

# BRAY COMMENT No. 1

MAY 1975

## PLAYGROUPS AND NURSERIES NEEDED IN BRAY

Over the last ten years the population of Bray has increased rapidly. New housing estates have mushroomed to accommodate young families in this area. The existing primary schools are so overcrowded that many children do not start school until they are five years old. The facilities for children of 2 to 5 years are limited to a few private playgroups that many mothers can not afford.

Sinn Fein recognises the need for good pre-school playgroups to be made available to all small children in Bray. We also recognise that nursery facilities for mothers working outside the home are totally inadequate.

We there demand:

1. The provision of local authority nurseries of a high standard of hygiene and education, with trained personnel free of charge.
2. That Bray Urban District Council employ an area organiser to set up subsidised playgroups in conjunction with tenants organisations in all Local Authority housing schemes in the Bray area.

## UNEMPLOYMENT- CAUSE AND CURE

The number of men and women registered as unemployed in the Bray area reached a peak of 1,321 on April 18th last, and in the 26 Counties the figures are at their highest level since the fifties. That much is obvious to everyone. What is not so obvious, if we only had the capitalist media to rely on, is that unemployment is not a necessary fact of life.

The press talk about an "International Economic Crisis". They blame the Arabs for raising the price of oil. They talk about slumps and crises of production. So it seems that the ordinary worker is helpless before the ups and downs in the "World Market", and must simply wait till things somehow get better.

The unemployed have never waited patiently. They have marched and protested, and in the fifties they elected a T.D. to represent their interests. But the plain fact is that the interests of the unemployed, and of the worker and small farmer generally, can never be satisfied by the sort of society in which we live. At the moment unemployment benefits are raised to keep people quiet. But the class which controls the economy cannot afford to pay the unemployed indefinitely. For unemployment is not a force of nature but an inevitable result of our capitalist economy. This allows a small class of people to own the means of production - factories, businesses and big farms. These people thus control the wealth produced directly by the working class. They pay back to the workers just as little as possible in the form of wages.

When investment ceases to be very profitable in certain areas, the capitalists invest elsewhere, allowing firms to go out of business causing redundancies. If, however the State carefully planned the economy to produce and provide for the needs of the producers, the workers, this would never happen. There is no unemployment in truly socialist countries. It only happens under capitalism.

Sinn Fein stands for a socialist society in Ireland, a society that puts the needs of the people before the profits of the rich. We have a consistent record of struggle for such a society in the trade unions, tenants associations and small farmers defence association. We are fighting for your interests and need your support.

We demand (1) the use of Ireland's massive oil, gas and mineral resources to provide jobs and wealth for the Irish people not quick profits for foreign and Irish capitalists, (2) the establishment of at least one state industry in the Bray area, based on these resources. This could easily provide secure and well-paid jobs for all those now unemployed.

JOIN SINN FEIN -  
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**Title:** Bray Comment, No. 1

**Organisation:** Sinn Féin [Official]

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