

Republican Worker

Monthly Newsheet of Sinn Fein (Cork City). Offices: Thomas Ashe Hall. Phone 23944



Meitheamh 1976.

EDITORIAL.

This issue of the REPUBLICAN WORKER is three times the size of the last issue. The reasons are many. One is the popularity which our newsheet has built up over the years since it was first produced. Another is the almost total lack of coverage given to Sinn Fein activities in the Cork City newspapers.

In addition to making our paper larger we have endeavoured to make it more varied and attractive. We have endeavoured to include not only our usual political content but also to broaden our scope to include industrial, social, cultural and other material of general interest.

We hope that you will be pleased with our efforts to improve our publication and should you wish to contribute in any way, say by writing to us, we will be more than glad to hear from you. Any suggestion which you may have to make for the further improvement of our paper will be very welcome.

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EXTORTION IN BLACKPOOL.

A few months ago the people of Blackpool witnessed the opening of a pool hall containing some 20 or 30 American pool tables. The owner of this hall is a Mr. Healy who is well known in Blackpool. Clearly this is a filthy front which was opened to commercially exploit the young adolescents in Blackpool who find themselves thronging the hall because there are no other facilities whatsoever in the area to cater for youth. The responsibility for this lack of facilities rests clearly on the shoulders of those who have obstinately remained completely oblivious to the problems of youth over the years. Such people should be thoroughly ashamed of themselves for allowing the children to be robbed of their pocket money by exploiters.

Submitted by the
IRISH DEMOCRATIC
YOUTH MOVEMENT.

SINN FEIN IN MUNSTER.

The growth of Sinn Fein in Munster has led to the necessity for the formation of a special secretariat for the province.

The Secretariat was formed on Sunday 23rd May in the Thomas Ashe Hall at a meeting which was attended by representatives from all counties in Munster, as well as Sean Garland, National Organiser of Sinn Fein and Denis Foley, National Director of Elections.

The following secretariat was elected - Chairman Sean O'Ceilleachair - Vice Chairman - Joe Sherlock (Vice President of Sinn Fein) - Secretary Mary Daly P.R.O. Nash Sandham also Fergus Reynolds, John O'Donovan and Sean Moore.

The Secretariat will report regularly to a Munster Executive consisting of Councillor Paddy Gallagher (Waterford) Commissioner Donagh Coughlan (Bandon) Brian Coyle (Cork and representatives from each Comhairle Cheantair in Munster

CLIPPINGS by COONEY.

Speaking at a seminar in C.B. College MacCurtain St. Mr. Crosbie of the Cork Examiner deplored censorship of the press.

Strange talk indeed from a man whose editorial staff seem to be controlled by Union Quay.

There was a great fuss over the new printing process.

A suggestion for further improvement - how about some new.

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Congratulations to the Cork dockers on their reprimand to Chief Supt. Poweron his recent biased statement on drink.

The class bias of both the police and the courts is more evident each day. If you come from a working class area you go to jail. If you come from what is known as a residential area you can only commit boyish pranks and be chastised by a large fine which, of course, will not damage your future career.

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CHANGE THE SYSTEM.

The two tory parties - Fianna Fail and Fine Gael are at present conducting what they call a youth seminar throughout the country. The reason is, of course that almost 60,000 young people will be on the labour market this year with no hope of work.

These young people are better educated than previous generations who had to take to the emigrant ship. Will they fall for the same line that the conservative parties preach? I think not. They will demand their share of the national wealth. All the progressive young people should take their place in

IRISH DEMOCRATIC

YOUTH MOVEMENT

for further information contact:-
15 Father Mathew Quay Cork.

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Special Branch shot and wounded an angler at Power Mills Ballincollig. Can the public be told now what happened? Suppression of the press is another part of the Nazi process.

A BIG DROP in the membership of Fianna Fail in Cork over the last few months. Only recently we were told that 500 attended the youth seminars in Blarney and also Fermoy. Yet they could only muster 150 to 200 from all over the county and city for the jubilee celebrations of their party held on May 15th at the Grand Parade Cork. They were so embarrassed by the small turn out that pictures of the crowd were very few indeed.

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WELL PLANNED

Carrigtwohill Branch of the Labour Party had a record Collection of £400.

Could Mr. Conroy (a prominent member of the Party) tell us how this came about - or would he have to ask Mr. Tully.

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The Fine Gael facists had a very democratic Atd Fheis. If you didn't give frozen-faced Cosgrave a standing ovation you were dragged from your seat and punched by the stewards who would only wear their blueshirts and sam browns not to mention jackboots As Cooney would say this is all Hiberno-Nazi-British Policy - HEIL.

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RAILMEN IN CORK FORM AN ASSOCIATION Great news - at least some workers are making a stand against inept management many of whom are directors in private sector industries, as well as having their state jobs. Where do their interests lie? In the profit motive of course. The railways have a future! Lets stop this sell out of state jobs.

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I'm told that the Communist Party of Ireland is not going to sue Fat Flor Crowley, the anxious auctioneer for defamation although he called Conor Cruise a Communist.

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Who is the prominent Labour man in Cork reconsidering his membership over the Thornley affair?

THE "FREE" STATE.

You may think that you live in a free country, and so you do - in theory. In practice, it is another matter.

No state in Europe has such repressive legislation as the twenty-six counties and nowhere is repression more selectively practised than here.

Much legislation is specifically intended for selective application. Indeed when the present Minister for Justice was in opposition he opposed the introduction of the Offences Against the State (Amendment) Act with these words "the temptation will arise and the temptation will be succumbed to to use these vast draconian powers AGAINST PEOPLE FOR WHOM THEY WERE NEVER INTENDED" The emphasis which is ours, shows that the Minister when in opposition condoned the contemptible practice of selective application of the law.

Now that he is in office the "vast draconian powers" are being used somewhat less selectively. On the contrary they are being used virtually indiscriminately.

Two examples illustrate this point.

A few months ago a teenage boy with no political affiliations was arrested late in the evening in Bishopstown. He was accused of vandalising the local school building, although he lives six miles away from it. No notification was given to the boy's family and several requests by him to use the telephone were refused. It was after 1.00 a.m. when he was eventually released and left to find his own way home six miles away.

More recently a member of Sinn Fein was arrested by Mr. Cooney's underlings approximately 24 hours after his home had been searched and his family informed of the "bad company" which he was keeping. His crime was that he had been seen attending Sinn Fein functions and distributing Sinn Fein literature.

These examples give a clear

indication of the increased power given to the Special Branch through repressive legislation which has engulfed the working people of this country in recent years.

Sinn Fein views with considerable disgust this erosion of the rights of the individual and has been vociferous in its condemnation of it.

Repression is a dangerous, creeping disease which saps the freedom of society. The German people found this out during the Nazi regime. It is time for the Irish people to remind themselves that "the price of liberty is eternal vigilance".

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HOUSING.

The N.B.A. Estates in Cork City consist of 1812 dwellings which include 1 bedroom and 2 bedroom flats, 3 bedrooms and 4 bedroom houses. All of these dwellings contravene the 1966 Housing Act on a number of points i.e. transmission of moisture, transmission of sound, defective staircases and lack of insulation. All flats and some houses are fitted with central heating and have no alternative means of heating. The fitted central heating is inadequate and dangerous to health on a number of grounds. Ground dampness is rampant on all estates. Ill health is second nature to the occupants of these dwellings.

The cost of these estates fluctuates like the weather. Original contract estimates of £6.2 million at the half way stage rose to £8.2m which means that the final figure would have been in the region of £10.7m. This was avoided because of tenant organisation exposure of the overall racket which was obviously going on. The final cost now stands at £8.113m or an average cost of £4,477 per dwelling. The first year after the takeover of these estates by the Corporation £360,000 had to be spent out of public funds, in excess of normal maintenance, to stave off the imminent collapse of these homes.

A Public Enquiry is needed

CONSERVATIVES 3,400
WORKERS NIL.

Last month conservatives scored two impressive victories in their incessant campaign to keep our island home clean, green and good (poor, under developed and with underemployment) for the continued enjoyment of the monied few.

In Clonmel there are 778 unemployed who will stay that way because 23 objectors didn't want their view spoiled - so - what's that to Cork? Well perhaps one of the 23, long-range objector John A. Audley of Passage West may strike closer to home next time.

Then in Dublin there was an objector, one Sean D. Christian Democrat Dublin Bay Loftus who threatened legal action because he didn't like the view of Dublin Bay (in this case) spoiled by an oil refinery screwing the Seven Sisters petrol profits. However Jimmy 'The Fixer' Tully saved him the trouble and 3,000 more who could have left the ranks of the unemployed were condemned to stay there by the activities of well-heeled, privileged objectors who condemn the unemployed as spongers.

The true nature of Sean Loftus' concern for people was further revealed when he withdrew his objection to Tara's lead ore being shipped through Dublin port. Presumably somebody (his backers perhaps!) told him that poisonous lead dust would not travel to the suburban pastures of Howth and Sandymount - so much for the workers and their families living in the docks area. That's in Dublin but with so much grain storage and flour milling in the Docks area we may find ourselves eating heavier bread one of these days - and that's a poisonous thought.

These conservatives are of two varieties.

The first are those who believe that they have a divine right to their privilege and have no need of the Irish industrial economy to sustain that privilege, and who will ruthlessly destroy anything that threatens their selfish enjoyment of it.

These are the sort that trampled the hopes of the workers in Clonmel - they'll defend their privilege to your last wage packet.

The second variety, more numerous and much more dangerous are those with a vested interest in the continuing growth of exploitation of our wealth by the multinational banks and corporations. These are the people whose bank balances and prestige are dependent on the continuation of the multinationals rip-off. These are the real parasites in our society for they'll drain not only our present but the future - our children's future. They are so meanly small minded that they keep the rich man at his table so that they can continue to feed on his crumbs.

While it is necessary to ensure that the most effective anti-pollution measures are taken in all industries and developments, we must be on our guard against those who defend their privilege under the guise of protection of the environment.

Cork's industrial development must not be held up by leisured gentry nor allowed to be shunted into the backwater of service industries so that the mineral, oil and gas wealth of Ireland is ripped off to enrich others and allow selfish pikers to gorge themselves on crumbs.

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NA FIANNA EIREANN

FIANNA is the National Scout Movement of Ireland open to boys and girls between the ages of 8 and 16 years.

FIANNA is non-sectarian.

FIANNA promotes the Irish culture among its members.

FIANNA is involved in camping, first aid, P.T., rope work, hiking and other scouting activity.

FIANNA meetings are held at 8.00 p.m. in Thomas Ashe Hall 15, Father Mathew Quay, Cork.

JOIN NOW.

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CULTURE CORNER.

This months ballad.

MARTIN O'LEARY

air Westering Home.

A true son of Ireland has died once again
But comrades will make sure his death's not in vain.
He fought for a cause and no one can disclaim
Young Martin has died for the Socialist Aim.

Martin O'Leary, so young and so gay,
Your death gives us courage to fight for the day
When the people of Ireland will rise and proclaim
That they'll fight and die for the Socialist Aim.

A man of the people, born for to be free,
no different was Martin from you or from me,
But his young eyes could see that his cause was the same
As those who believe in the Socialist Aim.

Now the miners of Nenagh remember the day
When the proud peoples' army the bold I.R.A.
Fought for a cause which they justly did claim
And young Martin died for the Socialist Aim.

Martin O'Leary, we all take a vow
The system which killed you we'll one day lay low
And we'll elevate you with the men of great fame
Who fought and who died for the Socialist Aim.

Ted O'Connell
Cumann McSwiney/MacCurtain

Os rud e go bhfuil an t-eag-
ran seo den TOIBREADOIR PUBLACHT-
ANACH an ceann is mo ariamh is
cinnte go bhfuil se ag dul o nea-
rt go near.

Nil ach scriobhnoir amhain
ag ar bpaipeir anois. Ta ceithre
cinn ann agus ta suil againn go
mebidh nios mo na sin gan mhoill.

Ma ta rud eigin le radh agat
scroibh cughainn as Gaeilge noas
Bearla. Biedh failte 's fiche
roimh do litir agus, muna mbeid
spas againn beidh athas orainn
do litir a chur fe clo.

Ma ta amhran no piosa filio-
cht scriobhtha agat beidh failte
roimhe sin freisin toisc gor mor
an tsuim ata againn i gcultur co
is mhuintir na hEireann, go mor
mhor i gcultur cois mhuintir Cha-
thair agus Chondae Chorcai

This months ballad, written
by Ted O'Connell commemorates
the memory of Martin O'Leary the
first martyr of the present pre-
sent phase of the Republican str-
uggle of whom more is said el-
sewhere in this issue.

It is sufficient to say
here that the ballad typifies the
spirit of the Republican Move-
ment to-day.

If you would like to join
Sinn Fein contact:-

T.Tynan, 94, Glenamoy Lawn,
Mayfield.

T.McCarthy, 289, Connolly Road,
Ballyphehane.

Tom O'Mahony, Ivy Lawn,
Douglas Road.

Thomas Ashe Hall,
15, Fr. Mathew Quay,
Cork.

A TRIBUTE TO MARTIN O'LEARY.

Martin O'Leary, the first martyr of the present phase of the Republican struggle died in the early days of July 1971.

He was just 20 years of age and gave his life in the cause of the working people of Ireland and, indeed of workers the world over.

During the six weeks prior to his death striking workers and their families were threatened with eviction and electricity supplies were cut off from their homes in an effort to resist the just demands of workers at Silvermines.

But none knew better than Martin that the fight was only beginning. None knew better than he that millions of tons of minerals were being extracted from Irish resources with no benefit to the Irish people except the provision of a relatively few menial jobs. None saw more clearly than he the threat posed by Ireland's forthcoming entry to the E.E.C., the disastrous consequences of which are so painfully obvious to all of us, particularly those on the dole queues of to-day.

None deserved better than Martin the glowing tributes which were paid to him at his graveside and after.

As Cathal Goulding said in the now famous oration which he delivered at Martin's funeral - "It is our earnest wish as it was Martin's that the full emancipation if the Irish people could be achieved by peaceful means but unfortunately it is not within our power to dictate what action the forces of imperialism and exploitation will engage in to repress, coerce and deny ordinary people their God-given rights and when their answer to the just demands of the people are the lock out, the strike breaking, evictions, the prison cell intimidation of the gallows it is our duty to reply".

Or as Liam MacMillan, latter to die at the hand of sectarian assassins was to say "Volunteer Martin O'Leary died on

active service against the forces which are exploiting our people and while assisting others who are claiming their just rights. Our objective is the reconquest of Ireland to place the ownership of the resources of Ireland and the wealth of Ireland in the hands of the Irish people

We in the North are well aware that the fight for the Republic does not end with the withdrawal of British forces from the North. Free-Statism, the ally of British Imperialism, must be defeated in the South.

Republicans do not want an extension of the Free State to the North. We want a Republic in which the workers will be the Masters - the Republic for which Martin O'Leary died.

Martin is dead but the revolutionary movement of which he was a part is not dead. We will remember him with pride in all the struggles that lie before us until the Irish people, the common people, are established as lords and masters in their own country"

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DO YOU KNOW WHAT IS WORSE THAN A SLAVE?. A PERSON WHO DOES NOT KNOW THAT HE IS A SLAVE. WE THINK THAT WE ARE A FREE PEOPLE. WE ARE NOT. WHEN A MAN FINDS OUT THAT HE IS A SLAVE HE WANTS TO BE FREE. THAT IS OUR JOB. WE MUST SHOW PEOPLE THAT THEY ARE NOT FREE. WHEN THEY FIND OUT THE TRUTH OF THEIR POSITION THEY WILL WANT CHANGE.

- Martin O'Leary.

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I gcomhludar na martar go raibh a ainm.

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