



UNITED IRELAND

NEWSLETTER

IRISH REPUBLICAN CLUBS

243 MT. HOPE DR., ALBANY, N.Y. 12202

All nations today repudiate Socialism, yet Socialist ideas are conquering all nations. When anything has to be done in a practical direction towards ameliorating the lot of the helpless, or towards using the collective strength of society in strengthening the hands of the individual, the right weapon for the work is sure to be found in the intellectual armory of Socialism

James Connolly (1909)

NEWS OF IRELAND:

The parliamentary elections have ended with a stinging rebuke of the ruling Coalition (Fine Gael and Labor). In a massive swing to Fianna Fail that swept through every ballot box in the country, even Coalition Ministers went down to defeat.

Sinn Fein the Workers' Party issued a statement after the election which said in part, "While disappointed at the failure to take a Dail seat, we are gratified in the overall increase in voting support from the public which analysis of the results show. In Cork North East this represented an increase of 80% in first preference votes for County Councillor Joe Sherlock over his 1973 showing, and is a definite breakthrough vote which should convert to a Dail seat in time.

"Looking at constituency results where comparisons with 1973 are possible, Sinn Fein The Workers' Party candidates recorded a 10% increase overall in first preference votes with a 42% increase in Dublin Ballyfermot and a 30% increase in Louth. Our overall vote shows a 72% increase over 1973 but this is partially due to contesting extra constituencies."

[ed. Although we did not win any seats in this election, the campaign was not in nought. Sinn Fein brought before the people a comprehensive and integrated program for full employment and economic development that is unique in Irish politics and economics. The campaign brought to the attention of the Irish electorate a whole new generation of dynamic and articulate people who talk not about pie-in-the-sky, but of concrete issues like housing, jobs and mass transportation. The message of the election manifesto - Planning a Better Future - was carried to thousands and thousands and thousands of people, people who this time may have voted for Fianna Fail, but who in the future, the near future, will join us in the march towards a united, independent, democratic Socialist Republic. The campaign was costly, there are still bills to be paid. You can help by sending a donation to: The Election Fund, 30 Gardiner Place, Dublin 1, Ireland.]

NEW YORK In the early morning hours of June 4, a fire swept through the third floor of An Claidheamh Soluis - the Irish Arts Center - on West 51 St. The intense blaze produced flames and smoke visible throughout the Hell's Kitchen area of Manhattan. Fortunately, no one was hurt, but extensive damage was done to the building. The Center's unique library, including precious books and rare sheet music, was completely lost. Damage to the building is estimated to run into several thousands of dollars.

The Center has issued an appeal for help -- they need lumber, file cabinets, electrical supplies, books for the library, doors, glass, volunteers and funds. Make checks out to: An Claidheamh Soluis and mail to the Irish Arts Center, 553 West 51 St., New York, N.Y. 10019

NEW YORK The Metropolitan Museum of Art has planned five lectures in conjunction with the Fall exhibition - Treasures of early Irish Art from the National Museum of Ireland, the Royal Irish Academy, and Trinity College: 11/16 - Celtic Christian art; 11/23 Ireland in the Pagan Celtic World; 11/30 The Art of the Book of Kells; 12/7 Literature and Culture: Ireland as a center; 12/14 Irish Music for the Harp. All five Wednesday lectures are at 6:00 p.m.

BELFAST The Provos admitted responsibility for the bomb attack on a British Army observation post in Ardoyne. The bombing failed to damage the Army building but it destroyed three houses beside it. Although there were civilians living in all three houses, the inhabitants of only one dwelling are known to have been evacuated by the Provos. The Provos also admitted the bomb attack which damaged Ahmed's Cash and Carry premises on Donegall Lane. [ed.- In a housing poor city like Belfast it is a legitimate question to ask what happens now to the inhabitants of the three houses, assuming, of course, that they survived the attack in the first place. Likewise, what is the advantage of blowing up the Cash and Carry market, other than to increase the costs and the inconvenience to its customers?)

DUBLIN - Brendan Corish, leader of the Labor Party, and Liam Cosgrave, leader of Fine Gael, have both resigned their leadership positions in the wake of the landslide victory of Fianna Fail in the parliamentary election.

DUBLIN - Prior to stepping down as Taoiseach (Prime Minister), Liam Cosgrave has taken care of eight of his Fine Gael colleagues defeated in the election - he has nominated four of them to vacancies in the Senate, two to seats on the Circuit Court, and two to seats on the high Court.

CO. MAYO Sinn Fein The Workers' Party has joined with Amnesty International in protesting the visit to Ireland of an official Argentine naval delegation. In a message to President Hillery they demanded that no Argentine representative be welcomed until full human rights have been restored in Argentina.



*Peace with honour?
There can never be dishonour in peace!*

Jim Larkin

1876-1947

PEACE DECLARATION

The World Assembly of Builders of Peace meeting in June discussed the Irish situation and heard evidence from the mother of Leo Nornay who was murdered by the British Army, and from Peter Hands, a member of the Republican Clubs who was severely tortured by the R.U.C. Among those attending were Sean O Cionnaith representing Sinn Fein The Workers' Party and Seamus Lynch, Republican Clubs Belfast City Councillor, representing the Irish Transit and General Workers Union.

The following is a joint declaration issued by the British and Irish delegations to the Assembly:

- 1) We, the members of the delegation of Great Britain and the delegation of Ireland to the World Assembly of Builders of Peace at Warsaw, declare our abhorance of war as a means of solving world problems and in particular the use of military methods as a way of solving the Irish question.
- 2) We support the rights of all nations to self-determination and individual membership in the world community.
- 3) We note with pride the long history of support for the rights and

liberties of the people of Ireland by the British working class movement.

4) We note with pride the important and historic contribution made to the British working class movement by Irish men and women over the past 150 years,

5) We grieve at the fact that the present phase of the Anglo-Irish conflict has continued for the past eight years and more without any real attempts at solution and has cost the lives of hundreds of Irish citizens and of British soldiers and has caused terrible injuries to thousands of men, women and children.

6) We recognize that this is in the true sense of international concern and is the proper concern of the world community. As a step in the direction of a peaceful solution we call upon the British and Irish Trade Union Congresses to internationalize the issue by asking their respective Governments to refer the matter to the United Nations Security Council and also bring it to the attention of the General Assembly.

7) Finally, we the members of the delegations of Great Britain and Ireland to this historic Assembly look forward with confidence to the emergence of a just society both in Britain and in Ireland and to conditions in which the unhappy relationship between our two countries can be replaced by a new era of peace, brotherhood, justice and mutual respect.

From The Republican Worker, Sinn Fein, Cork City

One of the saddest news items to appear on the local press lately was the statement that the news rooms of the City Library when completed will not be available to "dossers." Anyone using the facilities of the library at present will realize that those referred to as "dossers" are in the main elderly people who have no other facility available to them to read the daily papers or even to get in out of the cold in winter time. One cannot help feeling that it is nothing less than disgraceful that our senior citizens should be referred to in this manner and that it is even suggested that they should be denied the facilities which are the right of all the citizens of our city.

True Republicans, whether in Ireland or America, insist that the elderly are still full citizens, are still capable of making a positive contribution to society and to the socialization of new generations, and are deserving of our honor, support and protection.

UNITED IRISHMAN

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SINN FEIN PARTY PROGRAM, PART 6: INFLATION AND UNEMPLOYMENT

The present crisis of imperialism is one of the major factors in the current international wave of inflation and unemployment

Ireland, by remaining closely tied to the imperialist camp within the EEC and remaining politically subjected to Anglo-American domination has suffered all the worst effects of inflation and recession. By failing to take sovereign control of our economy and of our natural resources, Ireland has none of the advantages of other former colonies. In her present situation Ireland has no remedy but to go out and beg internationally. This is how she is living at present.

Radical changes are required if inflation and unemployment are to be successfully tackled. Sinn Fein believes that progressive organisations representing workers and small farmers should unite behind a coordinated plan of action designed to force the implementation of measures which would curb inflation and create employment.

Points on such a Program of united action should be:

- opposition to wage restrictions;
- the freezing and control of prices and profits;
- the protection of pay and related benefits;
- the provision of minimum wage levels and a national pension plan related to current wage levels;
- the introduction of import controls to protect jobs in vulnerable industries (e.g. motor assembly, footwear, textiles);

- f) planned economic development through (i) nationalization of the banks and financial institutions, and (ii) the expansion of the role of the state and semi-state enterprises in all areas of economic activity (e.g. a state oil and gas production and manufacturing complex based on the Electric Supply Board, Bord na Mona, Aer Lingus and Nitrigin Eireann);
- g) the expansion of the Irish Sugar Company into the growing, processing, distribution and retailing of all food products necessary to feed an expanding urban population; and
- h) the awarding of contracts to build gas production rigs, lay natural gas pipelines or other construction projects to Cork County Council or other appropriate local authorities to be build by direct labor, subject to the setting up of a State Construction Company.

NOTE: It must be stressed that all questions dealt with in this section are of particular relevance to women. In an economic crisis the first industries which founder are those which employ a high percentage of women (textiles, footwear, light industry). Evidence of this can be seen from the fact that between March 1974 and March 1975 when male unemployment rose by 44%, female unemployment rose by 65%. Poor trade union organization among women makes for weak resistance against layoffs; lack of vocational training makes them less able to compete in the labor market; low wages paid to them helps to depress wage levels generally.

end of Part 6

DO YOU KNOW ANYONE WHO MIGHT LIKE
TO GET THE NEWSLETTER????????????????????

Just send their name and address to Irish Republican Club, 243 Mt. Hope Dr., Albany, N.Y. 12202 and we will be glad to add them to the mailing list. If you can afford a donation, no matter how small, it will be appreciated. It costs about 20¢ to print and mail each newsletter

BILL OF RIGHTS

Republican Clubs Councillor (Belfast) Jim Sullivan has renewed a call for British Government action on the Bill of Rights issue and said that this is an essential pre-requisite to any meaningful political progress in the North.

"Until the British Government realizes the absolute necessity for creating democratic structures here, talk about devolved government will remain pious sentiments that are incapable of being translated into action" he said.

"The blatant denial of democratic freedoms throughout the existence of the Stormont regime, was the prime factor leading to its downfall and disgrace. No future devolved government can hold out any hope of success unless its functions and powers are granted within the framework of a cast iron Bill of Rights that removes for all time fear and suspicion, prejudice and repression.

"The Report of the Human Rights Advisory Commission has lain for some time now on the desks at Westminster. Virtually all the main parties here have declared themselves to be in favor of Bill of Rights legislation. The delay in implementation of one political demand which all parties agree on, suggests a decided unwillingness by the British government to pursue a political solution to political problems.

"Their attempts to portray the situation here as one of purely military conflict is in keeping with their efforts to find a military solution. A Bill of Rights would not end the conflict, but it would open the way for progressive peaceful political developments that could, at the end of the day, enjoy the confidence of the community.

"At the very least the people are entitled to know what the recommendations of the Human Rights Standing Committee are and what the British Government proposes to do about them."

IF YOU HAVE ANY CRITICISMS ABOUT THE NEWSLETTER, ABOUT THE THINGS THAT ARE IN IT OR THE THINGS THAT AREN'T, PLEASE WRITE AND LET US KNOW:

Irish Republican Club
243 Mt. Hope Dr.
Albany, N.Y. 12202

**INSIDE
THE
IRA**

Interviews with
Cathal Goulding
Chief of Staff
IRA

\$1.00

**\$1.00 plus 25¢ postage from RECON,
702 Stanley St., Ypsilanti, MI 48197**

The above pamphlet is not printed by the Republican Movement, but by an independent publisher in the mid-West..It is the January 1975 issue of a monthly serial and includes two interviews with Cathal Goulding, a leader of the Republican Movement - one taken from the October 1973 EOLAS, and the other done by Recon in 1974. Also included in the issue are articles by Recon staff on "Inside the IRA" and "Gerrymandering in N. Ireland." The pamphlet has been banned in the 26 Counties. For copies contact the publisher direct at the address in the ad.

(The following was distributed by the Connolly Club as a leaflet at the New York State Women's Meeting 7/8/77)

THE DEMAND FOR WOMEN'S RIGHTS TRANSCENDS NATIONAL BOUNDARIES

SINN FEIN THE WORKERS' PARTY HAS LONG BEEN THE VANGUARD OF PROGRESSIVE FORCES IN THE DEMAND FOR FULL WOMEN'S RIGHTS IN IRELAND. IRISH REPUBLICAN CLUBS ENDORSE THE FOLLOWING 1973 SINN FEIN RESOLUTION AS A PROGRAM NOT ONLY FOR IRISH WOMEN, BUT FOR ALL WOMEN IN THE 1970'S?

Recognizing that both men and women are oppressed by the capitalist system, we believe that women are conditioned in a particular way to accept a secondary and submissive role in society and that this conditioning has led them to accept inequality in education, law, wages and opportunity. We believe that the special function of women in child-bearing has been exploited by the Capitalist state as a means of oppressing women, in that they are forced to bear the full responsibility for rearing children without adequate and guaranteed support or protection for the vital work that they do. Conditioning (brainwashing) is continually used by the media and advertising since, as wife and housekeeper, women play a part in maintaining the capitalist society in her role as consumer.

SINN FEIN DEMANDS:

- 1) Free family planning and advice for all women,
- 2) Equal pay, opportunity and an end to specific male and female jobs.
- 3) Fully paid maternity and paternity leave and a substantial maternity grant for all women.
- 4) Supervised nursery schools in all areas available to all.
- 5) That the same criteria be used to assess the eligibility for unemployment benefit of married women as in the case of men.
- 6) That the State pay an adequate grant to either men or women who are engaged full time at home in the care of children.
- 7) Equality in law.
- 8) Equal educational facilities at all levels and an end to the type of children's books which begin the discrimination process by segregating children into aggressive and passive roles.
- 9) The immediate cessation of all advertising, books and periodicals which perpetuate discrimination against women.
- 10) That a mother without the financial and emotional support of a husband be granted a living wage to support herself and her children in decent comfort.

- 11) That since the lack of decent housing facilities affects to a greater extent women and children, we demand decent housing for all.
- 12) That women wishing to return to work be provided with retraining facilities at all levels.
- 13) Trade-Unionists, who have accepted the right of women to equal pay for nearly a century, should insist on the full implimentation of women's rights as workers now+
 - equal pay;
 - an end to wage increase differentials;
 - an end to the marriage bar;
 - an end to the sex bar which still exists in some unions;
 - the establishment of a minimum wage law to prevent the exploitation of women and juveniles whose underpaid labor depresses the wages of the working class in general.

DEATH OF A VETERAN REPUBLICAN

It is with deep regret that the Republican Clubs learned of the death, following a heart attack, of veteran Republican Frank McGlade.

Mr. McGlade, who was 66 years of age, joined the Republican Movement in his early youth and remained an active member of the organization right up to his death.

During his long struggle, Frank was continually harassed by State Forces, North and South of the border.

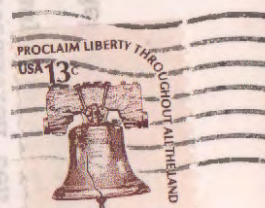
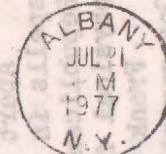
He was interned from 1938-1945; during the fifties he was interned in the Curragh and in 1971 he was intened in Long Kesh for nine months.

Apart from long periods of internment, Frank McGlade served shorter spells in jails for activities such as selling Easter Lilies and having Republican literature that declared the right of the people to use physical force in self defense.

Frank was a candidate for the Republican Clubs in the 1973 Local Government Elections, and campaigned actively for the successful Republican Clubs candidate Seamus Lynch only weeks ago. Frank was a member of the Northern Ireland Civil Rights Association from its formation ten years ago. A fluent Gaelic speaker, Frank promoted all aspects of Irish culture throughout his life.

Republican Clubs extend their deepest sympathy to Frank's wife, Rebecca, and family.

JAMES CONNOLLY I.R.C.
243 MT. HOPE DR.
ALBANY, N.Y. 12202



Bob Simpson
2608 N. Whipple
Chicago, Ill.

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CABHAIR

Irish Republican Prisoners Defence and Aid Fund

30 GARDINER PLACE, DUBLIN 1.

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Legal Aid

Aid for their Dependents

ALL CONTRIBUTIONS WILL BE ACKNOWLEDGED