

FREE CITIZEN

No. 4

PAPER OF THE P.D.

Price 3d.

LOVE, LOVE, LOVE, THOSE NEW POLICE?

B-MEN WILL NOT BE AUTOMATICALLY ENROLLED IN THE NEW FRONTIER RESERVE FORCE. DESPITE SUGGESTIONS TO THE CONTRARY BY MAJOR CHICHESTER-CLARKE, WESTMINSTER AND THE G.O.C. WILL BE IN CHARGE OF THE NEW FORCE. THESE POINTS HAVE BEEN MADE CLEAR BY MINISTER OF DEFENCE, MR. HEALEY. EVEN JOHN D. TAYLOR ADMITS THAT THE U.S.C. IS BEING DISBANDED, "OF THAT THERE CAN BE NO DOUBLE TALK AND NO DOUBT". FOR ONCE MR. TAYLOR IS A STEP AHEAD OF THE PRIME-MINISTER FOR MAJOR CHICHESTER-CLARK IS ON RECORD AS SAYING "THE SPECIALS ARE NOT BEING DISBANDED."

Chichester-Clark should stop playing a dangerous double game. He has in fact dispensed with the B-Men, the traditional armed wing of the Unionist Party, because the British have persuaded him that it is in his interest to do so. In short if he is loyal to his followers he is out on his ear as far as Westminster is concerned.

The specials are a reactionary force, they must go, but make no mistake about it, they are the fall-guys for the the Unionist government. It was Chichester-Clark's government which ordered them out on August 14th. Since then the government has been forced to liberalise rapidly, the B-Men B-Men have been left high and dry.

A disloyal policeforce is a liability and a danger to any government. Why, when 121 B-Men resigned at Newtonards did the Prime-Minister and three cabinet ministers all go and parley with them. What false promises could they give the men. On the last occasion when policemen mutinied in Ulster, which was during Larkin's famous dock strike of 1907 they were dismissed.

Whatever their death throes the B-Men are going. Who can doubt that after the inquest on John Gallagher. The evidence that only B-Men fired shots in Armagh on that night. The tale of how the County-Inspector lost the 17 B-Men from Tynan, and then more telling still the silence of the men from Tynan. We still have the evidence from Scarman in Belfast to come.

The nature of the police question has changed. In August the C.D.C's and the C.R.A. were organising resistance to them from behind the barricades. Now all that is left is to keep guard while the agreed reforms are put through with the help of the British Army.

The C.R.A. mainly notable for the desperate nature of its statements during the crisis now waxes lyrical about the new proposals. "It could be that the long night of repression by the state in Northern Ireland is drawing to an end." If the reforms go

through "the long term good requires all sections of the community to join and help the forces."

From "Voice of the North" we learn that troublemakers will in future be dealt with by an officer and a gentleman. Sir. Arthur Young can be "regarded in every way as a truly professional policeman with a keen regard for fair play and an international reputation." So jolly good.

Remember this, a reactionary government does not drop a bad police force for a good one, only for a better one. The Unionists realise that the B-Men were an embarrassment. The new police force will be more effective when it comes to maintaining the status quo. Just as the B-Men were formed to guard factories, the new police force will defend British investment here and will defend the property of the rulers.

HOUSING ACTION in South Belfast

A South Belfast Housing Action Group has been started. This aims to expose the big landlords behind the bed-sitter racket in Belfast.

Write to the Action Group c/o 84, Albert Street, Belfast 12.

ARMY ATTACKS

Minister of Defence, Denis Healey has promised an enquiry into the case in which members of an army baton squad seriously injured two men in their home in the Woodstock Road. Bernadette Devlin M.P., gave Mr. Healey details of the case at a special meeting on Thursday afternoon.

Edward Bowman, one of three men accused and acquitted of disorderly behaviour had his arm broken in his own scullery, another man had his skull fractured.

BRANCHMEN GO TRAIN SPOTTING

Ross Laird, well known hero of the Special Branch, has taken to train spotting. He may be seen any day closeted in a waste-paper basket down at the G.N.R. just as the Enterprise steams in.

With him is a trench-coated figure not seen in the North before, perhaps one of the 50 Special Branch men sent up by Fianna Fail to help identify I.R.A. men.

While the people fight, the police are the best of friends. Next week the British police are hosts to a conference on the subject of drugs in Ireland. No doubt in between "trips" they will manage to discuss the international conspiracy to undermine Ireland.



**JOBS FOR BOGSIDERS
— IN THE POLICE ?**

SCAPEGOATS! COSGROVE JAILED BERNADETTE FACES 17 CHARGES

THE NORTHERN IRELAND ATTORNEY GENERAL HAS DECIDED TO BRING 17 CHARGES AGAINST BERNADETTE DEVLIN M.P., FOR THE PART SHE PAID IN THE DEFENCE OF BOGSIDE IN AUGUST. MEANWHILE PETER COSGROVE HAS BEEN SENTENCED TO SIX MONTHS IMPRISONMENT. HIS ALLEGED OFFENCE WAS TO HELP ORGANISE ONE OF THE ILLEGAL MEETINGS DESIGNED TO TAKE THE PRESSURE OFF DERRY.

WE SAY THAT LAW AND ORDER IN ANY REAL SENSE HAD VANISHED IN ULSTER BY THE MIDDLE OF AUGUST. PERHAPS IT WAS ILLEGAL FOR THE BOGSIDERS TO DEFEND THEIR HOMES, BUT IT WAS RIGHT. PERHAPS THE POLICEFORCE WERE LEGALLY IN THE RIGHT WHEN THEY REACHED ROSSVILLE FLATS BACKED UP BY A PAISLEYITE MOB, BUT WHO CAN SAY THAT THE LAW OR BASIL KELLY MATTERS A FIG IN A SITUATION LIKE THAT.

ON THURSDAY NIGHT NNWLY FLEDGED COMPANY DIEECTOR CAPTAIN TERENCE O'NEILL AGAIN EXPLAINED HOW HE HAD BEEN PRESSING ALONG WITH REFORMS TOO FAST, HOW ALL THE TROUBLE WAS CAUSED BY A FEW MEMBERS OF P.D., AND HOW IT HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH THE ASTONISHING 50 year RECORD OF UNIONIST INJUSTICE. THE ARROGANCE OF A MAN WHO CAN SAY THAT AFTER CAMERON IS ASTONISHING.

ALREADY THE LEGAL BLOODBATH THE UNIONISTS WERE PLANNING FOR P.D. IS RUNNING INTO DIFFICULTY. SIR DINGLE FOOT HAS AGREED TO DEFEND BERNADETTE DEVLIN. THUS WE WILL SEE THE STRANGE SIGHT OF STORMONT TACKLING TWO WESTMINSTER M.P'S IN THE COURTS. SIR DINGLE FOOT HAS A DISTINGUISHED RECORD OF DEFENDING VICTIMS OF BRITISH COLONIAL OPPRESSION AND SO SHOULD FIND THE ATMOSPHERE TO HIS LIKING HERE.

O'NEILL JOB

Captain Terence O'Neill has been made a director of the Phoenix Assurance Company. Salary --- a mere pittance at £2,000 p.a. but then the work is part time.

HYPOCRISY

The 26-Co. government always prides itself on its reputation at the U.N. Perhaps that is why it has always supported U.N. resolutions favouring boycott, or the use of various sanctions against racualist South Africa. Meanwhile at home the Lynch government is running a campaign to encourage South African trade.

STRANGER

James O'Reilly, Nationalist M.P. for Mourne has appeared on a Civil Rights platform in Cork. A strange appearance worth recording because no such event has ever occurred in Down. Members of East Down C.R.A. have had virtually no support from O'Reilly. His most recent contribution to the Civil Rights Debate has; been to ask for the use of the Special Powers Act against protestant extremists. We have sufficient belief in civil liberties not to wish the Special Powers Act on anybody.

BERNADETTE BACK

Bernadette Devlin will return to Ulster this week. She is scheduled to speak at a major meeting in Carrickmore on Tuesday night. The People's Democracy are planning meetings in most major towns during the next few weeks.

Pr. flop

When the crisis broke in the North in August, Mr. Jack Lynch hastily spent an estimated £150,000 on expanding the Fianna Fail Government's Information Bureau, and on employing no less than 20 public relations men (at salaries of £3,000 a year each) borrowed from the semi-state business corporations such as Aer-Lingus and the Irish Sugar company. 14 press attache's were sent to 12 World capitals from Washington to Madrid and from Copenhagen to the Hague.

It is unfortunate that the 20 "public relations" men have been so busy managing Irish capitalism that they were utterly ignorant of the situation in the North. Although they have had their 20 £3,000-a-year heads together for over two months, they have not yet produced one original pamphlet.

They have however distributed at least 14,000 copies of Lynch's Tralee speech (where he quotes King George and Craigavon to support the current Fianna Fail policy), but they have had to rely on the Civil Rights movement and on journalists for information on the North.

Their biggest gaffe was to pick Eddie Mac Ateer, the discredited and defeated Green Tory, to represent the Civil Rights movement in the Hague. Whatever he said, it does not seem to have made much of an impact on the world press, and not a whisper of it was reported in Ireland.

A prize is offered to readers who can state the last Civil Rights March on which Senator Magill took part. Yet Senator Magill it was who represented the Civil Rights movement in Brussel's.

The greatest nonentity of all is Mr Charles Mc Carthy (ever heard of him?) who will speak for Ireland at a seminar in Stockholm.

Needless to say, the Irish Information Bureau have not produced any information on the lack of civil rights, the bad housing, the unemployment and the emigration which are part of the way of life of the 26 Counties.

But then the men on £3,000-a-year could hardly be expected to know much about that.

Footnote.

Some P.D. members did come across one of Lynch's P.R.O.'s in Free Belfast. He was slightly the worse for drink and had to be ushered out past the barricades, having gained admittance on the pretext that he worked for a well-known Dublin Newspaper. He had been asked to leave, we were told, because he had become involved in a rather pointless but heated argument in an attempt to justify the Lynch Government.

GIRO

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68 101 2005

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INTEGRATED EDUCATION

Steps towards integrated education are further away than ever. Speaking on R.T.E. Dr. Philbin recently explained that one merely needed to visit Ulster on July 12th. to see the need for a separate educational system.

Dr. Philbin was no doubt speaking in answer to recent hypocritical statements by Unionists in favour of integration. Captain John Brooke favours integration in education, but opposes integrated employment on Fermanagh County Council of which he is chairman. Captain Terence O'Neill believes in integrated education but discriminates in his own kitchen.

Dr. Philbin justifies separate education in effect by saying that our society is so divided so sick, that we need a special segregated educational system to deal with it. The pity is that the church and indeed the Irish National Teachers Organisation appear to be satisfied with this state of affairs. Catholics could seriously embarrass the Unionist right by putting forward proposals of real integration. They might, whatever I.N.T.O. says, make a contribution to improved community relations by doing so.

Real integration would mean an impartially administered comprehensive system. Under this all qualified teachers would have equal opportunities. Children, protestant and catholic, could opt to study the Irish language or indeed any subject of their choice. This is no doubt a far cry from the integration envisaged by John Brooke.

Dr. Philbin is unlikely to put forward proposals along these lines. He has made an assumption, borne out in his remark about the 12th. of July as a justification for separate schools, which we believe is incorrect. It is that if children whose parents are Orangemen, are taught alongside children who are catholics, or indeed if the two groups mix, one group must necessarily contaminate the other. The Paisleyites have a theory that if protestants associate too closely with catholics they become contaminated. Theories of contamination, or arguments that such contact can hinder good community relations are not borne out in those educational institutions in Ulster which are integrated.

Queens University for example is fully integrated. Queens students, protestants and catholic, have been in the forefront of the Civil rights movement and the P.D. Students of differing religions at Queens have not attempted to indoctrinate each other. True they have had to unlearn 20 years ignorance of each other, but students believe that they have gained

by the experience. Last week the New Ireland Society voted by 54 to 4 in favour of immediate steps towards the integration of education.

Dr. Philbin is right, christian attitudes are taught in Catholic Schools, good community relations encouraged. But state schools encourage good community relations. Catholic and Protestant Headmasters have organised a joint peace committee for their pupils in Belfast.

The truth is that mere theorizing about christianity and good community relations is not enough. For all the theorizing about good relations, young protestants and catholics have virtually no opportunities for getting to know one another in Belfast. Fear and suspicion between the communities are the natural consequences of spending the formative years of life apart.

The Church and Minister's of all denominations have found it convenient to accept and even encourage the Ghetto system both in education and housing.

Officials of the Irish National Teachers Organisation have chosen to reject moves towards integration. One of their reasons is fear of discrimination against the Teaching order. We agree that integration can only occur when teachers are safe-guarded against discrimination. But what about the current I.N.T.O. broadsheet headed "Strike Averted". It tells how lay staff at St. Eugene's Convent Primary School Derry were passed over for promotion, in favour of two Nuns. The Union had to threaten strike action to get the Church to reverse its decision.

Then there is one form of discrimination which all children whether Protestant or catholic suffer from, That is discrimination between rich and poor. Whether Catholic or Protestant, Ulster's children have all the chances if their parents have the money.

Can Dr. Philbin or I.N.T.O. honestly say that community relations will be worsened if members of the catholic community put forward radical proposals which would mean more contact between young protestants and catholics, and a fairer deal for the working people of Belfast? We doubt it.

FROM
BELFAST
TELEGRAPH

NILP hits schools finding

THE Northern Ireland Labour Party in a statement to-day say they disagree fundamentally with the conclusion of the Northern Committee of the Irish National Teachers' Organisation that an integrated school structure would be resisted by both communities and lead to a further deterioration in community relations.

It claims that the viewpoint of the INTO, as expressed in its memorandum to Lord Stonham, is "too pessimistic in view of the problem" since no one envisaged the compulsory integration of all the schools regardless of the wishes of the parents.

The Labour Party says it is the view of parents and young people, as expressed in recent opinion polls, which led it to believe that widespread experimentation in education integration would not be possible.

Surprised

The Party says it is very surprised that the executive of the INTO seemed to have totally ignored the evidence of these polls which were conducted on a scientific basis.

The statement continues: "While we accept the INTO claim that they have not set out to defend the traditional Catholic position on the schools question, we cannot accept that they have given fair consideration to the Catholic position on the case for integration.

Even among Catholic teachers we feel that there is substantial support for the ideal of integration in education, in spite of the clear evidence of past discrimination by local authorities in the appointment of educational administrators and by the Ministry of Education in the appointment of school inspectors.

"We feel that the majority of teachers, regardless of denomination, would support integration if the restructuring of our educational framework was radical enough and they were freed from all fear of discrimination in appointment."

The Party says that since housing has now been taken out of the hands of the local authorities this was surely the time to call for the abolition of local authority control of education and the establishment of central control and financing. A new central education authority could act through regional planning bodies on which there could be a majority representation of teachers and parents.

OUR ADDRESS

84 Albert Street Belfast BT12 4HL

FREE CITIZEN

Thanks to Jim Callaghan, the Stormont government has now promised wide-ranging reform. The government had to be forced to accept reform, so the utmost vigilance is still necessary to see that the programme goes through. But as the reforms gradually go through, what will the long term plans of the groups in the C.R.M. be? There seem to be at least three different view points at the moment.

One group, among them John Hume M.P., believe that the Unionist Party will expel its extremists and that the remaining "moderates" will go ahead and build what is called a new and happier Ulster with Mr. Hume somewhere near the top of it.

Mr. Hume may have underestimated the diehards in the Unionist Party but it is possible that he and other middle class catholics may be allowed parochial power. If so what is there in it for the mass of the people? What is his programme to solve the housing and employment problems of Derry? The British government is not going to give Ulster special treatment for ever, a pool of surplus labour in Ireland is; an advantage for the British economy, the British cannot solve our housing crisis when they have one themselves in Britain.

A second decidedly traditional tactic is that suggested by the group around "Voice of the North". They adopt a modernised form of . For them the crucial question now is the integration of the 6-Counties into a greater Fianna-Fail "Free" State. Like the old Anti-Partition League they wish to unite Northern Catholics - irrespective of their political beliefs -- in support of a United Ireland. They say nothing about what will happen to Northern Protestants. Nor do they refer to the question of civil rights or social justice in the 26-counties. It is enough for this group that they have the support of Fianna Fail and thus are assured of a share of power if they can deliver the goods.

The third point of view is that of the People's democracy. We believe that the root cause of the trouble in Ireland is British Imperialism. Ireland was partitioned to preserve British control of the heavy industry in the North, in return "loyalists" in the North were given certain privileges in a society of scarcity - Britain takes far more out of Northern Ireland in manufactures, dividends, and rent than she puts in in subsidies. Workers of the North both Catholic and Protestant are exploited.

In the 26-Counties Britain has gained economic control once more. She is the main overseas investor there. She controls the purse strings of the puppet state. Under the Anglo-Irish Trade Treaty British Industry will dominate the Irish market. Thus

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RENT

Surely it would not be beyond the corporation to waive the 35/- rent for the meagre temporary accommodation in which those who were burnt out are going to have to survive the winter.

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

THEFT

A woman burnt out of Beverly Street reports that no sooner had she got new clothes for her children than most of them were stolen off a clothes line. This is the kind of mean theft the community could do without. Perhaps if the culprit reads this he may consider returning them.

TICK

We are planning an investigation into the scandalous activities of "tick" men and moneylenders in the poorer parts of Belfast. If you have any experience of these people or any information it will be treated in confidence.

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IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO JOIN P.D.
OR LEARN MORE ABOUT IT
CONTACT US AT OUR ALBERT ST.
HEADQUARTERS.

84, ALBERT STREET,
BELFAST 12.

both North and South the Tory statelets are just the servants of the British bosses (This isn't anti Britishness, the British working class are also exploited by British big business, they are our allies).

When we see that poverty, bad housing and unemployment exist North and South we see that no petty jockeying for power or "change of leadership" can solve the problem. The people must take power for themselves. North and South the unemployed and homeless must work together against the twin Tory regimes.

In coming weeks P.D. will be outlining its programme at meetings throughout the country. It is a programme based on the struggle for social justice, not on religion, or a vague feeling of nationalism. Ours is the only struggle which can unite the working class in Ireland, an Ireland United in the fight for social justice is the only United Ireland there can be.

Paper chase

Now that public meetings are banned, the written word has come into its own as a method of communication. Before August 14th-15th, there were hardly any opposition journals. Now they are springing up everywhere. Here is a list of the publications which we have come across.

CITIZEN PRESS 15 issues of this have appeared to date, it is now the official organ of the Central Citizens Defence Committee in Belfast. The first 13 issues were produced mainly by the P.D., now Republican and are chiefly responsible.

FREE CITIZEN This is the 4th. edition and is the official paper of the P.D., it was started when the P.D. gave up participation in Citizen Press, but it succeeds P.D. Voice two issues of which appeared before August 14th.-15th. VOICE OF THE NORTH This is a Catholic Nationalist paper produced by a group around Aidan Corrigan, although surprisingly it does have the support of Paddy Devlin, N.I. Labour M.P. for Falls. It is the most professional looking publication to date and appears to have ample financial backing.

BARRICADES BULLETIN Two of these were produced during the period in which the barricades were up. One was produced by Belfast P.D. and the other by Derry Young Socialists. THE NORTH, VOICE OF THE PEOPLE One edition of this has been seen.

ARMAGH CITIZENS BULLETIN This has been produced in a duplicated form over the past 6 weeks by Armagh P.D.

DERRY CITIZENS DEFENCE ASSOCIATION BULLETIN This was purely an information sheet produced daily by Eamonn McCann on behalf of the Defence Association at the height of the Derry crisis.

INFO This is believed to be the name of a paper which Mr. John Hume plans to launch on November 1st..

There are other established papers and new more commercial papers which may have an influence on opposition politics over the next few months. In the commercial field Nusight is undoubtedly the most important. It has set out to analyse the problems of the North in depth, and the 1st edition sold 40,000

On the left the most significant paper is Ramparts. 4 issues have appeared sporadically since January and another issue is rumoured to be on the way. This is produced by Eamonn McCann and the Derry Y.S.