

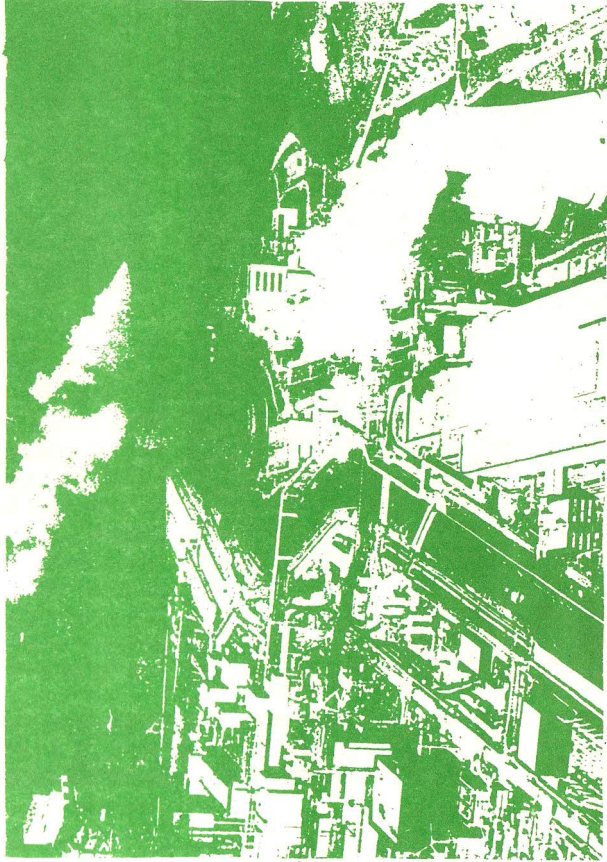
# ANIRIAL

Belfast Anarchist Bi-monthly March/April No. 3

Six Counties 15p  
Elsewhere 20p

**SELLAFIELD  
SHITS ON  
OUR SHORES**

**CONTENTS**  
**Anglo-Irish,  
Lignite,  
Germany,  
Supergrass.**





## WELCOME BACK!

Welcome back to Ainriail! This issue, our third, has been brought out after a gap of some five months. The reasons for such a delay are varied, but mainly it is due to the small number of us involved, and our commitments to other political projects.

We are attempting once again to bring out the paper on a regular basis, in a less ambitious way, by making it bi-monthly.

We invite anyone who shares our politics to contribute, either by passing information, writing articles, sending graphics. We welcome criticism which will contribute to constructive debate.

If you would like to join us, or even just to find out more about our group, then write to -

AINRIAIL,  
c/o Just Books,  
7, Winetavern St.,  
Belfast 1.



## Campaign Videos

A weekend of video screenings, with the theme of 'campaign videos', will be held in Conway Mill, Belfast, on the 22nd and 23rd March.

Work from Derry and Dublin, as well as Belfast, will be shown; and subjects covered will include plastic bullets, strip-searches, women and health, and 'supergrasses'.

Discussions, ranging from broadcast television to community campaigns, will be an integral part of the weekend.

Admission is free; further information can be had from NIFVA, c/o 9, Winetavern St. telephone 245495.

## Anglo-Irish Accordion Band

The recent loyalist strike has been the highest point, so far, of loyalist opposition to the Anglo-Irish Accord. But the strike itself threatens to break the previous loyalist unity. The nature of the Accord, and responses to it, are the latest developments in an increasing conflict between the British state and loyalism as to Britain's role in Ireland.

**Sunningdale** — The British and Irish states have been trying unsuccessfully, individually and together, to stabilise the North. The most successful joint effort to date has been the Sunningdale Agreement of 1973. On that occasion the involvement of the Official Unionists was both an advantage and a handicap. Their resignation from the Assembly proved to be the breaking of the

weakest link in the chain, when faced with the loyalist strike of '74.

**Accord** — The Anglo-Irish accord of last Nov. left the O.U.P. out. It was an agreement between London and Dublin. The three main points are:

- \* Recognition by Dublin that the North will not join with the South without the consent of a majority in the north.
- \* An 'Intergovernmental Conference' which will allow the south to make recommendations to the British government, which it is bound to listen to.
- \* Both governments are committed to the establishment of a devolved government in the north.

It is apparent from the accord, which will be lodged at the U.N., that the south has

Contd. p. 7

## GOOD GRIEF!



The internationally unknown opinion-maker, Silas Arbuthnot, returns to our columns.

Ian Paisley, before the Anglo-Irish Agreement was signed, warned it would take Ulster down the road to Dublin, which was the road to anarchy. This would seem to be an extraordinary break through the geographical boundaries of this particular form of political philosophy. Of course, everybody knows anarchy resides in Wine-tavern St., Belfast BT1 1JQ. However after the signing of the agreement, Paisley put anarchy firmly in its place. He threatened to create a state (sic) of anarchy in Ulster, WITHIN THE LAW, that is, according to the British paper, 'The Sunday Telegraph'.

Before one is tempted to discourse the parameters of the geomorphological forms, or indeed, the pathological symptoms, of anarchy, one feels that the geographical allegories of loyalism should be further examined, as far as humanely possible, despite one's misgivings.

Loyalists have hijacked the Polish 'Solidarity' logo. They would like to convey an image of the authoritarian imperialism of an outside country imposing its will and dogma on an independent sovereign state. Their logic would seem to be Up the Pole, Down the Pope.

Before one misgives, one must travel the Carson trail to the Phillipines. Peter Robinson, Paisley's assistant, preached a sermon to the rioting fascists outside

the Belfast City Hall on People Power, not to be confused with anarchy. He compared the people of Belfast with the people of Manila seeking their democratic civil rights. He did not expand on the overthrow of a demagogic, dictatorial, senile bully. Perhaps Peter wouldn't look so sweet in a yellow suit.

One would like the reader to finish this article before reaching for the largactil. We must press on with the contradictions. Enoch Powell, 'Facing the Press' on TV, asked viewers to contemplate a geographical comparison so that the viewers understanding of the problems of Normal Ireland could be enhanced. He asked them to imagine that Yorkshire had 17 M.P.s and three of these wanted to unite (not re-unite) with Germany. London and Berlin would sign an agreement to this effect. He pointed out that this would be a denial of the democratic rights of the majority of Yorkshire folk. They would not wish to be governed by an alien country with an alien culture. He did not point out that Yorkshire shares its boundaries with other English counties and that there was a considerable amount of cold water between Yorkshire and Germany. One is tempted to interpret the allegory in another way, isn't one. The silly old idiot.

Which takes us back to anarchy. Recently anarchist bookshop in Ireland received a card from an admirer in Finland. The card is printed below along with the sentiment written on the back.

Perhaps the loyalists could invite this person over to write Harold McCusker's speeches.



'Peace for Ireland and her struggle, Martyrs and the Old Celtic Folk.' (!)



# Subversive Creche

Date for answer: 27.6.85

27 June 1985

Written No:

MR JOHN M. TAYLOR (Solihull): To ask the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, what plans he has to ensure that Government financial support for community activities is not used to foster the aims and objectives of paramilitary interests.

**Community groups and centres in West Belfast and Derry have recently been described as 'provo fronts' by the SDLP. Last year a similar accusation was made by the Secretary of State. Now some grants going to groups and centres in West Belfast and parts of Derry are under threat.**

## ACE Schemes

ACE (Action for Community Employment) Schemes were first introduced to help reduce unemployment - though not by creating properly paid unionised jobs! ACE Schemes service 'bona fide' voluntary groups and local councils by paying 90% of the employee's wage (ca. £64 pw) with the remaining 10% to be raised by the employing group. Because the jobs are only for a period of 52 weeks the employment acts do not apply - over-time, maternity rights etc.. Local authorities have been using ACE workers and making full time workers redundant. Despite these and other problems with ACE jobs they can be used in a variety of ways which are not exploitative and do not fall into the trap of creating employer/employee relationships within local groups. Community groups who get involved in local initiatives can use ACE schemes to pay some money to themselves while meeting locally defined and controlled needs. In this way groups who for years have been involved in unpaid work in their communities can use (as opposed to being used themselves) ACE schemes to help fund projects.

## Conway Mill Womens' Self-help Group

One such group is the Conway Mill Womens' Self-help group. They set up a creche in the Mill (in the Lower Falls) about three years ago. There was no other creche in the area despite a very large population of young children. The creche ran for over two years on a completely voluntary basis catering for 2 - 4 year olds. In February '85 the Womens group applied for funding for two ACE workers to run the creche. They got this funding. But four months later they were abruptly informed that their funding would be withdrawn.

## The Subversive Creche

The reason given was that the Secretary of State (Hurd at the time) reckoned that by funding some community groups' schemes it would give rise to a 'grave risk of directly or indirectly improving the standing and furthering the aims of a paramilitary organisation'. So the total of £84.55 p.w. for two ACE workers was cut off. A paramilitary group would have to be pretty hard up to take two peoples only weekly wage totalling £84 to improve their standing and further their aims!!

Obviously Hurd's statement was only an excuse to close down (or at least

*Contd. p. 5*

attempt to) the creche. The real reason seems to have more to do with sectarian decisions to thwart and destroy attempts by working class people to organise independantly around local needs. Other activities in the Mill include educational programmes, various meetings, a summer school, night classes, concerts, exhibitions etc. The state obviously recognises the potential of centres and groups like these and seems determined to attempt to destroy them.

## 'Provo-fronts'

In the last few weeks an SDLP member, Brian Feeley (whose constituency is North Belfast - not West!) demanded that all government grants to community groups and centres in West Belfast be cut off because they act as 'provo-fronts'.

It's obvious that the SDLP dislike as much as the Sec. of State the idea of people defining and dealing with their own problems. No doubt the SDLP would much rather set up community and advice centres controlled by themselves!

Apart from such blatant politicking by the SDLP such assertions can have very serious implications for people working in, and using, groups and centres at the minute. Effectively these SDLP statements have set up many people for assassination by loyalist paramilitary groups as well as for increased harrassment by the 'security forces'.

## Resistance

Community groups are resisting these and other attempts to destroy them. This resistance is vital. For many people such groups are the only ways of coming together locally and trying to regain power over what happens them and their communities.

# GETTING IT WRONG

**All art is political. Art to a greater or lesser extent examines or reflects the society in which we live. Well why not?**

**But what's this community art?**

Was it a term conjured up years ago by some trendy Arts Council Review body to safely marginalise the growing pressure for money by organising the masses who wanted a piece of the cultural cake?

'High' art is the propaganda of the bourgeoisie. Its ideology and massive subsidies were to be protected but a few tokens could be scattered to the large number of competing and newly categorised 'community' arts groups.

Now, in Belfast, the 'organised community' art activists, in their attempt to remain non-sectarian, non-party political etc., have

evolved a policy of avoiding controversial issues, which are the life blood of creative energies. They have perpetuated division and subverted subversion, and in their illusion of creating democracy in the arts have channelled people into elaborate mindless activity.

They retain the illusion that their imperialist interventions are somehow socially relevant. Anyone, of course, who wishes to use their resources to reflect or challenge what is happening around them will be fucked off. (It's too political, divisionary, radical or naughty and if the Arts Council get wind of it, likely to jeopardise next years grant).

The latest hoax is a conference entitled 'Arts and Social Change in Ireland' (Art

*Contd. p. 6*



## WHO'S ENTHUSED?

The remarkable commitment over the years, shown by the people involved in the Bun Scoil on Belfast's Shaws Rd., was spoiled by the 'official' opening in February.

Since 1971, voluntary donations raised by teachers, parents and friends, have sustained Belfast's first Irish language primary school. However, last year the Dept. of Education were formally persuaded into providing grants for the small complex of pre-fab buildings. Hence the 'official' opening.

This opening was attended by bank-managers, architects etc., but not a parent was to be seen. The people who had done most of the fund-raising, and whose children were the basis of the school, were not invited. 'Parents day' was the following day, when nothing special was laid on.

Cardinal O'Fiaich, Archbishop of Armagh, Primate of all-Ireland, Tri-linguist (Irish, English, and lying) was invited to 'officiate' at the 'official' opening.

He was relaxed and jovial, able to mix equally well with toddler and teacher.

*Contd. from p. 5*

knows no boundaries). It is organised by ARE, NOW, WEA, and something calling itself Community Art For Everyone.

The conference endorses the ideology of the Arts Council in its artificial creation of the 'community' arts division. There's no chance even to publicly challenge it as the arts council aren't even represented on the panel. Instead we have mostly state paid professionals who are unlikely to spit on the Arts Council, or City Council for fear

After he celebrated mass and fed his face, he said that no religious demonimation had exclusive rights to the language, that protestants and catholics had both made contributions to its preservation and development.

The school was described as an independent maintained school, non sectarian, and open to all religious denominations.

O'Fiaich was invited because he was a 'friend', not because he was a 'churchman'.

What cant! What hypocrisy! If the school is 'independent etc., why was its 'official' opening so steeped in the catholic religion? Why was Ireland's most powerful catholic cleric asked to officiate? Why was the Irish language, music, singing, and dancing associated with only a catholic ceremony?

It is no good language enthusiasts and activists pointing out the role of protestants and atheists in past struggles, no good explaining that the 'Shankill' is an Irish name. If the language revival is so closely associated with such a reactionary institution as the catholic church, then who can expect non-catholics and socialists to be enthusiastic?

of endangering their careers and future grants.

The conference could have been a forum for all those dissident groups who have been denied funding. It could have articulated and collectivised demands in seeking to undermine the state machinery in its patronage for the arts. WE should decide where our money is spent, and not committees whose interests are in supporting the 'nice' groups, who hinder real development of expression.

from both parties in Downpatrick want over thirty travelling families moved from a vacant industrial site in Downpatrick. Their presence is jeopardising prospects of attracting new industry to the area! And we thought it had something to do with Thatcher's economic policies!

## Go, Move, Shift!

As ever, the SDLP and the Workers Part, are continuing to be concerned about creating employment. To this end councillors

effectively given up its constitutional claim over the north.

Also the 'Conference' allows the south to advise and complain, but Britain has no obligation to act on this, merely to listen, as they have done on issues such as strip-searching, supergrasses, etc., etc.!

A devolved government would amount to little more than a form of 'local government', but is obviously the carrot to persuade the loyalists to go along.

### Benefits

There is nothing in the above that detracts from Britain's 'Direct Rule'. If anything, it now has the 'official' consent of Dublin in its rule here. A major propaganda coup, which will go down well in the U.S.A. and Europe.

The benefits for the south are increased respectability for the SDLP, at the expense of Sinn Fein, and credibility with the middle classes in the south, who at last can see 'progress'.

### Not an inch

The loyalists however don't see it that way. Even the south's recent rush to sign an extradition with Britain hasn't softened the blow. As far as the mass of loyalists are concerned, it's just the first step to Dublin rule.

The 'settler' paranoia of loyalism has been well enough documented elsewhere. Suffice it to say that a sniff of offering equality to 'Taigs', whether in housing for working class people in '69 or in political control in '73 for the middle classes has led to the battle-cry 'Not an Inch'.

The Loyalist opposition, up to now, has been dominated by the DUP and OUP parliamentary parties. The mass rally in Belfast, the mini-election in February and the refusal to strike a rate were their hall-marks. The threatened withdrawal from

*"People are capable of thinking for themselves that they MUST support the stoppage". Peter Robinson, deputy leader of the DUP.*

education and health boards will also be their work. But the rallies, the election, and the withdrawals are making no impact. Direct Rule continues. Dublin-Londor meetings continue.

### Strike

The strike was something different. But its impact may not be the desirable one, certainly as far as the OUP is concerned. The OUP's Molyneaux has said he will not support another strike. Monday 2nd March's strike was 'effective' It closed down most of the north's businesses and traffic. The reasons for this are easy to see. The two largest employers of labour in Belfast - the shipyards and Shorts - are made up of almost totally loyalist workforces. Ballylumford power station in Larne has an equal reputation for fairness in employment! The blocking of roads with trees and tractors was rarely interfered with by the RUC. Pickets were able to prevent cars getting through to workplaces, while the RUC looked on. A revealing contrast was the attitude and behaviour of the police to the British miners' strike.

### Violence

It was the level of intimidation and later rioting against the police, which will shake the uneasy alliance between the likes of the OUP and the UDA. Car burning, petrol bombs and automatic gunfire occurred late into the night.

And the response of the state? The army was not called in, no gunfire was returned, only 50 arrests were made, although eventually sixty five plastic bullets were fired. This scenario would have been unbelievable if it had occurred in anti-unionist areas.

It is important to remember that the loyalist response, that their violence is motivated, not with a desire to create a more just, freer society, but to protest against concessions to 'Taigs' to protest that not enough is being done to keep them down and if the British state won't do it properly then we can expect an increasing role for the UDA and the UVF

