Anti-Apartheid Movement (IAAM) held its annual conference in Dublin on Saturday, two ships in Dublin port were unloading South African coal - an export vital to the apartheid state.

The conference made a strong protest against the failure of successive Dublin governments to impose comprehensive mandatory sanctions against the South African regime which has now imprisoned around 100,000 people, many of them children. Coal imports from South Africa to the 26 Counties are valued at £1,556,000 but may in fact be larger than this.

Lip service is regularly paid by Leinster House politicians to the campaign against apartheid but to date the only concrete action taken has been on fresh fruit imports.

The government hasn't even ratified the United Nations Convention on Racial Discrimination. Noble and Lenin Peace Prize winner Sean MacBride told the conference:

"We are now the only country in Europe which has not done it. I really feel ashamed trying to explain why we have not done that."

Moses Garoeb, an executive member of the South West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO), condemned the attitude of the Dublin government and the refusal of Western governments to assist the "Frontline States" bordering on South Africa in their struggle for existence despite destabilisation by the racist regime.

Garoeb particularly criticised Dublin's failure to impose wide-ranging sanctions. The government has no intention of imposing any controls on the Shannon Free Trade Zone where the South African-owned de Beers diamond factory operates.

### THE CASE FOR SANCTIONS

But Garoeb's main address concerned Namibia - *The Case for Sanctions*. His country has been illegally occupied by South Africa which continues to exploit its valuable reserves of uranium. The IAAM is organising a week of solidarity with Namibia from October 27th to November 2nd during which members are asked to lobby companies with subsidiaries in Namibia to withdraw from the country. At the end of the week it is hoped to bring Sam Nujoma, the SWAPO president, to Ireland.

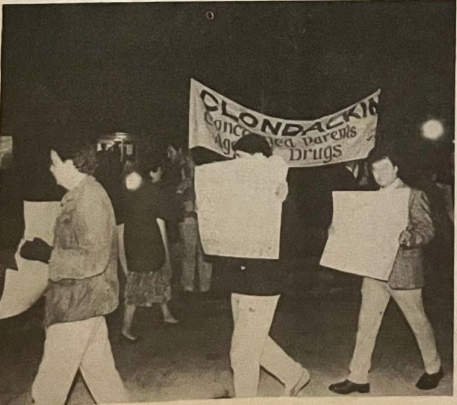
A boycott of Shell petrol products has been organised by the IAAM in protest against the links between that company and South Africa. Local councillors are particularly asked to make sure that local authority vehicles avoid Shell petrol.



● MOSES GAROEB



● Two views of the CPAD picket on Ballyfermot Garda Barracks last Monday after the arrest of local CPAD activist Alan O'Hanlon



# DON'T TRADE US FOR EXTRADITION

THE BIRMINGHAM SIX have called on Charles Haughey and the Fianna Fail government not to use their forthcoming appeal as a trade-off for extradition. They said in a letter to Haughey that their case will stand or fall on its own merits.

The November 2nd appeal will be based on forensic evidence that 'traces of explosives' found on the men's hands when arrested following the Birmingham pub bombings in 1974 could have come from nitro-cellulose on playing cards. The testimony of a former policeman, Thomas Clarke, that they were intimidated and beaten by the British police after their arrest will also form part of the defence case that there has been a "massive cover-up" in the framing of the six.

# GARDAI ATTACK STUDENTS

A PEACEFUL student protest in Dublin yesterday (Wednesday) ended in violence when the group was attacked by gardai. Five of the protesters were flung into the back of Garda vans and taken to Pearse Street Barracks.

When Fianna Fail leader Charlie Haughey arrived at the National Art Gallery to attend a function he was met by over 100 students from both North and South. The group, led by Union of Students in Ireland officers, protested that the government's cutbacks ensured that education was becoming the preserve of the well-off.

When five of the students' representatives approached Haughey in order to question him in public about the cutbacks they were set upon by gardai. They were flung to the ground, kicked and punched before being thrown into Garda vehicles. (They were released three hours later.) When some protesters blocked the path of the vans they too were assaulted by gardai.

Condemning the attacks as "vicious", USI's Mary Carolan added:

*"The education policies of the present government demonstrate an appalling lack of concern for working-class young people who are effectively being excluded from third-level education."*



Thousands of Ballymun flats tenants are being denied fuel vouchers by the Haughey government; (inset) Sinn Fein Councillor Christy Burke who is fighting Fianna Fail's tight-fistedness

# FUEL SCHEME IGNITES ANGER

THE DENIAL by Social Welfare Minister Michael Woods of the essential fuel scheme to large numbers of people and the introduction by the ESB of a new measuring device for customers in arrears have been condemned by Sinn Fein Dublin City Councillor Christy Burke as "the cause and the consequence of people's inability to pay fuel bills".

Last year a court decision forced the government to include single people in the free fuel scheme this winter. But instead of allocating extra funds for the scheme, Fianna Fail cut fuel vouchers by £20. Last week it became clear that Woods was refusing to give fuel vouchers to anyone in flats such as Ballymun if they moved in during the last 12 months. Up to now people have been able to use the fuel vouchers to pay electricity bills or for gas.

The purpose of the device is to control the amount of electricity a person uses. The ESB has had no difficulties in turning off people's supply in the past and will continue to do so.

The device cuts off the electricity supply if the user turns on a washing machine, oven or a water heater.

"The implication is that people on low income have no right to wash clothes, cook proper meals or have a bath," Burke said.

"It would be more appropriate for them to call on the government to grant a special rate of electricity to those who rely on low incomes."

## NEW METER SCHEME

Burke went on to criticise the state-owned Electricity Supp-

# Undercover squad ambushes Derrymen

TWO SINN FEIN MEMBERS escaped an assassination bid by a British Intelligence undercover unit in Derry city on Tuesday afternoon, October 20th.

The incident occurs just over a week after Sinn Fein bugged a tape-recorded conversation between a local man posing as an informer and an MIS agent who spoke of "eliminating" Sinn Fein personnel. John Donnelly, one of the people specifically named by the agent, was driving through Shantallow with William McGuinness (Martin McGuinness's brother) when they noticed they were being tailed by a man driving a green Fiat Regatta. They at once became suspicious and drove to the more populated Bogside area and towards the Sinn Fein centre in Cable Street. A bronze Astra car then approached at speed towards them and rammed their car while the green Fiat pulled up directly behind.

Both McGuinness and Donnelly ran inside the Sinn Fein centre just as two other undercover cars, a maroon Renault 11 and green Volkswagen Jetta, arrived on the scene.

Local people who witnessed the incident realised that members of the crown forces were driving the cars and pelted them with a barrage of stones and other missiles. One of the undercover squad drew a gun and pointed it at the gathering crowd before making off.

Sinn Fein Councillor Hugh Brady described the affair as "highly sinister" in the light of last week's exposure by Sinn Fein that government-sanctioned British Intelligence operatives planned to eliminate people like John Donnelly.

"If they hadn't been alert they could have been victims of a British army undercover assassination squad. It is vital that republicans and nationalists be on their guard at all times," said Hugh Brady.

# Pregnant mother ill-treated

DERRY WOMEN'S groups came out onto the streets to protest against the arrest and detention by the RUC of a three-months pregnant woman during widespread raids on Wednesday, October 14th.

Around 30 women blocked busy lunchtime traffic outside Strand Road Barracks where 22-year-old Donna Marie Wray, who has one child, from Bishop Street, was being detained. The women's concern was heightened by the knowledge that an eight-months pregnant Bogside woman was ill-treated during RUC interrogation there last month.

On Saturday, Donna Marie Wray was brought before a special court on the dubious charge of destroying forensic evidence by washing certain items of clothing in her home last April. She was remanded in custody until November 6th and will be subjected

to the humiliating strip-search procedure in spite of her pregnancy.

## TORTURE

Adding her strong condemnation of the RUC's treatment of this woman and the ridiculous charge she is held on, Sinn Fein Councillor Dodie McGuinness said that interrogating her while pregnant was "refined psychological torture". She added that the disturbing increase in the number of arrests of women who were pregnant and others who were under medical care "is indicative of RUC strategy and should be of major concern to all nationalists".



BY TOM O'DWYER

**B+I WORKERS** protested this week about attempts to make them pay for years of disastrous management decisions which may yet cause the closure of the shipping line.

A one-year plan proposed by B+I boss Alex Spain means making over half the 1,464 staff redundant and a cut of over 35% in wages and conditions for those remaining. Safety levels will be seriously endangered. The unions involved (the ITGWU, FWUI and Seamen's Union of Ireland) are prepared to make concessions in order to save the firm but Spain's extraordinary 'solution' is unacceptable.

A series of management blunders led to the line amassing a £40 million debt, only £18 million of which is state guaranteed. A number of unnecessary passenger terminals have been built; there was large investment in the Jetfoil project, although the craft was unable to withstand the rigours of the Irish Sea (a £2½ million loss on the Jetfoil sale by B+I was exclusively revealed by AP/RN in January 1985); and a ship was recently refurbished for £3 million and then suddenly sold off.

At present, B+I seafarers' conditions of work compare very badly with those of Sealink workers. While B+I gives eight days off after eight days' work, Sealink workers are on a 24 hours on/48 hours off shift system and get over twice the annual leave offered by the Irish company. Yet Sealink, which operates the same or similar routes, manages to make a profit without reducing working conditions.

*Insight*, a magazine produced by workers on the B+I vessel *MV Connacht*, details the harsh conditions suffered by seafarers.

"We would humbly submit that it's new management, not a new plan that's needed," it says. "Give us a manager who knows how to manage. Not an accountant who counts, but a manager who will be accountable."

**King cancels wage-rise**

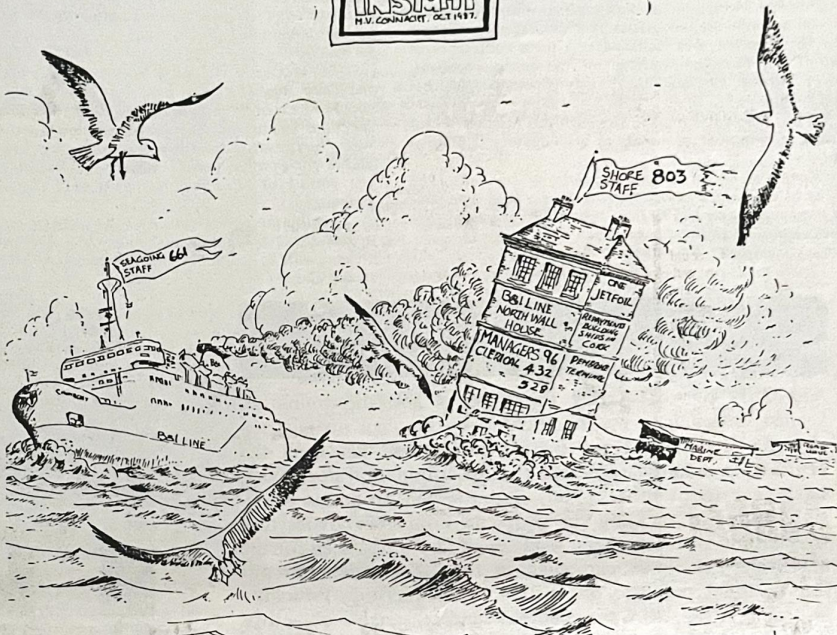
Workers at King Crisps in Dublin have voted to strike from October 27th in the first-ever official action at the Inchicore plant. The firm is owned by the US-based multinational, Beatrice Foods, and has reneged on an agreement with the ITGWU to pay a £4.50 per week increase from May. The 60 workers at the factory suffer the worst pay and conditions of Beatrice Foods' three plants in the Dublin area.

**Equality?**

The continuing injustice faced by Irish women when they receive their pay packets ought to be more amazing than it is. Newspapers seldom seem to find it important that, after years of 'equality' legislation, women receive around 62% of men's average wage. Here are the current figures for the Six and 26-County areas:

	Male average wage	Female average wage
26 Counties	£217	£132 (punts)
Six Counties	£171	£108 (sterling)

# B+I bungling



PRESENT RATIO: MARINE (SEA-GOING)	661	=	803	SHORE STAFF
POST REDUNDANCY: MARINE (SEA-GOING)	345	=	389	?? ??

**Rural poverty**

A picture of serious rural poverty emerged at the Macra na Feirme conference in Limerick this week in direct contrast to suggestions by government and some Labour and Workers' Party politicians that there is "no such thing as a poor farmer".

In a Foras Taluntais (the 26-County agricultural board) survey of 195,000 farms, over half had an average family income of £4,327 per year, but of these two out of three were well below that level. 30% of old people had none of the five basic water amenities (a sink, washbasin, bath, toilet or hot water). With this poverty comes a great sense of isolation as one third of old people in a

recent survey said they generally don't meet another person for days on end.

Small farmers are becoming increasingly dependent on alternative employment as their smallholdings fail to produce a living.

**Cutting information**

Closure of the National Social Service Board (NSSB), announced last week under the Haughey government cutbacks, is to be resisted by the Local Government & Public Services Union (LGPSU) and, if necessary, staff will continue to operate the functions of the board with trade union support.

The NSSB provides advice and information about 26-County social services independently of government departments which may only disclose what information the minister allows. The Board can therefore tell the full truth while a departmental civil servant may not be able to. The NSSB sends out

detailed information packages to unions, local libraries and community groups and employs around 20 people.

Health Minister Rory O'Hanlon plans to transfer the Board's functions to the health boards but not to provide them with any extra finance. Dublin governments have traditionally made it difficult for people to know their rights. By effectively ending the independent information service, O'Hanlon is taking this one stage further.

Phil Flynn, general secretary of the LGPSU, has committed his union to helping the workers on full strike pay while they carry on the services of the NSSB and union officials will tour the 26 Counties in a campaign to reverse the government decision.

"This gives the lie to any suggestion that the unions gave any commitment under the 'National Plan' not to fight the cuts. We will take issues like this and fight them through," said Flynn.

# SPIRAL OF POVERTY

BY MAEVE ARMSTRONG

THE proposed implementation of the controversial Social Fund next April is incontrovertible proof that the British government "has nothing to offer the Irish working class, Protestant or Catholic, but further poverty and deprivation", said Sinn Fein MP Gerry Adams. Sinn Fein councillors across the Six Counties are in the process of raising motions calling on councils to provide funding to voluntary organisations so that the general public receives information on the proposed changeover in benefits.

These major changeovers will cause immeasurable hardship for thousands of families in the North. They were strongly criticised by voluntary bodies at a meeting organised by the Belfast

Law Centre in Belfast on Friday, October 16th.

Les Allamby of the Law Centre warned that the Social Fund rules are framed in such a way "that ultimately provide least support to those

most in need". He urged that the existing single payments scheme should not be replaced by loans and community care grants under the proposed new system. If this happened, those under the severest financial pressure could receive no assistance at all. Likewise, community care grants, aimed at helping people in the transition period of moving from residential and institutional care back into the community, were riddled with defects.

Allamby stressed the need for voluntary groups to expose the many inadequacies of the new system.

Interestingly, a few days prior to this meeting, four members of the Social Security Advisory Committee, the main advisory body for social security in Britain, visited the North and listened to a broad spectrum of opinion. As far back as July 1st the committee's report on the Social Fund, set out certain criteria to operate the Fund in order to meet the claimants' needs. These proposals were rejected by the government in August.

On Friday, October 16th, the day after their fact-finding visit to the North, the committee wrote to the government, this time to place on record that the decision to proceed with the Social Fund was "without our support".

Addressing a meeting of Sinn Fein community workers, also on October

16th, Gerry Adams pointed to the grim statistics of poverty in Inner West Belfast where "only 22% of the entire population are in full-time employment with 60% of families surviving on less than £61 per week."

"At a time when millions are being handed back to the rich in tax funds the introduction of the Social Fund would force thousands of families into a downward spiral of debt and poverty."

Under the loans system each DHSS office will have a limited yearly budget. "This will inevitably mean," said Adams, "that not only will the unemployed be discriminated against at an individual level but at community level because areas of most deprivation will exhaust their yearly budgets before areas with less poverty."

# TACKLING DIS

**BRITISH ATTEMPTS** to remove the issue of discrimination from the political agenda have received a further blow with the publication of a proposed Sinn Fein Policy document to be presented at this year's Ard Fheis: *Setting the Criteria - Tackling Discrimination*.

The paper, which includes an analysis of discrimination as well as proposals and criteria by which effective changes can be measured, was launched at a press conference in Belfast on Monday morning by the party president, Gerry Adams MP, and Derry City Councillor Mitchel McLaughlin.

In his opening remarks, McLaughlin criticised recent British government proposals as inadequate and pointed out that:

"They will not even have the force of law until 1988 or early 1989, after which there will be a long time scale of implementation before they take effect, if indeed they have any effect at all."

He concluded:

"The onus is on the British government to state when it

estimates that its proposals will lead to the eradication of discrimination and when equality of opportunity will be realised.

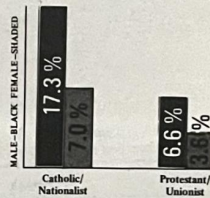
"Our proposals are much stronger and more binding than any suggested by the British government. We call for more extensive monitoring and for the imposition of sanctions against not just employers but personnel staff who practice discrimination. We call for legislation which allows for more extensive powers of complaint and for the vetting of all signatories to a new declaration of practice.

"Finally, the criteria which we set out here rest on the actual effect of their implementation - they must lead to an end to sectarian discrimination within tangible time scales."

illusion of movement as a brief chronological review of statistics shows.

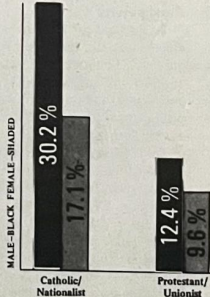
1968: Stormont rule: Civil Rights Movement campaign against, among other issues, job discrimination.

1971: Unemployment rate

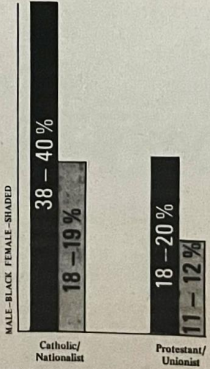


1972: Direct rule by Westminster.  
1973: Van Straubenzee Report.  
1976: Fair Employment Act and creation of Fair Employment Agency.

1981: Unemployment rate



1985: Unemployment rate\*



\* Estimated figures by Bob Rowthorn, a Cambridge economist.

**ALMOST 20 years** after the issue of job discrimination against nationalists was highlighted by the civil rights struggle, the response of the British government has been the begrudging acknowledgement that discrimination does exist. Last year (September 1986), it published proposals ostensibly aimed at tackling the problem. Sinn Fein argues that they would not have been made at all had it not been for the MacBride Principles campaign in the USA which has put international pressure on Britain. The MacBride Principles are seen in the USA as acceptable and reasonable objectives on a parallel with the campaign for the adoption of the Sullivan (Anti-Apartheid) Principles, upon which they are based.

Furthermore, the reaction of the British government (and direct-ruler Tom King's recent visit to the USA) validates this campaign.

Sinn Fein is highly critical of SDLP leader John Hume's attempts to scuttle the MacBride campaign.\*

**BACKGROUND**

Discrimination in Ireland on the grounds of religious belief and/or political opinion has been synonymous with and is a product of British control. Inequality is the price of a system of privilege.

When Britain partitioned Ireland in 1921, it was a sectarian head-count which decided the territory of the Northern state. Partition led to a much more structured sectarianism in the system than that which had existed before. The state in all its decisions - political, social, economic, educational, employment practices - reflected that basic sectarianism.

So it is the British government and its predecessors (the ultimate guarantors of the Six-County state) which must be held responsible for the discrimination against Catholics during the period of the Stormont regime but even more so since Stormont was prorogued in 1972.

From 1921 until 1969, Britain maintained the convention that "the domestic affairs of Northern Ireland" were not discussed at Westminster. Since 1972, it has been directly responsible for the deliberate refusal to take the necessary steps to erad-

icate job discrimination. As can be shown, it has not undertaken reform voluntarily and has always had to be pushed: firstly, by the Civil Rights Movement and by international media exposure of loyalist rule; more recently, as a result of the MacBride campaign and by the need to undermine nationalist dissent by delivering reforms to the SDLP leadership and Dublin government as part of the battle between republicans and constitutionalists for the hearts and minds of the nationalist people.

This paper does not intend arguing the republican contention that Britain cannot reform the Six-County state to the extent that support dwindles for the aspiration for Irish reunification. Its proposals are:

(i) To show that Britain - as the *de facto* government - is responsible for job discrimination against Catholics/nationalists and that it has shown no genuine interest in tackling the problem;

(ii) To set down alternative proposals which deal more effectively with the problem this time; and

(iii) To set as the ultimate criterion of any proposals the actual effect of their implementation.

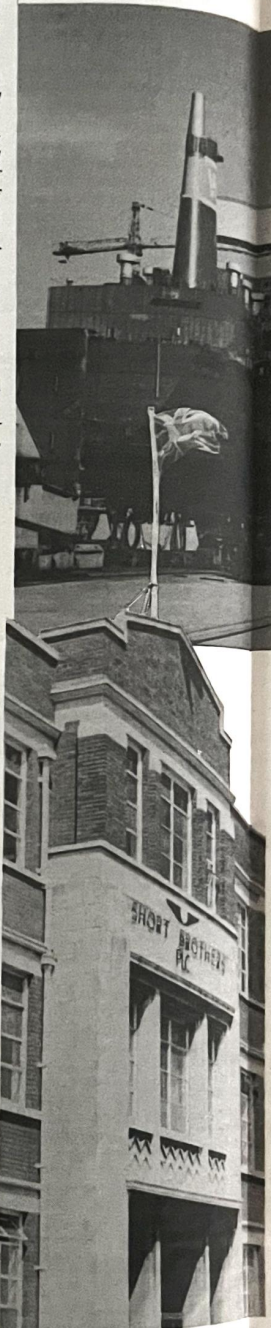
**EXERCISE**

Fourteen years ago, over a four-year period from 1973 to 1976, Britain was engaged in a seen-to-be-doing-something exercise which successfully removed discrimination as a live issue from the political agenda.

The Report and Recommendations of the Working Party on Discrimination in the Private Sector of Employment (the van Straubenzee Report) was published in 1973. The Fair Employment Act was passed in 1976, followed by the creation of the Fair Employment Agency.

Clearly, Britain was engaged in the

\*"The (British) government has powerful allies. John Hume of the Social Democratic and Labour Party, whose influence in Irish America is tremendous, strongly opposes MacBride. So, largely because of Mr Hume, do powerful Irish Americans in the Senate, centring on Teddy Kennedy." - David McKiltrick, *The Independent*, October 2nd 1987.



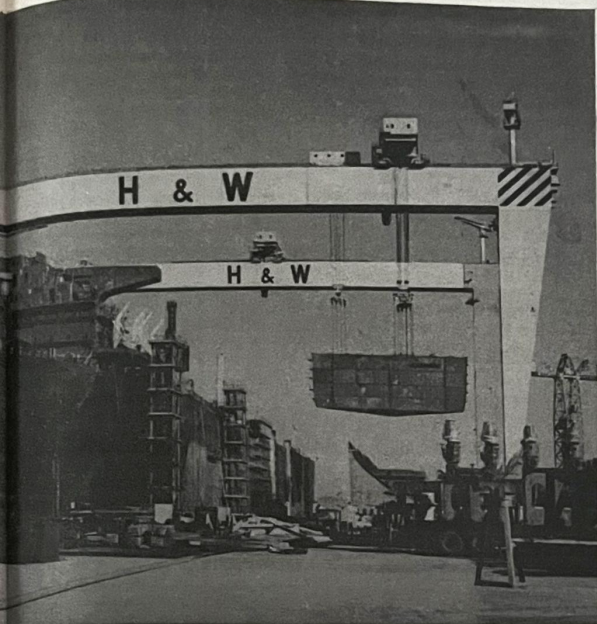
1987: Almost twenty years on and against a background of disimprovement, the structural nature of job discrimination has not been tackled.

Twenty years on and the only areas in which there is broad public agreement is an acknowledgement that job discrimination does exist and the general manner in which it manifests itself.

The public debate on the issue has forced the British government to acknowledge and reiterate the basic facts:

1. Discrimination and inequality

# DISCRIMINATION



by the disparity between the mainly Catholic rural west and the mainly Protestant industrial east, and again by the high rate of Catholic unemployment in those areas where they are a minority and industry is located; (See table below)

9. It persists despite an annual turnover of 100,000 jobs in the Six-County workforce (representing some 20% of that workforce) and despite a progressive convergence of educational attainment between the two communities.

### MacBRIDE

Sinn Fein supports the MacBride Principles for equality of opportunity in employment because of their inherent justness.

We support the ethical investment campaign for the adoption of these modest measures by US companies operating in the Six Counties.

Our position is based on the clear understanding that equality of opportunity has not been realised.

Investors have a responsibility for the provision of equality of opportunity in employment. They should be obliged to uphold that responsibility.

In a very real sense, the MacBride Principles campaign has put job discrimination back on the political agenda and provoked the Department of Economic Development's (DED) consultative document *Future Strategy Options* and the *Guide to Effective Practice* in September 1987, with legislative proposals in the pipeline.

### BRITISH PROPOSALS

Sinn Fein suspects that the British government is involved in creating yet another illusion of movement on the discrimination issue, aimed at relieving the political pressure and getting the issue off the agenda. Its attitude to affirmative action would indicate that this is the case.

In formulating the legislation based on the van Straubenzee Report, the then British Labour government totally ignored one of the major elements within the key affirmative action proposal of that report - the use of statistics for purposes of monitoring and establishing goals and timetables.

The DED's consultative document *Future Strategy Options* does not even make reference to the goals and timetables concept. It is dealt with in the *Guide to Effective Practice* but only in relation to job applications, thus excluding a vital element in affirmative action from being applied to hiring, training, transfer or promotion.\*

There is no legal obligation to implement anything contained in the guide. There is no indication that the explicit use of goals and timetables will be codified in any future legislation.

### CONTRACT COMPLIANCE

In addition, the British government has been trumpeting 'contract compliance' as a

\*The Department of Economic Development, the agency tasked with informing employers on employment practices aimed at countering discrimination, is itself at the heart of the controversy. *Shorts, the aircraft manufacturers, is wholly owned by the British government. In effect, it is controlled by the DED through public funding. Composition of the Shorts workforce of 7,000 is approximately 95% Protestant/Unionist, 5% Catholic/Nationalist. It is also the department responsible for government training schemes (GTS) in which, in 1985, it was found that out of 110 senior posts only 16 were held by Catholic/Nationalists. Further allegations about discrimination in the employment practices of the GTS were made in June of this year.*

major incentive for ensuring that employers provide equality of opportunity in employment. Sinn Fein agrees that contract compliance can be an effective contributory measure.

However, it is the detail of what employers are required to comply with which ascertains the potential effectiveness of that measure. In this case they must be signatories to a new Declaration of Practice. Indications are that the wording of the affirmative action content of that new declaration will be very restricted, immediately diluting its potential. In effect, the current 8,000 signatories of the Declaration of Principle and Intent will simply be transferred to a register of signatories of the new Declaration of Practice, this validating their contract compliance.

Overall, the British government version of contract compliance appears unlikely to be an effective measure in either the short or medium term.

Furthermore, the British government's deliberate use of the 'merit principle' as the sole criterion for employment can only be interpreted as deliberately insulting. Implicit in that criterion is the suggestion that the victims of discrimination are:

1. Unemployed because they are incapable of working;
2. Unskilled because they are incapable of learning a skill;
3. Excluded from higher grades and earnings because they are incompetent.

It implies that it is the victims of discrimination who are the problem and not the system of discrimination. For those most affected by discrimination - its victims - the 'when' is of at least as much importance as the 'how'.

### CHALLENGE

On the basis of its proposals, the British government must be challenged to answer the following.

1. When does it estimate that discrimination will be eradicated?
2. When does it estimate that equality of opportunity will be realised?

The British government has refused to answer these questions. It is clear that it is once again engaged in a seen-to-be-doing-something exercise and that there will be no real change.

Political pressure has proven to be the only effective measure to cause the British government to move in any direction on this issue.

Political pressure must be maintained until that movement proves to be constructive, until evidence of positive qualitative and quantitative effect is produced, until discrimination practices are eradicated and until equality of opportunity is realised.

To realise fair employment, equality of opportunity and the eradication of job discrimination, Britain must dismantle the system of economic apartheid on which the state is maintained (and on which it was founded).

Sinn Fein does not believe that the eradication of discrimination can be achieved within the confines of the Six-County state or under the auspices of a British government. Nevertheless, the responsibility of attempting to tackle this historic/structural problem lies with the British government as creators of and apologists for the Six-County state. We repeat that the ultimate criterion of any proposals is the actual effect of their implementation - they must lead to an end to sectarian discrimination in employment within tangible time-scales.

Unemployment Rate by District Council Area, Sex and Religion (%)

District	Male		Female	
	Catholic	Protestant	Catholic	Protestant
Antrim	24.5	10.5	20.4	9.6
Ards	21.2	9.8	12.0	9.8
Armagh	28.8	10.2	15.9	9.5
Ballymena	22.1	11.1	14.0	9.0
Ballymoney	30.0	16.4	13.7	9.1
Banbridge	23.1	11.0	18.9	9.8
Belfast	31.4	15.6	18.3	14.1
Carrickfergus	20.5	22.7	8.9	10.6
Castlereagh	8.6	9.2	6.9	16.4
Coleraine	27.5	16.4	13.9	10.1
Cookstown	43.3	14.4	26.6	12.6
Craigavon	30.4	11.0	19.5	9.6
Down	19.7	8.9	11.6	9.0
Dungannon	36.7	12.7	24.0	11.6
Fermanagh	30.1	11.1	17.1	9.6
Larne	34.0	13.1	13.7	10.9
Limavady	36.7	14.3	16.2	11.4
Lisburn	22.1	8.8	15.8	9.6
Derry	35.8	14.4	17.6	10.1
Magherafelt	31.9	16.5	17.5	11.0
Moyle	31.1	21.0	16.2	15.1
Newry and Mourne	35.5	14.8	20.0	12.0
Newtownabbey	18.1	11.8	11.5	8.9
North Down	11.1	7.1	9.2	7.0
Omagh	27.2	10.9	15.6	9.4
Strabane	39.0	21.9	20.4	13.6

Source: 1981 Population Census, unpublished data.

Note: The true figures for Catholic unemployment rates may actually be higher; the 1981 census was boycotted by many nationalists in protest at the British government's 'criminalisation' policy.

opportunity in employment on the grounds of religious belief and/or political opinion does exist;

2. Its effects are both qualitative and quantitative on the Catholic/nationalist population.

3. The rate of unemployment for Catholics/nationalists has varied between double and two-and-a-half times that of the Protestant/unionist population.

4. The former suffer more long-term unemployment;

5. They are over-represented in semi-

skilled and unskilled occupations and in industries which are more susceptible to the effects of economic recession and recurrent high unemployment;

6. They have a major problem in gaining access to the higher grades and earnings of, for example, supervisory and managerial positions;

7. That pattern applies to both public and private sector employment;

8. It obtains throughout the Six Counties - even in areas of relatively high employment. This structural inequality is shown

ONLY the eradication of discrimination and the realisation of equality of opportunity in employment — clearly visible in a workforce which by and large reflects the denominational ratios in the community as a whole — will indicate that the definitive effective policies and practices concerning those issues have been arrived at and implemented.

Until such a situation is reached, all measures — legal, institutional, procedural and remedial — must be considered, subject to ongoing regular reviews on the basis of their effectiveness. There must be no blind allegiance to any legislation or agency established by law.

Subject to that criterion, Sinn Fein submits its proposals:

1. The existence of discrimination in employment on the grounds of religious belief or political opinion is irrefutable, as is the denial of equal opportunity in employment which flows from that discrimination. Clear and comprehensive legal powers are required to eradicate discrimination and to ensure that equality of opportunity is realised.

2. Current provision outlaws direct discrimination on the grounds of religious belief or political opinion. Legal provision must be made for the outlawing of indirect discrimination and the practices entailed therein, which have the same consequences as direct discrimination.

3. Self-regulation has proved almost totally ineffective. Statutory obligations for the eradication of discrimination and the provision of equal opportunity are essential. The obligation to provide equality of opportunity must be imposed on all employers in both the public and private sectors.

That obligation must entail, as a minimum, the eradication of all discriminatory practices — both direct and indirect — and monitoring.

4. Failure to meet those obligations must be met with effective legal sanctions in the form of fines, grant withdrawal or ineligibility to tender for public contracts. This must include not just public funding but grants from the International Fund established after the signing of the Hillsborough Treaty.

Legal provision must allow for the imposition of sanctions not just against employers but also members of staff — particularly personnel staff — who practice discrimination.

5. Monitoring is essential but it should not be construed as, nor advanced as being, affirmative action.

Of itself, when effectively carried out, it does no more than to inform us in detail of what we already know more generally.

Effective monitoring, therefore, provides the information upon which the need for remedy is identified. The following appropriate affirmative action is proposed:

(a) Employers must be obliged to monitor the perceived religious affiliation of:

(i) Their current workforce, including job category (i.e. skilled, unskilled, clerical, supervisory, managerial, etc.);

(ii) All job applicants for new-starts or those judged suitable for training, transfer, promotion and those appointed;

(iii) All those who resign, are dismissed, made redundant, retire, etc;

(b) Employers must be obliged to conduct such monitoring on an ongoing basis, make regular returns to the relevant agency and be open to assessment *vis-a-vis* the effectiveness and accuracy of their monitoring programme;

(c) This requirement to apply to all employers with ten or more employees;

(d) Financial assistance must be made available to employers in the public and private sectors to set up monitoring programmes.

6. Legislation must allow for the initiation of investigation into both



# SINN FEIN PROPOSALS



discrimination and the provision of equality of opportunity by the relevant agency on:

(a) The initiative of the agency itself;

(b) The issuing of a complaint by an individual;

(c) The issuing of a complaint by individuals or groups which have a legitimate third-party interest and, where either or both are identified, to impose appropriate effective remedies.

Such remedies must be subject to on-going review *vis-a-vis* their effectiveness and, where necessary, subject to revision without the requirement of a new investigation.

7. Where discrimination or failure to provide equality of opportunity are identified either as a result of monitoring programmes, investigation by the relevant agency or where evidence of such already exists in reports of investigations carried out by the Fair Employment Agency, appropriate agreed affirmative action programmes must be implemented.

The scope of such affirmative action programmes — the explicit use of which must be codified in legislation — must include as a minimum:

(a) Outreach programmes which will effectively attract candidates from the under-represented group by bringing job opportunities to their attention and providing them with the skills to compete;

(i) Through advertisement of job opportunities in the appropriate media;

(ii) Through advertisements expressly welcoming applicants from the under-represented group.

(iii) By developing sustained contact with schools, youth organisations, com-

munity groups etc, in the community from which, hitherto, the workforce has not traditionally been drawn;

(iv) By the provision of special training facilities, on an exclusive basis where necessary, to an under-represented group to off-set the traditional denial of the required skills through discriminatory employment practices;

(v) By the provision of comprehensive training on government training schemes at secure, accessible locations;

(b) The use of statistics for purposes of establishing goals and timetables to eradicate discriminatory practices, or both, and to redress the imbalance in the make-up of workforces which such abuses have resulted in;

(c) The exercise of preferential treatment between equally qualified candidates in favour of the under-represented group where there is a gross under-representation.

8. The current practice of self-certification whereby an employer simply signs the Fair Employment Agency's Declaration of Principle and Intent in order to be entitled to an Equal Opportunity Certificate — and eligibility for inclusion in British government contract lists — is at best ineffective, at worst, a fraud.

The FEA cannot refuse to allow an employer to sign the Declaration and the requirement of a long formal investigation before a signatory can be removed from the register of certified declarants guarantees its ineffectiveness.

To date, not one employer has been removed from the register of declarants.

(a) The disbursement of all British

government grants — training, equipment, investment grants and employment subsidies — and eligibility for inclusion in British government contract lists must be made conditional on all employers committing themselves to equal opportunity practices in a new Declaration of Principle. This to apply to all grants from the International Fund and, where applicable, to Industrial Development Board (IDB) grants and Local Enterprise Development Unit (LEDU) grants and financial assistance.

(IDB and LEDU grants must also have a general equality discipline.)

(b) The wording of the new Declaration of Practice, to have any potential effect, must encompass the full scope of effective equality of opportunity practices.

(c) All current signatories must have their employment practices vetted in a specified period of time — the length of that period being conducive to the realisation of equal opportunity practice in the short term.

(d) All new declarants must have their employment practices vetted before being allowed to take the Declaration.

(e) The life-span of the Declaration must not be open-ended. It must be limited, after which an employer must justify the renewal of the Declaration. The life-span of the Declaration must be conducive to the realisation of equal opportunity practice in the short term.

(f) A new Declaration of Practice will be as potentially ineffective and fraudulent as the current Declaration of Intent and Principle if British government funding for the relevant agency is not commensurate with its task (i.e. it would take ten years to vet the current 8,000 signatories of the Declaration of Intent and Principle at the rate of 15 per week).

## RESOURCES

The British government must publish immediately the financial and personnel resources it intends putting at the disposal of the relevant agency so that its seriousness in regard to these issues can be assessed.

9. The effects of discrimination and/or the failure to provide equality of opportunity are both qualitative and quantitative. Evidence of progress can be easily measured and verified.

Annual progress reports — both general to the workforce as a whole and specific to individual employers — must be published on an annual basis and made available to members of the public on request. Statutory obligation to do so must be placed on the relevant agency and all employers with ten or more employees.

10. All major economic decisions must have an equality discipline.

In this context, steps must be taken to redress the discriminatory effects of such matters as the location of industry.

The British government must provide the necessary incentives and infrastructure to attract proposed new enterprises and actively encourage co-operative enterprises in the most disadvantaged areas.

11. Equality of opportunity in employment is directly impinged upon in the workplace where the working environment is provocative, offensive, intimidating or perceived as such by a section of the workforce.

Employers must be obliged to keep the workplace free of all political/religious emblems, flags, graffiti, rallies, marches, etc, which might be offensive or intimidating to other groups of workers.

Legal sanctions must be used against employers who refuse to comply with the necessary and stipulated measures.

Employers, in consultation with the relevant trade unions, must adopt effective disciplinary procedures for dealing with transgressors.

Legal sanctions must be used against employees or others who intimidate.

# POLITICAL VETTING OPPOSED

BY MOIRA CONNOLLY

A PUBLIC MEETING was held in West Belfast's Conway Mill on Tuesday night, October 20th, to highlight the issue of political vetting. The meeting was organised by the recently-formed Community Groups Against Vetting (CGAV).

Fifty people attended the event which was held two days before the Belfast City Council by-elections in the Lower Falls and Upper Falls constituencies. All candidates standing for election were invited to attend and address the question, "What does your party have to offer our community?" with special emphasis on the issue of political vetting.

Earlier in the day a news-sheet was distributed throughout West Belfast. "The news-sheet, said the Community Groups Against Vetting, 'has been compiled by a number of community and tenants' associations in Belfast to highlight the systematic withdrawal of public funds from independent community projects in nationalist areas of Belfast, with the loss of ACE jobs and to ask: 'Which political parties and candidates have actively defended our community groups and which... have stood by and done nothing, and encouraged the British government in its efforts to stifle independent community initiatives in our areas?'"

Of the six parties fielding candidates in the by-elections, only three sent representatives. Sinn Fein's two candidates, Fra

McCann and Mairtin O Muilleoir, attended as did the Labour & Trade Union candidate for Upper Falls, Micky Duffy. Michael Morrissey, the Communist Party candidate, was unable to attend but he did send a representative.

The Alliance Party, SDLP and Workers' Party were conspicuous by their absence.

## SMEAR CAMPAIGN

It was the SDLP which, in 1983, initiated a smear campaign against the community and tenants' groups in an effort to justify their own inactivity. The SDLP claimed that groups were being 'taken over by paramilitaries'.

In 1985, SDLP Councillor Brian Feeney intensified the campaign and openly called on the British government to take action against community groups in nationalist areas which did not share his brand of politics. Feeney named specific groups, among them the Conway Mill Job Creation Project from which all funding was subsequently withdrawn and which has, ever since, been the target of a vicious campaign designed to destroy the project.

Over the past two years,



● The SDLP's Brian Feeney who called on the British government to act against nationalist community groups in 1985

projects such as a creche, an Irish-language nursery and an adult education centre have fallen victim to political vetting.

All four candidates pledged their support for any action the CGAV committee plans to take against political vetting. Fra McCann pointed out that it was important for all the small, independent ACE groups to be identified and brought together to fight the political vetting.

## TWINBROOK

The Twinbrook Tenants' & Community Association noted that their ACE positions had been

offered to St Luke's but that Fr McGee had told the Department of Economic Development that he wouldn't take them. He felt the TTCA was doing fine work and that it was wrong for St Luke's to benefit from the DED's arbitrary decision to withdraw funds from the TTCA.

Many different ideas were suggested on how to tackle the issue of political vetting and everyone agreed that pressure must be put on the 'absent' political parties, the trade unions and the British government to win support and get political vetting stopped.

## Disabled forced out

A SOCIAL CLUB for disabled people is being forced to leave its premises in Dublin's Pearse Square because of intimidation by local youths.

The Friday social evenings, organised by JOY, a group which brings together disabled people, have been ruined by youths who light fires in the playground outside the hall and harass people attending the club, many of whom are in wheelchairs.

JOY has appealed to Dublin Corporation to install floodlights outside the hall as proper lighting would discourage the actions of these vandals.

## PRIORITY

Joe Goucher, a parent of a disabled child who uses the club, said that it was difficult to find another hall in the area that is suitable for wheelchair-bound people. The club's organisers are hoping that Dublin Corporation will make the provision of proper lighting a priority to ensure that it does not have to close.

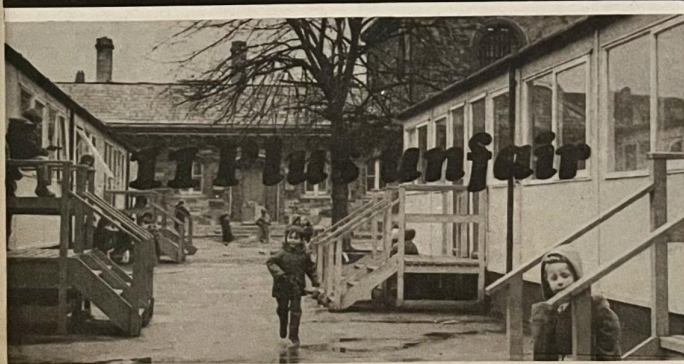
For many disabled people, the JOY clubs provide their only social activity. They deserve every support to continue their work.

## Boycott Coulter call

SINN FEIN Derry City Councillor Mitchel McLaughlin has called for a boycott of a concert by Phil Coulter, the Derry musician and songwriter, this Friday, October 23rd, because of his management of singers who have performed in South Africa.

Coulter was responsible for Geraldine Brannigan and Joe Dolan playing in the apartheid state and he also supervised recording sessions in Sun City. He has repeatedly ignored communications from the Irish Anti-Apartheid Movement and remains on the United Nations register of artists who have links with South Africa.

Calling on people to boycott Coulter's concert "in solidarity with the struggle for freedom of the victims of apartheid", McLaughlin also condemned the "contribution to apartheid and exploitation of black workers" by Irish people who emigrate to South Africa.



BY MOIRA CONNOLLY

LAST WEEK, schoolchildren throughout the Six Counties took the first part of the 11 Plus exam. The sad reality is that three quarters of these children will fail the exam and be assigned to the educational scrapheap.

The 11 Plus selection procedure determines what type of post-primary school a child attends: grammar or secondary intermediate.

It was the 1947 Education Act which created different schools and the Act spoke of "secondary education for all" and "equality

of opportunity". In reality, the system has never worked in this way

While grammar schools barely increased their percentage of pupils (2.2% increase) between 1978 and 1985, they hired 24 more teachers while 270 second-

ary school teachers lost their jobs.

The overwhelming majority of teachers in the North recognise the inequalities in the present system and have, over the years, called for changes, notably to comprehensive education.

Sinn Fein's spokesperson on education, Pat Rice, has condemned the 11 Plus exam system as grossly unfair to both children and their parents:

"It is ridiculous to place young children under such high

levels of stress and then label them failures if they don't do well in the exams."

Parents are now feeling the pressure to invest in expensive study aids and books in order to help their children. This just isn't possible for many parents with the high level of unemployment in the Six Counties.

## OPPORTUNITIES

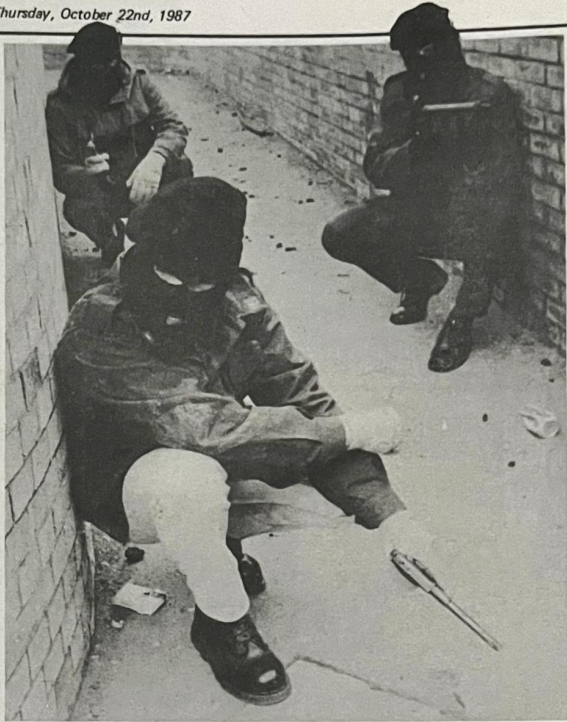
Rice outlined Sinn Fein's proposals:

"There should be a junior comprehensive sector for 11 to 14-year-olds where there would be opportunities to sample a wide variety of relevant academic and non-academic subjects so that students might discover their aptitudes and find out which skills are likely to be in demand. This will better prepare students and their parents to freely decide what options to choose in senior comprehensive school from 14 to 16 years (compulsory) to 18+ years (optional)."

The British Conservative government's hostility to change in comprehensive schools leaves parents, students and teachers in little doubt that there will be any moves in the near future toward equal education for all children.

# Máire Póist

AP/RN, 58 Parnell Square, Dublin 1.



## THE IRISH WAR

A Chairde,  
Usually I am reluctant to criticise any organisation in Britain which claims to support the struggle of the Irish people for self-determination. Given that chauvinism hangs like a blight over the British labour and trade union movement, such support is invaluable. Nevertheless, I feel that I must agree with Cathal MacCormack when he condemns the elitist approach of the authors of the book, *The Irish War* (AP/RN, September 24th).

The book sets out to establish a case for support which is but a crude challenge to the rest of the British left from the RCP - either you support unconditionally the Irish war or you are in the imperialist camp. This leads to the contemptuous dismissal of the sincere efforts of groups such as Troops Out, Connolly Association, Labour Committee on Ireland and the Irish in Britain Representation Group. This presumably is how Trotskyists go about winning friends and influencing people.

It is precisely such sectarian posturing which has helped to fragment the forces in support of the Irish national struggle.  
Bearing in mind the role of socialists in the oppressor country, it is essential that all progressive forces support and campaign on those demands which emanate from Sinn Féin as the vanguard of the revolutionary democratic struggle in Ireland. Demands such as:

- The repeal of the Emergency Powers Act.
  - The ending of the Diplock courts and the release of political prisoners.
  - The ending of strip-searching as a means of harassment.
  - The banning of plastic bullets.
- Sean Morgan,  
London SW11.

Dear comrades,  
I read with a growing sense of déjà vu Cathal MacCormack's review of *The Irish War - the Irish Freedom Movement Handbook* and I'm sure I'm not alone.

Anyone who has had experience of solidarity movements will recognise the signs of ultra-leftism/Trotskyism. Korea, Vietnam, Cuba, Chile and Southern Africa have all had solidarity movements in Britain and all have been bedeviled by well meaning people in organisations which appeared to have goals in line with the movement but which insist they have a monopoly on truth. They put forward propositions and tactics which, if adopted, would isolate the movement and leave only the 'pure' to sloganeer into a vacuum. They refuse any approach which would have a chance of really building the mass support which their aims require.

It's been Ireland's problem with regard to solidarity in Britain that the left has failed to build a movement large enough to keep the

ultra-left in perspective - it's about time we got our act together!

By way of a post script it's worth mentioning that with monotonous regularity these ultra-leftist organisations immediately ditch the liberation movements they once supported if they should be successful and denounce them as Stalinists and/or bureaucrats.

R. Jones,  
West Sussex.

A Chairde,  
AP/RN (October 8th) published some letters which were critical of Cathal MacCormack's review of *The Irish War* published by the Irish Freedom Movement. Obviously inherent in these critics' support for the IFM is support for their conception of 'the way forward'. Essentially, according to the IFM, progress will only be made if British anti-imperialists agree with and join them. All other anti-imperialist groups are dismissed as useless and incapable of leading a successful anti-occupation campaign. I would suggest that the IFM, precisely because of its sectarian and ultra-leftist attitudes, is itself incapable of building a significant anti-imperialist movement in Britain.

The IFM is basically nothing more than a front for the tiny British Revolutionary Communist Party. Of the IFM's analyses an RCP-derived and therefore it can never be anything but politically sectarian. *The Irish War* displays the IFM's partiality towards the RCP in an extremely crude manner. The CPI is described as 'a Stalinist rump', the Connolly Association is 'a social circle of ageing Irish Stalinists', the British Labour Party is the 'pro-imperialist organisation of the British labour bureaucracy', the Troops Out Movement is 'moribund' with a 'dwindling band of supporters etc. etc. Leaving aside the validity or invalidity of some of these descriptions, they are exact repetitions of the RCP's line on these different groups. To crown this, the IFM, in its section entitled *Reading the Papers*, informs us:

*"The best combination of reporting from Ireland and analysis of British strategy can be found in the Next Step, the weekly paper of the..."* (wait for it!) *"Revolutionary Communist Party."*

Furthermore the publishing house that the IFM utilises is owned and controlled by the RCP. The fact that the IFM is a front for the RCP doesn't, of course, bother many British workers - or at least that would be the RCP's opinion! After all, as they constantly assure each other, they are "the party of the future". This explains why they are always running conferences and events entitled 'Preparing For Power'. Well, I guess a bit of optimism never hurt anyone? Not true - it can seriously damage solidarity campaigns!

As all socialists know, unwarranted optimism can lead to ultra-leftist attitudes. The RCP/IFM are a good example of this truism. Support for the armed struggle is put forward as a precondition which must be agreed to

before anti-imperialists can participate in their grouping. They don't want any 'wets' in their campaign! As a result of this attitude they will never develop into anything significant - instead they are doomed to march up and down streets achieving nothing. Their ultra-leftist attitude is the result of a poor analysis of the British working class. They believe, for instance, that "many workers' sympathies were more with the IRA than with the Tories" following the Brighton bombing. Talk about wishful thinking! The IFM also claims that "no British worker has ever joined the cause of Irish freedom out of a sense of revulsion against plastic bullets..." etc. What nonsense! We are supposed to believe that workers are all so class-conscious that they never involve themselves in solidarity campaigns until they recognise the class aspect. More RCP optimism I assume; they clearly underestimate the strength of bourgeois hegemony. Socialists must proceed after taking account of reality. The fact is that people are being killed in the Six Counties and most British workers still support their capitalist state.

Recognising the immediacy of the situation, the left in Britain must attempt to build a mass anti-occupation movement. To put forward preconditions that alienate most British workers simply retards the struggle to build this mass movement.  
The RCP would be better off helping to build this movement. It is badly needed - in fact it should have been built a long time ago.

Robert Lake,  
Cork city.

Dear AP/RN,  
I read with interest Cathal MacCormack's review of the IFM's book, *The Irish War*. My response, as an Irish person living in England involved in building the withdrawal movement, is that it was a very perceptive review. Of course it drew the inevitable response from the IFM's supporters. However, when the three letters which were printed are analysed, they appear to prove Cathal MacCormack right.

1. Cathal says: "The main target of the book is not Brit-

ish imperialism but the rest of the British left." All three letters use the opportunity to snipe at organisations in Britain which are working for British withdrawal from Ireland. For the IFM, campaigns on issues such as strip-searching, plastic bullets, shoot-to-kill, etc, are "feeble and populist activities".

As the IFM is a front for the Revolutionary Communist Party which describes itself as "preparing for power", such oppositional politics is not surprising. It is not, however, in the interests of the Irish struggle or of Irish people to have Irish politics in Britain tainted with the particular interests of a British party - whether they are on the left or the right.

2. Cathal says that although the IFM claims to be a solidarity group which supports the IRA it "disregards the policies and wishes of Ireland's freedom fighters, the Republican Movement... in favour of its own perceived ideas of what's good for the Irish people".

Anyone in this country who has seen how the IFM operates knows this to be true. The letters from the IFM supporters show it to be true.

Seoirse O Sionain says the review causes "we (sic) readers (to) begin to wonder and worry about the direction Sinn Féin is heading rather than British/Irish solidarity movements like IFM." Meanwhile, J. W. Henry says: "It sounds as if the IFM has got about right." So much for the "real support" from the IFM in Britain.

If the Republican Movement chooses to criticise the IFM, then we are left in no doubt as to where the IFM supporters' allegiances lie with the IFM, of course. Again, Cathal is correct when he says that the IFM often unashamedly works against "the policies and wishes of the Republican Movement". Hence, Sinn Féin's arguments can be described by J. W. Henry, an ex-British soldier, as "simplistic and unconvincing". Now, is that not one of the finest examples of British chauvinism you ever heard!

It is time that British people learned the true meaning of 'self-determination for

the Irish people as a whole' - i.e. the right of Irish people to determine their own future without interference from would-be know-betters in England - be they on the left or on the right. Self-determination is not just a chant to shout on demonstrations. Its implications have to be taken on board by anyone brought up in this country of "British chauvinism and imperialist thinking".

So it looks to me that Cathal's review has been shown to be correct by the words of the IFM's own supporters.

Niamh Manning,  
Sheffield.

A Chairde,  
I felt that I had to reply to your review of *The Irish War*, the handbook of the Irish Freedom Movement.

I have only recently been won to the cause of Irish freedom after going down to London with my NUPE branch on the IFM's summer demo. You would not believe the trouble I had getting my union members to even hear a speaker on Ireland. I am in the Labour Party but the ironic thing was that the Tories were keen to hear the speaker - because of the coming election and the chance of lost votes the Labour Party was not.

We won the arguments and seven of us went down to London. This would not have happened without the IFM. I must admit that I am now very unsure what to think or do. I would never set myself against Sinn Féin but if this is the way you treat your allies, of which we know there are few, God knows how you treat your enemies. One of the right-wing members of the Labour Party who saw this article is going to use it to get our troops out policy kicked out.

Jesus, you people want it tough.  
Paul Thompson,  
England.

## QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

A Chairde,  
For months I have been trying to fathom out a feasible answer to what appeared

to me to be a fairly basic question. I am writing to you in the hope of an answer. The question is why, in view of the escalating costs, the loss of life and general mayhem, and the ever-present danger of domestic and international political embarrassment if the truth of what is happening in the Six Counties became widespread knowledge, does the British ruling class still cling on in the North-East of Ireland?

1. The traditional military/security reasons that were feasible during the various wars in the past with France or Spain, up to the convoy requirements of the Second World War, are totally irrelevant in the age of long-range missiles, nuclear weapons and Star Wars technology.

2. Whilst guilty of many things, the British ruling class is not generally motivated by nostalgia, let alone masochism, so its intransigence cannot be explained by any alleged love for the unionist kith and kin (remember 'Rhodesia') or as some sentimental gesture for 'old times sake'.

3. Economically, the Six Counties are a liability so the usual profit motive behind colonialism has effectively disappeared, even Thatcher can do without too many de Loreans. Anyway, Britain would still envisage dominating a 32-County Ireland in the same way as it has dominated the 26 Counties, with the 'natives' protecting its investments, as has been the case in nearly all its ex-colonies.

4. Gorbachev did embarrass Thatcher when he countered her waffle about human rights in Eastern Europe by commenting on Britain's role in the Six Counties. I'm surprised he hasn't said more about the whole tragic situation that British intransigence has handed him on a plate, when the likes of Thatcher, Murdoch, Owen, Kinnock, etc, have the affrontery to lecture him on human rights and democracy.

Having scratched my head for some considerable time, I can only think of two possible answers.

1. Southern Irish politicians don't want lunatics like Paisley, Robinson, etc, upsetting the tranquility of Leinster House or, more particularly, the political balance of forces.

2. The British ruling class has already decided to accept reunification, the only outstanding decision being when. I can see a scenario whereby Sinn Féin makes sufficient political advances in the 26 Counties to the extent that it poses a real threat to the establishment parties, with reunification as one of their priority objectives if not the top priority. By implication, for that stage to have been reached, the level of interest and involvement by large numbers of Irish people would have reached a much higher level than at present. Britain would then, having secured its withdrawal from the Six Counties, allowing whoever at the time was the dominant (but lame) party in Leinster House the accolades for having achieved it.

Three bonuses would accrue to that party in addition to Britain getting rid of a major headache.

1. They would become virtually unbeatable politically for years to come.

2. Constitutional nationalism would appear to have been the correct path all along.

3. Sinn Féin would have one of its main reasons for existing, as perceived by many Irish people, removed, with an accompanying drastic drop in support.

That is all I can come up with, and would sincerely welcome your views.  
Peter Williams,  
London.

# REVIEWS

## MUSIC

### Atlantic Bridge

BY ALEX WEST

UILEANN PIPES player Davy Spillane recently unleashed his first solo album on an unsuspecting public. *Atlantic Bridge* displays great musical talent and continues the development of Irish music started by Planxty, De Dannan and Moving Hearts.

To call it a 'solo album' is in a way a misnomer. Spillane has brought together a superb group of musicians, among them his former Moving Hearts colleagues Eoghan O'Neill, Christy Moore, Noel Eccles and Gerg Boland. O'Neill's bass guitar playing is faultless throughout and Eccles' percussion is excellent. Bella Fleck, a talented American musician with several solo albums to his credit - as well as being my rival for the affections of singer Maura O'Connell - plays five-string banjo and acoustic guitar, and Albert Lee's lead guitar is a pleasure to listen to.

The album covers a wide range of music, demonstrating not only Spillane's talent but also the versatility of the uilleann pipes as a musical instrument. Side one begins with some great reels written by Davy Spillane, and then on to *Atlantic Bridge*, the title track. For my money these two pieces are the

most exciting on the record. *O'Neill's Statement*, the last track on side one, brings together Davy Spillane on low whistle and Eoghan O'Neill's fretless bass with great effect.

Side two brings a number of tunes that defy classification. Bella Fleck's *Sliverish* begins in an American country style with five-string banjo but Spillane's uilleann pipes soon transform it into a distinctly Irish tune. Irish folk music was the base from which American country music sprang and the two blend well together today.

Spillane's low whistle gives us a lovely rendition of the Lennon/McCartney song *In My Life* before the final track, *Lansdowne Blues*. Dedicated to musician Declan McNeill, who was stabbed and died in Limerick some months ago, this strong blues tune is a fitting ending to an excellent album. If you've into the music, I would definitely recommend it.



**SIDE 1: Davy's Reels • Atlantic Bridge**  
 • Daire's Dream • Tribute to Johnny Doran • O'Neill's Statement

**SIDE 2: By the River of Gems • Sliverish**  
 • The Pigeon On the Gate • In My Life  
 • Lansdowne Blues

## LEABHAR

### Cúinne an ghiորria

LE MAIRTÍN Mac DIARMADA

SA MHÍ SEO seacht mbliain déag ó shin a fuair Máirtín Ó Cadhain bás. Cailliúnt mór do mhuintir na hÉireann agus do theanga agus cultúr na nGael a bhí sa bhás sin. Mar a dúradh faoin gCadhach:

"Seldom may be found an equation of magnitude in living and creating. You may be afflicted, little people, this is a giant."

Ach cé mhead daoine in Éirinn taobh amuigh de ghluaiséacht na Gaeilge, lucht léinn agus muintir na Gaeltachta as a dtíne sé a bhfuil eolas ar bith acu ar shaoil agus ar shaothar an tír seo? Léiríonn freagra na ceiste sin staid na teanga agus staid na litríochta lenár linn.

#### TRAGÓID

Ba é Ó Cadhain an scríobhneoir Gaeilge is tábhachtaí sa chéad seo, duine de na healaíontóirí is mó i stair ár dtíre. Ní hamháin sin ach aithníodh é mar scríobhneoir méir i litríocht an domhain. Mhí bhí ché agus cail ag baint leis roimh dheireadh a shaoil bhí tragóid ann chomh maith. Bhí an meán inar chruth sé a ealaíon ag meath ós a comhair agus an lucht éisteachta agus an lucht léitheoraictha a bhí aige ag éirí níos lá. Ach ba trodaire é thar an rud eile agus má tá teanga agus litríocht na Gaeilge beo fós tá alán den chreidiúnt ag dul leo.

Anois den chéad uair tá scéal an bheatha seo breacchtha fós i bhform leabhar ag an tSúir Bosco Costigan agus Séan Ó Curraoin. Ar dtús cailthear a rá nach beathaisnéis atá i *De Ghlaschoich an Oileáin*. Abhar beathaisnéis atá ann, ballúcháin de thoinisí,

cuntas agus cuimhín i Uí Chaidhain chomh maith le clár iomláin dá shaothar. Tá an chéad leath den leabhar i bhform in na beathaisnéis ach cuimhín faoi na raibh baint acu leis an gCadhach agus a fhoicail féin atá ann don chuid is mó. Ní chuirim locht ar na húdair dá bharr seo mar is spéisiúl agus is tábhachtach an obair atá déanta acu agus is fiú go mór é a léamh agus a staidéar.

Cailthear tuiscint ar mheon agus tionchar Uí Chaidhain a bheith ag gach duine a bhfuil aon aige nó aise i dslánú na Gaeilge agus in athbhaddhail na hÉireann. Tá leabhar mar seo de dhíth don tuiscint sin, taobh le leamh saothar Mhairtín idir litríocht agus uile.

#### REÁBHLOIDÍ

Ba reábhloidí é agus, ar ndoigh, poblachtánach a raibh aithne maith aige ar lucht frith-reábhloidithe an Saorstáit. Briseadh as a phost mar mhuinteoir é ag an cleir mar bhí sé ina Oglach. Cúpla bliain ina dhiláid sin bhí sé in a phríosínach i gCnoc an Arbhair.

Gabhadh é ansin in Aibreán 1940 agus é tar éis an gráid a thabhairt cois uigh Tony D'Arcy a fuair bás ar stailc



● Máirtín Ó Cadhain ag togh-chdánaocht i gConamara i 1969 agus (thíos) ina mhaic léinn i gColáiste Phádraig, Drom Conrach

ocrais. I Sbéir na hÉireann - Currach Chill Dara - a chait sé na blianta go dtí 1944. B'ann a scríobh sé cuid mhór dá shaothar, obair a d'athraigh litríocht na Gaeilge. Ach ní ar an litríocht atá an beim sa leabhar seo ach ar gach gné de shaoil Uí Chaidhain.

#### FIMÍNTÉACHAS

Is léir nach raibh sé ciúin riamh, i gcónaí ag scríobh, ag labhairt, ag léamh, ag eagrú agus cospóir amháin aige ó thús go deireadh - slánú na Gaeilge agus athbhaddhail na hÉireann agus iad mar a gcéanna. Ní raibh teanga níos seirbhe ag cáineadh firmínteachas agus cur u gceill rialtais agus an stát-seirbhís na Sé Chontae is Fiche. Ag scríobh foinín *Bán ar Athbheobhan* na Gaeilge a foilsíodh ag an rialtas i 1965 dúirt an Cadhnach:

"When cutting corn in my native Cois Fharráige we used to call the last standing sickleful of a field 'cúinne an ghiorra' (the hare's corner). We believed an fúach (the hunt) had sheltered there. This, I learnt later, was the spirit of the corn, of the harvest. There are a few cornered Gaeltachts which

haven't yet fallen to the Old Man of the Scythe."  
 Ba bhag cúinne an ghiorra i 1965. Tá sé níos lá anois cé go bhfuil dul chun cinn i 'gcúinní' eile sa ghort.

#### BÁNÚ NA TÍRE

Agus mé ag léamh an leabhar seo labhair Brian Lenihan le *Newweek* sna Stáit Aontaithe. "We can't all live on a small island" - tá polasáid bhánú na Gaeltachta agus bánú na tíre ar fad ag dul ar aghaidh. An tragóid a scríobh Ó Cadhain faoi sa ghearrscéal *An Bhlain 1912* tá sé ag titim amach arís i bhform eile.

An taon dóchas atá ann ná bhfuil na trodaire fós linn. Maireann tionchar Uí Chaidhain i measc reábhloidithe agus is é an chuid is tábhachtaí dá chreidimh nach féidir an reábhloid a bheith ann gan an reábhloid cultúrtha.

Is fiú go mór an leabhar seo a léamh agus, más féidir, é a ceannach, cé go bhfuil praghas ard air. Mar a dúirt mé tá cuid mhaith scríbhinní Uí Chaidhain féin ann, cuimhín, liosta saothair agus go leor griangrafanna. I measc a scríbhinní féin atá ann tá *Tuige Nach Bhfuil Litríocht na Gaeilge ag Fás?*, *Béal-oidéas agus Gluaiseacht na Gaeilge: Gluaiseacht ar Strae* chomh maith lena chéad ghearrscéal *Máda an Yáillúra*.

Tá filíocht ann a scríobhadh in omós dó agus tabhairfidh mé an focal scoir do Joe Steve Ó Neachtain i gCáinseadh Uí Chaidhain: *Leagamar síos thá sa gce' faoinn scríobh níl.*

Do ghróir borb bríomhar ní chloisfeir níos mó  
 Ach beidh lorg do lámh de leamh ar gach tinteán,  
 Is macalla do smaointe dár reorú ón uaigh.

De Ghlaschoich an Oileáin - Beatha agus Saothar Mhairtín Uí Chaidhain leis an tSúir Bosco Costigan agus Séan Ó Curraoin, foilsithe ag Cló Iar-Chonnachta. Praghas £9.95.

## IMEACHTAÍ

FIANNA FAIL NATIONAL EXEC ANTI-EXTRADITION PICKET  
 7pm Thursday 22nd October  
 Flanna Fail Head Office  
 Mount Street  
 DUBLIN

Organised by the Irish Anti-Extradition Committee

IRISH ANTI-EXTRADITION CAMPAIGN

PUBLIC MEETINGS  
 8.30pm Thursday 22nd October  
 St Eugene's Hall  
 MOVILLE  
 County Donegal

8pm Friday 23rd October  
 Boylan Community Centre  
 DUN LAOGHAIRE  
 Speakers: Fr Denis Carroll,  
 Joe Costello & Alastair Rutherford

8.30pm Tuesday 27th October  
 Queens's Hotel  
 ENNIS  
 County Clare  
 Speakers: Captain James Kelly  
 & Gordon Hayes

8pm Saturday 24th October  
 Parkway Hotel  
 DUNMANWAY  
 West Cork

8pm Tuesday 10th November  
 Gianworth Hotel  
 LIMERICK

DUBLIN CITY COUNCIL ANTI-EXTRADITION PICKET  
 6.30pm Monday 22nd November  
 City Hall  
 DUBLIN  
 Organised by the Irish Anti-Extradition Committee

WREATH-LAYING CEREMONY  
 1.30pm Friday 23rd October  
 Republic Plot  
 MILLTOWN CEMETERY  
 Belfast  
 Organised by the Martin Forsythe Social Club

WELCOME HOME SOCIAL  
 For Camlough POW  
 Friday 23rd October  
 Carrickdale Hotel  
 SOUTH DOW

IRISH ANTI-APARTHEID MOVEMENT  
 Saturday 24th October  
 Flag Day  
 Westminster Street  
 DUBLIN

A NIGHT AT THE RACES  
 6 Races • Prize Spots • Free Raffle  
 7.30pm Sunday 25th October  
 Tudor Rooms  
 DUBLIN  
 Taille £2 (£1 concession)  
 Organised by the Larkin Unemployed Centre

SOCIAL NIGHT  
 Music by Heatwave  
 10pm Sunday 25th October  
 Hibernian Hall  
 CLONES  
 County Monaghan  
 Taille £3  
 Organised by Sinn Féin

IRELAND: CAUSE OF LABOUR  
 Patron: Sean MacBride SC  
 Hon. Treasurer: Ken Livingstone MP  
 Saturday 28th November  
 The Camden Centre  
 Bidborough Street  
 LONDON NW1  
 England

LATIN AMERICAN FOLK NIGHT  
 Featuring: Mapuche, the Sands family and Brenda O'Riordan  
 8pm Wednesday 28th October  
 Mansion House  
 Dawson Street  
 DUBLIN  
 Taille £3  
 Tickets from Golden Discs/Free Bird/Sound Cellar

Continued on next page

# IMEAGHTAI

Continued from previous page

**BENEFIT FOR THE BIRMINGHAM SIX COMMITTEE**  
 Music by Hank Halfhead & The Rambling Turkeys, Village Green and Eric Fleming  
 8pm to 12 Wednesday 28th October  
 Tudor Rooms  
 Belvedere Place  
 DUBLIN  
 Taille £3 - bar extension

**THE MINERS AND IRELAND**  
 A day school with videos  
 10am-5pm  
 Saturday 31st October  
 Doncaster Irish Club  
 DONCASTER  
 England  
 Taille £2 (£1 unwaged)  
 Organised by Doncaster LCI & Hatfield Main Branch NUM

**STOP THE STRIP-SEARCHS CAMPAIGN BENEFIT SOCIAL**  
 Featuring: Jacket Potatoes  
 Tom McCann & friends, Na Banchailli  
 8pm Saturday 31st October  
 Crown and Castle  
 Kingsland Road  
 LONDON  
 England  
 Taille £2.50 (£1.50 unwaged)

**SOCIAL NIGHT**  
 Featuring the Irish Brigade  
 8pm Thursday 5th November  
 Newry Town Hall  
 NEWRY  
 Taille £2

**WORLDWIDE STRIP-SEARCH RALLY**  
 Sunday November 8th  
 PHILADELPHIA  
 For help or information contact:  
 PO Box No. 14648  
 Philadelphia PA 19134 or phone  
 area code 215 637 3728  
 or 215 242 1522  
 Information packs available

## NATIONAL DRAW

Week 8  
**£300:** P. Carrabine, Foxford, County Mayo; **£250:** V. Reilly, 77 O'Neill Park, Clones, County Monaghan; **£150:** Card 922, Line 9, Lurgan area; **£100:** Card 1307, Line 2, Newry area; **£50:** Anne McEneaney, Dublin; Cornelius Murphy, Red Lion, Mhuine Bheag; Card 1340, Line 1, County Down area; Ceaneth O hEiligh, 25 Sraid Tomas, Droichead Atha.

Share in almost **£20,000** in prizes

ONLY TWO WEEKS LEFT TILL THE BIG PRIZE OF A CAR OR **£5,000**

# WORLD VIEW



● US 'Defence' Secretary, Casper Weinberger, displaying photos of oil rigs at a Pentagon press briefing

## Target practice in the Gulf

SHEER military arrogance has brought the United States to the brink of war with Iran and may have helped to cause the largest stock exchange crash in world history.

On Monday, the US navy casually described the operation as "target practice" and Washington tried to pass it off as a "restrained" response to an attack on an oil tanker three days earlier.

Speculators on the Wall Street

view. The prospect of war with Iran combined with a sharp decline in the value of the dollar to cause a crisis even larger than the famous stock exchange crash of 1929, the start of the great depression.



## Noel Jenkinson commemoration

LEICESTER PRISON in England was the venue for a commemoration picket to mark the 11th anniversary of the death of republican prisoner Noel Jenkinson.

Contingents travelled from Glasgow, Manchester and Birmingham and maintained a two-hour vigil at the jail. After the picket the Young Republican Flute Band from Glasgow led the eighty-strong crowd in a march around the perimeter wall of the prison.

The commemoration was organised by the Irish Republican POW Campaign in Britain.

Reagan has sent a large naval flotilla to the Gulf in an attempt to intimidate Iran and edge the seven-year Iran-Iraq war in Iraq's favour. So far it hasn't succeeded in either objective and has restricted itself to protecting oil traffic to and from its Arabian allies. On Friday, a Kuwaiti tanker, the *Sea Isle City*, sailing under the US flag, was hit by an Iranian missile. Iran claims that Kuwait has been aiding the Iraqi war effort.

America's allies on the Arabian coast of the Gulf are frightened by the turn of events.

The Iranian president, Ali Khamenei denied American claims that the oil platforms were being used for military purposes and said:

"We will definitely retaliate and not leave this American move unanswered. President Reagan has committed a great mistake and definitely increased his problems."

## BANKS AND TANKS

WHEN the Peruvian government was forced to use tanks and tear gas to take control of the country's largest commercial bank on October 13th it showed the difficulties faced by Third World countries which try to exercise financial control over their affairs.

The government of President Alan Garcia offered to pay back a small proportion of the country's crippling foreign debt until it was able to increase industrial production. But in order to control the country's economic development it had to nationalise the private financial system. After the nationalisation law was

signed on October 11th, the owners and employees of the Banco de Credito (Peru's biggest private bank) refused to hand over their premises to the government.

Immediately the owners of the Banco de Credito tried to sell off the majority of their shares to the employees, hoping this would make it more difficult for the government to take over the bank. Garcia then closed down the Peruvian Stock Exchange to stop the transaction. The owners and employees responded by occupying the bank, as did the presidents and directors of many other companies affected by the law. Garcia was finally forced to order the army to break into the Banco de Credito and the Banco Wiese.

### NO REVOLUTIONARY

Alan Garcia is no revolutionary. His government has carried out small-scale economic reforms but has also used heavy repression against the mostly Indian population of the high plains. His government is not the first in Latin America to nationalise the banks. In 1982, Mexico was unable to service (pay the interest on) its debts to the International Monetary Fund and the government took over the financial sector. Brazil stopped paying interest on its 113 billion dollar foreign debt in February and Argentina may follow suit.

By nationalising the banks Garcia's government has taken an important step towards Peruvian control of the country's economy. But it's difficult for any single country to solve its financial problems on its own.

Over 1,000 billion dollars are owed by Third World nations to the banks in the richer countries. Their economies have been deformed to provide exports to the developed nations rather than food for their own people. In Latin America alone, production fell by 10% in the last five years because of policies forced on debtor nations by the big banks.

Problems of this size seem to need co-ordinated action by the majority of the world's poorer countries.

## Tan War heroes remembered

SEAN TREACY and Kevin Barry, who died within two weeks of one another in 1920, at the height of the Tan War, were commemorated in ceremonies in Tipperary and Carlow recently.

In a crowded Dublin street on October 14th 1920, Sean Treacy was shot down by British agents. As an IRA leader in Tipperary he had been a thorn in the side of the crown forces and it is in his native county at Killeakle he is buried. Over 300 people assembled there on Sunday, October 11th, to commemorate Treacy, having travelled from as far as Cork and Waterford to the ceremony which was held under the auspices of the South Tipperary Republican Commemoration Committee.

During the course of a spirited oration, Jackie Phelan (Portlao) stated that the cause for which Sean Treacy forfeited his life was the same cause for which the Loughall Martyrs gave their lives. The only road to complete freedom lay in the methods used by Sean Treacy and just as he passionately believed in the armed struggle so do the present generation of republicans, he said.

Michael Browne (Sinn Fein chairperson of Cashel Urban Council) presided, and a wreath was laid by Mary Healey (Fethard).

Earlier, Neil Blaney of Donegal had addressed another Treacy commemoration during which he strongly con-

demned the Extradition Act.

### KEVIN BARRY

The town of Rathvilly in County Carlow was the venue for the annual Kevin Barry commemoration on Sunday, October 18th, in which 200 people took part. The march to the memorial commemorating Barry, who was hanged in Mountjoy on November 1st 1920, was led by the Tom Smith Republican Band from Dublin. The Rathvilly Pipe Band also took part.

Ciaran Conway (Dublin) gave the oration during which he linked the present Extradition Act to the Tan War.

"Whatever one might think of this state it is indisputable that it emerged from armed struggle."

Conway said that the fact that extradition is retrospective means: "It applies to the war that led to the foundation of this state whose rulers are now saying to us that the state they run was founded in crime."

Refuting any linkage between "the passing of the Act and cosmetic changes in the Diplomatic courts," he said the law in the North bore a striking resemblance to the laws used against Kevin Barry.

# OBITUARIES

## Tom McGlone

REPUBLICANS in County Derry were deeply saddened by the untimely death of Tom McGlone on Wednesday, October 7th.

Tom, aged 66, was a native of Newbridge but lived in Magherafelt for many years. His activities and interests extended over

many years and many facets of nationalist life.

He was a founder member of the Prisoners' Dependents' Fund in County Derry and at the time

of his death was a trustee.

A very active and popular man, Tom McGlone was also a member of the GAA. His funeral to St James's Church, Newbridge, was attended by upwards of 2,000 people including PDF, Civil Rights and GAA colleagues and friends, an indication of the high esteem in which he was held.

Sinn Fein was represented by Councillors John Davey and Micky Hasson. To his wife, Sarah, daughter, Sue, and family circle, the Republican Movement extends its deepest sympathy.

## REMEMBERING THE PAST STRANGWAYS PRISON ESCAPE

BY PETER O'ROURKE

THE RESCUE of all six republican prisoners in broad daylight from Strangeways Prison, Manchester, in October 1919 surely ranks as one of the most daring IRA prison escapes during the Tan War period.

During the early months of 1919, following the beginning of the Tan War in January of that year, a number of 'hard-core' republican prisoners serving sentences ranging from six months to two years were sent to Strangeways Prison, Manchester, in England. The 13 prisoners, under the command of Austin Stack, immediately began to plan an escape.

Stack decided to use the method by which 20 republican prisoners had successfully escaped from Mountjoy in March 1919 by scaling the wall with a rope-ladder thrown over from the outside.

The plan was approved by the IRA GHQ Staff in Dublin and in September Rory O'Connor and Peadar Clancy were sent over to England to organise the break-out.

The prisoners soon established communications with O'Connor and elaborate details of the overall plans were conveyed to him by prisoners upon their release. Communications from the outside were sent in by visitors and by messages concealed in food parcels.

By late September only six republican prisoners remained in Strangeways.

### EXERCISE

Each evening, before lock-up

between 5pm and 5.30pm, the prisoners were allowed out to exercise in a small yard that was enclosed by a ring of high railings. Outside the railings stood a wall some 40 feet high.

When the appointed time for the escape came, the six prisoners - Stack, Piaras Beaslair, Dr Patrick Walsh, Paddy McCarthy, Con Connolly and Sean Doran - overpowered a warden and made their way to the outer wall and signalled to their comrades outside to throw over the rope. After some difficulty the prisoners eventually climbed to the top of the wall and down the patent-



● AUSTIN STACK

ladder on the outside.

In addition to O'Connor and Clancy, who were in charge of the rescue, more than 20 Volunteers, mostly immigrant Irish, took part in the operation outside the jail and, in broad daylight, held up everyone who attempted to pass along the street.

The six escapes were taken to 'safe' houses in Manchester and after several days were smuggled from Liverpool to Dublin on the B+1 steamer.

The six republican prisoners were rescued from Strangeways Prison on October 25th 1919, 68 years ago this week.



● The imposing entrance of Strangeways Prison, Manchester, from where six republican prisoners escaped in 1919

## INDIL CHUIHIE

**CORRIGAN, Peter (5th Anniversary).** The Republican Movement remembers with pride Peter Corriagan (Sinn Fein), who was shot and killed by loyalist gunmen on October 25th 1982.

**FORSYTHE, Martin (16th Anniversary).** In proud and loving memory of Vol Martin Forsythe, 1st Battalion, Belfast Brigade, Oglagh na hEireann, who was shot dead while on active service on October 24th 1971. Fuair se bás ar son saoirse. Always remembered by his comrades in the Belfast Brigade.

**FORSYTHE, Martin (16th Anniversary).** In proud and loving memory of Vol Martin Forsythe, 1st Battalion, Belfast Brigade, Oglagh na hEireann, who was killed on active service, on October 24th, 1971. Always remembered by the committee and members of the Martin Forsythe Social Club.

**FORSYTHE, Martin (16th Anniversary).** In proud and loving memory of Vol Martin Forsythe, who was killed in action on October 24th, 1971. In memory of Ireland, pray for him. Gone but not forgotten. Always remembered by management and staff of the Martin Forsythe Social Club.

**FITZSIMONS, Francis; MARLOWE, Paul; SURGENOR, Joey (11th Anniversary).** In proud and loving memory of Vols Francis Fitzsimons, Paul Marlowe and Joey Surgenor, who died as a result of a premature explosion on Saturday, October 16th, 1976 near the Gasworks area of Belfast. Thug said a raibh orthu ag troid ar son saoirse. Ní dhéanfar dearmad orthu. Proudly remembered by their comrades in the Republican Movement, Short Strand and Markets areas.

**FITZSIMONS, Francis (11th Anniversary).** In proud and loving memory of my dear son Vol Francis Fitzsimons, 3rd Battalion, Belfast Brigade, Oglagh na hEireann, who died on active service on October 16th 1976. RIP. Sacred Heart of Jesus, pray for him. May Heaven keep the men who sleep from the ranks of the old Brigade. Always remembered by his loving mother Margaret Fitzsimons.

**FITZSIMONS, Francis (11th Anniversary).** In proud memory of my dear brother Vol Francis Fitzsimons, 3rd Battalion, Belfast Brigade, Oglagh na hEireann, who died on active service on October 16th 1976. St Martin, pray for him. They rose in dark and evil days to fight their native land. They kindled there a living blaze that nothing can withstand. With comrades brave he trod

the path of Emmet and Wolfe Tone. Their dream was his, he only fought for one great cause alone. Always remembered by his loving sister Mina, brother-in-law Jim and family.

**FITZSIMONS, Francis; MARLOWE, Paul; SURGENOR, Joey (11th Anniversary).** In proud and loving memory of Vols Francis Fitzsimons, Paul Marlowe and Joey Surgenor, Belfast Brigade, Oglagh na hEireann, who were killed in an explosion while on active service on October 16th 1976. Fuair said bás ar son saoirse. Always remembered by Chris O'Donnell.

**MCKENNA, Martin (8th Anniversary).** In proud and loving memory of Vol Martin McKenna, Belfast Brigade, Oglagh na hEireann, who was killed in a car crash on October 23rd 1979. I measc taobha na nGael go raibh a nam. Always remembered by his friends and comrades in the Belfast Brigade.

**MCKENNA, Dorothy; MEEHAN, Maura (16th Anniversary).** The Republican Movement remembers with pride Vols Dorothy Meehan and Maura Meehan, who were shot dead by crown forces on October 23rd 1971. I measc taobha na nGael go raibh a nam. They may kill the revolutionary, but never the revolution." Che Guevara.

**MURPHY, John (11th Anniversary).** In loving memory of my brother Joe, who was killed while on active service on October 16th 1976. Also the comrades Francis and Paul. Those who think of them today, a little prayer to Jesus say, Mary, Queen of the Gael, pray for them. Always remembered and sadly missed by Geraldine, Seamus, Sean and Claudine.

**COMHBHRON**  
**MAGRATH, COMHBhron** a chroif do Phádraic (Portlaoise) agus do chlágn McGrath ar bhás a mhatair, Nóra, Ó Biliy.

**ADHMAIL**  
**MAGRUIRE.** On behalf of myself and family I would like to thank the Republican Movement for their great help and kindness after the death of Laura Meehan, a dedicated socialist republican, who died on October 10th. Always remembered by Mick and Julie, Muine Bheag.

**BEANNACHTAÍ**  
**FEARON, Martin (H7-Block).** Happy birthday Pancho. Best wishes from Ellen and Emmet.

**FEARON, Martin (H7-Block).** Happy birthday Pancho. From Bernadette and all the gang.

**FEARON, Martin (H7-Block).** Wishing you all the best Pancho on your birthday. From Maureen, Malachy, Siobhan and John (Dowth).

**MULLAN, Seamus (H2 Magilligan).** Happy birthday Seamus. From Mummy, Daddy and family.

**MULLAN, Seamus (H2 Magilligan).** Birthday greetings from your sister

**FEARON, Martin (H7-Block).** Happy birthday Seamus. From your mother, father and Carol.

**SORAGHAN, Seamus (Portlaoise).** Happy birthday Seamus. From your mother, father and Carol.

**SORAGHAN, Seamus (Portlaoise).** Happy birthday Seamus. From your mother, father and Carol.

**SORAGHAN, Seamus (Portlaoise).** Happy birthday Seamus. From your mother, father and Carol.

**SORAGHAN, Seamus (Portlaoise).** Happy birthday Seamus. From your mother, father and Carol.

**SORAGHAN, Seamus (Portlaoise).** Happy birthday Seamus. From your mother, father and Carol.

## AN PHOBLAUGHT Republican News

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# THE FLYING COLUMN



## ULSTER

SEPTEMBER 1987

Price 50p

**THE UFF is huffing and puffing again.** September's issue of *Ulster*, the UDA's loony loyalist rag, carries an incredible story of how the Ulster Freedom Fighters allegedly removed a Tricolour from the top of the multi-storey Artillery Flats in North Belfast.

On the night of July 11th, *Ulster* claims that "a commando unit of the crack Ulster Freedom Fighters... from *Ballysillan Battalion*..." etc.

Leaving aside their amazing ability to abseil upwards, the author of this fairy tale failed to get even the basic facts right.

The national flag adorns Churchill Flats, not the nearby Artillery Flats. Since its erection in late May, the flag has only been taken down briefly to be cleaned - despite the antics of any offensive cracked commandos.

\*\*\*

**CRAFTY UCD students** struck a blow for the Irish language this week as undergraduates returned to college. Despite numerous requests for a single, bilingual student identity card, the college authorities continued to produce the vast majority of cards in English, with 400 Irish-language blanks for those who specifically requested them.

But by 10am on Tuesday over 1,200 students were in the queue for their ID cards as Gaelige. By 10.05am the university's administration section was on the telephone to student representative Dave Hughes, begging him to "call them off" and promising him a bilingual card for 1988!

Students from An Cumann Gaelach, An Cumann Liteartha and UCD Sinn Fein have also erected Irish-language signs and notices beside English ones all over the college.

\*\*\*

**A TOTAL of 29 RUC men and women**, including a number of detectives, were fined £20 each at Belfast Court last week for drinking 'after hours'. The gang was apprehended during an RUC raid on the

Preliminary report by the  
Ulster Defence Association

**INQUIRY INTO THE COOK REPORT**

**IS CONSTITUTIONAL NATIONALISM EVIL?**

● *Ulster*: Look into the Cook Report and half-baked stories

Harbour Bar, opposite Musgrave Street RUC Barracks, at 12.45am on April 10th.

helicopter - a total of approximately 42 heavily-armed crown forces personnel - was forced to smother a grin when asked:

"Do you think we're afraid of you?"

\*\*\*

**UDR SOLDIER** Vaughan Thomas Coles (21), of Cavan Road, Dungannon, died in hospital on Saturday, October 17th, after being found in his own car earlier that day with gunshot wounds to the head. A crime is not suspected.

And RUC man John Eric Nelson was found dead in his car outside Dungannon last Tuesday. A rubber hosepipe, attached to the car's exhaust, was found beside him.

\*\*\*

**A YOUNG REPUBLICAN** who was stopped recently in a deserted Belfast street by a British army foot patrol, backed up by a mobile patrol which consisted of two British army and four RUC Land Rovers and an over-flying

**DRUNKEN EX-BRIT** soldier Peter Kavanagh reacted angrily when Birmingham police tried to stop him from urinating on an airport fence in full view of many travellers. He kicked and bit policemen as he shouted repeatedly:

"We're on the same side! We're on the same side!"

Solihull Magistrates' Court heard that Kavanagh had been "a credit to his platoon during his service in Northern Ireland" before inflicting a savage two years - on probation.

\*\*\*

**DOZENS** of members of the charitable business people's organisation, the Round Table, learnt a lesson the hard way when

they collapsed with food poisoning last week.

The nauseous noshers were attending a 'banquet' cooked by British army 'chefs' at the Duke of Gloucester Barracks in South Cerney, England.

The cause of the outbreak is said to be a mystery to the health inspectors, but the 'Glorious Glosters' gourmets came up with a real officers' mess.

\*\*\*

**DESPITE** his fraternisation with the DUP (as revealed in an exclusive *Flying Column* exposé last year), I must throw my considerable weight behind the very considerable weight of Fra McCann in his campaign to win the vacant Lower Falls seat on Belfast City Council. As the graffiti says: "Give Fra a chance." Agus go néirí ádh le Mairtín O Muilleoir in Upper Falls.

\*\*\*

**THE FLYING COLUMN** is pleased to announce a competition for all you budding designers out there. All you have to do is design an A2-sized poster against Section 31 of the Broadcasting Act and send it to me at 58 Parnell Square, Dublin 1.

And the prize, so kindly donated by Sinn Fein... is a copy of the banned Peter Wright book, *Spy-catcher!*

### DUIRT SIAD

There are a whole raft of issues on which Mr Haughey has been under considerable pressure to adopt a more aggressive stance [with the British government]... Mr Haughey has remained discreet, provoking one disgruntled supporter in his own Fianna Fail party to remark:

"If [Margaret Thatcher] were to sink the Belgrano in Dublin Bay tomorrow, he'd probably send her a telegram of congratulations."

- Mary Holland, *The Observer*.

\*\*\*

Peter Barry said it is "still very much in Britain's own interest" to make the change [to three-judge Diplock courts].

- *Sunday Tribune* report showing that the former Foreign Minister is more concerned with what will be good for Britain rather than what will be good for Irish citizens.

\*\*\*

I have got nothing to do with any organisation that practises violence. I have never seen anyone from the ANC, PLO or IRA, nor will I have any truck with those organisations.

- Margaret Thatcher.

\*\*\*

For a country that fought a liberation struggle Ireland is remarkably quiet about human rights.

- SWAPO Secretary Moses Garoeb.

\*\*\*

I do not agree with the injustices and atrocities that the forces backed by the United States commit.

- Former contra leader Edgar Chamorro who has returned to Nicaragua under a government amnesty.

\*\*\*

Washington could not tell a lie; Nixon could not tell the truth; Reagan cannot tell the difference.

- Mort Sahl, US columnist.

### NOTES

©CORMAC

Yes, yes, I know what Fianna Fail said when in opposition... But that's precisely the point! Opposition! It's the job of the opposition to oppose!!

And, anyway, hasn't the Boss made it clear that the Extradition Act may not be implemented unless the British make some cosmetic adjustment - Sorry, I'll rephrase that....

... Unless the British Government undertake substantial reforms of their judicial system!

If I'm going to make my way as a Fianna Fail spokesman I'd better get that phrase "cosmetic adjustment" out of my head!

Though we all know that if British judges started wearing mascara as well as wigs C.J. Haughey would say it wasn't cosmetic but it's a "substantial reform"?