

CONCERNED

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF FERMANAGH CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE COMMITTEE

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RATES

"IRELAND UNFREE SHALL NEVER BE AT PEACE"

No. 155

Saturday, 14th September (De Sathair, 12 Mea n Fomhair), 1974

Long Kesh View

THE PORTLAOISE ESCAPE

THE obvious acute embarrassment of the Free State Government, caused by the audacity of the nineteen escapees, has the effect of adding the extra spice for the already elated Republican population within Long Kesh. As the police and soldiers wear themselves out combing the Wexford and Wicklow area for the men who everyone, with the exception of poor auld Paddy Cooney and Co., know were never there at any time, we await the exit from office of the discredited Paddy Cooney as the logical conclusion to the whole affair.

Few will mourn his passing. Perhaps the "Irish Independent" and a few other right-wing organs who are going to such extremes to attempt to justify his latest vicious assault on defenceless prisoners, i.e. the withdrawal of weekly food parcels and other "privileges", will manage the usual whitewash job.

But Cooney will go—not as a direct result of the escape itself—but because he has started something this time which will bring hardship and suffering to thousands of people and inevitably bring about a direct confrontation between the unfortunate prisoners and the authorities — the reverberations of which could shake the "Free State" to its very foundations. If Paddy Cooney wasn't the dim-witted ass that we now know him to be, he would realise that the leader writers, political columnists and politicians will throw him to the wolves as a blood sacrifice when things start going wrong for him. Remember O'Neill and Bill Craig?

But probably the most alarming aspect of the affair is the acquiescence of the "peoples' representatives" to such a blatant denial of basic human rights. (You know, the same people who are clambering for the Free State Government to pursue the Irish case against Britain at the European Courts for Human Rights and all that.) Where now are these "champions of freedom"? Bishop Daly and the church leaders? The SDLP? ... Nothing but a stoney silence. But then again what are we to expect? After all everyone in prison is basically a subversive in one way or another. No "respectable" person cares about "social outcasts" ... after all, they haven't got a vote! So why bother? The "I'm alright Jack" (or is it Sean?) attitude still prevails.

How the hell can the Republican people on this island expect these people who by their silence are condoning the actions of the Free State Government to care about the unfortunate, beleaguered minority in the North in their plight? Is it any wonder that we here in Long Kesh are so sceptical about the intentions of these so-called "peace-loving", "freedom-loving" people?

Incidentally, may we offer our congratulations to the "hole-in-the-wall nineteen, especially Ollie McKiernan, Dave Hearty and the Clones men. May they enjoy an everlasting, ACTIVE, freedom.

of papers, magazines and books are considered "so subversive" in content that they are banned altogether from Long Kesh. The list includes: The Republican News, The Volunteer, An Phoblacht and, of course, CONCERNED. In a way it is pleasing

to know that the authorities are, to say the least, "concerned" and frightened of the obvious influence of these publications. But then again the truth is sometimes hard to stomach.

Animal Reaction to Hue and Cry

ANIMAL reluctance, animal disgust, initiated the wave of both, and also other emotions now so evident in most humans against the distressing Cooney hunt for the escapee Republicans. The unseasonal spell of bad weather has brought Cooney's unwilling "hounds" to nadir in interest in their unsought-after pastime. One sees "the unknown soldier" standing at street-corners up and down the 26 Counties. Covered with a waterproof cape against the elements, one does not have to guess at whom he is directing his curses. Certainly not at the escapees. So at whom?

Not only those in the Lot's Wife stance are angry at Cooney. The people going about their ordinary everyday duties are also very vexed. While the Civic Guards have the few pound extra each week to encourage them to put on a mask of interest, the soldiers of Donegan and John and Mary Citizen have nothing and must suffer to save Cooney's face. Talking about the soldiers of Donegan, an officer of the army told me that for every 500 Donegan lures in by TV brain-conscription, 400 walk out when they taste the carrot dangled on the RTE small screen. I am certain of the veracity of what I say. I know this officer personally.

Well, anyone who has caught a glimpse of the "unknown soldier" would scarcely have to ask: "Could this be true?" Not only could it be true; it is true.

Sure, if the dog is reluctant and the bullock disgusted, what can the two Paddys expect?



... A RELUCTANT DOG



... A DISGUSTED BULLOCK

CONCERNED

You may be interested to know that a number

WHY WAS PAUL MURDERED?

PAUL MAGORRIAN was murdered by a unit of the English Army when he was spotted by a joint Military/RUC patrol walking near his home at St. Malachy's Estate, Castlewellan, on the evening of 14th August. This premeditated murder shows the fury of the mercenary English soldiers of the Duke of Edinburgh Royal Regiment at the heavy losses inflicted on them by the Volunteers of the South Down Brigade in the last eight months.

To cover up their cowardly revenge the enemy issued three contradictory statements:

- 1 That he was shot when he was in a firing position, and a 303 rifle with telescopic sights was subsequently found beside his body.



- 2 That he had been challenged many times before being shot, and again that a gun had been found beside his body.

- 3 That a member of the security forces had been shot and not a civilian.

This third statement was put out to make sure that no help could reach Paul Magorrian that might save his life. It would also ensure that there were no independent witnesses who could say whether or not he was armed. So the "security forces":

- 1 Failed to get a doctor for over an hour, though the local members of the sectarian RUC knew that a doctor lived a few yards away;
- 2 Turned away a qualified nurse who offered help immediately;
- 3 Denied a priest the opportunity of giving the Last Rites immediately;
- 4 Turned away a civilian ambulance which arrived 20 minutes after the shooting.

The enemy army behaved in this bizarre way because as soon as they knew they had shot Paul Magorrian they were determined to make sure he was dead. It was one hour after his death before his body was put into a military ambulance and only then was the priest, Father Kelly, allowed to approach him.

This atrocity could not have been carried out without the help of that infamous force, the RUC, who acted in their usual role as the eyes and ears of the enemy. The people of Castlewellan never asked the English Army into their town. It was the RUC, who are despised by the local people for their hatred and bias against every thing and

person Irish, who called in the enemy troops to do their dirty work for them.

The mercenary murderous English soldiers still parade through the streets of Castlewellan followed by their RUC henchmen taunting, harassing and trying to degrade the people. When thousands came to Castlewellan on Saturday, 16th August to give Paul Magorrian a Republican hero's burial the harassment, insults and searches meted out to the clergy and mourners showed the level of inhumanity and spite these oppressors operate at.

Paul Magorrian was murdered at Castlewellan; Patrick McElhone near Pomeroy; Councillor Kelly near Trillick; Eddie Sharpe in Ardoyne. THE ENGLISH ARMY MURDERED THEM ALL!

Only a united, organised people can halt these atrocities and drive the enemy from our midst forever.

Oglaigh na h-Eireann have lost a brave and skillful Volunteer and the people have lost a true friend. But his life has brought the dream of Irish freedom closer. His fearlessness and example will give the people of Castlewellan the will and the strength to continue the struggle. There is no doubt that the campaign of violence will never succeed against a UNITED PEOPLE.

IRA CANNOT BE DEFEATED

MANY people now believe we are moving towards zero hour of the revolution in Ireland. Politicians, both in Britain and in Ireland, are already saying that the IRA freedom fighters cannot be beaten. It is certain that militarily, at least, Britain cannot now win. The Provisionals are convinced that all that remains of the greatest period of revolutionary ferment in Ireland is for the British military generals themselves to admit defeat and that such an historic climax is at hand.

In spite of the ruthlessness of the British campaign of slaughter, the inhumanity of concentration camps and the ugliness of their black propaganda through the world, British military days in Ireland are now numbered. As in so many parts of the world, the might of this imperialist army has suffered in the face of an unarmed people who are fighting on the streets together with the armed soldiers of the Provisional Republican Army.

INTERNEES

They call us madmen, they detain us,
Forge fresh fetters to restrain us,
Phrase fresh mouthings to defame us,
Make destruction and then blame us.
They say they have affection for us;
That in steel-caged wire mesh immure us,
Call a witless world to view us.
To stare like monkeys in a zoo,
Shake heads and scratch as monkeys do.
They call Almighty God above them
To witness that we do not love them;
But still and all we cannot hate them,
Prefer their absence to their presence.
Who small of mind, in pride confined
Would 'prison us, themselves confined
In arrogance of sad unknowing,
Fresh dragon's teeth their noxious sewing,
Who torture us, but will not see;
We, yet, are free, whose hearts are free.

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A JAIL BIRD

What the dickens brought you to jail,
You poor little timid, grey thing?
Did you tread on some constitutional tail,
Or treat some Act as a gay thing?
Did you perch where Tricolour flags were hung,
Or heckle an SDLP man speaking?
Did you sing some song that shouldn't be sung,
Or attend some illegal meeting?

Did you get mixed up in a power-sharing plot
Or refuse to recognise some court in the glorious realm?
Did you ride in a hijacked car with an IRA man at the helm,
Did you dream of the Claudia guns, of bombs or the head of a Para?
Did you scoff at Fitt or Hume, or chirp collaborator at Currie?
Or did you drop something on Willie Whitelaw's head and then fly off in a hurry?

Whatever your "crime", get far from here
As fast as your wings can take you;
And keep on singing your note of cheer
As long as the Lord shall spake you.
Some suffering one shall make your song
His memory's precious plaything—
God leave you freedom and keep you strong,
You poor little timid, grey thing

THE BLACK CITY

O'er this black and sullen city the war clouds hang
on high,
The din and noise of battle fills the murky, smokey
sky;
The sheets of flame from petrol bombs, the plate
glass windows smash,
The rattle of the Thompson, the waine as nail
bombs crash.
But, oh, this dreadful horror of hate and awful fear
Engendered by a callous mob and slipped into top
gear;
And so the exploitation of the helpless working class
Is perpetuated grimly—alas, alas, alas.

The vested landed gentry sat safe in Stormont,
Hypocritically lamenting the tragedies that mount;
But they covered up their misdeeds that existed
fifty years,
Which backfired in their faces in redundant blood
and tears.
But still they're unrepentant and still they're goaded
on,
While the frenzied, confused rabble fight on and on
and on;
My God above, have pity—and sooth the savage
lust—
May peace and concord flourish when hate is laid
to rest.

Now God ordained that Ireland should be forever
free,
And so He had it planted, surrounded by the sea;
But the stranger came and carved it by an artificial
line,
And ever since there's trouble, which festers all the
time.

So as the shamrock thriveth in the bog and in the
mire,
Men in Ireland will keep fighting, their nationhood
to sire;
The cost cannot be recorded and blood will always
flow
Until Kathleen Ni Uchulain is as God ordained
her so.

P. J. Griffin

RELEASE THE PRISONERS

A MODEL GOVERNMENT for all the people

MAÍRE COMERFORD



"GOD bless the Irish Republic! May it live and flourish and be a model government for all peoples". That was the prayer of Terence MacSwiney before he died on hunger strike in Brixton Prison in London 54 years ago. At that moment the name, and fame of the Irish Republic, of 32 counties, reached its highest point of splendour for the news of his deed went round the world and his example helped to break up the British Empire. Unfortunately for the honour of the governments of great powers the struggle of Ireland at the time, or the sacrifice of MacSwiney, was not enough to remind them of their pledges in favour of freedom and democracy. All the great powers were under the influence of England when they refused recognition to the Irish Republic; and the United States was at the head of the list when the Democrats and the Republicans, after expressing sympathy, stopped short of the final move that election year.

The prayer of MacSwiney was the prayer of the jails offered by his comrades in internment for years after, as long as I can remember, from the inside. But no model government has emerged in Ireland. I write to suggest that in the jails, where men and women have time, and it should concentrate on what we can do ourselves to secure the model government envisioned by MacSwiney. This will be a task for freedom. "Sinn Féin Anbhaile". For we are still in the position that no Power from outside will intervene to make England stand aside.

Fortunately the path has been laid; and even though it may now seem to be weed-grown, and littered with obstructions the foundation is good, both morally and structurally. It rests on the traditions of our race and on the basic principles of moral law. No one can deny the Proclamation of 1916 or the major decrees of Dáil Éireann on any ground except that the men who made them were too weak to uphold them, not strong enough to withstand counter-revolution.

It is a matter of interest, and may be of one of tactical importance to the future that the decrees of Dáil Éireann, with one exception, were incorporated into the Free State by the free state junta writing to lay hands on Republican loan funds in 1923.

One of the last debates in Dáil Éireann, in which Terence

ESCAPE BETWEEN THE GRAVES OF LIAM MELLOWS AND SEAN ETCHINGHAM

IF the dead can follow the affairs of the living then Liam Mellows and Sean Etchingham may well have helped the escape of the prisoners now happily missing from Portlaoise. The rough country from Courtown to the north, lies between the grave of Etchingham at Ardmore and the grave of Mellows at Castletown, a distance of about ten miles. As this area was scoured in the man-hunt it was impossible not to remember that in a similar predicament Liam Mellows himself and his two comrades, were guided, they believed by Patrick Pearse, just then executed. It was a silent figure who went before them, in every danger, when Liam's party were evading a search by the British and R.I.C. in the Clare mountains after the Rising. It would have been incredible in Liam's time that more than fifty years later West British forces, in this section of divided Ireland would be used against I.R.A. men fighting against partition to put the English out.

The use of dogs in such a hunt was not in Liam's experience; but it belongs to local Wexford history much further back. The infamous Hunter Gowran lived at Mount Nebo, eight miles west; he used the pitch-cap against the '98 men, and blood hounds to run them down. The police dogs of to-day are the modern equivalent. But what use were blood-hounds and helicopters, and the paraphernalia of war in that country, between those graves?

The Courtown district was good Sinn Féin country fifty years ago, and I am sure since, or soon again. Men used to come there to consult Sean Etchingham when they were fresh from Jail. They were honoured guests. As the Ulstermen made their way to the north, or were guided they came nearer to Liam and the Courtown country which the north Wexford Flying column used. In spite of our anxiety who could only wait and hope one must admit now that the odds were with the fugitives.

Máire Comerford

MacSwiney participated was when he seconded a motion, by Alec MacCabe as a result of which a Commission was appointed to enquire into the Ulster question.

"To discuss and devise measures for dealing with present or future victimisation of nationalist workers in Belfast and the North of Ireland generally."

"To consider the East Ulster question with special reference to the corner counties for local self-government."

"To enquire into the feasibility of advisability of putting before the country a scheme of federalised government". To ascertain how far the objection of the people of Belfast and the corner counties to an Irish Republic may be met by a liberal scheme of devolution". The first two paragraphs were adopted and the final two were referred to the Ministry. Subsequently, on September 17/20 the Dáil created and financed a Commission on organised opposition to the Republic. A week later the ministry minutes record that Griffith was to draw up terms of reference and membership. The names of the four judges of the Supreme Court of the Irish Republic were added to the Commission named in the Dáil. The judges were Meredith, Arthur Clery, D. Crowley, and Cahir Davitt.

I do not know how far this Commission got with its work after the arrest of Griffith and the implementation of Partition, with the attendant barbarities by the British. My point in writing about it is to stress that at the first moment possible after the departure of the British (or even before that) even a similar Commission should resume the task of reaching an understanding based on justice and democratic principle.

It is to be hoped that with the departure of the British the use of force would be set aside by agreement between Irishmen.

There are other points of Republican Law very relevant to our position to-day and our hope to secure 'model' government in Ireland such as MacSwiney thought was already at hand 54 years ago.

The task before us is only beginning. To ensure that it does begin any time available for thinking and planning must be put to best advantage. The only really important place where people should use their brains is at ground level, cumman level, cell, or hut or cage level.

REPRODUCED FROM AN PHOBLACHT

THE MOVEMENT CALLED SINN FEIN

THE movement called Sinn Féin is 70 years old this Autumn. During those 70 years it has refused to die despite British and native annihilation attempts. Concentration camps, prisons, judicial murder by hangings, firing squads, Cairo gang type assassination missions, and a list of other means and methods too long to mention, have separately and collectively all failed to wipe the name Sinn Féin from the face of the earth.

Throughout, that would appear to have been the avowed aim of the anti-agencies. Indeed it is the avowed aim of all of the anti-agencies of our day. They have not learned from the failures of their likes' past.

A WOMAN CHRISTENED THE MOVEMENT

Did you know that it was a woman who christened the movement; who called it Sinn Féin? Mary Butler was her name. She died in Rome in May, 1921. You may have to search for her name and a picture of her, but while Sinn Féin lives Mary Butler lives.

The infant which Mary christened in the fall of 1904 became at once bigger than the priestess who performed the christening ceremony. Though it is now 70 years since Mary Butler christened the movement it is as vital today as it became in its christening. The faith of the priestess permeated it, enabling it to triumph over several major apostasies. One never fails to marvel at how these apostasies have strengthened the movement. Today we find Sinn Féin stronger than ever. The flunkies and the knave will not subscribe to this claim, at least not openly. Well, this does nothing to make the claim less valid. The growing antagonism of neo-apostates is due to eye and ear evidence of the validity of Sinn Féin's claim. Mary Butler christened the movement to endure. The name and identity of most of the old apostates is forgotten; the rest are just propping one another up in a last endeavour to survive.

MARY BUTLER, HONOURED BY THE WOMEN OF SINN FEIN TODAY

We see it as a tribute to the priestess who christened the movement that in our day another of her sex, Máire Drumm, should be a dauntless

Vice-President of Sinn Féin. Also to make known something of history, perhaps not generally remembered, at a time when so very many women and girls dedicate themselves to Sinn Féin with a zeal falling nothing short of the heroic. Now, as indeed during the past 70 years, Sinn Féin never once has had to "extend" itself in order to attract the very cream of Irish womanhood to its political philosophy. This should not surprise anyone conversant with Sinn Féin policy of exalting womanhood; of giving women their place as of right in an area heretofore seen as the preserve of men only.

THE PHRASE WHICH BECAME THE KEY

The Gaelic phrase became the key which alone could open the door to ultimate Irish independence. The phrase is an invitation to self-reliance. When Mary Butler gave the name to the movement, as far as Ireland generally was concerned, it was a brand new name. As far as any Irish movement was concerned, it was, but the phrase itself was in use as the title of an Oldcastle, Co. Meath, monthly journal which was launched in 1902. Among those present for its launching was a 22-year-old Dublin barrister called P. H. Pearse. Earlier still we find the phrase used in an Claid-eamh Soluis in its leading article in a 1901 edition.

As a title for a journal the phrase was aspirational. As a name for an Irish movement it was inspired and became the title-deeds of a revolution. Sinn Féin ceased to be a mere comforting phrase when it became a political organisation, expressing its policy in unambiguous terms. It became such when Mary Butler christened it and linked her name forever with its history. Death was kind to Mary Butler. It closed her eyes in time to the haemorrhage of apostasies which were to come. Yes, death was kind and timely, but only just.

BRITISH PROPOSE ANOTHER ARMY FOR NORTH

THE bumbling British Secretary for the Six Counties, Marilyn Rees, has just announced his most awaited plan for improving security. For some time past various loyalist groups have been putting on the pressure for a Third Force. Obviously they are seeking an armed loyalist army similar to the disbanded B Specials. Despite warnings from Rees they are still recruiting and even-

tually hope to present him with an accomplished. In the meantime he has announced his plan, which consists of considerable increases in full time Royal Ulster Constabulary Reserve and a similar increase in the part time Reserve force. These are to be under the control of the Royal Ulster Constabulary, and it is proposed to establish some kind of police centres in order to restore policing in areas where none exists at the moment.

It also appears that this "wonderful new aim" of the security forces is to be organised on a sectarian basis, with Protestant Royal Ulster Constabulary policing Protestant areas and Catholic Royal Ulster Constabulary doing likewise for the Catholic areas.

PROTESTANT SECTARIAN FORCE

For a start, the chances of attracting Catholics into the new force in any numbers are extremely remote. Secondly, the Royal Ulster Constabulary is a thoroughly discredited and unwelcome force in the Nationalist areas, even if Rees succeeded in persuading Catholics to join his new force. The only thing that would give Rees's new force a chance of success would be a complete restructuring of the Royal Ulster Constabulary, who have an unparalleled record of bigoted sectarianism. Such change has been resisted all along by Britain and there is no chance of it happening now. The new force will, therefore, be seen by the Nationalist population for what it really is, yet another Protestant sectarian force seeking to establish a Protestant loyalist supremacy.

WON'T DEFEAT IRA

Concurrent with the establishment of the new force, it is proposed to reduce the force of British troops by 1,000. The logic of Rees's thinking is hard to follow. If highly-trained British troops have failed to defeat the IRA this new force is hardly likely to succeed. Their superior local knowledge particularly in rural Border areas would hardly compensate for inferior military skill. Further, as they would not live permanently in barracks like the British Army, they would be much more vulnerable to attack. For such a force to attempt to police Nationalist areas would be inviting personal and corporate disaster.

The type who would join this force from the loyalist population are not the stuff of which heroes are made. They certainly would not have the capacity or the grit to defeat the Provisional IRA.

SOUTHERN DIARY

EVERYONE knows that Marian and Dolours Price were hungry for a while after their "trial" at the Winchester Crown Court, but not everyone is aware that another participant in that farce is still hungry—for money. I refer to Mr. Michael Mansfield, their Counsel.

Mr. Mansfield, aged 29, demanded a fee of £2,000 for reading the papers in the case and a further £200 a day during the trial, some 40 days. This demand, considered by even top grade barristers as excessive, has been turned down by the authorities who pay legal beagles defending people on legal aid.

The cash-hungry Mr. Mansfield has received only £1,000 and £85 a day for his labours and is understandably upset—after all, he has been in practice for almost seven years. He is appealing his case and one hopes he will make a better job of it than he evidenced at Winchester.

But the bold Mansfield is not the only one who thought he should have made more lucre out of the pillorizing of the Price sisters and their companions. No less than four other barristers involved in the Winchester anti-Irish exercise are currently appealing to the Chief Taxing Master against the paltry sums they got for their part in putting down the crows.

One, who was called to the Bar just over two years ago, had to make do with only £45 per day for the 40-day stint and a mere £500 for reading the brief. A mere bagatelle when one considers that Mr. John Mathew, Senior Treasury Counsel, only received £150 a day for the 104-day "Angry Brigade" trial. No doubt the Mathew man will also be asking for a pittance more.

But back to our friend Mr. Mansfield. This lad is not only cash-hungry, he is also a time traveller. At the same time as he was supposedly giving his whole time and talents to defending the Price sisters he had also taken a leading brief at the Old Bailey.

The Winchester hearing lasted from 20th Sept. to 25th Nov., but from 1st Oct. to 23rd Nov. a university graduate was being tried at the Old Bailey for telephone freaking—and his fate, too, depended on the honeyed words emanating from Mr. Mansfield. Any wonder our patriots were given life plus 20 years?

Although, like the Price sisters, the telephone freaker went down, it would be totally wrong, in Mr. Mansfield's estimation at least, to suggest he didn't give value for money. All Ireland can vouch for that. Didn't the Brits get their pounds of flesh!

Obviously Mr. Mansfield doesn't think he got enough for sacrificing Irish girls to the avenging axe of British imperialism. It will be interesting to see if his masters agree with him in deciding his appeal—and what about the telephone freaker, how much per day did Mansfield get for that little job? No wonder British barristers think British justice is the best in the world

★

YOU'VE probably heard it before, but there is no harm in repeating it at this time as it is indicative of Gerry Fitt's interest in getting justice for the "minority" in the six-counties—and Gerry, now vote hunting, will be telling you that this is number one in his list of priorities.

Gerry took part in the Lord Longford Anglo-Irish farce at Oxford and, at a moment when possible "solutions" were being discussed, became bored with the proceedings. A "solution" would not suit his book and, just in case someone might come up with something sensible, like a Federal idea, he decided to take a walk.

Unfortunately, the doors were locked for security reasons and Gerry found himself trapped. But that was no barrier to the fit Fitt. He decided to vacate the room via a window. Let a reporter who was there and saw the whole thing describe it:

"First he got his jacket torn. Then his gun fell out of its shoulder-holster. Then he nearly got shot by the Special Branch (who I had summoned), and who arrived to find a burly and 'over-tired' figure apparently trying to climb into the conference through a window and carrying a gun. Next

time Fitt has to deal with Lord Longford, maybe he should just go to sleep."

Note: to be "tired" in British journalistic and political parlance is to be carrying a little too much liquor. To be described as "over-tired" I can leave to your own imagination.

B.A. SHOOTS THREE CIVILIANS

A BRITISH Army patrol sprayed the car park of a public house at Dromad, Co. Louth, with heavy machine-gun fire on Wednesday, 4th September, injuring three civilians; two were taken to hospital in Dundalk.

They fired from a hill less than half a mile from the Border Inn and southern police had to use a lorry as a shield between themselves and the British Army line of fire in order to get the injured men out of the parked car. Eye-witnesses claimed that there was no activity in the area prior to the shooting and that concentrated gunfire raked the car park for a considerable time, riddling several cars. This is the second incident on innocent civilians in the South. While Free State military and police are employed hounding and harassing Republicans, the southern government collaborates with and condones murderous incursions by enemy forces into the twenty-six counties.

"RACIST" POWELL ENTERS IRISH POLITICS

ANOTHER significant political development this week has been the intrusion of the racist maverick of British politics, Enoch Powell, into the already over-heated political atmosphere of the Six Counties. It represents a rather squalid marriage of convenience between Unionists, led by West and Powell, who is anxious to make a return to the British Parliament. He is not particularly interested in the Six Counties, although he affects to be so, except to use it as a stick to beat the British Government. West and Co. see Powell as a useful, albeit expedient, ally who will give the Unionist political rump at Westminster a much increased stature.

At the moment West, Paisley and Craig are developing an unholy liaison with a group of about fifty right-wing Conservative MPs. If this motley crew of reactionaries can achieve any sort of cohesion for a reasonable period of time, they would constitute a very strong pressure group within the Conservative and Unionist Party, and might well encompass the downfall of Heath as leader. If the Conservatives win the election with a small majority, the influence of this rump group would be critical. They could, and very likely would, demand Heath's removal and his replacement by Whitelaw as the price of their support. If such an event occurs the outlook for the Six Counties looks extremely bleak.

In those circumstances Britain could follow either of two courses. She could give in to hard-liners and try to re-establish the old Stormont. Alternatively she could refuse to be blackmailed and pull out of the Six Counties. If there is any semblance of wisdom left in British politics she should choose the latter course. To attempt the former would be to invite disaster. She would get deeper into the mire of loyalist supremacist politics in the task of underpinning Craig, Paisley, etc. Anyway any attempt to accede to loyalist demands for a return to the old Stormont type regime would escalate the struggle on the Nationalist side. Instead of scaling down the British Army presence in the Six Counties the British Government would have to increase it. A settlement would be even further off than at any time since 1970. No British Government can afford to face such a prospect given the present state of the British economy. If Britain pulled out of the Six Counties the result would be a weakening of the Loyalist position of strength which depends on British military and financial backing and a willingness on behalf of loyalists to meet and talk and agree on the future of the country.

DUCK-SHOOT MEN ATTACKED

MEMBERS of the Clontibret, Co. Monaghan, gun club fled for cover after being ambushed by the British Army while duck-shooting near the Border on Sunday, 1st Sept. The 18-man party from the Monaghan Regional Game Council came under heavy automatic and machine-gun fire as they were crossing Ballinaman Bog, a quarter of a mile from the Border.

A spokesman for the Council claimed that it was the second occasion in two months that one of the clubs had been involved in such an incident although the clubs' activities were confined to the southern side of the Border. The heavy machine-gun fire from the British Army lasted up to 45 minutes and people living in the area were terrified.

Mr. Patrick McMahon, whose home was in the firing line, brought his family downstairs to lie on the floor as a steady stream of bullets screamed past his house. One bullet, at least, struck the house.

Mr. Phelim McQuaid, who lives at Annareagh, near the Border, where the duck shooters were, also brought his family downstairs and described seeing foliage cut off the trees around his house as well as seeing tracer bullets.

ATTACK ON OUR CULTURE AND NATIONHOOD

TODAY in Ireland toleration is cited as the means of settlement. The word is bandied about by politicians who are themselves far from tolerable towards one another. Still less are they tolerable towards true Irishmen who advocate the things that really matter in Ireland today, namely national culture and unity, both of which are bound together and cannot be separated. The two things that have been specially selected for attack are the Irish language and Republicanism.

These two are represented by Irish politicians in the falsest, most slanted and twisted fashion. Both are represented as a danger to the future of our country. While every Republican is represented as a fiery supporter of the language and every Irish speaker as a Republican, it is also suggested that every Irish speaker carries a bomb and a gun and every Republican is irrational and bent on destruction. They heap insult on the language and on Republicanism in order to arouse and direct towards both the disgust and hatred of the people.

It is a simple method to work. It is the same method that has been practised before on minorities during our own lifetime and farther back in history. Imaginary wrongs are used, based on the opinions of one odd person in juryless courts and applied to a group in general. By using some sleight of word or deed the lie is fashioned and then when the evil is achieved the basic lie is part falsified and excused, serving only to repeat the evil. The truth is misrepresented without actually telling a lie. Republicans experience this every week of the year, year in and year out, and are not blind, therefore, to the propaganda value of this method to the government and power hungry politicians.

BASED ON PRINCIPLE OF CHARITY

This method is all the more mean and shameless as it is based on the principle of charity—that is, in the name of "preserving peace and protecting the public". It is in the name of this principle that Republicans and Irish language supporters are submitted to forces of spying and watching, and to put the new national philosophy into a nutshell, the true patriot is the man who does a good day's work and makes a good annual profit. The reason given as to why there should be peace is so that one can do a good day's work and make a good profit. The man who threatens peace is given as the one who questions that aspiration.