

CELTIC NEWS



Alba Breizh Cymru Éire

Kernow Mannin

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ALBA.

Political Roundup.

The late spring and early summer period in Scotland has seen quite a quickening of political activity.

Local Elections.

Although the SNP percentage of votes gained in the local elections went up, it is not enough to gain seats.

In fact quite the reverse happened, with the downward trend of the past two years continuing and more seats being lost than gained. So much so that now all SNP representation in the cities has been lost. The principle beneficiary of this has been the U.K. Labour Party in Scotland, who regained most of the seats they lost to the National Party in 1968, thus making them again the majority party in Scotland in both parliamentary and local authority representation.

Where the quickening of political activity has been shown, is in the emergence of the beginnings of a broad front for self-government in Scotland. This was first made evident in the Scottish Trade Union Congress's Assembly in Edinburgh earlier in the year and further signs of it came at the Scottish Liberal Party's conference, when it was decided that their chairman Russel Johnson M.P. for Inverness should write to the chairman of all the political parties in Scotland.

This move was welcomed by the S. N. P. who indicated their willingness, to take part in an assembly of this sort provided the political balance was right. It was pointed out to the Liberals, that the moves in such a direction in August 1970, had been broken off unilaterally by the Liberal delegation. An interesting development is the proposed small nations conference in Edinburgh in the Autumn.

This would consist of small nations either in, or about to become members of the Common Market - these would be Norway, Denmark, the Benelux countries, the Twenty six and six counties and interestingly, Scotland and Wales. The objects of this conference would be to ensure that future E. E. C. development would be evenly distributed and not concentrated in a few favoured regions, with a large depressed latifundia behind them.

It is hoped that this conference will be organised by the Scottish branch of the European movement.

Preparations for the National Convention of Scotland are continuing. Bad news in the Scottish end of the British Steel Corporation; their share of planned redundancies over the next five years is to be a loss of over 7,000 jobs. There has been widespread condemnation of this butchery of the Scottish Steel Industry, even such party hacks as Willie Ross the former Secretary of State for Scotland, have been moved to call it brutal. The president of the S. N. P. Dr. Robert McIntyre has written to all Scottish M. P.s seeking their support for the National Partys' campaign for a Scottish Steel Corporation, run by and answerable to the people of Scotland. Dr. McIntyre commented that the cost of this corporation should be easily met by the profits accruing from the North Sea Oil, which are estimated to be likely to be , 2,000 million annually.

The S. N. P. have welcomed the recent announcement of proposals for a government sponsored industrial directorate for Scotland. The National Party however make some additions to these they are that Scotland should have a £10 million a year risk capital fund for native industry, the use of oil royalties within Scotland for Scottish purposes, and that the directorate should be answerable to the Scottish people and not to Westminster.

The S. N. P. have expressed support for Icelands' demand for a 50 mile limit for the protection of her fisheries, and against the Westminster sabre rattling bullying tactics, directed mainly on behalf of the greedy piratical trawling interests of Grimsby and Hull. Scotland in a very real sense has suffered in the same way as Iceland, the valuable Scottish fisheries having been subjected to the depredations of every foreign element from Russian to English.

The call for the removal of the dangerous nuclear armament concentration in the Clyde has been renewed recently, this time in the Glasgow and Edinburgh areas.

The Scottish branch of the Celtic League held its A. G. M. in Perth. Among the principal decisions taken was the affirmation of support for Lord Brockways Bill of Rights and Individual Freedom with regard to the Six Counties. The next most important thing to emerge from the meetings was the setting up within the framework of the League in Scotland of a body to known as the Gaelic Secretariat - the objects of which would be twofold, the first being one of the basic League ones of fostering inter-Celtic relations and the second to provide a liason with bodies concerned about Gaelic in Scotland e.g. Comunn na Canain Albannaich (Scottish Language Society). A full committee was set up for the first time with geographical representation throughout Scotland, the Chairman is Archie MacPherson of Edinburgh and the old "Celtic Time".

Jimmy Reid the U. C. S. work in leader was elected to the Lord Rectorship of Glasgow University. In his inaugural speech he made a swinging attack on the rat-race values of the present day acquisitive society. This caught the admiration of a number of reverend gentlemen, to whom it should have been a salutary reminder of the true meaning of their religion, and a disuasion from a tendency all too many of them have shown to curry the favours of the great.

The Scottish Watch, 1,320 Club and the Scottish Activists have brought out a Scottish award scheme to be made each year on the anniversary of the Declaration of Arbroath 1,320. This is meant to be based on real merit, as opposed to the jobbery of the British Honours List system. There are to be two types of award firstly the Honour of Scotland for those who have

furthered the interests of the Scottish people, and the Alba Targe for outstanding bravery or patriotism. Among those nominated for the Honour of Scotland is shop steward Jimmy Reid leader of the U.C.S. work-in, and for the Alba Targe veteran nationalist Bailie Robert Gray (of Stone of Desting fame).

BREIZH.

UNITED AGAINST EXPLOITATION.

The past 3-4 months witnessed the intensification of Breton resistance to exploitation, colonisation and cultural assimilation. Our people are fighting for their right to a decent life in Brittany, whether in industry and trade or in agriculture.

"JOINT FRANCAIS". An 8 week strike staged by 900 workers at the washer factory "Joint Francais" in Sant-Brieg succeeded thanks to the massive support given to the strikers all over Brittany. The factory, set up about 10 years ago with the help of local and State subsidies to industrial decentralisation, is a branch of the Compagnie Generale d'Electricite which controls 115 firms in France and other EEC countries. The CGE directors are prominent in the Comite National du Patronat Francais and known for their tough attitude towards workers' claims. The workers at this "Joint" were paid about £60 a month, one of the lowest wages in Brittany and 20-40% less than that of workers in the same firm in the Paris area. A further grievance is that the management is in Paris, almost inaccessible to the workers who have the strong feeling of being ignored and despised.

Their claims included a pay rise of 0.70 fr/hr. They were met by blank refusals and threats of closure coupled with pressure on their families and the intervention of CRS police. Wage rises, they were told - as so often in underdeveloped countries - would undermine competitiveness: this was hardly credible in view of the size of CGE and its profits margins. When the distant management eventually realized the strength of the workers position, they conceded a 0.65 fr/hr rise. This strength lay in the solidarity of the Breton people, which materialized to degree unknown in recent times.

The strikers were given a less than lukewarm support by the CG (controlled by the French Communist Party) but was backed by the other main trade union, the CFDT. The determinant factor however was the practical measures of support taken by various sections of the Breton people, farmers, shopkeepers, schoolgoers, clergy, etc. As early as the first week, the workers families were supplied with free foodstuffs by farmers from around St-Brieg. Demonstrations, such as those in St-Brieg on April 17 (attended by 12,000 people) and in Brest, Kemper, Pontivy, An Oriant on May 3, as well as the collection of money amounting to £70,000 which made it possible to pay each worker a £5 a week allowance, made it evident that the strike could have gone on indefinitely.

Very little support came from outside Brittany. In any case the sense of Breton community received a further boost a leftist paper writes that it has now provided the Breton movement with a real popular basis. A statement on behalf of the main workers and farmers' unions leaves no doubt that all the Breton people were concerned. The closure-blackmail and the arguments based on considerations of competitiveness were being rejected. It is noted that the Breton organisations which more or less tacitly accept the market economy took no active part in the demonstrations of solidarity, although the delegation from the St-Brieg joint to the First-of-May March in Paris was headed by a group carrying Breton flags.

"They won because they were Bretons and all Brittany supported them financially and materially, recognising it was her struggle. Politicians felt the ground shifting under their feet. Brittany is a region like the others: her national consciousness is not dead. Lesson: when striking, make it a matter of justice for all in the region". (La Cause du Peuple).

IN OTHER FACTORIES.

A strike by 750 workers at the J. Paris factory (metallic construction) in Nantes failed because of combined CGT and employee

pressure and limited solidarity among the population (the size and more diluted Breton character of Nantes may account for this). But the "Joint" experience prompted other employers to a better understanding of their workers' claims. 500 people on strike for better pay and working conditions at the Mauduit paper mills in Kemperle won after 10 days when a movement of solidarity had started to develop. The workers proclaimed they were striking for all the Breton workers. Pay rises were also granted in St-Brieg, Pontivi, Loudieg, Mur, Lannuon for fear of alliances between farmers and factory workers.

ARRESTS AND TRIALS.

Over the past 18 bomb attacks took place mainly in the East of Brittany. They were directed against a firm engaged in importing low-price Portuguese and Moroccan sardines, firms opposed to the farmers during the milk struggle, firms hiring machinery for the of edges. These attacks were not "signed" nor were they properly explained to the people. An explosion completely wrecked a luxurious villa built on the coast near St-Malo in spite of prohibition by public services in Rennes - a stretch of public beach had also been appropriated by its owner, an architect with "good" connections in the government. 13 men of various ages and professions were arrested and deferred to La Santé prison, Paris. Two of them, the brothers Gourves, refused to speak French. After 2 months, 6 are still interned without trial. Does French "justice" not dare to face their accusations?

The readers of CELTIC NEWS who share the stand taken by the priests of the association "Beleien Vreizh", that violence and revolt are the consequence of the prolonged violation of fundamental human rights committed by those responsible for the country's economic, social and cultural degradation, are asked to support the demand for the unconditional release of the prisoners, contribute to a fund to support their families. Skoazell Vreizh, BNP - Champ Jacquet, 35 Rennes, (Postal Account CCP 202-22 Rennes, and/or write to them 147 rue de la Santé, 75-Paris XIV: Yves Gourves, 2e Division, Cellule 143; Jean Charpentier, 1re Div., Cellule 76; Maurice Drouin, 1re Div., Cell. 37; Jean Yves Gaultier, 1rd Div., Cell. 82; Joseph Souvestre, 2e Div., Cell. 40; Jean Yves Le Soueff, 2e Div., Cell 111.

Gw. Durand and R. Guenard (see CN31) were retried in Rennes and given heavier sentences (Durand 7 months jail plus five months with suspension). Durand reiterated the political motivation for this act. Following a demonstration by 200 people during this trial, the parish priest of Gomenec'h-Trevereg, Fr. Le Breton, was arrested for alleged participation in an "armed gathering". Only the police was armed! Stones were thrown at them, and the Breton flag was hoisted on the Rennes townhall. Later 700 people attended a hall meeting.

The socialist Union Democratique Bretonne while understanding a recourse to violence warns against believing that the Breton people are not aware of their alienation and ready for revolution. By engaging in ill-explained violent actions there is a risk of cutting oneself off from the people and facilitating repression. "The emphasis must be on patient information". In a communique issued by the 6 men jailed in La Santé, they denounce France's use of its colonies for nuclear tests and point out that Bretons also suffer economically from the installation of atomic military bases around Brest.

In spite of French control of information media there are signs that the full extent of the Breton problem is being gradually understood. Singers, singing new songs with themes of Breton actuality as well as traditional ones, are in constant demand. Names like Stivell Servat, Gweltaz (who sings mainly in Breton) are now common currency. Books, films, plays with Breton subjects are increasingly popular.

Galv Marches, of 20-25 Km aiming at informing the people of 6 basic demands for the teaching of Breton and its use in Radio and T.V., took place in various parts of Brittany on March 26 from Gelveneg to Pont 'n Abad, at the end of April in Lannuon, on May 7 from Brest to Lokronan/Leon and from Gregam to an Alre on May 21 from Gemene to Pontivi. They were attended by a number of people ranging from 100 to 200, and marked by halts in villages to give explanatory speeches as well by distributions of leaflets along the routes. They were well received by the population.

The number of students taking the optional Breton test in the secondary school leaving certificate has risen from 400 in 1969 to over 900 this year. There were candidates in all centres of "Region Brittany" but two. In some centres (Landerneve, Mont-roulez, Lannuon) $\frac{1}{4}$ or $\frac{1}{5}$ of the students entered for the test.

The Association "Kevredigezh an Deskadurezh Nevez" recorded at a meeting on June 11 an increase in the number of pupils wanting to learn Breton. In most types of secondary schools, Breton cannot yet be taught as part of the curriculum. The Council of the University of Rennes has now unanimously voted in favour of creating a degree in Breton and Celtic studies. But the decision rests with the French Educational Authorities.

A collection is being organised in order to build a tombstone on the grave of Fr. FALVEZ. The inscription will be in both Breton and Welsh. Those who wish to contribute to honour the memory of this dedicated Breton and Celt should send their contribution to Fanch Le Moal, Kroaz an Ti Forn, 22 Plouagat-Chatelaudren, CCP 2639-81 Rennes

BRETON-IRISH SOLIDARITY.

Of the money collected by the Breton branch of the Celtic League for the Relief of Distress in Northern Ireland, £160 have been sent to N.I.C.R.A., £40 to Comhaltas Uladh, £25 to the Co. Derry Dependents Fund, £40 to Frank McManus M.P., for the Northern Resistance Movement, £40 to Comhaltas Tithíochta Sráid Bombay, 41 houses destroyed in this street in 1969. Assurances were received that these monies would be used for non-violent purposes. J. Derouet is being consulted about the distribution of another £100.

For news of the Basque struggle for Freedom, read Euskal-Elkargoa, 16, rue de la République, St-Jean-de-Luz, "France", CCP 4436 54 Bordeaux.

CYMRU

CWM SENNI: On the 15th. June came the news that the Severn River authority had called off its campaign against the people of CWM SENNI (Breckon). The campaign to drown the valley had lasted nine years and the people deserve the highest praise for the restraint they showed in the face of provocation and devious attempts at destruction. Farmers refused to let English government engineers and technicians onto the land (and they had a warrant too) with tractors and cars. One hundred and fifty members of the Language society came to help.

Two main factors saved the valley-local steadfastness and the strength of the national party. Glyn Powell however, secretary of the defence committee attributed the turning point of the battle to the positive support given by the Welsh language society.

MERCHED Y WAWR. On the 26th. August three busloads of Merched Y Wawr will leave for Breizh where they will be staying in one of the hostels at Rennes university. From there they will visit Mont St., Michel, Fougères, St. Malo, Dinard, Forêt de Brocéliande, Meini, Carnac, Vannes, La Baule and the old Parliament Buildings in Rennes.

Mer Denez of the Celtic department of Rennes university will give a lecture in Welsh to the party and will also assist in arranging a social evening in Breton and Welsh.

Commemoration: A Commemoration was held at the town of ABERGELE on July 1st. in memory of the two patriots, ALWYN JONES and GEORGE TAYLOR who tragically received fatal injuries from explosives whilst engaged in the operation to stop the train carrying the English. Prince Charles reaching Caernarfon where he was invested as 'Prince of Wales'.

Both men were officers in M.A.C. (Mudiad Achub Cymru) It will be remembered that during this time the English secret police were thick on the ground in Wales and the ceremony at Caernarfon castle could be performed only in the presence of thousands of armed troops and police; helicopters and mine sweepers.

Their sacrifice shall not be in vain. For such men give our National Anthem's last two lines their true meaning:

"Ein gwrol ryfelwyr gwladgarwyr tra mad,
Dros ryddid collasant eu gwaed".
(Her manly warriors, patriots so fine,
for freedom they shed their blood).

CYMRDEITHAS YR IAITH. There will be no let up by the Language Society in their fight against anglicization. This was made clear by two members recently released from an English prison. In the past month there were seven different court cases where fifteen members were prosecuted and many more are pending. Although scant coverage is given in the English media the Westminster government is clearly agitated by the number of magistrates who refuse to convict.

Indeed in one instance the chairman of the bench stated that he considered it to be a privilege to be present to listen to the evidence given by the accused. He further stated that his opinion was shared unanimously by the bench itself. All charged were members of the language society and were unconditionally released. Clearly the Welsh people are taking a vote of confidence in themselves.

Occupied Ireland. It is to be hoped that never again will Welshmen and Scots have to be involved in the English campaign in occupied Ireland. It is indeed tragic that any person has to lose his life in a war that should not be necessary. And for Wales, even more so since our fellow countrymen who enrolled in the English army were despatched to suppress their fellow Celts' yearning for freedom. Perhaps the idea was to involve as many Scots and Welsh as possible in this campaign. We take the opportunity through the medium of the Celtic News to assure the Irish nation Protestant and Catholic alike that the Welsh people had nothing but contempt for the late and unlamented and corrupt unionist parliament and to record our apologies for any atrocities committed by so-called Welsh soldiers against their fellow Celts.

PLANET 12. will be on sale soon. This issue will be dealing with courts, the protestors, the language, the police, magistrates and judges, the law and the secret police. The issue will also contain letters written by the English Lord Chancellor to Mrs. Margaret Davies, a Swansea justice of the peace, and her letters to him. Dr. Phil Williams relates the activities of the English secret service in Wales during the investiture and much more. A copy can be obtained from PLANET, LLANGETHO, TREGARON, CEREDIGION, WALES, price 30p.

POLITICAL BROADCASTS. Plaid Cymru is pressing the English government for an extension of T.V. political broadcasting time from the present five minutes a year to thirty minutes a year.

The general secretary of Plaid, Mr. Dafydd Williams has had talks with English government officials when he pointed out that thirty minutes a year is only half the time granted to unionist parties and only ten minutes more than that given to the almost defunct Liberal party whose vote was about half that of Plaid at the last general election.

The present arrangements appear to be governed by 'Aide Memoir' - written in 1947.

Westminster administration knows when and how to move. A question in the English parliament revealed that the Ministry of Defence has 20,058 acres of freehold land in Wales and 1,602 acres on lease and that the forestry commission has 398,000 acres of land either owned or obtained on a 999 year lease.

The figures recording the receipts of profits (that go to England) from Welsh water, electricity, iron and steel etc. are not readily available.

SALE OF MANX LAND TO SPECULATORS

More evidence that Manx people are becoming seriously worried about the sale of agricultural land to building "developers" was produced recently by Mr. Jack Nivison, a member of the Legislative Council (the Manx "Upper House"). Mr. Nivison was reported to have been "inundated" with telephone calls and letters after he had made a speech which was critical of the current boom in land sales in Mann. Mr. Nivison said in Tynwald on

the 27th June that "people are very concerned about the change of ownership of land within the Island, particularly during the last year". Mr. Nivison did not go as far as many Manx people might wish at present in that he said supported the idea of attracting new residents and developing Mann, but he thought the Manx Government should examine the land question. These comments were made during the debate on a bill designed to discourage speculators from investing in agricultural land, increasing its value by application for building planning approval. Unfortunately, Mr. Nivison must have been somewhat unsatisfied with his fellow legislators: although the bill seems likely to go through, its implementation will be delayed by the lack of efficient planning machinery in Mann.

ÉIRE.

The Referendum.

The Fianna Fáil party has been described as the most well organised political party in Europe. It has held office with very short intermissions over the past 40 years. The 26 county electorate has demonstrated unwillingness to follow its normal voting pattern where referenda are concerned. Twice moves to replace Proportional Representation by a straight vote system in the interest of "strong government" were repudiated. Some of us had hoped that despite all indications to the contrary, this lead might have been followed when the decision whether or not to join the Common Market was put to the electorate. In this instance Fianna Fáil had the full support of Fine Gael, the main opposition party, so that the result was something like four to one in favour of what had been depicted as the necessity for joining. An affirmative vote was claimed as being also a vote towards Irish unity. In fact Dublin's adhesion will have the effect of a legal guarantee for the border by both Dublin and London. Opting out would have resulted in European pressure being applied on Westminster to drop its hot Irish potato. On balance 6 County Unionist opinion seems to be against entry. Either the systematic circularisation of all 6 County voters or even a token invitation for postal votes would have been an excellent and non-violent way for Mr. Lynch to have affirmed the principle of Irish unity. Accepting the likelihood of a Unionist boycott,

it would still have been an opportunity for them to have expressed their viewpoint on a crucial matter on which their Westminster masters had no intention of consulting them.

Opposition to the EEC was depicted as parochialism, despite the fact that the Government's own "European" feeling waxed and waned, according to the fortunes of the English application. Withdrawal by Westminster would have inevitably led to a Dublin withdrawal. It was not surprising therefore that no action which might have rocked the English board was seriously considered. Theoretically, a reorientation away from England and across the Channel would be very healthy. However, for undeveloped economies, such as Ireland, the EEC, which hinges on profits as distinct from peoples, can only help to exacerbate existing social ills. Individuals will have the possibility of emigration to the European mainland, but in default of an English slump our cultural conquest will ensure that emigration continues mainly to England. Unlike Scotland and Wales the 26 Counties will have a direct voice. Even so, the government's record now when it can exercise full authority does not auger well for its exercise of a purely marginal influence at Brussels.

The Dublin tightrope.

Mr. Lynch has had a very bad press in England. In fairness to him, while balancing on a political tightrope, he has invariably backed up English policy to whatever extent he judged public opinion would accept this. In many instances it was the English press which forced him into reluctantly taking something remotely approaching a hard line. When the English army was maintaining its own reign of terror, Senator Kennedy, well briefed on the situation, was far more successful in attracting attention to it than were the Dublin government's accredited, but inhibited agents. In accordance with his policy of causing a minimum of embarrassment to his English counterparts, Mr. Lynch observed that the senator was out of touch! Incidentally, can we now expect a retraction by the 101 English journalists who observed that Kennedy's Irish pronouncements were merely a run up to the American presidential circus?

Almost inversely with easing of pressure by the English military the Lynch government put its own Special Powers (actually 'Offences against the State Act') into operation. Many republicans have been detained for long periods without trial, and when they are tried eventually it is by special courts. Diarmuid Ó Súilleabháin, one of our most prominent writers, had just been released, after 3 months, having been sentenced to a retrospective 3 months for a 'seditious speech'. Our Welsh friends have rightly complained that members of the Welsh Language Society in prison were forced to speak English with their visitors. Under what purports to be an Irish government, republican internees are being subjected to the same dilemma of compulsory English or no visitors. Earlier this year some concern was expressed that the government had placed a contract with the Swiss Markpress agency that publicised the Biafran case. One of its first exercises was to publicise an editorial from the London "Times" which gave Mr. Lynch a patronising pat on the back for enforcing his 'enlightened' offences against the state legislation!

The English Police State.

It was a convention that England's Army, despite its class structure, was strictly apolitical. In 1914 the Curragh "mutiny" was a departure from this tradition and helped give birth to the 6 County state. Ulster has again acted as a catalyst for politicising the English Army. Officers with service in Aden, Cyprus, Kenya and Malaya evolved their own intelligence system and an innocuous-sounding jargon which connotes methods in no way consonant with the Geneva Convention. Instead of cowering resistance this brutality stimulated recruitment for the IRA.

Brigadier Kitson, chief theorist of this "special police" role for the English Army, aroused some misgivings with his writings and utterances. Despite it being raised in the House of Commons, no disciplinary action was taken and Kitson remains in his new and influential post as commandant of the School of Infantry. It is apparent that England's Army will eventually be applying its Kitsonian training in Scotland, Wales and England itself. Again somewhat

helped by the Irish situation, the view has been growing that the present legal philosophy would give place to the concept of guilty until proved innocent. England's flabby liberals have had little to say about all this and will have themselves to blame when England develops into a fully fledged police state.

Killing with Kindness.

Despite rigid unofficial censorship in the "British" press, Stormont and Kitsonism became more and more embarrassing to the English government. Bloody Sunday, even allowing for the Widgery exercise in whitewashing was probably the turning point. The way in which the Report on Widgery by Professor Dash was suppressed is in itself retrospective evidence of this embarrassment. The new supremo, Mr Whitelaw, has demonstrated an extraordinary subtlety and has completely abandoned the boneheaded approach. Playing it by ear, even at this late stage, his astuteness gives him a great edge over his three predecessors. The other factor is that apart from loss of face the 6 Counties are becoming much more of a liability than an asset. There has already been some element of sectarian skirmishing and the possibility of actual sectarian warfare obviates any glib optimism. At the same time the ever-threatening Protestant Backlash has taken the form of Protestant no-go areas. This is a perverted variety of Sinn Féin and both subjectively and objectively makes nonsense of claims to be "British". And the logic of events will tend to dictate drastic rethinking. A Protestant "IRA" is bound to antagonise both the English government and English public opinion. UDI would be difficult, involving loss of the Welfare State structure and estrangement of the middle class. There is bound to be some thought about the relative desirability of being a very small and essentially nuisance category minority in a not so United Kingdom and being a large minority whose influence must be considered in an All-Ireland context.

KERNOW

Kernow was represented at the Killarney Pan-Celtic Week by the popular Cornish singer Mrs. Brenda Wooton. A selection of Cornish literature was also displayed.

Mrs. Wooton hopes to organise one or two concerts in Cornwall to which artistes from other Celtic countries will be invited. It is felt here that the Pan-Celtic week was an important contribution to Celtic unity.

Developers/Destroyers.

The general depression in the United Kingdom is, in Cornwall, aggravated by an increase in English economic penetration. The recent relaxation of credit restrictions has brought in a shoal of developers who are prepared to destroy Cornwall's amenities and prejudice its future industrial development in order to make quick profits by setting up holiday camps, chalets and the like. Some of these development plans seem to have obtained planning permission before the public became aware of their existence: a deepening cause of anger and anxiety.

The housing shortage is worsened by the practice of well-to-do English people buying cottages and houses for occupation only in the summer and leaving them empty in the winter. This practice is emptying some sea-side hamlets and forcing Cornish people inland. The fact that many of these houses are modernised with the aid of improvement grants from local authorities does not make the position any more acceptable. Unemployment in Cornwall is excessively high. "The Cornish Nation" gives the figure on March 13th. as 7.8% as against the average for

Great Britain of 4.3%. Now (July 2nd) it has been announced by Falmouth works are to be closed with the consequence that approximately 1,500 people will be put out of work.

Resistance.

To meet the situation Mebyon Kernow is forming a number of independent groups of activists up and down the country to support any pro-Cornwall action and to oppose anything anti-Cornish, they will also organise support for local authority councillors who are seeking to stem the "invasion".

GENERAL SECTION

Preview of the 1972 Annual Volume of the Celtic League.

The 1972 Volume, due this month, will have about 140 pages. It will we hope contain contributions under the following titles:

General Section: Guide to Celtic History (S. Ó hEartáin); Celtic sport

specialities (L. Mac Nair Smith); The Midas Menace (Keith Bucha Cultural Liquidation (Mac Mhuirich Mac Auslan); Towards a Celtic Federation (Dr. Whetter); Similarities between the Celtic Language (L. Mac Mathúna);

Cymru: The proud Plaid (Joan Young); Cilmeri (A. Edwards); Wel without tears (Fishlock); Welsh Extremist (Hagman); Welsh Language (Gw. Evans); the Urdd at 50 (Hughes); Free Wales (Evans); (this section may be shorter).

Alba: The School in Gaelic Scotland (K. Mac Kinnon); Resurrection a culture (F. Mac Thomáís);

Breizh: 1532: International Treaty (M.A. Kerhuel); The Teaching Breton to-day (A. ar Beg); Emsav 1972 (Y. Olier); Relevance of Language in the Breton struggle (Ph. Sollicec); Secours Populaire Interique (P. Monjarret).

Éire: Irish Language in County Down (P. Mac Con Midhe); New Ireland (Seamus Ó Tuathail); After the Referendum (P. Ó Snodaigh Oireachtas na Gaeilge (M. Mac Aonghusa);

Kernow: The Cornish border (J. Fleet); Cornish Cultural Revival (D. Rawe); Cornwall out on an English Limb (Anon); A millenium Cornish society (Soulsby). There is also a Manx contribution. Articles in the Celtic Languages include: Gaidhlig 's an Fhichich (G.N. Burns); Scubyon (Tim Saunders); Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gym (In Irish, by M. Mac Aonghusa); poems in Breton (with Irish or English translations).

In view of uncertainties resulting from the present disruption of the Welsh branch, and delays in renewing subscriptions, only 1000 copies will be printed this year. We urge those who have not yet sent us their sub. for 1972 to do so without delay if they wish to make use of receiving a copy of this interesting volume. Paid up members will receive their copies at the latest during September (allowing holidays and Summer gatherings).

THE INTERCELTIC SUMMER SCHOOL, being organised by the Irish branch of the Celtic League will take place from August 13 to 25 in Craobh na gCúig Cúigí, 19 Ely Place, Dublin but a last minute change of venue is possible. The programme includes:

Every morning, Irish Language classes for beginners (including films); afternoons and Evenings: three lectures on Irish history, two on literature in Irish, two on Irish music, two on the Irish Tradition and Folklore, one on Irish Theatre, two on Irish current affairs. They will be followed by discussions. Tours will be organised to places of interest in Dublin, Wicklow, the Boyne Valley and perhaps to the Conemara Gaeltacht. This programme allows for possible alterations but its pattern is definite. Write to the organiser, Caitlín Maude, 51 Páirc Lansdúin, Baile Átha Cliath 4 as soon as possible (accommodation will not be arranged unless a deposit is forwarded well in time before).

THE CELTIC LEAGUE ANNUAL CONFERENCE will take place in Dublin on Saturday and Sunday 26 and 27 August. Intending participants should write to the secretary general or phone Dublin 373957 for further information. The agenda will include: Amendments to the Celtic League Constitution; Reorganisation of the Celtic League; The Celtic League and the problem of Northern Ireland; publication of broadsheets of supplement Celtic News and the annual volume.

Proposals for the amendment of Celtic League Constitution were to be submitted to the secretary general before the end of June. The following have been received:

From the Irish branch secretary: delete point 15a; amend 19 to: "The minimum membership fee will be decided each year at the A.G.M."; and 20 to "This constitution is adopted subject to triennial review or to annual review of not more than one hour at the discretion of the general secretary".

These proposals are seconded by the Breton branch secretary.

The new Cornish secretary proposes amending 4c, 12, 15d, 16a and b in case of branches where frequent or regular meetings take place in such a way that "every member who normally attends these meetings is considered a member of the branch committee"; and 13 to ensure against collusion between chairman and secretary.

The editor of the annual volume proposes the replacement of Celtic News and the annual by a printed quarterly or a two-monthly periodical, total publication and distribution costs remaining the same as at present (Amendment to 4a, 5a, 8, 9).

Mr. J. Legonna (Kernow) proposes (1) Celtic News and Annual Volume to be

replaced by a periodical of news and views in two editions (French and English, but otherwise identical); (2) General Council meetings to be regularly held at a central place; (3) the role of the president and vice-presidents to be entirely advisory and honorary.

All members are invited to the conference, or if they cannot attend to communicate briefly their views on these proposals to the secretary general, together with proposals for the agenda, not later than August 13th.

BRANCH SECRETARIES. At the AGM of the Cornish Branch (14/6/72), Mr. R.C. Boyd was appointed Branch secretary in succession to Mr. R. Jenkin who became assistant secretary. The Secretary General wishes to express warmest thanks on behalf of the League to Mr. Jenkin for the great punctuality with which he carried out his Celtic League work over the past year.

We regret to announce that the appointment of Mr. J.G. Jones as Welsh Branch secretary had to be cancelled because of a breakdown in communication. We are striving to reorganise the Welsh branch and trust that its members will continue to support us. Our appeal to those who have not yet paid their sub. for 1972 is especially directed to those who were getting our publications from the Welsh Branch secretary.

A new Welsh secretary and sub-editor will be appointed after proper consultations. Meanwhile, cheques and P.O.'s should be addressed to THE CELTIC LEAGUE, c/o A. Heussaff (Dr. N. Davies will change her address after September).

CELTIC LEAGUE ADDRESSES.

Sec. Gen. A. Heussaff, 9 Br. Chnoc Síon, Baile Átha Cliath 9.

Editor, Celtic News: P. Ó Snodaigh, 127 Bóthar na Trá, Dumbach Trá, Baile Átha Cliath 4.

Editor, Annual Volume: F.G. Mac Thomáis, Arnish, 31 Braeside Park, Balloch, Inbhir Nis, Alba/Scotland.

Branch Secretaries: Alba: Mrs. Donovan, 9 Balgyleish Rd., Dundee;

Breizh: J. Derouet, 1 rue G. Andre, 44 Nantes (Postal orders to CCP J. Derouet 3264-47 Nantes); Éire: Cathal Ó Luain, 51 Páirc Lansdúin,

Baile Átha Cliath 4; Kernow: R.C. Boyd, Meadowsweet, Spar Lane, Illogan, Redruth; London: J. Rhyd Humphreys, 113 Loveday Road, Ealing, W.13. A promising start has been made by a Celtic League group in Coleg Normal, Bangor (sec. Miss Ceri Williams, Hafryn, Heol Gaeglas, Rhuthun, Sir Ddinbych, N. Wales - holiday address); the chairman of the local Glasgow branch is Mr. J. Tait, 5 Manse View, Coalburn, nr Glasgow; members in the New York area should contact Mr. M. Burke, Hunter Keltic Club, 695 Park Ave., New York, NY 10021 or Mr. W. Stock 1018 Cypress Ave., Ridgewood NY 11227; in California: Mr. M. Dillon, 257 No. Arrowhead Ave., Rialto, California 92376. Contact has been renewed with M. J. Irving Mannin, we hope in consultation with him to appoint soon a new secretary.

STAMPS "BREIZH-IWERZHON" "Emglev an tiegezhioù", the association of Breton-speaking families, has printed two stamps to be sold with a view to help relieving distress in Northern Ireland. Time permitting, a sample of each stamp will be distributed with each copy of this issue of Celtic News. The smaller represents the Breton hermin and the Irish shamrock interwoven and is valued 4p; the other represents the coming of Irish monks and poets to Brittany at the time of the Breton immigration from Britian, it is valued 8p. There is of course no obligation on those receiving these stamps, but if you wish to contribute to the effort made by A. Louarn of E. a.T. and the Breton Branch of Celtic League on behalf of the Irish in need, you could send a donation, however small, to A. Heusaff. More stamps can be supplied on request. They are dark green on a white background. Design by R. Bertheli.

A party of Welsh-speaking students of Irish (beginners) will spend a week in the Cúil Aodha Gaeltacht, from August 13 to 19. Contact Barra Ó Toibín, 33 Clare St., Riverside, Cardiff, or Miss Janice Williams, An Teaglann, UCD, Belfield, Dublin.

Readers interested in the campaign for bilingual road signs in Wales should read a 76 page bilingual report published by Cwmni Gwasg Rydd Caerdydd, 127, Ffordd y Claude, Y Rhath, Caerdydd, under the title "Symbolau Cyfiawnder, 20p plus postage.

18-2-72

Torture and Brutality in Northern Ireland

Two priests from Northern Ireland , Fr Raymond Murray (chaplain at the Armagh Jail) and Fr Denis Faul (Dungannon, who has repeatedly denounced the abuses committed by the Stormont regime) , have released for publication detailed statements by about two dozen men now being held in remand in Armagh Jail. They describe the torture and brutality inflicted on them in Palace Barracks, Hollywood, and in Girdwood Barracks where they were detained for interrogation before being brought to court and committed to prison .

These are recent cases : they occurred between November 1971 and the end of January 1972.

"Medical evidence available for a number of the prisoners confirm that their injuries are consistent with the stories they tell in their statements ", say the priests .

They reveal that the brutalities and tortures were inflicted by British Army personnel and police personnel, particularly by members of the Special Branch of the R.U.C. Some of these were identified by the prisoners. The names have been erased from the published statements but they have been communicated to the appropriate authorities .

The allegations follow such a consistent pattern that they leave no doubt about their veracity . All the detainees were beaten, in some cases brutally and severely over 48 hours . They were made to stand or rather to lean against a wall for hours , with their legs spread out at a distance of a yard from the wall and leaning with their fingertips against the latter . They were beaten on all parts of the body but especially on the stomach and genitals . Those who resisted this treatment were drugged with the result that they experienced various hallucinations , and a few were subjected to electric shocks of increasing intensity . Lack of sleep, of food , heating , threats of shooting and actual shooting with blank ammunition , false expressions of concern over their suffering, hooding, all these are part of an interrogation technique designed to disorientate and disintegrate the personality of the detainees . It should be noted that in many cases the latter were simply involved in political activity , and all the torture applied to them did not result in their signing any statement confessing to participation in violent actions. Some who were badly beaten were subsequently threatened into signing statements that their injuries had been caused prior to arrest and that they had no complaints to make . A number of the men had to be taken to hospital immediately after they had signed statements at the end of their interrogation and had to be kept there for periods of up to a week . The two above mentioned priests testify to having observed severe bruising on the body of prisoners .

Copies of the statements made by the prisoners , their names and addresses prior to arrest , and other documentation can be supplied .We draw particular attention to the printed publication " The Mailed Fist -- a (72-page) Record of Army and police brutality from Aug.9 to Nov.9, 1971" issued this month by The Campaign for Social Justice in Northern Ireland , Castlefields ,Dungannon ,Co. Tyrone ,Ireland ,which after surveying the use of brutality and torture on prisoners in Northern Ireland and the principal methods of torture used gives numerous attested statements by internees .The book also contains a critical review of the Compton Enquiry ,a statement by Amnesty International and documentation of the hooded treatment given to 11 men subsequent to the introduction of internment , during a period of seven days ,

Referring to the medical checks carried out on detainees in Palace Barracks and Girdwood Barracks between the bouts of beating,Fr Murray and Fr Faul state (31-1-72) :

"We find the participation of British Army doctors in the conducting of interrogations of the kind outlined in our inclosures to be unethical . We are convinced that the chief purpose of the medical examination prior to interrogation is to ascertain the fitness of the man to stand up to brutality ...These doctors are playing a conspicuous part in the infliction of brutality upon detaineesbecause without their co-operation it would be difficult for the police and soldiers to give ill-treatment to so many men in 48 hour periods.

"The medical examination at the end of the 48 hours ,prior to a removal to a place of detention,appears to be of a most cursory kind,and its main purpose seems to be to minimise or to provide false excuses for the injuries received ...

"In Northern Ireland the Catholic community feel that the doctor who supervised the torture of 11 "hooded" men (Compton Report) is unworthy to remain a member of the medical profession . (The same applies to the doctors who were on duty on Aug.9 and 10. 1971 in Ballykinlar Camp and Girdwood Barracks 2% of the adult Catholic population have been arrested and interrogated by the British Army and the R.U.C. Our community is deeply disturbed by well-proven stories of brutality and the part played in them by medical personnel .

"We wish to draw your attention to internationally accepted ethical principles of the medical profession which we feel to have been violated : - the oath of Hippocrates : "I will abstain from all intentional wrongdoing or harm,especially from abusing the bodies of man or woman,bond or free."

International Code of Medical Ethics ..."Under no circumstances is a doctor permitted to do anything that would weaken the physical or mental resistance of a human being".(adopted by World Medical Association,1949).

Declaration of Geneva ,1948 "Even under threat I will not use my medical knowledge contrary to the law of humanity.."

"We invite the British Medical Association and the Medical Practitioners Union, Britain,to investigate these serious allegations against members of the medical profession ".

The case of William Moore,who was awarded maximum damages on Friday18-2-72 for wrongful arrest and "deliberate,unlawful and harsh "treatment in Ballykinlar in the action he brought against the British Ministry of Defence and the Chief Constable of the R.U.C.,is undoubtedly typical and illustrates the scant regard in which the law is held by these who pretend to uphold it.