

# FREEDOM STRUGGLE

Newspaper of North Munster I.R.S.P.

Iml. 1. Uimh 1.

Luach 25p.



## TOWARDS FREEDOM

**Our objective is to secure a Free Socialist Ireland.**

For only in a Socialist Republic can the Irish working class free itself from exploitation; by native capitalism and foreign imperialism.

Only in a Socialist Republic can there be an end to unemployment and poverty.

We stand in opposition to the British Occupation of part of our country. We are also opposed to continued membership of the E.E.C. and we stand for active neutrality.

Instead of dependence on imperialism and capitalism we pursue the policies of Connolly, Mellows and Costello - the policies of independence and socialism.

We have launched our paper on May Day to signify our links with the International Working Class movement - and our support for workers and national liberation struggles throughout the world.

The struggle of the peoples of Nicaragua and Palestine and other countries are our struggle - the struggle for freedom.

In our paper we intend to give coverage to the everyday struggles of Irish Workers - with coverage of the national struggle from a Republican Socialist perspective.

In this we ask for your support!

### INSIDE :

Will E.I. Pull Out  
Mogul Poison

O'Malleys Con Job  
Bunratty Cover-Up



# LET SFADCO PAY

— I.R.S.P. Say

As Shannon Development prepare to hand over to Clare County Council the gurus in S.F.A.D.Co. have put in a claim for a hefty seven figure sum from the Council.

The IRSP say that SFADCo should pay the Council instead.

"Shannon town will become a slum in 7 to 10 years unless the Council secures adequate finance for the huge maintenance task ahead".

"Felt roofed houses will have to be replaced as will shoddy windows, doors and fences. Instead of allowing these repairs to result in increased rates and service charges - let S.F.A.D.Co. put its house in order" - Brigid Makowski.

## BRIGID MAKOWSKI FIGHTS FOR A BETTER SHANNON

"My aim is to defend and strengthen the rights of the common people".

So spoke Brigid Makowski, I.R.S.P. member of Shannon Town Commission to a meeting of the local I.R.S.P. Cumann.

In the course of her address to the meeting Mrs. Makowski lashed out at the mindless bureaucracy in the Shannon Development Authority mindless bureaucracy which sought to stifle and undermine peoples rights.

"These bureaucrats consistently neglect the interests of ordinary people", she added. "It is up to us to fight for rights of the people and to create a more humane and rewarding environment in which to live".

by **GERRY BYRNE**

Detailing the problems of the Shannon area, Mrs. Makowski outlined her priorities for the immediate future.

These include:-

### (1) A review of Housing

The Development Authority should put its houses in order prior to handing over responsibility to the local government authorities. Failing this it should provide the County Council with adequate funds to repair houses.

### (2) Better Facilities

Shannon is badly in need of a sports complex to cater for its increasing and youthful population. Aid should be given by either the State or SFADCo.

### (3) Rent

The current rent hits at the poorer sections. A young couple needs £100 deposit plus one weeks rent in advance plus £100 E.S.B. deposit and £160 in advance for oil. This should be changed.

### (4) A Proper Health Clinic

The current health centre is only a Portacabin. Expectant women must travel to Ennis - 12 miles - for pre and ante natal care. A proper health centre is long overdue.

### (5) An end to rip offs

The majority of contracts from the SFADCo do not go to public tender but to favourite contractors. What is needed is a Direct Labour scheme which will save money, be more efficient and end abuses.

### (6) Employment

As the multinationals scale down their operations - emphasis must be placed on the creation of indigenous industry - using Irish resources to create exports for Ireland rather than foreign resources to create exports for the multinationals. Development not Dependence is our aim.

The young people of Shannon must be given the opportunity to work for the benefit of their community and be given proper facilities to express themselves.

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Brigid Makowski has consistently championed the interests of the people of Shannon fighting for better housing and facilities.

She has fearlessly spoken out in defence of Irish neutrality, in the pursuit of Irish freedom and against collaboration with imperialism - against extradition, exploitation and subservience.

The aim of the Irish Republican Socialist Party is to establish a 32 County Socialist Republic with the working class in control of the means of production, distribution and exchange.

Join Us!

**Join the IRSP**

Ainm (Name) .....

Seoladh (Address) .....

**Contact:**  
North Munster Organiser,  
98 Traderee Court,  
Shannon.

**Head office:**  
34 Upper Gardiner St.,  
Dublin 7.



The Republican Socialist Prisoners Fund exists to help dependants of Republican Socialist Prisoners in Irish and British Jails - and to help the prisoners.

We urge readers to support collections for the fund.





# O'MALLEY TRIES TO CON AGAIN !

by CYNTHIA HADCROFT

Much nonsense has been written concerning the ambitions and intentions of Deslee O'Malley.

For the one thing Irish workers can be sure of is that their interests do not lie with those of wee-Deslee the little Hitler of Shannon-side.

Of late, O'Malley has been trying to affect a change of image. He has carefully projected to the media an image of statesman supreme - about to cure all this country's many ills. From

Unemployment and housing to the North Deslee claims to have the answer.

**The reality is different.**

Deslee O'Malley is far from a socialist or republican. His record in office shows a different picture to the one carefully contrived by the media manipulators. According to these Deslee is a much maligned darling whose only fault was to step on bad

Charlie's toes. This is not the true O'Malley.

For Deslee O'Malley is one of the most determined opponents of Republicanism and socialism in Ireland. His only loyalty is to his own bank balance and personal ambition.

As Minister for Justice in the Free State Government he supported some of the most repressive legislation in decades. He was responsible for railroading the Forcible Entry and Occupation Act

through the Dal - an Act that has been used on more than one occasion to hammer workers who would dare to fight for their jobs and families.

In addition O'Malley helped sponsor the re-introduction of the notorious Offences Against the State Act in order to harass and jail Irish Republicans. On occasion he even threatened to introduce internment to crush revolutionary republicanism.

But it is O'Malley's latest escapades which have brought him to media attention. Faced with Haughey's lip service to the demand for national unity and independence O'Malley has sought a different road.

This response is to ape the "literal" conservatives of British politics. Not for him the hard response of standing up to British imperialism - even if only in words. Instead the cliches about "coming to terms with reality".

O'Malley's "reality" is that of continued collaboration coupled with internment camps of appeasing Thatcher, Paisley and Molineaux.

And on the issues of unemployment wee Deslee has little alternative to Fine Gael's famine relief except more of the same. Like John Kelly of Fine Gael he stands well to the right - despising radical republicanism and moves towards any socialist alternative.

His is policy of more cut backs in social welfare, health and education - more of Thatcher's measures.

This is the reality of his politics. And it's one which Irish workers reject!

## RELATIVES FIGHT INFORMER SYSTEM

Background evidence is at present being given in the Harry Kirkpatrick paid perjury trial in Belfast.

The twenty-nine defendants arraigned before a single judge in the no-jury Diplock courts include some of the longest-serving remand prisoners in British jails.

In particular Ta Power and Gerard Steenson have been on remand since February 1982 and in all, this is the fifth paid perjurer that the RUC and the DPP have tried to convict them on.

In November 1984 Ta Power applied for bail and he was referred to Chief Justice Lowry despite exposing the total fal-

lacy of the prosecution case when he conducted his own application. Ta was refused bail - Lowry commenting that it was not really his business as he was hidebound by the Act of Parliament which passed the Emergency Provisions Act.

**It was a roundabout way of saying it was a political decision.**

### CRITICAL POINT

The whole paid perjury system has reached a critical stage. Due to the national and International exposure, the RUC have been forced to stop mass recruitment of perjurers and arrests in large numbers.

The rejection of Gilmour's and Crockard's evidence would seem to indicate that the amount of opposition to the system has reached the judiciary. But the danger in the Kirkpatrick case is that it is still perfectly open for judge Carswell to convict and who knows what behind-the-scenes political pressure will be exerted before the trial.

### PROTEST

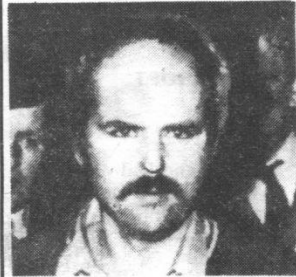
Relatives for Justice has kept up a constant level of protest with regular pickets on the Court. Last week they occupied the offices of the Irish News in protest against the refusal of the Irish News to print RFJ statements and cover RFJ activities.

# New Limerick Committee

A new committee - called the Limerick Committee for Sovereignty, Equality and Justice has been formed.

The aim of the Committee is to campaign against collaboration with British imperialism - with particular emphasis on preventing extradition of political activists.

At a public meeting in Limerick organised by the Committee, Bernadette McAliskey spoke of the extradition of Dominic McGlinchey.



She said, "This extradition suggests gross interference with, and undermining of, the integrity and internal affairs of the southern state, by the British authorities. We have had falsification and misrepresentation of the facts. We have had the use and employment of citizens of the Irish Republic to break the laws of the state in pursuit of the political aims of a foreign state, including conspiracy to murder".

She added: "This case is a complex and important one. It forms the legal precedent on which the constitutional question of extradition has been radically altered".

The Committee sees the question of extradition to be central to the country's claim of sovereignty.

Tom Hayes of the Committee said that the McGlinchey extradition exposed any claim to Justice or Equality.

Robert Trimbole, the Australian Heroin Dealer was given full access to the courts. Yet Dominic McGlinchey was shunted across the border within hours of his arrest at the behest of Thatcher. Truly there is no Sovereignty, Equality of Justice in the 26 Counties.

Further details of the Committee will be given in the next edition of Freedom Struggle.



# MOGUL LEAVES LEGACY OF POISON

## Poisonous Waste!

That's the legacy left to the people of Silvermines and Nenagh Co. Tipperary by the Multinational Mogul Mining Company - a legacy the people of that area are determined to resist.

The waste in question arises from the mass of waste from Mogul's mining operation at Silvermines. This operation lasted from May 1968 until the deposits of lead, zinc and silver ore ran out early this decade.

The waste known as tailings is contained in huge ponds. As these ponds evaporate the highly toxic lead waste is blown into the surrounding atmosphere creating a serious health and environmental hazard. Already several families are forced to keep their windows and doors in their houses sealed in an attempt to exclude the toxic dust. And for these families the threat is increasing as the evaporation continues.

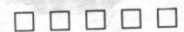
This threat has led to demands for urgent action - and

serves as a reminder of the priorities of multinational corporations.

For fifteen years Mogul - a Canadian based multinational made millions of pounds profit every year from its Silvermines operation.

During this time millions of tons of ore was extracted and exported to Mogul's sister companies resulting in even greater profits.

The only benefit to the local people and to the rest of Ireland was the wages paid to the workers and token royalties to the Irish government.



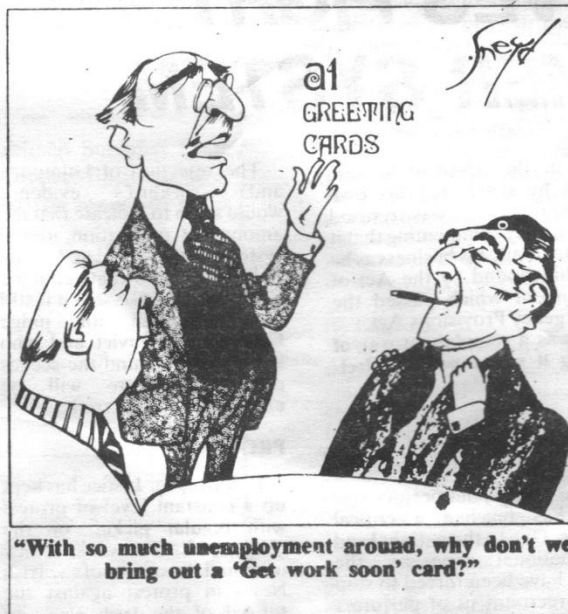
While the profits rolled into Mogul everything was hunky dory. When the profits stopped Mogul closed down and pulled out.

Instead of a thriving national mining corporation serving the interests of the Irish people with the profits going to the Irish State - the profits went to multinationals.

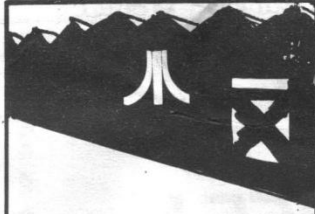
As for the Irish - we are left with a huge hole in the ground and all that poisonous waste.

The Irish Republican Socialist Party demands that Mogul treat the toxic waste and that all existing mineral resources revert to their rightful owners - the Irish people.

Nationalization without Compensation!







**In the wake of the Atari closure local politicians were extremely vocal in demanding a replacement industry.**

A political creation, and politically sensitive to Cabinet and Ministerial demands, the IDA has been severely embarrassed by the spate of multinational closures and redundancies.

In order to smother political and trade union criticism the IDA has formulated a special two-pronged strategy. First, this consists of a "Task Force" which includes the critical politicians and local IDA managers. In this way the usually vocal politicians are bound by the confidentiality of the Task Force deliberations.

The second prong is the part played by the Minister for Industry who warns the workers that any unconventional action could harm the possibility of attracting a new industry.

The strategy works well. Local reaction and political criticism is kept to a minimum. In time the closure is gradually forgotten. **The special Task Force fails to meet - and the politicians hope the people will forget.**

Mayor Frank Prendergast was extremely quick off the mark following the Atari closure. He met with the IDA and - hey presto - a new 100 job factory was conjured up - just like magic.



Ald. Prendergast also grabbed the headlines. His announcement that the computer factory would open at the Annacotty Industrial Estate in April certainly helped defuse the situation.

The Limerick region has had its share of political announcements ranging from Tom O'Donnell's "Jobs in the Pipeline", to Stevie Coughlan's "Chocolate Crumb Factory", for the Dock Road.

Let the unemployed workers hope that Prendergast's promise does not turn out to be another April Fool's Joke. We will be watching.



## WILL E.I. PULL OUT OF SHANNON

**There is growing alarm in the Limerick/Clare area concerning the future operation of the E.I. Company.**

E.I. is an American firm, established in Shannon in 1962 to manufacture transistors and other electronic equipment. The workforce then numbered 50 but by 1968 had expanded to 1,200.

Now company workers who are witnessing a rundown of the company's operations fear that the multinational will shortly quit the country for good - resulting in further job losses in the region.

Since it was set up the company has occupied a prominent position as an exporter. This gave the company plenty of leverage with Government departments and agencies like the Industrial Development Authority (I.D.A.). As a result the company secured substantial grants and tax holidays.

But this tax holiday will shortly end. This means that the company will for the first time - in over 20 years of operation - become liable for tax.

**This is felt to be the chief cause of the run down of the company.**

Local trade unionists and republican socialists have warned of the dangers of a shut down.

*"The workers are in a Catch 22 situation. We are under the thumb of multinationals and would obviously prefer for the firm to be state controlled.*

*It may be that the firm is being run down in order to provide E.I. with bargaining power with the I.D.A. and the Shannon Development Authority."*

Local activists have warned about giving in to E.I.'s tactics. They point out that over £500 million profits was exported by multinationals last year. Allowing E.I. to continue exporting their profits tax free would be financial suicide.

At the present time multinationals control over 80,000 jobs in this country. This means we are dependent on foreign firms for much of our employment. We would prefer a policy of independence.

Meanwhile the E.I. workers await their future. Time will tell whether it will be one of continuing dominance by multinationals or not.

## Munster Coastline —A Nuclear Dump!

The continued dumping of nuclear waste off the Irish Coast is an issue which the Irish Government have ignored for far too long. The European Atlantic Dumpsite, situated 380 nautical miles south-west of Counties Cork and Kerry and about the same distance north-west of Spain, is the only site in the World where ocean dumping of radioactive nuclear waste is still being conducted.

The Irish Sea has been pronounced (in a recent survey) as the most radioactive sea in the world. This is a consequence of the piping of waste from the Windscale processing plant and eight other plants on the English Coast.

### CANCER

The waste being dumped in both areas contains potentially lethal amounts of radioactivity, which if carried to humans by sea currents or the Marine food chain could lead to dramatic increases in incidences of such diseases as Cancer and Leukaemia for generations to come.

Last year Britain accounted for 90% of all nuclear waste dumped at sea. Most other countries have since phased out sea dumping of nuclear waste but Britain in fact intends to extend it's reliance on this form of nuclear waste disposal. According to an article in the July issue of "The Listener", the National Radiological Protection Board accepts that any attempt to outlaw

dumping would set an unfortunate precedent and jeopardise plans to make increasing use of the sea for other more high-level wastes which are the most dangerous by-products of the nuclear process.

## Shannon Fight Back

Shannon Town Commissioner, Brigid Makowski, has called for urgent moves to solve the unemployment problem in that town. Mrs. Makowski, a member of the I.R.S.P. stated that the problem was worsening - especially among young people.

Mrs. Makowski said that "it's time ANCO and other agency officials to get out and do the jobs they are being paid to do."

## A blatant cover-up!

That's the reaction among the people of South Clare to the continuing investigation of the murder of Pat Nugent of Sixmilebridge.

Pat Nugent was killed on February 11th 1984 - and the true details of his death have yet to emerge publicly.

On the night of February 11th Pat Nugent was working as a barman in "The Barn", in the Bunratty Folk Park which was the venue for a retirement party for a certain Chef Ryan. Ryan was one of the leading figures in the local establishment. For years he had ruled the roost in the catering sections of Shannon Airport - and his retirement party was attended by the leaders of the local community.

At the party the drink flowed and those present enjoyed themselves into the early hours of the morning. Pat Nugent was clearing up when two Gardai demanded more drink. He refused.



**It was a fatal decision.** He was not obeying orders. He did not know his place. Pat Nugent closed down the bar. A few minutes later the two Gardai savagely beat him. The "peace-keepers" were now the law breakers. The drunken Chef Ryan was then persuaded to enter his car, and the vehicle drove over the dying body of Pat Nugent.

Because policemen were involved, the initial Garda investigation stalled in the early hours - the family were not informed until late in the morning - the cover up had begun.

# DRUNKEN MURDERERS WALK FREE!

by DAVE SHERRY

In the tense confrontation at Shannon Garda Station the two Gardai denied any wrong doing on that night. Under repeated questioning they refused to divulge what they really knew about the incident. The matter was referred to Dublin H.Q. by a local officer who was shocked and upset by the affair, but the two Gardai failed to change their story.

Faced with the situation, two Gardai denying any wrong-doing and one drunken Chef who could not recall, the Gardai in Dublin decided for the political good of the Force to continue the coverup. The Force had just weathered severe

criticism, and senior officers knew more was to come as a result of the Fingerprint Affair. Additional critical comment could have forced political attention on the Garda. Continued public criticism and unsympathetic analysis could have resulted in a changed perception of Gardai as peacekeepers.

Now locals ask why Minister Peter Barry who is severely critical of the RUC does not turn his attention to the actions of the Gardai.

His continued failure to do so, and the silence of his Cabinet colleagues, not to mention the local politicians, surely does not mean that the Gardai can get away with murder? Or does it?

## SOCIALIST HISTORY- RAHALINE

Ralahine, County Clare, the area where Dominic McGlinchey spent his last free night was the scene of Ireland's socialist workers co-operative.

The Ralahine Commune was a brave experiment at a time of bloody land agitation.

Wealthy landowner John Scott Vandaleur was a man of imaginative ideas. In 1830 he drafted regulations for a proposed co-operative society to improve the lot of the working class, educate children and protect families against sickness and poverty.

Vandaleur owned a 600 acre estate at Ralahine and set about laying the foundations for a co-operative village by building a row of stone cottages, dormitories for single men and women, a school, and a large dining and meeting room.

On a visit to Dublin, Vandaleur attended a lecture by the social reformer Robert Owen,

whose New Lanark Mills put surplus profits into social services for his employees. The principles of the co-operative movement, coupled with his own radical ideas, soon decided Vandaleur to launch a full workers co-operative at Ralahine.

English socialist Edward Thomas Craig, a friend of Robert Owen, was hired by Vandaleur to organise the Ralahine Commune. A special meeting of all labourers, artisans and servants on the estate was called in November, 1831 and the Ralahine Co-operative Society was formed. Membership at first totalled 52 people. From then on, each new member had to be voted into the Society. Wages were fixed at eight pence a day for a labouring man, and five pence for a woman.

Aims of the Society were to improve the conditions of the working class, educate the children, and protect families against

sickness and poverty. As the co-operative developed, new currency "labour notes" were introduced to pay workers. The notes were exchanged for food and clothing at the co-operative store, or converted into cash for external trading.

Prices within the Ralahine Commune were fixed. In 1831 milk was one penny a quart; beef and mutton five pence a pound. For one shilling a week ample fruit and vegetables were provided. The children's food, clothing, lodging and education were paid by the co-operative's common funds.

On the estate, tillage was the main agricultural activity, with peat being saved as fuel. The Ralahine Commune introduced the first moving machine into Ireland. By the harvest of 1832, membership had increased to 81 people, and Ralahine was a hive of industry and a haven of peace. Other parts of the region suffered agrarian

outrages because of famine and destitution.

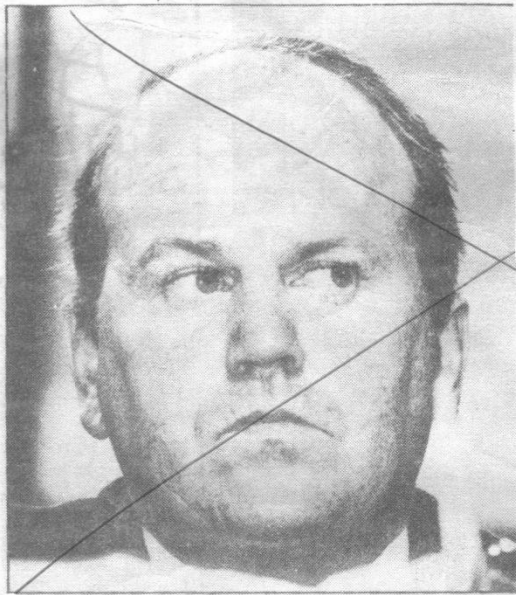
The Society was well run by Craig, who also insisted on some strict rules. Liquor and tobacco were prohibited. Gambling was banned, and no one could be referred to by a nickname.

In 1833, just two years after the optimistic start, the Ralahine experiment collapsed, when landlord Vandaleur lost his estate when declared bankrupt because of gambling debts.

Evictions began, stock was seized and the project came to a premature end. Vandaleur left Ralahine, never to return. His descendants held onto the land until the 1920's when under the Land Act it was divided into a series of seventy acre farm holdings. To-day some of the present land owners are descendants of the co-operative members, who pioneered a brave experiment, so long ago in County Clare.



# Inside Out - Inside Out -



## NOONAN KNACKERED OVER DOMINIC

Shortly after the extradition of Dominic McGlinchey, Justice Minister Michael Noonan attended a dance organised by a County Limerick Soccer Club.

He was approached by an irate Fine Gael supporter who demanded "When are you going to do something about the wandering horses Michael?" "I'm looking into it" replied Noonan, "It will take some time".

"Looking into it like hell" - the F.G. supporter replied: "There was little looking into the extradition of Dominic McGlinchey. That was some blow for freedom!"

"It was the Taoiseachs doing", Noonan meekly replied, "it wasn't my idea".

Only the untimely intervention of Noonans Special Branch bodyguard saved the Ministerial bacon.

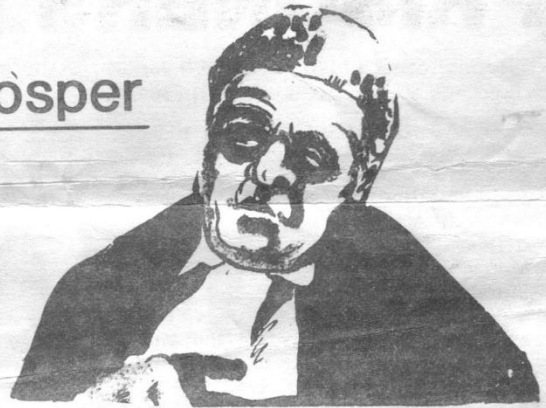
## Have Connections - Will Prosper

One District Justice who doesn't have to worry about being over qualified is roving D.J. Mangan.

Having had a couple of unremarkable appearances in court as a solicitor - Mr. Mangan found himself appointed as a District Justice. Not unnaturally this caused the raising of eyebrows in North Munster legal circles.

Of course there can be no connection with the fact that the D.J.'s brother owns a chain of supermarkets in Counties Clare and Galway. And even less to do with the fact that the same brother is a leading member of Fine Gael.

Lets hope that this D.J. roves out as fast as he roved in.



## BITS & PIECES..

Talking of political appointments - what about the appointment of Limerick solicitor Murray as State Solicitor for that area.

Needless to say he had one qualification quite unmatched by his rivals.

His brother was Attorney General and had the ear of the powers that be in Leinster House.

Nothing like the bit of pull!



Shannon Development are trying to cover up another scandal in Limerick.

Field Officer Paddy Quane and Paddy Gerighty, who works for the Development Company in F.B. Keating & Co., Solicitors, came up with a bright idea on how to make a fast buck.

They set up a company to renovate old houses and flats and pretended that it was the work of Shannon Development. When the scheme was exposed the Development Company covered up.

Perhaps Paddy Quane's record should be checked in Clare also. Planning permission for his work mate who owns the Lyttle Late Night Shop was obtained in very shady circumstances.



Have Dunnes Stores in Limerick got the green light from the churches and unions to openly display and sell South African products.

Someone should send for the young girls from Henry Street, Dublin to explain as to why action should be taken against South African produce.

Meanwhile Limerick readers can let Dunnes know what they think of supporting Apartheid.

## SINGLE PARENTS ABUSED BY DEPARTMENT

The Department of Social Welfare is engaged in a war of terror against single parents.

And it is interesting to note that "concerned" people like the Mayor of Limerick Frank Prendergast T.D. and Bishop of Limerick Dr. Newman have remained silent - in contrast to their statements during the last referendum.

Chief among those engaged in the campaign of degradation and harassment is one Mr. McCarthy who is attached to the Department of Social Welfare in Limerick. His speciality is examining the bedclothes and nightclothes of single parents to "ensure that they are single".

He has also threatened that he will be watching their every move - which could result in their allowances being taken off them.

Last Christmas he withdrew one womans book leaving her flat broke and distressed.

The time has come for action from these "concerned" people - instead of promises.



# ARMAGH WOMEN PRISONERS ABUSED

Republican women in Armagh Jail in Northern Ireland are being routinely sexually abused by regular strip searches.

Regular and extensive strip searches have not been used in Armagh in the past thirty years. In October 1982 a non-political prisoner picked up some keys left in the courtroom by a negligent RUC officer. This incident was used by Murtagh, the new Governor, to justify the introduction of strip searches.

Women are searched when leaving or entering the prison — before and after court appearances, visits to the prison hospital, and inter-prison visits. In Parliament, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, James Prior defended the strip searches on security grounds. In fact, women remain under constant surveillance and never have contact with the public.

RITA O'HARE

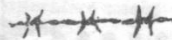
All prisoners are subjected to the degrading searches regardless of age or physical condition. All these women have been strip-searched: a 43-year-old mother of three; menstruating women who are required to remove their tampons or pads; adolescent women held in Armagh's young offenders unit; a woman who was 5½ months pregnant; a three-year-old girl visiting a prisoner.

Searches are carried out in small, semi-open cubicles, as described by a prisoner: "A curtain is fastened across the cubicle from about waist high to the floor. You are always in view of the prison staff who sometimes number as many as ten. When you are naked your body from the waist up is visible to all the prison staff (female and male screws) in the room . . . you are told to turn completely round so as no

part of your body is left unseen. Anyone with long hair is ordered to gather their hair up in their hands and hold it on top of their heads. This makes the entire sordid affair seem like a slave trade market."

One Republican woman has been strip-searched 19 times in 11 days. Gangs of warders, including men, have assaulted three women who refused the search. They were thrown down on the ground, arms and legs twisted behind them and sat upon — then the screws dragged off their clothes. One woman had refused because she was wearing a sanitary towel, but it was removed.

Instead of 'normalising' conditions in the gaol after the end of the 'no wash' protest, the prison authorities have chosen to escalate the tension. This is done with strip searches, solitary confinement, petty harassment, withdrawal of privileges and victimisation of Republican prisoners. Far from the so-called peace keeping role of the security forces, which include prison officers, the strip-search policy is indicative of the systematic sexual abuse of women in war time.



Northern Ireland has long been used as a practice ground for Britain's increasingly repressive government. Strip searches are already going beyond the prison walls. In England and Wales under the provisions of the new Police Bill, strip searches and internal probing of anus, vagina and penis will be legalised.



STOP THE STRIP SEARCHES CAMPAIGN



THE HARRIER

In an attempt to improve their image, a number of Limerick Harriers intend to take part in this June's Limerick Half-marathon. Let's hope they fare better than in their attempt in last years Dublin City Marathon.

On that occasion word of their participation became known to a number of youths prepared to cater for the harriers peculiar tastes. As the stragging men reached the North Strand - some 24 miles into the race, they were handed refreshments liberally laced with urine - which the thirsty heroes hurriedly gulped down.

One taskie was heard to remark to another "Jesus, that's great stuff!"

Everyman to his ....

The prize for the most worried branchman in Limerick must surely go to Edward Streets Mick Browne.

Mick is, among other things, a director of Limerick City soccer club and a great mate of Mr. "Chicken" Grace.

Reason for Mick's worry is the garda enquiry into the lottery being promoted to help Limerick City soccer club.

And with Mick in the habit of stepping on the toes of Baldy Noonan, the Minister for Justice, the betting in Edward Street is that Mick will be on his way tot he middle of nowhere before long.

Freedom Struggle can be contacted through any seller or your local I.R.S.P.

Letters or articles may be sent to 17 New Council Houses, Tullyvarraga, Shannon Town or 36 St. Patrick's Villas, Castleconnell, Co. Limerick.



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