



CELTIC NEWS

Alba Breizh Cymru Éire

Kernow Mannin

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In front of the French Embassy, Dublin, 1st October 1972, members of the Irish Branch of the Celtic League demonstrate their solidarity with the Bretons on trial in Paris.



TO ALL MEMBERS AND SUBSCRIBERS: A NEW CELTIC LEAGUE PERIODICAL replacing Celtic News and the annual volume is scheduled for publication on February 1st, 1973 Further details inside. SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR 1973 SHOULD BE RENEWED BETWEEN NOW AND JANUARY.

ALBA

Politics: The tentative Liberal backed moves towards a broad based Home-Rule front have been hammered by the Scottish branch of the U.K. Labour Party. The chairmen of the S.N.P. and Scottish Conservative Party had both given their assent to the scheme, but the Scottish Labour satellite apatchicks as usual took fright at anything that would even remotely menace the Anglo-Centric status-quo. They took refuge in the usual claptrap about not wishing to endanger the vital interests of the Scottish people by anything that smacks of separation.

Tory Nationalists! A minor furore has been caused by a suggestion that the Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party should lose its semi-separate status within the U.K. Tory setup, and become like their Labour sidekicks, an area within the British context. There are already dark mutterings of resistance from characters from whom the favourite words of abuse are usually 'narrow nationalist!'

Polaris Polarisation: The Naval cum Nuclear War menace continues to dominate the West-Coast of Scotland, with the continuing American Polaris network in the Clyde and rumours during the Summer that there might be further installations of this type in Skye. Official spokesmen in both the U.S. Embassy and Washington have not made any reply to S.N.P. enquiries on this score. The S.N.P. have written to Senator George McGovern, asking him, if he is elected, to withdraw or curtail the American Naval presence in Scotland. The British Navy are to establish a torpedo range and training establishment at Kyle on the Wester Ross coast. The implications of this are clear both for local fishing and any other form of productive activity, as well as the menace to the already hard pressed Scottish Gaeltacht, parts of which it neighbours on. Predictably it has been defended by North Britons as being necessary for the defence and prestige of the U.K. Evidently the demise of the "empah" has not yet dawned on these people.

Oil: The S.N.P. continues to take the lead in the struggle to safeguard Scottish Oil discoveries from greedy foreign exploitation. The Scottish Liberal Party have also been vigorous in this matter. During the Winter, the S.N.P. plan to run a large scale publicity-campaign on the oil issue with posters, badges and other materials. This will coincide with complement a membership drive.

Population or Tourism: The Monday Club in Scotland have lately been proposing that Scottish industries should not get government help, because as in the U.C.S. case, they would not stand meekly by and see themselves closed down. Instead they would like to see the same government help go into tourism, and a large part of the Scottish people being turned into communities of bartenders and chambermaids. Readers of "Celtic News" need scarcely be reminded that the Monday Club are peculiarly virulent Right Wing authoritarians close kindred spirits of the worst sort of Stormont hardliners.

The U.C.S. work-in has been brought to a successful conclusion after many ups and downs, and uncertainties. The Yards will be engaged by Marathon of Texas in making oil rigs.

Culture: Two interesting and significant developments came out of the National Mod of An Comun Gaidhealach at Inverness, despite the usual euphoric codology being as much in evidence as ever. Firstly the appointment of Englishman Colin Spencer to the job of full time field-officer for An Comun, charged with the task of extending their organisation. He is an art teacher who has learnt Gaidhlig so well that he has become quite a considerable author in it! He has a working knowledge of Irish and Welsh. Colin Spencer is living in Harris at present. He is a further proof of the fact that as he pointed out himself, nationality or origin have nothing to do with a matter like this. the proof is in the deed. The second item is the news that An Comun are to set up a printing - works at Tarbert on the island of Harris. This is regarded as a considerable breakthrough. The works will be principally taken up with producing textbooks in Gaelic for primary and secondary schools. The reason for it is that it is felt that there is a lack of Gaelic literature in circulation, and a backlog of work waiting to be published. It is hoped that there will be financial help for the work from the government sponsored Highland Development Fund, which will enable the works in time to expand and include a bookshop and a Gaelic museum.

Hugh MacDiarmid has recently been made Patron of the 1320 Club in succession to the late Lord Boyd-Orr. MacDiarmid's 80th birthday received widespread attention. Although mainly associated with writing in Lallans, he is one of those who have done most in the present century in Scotland, or anywhere else for that matter, to promote the Pan Celtic concept in every aspect including the political. Ronald MacDonald Douglas, ardent Celt and until recently editor of "Catalyst" has been elected Honorary President of the Club.

BREIZH

Political Trials of the 11 Bretons who stood trial before a State Security Court (3 Civil judges and 2 Army generals) in Paris from the 2nd to the 10th October. 8 were given suspended sentences ranging from one to 5 years, and 3 were acquitted. One, J. Le Maho, accused of possessing a machine gun "destined for the I.R.A." was remanded for trial at a later date. The others were released immediately, but 6 of them had been in custody since early Spring.

The mildness of the sentences imposed by the Court against the demands of the State Prosecutor is a clear indication of the fears of the French Government to further arouse the Breton resentment to which the numerous witnesses for the defence testified these included workers, politicians, farmers, elected representatives, professors, etc. even an ex-general who had resigned from the French army because of the use of torture in Algeria.

None of the accused denied the charges of having stolen explosives and caused 18 explosions between April 1971 and April 1972. Their targets included the office of the Department of Education in St. Brieg (symbol of the French campaign to eradicate Breton) administrative buildings (Dinan sous-prefecture), business premises used for the importation of cheap canned fish against Breton interests and other agencies engaged in the economic exploitation of Brittany.

During the trial Yvan Gourves insisted on his right to address the court in Breton. This was refused by the presiding judge, a Frenchman, Mr. Romero, who as mayor of a small Breton town typifies the colonial situation in our country.

The strong solidarity of the accused was very encouraging. They represented two tendencies within the Breton Liberation Front: traditionalists who rejected the right of a French court to try them on the grounds that the Franco-Breton treaty of 1532 had never been rescinded (a stand not accepted by the judges, of course) and leftists who attacked French misrule as practised today and advocated revolutionary changes. They succeeded in putting the State on the defensive. The view of the population of Brittany was summed up by the Finistere councillor Kemener: "In reality the State wants to suppress our language. . . . We have had to resort to other means than the ballot to get our rights. . . . The people do not entirely approve of these men's violent actions, but do not disapprove either: they recognise their courage and sincerity."

Demonstrations during the Trial The Kemper - Paris express was stopped in two places on October 4th by signals placed in the vicinity of placards in the middle of the railway, bearing F.L.B. inscriptions. 800 people attended a concert in Rennes on October 3rd in support of the men on trial. On the 5th, 2,000 attended a similar meeting in Paris with speakers including Breton workers, farmers and small shopkeepers. Breton flags were flown from the top of a Science Faculty building in Paris and from the tower of the Notre-Dame cathedral. Slogans in Breton were written on buses. A demonstration by Rennes students welcoming the prisoners on their return on October 11th was dispersed by Police.

In September, the Brest municipal council unanimously voted 5,000 Francs to S.P.I. for the relief of distress in N. Ireland. The mayor, Mr. Lombard, who heads attempts to give new strength to the "Comite de Liaison et coordination des Interets Bretons" said he wished to see a speedy end to the conflict in the 6 counties.

Petty Harassment Gweltaz Durand who was imprisoned for 7 months on account of his F.L.B. activity, successfully passed his Leaving Certificate examination in jail but was not allowed to stand for the Breton test.

Brezhoneg Buan Hag Aes: - a new method for learning Breton, by Per Denez, just published by OMNIVOX, 8 rue de Berri, Paris 8e, clearly presented (Breton in bold type, French explanations in ordinary type), humoristically illustrated, 296 pages, price 17.50 fr. accompanied by 33 rpm. record OXB (47.50 fr.) and minicassette OXB (73.90 fr.)

At the congress of the A.I.D.L.C.M. (International Union for the Rights of Minorities) a resolution sponsored by Emgleo Breizh was adopted, demanding that the French Government stop their discrimination against all "minority" languages spoken in "their" territory. What effect will this have on a policy already condemned by many international conventions?

CYMRU

Cymdeithas Yr Iaith Gymraeg: The English Lord Chancellor's visit to Bangor some few weeks ago to offer 'guidance' to magistrates who had been acquitting members of the Language Society has not met with the response he had hoped. The train carrying him back to England had hardly crossed the border when magistrates at Bala discharged unconditionally five members of the society who had refused to pay television licences calling for a separate Welsh channel - the bench stating that no person has a monopoly on the truth.

Members of the Unionist Parties in Wales were so infuriated by the events at Bala that they called for the immediate dismissal of the whole bench. Ironically it was the Labour party that was the loudest in its condemnation of those 'breaking the law'. The same people apparently supported the pickets and dockers who were acting outside the law in another context. It is interesting how eager were arch Labourites and Tory agents of English parties in Wales to join forces to secure the dismissal of the Bala magistrates.

Occupied Ireland. It is still a tragic aspect of our country that young men can still be enticed to join England's army and trade bullets with resistance fighters in occupied Ireland. It is apparently easy to convince them that this is a war between 'goodies' and 'baddies'. One wonders whether their sons and grandsons will think on the same lines.

Once again, through the medium of the "Celtic News" we can only ask Brigadiere Twomey in Belfast, and other Republican leaders to forgive the actions of these unthinking and naive Welshmen. Perhaps it is to be expected that the Slave mentality will linger on yet awhile in Wales as, indeed, in Ireland itself.

Whilst they take commands from dead beat officers with their bogus English public school accents their countrymen are involved in another fight. And at this minute some of them are confined in Welsh and English prisons for a cause that is the very survival of Wales.

M. A. C. At Abergele a service was held to commemorate the deaths of the two patriots George Taylor and Alwyn Jones. The remembrance committee reported that the families of the men were deeply moved by the large attendance. The only sinister element was the presence of members of the secret police taking cine pictures of all those taking part - even of children and the widows of the two men. Unknown to them at the time however, *their* pictures were also being taken by a member of the committee and have since been made public.

Ysgolion: Periodic visits to schools by English military agents is, of course, nothing new. It was always hoped to influence the minds of the young through colourful military uniforms, the sounds of stirring music and tales of dedicated heroism in far away places.

Of late however, the 'get the children' campaign has taken a new twist. One text book for those studying for their 'O' Levels has, under the title, "Know Your Own Country" the passage: "It was an honour to take part in the deliberations (the English parliament), which for centuries had guided England through numberless perils forward on the path of empire." Under another title "The sensations of a cavalry charge" the author (none less than Winston Churchill) writes "We halt again, and I make four troopers fire upon them (in India). Talk of fun! Where will you beat this".

There are numerous other examples. The enemies of Wales are increasingly disturbed by the active support the young give to PLAID CYMRU and the Language Society.

Llyn The first council to challenge and refuse to execute the English government's Standard Improvement grants is Llyn rural district council. This historic decision was taken in view of the many English people buying second homes in the area thus leaving them empty for most of the year.

EIRE:

Ulster "Loyalists" The 'loyalty' of Ulster Unionists has always been very conditional. An unconditional loyalty would have welcomed direct rule, but instead it strained loyalty to breaking point. In deference to the threats of Unionist extremists the English Queen's writ was brought back to Free Derry. Hitherto the use of tanks had been avoided because of the obvious analogy with Soviet tanks in Czechoslovakia; but Free Derry was itself a constant source of embarrassment so that finally Centurion tanks established that it was just as 'British' as Yorkshire. The superficial nature of Loyalist Britishness is demonstrated by the rapid growth of the UDA. After Bloody Sunday Protestant extremists made collections for the Paras. Before a further year had elapsed they were themselves *speaking* of this force in the same terms as the Bogside.

Kitsonian Murder Gangs: Mr. Whitelaw's army has become an independent factor in the situation. Its acceptance of the philosophy evolved in other now fallen bastions of empire has added enormously to the complexity of the situation. When a bogus cleaning company vanman was killed it drew attention to this particular aspect of military activity, the employment of groups dressed in civilian clothes. As far as the English public is concerned a subservient press reiterates the axiom that its army can do no wrong. However, even the very efficiency of the military's own publicity service helps to weaken its credibility with those on the spot. In an atmosphere such as the 6-Counties', employment of the Kitsonian free enterprise murder-gangs greatly diminishes the possibility of using the military as a disciplined force. The clashes with Protestant extremists will certainly continue. Each time such clashes result in casualties on either side the claim of Loyalism rings more bizarrely on English ears. It becomes almost inevitable that English pressure for withdrawal of the troops will grow.

Window Dressing: The Darlington Conference was not and could not have been of much consequence. Its purpose was to provide a window-dressing of lengthy and abortive discussion to be followed by an imposed solution, which would have the tacit approval of Dublin. The refusal to end internment without trial made it impossible politically for the SDLP and other nationalist elements to attend. Dr. Paisley, being too astute to attend a conference foredoomed to failure, had his own excuse in the shape of the Paras. While half the seats at the Darlington round table remained empty the European Commission for Human Rights provided another window for English wares. The case against England involved Torture, Inhuman and Degrading Treatment in the 6-Counties. Ironically, it was probably one of the official whitewash documents, the Compton Report, which established that there was decidedly something to investigate. Earlier, the Irish Medical Association in Amsterdam proposed a resolution design to put an end to cooperation of Army Doctors in what is euphemistically called interrogation in depth. Due to technical difficulties associated with the wording of the resolution it was referred to the executive for rewording. The Strasbourg case was sponsored by the Dublin government and lest it be thought that the IMA are "Catholic Nationalists" it can be mentioned that its Council has also put pressure on the pussyfoot Dublin government to revise the existing legislature on contraception.

The Servile Press: At home, the press has given little cause for concern to Heath. Mr. Benn, retiring chairman of the English Labour Party, slated the English press: He did not comment on their being decidedly more biased in their Irish than their Labour coverage. There, the Tory press can be accepted as being honestly dishonest, whereas the so called radical press lacks even the justification of forthright chauvinism. "The Guardian" in its Manchester days had some claim to radicalism and objectivity. Its present sub-editor, John Cole, cut his journalistic teeth on the "Belfast Telegraph" and has used his present post to back the claims that "Ulster is British" and that in order to enforce English Law and Order anything goes. "The Observer" outdid its less pretentious rivals with the disclosures of an extremely well paid new Mata Hari. It followed this by a blatantly bogus article purporting to feature Sean Mac Stiofain by Paul Ferris.

Tame Irishmen: The establishment is not without Irish satellites. False prophets such as Dr. Cruise O'Brien, terror of the Congo Ulstermen, have been advocating the right of the 6-County majority to opt out of the Irish Nation and to accept English arbitration. By continually warning against violence they are in fact encouraging it. Furthermore, in the event of their pushing unity into the unforeseeable future they will merely be condemning future generations to violence. This softening up process has been complemented by an article in the Jesuit periodical "Studies" by the late Fr. Shaw. This purported to discredit the national tradition personified by Padraic Mac Piarais. Had the article been motivated by a genuine pacifist philosophy it might have carried a modicum of conviction, but it made a virtue of our erstwhile status as England's European Ghurkhas. As an institution the Jesuit Order in Ireland has always been concerned with training an English Catholic elite. In voting for a plutocrats' Europe the vast majority of 26-County voters put themselves into this category of tame Irishmen. It is apposite to congratulate the Norwegian people in their decision to opt for a peoples' Europe!

KERNOW

Land Leeches: Amoral speculators and developers continue to ravage Kernow. About 18 months ago a popular outcry prevented London from dumping her surplus population into Kernow. Now the danger has cropped up again in a more insidious form. The Greater London Council is using agents to buy land that carries building permission at Kernewek (Cornish) auctions. Their covert activity is aimed at building houses for London people.

On September 19th, the G.L.C. bought 5.4 acres of agricultural land in Illogan for houses for their elderly people. This will mean the introduction into the parish of 100 people who are entirely strange to the local conditions and way of life. The price paid for the land was £18,333 per acre whereas its value as agricultural land was not more than £250 per acre. Less than a month earlier an Exeter development firm bought 4½ acres of similar land at £17,870 per acre.

In addition, these purchasers obtained options on a further 17.31 acres. If their plans are allowed to proceed, the parish of Illogan will cease to be Kernewek and will become a "Little-England".

The effect of such purchases upon local land prices was shown quite recently when 4½ acres of land were withdrawn from a sale because the highest bid was only £47,000 or £10,444 per acre. Houses built on land of this price will be completely beyond the reach of Cornish people and could only be bought by well-to-do outsiders. If this continues, Cornwall will become too expensive for Cornish people to live in and they will be forced out of their own country. The large spate of money brought into the country by the tourists aggravates the situation by attracting unprincipled speculators who destroy the environment by making money-spinning holiday camps and caravan sites.

Pollution: As prevention of pollution is now a matter of world concern, one would think that it would be easy for Cornwall to protect its rivers, but not so. Mebyon Kernow, who have striven, with some success, to halt the pollution of the Red River, have now been thwarted by the River Authority having entered into secret talks with the polluters and, as the secrecy of these talks is protected by the Pollution Act of 1961, the matter is now "Sub Judice" and cannot be discussed - you can't win, can you!

But there is nothing new about this, it is the common experience of Celtic people everywhere, what is new here is that the apathy that has marked Cornwall for so long is now rapidly being replaced by anger and resentment. This is shown by the unusually large number of action committees, protest groups and environment societies that have come into existence in the last 12 months and what is important is that their number continues to grow. How this unrest will develop is anybody's guess, but if there is going to be trouble, it will probably occur when the first G.L.C. houses appear or when elections for the new local authorities take place. By then we will, no doubt, have heard the answer to the Druids' age old question "Is there peace?"

... and Anger: But, sadly, events overtake us, as those last words were written a telephone call brought the news that last night, October 7th, the first telephone wires were cut and the first petrol bomb thrown. Whither now?

MANN

More Opposition to "New Residents" in Mann: The campaign to halt the immigration of further rich English people into Mann has been stepped up. Slogans and posters ("Stop the sell-out", "Homes for Manxmen, not Tax Dodgers") have been put up on Manx government buildings, on building sites, and on the offices of estate agents, advocates and architects. It is not clear who is behind the poster campaign, but it is clear that the majority of the Manx people strongly resent the influx of wealthy English people, many of whom act as if the British Empire still existed. A smaller poster campaign against the Manx government's policy of attracting rich "new residents" aroused much interest a year ago. In an island largely unused to organised dissent of any description, the police went to some trouble to discover who was painting the slogans and putting up the posters (one art student was questioned because he possessed poster stencilling equipment).

Apart from the now rather muted efforts of the Manx government to keep up the influx of wealthy people, the news that Mann will retain control of its tax arrangements while remaining outside the Common Market has caused a further move of British businesses and land speculators to Mann. Mec Vannin, the Manx nationalist movement, is organising a petition calling on members of Tynwald to vote their lack of confidence in the Manx government's policies on development and immigration.

GENERAL SECTION

The Annual General Meeting of the Celtic League was held in Dublin on August 26th - 27th, 1972. It was attended by 25 persons representing all branches, except Mannin. The branch and general secretaries recorded the continuing work of educating our compatriots in thinking in interceltic terms and strengthening relations between our countries by numerous acts of solidarity. Membership had increased in Scotland and Ireland while remaining rather stationary in the other branches. Difficulties in the administration of the Welsh branch had been overcome. The AGM decided that a new periodical will replace Celtic News and the annual volume. The Irish Secretary will prepare an interceltic summer school in Ireland in 1973 and the Scottish Secretary will co-ordinate the compilation of a directory of people willing to offer hospitality to visitors from "other" Celtic countries.

The Celtic League position on matters of current concern in the Celtic countries was expressed in a dozen resolutions involving, among others,

- 1) A call to the peoples of Scotland and Wales to press for the withdrawal of Scottish and Welsh army units from N. Ireland.
- 2) A recommendation that action similar to that initiated by Cymdeithas yr Iaith be carried out in other Celtic countries against the acquisition of land and houses by 'cheque book imperialists'.
- 3) Co-operation between the C. L. branches in forming a travel club, setting up a list of organisations engaging in Celtic activities and compiling the directory mentioned above.
- 4) Criticism of Radio-Telefís Éireann for their slanted reporting of Welsh affairs, as when George Thomas was invited to comment on Cymdeithas actions.
- 5) A hope that Secours Populaire Interceltique be developed, with active help from C. L. members, into an organisation with branches in every Celtic country to relieve distress resulting from persecution and arrest of people fighting for the freedom of any Celtic nation.
- 6) A demand for the immediate release of Bretons and Irishmen interned without trial in contravention of recognised human rights.

The New Celtic League Periodical will in format be similar to the annual volume, and, if quarterly, each issue will have about 50 pages. Our ambition is to make it an adequate instrument of cooperation in the intensified struggle that lies ahead for the Celtic nations

Two thirds of the space will be in English with a news section more detailed than in Celtic News, and a "magazine" section, consisting of comments from a C. L. point of view on developments in the national life of our countries, supplemented with book reviews, translations, announcements, photographs, etc.

The remainder will be in Celtic languages, thus making clear our commitment to their restoration to prominence in our countries. We hope that those of our subscribers who cannot read any Celtic language will recognise this decision as appropriate and will enable us to practise what we advocate. However, this section will also help to promote interceltic understanding: contributors will write not about their own but about the other Celtic countries. They will provide information not easily available in their own national periodicals. If they write simply, others than their countrymen with an elementary knowledge of their language, may also profit from the articles.

Whether we publish a bi-monthly rather than a quarterly will depend on finding 40 or 50 guarantors who will pledge - should we run into a heavy deficit - to contribute up to £5 each towards its clearing. (No deficit, no claim on the guarantor). Persons willing to give such a pledge are kindly requested to communicate with the secretary general.

Renewal of Subscriptions: The change in our scheme of publication will put an abnormal strain on our financial resources during the first part of 1973. Payments received up to now being needed to clear the bill for the 1972 volume, the ca £180 bill for the first issue of the new periodical will have to be covered by 1973 subscriptions. Hence our **APPEAL FOR RENEWAL BETWEEN NOW AND JANUARY**. Rates of subscription are:

European countries:	£1.00
Non-European (surface mail)	£1.15
(air mail)	£1.60

Annual Volume 1972 CELTIC EXPERIENCE; PAST AND PRESENT: 156 pages, 40 contributions on historical, political, cultural and educational subjects, from writers in the six Celtic countries many of whom are taking an active part in their struggle for freedom. DID YOU GET YOUR COPY? If by some neglect you have not yet paid your subscription for 1972, send it to your branch secretary together with the one for 1973. Show the book to your friends and ask them to buy a copy, 300 copies remain, to be sold as early as possible so that we may start in 1973 on a good financial basis. Some copies being sent to paid-up members may have failed to reach them. Please let us know if that happened in your case.

Celtic League Badges, and copies of the 1969, 1970 and 1971 annual volumes are available from the secretary general for 35p each (including postage for surface mail).

Come to Cilmeri! A march in commemoration of Llywelyn Fawr (see 1972 annual) will take place from Builth to Cilmeri (N. Breconsh.) on December 9th or 16th. The organisers plan it as a demonstration of Celtic unity under Celtic League aegis. We appeal to our members to organise participation from their area, musicians particularly welcome. For details write to Alun ap Dafydd, 9 Medway Road, Bettws, Casnewydd, (Newport), Gwent, S. Wales, who will confirm date and meeting place.

Tickets on French Embassies: The local branches of the C. League in Dublin and London picketed the French Embassies on October 1st and 2nd in protest against the holding of the trial of 11 Bretons in Paris, the denial of their right to use Breton in court and the internment of six of them for nearly 6 months without trial. Placards carried by the demonstrators denounced the exploitation of the Breton people by agencies backed by the French government. The latter, said a duplicated statement, were to blame for the resort to violence. Letters handed in at the embassies called for the release forthwith of all the prisoners. Concern for them was conveyed to the French ambassador in London on behalf of our Cornish branch and to Me. Leclerc, solicitor, on behalf of the Welsh and Irish branches. Donations on their families were received from sympathizers in Ireland.

Breton - Irish Solidarity: Members of the Celtic League helped to unload a consignment of 5 bales of clothing collected for Northern Ireland in Brittany by S. P. I. when it arrived in Dublin harbour on October 11th.

The following sums collected by the Breton Branch of the Celtic League have now been forwarded for the relief of distress in the 6-Counties:

£178.50 to the Civil Rights Association, Belfast
 £98.50 each to Comhaltas Titheochta Sraid Bombay, and to the Northern Resistance Movement, c/o J. F. Mac Manus, MP.,
 £40.00 to Comhaltas Uladh, and
 £25.00 to the County Derry Dependents' Fund.

John Jenkins a Welshman, is serving a 10-years sentence of imprisonment in Albany Prison, Isle of Wight. He went on hunger strike in August because of degrading treatment by the prison authorities. Concern for his life was expressed at the end of September to Mr. Heath and Lord Windlesham on behalf of the Celtic League.

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The Interceltic Summer School, held in Dublin from August 13th to 25th provided its - not numerous - participants with a well diversified and instructive course. The Irish language class was run very competently by Caitlin Maude (an interruption caused by a family bereavement, the death of Cathal O Luain's father, was averted thanks to Mathuin Mac 'heorais' help). Lectures of an excellent standard were given by Pdraig O Snodaigh. Conflict in Ulster).

by Rudd (The Sociology of Peripheral Areas), Michael Kane (Visual Arts in Ireland), and Pdraig O Fiannachta (The Appeal of Irish Poetry). (Their publication in booklet form is envisaged. The course, enlivened by film shows, excursions guided by P. O Cleirigh and M. Mac Aonghusa, and discussions, concluded with a friendly get-together in Tom Phaidi's house).

A second Interceltic Summer School is planned for 1973 in Ireland. The first half of July may be the best period. More time will be devoted to the introduction to Irish. Those interested should write soon to Caitlin Maude (till further notice t/c General Secretary, Celtic League).

Celtic League Addresses

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What Title to give our new periodical? It should be a Celtic name common to all Celtic languages and it should convey the idea that something is being built with the co-operation of many. A landmark on high ground which rises higher and higher as each climber brings a stone to it? What better word than CARN which has precisely that meaning in the Gaelic languages, also exists in the three Brittonic languages, and is moreover internationally known in the form "cairn". Any objection? Any other proposals? TIR & BRI? CELTICA?

Celtic Geography

Etymologically speaking the Welsh and Cornish should have no objection to the word "British". Allowing for the Strathclyde Britons and attested Brythonic elements in Ireland the Goidelic Celts ought not to object too strongly to the word, in its British Isles connotation. In fact, the word has been applied as a face-saver for England's Celtic fringe. Its function is to allow them to become assimilated with an easy conscience. "British Isles" tends to stick in Irish gullets, so that Irish people frequently speak of "These Islands". Should they travel far enough for "these" to become "those" they are once again in difficulties. It has been suggested that all Celtic League members should make a point of introducing a new term "The Celtic Islands", or better still, "Oileain Cheilteacha" or whatever is the appropriate term in their own language.

In terms of area these islands are predominantly Celtic. Although England has a population (consisting largely of assimilated Celts) well in excess of all the other countries combined, England was nevertheless Celtic when the English arrived. Use of this term would be an assertion that we reject the conditioning process to which we have been subjected and that we are no longer prepared to apologise for our very existence. There are many other terms devised or utilised as part of the assimilation process, be it English or French. It would be a useful exercise to consider them.

The Position of the Celtic League on matters of current concern in the Celtic countries was expressed in several resolutions involving among others -

- 1) A call to the people of Scotland and Wales to press for the withdrawal of the Scottish and Welsh army units from Northern Ireland.
- 2) Solidarity with the Breton workers in their struggle to secure (full employment and) an adequate standard of living in their own country.
- 3) A demand for the immediate release of Bretons and Irishmen held (in camps or jails) without trial for many months (contrary to basic human rights).
- 4) A recommendation that action similar to that initiated by Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg be carried out in other Celtic countries to stop the acquisition of land and houses by cheque book imperialists.
- 5) Co-operation between the Celtic League branches in forming a travel club, setting up a list of organisations engaging in Celtic activities and compiling a directory of people wishing to offer hospitality to visitors from other Celtic countries.
- 6) A criticism of Radio Telefis Eireann for their slanted reporting of Welsh affairs as when George Thomas was chosen to comment on actions carried out by Cymdeithas yr Iaith.
- 7) A demand for effective measures to make possible forthwith the use of Irish, Welsh, Scottish and Breton in public life throughout the *whole* of their respective countries.
- 8) A wish that the Secours Populaire Interceitque be developed with the help of Celtic League members into an organisation with branches in every Celtic country and with the aim of relieving distress resulting from political persecution and arrest of people fighting for the freedom of any of the Celtic nations.

- 9) Congratulations to Cornwall for successfully upholding her territorial integrity and for recent progress in promoting the Cornish language.
- 10) Support for the people of Ballymun, Dublin, in their efforts to establish an all-Irish school despite obstacles by the Department of Education.
- 11) A call to Celtic League Members to help extending participation in the Killarney Panceitc festival, valued as a meeting point for all Celtic nations.
- 12) Alarm at the increasing disproportion of alien to national students and staff members in the universities of the Celtic countries.

and

