

# BALLYMUN

5p.

APRIL '73

# NEWS

## EDITORIAL

THIS IS THE FIRST ISSUE OF THE BALLYMUN NEWS, A PAPER WRITTEN AND CONTROLLED BY TENANTS OF THIS ESTATE. THAT BALLYMUN NEEDS A PAPER NO-ONE WILL DENY, THAT IT NEEDS A PAPER WITH THE GUTS TO PRINT THE TRUTH AND BE DAMNED, SOME WILL NOT ACCEPT.

SO LET US MAKE ONE THING CLEAR AT THE START; THE NEWS WILL NOT BE THE USUAL PARISH MAGAZINE, WHILE IT WILL MOST CERTAINLY CONCENTRATE ON LOCAL NEWS AND LOCAL ISSUES IT WILL WITH EQUAL CERTAINTY NOT INSULT THE INTELLIGENCE OF THE PEOPLE OF BALLYMUN BY CARRYING THE TYPE OF ARTICLE THAT USUALLY BEGINS: MRS. SMITH, A MEMBER OF ---- CLUB, WENT ON HER HOLIDAYS TO SPAIN THIS WEEK. WE HOPE SHE ENJOYS HERSELF AND RETURNS WITH A LOVELY TAN.

WHILE WISHING THE PEOPLE WHO CAN AFFORD A HOLIDAY IN SPAIN WELL, THE BALLYMUN NEWS WILL BE MORE CONCERNED WITH THE PROBLEMS OF THE PARENTS WHO HAVE DIFFICULTY IN BRINGING THE CHILDREN TO DOLLYMOUNT FOR THE ODD DAY BY THE SEASIDE.

WITH THIS IN MIND WE WILL CAMPAIGN TO MAKE BALLYMUN A BETTER PLACE TO LIVE IN. WE WILL NOT ENTERTAIN THE LIE THAT EVERYTHING IS ROSY IN THE GARDEN WE WILL FIGHT FOR AMENITIES IN THE AREA BUT WE WILL NOT SELL OUT THAT FIGHT TO ANY VESTED INTEREST. WE WILL NOT PRINT GOOD PUBLICITY ABOUT WHATS HAPPENING IN BALLYMUN, NOR WILL WE PRINT BAD PUBLICITY ABOUT WHATS HAPPENING IN BALLYMUN. WE WILL SIMPLY PRINT THE TRUTH ABOUT WHATS HAPPENING IN BALLYMUN, WHETHER THE TRUTH BE GOOD OR BAD.

BECAUSE OF THIS POLICY WE EXPECT THE NEWS TO BE ATTACKED. SHOULD ANYBODY WISH TO DO SO WE WILL PROVIDE SPACE IN OUR COLUMNS FOR THEM TO DO OPENLY.

YOU WILL PROBABLY NOTICE A SHORTAGE OF ADS. IN THIS ISSUE. THE REASON FOR THIS IS SIMPLE; IF FOR INSTANCE WE WERE DEPENDING ON ADS. TO FINANCE THE PAPER? WE COULD NOT CARRY THE ARTICLE ON HOME ASSISTANCE, (IN WHICH LIPTONS COME IN FOR CRITICISM), NOR COULD WE PRINT THE LETTER FROM A TENANT CRITICISING THE MANAGEMENT OF THE PENTHOUSE. WE ARE CERTAIN THOUGH THAT THERE ARE SOME TRADERS ON THE ESTATE WILLING TO ADVERTISE WITH US WHILE ACCEPTING THAT SHOULD WE FIND IT NECESSARY TO CRITICISE THEM WE WILL DO SO. AND THAT ELIMINATES THE "CHAMPIONS FOR A START."

THE BALLYMUN NEWS THEN IS A PAPER OF TENANTS, FOR TENANTS, BY TENANTS. ITS SUCCESS OR FAILURE DEPENDS ON WHETHER OR NOT YOU BUY IT. WE HOPE YOU DO.





# EAMONN CEANNT YOUTH CLUB



TIM. FLOODGATE, TONY GREEN  
AND A SENIOR CLUB MEMBER.

## HOW THE CLUB WAS FORMED.

Eamonn Ceannt Youth Club was formed by a group of five people, three of whom are still active. The formation of the Club was brought about by the lack of amenities in the Estate, and since the Local Authorities responsible for providing such amenities had failed in their obligation to do so, ordinary working people had to do it for them.

The Club is reputed- by our members at least- to be the best in Ballymun. we feel that their high opinion is simply due to the fact that they enjoy themselves in the various club activities)- snooker, hiking, table- tennis group singing, playing records physical training, etc. etc. not to mention competing again- at 400 other clubs in the Catholic Youth Council, of which we are a member.

The club is situated at the base of Ceannt Tower and is run voluntarily by working-class people, and is, we are happy to say, doing very well despite some temporary setbacks.

The Ceannt Club has been condemned by some people for remaining free of all local affiliations. we are independent because we see no sense in the various Councils etc. running around playing gallery - men to the politicians.

We believe that the people of Ballymun want action the many problems of the Estate now, not in five years time

TIM FLOODGATE.  
TONY GREEN.  
JIM LOVETT.



CLUB MEMBERS

## CLUB OUTING

On Sunday the 8th. of April the Club held a very successful outing to Powerscourt. 45 boys between the ages of 12 to 16 took part. this age group represents the senior section of the Club.

We would like to make public our thanks to the bus crew, who cheerfully gave every assistance to the organisers. their help was certainly appreciated.

As we have said, the outing was a very successful one. One incident however marred the days enjoyment, and that was the entrance fee to the waterfall. The whole thing was summed up by one young boy who came to me and said, "Why should we have to pay in?". Why indeed? When you consider the cost involved in getting 50 people from Ballymun to Enniskerry, then you will agree that discovering that you have to pay an entrance fee to show children one of the natural wonders of their own country is just a bit too much. One could perhaps understad an entrance fee when maintenance is involved, but what maintenance can there be on a waterfall?



A FUTURE JOE DAVIS ?



GIRL CLUB MEMBERS

## SHOPS, FLATS, HOUSES AND BASEMENTS

You don't have to think very hard to know what this title means. Most of the clubs in Ballymun are situated under Towers or blocks of flats. The people running these clubs have the best interests of the children at heart (we hope), but basements are not the healthiest of environments in which to bring together large numbers of children.

Our eventual aim is to have an independent club rooms situated within the Estate. To achieve this aim we require a plot of ground on which to build our club.

Would you like to help us to achieve our aims? Needless to say the work is entirely voluntary.

(it may even cost you a few bob now and then). On the other hand you will have the satisfaction not only of working with a wonderful group of boys and girls but also, and perhaps more important, you will be giving them an opportunity to do something constructive with their free time.

## YOUR

### VANDALISM.

Sir,

There are approx. 3,500 families living on this Estate most of them don't know each other very well yet they all have one thing in common, they all contribute one way or another toward the upkeep and the building of the schools.

For some perverted reason of their own, somebody is going around breaking the windows after school hours.

There are some good people in this scheme who organised a form of recreation for school children on at least one afternoon per week in one of the huts on Silloge Rd. It has been wrecked recently by vandals the piano broken, the seats upended and slashed and as a result the children had to miss their little games for a week.

We have a new Police Station, full of Gardai, and I think it is about time we impressed upon them the necessity of sending one or two men to patrol the vicinity of the schools and recreation hall from at least eight p.m onwards to ensure that ourselves and our children will be inconvenienced no longer.

## LETTERS

### BARRED FROM THE BAR !

Sir,

As a man who has frequented the Penthouse pub in Ballymun, I would like to express my opinion on the Management of said pub.

In my experience as customer I can say of the present Manager that he seems to have a grudge against the working class people of the area.

Firstly I would like to point out that the man in question has refused service to tenants of this scheme for no apparent reason. Speaking for myself I was barred in my absence and at no time had I caused a disturbance, so my case turned out to be one of mistaken identity, yet the Manager refused to even listen to me.

In my opinion, decent local people have been sentenced to imprisonment as a result of provocation received at the hands of the Manager. This man is not prepared to give a fair and just hearing to customers in cases of dispute.

GEORGE MURPHY,  
SANDYHILL GDNS.

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# THE LOST CAUSES

## HOME ASSISTANCE

MANY PEOPLE IN IRELAND DON'T KNOW THAT WHEN THEY ARE UNEMPLOYED OR SICK AND HAVE NOT GOT ENOUGH INSURANCE STAMPS TO QUALIFY FOR UNEMPLOYMENT OR SICK BENEFIT, THAT THERE IS AN ALTERNATIVE SERVICE WHICH THEY CAN AVAIL OF, HOME ASSISTANCE. THEY ARE NOT INFORMED OF THIS AS A MATTER OF COURSE, BUT IF THEY INSIST THAT THEY ARE STARVING OR IN DANGER OF DOING SO, THEN SOME SOCIAL WELFARE OFFICIAL WILL GRUDGINGLY DIRECT THEM TO GO TO THEIR LOCAL HOME ASSISTANCE OFFICE, WHICH IN THE CASE OF BALLYMUN IS SITUATED IN THE LOCAL HEALTH CLINIC. IT IS RUN BY THE EASTERN HEALTH BOARD. AS THE VERY NAME SUGGESTS IT IS AN ANTIQUATED, DEGRADING, HUMILIATING EXPERIENCE TO APPLY FOR HOME ASSISTANCE. FIRST OF ALL THERE IS NO PRIVACY ACCORDED TO THE APPLICANT, THEY HAVE TO QUEUE UP IN THE CROWDED CORRIDOR OF THE CLINIC. PATIENTS WAITING TO SEE THEIR DOCTOR KNOW EXACTLY WHAT THEY ARE QUEUEING FOR, AND WHEN THEIR TURN EVENTUALLY COMES THEY HAVE TO PROVE THAT THEY ARE REALLY DESTITUTE- IN THE CASE OF A DESERTED WIFE SHE HAS TO PROVE THAT SHE HAS ENDEAVOURED TO GET HER HUSBAND TO RETURN OR TO SUPPORT HER, PREFERABLY TO RETURN TO HER BECAUSE GOOD CHRISTIAN ORGANISATION THAT THEY ARE THEY BELIEVE IN THE SACREDNESS OF FAMILY LIFE. SHOULD THEY DECIDE THAT YOU ARE AT FAULT FOR BEING DESTITUTE, THEN THEY DON'T WANT TO KNOW. IN ONE CASE THAT I KNOW OF A MAN WAS OUT OF WORK FOR A WEEK BEFORE HE PUT HIS CARDS IN THE LABOUR EXCHANGE POSSIBLY HE THOUGHT HE WOULD GET ANOTHER JOB IMMEDIATELY WHEN HIS WIFE WENT TO THE THE HOME ASSISTANCE OFFICER HE TOLD HER IT WAS HER OWN FAULT THAT SHE WAS DESTITUTE AND SHE COULDN'T EXPECT THE RATEPAYERS OF DUBLIN TO SUPPORT HER. WITH TYPICAL ARROGANCE HE FORGOT THAT SHE TOO WAS A RATEPAYER WHEN THEY EVENTUALLY CONCEDE THAT SOMEONE IS IN DIRE NEED THEY WILL ISSUE THEM WITH A FOOD VOUCHER WHICH MAY ONLY BE CASHED AT LIPTONS SUPERMARKET. NOW THIS IS THE POINT OF ENTRY TO THE REAL DEGRADATION. THE UNAWARE WALK INTO THE STORE, COLLECT THEIR MESSAGES AND QUEUE AT THE CHECK-OUT. WHEN THEIR TURN COMES THEY PRODUCE THEIR VOUCHER ONLY TO DISCOVER THEY ARE AT THE WRONG CHECK-OUT. THEY ARE SENT, BEWILDERED, TO STAND AT NO.1 CHECK-OUT WHILE AN EXTRA ASSISTANT IS SENT TO TAKE CARE OF THEM, (AFTER ALL WE CAN'T HAVE OUR CASH CUSTOMERS INCONVENIENCED BY THOSE WHO CAN'T PAY FOR THEIR OWN FOOD). THE VOUCHER IS THEN KEPT BY LIPTONS AND EVERY DAY AFTER THAT THE PERSON HAS TO QUEUE AT NO.1 CHECK-OUT UNTIL THEY ARE ATTENDED TO. OTHER CUSTOMERS MAY JOIN THE QUEUE AND ARE TOLD, "NO CHECKING OUT HERE, THIS IS ONLY FOR VOUCHERS?".

AT THIS STAGE EVERYONE IN THE SHOP, STAFF AND CUSTOMERS ALIKE ARE-AWARE THAT THE PERSON IS "ON ASSISTANCE". OF COURSE MESSRS. LIPTONS HAVE OTHER WAYS OF DISCRIMINATING AGAINST PEOPLE ON ASSISTANCE. YOU MAY NOT GET LESS THAN 50p. WORTH OF GROCERIES AT A TIME. IN OTHER WORDS, IF A PERSON SUDDENLY DISCOVERS THAT THEY NEED MORE MILK AFTER THEY HAVE DONE THEIR SHOPPING THERE IS NOTHING THEY CAN DO UNLESS THEY ARE PREPARED TO SPEND ANOTHER 50p. OF THEIR VOUCHER. IT DOESN'T MATTER IF A CHILD HAS TO CRY ALL NIGHT BECAUSE THERE IS NO MILK TO PUT IN HIS BOTTLE BUT IF YOU ARE PAYING CASH YOU MAY GO IN THERE TEN TIMES A DAY TO BUY A BOX OF MATCHES. WHEN WILL LIPTONS PUT A NOTICE IN THE WINDOWS SAYING, "ONLY CUSTOMERS SPENDING 50p. OR MORE ALLOWED". OF COURSE ANYONE WHO HAS EVER BEEN A RECIPIENT OF HOME ASST. IS ONLY TOO WELL ACQUAINTED WITH THE FOREGOING FACTS. ANYONE WHO HAS NEVER EXPERIENCED IT- EITHER PERSONALLY OR AT SECOND HAND- WILL PROBABLY DOUBT THE VERACITY OF IT, BUT THEY CAN CHECK IT OUT FOR THEMSELVES ANY DAY OF THE WEEK IN BALLYMUN. IN FAIRNESS, IT IS PROBABLY AS EMBARRASSING FOR MOST HOME ASSISTANCE OFFICERS AS IT IS FOR THE RECIPIENTS. I AM NOT GOING TO SUGGEST WAYS OF IMPROVING THE SYSTEM BECAUSE IT IS BEYOND REFORM. IT IS A FESTERING SORE, BUT UNFORTUNATELY IT IS ONLY PART OF A LARGER CANCER WHICH IS THE SICK SOCIETY WE LIVE IN. WHILE WORKING CLASS PEOPLE ARE TREATED AS WAGE SLAVES AND PROFIT-MAKERS FOR OTHER PEOPLE THIS SORT OF SITUATION WILL REMAIN WITH US. PERHAPS IF THE MIDDLE CLASS LIBERALS TOOK UP THE CUDGELS ON OUR BEHALF THE MEDICINE MIGHT BE A LITTLE MORE PALATABLE, BUT THE BASIC SITUATION WOULD REMAIN THE SAME. NOT EVERYONE IS ABLE TO WORK AND THERE IS NOT ENOUGH WORK AVAILABLE FOR THOSE WHO ARE ABLE TO DO IT, BUT NO FAMILY SHOULD HAVE TO EXIST ON A DIET THAT IS NOT NUTRITIONALLY BALANCED WHETHER IT IS THROUGH ILLNESS OR UNEMPLOYMENT THAT THEY ARE NOT WORKING. IT IS ONLY WHEN FOOD, CLOTHING, HOUSING, LIGHT, HEAT AND MEDICAL TREATMENT ARE CONSIDERED BY SOCIETY TO BE NECESSITIES UNRELATED TO EARNING ABILITY; WHEN THE BASIC PRECEPT OF OUR SOCIETY IS, "TO EACH ACCORDING TO HIS NEEDS, FROM EACH ACCORDING TO HIS ABILITY", THEN, AND ONLY THEN WILL EACH HUMAN BEING HAVE THE HUMAN DIGNITY THAT IS HIS HERITAGE.

"the great appear great  
because we are on our  
knees"

"LET US RISE"!



★ VIDKUN QUISLING, leader of the puppet National Government set up by the Germans in Norway during World War II.

MR. DONNEGAN, MINISTER FOR DEFENCE, YESTERDAY UNVEILED A MEMORIAL TO VIDKUN QUISLING IN THE BAR OF LEINSTER HOUSE. IN AN ELOQUENT ELOGIUM MR. DONNEGAN POINTED OUT THAT QUISLING WAS A STATESMAN AHEAD OF HIS TIME. "NOW THAT COLLABORATION IS ACCEPTED AS THE HIGHEST FORM OF POLITICAL ACTIVITY WE MUST ENSURE THAT QUISLING TAKES HIS RIGHTFUL PLACE IN THE ANNALS OF HISTORY!"

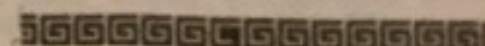
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**SATISFACTION**  
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## COMPETITION

We hope to make the Childrens page a regular feature in the Ballymun News and to do so we will need your help. So write and tell us what you would like to see in it.

In our first issue we are limiting ourselves to a simple competition. On this page you will find the words of a very well known childrens poem. Read it and think about it, then do a drawing or sketch of whatever the poem suggests to you. You may use paints, crayons, felt tips, pencil, ball-point, anything you have handy. Send your entry to any member of the Editorial Board, you will find their addresses elsewhere in the paper, and don't forget to include your age because age is the deciding factor.

The competition is open to all children on the Estate, (except those whose parents are connected with the News). All entries will be judged by a competent person and his decision will be final.

Book tokens will be awarded to the entries selected by the adjudicator. So have a go, you might be in next months Ballymun News.

### THE TOWN CHILD

I live in the town  
In a street;  
It is crowded with traffic  
and feet;  
There are buses and motors  
and trams;  
I wish there were meadows  
And lambs;

The houses all wait  
in a row;  
There is smoke everywhere  
That I go;  
I don't like the noises  
I hear-  
I wish there were woods  
Very near.

There is only one thing  
That I love,  
And that is the sky  
Far above,  
There is plenty of room  
in the blue  
For castles of clouds  
And me, too!

## BALLYMUN NEWS WILL ACCEPT

## Advertisement

## LETTERS contd.

### PENAL REFORM.

Sir

That the Ministry for Justice is extremely harsh and unduly restrictive-in fact grossly unfair-in its treatment of prisoners in Irish jails is amply demonstrated by the continuance of protests by citizens and prisoners alike, both inside and outside the prisons. Riots, hunger strikes, peaceful sit-ins, pickets, etc., are ample proof of this. To the sceptic however, the unwillingness of the Dept. of Justice to allow our Penal System become subject to public scrutiny by Press and T.V. must establish in their minds that something is disastrously wrong.

It is not my intention to set out in detail the atrocious conditions of prison life, diet, hygiene, working, parole, discipline recreation etc. and the physical and psychological effect these have on the victims of our Penal System. For decades there has been a continuous flow of ink describing the almost Bastille conditions of our prison life. "Dungeons dark and deep" by Peadar Cowan, Prounsias Mac Aongheasa, John Kelly, the Hibernia, to name but a few who have contributed to what every now and again became a topic of slight interest to the general public, but unfortunately their efforts were in vain.

I myself have been in and out of jail since the fifties and can honestly say that conditions have only minutely changed - diet - since then. In fact overcrowding has increased enormously since then and the sewerage disimproved accordingly

I feel sure that the present campaign for Penal Reform will not phase out like so many others in the past. As the man said, "the time is now". In of the predictions made by the Minister for Justice(ex) that misconduct - peaceful sit-ins by prisoners- will be met with increased discipline. What exact nature this discipline would take is anybodys guess. I could hazard a few myself but they would not be believed.

Obviously the quality and quantity of any attempt at Penal Reform is dependent on how much money is made available to support it. Just as obvious, the amount of support supplied ultimately lies with the people of Ireland (I hope). It is in your hands to stop this extremely serious undermining of prisoners individual welfare and self respect.

SEAN DOYLE,  
SILLOGE ROAD.

Dear Sir,

I would like to express my utter disgust at the behaviour of a certain bus crew on the NO 16 route.

When my friends and I boarded the bus the driver and conductor were sitting inside, two minutes later they decided to move out. At the same time a woman and her two children began to board the bus, the bus however kept going. You can well imagine that the woman was left looking in amazement.

When we reached Parnell Sq. I enquired of an Inspector as to what time the bus should arrive, and was told that the crew on that shift was finished at 15-09; it was now 15-04. In other words your man left 5 minutes early.

I do not mind the crew leaving early if they play fair with the passengers, especially mothers with children.

THOMAS WALSH,  
166. SHANGAN RD.

## VOICE OF YOUTH

SOME OF THE WISEST COMMENTS WE HAVE HEARD ON THIS ESTATE CAME FROM TEENAGERS. (AND YOUNGER) YOU ARE THE COMING GENERATION. YOU WILL INHERIT THE PROBLEMS WE DONT SOLVE. WE ON THE BALLYMUN NEWS FIRMLY BELIEVE THAT ITS NEVER TOO SOON TO BEGIN THINKING, TO BEGIN TALKING, TO BEGIN ACTING. BECAUSE OF THIS WE HOPE TO MAKE THIS PAGE A FORUM IN WHICH YOU CAN AIR YOUR VIEWS, PUT FORWARD YOUR IDEAS, THINK YOUR THOUGHTS OUT LOUD. THIS IS YOUR PAGE, FEEL FREE TO USE IT. SEND US YOUR LETTERS, YOUR POEMS, YOUR DRAWINGS. TELL US WHAT YOU THINK OF YOUR SCHOOL, HOW IT COULD BE IMPROVED. TELL US THE AMENITIES YOU THINK YOU NEED, AND HOW THEY CAN BE OBTAINED. WRITE OF RECORDS, OF BOOKS, OF ANYTHING YOU LIKE. JUST WRITE. LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD. ITS YOUR WORLD!.

## SWIMMING POOL DELAY

Why did Ascon have to revise the original date they set for completion of the swimming pool in Ballymun?

In Ballyfermot the same Company ran into the same problem, there however they had the excuse that vandals had destroyed their huts, perhaps if the vandals had not been so obliging they would have had to say something else.

In Ballymun they have no such excuse, and they can't plead a shortage of labour (did you ever see a sign on the site looking for men?)

We do know that at the same time that Ascon were building the pools in Ballyfermot and Ballymun they were also building a pool in Belvedere College. and we can say for certain that they were not in any difficulties there.

Could it be that on Corporation jobs Private Companies get away with murder, And we all know how that happens don't we? Seeing as how the Corporation can hardly open a public toilet without holding a Press Conference to announce their achievement it might not be a bad idea for them to say publicly why the Ballymun pool wont be ready until October, and what penalty clauses, if any, they are invoking. After all its public money they use to pay Ascon.

## Grand Prix?

It would appear to be the intention of the City Planners to run the Grand Prix Circuit of Ireland right through the middle of Ballymun.

The dual-carriageway at present almost completed, is to be the arterial road to the North; Santry Lane is to be widened to build a main road to the West, and of course the Collins Ave. Extension is already taking life.

With our entry into the E.E.C, Irish roads will soon be crowded with the huge Continental container trucks. because of the dual-carriage way Ballymun will get its fair share of these

Isn't it about time we the parents, demande that a proper speed limit be introduced;

Ta suil agam gur chual leir tract ar an scoil roimhe seo. Tar eis co fada cruaidh beidh se aris imi luil seo chug is milltineach ar fad nuair a chaitfidh le tuismitheoiri Eireanna mar sin a chur sios a go mbeidh ar bpaisti t enga ar sinnsear a le fada an blian an rialtais na tire seo gceill go bhuil siad an teanga Gaeilge ath na bi mithreoiranta l cainte fa dtaoibh de. a chuala tu, actions louder than words, ad bhi daoine de muintir Munna ag iarraidh Sco a fhaill dona chuid p raibh moran griomhu o'n Roinn Oideachais comhlucht eile a sh mbeadh suim acu ins IN ait, shilfe Siamese no rud eile muid ar lorg.

This all Irish School will open on of July '73. It will in the pre-fab built former Comprehensive. It will be run a committee of parent. Don't think you have Irish speaker yours your child there.

A lot of people I of the impression of teaching a child language he is not might hinder his fears are groundle

There are many arriving on this most daily. Quite often they to discover that has not been their light turn both gas and li of action.

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CITIZENS ADVISOR  
(Sunday morni  
I.B Silloge



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Le fada an blian anois ta  
rialtais na tire seo ag cuir i  
gceill go bhuil siad ag iarraidt  
an teanga Gaeilge athbhunú, ach  
na bi mithreoiranta lena chuid  
cainte fa dtacibh de. Is minic  
a chuala tu, actions speak  
louder than words, ach nuair a  
bhi daoine de muintir Baile  
Munna ag iarraidh Scoil Gaelach  
a fhaill dona chuid paisti ní  
raibh moran griomhu a fheiceall  
o'n Roinn Oideachais no aon  
comblucht eile a shilfea go  
mbeadh suim acu ins an leithead  
IN ait, shilfea gur scoil  
Siamsese no rud eile gallda a bair  
muid ar lorg.

This all Irish Primary  
School will open on the second  
of July '73. It will be situated  
in the pre-fab building of the  
former Comprehensive School.  
It will be run a management  
committee of parents.

Don't think you have to be an  
Irish speaker yourself to send  
your child there.  
A lot of people I think might be  
of the impression that by  
teaching a child through a  
language he is not accustomed to  
might hinder his learning. Such  
fears are groundless. Children

There are many new tenants  
arriving on this Estate al-  
most daily. Quite often they  
Quite often they arrive only  
to discover that their gas  
has not been connected or  
their light turned on, often  
both gas and light are out  
of action.

Then too there are many  
established tenants who do  
not know where to go for ad-  
vice when they need help  
with problems such as Hire  
Purchase agreements, Social  
Welfare entitlements, rent  
arrears or wrong assessment,  
and many other such problems.

For your convenience we  
are listing the many offices  
on the Estate.

CITIZENS ADVISORY SERVICE:  
(Sunday mornings only)  
I.B. Silloge rd.

Not free merely  
but gaelic as well.  
Not gaelic merely  
but free as well

are capable of picking up  
languages very quickly, much  
quicker than adults, and as a  
result don't feel hindered when it  
comes to school subjects.  
This school will also have the  
advantage of having smaller  
classes than we have in the  
existing schools in Ballymun.  
This I see as a great advantage  
to the child who is a slow  
learner. In a smaller class he  
has a chance of getting the little  
bit of individual attention he  
requires, something impossible  
for a teacher to do with a class  
of forty or more.  
Incidentally, there are Irish  
classes run for adults on the  
Estate, in the Club Gaelach on  
Shangan Rd, under the third eight  
storey block, on Tuesdays and  
Thursdays, 11.30 to 12.30 and  
8.30 to 10. Should you wish to  
enrol a child or get further  
particulars about it, this could  
be the place to do so.  
Parents of children attending  
the school should take an active  
part in its affairs. Seeing that  
it is in a working class area  
and run by working class parents  
this could ensure that no snob  
value or anything elitist be  
attached to it, as can sometimes  
be the case with such schools.

### FREE LEGAL AID:

Basement; Pearse Tower.

### DUBLIN CORPORATION:

Main Office; Clarke Tower.

Maintenance; Mc. Donagh Twr  
(24 hour service)

Welfare Officer;

Mc. Donagh Tower.

### HOME ASSISTANCE:

Clinic, Silloge Ave.

( This service may move to  
new clinic at rere of Quinns-  
worth).

### DUBLIN GAS CO.

Basement, first block Shangan  
rd.

### CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU:

Miss Anne Webb,

196, Shanliss Rd

Santry.



LA COMAOINEACH NAOPA, DO PHAISTI AN SCOIL GAELACH ANURAIH.

## NO ROOM AT THE INN

Every group of tenants coming  
together in Ballymun to form  
an organisation, club, society  
etc. is faced with one over-  
whelming problem--where to  
find premises in which to hold  
their meetings. Since Bally-  
mun is entirely controlled by  
Dublin Corporation the first  
thing you must do is make app-  
lication to the man responsible  
for letting out Corporation  
rooms-Mr. Mills.

Now Mr. Mills has a most pecu-  
liar method of saying no. You  
see, the word no is foreign to  
his vocabulary and to overcome  
this deficiency he employs a  
very efficient and very subtle  
secretary whose sole task is  
to write a series of letters  
to each applicant saying, "We  
would be delighted to give you  
rooms in which to hold your  
meetings but-. And as your  
pleas for a room mount so do  
the buts.

It is Mr. Mills fond belief  
that if, at the end of two  
years you still have no defin-  
ite reply, one of the following  
things will have happened.

- (a) You will have lost patience
- (b) You will run out of ink.
- (c) Your club will disappear.
- (d) You will get a transfer.

Not everybody is so unlucky  
of course; if Mr. Mills and  
his bosses agree with your pol-  
icies you'll work out all right  
but if they don't you've had it  
To prove the point just look at  
the organisations Mr. Mills has  
refused for one silly reason  
or another.

FIANNA EIREANN BOY SCOUTS  
SINN FEIN (both wings)  
IRISH CIVIL RIGHTS ASSOC.  
IRISH WOMENS LIBERATION

MOVEMENT.

-- to name but a few.

Mr. Mills and his bosses would  
hate to be accused of politic-  
al suppression, but that's  
what their actions amount to.

### A STUDY OF READING HABITS

When getting my nose in a book  
Cured most things short of  
school,  
It was worth ruining my eyes  
To know I could still keep cool,  
And deal out the old right hook  
To dirty dogs twice my size.

Later, with inch-thick specks,  
Me and my cloak and fangs  
Had ripping times in the dark.  
The women I clubbed with sex!  
I broke them up like meringues.

Don't read much now: the dude  
Who lets the girl down before  
The hero arrives, the chap  
Who's yellow and keeps the store  
Seems far too familiar. Get  
Stewed:  
Books are a load of crap.

"It is nature itself that  
has given birth to the right  
of the community, whilst it  
is only unjust usurpation  
that has created the right  
of Private Property."

St. Ambrose.



# TENANT

# TA



PEGGY WALSH (COMMITTEE) B.E.T.A.  
**RENT STRIKE**

THE BALLYMUN ESTATE TENANTS ASSOCIATION HAS, FOR THE PAST YEAR, BEEN INVOLVED IN THE N.A.T.O. NATIONAL RENT STRIKE. WITH THE ELECTION OF THE COALITION GOVERNMENT THIS STRIKE MAY WELL BE NEARING AN END, HOWEVER WE MUST WAIT AND SEE. THE RENT STRIKE, AS MOST TENANTS KNOW IS ABOUT MANY ISSUES. THESE INCLUDE, DIFFERENTIAL RENTS, HOUSE PURCHASE, TRANSFERS, FIXED RENT INCREASES AND RATES.

THE MOST IMPORTANT ONE FOR BALLYMUN IS DIFFERENTIAL RENTS. WE CAN BE FAIRLY CERTAIN THAT N.A.T.O. WILL GAIN SOME WORTHWHILE CONCESSIONS ON THIS ISSUE.

WHILE THE RENT STRIKE IS BY NO MEANS AS STRONG IN BALLYMUN AS IT SHOULD BE, THERE IS NEVERTHELESS A STRONG MINORITY HOLDING THE FORT HERE. THESE PEOPLE, ALONG WITH MANY THOUSANDS THROUGHOUT DUBLIN AND THE REST OF IRELAND WILL HAVE WON THE BATTLE FOR THE REST.

A LOT OF TENANTS WERE FRIGHTENED INTO PAYING THEIR RENTS BY THE CORPORATION. TENANTS ON STRIKE SHOULD IGNORE THREATS AND WARNINGS BY DUBLIN CORPORATION OFFICIALS, AND WAIT FOR A DIRECTIVE FROM N.A.T.O. BEFORE PAYING ANY RENT.

THERE ARE ON THE OTHER HAND SOME PEOPLE WHO, WHILE CONTINUALLY MOANING ABOUT HIGH RENTS ETC, CANNOT SEE THEIR WAY TO DOING ANYTHING ABOUT IT. THEY WILL ALWAYS DEPEND ON SOMEONE ELSE TO FIGHT THEIR BATTLES FOR THEM.

THEY WILL OFTEN PROCLAIM THEMSELVES TO BE GREAT TRADE UNIONISTS, INDEED SOMETIMES ACTIVE WITHIN A TRADE UNION, AND OTHERS WE WILL FIND WITHIN THE RANKS OF THE LABOUR PARTY.

PERHAPS A RENT STRIKE IS NOT MILITANT ENOUGH FOR THESE PEOPLE. ANY DECISION TO CALL OFF THE RENT STRIKE WILL BE MADE BY THE TENANTS THEMSELVES, AS IT WAS THEY WHO VOTED BY A HUGE MAJORITY TO GO ON STRIKE.

\*\*\*\*\*  
THE PERFECT REACTIONARY.

As I was sitting in my chair I knew the bottom wasn't there Nor legs nor back but I just sat ignoring little things like that



TOMMY GIBSON. (CHAIRMAN) B.E.T.A.

## SWIMMING POOL

THE B.E.T.A. HAVE OF COURSE BEEN INVOLVED IN MANY OTHER ACTIVITIES BESIDES THE RENT STRIKE, THERE WAS FOR INSTANCE THE SWIMMING POOL AFFAIR. THERE IS NO NEED TO GO INTO DETAILS ABOUT THIS. MOST TENANTS ARE WELL AWARE THAT HAD IT NOT BEEN FOR THE HARD WORK AND AGITATION BY B.E.T.A. AND SUPPORTERS IT WOULD NOT NOW BE UNDER CONSTRUCTION. (IT SHOULD BE COMPLETE ABOUT THE MIDDLE OF SUMMER).

THIS WAS NO MEAN FEAT IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT THEY CAME UP AGAINST OPPOSITION FROM ONE LOCAL GROUP. ACTUALLY IT WAS ONLY PART LOCAL AS A LOT OF ITS MEMBERS WERE NOT TENANTS OF BALLYMUN.

I AM OF COURSE REFERRING TO A GROUP CALLING ITSELF 'THE CENTRAL COMMUNITY COUNCIL'. THIS GROUP WANTED THE SWIMMING POOL BUILT ON A DIFFERENT SITE TO WHERE IT IS.

## BOUGHT OVER

THEY WERE OBVIOUSLY BOUGHT OVER BY SOME OF THE TRADERS AND THE BALLYMUN DEVELOPEMENT CO WHO WANTED IT AS A TEMPORARY CAR PARK, AND EVENTUALLY TO BUILD ON. WE CAN BE SURE IT WASN'T THE PEOPLE OF BALLYMUN THEY HAD IN MIND. IT WAS THEIR OWN POCKETS THEY WERE THINKING OF. HOWEVER, ALL OF THESE PEOPLE WERE EASILY SEEN THROUGH. THE PEOPLE GAVE THEM THEIR ANSWER, AND SO THE POOL IS BEING BUILT WHERE THE VAST MAJORITY OF TENANTS WANT IT. IT IS UP TO US ALL NOW TO SEE THAT THE CHILDREN OF THIS ESTATE ARE GIVEN PRIORITY IN THE USE OF THE POOL.

## OLD FOLK

THERE ARE APPROX 150 OLD FOLKS LIVING IN BALLYMUN. MOST OF THEM ARE LIVING EITHER IN MAISNETTES OR ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF THE EIGHT STOREY BLOCKS.

THERE ARE A FEW SCATTERED THROUGHOUT THE TOWER BLOCKS. SETTLING DOWN IN THIS ESTATE IS FOR THEM MUCH MORE DIFFICULT THAN FOR THE YOUNGER FOLK. IN MANY CASES THE YOUNG MARRIED COUPLES ARE ONLY HERE FOR A SHORT WHILE, FOR THE OLD FOLK, THEY HAVE LITTLE CHOICE BUT TO STAY, AND IT MUST BE REMEMBERED THAT MOST OF THEM COME FROM AREAS THROUGHOUT THE CITY WHERE THEY HAVE LIVED MOST OF THEIR LIVES.

BALLYMUN THEN, IS NOT ONLY STRANGE TO THEM, BUT IN SOME CASES TOTALLY ALIEN TO THEIR WHOLE WAY OF LIFE. THEY SUDDENLY FIND THEMSELVES WITHOUT THE FRIENDS AND NEIGHBOURS THEY HAD KNOWN ALL THEIR LIVES, VERY OFTEN STRUGGLING HARD TO MAKE ENDS MEET.

FOR A NOMINAL CHARGE THEY CAN HAVE DINNER TWICE A WEEK IN THE PRE-PABS ON SILLOGE RD.

THIS IS A VOLUNTARY SERVICE BY A NUMBER OF WOMEN, SOME OF WHOM DON'T LIVE IN BALLYMUN.

THE LADY IN CHARGE IS A MRS SINGLETON WHO LIVES ON SILLOGE RD. THESE PEOPLE GIVE A LOT OF THEIR TIME TO HELPING THE OLD FOLK.

THE TENANTS ASSOCIATION HAS PLAYED ITS PART, LIMITED AS IT IS, IN TRYING TO BRING SOME HAPPINESS TO OUR SENIOR CITIZENS. THE MOST RECENT EVENT BEING THE OLD FOLKS CHRISTMAS PARTY.

THIS WAS AN EXTREMELY SUCCESSFUL OCCASION, AND ALL PRESENT HAD A VERY ENJOYABLE EVENING. THE WHOLE THING (DINNER INCLUDED) WAS HELD IN THE UPSTAIRS LOUNGE OF THE TOWERS PUBLIC HOUSE. THERE WAS LOTS OF FOOD, DRINK AND ENTERTAINMENT. THERE WERE PLENTY OF ARTISTS, MOSTLY FREE, INCLUDING COMEDIAN JOHN MOLLOY. THE M.C. FOR THE NIGHT WAS MR BILLY CAMPBELL OF SHANGAN GDNS.

LOTS OF TENANTS HELPED OUT WITH SERVING MEALS, AND THOSE WITH CARS DROVE THE OLD FOLKS HOME WHEN ALL WAS OVER.

FINANCE WAS RAISED BY RUNNING A WEEKLY TURKEY DRAW, AND THERE WAS ALSO A BALLYMUN OLD FOLKS FLAG DAY, WHICH I MIGHT ADD, WAS VERY WELL SUPPORTED BY THE PATRONS OF THE TOWERS PUB.

THE DISAPPOINTING ASPECT OF THE WHOLE THING WAS WHEN THE MANAGER OF THE PENTHOUSE REFUSED TO ALLOW THE COLLECTORS TO SELL FLAGS ON THE PREMISES.

WHEN HE WAS TOLD WHAT IT WAS FOR, AND THAT WE HAD A PERMIT FROM THE GARDAI, HE SAID HE WAS NOT INTERESTED.

MANY BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENTS ALSO CONTRIBUTED TO THE EVENT. THE UPSTAIRS LOUNGE OF THE TOWERS WAS GIVEN FREE THEY ALSO SUPPLIED STAFF AND A LARGE PORTION OF DRINK.

CATERING WAS CARRIED OUT BY A LOCAL RESTAURANT, THE BREEZE-INN, AT A VERY REASONABLE COST. MR BRENNAN, THE PROPRIETOR, SUPERVISING THE MAIN MEAL. IT WAS WITHOUT A DOUBT THE BEST PARTY THE OLD FOLKS EVER HAD.

HOWEVER, ALL OF THIS WILL NOT SOLVE THEIR MANY REAL, AND SOMETIMES HIDDEN PROBLEMS. WE CAN ONLY HOPE TO MAKE THINGS A BIT HAPPIER FOR THEM. WE CAN HELP OUT ALSO BY SHOWING A LITTLE CONSIDERATION TOWARDS OUR SENIOR CITIZENS. THIS APPLIES ESPECIALLY TO DUBLIN CORPORATION, DUBLIN GAS CO E.S.B. AND THE OTHER PUBLIC BODIES, SOCIAL WELFARE ETC, WITH WHOM THEY HAVE TO DEAL.

FINALLY WITHOUT FINANCE IT WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE FOR B.E.T.A. TO GIVE THE OLD FOLKS SUCH A PARTY, AND A GREAT DEAL OF THE CREDIT FOR THIS MUST GO TO TWO PEOPLE, TOMMY NOONE OF SHANGAN GDNS AND TOMMY WALSH OF SHANGAN RD. BOTH OF WHOM SOLD MOST OF THE TICKETS FOR THE TURKEY DRAW, AND ALSO WORKED HARD COLLECTING ON THE FLAG DAY.

P.S. ALSO WORTHY OF MENTION THE BOY WHO PLAYED THE MANDOLINE, (I DON'T KNOW HIS NAME) HE DID A GREAT JOB. JOE BENNETT, BALCURRIS RD, HAD EVERYONE LAUGHING AND VINCENT CRONIN, SHANGAN AVE, DID A COUPLE OF TURNS ON THE GUITAR.

support your  
**TENANTS**  
**ASSOC.**

## COMMUNITY

FOR THE PAST SIX FROM BALLYMUN HAVE THE ANNUAL COLLATION THIS YEAR DO NOT LIN, BUT EXTENDING COUNTRY. BALLYMUN AS USUAL ABOUT THREE WEEKS OF PEOPLE CONCERN ATTENDED A MEETING AIRS LOUNGE OF THE AFTER A LENGTHY PROVISIONAL COMMITTEE ELECTED TO RUN THE GAMES IN BALLYMUN GODFREY OF SHANGAN INATED BY B.E.T.A. DELEGATE TO COMMISSION AND MR J O'BRIEN DELEGATE. THE CH PROVISIONAL COMMITTEE O'DONOVAN 28 SHA THE EDITORIAL BOARD NEWS WOULD LIKE OPPORTUNITY TO BE INVOLVED IN THIS EVERY POSSIBLE S

## DUAL—CARRIAGEWAY

WHEN WORK STARTED ON THE PROJECT A DEPUTATION CALLED TO DUBLIN OFFICES IN CLARE. THEY HAD DISCUSSED MASTERTSON, FORMER OF BALLYMUN. MEMBERS OF THE DUAL CAR WERE ASKED HIM IF IT TO RUN A DUAL CAR THROUGH BALLYMUN TO THE DANGERS, TO CHILDREN, IF TRACK WAS ALLOWED IN A BUILT-UP AREA THAT OF BALLYMUN THEY WERE TOLD THAT NO SUCH THING HOWEVER, AT A LATER DATE WAS DISCOVERED THAT A DUAL CAR WAS BEING BUILT AT THAT LATE STAGE. NOTHING COULD BE DONE NEVERTHELESS THE DUAL CAR GOT ASSURANCES FROM DUBLIN CORPORATION THAT WOULD NOT BE PUT OFF ON BOTH SIDES. THE B.E.T.A. HAVE BEEN IN TOUCH WITH DUBLIN CORPORATION AND A SHORT WHILE AGO RECEIVED A LETTER FROM MR O'NEIL, ADMINISTRATOR OF DUBLIN COUNTY COUNCIL EFFECT THAT DUAL CAR WILL BE ERECTED ALONG BOTH SIDES OF CARRIAGEWAY. THE RAILING WALL WILL BE ERECTED IS DELIVERED. NO DOUBT THAT B.E.T.A. WILL BE INVOLVED IN THIS AND WITH THE COUNCIL THE TENANTS CAN DO A LOT MORE.

all articles  
letters submitted  
publication  
name and  
of writer



# TALK

## News Views AND Comment

### COMMUNITY GAMES

FOR THE PAST SIX YEARS CHILDREN FROM BALLYMUN HAVE COMPETED IN THE ANNUAL COMMUNITY GAMES. THIS YEAR DO NOT ONLY COVER DUBLIN, BUT EXTEND THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY. BALLYMUN WILL BE THERE AS USUAL.

ABOUT THREE WEEKS AGO A NUMBER OF PEOPLE CONCERNED WITH SPORTS ATTENDED A MEETING IN THE UPSTAIRS LOUNGE OF THE TOWERS. AFTER A LENGTHY DISCUSSION A PROVISIONAL COMMITTEE WAS ELECTED TO RUN THIS YEAR'S GAMES IN BALLYMUN. MR NOEL GODFREY OF SHANGAN GDNS WAS NOMINATED BY B.E.T.A. AS BALLYMUN DELEGATE TO COMMUNITY GAMES 1973. AND MR J O'BRIEN IS OBSERVER DELEGATE. THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PROVISIONAL COMMITTEE IS MR O'DONOVAN 28 SHANGAN AVENUE. THE EDITORIAL BOARD OF BALLYMUN NEWS WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO WISH ALL THOSE INVOLVED IN THIS YEARS GAMES EVERY POSSIBLE SUCCESS.

### DUAL—CARRIAGEWAY

WHEN WORK STARTED ON THIS PROJECT A DEPUTATION FROM B.E.T.A. CALLED TO DUBLIN CORPORATION OFFICES IN CLARKE TOWER WHERE THEY HAD DISCUSSIONS WITH MR MASTERSON, FORMERLY IN CHARGE OF BALLYMUN.

MEMBERS OF THE DEPUTATION ASKED HIM IF IT WAS INTENDED TO RUN A DUAL CARRIAGEWAY THROUGH BALLYMUN. THEY POINTED TO THE DANGERS, PARTICULARLY TO CHILDREN, IF SUCH A SPEED TRACK WAS ALLOWED TO BE BUILT IN A BUILT-UP AREA SUCH AS THAT OF BALLYMUN.

THEY WERE TOLD BY MR MASTERSON THAT NO SUCH THING WAS INTENDED HOWEVER, AT A LATER DATE IT WAS DISCOVERED THAT IT WAS IN FACT A DUAL CARRIAGEWAY WHICH WAS BEING BUILT.

AT THAT LATE STAGE THERE WAS NOTHING COULD BE DONE ABOUT IT NEVERTHELESS THEY SOUGHT AND GOT ASSURANCES FROM DUBLIN CORPORATION THAT THE NEW ROAD WOULD NOT BE FULLY OPENED UNTIL IT WAS PROPERLY RAILED OFF ON BOTH SIDES.

THE B.E.T.A. HAS SINCE BEEN IN TOUCH WITH THE GARDAI, DUBLIN CORPORATION AND DUBLIN COUNTY COUNCIL REGARDING SAME, AND A SHORT WHILE AGO THEY RECEIVED A LETTER DATED 6/3/73 FROM MR O'NEILL, FOR SENIOR ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER DUBLIN COUNTY COUNCIL, TO THE EFFECT THAT DUBLIN CORPORATION WILL BE ERECTING A RAILING ALONG BOTH SIDES OF THE DUAL CARRIAGEWAY.

THE RAILING WHICH IS ON ORDER WILL BE ERECTED AS SOON AS IT IS DELIVERED. THERE CAN BE NO DOUBT THAT B.E.T.A. WAS INSTRUMENTAL IN THIS BEING DONE, AND WITH THE CO-OPERATION OF THE TENANTS CAN ACHIEVE A LOT MORE.

### COMMUNITY CENTRE?

It is rumoured that the site staked out between Pearse Tower and the Comprehensive School is the site for the Community Centre, and if there is any truth in the rumour then the corporations mad. The patch of land we refer to might just about be big enough for a decent sized shop, but unless they intend to build as high as the Tower it won't do for a Community Centre to accommodate Ballymun's huge population.



THOMAS WALSH (TREASURER) B.E.T.A.

ONE WOULD GLADLY FALL IN UPON SOME CORNER OF THE WORLD WHERE MEN WHO THREATEN LOUD HAVE SOME MOTION OF PUTTING THEIR THREATS INTO EXECUTION.

JOHN MITCHEL



DIGGING THEIR WAY TO A SWIMMING POOL. MEMBERS AND SUPPORTERS OF B.E.T.A.

## IN MEMORIAM

MRS. A. ELSE. AN APPRECIATION

WHEN MEMBERS OF THE B.E.T.A. WERE FILLING IN THE HOLES LEFT ON THE SWIMMING POOL SITE BY THE DEVELOPMENT CO. ONE WOMAN WAS INVARIABLY TO BE SEEN DOING A MAN'S SHARE OF THE WORK, THAT WOMAN WAS MRS. A. ELSE OF BALBUTCHER LANE WHO DIED ABOUT THIS TIME LAST YEAR.

MRS. ELSE WAS A QUIET, DIGNIFIED WOMAN, NOT FOND OF TALKING FOR THE SAKE OF IT BUT ALWAYS ABLE TO MAKE THE MOST RELEVANT COMMENT WHEN SHE DID SPEAK.

AS A RESULT OF HER WORK AT ALL LEVELS, MEETINGS, NEGOTIATIONS AND NOT LEAST, PROTESTS, THE CHILDREN OF BALLYMUN WILL SOON HAVE A SWIMMING POOL OF THEIR OWN.

IF DUBLIN CORPORATION WISH TO DEDICATE THE POOL TO ANY-ONE, THEN THE BALLYMUN NEWS RESPECTFULLY SUGGESTS—AND WE KNOW THAT ALL WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE FIGHT TO WIN A POOL FOR BALLYMUN WILL AGREE—THAT IT BE DEDICATED TO MRS. ANNE ELSE.

### WHAT CAN YOU DO ?

Ballymun like everywhere else must have it's share of poets, artists, writers, critics etc. Do you write, sketch, compose, or feel strongly enough about the Arts to stick your neck out by becoming a critic ?

The Ballymun News would welcome contributions from any tenant.

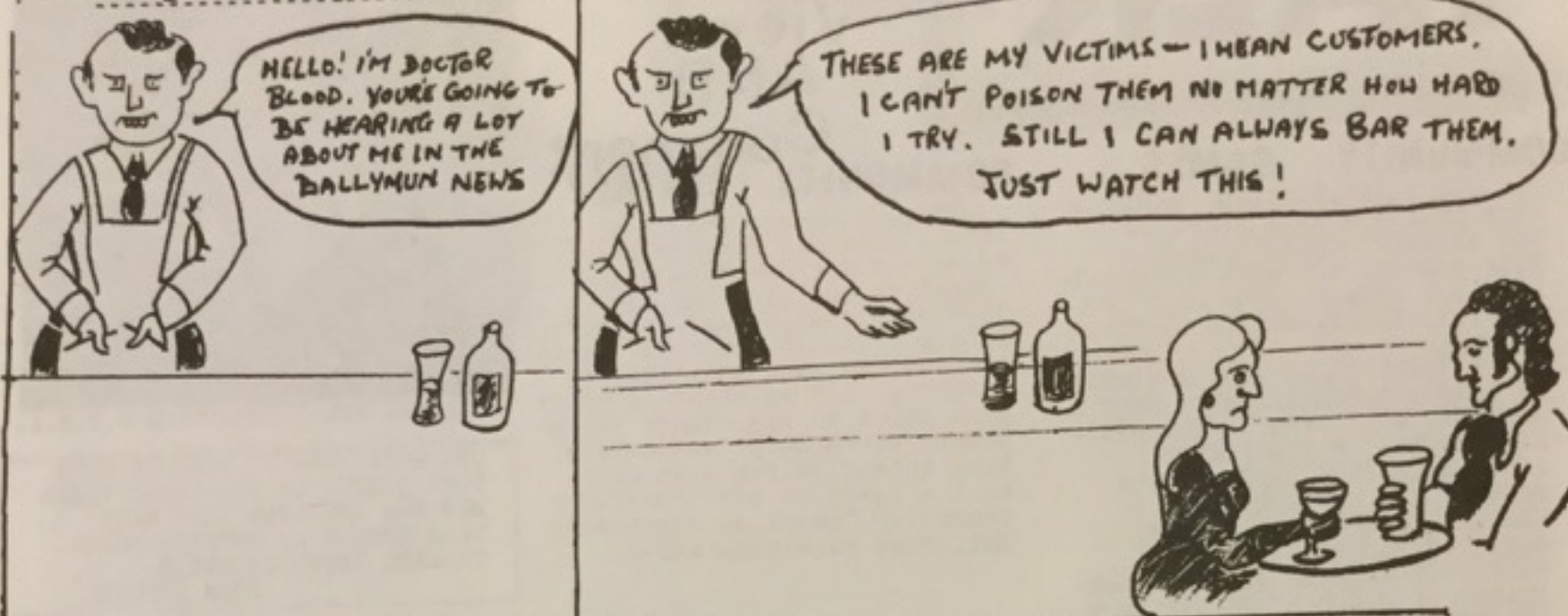
If you have a special talent, don't hide it. Contact any member of the Editorial Board.



TOMMY NOONE. (COMMITTEE) B.E.T.A.

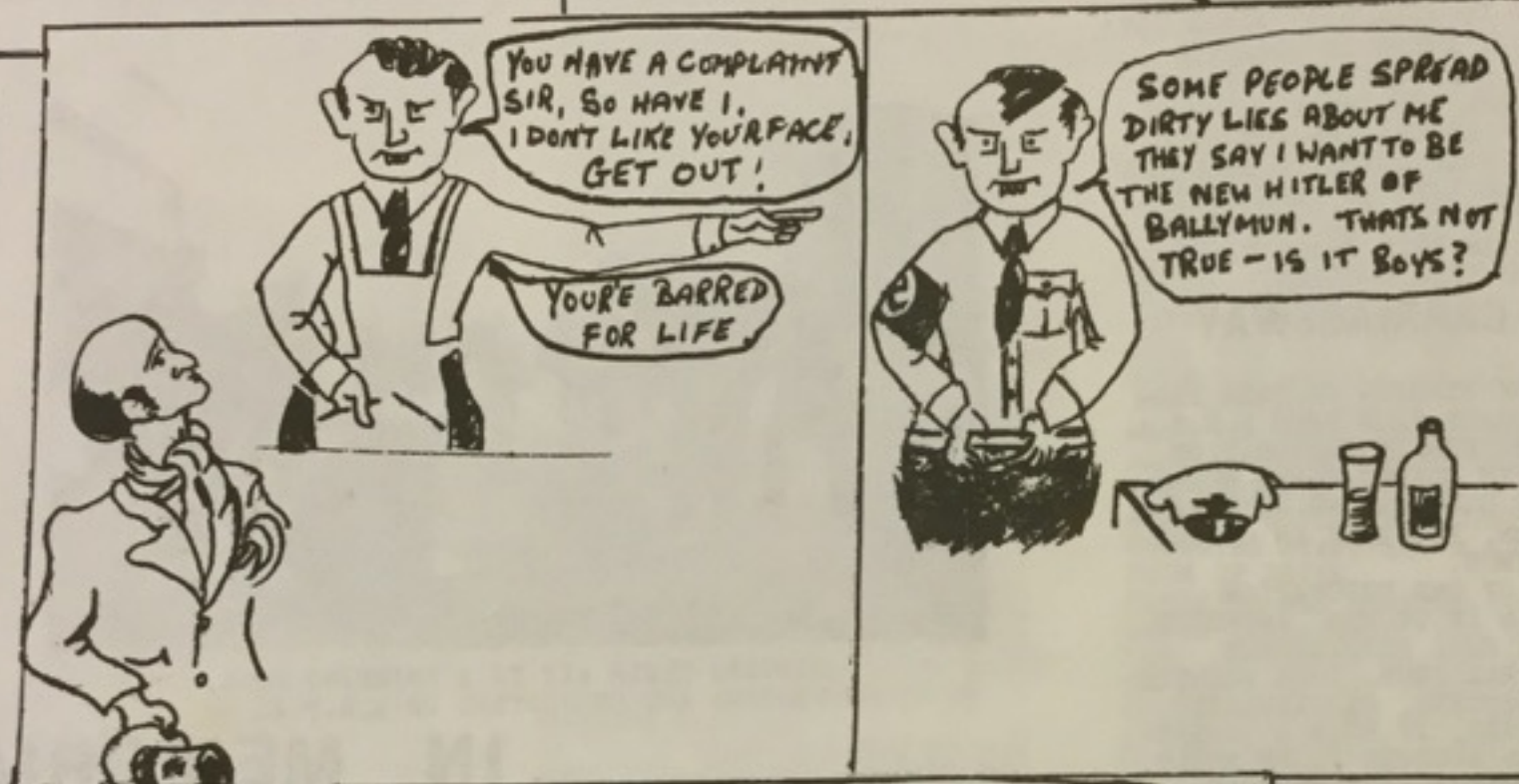
all articles or letters submitted for publication must have name and address of writer.



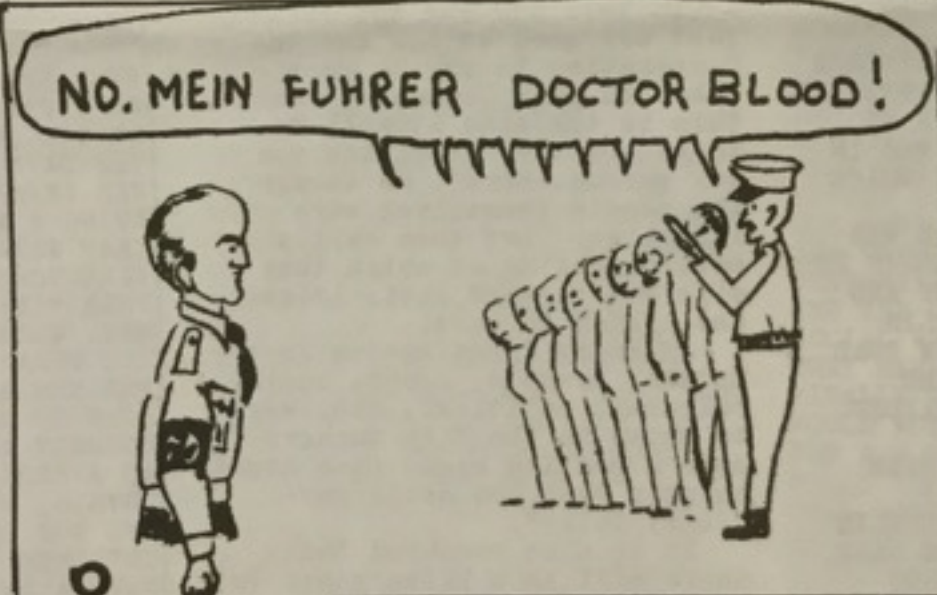


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again!

Well what do you think of our cartoon strip, Dr Blood? Does he resemble your favourite barmen? Seriously, though the draconian powers being given to barmen at the moment (especially in ballymun) are frightening. The huge majority of barmen on the Estate are decent and bloody hardworking. They do a difficult job under the most trying circumstances. Dr Blood is of the other variety. The horn bully boy. The beggar on horseback. The type of man who responds to the mildest criticism as though his parentage had been called into question. You will find the Dr Blood in all walks of life, but when you get one in a public house (more

so if he gets a position of authority) then he becomes a cause of otherwise avoidable trouble. Men like Dr. Blood start rows themselves and then run to the police and the courts for protection, which they invariably get. At this point we are not arguing in favour of customers walking into a pub and thumping the barmen because they get a bad pint. Far from it. But there is a vast difference between that and complaining about the quality of a pint for which you have paid 18 or 19 pence. That is surely a customers privilege. To give an example; one very respectable middle-aged couple were barred the from

Penthouse because the husband had the audacity to point out that the wrong tonic waters had been placed in their drinks. We could go on and on, but anyone in Ballymun who takes a drink could give a hundred such examples. Some laughable in their stupidity. Some nasty in their implications. Some justified, some totally unjustified. To sum the entire thing up, Ballymun people are confined for their entertainment to the two pubs on the Estate. Management of both pubs accept that the people of this scheme- the ordinary working class people- have as much right to to back page.

## skibbereen

Oh! Father dear, I oft times hear you speak of Erin's Isle. Its lofty hills and valleys green. Its country crude and wild. They say it is a lovely land wherin a prince might dwell. Ah! why did you abandon it. The reason to me tell.

Ah! Son I loved my native land with energy and pride. Until a blight came o'er the land. My sheep and cattle died. The rent and taxes were too high, then I could not rede. And that's the cruel reason I left old Skibbereen.

Ah! Well do I remember that cruel December day, The landlord and the sheriff came to drive us all away. They set the house on fire with their cruel English sp. And that's another reason why I left old Skibbereen.

Your mother too, God rest soul, lay on the snowy ground. She fainted in her anguish seeing the desolation round. She never woke, but passed away, from sleep to mortal dream. And found a quiet grave my in dear old Skibbereen.

Ah! you were only two years and feeble was your frame. I could not leave you with friends. You bore your father's name. I wrapped you in my cot. In the dead of night unseen. I heaved a sigh and bade goodbye to dear old Skibbereen.

Oh! father dear, the day came, when vengeance loud we call. When Irishmen with feeling stern, will rally one and I'll be the man to lead the band, beneath the flag of And loud and high, we'll the cry. Revenge for Skibbereen.

## Joe Hill

I dreamed I saw JOE HILL night, Alive as you and me, Said I, but Joe you're ten years dead", "I never died", he, I never died", said he.

The copper bosses shot you. They filled you full of lead. Takes more than guns to kill a man, said Joe, and I aint dead. Said Joe "and I aint dead".

Then standing there as last night, and smiling with his Said Joe, "what they forg. Kill went on to organise, On to organise".

From Santiago up to Maine. In every mine and mill. Where working men defend Rights, its there you'll Joe Hill, its there you'll Joe Hill.

I dreamed I saw Joe Hill last night. Alive as you or me. Said I but Joe, your'e ten years dead, I never died said he. I never died, said he.



AN CUSTOMERS.  
MATTER HOW HARD  
WAYS BAR THEM.  
!



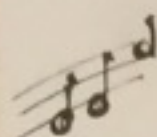
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# BALLADS

p9



## skibbereen

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The reason to me tell.

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Until a blight came o'er the  
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And thats the cruel reason why  
I left old Skibbereen.

Ah! Well do I remember that  
cruel December day,  
The landlord and the sheriff  
came to drive us all away  
They set the house on fire  
with their cruel English spleen  
And thats another reason why  
I left old Skibbereen.

Your mother too, God rest her  
soul, lay on the snowy ground  
She fainted in her anguish  
seeing the desolation round  
She never woke, but passed  
away, from sleep to mortal  
dream  
And found a quiet grave my boy  
in dear old Skibbereen.

Ah! you were only two years old  
and feeble was your frame  
I could not leave you with my  
friends  
You bore your father's name  
I wrapped you in my cota mor  
in the dead of night unseen  
I heaved a sigh and bade  
goodbye to dear old Skibbereen.

Oh! father dear, the day will  
come, when vengeance loud will  
call  
When Irishmen with feelings  
stern, will rally one and all  
I'll be the man to lead the  
band, beneath the flag of green  
And loud and high, we'll raise  
the cry  
Revenge for Skibbereen.

## Joe Hill

I dreamed I saw JOE HILL last  
night,  
Alive as you and me,  
Said I, but Joe you're ten  
years dead", "I never died said  
he, I never died", said he.

The copper bosses shot you down  
They filled you full of lead  
Takes more than guns to kill a  
Man, said Joe, and I aint dead",  
Said Joe "and I aint dead"..

Then standing there as large as  
Life, and smiling with his eyes,  
Said Joe, "what they forgot to  
Kill went on to organise, went  
On to organise".

From Santiago up to Maine  
In every mine and mill  
Where working men defend their  
Rights, its there you'll find  
Joe Hill, its there you'll find  
Joe Hill.

I dreamed I saw Joe Hill  
last night  
Alive as you or me  
Said I but Joe, your'e ten  
years dead,  
I never died said he. I  
never died, said he.

## Séan Treacey

Give me a parabellum and a  
couple of hundred shells  
Lead me to the murder gang, Ill  
blow them all to hell  
For just today I heard them say  
How Treacey met his doom  
Ah! Lovely Sean you're dead  
and gone  
Shot down in Talbot Street.

They took the front, they took  
the back,  
They were all around the place,  
Waiting for the word attack, to  
set the house ablaze,  
But how those English soldiers  
cowered  
When out into the night,  
Sean Treacey sent a hail of  
death  
Challenging them to fight.

Come on, he cried, come show  
your worth, you've boasted for  
so long  
How you could crush the Irish  
with your armies great and  
strong  
Come show this metal which you  
say, will make the whole  
world reel.  
Come show it all and then I'll  
show  
I'll show Tipperary steel.

He held them off as best he  
could, outnumbered ten to one  
He spilled a bath of English  
blood, before his race was done  
No! Surrender, No! Surrender!  
was his cry,  
And never no retreat!  
Sean Treacey fell, our hero died  
Shot down in Talbot Street.

## In Contempt

Build high, build wide your  
prison wall  
That there be room enough for  
all  
Who hold you in contempt,  
build wide  
That all the land be locked  
inside.

Though you have seized the  
valiant few  
Whose glory casts a shade  
on you  
How can you now go home with  
ease  
Jangling your heavy dungeon  
keys.

The birds who still inist on  
song  
The sunlit stream still runnin  
strong  
The flowers still blazing red  
and blue  
All, all are in contempt of  
you.

The parents dreaming still of  
peace  
The playful children, the wild  
geese  
Who still must fly, the  
mountains too,  
All are in contempt of you.

When you have seized both moon  
and sun  
And jailed the poems one by one  
And trapped each trouble- mak-  
ing breeze,  
Then you can throw away your  
keys.

## Tim Finnegan

Tim Finnegan lived in Watling St  
A gentleman Irish mighty odd  
He had a brogue both rich and  
sweet,  
And to rise in the world he  
carried a hod.  
But Tim had a bit of a tipplers  
way,  
With a love of the liquor he  
was born,  
And to send him on his way each  
day,  
he'd a drop of crayther every  
morn.

### CHORUS

Whack fol de da, will you dance  
with your partner,  
Walt the floor with your  
trotters shake,  
Isnt it the truth I told You,  
Lots of fun at Finnegan's Wake.

One morning Tim felt very full,  
His head felt heavy and it made  
him shake,  
He fell off the ladder and he  
broke his skull  
And they carried him home, his  
corpse to wake.  
They wrapped him up in a nice  
clean sheet,  
And laid him out upon the bed.  
With a barrel of porter at his  
feet  
And a gallon of whiskey at his  
head.

### CHORUS

His friends assembled at the  
wake  
And Mrs. finnegan called for  
lunch,  
Well first she handed tay and  
cakes,  
Then pipes tobacco and brandy  
punch.  
Then the Widow Malone began to  
cry,  
Such a lovely corpse did you  
ever see,  
Ah! Tim Avourneen, why did you  
die  
Will you hold your gob said  
Molly Maaaa.

### CHORUS

Then Biddy Moloney took up the  
job,  
Ah! Biddy said she your'e wrong  
I'M sure.  
Then Biddy fetched her a belt  
on the gob,  
And left her sprawling on the  
floor.  
Oh! Civil war did then engage,  
Woman to woman and man to man,  
Shillelagh law was all the rage,  
And a row and a ruction seen  
began.

### CHOROUS.

Mickey Moloney ducked his head,  
When a bottle of whiskey flew  
at him.  
He ducked, it landed on the bed  
The whiskey scattered over Tim.  
Bedad he revives and see how he  
rises,  
Tim Finnegan rising from the bed  
Saying twirl your whiskey around  
like blazes,  
Be the thundering Jaysus, do  
you think I'm dead.

### PIG-SICK

AFTER CROSSING THE BORDER INTO  
MONAGHAN, A BRITISH SOLDIER  
WENT ON TO A FARM, GRABBED A  
CHICKEN AND PUT IT UNDER HIS  
COAT, BUT THE FARMER SAW HIM-  
FARMER- "HEY! COME BACK WITH  
THAT PIG!" SOLDIER-"THIS IS'NT  
A PIG", FARMER- "I'M NOT TALK-  
ING TO YOU I'M TALKING TO THE  
CHICKEN".



# HEERY • CRONIN • BOYLE

## the three musketeers

According to the Peter Principle people are promoted to their level of incompetence. In other words, a good policeman is made a sergeant, should he prove to be a bad sergeant he will remain one until he retires. On the other hand, should he turn out to be a very successful sergeant he goes a step higher until eventually he is promoted to the job he can't do. At that point he stops.

There are obvious exceptions to this rule but none as obvious as the three people listed above Mr. Heery, who is Chief Eviction Officer for Dublin Corporation, Mr. Cronin who is in charge of the E.S.B. office in Finglas, and last but not least, Mr Boyle who was sent to Ballymun to prove a theory long cherished by that body; that you can in fact squeeze blood from a stone.

Before proceeding further let me make it quite clear that I am not accusing these men of being in any way incompetent at their jobs, quite the reverse in fact; if for instance, the Corporation Official whose job it is to put people in houses showed half the enthusiasm that Mr. Heery shows in putting people out- why then, nobody in this City would be homeless. The same can be said of the other two. Mr. Cronin has knocked off more lights in Ballymun than Hitler did in Europe; Mr. Boyle is attempting, singlehanded, to reduce the debt of almost £100m. his employers owe to the American Banks.

Reluctantly then I must criticise Messrs. Heery, Boyle and Cronin, not for doing their jobs badly, but for doing them too bloody well. Lets examine them one by one, beginning with Mr. Heery.

I have actually come across a case where Mr. Fox, who is Heerys superior in the hierarchical structure of Dublin Corporation, was willing to make a settlement with a tenant due for eviction. Before doing so he had to ask for Mr. Heerys advice. Mr. Heery said no and the tenant was duly evicted. Those present when Mr. Heery arrived to carry out the eviction swear that he smiled while doing so, obviously to show that he had no hard feelings. If this is true it shows the magnanimity of the man. But even if he laughed his head off while the furniture was being put outside the door it would not alter the fact that a man, a woman and their children were being thrown out of their home and he was the man doing the job.

In terms of job satisfaction Mr. Heery is a contented man; he is a square peg in a square hole. One might even say of him that he has made a hobby of his work. Yet I can't help wondering what he thinks of when he is not out riding to the badlands of Ballymun with the Sheriffs posse. when he is sitting down having a quiet pint or sticking stamps in his stamp album does he ever recall the frightened faces of the many women and children he has evicted? Does he ever tremble at the thought of the many husbands and fathers he has given cause to hate his very guts?

At this point we are announcing details of a new type of competition entitled- How many people has Mr. Heery evicted?

500 ? 5,000 ? 50,000 ?

Place an x in the box you think contains the correct figure. The sender of the first correct entry opened will receive two truck loads of obsolete "Notices to Quit" and a framed portrait of Mr. Heery himself, which can be mounted outside the front door to frighten away evil spirits and debt collectors.

## lights out

And so to Mr. Cronin! What can you say about a man who would cut off your light because you owe the E.S.B. five pounds? You could perhaps wish he had been in charge of the Cabra Branch when the Gardai in that area were allowed to run up a bill of over £200 before they were disconnected. And you might be very wrong. Perhaps Mr. Cronin is a realist; perhaps he accepts the fundamental dictum of our Society - "Do unto others if by you are sure that they can't do likewise unto you." After all an E.S.B. official who would stick his neck out so far as to cut off a policeman's light couldn't expect much help from the Gardai if he was found drunk while driving. Be that as it may, Mr. Cronin seems to confine his activities to working class areas such as Ballymun.

On what grounds then do we include Mr. Cronin in this list? To begin with we would point out that flats in Ballymun are dependent to an unusual extent on artificial light. The bathrooms for example have no windows, nor do the hallways. So when Mr. Cronin decides to disconnect a family in Ballymun he condemns them to a life of darkness; a darkness experienced by few other than the caveman. While accepting that a man in Mr. Cronin's position cannot be bothered with the problems of a mother nursing a sick child in the dark, or the children struggling to do their homework by candlelight, yet we cannot help but wish that the E.S.B. would promote Mr. Cronin and replace him with a less efficient disconnecter.

## DON JUAN?

Last but not least- Mr. Boyle. And here we come up against the greatest problem of all. For with Mr. Boyle no personal criticism can be levelled. To all who have come in contact with him Mr. Boyle epitomises charm, understanding, and above all else, a willingness to come to terms. So let me make this clear at the outset, the objections we have refer to Mr. Boyles job and not to the man himself. To make the issue very simple, Mr. Boyle is entitled to enter any home in Ballymun- legally if he wishes. He would never need to insist of course because the majority of women- and bear in mind that husbands would seldom be at home when Mr. Boyle calls- anyway the majority of women would be afraid to refuse him entry. So the position then is that Mr. Boyle is in the flat or house, his job is to reach an agreement with the woman as to whether or not the Corporation will accept so much per week off her arrears, or will insist that she pay it all at once.

Just imagine for a moment that the Corporation official alone in the flat with an unfortunate woman, desperate to keep a roof over her childrens heads, is not a man of Mr. Boyles high moral calibre. If for instance

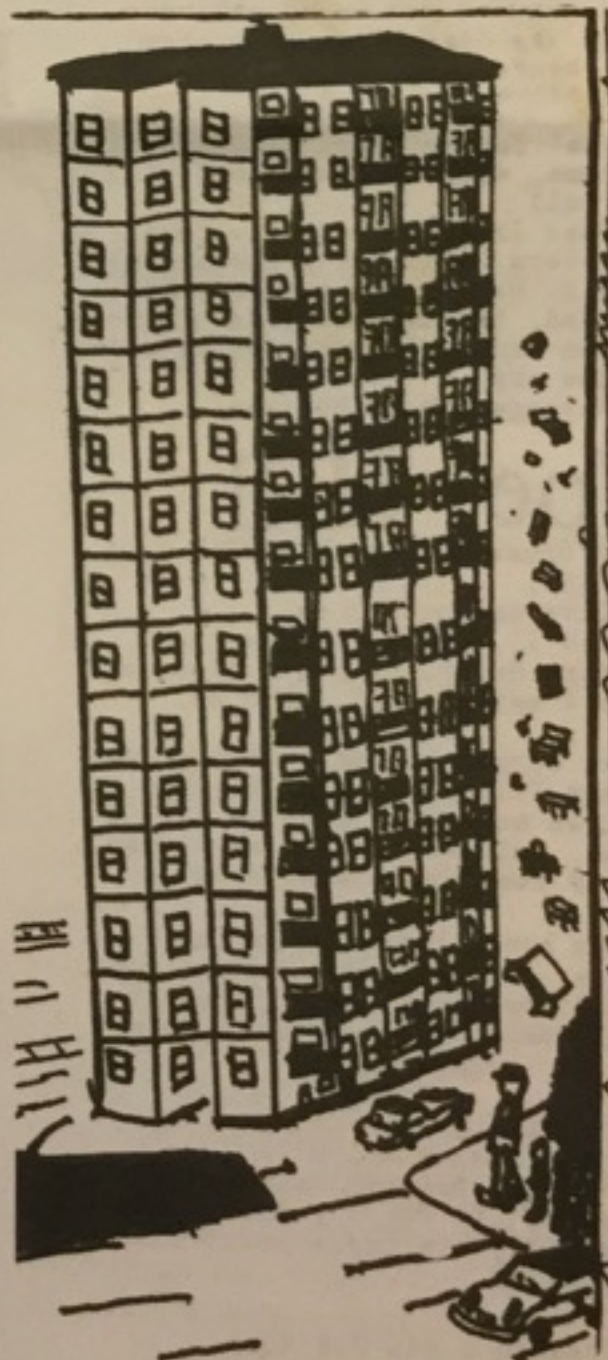
he is a low type, willing to take advantage of such a situation, then the mind boggles at the foul deeds a sex-maniac, armed with the authority of Dublin Corporation, might perpetrate. Fortunately we have a man of Mr. Boyles calibre doing the job so we can set our minds at rest, for now anyway.

The questions to be asked though are surely-----

- (1). Should a job such as Mr. Boyles exist?
- (2). Should not a responsible body such as Dublin Corporation conduct its business in a responsible manner, i.e. written communications and official appointments instead of, as at present, highly irregular tete-a-tetes.
- (3). Can we be certain that Mr. Boyles successor, should he have one, will be the perfect gentleman Mr. Boyle is.

So there we have them. Mr. Boyle who helps people see the light. Mr. Cronin who leaves them in the dark, and Mr. Heery who makes the other two seem irrelevant. We have them and the question then is- what do we do with them. Perhaps you gentle reader, may have some suggestions. All replies will be treated in strictest confidence before being passed on to Chief Supt. Fleming of the Special Branch.

In next months issue we will have a pen-portrait of that same Chief Supt. Fleming entitled "A Servant of the Crown". Order your copy now to avoid disappointment.



the sheriff  
at work

The title of may seem to suggest Ballymun News is run a bathing for the housewife area. Such is though such a well prove to be

The headline le refers to a by Dr. David Th recent meeting upstairs lounge

Dr. Thornley of the manner icians were para of the people to re an election usual promises. account of the decide for your

In the chair meeting opened from the local his right a mem Community Assoc left an unident. A very efficient secretary sat to the "Committee to

After a brief preamble, during Chairman explain meeting had been bring together people concerned on the Estate, the Dublin Corpora present- a the "Environment to present the Corporation to Mr. Byrne then improvements the had brought about er football pitch

that the plans were very much Dublin Corporati present involved action concerning purchase of land tate. They had but the landloring. However the plans in the pduce a 1 million plex he wasnt where- but it w far from Ballym in fact Santry

Mr. Byrne also swimming pool w completed until In reply to qu floor as to how dren the propos ples would acco Byrne said that found in other

more than 20% of youth in any use of sports f member of B.E.T for once we wer with Dublin Cor the B.E.T.A. re would fight for of sports facil hate to see the let off the hood a few pavillion B.E.T.A. sought Community Centr sections of the could use from Pensioner down group infants.

then thrown ope present and som able comments w Social Workers, Priests, T.D.s etc.etc. Unfo



# THE BALLYMUN MISS UNIVERSE CONTEST

The title of this article may seem to suggest that the Ballymun News is about to run a bathing beauty contest for the housewives of the area. Such is not the case though such a contest might well prove to be revealing.

The headline to our article refers to a remark made by Dr. David Thornley at a recent meeting held in the upstairs lounge of the Towers.

Dr. Thornley was critical of the manner in which politicians were paraded in front of the people two weeks before an election to make the usual promises. Read an account of the meeting and decide for yourself.

In the chair when the meeting opened was a Sergeant from the local station. On his right a member of the Community Assoc. and on his left an unidentified man. A very efficient looking secretary sat to the rear of the "Committee taking notes."

After a brief opening preamble, during which the Chairman explained that the meeting had been called to bring together all the people concerned with sport on the Estate, he invited the Dublin Corporation official present - a Mr. Byrne of the "Environmental Section" to present the case for the Corporation to the meeting. Mr. Byrne then mentioned the improvements the Corporation had brought about, all weather football pitches. He said that the plans for Ballymun were very much (up in the air) Dublin Corporation was at present involved in a Court action concerning compulsory purchase of land, on the Estate. They had won the case but the landlord was appealing. However there were plans in the pipeline to produce a 1 million sports complex he wasn't willing to say where - but it wouldn't be very far from Ballymun. (It is in fact Santry Stadium). Mr. Byrne also said that the swimming pool will not be completed until next Oct. In reply to questions from the floor as to how many children the proposed sports complex would accommodate Mr. Byrne said that the D.C. had found in other areas that no more than 20% at the very most of youth in any area made use of sports facilities. A member of B.E.T.A. said that for once we were in agreement with Dublin Corporation. While the B.E.T.A. recognised and would fight for the provision of sports facilities they would hate to see the Corporation let off the hook by providing a few pavillions. What the B.E.T.A. sought was a proper Community Centre, one that all sections of the community could use from the Old age Pensioner down to the play group infants. The floor was then thrown open to those present and some very remarkable comments were made by Social Workers, Teachers, Priests, T.D.s Sportsmen, etc.etc. Unfortunately

tenants were conspicuous by their absence. Quite a number of those present attacked the parents of Ballymun for their apathy. When the writer of this report pointed out that those same parents had not been informed that the meeting was even taking place nobody thought it of any great importance.

Apart from Dr. Thornley's joke the howler of the night came from Nurse Roberts of Eastern Regional Health Board. She said that single bedroom flats would make ideal playgroups for children and the way to go about getting them would be to evict the many people who were abusing them and would not pay rent. The Eastern Regional Health Board certainly allows its nurses lots of scope.

The Ballymun News has enough confidence in the decency in the tenants of this Estate not to believe for one moment that they would like to see a family thrown out of their home to provide playgroups - much as we need them. By all accounts Nurse Roberts is an excellent nurse. She should stick to her last and leave evictions to Mr. Keery.

As the evening wore on it became painfully clear that all these people making plans for the future of our children had failed to do one elementary thing, they had failed to ask our permission or even to invite us to their meeting. And while it must be recognised that the people of Ballymun need all the assistance they can get, the people offering help must in turn appreciate that the parents are not complete fools, that they themselves have ideas as to what facilities their children need and how best to go about getting them. If this fact was accepted we could all work in harmony.

The Ballymun Miss Universe Contest resulted in a walk-over for David Thornley.



## STOLE THE SHOW

IN Western Europe, as in America, we are living through the dying stages of a sick society. The book of rules, - if it ever existed - is long since scrapped. Television pounds the message home night after night; get your share while the gettings good. An ex-Deputy loses his seat in Mayo and his only comment is, "I don't care, I made my money out of it". Fly-boys like Tony O'Reilly make vast fortunes (mostly tax free) while old age pensioners starve. If mature men find it difficult to retain a sense of balance how much more difficult must it be for teenagers, especially working class teenagers?

One can understand the people, bewildered by the ever increasing violence, who advocate a return to the birch and the cat-o-nine-tails. The methods they advocate, however are hardly logical. Unless one considered it equally logical that to drop the H-bomb would solve all our problems.

What then would we suggest? Initially we believe that people like Tim. Floodgate and Tony Green of the Eamonn Ceannt Youth Club have the answer. In the long term we believe that only when Irish society is cured of its present sickness will its problems be solved. When working class children can see beyond doubt that the amenities of their areas belong to them and that they have real equality in living standards, in education, in opportunity, work and play) in environment, and not least, before the law, Then and only then, will they have respect for that which is theirs.

## SCHOOLS DAMAGE, WHY?

The damage caused to St. Pappins Hall and The Virgin Mary School has shocked all tenants; that such a thing can happen may seem incomprehensible to many, and as a result there are lots of questions being asked. For instance, where were the Gardai at the time? Not in Ballymun surely.

Quite a number of tenants are convinced that the Guards divide their time between the Shopping Centre and the Dual- Carriageway. This is not completely true but you can't blame people thinking it to be.

The danger, as we see it, is that people will over-react to the whole thing. An example of this is the report that a local Priest is thinking in terms of setting up Vigilantes. While Vigilante groups may be justified in extreme situations, (as in the Six- Counties at present) we hardly think they are needed in Ballymun just yet.

GET YOUR TICKET FOR THE SWEEP.

Gambling promises the poor what Property performs for the rich; that is why the bishops dare not denounce it fundamentally.

G. B. SHAW.



# SCHOOL MEALS

the facts?  
what are

Children attending schools within the area controlled by Dublin Corporation are entitled to free school meals, you live in a flat or house in Ballymun, you pay your rent and rates to the Corporation, yet your children are not entitled to school meals. Why?

The reason for this very stupid situation goes back to the very beginning of Ballymun. The land on which the scheme is built is within the Co. Council area, and though everybody knows that both the Council and the Corporation are controlled by the same Dept of Government, (Local Government), yet both of these bodies had to reach an agreement as to who would be responsible for collecting rents, sweeping the roads etc, etc.

There are many different versions of this agreement, suffice it to say that the formula eventually worked out resulted in the majority of tenants paying rent and rates to Dublin Corporation yet being judged as living in the Co. Council area. This in turn means that the children of the Estate are disqualified from receiving free school meals.

Now since school meals are paid for out of the rates paid to Dublin Corporation, and since you pay those rates, even a fool would see the blatant injustice of this. The previous Minister for Local Government was fond of acting the fool when it came to dealing with the problems of Ballymun. Just consider some of his replies when asked about providing school meals

"I have no power to make such an order. The legislation governing these schemes empowers County Borough Councils, Urban District Councils, and Town Commissioners to arrange for the provision of meals in their areas. The schools in the Ballymun Estate lie outside the Dublin Corporation area and

do not come within the the Dublin Corporation school meals scheme. 9-11-71.

Or consider the Parliamentary Secretary's reply to a similar question; "Meals may also be provided by Local Authorities to children attending National schools situated in prescribed Gaeltacht areas." 29-1-70.

Charlie Haughey believed he summed the whole thing up when he said to the people of Ballymun, "I am sorry that there is no better news but in view of what the parliamentary sec. says I regret that nothing more can be done. Charlie has a reputation for never saying the wrong thing but in this instance he couldn't be more wrong. There's a lot more can and will be done.

For a start, Charlie's party no longer makes the decisions. We have a new Minister for Local Government, James Tully, and very soon he is going to be faced with the job of re-drawing the electoral boundaries. If every parent in Ballymun puts pen to paper and tells Mr. Tully that as a Labour Minister in a Coalition Government he should see to it that Ballymun- all of Ballymun- is brought within the Dublin Corporation area and that the children of the Estate, so long discriminated against, be given the school meals to which they are entitled and for which their parents pay. We might also remind Mr. Tully that it would be in the interests of any party claiming to represent the working class to ensure that the people of Ballymun be allowed to vote in one constituency, not three as is the case at present.

So there you are, a short letter addressed to;

MR. JAMES TULLY, T.D.  
MINISTER FOR LOCAL GOVT.  
DAIL EIREANN.

Setting out your support for our children getting the free school meals so long denied them, will, we guarantee, produce results. Do it now. Next week may be too late. If you hand your letter in to any member of the Editorial board whose names and addresses appear on page of this paper we will gladly undertake to deliver them to him personally. If even one parent in every lift shaft, every Yower and on every Ave. would write the letter and canvass their neighbours to add their names and addresses the school meals campaign would be an instant success. Will you start the ball rolling?

cont. from page 8  
civilized service when they decide to patronise a bar or lounge, as have the patrons of Santry or Ballymun Ave. We are not looking for the right to abuse staff. Nor are we seeking to indulge in fist-fights on the premises (by and large the people of Ballymun are as well behaved as the people of any other area- not any better, but certainly not any worse).

What we do seek is a realisation by both managements that we are not the natives of some remote jungle in darkest Africa, and that they are not missionaries sent to convert us from our vile ways.

\*\*\*\*\*



SOUTH AFRICAN WAGE INCREASES.

"HERE, GIVE THIS TO THE WOGS, THAT SHOULD KEEP THEM SATISFIED."

## EDITORIAL BOARD.

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\*\*\*\*\*  
We would like to thank the Editorial Board of the Galway News for their invaluable assistance. But for their help we would never have been able to produce the Ballymun News.

\*\*\*\*\*

## JOE McCANN

ON THE 13 OF APRIL, ONE YEAR AGO, THE BRITISH PARAS SHOT JOE McCANN DEAD IN HIS NATIVE MARKETS AREA OF BELFAST.

The National Action Committee of N.A.T.O. are holding a GRAND VARIETY CONCERT in Liberty Hall Tuesday the 17th. April. The concert begins at 8p.m. and admission is 50 pence. We strongly urge all who can make it to get along and support the Action Committee. They are the people worked day and night to make the rent strike a success.

We are assured that top class entertainers have been booked to appear and that an enjoyable night is guaranteed.

\*\*\*\*\*

ONE OF THE FINEST OF OUR LATTER DAY REVOLUTIONARIES, JOE WILL BE REMEMBERED MORE FOR HIS INNATE HUMANITY AND GENEROSITY THAN FOR HIS UN-SURPASSED BRAVERY IN ACTION.

THE FORMER QUALITIES GAINED HIM THE RESPECT OF HIS FELLOW WORKERS, BOTH CATHOLIC AND PROTESTANT; THE LATTER THE RESPECT OF HIS ENEMIES WHO, RATHER THAN TAKE HIM ALIVE, SHOT HIM DEAD WHILE UNARMED AND WOUNDED. HE WILL BE REMEMBERED.



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