



# THE STARRY PLOUGH

An Camchéachta

8p.

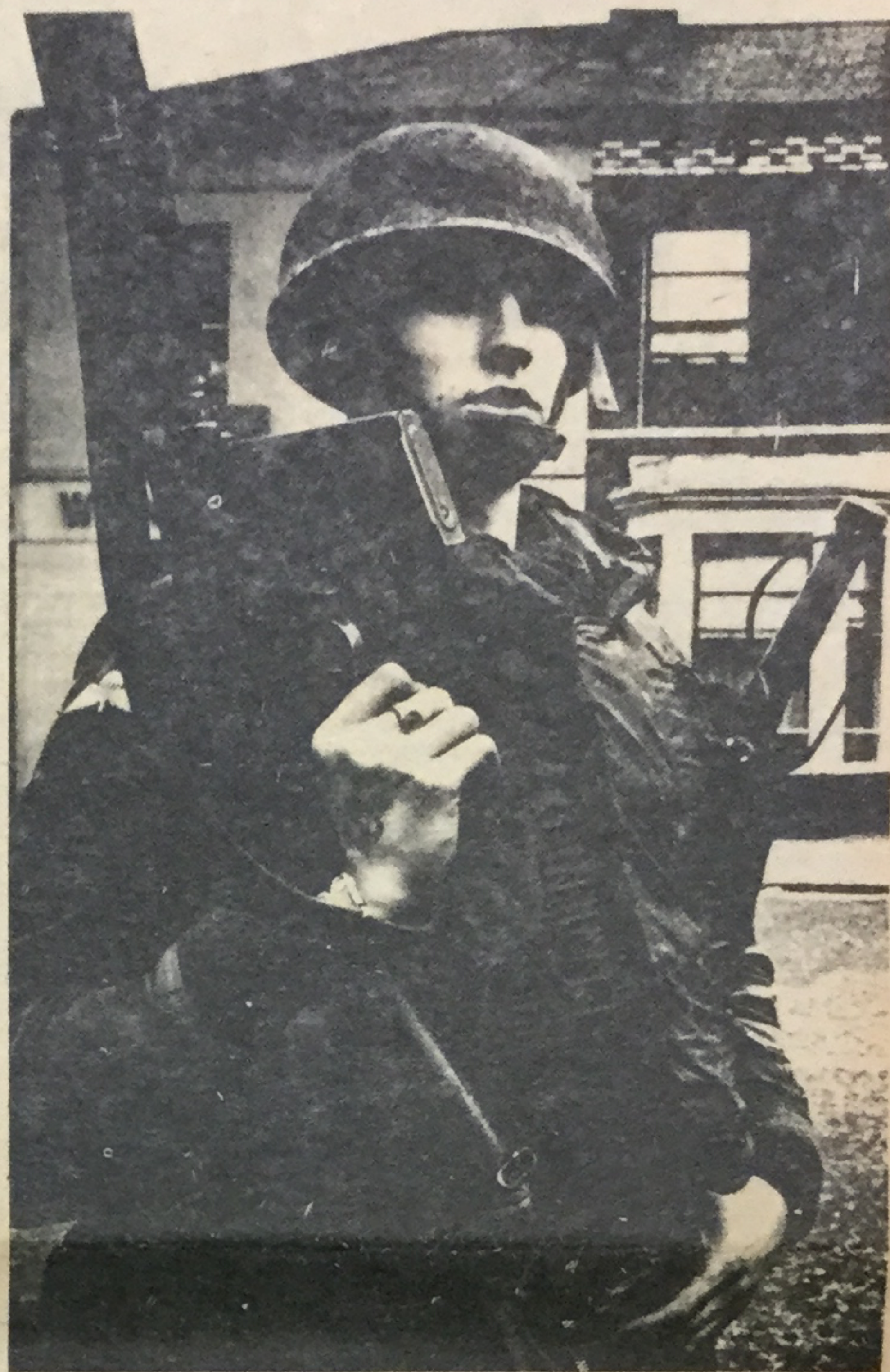
VOL. 1. NO. 6

MEANN FOMHAR 1975



Sectarianism, in the Northern Ireland context, is the brainchild of Britain and has been used successfully for the past 50 years as a means of dividing the working class. In the past six months we have witnessed the ongoing sectarian murder campaign of Catholics, carried out by loyalist murder gangs acting in the direct interest of Britain. These murders are carried out in the hope of terrorising the Nationalist population into accepting a British solution in Northern Ireland. The only way in which sectarianism can be eradicated forever is to end the British economic and political control in Ireland.

To this end, we are working for a unified approach to the National Liberation struggle, by way of a Broad Front of all anti-Imperialist forces. We reject tit for tat retaliatory murders of Protestants as a means of ending the loyalist sectarian murders which are an integral part of the loyalist plan for a takeover in the North. To combat this, we call for the formation of local organised street committees, as a defence against British Army and Loyalist Terror gangs.

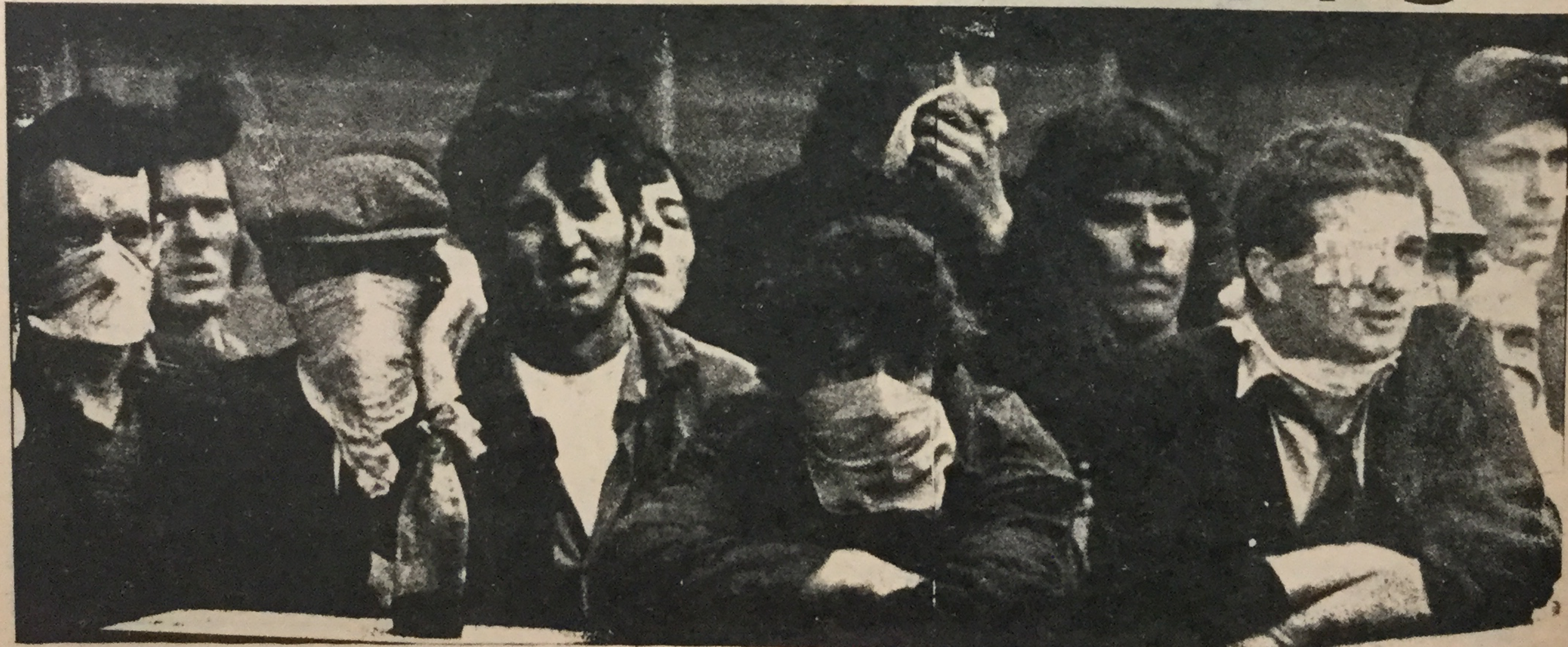


## RESIST

## BRITISH

## TERROR

## TROOPS



THERE IS NOTHING NOVEL about the claims of Seamus Mallon (SDLP) that the U.D.R. were actually responsible for the murders of the two men who were returning from the All Ireland in Dublin. The IRSP over the months has made it clear that the UDR is nothing but an armed sectarian loyalist front. In this case the British Army warn motorists not to stick to the main roads in Armagh and not to travel at night. What they are actually saying is that they intend doing nothing about such murders and that the nationalist population will just have to put up with such murders.

The IRSP, since its formation in December last, has repeatedly called for the disarming and disbandment of the UDR and also the RUC and RUC Reserve. British Troops who are aiding sectarian killers (as it suits British policy to repress the nationalists through a third party) must immediately get out of Ireland. Publicity-seeking statements by treacherous politicians like the SDLP who want to re-introduce another armed sectarian loyalist gang, the RUC, into nationalist areas, have nothing to offer the nationalist population.

# Eagarfhocal

The recent report issued by the Inland Fisheries Commission shows clearly why such Commissions are nothing but whitewash jobs. The report has been formulated over the past five years. No report takes that long, unless there are political reasons for delaying it. And so there were. The Fish-in Campaign was it its height about two years ago. There is also the important point that the report cannot be objective, cannot report in the interests of the Irish people as its terms of reference demands that it conform with the selfish rights of private property.

Therefore it is no surprise that the report states that there can be no question of nationalisation as the constitution defends the right of private property. There we have it in a nutshell. Our state will defend the rights of private property regardless of the fact that doing so it will neglect the Irish people as a whole. The report states that nationalisation "cannot be justified before fair minded people, most of them property owners". In other words the report being made for the good of the Irish people must concede the right of Inland Fisheries to benefit the few 'property owners'. In other words the report being made for the good of the Irish people must concede the right of Inland Fisheries to benefit the few 'property owners'. In other words the report that sat for five years was never to study what benefits the Irish people could get from inland fisheries but simply to study how to safeguard the profits of the few property owners.

The age old ridiculous excuse is given against nationalisation 'we couldn't afford it'. Yet there is plenty of capital in this country. We have only to look at our natural resources. The fact is that this capital is in the hand of the few property owners who fill their bank accounts at the expense of the Irish people. As a sop to those demanding nationalisation of all inland rivers and lakes there is talk in the report of Compulsory Purchase Orders in some unspecified cases.

The report recommends one small thing that the Starry Plough recommended in its last issue, that there be one Minister in charge of sea and inland fisheries. But that is the equivalent of the first step of a baby in relation to the essential development that is being neglected in the Irish fishing industry. It is a long way from a 200 mile fishing limit, the establishment of food processing industries, and massive investment in the fishing industry as a whole. It is a long way from the nationalisation of all inland lakes and rivers for the benefit of the Irish people.

Sea and inland fisheries is just another of Ireland's natural resources that is being allowed to become the profit maker for the few to the detriment of the majority. An Irish lake can be owned by an English Earl because his great grandfathers stole it from the Irish people. The rights of conquest are no rights. Besides, the Irish people are still not conquered. After over 800 years we still struggle. Until Ireland belongs to the Irish people 'from the sod to the sky' the struggle will continue. Only with the attainment of National Liberation and Socialism will that struggle end.

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# WHAT WE THINK

The following statement is a portion of a speech made by the Secretary of the I.R.S.P. M. Plunkett at a meeting of the members in the Dublin Comhairle ceantair area. The meeting was discussing Loyalism.

Mr. Mac Giolla when speaking on Sectarianism in the North accused the IRSP of being Ultra Leftist, and stated that we were determined to take a hand in promoting Civil war in the 6 counties. We reject these unprincipled allegations which were unsubstantiated by Mr. Mac Giolla.

On the question of the IRSP being Ultra-Leftist it is worth pointing out that due to reformist nature of the Officials any Republican or Socialist organisation whose policies are more radical than theirs are castigated and branded as Ultra-Leftists. The result of this narrow minded and politically sectarian position of the Officials has led to a situation where their calls for "left wing unity" to end sectarianism is completely meaningless due to the fact that they rule out co-operation with almost every anti-Imperialist organisation. We publicly call on the Officials to name the organisations of the left they are prepared to work with. Having deemed the Provisional movement, the IRSP and almost every other anti-Imperialist and Left Wing organisation as either "militaristic" or "ultra-leftist" their choice is somewhat narrowed.

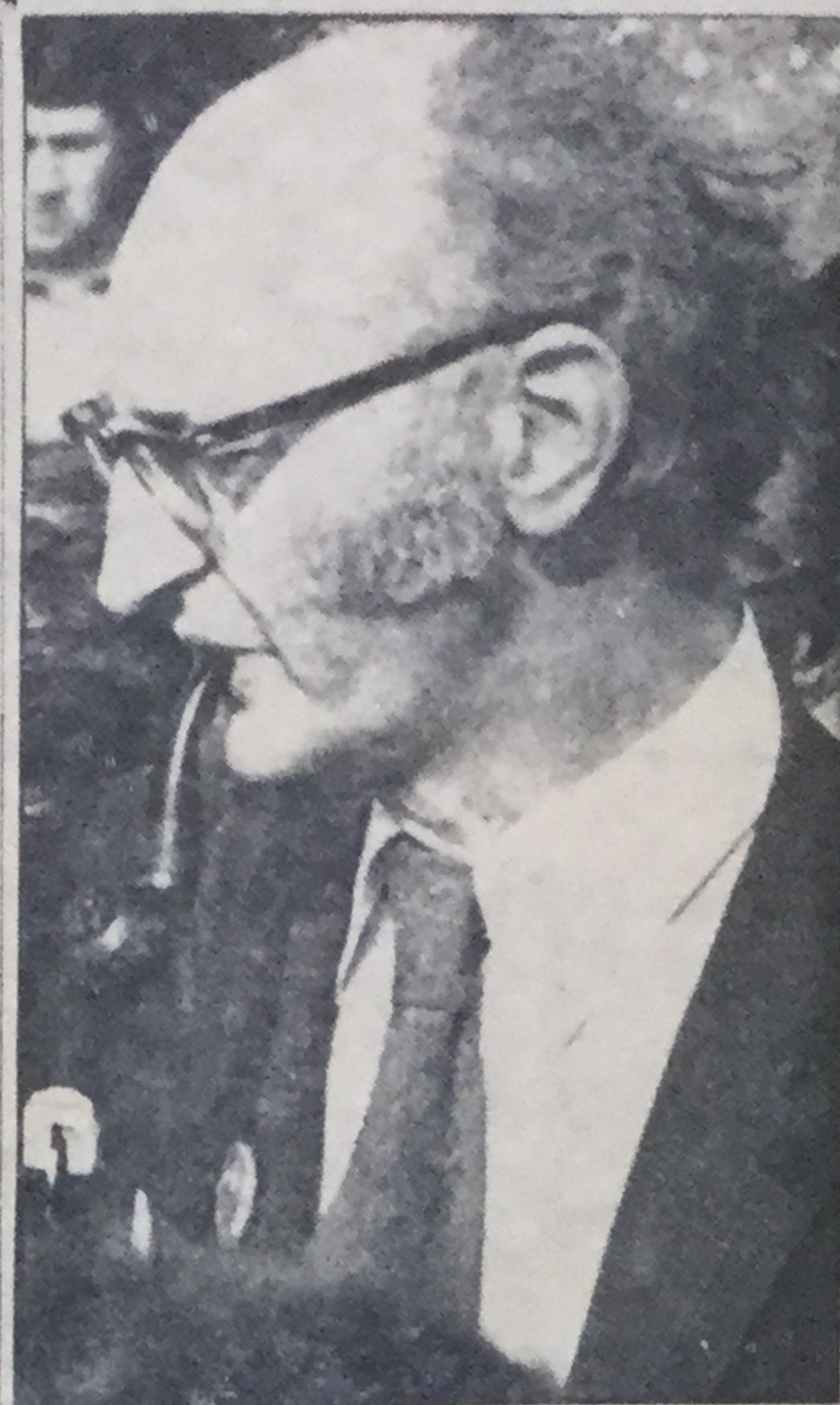
Their whole strategy on Sectarianism proves this. The leadership of the Officials are reduced to issuing long-winded axiomatic statements, which in the present circumstances are abstract and divorced from political realities. In practical terms they have absurdly and incorrectly concluded that the Provisionals and the IRSP are a greater threat to the Irish working class than the British army.

The attitude of the Officials on Loyalism reflects the political confusion that exists within the Officials. They are currently engaged in an exercise designed to flatter and woo the loyalist organisations in the romantic and false hope that they will "see the light" and end their murder campaign, and become revolutionary socialists overnight. The position of the IRSP on the other hand is clearer and politically correct. We recognise that loyalism is pro-Imperialist and anti-working class. In the context of the present situation in the North the Loyalists are actively working for a return to a pre 1969 situation and their British inspired assassination campaign against the Catholic population must be resisted. By saying resistance the IRSP do not mean a negative tit for tat murder campaign against the Protestant working class, we mean a unified approach to the National Liberation and Class struggle in the 6 Cos.

Mr. Mac Giolla when speaking on Sectarianism never once mentioned the overall root cause of the division of the working class in the north, which is British imperialism. Therefore to suggest that this problem can be overcome without tackling the cause is reformist and thus the Officials are the main exponents of what is known as "Ring Road Socialism"

The Ard-Chomhairle of the I.R.S.P. wish to place on record our condemnation of incidents such as the Miami Showband and Bayardo Bar killings and the shooting of the protestant lorry driver on the Falls Road, last Friday.

We totally reject the allegations that the IRSP is encouraging members of the Provisional IRA to end the current ceasefire. As far as we are concerned the ceasefire affords the opportunity to the British Govt. to demonstrate their sincerity by withdrawing their forces from Ireland. The future of the ceasefire is a matter for the Provisional IRA to decide upon and we have no intention of interfering in the internal decision making processes of that organisation.



## LOYALIST FRIENDSHIP - A PIPE DREAM

On the question of Civil War in Northern Ireland I wish to state that we are against this, but the indications are that the Loyalists are preparing for such a situation, i.e. a Loyalist takeover if and when the Convention fails to reach agreement with the British Government on the so called future of Northern Ireland.

Recognising this we are calling for the creation of local organised defence committees to co-ordinate defence against Loyalist murder gangs. This unity of action in the fact of these murder gangs must also include a political unity if we wish to ensure that any political gains from such unity does not pass into the hands of middle class politicians and reformists, such as the S.D.L.P. This demand has been distorted by the Officials into a call for Civil War and it further demonstrated their naivety when they do not see the need for protection of the Catholic working class from the assassins of the U.D.A. and the U.V.F. who are acting in the interests of British Imperialism.

Our call for a broad front of all anti-imperialist forces should not be confused with the hollow calls of the Officials. We in the IRSP are genuinely striving for this objective, in the realisation that it is a prerequisite for successful opposition to imperialism.

In conclusion the rank and file members of the Officials should examine closely the Statements being made by their leadership on their behalf and they will realise that the leadership of the Officials have no positive policy whatsoever on sectarianism and indeed the whole complex question of British Imperialism.

It should now be obvious to all Republicans and Socialists that the leadership of

the Official Republican Movement have embarked on a campaign of slander designed to create friction and bitterness between the Provisional Republican Movement and the IRSP. In addition to their slander campaign, the Officials have resorted to blatant felon-setting of IRSP members.

● ARMAGH is yet another area where the IRSP is growing. A cumann has recently been formed there and to give an idea of the amount of interest in the IRSP in that area it is worth mentioning that in one instance two members of this cumann sold 100 copies of the Starry Plough in Armagh City in less than two hours. Overall, Starry Plough sales have increased by 200%.

# WOMEN FIGHT BACK

In this Womens Year when the term 'womens lib' has been bastardised to mean anything but what it actually means, it is heartening to see women struggle against being used as even cheaper slave labour than their male counterparts. That is why the strike by 8 women in Thom's Directories Ltd., is of particular importance. It follows three other similar cases in Dublin in Credit Finance Ltd., O'Sullivan's Delicatessens and Dun and Bradstreet, the publishers of Stubbs Gazette. The girls saw one of their colleagues being sacked while another girl took her place at four pounds less for wages. It was obvious what the employer was up to. The girls who worked there longest tell of continuous sackings over the years always with the result of young school leavers being employed (at less wages than older girls would be paid). At last these girls have recognised cheap labour for what it is. The South African manager, Mr. J. L. Wooton, has his own family scabbing on these girls. ONLY 36% of women are members of trade unions. Because of this and womens historical role in society women workers tend to be uninterested in union affairs, slow to fight for their own rights and only too often hinder the solidarity and struggles of male workers, usually led

by male workers. There are deep historical reasons for this. The woman was given the impression that her sole contribution to society was to be that of mother and cook. Any job she held was only temporary until she got married and got down to her 'vocation'. Once she was entrenched in that rut it became hard to understand why her husband should strike. That meant less income coming into the house etc. Thus the woman often, unwittingly, became the bosses strike breaker.

The I.R.S.P. demands equal rights in education, pay and job opportunities for women. It is also important that the Trade Unions set up special Committees to deal with any discrimination against women whether by employers or by fellow workers and that the unions take strong action against any such discrimination. The inclusion of a programme to inform women of their historical position and the role they can play in the unions must be an essential part of the unions education programme.

There can be no doubt that this strike will heighten the girls understanding of the relationship between boss and worker, of the necessity of trade unions and workers solidarity. It could also be an eyeopener to many other women workers.



They want their union recognised.

## s.f. slander abroad

In the recent edition of "Teoiric", the Official Republican Movement's theoretical journal, five and a half pages contain what is meant to be a political analysis of the IRSP and "which reflects the (Republican) Movement's attitude". In fact, the article is nothing less than a series of slanderous unsubstantiated attacks on the IRSP, coupled with deliberately fabricated lies. On the theoretical side of it, their erroneous interpretations show why the Officials are politically bankrupt and explains in some ways why the formation of the IRSP was necessary.

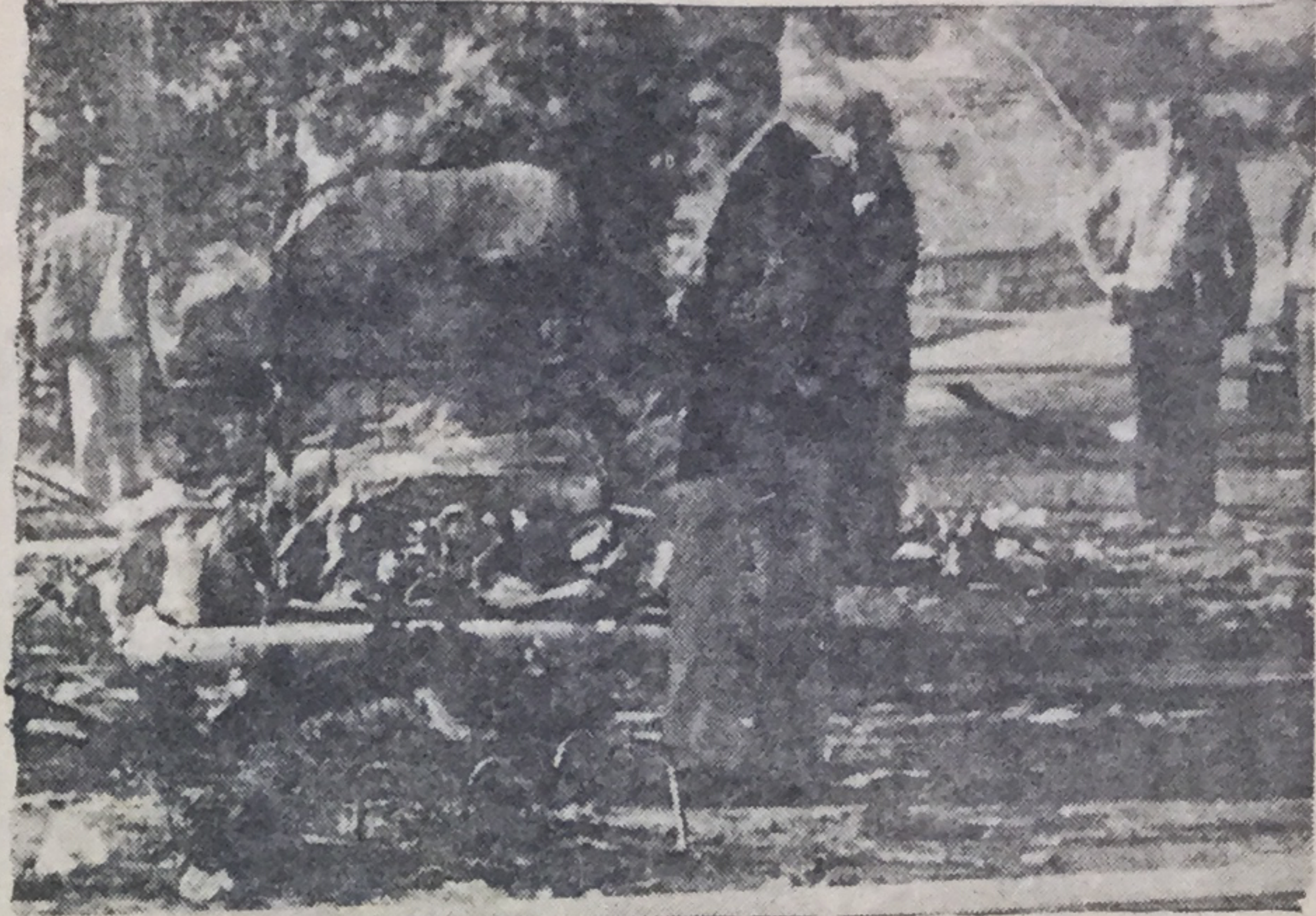
Firstly, attempts are made to give the impression that the IRSP (as when in the Officials), favour factions and, secondly, that the Officials accept democratic centralism as the basis of organisation. In answer to the first, we have but to refer to the recent IRSP Ard Fheis... "the existence of factions or individuals that refrain from engaging in activities decided upon by the party shall not be allowed..." So much for that lie.

What annoyed the Officials' leadership was the rank and file revolt at naked undemocratic procedures within Sinn Fein.

Teoiric states "there is complete freedom to raise and to discuss any subject (within the Officials)". However, many Sinn Fein members suffered three years of petty victimization, suspensions, expulsions and even threats and actual attempts on their lives for "raising any subject" they wished. The Officials' version of democratic centralism is nothing less than central bureaucracy with a semblance of democracy.

The IRSP on the other hand, believe in democratic centralism. However, we accept that differences of opinion can exist within the party. To accommodate these differences, explain where they are wrong or accept them where they are right, an internal bulletin is made available to all members to express these views, without fear of victimisation. We believe in free discussion, explanation and clarification as the only political answer to differences of opinion, rather than doctrinaire "no discussion" instructions followed by expulsions, as has happened, and still happens in the Officials. This question of the lack of internal democracy was one of the many reasons that led to the massive resignations from Sinn Fein in 1974 and the formation of the

Sectarian killings such as the Miami murders continue - they suit British policy



## MIAMI MURDERS - SOME FACTS

The recent cold blooded murder of the Miami Showband should not be seen as an isolated incident. These type of killings are an everyday occurrence in the North in and around the murder triangle and in Belfast city.

What is not an everyday occurrence is the amount of press coverage the Miami murders got. Usually the campaign is given little publicity and readers are guided away from drawing any conclusions that Loyalist murder gangs are involved. An example of this would be the incident that occurred the very next day in and around the same area as the Miami murders. A bus load of old age pensioners was attacked with machine gun fire and immediately the RUC were claiming that some "dissent republican group" was responsible and that they had obviously mistaken the bus carrying the old age pensioners for buses carrying RUC men. Local people hotly denied this, stating that the movements of the RUC are common knowledge and that such a mistake was impossible. At no stage did the RUC even contemplate that some local Loyalist group might have been involved, despite the fact that it is accepted that the UVF carried out the Miami murders.

Another story circulating was that the Miami murders were revenge for the assassination of the three protestants who were killed on the border on June 3rd supposedly by sectarian nationalists. However locals believe a different story. The three protestants were towing a trailer and were mistaken for a local ballad group, who had nationalist sympathies, as they too drove a similar car and towed a similar trailer (for their instruments). This would mean that a Loyalist murder gang was most likely responsible, not "sectarian nationalists".

What is unusual about the Miami murders was the response of the British government. They actually did

something and UVF men were questioned. One of these has been charged with the Miami murders. But this is not a change of policy on behalf of the British Government, simply the use of good tactics. With the press giving so much publicity to the incident the British government had to be seen to be doing something. It was also a chance for the British to prove once and for all that they were 'genuinely doing the job of chasing and apprehending terrorists'.

However, as the press coverage receded the British government again took its old stand of doing next to nothing to stop the assassination campaign. Instead they are using it to frighten the nationalist population into demanding the British presence for 'protection' (!) and into accepting the latest British solution. Meanwhile the British Army, with the full knowledge of the British government, continues to aid and abet the Loyalist sectarian gunmen. Incidents such as the joint loyalist and British army attacks on nationalist areas in the recent Lurgan riots and the gun attack on Divis Flats during the anti-internment demonstrations are the latest proof of this collaboration. The British S.A.S. and its undercover agents continue their night killings under the guise of unknown sectarian killers. They have given a carte blanche to the Loyalist killer gangs to do the same.

We do not believe that the British Army cannot stop the sectarian assassination campaign. If they wanted to they could. It does not want to. The assassination campaign is being used as a tactic to force the nationalist population to accept a middleclass leadership that would protect British interests in the North. Working class catholics and protestants are being used as hostages to force the acceptance of the British solution on an unwilling population.

### IRSP.

"Teoiric" goes off on another of its ultra left binges and states that international ultra leftists converged on Ireland to destroy the Officials. This mania the Officials have that anyone who has disagreements with the Official leadership are either "ultra-leftist" or "reactionary" is ludicrous. So are the lies used to back up the arguments.

For instance "Teoiric" states that a Trotskyist from the U.S.A. was "sent to this country by the establishment" to organise factions within the Officials both in Donegal and Derry. They give the impression that the dis-satisfaction that occurred within the Officials from Donegal and Derry is

therefore unquestionably Trotskyist and foreign inspired (... sounds like the National Press!!) Naturally, they conveniently neglect to mention that *Cathal Goulding, Malachy McGurran and Sean Garland often stayed in the home of this "Trotskyist from the U.S.A."* and furthermore that *they invited him to give educational lectures to Sinn Fein members in their educational school in Mornington!!! To follow the arguments drawn in Teoiric to their logical conclusions, Sean Garland, Cathal Goulding and Malachy McGurran are devout factional Trotskyists. But of course they aren't.*

cont. p7

# the killings . . .

It is interesting to examine the number of deaths and injuries in the 6 Counties, who caused them and why. The following example is typical of any recent period.

## DEATHS 68 - (Feb. 10th - May 31st 1975)

- Nationalists: 43
  - 38 in sectarian assassinations carried out by Loyalists
  - 5 in the Official IRA/IRSP dispute
- Loyalists: 22
  - 16 by Loyalists, mostly in U.V.F./U.D.A. disputes
  - 2 possibly in revenge killings for the assassination of nationalists
  - 1 by Republicans
  - 1 by his own bomb at Conways Bar, Greencastle
  - 1 by Loyalists during an assassination attempt on a group of nationalists
  - 1 by the British Army while he was planting a bomb at a Catholic pub.
- Security Forces: 3
  - 1 R.U.C. constable by Provos
  - 1 R.U.C. woman reservist by Loyalist planted bomb
  - 1 R.U.C. by booby trapped car.

Responsibility unknown.

## INJURIES - 385

- Nationalists: 273
  - 235 by Loyalist extremists
  - 34 in I.R.S.P./I.R.A. dispute
  - 3 by the British Army
  - 1 by the R.U.C.
- Loyalists: 101
  - 98 by Loyalists in feuds
  - 1 by Republicans
  - 1 by the British Army
  - 1 by the R.U.C.
- 'Security Forces': 11
  - 5 U.D.R. by Republicans
  - 5 R.U.C.-men (3 by Republicans and 2 by Loyalists)
  - 1 British soldier in plain clothes by Provos
- BOMBINGS: - 82
  - No warnings given - 39
  - by Loyalists 78
  - by Republicans 4



The continuing Loyalist assassination campaign is becoming unavoidably obvious despite Government and the media to gloss over it. Even the Catholic Bishops were forced under that the Loyalist campaign "HAS CLAIMED WELL OVER 300 INNOCENT LIVES. IT IS THAT IT HAS NOT RECEIVED THE PUBLIC ATTENTION AND CONDEMNATION W

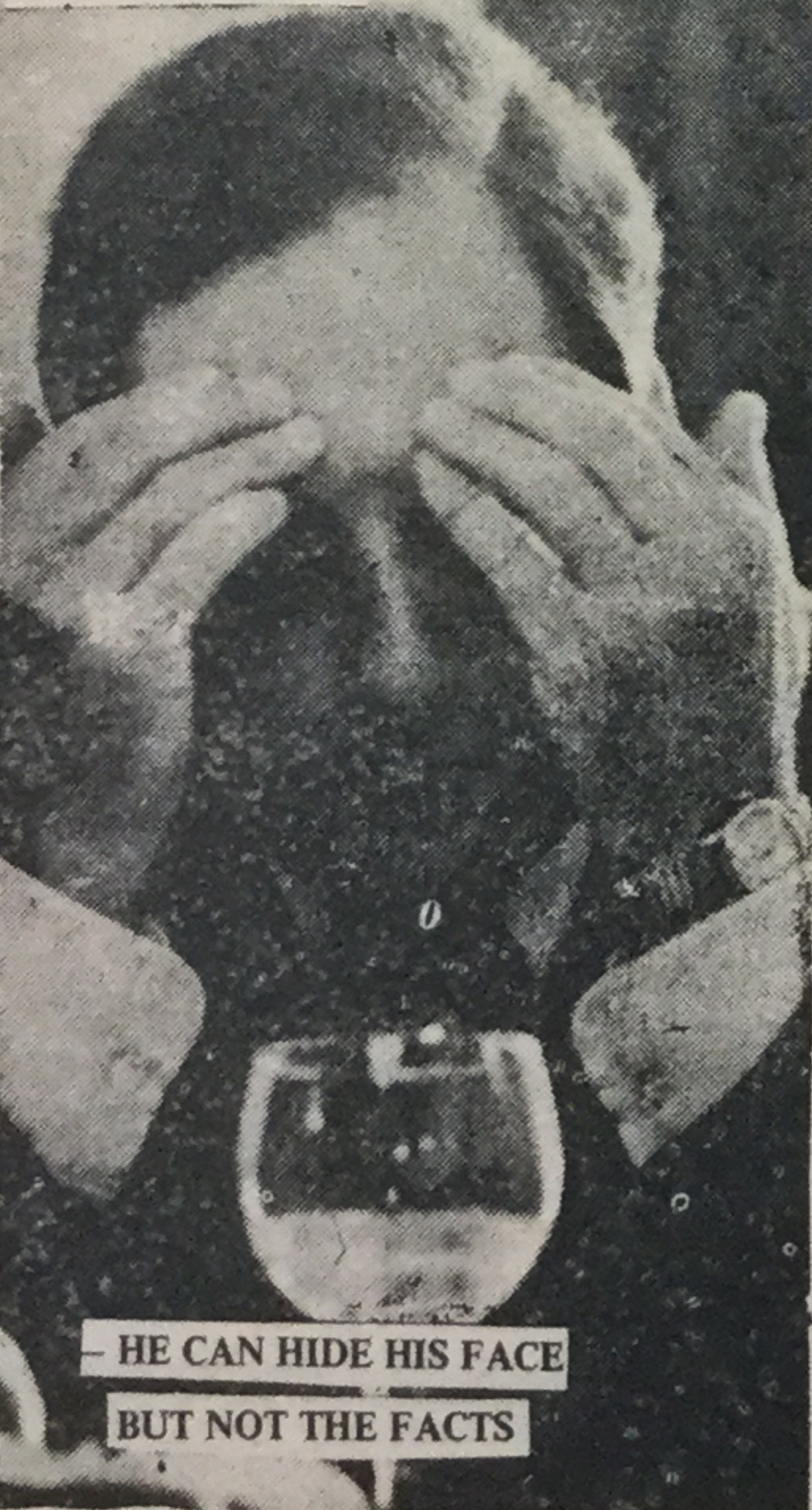
Politically one may agree or disagree with the Provo Ceasefire. The fact of the matter is (besides the few 'retalitory' actions carried out by the Provos), the Loyalist assassination in fact escalated, with little or no attempt by the British Government and the imperialist is increasing evidence that the British Government is up to its neck in fermenting the camp 'orange card'. "Violence" continues to be attributed solely to the nationalist population d to the contrary.

In the following analysis we show how it is the nationalist population who is under attack Government allows and assists these attacks to continue.

## I. D. A. SCANDAL

### £150,000 on 'expenses'

MICHAEL KILEEN



HE CAN HIDE HIS FACE BUT NOT THE FACTS

The industrial development of Ireland today is controlled and directed by the Industrial Development Authority. Due to the powers granted to it by the Act of 1969, it leaves it in a pretty powerful position to directly influence the development of the country in general. The questions to be asked are: What do we want: an industrial development body to do? What direction do we want it to give? What kind of political influence needs to be associated with it, if any?

The basic reason why we need industrial development as such, is due to the acceleration in the growth of population, leading to the development

of many large urban centres, the occupants of which need processed food particular types of goods, raw materials etc., which enable them to live and continue to develop in a particular environment. Industrial development is also the major means by which the wealth of the country is divided throughout. Thus an Industrial Development Authority of a particular country is there to develop that country according to the needs of the particular community. Its task should be to develop the resources of the particular country so as to ensure the best standards of living for its people and at all times striving to give all a fair share of the wealth of the country. Its direction must be along Republican Socialist lines.

To date in Ireland, the Industrial Development Authority has given anything but this direction. It has got bogged down in the influence of "gombeen" politics. It is standing in the way of sharing out the wealth of the nation for the people of the nation and the betterment of the standard of living. But their standing in the way is by no means an accident; it is deliberate policy. A sharing out of the wealth would obviously be against the interests of the capitalists.

An Industrial Development Authority should be a major tool by means of which a government develops a country in the interests of the people concerned. An Irish Development Authority should have as its task the absolute exploitation and development of the natural resources of Ireland. So far they have been doing nothing but taking an easy way out but its renegade policies are leading to a setback with 103,000 unemployed. Their ultimate measure of success is the provision of jobs. This by itself is ridiculous. This does not mean that jobs should not be provided, but how one provides them, in what medium they are provided and what degree of continuity there is in the job are important matters. Of paramount importance is the degree

to which basic job provision is linked to the overall and ultimate development of the economic life of the particular country at hand, and how best development services the ultimate objective of the community at hand - to what degree does it lend to the sharing out of the wealth and the riddance of the old capitalist system, and to the betterment of the standard of living.

Thus job provision in itself merely delays future unemployment if it is not linked to some basic Republican Socialist principle for rational development leading to an ultimate objective. The basis of the I.D.A.'s development to date has been the importation of every foreign capitalist they can lay their hands on. Research is done on the possibility of starting a new industry - then immediately the speculation starts as to which foreign company they can get in to run the industry. No consideration is ever given to the possibility of an industry being set up so that the profits can stay in Ireland to benefit the Irish people. Not only is a foreigner invited to come in and start an industry, but very often the factory is even built for him. All the research is done by the I.D.A. using taxpayers money; a major grant is given for initial expenses, often as high as 50%; the workforce is trained by ANCO (again using taxpayers' money) and the foreign speculator is brought in and seated down to remain content until he feels he has made enough profit so that he can move off to speculate somewhere else. The I.D.A. get back their factory, the workers go on the dole and yet another capitalist escapes without paying tax. A special provision in I.D.A. incentives allows profits generated by exports to be tax-free. Thus the foreigner imperialist has only to keep exporting and to keep drawing in tax free profit.

IT IS ONLY when industry is geared towards meeting the needs of the people

that it will be of service to the Irish people. To do this it becomes necessary for the industries to be established to produce what the country needs using the full potential of the Irish people and Ireland's wealth. That is why the IRSP believes that production for the sake of profit needs duplication of industries. This in turn means a waste of resources that could be utilised in founding a separate industry to provide another service or product necessary for the Irish people. Production for the sake of profit also means the exploitation of workers so as to make that profit as large as possible. The IRSP believes that only Socialism in the long term can provide the answers to the problems presently facing Irish industry. Socialism would ensure firstly that production was geared towards providing the necessities of living for the Irish people. Adequate democracy within the country as a whole and within the factory walls is a necessity to cement this method of production. Naturally, all the resources of the Irish Nation would be used to implement this. As such would follow the nationalisation without compensation of the banks and of our natural resources (oil, gas, lead, zinc, copper, silver etc.)

IN THE SHORT TERM our struggle is to achieve socialism. Naturally this cannot occur overnight. Only when workers have gained enough understanding of the level of their exploitation and that of their country as a whole, of the methods used to divide and weaken them, of their own hidden unused strength and the understanding of the correct methods to take control of the country, only then will workers be ready to establish a democratic 32 county socialist republic.

In the short term therefore, our aim is to make the workers aware of all the above by escalating the struggle at shop floor level but never leaving the workers behind. (Cont. P. 7 - I. D. A.)

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Loyalist murder gang in training

# ... and the killers

The campaign of violence by Loyalists has increased, steadily, since the Malvern Street murders of 1966 through the Civil Rights Campaign, the pipeline and other bombings of March/April 1969, the bombing and arson and intimidation of nationalists in 1969/72 and the sectarian assassinations since 1972. During this whole period nationalists and Republicans were continually blamed as the major source of political violence. Since 1972, as the tables show, the vast majority of these political killings have been carried out by Loyalists. Very few have been carried out by either nationalists or republicans. Yet the R.U.C. the British Army and the media continue to speak of 'tit for tat' murders. It is deliberately misleading. So also is the term 'motiveless murders'.

### U.V.F. have ceasefire!

A very small number of Loyalists have been arrested and charged with these murders. If we compare this with the mass arrests, brutal interrogation and charges brought against the nationalist population and the mass internment of republicans and nationalists it becomes obvious who the British Government considered their enemies and whom they were willing to tolerate and encourage by their public lack of interest. All the Loyalist para-military groups have been on what they call a "ceasefire". The U.V.F., who held a press conference to publicly admit many sectarian murders, are not even banned by the British government. In other words their activities are accepted by the British government.

### Dublin bombers released

Over 250 nationalists and republicans are still incarcerated in Long Kesh despite the obvious lack of political killings from that quarter while Loyalists (even those responsible for the Dublin bombings) have been released. Again we can see how internment is not what the Brits call "a security measure" but calculated repression against the nationalist population.

In 1974 the Church initiated peace marches and prayer meetings which were so hypocritically attended by politicians North and South. The loyalist campaign of murder continues and there is silence from these same quarters. It does not suit British policy in the North to end these sectarian killings and as such they will not use the clergy to bear pressure on them.

The use of the media by British imperialism is also interesting. For instance the murder of two judges stayed in the news bulletins for eight days; the recent murder of an RUC man (Constable Gray) was referred to for 5 days. On the other hand the sectarian murders of three men in the Blearly Darts Club and of three members of the McKenna family were no longer news after 36 hours. When it comes to the reporting of killings there is no distinction

### What then is British Policy in the North and how can it be opposed?

IN 1963 when Capt. Terence O'Neill became Prime Minister of Northern Ireland the British Government attempted to found a different kind of state in the North. They attempted to do away with blatant Orangism and replace it with a middle class leadership of both Catholics and Protestants. This was especially imperative in the aftermath of the civil rights campaign. At the same time it initiated massive repression of the nationalist areas, arrests, harassment, brutality, jailings, torture and internment. The Loyalists naturally, saw this as a sell out of their previous privileged position and they revolted. The British Army was used to repress them in the Shankill in January 1971. When this failed the British Government then decided to contain the Loyalist revolt rather than confront it. Meanwhile the repression of the nationalist population continued unabated. Their attempts to form the middle class leadership following the end of Stormont, through direct rule into the Sunningdale Agreement, the Assembly and Powersharing. However in the following Convention elections the Loyalists under the UUUC unity, managed to split the Unionist Party and totally discredit Faulkner and gain a majority of seats in the Convention. The Alliance Party the Unionist Party, Northern Ireland Labour Party became irrelevant. The only importance of the SDLP is that they represent middle class Catholics. Even they now see their weakness and are jettisoning their talk of a united Ireland in attempts to be accepted in some form by the UUUC. The only thing they can expect from the Convention is seats on powerless committees which they seem willing to accept. The UUUC are clever enough to pretend that they are working with the S.D.L.P. so as to give the impression of fairminded and responsible leadership. The Convention can only come up with one answer - a Loyalist takeover and a return to Stormont.

of bodies except for the propagandist. Imperialist propaganda is certainly good at its job.

Two facts are unquestionably clear: A sectarian assassination campaign is being carried out by Loyalists against the nationalist population. This campaign is not being opposed by the British government and is in fact being ignored by the imperialist controlled mass media.

Two conclusions must again, unquestionably, be taken from those facts: the sectarian assassination campaign suits British policy in the North (and due to increasing evidence) the British Government is openly assisting these groups directly and indirectly.

### Brits back Loyalists

THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT, who want to hold on to the North for economic reasons) are forced to accept this. When the Loyalists started their present campaign for a return to Stormont with the U.W.C. Strike in May '74 the British Army refused to turn against the Loyalists. And so the British Government did nothing about the strike and it became a substantial Loyalist victory.

WHILE THIS TAKEOVER is in progress, now with the full backing of the British Government, it is important that the Nationalist population be forced to accept it. And so the repression continues. Internment has proved a dismal failure as regards intimidating the nationalist population. It had the opposite effect of swelling the ranks of Republican groups. The new campaign of intimidation is the sectarian assassination

campaign. The British Government controls many of the Loyalist para-military groups through its agents such as the S.A.S. One of these Charles Harding Smyth, a U.D.A. leader was exposed and had to leave the North after various attempts on his life by Loyalists. He is now back in the North under round the clock British protection. Assassins are frequently seen escaping through British military checkpoints. After some shootings when the killers have been caught or cornered the British Army has rescued them and admitted that they were British soldiers on undercover duty who were "fired on first"!

ONLY THE UNITY of all radical and anti-imperialist forces can combat this Loyalist takeover and thwart the policy of British imperialism. No individual nationalist or republican group, alone, can be effective opposition. It is also necessary that local defence groups be established in all nationalist areas to defend the areas from the Loyalist assassination campaign. It is important that street committees be formed to co-ordinate vigilante patrols and all defence groups within the nationalist areas. It is Britain that manipulates the divisions that it creates amongst the Irish people. Therefore British Troops must be made leave Ireland and Britain must be made renounce all her claims to sovereignty over any part of Ireland. This is no easy task nor will it occur overnight. Long tedious discussions will have to take place between all radical and anti-imperialist groups. Differences will have to be put aside. It is to this task that the I.R.S.P. dedicates itself.

vidably obvious despite attempts by the British... NOCENT LIVES. IT IS A MATTER FOR REGRET... CONDEMNATION WHICH IT DESERVES"

The fact of the matter is that while the truce has held... Loyalist assassination campaign has continued, and... the imperialist media to stop it. In fact there... in fermenting the campaign, playing the age old... nationalist population despite overwhelming proof

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## IRSP in USA

Two members of the Árd Comhairle of the Irish Republican Socialist Party, Johnny White (national organiser) and Seamus Costello (Cathaoirleach), have gone to Amherst, Mass., in the U.S.A. to participate in an Educational Forum on Northern Ireland. There is a great interest in the reasons for the formation of the IRSP and the actual policies of the IRSP itself, in America. The IRSP will also be meeting US journalists and many other groups and individuals who are sympathetic to the fight for national liberation and socialism in Ireland. The IRSP has recently completed a tour of Europe. Another tour is also planned for England. A full report of the US tour will be given in the next issue of the STARRY PLOUGH.

## Arklow Seapanach

Caithear an cheist a chur - an bhfuil muintir na h-Éireann ag iarraidh smacht a choinneáil ar a gcuid gnóthaí féin? Lá i ndiaidh lae faighimid tuairiscí ar thalamh, siopaí, tionscail agus araile a ndíol le h-eachtránnaigh.

An mí seo chaite, shocraigh scarthóirí Arklow Pottery Ltd. 29.9% dá gcuid scaranna a dhíol le comhlucht Seapanach, Noritake Ltd. An leithscéal a bhí acu ná gurbh gá airgead a infheistiú sa chomhlucht len é a fhorbairt. Tá go leor d'airgead mhuintir na h-Éireann á infheistiú i gcomhluchtaí eachtránacha. Cén fáth nach bhféadfaí airgead a chur ar fáil do thionscal Éireannach - go leor chun nár ghá dóibh dul i muinín na n-eachtránach?

Níor chuir ach beirt de scarthóirí Arklow Pottery in aghaidh na céime seo. Ar ndoigh ní suim le rachmasóirí saoirse náisiúnta. Is mó i bhfad an tsuim a chuireann siad ina gcuid brabúis féin.



## CONRADH ON IMPERIALISM

Conradh na Gaeilge has called for greater co-operation between struggling language groups throughout the world. In a message sent to the international seminar on language and decolonisation recently held in Fredericia, Denmark, the organisation says:

"It is increasingly being understood better that the elimination of colonialism requires somewhat more than the attainment of political autonomy and economic control by peoples now under imperial domination. It is the general practice of colonialism — and almost its universal norm in Europe — to impose the language and culture of the colonial power throughout its domain and to carry out a conscious policy of assimilation. To this end it utilises the institutions of education and the mass media and manipulates the cultural superstructure. In the contemporary world it sponsors a dehumanising mass "culture" which (with great profit for small groups of cynically motivated people) tends to destroy personal and communal values. Faced with this conflict peoples now freeing themselves from imperial subjection in Africa, Asia and the Americas as well as in Europe need to embark on a programme of cultural decolonisation — and many have already begun this process.

### Campaign of decolonisation

"In Ireland this struggle has reached a particularly crucial stage. There are efforts on behalf of the neo-colonial and neo-Unionist establishment to downgrade the Irish language and eliminate it from public life. These efforts include the phasing out of the language from the schools and increased Anglo-Americanisation of the Irish Television Network (including a proposal to re-broadcast the English State Television Service throughout Ireland). On the anti-colonial side there are refusals to pay for television licences until an adequate Irish language television service is provided, demands for a democratically-elected regional administration in the Irish-speaking areas and a general call for civil rights for the Irish language community. Our movement leads the insistence on essential services being provided through Irish and that the language is afforded its due status in public notices, forms and announcements. We propose a campaign of decolonisation to enable a free Ireland to take its proper place in the international community rather than be a divided exploited appendage of the English state. *This is an aspect of the anti-imperial struggle in Ireland which merits more publicity and attention.*

"This is a world-wide movement and it requires international co-operation. Among the objectives we are proposing are an international covenant on lingual and cultural rights and the institution of an International oppressed and Exploited Cultures year.

"Next year our organisation is convening a Celtic Language Conference to further co-operation in this field. While our conference will deal primarily with the problems of the other Celtic peoples with which we have particular ties of language, culture, geography and political interests it will be open to all interested parties. Representatives of other struggling language groups and of organisations with an interest in cultural decolonisation will be particularly welcome."

The Starry Plough is published by Starry Plough Publications (Foillseachán an Camchéachta). We welcome your views and comments. Contact us at 1a Essex Gate, Dublin 8 or Telephone 770295

● A NEW RECRUITING POSTER in two colours has been produced by the IRSP and is available from head office at 5p each. Bulk orders can be had at £5 per hundred.

JAMES CONNOLLY, like all radicals and revolutionaries was ignored by historians and the Press who support what these same radicals and revolutionaries spent their lives attacking. They ignore the greatness of the men or women concerned and their actual contribution to society. It is such with James Connolly. From our school days we know he was involved in trade unions and in the strike of 1913, that he was Commander of the Citizens Army and Commander in Chief at the G.P.O. in 1916 and that he was executed while tied to a chair, as he could not stand due to the wounds he received at the G.P.O. We rarely hear he was a socialist. We

### Health and Workers

With Belfast, as with Dublin there is little need to go beyond official returns for any statements of facts. Dr. Baillie, Medical Officer of Health for Belfast, has on many occasions in his Annual Report set down in his dry official way some statistics as to the pressure of the Capitalist system upon the Belfast workers, and these statistics, well considered, might well produce a crop of revolutionaries in the Northern City.

In his official report for 1909, referring to the extraordinary number of premature births, Dr. Baillie remarks:

"The premature births were found to be most prevalent among women who worked in mills and factories, engaged in such work as the following — spinning, weaving, machining, tobacco-spinning and laundry work. Many of the women appear to be utterly unable for such work owing to the want of sufficient nourishment and suitable clothing, and being through stress of circumstances compelled to work up to the date of confinement, this would be accountable for many young and delicate children found by the Health Visitors."

Dealing with consumption and the efforts at its cure, he gives the following figures illustrating again how it is the poor who are the principal sufferers, from this, as from all the other scourges of life in Ireland:

"As in the previous year, the class of persons most attacked were housewives (280) the next in order being labourers (179), mill-workers (162), children (117), warehouse workers (107), factory workers (59) and clerks (34)."

The Socialist contention that most diseases could be eliminated by the establishment of a juster social order, and that the capitalist system is mainly responsible for sickness and the poverty that follows from sickness, as well as the sickness that follows from poverty, is thus strikingly verified from impartial sources.

It is interesting to note that this medical gentleman places the responsibility for disease upon the proper shoulders, those responsible for bad social conditions — a fact to be commended to the notice of those good souls, who, when they see their children, parents, sisters or brothers murdered by disease, blasphemously attribute their deaths to the "Will of God". It is not the Will of God but to the greed of man that most such deaths are due.

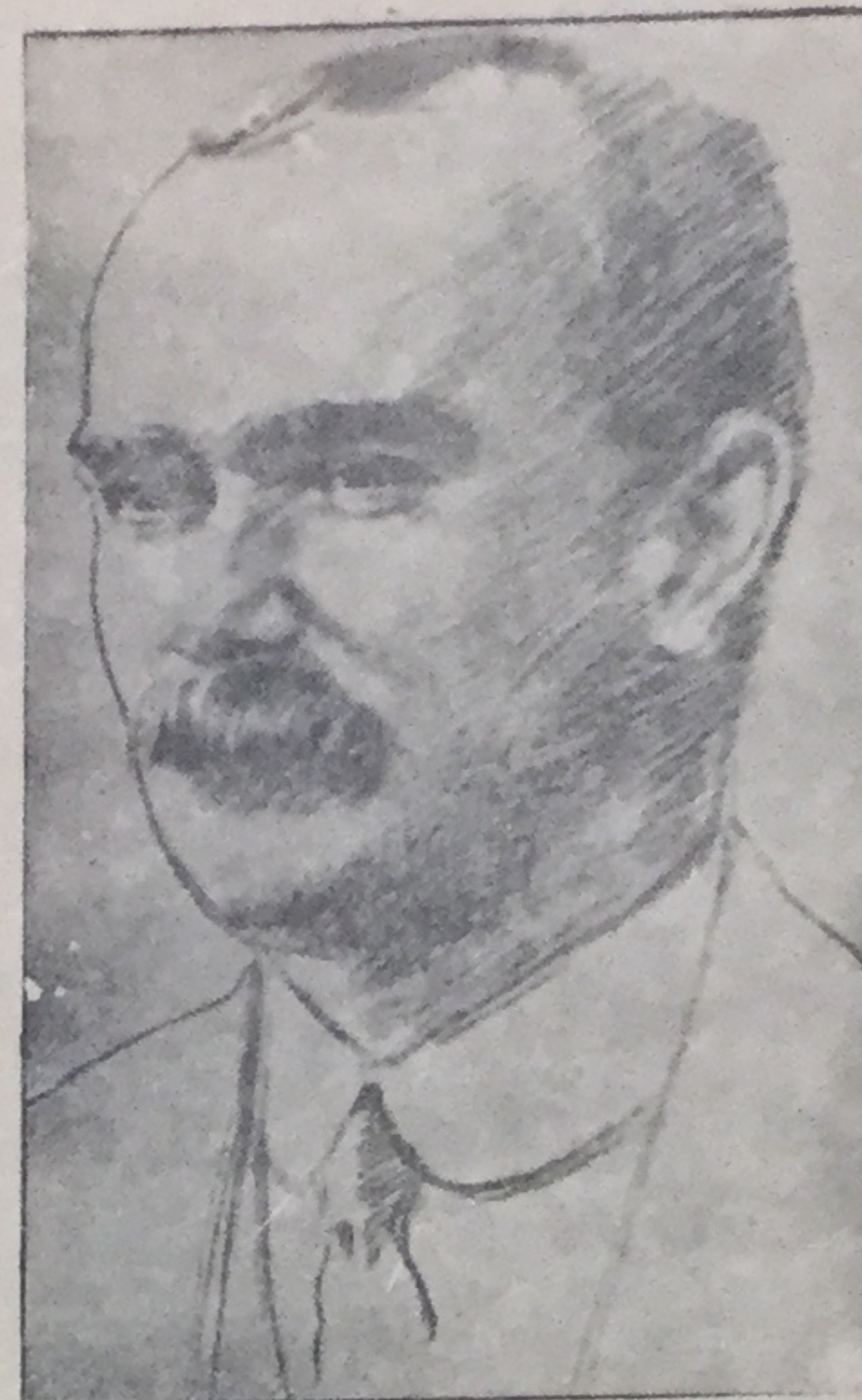
We do not deny the benevolent motives of the good ladies and gentlemen at present crusading against consumption in Ireland, but we consider that the agitator who aroused the people to revolt against the conditions of toil and life for the workers is doing more to end the scourage than all the anti-tuberculosis societies ever dreamed of! ■

In these short extracts, considering the changes of time, we see that basically nothing has changed. That is because the system is still the same. As Connolly states it is only when Capitalism is destroyed that good working conditions can be guaranteed, as well as decent health and the end of cheap labour. While it is true that little or no child labour exists at present and that there are laws governing safety at work and there has been a change for the better in the medical services this is not due to the benevolence of capitalism but rather to the hard

rarely hear why he was in that G.P.O. or why he was involved with Larkin in 1913 in the Great Lockout, Why he supported and founded trade unions, what he saw as their role, and finally what kind of a society his philosophy foresaw. We rarely heard any of that for had we, we might have listened to what he had to say and acted upon it.

Connolly's Corner gives our readers an opportunity to read some snippets from various writings by Connolly, to follow interpretations of what he meant and to give them an opportunity of seeing Connolly as he really was, through his writings. (His writings are available from us — see Page 2.)

## Connolly's



## Corner

### Little children working

IN THE INDUSTRIAL PARTS OF THE NORTH OF IRELAND the yoke of capitalism lies heavy upon the lives of the people. The squalor and listless wretchedness of some other parts is, indeed, absent, but in its stead there exists grinding toil for old and young — toil to which the child is given up whilst its limbs and brains are still immature and undeveloped, and toil continued until a broken and enfeebled wreck, the toiler sinks into a too early grave. In this part of Ireland the child is old before it knows what it is to be young. We have heard of a savage chief who was brought from his savage home to see and be impressed with the works of civilisations. He was taken around the big centres of modern capitalism, show steam engines, battleships, guns, railway trains, big factories and churches, and all the mammoth achievements of our day, and then taken home to his people. Arrived there he was asked by his escort what he conceived to be the most wonderful thing he had seen, what had impressed him most, and he answered:

### "LITTLE CHILDREN WORKING"

This thing which seemed so strange to the savage, who amid the savage surroundings, handicapped by lack of knowledge, and all its industrial possibilities, yet had never thought of making children work. In their wisdom, our lords and masters often leave full-grown men unemployed, but they can always find a use for the bodies and limbs of our children. A strange comment upon the absurdities of the capitalist system, illustrating its idiotic wastefulness of human possibilities; that the intellect and strength of men should be left to rot for want of work, whilst children are by premature work deprived of the possibilities of developing fully their minds or bodies. ■

### Safety at work

IT IS NOT SO EASY with accidents as it is with diseases to make the public realise that they are mostly preventable, yet that this is the case is susceptible of proof to the unbiassed mind. Even many workers will pooh-pooh the idea, accustomed as they have been to seeing accidents almost every day of their working lives, yet a little calm reflection will convince all but the most obdurate that an alteration of working conditions could be made which would go far to minimise the dangers of even the most perilous of our occupations.

Competent investigators, for instance, have found that the greatest number of accidents occur at two specific periods of the working day — viz. in the early morning and just before stopping work at evening. In the early morning when the worker is still drowsy from being aroused too early from his slumbers, and has not had time to settle down properly to his routine of watchfulness and alertness, or, as the homely saying has it, "whilst the sleep is still in his bones", the toil of accidents is always a heavy one.

They commence again and go on increasing in frequency as the workers get tired and exhausted, until they rise to the highest number in the hour or half hour immediately before ceasing work. How often do we hear the exclamation apropos of some accident involving the death of a worker: "He had only just started", or "he had only ten minutes to go before stopping for the day"? And yet the significance of the fact is lost on most.

When these industries owned in common by the community and conducted for the benefit of all instead of for the private profit of a few capitalists, care would be taken that the working hours were not at any time so prolonged as to weary the worker, and thus destroy his vigour and alertness; and, when an accident did occur, the persons in charge would be placed on trial and compelled to prove their innocence of responsibility, instead of, as present, when the friend of the victim are compelled to establish the responsibility of the employer, and can only establish it by the evidence of workers whose daily bread is at the mercy of the employer in question. ■

work and pressure exerted by workers on capitalism. Child Labour has been replaced by cheap female labour; medicine is still so expensive so as to become a luxury; the conditions under which workers live and work are still the main cause for many unnecessary illnesses both physical and mental; safety at work depends on the determination of workers to demand that the few safeguards of the law be implemented and it is still the worker who must prove that the injury was not his own fault. Connolly also makes the important point that while reform is necessary

it is only one tiny part of the struggle. He correctly states that one person trying to get the people to change the system is better than all the societies trying to alleviate the problems which the system creates. We continually hear through our mass media that reformist societies are doing great practical work while radical and revolutionary groups (no matter how good their intentions) get little results. Connolly's answer is as pertinent today as when he wrote it. From Connolly's time to 1975 capitalism is still with us. So too are the problems it creates for the Irish working class.

**I. D. A. SCANDAL**

from page 5

Another example of how the I.D.A. waste money, belonging to the Irish people is their expenditure of £100,000 on travelling expenses abroad and £50,000 on lavish 'receptions' at home to talk foreign financial sharks into taking the profits of Irish industry out of the country. As if they needed encouragement. Many firms have been set up by the I.D.A. with huge grants and tax free concessions only to find that the companies concerned skip the country as soon as they have made a high profit.

**SLANDER**

(from p.3)

This U.S.A. 'Trotskyist' "organised factional activities inside the movement in Derry" states "Teoiric". They neglect to mention that he was invited to address an educational conference in Derry City by Malachy McGurran! Again Teoiric states that "when the barricades came down in Derry the 'defenders of the people' fled across the border to Donegal". However the truth is that they were ordered to do so by the Officials' leadership and were refused permission to return when they requested to do so!

Another example of this mania with the "ultra left" is their attack on the West-German-Ireland Solidarity Committee. These attacks are understandable when one remembers that this group gave the Officials much needed and appreciated support before the formation of the IRSP when they gave their support to us. This group sent a lot of money for prisoners' dependents and distributed the Officials' propoganda in Europe. They also sent over 20 delegates to the Sinn Fein anti-Imperialist festival in 1974.

But as soon as the Officials were politically opposed by this group, they call them "establishment spies". This is a serious, again unsubstantiated, attack on this group to discredit them in Europe and slander the IRSP, giving the impression that they, too are involved in spying on the left. This is, of course, totally untrue.

The I.R.S.P. is attempting to break the politically sectarian method of having support groups abroad solely for Irish political parties. In the recent European tour, in which the IRSP participated (with the Provos and P.D. — the Officials refused to participate) all possible attempts were made to unite groups in Europe to support the Irish struggle as a whole, rather than any political organisation.

Finally, "Teoiric" concludes stating that the 1974 Ard Fheis refused by a large majority to endorse what they call "ultra left policies" but what in fact were, demands that the party adhere to the policies previously passed by Sinn Fein Ard Fheiseanna in '72 and '73. These policies were never implemented. Such was the level of expulsions and suspensions in a period of 2 years that it led to the formation of the IRSP immediately after the Official Sinn Fein Ard Fheis on December 12th 1974. The notorious murder campaign directed against the IRSP by the Official IRA from that very day proved the hypocrisy and lies of the "Teoiric" article when it states that "we were not opposed to their right to do this". (i.e. form the I.R.S.P.)

The only reason we answer "Teoiric" is to expose the lies and insinuations in it. "Teoiric" once an internal theoretical journal (not anymore, perhaps because of the lack of Official membership to read it), is circulated abroad to groups who wish to support the Irish struggle. Such inaccuracies and blatant deliberate fabricated lies can only confuse such groups. One wonders how present day supporters, both at home and abroad, will be treated in the future if and when political differences occur. If "Teoiric" is anything to go by they too will be labeled "ultra leftists" and "establishment spies".

The IRSP is a serious political party intent on leading the Irish working class to national liberation and socialism. We reject ultra-leftism. We reject factions within our party. We urge foreign support groups to unite together abroad and support the Irish struggle as a whole rather than be divided along narrow sectarian lines. We reject central bureaucracy and fully support democratic centralism and freedom of discussion within our party. We refuse to become felon setters and distributors of lies. Instead we prefer to unite all radical and anti-imperialist forces in Ireland to win the struggle for National Liberation and Socialism.

Buy the Starry Plough every month. An annual subscription, including postage, can be had for £2.50.

**PORTUGAL'S  
FASCIST  
TERROR**



In trying to understand the present situation in Portugal it is essential to look at the background to the army coup of April 1974 and examine the reasons why groups ranging from the Catholic Church to the Maoists originally supported it. This broad support reflected the hopes held for the revolution by conflicting interests inside and outside Portugal.

Although anti-fascist resistance in Portugal played a part in bringing down the dictatorship, the major credit is undoubtedly due to the African liberation movements. After 14 years of war, Portugal was spending 50% of its budget on its colonial wars and was further than ever from victory.

**THE EDITOR** of the Starry Plough, Michael Aherne, was arrested on Wednesday July 23rd and held overnight in the Bridewell under the Offences Against the State Act. He was questioned about the strength of the IRSP in Co. Carlow and his fingerprints were taken under the Offences Against the State Act. He was also questioned about the sales of the Starry Plough.

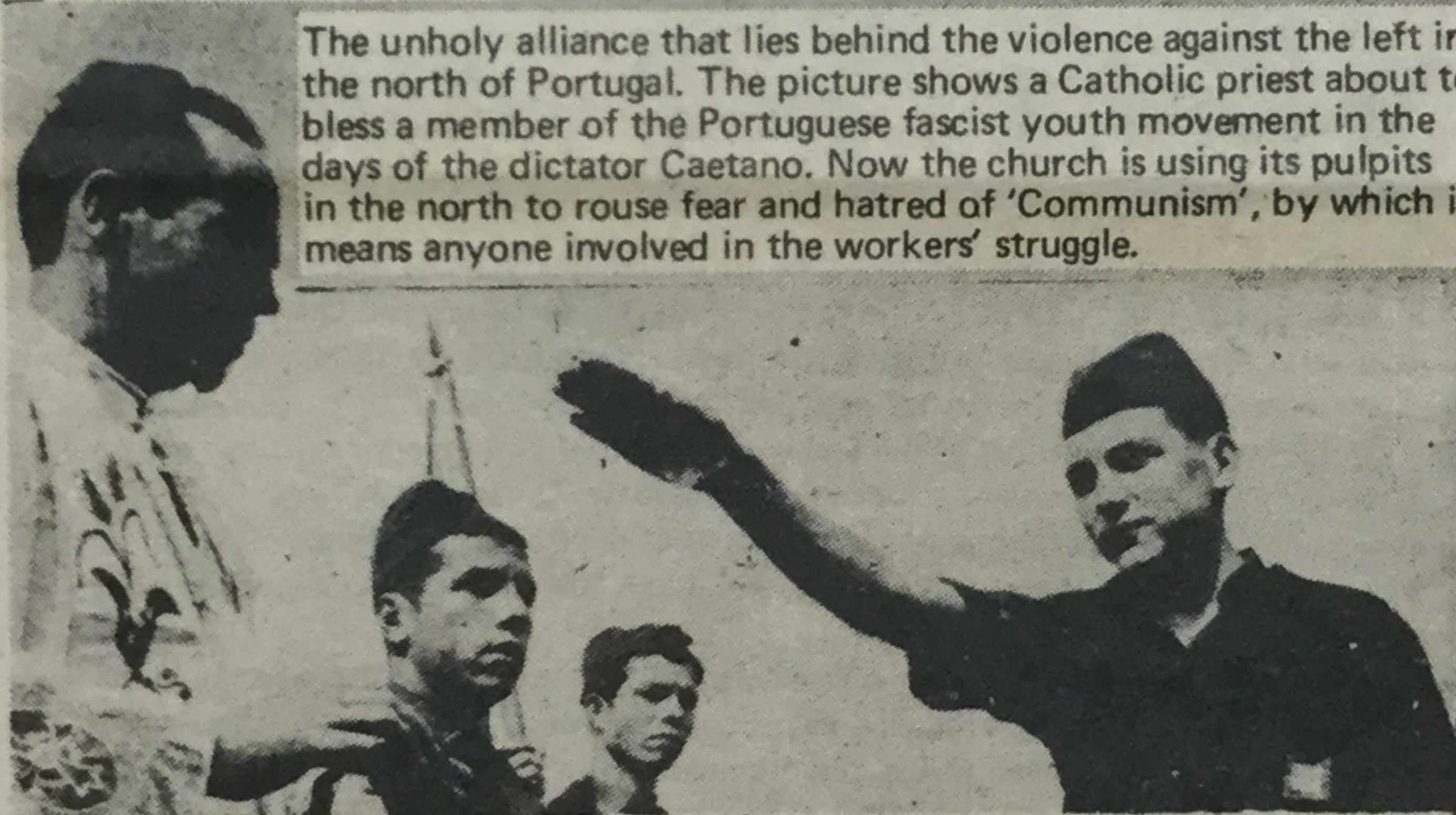
With terrible poverty a huge illiteracy rate and a ruined economy, the more intelligent elements of the Portuguese ruling class realised that they had to abandon the Fascist ship or sink with it. Their leading spokesman, General Antonio de Spínola (who had ruthlessly suppressed African independence movements) wrote a book calling for an end to the colonial wars. He wanted to protect Portuguese vested interests in a new neo-colonial system. His book won the support of large sections of the army, church and capitalist class for various reasons. The Portuguese capitalists felt that the Fascists had outlived their usefulness. Their only hope was to modernise economically and politically and join the EEC. Certain elements of the Portuguese capitalist class also wanted an end to their concordat with the Fascists (under which Portuguese Bishops were selected by the government). The strongest support came from the army, which realised it had no hope of winning its wars in Africa. The crisis came to a head when Spínola was dismissed from office.

**Left and Right confrontation**

In a short and bloodless coup, the Caetano dictatorship was overthrown. The army and Spínola received massive popular support. However, the moderate right soon realised that it had unleashed forces it could not control. Millions of workers took part in the first May Day demonstrations and began seizing factories. The swing to the Left was shown by the massive build up of the Communist and Socialist parties. The Armed Forces Movement themselves moved steadily leftwards. The right became even more alarmed by the total victory of the African Liberation movements.

Spínola began to attack the left and the banks began to sabotage the economy in preparation for a coup. On March 11th Spínola attempted to turn the revolution backwards by seizing power and repressing the left. However when it was faced with massive popular resistance the coup collapsed in a few hours. Acting on their own initiative, workers set up roadblocks and seized factories. Their seizure of the banks exposed the right wing economic sabotage and forced the government to nationalise all private banks.

The unholy alliance that lies behind the violence against the left in the north of Portugal. The picture shows a Catholic priest about to bless a member of the Portuguese fascist youth movement in the days of the dictator Caetano. Now the church is using its pulpits in the north to rouse fear and hatred of 'Communism', by which it means anyone involved in the workers' struggle.



Once the right wing threat had subsided the tensions between communists and socialist parties came into the open. Both were maneuvering for control of the trade unions and Armed Forces Movement and the Communist Party were proving more successful. Before the April elections both parties made unprincipled concessions to the A.F.M., they agreed to accept military participation in government for many years to come. The Socialists won 38% of the vote in the April elections but they were still virtually powerless. The pro N.A.T.O. right wing of the Socialist Party began to attack the Communist Party and Armed Forces Movement and eventually withdrew from the government. Instead of calling for more popular democratic control, the left of the Socialist Party was dragged into an anti-communist campaign. It is however, important to see that the Socialist Party is not just another social democratic party. It contains many genuine progressive and radical elements.

For the first time since the overthrow of the fascist regime the Portuguese right-wing could regroup, with CIA backing.

Right wing agitators used Socialist Party rallies as a cover to burn communist and trade union offices. Many were paid to do so. At the same time an hysterical right wing press campaign against the Communist Party was launched in Portugal. When an attempt was made to purge the workers at a right wing catholic radio station they took it over. The Western media, including RTE, tried to

portray this as a communist plot against free speech.

Since that time the situation in Portugal has become very dangerous with well co-ordinated right wing plans for another coup. These plans are actively being supported by the Spanish and American governments. A right wing terror group based in Spain has carried out bomb attacks in Portugal to spread confusion. The C.I.A. is pouring funds into reactionary coffers and has brought in many agents who played a role in organising the military coup in Chile. The U.S. government denied its involvement in Chile originally, but now it is common knowledge and even the U.S. government admits it. Arrangements have also been made with Spínola to hold meetings with leading right wing Portuguese elements in Paris.

Against such a background it is criminally irresponsible for genuine left wing elements in the Socialist Party to continue supporting the anti-communist campaign. While no one can change history they can certainly learn from it. The experience of Chile is fresh enough to show what happens when the left fails to decisively smash Fascism. For all its mistakes, the Portuguese Communist Party is the vanguard of resistance to a right wing takeover. If they are smashed the entire Portuguese left will go down with them and the clock will be set back 40 years. This is the real significance of the present struggle in Portugal.



On the weekend of August 9th last anti-internment protests took place all over Ireland to mark the fourth year of Internment. The Irish Republican Socialist Party held a series of public meetings and protests in various parts of the country.

In Dublin members of the Fairview Cumann of the IRSP held a five minute demonstration during the Aga Khan

Challenge Trophy at the R.D.S. Horse Show calling for an end to internment. Their banner was ripped to bits by the gardai and they have been charged with, wait for it, vagrancy! and using insulting language and behaviour! Obviously the government fear being exposed for their collaboration with the perpetrators of Internment and as such see such protests as "insulting". The truth always hurts those who wish to hide it.

A successful meeting was held at the G.P.O. by the Dublin Comhairle Ceanntair

of the IRSP which was attended by over 400 people.

In Carlow over 300 attended a public meeting. Public meetings were also held in Ennis where 400 people attended and in Belfast where over 300 people took part in a taxi motorcade to Long Kesh which was ambushed by loyalists on the M1 motorway as it returned from Long Kesh. In Derry IRSP members picketed a local RUC station and also had a sit down blocking all traffic for one hour.

## Army halts march to Long Kesh

The United Anti Internment Committee, in which the IRSP participated, held a march to Long Kesh on Sunday 17th August, but the march was broken up by the British Army "as not enough notice had been given". Soldiers baton-charged the marchers and fired rubber bullets at them. Attempts to out-flank the marchers failed and the British Army could make no arrests. In this we see again how British Imperialism will not let protests about its methods of repression take place. A peaceful march is stopped, fired at, baton-charged and then attempts are made to arrest the marchers.

● THE S.D.L.P. fund raising campaign was recently discussed at the Fianna Fáil H.Q. At the meeting Senator Bernard McLinchee went to great pains to ensure that Fianna Fáil assist the S.D.L.P. According to him John Hume and Austin Curry are "good Fianna Fáil men".

### '71 INTERNMENT '75'

Support Irish Republican Socialist Party political prisoners and internees by supporting their families.

There is an urgent need for funds. Organise a fund raising function, hold a collection. Buy wallets, purses etc. from Long Kesh. Send your orders and donations to The Starry Plough, 1a Essex Gate, Dublin 8.

#### LONG KESH SOUVENIRS

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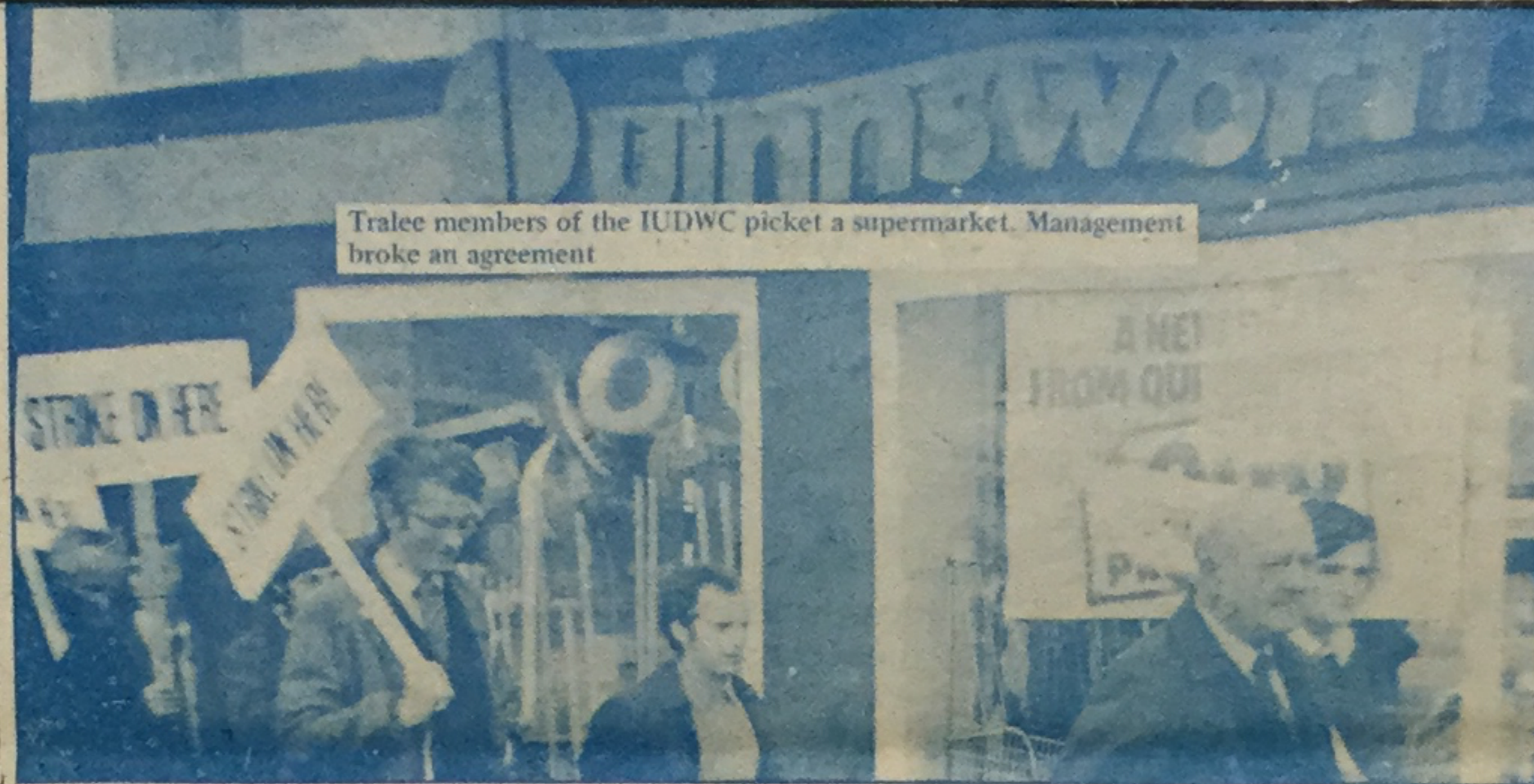
## Ryan's threat to workers

"If voluntary wisdom is not forthcoming, the Government cannot be found wanting in providing an alternative. After all, the doctor has not infrequently to prescribe unpalatable treatment for an unappreciative patient", so said the Minister for Finance, Richie Ryan, showing capitalism in its true light at last. Even though he attempted to shroud his threats to workers, the message is clear. Workers must be made pay for the economic crisis. And if they don't like it that's too bad. If they don't surrender to it the government will bring the full force of the law to bear on workers, to ensure they "agree" to a revised National Wage Agreement. This gives the bosses a stick to beat the Trade Union Movement with when they are "negotiating" the agreement.

An agreement made under duress can never be binding. The Trade Union movement must now clearly see that wage agreements can never end their problems only alleviate the problems of the employers. The I.R.S.P. believes that the Trade Union movement must be completely independent of the Bosses and the government. If I.R.S.P. demands are adopted by the unions it will ensure that workers interests are defended. It will also strengthen the unions in their struggle against the bosses.

#### WE FIGHT FOR:

1. A NATIONAL RANK AND FILE MOVEMENT TO LEAD AND CO-ORDINATE WORKERS STRUGGLES



WORKERS in two supermarkets in Tralee are demanding that the management stick by their words. Unofficial pickets were placed on Dunnes Stores and Quinnsworth by members of the Irish Union of Distributive Workers and Clerks in protest at the opening on Wednesdays (normal closing day) of both supermarkets.

Quinnsworth is a member of the Federated Union of Employers and had an agreement with the union not to open on Wednesdays. Quinnsworth broke the agreement and Dunnes (although not a member of the FUE) also opened on Wednesdays. The picket placed on the supermarkets resulted in a 50% drop in income for the supermarkets while the pickets lasted.

In this instance we see how the management always breaks its word when it suits it. They'll sign anything but they'll go back on their words just as fast. Workers will never have a full say in their places of work over their working conditions or pay while they can be hired or fired at the whim of the bosses. Only when workers control the means of production, distribution and exchange will they have those rights. Only socialism can bring that about.

2. A TRADE UNION CAMPAIGN FOR A NATIONAL MINIMUM WAGE AND EQUAL PAY FOR WOMEN
3. LARGE WAGE INCREASES TO ADVANCE WORKERS LIVING STANDARDS
4. A WORKING CLASS COST OF LIVING INDEX AND LUMP SUM INCREASES TO KEEP WAGES AHEAD OF INFLATION
5. NATIONALISATION WITHOUT COMPENSATION OF THE FIRMS WHICH THREATEN REDUNDANCIES OR CLOSURES.
6. THE RIGHT TO MAKE NEW WAGE CLAIMS WHEN WORKERS THEMSELVES DESIRE

#### WE FIGHT AGAINST:

1. THE NATIONAL WAGE AGREEMENT, THE SOCIAL CONTRACT AND ANY OTHER INCOMES POLICIES UNDER CAPITALISM
2. ALL RESTRICTIONS AGAINST COLLECTIVE BARGAINING
3. REDUNDANCIES AND SHORT TIME WORKING ON REDUCED PAY

4. PRODUCTIVITY DEALS WHICH INCREASE EXPLOITATION OR CAUSE REDUNDANCIES:
5. INDEX AND THRESHOLD AGREEMENTS AS "SOLUTIONS" TO INFLATION

### Comment on the Irish Free State . . . (or) After the Birth of the 'Terrible Beauty' . . .

Strangled in the afterbirth  
Of power struggle  
Tenacious system,  
They dare assert  
That it survived  
When only a mirage  
derived  
From precedent  
was the result  
They may consult  
Text-booked point of change,  
Declare  
Revolution-wrought innovation,  
While smothering  
Connolly-sought aspiration  
With veneer of myth,  
Condemn dissident  
as misfit,  
Apply social welfare  
to abort protest pangs  
Lest it should all get out of hand;  
No Beauty this  
But the same old bitch  
Under a different brand

- Mara

BANDON in West Cork now has an IRSP Cumann. Its Cathaoirleach is Dick Murphy, Runai, Denis Cullins and Cisteoir, Tim Murphy. Anyone wishing to join the IRSP in that area are requested to contact any of the forementioned members, or John Lynch, Roseboro, 3 Model Farm Rd., Cork City. The new Cumann in Bandon is a clear indication of the interest in the IRSP in the Cork area.

### JOIN THE IRISH REPUBLICAN SOCIALIST PARTY PÁIRTÍ POBLACHTACH SÓISIALACH NA h-ÉIREANN

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.

- I want to join  
Tá ballraíocht uaim
- I want associate membership  
Teastaíonn ballraíocht taca uaim

Write or contact:  
An Runai,  
I.R.S.P.  
1a Essex Gate (off Parliament St.)  
Dublin 8.

Ainm \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Seoladh \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_



**Title:** The Starry Plough, Vol. 1, No. 6

**Organisation:** Irish Republican Socialist Party

**Date:** 1975

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