

It shall be the duty of the government of this Republic to make provision for the physical and mental well being of the children, to secure that no child shall suffer hunger or cold from lack of food, clothing, or shelter, but that all shall be provided with the means and facilities requisite for their proper education and training as citizens of a free and Gaelic Ireland.

(Ist Dáil Éireann)

An Phoblacht

Iml.8 Uimhir 32. 10p. Lúnasa 17, 1977.

SECRET POLICE ATTACK TOURISM

Branch shocks German Embassy

THE TOURIST industry of the 26 Counties is being harassed by members of the secret police at the height of the tourist season and accounts are appearing in foreign newspapers of foreigners in Dublin being threatened with a seven-day spell in jail, without charge, just because they are inquisitive.

Tourists buying copies of Republican papers are being followed, stopped and told that by buying these "subversive" publications they are leaving themselves open to a seven-day interrogation at the least and possibly a much longer period in jail, on conviction. But buying — or reading — Republican papers is not an offence.

Tourists seeking information about the Republican Movement are getting the same treatment. They are being told that their holidays may be ended suddenly, that they may be deported. In the police state as it is, with Emergency Power legislation, virtually anything is possible but deportation merely for seeking information about the Republican Movement or buying its literature is very unlikely. For one thing it would result in serious diplomatic confrontations and very bad publicity in the foreign press. But the secret police do not seem to be worried about the effects of their attacks on the tourist industry.



It was leaving this ICRA exercise in passive resistance on August 6 that the German was threatened by the secret police, who want no eye witnesses to such as this picture illustrates, a peaceful demonstrator being pulled by his hair into a police van.

country by the Special Branch," one designed to "blind foreign visitors to the situation in Ireland today regarding freedom of expression and personal freedom."

50-mile limit

It adds: "We will do everything in our power publicly to highlight future such incidents until freedom of conscience is attained."

In another statement, ICRA says that the demonstration on August 6 was to highlight the need for a public inquiry into prison conditions; to demand a 50-mile fishing limit; and the right of the Irish people to the ownership and development of all the natural resources of Ireland.

"A contingent of Gardai arrived under a superintendent who asked Joe Stagg to call on the demonstrators to clear the street. When this was refused he asked for the services of our loud hailer. This request also was refused.

"The Gardai then viciously attacked the demonstrators and began to drag them by the hair and ears from the street and then brutally knocked them to the pavement.

ICRA appeals to members of the public who witnessed these savage attacks to come forward as witnesses for a court case in Dublin on September 14. Sworn affidavits are needed if witnesses cannot appear in person.

Istigh:

- Clé, deas, clé — lch. 3, 7.
- Queen of Death pictures — lch. 4, 5
- Jobs shock — lch. 6.
- British terror — lch. 8.

This paper has had a much higher number of complaints from foreigners than usual this season about harassment by the secret police. Obvious reason is the emergency legislation, supposed to have been repealed by the present Dublin regime but still in force and, apparently, still being enforced by the new regime; and also, of course, because the Secret police have to justify themselves and their overtime pay and allowances.

But the tourist industry is suffering and, as a result of the bad press and worse hearsay abroad, valuable hard currency

earnings are likely to be cut back severely.

A French visitor commented: "We foresaw this petty harassment when we published, at our own expense, a warning poster in French and English."

This poster was reproduced in a recent issue of this paper. There is talk, now, because of the increased harassment of foreign tourists, of having it translated into more Continental languages and of having it even more widely distributed.

A Danish visitor said: "In our country there would have to be very substantial suspicions against a visitor or a Dane before he or

she could be approached in the streets or in an hotel and subjected to this sort of intimidation. "There would be an immediate outcry in the press and questions would be asked in Parliament. But we do not live in a police state."

German visitor harassed

Here is a typical example of what is happening, a signed statement, given to the Irish Civil Rights Association on August 13 by a German visitor to Ireland.

"I, Ulrich Waldera, a German national, after attending the joint Irish Civil Rights Association/Provisional Sinn Fein demonstration on the plight of Irish political prisoners, was walking along Dorset Street when an unmarked car pulled alongside me and two men got out.

"They took me into their car and then stated that they were "political police" but did not show identification of any sort. They began questioning me as to my name, my address and my reasons for attending the above mentioned demonstration today.

"I had in my possession a folder of papers on interviews

with several individuals and an address book. They took these without giving a receipt.

Deportation threat

"They informed me that I would be "deported back to Germany" the following morning and that they would come for me at my lodging place. They then left.

"I then contacted the Irish Civil Rights Association who sent two delegates to accompany me to the German Embassy. The diplomat in charge at the Embassy was very helpful.

"He contacted Det.-Insp. Mc Grath of the Special Detective Unit, who said "The Special Branch has no authority to deport anybody; these matters are solely under the Department of Justice, but Mr Waldera should not attend any further demonstrations of this kind, be they legal or illegal."

"The German diplomat (a man having served time in their USSR Embassy) expressed shock that such events as these occur in Ireland," the statement concludes.

In an accompanying statement ICRA says it condemns "this harassment of visitors to our



Same demonstration: Dublin Gardai confiscate ICRA banner (ICRA is an open, legal organisation, opposing violence).

An Phoblacht

Imleabhar 8. Lúnasa 17, 1977. Uimhir 32.
44 Cearnóg Pharnell, B.Á.C., Éire. Guthaí: 747611.

Clé, deas, clé,

WHILE the controversy about the extent of the radicalism of the Republican Movement is healthy and invigorating — there must be few reactions so disheartening to members of a political party as monotonous concurrence or, worse still, silence — it will be no harm at this stage to point out the political facts, for those who wrote in support of the leading article which sparked the furore as much as for those who were scandalised.

Firstly, Sinn Féin policy is decided upon democratically by decisions taken at ardfheisanna, after rún (motions) are put forward, accepted, published, debated and voted upon.

Sinn Féin is no farther left or right than the deliberate decision of democratically selected delegates voting democratically. The ardfhoinleáil and the party in general was its left — or as right — as the majority of members want it to be.

The struggle to liberate Ireland has been taken up in every generation since 1169. The present stage follows that tradition. Weapons and tactics vary from age to age but the strategy remains the same, the objective being to free this land of ours.

The military objective and the political objective of Sinn Féin do not coincide exactly, in this sense, that the military objective is to free Ireland in order to give the Irish people the freedom of choice — to choose what Sinn Féin members believe to be the best way to solve the problems of a liberated country or some other way presented to the people by another political group.

We have used the words "do not coincide exactly" very carefully though recognising that Sinn Féin states that it agrees that the primary objective is to free the country, thus making possible a free choice by the liberated people, while hoping that they may choose the Sinn Féin solution, but agreeing to abide by the majority democratic decision.

Sinn Féin also has emphasised and continues to emphasise that, while there is no end to bartering on the points laid down for an end to hostilities it is prepared to talk about and, if necessary, amend certain of its policies, given the democratic agreement of its members at an ardfheis.

Apart from these considerations — which should be understood very clearly by all members of the Republican Movement — is the fact that there is very broad support for the key objective of the liberation struggle, that the Crown quits Ireland at all levels for good, and that that broad support includes political groupings and parties extending, perhaps, from the political centre to the genuine far left.

It would be extremely unwise for the Republican Movement to reject support from any group or individual merely because some of the policies of that group or individual do not coincide with the general philosophy of the Republican Movement, so long as that social and humanistic philosophy is not compromised in any vital way by so doing.

But the Republican Movement has not entered into any pact, open or secret, with any individual or group. It remains independent and obviously in the leadership of the struggle. Its philosophy, basically, remains unchanged: it seeks a real and genuine freedom, for the individual, for the family, for the parish, the district, the region, the province, the nation. Its objective is to work for the common good.

To summarise: The job of the soldier is to free the country so that a free choice may be made; the job of the party is to suggest what that choice should be and why.

If party members are not satisfied with policies, or parts of policies, are not happy with the way those policies have been described or interpreted; believe that clarification or additions are necessary or modifications required, they have the remedy in the next and successive ardfheisanna.

We are in the midst of a controversy and a useful one, if it helps to clear our minds as to what we wish to put before the Irish people as one of the choices; but have we composed the rún (motions) to bring about the changes we would propose?

It is not the function of this paper to form policy. That is the privilege of the members of this democratic, intelligent and progressive Movement. The general opinion of our readers is that our interpretation of the general trend of the Republican Movement — that it is radical, revolutionary and to the left — is correct; that our explanation of the mind of the leadership, especially as expressed in the Bodenstown last June, is accurate; and that, broadly, we are both pragmatic and honourable when we identify the Irish struggle for freedom with the world struggle in general. At any rate, nobody has proved that we are wrong; and we have allowed free speech to all, in the spirit of Pearse and Connolly and our other patriots, including those who have died over the past eight years and those who are in jail.

Údarás maide chun srian a choinnéail ar Ghaeltarra?

NÍOR CHUIR sé a dhath d'fionntas orm nuair a chuala mé go raibh Comharchumann Chóis Fharráige i ngleic le Gaeiltarra Éireann maidir le Béarla a bhí ar nGaeiltacht i gComarag agus jobannaí a thabhairt do Bheárlóirí a d'fhéadfaid muintir na Gaeiltachta a dhéanamh chomh maith le duine ar bith.

Tá Gaeiltarra ann, adeirtear linn, chun obair a chur ar fáil do mhuintir na Gaeiltachta.

Tuigeanann gach éinne, agus Comharchumann Chóis Fharráige san áireamh, go bhfuil scileanna ann nach bhfuil coitianta i measc mhuintir na Gaeiltachta, agus go m'fhéidir go mbeadh ar Ghomharchumann Chóis Fharráige — Béarlóirí (nó eile) a thabhairt isteach sa nGaeiltacht chun na scileanna sin a mhúineadh.

Múineadh — nó teagasc — sin an focal cruinn.

Ach éinne a rinne anailís air nó a bhfuil eolas cruinn aige ar Ghaeltarra is rí-mhaith a thuigeanann sé nach shin is cúis leis an rí-rá tá ar súil faoi láthair.

Tuigeanann na daoine sin, tá mí-shásta le Gaeiltarra, nach i nGhaeltacht is i nGaeiltarra ach i nGhaeltarra agus ar na bóthlaí is idir. Is rí-eolúnd éard é a tharlaíonn go ró-mhíne nuair a théann caifín an nGaeiltacht chun agallaimh le Gaeiltarra, gur Béarla is mó tá a dhíth ar Ghaeltarra.

Ní hi an Ghaeltacht is gaire dá chroí. Agus rud é sin ar fearr a thuigeanann Comharchumann Chóis Fharráige, b'fhéidir, ná éinne sa nGaeiltacht.

Comhairle a bhunú

TÁ BEALACH an-éasca ann chun deireadh a chur leis an raib, seo, tí, comhairle de mhuintir na Gaeiltachta a bhunú (nó, chun cúrsa a thapú, comhchomhairle a bhunú le Comharchumann Chóis Fharráige, nó leis na comharchumáin i gcoitinne) chun na cúrsaí seo a phiú le Gaeiltarra.

Níl ains, ar ndóig, ach an chuid is caoile, mar is rud é seo a ba chóir bheith faoi smacht ag Údarás na Gaeiltachta, agus ní bheidh sos na scíth ná síocháin sa nGaeiltacht go dtí go mbeadh an tÚdarás úd bunaithe.

Ach, idir an dá linn, níor mhíste do na comharchumáin teacht le chéile, chun a geuid Údarás maide nó sealadach a bhunú, chun srian a choinnéail ar Ghaeltarra, go dtí go mbeadh an tÚdarás dísteach tofa agus ag obair.

B'fhéidir ains, le cúnámh Dé, go ndéanfadh an tÚdarás nua Gaeiltarra a ghanadh amach ó bhun go barr agus deiradh a chur lena chuid loitiméireachta.

Sa chás seo is é Comharchumann Chóis Fharráige stoc na cille. Cathfead dísteacht leis. Cathfead aird thabhairt air.

Borrach faoin teanga

BHÍ DEIS agam ar na mallabhaí laibhairt le stáitseirbhíseach a bhfuil Gaeilt mhaith aige (agus Béarla, lena chois) ach nach bhfuil ceangailte le Gluaiseacht na Gaeilt.

Faoi chúrsaí eile a bhí muid ar dtús, agus i nGaeilt an comhrá, cé nárth i nGaeilt an Gaeilt agus ba leas é. Ach faoi dheireadh d'fhrig mé fíorasach faoin geoi a bhfuil an teanga sa stáitseirbhí faoi láthair.

Bhfuil aon éicamh uirthi, anois? Bhfuil deiradh lena seanstada? Ag súil le scéal a chuirfeadh oile nó éadóchas orm a bhífos agus ba leas é. Ach nírdáire, aon cheist a chur. Ach get a bhain na freagraí asam.

Má theastaíonn é éinne ar dú céime a fháil sa teirbhí, a dúradh liom, cathfead dul faoi



As Seattle, Meiricea, don bhean seo, Mary Molloy, a thug taitneamh do na daoine i lar Bhaile Atha Cliath ar na mallabhaí agus ceolta tione a chasadh aici.

Derryman 11 months 'on the towel'

SHANE O'Doherty of Derry is now in the 11th month of his protest in Wormwood Scrubs Jail, London. Since last September he has been wearing only a towel, refusing to wear the prison garb.

The bulletin of the Irish political prisoners in Britain (POW) gave his weight now as nine stone.

The prison is picketed regularly in support of his first demand.

Conditions for POWs have deteriorated further in recent months, with increasing harassment and victimisation by warders.

The Westminster MP, Frank Maguire, has been asked to investigate the conditions under which the POWs are held in Wakefield Prison.

Relations within the prison have become increasingly strained, due to the activities of certain warders.

Lately, they have taken leaving the doors of the Irish prisoners cells open, according to POW, and encouraging ordinary English prisoners to go in and beat them up.

Money and other privileges have been offered as bribes and immunity has been offered, too. Because Wakefield is a training centre for warders the regime is unusually harsh, prisoners being penalised for the slightest infringement of the rules, not to mention the long-standing anti-Irish prejudice.

Outside, the Special Branch has started harassing visitors to POWs, several being picked up and held for up to 24 hours.

YOUR DAILY PAPER?

THE DEMAND for a daily paper, putting forward the Republican-Socialist viewpoint, is growing among our people, at home and abroad. They realise that until we have such a paper the truth will be suffocated and lies will prosper.

IF YOU want a daily Republican-Socialist paper help to build our circulation as a weekly to 100,000 sold copies. Circulation is rising but not quickly enough.

TODAY, some 63,000 people read "An Phoblacht" every week. Make this 80,000 by Christmas. Then, when we see YOU are in earnest, we can start planning for the daily.

MEANWHILE, help to build the publication fund by ADVERTISING WITH US instead of in the enemy, gombreen press.

ADVERTISING RATES: Classified, 5p per word (minimum 50p); display, £1.50 per column inch. Deadline: Thursday before publication.

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"An Phoblacht" is the most widely read of all Republican publications and circulates in some 30 countries throughout the world. It reflects the views of the Republican leadership.

CLÉ, DEAS, CLÉ, DEAS, CLÉ, DEAS, CLÉ

THE IRISH Republican flag is the Tricolour of green, white and orange. It is impossible for any person claiming to be Republican to be unaware of the historical and symbolical importance of that combination of colours.

The Tricolour represents the ultimate Republican ideal — the union of both major Irish traditions in harmony and in independent nationhood. True, it is an ideal which, at the moment, appears to be as far away as ever; and it seems, quite reasonably to many, that the fault lies with the Protestant-Unionist-Orange tradition.

No doubt many Republicans feel very exasperated at the failure of the north-eastern Irish Protestant community to respond to the ideal. That exasperation affects not only Catholic "green" nationalists but — maybe even more so — many individual Protestant Republicans as well.

The exasperation is understandable. It is well expressed by "Disgusted Student", in his dismissal of the northern loyalists as "English". But that is also an entirely impatient and emotional reaction; and emotional approaches to political problems never help either to understand or overcome them.

The major question is WHY? WHY has the Protestant-Unionist population shown no response? And in the answer to that question we can regain confidence in the Republican ideal, and understand that, until the Republican ideal is, in fact, achieved, there will be no peace, no lasting reconciliation, in Ireland.

Why, then? Obviously, the apparent intransigence of northern Orange "loyalism" is not due to some sort of inherent "Protestant virus" in the blood, nor is it due to racial characteristics, as the Protestant people of the north-east are composed largely of the same intermixture of peoples as the rest of the island.

It is not due to their religion, either, because there are many nations throughout the world in

The ideal enshrined in Flag

Le FEAR FEASTA

which Catholics and Protestants peacefully together argue about worrying too much about their neighbour's religious beliefs.

Why? Why then? Surely it must be obvious. It is all due to the political position in which the Protestant population has been placed as part of the locally-nourished bars for continuing BRITISH CONTROL over Ireland. There you have the clue to understanding — and to true Republican tolerance.

In the rearing

Put it like this. Suppose our "Disgusted Student" had been orphaned shortly after his birth, and had been taken by a Protestant aunt to live in Sandy Row in Belfast, he, too, most probably would have grown up to be a rabid Orangeman — because of the political circumstances in which he was reared.

It is silly and emotional — and contrary to all Republican

doctrine — to say that the northern Protestants are "English" just because they wave the Union Jack and salute Queen Elizabeth. In the heyday of the British empire, many Indians and Blacks in Africa saluted the monarch but that did not make them "English". It only made them the servants of the English.

To call the northern Protestants "English" is the same as supporting all the excuses which British imperialism trots out to justify its military control over the Six Counties. British imperialism makes a lot of propaganda out of pretending that the "Ulster" Protestants are "British". That is their ultimate alibi.

To call the northern Protestants "English" is to deny the Republican ideal, as enshrined in the republican Tricolour, which holds that the ultimate reconciliation of all Irishmen of diverse religious beliefs can come about only within the context of the independent, all-Ireland

Republic. Nevertheless, it still appears that the northern Unionist loyalist population is terribly "wrong", while the Catholic, nationalist population has generally been on the "correct" side politically. It is not arrogance, nor is it patronising, to say that this is the truth in the broadest view of Irish history.

Most backward

The Orange-loyalist movement always supported the most reactionary, backward, right-wing, establishment trends in Irish politics, whereas generally the nationalist movement was always on the side of democratic advance. But that does not mean that the Catholic nationalist side was always without faults.

There is no Irish Republican today who is not acutely sensitive about the sectarianism of certain Hibernian-type Catholic nationalists. Nowadays, few people feel hidebound by the traditions of their "forefathers", orange or green. The great hope for Ireland's future lies in the fact that the younger generation is prepared to admit that their fathers were "wrong".

"We'll make the Fenians run, like our fathers always done". That's a well-known rhyme from an Orange ballad. But all the same sort of claptrap about our "forefathers" heard still on "twelfth" fields no longer inspires the youth of today. They are more inclined to judge for themselves.

There are even a few awakening glimmers of enlightenment to be perceived among the loyalist "English", love-loving types who still cling to the sentimentalities handed down to them. They are beginning to sense that the English influence in Ireland, as Wolfe Tone once said, is the most baleful thing distorting our politics.

Confidence trick

The ordinary loyalist working man was brought up to believe that, as long as he was British, loyal and obsequious, he stood in a "privileged" position. More ordinary Protestants must now be realising that it was all a great

Ar leaúint, lch. 4.



The Irish in London, under Sinn Féin banners, commemorated the anniversary of interment on August 7. Another picture at foot of page. Both pictures courtesy "News Line".

Prisoners plea for socialism

AFTER a march commemorating the sixth anniversary of interment, led by Sinn Féin, through the heart of London, to Lincoln's Inn Fields, and calling for an end to British torture, a rally of more than 1,000 heard a message smuggled out by the political prisoners in Long Lartin Jail.

The prisoners urged listeners to remember the connection between Republicanism and socialism: "Only through an alignment with the working class and thus threading the socialist path will we achieve our aims", the prisoners pointed out.

Republicans were joined by marchers from other socialist and revolutionary organisations with their banners. The march was led by a lorry in which the People's Liberation Music played Irish and other revolutionary songs.

Among banners carried were those of Sinn Féin, London; Wolfe Tone Sinn Féin Cumann; Comhairlecheantar Sinn Féin Home Counties, Fitzsimon-O'Hanlon Sinn Féin, High Wycombe; Terence MacSwiney Sinn Féin, West London; Father Murphy Sinn Féin, Nottingham; Prisoners' Aid Committee, Troops Out Movement, Communist Party of England (Marxist-Leninist); Irish Support and Friendship Committee, West Indian Defence Committee, Indian Workers' Movement (Britain), Revolutionary Communist Group, Socialist Charter and the Socialist Workers' Party (Tower Hamlets Branch).

Sue O'Halloran, Sinn Féin, London, said that a new kind of interment had now been introduced in Ireland, more brutal and extreme than ever.

The present repression of Irish nationalists only seemed more respectable. In fact it involved systematic torture for the first hours and days of arrest in the hope that with extracted confessions the police could get their charges rubber stamped by the special courts.

Major terror weapon

In Britain, she added, the major terror weapon used against Irish political groups was the Prevention of Terrorism Act under which some 2,500 people had been arrested initially without charge and held in secret for up to seven days and that about 90 had been deported.

Gerry Cassidy, Halifax Sinn Féin stated: "Workers of England, there is no use closing your eyes and pretending what is happening in Ireland will not happen to you — because without resistance it will".

He condemned the Dublin regime for torturing Republican

(Ar leaúint ar lch. 4)



Tuairimí eile ar léitheoirí

READING the letter from "Disgusted Student" (D.S.) was saddening but reading the uncommitted replies from Fear Feasta and Christine Elias was downright disturbing. Our struggle is for a federal, student democratic Republic and, as the forties man so rightly pointed out, part and parcel of our struggle is the class struggle, the struggle for the men of no property.

In case D.S. is not aware, the class struggle is not unique to Ireland. It is in almost every country in the world and if D.S. thinks that we should not try to establish some kind of co-operation or understanding with subject peoples such as ourselves then he (she) is both narrowminded and wrong.

1. — D.S. denies that the Republican Movement was always leftist. This was answered timidly but successfully by the articles in the July 27 edition. If D.S. needs further clarification I suggest he (she) read the internationally acclaimed socialist, James Connolly, who worked for the union cause, both here and in Britain.

2. — D.S. refuses to be called ignorant of Republican history. Fair enough. But to avoid that in future I suggest he (she) read Pearse, Connolly, Mellows and, indeed, our policy documents of today.

3. — D.S. says it sickens him to hear the internationalist and atheist Karl Marx being referred to by Republicans. Not being a bigot, I would not bar a person from our revolution because he (she) does not believe in God. Believing in the importance of the class struggle in Ireland's struggle I think that Karl Marx (as with James Connolly) has made excellent contributions in this field and that it would be unfaithful to exclude his great works from reference.

4. — D.S. says that if our struggle is not anti-English why is so much cruelty and death inflicted on English forces? Whether this is true or naïve, I can't decide. I would ask D.S. if the Gardai at Portlaoise were representing the Irish working class, and if so, must we also become anti-Irish?

5. — D.S. says that even though they (English workers) are working class they take the queen's shilling and salute the Union Jack and, therefore, are our enemies. Does D.S. not realise that throughout history the working class has been and is being brainwashed, abused and bought off? In reality, they neither control their own destinies nor the decisions made in their name.

6. — D.S. suggests that the editor implies that we "bend over backwards" to help the English workers who (according to D.S.), by electing successive governments, has repressed the Irish people so that England was forced to go there in the first place. To answer this I would say that this is not what is being suggested. It was merely that we understand the workers' problems which, due to the class situation, are universal. D.S. also should bear in mind that the rich Catholic families have been the greatest traitors in our history. Why? Because they are capitalist first

and last. 7. — Here D.S. gets very patriotic and correctly tells us how those who died did so for an Ireland not merely free but Gaelic as well and not merely Gaelic but free as well. He (she) neglects however, to tell us how a socialist Ireland could and would not be free and Gaelic.

8. — D.S. tells us that it has been Ireland versus England for 800 years and that "English" means anyone who salutes the Union Jack and recognises the queen. Pray that it were that simple! We have been cursed throughout our history by traitors, mostly among the Irish Catholic middle-class and the clergy. This continues, as we all know, up to this day. Don't take my word for it. Read James Connolly's "Labour in Irish History" and "Labour, Nationality and Religion".

9. — D.S. says that if loyalists are to be classified as fellow Irishmen (as they were in "An Phoblacht") he (she) would take out citizenship of another country. This is the mark, no doubt, of a great Irishman, who, just because the Republican Movement disagrees with his ideas, would make to take out citizenship elsewhere. This is his (her) most rash and fanatical statement yet.

10. — D.S. continues with: "Most will agree that those who celebrated the queen's jubilee waving Union Jacks are definitely not Irishmen; and if our cry is to become Éire agus Sasana agus Moscow go biddy" that he (she) will dissociate. With this ludicrous outburst he (she) has degenerated to ravings of absurdity and bigotry.

I would suggest to D.S. that, instead of being a defeatist and running away from the problem, he (she) return to school and become not a "disgusted student" but a determined one and understand better what the Republican Movement is and has been about.

Lastly, the editor commented: "Those wishing to reply to this letter should read the criticised editorial very carefully". My comment: It was hardly relevant as this man or woman spent 90 per cent. of the letter criticising the Movement's stand on socialism and the class struggle. These are irrefutably the stand of the Republican Movement, especially that of the young people. To avoid any determined students becoming disheartened or disillusioned because of this controversial letter from one "disgusted student" the leadership should state emphatically whether we are concerned in the class struggle, whether we are socialist and whether we are leftist.

—Niall Taylor, P.R.O. North Dublin Comhairlecheantar, Sinn Féin.

P.O.W.s REPLY

THIS is an open reply to "Disgusted Student", whose letter provoked strong reaction among P.O.W.s in this prison.

Disgusting Disgusted: To attempt to analyse the editorial of June 22 vis-à-vis your scathing criticism of July 18 would be merely pretending that your

Ar leaúint, lch. 7.

KNOW YOUR ÉIRE NUA

le Christene Elias,
Comhairle Chuipe Laighean

IN PROPOSING our new regional structures of government as the most realistic form of future administration for this country, the Republican Movement recognises the fundamental right of the people of Ireland to be involved closely in the making of decisions that influence their day-to-day lives and the development of their community.

We foresee this self-government being implemented through our system of District, Regional, Provincial and National levels of power.

We maintain also that the administration of any particular service should be carried out by the lowest possible level of authority (District Council) as the elected body closest to the people, and that this should have as much control over all aspects of development as is realistically possible.

We emphasise particularly the District Council because we believe that participation in the decision-making process at this level will be the keystone and strength of our system.

This council, representing 10,000 to 40,000 people, will oversee such activities as primary school education, social welfare, trading practice, employment conditions, job opportunities, agriculture, fishing, small industry, co-operative enterprise, housing, lands and planning permission, within its own jurisdiction.

The Regional administrative levels representing groupings of several District Councils, will be responsible for the collection of rates and taxes, third and higher level education, hospitalisation, communications, the development of growth centres and the general assessment and co-ordination of the work of the District Councils.

Essentially, the regional level has been introduced to deal with the affairs of clearly defined regions which may have different economic problems and, therefore, require the special attention of a separate regional authority.

Of particular significance with regard to our struggle for a just peace in Ireland and our desire to find a means by which the differing traditions of this country can live in harmony is the creation of four democratically elected Provincial Parliaments to legislate for each of the four historic provinces.

All levels of government will operate within the framework of the accepted Constitution and guaranteed Charter of Rights and any level can engage in any legal activity which is not reserved by statute to a higher authority.

We envisage that the responsibilities of the National level of government will be confined to those issues in which the nation must act as one, such as foreign affairs, national defence, currency and aspects of national finance.

New police
Much research and hard work has gone into formulating our proposals for new political structures for the Irish people as outlined above. But, will they work? Let us take one aspect of life in Ireland and examine how it will be handled in the New Ireland.

PRISONERS' PLEA

(Ar leanúint ó lech. 3)

prisoners in Portlaoise jail; "Some of these men are mental and physical wrecks", he said.

The Sinn Féin representative from Glasgow said that he was really "Geordie", representing Glasgow. This demonstrated the cosmopolitan nature of Sinn Féin. He stressed the great need for solidarity between workers of Britain and Ireland.

Jackie Kay, Prisoners' Aid Committee, pointed out that the very worst kind of brutality was used in Britain jails.

Europe's torture capital

To applause she denounced London as the torture capital of Europe.

The Revolutionary Communist Group spokesman said the Westminster area was to restore the loyalist style Stormont. The Royal visit to Ireland was to distract attention from real issues.

The speaker for the Indian Workers' Movement said that the Irish and Indian people had much in common in their struggle for independence.

The spokesman for the Communist Party of England (Marxist-Leninist) said that Ireland was being used as a training ground for British troops. They would be used later in Britain against British workers.

At Lincoln's Inn Fields an appeal was made for An Cumann Cabhrach. About £300 was collected.

Who will control the police?

For example, over the last few years the question of policing has been a subject that has aroused considerable interest. Republicans realise that this is a very sensitive problem, especially in the Six Counties, and that, if a lasting peace is to be achieved, a realistic and viable solution to the problem of policing must be found.

In addition, we have noted that Republicans do not refer to a "police force" in the New Ireland but to the creation of a "police service" for the Irish people of the future.

According to the Éire Nua programme, the police service will be a District responsibility. Each district throughout the country will have control over its own police service.

For example, each of the proposed 21 Districts of Belfast will be responsible for the administration of a police service within its own area.

The police services will be unarmed bodies directly answerable to their District Council which, in turn, is elected by the people of the community;

In conjunction with this, some particular aspects of police work will have to be organised at a Regional level.

To take the example of Ulster again, the new regions of East Ulster, West Ulster, South Ulster and Belfast would operate regional police facilities such as forensic laboratories, the registration of aliens and the monitoring of the movement of drugs.

In the same way, at provincial level, we envisage consultative and co-ordinating work being carried out regarding particular aspects of police work, such as the movement of criminals and the compilation of records.

But the most vital principle of these proposals cannot be

compromised: The police service will be a District responsibility.

This plan for future policing is a prime example for the necessity of clearly defined checks and balances in the New Ireland.

We envisage that the new political structures will have at their disposal two executive arms: The police service and the army.

One of these, the police service, will be controlled by the lowest level of government, the District Council.

The other, the national army, will take orders only from the federal or national level, the highest unit of authority.

Regional and provincial levels will not be involved directly in either of these services.

The national army will be controlled by representatives from all four provinces of the New Ireland and will act as the ultimate check on the police services.

Thus, the delicate problem of policing can be successfully solved within the framework of our new political structures. In the same way, the Republican Movement is confident that our programme offers the surest opportunities for the future political, economic, social and cultural development of an independent Ireland.

An Aisling

(Ar leanúint ó lech. 3)

confidence trick. It doesn't make him either "British" or "English".

The true account of the story is simply that Britain wanted to hold on to Ireland and that, to do so, gave marginal privileges to some Protestants (but very few real ones to the ordinary labouring man), with a deliberate view to creating divisions among the native population which would give it an excuse to maintain control.

It is a policy which has long been known as "divide and rule". Most Protestants fell for it, of course. You couldn't blame them. The only people you could blame were their political leaders — sometimes "on the left" — who knew very well the true story but refrained from telling it for fear that they would lose their seats on Belfast Corporation.

Now that the Six-Counties "Protestant Ulster" myth is in a shambles, without any hope of resurrecting it, the real Republican ideal of uniting all Irishmen, irrespective of religion, in a common effort to run our own country for ourselves, begins to be closer, despite the appearances of "increased sectarianism".

Even all the "liberals" and Alliance Party types are going on endlessly about the "only hope" — the co-operation of the

so-called "two communities". But they always put a ridiculous veto on their conditions for "togetherness". Their conditions make it impossible.

They want this beautiful reconciliation to come about within the Six Counties — the very framework which was created to keep Irish people apart.

Logical ideal

In the answer to that lies the ultimate and inevitable truth of the traditional Republican ideal. Such a reconciliation can NEVER come about under British power — the power which the divisions were created to maintain.

The only true reconciliation possible is in a coming together within an all-Ireland sovereignty which would grant the northern people, Protestant and Catholic, a degree of autonomy expressing their regional character and special interests.

As long as there are real Republicans to strive for that objective, there is hope for the future of Ireland.

Gaelige: essence of our nationality





APART FROM his loss of freedom the greatest privation endured by a prisoner is the isolation suffered in being parted from the family. The distinct possibility, particularly if one is serving a fairly length sentence of five years or more, of losing someone very dear or having someone very close become seriously ill before one's sentence is completed, haunts the minds of most prisoners.

When that fear becomes reality, it has a traumatic effect. When that grief and worry is compounded by the uncertainty of whether one will be afforded the opportunity to attend the funeral or the bedside of a sick relative, the prisoner finds himself in a situation of unbearable pressure and frustration.

The Republican Movement, with its long history of involvement with many various types of penal systems, has long recognised that compassionate parole is a very serious factor in prison life and, indeed, since 1970, when Republicans first began arriving once again in Crumlin Road Prison, compassionate parole has become perhaps the most emotive problem to face the Stormont administration.

Republicans always have regarded compassionate parole as

TENSION RISING OVER PAROLE

being in a totally different category from other parole schemes such as summer parole. We believe that all prisoners, irrespective of whether they are political or criminal, have a basic human right to compassionate parole.

Over the years we have taken advantage of whichever compassionate parole scheme existed and our behaviour and prompt return rate are without equal amongst the various groups which make up the prison population.

Republican principle

Before dealing with a brief history of compassionate parole since 1972, when the first agreement with the British was reached, it is necessary to touch upon the Republican Movement's relationship with Stormont, as only through an understanding of this relationship can one hope to appreciate our attitude to the penal system and thus to compassionate parole.

Republicans hold that "Northern Ireland" was illegally separated from the rest of Ireland against the wishes of the people of Ireland.

We have refused consistently to recognise the legality of the Border and of the institutions it protects. Consequently, for 55 years, we have refused to recognise the right of the Six Counties judicial system to try, sentence, and imprison Irish men and women.

Believing that those who have imprisoned us have no right to do so we have constantly fought for recognition as political prisoners and have consistently refused to take part in "normal" prison "rehabilitation or parole schemes" such as summer parole, Christmas parole, pre-release parole, etc. Compassionate parole is the only exception.

In 1972, a hunger strike was undertaken in Crumlin Road Jail, Belfast to force the Northern Ireland Office to adopt a more flexible approach while considering compassionate parole applications.

This strike was ended following verbal assurances that a more flexible approach would be adopted.

Prior to this hunger strike no one had the automatic right to compassionate parole. In principle this was conceded as the future norm.

This development can be considered as the first step in which has become a long and bitter struggle to have the established criteria laid down in regard to compassionate parole.

Between the first hunger strike and the second, in general, those who applied for compassionate parole received it. Most likely this happened because of our own self-imposed strict criteria for applicants.

However, there were a number of points which continued to give rise to grave concern. The first was the amount of time given to men on compassionate parole.

In most cases it was no more than four hours. Considering the seriousness of the cases and the travelling to and from the parolees destination, it was inadequate.

26 Counties

The second hunger strike began in March, 1974, to obtain a guarantee that those of our comrades who came from the 26 Counties would be treated fairly and favourably.

As on the first occasion no written agreement was made but a verbal guarantee was given that in future men from the 26 Counties would be regarded in the same way as all others and where parole was given a minimum of

49 hours would be allowed in order to take in travelling time.

Following this agreement the situation remained unchanged until early in 1975 when negotiations with Deputy Governor Gibson on the question of compassionate parole were once again begun.

After a great deal of talking Deputy Governor Gibson agreed to recommend greater flexibility in regard to parole in general.

As a result a 24 hour period became automatic in the event of a death in a man's immediate family or of someone who had been acting in loco parentis.

Parole periods of 8-24 hours also were to be given in the event of serious illness. This could be extended on request.

It was agreed also that because of our excellent record for the first time men serving life sentences would be considered.

These new criteria came into effect almost immediately and men who applied for compassionate parole generally received the



By a Long Kesh Spokesman

time allowed under the 1975 agreement, although there was evidence during this time that the RUC was being given considerable say in who should get compassionate parole and who should not.

In 1976, a Republican prisoner who was serving a life sentence applied for and was given compassionate parole for a serious illness. This was to us a major breakthrough. Unfortunately, the individual concerned failed to live up to the trust placed in him by his comrades and had to be returned to Long Kesh late and by members of the Republican Movement.

Prisoner punished

For disobeying the strict order issued to all Republicans on receiving compassionate parole and for bringing into disrepute the honour and integrity of Republican political prisoners, he was refused permission to return to a Republican cage and now is serving his sentence in "D" Wing, Crumlin Road.

Apart, however, from that one incident, Republicans continued to return on time from compassionate home leave and, in general, the system continued to operate fairly effectively.

Within the last few months, however, that situation has changed for the worst.

During the last six months problems in the allocating of compassionate parole have once again come to the fore. The problems can be divided into four main groups. Men serving life sentences; definition of a serious illness; time allowed to prisoners on compassionate home leave; and non-inclusion of grandparents in the "close relative" criteria.

Within recent weeks one of our personnel serving a life sentence was refused compassionate parole to attend his mother's funeral. Yet it has been the case that men serving sentences of 15 and 20 years have been given such parole.

Under the present parole procedure for 'lifers' it is possible in theory for them to be released after serving five years. Therefore, in theory, at least under certain circumstances, "lifers" could be released before a man serving a parallel sentence of 12 years or more.

However, under present criteria, in the event of a death or serious illness, a prisoner serving life has

little or no chance of getting compassionate parole.

How to classify?

Generally, it is a simple enough for a doctor to state to the NIO that a person is seriously ill. However, how does one classify a parent or child who, because of an illness or some permanent disability, has been unable to see his imprisoned father or son for some considerable time.

Within our ranks we have at present two such examples.

There is the case of Donal Knox, who has not seen his father for more than four years because he is unable, through illness, to visit the prison.

Secondly there is the case of Alec Crowe. His father has been for four years now constantly ill. Alec has not seen his father in all that time.

Family contacts are difficult enough to maintain for imprisoned men without this added complication. Therefore, we believe that men whose circumstances are similar to the above cases should be eligible for compassionate parole.

It was agreed in 1975 that between eight and twenty-four hours would be given to men on compassionate parole for a serious illness.

Within the last few months the NIO has reverted to the pre-1975 agreement by allowing prisoners no more than four hours, inclusive of travelling time.

This is inadequate when a prisoner may be visiting a seriously ill or dying parent, child, etc.

Irish difference

Within the Irish family unit grandparents play a major and very active role, with in many cases their influence on children being as great as that of the parents.

Perhaps it is because the English civil servants who run the NIO regard grandparents in a different light that compassionate parole for grandparents has almost never been given. We believe that grandparents should be included.

In order to change the criteria concerning compassionate parole we have requested a meeting with a representative of the NIO.

The NIO on more than one occasion has demonstrated itself inflexible and intransigent to even the most common sense arguments. Therefore, we are sending (Ar leantúin ar chúil)

THE PEOPLE'S VICTORY

REPUBLICANS have good reason to be grateful to the lunatic who advised the English monarch to visit the Six Counties or who approved the made wish. For, in English parlance, they helped to score a hat-trick against themselves.

With the greatest street march in years — estimated at about 30,000 — the Crown myth was destroyed, that the people were not behind the Republican Movement.

With that myth went another, that the "peace" women were neutral, when the Queen of Death thanked them personally for their services to the Crown.

And just look at what happened to her majesty's loyal opposition, in the shape of the Social Democratic and Labour Party; trailing shamefacedly behind the people and admitting how greatly they have been fooled by Whitehall.

Belfast got most of the limelight (and suffered most from the Crown's brutal revenge) but the people also were out against the Crown in Derry, Lurgan, Dungannon, Newry, Toome Bridge and Armagh.

When the "Irish Independent" admits in page one headlines that the Republican people's magnificent opposition turned the royal visit into an undignified flop one can be sure that the flop was, indeed, tremendous.

Our pictures tell their own story of revolutionary triumph and imperial disgrace.



Cúrsaí eachtracha Foreign affairs

AN ATTEMPT is being made by the cultural minorities in the French state to defend themselves against imperial Paris, under the organisation Défense et Promotion des Langues de France.

The language areas represented are Breton (Emilio Breiz), Occitanie (Union Culturelle des Pays d'Occ), Basques (IKAS), Catalans (Grup Rossellones d'Estudis Catalans), Alsace-Moselle (Cercle René Schickete), Flemish (Cercle Michel de Swaen) and Corsica (Scola Corsa).

Next month the DPLF will make a public appeal for the linguistic rights of members before the international conference in Belgrade and which will be examining decisions in 1975 in Helsinki on human rights as to what action has (or has not) been taken by 35 European and American governments which signed the accord.

Pledges broken

The D.P.L.F. hopes that the Belgrade appeal will draw international attention to breaches of solemn pledges by the French government, relating to the status of the national minorities and regional cultures.

The D.P.L.F. will cite the persistent lack of co-operation on the part of France's Education Ministry, and of TV and radio authorities.

In 1975, Education Minister René Haby promised measures to ameliorate the minority situation very minor and in no way far-reaching. But even these measures have been only partially enforced.

The D.P.L.F. was forced to appeal to the Conseil d'Etat when, despite obligation already written into the law, decrees were applied which ignored a legal commitment to establish optional teaching in the so-called "regional" languages throughout the entire course of study.

As it has had little satisfaction

Languages oppressed by French centrists

in its dealings with the Ministry of Education, the DPLF has decided to abandon any further appeals on this level. The same applies to radio and TV broadcasts in the minority languages.

Workers to help

With an eye to coming elections, the DPLF is escalating its campaign to obtain clear-cut commitments from various political organisations towards the resolutions of regional culture problems.

Certain political organisations with nationwide membership have opened new horizons for the DPLF in providing them with official assurance of support. In addition, such support has been agreed to by formally teachers' unions and labour unions.

Delegates' report

Recently, the DPLF organised a meeting of delegates of a number of organisations struggling for the cultural rights of the minority peoples of

France. In analysing the problem in each region, delegates confirmed that the condition of the minority languages in education and mass-media was virtually unchanged.

In Occitania, the campaign for the recognition of Occitan as a national language has received widespread support.

In Brittany, there has been a large-scale demand for a decent organisation of the teaching of Breton as a first step towards the granting of a cultural charter by the state.

In Corsica, an opposition group in Parliament has proposed a bill which would grant that island a special status, providing for the general teaching of Corsican language and culture.

At a time when so much is spoken of human rights and basic freedoms, France has exhibited little concern for the international agreements.

The Education Ministry, as well as the radio and TV authorities, maintain a stubborn negative attitude to linguistic minorities.



•BRITZ EYEVIEW: This is how the enemy saw the massive black-flag protest against the visit of the Queen of Death to the Six Counties last week in Belfast.

A REPORT was published some two months ago by the Economic and Social Research Institute, attempting to quantify just how bad is unemployment in the 26 Countries and to propound a cure. It compared the area firstly with the other EEC states. The area is easily

the worst. Of the workforce of 1,250,000, 14.9 per cent, are reckoned to be unemployed. Unemployment is expected to increase in 1978 to 15.8 per cent, and, in 1979, to 16.5 per cent.

This takes no account of the north-east where official figures list 60,000 unemployed, with a possible additional 20,000 for school leavers and persons not qualifying for assistance.

It credits as employed the 240,000 persons staffing the civil service, armed forces, gardai and local authorities, most of whom are an unproductive millstone upon the other.

As far as the EEC states are concerned the percentage unemployed this year is as follows:

Federal Germany, 4.2; France, 1.3; Italy, 5.9; Netherlands, 4.2; Belgium, 5.3; Britain, 2.0; and Denmark, 2.5.

In the year before the 26 Countries entered the EEC (1972) the unemployment rate was 6.5 per cent. It can be seen, therefore, that much of the trouble, apart from higher prices and other threats to the economy, derives from the simple fact of membership of a community not suited to Ireland and for which Ireland is unsuited.

Unemployment is 2½ times greater than the worst other state of the EEC (Italy) and it is more than 2½ times up on what it was on entering.

Besides which the state may be severely hamstrung. This applies especially to the new Fianna Fáil administration, in whatever efforts it takes to reduce unemployment.

EEC regulations pervade all lives. Farmers' butter and free range eggs may not be sold publicly any more, except under certain stringent conditions.

For instance, it is certain that many hopeful proposals thought about by politicians will fall foul of them.

We know already of their effect upon fishing rights, restricting the "Free" State to building a deep-sea industry that in time could employ 60,000; but then regulations are costly and

Job crisis is getting worse

add greatly to business overheads which, in themselves, are another factor in limiting employment.

IDA failure

The ESRI report makes no suggestion of this, though it does criticise boldly (if indirectly) the IDA-oriented policies of the last 20 years: "The burden of creating employment in this country", it says, "has been placed on economic development and, particularly, the strategy of industrial development."

le JAMES HOPE

"This method of providing new jobs, adopted by successive governments, has failed to meet the challenge of the country's growing population.

"Jobs have not been created at a rate sufficiently rapid to provide employment for a community with a growing population, with little escape through emigration and with a large number of people leaving agriculture".

One could add to this, that, even in manufacturing industry, the great hope of employment, if we were to believe the economic pundits of yesterday, three great limiting factors emerged:

The removal of all protection as a result of the "Free" State - Bristol Free Trade Agreement, 1966, and EEC accession, 1973, withered the chances of development, even by the most progressive Irish firms. Where are the shoe factories today?

Ownership changes

Who owns the bulk of the food-processing industry? What has happened to the "great" native co-operatives - Cork Mats, Clover Meats, Golden Vale, North Dublin, Lough Egish,

Mullagh, and so on? Some of them linger on, it is true; but will they survive? How goes the furniture industry? Who now owns Atklow Pottery or Solus Lamp? Irishmen do not.

The grants given by the "Free" State towards modernisation, to face up to these conditions, were used to cut employment. In most cases it was a necessary thing to do to survive (Irish Whiskey Distillers, Powers, Cork, and Jameson, before this amalgamation, employed 1,500; now they employ 800).

There is not a single home-based Irish firm today that is consciously planning to expand employment.

The state has made the economic conditions for this impossible, while Michael O'Leary, in his recent ministry, passed through a number of measures that make it dangerous, costly and risky for private employers to take on staff.

In addition, a seemingly progressive measure, such as equal pay for women and the right to remain in employment after marriage, has disastrous economic effects.

The private sector cannot afford (apart from banks and insurance companies) to operate it while its effect in the public sector has been to reduce office efficiency and to block the intake of school leavers.

Export-oriented industry has not worked. While many foreign industries are now established here, rarely do they relate to the Irish economy or to products of the soil.

They are components of vast multi-national sales organisations with no real separate life in Ireland. Many others remain just

Chile: Few jobs and no dole

"UNDER the nightly curfew in Chile the secret police operate and some 2,000 to 3,000 people have disappeared, never to be heard of again. One woman lost four members of her family in a fortnight".

This was what Gabriel Scally, a medical student from Queen's University, Belfast, said in an RTE interview on his return from a secret visit to Chile. He added: "There is much

unemployment and no dole. Many trade unionists have been detained and tortured. The Catholic Church in Chile

is the main voice opposing the ruling junta today.

"Psychological torture, similar to that in the north of Ireland, was used. Also, victims often suffer broken bones and severe beatings and very severe electric shocks.

"Chile had 160 years of democracy. This was violently overthrown by the junta, resulting in a reign of terror. Many humanitarian delegations have been refused entry or expelled".

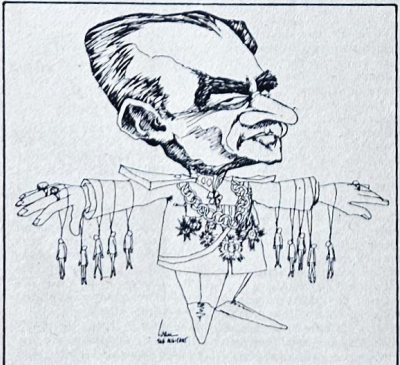
People's courts in Zimbabwe

IN SEVERAL areas in Zimbabwe (Rhodesia) the Smith regime's administration has collapsed and the guerrillas have set up their own in its place.

"No-go" areas have been created up to 50 miles from Salisbury, the capital, by mining roads and burning buses to avoid risk to those travelling on them in the area.

Children continue attending school but do not pay any fees to the government, as previously.

A feature of the liberated areas is the people's court before which offenders appear. The court is composed of villagers and guerrillas. An informer, if found guilty, is shot. Guerrillas who flout their code of ethics by drunkenness or fornication are shot in the leg.



If Elizabeth II of England ranks high as the High Queen of Torture in the Western World she has a strong rival on a world basis from the High King of Torture in the Middle East, the Shah of Iran (cartoon, courtesy "Intercontinental Press", New York).

Disaster in Dublin

EVEN ACCORDING to Dublin's official job-creator, the Industrial Development Authority, job losses in Dublin continue to exceed new jobs. And it will be even worse.

Since 1974, unemployment in Dublin has risen by 60 per cent., to 35,000.

In a crash programme to raise employment in the area the IDA now is attempting to attract large industrial enterprises to set up factories in the area.

The IDA's annual report is hard on those who object to new industrial projects on

"unreasonable" environmental grounds.

It says that a survey of pollution in Ireland last year by the Institute for Industrial Research and Standards "shows that no new industrial project assisted by the IDA to locate in Ireland has caused environmental damage".

The situation in Dublin is so critical now that the regime is prepared to approve the dirtiest of industries, to provide jobs at virtually any costs, the alternative being seen increasingly as revolution by the jobless.



ALL OVER Ireland on August 9 relatives' action committees, mainly composed of women, held protests against the withdrawal of political status for the POWs and their torture in jail.

Top picture (courtesy "News Line") shows the picket outside the British PM's residence in 10 Downing Street, London, organised by the Women and Ireland group, in support of the Relatives' Action Committees' demonstrations the same day, a splendid example of class solidarity.

Political status is recognition that the Irish struggle is political, that those involved are not "criminals" but people struggling for political ends. Political status was won by the Irish people in 1972 after a massive campaign of street demonstrations and hunger strikes. When one considers that the courts which try political offenders have no juries, that "confessions" are extracted under torture and duress; and that Britain was found guilty in Strasbourg of torturing Irish people one can understand the importance to Irish people of political status.

TENSION RISING...

(Ar leanúint ó lch. a 5)

copies of this document to recognised bodies in the hope that pressure may be brought to bear on the NIO to introduce a system of compassionate parole with criteria which are reasonable and humane.

These are the criteria we seek to have accepted:

1. Applicants will be permitted only in the event of serious illness or death of mother, father, son, daughter, brother, sister, grandparents.
2. Provision should be made for documented cases of in loco parents.
3. Serious illnesses should include the inability of one of

4. those classified to visit the prisoner in prison.

4. A standard period of 12 hours should be given in the case of serious illness with additional time awarded to those who have greater distances to travel.

5. A standard period of 48 hours for a death, designed to cover the time of burial, so as to give the prisoner time to help with funeral arrangements, and enough time after the burial to make a dignified departure.

6. All prisoners to be afforded equal facility, irrespective of term of sentence.

Support the fight for Political Status



THE REBELLION OF EASTER WEEK IS CRUSHED WITH A HORRIFYING BRUTALITY, AND THE CHAINS OF TYRANNY SEEM RIVETED MORE SO THAN EVER BEFORE ON A DAZED IRELAND. BUT A NEW SPIRIT IS BORN - THE WILL TO BE FREE LIVES AGAIN!

DAILY NEW FEBRUARY 5th 1918
SINN FEIN WIN BY ELECTION IN ROSCOMMON
ANOTHER SINN FEIN CANDIDATE ELECTED LONGFORD
DE VALERA ELECTED IN EAST CLARE

THE FORBIDDEN TRICOLOUR FLIES AGAIN-WHERE THE POLICE CAN'T GET IT.



WHO FEARS TO SPEAK OF EASTER WEEK?



As lár an chogaidh

FROM THE WAR ZONE

Old mother England loves us still...

IT WAS a costly loyal visit to the Six Counties. At least two enemy soldiers were shot dead and eight wounded, some of them critically. At least one RUC man was wounded.

No member of the armed resistance to Crown pretensions in Ireland was killed, wounded or captured but one unarmed member of Na Fianna Éireann was murdered by the Crown and many civilians were injured by enemy forces, some of them women and aged people.

MONDAY, AUGUST 8

BELFAST: Throughout the night bin lids were bashed and whistles blown to commemorate the sixth anniversary of internment.

Three vehicles were hijacked and burned in the Turf Lodge area. A RUC man in one car escaped with shoulder and leg bullet wounds. The British made swoops on 300 homes in Belfast but most of those sought were not at home.

Fighting broke out in the Republican Short Strand area after a speeding RUC Land-Rover barely missed knocking down three young children. A bus was burned on the Glen Road.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 9

BELFAST: Eian Paul McWilliams (16) was shot in the back and killed by an enemy sniper in Westrock Drive, west Belfast. The youth had just left a house when he was shot. An enemy soldier was shot dead by an IRA sniper at the junction of the Whiterock and Springfield Road.

Enemy patrols operating in the Celtic Park area were attacked by Active Service Units.

DERRY: Six shots were fired at an enemy checkpoint on the Letterkenny Road. A garage on the Strand Road was destroyed when a bomb exploded. No one was injured as a warning was given.

LURGAN: An enemy patrol was fired on. No injuries were reported.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 10

BELFAST: An enemy officer, Major Tobin Duke, who, according to his parents, had objected to the Elizabeth visit, was shot and seriously wounded as he led a patrol in the Beechmount area of the Falls Road. A member of an ASU fired two shots, hitting Duke.

At the enemy post on the city walls an ASU opened fire at sentries. There were no reports of injuries.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 11. **DERRY:** A sniper opened fire at RUC members investigating a

At Divis Flats, Brits and RUC scattered after several shots were fired at them.

A bomb exploded in the centre of the city, injuring at least seven people. The enemy fired seven shots at a "phantom gunman" in the Lower Falls and claimed to have seen him "stagger". Locals claimed that the Brits had fired indiscriminately into the area.

A large fire broke out at McCreedy's building yard in Corporation Street. A RUC mobile patrol attempted to enter the Divis Flats complex but a quick burst of automatic gunfire from a member of Oglagh forced them back. Locals cheered.

ARMAGH: The IRA in Crossmaglen, admitting responsibility for the car-bomb explosion in the village, said that it had been intended for the Crown forces. The statement said that it reflected the ease with which security could be breached in the area "irrespective of the royal visit". The car bomb exploded about 100 yards from the enemy observation post in the village.

DERRY: Six shots were fired by an ASU at the enemy post in Rosemount RUC Barracks. Later, a sniper opened fire at the enemy checkpoint in Letterkenny Road, forcing military and RUC to run for cover.

At the enemy post on the city walls an ASU opened fire at sentries. There were no reports of injuries.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 11.

DERRY: A sniper opened fire at RUC members investigating a



suspect lorry packed outside the fire station in Northland Road. For the third time in 48 hours the enemy checkpoint on the main Derry-Letterkenny Road came under sustained gunfire.

BELFAST: A bomb exploded at a petrol station on the Andersonstown Road. Two bombs were planted. The second exploded several hours later. There were no injuries. Several bomb hoaxes caused disruption of traffic throughout the city and 16 vehicles were hijacked in a three hour period.

Fian Paul McWilliams was buried in Milltown Cemetery. Three comrades fired a volley of shots over his grave.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 12

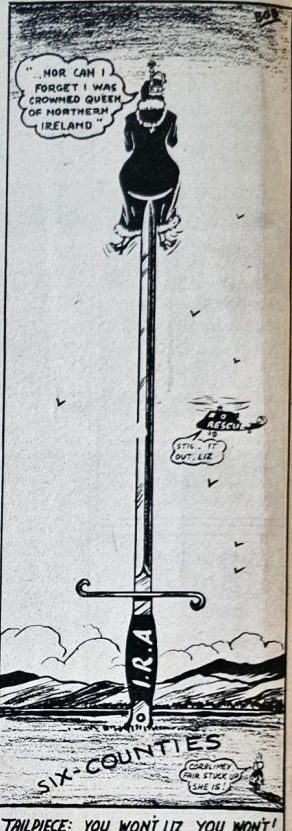
BELFAST: Enemy casualties continued to mount in what has been a costly week for "protecting" Elizabeth. During the day a sniper wounded the military driver of a Land-Rover at the junction of Gransha Park and Gransha Ave. Later another enemy soldier was shot dead as his patrol moved along Norglen Parade.

In the same area a blast bomb was thrown at another patrol, seriously wounding two enemy soldiers.

In a supplied statement Belfast Brigade, IRA said the Brigade claimed responsibility "for the and grenade attack on the British army in Turf Lodge on Friday afternoon.

"In these attacks, four Brit soldiers were injured, one shot in the neck, one shot in the chest and two injured by shrapnel. Subsequently, the British army claimed a soldier had been shot dead."

The following statements were released through the Belfast Republican Press Centre: "August 11 - This is an immediate warning from the Irish Republican Army to British Queen via the world media. This is no hoax. We have breached the tight security at Coleraine University. Clear the university building of all civilians; clear the grounds of the children."



SATURDAY, AUGUST 12

"Our statement early yesterday was specifically referring to the seven-pound bomb which exploded last night in Coleraine University.

"We had planned the explosion for one hour and 30 minutes after the warning was delivered. It was no hoax. It was a real threat to civilians and children who were kept ignorant of the presence of the bomb."

that we breached the security of Coleraine University. We delivered an adequate warning. The Brits jeopardised the lives of innocent people. Our activity this week served its purpose. We humiliated Elizabeth and we placed on the world map that, as the British imperialist forces enter their ninth year of aggression, the armed struggle of the revolutionary Irish people continues," the statements end.

Belfast Sinn Fein accused the British army of deliberately attacking the demonstrators who were taking part in a silent protest against the visit of the foreign monarch. Some 30,000 people took part in the protest which was stopped by the British army in King St., near the centre of Belfast. Sinn Fein once again is denied the right to political expression, the party said in a statement.

Newflaw from Belfast Sinn Fein "The presence of Brit army units in Turf Lodge, Belfast, has posed an illegal curfew on the residents of the area. This curfew has been enforced by the use of brutality, used against the very young and the very old. "Already a number of people have been taken to hospital. One young married woman was beaten up by Brit soldiers. More details to follow shortly."

At least 35 people in Belfast were injured by Crown forces during the Elizabeth visit. A teenager, John McNulty, is in hospital in danger of losing an eye from an attack with a plastic bullet.