

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.

(1922, 1937, 1948)

An Phoblacht

Iml. 9. Uimhir 13. 10p. Marta 29, 1978.

CONCENTRATION CAMP HORRORS

A HUNGER strike traditionally excites Irish pity. A hunger and thirst strike causes dread. The reason is very simple. A protester can last months on hunger strike, always with the hope of reprieve, although too often the damage caused is irreparable. But hunger and thirst strikes usually end very quickly in death.

Two men went on hunger and thirst strike in H-Block Three, Long Kesh Concentration Camp, on March 13: Thomas McFeeley, Claudy, Co. Derry, married, the father of three beautiful children, sentenced to 26 years; and Sean Campbell, New Lodge Road, Belfast.

Bluntly, the reason why they took this terrible course was that the horrors of H-Block had been increased to such an extent that human beings could not take any more. Death, even under the great suffering of hunger and thirst strike, would be preferable to the H-Block tortures.

The only honourable reaction for Republicans is to make loud and continuous protest, educating the public, harnessing the public's anger, until the horrors of H-Block are ended.

We publish, here, extracts from a letter written by "Na Fírbholg" from Long Kesh Concentration Camp, telling the story behind the McFeeley-Campbell protest which ended when the two were on the point of death last week.

On the blanket

Most people by now are well aware that in the H-Blocks of Long Kesh, 350 Republican PoWs are engaged in what has become widely known as the 'blanket protest'. For the last two years these men have refused steadfastly to accept the British classification of criminal and have demanded their just right to be recognised as prisoners-of-war.

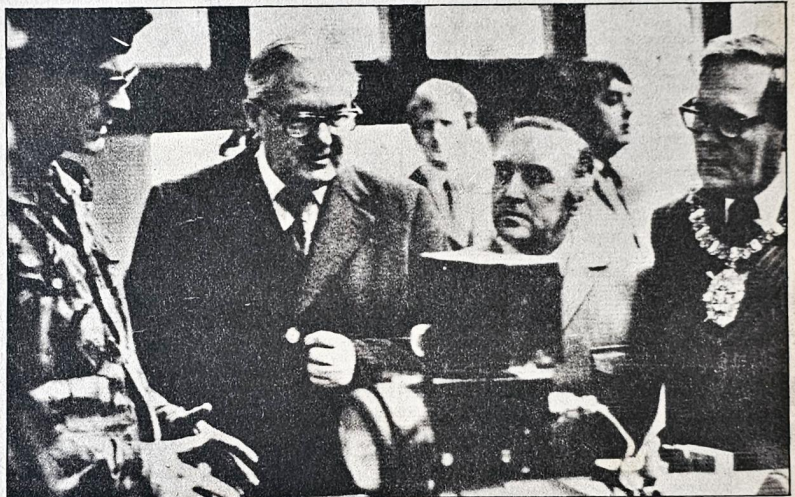
Consequently, Republican PoWs have been forced to survive under a prison regime so ruthless and so fascist that the only occasions on which our naked comrades are permitted to leave their cells are on Sundays to attend Mass or during the week if, for some medical reason, it is absolutely necessary to pay the prison doctor a visit.

Naturally, of course, under such a strict authoritarian regime they must first undergo the humiliating and harrowing ritual of a "close body search". Secondly, they must wear the uniform of a common criminal.

Apart from those few necessary occasions when they leave their cells, our comrades must spend every minute of every day in a small concrete "coffin" 8 ft. by 6 ft. For many this is the second year of such a harsh existence.

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The Bamsley Bum, Gauleiter Mason, shows the chief godfather of violence, Jim Callaghan, how to conduct a war by remote control in Belfast. But even such super Brit technology failed to stop the Ó Conaill pimpermell entering and leaving Derry city after giving the oration at the Easter Commemoration. The Bamsley Bum, as Dáithí nicknamed him, was very horribly annoyed, using really atrocious language to underlings. Neither was the chief godfather very amused. But the Republican people laughed and clapped.

ALJ DOSSIER ON SHOOTINGS

THE ASSOCIATION for Legal Justice is completing a dossier on the shooting of two unarmed civilians by a SAS unit in Ramoan Gardens and Glen Road, Belfast, on March 16; Des Mackin, Andersonstown, and Billy Gamble, stoichman's Lane. Both are seriously ill in hospital.

A spokesman for the ALJ said that both men had been shot while on the ground according to a large number of reputable witnesses.

As so often happens, he pointed out, British army reports of the incident were conflicting but all agreed that British soldiers in civilian attire had been present.

"This matter raised some deeply disturbing questions," according to the spokesman. "People are asking who will investigate the activities of these undercover squads in a fair and impartial manner.

Soldiers protected

"Doubtless, the soldiers will have to do their story. One of the problems that similar cases have raised is that the RUC do not gain access to soldiers until they have been seen by military police.

"This means that it is not easy to test in a thorough manner any inconsistencies or weaknesses in their account of the matter.

"The civilian in a similar position has no such protection and can be isolated for three days or more and subjected to very vigorous interrogation.

As a result of their determination to refuse criminal status the prison authorities, in their bitter frustration and anger at the stand of these men of principle, have introduced even greater oppressive tactics in a concerted effort to end once and for all this embarrassing situation.

Rosary 'offence'

There have been many examples of these new tactics in operation. Recently a young Republic PoW found himself being "sentenced" to one month's solitary confinement and, most sinister of all, put on a "number-one prison diet" (this is a "restricted diet," consisting of six slices of dry bread and two small beakers of cold black tea per day), allegedly abolished in 1974 as outdated, cruel and barbaric. His "crime" in the eyes of his tormentors, was that he had refused to remove a set of Rosary beads which he had around his neck. Another PoW received the same "punishment" for writing his name on his bible.

A further example of this continuously increasing harassment was the rule introduced whereby toilet paper was removed from cells and would be given only on request. Anyone now found to have unused toilet paper in his possession is immediately "put on the boards".

(Ar lean, ar lech, a 8).

An Phoblacht

Iml. 9 Márta 29, 1978. Uimh. 12.
44 Cearnóg Pharnell, B.A.C., Éire. Guthán 747611.

After withdrawal?

THERE CAN be little doubt in anybody's mind, now, but that Jack Lynch and his Fianna Fáil party are organising a powerful campaign in Ireland and America to bring pressure on the Crown to withdraw its soldiers from Ireland.

It would appear that Jack Lynch and his colleagues, with the backing of most other people and parties in Leinster House, has begun this campaign because British evacuation now is a political possibility, thanks to the softening-up work of 10 years of activity by Ógluigh na hÉireann in the Six Counties, and also because of the resulting improved national morale of the vast majority of the people of the 26 Counties, something which might constitute a danger to Fianna Fáil if these emotions and desires were not harnessed to the Lynch wagon.

Whether the Lynch campaign is a sham, like the Anti-Partition campaign, or a genuine intention to turn all Ireland into a "free" state, remains to be seen.

The Sinn Féin President, Ruairí Ó Brádaigh, has pointed out that Fianna Fáil makes Republican noises while acting the imperialist-capitalist role of all "free" state regimes; and that Lynch federalism is far removed from Republican federalism.

Of course, there are many other factors involved and Republican leaders have mentioned them all from time to time, last weekend, at Easter commemorations throughout the country, and at other times.

The basic issue is Irish freedom. Ireland could be united tomorrow under the Crown and remain just as unfree as she is today; or she could be united under the Harp and, again, remain just as unfree. James Connolly pointed out the essentials for freedom and the need to build socialism so that our condition would be a genuine freedom.

Republican federalism would bring freedom, responsibility, power to act decisively in the community, down to individual, family, parish and community level. It would also mean quitting full membership of the EEC and giving the fisheries and industries a better chance; taking a neutral stand in international power politics; keeping clear of the nuclear power conspiracy; restoring our language; organising the economy in the interests of people rather than private profit and thus making it possible to create jobs for all in a rapidly expanding population.

All these and many more are elements of this thing called freedom to walk upright again, without shame, among the nations of the world, joyfully and artistically.

The Republican ideal has poetry and drama, music and the grandeur of the epic, a glorious thing when set against the shabby artifice brandished by the Lynchs, the Cluskeys and the FitzGerald.

But the Republican ideal also has commonsense to it. Only this way can the tensions within the community be resolved - not only in Ulster but in the other provinces as well, the tensions between town and countryside, between east and west, between Dublin and the rest of the country.

To foil Lynch it is necessary to get the people to see beyond the tinsel being dangled by the Leinster House politicians, beyond the inevitable Crown withdrawal itself, so that they may understand what real freedom is and not be fooled by a substitute.

Every Republican has an obligation to educate himself on what Republicanism today stands for so that he may educate the people to reject Lynch and the other charlatans and the pig in the poke they are offering.

EEC does not mean freedom. Gross national product economics means slavery, not freedom. People are more important than profits but the only way to make them more important is to establish socialism. Jobs for all will be possible only under socialism. Power will go to the people only through the Éire Nua policies. All these things make sense for the peace that we must struggle so hard, now, to win, in the name of our glorious dead.

Comhcheilg in éadan na Gaeilge sa státseirbhís

NÍL SAN fhianaise is déanaí tá curtha ar fáil ag Conradh na Gaeilge, maidir le foiceadh an tSaorstáit ar an teanga náiseanta, ach spalla eile san fhoirgneamh.

Ó na daicheadaí ar aghaidh, mura bhfuil dul amú orm, tá sé le feiceáil ag éinne ar theastaigh uaidh é fheiceáil, go raibh an Saorstáit ag chur deireadh le polasáí athbheocháin na Gaeilge.

Ó na daicheadaí tá laghdú le tabhairt faoi deara i líon na scoileanna lánGhaelacha. Ó na daicheadaí tá laghdú le tabhairt faoi deara ar na téacsleabhair Ghaeilge do na scoileanna céanna.

Ó na daicheadaí tá an foirgneamh úd á thógáil ag Gaeilgeoirí sean is óg agus orthu Máirtín Ó Cadhain, "Máire" agus a lan lan eile, foirgneamh na firinne faoi loitiméireacht an stáit.

D'athruigh siad an cló. D'athruigh siad an caighdeán, idir ghramadach is litriú. D'fhág siad pobal nádúrtha na Gaeilge - muintir na Gaeltachta - ar an trá thirim nuair a d'athruigh siad cló agus caighdeán.

Dá mbeadh an teanga láidir ba chuma, b'fheidir; ach ní raibh sí láidir faoin am.

Ní raibh sna cúrsaí seo uilig, mar sin féin, ach nód don eolaí, óir tá an t-íomlán ráite fadó i mbileog a scríobh Donnadh O Corcora do Conradh na Gaeilge.

An croí lofa

BA CHUMA faoi na scoileanna, ar seisean, dá bhfeidfaí bheith cinnte faoin státseirbhís; dá mbeadh an státseirbhís Gaelach go smior; agus cé nár dhúirt sé a leithéid, b'fheidir gur cuma faoi mhuintir na Gaeltachta nó faoi Ghaeilgeoirí na Gaeltachta, ach an státóras bheith Gaelach.

Tá an Páipéar Dubh le Liam S. Andrews le moladh mar léargas ar oideachais, easba oideachais, ar theagasc teanga agus, b'fheidir, mar sholas ar na réigiúin is rúnda in aigne na státseirbhíse.

Ach tá páipéar de chineál éicint eile, nó leabhar mór trom, a dhíth chun an scéal a ríomh go beacht, maidir le athrú tola an tSaorstáit i dtaobh athrimeáil na Gaeilge.

An raibh an toil sin ann ariamh? Bhí cosúlacht ann

Gaeilge do na cimi

IS MINIC a bhris béal srone (is minic a dhúirt duine an iomarca, gur chuir sé olc ar dhúine a bhris a shrón mar chúiteamh!). Binn béal ina thóist, seanfhocal eile.

Usáidtear béal sna logainmneacha - Béal an Daingin. Tá béal an droichind ann, leis, agus béal na sráide. Agus tá sin ag stoca, freisin béal beag, an chuid a ghléafar ar thús de stoca (ní gnáthach an cineál céanna libhácaí bheith ann a bhíós sa chuid eile den stoca).

Béal Torai, Béal Aranna, an chuid den fharraige atá idir Torai agus Arainn agus an t-íomh.

-Cearnach



Máire Bean Úí Ghogain, an t-uachtarán nua ar Chomhdháil Náisiúnta na Gaeilge. An-aithne uirthi i gCrois Mhíe Linnmáin agus i Mullach Bán. Go maire sí an nuachtóir.

fáimh chúnta a iarraidh air. Cailtear feachtas an dátheangachais a bhreagnú. Ní raibh ansin ón tús, mar a d'fhógair Máirtín Ó Cadhain faoin am, ach cleas suarach, cur i gceill agus seafóid.

Tá Údarás dáilteach na Gaeltachta a dhíth láithreach bann. Rud riachtanach is ea chun an Ghaeltacht a shábháil. Ach ní leor é.

Caitheadh go mbeidh sé soiléir do mhuintir na Gaeltachta agus na Galltachta gur Éire Ghaelach an spríoch agus go bhfuil an gaeil ar súil gach lá, gach seachtain, gach áit.

Cén fáth nach geloiseann muid cáinteanna agus dátheanganna ó na Pléimínigh agus ó na hIosraeligh faoin gceol ar féidir le pobal beag mórtéanga a bhuailidh? Ní bhíodh aon amhras ar éinne. Caitheadh muid Béarla a bhuailidh agus a chur faoi chois go dtí, ar a laghad, go mbeidh Gaeilge á labhairt ag gach éinne in Éirinn arís.

Ach cé scríobhas stair na Gaeilge ó 1922 go dtí 1972? Níor mhiste don Oireachtas duais a thaircint chun go bhfaighe muid an scéal úd, an fhírinne ghlan faoin bhfeall a chuir deireadh le Gaeilgeachtaí i mbreis agus sé chontae (Co. an Chláir an sampla ba uafáis ar fad díobh uilig, b'fheidir).

Pictures wanted

"An Phoblacht" wants pictures of Sinn Féin activities at local level - meetings, pickets, the lot. If necessary send us the film and we will develop it.

go raibh, nuair a bhí Mícheál Ó Coileáin beo agus, ina dhiaidh sin, nuair a bhí Earnán de Blaghd agus Risteárd Ó Maoilchatha ar bharr a maithéasa.

Rinne de Blaghd agus Ó Maoilchatha rud ar nach ndéanfaidh son are inniu, agus chuidigh an státseirbhís leo. Bunú Chofaiste Mhuire i mBaile Átha Cliath, mar shampla.

Rinne airí de chuid Fhianna Fáil rudaí beaga ar son na teanga. Lean siad polasáí Chumann na nGaedheal.

Ag tús na daicheadaí ba ea a tháinig an t-athrú. Go bog agus faoi rún a cuireadh an toil nua i bhfeidhm.

Níl sa Pháipéar Dubh ach an chuid is déanaí den pholasáí úd agus cuntas ar an loitiméireacht dá ách soiléir, anois.

Feall mar Phlean

TÁ SÉ easca go maith dom leithéid a rá go raibh sé i ndán don Saorstáit feall a dhéanamh ar an nGaeilge lúth nó mall; go raibh an tsamhail ghaelach a dhíth ar an rialtas sna ficheadaí le dallamullog a chur ar dhaoine, nuair a bhí an stát lag, nuair a dhéanfaidh rud ar bith chun é a neartú, iad ag ligean orthu gurbh shin an Aisling, ach an Aisling thíos agus an Phoblacht faoi ghlas.

Easca go maith, a deirim, dom leithéid a leithéid a rá; agus cé gur fíor dom sa mhéid sin - ní aon amhras orm ach gur fíor é - beidh fianaise agus finnéithe a dhíth ar Ghaeilgeoirí na hÉireann, thuaidh theas, a chreideann, fós féin, gur stát neamhspleách an Saorstáit.

Má theastaíonn ó éinne an Ghaeilge a athrimeáil, seo an bealach chuíge.

An státseirbhís a ghaelú trí ulpanmín, díreach mar a dhéanann na hIosraeligh; na scoileanna a ghaelú - gach ábhar, de réir a chéile, a

theagasc trí Ghaeilge; an raidió agus an teilifís a ghaelú, arís, de réir a chéile; a iachall a chur ar gach éinne a fhoilseáil páipéir agus irisí nó son ruid i gcló, fógraí san aireamh, iad a fhoilseáil sin dá theanga go ceann 10 mbliana agus i nGaeilge amháin ina dhiaidh sin. Agus an polasáí sin a leanúint ar gach leibhéal in Éirinn.

An rud is tábhachtaí a bhainleadh leis an bpolasáit tá molta go dtuigfeadh muintir na Gaeltachta agus muintir na tuaithe i gcoitinín go bhfuil an stát, i ndeireadh thiar thall, lánáirear faoi athghaolú na hÉireann.

Chomh luath agus a thuigfeann na daoine gur mar sin atá déanfadh an pobal sa tír seo mar a rinne na hIosraeligh sna triochadaí agus go háirithe sna daicheadaí; mar a rinne na Pléimínigh sa mBeilge sna daicheadaí agus sna caogaidí (tá an cogadh buaite acu, anois) agus mar atá a dhéanamh ag lucht labhartha na Fraincise i gCeannada faoi láthair.

Ní dhéanfaidh rialtas Fhianna Fáil an obair tá a dhíth. Beidh ar eagrais éicint áit éicint am éicint (sul má bhíonn sé ró-dhéanach) cogadh a chur ar rialtas Fhianna Fáil (nó cibé rialtas tá i gceannas) chun an roth a chasadh. Agus an taoide.

An teilifís

THEASPÁIN feachtas na teilifíse go bhfuil toradh ar a leithéid de chogadh; ach theaspáin Míseach tá breis is 10 mbliana ó shin an ród céanna romhainn.

Caitheadh an teagras úd (Conradh na Gaeilge? Nó eagrais éicint nua?) na cearchumainn a thabhairt leis agus an pobal chomh maith.

Ní seachtáiní Gaeilge do Ghaeilgeoirí atá a dhíth chun an pobal a thabhairt linn ach dul i measc an phobail agus

Moyvane agus all that

A KERRYMAN with whom I shared "digs" in Cappamore many years ago, when we were both in the employ of the administration, used occasionally take an insane desire to go to the seaside.

A quite modest man in all other things, never even getting over-enthusiastic about his Land Drainage Projects (except, perhaps, when making up his 14d per mile travelling expenses!) he was unstoppable when he took it into his head to go to the seaside. Trust a Killarney man!

As his travelling companion it was my good fortune that "it" always bit in the summertime. On our way to Ballybunion one time I was checking the map to see if we were far from Newtownsandnes and on

enquiring of an old man wisely resting on the parapet of a small bridge was told in no uncertain terms that the place no longer was called that but by its original Moyvane.

The meaning of the name was given to us and, needless to say, a lengthy talk on the history of the Sandes family. Well, it is still officially Newtownsandnes and I don't know what the people of that village and the surrounding area call it. Moyvane, I hope.

But isn't it strange how some places have successfully reverted to the original name and it's not because it is simple - i.e. Dún Laoghaire and Cóbh. Muine Bheag, An Uaimh or Rath Luirc - although official - never really replaced Bagnalstown, Navan or Charleville,

whereas Dún Laoghaire, Cóbh and Bunclody, respectively, supplanted Kingstown, Queenstown and Newtownbary. Why, one wonders? Surely the inhabitants of those towns were never - and are not, now - more patriotic than those of the others? Is it something in the name?

Is it some distaste for some association with a name and, perhaps, an affection for something related to another? Were the Bagernals nicer, more decent people than the Barrys? Was Charles of Charleville a more acceptable monarch than the other pair of Kingstown and Queenstown? Well, here's to Máigh Mhéisín!

-Lugum

ANTI-IMPERIALIST FRONT FORMED

A NATIONAL Resistance Campaign Committee has been established in Belfast to embrace anti-imperialist organisations throughout the entire island of Ireland.

The committee — formed on March 12 — will prepare a broad campaign against the repression and torture of Irish prisoners of war.

It follows the Coalisland Conference against Repression held earlier this year in the Six Counties and which was called on the initiative of the Central Relatives Action Committee, representing families and friends of Republican prisoners.

The Sinn Féin member and chairman of the Resistance Campaign Committee, Liam Hannaway, said that members of various other groups already were represented —

the Irish Republican Socialist Party, Movement for a Socialist Republic, Women's Collective, People's Democracy and the Red Republicans.

Trade union delegates were also supporting the Committee, he added.

The basis

The Committee will organise on the basis of a resolution passed unanimously by the Coalisland conference.

It declared: "The issue of repression and torture can be dealt with only in the context of the assertion of the right of the Irish people to self-determination and sovereignty, the ending of British interference in Irish affairs, the withdrawal of the British army, the disarming and disbanding of the UDR, RUC and RUC reserve, the ending of repression, north and south, and the immediate granting of political status to Republican socialist prisoners, pending the conditional release of all prisoners convicted as a result of the Irish war of liberation".

Beannachtaí

Gery Cunningham, 132016, Long Lartin, March 24; Pat Guilfoyle, 507956, Gartree, March 31; Eddie 338637, Manchester Prison, April 16; Pat Hackett, 342603, Wormwood Scrubs, April 28. Send a least a card to the prisoners mentioned above.

Éileamh ar an óige

WE in Na Fianna Éireann are taking this opportunity of the 62nd Anniversary of the 1916 insurrection to address you, the youth of Ireland. This is our first. We have never issued an Easter statement before.

We believe the time is now ripe.

We are the Republican youth movement of Ireland: we are the representatives of the future, the youth of Ireland Pearse appealed to, and demanded action from. We now, in turn, appeal to and demand response from you, the youth of Ireland.

We call on you to rally to the Flag and join us in this final and most successful assault on the chains of bondage.

Our allegiance

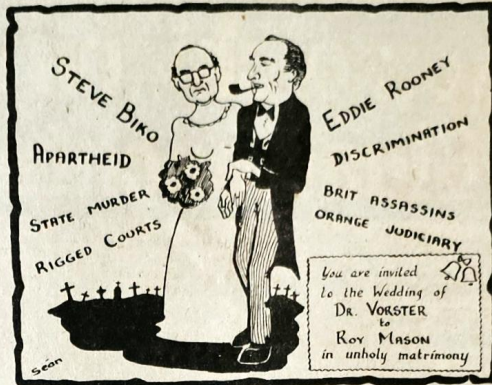
We pledge our allegiance to the Republic of Ireland, envisaged by Tone, declared by Pearse and now being fought for by all branches of the Republican Movement. We owe loyalty to no one or no authority that makes of Ireland less than the Republic ratified by the Irish people.

We demand, in the name of the Irish people, in the name of the dead of Ireland, in the name of the unborn generations of the future, that the British government immediately disengage from Ireland and leave us to our own destiny and device.

Finally, we condemn unequivocally the inhuman and degrading treatment being inflicted on our brave comrades in the prisons of the oppressors, both north and south, and in England, and we pledge our support and solidarity with them, and call on them to hold fast: the youth of Ireland is behind them and our liberation is at hand.

Muire na nGael

Muire i traidisiún na hÉireann is ábhar do thionól Chumann na Sagart a bheas ag tosú anocht (20.00 u.) ar an Spidéal. Ar na daoine bheas i láthair beidh an tArdeaspag Ó Fiachta agus an tEaspag MacAirt, Eagla na hÉireann



At war with the British ruling class

THE QUARREL between Ireland and England is primarily a quarrel between the Irish people and the British ruling class. The British ruling class essentially is the same aristocratic force that has governed England since 1066, from Plantagenet times (strictly speaking, 1154 to 1399) but whose descendants continue to rule England still.

They are the Grosvenors, the Cecils, the Whitelaws, Churchills, Norfolks, Dudleys and the rest of those grand folk, most of whom are still with us. They helped to build the Empire and they have presided at its demise. They have presided at a slow demise which reduced those far flung possessions to a few outposts and two home islands.

To the English Tory, the island of Ireland is as much a part of England's physical defences and stomping ground as the border marches of Wales and Lowland Scotland are. That she is determined to hold on to them there can be no doubt; and there never was any doubt, insofar as this writer was concerned, even in the euphoric years of struggle of 1971, 1972, 1973.

Blighted all

Equally the Irish people must force this stranglehold from our island, for while it lasts we cannot, as a people, attain our full political and social status.

This incipient struggle, even in the six decades since the "Treaty" of December, 1921, has diverted the national effort into negative channels.

The so-called civil war, the coercion of the twenties, the pogroms of the thirties, the jailings and executions of the forties, the David and Goliath struggle of the fifties, the civil rights dawn of the sixties and finally the glorious, sad, and at times triumphant contest of the seventies.

Would it not have been better if they did not have to be waged? If Ireland was really independent and that all that effort could have been channelled into building up, into creative work?

But it could not be. The invader was within our island. His occupation of part of it transformed all of it, affected all of it, blighted all of it.

That is still the position. That is why the invader must be put out.

Don't be deceived

Let us not be deceived by this phraseology such as "the British ruling class". The British ruling class includes the English Labour Party also.

There is, in my view, no real difference in the approach of English socialists, as Rees, Crossman, Mason, Foot and Callaghan show, to the question of Ireland than there is in the Conservative approach.

The scope of English imperialist interest is wide enough to embrace them both. Where Ireland is concerned the late Richard Crossman and the former rabble rouser, Michael Foot, are imperialists and anti-Irish to the core.

— James Hope

CRAFT CENTRE

44 Cearnóg Pharnell, Baile Átha Cliath

CATALOGUE OF BRUTALITY

20 methods used in Castlereagh and other RUC interrogation centres

- Hair pulling.
- Punching to back of head. Heavy slaps across the face and head.
- Simultaneous slapping of ears with both hands sometimes perforating eardrums.
- Strangling neck. Chops to the throat. Gripping and pulling of Adam's apple. Pushing fingers into pressure points of neck.
- Punches and kicks to stomach, buttocks, kidneys, spine. Stiff finger prodding to ribs.
- Manual squeezing of testicles, punching and kicking testicles; lifting naked prisoner by placing stick between his legs.
- Arm twisting. Bending wrist backwards both above and below arm. Finger twisting.
- Positions of stress — search position against wall, sitting on non-existent chair, squatting on hunkers.
- Press-ups to point of exhaustion; super press-ups; legs on chair, hands on ground. Running on the spot to point of exhaustion.
- Wrestling holds until prisoner vomits.
- Strangling neck and forcing head down to the point of asphyxiation.
- Trailing along floor; prone on floor while personnel stand and jump on back, riding prisoner like a horse.
- Made to lie centre back across a table or chair face upwards. Interrogators then jump on legs causing intense pain to back.
- Placing plastic bag, hood, jacket, or underpants, over head to restrict flow of air.
- Throwing prisoner from one interrogator to another ("the bicycle").
- Simulated execution by clicking gun behind the head; simulated electrocution by putting plug into mouth and putting on switch.
- Singing skin with matches and cigarettes.
- Degradations — making prisoner lick water or vomit off floor; behave like a dog; spitting in face; stripping prisoner naked and making obscene remarks about his body, his wife, his children.
- Pouring liquid into ears.
- Threats to shoot prisoner in lonely place, hand over to UVF, threats to parents and children.

Union Jack in Dublin

SINN FÉIN police a public protest against the flying of the Union Jack in O'Connell Street, Dublin, for the St. Patrick's Day parade.

A statement said that presumably the regime and Corporation authorities had seen this as a contribution to the celebration of the feast of Saint Patrick but "we consider it an insult to the Irish nation".

The statement continued: "Within the past few Mr. Jack Lynch has declared that there can be no lasting peace in Ireland until the British go. It is a long time now since Wolfe Tone told us that the English connection was the source of all our political evils.

Symbol of death

"All the deaths and suffering involved in the centuries-old conflict can be traced back to British rule in Ireland. The Union Jack symbolises for the Irish people all that British rule involves. It should be taken down immediately.

"When England withdraws and recognises the sovereignty of all the Irish people, when normal relations are established between the two countries, the flag of our former master can be flown on such occasions," the statement concludes.

Fianna boy arrested

PATRICK DEVINE (12) a member of Na Fianna Éireann, was arrested on Saturday, March 18, while selling Easter Lilies outside the Dublin GPO, by two Gardaí, one named John Murphy, Hillcrest, Glasnevin.

They dragged and pulled him down O'Connell Street to a waiting police car where they took him to Store Street Garda Station. There he was detained for two hours.

His father and some members of Sinn Féin went to the station and decided to picket it if he was not released immediately.

His father went inside and demanded his release as he was under age. The lad was released at 16.30 hours but the money collected and the lilies were kept by the Gardaí.

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Teachtairacht na Gásca ó chinnirí na Gluaiseachta

'Now we are entering a new generation of strength', this important Easter statement points out to Republicans and their allies, at home and abroad. 'The momentum towards a British withdrawal cannot be stopped.'

THE LEADERSHIP of the Republican Movement extends greetings to comrades, friends and supporters at home and abroad on this the 62nd anniversary of the Proclamation of the Irish Republic.

We remember with pride our fallen comrades, whose tragic and untimely deaths have caused sorrow and suffering in many homes. The British presence has ensured this tradition of violent death, sorrow and suffering in every generation.

We remember, also, the untimely deaths of many of our citizens, who died as a result of British interference in our country.

Special tribute

The leadership of the Republican Movement on this Easter Sunday sends greetings to all the prisoners in England, Ireland and America and pays especial tribute to our courageous comrades who are protesting in naked, solitary confinement for prison-of-war status inside the jails in the occupied Six Counties.

It has taken 18 months for the name of H-Block, and the British brutality it represents, to seep through to the media. H-Block has been 18 months of immeasurable inhumanity for almost 300 young Irishmen.

Their long suffering has only slowly cut its way through the usual mediocre accounts of life in the north, behind which British repressive rule hides.

H-Block is brutally consistent with this final

stage of British imperialist rule. It is an issue for which an ashamed English people in the future will plead ignorance but which, for us, at present, is a living reality.

H-Block is directly linked to the division of Ireland, to partition, to the British denial of Irish sovereignty.

The proof

The world should be in no doubt that the length of the war of national liberation and the strength which Ogláigh na hÉireann (Irish Republican Army) can exert are proof that we command mass support in the occupied north.

We wish to stress the determination of the Irish Republican Movement to continue the struggle for an end to British rule.

Irrespective of how long it takes, our units will strike at enemy forces until England declares openly and honestly that she is withdrawing from Ireland.

Throughout Ireland repressed and struggling people, besides Republicans, are coming to support the Republican Movement because in it lies their only ultimate hope of peace and prosperity.

Sixty-two years ago a handful of revolutionary visionaries declared the Irish Republic, and their action was condemned as a futile use of force.

Torture and murder

Those that gained from the struggle which Easter, 1916, initiated, have condemned, with a glaring disrespect for the lessons of

history, today's legitimate use of force.

No one who has the experience of uninterrupted loyalist rule, pogroms, curfews, armed British repression in support of sectarianism, state-sanctioned torture and murder, could be proud of Jack Lynch's nationalism.

The pride of the Irish nation lies in the revolutionary Republican Movement and in the people who support the armed struggle, and who resist tyranny.

Besides the changed circumstances of solid Fianna Fáil rule in the 26 Counties, the last few months have also seen a movement towards Irish nationalism, not just from Lynch but from Fine Gael in opposition.

The reasons for this movement need to be nailed firmly to the mast.

Cannot be beaten

Jack Lynch and Fine Gael see that the IRA cannot be defeated and that continued British rule in the Six Counties is patently impossible without greater resort by the British to murder and torture and which would provoke world opprobrium.

Jack Lynch and Fine Gael see that growing nationalist sentiment threatens their own existence. So their recent reaffirmation of Irish nationalism is an attempt to capitalise on the developments which our armed struggle have created.

Had our armed struggle failed, the nationalist people in the Six Counties would be walked upon by strutting loyalists, and Lynch would still be standing idly by.

As it is, the armed struggle has neither failed nor diminished, despite fatalities and imprisonments of political activists. In eight years of guerrilla warfare the rate of attrition has never exhausted our manpower resources and now we are

entering a new generation of strength.

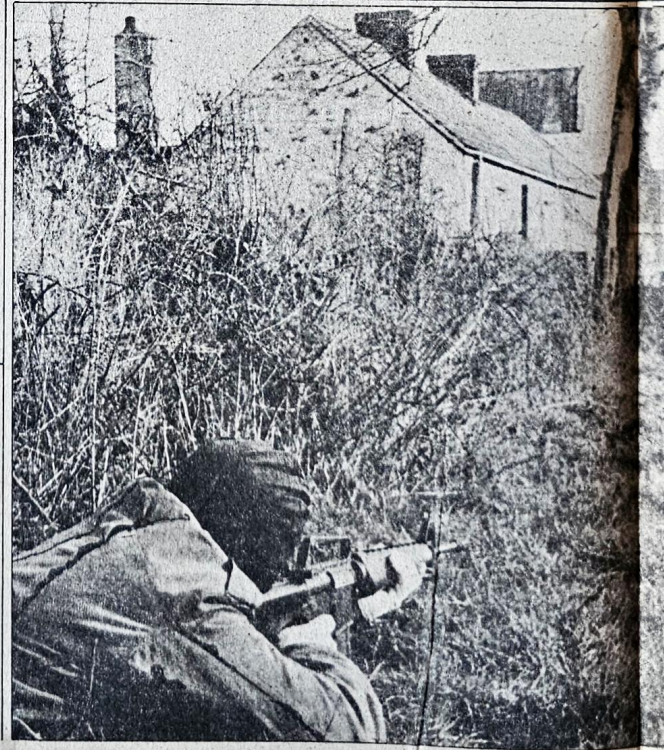
Recently we have acquired new war materials which are an indication of our determination to continue the long struggle. The people are armed through the Irish Republican Army and there is no measure of British terror which can defeat this growing force.

The momentum towards a British withdrawal cannot be stopped. With its realisation, the Irish people will have, for the first time in 60 years, the freedom to choose their own form of government without any outside interference.

Our Movement has outlined proposals for a new federally-structured Ireland and we look forward to the day when we can freely present those proposals before the whole Irish people for their consideration.

Our concept of Éire Nua allows for the diverse traditions of our nation and embodies the basic principles of the 1916 Proclamation and the Democratic Programme of the First Dáil Éireann.

The new Ireland we strive for is one in which Protestant, Catholic and Dissenter can be proud of the common name of Irish people. The statement concludes.



REES EXPOSES HIMSELF

IN ENGLISH prisons the only general exception to the rule of open visits is the Irish political prisoner. All other prisoners, regardless of category, receive these open visits.

Recently, our comrade, Tip Guilloyle, petitioned Rees, the British Home Secretary, for open visits from his ageing father and sole visitor. Tip's father has absolutely no interest or involvement in politics or in the present Irish versus British conflict.

Rees replied with the old stock cliché: 'The Home Secretary regrets... blah, blah, blah... security reasons.'

Security reasons, the great umbrella for torture and punitive measures... if England were any more secure people would be going around in chain gangs!

In the case of Tip's father there is no security risk whatsoever to the Brit establishment. He works for what is known as a

reputable security firm. His boss is an ex-CID man and has given references as to his good character.

This case shows up British prison policy for what it is, an attempt to punish Republican PoWs for daring to oppose British imperialism and as a pathetic, hopeless attempt to isolate and alienate us from our families and friends.

We might influence them and Republicanism might spread and what would happen to imperialism then?

Within the prison service Republican PoWs are referred to as Cat. 'A' Specials but are denied political status despite the fact that our 'special' treatment is purely because of our political affiliations.

— Oifigeach Chaidrimh Phoiblí, Píofosún Gartree, Sasana.

IRELAND, WRECKED BY THE MERCHANTS

WE HAVE been a state of merchants and importers. We have also been one of middle class snobs. Look around and ask what dominated our lives over the past 15 years.

Car dealers, petrol, car parts, all imported.

Huge supermarkets, the shelves of which have been increasingly dominated by food manufactured outside Ireland.

Large shopping centres and city stores, packed with imported goods.

Television commercials made in England.

Unpleasant little men and women urging us to use washing powder in uneducated English accents.

Ice cream imported into this land of cows and milk.

Look at the food scene. We are food-producing country but the popular heroes of our society have given us supermarkets, most of which are now totally owned by foreigners.

These supermarkets have long-term trading arrangements with huge overseas food suppliers, some of them belonging to large multinationals which own overseas food-processing networks.

Apart from raw meat, vegetables, milk, bread, butter and eggs, few Irish food products can get onto our supermarket shelves.

When tariffs went

The same is true of TV sets where more of our popular heroes can be seen advertising imported TV sets to the detriment of the Irish industry. And so on, through white goods and furniture and clothes.

This almost wholesale destruction of Irish food, white goods, brown goods and other native industries came about for several reasons, not the least of which was the removal of tariffs which protected home industry.

But participating in that destruction were many of the merchants who made their small fortunes in the big sell.

More than the merchants have participated in that destruction. Our own people participate also. The Dublin shoppers who queue up to make heroes out of the latest discount store operators. Our national taste for new and gaudy imports from American-type ice cream made in London to denims and T-shirts.

There used to be an insulting expression describing certain French Canadians who aped the Americans in the 'fifties and early 'sixties.

Irish pepsies

Some English Canadians called them "pepsies." There were Quebecers who talked French, drove American cars and drank pepsi-cola. Since the shift towards separatism and independence in Quebec, the expression has not been heard so much.

We could be described similarly as a Pepsi generation, a people that doesn't

This article, on the Irish industrial revolution, has been condensed from a paper delivered at the first Michael Corrigan Memorial Lecture, Galway Regional College, by Brian Rothery, Communications Officer, Institute for Industrial Research and Standards.

Sinn Féin policy favours nationalisation and corporatism. But Brian Rothery raises interesting points. Readers' comments are invited.

papers and reach the students directly.

Far from curricula

Different priorities demand differing emphases as times change.

In times of full employment and booming production, the educational system needs to produce fully integrated individuals with flexibility and adaptability.

In fully-developed economies plenty of emphasis on quality of life and culture are needed.

In times of want and unemployment enterprise and industry are badly needed. These must be related to the basic industrial environment of the people.

Our industrial environment embraces natural resources, manufacturing and engineering, subjects within the curriculum of this and other technical colleges, subjects, alas, far removed from curricula in other schools and universities.

But what are our schools? They are mere concrete and visible manifestations of our aspirations. In the past and still, in the present to a great extent, they reflect our merchant mentality.

If it were not for our strong agricultural political lobby our political structures and our politicians would also have reflected our merchant society.

Many of our politicians have had merchant backgrounds. Few have experienced industry.

Surplus labour

To overcome our industrial deficiencies, we, as a people, turned to foreign-owned industry.

This made sense for a country with no industrial tradition and the new industrial base which was created absorbed much of the surplus labour displaced from the land and other available labour.

Side by side with our growing foreign-owned industrial base is the Irish-owned industrial base, the most dynamic part of which is that owned by the new Irish manufacturing and engineering entrepreneurs.

What we do not fully see, however, is the true extent of the dynamism and growth potential of the Irish entrepreneur.

Without in any way denigrating incoming industries or questioning the immense contribution which they are making to our economy, let us look at why the native Irish entrepreneur has so

much potential for the nation.

Small native entrepreneurs thrive on the smallest of incentives.

Small native entrepreneurs employ both highly-skilled and low skilled workers locally.

The entrepreneur who becomes the owner of native industries has an allegiance to his township and country.

The native entrepreneur and owner has a religious passion for local diversification and growth in the native-owned industry.

The native entrepreneur needs no orientation in how to live in the locality. The native owner fits perfectly into his cultural niche. The manager of the incoming industry needs a little more time.

Finally, while the incoming industry can make some communities vulnerable through their dependence on a source of employment controlled from overseas, the native-owned industry consolidates native labour for the foreseeable future.

Main constraints

Once again may I say, that these comparisons are meant to demonstrate the superiority of native-owned industry, not to denigrate foreign-owned incoming industries, some of whom are making a profound contribution to our economy and way of life, and opening up world markets for future native entrepreneurs.

What then are the constraints faced by the new Irish industrialist?

● The shortage of time he faces to build up a whole industry in his own short lifetime;

● Fierce competition from foreign companies on foreign markets;

● A chronic shortage of working capital as he expands;

● Educational, social, political and banking systems not fully orientated to his acceptance and support.

In short, he is an Irish industrialist trying to build his industry in a merchant society. This society is reflected above all in a middle-class snobbery so overwhelming that it can make the young industrialists of Ireland ashamed of their background.

We need to cast aside our merchant mentality pretensions and assume a new morality of good craftsmanship and industry. In short, a new patriotism. Only then can the long delayed Irish industrial revolution run its full course.

Pictures, above and left, depict some of the heroes of Crois Mhic Lionnáin, Co Ard Mhacha, bail ó Dhia osthua.

Aifrinn do na cimir

As Easter gifts I got eight holy Masses offered for all Republic prisoners-of-war in Long Kesh and Crumlin Road, especially for the men "on the blanket."

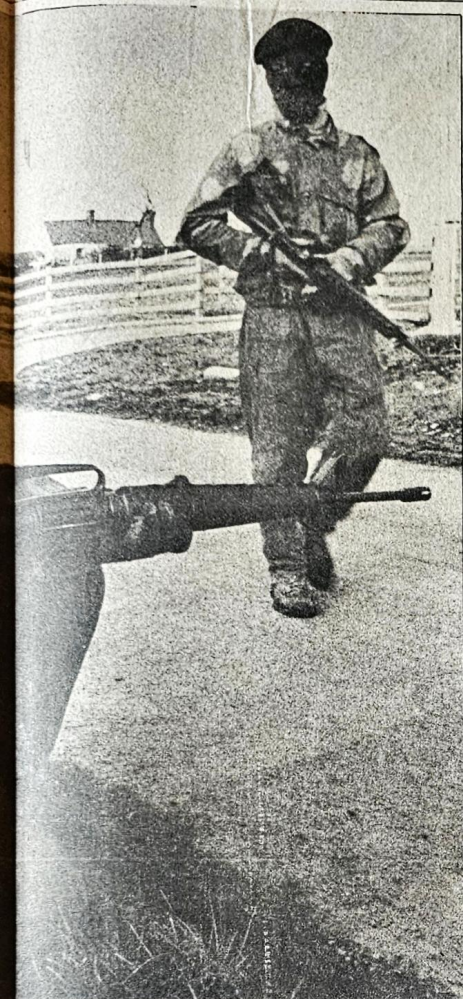
One holy Mass is offered specially for Ciaran Nugent as he was the first man to "go on the blanket."

Hoping this may help to console and comfort the prisoners, showing that they are not forgotten, I remain:

Beannachtaí

The volunteers of Ogligh na hFireann, Parkhurst Prison Sasana, wish to extend their best wishes to their revolutionary brother, Compton Findlater, and to all those other prisoners in Parkhurst (and who, for obvious reasons, may not be named) without whose wonderful help the recent escape attempt would not have been possible.

We wish also to reaffirm our support for and solidarity with the Republican Movement in its continuing struggle against British Imperialism in Ireland.



Savage bid to break spirit of Dubliner

JOE DUFFY, the Dubliner PoW, left Wormwood Scrubs, London, on December 29 last, to go to Wandsworth, London. He was moved by what has become known as GOD, i.e. the Good Order and Discipline rule, under which he received 28 days solitary confinement.

On the day his solitary period ended Joe was immediately "ghosted" (transferred) to Wakefield, Yorkshire. As a result of these spirit-like moves most of Joe's property is still in Wormwood Scrubs, and his private cash in Wandsworth, not an unusual occurrence for the PoWs.

Joe is now back in the wing with his comrades after spending an extremely long period in solitary confinement, mainly in Bristol prison.

Of all the prisoners sentenced after the "Hull Riots" in 1976, Joe Duffy received the heaviest sentence - 13½ months of solitary confinement and 810 days' loss of remission.

Hardly had he finished that time than he received 28 days solitary on Nov. 15 last and then a further 28 days in Wandsworth.

Doctor's offer

At one point during the longest period of Joe's confinement the prison

Lurgan rally

Lurgan's RAC has organised a march and rally for Sunday, April 9, to press the case for PoW status for men on the blanket. Parade will leave Levine Road, Kilnake, at 14.00 hours.

doctor suggested that he could break his solitary confinement, this being an indication of Joe's condition at that time.

Needless to say, Joe completed the savage sentence. Now it would appear that because of the way he served it, lots more were piled on without any waste of time in an effort to break Joe's indomitable spirit.

In our latest report Joe continues to retain his wonderful spirits. However, one can be in no doubt as to the scars this savagery leaves on a prisoner.

Solitary confinement is used by the British authorities as one of their main weapons in the psychological warfare experimentation on the prisoners.

It is designed to disorient the PoW, thereby hoping to undermine his morale and dehumanise him.

It will be interesting to see how the British government explains its own actions in dealing with Irish political prisoners when these matters come, as they will, to be determined by the European Commission next October.

Tipp. man's ordeal

Pat Guilfoyle (Tipperary) recently was placed in solitary confinement for three days for refusing to work, due to a condition of Agoraphobia which he

sustained as a result of a severe beating from screws while in Winson Green Prison. On seeing the prison doctor concerning his complaint which made it impossible for Pat to continue working in the particular workshop, the doctor prescribed the prison standardised drug of control, Largactil.

He told Pat that there was nothing wrong with him which would prevent him from returning to the workshop.

Pat knew otherwise and refused. For this he got the three days solitary confinement. On completing these three days, he continued to protest, making his point on this occasion by barricading himself in his cell, once again being confronted with a further period of solitary confinement, the extent of which is unknown at this time.

What we do know, though, is that the doctor who informed Pat that there was nothing wrong with him now has arranged for Pat to be seen by a psychiatrist - rather a peculiar contradiction.

It would appear that whatever problems or ills our PoWs have, solitary confinement and beatings are the consistent prison remedy, with all prison staff clamouring to get in on the act.



Yorkshire Conference on Ireland

A YORKSHIRE Conference on Ireland will be held in Leeds on Saturday, April 22 next. The present disturbances in Ireland have been going on for nearly 10 years now, 10 years which have seen thousands of people lose their lives, their relatives and their homes.

We believe that these "troubles" are caused by centuries of British domination and the continuing British presence there, both military and economic.

Since 1969 the British army has been occupying the six north-eastern counties of Ireland, holding down its people by coercion and brutality, maintaining the division of Ireland and keeping one part of it as Britain's colony. Yet, there have been few voices raised in Britain against the injustice of this occupation.

We believe that what is going on in Ireland is of vital importance to people in Britain.

The role of the British Army in Ireland is far too crucial to be ignored any longer by the working class of Britain.

Therefore we urge you to attend this Conference. We

are inviting trade union branches, trades councils, student unions, student societies, women's groups, Black groups, Gay groups, community groups, Socialist organisations, Republican organisations and anyone sympathetic to the struggle of the Irish people against British imperialism.

Ways and means

The Conference is intended to be a "working" Conference, looking at ways in which we can take up actively on the question in this country. It will also be an opportunity to discuss issues with representatives of Irish organisations usually denied a voice in Britain.

Amongst topics to be discussed are: Organising around Ireland in the labour movement; organising around Ireland in the student movement; women in Ireland; including taking up the question in the women's movement; the Irish Republican movement, and its prospectives for activity in Britain; loyalism, including loyalist links with the

National Front; Irish prisoners-of-war, and activity in support of them; tactics and propaganda; and the way forward for Troops Out activity in the Yorkshire area.

Speakers will be from the United Troops Out Movement, Sinn Féin, the Women and Ireland Group, Prisoners' Aid Committee, Student Movement Campaign on Ireland.

Also invited to send speakers are: The Irish Republican Socialist Party and People's Democracy.

The Conference on Ireland will begin at 9.30 hours. Cost: 60p. (35p for the wageless). Venue is the Swarthmore Centre, 3 Woodhouse Square, Leeds 3, West Yorkshire.

Accommodation will be provided, if necessary, if you bring a sleeping bag. There will be a crèche organised. It would help, if for both crèche and accommodation, you could write to us beforehand. Please bring food for young children.

For further information, write to UTM, c/o. 182 Upper Street, London N1.

Postmhála Postbag Postmhála Postbag Postmhála Postbag Postmhála Postbag

Treatment of prisoners: A councillor replies to criticism

I WOULD like to impose upon the columns of your paper to explain to your correspondent of Feb. 22, my apparently negative response to councillor McCaffrey's (I.P.P.) proposal at a Fermanagh District Council meeting: "That the Council note the volume of complaints about prison conditions and treatment of prisoners and ask for an impartial enquiry."

I have always been a protagonist of simple Republican ideals and demands. However, if, in my efforts to secure these ideals, I find myself supporting shrewd politicians who are only a handicap to these ideals, I shall desist from doing so and rely upon the intelligence of the people of Newtownbutler and Donagh to read between the lines.

—John J. McCusker, Newtownbutler, Co. Fermanagh.

Chilean appeal

AS MEMBERS of the Chilean Socialist Party (C.N.R.) we

have been informed by our comrades from Chile that on Tuesday January 24, the DINA (today called it C.N.I.) discovered the clandestine printing house of our party and arrested three Chilean comrades. Two of them are members of the Political Commission.

It is a very hard blow for our party and for all the Chilean people who are fighting against the fascist dictatorship.

Given the delicate and important task that our comrades had and that two of them are members of the Political Commission it is feared for their lives.

For these reasons we would like to ask all of you to start a campaign protesting at the tortures to which they are being submitted and asking for their immediate release.

Chilean comrades arrested are: Victor Heresman Sepulveda, Luis Ricardo Gonzalez Ugaldé (both members of the Political

Commission) and Celerino Rojas Garrido.

We hope for an active solidarity action from all of you.

—Member Of Chilean Socialist Party (C.N.R.), Ireland.

'Greatest heroine'

I HEARD a wonderful lecture in the Tailors' Hall, Dublin, by Eamonn Mac Thomáis, on Robert Emmet, but went away, strangely enough, accompanied by the ghost of Anne Devlin, the greatest of the Irish heroines, according to Mac Thomáis.

I would like to ask of your readers a few questions. Is there a monument in Dublin (or Co. Wicklow) to Anne Devlin?

Is there a Sinn Féin cumann named after her? Is there a Sinn Féin cumann named after any Irish heroine?

for my E.S.E. on the United Irishman. I know the first rebellion was in 1798.

I am hoping you could help me by giving me information on the 1798 rebellion and other rebellions of the United Irishman.

I would also be grateful if you could give names of people involved in these rebellions.

—Ann Lochrie, 8, St. Patrick's Park, Dromin an Tír, Iú Chinn Trá.

I have little doubt but that the patriotically minded people of Ireland would subscribe the money for the monument very quickly if asked.

We have had very many heroines, most of them unknown, unsung. I am unwilling to make more of one than another. I am very willing to acknowledge Aine Ní Dhoibhlin as among the greatest. Let us honour her as such.

—A. Ní Andrés, Ráth Maonais, Baile Átha Cliath.

United Irishmen

I AM doing an Irish project

Ennis protests

A WELL attended public meeting was held in Ennis town centre on Saturday, February 25. Speakers from Sinn Féin and the Irish Republican Socialist Party called for the return of Prisoners-of-war status for Republican prisoners in H-Blocks of Long Kesh; in Crumlin Road Jail and Armagh Jail.

On the platform, two people clad only in a thin blanket portrayed the reality of conditions for hundreds of men in solitary confinement in these prisons.

Beannachtaí na Casca Send stamps to help dependants

Easter greetings to our son, Brendan Dowd, and to all the boys in English jails: Brendan Doherty, Danny Sullivan, Jim O'Shea, Portlaoise Jail, and all the boys on the blankets in Long Kesh and to Joe Connell and Harry Duggan in Parkhurst. —John and Mrs. Dowd, Rathanny, Tralee.

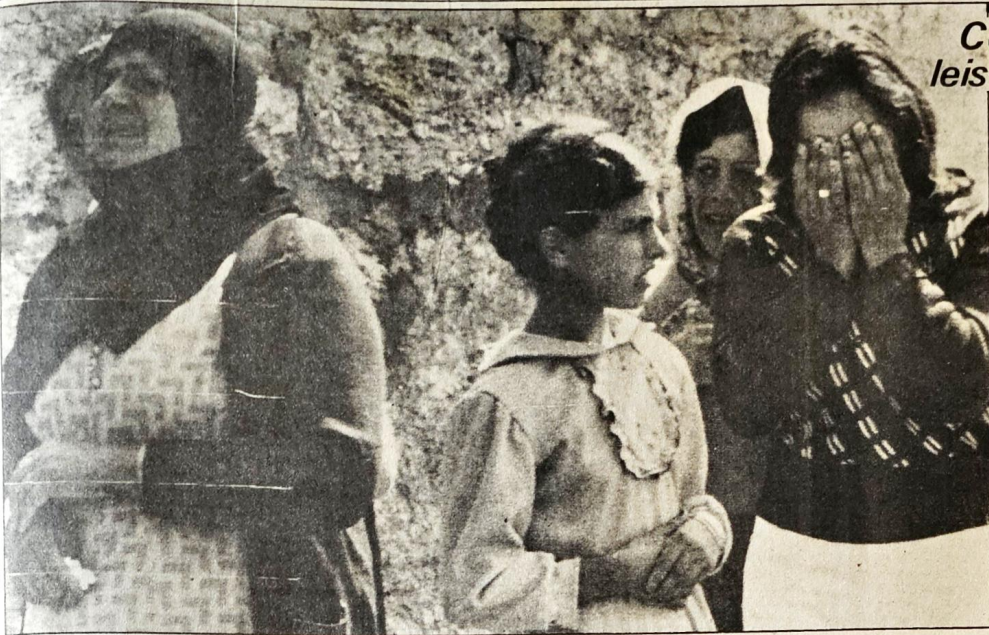
Many thanks to all who sent these, for sale to aid an Cumann Cabhrach, from Canada, Brittany, France, England and Ireland—Sally Walsh, Lurriga, Patrick's Well, Co. Lúimnigh.

Comhbhrón leis na boicht

WE IN Ireland understand your grief, your anger, your frustration, Palestinians, for we, too have been uprooted from our homes, forced to leave our lands, driven out to the bogs and the mountains and the wild places.

Engaged in our own life or death struggle against an equally implacable imperialist and capitalist enemy we can do little to help you in your hour of agony, Palestinians, but we pray to the God we share to help all of us who hunger and thirst after justice that we may have our fill.

●Our picture shows women of the small township of Adloun, south of Beirut, Lebanon, weeping at the sight of two cars full of refugees bombed and machine-gunned by the Zionists before they could reach the capital. Each of the 14 refugees, who included children, died in the attacks.



CLASS STRUGGLE

MEDITATE ON the fact that nationalists and socialists were allies in the 1916 Rebellion in Dublin but that they split in the thirties (the Republican Congress) and again in 1969-70.

James Connolly and his comrades took part, as members of the Citizens' Army, in the 1916 Rebellion because they realised that the national question must be solved before it would be possible to take the necessary action to solve the social question, producing a socialist Ireland.

Henceforth, he said in the GPO, they would be only one army - the I.R.A.

Nobody could accuse Connolly of being naive in this matter, of being swayed by emotion, of not having thought it out coldly and scientifically.

But in 1897 he wrote: "If you remove the English army tomorrow and hoist the green flag over Dublin Castle, unless you set about the organisation of the Socialist Republic your efforts would be in vain. England would rule you. She would rule you through her capitalists, through her landlords, through her financiers, through the whole array of commercial and individualist institutions she has planted in this country".

Very contemporary

A. Raftery, in his introduction to "Labour in Irish History" by Connolly, after quoting this passage, writes: "It is this view of imperialism as not just an armed occupation of Ireland but as the expression of a highly developed capitalism which could rule the country even without an army and in co-operation with sections of the Irish capitalist class which gives this book its contemporary relevance".

Unfortunately, Mr. Raftery's political grouping could not go all the way with Connolly but had to take its place in the *detente* of revisionism, led by the Soviet Union in 1969.

Connolly's action in 1916

shocked many of his socialist friends throughout Europe as Jim himself foretold it would. They did not hesitate to condemn him.

We have had parallel condemnations by alleged socialists of the "Frovs" in recent years from many parts of the world.

To them the defence by Lenin of Connolly, after the 1916 Rising, remains valid. Lenin told those alleged socialist critics of Connolly that if they were to wait for the pure social revolution they would wait in vain; and that if they wished to be true revolutionists, playing a vital part in the class struggle, they would support those who attacked capital, as Connolly had done (and as Oglaiagh na hÉireann are doing at present).

Twin struggles

Today, every educated member of the Republican Movement stands with the 1916 patriot in this quotation, which epitomises the national and the class struggles:

"I hold that every class-conscious worker should work for the freedom of the country in which he lives, if he desires to hasten the political power of his class in that country".

Republicans, likewise, will give full assent to this: "I make no war on patriotism; never have done. But against the patriotism of capitalism - the patriotism which makes the interest of the capitalist

class the supreme test of duty and right - I place the patriotism of the workers' class, the patriotism which judges every public act by its effect upon the fortunes of those who toil.

"That which is good for the working class I esteem patriotic, but that party or movement is the most perfect embodiment of patriotism which most successfully works for the conquest by the working class of the control of the destinies of the land wherein they labour.

Le Deasún Breatnach

"To me, therefore, the Socialist of another country is a fellow patriot, as the capitalist of my own country is a natural enemy. I regard each nation as the possessor of a definite contribution to the common stock of civilisation, and I regard the capitalist class of each nation as being the logical and natural enemy of the national culture which constitutes that definite contribution.

Lust for power

"Therefore, the stronger I am in my affection for the natural tradition, literature, language and sympathies, the more firmly rooted I am in my opposition to that capitalist class which in its soulless lust for power and gold would bray the nation as

in a mortar".

That was written in "Forward", on August 15, 1914. How well it applies to what we know of the Irish solidarity groups in the Continent and throughout the world; to those seeking troops out in Britain and planning to put the Crown on trial for its Irish crimes; to the middle class traitors in power in the 26 and Six Counties; to much of Raidió Teilifís Éireann and the cultural values of that most civilised organ of compassionate capital, the Federated Union of Employers (including its lackeys in Comhdhúil Náisiúnta na Gaeilge and the Gaelic League and, indeed, in the ersatz co-operatives which are capitalist enterprises heavily disguised).

The social revolution was important to Connolly as it must be to us, his followers; but to him and to us the resolution of the national question was paramount.

On May 9, 1916, in his speech to the court martial which found him guilty and sentenced him to death, James Connolly said: "Believing that the British government has no right in Ireland, never had any right in Ireland, and never can have any right in Ireland, the presence, in any one generation of Irishmen, of even a respectable minority, ready to die to affirm that truth, makes that government for ever a usurpation and a crime against human progress".

Social dishonour

And in "Worker's Republic", July 28, 1900: "As a socialist I hate all governments which reign by force against the wills of their subjects, and therefore, I am in Irish politics a patriot when confronted with the

Ar lean, ar lech, a 8.

In these pages

We live in those pages, of a struggle we see each day,

a people oppressed, trying to overcome, tired of war, determined to strengthen their call.

For all there shall be freedom, justice shall be done.

A people exploited, divided that others might conquer and win, taught to hate, never to believe that man should equal man.

A nation in bondage, too cruel, too cruel, was the master's hand. The nation rattled, rusted chains thrown off by the people,

tired of slavery, longing to be free.

A new sound, a people arisen, voices of protest,

echoing footsteps marching forward the road to liberty.

Cruel laws made by the stranger, made to be broken.

They must be defeated, injustice is wrong.

A people united, power on to victory.

No conquering stranger has a spirit as strong.

The strangers made answer to the call of the people

crying out for justice, no rights, no freedom,

downtrodden to stay,

answered with a mighty force, weapons of war, prisoners held -

no charge, no trial, torture, bloodshed, life stolen away.

A risen people, power to the people, fear to the stranger.

Resistance continues, the people walk on.

No force shall suppress them, now they have risen.

No stranger defeat them, the people are strong.

How cunning, how sly was the hand of the stranger,

A barrier placed, the seed of hatred sown,

the difference of creed, the great sad divider,

meant wealth for the stranger, their weapon has grown.

One nation has borne us, yet they deny us that joy

to stretch forth a welcoming hand

across that bridge, sectarian and wide,

and to say with pride, my fellow countryman.

The people stayed poor, divided, humble.

Injustice denied peace, peace that shall come,

Blood mixed with tears, prayers offered, hear them.

It is always somebody's son.

Too long have they suffered, divided, broken.

a people born to fight, that others might live to say

that these pages in which we live shall be the last cruel chapters of a nation's history.

Youth of the nation, hear it,

the voice of the motherland, calling, urging her mournful song.

(Ar leanuint ar lech, a 8)

IIP accused by Sinn Féin

THE NEWLY FORMED Irish Independence Party is accused by Derry Comhairlecheantar of insulting the Irish people by not participating in the St. Patrick's Day march in that city and, instead, of marching in a "cultural" parade in Belfast.

"The past two years have seen the first St. Patrick's Day marches in Derry for 25 years," the Sinn Féin statement pointed out.

"For years, we tried to get marching in Derry, and some of the present members of the IIP were the loudest to proclaim the injustice of not being able to march on St. Patrick's Day in their own city.



"Now, when we do hold St. Patrick's Day marches, the Irish Independence Party insults the people of Derry by rushing off to Belfast to march in a "cultural" parade.

"Are the people of Derry not good enough for the Irish Independence Party to march with? Perhaps we aren't 'cultured' enough, in their opinion?"

Support of prisoners

"Or was it the fact that this St. Patrick's Day march was in support of the men and women imprisoned by the British for their beliefs and actions to force a British

withdrawal and build a new Ireland?"

"Surely the Irish Independence Party could have marched in their own city on grounds of sympathy with one of our four demands even if the IIP has no sympathy with the young men and women enduring the worst the British regime can deal out to them in the hell-holes of Long Kesh, Crumlin Road, Armagh and in other prisons in England and in Ireland.

"This point of sympathy referred to is our demand, on the march, for a British withdrawal - seemingly the Irish Independence Party's only point of policy offered in its very limited and simple-minded programme.

"Or perhaps the Irish Independence Party, along with certain members of the SDLP and other pro-British politicians, rejects the demand of the St. Patrick's Day march in Derry."

McDermott honoured

THIS YEAR'S Easter commemoration in Co. Meath took place at the grave of Vol. Sean McDermott, Ardbracken, near An Uaimh.

McDermott, shot at the battle of Cortown by Free-State troops in June 1922, was a local man, from the Commons.

He is well remembered by older people in the locality as a bright, energetic young man.

CLASS STRUGGLE

(Ar leánuint ó lech. a 7)

grim fact of an unpopular ruling power, governing in defiance of, and against the interests of, the vast majority of the people - a power which could not last a day save by the force which lies behind its bayonets.

"As a patriot I hate the class which thrives upon the exploitation of its fellow countrymen and women, which seizes upon the means of life and withholds them from the poor until their hunger compels them to sell their pittance. I hate this class more than the foreigner. Therefore I am a socialist - anxious to purge our national household of its social dishonour".

What was Connolly's attitude to the north-east of Ireland? To flinch from meeting the problem with physical force if necessary?

In "Forward", August 2, 1913, he writes: "But as no good can come of blaming it, so also no good, but infinite evil, can come of trucking to it.

"Let the truth be told, however ugly. Here, the Orange working class are slaves in spirit because they have been reared up among a people whose conditions of servitude were more slavish

than their own.

"In Catholic Ireland the working class are rebels in spirit and democratic in feeling because for hundreds of years they have found no class as lowly paid or as harshly treated as themselves".

Evil record

As for going to war with Orangeism, if necessary, we have this from "Forward", March 21, 1914: "It is felt that the proposal to leave the Home Rule minority (in the north-east) at the mercy of an ignorant majority with the evil record of the Orange party is a proposal that should never have been made, and that the establishment of such a scheme should be resisted with armed force if necessary.

"Personally I entirely agree with those who think so; Belfast is bad enough as it is; what it would be under such rule the wildest imagination cannot conceive. Filled with the belief that they were defeating the imperial government and the nationalists combined, the Orangemen would have scant regard for the rights of the minority left at their mercy".

So much for an "independent Ulster"

May 12 Poster Publications

FREEDOM POSTERS

Giant size poster of **Che Guevara** 30 x 40 from the Cuban original: £1 (USA and continent \$3).

Guevara Badges, 39p or \$1 on coloured background.

By post only to: C. Dillon, 35 York Road, Rathmines, Dublin 6.

As lár an chogaidh

FROM THE WAR ZONE

AT LEAST three members of the Crown forces were injured as a result of attacks by units of Oglaihn na hÉireann last week. Promises to intensify the liberation war were made last Sunday and Monday Easter Commemoration parades throughout the country.

Here are detail of most of the engagements in the week reviewed.

FRIDAY, MARCH 17

Derry: A booby-trap-bomb was defused on Strabane Old Road after Crown forces (military) arrived at a fire in a derelict house.

SATURDAY, MARCH 18

Belfast: Two shots were fired at a member of the Crown forces (prison officer) at Albert Bridge.

Three bursts of automatic fire were directed at a Crown forces (RUC) mobile patrol in the Falls Road area.

Strabane: Two members of the Crown forces (RUC) were injured when a car and land-rover were attacked with an M-60 machine gun at a fly-over on the main Strabane-Derry road.

More than 100 shots were fired. West Ulster Brigade.

Oglaihn na hÉireann, claimed responsibility.

SUNDAY, MARCH 19

Armagh: The lodge at the Drumshill House Hotel was damaged when a bomb exploded.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22

Ardboe: A member of the Crown forces (UDR) was shot and wounded at Killygonland.

Belfast: Shots were exchanged when Crown forces (military) were confronted by three armed men at the junction of Monagh Drive and Norglen Drive.

Arrived too late

We regret that we were unable last week to publish a number of notices of Easter commemorations because they reached us too late.

Object to being photographed

IT IS illegal for enemy troops to photograph people in the Six Counties against their will, Rev. Denis Faul of Dungannon points out.

"If you object to an attempt to do so they must stop," he says.

"House arrests" also is illegal: "Do not allow anyone to bluff you with this nonsense of 'house arrest', to confine the family to a room while they search illegally, or to confine you to your premises," he states.

It is also illegal for the soldiers to read private papers, letters, diaries and the like when searching a house.

Passage West entertainment

A MOST successful social was held recently in the Club Hotel, Passage West, Co. Cork, by the local Emmet/McSweeney Cumann.

The hotel was filled to capacity and proceeds forwarded to An Cumann Cathrach.

Great credit for the entertaining evening was due to the hard work of Mrs George Hegarty, Mrs Terry Fitzgerald, Mr Donal Corcoran and Mrs Tadhg O'Sullivan.

Those attending expressed their enjoyment and looked forward to future functions from Sinn Féin.

Beannachtaí

ANNA WOODCOCK and family send Easter greetings to all Republican prisoners in Ireland and Britain.

CONCENTRATION CAMP HORRORS

(Ar leánuint ó lech. a haon)

However, the most serious infringement of basic human rights now being perpetrated in the H-Blocks is arbitrary sentencing of Republican POWs to indefinite periods of solitary confinement for little or no reason at all. In the case of Tom McFeely this administrative harassment had been a constant feature of his time to date in H-Block.

Realising that the prison authorities were disregarding every human rights charter ever conceived, Tom decided that the only means left open to him to highlight this inhumanity was to place his own life on the line. Subsequently, when he next found himself placed in indefinite detention (Monday, March 13) he was determined to make use of the ultimate weapon of passive, non-violent, resistance, the hunger and thirst strike.

Briefly, that was the reason why Tom McFeely made his terrible protest of hunger and thirst strike. It is possible that on this occasion the prison administration may decide to compromise and agree to inform men in the future of exactly how long they can expect to remain in total isolation.

However, this does not resolve the basic and fundamental reason for the prison authorities' intransigent and bloody-minded attitude and the "blanket protest" of our comrades. Until that burning issue, the issue of prisoner of war status, is finally settled, the horrific conditions of H-Block will continue unabated.

Therefore, respectfully we ask you to make a conscious effort to enquire into the conditions that make H-Block, Long Kesh, a living hell and to add your voices to those who already have involved themselves in trying to resolve this problem.

In these pages

(Ar leánuint ó lech. a 7)

Listen, make answer, pledge yourselves now, follow her cause.

right our nation's every wrong.

Ireland tomorrow is our nation, our home.

Let the flame of freedom stir us deep within.

Our part we must play, reach out, follow, towards a new nation

Ireland a nation. Then lasting peace shall begin.

-Evelyn

Airgead: Práinneach

The National Finance Committee, as part of the drive for very necessary funds, has launched an Easter appeal. We would ask Sinn Féin at every level to contribute generously. We would also take this opportunity to point out to you some of the heavy financial commitments that have to be met by head office - rent, rates, phone, postage, staff, organisers, travel, press conferences, publicity. The list could go on. Unfortunately, all this costs money.

All areas should be aware that cumann affiliation fees (£8) should have been paid by January 31. Also, as per the Ardfheis, membership fees are £2 per member and £2 per associate member. We would draw your attention to rates 51 and 52 re. affiliation. If your cumann has paid please ignore this warning.

Please give generously to the Easter appeal. Donations should be placed in an enclosed envelope and posted under plain cover or delivered by hand to head office.

- George Lynch, cathaoirleach agus O.C.P., Coiste Náisiúnta Airgid, Sinn Féin.

Easter Rising 1916: Posters

Full-size posters from original prints



JAMES CONNOLLY

18½ x 25½ gloss texture

P.H. PEARSE

18½ x 25½ borderless silk texture

INSIDE GPO 1916

Featuring Connolly, Pearse, Clarke and other 1916 leaders, 20 x 30, matt texture, a beautiful and historically valuable poster.

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