



THE STARRY PLOUGH

An Camchéachta

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Bealtaine 1975

BREAK THE CONNECTION



***Fight for national liberation
and a Socialist Republic!***

FEUD — OR FASCISM

Eagarfhocal

CRIMINAL JUSTICE JURISDICTION BILL

IT WAS near midnight on April 4th when the second member of the I.R.S.P. was murdered in Belfast. The last act of Danny Loughran was to push his wife to safety before he was mowed down. One of his companions was luckier and lived, although shot in the back. The next day in Dublin a delegate was leaving the Party's first Ardfeis when he was approached by two individuals who claimed they were members of the Official I.R.A. They warned him to have nothing more to do with the I.R.S.P. or, as they said: "We'll blow your head off". And so the "feud" goes on. But is it a "feud" — or is it fascism?

Previously, I.R.S.P. members were, in the main, members of an organisation which often won the admiration of the Irish people by exposing and opposing such issues as the corruption of the northern state, the robbery of our mineral wealth, the shocking housing problem in our cities; and so forth. These members were acceptable, then, to the Officials' leadership and, indeed, many were to the forefront in the struggle of the working class.

If the leadership had decided to allow open and free discussion within the Republican Movement, to solve the policy differences that arose from 1970 onwards, probably there would be no I.R.S.P. today. But, instead, over a period of two years, the leadership carried out a successful witch hunt of the opposition to such an extent that only 15 votes were cast against the leadership at its last ardfeis. There was no option for the remaining dissenters but to form a new party.

Still, the Officials came after I.R.S.P. members and associates to jackboot them into submission and final disbandment. While their typewriters clicked out angry words against British imperialism and its terror troops, their fists and boots tortured I.R.S.P. members while their guns gored, crippled and maimed them.

The Officials will not talk to the I.R.S.P. although the I.R.S.P. has accepted nine different intermediaries, have stood down members in Belfast, demanded a temporary ceasefire of its recent protectors and even offered one national executive members as a hostage to show their goodwill. They will not allow the I.R.S.P. the right to form a separate party and let the working class and history judge who is correct.

They wish to force the I.R.S.P. into the dust and to force it to discard its political views. But that can never be. The I.R.S.P. would be a fraud if it deserted the Irish working class at the first sign of trouble. The I.R.S.P. will expand and hope that the Officials will see sense and fight, at last, their real enemies: British imperialism.

Even now, we would be quite prepared to work with the Officials on any issue which would help to make national liberation and socialism a fact for the Irish working class, rather than a hopeful but long-term dream.

THE discussion taking place in Leinster House in relation to the proposed Criminal Justice Jurisdiction Bill would be laughable, if it weren't so serious. Noises of opposition are coming from the most unlikely quarters when Senator McGlinchey hypocritically describes anyone who would support the Bill as "British collaborators". Yet his Fianna Fail fellow travellers (or, should we say, Opposition Republicans?) can easily be exposed if we relate to recent specific incidents.

Three years ago, in the town of Letterkenny, Co. Donegal, the local branch of Official Sinn Fein picketed the Golden Grill Hotel, where a local Fianna Fail meeting was taking place. They were protesting against the repressive legislation in the form of the Offences Against the State Act which was then being implemented by F.F. During the picket some 20 thugs belonging to the F.F. Donegal Mafia, led by Senator McGlinchey, attacked the picket with batons. Four picketers were left in need of hospital treatment.

This brings us to Dessie O'Malley, who as Minister for Justice, introduced the Offences Against the State (Amendment) Act, which removed completely any semblance of what little political or individual freedom existed, by allowing a person to be jailed on the word of a Garda officer without any need for evidence.

The only difference between Fianna Fail and the Coalition, when it comes to introducing repressive legislation, is that the Coalition is in power and F.F. is not. Their repressive laws are the same.

The ruling class realises that workers inevitably will organise, so they introduce repressive laws. Although, at present, these laws are used mainly against Republicans, they will, when necessary, be vigorously enforced against all working class organisations which are prepared to fight the establishment for what are their basic rights: a home, a job and a decent wage. In fact, the Offences Against the State Act, in the past, has been used against farmers, E.S.B. and Post Office workers.

These facts are what makes so grotesque the renegades of the Labour Party allying themselves with the enemies of the working class by supporting this latest repressive legislation.

All genuine supporters of the Labour Party should support the stand taken by Senator Michael Mullen and the Liaison of the Left.

A CHARA

FIRST of all I would like to wish your party the best of success in your effort to form, at long last, a genuine party of the Irish working class. I have followed with interest the development of your party insofar as it is carried in the national papers and feel that your organisation has the ability to expand and, provided your policies are correct, capture the support of substantial sections of the ordinary people of Ireland.

However, I am deeply saddened by the spectacle in Belfast of the two supposedly Republican parties, shooting each other. As I do not know the facts I am in no position to judge the rights or wrongs of this feud.

I would, in all fairness, say, however, that the press statements issued by your party concerning Belfast were far more conciliatory than those of the Officials.

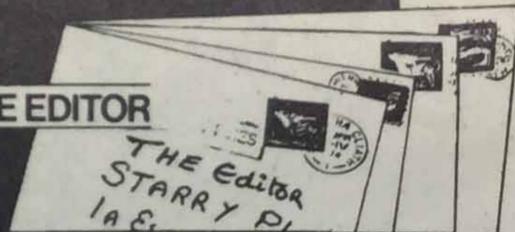
All the same it is disappointing and saddening that the offer of Senator Mullen was not taken up. Perhaps you could explain this.

Finally, I would say that I was a bit disappointed at the first issue of your paper and hope for some improvement here. I shall look forward with interest to the next issue and hope that my comments will be accepted as they are intended, i.e. as constructive criticism.

ALFRED KENNEDY, Rathmines Road, Dublin 6.

... AND IN YOUR VIEW

letters TO THE EDITOR



A Chara,

We intend organising a conference of Celtic language organisations within the next year. This is being done as part of an international campaign which we have instituted. The object of the conference shall be:

- (a) to discuss the rights of the Celtic peoples and, particularly, of speakers of Celtic languages;
- (b) to mobilise the movements which are concerned with the Celtic languages;
- (c) to formulate demands on behalf of speakers of Celtic languages and of each language in particular;

- (d) to plan further steps in the international campaign;
- (e) to draw the attention of international organisations and of the media to the question;
- (f) to draw up a report in which the conference would speak on behalf of Celtic language movements, as far as that is feasible.

Each language organisation in the Celtic countries will be invited to attend. Support also will be sought from speakers of other threatened languages and from international organizations.

We believe that this conference will be timely. In each Celtic country the language conflict is

sharpened. There is new support for the Celtic languages and a fighting spirit among their speakers, particularly the young. On the other hand, the opposition of the state and the forces behind it has hardened.

We in Ireland, in our present position, place great importance in this new dimension of our work and in-operation, which is bound to ensue from it. Le cheile bearfar bua.

ALAN HEUSAFF, MICHEAL Mac AONGHUSA, PADRAIG O SNODAIGH, PADRAIG O FEARAIL, CATHAL O LUAIN, GABRIAL ROSENSTOCK, working party on behalf of Conradh na Gaeilge.

BOOKLETS educate that you may be free

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SOON TO BE PUBLISHED

FIRST I.R.S.P. CONFERENCE REPORT
As the STARRY PLOUGH BOOK SERVICE expands a more comprehensive list of books available will be printed. It is also envisaged to stock L.P.s, singles and cassettes of Republican and Socialist songs.

CARLOW REGIONAL EXECUTIVE
I.R.S.P.
FISH-IN
at Browns Bog
Muine Bheag
Sunday May 11th
at 2.30 p.m.

CONTACT US

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1A Essex Gate, Dublin 8, Eire. No
telephone yet.
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items, your views, for publication, will
be welcomed.

BRANCH FORMED

A BRANCH has been formed in Swords, Co. Dublin according to a statement issued by the Dublin Regional Executive. This brings the amount of branches in the Dublin area to six. The Dublin Regional Executive are in the process of forming another three branches.

Small farmers knocked

A recent editorial in the "Farmers Journal" castigates the producers of calves and small cattle for their "lack of confidence" and "nervousness". It does not explain why this lack of confidence exists.

The real reason why small cattle and calf rearers, mainly small farmers, do not have confidence in the beef market is that they are fed up with doing all the hard work and having the profits scooped up by the big farmers, who descend like vultures to reap the profits once the hard work is done. The small farmer is unable to keep the cattle on the land, because of pressure on land space and the need for ready money. However, the big farmers, with large farms and plenty of credit, buy the calves and young cattle from the small farmers, keep them for a while, fatten them up and sell them off at enormous profits.

The Farmers Journal does not explain the real reason, why it wants more calves and young cattle. They pretend that they are interested in the welfare of the small farmers. The real reason is that the more calves on sale to them, the more profit they will make. The big farmers are, in fact living like leeches off the small farmers.

When small farmers are urged to build up their own separate organisation, the big farmers, represented by people like T. J. Maher and Paddy O'Keefe come out screaming "Stand with us - We'll protect you". This kind of arrangement can best be compared to an arrangement between a shark and a sardine. It just does not work. The fact is that the interests of the small farmers are best served by them building up their own separate organisations.

INTERNMENT

Ceasefire or no ceasefire, Internment is here to stay and will continue, despite the fact that batches of internees are being released in dribs and drabs.

Since the Provo's ceasefire last December, 225 internees have been released and a further 321 men are still being held in custody without trial. The 321 men still being held are Republicans and it appears that they will be held until the political situation in the Northern produces the much quoted "acceptable level of violence".

What is this acceptable level of violence? It would appear from statements from British imperialists and their agents North and South, that the mounting number of sectarian assassinations are acceptable. It would also appear that the murder of Pat McElhone by Lance Corporal Roy Allen Jones of the Royal Regiment of Wales is also acceptable.

This categorising of violence is completely acceptable to the British government as it can terrorise people into submitting totally to the wishes of British imperialism.

On the other hand any violence directed against the state is not for obvious reasons, acceptable, and every possible effort is made to portray people engaged in the National Liberation Struggle as "sinister evil men", be they directly involved in the struggle against the British Occupation

forces or involved by way of non-payment of rent and rates, supporting marches, demonstrations against all the manifestations of British imperialism.

Therefore the release of all the internees, by itself, is not acceptable. We must not become involved in a situation where political prisoners are used as hostages. If Rees opens the Internment Camps tomorrow and we still have the Special Powers Act nothing will be changed, in the context of the struggle against British Imperialism.

We must as socialists see that merely bargaining with the British government on the release of the internees, would put us in the unacceptable position where we would be recognising the right of Britain to intern Irishmen and women. We must also remember that thousands are serving long terms of imprisonment, North and South, for their opposition to British Imperialism. The Criminal

Jurisdiction Act being drawn up in Dail Eireann and the Prevention of Terrorism Act in England, demonstrates their determination to crush any opposition to British Imperialism in Ireland.

For that reason the release of internees would still leave the real cause of the present conflict in the North unresolved i.e. the British military, political and economic presence in Ireland. Our opposition to internment must be based on ending British interference in Ireland and establishing the Socialist Republic.

M.O'P.

IN THE NEXT ISSUE of the *Starry Plough* we will have a political prisoners list, comprising the names of 30 or so members of the I.R.S.P. who are being held in Long Kesh and we will be launching a Prisoners Fund.

Uisce i gCasca

TA AIGHNEAS ar siul le tamall anuas i gCasla, Conamara, idir muintir na h-aite agus cuigear rachmasoir a thugann Costello and Fermoy Fisheries orthu fein.

Cuigear iad seo nach bhfuil baint na pairt acu leis an ait, ceathrar a bhíonn ag ple le cursai capall - Vincent O'Brien, Earl of Harrington, Victor Hugh Harry Mc Colmont agus J. Alexander agus an cuigear duine, J. P. Herdman, a bhfuil muileann mor pluir aige.

Ta smacht ag na boic mhóra seo ar abhainn agus Loch Chasla agus ta siad ag cinneail uisce o 6,000 duine sa cheantar idir an Tulach agus Litir Meallain tri cead a dhiultu an abhainn seo a usaid le sceim uisce a chur ar fail do mhuintir na h-aite. Ta £500,000 a eileamh acu ar dhamaiste ar bith a dheanfaí don iascaireacht i Loch Chasla de bharr na sceim seo.

Ni h-e amhain nar choir pingin cuitimh a ioc leis an dream seo ach ba choir an abhainn agus an loch seo a bhaint diobh laithreach agus iad a chur ar fail do mhuintir na h-aite. O cheart is le muintir na h-Eireann maoin aiceanta uile na tíre, aibhneacha agus locha san aireamh. Ach is ar mhaithe le lucht an rachmais ata dlithe na tíre seo deanta agus ta lucht an chorais sasta maoin na tíre a fhagail i seilbh dream beag rachmasoiri - an cuigear faoin gcead gur leo 75 faoin gcead de mhaoín na tíre. Caithfidh 6,000 duine fanacht san uisce reatha, mar sin, go dti go gcuirtear dothain bru ar an gcuigear seo geilleadh.

Chlac Cluaiseacht Chearta Sibhialta na Gaeltachta seilbh ar Loch Chasla tamall o shoin le h-ágoid a dheanamh faoin gceist seo. Ni h-eol dom gur deineach dul chun cinn ar bith o shoin. B'fheidir go bhfuil se

in am acu gníomhaíocht níos reabhloidi a tharraingt chucu fein.

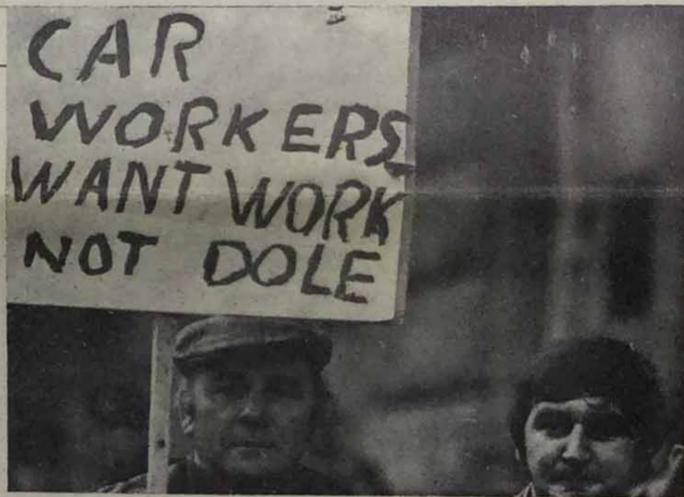
Piceidi Stailce

IS FIU aird a thabhairt ar ce chomh minic is ata fostoirí na hEireann ag baint usaide as ordu na hAird chuirte chun deireadh a chur le piceidi stailce, stailceanna oifigiula na gceardchumann san aireamh. I lathair na huaire, ta an Ard Chuirte ag ceadu isteach is amach le dha scor ordaithe in aghaidh na bliana. Idir 1957 agus 1967 cheadaigh an Ard Chuirte 37 ordaithe cuirte. Ardu suntasach e sin. Is leiriú breise e seo gur ar mhaithe le lucht an ghaimbin a fheidhmiónn coras dli na tíre seo agus gur in olcas ata an sceal ag dul.

The Irish Republican Socialist Party wishes to extend sincere sympathies to the relatives and friends of DANNY LOUGHRAN who was murdered by the Official I.R.A.

COUNTY CARLOW EXECUTIVE OF THE IRISH REPUBLICAN SOCIALIST PARTY wishes to offer sincere sympathies to the family and friends of MARTIN CURRAN, Clonmore, Killeslin, Carlow.

McCairns to Close



The Fairview Branch of the I.R.S.P. has doubled its membership since its formation. They have been active supporting the McCairns workers in their struggle against redundancies.

Official confirmation has been received that McCairns Motors Ltd., assemblers of Vauxhall and Bedford vehicles, have reached a "satisfactory" conclusion in their negotiations with General Motors (U.S.) and that 200 workers will be laid off before 1977.

McCairns Motors have been in difficult over the last year, because of a decision by General Motors, a U.S.-based multi national company, to phase out its European distributors. G.M. consider it more economical to assemble their cars in future in Britain, probably their Luton plant, and export them direct to Ireland.

Workers in McCairns are already on a three day week. The new G.M. components plant in Tallaght hopes to take in the other 460 workers but although promises have been repeatedly made only 25 workers have actually been taken on so far. Most of the employees in the Tallaght plant are female. The Fairview Branch of the I.R.S.P. fear that more than 200 workers will in fact be made redundant, as women are paid less than male workers.

The Fairview Branch are also involved in the new Community Association in the Ballybough area and back their demands for community facilities and for the control of the tenants over their own immediate environment.

Shannon Progress

A Committee of Shop Stewards and rank and file trade unionists has been formed in Limerick with the active participation of members of the James Connolly Branch of the I.R.S.P. A poster campaign against the National Wage Agreement was conducted and copies of the "Trade Unionist" were sold at factory gates. Such has been the response that another committee is in the process of being formed in the Shannon Industrial Estate.

A Western Health Board clinic has been opened in the same estate some time ago, due to pressure exerted by various groups and individuals, many of them now members of the Connolly Branch. A Community Council has been formed and is demanding a decisive say in the development of the estate. Up to now all decisions have been made by the Shannon Development Company.

The following members were elected to the National Executive of the Irish Republican Socialist Party.
 DUBLIN: Mick Plunkett; Jerry Jones; T. McCourt; Johnny White
 WICKLOW: Seamus Costello
 LIMERICK: Joe Quinn
 CLARE: Stella Makowski
 DONEGAL: Seamus O'Kane; Peter Pringle
 BELFAST: Vincent Fagan; Jim McCorry; Sean Flynn
 DERRY: Joe Quigley; Kitty O'Kane; Terry Robson
 TYRONE: Bernadette McAliskey

FIRST I.R.S.P. ARD FHEIS

THE FIRST ARD FHEIS of the Irish Republican Socialist Party was held in Dublin last month and such was the level of debate, everybody availing of the opportunity to fully express their viewpoint, that the two full day conference had to be reconvened for May 5th and 6th to finish the business.

Over 100 delegates attended representing branches from all parts of the country. Visitors, some of them representing other revolutionary groups, from at home and abroad, were also present. One of the special features of this Ard Fheis was the number of documents produced and distributed by various branches to all delegates.

The tragic announcement of the murder in Belfast of an I.R.S.P. member by the Official I.R.A. **Danny Loughran**, was the only incident that marred an otherwise busy and lively Ard Fheis and led to the hasty departure of the Belfast delegates who, understandably, were anxious to return home. A minutes silence was observed by all delegates in memory of comrade Danny Loughran.

Laying a basis

Naturally enough, the beginning of the Ard Fheis was taken up by a thorough discussion on the constitution of the I.R.S.P. which was necessary so as to lay a firm base of rules and regulations and methods of internal organisation for the Party. The Fairview Branch presented a document on this issue. Such was the enthusiasm that at one stage delegates voted against suspending discussions on the constitution and voted in favour of sitting all night, if necessary, to finish it.

One of the liveliest issues in connection with this debate was the discussion on **Internal Democracy and Democratic Centralism**. How best can it be assured that members have a full say in decisions of the party? Should policy and tactics be discussed only during Ard Fheiseanna once a year? How best can members exchange points of view, from Derry to Cork and Belfast to Clare outside of the Ard Fheis? As this issue was one of the major reasons many members had resigned or been expelled from

Gardiner Place Sinn Fein the



Bernadette McAliskey, Tyrone

intensity of the debate is understandable. Freedom of discussion was completely stifled by a totally centralist bureaucracy in the Official Republican Movement. Eventually, most delegates having spoken on the question, an amended resolution was **overwhelmingly accepted** by the conference. This resolution permits full freedom for discussion and debate within the party and for maximum unity in action outside the party. It ensures branches would have access to an internal bulletin published at regular and frequent intervals and distributed

to all party members to advocate freely their ideas. At the same time the existence of factions within the party was rejected. The principle of democratic centralism was accepted as the only basis on which a revolutionary party can be built.

National Liberation

The delegates unanimously accepted that the struggle against foreign imperialism and native capitalism is one struggle and that it would be ludicrous to attempt to suggest the possibility of establishing Socialism in Ireland while ignoring the struggle for National Liberation. The **immediate withdrawal of British troops and British economic and political interference** was also accepted. It was obvious from the conference that neither the U.D.R. nor R.U.C. were acceptable in any form and in fact the immediate disarming and disbandment of these sectarian militias was demanded by the conference. Two separate documents were circulated to delegates on the National Question. The conference accepted that they should strive to unite with all forces that accepted the



Jim McCorry, Belfast

necessity of solving the national question, on specific issues, without losing the identity of the I.R.S.P. as a party.

An assurance that the I.R.S.P. would not pay lip service to the demands for equal rights for women was given at the conference. Representing 50% of the population of Europe and the world, women are doubly discriminated against, as women and as workers. They are regarded as a source of cheap labour. The deliberate suppression and the



Terry Robson, Derry

ignoring of any important role played by women in our history, especially since the development of capitalism, was pointed out by delegates. Women were denied any political involvement and the professions were also denied them at all levels, delegates stressed. A detailed resolution demanding social, economic, political and sexual rights for women was passed. The conference accepted that a special study group would ensure the speedy and efficient implementation of this policy.

The I.R.S.P. decided to boycott the Convention Elections and organised an extensive campaign to expose the sham the Convention Elections for, the following reasons:

1. The election was organised by the British Government in the belief that the Convention would agree on a constitutional arrangement for the future government of Northern Ireland. The British Government appointed a chairman for the Convention and retained the power to veto any agreement arrived at by the Convention if it does not comply with British interests in Ireland.
2. As Republicans and Socialists we totally reject the right of Britain to impose any political solution upon the Irish people.
3. Any solution which is agreed by the Convention can only be in the interests of British Imperialism and her native capitalist allies in Ireland and can be of no benefit to the Irish working class.
4. We see the Convention Elections as a sop to the native middle-class elements in the Six Counties who have deliberately attempted to destroy the unity of the people in the struggle against Imperialism during the past 5 years. The working class people who have borne the brunt of the struggle since 1969 are now about to be sold out by the middle-class politicians who will be only too willing to accept a ministerial title and a Mercedes car as the price of their treachery. We are not advocating a boycott because of any objections in

principle to contesting elections.

The I.R.S.P. is not an abstentionist party, and our attitude towards the contesting of any particular election is based on a thorough analysis of the circumstances and conditions prevailing at the time, in particular the advantages to be gained by the Irish working class. It is from this standpoint that we have decided to recommend a boycott of the Convention Elections. To contest this election would be to give substance to an illusion as an alternative to confronting reality.

A new craobh of the I.R.S.P. was recently formed in Tralee, Co. Kerry. The Chairman, Brendan Collins said that the Craobh is at present engaged in building up "Starry Plough" sales in the Tralee area.

The Muine Bheag Craobh of the I.R.S.P. expects to play a leading role in the campaign to retain Muine Bheag as the official name of that town. The craobh fully supports the stand taken by the local Conradh na Gaeilge Craobh over the issue.

(The following are extracts from the chairman's speech delivered by Seamus Costello from Wicklow)

The historic decision to form the I.R.S.P. was taken in the certain knowledge that no existing political organisation in this country was willing or capable of creating a genuine socialist revolution in Ireland, a revolution that would end Imperialist rule in Ireland and establish a 32 County Democratic Socialist Republic, with the working class in control of the means of production, distribution and exchange.

At one of the most critical periods in our history, when practically every Irishman and woman instinctively recognised that a courageous change in strategy was called for in 1969, we found ourselves led by people whose most ambitious demands were for the democratisation of Stormont, and for a Bill of Rights, as a defence against the murder and terror of the Imperialist troops and their native allies, the Loyalist murder gangs. Almost overnight the sectarian murderers of the U.V.F. and U.D.A. became potential allies in the struggle for a Socialist Republic. All that was needed for this miraculous transformation was that they should display some slight interest

in co-operation on the question of the re-development of the Shankill or the proposed route of the new Ring Road.

The rejection of this strategy of the leadership at 1972 and 1973 Ard Fheiseanna was clear evidence of the re-assertion of the Republican Socialist position but it was deliberately sabotaged by the Ard Comhairle of Sinn Fein.

From the beginning of 1974 right up to the end of the Ard Fheis in December last, the Ard Comhairle engaged in a campaign of slander and vilification against all of those who dared question their refusal to implement policy. They availed of their control of the machinery of organisation to purge, threaten and intimidate genuine revolutionaries rather than engage in constructive wide-spread political debate within the movement.

The Rent and Rates strike has been betrayed by the secret payment of arrears on the Republican Clubs premises in Cyprus St. The R.U.C. were given a safe conduct into the Lower Falls in order to inspect the Cyprus St. drinking club cum torture centre, so that they would support the granting of a liquor licence when the application came before the courts. The R.U.C. kept their part

of the bargain, with the result that the officials now have the unenviable distinction of being the only organisation with a fully licensed torture centre and knee capping factory in full swing.

The principal targets for the Official's vicious campaign of murder, torture and felon setting, are the Belfast members and supporters of the Party.

From the very beginning of this campaign by the Officials against the IRSP, the National Executive and Belfast Regional Executive of the Party, have made every possible effort to bring it to an end. We have accepted the offers of at least 9 different mediators, the most recent being Michael Mullen and the only obstacle in the way of a solution is the absolute refusal of the Officials to even indicate a possible date for discussion and seem intent on creating further bitterness and division between former comrades.

The political maturity and discipline displayed by our Belfast members in the face of this provocation, has aroused admiration, not only in Ireland, but also in revolutionary aides abroad, and serves as an indication of the determination of the party to survive, and organise against the main enemy

— Imperialism — and its native collaborators.

On a National level it shall be our task to organise the maximum possible degree of political support for our demands for National Liberation. To do this we will seek the formation of a broad front composed of all organisations and individuals at home and abroad, who are prepared to assert the right of the Irish people to full control of their own destiny.

In doing this we recognise quite clearly that the struggle for National Liberation must reach a successful conclusion before we can establish a Socialist Republic. We recognise also that the primary cause of the present divisions in the Irish working class is the British presence and that as long as these divisions exist, working class unity must remain an empty dream. Because we are socialists and revolutionaries we recognise the absolute necessity of working class leadership in the National Liberation struggle.

At the same time we must explain and relate the everyday struggles of the people to the overall struggle against imperialism and native capitalism. The unemployed worker must understand the reasons he is unemployed. He must be shown the



Seamus Costello, Chairman I.R.S.P., who was given a standing ovation by delegates.

relationship between his condition and the crisis in capitalism and understanding that relationship. It must be organised to resist its effects. The small farmer must be shown how the EEC affects his livelihood, and how to organise and agitate against it. In this context it shall be the policy of the party to launch a vigorous campaign of opposition to E.E.C. membership in the coming referendum.

We are about to enter an era of

tremendous wealth as a result of discoveries both on land and in our coastal waters. At present, almost all of this wealth is going to leave the country for the benefit of foreign capitalists while the Irish working class have to be satisfied with the role of hewers of wood and drawers of water. It shall be the policy of the I.R.S.P. to encourage and promote the campaign for the nationalisation of these resources currently being conducted by the Resources Protection Campaign and the I.C.T.U.

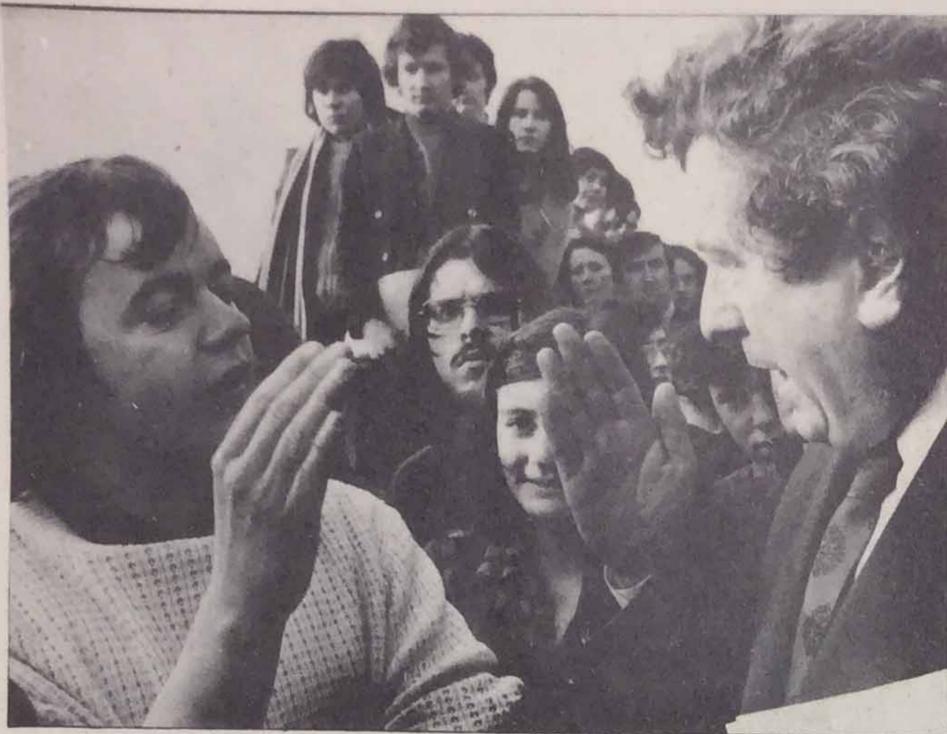
We must oppose their attacks on our organisations. It is from an independent working class standpoint that we must begin to fight against inflation, unemployment and incomes policies such as the National Wage Agreement.

We regard the whole concept of income policies such as the National Wage Agreements as an attempt by the capitalist class and their allies in government to hold down the living standards of working class people, while employers grow fat at their expense. At current rates of inflation each worker would need to receive a 30 per cent wage increase after tax deductions simply to maintain his or her present standard of living. The present National Wage

Agreement is totally incapable of doing this. It shall therefore be the policy of the I.R.S.P. to restore free collective bargaining as the only effective means of protecting workers' interests.

We recognise that the struggle of the Irish working class for national liberation and socialism cannot be seen in isolation from the struggles of oppressed peoples throughout the world. For this reason we extend our support to all peoples who are actively engaged in struggle against imperialism and capitalism in their own countries. We regard the Irish struggle as an integral part of this overall struggle, and a successful outcome of the struggle of the Irish working class will undoubtedly have far-reaching consequences, particularly in Western Europe. It shall be our policy to promote the maximum degree of communication with other revolutionary groups at home and abroad in order to bring about a greater awareness of the overall nature of the common struggle. While dealing with the whole question of international solidarity I would like to place on record the support of this party for the most recent successes of the Vietnamese people in the final stage of their struggle against imperialism.

It is our intention to explain our policies to the Protestant working class on the basis of our social and economic programme, and the recognition of the need to defeat British imperialism in Ireland. We totally reject the unprincipled approaches made to the Protestant working class by organisations which claim to have as their goal the establishment of a 32 County Democratic Socialist Republic. Their opportunism has resulted in the alienation of the Protestant working class, who cannot be won over to the Socialist Republic on the basis of gas-and-water-type socialism. British imperialism is responsible for the problems facing the Protestant working class. Only the I.R.S.P. at this point in time has clearly recognised the nature of the divisions which have been forced upon our people through the machinations of imperialism.



VERBAL KARATE:

An I.R.S.P. member of Craobh Liam Ui Mhaolidsa, U.C.D., argues with Garret FitzGerald over Irish Jail conditions and lack of student grants.

Ardfheis an Chonartha

BHI Ardfheis Chonradh na Gaeilge ar siul ag an deireadh seachtaine 18u-20u Aibreán i mBeal Ath na Slua. Ardfheis chiúin go leor a bhí ann, gan atmasfear iontach reabhloideach ann. Faoi lathair ta an Conradh, ar bhealach, ag titim idir dha stol. Ta an t-am imithe anois ina raibh an Conradh ag feidhmiú mar ionad caitheamh aimsire does na Gaeilgeoiri i gcoitinne. Ta cuid mhór den tsean chlaonach fagtha sa Chonradh go foill, afach, sa chaoi nach feidir leis an eagraíocht feidhmiú i gceart mar ghluaiseacht reabhloideach ar son cearta don Ghaeilge agus do lucht labhartha na Gaeilge. Treoir cheart is mo ata de dhíth ar an gConradh. Cuireann go leor de lucht an Chonartha gothai na reabhloide orthu fein nuair a bhíonn siad ag ple go teibi le ceist na Gaeilge mar cheist pholaitiúil ach, nuair a bhíonn gníomhaíocht phraiticiúil i gceist, eiríonn siad i bhfad níos coimeadai. Ta deighilt an-mhór le sonru, mar sin, idir smaointe agus gníomhaíocht an Chonartha.

Ta se deacair a dheanamh amach go cruinn cen role is coir a bheith ag an gConradh. Is soileir nach n-ontaíonn lucht an Chonartha fein ar an role sin. D'fheicinn

fein gurb e príomh fheidhm an Chonartha, no gluaiseacht eigin eile reabhloide Gaeilge, na tabhacht ceise na Gaeilge agus ceist an chultuir Ghaelaigh i gcomtheasc na troda ar son an Naisiúnachais agus ar son an tSoisialachais a leiriú does na h-eagraíochtaí frith impiriúlacha agus don pobal i gcoitinne. Ba choir go bhfeadfadh an Conradh ceist na Gaeilge agus ceist an chultuir Ghaelaigh a usaid freisin le mian mhuintir na h-Eireann chun saoirse naisiúnta agus chun neamhspleachais a mhuscailt, mar a bhí ar bun ag an gConradh ag tus an cheid.

Ma thuigeann Conradh na Gaeilge an dluth cheangal idir gach gne de chultúr na h-Eireann (an Ghaeilge san aireamh) agus an troid in aghaidh an Impiriúlachais agus gur feidir leis an eagraíocht feidhmiú da reir, beidh ann don Chonradh mar eagraíocht reabhloideach. Ghlac Ardfheis na bliana seo le run ag ra go mba gha athru bunusach corais le h-athreimiu na Gaeilge a thabhairt i gcrích. Ma thuig baill na h-eagraíochta bri an ruin sein ba choir go mbeadh athru suntasach i ngníomhaíocht an Chonartha. Beimid ag suil le gníomhaíocht níos reabhloidi na toscaireachtaí chuig airí stait, teachtaí dala, seanadoiri agus a leitheidi Is fada o thainig deireadh le re na dtoscaireachtaí. Da dtuigfeadh gach ball de Chonradh na Gaeilge e sin bheadh cuma i bhfad níos slaintiúla ar an eagraíocht.

SACKED

LAST MONTH 29 men were suddenly sacked from Molins Ltd. in Derry for "bad time keeping". A clearly agreed procedure guaranteeing consultation before any sacking, was broken.

At a mass meeting of workers, "moderates" argued that they let the case go to arbitration and hope for a fair result. This was accepted by a substantial though not overwhelming majority.

After a few weeks, the management suddenly agreed to take back 9 of the sacked men if the workers would accept a new timetable — one much more favourable to the management. The day before this was to be put to a mass meeting of the workers,

Molins made 62 men redundant. The dazed workers rejected the agreement but refused to take any action over the sackings and redundancies.

The workers had conceded the main principle by allowing a precedent to be created by the first sackings. Thus they were first softened up for the second blow — the new timetable and the following redundancies. Molins had the reputation of being well organised with 100% union membership, but that meant nothing when the crunch came. If the workers are not prepared from the outset to stand firm and if they do not organise themselves for struggle, they will go down in defeat.

The local branch of the I.R.S.P. calls on the workers to fight back. If there is not enough work to go around, then in the short term the work should be shared, giving a reduced week, without loss of pay. Only a militant rank and file trade union membership can prevent a repetition of the Molins experience.

Who Shot McMillan?

The shooting of Liam McMillan, a member of the Ard Comhairle of Sinn Féin was the work of "agent provocateur", said Seamus Costello, chairman of the I.R.S.P. This statement followed the shooting during the month, in Belfast, as people feared an escalation in the dispute between the Officials and the I.R.S.P. "The shooting is particularly sinister in view of the fact that the dispute between the I.R.S.P. and the Officials is almost at an end", said Mr. Costello.

Mr. Jim McCorry, a member of the National Executive of the I.R.S.P. said his organisation was in no way involved in the killing. He had checked with all branches in the city. Later that night two armed members of the Official I.R.A. broke into Jim McCorry's house and attempted to kill him but they panicked and ran off when his wife and mother-in-law interfered.

At a peace meeting, convened by 300 women (Peace Women of Turf Lodge) in Belfast, Mrs. Clara Reiley said "... it is my personal opinion that the Official I.R.A. is mainly to blame for it (the 'feud') and is determined to eliminate the new splinter group, because of the effect its first splinter group — the Provos — had on its organisation.

All the following attacks were carried out by the Official I.R.A. on I.R.S.P. members in April and whose only "crime" was membership of the I.R.S.P.

* Hugh Madden, a member of the Party in Belfast's Andersonstown area, was shot in the back and seriously wounded;

* Danny Loughran, an 18-year-old Party member from Divis Flats, Belfast, was shot dead;

* A young member of the party in the Belfast area was kidnapped and taken at gunpoint to the Official's Cyprus Street torture centre, where he was tortured;

* Sean Flynn, a member of the National Executive of the I.R.S.P. was putting up Party recruiting posters in the Markets area of Belfast when fired upon and wounded. He is recovering in hospital;

* Two members of the I.R.S.P. were sprayed with machine-gun fire as they stood outside the Green Briar, Andersonstown, Belfast, narrowly missing them and the people inside the pub;

* At least six attempted kidnappings and several verbal threats to individual members of the Party have also been made. In one case a message was sent to a mother of a Party member to the effect that he had been shot in the head. The story was completely fabricated but caused extreme anguish to the mother concerned

* I.R.S.P. homes have been visited by Convention election "canvassers". On finding the I.R.S.P. members not in, canvassing promptly ended.

* Two I.R.S.P. members were attacked in Derry by armed Officials and threatened.

We appeal to all rank and file members of the Officials to exert pressure on their own leadership to engage in immediate peace discussions with the I.R.S.P. All genuine revolutionaries must be aware that the struggle against imperialism is being seriously damaged by the present conflict.

Woman in a Glass Cage

"On Saturday 19th April 1975, along with a friend and my 3 children, we arrived at Limerick jail for a visit with Rita O'Hare. We were informed by a prison officer that we would have to wait for 2 hours. We refused to accept this and blockaded the front gate.

The friend was refused admission because she "was not a relative". We were finally admitted to a glass cage, a small dark room with a wooden and perspex partition running from the ceiling to the floor — the visiting box. The perspex partition had about 6 small holes the size of a half-penny piece through which one is supposed to talk. Rita immediately objected to the conditions of the visit as she was unable to touch or embrace the children.

"She then informed me she was refusing the visit. I agreed with her entirely but prevailed on her to speak to the children, whom she hadn't seen for 4 weeks. I then left the prison. 5 minutes later the children were ejected from the prison themselves, in a state of hysteria.

"I learnt that the visit had been cut to 5 minutes on the instructions of the acting Chief Officer and the children forcibly removed. They informed me that when Rita tried to intervene a male prison officer grabbed her by the throat and flung her to the ground where she cracked her head." Statement by Rita O'Hare's husband.



The insurged Cambodian people, led by the Red Khmers, have taken Phnom Penh. Saigon has collapsed.

The offensive of the Vietnamese National Liberation Front and Cambodian United Front Party (FUNK) have surprised many people: it does not create a new degradation of the imperialist positions in Indochina but a total collapse of the positions of counter-revolution laid down at the 1973 Paris Agreement.

For the NLF, it was not only a matter of "capturing Saigon", as the U.S. put it; this general offensive is a new stage of a *protracted process*: one of the people's liberation war led by the Indochinese revolutionaries. Looking back, it is now clear that the Paris Agreement gave the Indochinese resistance an opportunity to take a breather. It established a framework more favourable for the co-ordination and extension of the struggle than for massive U.S. re-involvement.

The 'Refugees' myth

Reading the Irish Press does not allow a proper understanding of this final stage of the people's war in Indochina. The emphasis is put, almost exclusively, on the 'masses of refugees who flee the communist take-over'. The pope, not surprisingly, has just added his voice to the chorus of anti-commie ghastly stories.

For years, the liberated areas have been considered by the U.S. as 'free fire zones', where they poured millions of tons of bombs and napalm; every freed city was to be wiped out by their B 52s. Then, few people, besides those involved in solidarity campaigns, had anything to say about the horrors of the Indochinese war.

Today, it is the fear of being caught in a crossfire that makes people flee. A fear that Thieu's puppet army was able to use to constitute a real 'human shield' allowing its troops to withdraw, as the NLF would not launch attacks indiscriminately. The exodus is not definitive however. The small minority that really runs away from Vietnam, are those who can afford it, who have been living off imperialist presence, through black market or other privileged positions.

But once the fight is over, the immense majority return to their areas. This was seen in Phuoc-Binh, Quang-Tri, Ban Me Thot freed for a while now. In Da Nang workers have just reconnected water and electricity; doctors and teachers have returned to re-organise daily life. For hundreds of thousands a new life begins.

The military and economic strengthening of the liberated areas has been an essential factory in the victory of the Vietnamese



that shook the World

people. Creating conditions of relative peace where it has not existed for decades, in vast regions under people's control, the Paris Agreement has, in the absence of constant bombing, allowed the people's revolutionary administration to convert a war economy into a mobilisation of all human and economic resources to lay the basis for the building of a socialist Vietnam.

The problems are immense. The U.S. scorched earth policy has left devastated areas where the people have to start building an economy from nothing. In Quang Tri, to give but one example, 2,000 buffalos have survived out of 70,000!

One of the first tasks of the People's Revolutionary Government (PRG) is to set in motion an emergency programme allowing the population to wait for the first harvests — in the Quang Tri region again, there has not been any harvest for 6 years — this means providing rice rations, seeds, agricultural material, etc.

The programme of action, as regards agriculture, is flexible: to leave small plots of land to those who already cultivate them, while, at the same time, stimulating collectives and co-operatives greatly facilitated by decades of collective popular resistance. Production teams, backed by

the Liberation Army Forces — especially to extract US mines from the fields — have been set up. In the region of Quang Tri, 2,000 such teams have been organised; in Central Trung Bo, 7,000 teams regroup 240,000 small farmers.

Small artisan production units belong to individuals, more often to local Co-Ops, rarely to the Revolutionary administration, except as regards production in support of the armed struggle. Small trade is free, but shopkeepers get their stocks from state-owned stores. (Some products are retailed only by state markets). The most striking fact has been the stamping out of the black market, while the Saigon controlled areas have always been a fertile ground for this type of activity.

On the main, the economy of the liberated areas is based on the work of all their inhabitants, to satisfy all needs in a system where collective work and mutual help are dominant. These areas have been the centre of the political influence of the NLF, in such a way that even the population of neighbouring Saigon controlled zones have often come to obtain food and health facilities which they could not get otherwise. The relative prosperity of these areas under people's control, the superior

conditions of life have been a decisive factor in the mobilisation of the people against the Saigon regime and a springboard for the growing influence of the PRG. That alone, explains how the myth of terrorised refugees fleeing the 'communist threat' can fool only people brainwashed by the media in Ireland or anywhere else, but certainly not the Vietnamese people.

The impact of the Indochinese victory

The total failure of U.S. imperialist strategy in Vietnam and Cambodia cannot but have far-reaching repercussions all over the world. First of all, the victory is giving impetus to all anti-imperialist movements in South-East Asia; what Kissinger calls the "domino theory" — the liberation of one country in this highly sensitive region is laying the basis for yet another successful struggle. After the 1973 agreement, and the more so now, the renewal of the Laotian resistance has been noticeable. More, sizeable guerrilla groups have emerged in Thailand — a U.S. stronghold — in Burma and even Malaysia.

Secondly, this defeat, in the context of militant struggles in Portugal, Spain and Italy, — where the CIA has been particularly involved lately — will considerably narrow the margin of manoeuvre of U.S. imperialism and their NATO allies, and this will be of considerable importance for all insurgent peoples, including the Irish.

Thirdly, the whole credibility of the U.S. diplomatic chess game, already hit by economic crisis and the Watergate scandal, be further undermined in the U.S. as well as internationally.

Finally, counter-balancing the Chilean tragedy, the Indochinese victory will, undoubtedly have a tremendous impact over large sections of the international working-class, showing concretely what kind of alternative socialism provides to decaying capitalism. If the tasks of solidarity with the Indochinese liberation struggles seem partly over, those of defense of their revolution will have to be continued as economic blockades will be inevitable. Soviet and Chinese help will be limited by the present peaceful co-existence with the U.S.A.; the only way to receive full help from either USSR or China, would be for the Vietnamese to become a satellite of either, which in the past they refused clearly to do.

To this effect, revolutionaries in this country could demand that the PRG and Cambodian FUNK be recognised officially by the Free State and that trade agreements with these countries be considered.

World Capitalism is in crisis and in Ireland has resulted in a situation where large scale unemployment is becoming a feature of the Irish economy. This is because capitalism can only solve its problems at the expense of the working class. If we accept that fact we must also accept that the capitalist class can not and will not solve the problems of the workers. Therefore, it is important for us as socialists to make it clear to the unemployed that their plight and indeed all the problems confronting them as a class, are the responsibility of the native Irish capitalists and the continued British interference in the economic and political life of Ireland, North and South.

The Cumann na nGael party who ruled from 1921 to 1932 were comprised of the most pro-imperialist elements in the Free State. Their class and economic interests demanded free trade with Britain, their business interests were namely:

1. COMMERCE: i.e. importing and exporting, they controlled the importation of manufactured goods for the Irish Market and likewise the exports of the Irish products.
2. Banking, Finance, Insurance, again which depended on Britain and her other colonies, where a higher note of interest existed than in Ireland.
3. The large cattle ranchers and farmers whose produce depended on the home market in Britain.
4. Brewing and Distillery (Guinness etc.)

The "Labour must wait" attitude which was accepted by the Trade Union and Labour leadership during the war of Independence ensured that the class question as posed by Connolly the previous decade, was ignored. The workers and small farmers witnessed

capital in crisis

Michael Plunkett in part one of a two part series, examines unemployment and points out that 1 1/2 million emigrated, not because of any famine, but to look for work.

wage cuts, large scale unemployment and the repression of Republicans and Trade Unionists was rampant.

The Fianna Fail Party who won power from Cumann na nGael on the backs of the workers and small farmers, represented an important section of the small manufacturers of the Country whose business interests needed import restrictions so that they could replace the enormous amount of English manufactured goods on the Irish market, with goods made by themselves which would mean a greater profit.

To attain power, they pretended to be Republicans and anti-imperialists but they were only anti-imperialist to the extent that they wanted to end the control British imported goods had on the economy. They imposed their tariffs and barriers which increased the price of British goods, and insured a home market for their own products.

The British reacted and imposed a tariff on Irish goods going into Britain, and these penal duties hit the large cattle ranchers and farmers the hardest and resulted in the hatred they had for Fianna Fail. Although Fianna Fail created some new jobs, the lot of the small farmers and Irish workers remained the same. The Labour Party supported Fianna Fail in the Dail, and although they entered into two Coalition governments with Fine Gael (Cumann na nGael) they never attempted to pose the class question, and this coupled with the almost total militaristic nature of the Republican Movement, resulted in the

paradox whereby the majority of Trade Unionists almost always voted Fianna Fail in General Elections. The large numbers of unemployed either lived on the dole or emigrated.

The following table shows the numbers of people who left the country during the past 60 years:

FREE STATE:		
1926-1936 (10 years)	...	166,750
1936-1946 (10 years)	...	187,120
1946-1956 (10 years)	...	318,685
1956-1966 (10 years)	...	292,608
1966-1971 (5 years)	...	53,906
Total ... for 1926-1971	...	1,019,069

SIX COUNTIES:		
1926-1937 (11 years)	...	57,651
1937-1951 (14 years)	...	67,267
1951-1961 (10 years)	...	92,228
1961-1966 (5 years)	...	37,701
1966-1971 (5 years)	...	33,310
Total ... for 1926-1971	...	288,157

These figures destroy the myth that most of our emigrants left Ireland during the great famine of 1857, and this figure of more than 1 1/2 million, if they had no place to go to, could have radicalised into the forces necessary to create revolution.

In the Six Counties the Stormont Government had institutionalised sectarianism, as a means to keep workers divided, and it was Government policy to deny employment to their political enemies (Republicans, Nationalists — Catholics) and the result



of this was the complete stagnation of industrial and agricultural growth in the Border areas. The landed aristocracy ruled through Stormont and as they remained a direct colony, the emergence of a strong merchant class did not come about until 1940's/1950's, when new industries were attracted to the Six Counties. High unemployment was the order of the day and the only radicalisation occurred during the "relief strike" of 1932. The protestant unemployed accepted their lot, as it "kept the papists down". The Catholics unemployed could not develop into a class conscious weapon against capitalism because when they looked South they saw their fellow unemployed workers with lower dole and thus they did not want to join them for the simple reason that all the 'Republic' offered them was an enlarged Free State.

In the South in the 1950's the effort to build the home capitalist industry had burned itself out, mainly because the major part of the profits from the home industry was invested abroad, and not re-invested in the home industry to ensure the maximum expansion. In short, the Government could not interfere in the exporting of Irish

Capital, and the only alternative was to invite foreign capital to expand the native industry. The food of imperialism is markets and Ireland was offered on a platter to the highest bidder. To set up new foreign industry, meant that tariffs and penal duties had to end as Imperialism demanded the free movement of goods. The government passed an act called the "Economic Expansion Programme" which allowed foreign concerns to develop in the 26 Counties.

The final end of tariffs on imports came with the Free Trade Agreement of 1966 with Britain. This and our membership of the E.E.C. means that we are back to a pre-1932 position, where Britain and indeed any imperialist country have a free run on the Irish market.

The result of this is to be seen now, the markets are flooded with foreign goods which are much cheaper than Irish goods produced in an Irish factory.

We have seen 3 day weeks, redundancies and now mass unemployment. The guilty blame the situation on the oil crisis, and not on their own greed. The workers must pay as always.

The number of unemployed stands at 103,000 and is rising. What are the Irish "Socialists" and left doing in the present situation? Are they attempting to consolidate the maximum amount of their forces to grasp the opportunities that will arise from this crisis??? Will we see united Socialist Unity which will raise the correct demands on unemployment??? No, not if we allow the present Trade Union leadership to direct the struggle. They are completely divided on what to do, and some simply don't know what to do. (NEXT ISSUES WILL ILLUSTRATE THIS POINT AND SHOW WHAT MUST BE DONE).

Party zooms ahead in south Derry

There has been a steady increase in the formation of new branches throughout the Co. Derry area. Initially, they were unfortunate to lose one of their most dedicated founder members John Doherty, from Swatragh, incarcerated in Long Kesh.

John's revolutionary example has been an inspiration to many, young and old, throughout the county, for almost a decade. May his release, to pursue our legitimate political objectives, be not long delayed.

Locally, the I.R.S.P. has not suffered unduly by John's early removal from the scene. The fact that he had left behind a dedicated hard core of genuine radicals has resulted in steady growth. This early development, spearheaded by Glenullin members, John Eddie McNicholl and Seamus O'Kane, led to several well attended meetings in the area. There followed a much greater understanding of the role of the new party and a renewal of dedication from, until recently, very disillusioned revolutionaries.

Top priority

From debate at their first meeting it was decided that, as a top priority, a genuine effort should be made to get a local Co. Derry news sheet published for distribution and sale as early as possible. This is already in sight with the recent purchase of typewriting and duplicating equipment.

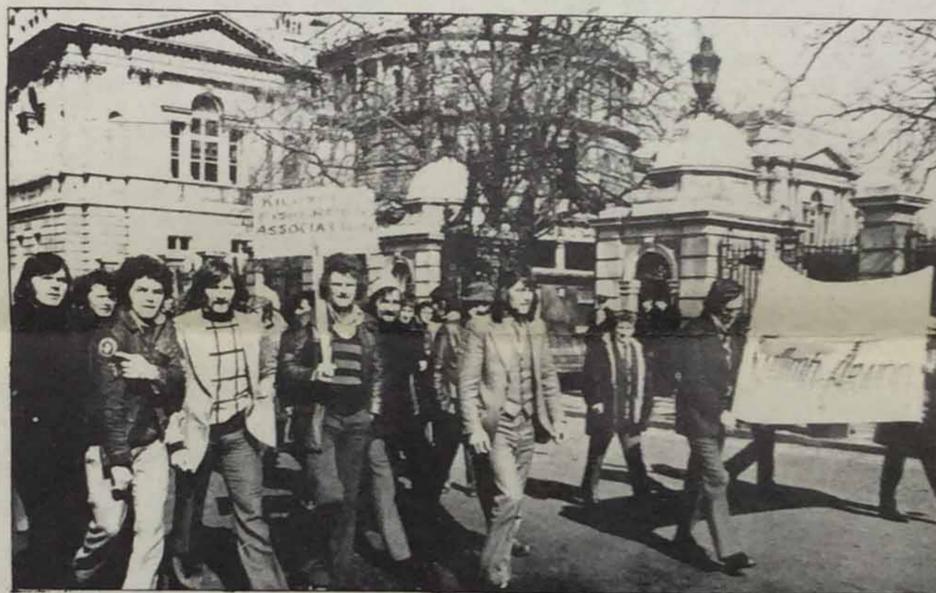
In addition to the promotion of our radical policies through all the peoples' organisations, trade unions, credit unions, tenant associations, etc. the I.R.S.P. locally, has taken a special interest in the promotion of Irish culture.

It is believed by their members that this is a field of activity long neglected by so-called revolutionary organisations in recent years. To

this end steps will be taken to ensure our involvement in all organisations working for the restoration of all things pertaining to our national heritage.

Since the inception of the South Derry Regional Executive, giant steps have been made in their development. Branches have been founded in the following areas: Glenullin, Dungiven, Slaughtneil, Maghera, Desertmartin, Bellaghy, Ballymena and Ballycastle, eight in all.

Valuable inroads have been made with the view to forming branches in the following areas: Swatragh, Muldonagh, Draperstown, Portstewart, Coleraine and the New University of Ulster.



Fishermen picket Dail Eireann

BI LINN

The National Executive of the I.R.S.P. has arranged the following public meetings throughout Munster for May. Speakers will be Seamus Costello and Bernadette McAliskey, National Executive.

- * MONDAY MAY 5:
Wexford's White's Hotel, 8 p.m.
- * TUESDAY MAY 6:
Kilkenny's Newpark Hotel, 8 p.m.
- * WEDNESDAY MAY 7:
Waterford's Granville Hotel, 8 p.m.
- * THURSDAY MAY 8:
Cork's Connolly Hall, 8 p.m.
- * FRIDAY MAY 9:
Tralee's Grand Hotel, 8 p.m.
- * SATURDAY MAY 10:
Killarney's International Hotel, 8 p.m.
- * SUNDAY MAY 11:
Limerick's Connolly Hall, O'Connell St.
3.30 p.m.
- Nenagh's O'Meara's Hotel, 8 p.m.

Do na maithe beaga

D'FHOGAIR an Ollscoil "Naisiunta" faoi Chaise go raibh tailli ollscoile le h-ardu aris i mbliana - 25% faoin gcead, an babhta seo. Ta an nos bunaithe ag an ollscoil le tamall anois na tailli a ardu moran gach bliain. Cinnteoidh na h-ardaithe seo gur mar ionad "oideachais" don elite (lucht an airgid) a fhanfaidh an Ollscoil.

Ar ndoigh, oireann se seo do lucht an chorais mar bheadh se dainsearach doibh siud da bhfaigheadh an lucht oibre an iomarca oideachais.

Mar ata se i lathair na h-uaire, ni bhaineann ach timpeall tri faoin gcead, de mhicleinn na

h-ollscoile leis an lucht oibre.

Nil an ollscoil ann le freastal orthu siud ach leis an gcoras ata i reim sa tir a chaomhnu. Da meadofai an ceatadan sin den lucht oibre, ba gha aithraithe bunusaca a dheanamh i gcoras na h-ollscoile le freastal orthu.

Ni theastaionn se sin o udairais na goilaisti: caomhnu an status quo is tabhachtai doibh siud.

Ba choir sceim cuimsitheach deontais a chur ar fail laithreach, a chuirfeadh ar chumas gach mac leinn freastal ar an ollscoil, da mba mhian leis, ba chuma cen aicme len ar bhain se.

Go dti go ndeantar sin, is faoin elite a fhanfaidh oideachas ollscoile na tire seo agus faoi na toscaí sin ni feidir bheith ag suil le leasaithe sunntasacha ar bith ar an gcoras oideachais.

Shirt workers for dole

Some 200 shirt factory workers in Derry are to lose their jobs by mid-June as part of a so-called "rationalisation scheme" by Ben Sherman (1975) Ltd. Recently, the firm took control of three shirt factories in Derry and one in Strabane, formally managed by the Northern Ireland Finance Co. Redundancies (all in Derry) are seen as a further kick in the teeth to an area continuously plagued by massive unemployment.

REVOLT OF FISHERMEN

Ireland has the richest shallow fishing grounds in the North Atlantic yet we catch only eight per cent of the fish. This is due to the outdated machinery and lack of state aid which Irish fishermen are forced to contend with.

Because of this, Irish fishermen are barely scratching a living and all our oil, gas and fish wealth is being robbed by foreign imperialists.

A foreign factory ship (250 ft. long, accompanied by fuel tankers etc.) cleans up more in one day than our best fleet would manage in an entire whole week.

Our navy is so small it cannot safeguard our 12-mile limit.

The government does not think our seas industry is sufficiently important to spend the £100 million expended on tracking and jailing anti-imperialists, to safeguard the wealth of our seas. Only £8 million is provided for our fishing industry.

Jobs lost

Some 100,000 jobs are being lost by the export of our fish catches instead of establishing processing plants at all major ports.

By 1982 the EEC hopes to do away with our 12-mile fishing limit altogether. This will wipe out the livelihood of Irish fishermen. This is to get "special consideration", says the government (like the fishing industry as a whole? Like the car assembly industry was promised?).

50 states will meet soon in Geneva to arrange the sharing between them of two thirds of the earth's surface - the sea. The multi-national corporations have all the information at their fingertips while the Irish Oceanographic Department has not even got a boat and merely "mucks about in Galway Bay", according to its professor.

In the summer of 1973, fishermen were bringing home £20 to £25 per week, after deductions were made for running costs of the boat and the boat owner had taken half of the cash equivalent of the catches.

A 65 ft. boat has normal running costs of between £280 and £320. By summer, 1974, fishermen were often working for weeks for nothing, just to pay their running costs.

When they did bring home wages they were between £10 and £15 per week.

During 1974 and 1975 there were little or no herring off our coast due to the factory ships gulping up herring wholesale and also poaching inside the 12-mile limit.

It is not surprising that Irish fishermen decided to take action. Fishing is the only employment on the West coast. The lie of 40 per cent increases in wages being churned out by the Department of Fisheries didn't hide the reality.

What is needed is a 200-mile limit and for a service industry and processing plant to be established.

There must be massive state investment. The reason there has not been any to date is that the multi-national "factory-ship" owners and their ilk control the twitches of the Irish puppet government.

That is why the connection must be broken and why we must establish a 32-counties Socialist Republic.

Only socialism will safeguard the wealth of the Irish Sea for the Irish people.

This is the second strike by fishermen in Irish history. In 1873, fishermen blockaded Kinsale Harbour after local fish buyers collectively decided to cut off 2.5 per cent. for fish.

After a day, the fishermen marched to all the houses of the fish buyers who abandoned the demand. Only one refused. He called the Royal Irish Constabulary who fired on the crowd, killing a Manx fisherman, James Garvey. Four fishermen were arrested.

More than 5,000 fishermen from the Isle of Man, England and Ireland, marched at his funeral.

JOIN THE IRISH REPUBLICAN SOCIALIST PARTY PAIRTI POBLACHTACH SOISIALACH NA h-EIREANN

The aim of the I.R.S.P. is "to end Imperialist Rule in Ireland and establish a 32 County Democratic Socialist Republic with the working class in control of the means of production, distribution and exchange.

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1a Essex Gate (off Parliament St.)
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