

CONCERNED

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF FERMANAGH CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE COMMITTEE

PAY
NO
RENT
PAY
NO
RATES

"IRELAND UNFREE SHALL NEVER BE AT PEACE"

No. 136

Saturday, 4th May (De Sathairn, 4 Bealtaine), 1974

Some British Army Propaganda

BELOW IS THE EXACT COPY OF A LEAFLET NOW BEING PUSHED INTO EVERY CATHOLIC HOME IN BELFAST BY BRITISH SOLDIERS.

AS THE READER CAN SEE, EXTRACTS FROM STATEMENTS OF BISHOP DALY OF DERRY AND FROM THE "IRISH NEWS" ARE CAREFULLY USED TO GIVE THE IMPRESSION THAT THE PROVO FREEDOM FIGHTERS ARE NOTHING MORE THAN A BUNCH OF MURDERING PARAS.

WE WONDER IS THE BISHOP OF DERRY OR THE "IRISH NEWS" AWARE OF THE USE BEING MADE OF THEM BY THE BRITISH BLACK PROPAGANDA MACHINE.

IF SO, WHAT IS THEIR ATTITUDE TO THIS LATEST DEVICE? DO THEY CONDONE OR CONDEMN IT?

----EVERY SANE PERSON CONDEMNS VIOLENCE

NORTHERN IRELAND'S ONLY SUNDAY NEWSPAPER
MORNING EXTRA
Price 6p
Sunday News

BISHOP LASHES BOMBERS



The Catholic Bishop of Derry, Most Rev. Edward Daly, yesterday condemned bombers as "immoral and cowardly."

His blunt attack castigated bombers on all sides, but is seen as an outright condemnation of the Provisional IRA's terror tactics.

And it comes at a time when there is growing pressure from within the Catholic community for the Provisionals to declare a ceasefire.

The Bishop was speaking in his former parish of Castleberg, and after walking through the bomb-blasted shopping centre of the little country town, he said: "It is sad to see the devastation and the damage which has been caused by bombs."

• Bishop Daly

And then he

The Irish News
11th YEAR
AND BELFAST MORNING NEWS
No. 31,623
BELFAST, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10, 1974
ESTD. 1860
3p

Catholics bombed out of work—and out of the country By 'Irish News' Reporter

Take up employment in the Republic and others to the British Isles. Another grave aspect of the present troubles is the large number of young people, mostly Catholics from troubled areas, who have emigrated to Australia and Canada.

Before the outbreak of the Catholic rebellion in Northern Ireland, the Catholic population was increasing at a considerable rate. But now, according to informed sources, the rate is declining just as fast.

The father of two, aged 17 and 19 in Andersonstown, who did not want his name published, said that both his sons had gone to Australia because to use their own words: "There isn't much future in this place with so much violence."

The man said that both his sons had refused to join a certain organisation in the

district and as a result were subjected to intensive harassment. He said that the majority of young people in that area were alienated to death with the present campaign of destruction.

'Not one per cent'

Dozens of women to whom spoke in Ballymurphy, Turf Lodge and three other estates in Andersonstown said that the people did not represent one per cent of the community. Innocent people had died as a result of their activities and there was no doubt that many more people, who were yearning for peace and civilised living, would also die if those responsible for the violence did not bring it quickly to an end.

One woman said that some weeks ago a plan was set

---- BUT YOU CAN DO MORE ----

OPEN BROADCASTING:

A RECIPE

FOR EXTINCTION

A condensed version by

MAOLSHEACHLAINN

Ó CAOLLAÍ

(President of Conradh

na Gaeilge)

Probably the main reason the subject of television generates discussion and conflict is the belief that it exerts an immense influence over people's thinking processes. It is felt that television is a medium which is used by a few to manipulate the many, that economic-interest groups use it to maintain conformity to the social, political, economic and cultural status quo, that it reduces its audiences' capacity for original and critical thinking, that it causes a deterioration of aesthetic tastes and standards, that it promotes escapism, dependency and violence. On the other hand, television enthusiasts will hold that television is educational, improves and widens tastes, stimulates interests and that several of the admittedly negative effects have their positive aspects.

There has been a great amount of debate centred around these issues. In the particular case of Ireland television has also been seen, on the one hand, as a potential aid to cultural decolonisation and, on the other hand, as a powerful means of promoting assimilation to British ways of being.

AN IDEOLOGICAL WEAPON

The problem of television as an ideological weapon has received attention in other countries. In his paper entitled "The Free Flow of Information: Towards a Reconsideration of National and International Communication Policies", delivered in May, 1973, at Tampere, to the Symposium on the International Flow of Television Programmes, Urho Kekkonen, President of the Republic of Finland, made a devastating attack on conventional attitudes to communication by television. These attitudes have resulted in his words in "a state of affairs called communication imperialism". Later he said: "Globally, the flow of information between states, not least the material pumped out by television, is to a very great extent a one-way, unbalanced traffic, and in no way possesses the depth and range which the principles of freedom of speech require". "...two thirds of the communication disseminated throughout the world originates in one way or another in the United States."

One's judgement on whether or not television should be used as a medium of cultural decolonisation, of assimilation, or of "communication imperialism" will depend greatly upon one's values. The question of whether or not television is a powerful moulder of thinking processes and behaviour, however, can be judged in the light of the evidence produced by systematic, disciplined study.

Lyle, Schram and Parker found in the USA that the coming of television caused a spectacular reorganisation of leisure time and of the use of the other mass media. Cinema going and reading were reduced while children had less time to play and delayed their bedtime. William Belson found similar effects in England and also noted that reading about politics, scientific developments and people in other countries was reduced. Belson found that television brought about increased reading of "less demanding newspapers" which could be read while keeping an eye on the screen.

There is no doubt that television provides immense opportunities for escapism. Escapism has its positive aspects - individual tension release being one. Advocates might say that even if it does create a fool's paradise, at least it is a paradise. However, escapism does nothing to solve the problems which drive the individual to escape. Thus the major position of escapism in television schedules serves to reduce pressure for social change. Those committed to the maintenance of the status quo, of course, view this in the most favourable light. Giving the public circuses instead of bread is a very old formula which, incidentally, had a celebrated expression recently with the broadcasting by RTE of a British royal wedding.

Television can also be used to promote violence and to spread criminal ideas. The evidence of Barkowitz suggests that viewers who are predisposed to violence and aggression may be influenced by typical TV hero-types who use violence to solve problems. The massive doses of Cannon and other such worthies poured out by RTE with the full approval of the establishment may well be a determinant of violence in Irish society. Perhaps it is television rather than Irish history that needs to be "decontaminated".

NORTHERN SERVICE

One of the big selling points of the minister's idea has been the claim that all he is doing is exchanging RTE services for Northern Ireland services. There is, however, no such thing as a Northern Ireland service, unless one wishes to dignify a British service containing about 2 per cent of material from the north with the title "Northern Ireland Service". Not alone is the so-called Northern Ireland Service overwhelmingly British / Anglo American, it has consistently adopted an attitude of intolerance to things Irish, particularly to the Irish language. When requested some years ago by Irish-speaking groups in the North to provide some programmes in Irish the BBC refused to do so on the basis that such programmes would cause civil disturbances! Thus it ignores and insults an important focus of the loyalty of a large section of the population and echoes some of the worst legal prescriptions against Irish in history. The potential of the Irish language as a bridge between conflicting sections is well known to the language movement from the numbers of inquiries and requests for talks and lectures received from Protestant organisations, from the numbers of Protestants who attended Irish Classes before it became dangerous to do so, and from the great interest shown in the booklet "Hidden Ulster", which was a bestseller in Protestant bookshops.

If a truly representative, non-commercial Northern Ireland service existed one would, of course, welcome its extension to all parts of Ireland.

It is clear, also, from the various statements by the minister that his request to have RTE services rebroadcast in the North as a *quid pro quo* for his rebroadcasting of British services will eventually be turned down. Beidh an craiceann agus an luach ag na Sasanaigh!

All of this raised the central question, "why is the rebroadcasting of British television services so important to the government that it is prepared to sacrifice the national broadcasting service in pursuit of this objective?"

The reasons, of course, are complex, involving long term political and cultural policies. The argument that the Minister's moves represent a response to pressure from interest and pressure groups in Cork and Waterford can be dismissed. The amount, intensity and duration of the pressure these groups have been able to exert on the Public consciousness fall far short of the pressure required to obtain State recognition for even a single Irish-medium primary school. Obviously, however, the Minister feels he has little to lose if he gives the impression to those people that it is for their sake their demands are being met (See Irish Times, 25.10.1973).

For political and economic reasons the imperative need of the modern supernational capitalist system is for bigger and more homogenous units of population from which standardised and predictable responses to common symbols are required. This is a very important underlying factor in the minister's policies on the role of the Irish language in broadcasting and on open broadcasting. It is a factor which deserves a special analysis outside the scope of this pamphlet.

There is, a constant if perverse logic in the Minister's plans. The make-up of the people of the North he sees as strongly British. Writing in the magazine "Fortnight" in February 1974 he stated "I think that BBC and UTV reflect, as fairly as television channels can, the make-up of the people of Northern Ireland..." The programme schedules, in fact, carry at least 98% British and American material! Of this the Minister cannot be unaware. In the next paragraph the Minister was even more enlightening.

"Therefore, as Irishmen grow more acquainted with one another's cultural background, it is inevitable that they will find that much of their shared heritage is also shared with people in Britain".

The events of the past six years have convinced the dominant political elites that long-term stability can be achieved only if cultural assimilation to Britain is speeded up. Assimilation is effected by bringing about conformity to the attitudes, interests, outlooks, values and behaviour of the assimilating society. Television has been identified correctly as the most potent media available for promotion of the cultural *Anschluss* with Britain. The Minister for Posts and Telegraphs waving his bog-oak shillelagh at the "Irish lobby in R.T.E." who have succeeded in hogging for Irish the "overbearing", "domineering", and "no longer acceptable" level of 2.2% of broadcasting time, may seem a figure of fun. The reality, however, is deadly serious. What we are now facing is the final conquest.

Fitt and 'bloodbath'

An open letter from J. J. Quigley, P.R.O., sentenced prisoners, Compound 16, Long Kesh (Provisional Republican)

Dear Mr. Fitt—You predict a blood bath and civil war in the event of a British Army withdrawal from Northern Ireland. Such a prediction is made in ignorance of the feelings of the people on the ground whom you claim to represent.

The war in Northern Ireland, Mr. Fitt, is being waged against the forces of British imperialism by the Irish Republican Army. It is not being waged against the ordinary people, and you will know it. I object in the strongest possible terms to the contention of you and your associates that the people, North and South of the Border, are so foolish as to embroil themselves in a civil war! First of all they all have one common desire, the desire for peace. Secondly they are an intelligent people. They may not have the academic education of some of your politician friends. They do, however, have something which is much more important - innate commonsense. An Etonian accent is not a required qualification for the solution of the problems of Northern Ireland.

The people of these Six Counties are more aware of the realities of the situation than you are: they know the sorrow and the frustration that you and your associates perpetrate on them. You mention fears "in both communities". What a pity you use the term "both communities".

We are all in this situation together. We, for our part, were aware that only the people themselves can resolve it and end the violence. It appears to us that you and your so-called power-sharing colleagues seem to have a vested interest in keeping the violence going. Otherwise, why are you pleading for the British Army to stay on the streets? Despite your efforts to divide us, the people of the Falls and the people of the Shankill have arrived at one simple resolution—an end to violence.

A good example of how you have isolated yourself from the situation occurred this week. A delegation from the N.I. Assembly visited both Loyalists and Republicans in this camp. You were conspicuous by your absence. This was not a fleeting visit. The members of the delegation spent hours, not minutes, listening to the obvious grievances of the Loyalists and learning of their feelings. They spent two hours in this case with us. We reviewed the political situation and we discussed fully the blood bath scare. We did so, not in terms of how or when it might come, but how it could be avoided. The dialogue was completely positive.

During the visit of the delegation it occurred to us: what does power-sharing really mean? The members were all Unionists—not an S.D.L.P. member in sight! Have you completely forsaken "the men behind the wire"? Are Roy Bradford, Peter McLachlan, Nelson Elder and Brigadier Broadhurst the only people who are interested in the inmates of Long Kesh from among our present politicians? They listened to every point put to them and promised the men left with little or no recourse to the system that their points would be presented to the authorities.

Mr. Fitt, your blood bath is not a reality: it is a dangerous statement about a non-event. If you read the newspapers, you will have seen a joint statement from the so-called extremists from both sides published on Monday last. It was agreed upon without ambiguity, something which is quite foreign to you and your fellow politicians. We met on our common statement with handshakes. You, Mr. Fitt, are probably unable to conceive such a situation in Long Kesh. But it was done by "the men of violence" so often stricken by you. It is much more significant than the acrobatics of Brian Faulkner and yourself.

HOW I APPLIED TO 'JOIN' S.A.S.



JOIN SAS RESERVE

**your nearest Reserve Unit of
BRITISH SPECIAL FORCES**

**JOIN WHEN YOU WANT—
LEAVE WHEN YOU WANT!!**
(If we don't sack you first)

ONLY THE WILLING CAN BE THE BEST

CONTACT—'N' SQUADRON 23 SAS



AVR CENTRE
HASLUCKS GREEN ROAD
SHIRLEY, SOLIHULL
Tel. 021-744 3143

PARACHUTE— into 3 or 4 Foreign Countries every year for a weekend each time

AND— Draw Regular Army Rates of pay for time put in plus Annual Bounty of about £100

LEARN— Long Range Radio Communications, Navigation, Demolitions, Driving, First Aid among other things

AGE LIMITS: 16-32 (35 Ex-Forces)

Printed by The Chronicle Press, 125A Market Road, Fildes Road, Bournemouth

THE controversial British Army counter-insurgency section—the Special Air Service—is believed to be using army reservists and “free-lancers” in intelligence operations and surveillance duties along the Border in an effort to curb the continuing Provisional I.R.A. bomb-and-bullet campaign.

I can reveal that the free-lancers—who are officially classified as “British Army Reservists”—can avail of specialised weekend training at a number of army training centres in Britain.

And posters—of somewhat mysterious origin—have appeared on a limited scale near certain British Army centres in England during the past fortnight, appear to be designed towards boosting recruitment for what is described as S.A.S. “Reserve Units.”

I telephoned a number in Birmingham which, according to the posters, was that of a British Army centre for the recruitment of the Special Air Service “Reservists” and the conversation—which was taped—ran as follows:

Reporter—Can you tell me, what is your number, please?
Female voice—744 3143.

Reporter—Is that the army centre at Haslucks Green Road, Shirley?

Voice—Yes, that's right.
Reporter—Can you tell me if there are some vacancies there for the Reserve?

Voice—Can you hold on a minute, please?

After a short delay, a male voice came on the line and asked: “Can you give me a few details, please?”

He then identified himself as a “permanent staff instructor” at the centre.

IRISH CALL

When I told him that I was making the query about vacancies in the Reserve and replied to one of his questions that I was calling from Ireland querying the position for “Sunday Independent,” he said: “This is a T. and AVR Unit” and on weekend training, you would have to come a hell of a long way, of course, and it would not be practical for you.”

He then flattered to put me in touch with “some other T. and more convenient.”

In reply to a further question which I put to him, the officer said that for “short-term service” recruits, the latter also states, of much value unless they “had previous military experience.”

The posters offer recruits opportunities to “parachute” into different countries each year and also stipulate that regular army pay applies, plus an annual bounty of about £100. Recruits, the poster also states, can learn “long-range radio communications, navigation, demolition, driving, first aid, among other things.”

Protest over Derry men in ‘solitary’

Father Denis Paul, Dungannon, has protested to the Secretary of State, Sir Basil, about the keeping of three Derry men in solitary confinement in Crumlin Road Prison Belfast.

The three, Kieran McLaughlin (18), Gerard McRae (19), and Connolly Brady (21), are on remand in connection with an armed charge. Father Paul complains that they are being kept in solitary 23 hours per day with no light, hearing all the time. He has called on Mr Rees to ensure that the men are transferred to Long Kesh.

Father Paul reminded ‘a Secretary of State’ of his comments last week, a Scottish Judge about ‘a solitary confinement’ of three months of a U.S. seaman in Glasgow.

The judge had stated: “This seems a most extraordinary state of affairs. Even if he was an escapee, he has never heard of such a thing happening before. One knows that a solitary confinement with no light, hearing all the time, is not a very good thing. This is not the way proceedings are conducted in this country.”

Father Paul added there was a marked similarity between the Scottish case and the case of the three Derry men, which he had pointed out to Mr Rees.

Conditioned?

Nineteen sixth-year students, from Belvedere College, Dublin, said and listened to the Parliamentary proceedings in the Stormont Assembly one day recently.

They were welcomed by Mr. Basil McIlvor, the Minister of Education. The visit was first by a party of schoolchildren from the 26 Counties.

A meeting with the parents of Father Patrick Fell

I LOOKED AROUND a comfortable study, surrounded by mementoes of holidays spent abroad and well-lined book cases that contained the kind of books one would expect to find in any young priest's home. . . . “Everyman's Book of Saints,” “The Secular Priest,” “The Risen Jesus.” For lighter reading there were, amongst others, several books by Dickens. It was a Den that reflected the character of its owner, a serious-minded young pastor, and his very absence from the seat where he spent many hours of relaxation among his personal belongings was borne forcibly on one's consciousness by the knowledge that he is now languishing in an English prison.

Father Patrick Fell was sentenced to twelve years imprisonment in Birmingham on what his parents described as an “unjustified charge.” Three other men, received sentences of four years each on the same charge. They were Frank Stagg, Thomas Kishie and Ron Lynch. Fell is convinced of her son's innocence. There was no evidence against any of the men to support the “conspiracy to bomb” charge so the authorities changed the wording to “conspiracy to cause arson to unknown buildings,” she said.

Later we sat in the lounge and discussed the case. Harry Fell, a retired mechanical engineer, and his invalid wife, Joan, came to live in Birmingham two years ago. The family had holidayed there on a few occasions and they had fallen in love with the area and its people. When Mrs. Fell's doctors told her that her arthritis and Parkinson's disease were getting steadily worse and change was suggested, the family decided to come to Donegal. Father Fell sold his beautiful house, bequeathed

to him by his grandmother, and with the proceeds from the sale bought a bungalow at Ballydevitt Beg, a mile from Donegal Town. From the delightful situation of the house Mrs. Fell can enjoy a wonderful panoramic view—the Sligo mountains and the hills of Donegal in their ever-changing moods. It was a happy trio that settled into their new surroundings where they quickly made friends. Joan Fell found peace of mind, good neighbours, and a bracing air blowing in from the Atlantic which gave her some relief from her physical discomfort. Her husband had an outlet in landscaping his garden and building a new garage. Father Patrick returned to his pastoral duties in Coventry, and he travelled back and forth now and then to see his parents.

It was in Coventry that he saw at first hand the plight of some of the people forced out of their homes in Northern Ireland. In traditional manner they came for solace to their priest. His own meagre resources restricted the amount of assistance he could give so he helped in setting up a Northern Relief Fund for this purpose. His parents were over the moon when he came for solace to their priest. His own meagre resources restricted the amount of assistance he could give so he helped in setting up a Northern Relief Fund for this purpose. His parents were over the moon when he came for solace to their priest.

“He became more and more involved in social work and it brought him into contact with suffering so different from what he had experienced himself. His heart bled for these people, and his sympathies went out to them in their struggle to find work and peace. All Patrick's energies were directed towards helping them.” Mrs. Fell paused for a moment before continuing. “Part of the task he set himself was to help in some small way to achieving a lasting peace in Northern Ireland, and with this in mind he had been visiting parties of children over from Belfast on holidays to give them an opportunity to integrate.

Naturally the project had been limited because of lack of funds, but at least it was a start in the right direction.”

Harry, who was sitting fondling his son's German shepherd dog, Peter, took over at this stage: “Patrick was no stranger to social work. As a Church of England Ordinand he spent a lot of time amongst the down and out in London and the hills of Scotland.”

Mrs. Fell continued: “Then came the shattering news that Patrick had been arrested along with a number of other men on a charge of conspiring to bomb. He was asleep when the police came to arrest him. Ironically he thought his presidency was being burgled, and was about to ring the police when they announced themselves.” She wiped a tear from her eye and her husband took up the narrative. “There was no evidence of any kind to connect Patrick or the other men with this charge. No explosives were found, although certain newspapers erroneously reported at the time that explosives were found. How- ever, his charges of conspiracy could not be sustained, and the charge was altered to try to make it stick.”

Mrs. Fell was spared the ordeal of seeing her son in the dock, but his father attended the trial daily. “I was disgusted with the way it was conducted and my inborn sense of justice became less and less as the trial proceeded. I became convinced that the truth in the belief held by some observers at the trial that the priest was to be made a scapegoat,” and he added sadly, “now know that the British justice I had believed in was dead.” He spoke about the security at the trial. “Nuremberg had nothing like it. A priest friend of our son was meant to step each time he attended the trial and it added to this indignity by insulting him. The police were very considerate to me and I thanked them for this.”

Patrick Fell was kept in solitary confinement while he was in Winslow Green Prison but he was permitted to celebrate daily Mass in his cell. His meagre recreation time, half an hour per day, was reduced then by ten minutes

each day because he insisted on having a daily bath. A shattering blow came his way when he was transferred to Wakefield prison where he has a 24 hour guard. He was not allowed to celebrate daily Mass. Said his mother: “This was a bitter disappointment for him.” She explained that although the prison authorities were prepared to give him the necessary facilities to celebrate Mass the order came from the Home Office at the instigation of Monsignor Cunningham, Prison Chaplain General. His reason: “If he is allowed to celebrate Mass it will bring the Faith into dispute in the prison.” Harry asked: “With whom? Surely not the majority of prisoners, who perhaps have no religion at all.” Mrs. Fell told me that only Arch- bishop George Patrick Dwyer had the authority to take this privilege from her son, yet he and other members of the Hierarchy objected to Monsignor Cunningham's decision. Dr. Dwyer, a number of priests, and a well known Anglican Bishop, have made representations to the Home Office on the matter.

The Fells are hoping that their son and his companions will win their appeal. When it comes up, but they cannot say. Surely the reason for the delay in having it heard. “We understand that his getting a transcript of the trial. If the worst should come and he loses his appeal Joan and Harry would dearly like to see their son repatriated to Ireland to serve his sentence. Then they could see him more often. Mrs. Fell spoke: “I can't say why not. After all a British soldier married a young boy, and he was sent back to England to serve his sentence.” Father Fell became a naturalised Irishman three years ago.

Mrs. Fell described the agonising journey she took to see her son in Wakefield. A friend drove and her husband stayed where she was. The airport where the night Next day she flew to England but her condition made it impossible to continue the journey, so she stayed with friends for two days. Then to Wakefield, where, still

further torture awaited her. Her husband told the story: “My wife was hardly able to walk and yet they insisted on making her go up two flights of stairs just to be screened. There she had to come down again and wait in line for a call to the reception room where she was to see our son. And after all that this ailing woman was denied a welcome kiss from a loving son, and the solace of a loving mother's arm around his shoulder. And to quote Mr. Fell, “Murderers, rapists, and depraved criminals of every kind were allowed to mix freely with their families. Two guards stood over us during the two hour visit and every word we spoke was recorded in a notebook.” Then back to her friends and a further two days rest before she could resume her journey to Ireland. The journey of over a thousand miles cost £150 for a two hour visit, but to Joan and Harry Fell it was worth every penny. It was a realisation of the agony and agonising moment of the journey.

Mrs. Joan Fell became a convert in 1967. She had never been a church-goer—according to herself, but her interest in religion was aroused when her son, who was attending Cheltenham, one of the finest schools in England, announced that he was considering becoming a Church of England Minister. She began to read the Bible and this brought her to a realisation that the Catholic Faith was the true one so she became a convert.

I prayed and cried a little at first, but my son would come into the Church, and to my eternal joy he did so a short time afterwards. They were followed by her husband, and because he was a convert her son had to wait for two years before entering Oscote Seminary in Birmingham. The young student's cup of joy was overflowing when he was ordained in St. Peter's and Paul in 1967. Every time they attend Holy Sacrifice of the Mass for Harry and Joan Fell pray for their son, Father Patrick Fell, and the others who were convicted with him.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

LONG KESH INTERNEES REFUSE VISITS

Dear Sir,

All sentenced prisoners and internees amounting to 1,500 men, in Long Kesh are now refusing to accept visits as from Monday 15th April due to certain structural changes to the visiting- cubicles already completed in "A" Block of the visiting area and in the process of the same changes to "B" Block.

The changes entailed the complete removal of the rear wall of each cubical and the erection of a longer table, 3' high and 3' across which prevented contact between the prisoner and his family and children, unless he went across the table. This is expressly forbidden by the authorities as it could be interpreted as an "attempted escape". Two windows were also cut in each side wall of the cubicles and a screw stands directly behind the prisoner during his visit, ensuring that the men and their families are denied the minimum of privacy, no matter how personal or private their conversation.

This arrangement is totally unacceptable to the men, and the total ban on visits now in operation will continue indefinitely or until the Camp Authorities revert to, at the very least, the visiting arrangements previously in operation, which even then left a lot to be desired.

Our visitors have to endure far too much hardship and harassment at present for the price of a weekly half-hour visit without this further measure, apparently designed to cause as much discomfort and frustration as possible to both prisoners and their families. The weekly half-hour visit is the precious item to the men in this Concentration Camp and we believe that the authorities in the full knowledge of this fact deliberately set out to make it as unpleasant as possible in their efforts to break the men here. This they will never do. But this is only one method in their latest programme. Recently 20 of our comrades had to fast to the point of death for 34 days to regain the right to compassionate parole which had been withdrawn. Only when the last ounce of flesh wasted away did Mr. Rees concede. Parcels and letters are constantly interfered with, damaged or lost by the "censors". Every day something else is added to the list of "not allowed by Governor's Order". Books newspapers, periodicals are constantly "banned", even the most pro-establishment papers e.g. TIMES, are banned if they carry an article which is unfavourable to the security forces. A number of voluntary lecturers from Queens have recently been refused permission to continue with their lectures, innumerable small items banned, lost or denied in order to cause the maximum of disillusionment and frustration to make this hell-hole even more unbearable.

So much for the human face of British Imperialism as presented by Rees and Orme. No matter how hard they may try, even with the help of quislings like Fitt and Hume and all the other leeches, they will never break the spirit of the Republican Prisoners in Long Kesh, Crumlin Road, Magilligan or Armagh.

We ask for your support to bring pressure on the authorities to end this policy of harassment as soon as possible, more so for the sake of our families than for ourselves.

M. McManus P.R.O.
Cage 17.

Long Kesh,
20/4/74.

When in Lisnaskea, call at . . .

FRANK'S BAR

Home of Traditional Song and Music

MAIN STREET

LISNASKEA

JAMES CAREY

Select Grocers and General Hardware
Merchants

Crown Paint and Wallpaper Specialist
PHONE: LISNASKEA 337

CURRIE AND RENT/RATES STRIKE

SPEAKING in Stormont on 3rd April the so-called Minister for Housing issued a warning to what he termed "the small number of people who will not heed my advice". Those warned by Mr. Currie are those refusing to pay rent and rates until internment and Long Kesh ends.

Mr. Currie went on: "I must bluntly warn these people that I am introducing new measures to ensure that all arrears are paid. Let no one be in any doubt about the determination of my colleagues and myself in this matter."

He then announced his new measures to increase the amounts being deducted from Social Security benefits as follows:

WHITELAW in his day took a maximum of £1.50 per week towards arrears.

CURRIE has now increased this to £2.00 plus 25p per week collection charge, which is downright dishonest.



AUSTIN CURRIE

This is the same Austin Currie who opened all his Civil Rights and Civil Disobedience speeches with the emotive and immoral first words of the Easter Week Proclamation—"Irish men and Irish women". The same Austin Currie who told the anti-internment rent and rates strikers: "Pay no rent, no rates, NO ARREARS." The same Austin Currie who so often found it impossible to give a direct answer on certain aspects of his policy to hall meetings because of his dread that the Special Branch might be in the audience. Now he has the same Special Branch as companions and protectors.

In those days Mr. Currie was bandwagon jumping. Now Mr. Currie knows he has landed on what for him is the last wagon. He is now known and PAID as Minister for Housing, depending desperately for the continuation of his position and salary on the implementation of Sunningdale and the continuation of partition and a British presence in Ireland.

Towards this end Mr. Currie will do anything required or requested of him by his British masters for he well knows if this latest experiment in collaboration and conquest fails, he will never jump on another wagon—NO, NEVER—for the people have at last seen through and got to know Austin Currie.

20th CENTURY BAILIFF

Mr. Currie has given rent strikers until 20th May to pay up, or else his threat comes into force. When it does it will cause hardship to many, but it is believed that the people now involved will not be subdued by an Irish mouthpiece of British oppression. Whitelaw did not intimidate them and where he failed so also will the quisling who now tries to knife the suffering men in Long Kesh and

ConcERNEd: BACK COPIES

WE have had many enquiries for extra copies of last week's issue which carried the sad news of Jim Murphy's murder. We wish to inform those who want further copies that we can supply a limited number.

CAVANACARRAGH CIVIL RESISTANCE COMMITTEE

THE members of Cavanacarragh Civil Resistance Committee wish to tender their sympathy to the family and fiancé of the late Jim Murphy, murdered by Crown Forces on 20th April, 1974. We pray God may rest his soul and comfort those who mourn him.

A PLACE OF PILGRIMAGE

RESIDENTS of Derrylin report that on Sunday last a constant stream of people came the whole day long to visit and pray at the grave of Jim Murphy.

It was indeed a touching sight to see the wreath-covered grave constantly surrounded by kneeling, praying people. It was an expression of the feeling of the people at his foul murder and a manifestation of the love and esteem he was held in by those who knew him.

Already, it would seem, his grave has become a place of pilgrimage, a place that draws all who love a good man. Jim Murphy was in every sense a fine and good man and we have no doubt but that his life and death will encourage and inspire others to unselfishly devote themselves to the need and care of the poor and the underdog, thereby bearing true witness to the name Christian.

Irish Language Collection

LISNASKEA—£57.00

Final returns next issue. Outstanding monies should be forwarded to organiser: Seamus de Faoite, Highfield Road, Cavan.

their dependants in the back.

To further prove his worth to his British bosses and show his Unionist friends what partnership in power means, Mr. Currie has adopted tactics against rate strikers which have not been used in Ireland since the days of the landlords and their hated bailiffs.

This 1974 bailiff has carried out the seizure of cattle from a farmer in his own native county using the RUC, as RIC were used in the "Crow Bar Brigades" of the 19th century to succeed in the removal of cattle, all because the farmer, a Mr. Quinn, refused rates to the value of £32 as a passive protest against internment.

And this is the same Austin Currie who said on Enniskillen Diamond on 10th October, 1970: "Fermanagh is going to be the battle ground for justice. It is the duty of everybody to join in the battle."

Now he supports the great injustice—internment without trial—and is as determined as Faulkner to crush all resistance to it.

Yes, indeed, Mr. Currie and his accomplices, Hume, Fitt, Devlin and Cooper, have landed on their last bandwagon. They have earned for themselves the contempt of all people who value honesty and despise the evil of back-stabbing collaboration with the enemies of our land and our people.

The treachery of Austin Currie and the SDLP will be remembered long after they have been buried in an oblivious pit where they rightly belong.