

"Everyone will have some form of a job" — O'Donohue

BEGGAR YOUR NEIGHBOUR!

On Bloomsday June 16th, the anniversary of their landslide victory over the Cosgrave Coalition, Fianna Fáil issued their first Green Paper.

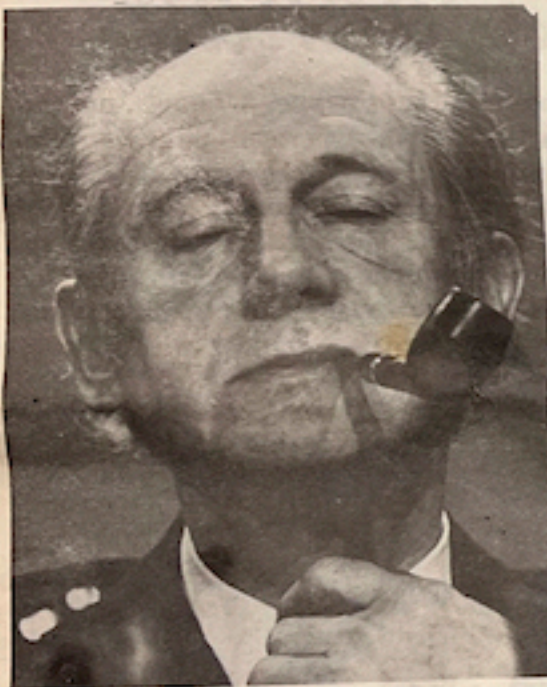
It is called "Development for Full Employment". A brief listing of some of its proposals gives a good idea of Government thinking — or lack of it.

Means Tests

Future pay increases must be even lower than those of recent years. There will be cutbacks in Social Welfare services with means tests in children's allowances and other areas.

Means tests will also be introduced

● Jack Lynch.



in Health services and those eligible for free hospital treatment will be reduced from 80% to 50% of the population. There will be less spent on education and local authority housing, which will also have a means test.

The bosses

That's just for starters. This reduction of workers' living standards will leave more money available for Government to give to the Employers.

This will increase the profits of the bosses. Then, when they have bought a yacht and built a villa in Spain and a summer house on an island off Kerry, they just might expand their business,

● Martin O'Donohue.



thus creating a few extra jobs. But at least O'Donohue knows the bosses. He knows they won't create full employment.

So now to the main meal. How can he end unemployment in five years when he can't rely on private enterprise to do it?

Some would say expand the State Companies and set up new ones. Let the Irish Sugar Company get into the food production and processing business on equal terms with private enterprise with no restrictions on them.

Set up a State Mining Co., build a State Smelter and establish new industry making parts for washing machines, cookers, 'fridges, cars etc., from lead and zinc. Allow the ESB to go into oil exploration, build a State oil refinery and create chemical industry.

No go

But O'Donohue will not create new industries and new jobs in these ways. Nor will he develop the fish farming and fish processing business, expand the forestry and timber industry, stop the export of cattle on the hoof and expand the meat industry or set up a State construction company.

So what is O'Donohue — the Wizard of Jobs — left with? He is left with those at work and those out of work. So his answer is to divide up the

present number of jobs among the total workforce. In other words you are being asked to share your job and your income with a friend or neighbour.

This is not a joke. This is precisely what the Green Paper says under the heading 'Work Sharing'. It defines 'Work Sharing' as "restricted overtime working, reductions in standard hours worked and early retirement."

In case you are in any doubt it goes on "any worksharing arrangement must also entail 'income sharing'. And then it points out that in return for sharing your job and your income your reward will be...

"More leisure time as well as the knowledge that they are helping to produce a situation in which their friends, neighbours, perhaps their own children, will also enjoy the benefit of secure employment."

So there it is. The final solution; as you hang around half-idle remember your neighbour is half employed. As you look at your half-empty pint keep telling yourself it is half-full. By the way, food subsidies are also to go. A half empty plate...!

"Enoch not a Nazi"

The "Newry Reporter" made no defence in a libel action brought against them by Mr. Enoch Powell, M.P. for South Down, on June 29th in the Belfast High Court. The Court awarded what are described as "substantial damages" to Powell. The amount has not been disclosed. The "Newry Reporter" had already published an apology on May 18th.

The case arose out of a speech made in Newry on March 26th last by Dessie O'Hagan, National Director of Elections of Sinn Féin The Workers' Party. The speech was published by the "Newry Reporter" in its issue of March 30th.

In his submission to the Court Mr. Powell claimed that statements alleged to have been made by Mr. O'Hagan referring to him as a lover of Hitler and Nazism were false and libellous.

Had the "Newry Reporter" elected to defend the case we could have seen one of the most important trials in British political history. All of Enoch Powell's political past could have been minutely examined for its racist or fascist content, if any. His famous inflammatory Wolverhampton speech of 1968, might have been shown to be the forerunner of the present upsurge of racism in Britain and of support for the Nazi National Front.

The Court was informed that no writ had been served on Dessie O'Hagan because he was "outside the jurisdiction". There is little doubt that had a writ been served on O'Hagan he would jump at the opportunity of defending it in Court.

OMAGH ELECTS REPUBLICAN

Omagh District Council elected its first ever Republican Chairman last month. Councillor Frank McElroy, Republican Clubs The Workers' Party, was elected by eleven votes to six, getting the support of Alliance, SDLP and Independent Councillors.

Since his election to the council

● Frank McElroy.



Frank McElroy has been a most active councillor serving all his constituents without regard to religion or politics.

Like all of the other Republican Clubs' councillors he has gained widespread respect for his courageous stand against harassment and torture of people whether by security forces or paramilitary terrorists.

Crossmaglen rejects Provos

It is now widely believed in South Armagh that the murderers of Mr. Patrick McEntee in Crossmaglen were trying to force him to carry a proxy bomb. He had always opposed the Provisionals and often said he would never agree to carry their bombs.

On Saturday, June 24 Paddy McEntee's car was stopped by armed men at Drummuckawall in Crossmaglen. His wife was put out of the car with the assurance that her husband would come to no harm.

On Sunday morning his mutilated body was found not far away on the Ballmill Road. The Provisional Alliance later admitted they had murdered him.

The brutal murder has caused a widespread reaction against the Provisionals in the Crossmaglen area. The people's anger and revulsion was increased by his murderers' attempt to smear Paddy McEntee

The people of the area showed, by their massive turnout for the wake and funeral, that they rejected the Provos and their slanders. The local GAA club cancelled all their matches; the Oliver Plunkett Youth Club closed and the opening of the South Armagh Festival was cancelled.

Every shop and business in Crossmaglen, with the exception of one pub, closed down for the funeral despite Provo phone calls to make them stay open.

Only Paddy Short, the Provo mouthpiece and self-styled civil rights spokesman, kept his pub open.

Paddy McEntee's family, one of whom is a member of a Republican Club in the area, now believe that the Provos did not intend to kill him when they kidnapped him. Their purpose may have been to force him to drive a proxy bomb to some target. Paddy refused, as he always said he would.

INSIDE

Irish Youth for Cuba

page six

UNITED IRISHMAN

An tEireannach Aontaithe

RE—WRITING HISTORY

A decade after the start of the momentous civil rights struggle in the North, the Irish Times and RTE have begun their own campaigns of distortion and falsification of history. They now put forward the view that Austin Currie started the whole civil rights struggle and that he and Bernadette McAliskey shaped the course of events thereafter.

In their version N.I.C.R.A. played no part and the role of the Republican Clubs is totally suppressed. In fact Currie and McAliskey reacted to events and had little influence in shaping them. Mrs. McAliskey admitted on RTE that she went to the Coalisland march out of curiosity.

Both the Irish Times and RTE correctly identify the Caledon housing affair as the spark which lit the flame of civil rights agitation. But both of them falsely and deliberately give the impression that nothing had happened before. The Irish Times states that the Northern Ireland Civil Rights Association was formed in 1964 when in fact it was not formed until February 1967. There is no mention of the many groups such as the McCluskeys in Dungannon, agitating against discrimination. But most obvious of all they have suppressed all reference to the key role, the dominant role, played by the Republican Clubs both in the Caledon squatting and in the Coalisland march.

It was the Tyrone Executive of Republican Clubs who then organised the march from Coalisland to Dungannon on August 25th.

THE UNITED IRISHMAN of July 1968 was in no doubt as to the significance of the squatting campaign at Caledon. In our lead story on the front page of that issue we said:

"Flash point for a campaign of Civil Disobedience throughout the North is Caledon where squatters, supported by Brontry Republican Club, have fought a nine month battle with Dungannon Rural District Council.

"A brutal eviction ended what is now seen as the first phase of an all-out war against discrimination in all its forms in the North."

Bernadette Devlin may have gone to the Coalisland march out of curiosity and Austin Currie and other politicians may have gone there for opportunistic vote-catching reasons. But two people among those 5,000 marchers knew precisely what they were starting — Tomás Mac Giolla, leader of the Republican Clubs and Betty Sinclair of N.I.C.R.A. who chaired the meeting.

Sean Cronin
**YOUNG
CONNOLLY**



This account of the life of the young James Connolly is based mainly on the Papers of William O'Brien, Connolly's long-time friend and associate. Sean Cronin draws on this previously unpublished material to chart the political fortunes of Connolly and the Irish Socialist Republican Party. In doing so, he provides the clearest picture yet of the pioneering days of Socialism in Ireland. Young Connolly is significant also for its invaluable contribution to a proper understanding of James Connolly's political development. Paperback £1.20

REPSOL

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letters

Berkeley, Cal.

USA.

A Chara,

The U.I. is as good as ever. People in this country who don't have a clue about Irish politics never fail to comment on the high quality of the U.I. after even reading just one copy.

Here in California, with a huge choice of progressive newspapers, there's not much comes near the U.I. for clear, concise analysis of issues.

I know this is a hard thing to ask, but do you have any plans for an article on the Ethiopian, Eritrean struggle?

Anyway, keep up the great quality of the U.I., in my humble opinion it's going just great, and I'd like to say many thanks, to which I know a lot of people over here would join in.

Is Mise

Bob Heaney.

Dear Editor,

The Tyrone Executive of 'The Irish Democratic Youth Movement' would like to draw your readers' attention to the critical state of unemployment in Northern Ireland today. It is revolting to see the cost of living rising dramatically, the dole queues lengthening and thousands of Irish families being pushed deeper into misery, while a complacent and could-not-care-less attitude is being adapted on job creation by the British Government.

Unemployment is a major Irish problem. It is a problem which has always been with us although it has rarely been as bad as it is now. The main cause of the present situation is the crisis of imperialism caused by the major imperial powers. It is the American, British, French and German industrialists and financiers who control the backbone of

our economy — we, the people of Northern Ireland have absolutely no control over it and are therefore unable to do anything to improve the situation.

However, as usual it is the youth of Northern Ireland who are hardest hit by unemployment and any possible solution to it lies in their hands.

Thus the IDYM calls on 'Irish youth' to organise and to support their 'New Deal', which demands the establishment and expansion of state industries in Northern Ireland. This would create the jobs necessary to raise the standard of living for the whole community, pave new ways and brighten prospects for school leavers and the unskilled unemployed.

Yours sincerely,

Tyrone Executive,
Irish Democratic Youth
Movement.

U.S. support for Cabhair

Mr. John Lawe, President of Local 100, TWU, was Guest of Honor at a dance held in the Tower View Ballroom, Roosevelt Avenue, Queens, N.Y., on May 6. The dance was a benefit sponsored by the Connie Green Irish Republican Club to raise funds for the families of political prisoners now in jail in Ireland. Mr. Lawe was presented with a beautiful model of an old Irish spinning wheel made by the prisoners in Long Kesh concentration camp in Northern Ireland.

In the course of his address, Mr. Lawe said that both Irish-

Americans and Irish people in the United States want an immediate end to the continuous, brutal violations of human rights perpetrated by the English in Northern Ireland. England has been found guilty of these crimes by

the European courts but no Irish-American politician has raised his voice in condemnation of them despite the so-called commitment to human rights everywhere by the present administration in Washington.



● Bottom row (l.to r.): Mrs. John Lawe, Mr. John Lawe (Guest of honor), Dr. Maire Bradshaw (President, Irish Republican Clubs) and Mr. Liam Kelly (President, Connie Green Club). Top row (l. to r.): Mr. Sonnie Hall (vice President, Local 100, TWU), Mr. Patrick Purcell, Mr. Gene Farley, Mr. Paddy Shannon, Mr. James Hood (organizer, Local 100, TWU) and Mr. Matt Reilly.

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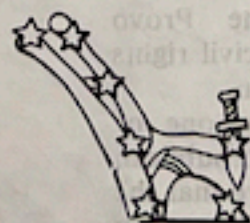
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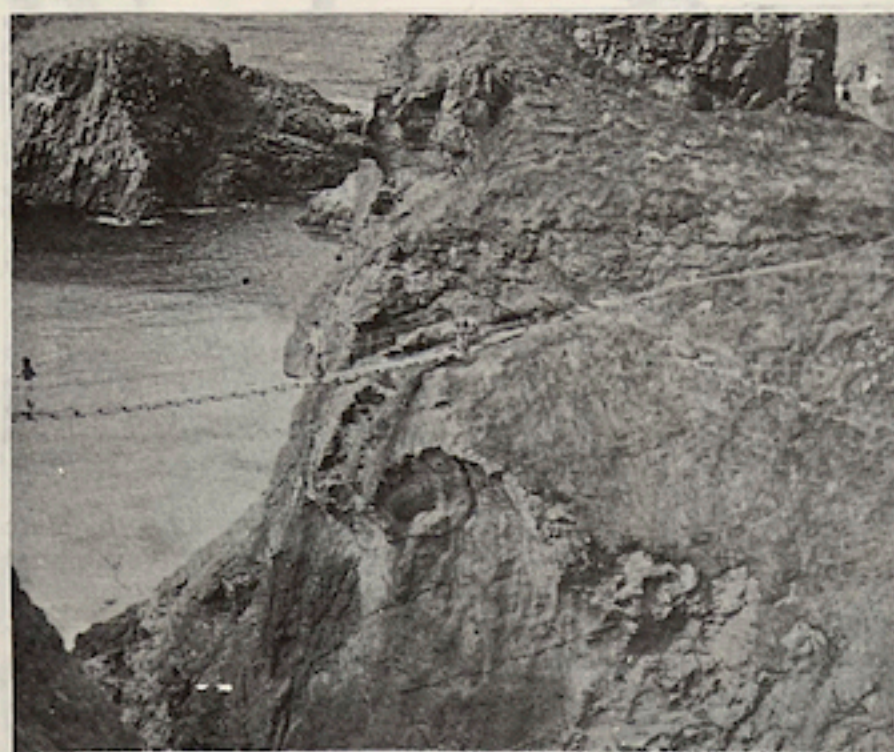
Funds are urgently needed for

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● Basalt deposits in North Antrim.

EXCITING NEW INDUSTRY PROPOSED FOR BELFAST

In a direct challenge to Minister of Commerce, Republican Clubs The Workers' Party have suggested to Mr. Concannon an exciting new industry which would provide 600 new jobs for the new industrial site at Glen Road North in Andersonstown.

The industry is based on a Swedish process in which Basalt rock is melted at high temperatures and then drawn into a mineral fibre used in a wide range of insulation products for both industrial and domestic use.

Kevin Smyth and Brian Brennan, who have been prominent in the local struggle to win the 20 acre industrial site for the Andersonstown

area broke the news of their proposals to a joint meeting of the local South Antrim and West Belfast Constituency Councils.

"County Antrim has widespread deposits of basalt rock and the processing of this local resource is a natural for the new Glen Road Industrial Estate", said Brian Brennan, Party spokesman on Economic Affairs, and candidate in West Belfast.

This is a high technology industry aimed at the huge domestic and industrial insulation market now developing because of the emphasis on heating and energy conservation following the oil crisis.

The Research section of the Workers' Party has estimated that some 25 different insulation materials could be manufactured from this basic process supplying both the local market demand in Ireland and providing a valuable export product of which there is a substantial shortage in Europe.

"With the new house building and rehabilitation programme in NI and with the new government grant for roof insulation due in August

the home market for this type of product will literally explode", added Kevin Smyth, Party Spokesperson on Education and Candidate in S. Antrim, "and it is precisely this type of science based industry which NI needs and to which our proposed comprehensive education system should be orientated."

"The 600 jobs this would bring to the Andersonstown area are crucial in the fight against youth unemployment in particular."

Several plants of this type exist in Scandinavia and another owned by Cape Insulation Ltd., is located at Sterling in Scotland, using local basalt rock deposits similar to those in Co. Antrim. With a surplus energy capacity until the end of the century coming from the Kilroot Power Station this is the type of industry NI should be establishing as an electrical furnace is used in the initial stage of production.

T... Clubs hope to sell the idea to a wide range of local community groups to face Mr. Concannon with a united voice from the entire community demanding the establishment of these vital jobs in the Andersonstown area.

Mr. Ambrose McInerney, Chairman of McInerney Properties, had good news for his shareholders but bad news for the thousands of low income families awaiting houses, in his annual statement at the end of June.

Profits were up 38.4% last year and they are going to be higher again this year. But to increase its profits McInerneys are getting out of Local Authority contract work.

McInerneys are the biggest local authority house builders in the 26 County State. This is probably due to the fact that the poor quality of their houses would not be accepted by the higher priced private housing sector but were deemed just about good enough for the Corporation or Council tenant.

Profits come first

Dampness, draughts and ill-fitting doors and windows should be accepted by them without complaint. They should be grateful for a roof over their heads.

In Finglas they didn't even have that guarantee and the Corporation had to rush out with roof-trusses to save them from collapse six months after the houses were built.

However the announcement by Ambrose McInerney that they were not taking on any more Local Authority housing contracts was ominous. The reason he gave was the low margin of profit in contract work. He said they were going to expand

their activities in the private house building sector where bigger profits can be made.

McInerneys are solid Fianna Fáil backers and are closely in tune with present Government policy. Their fellow Clareman, Sylvester Barrett, is the Minister responsible for local authority housing.

Barrett has already made it clear that there will be cut-backs in building of public sector housing.

The outlook is grim indeed for the working class.

The call for a State Construction Company is becoming more urgent than ever.

Dublin Bay property lobby keeps jobs from inner city

The Dublin Bay Enquiry into the Dublin Corporation Special Amenity Order is of major importance to Dublin workers.

It is especially important for the impoverished and sorely pressed people of the inner city. Their only hope of jobs is the port area.

The Port and Docks Board have plans for the port which would bring new life and hope to both the North and South Dock area. The activities of Loftus and his fellow 'Community' councillors could kill these hopes.

Unfortunately organised workers don't seem to be aware of the threat to their future, apart from the Marine Port and General Workers' Union which held a march in protest on the opening day of the enquiry.

The only organisation which is making a determined fight on their behalf is Sinn Féin The Workers' Party. They have been represented at the hearings by Eamon Smullen, Director Economic Affairs and Ray McGran who is their candidate in the North Central area for the Local Government elections next year.

They have put forward a strong and well argued case for industrialisation of the port and the preservation of all the amenities in Dublin Bay. They claim that the Loftus anti-jobs lobby is not

seriously interested in preserving amenities for the people but in increasing property values in certain areas.

In support of this claim Eamon Smullen pointed out that the 'Amenity Order' which Loftus pushed through on the Corporation does not cover Ringsend Park, Fairview Park, St. Anne's Park, Raheny or even Howth Hill and Killiney Hill.

He believes that some of these parks are seriously threatened by the motorway scheme of Dublin Corporation and by the proposed Tom Roche Bridge from Macken St. to Fairview which Loftus supports.

In the leaflet which was issued by Sinn Féin The Workers' Party at the time of the oil refinery enquiry, a call was made to halt property speculation in high amenity areas. Sinn Féin The Workers' Party were alone at the time in pointing out the property speculation aspect of opposition to the refinery.

Mr. Sean D. Christian Democrat Dublin Bay Rockall Loftus and the Community Councillors wish to make the Dublin Port and Docks Board the villain of the piece. The impression is being cultivated

that it is this body which causes pollution in the Port.

All this pollution comes from dirty petrol which the giant oil companies, Esso, Texaco, Shell and B.P. force Irish car users to burn. Levels of this sort of pollution are far above the levels recommended by the World Health Organisation.

If the refinery which the 'community' councillors' campaigned to prevent were now well on the way to completion we would be nearer to having clean oil and petrol — free of the present high levels of sulphur and lead pollution.

Sinn Féin The Workers' Party calls for the development of Dublin Port along the lines suggested in the Dublin Port and Docks Board studies. This means the creation of industrial sites, housing sites at low cost, and parkland to a line running from Blackrock baths to Poolbeg.

A good strand would be created on that line in much the same way as Bull Island was created when the Bull Wall was built.

As the struggle for jobs develops in Dublin we can be sure that much more will be heard about industry in Dublin Port.

The North's town gas industry is in serious crisis for months now. Gas prices are three to four times the British level. As a result the consumers are just not able to pay.

Some switch to electricity and others just build up huge arrears which are then deducted from their Social Welfare benefits through the notorious Payment of Debt Act. The bottled gas operators are also making fortunes from the crisis.

Republican Clubs The Workers' Party has been constantly pressing for the piping of North Sea Gas to Northern Ireland and for the state-run British Gas Corporation to take over the whole town gas industry.

The Minister responsible, Mr. Don Concannon has now at last admitted that, unless the cheaper North Sea Gas is made available the industry will shortly be forced to close down.

But amazingly, he or his Government have not made the obvious decision to prevent a close-down. They seem to be prepared to let the industry collapse with the loss of 1,000 jobs.

As Mr. Brian Brennan, West Belfast candidate in the forthcoming elections, put it — "Despite the avail-

● Brian Brennan.



NORTH'S GAS CRISIS

ability of the British Gas Corporation report on the Gas industry here for some time now, Mr. Concannon has allowed the difficulties of local gas companies, both municipal and private, to multiply, thereby increasing fear of their total collapse.

"Given the current unemployment crisis, it is unthinkable that another 1,000 jobs could be lost by the failure of a Labour Minister to take the decision necessary to secure these jobs and to create the potential for further industrial jobs."

"The campaign for the introduction of North Sea Gas demands the support of Trade Unionists, consumers and political parties, both because of its job creation potential and the dramatic effect it would have on prices."

Councillor Seamus Lynch, who is the candidate for North Belfast, urged the EEC Consumers Affairs' Commissioner, Mr. Richard Burke, who visited the North, to take account of the needs of the gas industry, consumers and workers.

"I am shocked" he said, "that he has not yet made a comment on the future of the gas industry here. If the EEC is sincere in its stated intention to help disadvantaged regions it should make major grant aid available from the Regional Fund for a gas pipeline from Scotland."

Democratic Assembly needed in North

The position advocated by Sinn Féin The Workers' Party on Northern Ireland is encapsulated in the Presidential Address by Tomás Mac Giolla to the Party in March, this year, "It is a vital immediate priority that a local assembly be established in Northern Ireland with sufficient fiscal and economic powers to deal with the very grave economic crisis which presently exists and which Britain is unable or unwilling to resolve."

Some may consider part of this statement ironic seeking as it does certain positive commitments from the British Government to the North, commitments that go a long way beyond nebulous demands for a "British withdrawal", or of those who seek through convoluted federal constitutions to perpetuate basic divisions among working people.

The terms of the Mac Giolla outline require elaboration: the (any) British Government must provide an absolute commitment to Democracy, to Peace and to Economic and Social Reconstruction, in the North. Equally all Southern Governments would underwrite such principles and seek in conjunction with Britain, their endorsement within the framework of the EEC.

The democratic concept requires acceptance, as a fundamental and unchallengeable principle that the majority will exercise power. However power is not exercised in a vacuum nor is it possible to discard completely the historical legacy of the North. And this is recognised by all parties.

Therefore a strong Bill of Rights dealing with such issues as sectarianism, discrimination, incitement to hatred, the promotion of violence and terrorism, securing basic human rights and freedoms, is a prerequisite to a Northern Assembly.

Respect

The Bill of Rights should include aspects of the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights, for example "due recognition and respect for the rights and freedoms of others and of meeting the just requirements of morality, public order and the general welfare in a democratic society."

Such a Bill of Rights would be enforced with the full rigour of the Law.

In considering the powers of the Assembly it is vital that they should be essentially creative i.e. that they should be of the type which advance politics and promote people's unity. On that account it is necessary to take out of the "sectarian arena" such critical areas as Housing, Industry and Education. The most acceptable relationship of the Assembly to these institutions would be a monitoring advisory one.

Assembly initiatives, of which there should be many, would be developed through the Industrial, Educational and Housing Executives. The latter Executive, currently in existence, could provide an efficient model for Industry and Education. The majority of the Executives would be drawn from the Trade Union Movement and the relative professional bodies, liaison between the Assembly being maintained by the Minister and an Assembly Committee.

Peace

The question of Peace is central to the creation of Northern democracy. The British contribution therefore should emphasise complete demilitarisation of the area.

Sinn Féin The Workers' Party recognises that a Police Service is essential and that Roman Catholic and Protestant Armies have played a major role in frustrating the creation of such a Police Service. The Party is unambiguously committed to the principle of an unarmed Police Service as it is equally implacably opposed to all forms of terrorist organisations.

In the process of demilitarisation, it is ludicrous to expect Peace "to break out", there would be a gradual withdrawal of troops from the streets and a progressive standing down of the UDR. There would be no need for a Northern public army in the new situation.

Equally it is counter-productive of the Mason administration to use the RUC in such a manner as makes them in fact, undistinguishable from the British Army. And makes the question of acceptability, more prolonged, less likely and fraught with unnecessary problems, as many senior members of the RUC are well aware.

Where police abuses have occurred, then the investigations must be conducted so as publicly to allay suspicion that the major changes which took place within the RUC during the past years are not understood to be simply "the greater the change, the more things remain the same."

The heart of much of the violence, sectarianism and hostility within Northern Ireland will ultimately be judged as a function of decades of unemployment and social decay.

One of the answers to this

cancer was provided by the Trade Union "Better Life for All" proposals which the Party supports. As a Socialist Party we are equally convinced that private enterprise cannot perform the job of economic renewal and social reconstruction. Although this is not to say that we do not welcome jobs from the private sector, particularly in heavy industry.

At the same time given the massive character of the economic operation required, it is only the State which can eradicate such unemployment black-spots as Newry, Strabane and major portions of the cities of Derry and

Belfast.

Briefly we propose that British State sector should be charged with immediate expansion into Northern Ireland and that all natural resources, salt, basalt, forestry etc., should be developed under the State sector.

As part of a jobs creation programme the Northern Industrial Executive, and the relevant government departments in Britain and the South should provide an Irish Economic Development Board. The provision of a public sector planning and research unit would be an

immediate priority if the State were to take its responsibilities in this area seriously.

There are certainly many points which have been raised in the course of these three articles on "The Poverty of Federalism" which are contentious and also require further elaboration or refinement. Some may feel that aspects of constitutional matters have been left too vague. This is a matter of emphasis. However the United Irishman would welcome letters, criticisms and comments on the issues involved.

the party platform

cork

The Annual General Meeting of the East Cork Comhairle Ceanntair of Sinn Féin The Workers' Party, was held in Midleton recently, under the chairmanship of Michael Stack. A report of the past year's work was given by the Secretary, John Kelleher.

During a discussion on unemployment it was pointed out that in the last year hundreds of jobs in the Private Sector had been lost in Youghal, Midleton and Castlemartyr. Some firms had simply ceased operating, while others had cut back on their activities.

In the same year, however, despite difficulties, the State Sector was vigorously trying to maintain and expand employment. Irish Steel were geared for a £40 million expansion programme at Haulbowline, while N.E.T. were creating hundreds of secure jobs in one of Europe's biggest fertiliser plants at Marino Point.

The meeting agreed that the Private Sector could not be relied upon to deliver the goods, and that only an expanded State Sector could satisfy the employment needs of a growing population.

dublin

"The recent Tussing report has served to highlight an extremely serious situation," said Pat McCartan, Chairperson Dublin Comhairle Ceanntair in a statement last month. "The fact that over

the next decade or so we are going to face a huge increase in the number of young people in the age group which normally seeks second level and third level education.

The problem arises because of a second fact highlighted by the Report — that planning for this huge increase is virtually non-existent. Neither the Coalition nor Fianna Fail have produced the long awaited White Paper on Education and the tone of recent speeches by Government Ministers leaves little doubt that far from attempting to meet the challenge of educating our future workforce, there will be efforts to cut back on public expenditure and we can be sure that Education is one area which will feel the pinch.

The Tussing report to a large extent provides a rationale for such cutbacks, suggesting as it does that later second level education and higher education should be in one way or another privately funded. It is only too clear that such a policy would severely reduce the demand for third level places and in particular would reduce the proportion of students from lower income groups.

It would be well to remember in this regard that our participation rates at third level are far below the European norm. The percentage of the relevant age group which participates in third level Education in this country is less than 14%. Of these it is generally held that approximately 12% come

from working class backgrounds, though on the figures available it is difficult to see how this has risen above 10%.

Any policy which would accentuate such trends is as contradictory as it is socially unacceptable, especially at a time when for thousands of young people to leave school is to become unemployed. Our expanding young population have not created any new problems in our economy but they certainly have highlighted many existing ones.

belfast

Republican Clubs The Workers' Party candidate for West Belfast, Brian Brennan, welcoming the announcement of 600 new jobs by General Motors Corporation, said that if areas of greatest economic depression, such as West Belfast, were to benefit from such investments, the Government must step in to renew or create new plant capable of receiving such industries.

"Hopefully today's news signifies the beginning of an economic upturn that will be marked by further industrial expansion programmes. Such a programme we have already proposed to Mr. Concannon in our (RCTWP) Jobs Creation Scheme some weeks ago.

"In order that all areas can share in the economic recovery, suggested by today's news, it is imperative the Government secure equality of industrial opportunity by provision of plant where none exists."

This is the third and final article in the series on "The Poverty of Federalism". It spells out the need for devolved government in the North with protection of the democratic rights and economic interests of workers. Our objective is a Democratic Socialist Republic. This is why we now demand peace, democracy and work.

Workers Pay Tribute to Tone



Some of the Dublin contingent who took part in the march to the graveyard in Bodenstown.

On 'Bodenstown Sunday' June 18, thousands marched from Sallins to the grave of Theobald Wolfe Tone in Bodenstown, Co. Kildare. It was the hottest day of the year but young and old, some in prams and some in their seventies made their way there.

Here were "the men, and women, of no property" affirming their allegiance to the democracy and to the secular republicanism of Tone. As Councillor Seamus Lynch of Belfast said in his oration, they were not "commemorating what is

dead and gone but that which does not die", the indomitable spirit of an Irish working class struggling for their birthright — the wealth and resources of the country.

wreaths

On behalf of that struggling working class Charlie Gilmore, lifelong republican and socialist, laid a wreath on Tone's grave. Wreaths were also laid by Tom Hayden, New York, on behalf of the Irish Republican Clubs of USA and Canada and by

Adrian Gallagher on behalf of Clann na hEireann in Britain.

oration

Tomás Mac Giolla, President of Sinn Féin The Workers' Party acted as Chairperson and the oration was given by Councillor Seamus Lynch of the Party's Ard Comhairle who is an Alderman of Belfast City Council, member of Belfast Trades Council and branch secretary of the ITGWU.



Cllr. Seamus Lynch.

access.

"Sinn Féin The Workers' Party is building a political machine which grows in reputation daily. We are practical people, men and women who believe in their class and who believe in socialism. We yield to no narrow prejudice and offer no facile solutions. We have had our ups and downs, we have learnt and are still learning the bitter lessons of experience.

"And as we go forward, we can be confident of one vital point. History is on our side, on the side of socialism. Held firm in the ranks of the organised working class lie the hopes for a socialist Ireland. It is our business to provide the leadership and organisation which will ensure that those hopes are not defeated."

CALL FOR DEVOLVED GOVT.

Reviewing the past decade Seamus Lynch set the whole civil rights struggle in its proper perspective.

"All the world knows of the early successes of the Civil Rights Movement in the North, successes which were so tragically swamped in blood by the sectarian bigots in Government and on the streets. But it was no mere coincidence that the NICRA campaign of the late sixties was such a powerful force. For fifty years the Unionist gombeen class exploited the workers while they fought each other over the right to work. This gombeen regime built up a sectarian regime in the North which paralleled their economic interests.

The same powerful families who ran the sweat shops, sat in Parliament, in court, and ran their own private militia, ignoring the progressive developments taking place in Britain during those years.

In the South, a middle class clique who took state power in the emerging Free State, cynically used partition, the British Government and Northern loyalism, to distract attention from their abysmal failure to provide jobs, decent wages and to eradicate poverty. But in the post war period, and particularly with the upsurge of the transnational corporations in the sixties, a new climate was created in which the demand for civil rights in the North could flourish, a new climate which questioned the traditional values in the South.

"In these circumstances it was no mere coincidence that the Unionist Party in the North and Fianna Fail in the South had a mutual interest in destroying the emerging civil rights movement. They clearly saw the threat of a mass movement, whose democratic dynamic was a potential challenge throughout the country.

"So the CRA was viciously

sabotaged, and in its downturn, the northern community was plunged into the nightmare of blood which haunts us all. Since 1969, upwards of 2,000 people have died in the North, thousands have been injured, and countless numbers have had to flee from their homes and jobs. And, inevitably, the working class has borne the brunt of the struggle, a struggle which can only further divide them.

"Part of the problem in demanding civil rights has been that rights have often been exclusively associated with the Catholic community. Yet basic standards of political and religious freedom, work and education are issues that apply to all. In Northern Ireland, Protestant and Roman Catholic together have been deceived into acceptance of higher unemployment, and lower income than their counterparts in Britain."

anti-worker

He then lashed the anti-worker activities of the "so called security forces" and of the para military groups and issued a call for peace and support for the trade unions' Better Life For All Campaign.

"In the North, we believe that it is a vital priority that a local assembly be established with sufficient fiscal and economic powers to deal with the existing economic crisis. Such a governmental assembly should have 80 seats and should operate under an entrenched charter of democratic rights based on the NICRA model. Once democratic rights are thus guaranteed, government by the majority should apply after elections held under a system of proportional representation.

"Although NICRA may have been overshadowed by the merchants of death and destruction, the solid and

consistent work of this organisation has resulted in the introduction of a whole series of progressive measures, a developing volume of legislation which can provide the underpinning necessary to pull Northern Ireland firmly into the politics of the 20th Century, and provide the base for building further progress.

"In fact, the fulfillment of the aims of NICRA requires the local institution of government in the North which our Party has consistently sought. Within the structures of such a democratically elected government, the regional planning necessary in the present economic crisis can be effectively developed, and the community can come to terms with the vital issues of policing and civil liberties in general. Despite the nightmare of empty violence, there is progress to be made, with devolved government in the North as the primary base on which to build.

Dealing with the economy he said "The idea that the public sector should be a reserve for all the lame ducks of private enterprise has been well and truly buried. At the same time there remains a

difficult fight on hand to get the sort of support from government that the private sector has always had without effort. Particularly in NI, for which it claims responsibility, the government can no longer continue to deny the people of the North a share in the expansion and development of the major nationalised industries.

linked

"We as a Party demand that all such companies be instructed to invest part of their annual budget in the North.

"We realise that it is a fact that the economies of the Six Counties and the Twenty Six are closely linked to each other and to that of Britain. But, until state planning institutions are created which also recognise this fact, job creation projects will take place in a vacuum. It is vital therefore that the NI Economic Council should have direct links with the state planning bodies both in Britain and the Twenty Six Counties, bodies to which trade unionists must have

Tone an Cead Daonlathsai

Ag labhairt dó ag an gceiliúradh i mBaile Buidé dubhairt an Cathaoirleach, Tomás Mac Giolla: — "Annseo i mBaile Buidé ar mhacaire Cill Dara, thart ar uaig Wolfe Tone is cuí dúinn bun-fhealsúnacht an phoblachtánachais a thabhairt chun cuimhne; go hairithe agus muid ag smaoineamh ar an mbrí atá leis an bhfocal daonlathsai.

B'é Wolfe Tone an fear a d'eagraig réabhlóid an coismhuintir don chéad uair riamh in Éireann, an fear a thug dearcadh idir-náisiúnta don troid ar sonsaíre agus daonlathsai. B'é Tone an céad duine in Éireann a sheas ar son cearta an duine agus an fear a chuir tús leis an gcead gluaiseacht ar son cearta siabhiailta. B'é Tone an céad daonlathsai in Éireann.

Nuair a thrácht Wolfe Tone ar "the men of no property" bhí aitheantas á thabhairt aige go gcaithfi cothrom

féinne a thabhairt dó cách in aon phoblacht a bhunófaí sa tír seo.

Rinne Seamus O Conghaile sainmhíniú ar an gceinéal daonlathsai a theastóch i bhfíor phoblacht nuair a labhair sé faoi smacht a bheith ag an gcoismhuintear ar thairgiú, ar dháileadh agus ar mhalairt sa tír seo. Ionann seo agus comhacht a bheith ag an gnáth duine a leas féin agus leas na tíre go hiomlán a bhaint amach.

Ní féidir linne glacadh mar coras criocnúil an coras daonlathsai atá againn annseo fé láthair. Tá sé bacach, meancógach, éadomhain. Deineann sé freastal ar an aicme atá in uachtar agus fágann sé comhacht uilig an Stáit ar a dtóil sin. Agus cad é a dtóil san? Brabach a dhéanamh agus cuma leo faoi cothrom féinne ná cearta an duine óg a chaitheas an tír a fhágail ceal oibre.

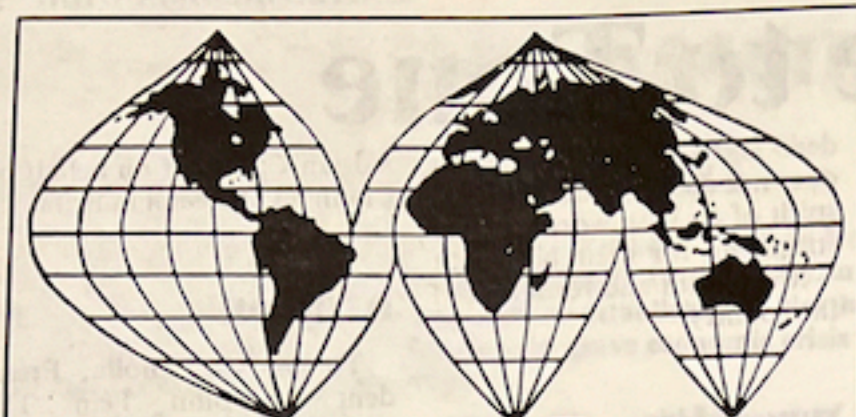
Níl san coras mar atá ach gléas

rialaithe an uasal aicme. Le dul chun cinn a dhéanamh i dtreo an fhíor-dhaonlathsai theastionn aontacht i measc soisialach na tíre seo — fíor aontas nach scriosfar de bharr cluichí poilitiúil dreama ar bith. Dá luithe a tharlaíonn an taontas san sea is fearr.

Tá chinnireacht á lorg ag na daoine idir óg is aosta. Tá teipthe go follusach ag an aicme atá in uachtar fadhbanna na tíre a réidhteach. Tá fhios againn nach bhfuil sé ar intinn ná ar chumas na haicme seo na fadhbanna seo a réidhteach agus a gcuid phribhléidí frith-dhaonlathacha a chailliúnt.

Locht orainn féin é mura néiríonn linn an deis a thapu le cinnireacht a thabhairt. In ainm Wolfe Tone cuirfimis cuige!"





an domhan

Irish Youth for Cuba

On July 26th seventy young people will fly out from Shannon to Havana, Cuba. They are the Irish delegation to the 11th World Festival of Youth and Students.

There will be ten members of the Irish Democratic Youth Movement on the Delegation which covers a broad spectrum of Irish Youth Organisations — the Union of Students, Ogras, the Connolly Youth Movement, National Federation of Youth Clubs, Irish Union of School Students and the Student Christian Movement.

The history of the Festival goes back over thirty years. In November 1945 youth representatives from 63 countries held a conference in London. They had just experienced the most vicious and destructive war the world had ever known and had seen the effects of the new Atomic Bombs on Nagasaki and Hiroshima.

These young people were determined to ensure that future generations would

never again experience the same scale of death and suffering. They decided to organise a festival of youth and students to declare that young people throughout the world stood for peace, friendship and progress.

This first festival was held in Prague in 1947 and involved 17,000 young people from 72 countries and from every continent. Nine other festivals have been held since then, the last one was held in Berlin in 1973 at which over 100 Irish delegates participated.

This year for the first time ever, the festival will be held outside Europe. It will take place from July 28 to August 5 in Havana, Cuba.

The Irish delegation are due to arrive back in Ireland late on the evening of August 10th having taken part in a unique experience... a great meeting

of 20,000 young people from all parts of the earth who are pledged to working for peace.

The preparations for this 11th World Festival of Youth and Students has involved massive organisation by all sections of Cuban society. It has meant co-ordinating arrangements with over 100 National Preparatory Committees throughout the world.

The problem of accommodating such a huge number of foreign delegates will in itself be an enormous task. The Irish delegation will be accommodated in a college about three miles from the centre of Havana directly eastwards along the coast road.

Approximately 1,000 other delegates will be accommodated here from Finland, Britain, Denmark, Iceland, Norway, Holland, Belgium and Sweden. Obviously it will be a great opportunity for the Irish delegates to meet and discuss with young people from similar organisations in Europe — providing of course that the language barriers do

not cause too much of a problem!

Since the beginning of the year efforts have been made to get all the members of the Irish delegation together on a number of occasions to organise and rehearse their contribution to the Cultural Programme which is a major part of the Festival.

This has involved many difficulties as the delegation is scattered all over the country. The Irish party will be made up of young people from Belfast, Dublin, Galway, Waterford, Kilkenny, Dundalk, Clare and Donegal. It goes without saying that the costs involved in travelling to a specific centre from all of these areas means that such meetings have not taken place as often as the Preparatory Committee would have liked.

However, now that the Festival is just one month away members of the delegation from this country are giving as much time and effort as possible to their contribution to the Cultural Programme. It is hoped to give a preview of this entry for

the Gala Performance in a Dublin venue before travelling

One thing is certain, the members of the Irish delegation will make their presence felt, and more talented members of the party will take part in the many competitions

The importance attached by the Cuban people to the Festival is indicated by the fact that the Head of the Cuban Preparatory Committee is Fidel Castro.

In a message of greeting to intended delegates to the Festival he expressed thanks for the international youth and students many manifestations of solidarity with the Cuban revolution and added "The Cuban youth educated in the struggle of these years are fully aware of the significance of solidarity and internationalism and have always been ready to express their support for the struggles of other peoples who are confronting the aggressions of imperialism, colonialism, fascism, racism and reaction and those who are struggling to continue a new life."

...And don't forget your mosquito net!

Although Cuba is often in the news it is a fact that very little is known in Ireland about this island and its people.

Cuba is a green country — as green as Ireland. Many people expect it to be a sort of desert island because it has a very hot climate but it also has a heavy rainfall.

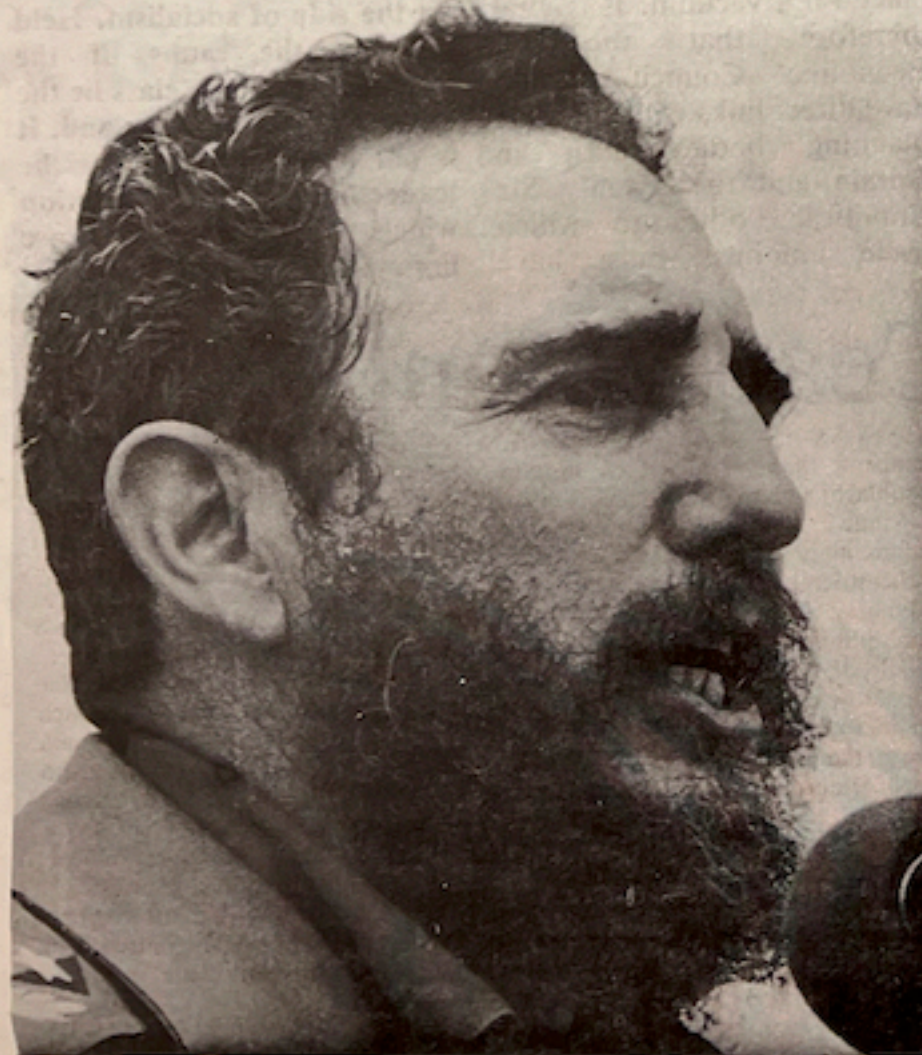
As soon as you leave the plane you become conscious of a curious smell and then remember that it is like the smell of a very hot greenhouse. The heat hits you in a powerful wave.

Cotton is the best material to wear and man-made fabrics are unwise. The heat tends to be oppressive for the first few days and especially at night one finds it difficult to sleep. Travellers from this country who are not used to strong sunlight are advised to take great care against sunstroke.

Mosquito nets are supplied with beds and bunks. The mosquitoes certainly do bite people, however, mostly in the mountains and not so much in the cities. They are not carriers

of malaria as this disease has been wiped out on the island.

Public transport is free and so are the phones and place of public entertainment.



● Cuban Premier Fidel Castro.

● The main building of the university of Havana will house the students' Centre during the Festival.



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Sean D. Loftus Opportunist

Councillor Sean D. Loftus, political opportunist and stuntman, has been involved in fringe politics longer than many people realise. Since the early '60s Loftus has been poking his nose into any public issue likely to be emotive or contentious.

He insists on the media using his "full" name — Sean D. Dublin Bay Rockall Loftus, but the angry Dublin dockers who marched on the Custom House in Dublin recently, where Loftus was sabotaging industrial development in the port at a public inquiry, could no doubt think up a few more names for the unpredictable crusader.

Loftus began his career (or careerism) in January, 1962, when the "Christian Democrat Party" was launched at a press conference in Armagh and Dublin. Its role and motivation was hazy, but Loftus, some time later, decried the fact that "the general principles of national law and of Christian morality and ethics" were not being applied by other parties, which, he felt, propagated policies "based on pure materialism".

He took a stand against partition, a position unlikely to raise anyone's hackles, and in an attempt to generate publicity, had the words "Christian Democrat" inserted in his name by deed poll.

In 1971, when the North was in agonising turmoil, and murder, terror, and counter-terror were common, Loftus cashed in. Not surprisingly, he backed the Provisionals and advocated their confused federal policies. In a letter to a national newspaper, he stated: "The Christian Democrat Party of Ireland does not advocate the use of force" (no doubt the British war-machine of the time was greatly relieved) "but it well understands those who use it."

It acknowledges that it was not the 26-county politicians but the men of violence who have forced the pace in the North and who are responsible for at last making the British Government take Northern Ireland and its problems of gross injustice seriously.

Not a word here which even acknowledged the existence or role of the Civil Rights Movement — batoned off the street by the RUC, under orders from the Right in Westminster and the North, and bombed off the streets by the Provisionals, backed by the Fianna Fáil Right in the South! Loftus goes on, leaving no doubt where his allegiance lies:

violence

"Again, it is the men of violence and not our traditional politicians who have come up with a credible political initiative which could bring stability, peace and justice to Northern Ireland, namely the concept of Dail Uladh."

He publicly put forward the federal "solution" again in 1972, 1974, and in May of this year dropped a letter into Sunny Jim at

10 Downing Street on his way to France, proposing "a federal-canton type system."

In May, 1974, Loftus went yet again to the central office of the High Court, and by deed poll dropped the words "Christian Democrat" from his name and inserted "Dublin Bay". It cost Loftus £2.50, and, backed by the wealthy and the property-owners, when he blocked the building of a refinery in the port, it cost the unemployed workers of Dublin thousands of jobs.

As "chairman" of the "Rockall Trust" he yet again trotted up to the office of the High Court and had Rockall added to his name.

Loftus is now actively trying to stop a smelter being built in Dublin Port. He has threatened to operate a one-man filibuster of the Dublin Bay Inquiry if certain conditions laid down by him are not met. Among them are a guarantee that no smelter will be built.

And for the economy, which so badly needs a native smelter, and the underprivileged unemployed who so badly need the work?

Sweet Rockall.

DEREK DOUGAN IN WORLD CUP PROTEST

On the eve of the World Cup in Argentina Derek Dougan, Chairman of the Professional Footballers' Association and Denis McShane, President of the National Union of Journalists called to the Argentine Embassy in London.

Denis McShane handed in a petition signed by 1200 journalists calling for restoration of journalistic freedom in Argentina and Derek Dougan presented a football on which were inscribed the names of journalists murdered, arrested and 'missing' in Argentine.

In three weeks of massive coverage on Irish television, radio and newspapers there was hardly a reference to the repressive regime of General Videla in Argentina.



● Derek Dougan, left, Chairman of the Professional Footballers' Association of England and NUJ President Denis McShane.

THEATRE REVIEW

"Says I Says He", now running at the Project Theatre, Essex Street, Dublin, is the only play to come South which provides a useful insight into Protestant working-class life.

Written by Ron Hutchinson, from Islandmagee, Co. Antrim, the play is full of convincing, rough poetic working-class language — the same language you'll find in Dublin's inner city, in the East End of London, in Glasgow or Harlem. The action centres on Hannafin, irresponsible and loud-mouthed, and slightly pathetic, and his less confident, side-kick, Phelan.

Both, through a combination of boredom and necessity (Hannafin is unemployed, Phelan's factory is bombed-out) head for London with the usual fanciful images ("A few trucks with our names on the side...") not without a meeting with the local UDA lads, who accuse them of cutting and running.

In London circumstances force them to separate. Hannafin shacks up with his landlady, more for financial reasons than romantic ones, and Phelan takes to the

Hostels. Phelan, the realist, soon persuades Hannafin to join him on an illicit fund raising sortie in the early hours of the morning in the builder's yard owned by Phelan's employers.

With the proceeds, Phelan soon makes his mark in the shady circles of the London building trade. Hannafin drinks his cut, and soon becomes the classic London "hostel case", drunk, degenerate, cynical, but fiercely proud. When Phelan, sharply dressed and respectable overnight, comes to visit Hannafin in the squalor of the hostel, offering him partnership in his "business" — a powerful scene ensues.

Peter Caffrey, who plays Hannafin with assurance and sound technical knowledge, certainly earns his part.

CRAC 78

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Rinne
Amhranocht
Cainnt

A feast of Traditional Music, Song and Dance, Theatre, Film and Debate at Losells Social and Development Centre, Losells Road, Birmingham 19.

Sept. 15, 16 & 17.
Children's entertainment
Refreshments

This year the Committee have put up a special £100 Prize which will be awarded for the "best piece of writing — fictional or investigative, in Irish or English, on any subject with an Irish in Britain connection."

MORNINGTON SCHOOL BUILDING FUND DRAW

postponed until July 12, 1978.

All returns to be made to the Director of Education before that date.

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people in politics

Juggler

Martin O'Donohue's juggling with the live register will soon get him a job in Duffy's Circus. He first promised to "reduce the number on the live register by 20,000 this year."

Then he changed this to "increasing the number of jobs by 20,000 this year". Now he plans to cover up the whole operation by changing the system of registration within the next couple of months.

But his greatest ally in all of this figure-marching is Emigration. Not once in the Green Paper is the word mentioned. But 13,000 people emigrated last year and the bould Martin hopes that this figure will jump to at least 20,000 this year.

That should bring down his live register figures and sure that's all that matters!

Hypocrites

Fr. Sean McManus, co-ordinator of the CIA-backed Irish National Caucus was a busy man last month. He and fellow Caucus-man Fred Burns O'Brien controlled and dominated the American AOH Convention in Killarney, with Dave O'Connell and Ruairi O'Bradaigh in the wings.

The whole operation became a Provisional propaganda stunt to which the ultra right wing Catholic AOH willingly lent itself. This well-heeled upper middle class Yankee organisation which fully backed Nixon's murderous war in Vietnam had no qualms about collecting funds and support for the Provo's murderous campaign in the North, especially when it is mostly Protestants whom they murder.

In a typical hypocritical gesture McManus proposed a resolution "Extending the hand of friendship to Protestants". The relatives of the La Mons victims will be pleased.

Walk Out

Councillor Jack Hassard of Dungannon, unlike many SDLP opportunists, has stuck doggedly to his civil rights principles for the past ten years. In August 1968 he marched from Coalisland to Dungannon on the very first Civil Rights march and he spoke to the crowd of 5,000 people at the police cordon outside Dungannon to shouts of 'Pope' Hassard for the Loyalists.

Now in June 1978 he has walked out of the N.I. Police Authority in protest at Roy Mason's refusal to have a Public Enquiry into the Amnesty Report on police torture.

The Authority was set up under the Police Act 1970 in response to Civil Rights pressure. It has the power to set up an enquiry into complaints against the RUC but it has never done so. Jack Hassard says this is due to "political interference" by the Northern Ireland Office.

Westminster election campaign underway

A vigorous campaign is to be conducted by the Northern section of the Party in the run-up to the Westminster elections, generally expected to be in the Autumn, according to Director of Elections Des O'Hagan following a meeting of candidates in Belfast on Wednesday, June 28.

Republican Clubs The Workers' Party will be contesting in at least six constituencies: Alderman S. Lynch, North Belfast; B. Brennan, West Belfast; K. Smyth, South Antrim; Cllr. F. Donnelly, Mid-Klster; T. Moore, South Down and Cllr. M. McGurran, Armagh.

The three point programme outlined at the Belfast meeting calls for an End to Direct Rule, a major Regional Economic Development programme and a campaign for Peace and Social Reconstruction. Fuller details of the plan will be released in stages over the coming months.

Although exact information is not available it is understood that the Party will be seeking a meeting with Northern supremo Roy Mason to discuss firm proposals for a Northern Assembly and a speedy end to Direct Rule. The Party's position has always been that government from London was not an acceptable alternative to

genuinely democratic government in the North.

Part of the package proposed by the Clubs is the establishment of a tripartite economic development board to tackle the vicious unemployment problem in the North. The board would be responsible for directing both public and private investment into the areas of greatest need, but with particular emphasis on the role of the British and Irish State sectors. For example, the Party will be calling for the replacement of Standard Oil, currently drilling off the coast of Antrim, by the State owned Gas Corporation.

Equally the development under State control of the large basalt and salt resources in the North will be a major plank in the economic section of the Party programme.

Alderman Seamus Lynch stressed the need for the Social Reconstruction aspect to be spelt out as clearly and fully as possible. "Inner city decay, housing and amenities are major issues confronting the voters of Belfast," he said. "We have a record second-to-none in fighting on these issues, but too often have other parties capitalised on our proposals. On this occasion we must ensure that people understand that it is Republican Clubs The

FUNDS URGENTLY NEEDED

The Party will be fighting in
6 Constituencies in the North

Send all donations,
large or small,
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Director of Elections, Sinn Féin
The Workers' Party, 30
Gardiner Place, Dublin 1.

Workers' Party who are leading the fight."

Northern spokesperson on Education, Kevin Smyth pointed out that many parents and young voters were seeking for an educational system which would equip young people to find work in a rapidly changing society. "However we must stand firmly on our proposals for a fully comprehensive integrated form of schooling."

In a strong call for peace in the North, Cllr. Francie Donnelly said that the real source of political unrest in the Six Counties was the absence of democracy. "We marched with the Civil Rights' Association to end discrimination and secure a Bill of Rights for all citizens, not for sectarian killing and terrorism. We still need that Bill of Rights. The British Government must be made to see that this is the way forward," he said.

ICCL faces demanding task

The Irish Council for Civil Liberties launched its third year with a campaign to educate public opinion on the urgency to protect the rights of citizens awaiting trial.

The Council held a one day conference on pre trial procedures on 17th June and it successfully illustrated that the rights of the citizen and the procedures to which persons awaiting trial are subjected to are not merely of academic interest or the concern of the criminal few.

Although it was a warm sunny day over one hundred people came to hear the views of the lawyers who spoke and to join in the debate and clash of opinion about our freedoms.

Patrick MacEntee, drawing on history for his argument, showed how the presumption of innocence until proved guilty and especially the right of silence have been preserved as important obstacles to the abuse of overweening power by the state. He

was replying to Rory O'Hanlon's argument that the balance of pre-trial protections had swung too far in favour of the guilty.

Greg Murphy threw important light on the issue of fingerprint evidence in his explanation of the scope of fingerprint evidence and the need to control the circumstances in which it is presented.

The justifications of the Special Criminal Court by Kevin O'Higgins was qualified by his admission that the introduction of the court in 1972 had been only preceded by three perverse verdicts from juries. Mary McAleese gave a disturbing account of the experience of the special courts in the North, and the erosion of the right to silence in the pressure for convictions which has led to the abuses of Castlereagh.

The main clash of opinion came in the debate of the presumption of innocence and whether the law should now remove some of these protections. Most speakers took issue with Rory O'Hanlon as did the speakers from the floor. The strongest threat to the protections of the law is in the area of bail.

Both the Government and the coalition government before it, promised to introduce a constitutional referendum to restrict bail. Since 1963 Irish law has led most European countries by limiting the possibilities under which a person may be imprisoned before being tried. Many countries are bringing their law into line with our standards.

The Irish Council for Civil Liberties has picked up the challenge to defend this constitutional right. We look forward to the success of this campaign. The ICCL faces a demanding task and deserves broad support.

SINN FEIN THE WORKERS' PARTY CORK CITY

Opening of bookshop at Thomas Ashe Hall in memory of
Martin O'Leary
on Saturday, July 8th., at 8p.m.

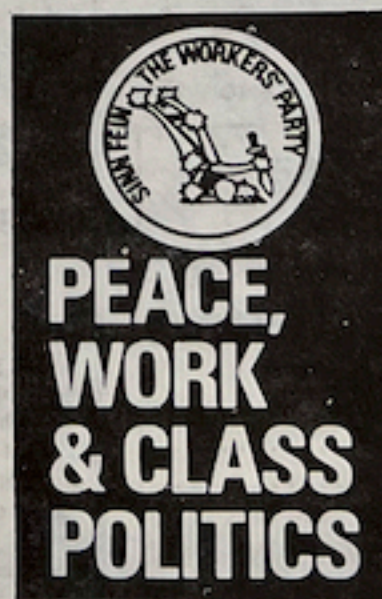
Opening ceremony will be performed by Mrs. O'Leary, mother of
Martin O'Leary.

Address by Tomás Mac Giolla, President of Sinn Féin The Workers' Party
A Social Evening will follow.

Wreath laying ceremony at Martin O'Leary's grave,
St. Finbarr's Cemetery, at 12 noon on Sunday, July 9th.

Speaker: Tomás Mac Giolla

For further details, contact Thomas Ashe Hall, Cork, Phone: 021/23944.



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The Workers' Party

Further information from:
General Secretary
Sinn Féin The Workers' Party
30 Gardiner Place Dublin 1

Name _____

Address _____

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