

CONCERNED

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF FERMANAGH CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE COMMITTEE

PAY
NO
RENT
PAY
NO
RATES

"IRELAND UNFREE SHALL NEVER BE AT PEACE"

No. 169

Saturday, 11th January (De Sathairn, 11 Eanáir), 1975

National Freedom way to lasting peace

THE extension of the truce by the Irish Republican Army is a clear indication of the honesty and sincerity of their role in the moves towards peace. In the past the IRA has been described by their enemies as thugs, gangsters, etc. The very fact that not one single incident of violation of the truce can be charged against them shows what a disciplined fighting force they really are. Their actions leave no doubt as to their desire for a just peace, but can the same be truthfully said of the British Government. The release of a handful of internees is no honest response to the ceasefire. By now every internee should have been freed. England has no justification whatsoever for holding these men and women. An opportunity has been given to Britain to end the war for all time; so far she has made little use of it. Time will not stand still and if peace is to last and a just and lasting peace is to be established, Britain must act quickly. The closing forever of the concentration camps followed by a declaration of intent to quit Ireland are not unreasonable demands and should

be strongly supported by all who want to see justice done.

The actions of the Leinster House Government are almost unbelievable. First there was the attempt to wreck the Feakle meeting. This was followed by their complete disregard for the truce. Every effort was made to provoke a major riot with Provo prisoners in Portlaoise Jail, and finally there was the arrest of Kevin Mallon, one of the peace negotiators — this must prove to all the despicable and traitorous role being played by that Government. When one realises that Kevin Mallon was able to return to his home in Coalisland in Co. Tyrone during this truce and was not interfered with by the RUC, though he travelled openly, the diabolical nature of his arrest by the secret police of the Free State is all the more evident. Clearly the Dublin regime, like the UUWC, does not want peace. Personal security, greed and the suppression of all who seek justice is their aim. Their present actions are not unlike those of a cornered rat—realising that full freedom for the whole

people of Ireland will sweep them from their positions of corrupt power, every effort is being made by them to frustrate the march to freedom. Readers will recall the frantic race they and the SDLP leaders made to London at the time of the British threat to withdraw their army. It has sadly been Ireland's lot to have traitors in high places before, but at no time has this land had more vicious, more treacherous enemies than the present set who rule in the Free State. Their actions are nothing short of treason.

However, it must be clearly understood that London holds the key to peace or continued war. She must realise that even with the aid and collaboration of Paisley and his followers, the SDLP and the Dublin regime she can and will have no victory over the aspirations of the Irish nation. For eight hundred years she has fought for this and failed; so will she continue to fail. The words of Pearse are forever true: "Ireland unfree will never be at peace."

Ceasefire extended for fortnight — Provisionals

THE Christmas Truce initiated by the Provisional IRA has been extended for a further 14 days. The Army Council of the IRA in a statement announcing the extension said that the response of the British Government to the eleven-day Christmas truce was not sufficient to warrant a permanent ceasefire. The statement demanded a satisfactory British response to the IRA peace proposals by 16th January and warned that if substantial progress is not recorded by then the situation would be examined with a view to resuming offensive military action. The statement emphasised that a permanent ceasefire would be established only when the causes of the war are courageously examined and eradicated. For worthwhile progress to be made and to give the British Government a chance to produce positive results towards a lasting peace, the IRA Council ordered its units to extend the ceasefire.

The Provisionals also criticised the Southern Government for its attitude during the truce,

which was described as "most disquieting". And they called on the public at large to demand an end to the negative and dangerous policy of this government.

The following is the statement in full:

"The leadership of the Republican Movement have considered at length the response of the British Government and forces to the cessation of hostilities over the last eleven days.

"While recognising some minor developments as regards political prisoners and the role of Crown Forces, the response was not sufficient to warrant a permanent ceasefire. A satisfactory reply to the IRA peace proposals for a lasting peace was not received from the British Government and it is illusory and deceptive on the part of that government to pretend that the root causes of the conflict can be ignored. A permanent peace will be established only when the causes of the war are courageously examined and eradicated.

"For worthwhile progress to be made and to

provide the British Government with a further opportunity to produce positive results towards a lasting solution, the Army Council of the IRA have ordered an extension of the truce for fourteen days. If substantial progress is not recorded by 16th January the situation will be examined with a view to resuming offensive military action.

"The peace enjoyed over Christmas can be made permanent if the British Government proves its sincerity by pursuing a reasonable and responsible policy. Peace with justice is the universal demand of all our people and the responsibility for granting same rests with the British Government.

"The attitude of the Dublin Government during the truce was most disquieting. There was no desire on their part for the truce and the harsh conditions imposed on the political prisoners in Portlaoise was deliberate provocation. We call on the public at large to demand an end to the negative and dangerous policy of the Dublin Government."

Peace With Justice March

A WARNING to the British Premier, Mr. Wilson, and the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, Mr. Rees, that the Provisional IRA truce was on a knife-edge, and a demand for immediate positive response to the ceasefire, was made by Ruairi O Bradaigh, President of Provisional Sinn Fein.

Mr. O Bradaigh was speaking outside the British Embassy in Dublin during a Peace with Justice March organised by Sinn Fein. Addressing Mr. Rees and the British Government, he said:

"We need a positive response from you and we want that response quickly. All the publicity and all the public relations gimmicks in the world over, a few people being released from jail, will not solve Ireland's problems. There has got to be a political movement and there has got to be a political response."

He asked that Mr. Rees and the Prime Minister, Mr. Wilson, should do what the United States did in Vietnam, and France did in Algeria, and get out of Ireland. The Secretary of State, he said, had spoken about reducing troops in number and winding down internment. Did that mean that there would simply be a return to the pre-1969 situation when there were no troops on the streets but there was gross discrimination in Northern Ireland, or did it mean that the root cause of the trouble would be tackled, he asked.

PEACE WITH JUSTICE NEEDED

Mr. O Bradaigh said that "peace through victory" had been tried for eight centuries by the British in Ireland and it had failed. What was wanted was peace with justice, and that meant the withdrawal of the British.

A power-sharing Executive had been tried in Northern Ireland, but it had only lasted five months. The attempt had been dishonest in that the Loyalists were told it would cement the link with Britain, while the Nationalists were told it would bring about a united Ireland. Any attempt to resurrect such an Executive after the Convention—if the Convention came into being—would fail.

SOUTHERN GOVERNMENT ANNOYED BY TRUCE

For the past ten days they had experienced a truce and the IRA had called for a "positive response". The Dublin Government had not responded and they had refused the legitimate demands of the Portlaoise prisoners. The impression given was that the Southern Government was annoyed by the truce.

Mr. O Bradaigh said that Mr. Rees, as part of his response, released three internees before Christmas. And when the truce had almost run its course, he announced the release of 20 internees and 30 other prisoners. That represented 5 per cent of Northern Ireland prisoners—"it was almost too late, it was certainly too little, and it just will not do". Even if Long Kesh were to close down, it would not be enough, he said, as internment camps in Northern Ireland had opened and closed three times in his lifetime.

The ending of internment and a total amnesty for prisoners would not be enough. What they needed was political progress and this meant the winding down by the British of their operations in Ireland.

The Vice-President of Provisional Sinn Fein, Mrs. Maire Drumm, thanked God for the past five years of struggle, "because very often war is necessary in order to bring about peace".

The Republican Movement wanted peace and justice for its people and oppression banished from the country. The only way to get peace was by banishing the invader. What they needed, she said, was a declaration of intent to withdraw from the British; free decisions on the future to be taken by the people without interference and an amnesty for all prisoners.

The Peace March was attended by 2,000 people and took place from Parnell Square to the British Embassy in Merrion Road. Along the route

wreaths were laid at four places where people were killed by imperialist bombs.

LETTER TO BRITISH AMBASSADOR

During the march a letter addressed to the British Ambassador was handed in to the Embassy. It read as follows:

"We have come on this march today under the banner of Peace with Justice. There is in Ireland a great desire among all the people for a lasting peace. Unfortunately, our country has not known true peace for many centuries. Instead we have recurring circles of war and truce, due to the colonialist policies of successive English monarchs and governments.

"We believe that a true and enduring peace must be based on justice. Where there is injustice there cannot be peace. To establish a lasting peace in Ireland the national rights of the Irish people must be respected and the basic cause of violence must be removed. This can only be achieved by a British commitment to disengage and withdraw from Ireland forever, and the establishment of a just social order and economic system which will give everyone a living in dignity and happiness.

"The present temporary cessation of hostilities by the Republican forces provides your government with an opportunity to plan for peace by taking the steps necessary to make a phased and orderly withdrawal from Ireland. If British governments have relinquished sovereignty over other colonies in the recent past, why should the British Government of today shirk the courageous decision to state publicly that the future of Ireland is a matter for the people of all Ireland, and for them alone.

"We ask you today to convey to your Government this expression of the desire for peace with justice in Ireland. We ask also for the necessary response which will make possible the extension of the Truce. It must be a response which will be generous, substantial and courageous and which will lead to the ultimate withdrawal of your Government's forces and administration from Ireland.

"Sinn Fein and the whole Republican Movement will not be found wanting in generosity either. There is no desire on our part to continue the struggle for one moment longer than is necessary to achieve the foundation of a lasting peace. Furthermore, we have published our proposals for a New Federal Ireland which will give all four provinces a considerable degree of autonomy and would thus guarantee the rights of all, irrespective of class or creed.

"We wish you to bring these points to the attention of your Government as a matter of extreme urgency and we hope that the New Year which has just dawned will bring us a long way on the road to peace with justice and the creation of normal relations between the people of England, Scotland and Wales and the people of Ireland."

FREE STATE'S RARE DISTINCTION

IRELAND, through the machinations of the "Government" in the Free State, has the distinction of having and holding the youngest internee in the world. The continued detention in Limerick Jail of Dr. Dugdale and her infant boy is the greatest act of inhumanity ever practised, even by a bunch of barbarians. As if the cold, depressing atmosphere of a lonely prison cell is not enough punishment for this mother and child, we have the good Catholic TD, Steve Coughlan, calling for the withholding of the few shillings family allowance for the mother.

Here indeed is a case for the Christians of Ireland to shout about. Visiting the "Crib" and contemplating on the Babe in that stable at Bethlehem smacks of hypocrisy if one remains silent about the mother and her child in the stable in Limerick.

PEACE NEGOTIATOR ARRESTED

THE arrest of Kevin Mallon by the Free State political police at a time when the truce is on a knife edge is clear proof (if any was needed) that the Dublin Government is anxious to bring about an end to the present peace and the possibility of a lasting one. Everyone is aware of the fact that Mr. Mallon has been a leading figure in the truce negotiations.

Today Ireland and the World know of the treacherous attempt by the same Government to choke the efforts at movement towards peace by their crazy attempt to arrest the Republican leaders at the Feakle meeting.

The actions of the Cosgrave regime are ample and clear evidence that they do not want peace, rather do they desire the continuation of partition and injustice, leaving them holding the power they now possess.

Again history repeats itself. When Ireland stood on the threshold of freedom just over 50 years ago the fathers and families of the present Free State leaders joined with the enemy in spilling the blood of their fellow countrymen and blocking the path to freedom. Today their sons in the persons of Cosgrave, Cooney, Donegan, Fitzgerald and O'Brien display to the world the rottenness, the corruption and the baseness of character possessed by the greedy self-seekers who now try to prevent national freedom for their own ends. The time has come when the Irish people must recognise and reject these puppets for what they are.

Ó BRADAIGH LEADERSHIP PRAISED

THE following is a copy of a letter received by Mr. Ruairi Ó Bradaigh, President of Sinn Fein:

"Dear Ruairi Ó Bradaigh, Your words, your deeds and your inspirational dedication in the cause of a totally Free Ireland is supported by the members of our great Order.

As an American of proud Irish ancestry, I sincerely state the following: If there is any justification for the existence of the United States of America, then the Government, and all the people of the United States, should understand and support the goals of Sinn Fein. This is the truth that we shall spread in the days ahead.

Continue your outstanding leadership of the wonderful organisation of great Irishmen and Irishwomen. Your efforts are appreciated and success will follow.

Ireland, One and Indivisible!

Fraternally,

John M. Keane,

National President, A.O.H. in America

RELEASE THE PRISONERS

Building On The Feakle Initiative

THE present ceasefire had its roots in what is now widely known as the Feakle peace talks. These were held before Christmas in the small Co. Clare village where top Provisional leaders and a delegation of leading British and Irish Protestant churchmen sat in conference. As we reported in our last issue, the conference made sensational headlines at the time. This was mainly due to the timely discovery by IRA Intelligence of the intention of the Dublin Government to abort the peace moves and attempt to capture the IRA leaders. In fact, Government political police stormed the conference, but the Republican leaders, said to include Daithí O Conaill and famed Mountjoy Jail "helicopter" escapee Seamus Twomey, Joe O'Hagan and Kevin Mallon, had already excused themselves, left the hotel and returned to hiding. Fortunately most of the talks which gave rise to the Christmas Truce were over at the time.

The courage and realism of the Protestant clergymen was given deserving praise and acclaimed by all who sincerely desire peace. On the other hand the actions of the so-called "security forces" of the Southern Government met with public reprimand, having clearly shown they do not want peace but rather the total subjection of the freedom fighters.

NECESSARY TO SUPPORT DEMANDS

The most important result of the Feakle talks to date has been the ceasefire. Many have welcomed the initiative towards political discussion. But the various reactions in political circles seem to indicate much confusion about what the ceasefire involves. At least one Irish journalist has noted that there are even secret regrets about the ceasefire success. We quote from an article by Nollaig O Gadhra in the "Irish Press":

"One gets the impression that some people secretly regret the degree of success if only because the ceasefire has removed the great whippingboy on which everything could be blamed, thus forcing all of us to clarify our position on the future development of events in the North and in the whole island.

INTERMENT A MORAL ISSUE

"It is essential to try and ensure that the ceasefire is continued. But support for some of the Provisionals' demands should be based not only on the pragmatic grounds that by so doing it may be possible to ensure that the militants go out of business.

"It is necessary to support them because these demands are right and just and are an expression of aspirations which are held dear by large sections of the Irish people.

"Take the question of internment, for example. It used to be fashionable—it still is in some circles—to suggest that the Provisionals have a vested interest in keeping the system going and are not really interested in ending it.

"The only possible position on internment is the moral one that detention without trial is wrong in itself and that its use by so-called law and order authorities undermines their very claim to that description. The British reaction now that a ceasefire has been called and an end to the horror of Long Kesh has been demanded, provides further insights into the real nature of the system.

"The reaction of some of the peacemakers is also interesting. The great demand is for 'peace' with few definitions of what peace really means. Those who joined a peace march with slogans demanding 'Peace with Justice' were attacked by some of the peacemakers. Yet in Belfast, those who carried slogans demanding 'Victory before Peace' were, it seems, quite welcome.

THE PROVISIONALS' AIM

"We have all heard the dictum first pronounced (if I recall correctly) by Cardinal Conway, that it is wrong to try and bomb a million Protestants into a united Ireland. Most people would agree. The Provisionals certainly would, for despite the frequent misrepresentations on this as in other points, the aim of the present campaign is not to force any section of the Ulster population into a united Ireland, if by that one means a takeover of the North by the South, a centralised system of

government for the entire Ireland or — biggest bogey of all for Ulster Protestants—Dublin rule.

"The Provisionals' aim, for those who care to accept the political literature of Provisional Sinn Féin for what it is worth, is set out as being the creation of a self-governing community or communities in which each significant section of the population on this island would rule its own life, in a federal structure sharing power between the regions and the centre, with maximum local autonomy and specific guarantees for the Ulster Unionist community. These proposals have been spelt out in some detail. They are not without fault and are open to negotiation and amendment. But whatever their merits, they should not be cast aside and misrepresented as they are frequently.

CAN'T FORCE NATIONALISTS INTO UNITED KINGDOM

"If one accepts—as most people do—that it is wrong to force a million unwilling Ulster Unionists to become something they are not — and which quite obviously they do not wish to become — it follows logically that it is both wrong and immoral to force half a million Nationalists in the North-East of Ireland into a United Kingdom.

"More specifically it is wrong to deny the man

in the Glens of Antrim or the Falls Road the right to be what he has always claimed to be — an Irishman — and, in particular, to deny his particular way of life expression in the organisation of his daily life.

"This, then, is the problem with which we are all faced. Those who claim that to reverse the injustice of the North by making the Ulster Unionists a dissatisfied minority in a 32-County Ireland is no solution, are not only right. They make the most subtle defence of the Northern Nationalist case there is. But they should not suggest that such a solution is that proposed by the Provisionals.

"There is, I think, little general disagreement about the reasonableness and justice of the Provisional demands on internment and other immediate matters. The really difficult demand is their traditional Republican one that the British declare their intent to get out of Ireland. It is important to be clear about what is involved here. This does not simply mean that the British Army be brought home. It is a demand that Britain disengage from Ireland and allow the future of the communities on this island, and the relationship between them, to be determined by the Irish people alone."

Jail Journal

AS we reported last week, the rising tide of protest stemming from the inhuman and degrading conditions under which Provisional IRA prisoners are being held in the Southern Government's top security Portlaoise prison came to a head on Sunday, 29th December when 140 prisoners seized control of the prison and held 17 prison warders hostage for several hours.

Shortly after 2 p.m. the prisoners overpowered their guards and after a brief struggle they were in complete control of "E" Wing, which contains all of the prison's 180 cells. Barricades were hastily erected on stairways and at all entrances to "E" block. Prison officers and southern police rushed the block a short time later, but had to retreat hastily when bombarded with a hail of stones, slates, bricks and pieces of wood.

The Prison Governor, Mr. John Kelly, called in Free State troops from the Curragh Camp, more than 20 miles away, and shortly afterwards 400 heavily armed troops and more than 200 southern police arrived at the jail. These marched through the main gates carrying rifles, sub-machine guns, riot shields, helmets and batons. They also carried large quantities of CS gas canisters and were equipped with rubber bullet guns.

On Government orders, police manhandled cameramen, including a TV crew from the state-owned TV network, and confiscated all film from photographers. At this stage, with nearly 700 heavily armed troops and police within the confines of the prison, it was obvious that the Dublin Government were systematically planning a major assault which could only lead to serious injury for the prisoners, and it was decided to end the protest. Nevertheless, troops and police rushed the cell block after all the hostages had been released unhurt, and several prisoners were injured; these were later treated by a doctor.

WHY IT HAPPENED — SINN FEIN

The following day Provisional Sinn Féin issued a statement outlining the prisoners' grievances. The statement is as follows:

"Deep resentment has been building up among Republican prisoners at Portlaoise because their rights have been progressively whittled away. This dates from a 21-day hunger strike in September-October, 1973.

"The right to receive a weekly food parcel was denied two days subsequent to the escape of 19 prisoners last August—before the judicial inquiry into the escape was commenced. Non-Republican prisoners were put along with them in the cell block in breach of an agreement made in October, 1973. Compassionate parole has been refused again. The most recent case is that of Eamonn Mac Thomais, who was refused parole on 20th

December, even though his wife was seriously ill."

The statement also said that in support of their demands to have their rights restored the Republican prisoners had refused the one parcel each which they were allowed at Christmas. The Dublin Government had remained "callously indifferent" to the plight of Republican prisoners at Portlaoise even on the occasion of the most peaceful Christmas for four years, the statement concluded.

WOMEN VISITORS MANHANDLED

The day after the prison protest trouble flared up again in the prison grounds when fifty uniformed police, ten prison officers and several plain clothes special political police forcibly ejected fourteen women relatives of the prisoners who were seeking visits.

Mrs. Joan Carmichael and Mrs. Barbara Doyle, whose husbands are in the jail, said that several of the women were bruised during the encounter and claimed one young teenage girl "was dragged along the ground and had her clothes damaged beyond repair."

Mrs. Carmichael and Mrs. Doyle said that the group of women were more concerned with the condition of prisoners than with obtaining a visit. "We have had nothing but conflicting reports all week", said Mrs. Carmichael. "We have been told by the Department of Justice that six prisoners were injured and received medical attention. But the prison authorities tell us all along that no one was hurt."

Mrs. Carmichael said that when they arrived at the prison waiting room they asked that one person be allowed visit one prisoner to be assured about their condition. This was refused, as was permission to send in a note, she said. "Then we asked to see the Governor and said we would wait until he came." Mrs. Carmichael added: "About ten warders and about 50 guards with a few branch men arrived and handled us very brutally and beat us out onto the street."

COONEY IGNORANT OF LAW

On 31st December a statement from the Dublin branch of the Association for Legal Justice challenged a remark by Mr. Cooney, Minister for Justice, which they said he made in a radio interview, to the effect that to talk of prisoners' rights was a misnomer. The remark seemed to display crass ignorance of the laws of the country by the Minister and his Department, the statement said. "A second conclusion to be drawn from the Minister's statement is that the Department of Justice have arbitrarily withdrawn from prisoners their rights in defiance of the stated law," the statement added.

From Magilligan Concentration Camp

A Chara,

At this special time of the year I would like to give the people of Fermanagh an up to date report on the conditions now prevailing in Magilligan Concentration Camp. The conditions have got so bad it would be impossible to give a full and detailed account of them all, so I will give a summary of the main ones.

I will start with the conditions of the huts in which we are forced to live, which is very important because of the weather we have been having recently. Apart from the usual overcrowding, the huts themselves are of the shoddiest workmanship I have ever come across. We haven't been here a year, yet all the huts are leaking, which means that every time it rains the floor is flooded and our bedding is soaked. The doors don't fit properly and the locks have come off most of them, the result being that every gust of wind blows open the doors, allowing more rain to come in and makes it impossible to keep the huts warm.

In the mornings when we get up the floors of most of the cubicles are flooded because of rain during the night and there is a virtual lake around the hut doors. When we have managed to get around these pools of water we proceed to the washhouse with its bare walls and concrete floor, where nine times out of ten there is only a trickle of cold water for us to wash, shave and shower in. We then return to the huts, where we can only do our best to try and brush out the water and mop up, but the water usually comes in faster than we can mop it up.

After cleaning the hut to the best of our ability we proceed to the canteen for breakfast. To get there we have to walk past the sewers, which are usually blocked up, and the smell is not one which improves the appetite. Maybe this is just as well because the breakfast is not of sufficient quantity or quality to sustain any hunger. It consists of watery porridge and one sausage. Along with this each man is given $\frac{1}{4}$ pint of milk. This $\frac{1}{4}$ pint is all that is provided to make tea all day and to put in your porridge. Did you ever limit yourself to a $\frac{1}{4}$ pint of milk to see how far it goes? The standard of food in general is beyond description. Most of it is refused outright and isn't even allowed into the cage. Any that passes inspection at the gate is usually of insufficient quantity for 80 men. The men here are virtually existing on their weekly food parcels, which are severely restricted by the authorities.

Now let's go back to the huts and have a look at the laundry situation. Once a week (if we are lucky!) we get one "clean"? sheet, a pillowcase and sometimes a towel. Whether they are actually clean is a point on which there could be a lengthy debate. I suppose it depends on what standard one is used to. If these sheets are called clean by the screws, then it makes us wonder what they are used to! Also we have been here ten months and we still have the same old blankets that we were given when we first came. When we asked for clean ones the screws went to the Criminals' Cage, where they collected their blankets off the beds and offered them to us. Of course we refused them and thus we still have our old ones.

Another thing which has seriously affected the men in here is the lack of sport and training facilities. There are only two football games and two gym sessions a week. Approximately 22 men play in each game of football, so that means 44 a week, which is only just over half the men in the cage. Only ten men can go to each of the gym sessions a week, which means 20 men, only a quarter of the men in the cage! The real result is that each man can only get a game of football once a fortnight and go to the gym once a month.

On top of this we now have restrictions imposed on handicrafts, the main one being that no wood over $\frac{1}{2}$ inch thick is allowed in. The men cannot make Harps or Celtic Crosses or other such articles out of $\frac{1}{2}$ inch wood. A disturbing factor has arisen out of this restriction. The authorities have claimed that the size of the wood has been restricted because an imitation firearm was

found in one of the Republican cages. This is a barefaced lie and they know it.

The visits and parcels, which are the two most precious things to the men in here, have not escaped the authorities' attention either. As is commonly known to those who have visited here, we are restricted to 20 visits per day to each cage. The main problem is a Saturday. This is the only day a lot of men can get a visit from their families, because it is the only day their visitors can get off work or get transport. The authorities have still refused to allow any more than 20 visits among the 80 men in each cage on a Saturday. Since we have come down here there have been at least 10 men in my cage alone going without a visit each week because their visitors can only come up on a Saturday and there are not enough visits to go around.

The medical facilities down here would be laughable if it wasn't so serious. Firstly the doctor only comes in three days a week and when he does it is only a flying visit. If you are lucky enough to see him he will listen to your complaint, grunt, and hand you the same pills as everyone else. For instance, a man with a sore throat is given the same pills as a man with a chest complaint. The dentist tries his best when he is here, but his visits are few and far between and he has only a small caravan to work in. Men are going around the cage at the moment in pain with their teeth, but the dentist won't be back for at least another three weeks. Now the optician's turn. We have none!

In rounding off I would like to mention that there are no study facilities whatsoever and that the men in two of the Republican cages have been supplied with plastic toy spoons, knives and forks! These are the only utensils they have to eat with. The overall conditions are deplorable and there is no foreseeable change coming.

We would take this opportunity of thanking the people of Fermanagh for their support during this past year and wish them a Happy New Year.

Is mise le meas,

P.R.O.,

Michael Gaughan Cumann,
Cage "D", Magilligan Camp.

JAMES CAREY

Select Grocers and General Hardware Merchants
Crown Paint and Wallpaper Specialist
PHONE: LISNASKEA 337

ONE-SIDED TRUCE IN KINAWLEY

A Chara,

The Residents of Kinawley and surrounding district were much relieved when the IRA and the British invaders called the Christmas truce.

The IRA are to be congratulated for their gesture, and they kept their word. Let's hope it has at long last got through to the clergy and SDLP politicians what are the real facts of life in Ireland at this time. The IRA want peace with justice. No short term holding measures, rather long term solutions to the Irish question.

What about the British?

By their actions in Kinawley area over Christmas and New Year period their motives are open to question.

Never before in our present troubles have the people of Kinawley witnessed such large scale Army operations: duck squads, foot patrols, unmarked van surveillance, road checks, population census, UDR photographers, etc. Yes we had all of these unpleasant things. It is obvious that the British and their native collaborators operating from Kinawley barracks don't give a damn about peace or even understand the meaning of the word truce.

Long may the truce continue. Will the Brits call off their campaign of violence?

Over to you Mr. (Captain) Rees. We will not be fooled, just as surely as we have not been moved.

Kinawley Resident

POLITICAL PRISONERS' DEPENDANTS' FUND

Maguiresbridge:

A Concert in aid of the dependants of internees and political prisoners will be held in the Parochial Hall, Maguiresbridge, on Sunday, 26th January. Many leading artistes will attend and a most enjoyable night is assured. Please keep this date free and support a worthy cause.

Kinawley:

A very well attended dance took place in St. Nial's Hall in aid of above on Sunday last. During the dance a draw for £100 took place.

When in Lisnaskea, call at . . .

FRANK'S BAR

Home of Traditional Song and Music

MAIN STREET

LISNASKEA

BRITISCHE TRUPPEN RAUS
AUS IRLAND
FREIHEIT FÜR 2000 POLITISCHE
GEFANGENE + INTERNIERTE
IN BRIT. ZUCHTHÄUSERN
+ KZ's



Our picture shows one of a number of car stickers now in use in many parts of Germany, much to the embarrassment of British Ambassador and the Command Staff of the British Army on the Rhine.

The sticker reads: "British troops out of Ireland. We demand release of 2000 political prisoners and internees in British concentration camps".