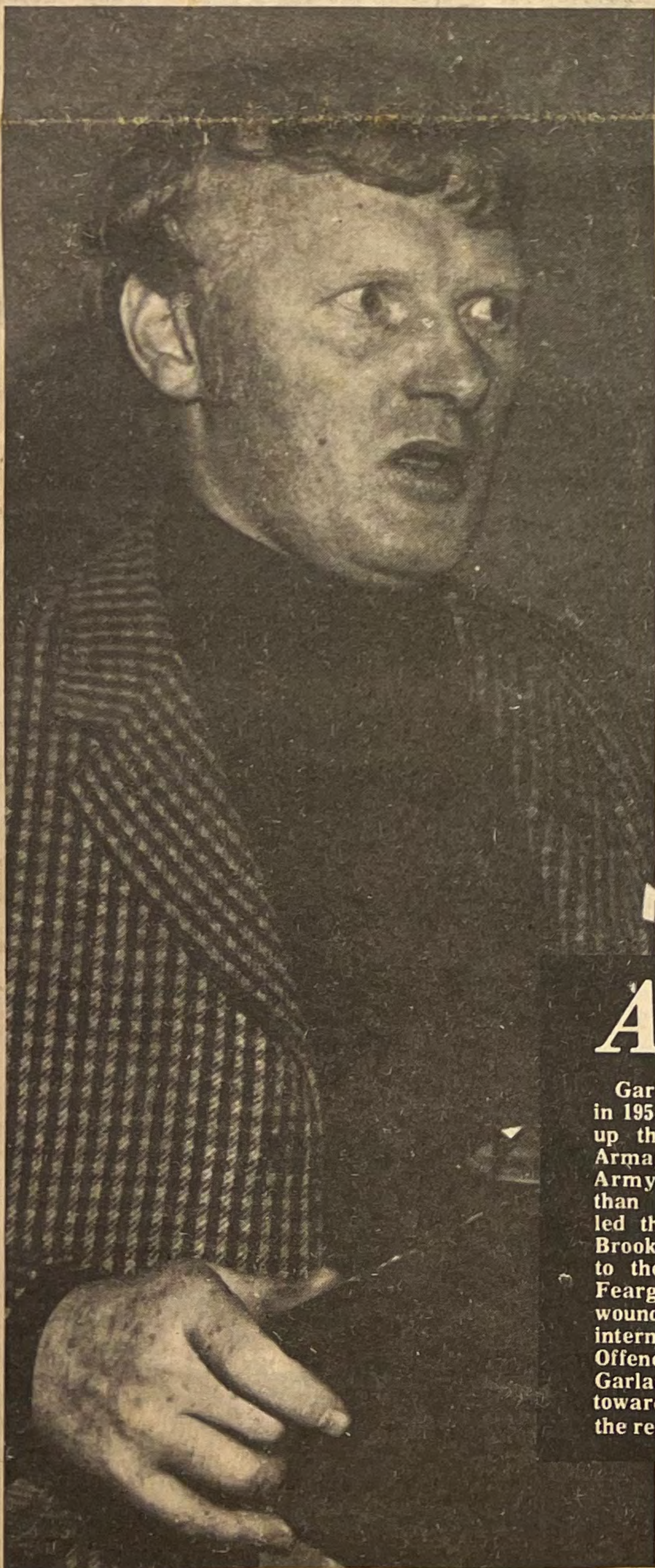


WHY WAS

GARLAND SHOT?

Calls for peace made while gunmen pounced



● Sean Garland, Sinn Fein organiser.

On Saturday night last Radio Elreann began to record a 35 minute interview between Malachy McGurran of the Six County Republican Clubs and Seamus Costello of the newly-formed Irish Republican and Socialist Party at the curiously late hour of 10.00 p.m. During the interview, which concerned incidents in the North including the death of Republican Club member Sean Fox, Seamus Costello made a point of asking for "peace talks" with the Republican Movement.

At precisely the time the interview was being recorded masked gunmen lay in wait to assassinate Sinn Fein's National Organiser Sean Garland. About twenty minutes past eleven Sean Garland and his wife drove home to their Ballymun flat. As Sean locked his car his wife Mary went on ahead to press the bell for the lift. As she put her finger on the bell button she heard the staccato noise of shooting and rushed out to find her husband lying in a pool of blood near his car. He had been struck by six bullets from two guns. Quick action by local Ballymun people helped save Garland's life as the race to the hospital began.

Republicans all over Ireland shook their heads in incomprehension at the stunning news. Why should anyone want to shoot dead Sean Garland? Because of the political stand of the Republican Movement in which he holds a responsible and demanding position. The Republican Movement has set its face like flint against a policy of military adventurism in the North confining itself to one of defence and retaliation against the op-

pression of ordinary working people. At the time of the breakaway by the Provisionals in 1970 Garland stood solidly with the Movement on the issue of avoiding any actions which would promote sectarianism in the North and divide the people. Consistently since then the Republican Movement condemned the civilian bombing campaign of the Provisionals.

Dissent from this policy within the Movement was led by Seamus Costello who was consistently outvoted in his attempts to alter policy. Dismissed for breaches of the democratic processes within the Movement Costello had the dismissal raised at the Ard Fheis of last December and had it confirmed by a delegate vote of 197 to 15.

In conjunction with Bernadette McAliskey Costello then formed the I.R.S.P. initially to support the Provisional campaign and subsequently, after the Provisionals ordered a ceasefire, to try to break down the overall ceasefire position. Friction developed in Belfast between members of I.R.S.P. and the Official I.R.A. as attempts to seize weapons were resisted. One incident piled on another until the attempt on Garland's life at Ballymun brought the violence south of the Border.

A LEADING FIGURE

Garland first came to prominence in 1954 when he singlehandedly set up the raid on Gough Barrack, Armagh, which emptied the British Army armoury there of more than 300 weapons. In 1957 he led the New Year's Eve raid on Brookeborough Barracks which led to the death of Sean South and Feargal O'Hanlon and to serious wounding of himself. Subsequently interned in the Curragh under the Offences Against the State Act Garland emerged to lead the drive towards political awareness within the republican Movement. He was a

leading figure in the big rethink in the early part of the '60s which led to the housing action campaign, the campaign to restore inland waters to the Irish people and the birth of the civil rights movement in the North. At the 1968 Ard Fheis it was Garland who proposed the Commission of Inquiry which finally found in favour of leaving it to the Ard Chomhairle to dethrone abstentionism as a principle. Forward-looking, clear-thinking and most emphatic in expressing his ideas Garland is among the best respected Republicans in the Movement.



● Seamus Costello.

The Irish People ELECTIONS

The elections have come and gone; the T.D.s and Senators returned to their respective Dublin suburbs and the problems of rural Ireland safely stowed away, for resurrection at the next election.

Has anything changed? Two more posteriors to warm the seats of the Dail and business as usual.

The campaign had an air of *deja vu* to it. We have all heard the speeches before; the Government is efficient, capable, or blundering and incompetent depending on which platform you like to be harangued from. It has all been said at Cork, in the local elections hustlings, right back to the General Election when they first switched places. Galway brought little new. We had promises of education and health reforms from Fianna Fail while Fine Gael polished its blas *la Donegan*. And then there was the sorry spectacle of the Labour Party, who should have provided some real opposition to all the verbal shadow boxing, playing camp follower to the Fine Gael baggage train.

There was an air of unreality to most of the proceedings while the real issues were smothered in a torrent of crossroads rhetoric. It took the lone Sinn Fein Candidate to say what was also obvious to the aspiring oil moguls of the Confederation of Irish Industry, wearing their Irish Petroleum Exploration Group hats. The key to the development of the West and to fulfilling the promises so liberally made during the course of the campaign lies in the ownership of the natural resources, onshore and offshore, of the country. What Brendan Corish could not see in Galway was made plain to his colleague Justin Keating in Dublin. "As a result of the recent agreement with both Bula and Tara the State now has a comprehensive stake in our mineral resources", he said.

The Irish Petroleum Exploration Group also favour a comprehensive stake in the oil and gas resources — their stake and they laid it on the line. Oil leases and plenty of them. The central issue in the Galway elections could not have been spelt out more clearly had Standard Oil run its own candidate. Who is to own the natural resources, that is the prime question facing the Irish people now.

We need not look to the newly pledged T.D.'s to expose the conspiracy to relieve the country of its wealth. The question of ownership of our resources will have to be settled elsewhere, within the Trade Union movement and the broad working class organisations. The elections are over but the real contest is only beginning.

Cafe is sweat shop

The 'Pop In' Restaurant in Lower Dorset St. is known as a handy spot to get a late night meal. It stays open until 2 a.m. weekdays and 3 a.m. at week-ends and is fairly popular. However, if you are considering having a meal there you might spare a thought for the women who work there as cook, waitress, etc.

The 'Pop In' recently advertised for staff and in reply two young women went down to see the manager for an interview. A charming young manager met them and more or less implored them to take the jobs. The wages he offered were £2 per night for a waitress and £3 per night for a cook.

The hours were from 7 p.m. to 2 a.m., he said. Since the wages worked out at less than 30p per hour and just over 40p per hour the two women were reluctant but as their husbands were both unemployed they felt they had little alternative.

When they started they found that no overalls were provided — they were expected to provide their own. In fact nothing was provided, not even a pen to write orders down with!

After a busy night they were both relieved to see 2 a.m. only to find that they were expected to clean up. They finally finished at 3.30 a.m. when their kindly manager provided them with a lift home. They had worked a total of 8½ hours for £2 and £3 respectively minus stamp and tax deductions.

The following night they confronted the manager and demanded wages of £4 and £5 respectively. Their charming manager firstly ordered them out and when they refused to go he decided to 'reason' with them. After all, he was only manager there, there were high overheads, etc. He was, however, at a loss for words when asked what the profit per week was or what his own wages were.

The two women were given their cards and their 'back wages' i.e. 65p and £1.65 respectively.

The point to remember of course is that the 'Pop In' is no isolated case. There are literally hundreds of places like it all over Dublin and of course practically all the staff are women. Since it is International Womens Year we may yet see Gemma Hussey or the Committee on the Status of Women or indeed Michael O'Leary leading, or even taking part in, a crusade to wipe these modern day 'sweat shops' off the map.

The long arm of the law-hurts!

Gardai in Store St. have denied allegations, contained in a leaflet distributed by the Central Citizens' Advice Bureau of Sinn Fein outside the Children's Court and the Bridewell Courts, that children taken into custody have been intimidated and assaulted by Gardai. The leaflet, entitled "Your Child and the Law", stated that a number of complaints about assaults on children had been received by the Bureau and went on to advise parents what to do if their child is taken into custody.

A small minority of Gardai "anxious to get convictions at all costs" overstep their duties and cause great distress to children and parents alike, the Bureau stated. Garda reaction to the statement was quick and a senior officer in Store St. described the allegations as "utter nonsense and completely false". Despite this, however, a number of complaints about ill-treatment of young people while in custody have been made recently to Inspector Kelly of Fitzgibbon St. and Store St. Garda Stations. One such statement reads:

On Tuesday, 4 February, my brother V— was arrested at approximately 9 p.m. He was taken



● Gardai: Friend or foe?

to Fitzgibbon St. Garda Station. Although my brother, when asked, gave my name and address to the Gardai and also the name and address of his father, who lives at —, it was not until approximately 12 noon on the following day before I was informed that V— had been arrested. In the meantime, V— had been fingerprinted and charged. He was in custody for 15 hours without the Gardai making any attempt to contact his relatives even though I live only around the corner from Fitzgibbon St. The Garda who arrested him was Garda Michael Forde.

On Tuesday, 11 February, V— appeared in the Juvenile Court at 2.30 p.m. He was remanded for a month. As he was leaving the court, Garda Michael Forde said that there were more charges against V— and that he was taking him into custody. He did not say where he was taking him and my husband had to run after him to ask him. Garda Forde said he was taking him to Fitzgibbon St. When my husband came home and told me I went straight up to Fitzgibbon St. at about 4 p.m. and at 7.15 p.m. the Gardai told me to come back again, that they were not finished charging him.

I bailed V— out at approximately 10.45; as I was taking him from the Station he told me that the Gardai had threatened that if he didn't plead guilty they would not allow him out on bail, that they would send him to Daingean instead of letting him out on bail and they beat him physically until he signed the plea of guilty. He eventually did plead guilty to all the charges. He was beaten by three Gardai. V— said that they slapped him in the face and pulled his hair.

When I saw my brother at 10.45 he was very distressed and shaking, and when I pointed this out to Garda Forde he said that I should take him home, he was probably having a fit. V— has never been sick in his life and doesn't take fits. (For obvious reasons the names and addresses have been omitted from the statement.)

A second statement of complaint concerned a child who was arrested on the same charge and on the same date as the youth mentioned above. This child had no previous convictions and his family had never been in any trouble with the law before. Despite this, the complaint states that the child was fingerprinted without a parent or guardian being present. While taking the prints the back of his hands were thumped to make him co-operate in taking the prints and he was also hit about the head.

His family were not informed of his arrest but a playmate told his mother that he had been taken away in a Garda car. Her inquiries in Store St., Fitzgibbon St. and the Bridewell Stations met with a denial that the child was in their custody. Finally, on the advice of the Bridewell Gardai, she returned to Fitzgibbon St., where they admitted her son's presence and she was able to have him released on bail. He received no copy of the charges against him.

In denying the allegations of the Citizens' Advice Bureau, which were based on the above and similar complaints, the Gardai have by implication denied the complaints that they have received before first establishing an internal inquiry to investigate them.

The complainants have not been notified of any inquiry into their complaints nor have they received the results of any such inquiry. But a Garda spokesman has gone on record in the national press

that their allegations are untrue, "completely false". There are serious implications to the case. There is no guarantee that similar complaints made by people in the future will not also be dismissed without explanation, leaving the citizen without a channel through which he or she may question the activities of the police force. In such a case the appointment of an Ombudsman would be essential to safeguard civil rights.

Bill shows political pay-offs

New legislation introduced into the Oireachtas will, if passed, require companies for the first time to reveal details of their contributions to the funds of political parties. The Bill, which is an amendment to the 1963 Companies Act, will require the disclosure in the directors' reports of any gifts made for political or charitable purposes. In the case of a gift for a political purpose the company will be required to name the amount of the gift and the name of each person to whom it was given and where donated to a political party the name of the party and the amount given must be disclosed.

The Bill defines a gift for political purposes as one made directly or indirectly for the benefit of a political party or candidate or prospective candidate in any Local Government, Parliamentary or Presidential election or a gift to a person whom the donor knows is likely to carry on activity designed to affect public support for a political party or candidate.

Whatever sleep may be lost by the over-generous company director at the provisions above the fines for failure to comply with the Bill are less than terrifying. Where a company director is found guilty of wilful failure to come forward with the necessary information he faces a penalty of no more than six months in jail or a £100 fine. What's a £100 when you can afford to make a political gift which is so substantial that you want to keep quiet about it?

Trade deficit worsens

There has been a worsening in the balance of trade deficit during the twelve months up to January 1975 in comparison with the previous year. Imports in 1974 outstripped exports by £510m. We imported £1,663m worth of goods but only exported goods to the value of £1,152m in our turn.

Figures produced by the Central Statistics Office showed that the deficit was £242m higher than the amount for the previous twelve months. In one month alone,

between December 1974 and January 1975, the surplus of imports over exports was £13m. Much of the £35m difference in the import bill of January 1975 over January 1974 was caused by increases in the cost of oil and related goods. These cost £22,046,000 to import this year, over twice the amount of last year's bill of £10,955,000. And, finally, an interesting item for shoe workers. Footwear imports have also increased and came to £704,000 last month.

Does this concern you?

If you live in Estate Cottages, Booterstown, Herbert Cottages, Ballsbridge or Pembroke St., Irishtown, watch out. You may find shortly that your house has been sold over your head, without your knowledge. And if your address is 38 Seafort Avenue, 49 Londonbridge Road, 11 Bath Avenue, Sandymount or 9 Sydney Terrace, Blackrock, the same thing applies. Check that your house is not about to change hands.

Osborne, King and Megrán, Auctioneers, of 32 Molesworth St., are offering twenty six cottages and houses for sale by private treaty, in one or more lots. There are nine for sale in Booterstown, six in Ballsbridge and a further eleven scattered between Irishtown, Fenian St., Sandymount and Blackrock. Only five are vacant or part vacant. The sale was recently advertised in a circular, reference number 1553, which invited offers from interested parties.

One thing Osborne King and Megrán forgot to do was to inform the tenants that their houses were about to go under the auctioneer's hammer. In fact they went one better. When Mairin de Burca, of the Sinn Féin Central Citizens Advice Bureau, inquired about the mass sale a representative of the firm denied the sale at first and only confirmed it later after a recheck.

All the houses for sale are on low rents, no gross rent being over £350 per annum, which would seem to suggest that they are subject to rent control. This means that the rents cannot be raised while the protected tenant is in occupation. Rent control can be broken, however, if the tenant leaves and a new tenant is installed. Without prejudging the character of the future owners those who have the money to invest in property on such a scale are not likely to do so in anticipation of such low rents.

Since he, she or they will be prevented by law from raising the rents, if controlled, it is reasonable to assume that a new owner might consider the alternative of removing the tenant and escaping rent restrictions in that manner. Which means that if you live in any of those addresses above not only is your house likely to be sold, if it has not already been sold, without you being informed or given an opportunity to buy your home but it is also very possible that you will shortly receive notice to quit. We hope not. But if this concerns you it is well that you make inquiries now. Later may be too late.

A gas story but its not funny

Old age pensioners, who live in Fr. Scully House, a block of flats for elderly people near Mountjoy Square, are receiving large bills for their central heating from the Dublin Gas Company. And because gas rather than electric central heating was installed when the flats were built they are not entitled to any assistance in paying their bills but must pay the full amount out of their pensions. A typical bill, received by a couple whose sole income is their old age pensions, was £29.63 for a two-month period. Miss J. Fitz-

maurice, who lives with her brother on their combined pensions, received a bill for this amount recently. An application from the Eastern Health Board for assistance towards paying the bill was turned down because both were in receipt of pensions and "consequently financial assistance towards the payment of gas bills could not be justified". Other pensioners who must use central heating are in the same position.

The irony of the situation is that had the designers of the flats decided on some form of electric central heating the residents would have been entitled to receive relief from the E.S.B. charge. Under the E.S.B.'s assistance scheme an old age pensioner is entitled to two hundred units of electricity free of charge each two months for half the year and three hundred units free for the same period during the other half of the year. Electricity used over and above that amount must be paid for but the scheme, if it had been applicable to Fr. Scully House, would have removed the heavy financial strain which the residents must now shoulder.

Neither the Gas Company nor the Eastern Health Board are known to have plans to institute an assistance scheme for gas bills on the lines of the E.S.B. system.

All is not well with the E.S.B.'s scheme, however. Old age pensioners are not automatically put on to the reduced rate on receipt of their pensions, as might be expected. There is little liaison between the Board and the Department of Social Welfare and the E.S.B. is not automatically informed of the names of newly qualified pensioners. Many pensioners are not aware of their entitlements to free electricity and continue to pay the full amount.

Old age pensioners in private flats are often deprived of the financial relief available because their meters are in the landlord's name and they are billed for the full amount.

Conor gets his wires crossed

The Post Office Officials Association, which represents approximately 40 per cent of male full-time telephonists, has criticised the Minister for Posts and Telegraphs, Conor Cruise O'Brien, for his Department's policy of recruiting part-time night telephonists. The Association claims that many of the part-time recruits are doubling from other jobs in the Civil Service and believes that vacancies for part-time night telephonists should be filled by recruiting from the unemployed and by extending the overtime of the present full-time telephone operators.



Cruise O'Brien criticised in letter.

The criticisms are stated in an open letter to the Minister, copies of which are to be sent to the Tanaiste, Brendan Corish and to Michael O'Leary, Minister for Labour.

The text of the letter reads: "The Executive of this Union regret the present policy of your Department to recruit part-time night telephonists, which in our

opinion is no substitute for making our work a worthwhile job on a full-time basis.

"We note especially that applicants for these part-time positions must already have a first job on a full-time basis as a precondition to your Departments employing them in this way.

"Your Department has organised the recruitment of over 100 such part-time night telephonists recently during the depth of the current economic crisis. We find this practice incomprehensible in view of the statement you wrote in the Irish Times of 18 October, when you said —

"Any Government in which Labour is a participant will, on the contrary, seek to maintain employment at the highest possible level."

"We note that these steps were taken at a time when, on your instructions, overtime for the present staff has been drastically cut back, even at the expense of the Programme of Capital Development. Our members' need to undertake this overtime has been a direct consequence of the failure of the Department to implement the rates of pay and allowances recommended by the Labour Court and particularly the 40 hour week which were also laid out in the last two National Wage Agreements.

"As you yourself are aware the night allowance for full-time staff is approximately half the rate payable to permanent night workers who must also provide their own transport from work outside the hours of public transport available.

"Finally we note that 25 per cent of those who accept the part-time posts do not even complete the required training which would seem to show that there are no very efficient economies to be made if your Department's present policy were to be excused on such grounds".

Overtime for full-time telephonists, which used to be unlimited on nights off, has been cut back to a limit of thirty vacancies on any night off and is restricted to six hours work. This has led to a "scramble" for the available overtime, one P.O.O.A. member stated. The Association feels that the recruitment of workers, who are already employed elsewhere, to staff the exchanges at a time when full-time workers are suffering a reduction in their overtime is unfair. Labour shortages should be made up by extending the use of overtime.

The Association has claimed that the recruitment policy is wasteful since there is a 25 per cent drop-out rate of part-time workers during the preliminary training and the remaining 75 per cent tend to leave within one year. The training period is for five nights a week for ten weeks, with pay. Trainees receive more money while training than while actually working since they are on call only two or three nights in a week when training is over. This loss of earnings accounts for many of the drop-outs, the P.O.O.A. states.

The Association's objections are confined to the present recruiting drive and the policy of taking in people who are already employed elsewhere. It has emphasised that it has no objections to existing part-time operators, many of whom have been working on the exchanges for years.

The telephonists are also dissatisfied over the rates paid for overtime, Sunday work and the night shift allowance. They are seeking a 25 per cent night shift allowance and double-time for Sunday duty, retrospective to the signing of the 1974 National Wage Agreement. The present rate for night shift is 25 per cent for workers whose shifts allow them the use of public transport and 20 per cent for workers who use their own transport because of uneven shifts. This allowance only covers a 10½ hour period which is not the full length of the night shift. The comparative allowance in the printing industry is 33 1/3 per cent.

The telephonists want a reduction from their present 43½ hour week to the standard 40 hour week without any change in overtime rates or take-home pay.

The Post Office Officials Association is not recognised by the Department of Posts and Telegraphs as a negotiating body. The official organisation is a Civil Service Staff Association, the Post Office Workers Union. This does not have a negotiating licence either, however. The Post Office Officials Association has stated that if the Department continues to refuse it recognition as a representative negotiating body it will take the matter to the International Labour Organisation.

'Knock wall or we will' threat

A threat from residents of Avonmore Park housing estate, Cork and members of the local Sinn Féin cumann that they would demolish a dangerous wall on the main Old Youghal Road, if Cork Corporation did not remove the hazard, brought workmen out to remove the offending wall just one day before 4-day last week.

The wall, which was situated beside a derelict house near Avonmore Park, prevented motorists from seeing children coming out of the N.B.A. estate at Mayfield and the particular stretch of road had a very high accident rate. There have been at least five accidents involving children and several near misses in recent months and residents were becoming increasingly concerned.

Last Saturday was due to be demolition day. An earlier attempt to remove the wall had been foiled by the presence of a large force of Gardai who lined up in front of the wall. It was then decided to give the Corporation one week's grace and if no action had been taken within that week the demolition was to go ahead, Gardai or no Gardai.

The next week brought daily pressure on the Corporation from residents and Sinn Féin members, seemingly without success. Finally, late on Friday afternoon, workmen appeared and removed two sections of the six-foot high wall and replaced it with a wire fence. The derelict house and the remainder of the wall is to be removed in the near future and the Corporation has undertaken to build a footpath to the houses at Avonmore Park. A safety barrier to prevent children running out on to the road will also be provided.

Start of new E.E.C. campaign

The National Anti-E.E.C. Committee, which opposed the entry of Ireland into the E.E.C. in 1972, has been re-organised and has planned a series of activities to express public dissatisfaction with the outcome of membership. The Committee enjoys wide-ranging support and has the backing of branches and individual members of the Labour Party, Sinn Féin, the Liaison Committee of the Left, Irish Sovereignty Movement, Resources Protection Campaign, Union of Students in Ireland, National Association of Tenants Organisations, Farmers' Defence Association, and the Car Workers' Committee.

The aim of the organisation is to exert pressure on the Government to have the terms of Ireland's entry agreement adhered to, in particular in relation to the promises of 55,000 extra jobs and a generous regional fund.

The Committee is kicking off its campaign with a protest march from Parnell Square to the G.P.O. at 2.30 p.m., Saturday, 8 March. A public meeting will be held at 3 p.m. at the G.P.O. with speakers from political parties and national organisations. This will be followed by a poster picket on Dublin Castle, where E.E.C. dignitaries will be arriving, on Monday, 10 March.

THE IRISH SOCIALIST

On sale every month

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Irish legal education



'We shall not change'

The question of legal education is very much in the news at the moment with the Minister for Justice contending that our system of education for barristers and solicitors is archaic and impractical and the legal profession hotly denying any such thing. The argument to date has been very much a closed shop affair with the general public left out in the cold. The legal profession has always been shrouded in a mystique which makes it difficult for the average person to judge for themselves what are the rights and wrongs of the argument. The Irish People, in a two-part article, will show what the aspiring solicitor or barrister must do in order to qualify under the present system of legal education.

We will start with the Barrister. If you have reason to go to Court you must first go to a Solicitor who will then engage a Barrister to plead on your behalf in Court. To become a Barrister one must first of all be admitted as a student of the Honourable Society of King's Inns, Henrietta Street, motto "We shall not change". In order to do this the student must pay £100. He must also present a memorial, cost £2, signed by a practising Barrister, to

certify his worthiness to become a member of the Honourable Society.

Having become a student of the Honourable Society it then takes four years to qualify or three years if one has a University Degree for which he must pay between £110 to £150 per annum.

In return for this he receives very little. Many do not bother to attend the lectures as they are tailored for the University Degree Course and are of an academic rather than a practical nature. Study for the course consists of rote learning of a selection of notes. There has been a certain difficulty in that the Honourable Society throughout its entire history has never had a Syllabus of its courses of study. A yearly fee of £25, rising to £75 in the final year, in addition to the above must be paid to the Honourable Society.

On top of all this there is an Examination Fee of £5, an Annual Fee of £3 to the Law Students Debating Society, whether one attends it or not, and then there is the cost of books, some of which can cost up to £16 each. It does not end there, of course. There is more required than the passing of examinations and payment of the above fees.

Every student must keep twelve terms commons in the Dining Hall of the Honourable Society. This is a most ridiculous affair and students are required to be "dressed suitably" and to be gowned. This costs £1.50 a time plus the cost of hiring the gown which is £1 per year.

Certain rituals must be observed in regard to respect for the Benchers, which is the

committee of the Society. The students must wait at their tables until after the Grace has been said and the Benchers have seated themselves. During the dinner no one may leave the hall without the permission of the Benchers and one must bow on the way out. As the wine, described as "cheap" by one student, flows freely at such affairs one can be in much discomfort by the time a petition reaches the Benchers.

When finally all exams have been passed further costs must be met. One must now pay £150 to be admitted to the Degree of Barrister at Law, loosely equivalent to the conferring of a degree. A wig and gown is required for this ceremony, the wig costing between £30 (secondhand) and £80.

There are more costs to be met before one actually appears in Court. Develling is required, a practise whereby one must pay at least £100 to an experienced Barrister for the privilege of accompanying him in Court for a period of six months, in order to gain experience. There is also a yearly licence fee of £150. After all that if one has enough influence and contacts one might get a case since all cases come through a Solicitor.

From this brief account it is obvious that the financial burden involved would exclude all except a tiny minority. Surely it would be more honorable to pay £1,000 for the privilege of being a Barrister; either that or scrap what is an archaic Medieval English system entirely.

Next week: The Solicitor.

To qualify as a Barrister, one must pay the following fees:

	To University	Kings Inns	Law Students' Debating Society	Exam. Fees	Dining Fees	Gown
1st Year	From £113 — £150	£25 (plus £100 for admission in first year)	£3	£5	£18	£1
2nd Year	£113 — £150	£25	£3	£5	£18	£1
3rd Year	£113 — £150	£25	£3	£5	£18	£1
Final Year	—	£75	£3	£5	£18	£1

Plus: Called to Bar: £150
Gown and Wig: £80
Develling: £100
Licence to Practise: £150
Books: £8-£16 each

Ground rent cases

Clonmel Securities Ltd. knows how to start off the year with a flourish. This company, which collects approximately six hundred ground rents in the Glasnevin / Ballymun area of Dublin, marked the beginning of 1974 with a series of threatening letters to ground rent defaulters which warned that it was going to take possession immediately and without warning of the properties of those who refused to cough up their rent.

This year approximately fifty summonses for non-payment have been issued to residents of Willowpark, Ballymun Park and the Pinewood Estate. The summonses were issued by Clonmel's solicitors, Hickey, Beauchamp, Kirwan and O'Reilly, of Wellington Quay.

The ground rent strikers are due to appear in Court on the 12 March in Kilmainham Courthouse and it is likely that the Court will grant decrees for possession of the houses. However Clonmel Securities are much more interested in causing a panic among residents, scaring them into paying up, than in securing a largely empty Court decree which they cannot hope to enforce.

The 1974 warning was never acted upon as the company well knows that to do so would be political dynamite. They are obviously hoping to get what they can out of it before the whole ground rent system comes down around their ears.

Coleman in court

Cork Corporation's appeal against an award of £206,000 compensation to Cork printing firm, Coleman Printers Ltd., arising out of a fire on 14 January 1971, will be heard in Court on Wednesday next, at 10 a.m.

The malicious damages claim submitted by the company and awarded in Cork Circuit Court was based on a grossly inflated valuation of the plant and equipment and claimed damages for equipment which had not been destroyed in the fire or whose value was lower than stated.

Members of the National Union of Students and the Troops Out Movement in Britain picketed the Ulster Office, Berkley Square, London last Saturday. The picket was part of an international campaign of picketing British embassies (Picture courtesy Vivian Creightney, ANS.)

Pressures on Union at Tarbert

Relations between management and shop stewards on the Tarbert E.S.B. Extension Project, Co. Kerry, is at its lowest. The Atlantic Plant Construction Co., the largest contractor, is the Irish subsidiary of General Electric U.S.A. and has two hundred men working for it, as welders, mechanical and pipe fitters, riggers and mates.

Before Christmas, the site manager of A.P.C., Mr. J. Tuohy, maintained consultative relations with the stewards because of a productivity bonus accepted by the men to finish work on boiler No. 3 and turbine No. 3. Discussions were opened on the stewards' rights in calling meetings among themselves or with their trades. All that was stopped at Christmas when certain trades took action to bring a dragged-out back payment, for confined space and pre-heated butts, to an end.

Work on Boiler 4 was blacked. Sanctions were applied to the productivity bonus. The law was laid down for stewards' meetings and

payment. The welders took to a week's strike and protective notices were given to all site workers except E.S.B.

The strike, on the advice of Union representatives, ended in a meeting with management, Union and stewards in Limerick, where management showed its true face and promises made in the past were broken.

Since then deputy stewards have been docked for Union activity with A.P.C. The site manager refuses the official stewards negotiating power on the site. The hours have been cut short. From now on, only the meetings to revise the Site Agreement will decide on site issues. The first will take place in February. These, in which F.U.E., Unions and stewards are involved, usually drag on until September.

The management is clearly taking advantage of the rising unemployment in the country and the power of the multi-nationals to withdraw if profits are not up to their standards to hit at the workers' right.

