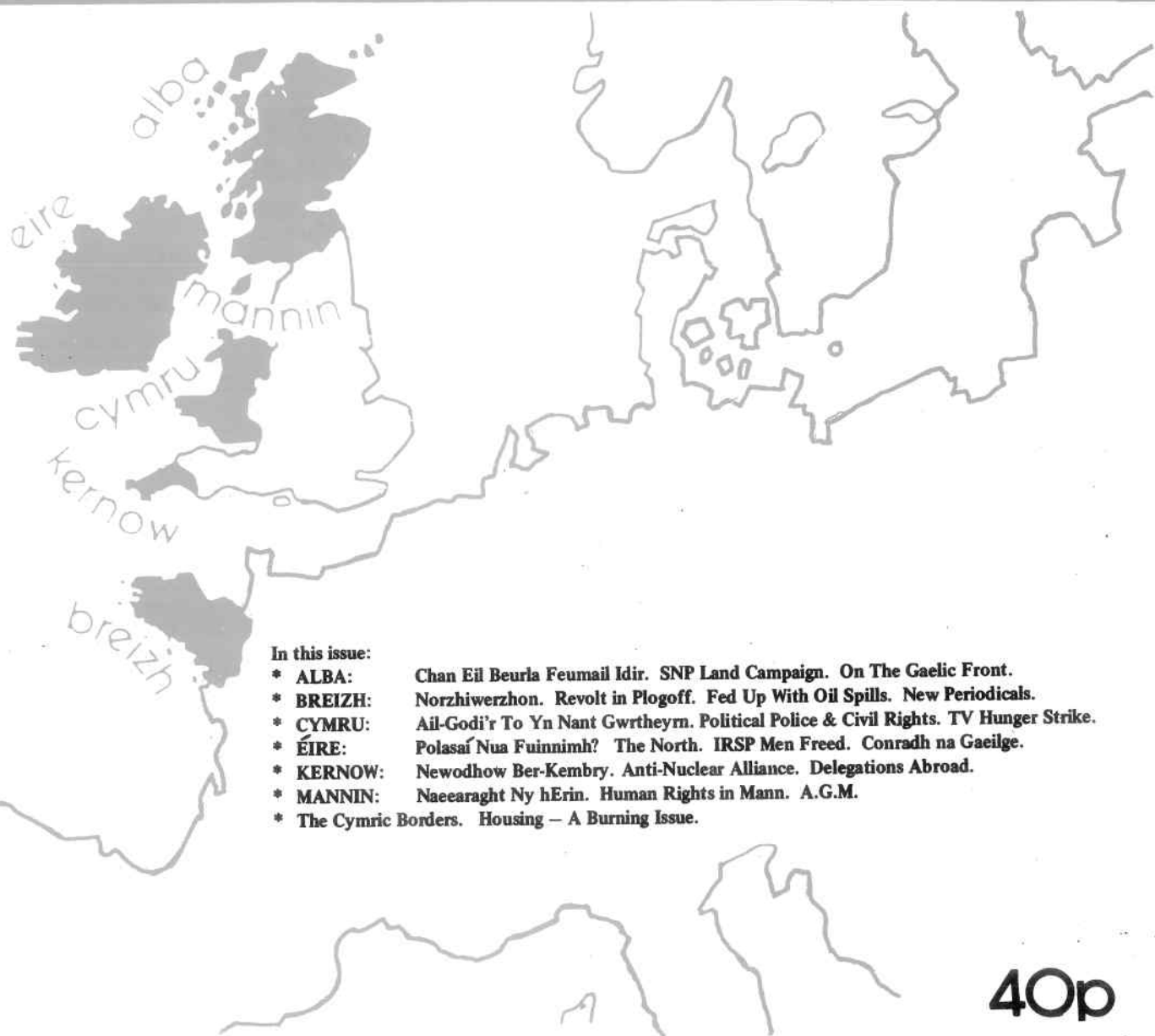


# celyn

SUMMER  
1980

No. 30

## A LINK BETWEEN THE CELTIC NATIONS



**In this issue:**

- \* **ALBA:** Chan Eil Beurla Feumail Idir. SNP Land Campaign. On The Gaelic Front.
- \* **BREIZH:** Norzhiwerzhon. Revolt in Plogoff. Fed Up With Oil Spills. New Periodicals.
- \* **CYMRU:** Ail-Godi'r To Yn Nant Gwrtheyrn. Political Police & Civil Rights. TV Hunger Strike.
- \* **ÉIRE:** Polasaí Nua Fuinnimh? The North. IRSP Men Freed. Conradh na Gaeilge.
- \* **KERNOW:** Newodhow Ber-Kembry. Anti-Nuclear Alliance. Delegations Abroad.
- \* **MANNIN:** Naeeearaght Ny hErin. Human Rights in Mann. A.G.M.
- \* The Cymric Borders. Housing – A Burning Issue.

40p

QUARTERLY PERIODICAL IN ENGLISH & IN CELTIC LANGUAGES  
PUBLISHED BY THE "CELTIC LEAGUE"

# ALBA

## CHAN EIL BEURLA FEUMAIL IDIR

Latha dhomh 's mi ri sràidearachd air sràidean mhor

Dhun Eideann

Chunnaic mi ar Taigh Pàrlamaid

Ach bha na dorsan dùinte.

Hi ri il o hug drain d

Hi ri hò rò mo dhèillseag

Hi ri il o ho drain d

Ged a tha na-iuchraichean aig Magaidh

Cha bhi iad daonnan leatha

Dionaidh sinn an t-Seann Ard Sgoil Dhun Eideann

Is a h-uile facal innte 'na Ghàidhlig ! !

Gabh sinn sràid latha buidhe Bealltainn seachad air Ard Oifis a' Phuist Dun Eideann, seachad air an t-Seann Taigh Naomh Aindreis gu ruige an t-Seann Ard Sgoil Dhun Eideann far am bi Pàrlamid na h-Albainn fhathast.

Ged a bha a' mhór chuid nan Albannaich (corr is 77,000) ag iarraidh Co-thionail Albannach ann an Referendum air a' chiad latha de'm a' Mhart 1979 dhiult Magaidh Thughadair (Prìomhair na Sasunn) Pàrlamaid no Co-thionail no cail sam bith mar sin, bho'n a tha Magaidh chruaidh a' creidsinn gum bheil an Impireachd Shasunnach beò fhathast agus gum bheil Victoria no Dèdrsa a' riaghaladh na h-Impireachd nach maireann seo fhathast.

Ghoid Magaidh beart electronic air choireigin a bha anns an t-Seann Ard Sgoil air son a' Cho-Thionail Albannach agus chuir si e gu ruige Lunnain do'n Phàrlamaid Shasunnach ann an Westminster mar an do goid na Sasunnaich a h-uile cail o'n Impireachd aca (na "Elgin Marbles" agus "Cleopatra's Needle" 7c.) 'sna laithean a dh'aom.

Ged a tha eagail air ar nàmhaid, Magaidh chruaidh (mar a theireadh daoine feadh an t-saoghal "an leddy iarunn"), a' dèanamh fanaid air na h-Innseanaich no air na daoine dubha a nisd, tha ise ban toilichte a' magadh oirne, a' goid beart electronic siud 's an seo agus gu h-àraidh ar n-ola Albannach, oir gun ola Albannach bhiodh na Sasunnaich briste 'sa bhanca. A sior dol suas gu £4,750 muillion ann an 1984.

A bheil Magaidh chruaidh taingeil air son ar n-ola Albannach? Chan eil idir, mar mheirleach chumanta eile, tha ise a' magadh oirne agus a' goid ar n-ola aig an aon am. Goididh ise ioma muillion nòt oirne a h-uile latha.

Chuir ise "Scottish Select Committee" a' mhagadh qirnn anns an t-Seann Ard Sgoil ach gheibh sinn dìoghaltas fhathast. Bithidh ar Pàrlamaid Albannach againne fhathast anns an t-Seann Ard Sgoil Dhun Eideann agus cha bhi facal Bheurla aig duine no cig boirionnach innte idir fhathast.

Feumaidh sinn a' bhith stri airson a h-uile draid 'nar Pàrlamaid 'sa Ghàidhlig. Eisd ris na bha Iain Mac GilleMhoire ag ràdh agus esan 'na bhall Pàrlamaide ann an Halifacs, Albainn Nuadh, 'sa Ghàidhlig, cho fada air ais ris a' bhliadhna 1879.

"..... Tha dùil aig luchd-labhairt na Beurla gu bheil an cainnt fhéin nas dlìgheiche air urram na a' Ghàidhlig; ach tha iadsan gòrach: agus tha mise cinnteach nach fhaighear an diugh aon duine a bhreithneas a'

Bheurla gu ceart, ach an duine sin aig a bheil a' Ghàidhlig. 'S i a' chiad chainnt a bha air an talamh agus .... cha bhi feum air cainnt sam bith eile ! "

Feumaidh sinn dèanamh spairn a chur a Ghàidhlig ann an àite na Beurla anns a h-uile sgoil, colaisde agus oilthigh (agus a h-uile àite eile) feadh na h-Albainn. Cuiridh sinn ar cànan Albannach far an robh i roimh linn Mairearad nam Mallachd.

Tha fiosaginn nach bi sin furusda idir idir.

Feumaidh sinn faotainn ùl-taig sluaigh na h-Albainn agus a' chumhachd political. Ach cha bhi na h-Albannaich SAOR gus am bi a' chumhachd Shasunnach tharainn briste mar a tha i briste feadh na h-Impireachd nach maireann agus aig an aon am ath-bheothaichidh sinn ar Pàrlamaid Albannach 'san t-Seann Ard Sgoil Dhun Eideann agus ise 'sa Ghàidhlig gu tur.

Nach eil a' mhór-chuid nam Pàrlamaidean feadh na Roinn Eorpa air an cumail anns a' chànan dhuthasach aca fhéin! Chan eil sin iongantach bho nach eil a' Bheurla feumail 'nar Pàrlamaid againn fhéin idir.

Gilleasbuig MacMhuirich

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## ON THE GAELIC FRONT

le Frang MacThomais

The recent announcement from the Welsh Office of grants of more than a million £ for the Welsh language brought an understandable reaction from An Comunn Gaidhealach.

Of course Welsh is an official indigenous language spoken in the British Isles, while Gaelic is not, nor is there any sign that it will achieve that status in the foreseeable future. An Comunn have once more called for legal and statutory recognition of Gaelic as a legal medium in Scotland and accord to it the same status which Welsh enjoys under the Welsh Language Act.

The present level of grants to Gaelic organisations from the Scottish Office will amount to £70,000 for the financial year 1980-81. This sum includes grants given to An Comunn Gaidhealach, Sabhal Mòr Ostaig (the Gaelic College in Skye), Fìr-Chlis, (the Gaelic repertory company based in the Western Isles), and the Gaelic Books Council.

One of the reasons given by the Scottish Office for the disparity between the financial support for Welsh and Gaelic is in the amount of interest shown in Scotland for Gaelic. In addition the 1971 Census returns indicated that 1.8 percent (89,000) of the Scottish population were registered as Gaelic speakers compared with 19.6 (542,000) Welsh speakers in Wales.

An Comunn Gaidhealach have argued that it is the principle of language-support which should be given consideration and not mere percentages of a total population. An Comunn also point out that the National Mod in Scotland receives no financial support from the Scottish Office 'The National Mod is the only festival in Scotland where Gaelic language and culture is at the centre. Yet it receives not one penny support from the Government'.

The Scottish Office have pointed to the £80,000 which they give for the bilingual policy project in the Western Isles over a 6-year period. But informed circles say that this sum is in no way guaranteed and is at the whim of the Scottish Office.

Certainly the position at present remains the same

as it has always been, for many years now: an attitude of tolerance by the Scottish Office and foaming at the mouth by the language-preservation bodies, principally An Comunn Gaidhealach, which lacks political muscle and hampered by a Constitution which does not allow for political affiliations, though it seeks to operate through an all-Party Committee in the House of Commons. The MPs involved in this committee can do little else than ask Parliamentary questions.

There still remains in Scotland the need for a radical change in the attitude of those who are 'in charge' of Gaelic. Until all Gaelic-based bodies come together to form an articulate liaising body, with a forceful executive able to spell out the real needs of the language, the Scottish Office will keep its tolerant attitude with a tight fist on the purse-strings. An Comunn in its present form, hampered as it is by a system of largely ineffective branches (many of which cannot even hold AGMs because of a lack of a quorum), cannot expect to be taken as the authoritative voice for Gaelic; it does not speak for 'the whole' range of Gaelic activities in Scotland.

### S.N.P. LAND CAMPAIGN

At an open air meeting on the weekend of May 10th a campaign aimed at ending land abuse and speculation was launched by the Highland Constituencies Associations of the Scottish National Party. The gathering at Croick Church, Ardgay, Ross and Cromarty was to recall the Highland clearances and in commemoration of the clearances of the Glen Calvil Rosses in May 1845.

Speaking at the meeting Dr. Ian Glen of Edinburgh warned, "we can say, some do say, that the glens are empty, that the people have gone, the heather, rash and bog have done their work, that the past is the past and let it be, but we say that the sons and daughters of the clearances are still here, still in Scotland. For things to change we have to solve problems, some political, some in ourselves, it is the problems in ourselves I wish to refer to today, by asking two questions.

1. How could people, English and Scots alike, do such a thing?
2. How could the people let themselves be moved from their land? a people of no mean quality of resolution, proved before and proved after. I think the understanding of the first is much of the understanding of the second. The clearance by their own countrymen lent the more support to the abuse and indignity."

Dr. Glen concluded, "As has been pointed out before the loss of trust in leadership and authority was so extreme that answers, irrational answers were sought in themselves! The lesson for today is that in ourselves the loss of dignity, the loss of trust too often remains. It is like the condition sometimes seen in illness called 'learned helplessness'. We have learned to fail, we must learn again to succeed. Out of the past, out of our history we have been gifted the determination to put right the wrongs. Let us move towards these solutions rationally. The world understands and will help those who want to succeed. Tom Johnston brought the power back to the glens, let us use our creative energies to bring back the people."

The Meeting's chairman, local farmer Mr. George

Holden, Braelandwell, who is also chairman of the Highland Anti Nuclear Group, also called on Willie McRae, long time land campaigner and SNP candidate for Ross and Cromarty in 1974 and 1979 to speak. He declared the threat of nuclear dumping to be the ultimate misuse of our land, "who would have thought that 150 years after the clearances anyone standing on this spot would be killed by a leak from the planned nuclear dump 4 miles over the hill at Inveroykell; if such a plan is not stopped."

Returning to the present, Robin Shaw, recent SNP candidate in Caithness and Sutherland said, "talk of a new Highland Clearance is in the air over the callous decision of multi-national company, Wiggins Teape to close the Corpach Pulp Mill. Just like land use," he continued, "it is not enough for government to subsidise big industry, who pull out when they choose; faith in the skills of local people and locally controlled industry is needed. The workers at Corpach control the machines let the government back them to the hilt to halt this modern clearance."

The meeting was brought to a close with a vote of thanks to the Minister and Kirk Session of Croick Church who had helped with guides for the visitors and to the speakers by Rob Gibson, SNP Organiser for Inverness-Shire who declared, "The united message from our meeting is that the aim to restore the land of Scotland to Scots people must be carried to every part of the country in a vigorous campaign to point the finger at all in authority over us who are guilty of abusing the very soil under our feet."

The SNP list among recent land abuses — point-blank Government refusal to abolish feudal abuse; the 185,000 acre Seafield Estate demanding the removal of 100 caravan dwellers from a five-acre site at Aviemore while the local housing list is over 500; landlords receiving £100,000 from Highland ratepayers for three schools they did not build, with 120 other deals of the same kind likely throughout the country because of a lack of Government legislation.

They also claim that two million acres of Scotland were snapped up by home and foreign speculators in the last few years. They are also critical of the appointment of Lord Mansfield — who owns 20,000 acres in Perthshire — as Minister for the Highlands and Islands.

Further details of the campaign can be had from Rob Gibson, The Flat, Rocklee, Livern Street, Evanton, Ross-shire, Tel. 830470.

### SCOTS SECRETARIAT PAMPHLETS

The Scots Secretariat, Jess Cottage, Carllops, Midlothian, EH26 9NF, is continuing to publish booklets at low prices, to cover background information about the Scottish National Movement.

"In the North-West Highlands", where there are only five people per square mile, replaces J.M. MacDiarmuid's "How Deer Forests are bleeding Scotland white". It shows clearly how crofters have been crowded on the poorer land while the large farms have the best land. Much of the area under 1000 feet high is devoted to deer and other sporting interests.

"Scots opposed the Peacetime Call-up" summarises the case histories of young Scots who refused military service in the years 1947 to 1957 when conscription was enforced by the Westminster Government. An account is given of the Scottish casualties in the armed forces and merchant navy in the 1914-18 and 1939-45 wars. These

were roughly 40 per cent higher than the corresponding English figures.

"Scotland and War", including summary of Scots natural resources, is a re-issue of an older pamphlet of the 1943 period. Many of the arguments against continuance of the war are similar to those which Lord Halifax put secretly to the London War Cabinet. It was a war which could not be won, in which the self-government of the Baltic States of Estonia and Latvia was lost. The wastage of Scottish resources was vast though nothing like as high as the present U.K. expenditure of nearly £11 billion on arms and terror.

The above three pamphlets are each priced at thirty pence. A further set of three booklets covers the position of Nationalists with reference to the Christian Faith. In these Saint Peter is treated as an activist who believed in armed resistance, Christ is a pacifist with nationalist learnings, and Paul is an informer. At least until his conversion, Paul was in the service of Roman imperialism.

The history of the Jews appears to have evolved from settled life, exchanged for nomadism under Moses, followed by resettlement as peasants. Jesus's parents may have gone to Bethlehem to seek land on which to settle, but this was denied them.

The case against regarding Christ as a village carpenter, but rather as a nomad like Amos, is argued. The general thesis is that "the mask of nomadism, that most deep and biting social discipline" can be seen in most of the disciples and in Jesus.

These three booklets are entitled "Brother Zabdriel; Arabs in the Bible, price 25 pence, "Nationalist of Nazareth", price 20 pence, and "Land for the People: Politics in the Bible, price 25 pence.

Other pamphlets still available are "Treaty of Union of 1707", a complete text with notes, "Book of Scots: Wallace, Bruce, Fletcher of Saltoun, and Bribed M.P.s", "William Blake and the Stone of Destiny", "Clubs against the Union of 1707", "Constitution for Free Scots", each at 20 pence. Please add 10 per cent towards postage on orders under £1.

A.L.

**CRANN-TARA:** Scotland's radical quarterly. Socialist, nationalist, independent. Annual subscription £2.00 for 4 issues, inc. p. + p., (Overseas £2.50p (£6.00)). Crann-Tara Publications, 54 Powis Place, Aberdeen, Scotland.

#### **WESTERN ISLES RESIST AIR BASE.**

The Western Isles District Council (Scotland) rejected the Ministry of Defence plans for a £40 million airbase at Stornoway Airport at a meeting on 22nd May. Westminster originally applied over three years ago for planning permission to use the site as a reserve base for use in times of national emergency. Updated plans show the intention to use the base for maritime surveillance and full scale exercises immediately on completion.

The council's grounds for objection were that such a base would threaten the safety of the local population and lead to an unacceptable loss of high quality farmland. The linguistic threat to Scotland's strong Gaeltachd is obvious, but are the Gaels of Alba willing to make this an issue of cultural survival in the way the Welsh of Lleyrn fought a similar imposition?

M.O.L.

## **BREIZH**

### **POLITIKEREZH DULENN E-KENVER NORZHIWERZHON**

Pa voe savet Stad Dieub Iwerzhon e 1921 e voe roet gwarant da Lealourien ar 6-Kontelezh na vefe kemm ebet e statud ar rannvro nemet pa blijfe d'an darnvuiañ eus ar boblañs. Ma ned eer tu ebet gant ar strivadou da unaniñ Iwerzhon, gouez da bolitikerien 'zo, eo en abeg d'ar gwarant - se. Kement-se en deus disklêriet nevez'so c'hoazh ministr Aferioù Diavaez ar Republik.

Ouzhpenn sinañ ar feur-emglev e 1921 e kadarnaas Dulenn ar gwarant e 1925. Met bonreizh 1937 a zisklêrie ec'h astenne an tiriad broadel d'an enez a-bezh ha ne anaveze ket d'al Lealourien ar gwir da chom distag diouzh ar stad. Evit o sioulaat ec'h adembannas London ar gwarant pa voe disklêriet ar Republik e 1949. "E nep degouezh", e ouestle, "ne baeuezo Norzhiwerzhon na darn ebet anezhi a vout ur rann eus ar Rouantelezh Unanet nemet e ve gant asant he farlamant".

Etre 1937 hag ar bloavezhioù '50 en doa klasket gouarnamant Dulenn lakaat hini London da gemmañ menoz, o vont dreist penn al Lealourien hag o c'houlenn harp Washington ha Kuzul Europa. Ma teufe ar Stadoù Unanet a-benn da lakaat London da blegañ e vefe Iwerzhon prest da emezelañ da Aozadur ar Feur-Emglev Norzhatlantel. Poan gollet. An Arme Republikan Iwerzhonat (ARI) oa kroget a-zevri da stourm e 1957: trec'het e voent gant harp gouarnamant Dulenn. Unañiñ tud eo a ranked ober ha neket div dachennad douar. Kinnig a reas S. Lemass d'al Lealourien kenlabourat war an dachenn armerzhel, moarvat gant ar spi e teufe ar c'henlabour politikel tamm-ha-tamm da heul.

Evel-se ez eas an darempredoù etre renerien Dulenn ha re Velfast war wellaat hag e voe izelaet an taozioù war ar c'henwerzh a-dreuz an harzoù. War an dachenn vonreizhel ne fiñve netra evelato ha ken gwazh ha biskoazh e nac'he al Lealourien o gwirioù keodedel ouzh ar Gatoliged.

Pa darzhas an dispac'h e 1969 en em gavas Dulenn gwall nec'het. Ne oa leviadurezh ebet e-keñver an Norzh. Gant froud an darvoudoù e tistroas ar gouarnamant d'an doareoù-soñjal kozh: ar "Speurenn" a oa kaoz d'an holl drubuilh e-lec'h bout arouez ur rannadur etre an dud. Hag e voe klasket harp digant "mignoned" adarre dre ar bed. Breutaet e voe ar gudenn en ur vadeged a'r Broadou Unanet, ha kannad Iwerzhon o komz eus unvez istorel ar vro, Dirak al Lez-Varn Europat e tamallas gouarnamant Dulenn da hini London bezañ aotreet boureviañ tud e Norzhiwerzhon.

Arabat oa evelkent reiñ harp d'an ARI en ur vont re daer ouzh ar Saozon. Distreiñ a reas Dulenn d'an doareoù habask, oc'h anzav e vefe arvarus kredañ e vije disc'hraet ar rannadur en ur embann lezennoù. Ar c'hentañ kammed war-du an unaniezh oa kaoz emglev e diabarzh ar 6-Kontelezh. Diwar an emglev-se e kreske fiziañs etre ar bihanniver hag ar muianiver hag e welfe ar re-mañ n'o doa ket ezhomm da gaout aon rak Katoliged ar Su. "Ne gilimp ket ur meutad", a voe o respont.

Diskaret Parlamant Stormont, met dalc'het e voe d'ar gwarant o lakaat bremañ ar gerioù "gant asant ar boblañs" e-barzh. Bloaz goude, e 1973, e-ser ur referendum boikotet gant ar strolladoù broadelourien, e tibabe 98% eus ar re a vote (58,5%) chom er



Rouantelezh Unanet.

Dre Emglev Sunningdale ec'h asante darn eus al Lealourien rannañ galloud gant ar "bihanniver" ha kemer perzh en ur C'Huzul-Iwerzhon met ar gwarant a oa aze dalc'hmat, ha sinet ar wech-mañ adarre gant Dulenn. Anavezout a raed ivez e oa ur "gehenn iwerzhonat" (an Irish dimension) d'ar gudenn hag e promete London e harpe unanidigezh Iwerzhon ma vije c'hoant an darn vrasañ eus poblañs Norzhiwerzhon bout unanet gant ar Su. A-du arall ec'h anaveze gouarnamant Cosgrave (Fine Gael ha Labour) n'en doa Dulenn gwir ebet war Norzhiwerzhon.

An darn vrasañ eus al Lealourien n'houlent avat bout hoaleet e mod ebet ha pa aozas an Ulster Workers Council un harz-labour o kinnig dre sponterezh seiziañ buhez armerzhel ar rannvro e plegas Harold Wilson d'o youl en un doare mezhus. Freuzhet Emglev Sunningdale. Anat ne fivfe biken al Lealourien dre gaer.

John Hume, rener an SDLP, kannad Doire (Derry), an hini a grogas neuze da brezeg a-enep ar gwarant. Keit ha mapado ne vo atiz ebet d'al Lealourien da genbrezeg gant broiz al Iwerzhon. Skoilhañ a reont pep emdroadur politikel, o krediñ n'hell ket o statud evel keodedourien eus ar Rouantelezh kemmñ evel-se. Ra vo lamet ar gwarant hag e rankint sellout pelloc'h. An darn vrasañ a zeuio da gompren e rankont en em glevout gant ar Gatoliged ha kenveañ ganto.

Ur glaoustre arvarus a-walc'h e vefe. Ken buan all en em dolpe al Lealourien holl dindan ur renerezh taer, hini Paisley da skouer. Krediñ a rafent e oad o vont d'o rediañ d'en em stagañ ouzh ar 26 Kontelezh.

Un dra all a vez goulennet gant gouarnamant Dulenn: e tisklêfe hini Breizh-Veur emañ e soñj tennañ e arme hag all er-maez eus Iwerzhon ur wech bennak. Ez eo unanidigezh ar vro-mañ un dra hetaus. Hag ez eo prest da skoazellañ evit hen degas da wir. Setu pezh a c'houlenne Fianna Fáil e 1975. Met dija e 1965 en doa disklêriet ministr Aferioù Diavaez Breizh-Veur n'he doa ar vro-mañ c'hoant ebet mui da emellout eus aferioù Iwerzhon, e oa aze ur gudenn da ziskoulmañ etre Iwerzhoniz. Adlavaret e oa bet kement-se gant Wilson e 1969 ha gant E. Heath e 1970.

Klask a ra Dulenn harp adarre e-touez ar broadoù all evit atizañ Breizh-Veur da ziskoulmañ ar gudenn a-gevret gant Iwerzhon. Koulskoude a kav pouezuoc'h mirout ouzh an ARI da gavout armoù hag arc'hant eget diskuilhñ Breizh-Veur. Tevel a ra war ar gwallgaserezh a lakaer war gont annerzhioù breizhyeuriat. Da heul J. Hume e klasker skoulmañ darempredoù gant politikerien c'halloudus er Stadoù unanet gant ar spi e pouezint war c'houarnamant Washington evit ma pouezo hemañ war hini London. Ne glasker harp nemet digant tud a gompren mat pegen evezhie e ranker mont war-roak, gant aon da feulziñ al Lealourien, hag ivez harp a vo degemeret hep droukrañ e London.

Anv a vez ivez da c'houlenn harp broioù ar Gumuniezh Armerzhel Europat met n'eus framm ebet a rofe tu dezho da c'hoari ur roll aze. N'eus ket bet klasket lakaat ar gudenn war roll bodadegoù ar GAE. En desped d'ar spi a vage darn eus ar re a vrude an emezeladur d'ar GAE e 1972 n'he deus roet ar GAE atiz ebet d'an div rann eus Iwerzhon da genlabourat war an dachenn armerzhel nag e mod all, ha prezegenn J. Lynch pa voe digoret Parlamant Strasbourg zo chomet ken diefed all. Izili vras ar GAE o deus kudennoù a-walc'h; n'emaint o vont da dabulal en abeg d'ur c'horn-bro eus Iwerzhon. Gwelit ivez penaos o deus nac'het plediñ da gudenn Gorsika....

Betek-hen ne hañval ket en dije roet Ch. Haughey kalz atiz d'e gannadourien da luskañ ar bruderezh en diavaez moarvat e fell dezhañ gwelout petra eo gouest da gaout digant M. Thatcher en ur gomz outi war-eeun, o klask he c'hendrec'hif na vo peoc'h morse en Iwerzhon ma ne gaver ket tu da unaniñ ar vro hag e vo mignoniezh vras etre Iwerzhon ha Breizh-Veur ur wech ma vo bet tizhet ar pal-se. Distroet eo diouzh London, laouen gant e gejadenn. Re all a vo, aliezik. Ne oar den petra zo bet divizet etrezo. M. Thatcher n'he deus ket daleet evelato da sioulaat al Lealourien: ar gwarant a zo aze atav. En Norzh netra nevez c'hoazh.

A. Heusaff.

(The 1921 Treaty setting up the Irish Free State included a guarantee to the Ulster Unionists that the 6 Counties would remain part of the U.K. so long as it was the wish of the majority of their population. Although generally recognising that unity must be based on consent the Dublin Governments policy in recent years has been to try and convince the London Government to encourage efforts towards the unification of Ireland. However following Mr Haughey's meeting in May with Mrs Thatcher the latter has repeated the guarantee.)

## REVOLT IN PLOGOFF

The resistance opposed by the population of the Cap Sizhun peninsula to the French government plan to build a nuclear station in Plogoff went on unabated from the end of January till mid-March, supported by thousands of demonstrators from adjacent areas and to a small extent from outside Brittany. The official enquiry which was supposed to give the local people the opportunity to express their views on the project was boycotted completely; the mayors refused to allow their town halls to be used for it; it was well known, from official statements and from the experience of similar enquiries in other regions that the government — controlled Electricite de France would anyway go ahead with its plans.

In order to go through with the empty formality and prevent the vans housing the registers being burnt, the Finistere prefet had 600 riot police and airborne gendarmes in daily attendance, protected by helmets with visors, transparent shields, fire-proof uniforms, bullet-proof jackets, equipped with the latest means of mass control (guns for launching tear gas, corrosive liquid and plaster grenades, a water cannon, a helicopter for aerial surveyance). Severe clashes occurred almost daily around road barricades, as well as in Pont-e-Kroaz where the police were billeted and at the Kemper court of... justice. Dozens of people were wounded, arrested, brought to trial. The brutal methods of the forces of law and order failed to break the morale of the rural population but brought them a realisation of what a police state looks like and evoked comparisons with the German occupation which were not to the advantage of the French. The rushing of the Kemper court room by the police was particularly resented as a serious erosion of civil rights.

Nowhere in the French state was the resistance to the decisions of a government of technocrats to forge ahead with their all-nuclear policy so sustained as in Plogoff. The argument that the energy produced there

was necessary and would be used for new industries in the area did not convince when conventional energy sources were plentiful, nothing had been done to provide industries in the Cap. It is primarily for military reasons that France is recklessly forcing the pace of nuclear developments and to justify the vast expenditure its government is urging the people to consume more electricity, not to conserve! The cap people are to accept exposing themselves to the ever present threat of a Harrisburg-like breakdown and increased cancer risks so that Paris might continue to dazzle its consumers with a profusion of neon signs and its visitors with its glorious floodlights.

Giscard had promised that nuclear stations would not be imposed against the popular will. His word, as in the case of the Cultural Charter, seems to count for very little. In spite of the total boycott of the enquiry - and it was done by the local people, not by imported ecologists "they" have decided that the station will be built. Unable to claim popular assent, they fall back on the votes of the Finistere General Council and of the Regional Council, whose members received no pro-nuclear mandate but include party hacks and representatives of commercial interests who expect to make some money from subcontracting if the station is built.

It should be noted however that numerous members of elected local councils from various towns and cities of Brittany took part in the demonstrations. Of the 74 members of the (advisory) Economic and Social Council (Region Brittany) only 47 attended the meeting which discussed the project and of these only 28 voted in its favour. Apart from the Socialist Party which has adopted a cautious stand on the matter, all the main French parties back the development of nuclear energy, but their local spokesmen kept a low profile during the six weeks. Marchais had to intervene in Finistere to prevent the communists from joining in the popular movement. The Union Democratique Bretonne, which had originally hesitated in defence to the idea that nuclear energy is necessary for the growth of Breton industry, has for several months come out against the EDF project: in winter, "Region Brittany" needs at most one quarter of the electricity it would produce (much less if the whole of Brittany is taken into account) If the station is built, it is for the sake of selling one more, of exporting its production, of pretending to do something for the development of the region and finally for technical reasons (sea-cooling facilities which seem however to be overestimated but will act further to the detriment of the ecological balance). At least, the UDB undertakes to analyse objectively the elements of the Breton energy problem (Le Peuple Breton, Nr 195 devotes 11 pages to a debate "Le nucleaire a l'heure de la Bretagne", BP 304, 29273 Brest-Cedex).

Like so many other popular movements of the past 20 years in Brittany, the Plogoff revolt was a spontaneous almost leaderless, apolitical affair. It expressed a fear which the arrogant EDF-official propaganda did nothing to dissipate. It brought home to many people that Brittany needs self-government, seeing that crucial decisions affecting their daily lives and basic human rights are taken in Paris by people outside their control. Others remain confused, unable to recognise the Breton-political dimension of the problem. We see thus the mayor of Plogoff facing a threatening row of police, ready to launch tear gas grenades: is it only to shield himself against them that he wears the "echarpe tricolore"

pertaining to his function? However as the protest developed, Breton motives came more clearly to the fore with the carrying of Breton flags, the singing of Breton hymns and national songs (Gwir Vretoned, Bro Gozh ma Zadou), the writing of new songs to commemorate the revolt, the organisation of a tour of information meetings in 17 townhalls throughout Brittany. The movement hardly affected any region outside our country, an embarrassing fact for the State propaganda machine. When it could no longer be described as confined to a small community as it were at the end of the earth, the media presented it as being the work of the French ecologists!

The gap between the Breton people and those who govern them was shown at its widest in the Plogoff confrontation. On March 17 some 50-70,000 people including singers such as Stiveil, Servat, Gwernig, gathered at Beg ar Raz to mark their determination to keep up their resistance. On May 24 and 25 another mass demonstration was held on the site and organisers estimated that 100,000 people attended this gathering.

### **FED UP WITH OIL SPILLS**

While the struggle was going on around Plogoff in the West, the North coast of Brittany was the victim of renewed aggression in the form of the "black tide" caused by the breaking in two of the old, Madagascar-registered tanker TANIO. Within a few days a layer of thick oil, in places 6 to 8 cm deep, had spread for 100 km on either side of the famous "Pink Granite Coast", setting at nought the partial recovery of the flora and fauna so terribly affected by the 1967 Torrey Canyon and the 1978 Amoco Cadiz disasters.

On March 23, 5000 people walked the 7 km from Tregastell to Ploumanac'h on the shore road which runs in one of the most beautiful parts of Brittany. They were protesting against delays in implementing the Polmar Plan for dealing with major oil spills.

Two years ago the local population had thrown in all its energy to help contain the calamity. This time they were so demoralised that they refused to volunteer. When asked by the prefet in Keraez to give a hand in trying to clear the mess, they replied that he had plenty of police at his disposal in Plogoff who would be gainfully employed to scoop the stuff. Five demonstrators took a barrel full of oil and dead sea birds to Paris and scattered them in front of the Elysee Palace. The elected representatives of the area affected also went to Paris, to seek an interview with President Giscard and to demand quick remedial measures but they found the way barred by CRS police. This indifference on the part of the man personifying a system that jealously retains the centralistic power to decide on matters which should in all common sense be the primary concern of regional authorities provoked them to remark that they went to Paris as French but were coming back as Bretons. There was a general feeling that the French government was getting complacent about the oil spills, as if one had just to get used to them, and it was too costly to do anything about them. A direct appeal was made by Mr. Josselin, president of the "Cotes-du-Nord" department council, to the Strassburg Assembly for emergency aid to the victims. He got a promise of £300,000. Which is still very little considering that Brittany is paying so dearly for the

oil that is keeping the European industrial and commercial activity going. But this overhead jump may have prompted Giscard to grant the interview he had previously refused and also some compensation money.... pending the results of court actions. There was however no mention of changing the regulations concerning tankers.

In 13 years, 7 tankers have been wrecked off the West and North of Brittany and one should not forget the *Betelgeuse* on which 53 Bretons perished. The 40,000 ton *GINO*, sunk in 1979 in the waters West of Plogoff, continues to discharge an extremely toxic type of oil. Nature's regenerative processes are continuously disrupted on our coast, many species have their reproductive ability impaired and it is noted that it is the most developed or useful kinds of plants and animals which fare worst. Nothing serious has been done to prevent the re-currence of the disasters such as imposing tests of seaworthiness (the *TANIO* should have been scrapped 6 years ago instead of being "passed on" to the Madagascar company, its financial backers remained the same); checking crew qualifications, imposing stricter regulations on navigation in areas of dense shipping. Governments are either subservient to or in league with the oil companies whose primary concern is to maximise profits. Too many of their constituents couldn't care about oil spills or are adverse to a reduction in their petrol consumption for those in ruling circles to feel obliged to press for higher security in this field. As regards France, most of its inhabitants are not concerned about the sea.

Under present conditions, with almost 200 tankers daily sailing near the Breton coast, other disasters are bound to happen, but that cannot be accepted as a fatality. Their frequency must be so limited as to allow the sea to live, for our own sake if nothing else. That means government action; a government responsible to the people concerned and prepared to use all the means at its disposal to obtain cooperation from neighbouring countries in forcing the oil companies and tank owners to adopt stringent security measures such as those demanded by the U.D.B. in 1978: 1) tankers to be obliged to keep farther away from Ushant in the NW, or oil terminals to be developed in Western Brittany to reduce the risks involved in sailing around the peninsula; 2) the watch on the tanker movements to be taken away from the French navy and entrusted in an authority with a fleet of coast-guards at its disposal; 3) a number of heavy high-sea "tugs" to be based on Ushant; 4) the tankers to be taken in charge by specially trained and experienced pilots in the Channel; 5) the *Polmar* Plan to be replaced by a serious coordination of the means of prevention and remedy which would be entrusted to the only people who care: the Breton population.

One more reason why we need self-government.

A.H.

**AL LIAMM:** Bimonthly, approx. 90pp. The most important Breton language periodical. 50F Breizh and France, 60F other countries, but 80F air mail. To: P. Le Bihan, 16 Rue de Fours a Chaux, St. Servan, St. Malo. Money orders to CCP 5329 - 06 Paris.

## NEW PERIODICALS

The last six or eight months witnessed the launching of four new periodicals in Breton: *Al Lanv*, a magazine; *Planedenn*, connected with the lay-teacher association *Ar Falz*, literary, in Breton such as spoken (?); *Breman*, published by *Skol an Emsav*, dealing with the language and social struggles; *An Amzer*, of still modest looks and size but improving, the first weekly in our language, giving news of Brittany and elsewhere (2 straed ar Richardiere, 35100 Roazhon). subscription 72 Fr. annum. *Kuzul ar Brezhoneg* has also started published a bulletin, *Pellskrud*.

Thus the loss of *Keleier an Naoned*, *Barr-Heol*, over the past two years has been made good. Let us hope the newcomers will reach a large number of readers without being in one another's way nor competing with other well established periodicals: *Al Liamm*, *Imbourc'h*, *Hor Yezh*, *Dihun/Skrud*, etc. Although not new let there be a special mention of the 4-page supplement to the monthly *Breizh* (which gives in French news of the Breton cultural scene): *Dihun* is full of fun! in excellent Breton.

### A Monthly in Cassette Form.

For the past two years, a cooperative backed by the mayors of six rural communes SE of Gwengamp have published a periodical in cassette form, "*Kazetenn ar Vro Plin*" consisting of interviews with the local people; songs, music news. This initiative is due above all to Rene Richard who has now set up a recording studio in Lanriven, available to others who may want to follow the *Bro Plin* example\*. In this area 90% of the people speak or understand Breton but cannot read it. We had already the monthly *Evid ar Brezhoneg* which offers the solution of printing almost word for word translations in French beneath or at the end of its Breton texts as a way to encourage Breton speakers to read their language. *Bro Plin* is an economically depressed area, Now this venture has not only proved successful (2000 copies were recorded in January) and a good substitute for a local radio, strengthening community links but by giving speech back to the people, instilling self-confidence it has also stimulated their will to help themselves and create employment in their home area.

\* There are now about 15 of these spoken "journals" in Brittany.

### Al Liamm Publications

*Al Liamm* is the oldest Breton periodical but apart from its bimonthly issues, it publishes textbooks and literary works: there were seven of the latter kind in 1979, with a total number of 17,000 copies (in 1978 the literary production was limited to 3 books, the main efforts being directed to publishing 22,000 dictionaries and 6,000 books for children). Three other literary works are with the printers and five more are waiting for the go-ahead, It must be realised that all the work required for preparing and editing books in Breton is done by voluntary workers.

### Literary Prize

The X. de Langlais prize for a work of creative literature in Breton was awarded this year to Reun ar C'Halan (R. Galland) for his book "*Levr ar Blanedenn*" (The Book of Destiny), of which only parts have been published. R. ar C'Halan is a professor of French at Wellesley College, Mass., Born in 1923



brought up as a Breton speaker, he emigrated in 1946 to the USA and became 9 Dr. of Yale University in 1952. He has published numerous studies in English and French about the best Breton writers. After studying Breton thoroughly, he decided to put his great talent at the service of our language.

The 1979 Trepos Prize offered by the Breton Language Services of FR3 for the best story for radio was divided between Anjela Duval (1200 Fr) and Goulven Jacq (600 Fr).

A demonstration organised by the Breton Progressist Cultural Front was held in Montroulez on March 16 to stress the demand for the creation of Breton teachers' posts, of a University degree in Breton, of a service of mobile teachers of Breton in primary schools. They also wanted the DIWAN nursery schools to be recognised as a public service to be integrated with the State educational system, and the Cultural Charter promise that a Committee for the Provision of Audio-Visual aids be implemented. The attendance numbering some 600 was undoubtedly reduced owing to the greater attraction of the Plogoff rally the following day. The Progressist Front groups numerous more or less leftist associations and teachers' unions, prominent among them being Skol an Emsav Ar Falz and the U.D.B.

#### Cheques in Breton.

A campaign for the use of Breton in

writing out cheques is gaining ground. It started a few years ago, and met first with opposition from different sides, even among protagonists who argued that the Breton language should have nothing to do with the realm of finance. Although there was nothing in the law saying that only French could be used on cheques, the P & T threatened a customer that they would cut off his phone if he did not "do like everybody". The same attitude is taken by the "National Railway Company", but other official agencies as well as various banks are now accepting cheques in Breton. Shop managers were first surprised but most now agree, and many staff members, whom customers did not suspect of knowing Breton, are glad to speak it with them. The next move now is to get the banks to print the cheque books in Breton, as is done in Ireland, Wales, Scotland. This campaign is coordinated by Y.B. Moisan, Rennes. So far only the Credit Mutuel de Bretagne has agreed. The Banque de Bretagne wants first to see if applicants are numerous enough. Others would follow suit. We urge our Breton readers to support this campaign, also to press for road signs, signs in supermarkets, on the Brittany Ferries ships, etc. in Breton. The all too passive sympathy for Breton must be translated into acts.

#### DIWAN

The number of Breton nursery schools has grown in three years from 1 to 13 with a total attendance of 160. The children come from a variety of social backgrounds, least represented being the farmers! They lagged in coming to French, they lag in coming back to Breton. Often the parents know little Breton, so the children are reduced to speaking it only in the school. (Time then to do like in Baile Munna, Dublin where parents attended evening classes learning Irish in order to help the children). Nor are all the teachers native Breton speakers. They have a problem: should they use the local dialect or the standard form of Breton (Use the dialect if it helps to restore its practice within the area, otherwise not). Diwan has now a central

office in Ti an Holl (Maison du Peuple), Penn ar C'hreac'h, Brest, to coordinate the good work. They don't encourage opening new schools unless there is an initial capital of £2300 (equivalent) to keep them going for 6 months. To satisfy the present needs some £180,000 a year would be required. The voluntary contributions leave DIWAN far from that. An open letter has been sent to all Breton councillors asking for help. Last year, out of a total DIWAN budget of 750,000 Fr, 100,000 came from the Cultural Charter fund. This year, with a budget more than doubled, the contribution would need to amount to 800,000 Fr. What hope? For all concerned with the future of Breton the address of the treasurer of DIWAN is Skol Beg Leguer, 22300 Lannuon.

● J. Bruchet, one of the Bretons detained for months and acquitted at the 1979 FLB trial, has sent a memorandum to the Council of Europe denouncing the procedure of the French State Security Court as contrary to articles 5 & 6 of the European Convention on Human Rights. As France refused to ratify art. 25 allowing individual appeals to the European Court, his petition will undoubtedly be rejected. It will however draw attention to the need to harmonise laws for the protection of civil rights in the EEC and to the dangers inherent in a jurisdiction so closely subject to political power. Bruchet appeals to Euro-MPs to strive immediately to establish for French State citizens the right of appeal which is available to those of the other EEC countries.

A Comité d'Amnistie Breton has been set up to campaign for the release of all the Breton political prisoners. c/o Mission Bretonne, 22 rue Delambre Paris 75014.

Unvaniezh Koadkeo held a religious commemoration in Skrignag on Easter Monday in honour of those who died for Brittany. Prominent among these was Fr. Y.V. Perrot, founder of the Bleuh Brug association, editor of "Feiz ha Breiz" who was murdered in December 1943.

#### Memorandum Sur l'Insoumission Bretonne

Is an 8-page reprint of the account of events surrounding the imprisonment of three men who for Breton reasons refused to do their military service in the French army. One of them, Alan Coraud had the appeal against his sentence rejected. Jailed as a common criminal for 15 months last January in Nantes, he was later transferred to Angers. It appears that Bretons cannot be safely kept in prison in Brittany! He appeals to friends to write to the French Minister of Justice Paris, asking that he be granted political status. This is non-violent action in protest against the destruction of Breton nationality. On March 4, a public talk was given in Nantes about Breton disobedience. The memorandum is available from Yann-Ber Le Mat. 29270 Plounevezel, Brittany.

● A new association "Breizh war-eeun-Bretagne en direct" has been set up with the aim of "making Brittany and her culture widely known through out the world", and "creating relations between Bretons and other peoples" through the medium of Esperanto. All ideas from esperantists are welcome. For further information write (in Breton, French, English, or... Esperanto) to: Breizh war-eeun, 9 Square de Provence, 35000 Rennes, Brittany.



# CYMRU

## AIL-GODI'R TO YN NANT GWRTHEYRN

"Awn i ail-adfer bro/Awn i ail godi'r to" — dyna yw'r alwad yn un o ganeuon Tecwyn Ifan. A dyna'n union sy'n digwydd y dyddiau hyn yn nhawelwch Nant Gwrtheyrn lle mae'r gwaith wedi cychwyn o ddifri, ers dechrau mis Ebrill, ar adnewyddu ac adfer yr hen bentref adfeiliedig yn ôl i'w hen ogoniant.

Dyma un o'r datblygiadau mwyaf cyffrous i unrhyw un sydd â chysylltiad â brwydr yr iaith yng Nghymru heddiw, yn gyffrous am ei fod yn golygu gweithio efo caib a rhaw a hynny mewn ffordd adeiladol. A rhaid cyfaddef hefyd fod yna elfen gref o ramant ynglŷn â'r holl gynllun — pentref gwag mewn ardal o harddwch anarferol uwchlaw'r môr yn cael ei ddatblygu'n rhybeth na freuddwydiodd hen drigolion y pentref y byddai ai angen byth — canolfan barhaol fydd yn chwarae rhan amlwg yn yr ymgyrch fawr i ail-orseddu'r iaith Gymraeg.

Ar ddechrau mis Ebrill cyhoeddodd yr Ysgrifennydd Gwladol y byddai'r Swyddfa Gymreig yn rhoi grant o £50,000 tuag at y fenter, ar yr amod fod £250,000 yn cael ei gasglu gan yr Ymddiriedolaeth ei hun. Mae Cyfarwyddwr y Ganolfan, Edryd Gwyndaf, yn hyderus o lwyddiant y fenter bellach. Er nad yw'r arian a addawyd gan y Swyddfa Gymreig ond fach o'r holl gostau, y gobaith yw y bydd yn rhoi hyder ychwanegol i'r holl gwmnïau a chyrrff y bu'r Ymddiriedolaeth ar eu holau yn ystod y flwyddyn diwethaf ac yn rhoi pwysau ychwanegol arnynt i gyfrannu symiau penodol o arian.

Casglwyd £48,000 hyd yn hyn ond rhoddion gan unigolion yw'r swm hwnnw bron i gyd — gan gynnwys rhoddion o £1,000 yr un gan dri meddyg sy'n awyddus i ddysgu Cymraeg. Felly, er fod gwaith mawr wedi ei wneud gan yr Ymddiriedolaeth i egluro cefndir y fenter i gannoedd o gwmnïau a mudiadau elusennol o bob math, nid yw'r ffrwyth y gwaith hwnnw wedi ei weld hyd yma.

Mae arwyddion pendant fod y syniad wedi cydio yn nychmyg pobl, nid yn unig yng Nghymru ond hefyd mewn gwledydd tramor. Eisoes cafwyd cyfraniadau o Awstralia a'r Almaen ond y ffynhonell fwyaf addawol yw America. Bu Syr Hugh Wheldon, Cyn-Gyfarwyddwr Cyffredinol y BBC, yno'n cenhadu ar ran yr Apêl yn ddiweddar a bellach mae gan yr Apêl ddau gynrychiolydd yno: Dr Donna Lloyd Kolkin o San Francisco a Jane Hughes o Ontario, Canada — dwy sydd wrthi yn dysgu Cymraeg.

Mae yna gyffro a brwdfrydedd mawr yn lleol hefyd — cwmnïau yn cyfrannu nwyddau megis coed, dodrefn, peiriannau ac offer o bob math yn rhad ac am ddim a gwaithwyr yn y diwydiant adeiladu yn cynnig eu gwasanaeth yn wirfoddol.

Enghraifft arall o gymorth ymarferol fel hyn yw gwaith Merched y Wawr ym Methesda sydd wrthi'n gwau clustogau ar gyfer y tai ac yn codi arian yr un pryd drwy gael pobl i'w noddi.

Mae'r Ymddiriedolaeth wedi gwneud cais am ail waith i gyflogi pump gweithiwr llawn amser dan gynllun STEP y Llywodraeth ond ni wyddys hyd yn hyn a fu'n llwyddiannus.

Gobaith Edryd Gwyndaf yw denu gwirfoddolwyr i fwrw iddi gyda'r gwaith dros yr haf ac mae gobaith gwirioneddol y bydd dau o'r tai yn barod erbyn tua mis

Awst.

Mae llawer o bobl eisoes wedi cynnig eu gwasanaeth — rhai ohonynt am wersylla gerllaw ac eraill am aros mewn cartrefi lleol. Yr addewid yw y bydd yn waith ac yn wyliau yr un pryd. (Work is progressing on adapting the ruins of old Nant Gwrtheyrn village on the Llyn peninsula as a modern language centre. An appeal for £300,000 has been launched and is now being supported by Americans of Welsh descent. Over the summer hundreds of volunteers will help with the work. It is hoped that two houses will be ready by August).

A.G.

## PEARSE A PARNELL — GWERSI I GYMRU

Ym mis Tachwedd 1979 cyhoeddwyd rhifyn arbennig Barn i ddathlu canmlwyddiant geni Pádraig Pearse yn Nulyn ar 10 Tachwedd 1879. Dyna anrhydedd na roes y cylchgrawn pwysig Cymraeg ei fath i dim estron arall am o leiaf wyth mlynedd. Dengys i ba raddau y mae gwlatgarwyr Cymreig wedi hoelio eu sylw ar ddigwyddiadau Pasg 1916. Oni chanlyniad uniongyrchol gwrthryfel Iwerddon a fu sefydlu Plaid Cymru ym 1925?

Onid yn anffodus braidd yr ysgrifennwyd gair am gefndir Gwrthryfel y Pasg a'r amodau a roes lwyddiant iddo yn y diwedd. Yn aml y darllenwn yng Nghymru ar hyn o bryd am dulliau anghyfansoddiadol a ffyrnig y bu rhaid i'r Gwyddelod eu defnyddio i ennill rhyddid eu gwlad; go brin y darllenwn air am ymgyrch cyfansoddiadol Plaid Genedlaethol Iwerddon d'i harweinydd mawr, Charles Stewart Parnell (1846-91) a roes sail cefnogaeth mwyafrif poblogaeth Iwerddon i'r galwad am hunan-lywodraeth, ac a gyfiawnhaodd yn foisol wrthryfel milwrol 1916, gan i Senedd Lloegr nacáu tairgwaith (ym 1886, 1893 a 1914) ddeddfau i ganiatáu ychydig o ymreolaeth. (Rhywbeth rhwng y datganoli y pleidleisiodd mwyafrif yr Albanwyr drosto y llynedd a hen Senedd Stormont oedd y "Home Rule" y mae cymaint o son amdano yn y llyfrau hanes.) Ar ôl iddynt bleidleisio dros ymreolaeth am ddeugain mlynedd heb dderbyn un ddimai goch choni, onid oedd hawl foisol gan Wyddelod gwlatgar fel Pearse wrthryfela?

A oes yr un hawl gan y Cymry heddiw? I unrhyw Gristion sy'n derbyn yr athrawiaeth (doctrine) draddodiadol ynglŷn â'r rhyfel cyfiaw, nac oes. Byddai unrhyw wrthryfela yn erbyn ewyllys eglur trwch y boblogaeth yn bechod, yn fethiant sicr ac yn achosi mwy o ddifrod nag o les i'n cenedl, wrth godi lliid y bobl yn ei herbyn. Nid yw hyn yn ddadl na ddylai nab ddefnyddio dulliau sy'n torri'r gyfraith i rwystro ymdrechion yr awdurdodau presennol i dorri cyfreithiau pwysicach a chyflawni pechodau anadferadwy. Er enghraifft, y rhai sy'n brwydro mor ffyrnig rwan yn erbyn bygwth o hil-laddiad ein cenedl gan bla y tai-haf, ymfudo'r ymddeoledig ac ati, a allai ddysgu oddi wrth ymateb ymarferol aelodau'r "Land League" a sefydlodd Michael Davitt, cynghreiriad (ally) Parnell, yn 1879, i achub tyddynwyr Iwerddon. Nid yw llawer o malu awyr ond mwy o dwrw nag o daro wedi achub dim erioed.

Yn ystod hanes Iwerddon bu amser i Parnell ac wedyn; ar ôl i'r Saeson ddiystyru dymuniad y bobl, amser i Pearse. Nid ym Cymru wedi cael ei Parnell etc, gwaetha'r modd.

Ifan Lloyd

## **POLITICAL POLICE AND CIVIL RIGHTS IN WALES**

A Welsh campaign for Civil Liberties has been set up as a direct result of one of the most dramatic – and controversial – police swoops that Wales has ever seen.

Since a few days before Christmas a new campaign of burning holiday homes had started in Wales by a group of militant nationalists. During the next ten weeks or so over 30 holiday homes were burnt or partially burnt. Towards the end of March this campaign took a new turn when incendiary ‘bombs’ were found at the Tory Offices at Shotton and Cardiff. It seems that this development was the last straw for the police. In a dawn raid on March 30, in which over 300 police officers took part, about 50 nationalists were arrested and taken to police stations in various parts of the country to be “questioned”. No-one knows precisely how many were arrested since the police have refused to say, but of those 50 only four were eventually charged with any offences – Eurig ap Gwilym from Dolgellau, Research Officer for the movement ‘Cofiw’ (‘Remember’), a group dedicated to commemorating historic events in Wales, and three (non Welsh-speaking) steel workers from the Shotton area – John Edward Deakin Roberts, Allan Thomas Beeston, and Edward Stanley Gresty.

These four were charged with various offences including arson, burglary and conspiracy to cause damage.

It has now become obvious that the police raid was nothing more than what one victim of the raids described as a ‘fishing expedition’ to enable police to build up dossiers on other nationalists for future use. But the way in which the police conducted the whole operation has angered many people throughout Wales, including four MP’s – two Plaid Cymru, one Liberal, and one Labour, who protested strongly. Concern has centred on several aspects of the police action.

\* Nationalists and their children were roused at four or five o’clock in the morning when the questions the police had to ask could equally well have been asked at any more reasonable time of the day. Indeed, some of those held were not questioned at all for many hours.

\* Lack of any real grounds for suspicion about those raided. Most of those raided appear to have been chosen solely on the grounds that they were members of Adfer, Cofiw, the Welsh Socialist Republican Movement or Plaid Cymru (four former parliamentary candidates were arrested).

\* People being held for long periods (one 64 year old man was detained for three and a half days and subsequently released) without access to their families or lawyers. One lawyer was categorically told that his two clients were not being held at Carmarthen police station, although he later discovered this to be a lie. Det. Chief Supt. Pat Malloy of Dyfed-Powys police said that access to lawyers “could inhibit investigations and impede the course of justice”. All the men held by him were released without charge!

\* The nature of the questions asked. Those held were questioned about their political beliefs – some were asked about whether they knew any “nationalists” and how they felt about the arson campaign, rather than about specific incidents – confirmation that the arrests were made on solely political grounds.

\* The effect on the reputations of respectable nationalists. Many of those held report that in checking their alibis, the police called on friends and neighbours and told them who was being held and why. This smear

against people later released will take a great deal of erasing – and yet no apology has been forthcoming.

Already one meeting of the new campaign for civil liberties has been held. Their first task has been to ask each person detained to fill in a detailed questionnaire. A full report will be published in the near future. The campaign is supported by Plaid Cymru as well as the Labour and Liberal parties.

A.G.

In theory detention for questioning doesn’t exist in English law (except in connection with Northern Irish terrorism) and the police are only too pleased to tell us that English law applies in Wales – when it is convenient for them. Contempt for the law was clearest in the attitude of Pat Malloy, head of the Dyfed-Powys Constabulary (which polices half the area of Wales), who himself illustrates England’s old policy – Welsh troops hold Ulster while Irish policemen hold Wales.

The murky atmosphere of a witch hunt is developing with the police confiscating in addition to address books and diaries owned by nationalists other bizarre items such as candles and contraceptives (seduction was abolished as a crime some time back!), and going from door to door in Blaenau Ffestiniog asking people how they voted at the last election. The implication is clear: those who voted for the sitting member, Dafydd Elis Tomos (Plaid Cymru), are suspected arsonists. Far away in Merthyr Tudful Plaid members complain of being harassed by the police. And the old game has started again of the police visiting employers and saying “We’re investigating A.B.’s connexions with Welsh terrorist organizations. Please don’t mention it to him but could you give us some information in confidence” Sensible employers get the message and A.B. rarely finds out why he got made redundant from his job or never gets promotion. The English press is outraged by this kind of behaviour, if it happens in Czechoslovakia or South Africa, but is it quite alright if it happens in Wales, though in reality it is a far graver danger as the cancer of arbitrary police power, originating in Northern Ireland, creeps slowly towards London.

The term witch hunt is no hysterical exaggeration, as it often is when avowedly revolutionary groups such as communists are the target of predictable police enquiries. The anthropologist, Lucy Mair, describes how the witch hunt begins when a community faces social and personal misfortunes, of which it is unable to identify the cause and the remedy (that certainly describes Wales today) and those accused as witches are the social non-conformist, the loner and those about whom the community has a guilty conscience (that describes the situation of Welsh nationalists since the referendum last year). This year is the fourth centenary of Jean Bodin’s *De La Demomanie des Sorciers* (1580) in which he wrote that not one witch “in a million would be punished if the procedure were governed by ordinary laws”, a view which Chief Supt. Malloy is on the way to adopting. Extraordinary procedures are very effective: in the century after Bodin recommended them, over fifty thousand people in Europe confessed that they were witches and were duly burnt. Is that effectiveness an argument in their favour?

Other Celts, particularly the Bretons, may wonder what the Welsh have to grumble about, since police harassment of people on the grounds of mere opinion, even their prosecution under the notorious article 88 of the French Penal Code for expressing the wish that

their country might be independent, are common. The Welsh have to some extent been spoiled and their own supineness is part of the cause of their plight. Six or seven years ago we tried to set up a Welsh Council of Civil Liberties. It quickly faded out, because even Welshmen who professed and called themselves socialists or Christians were only concerned about their own individual liberties; nobody else mattered. Thus members of Cymdeithas yr Iaith were most upset if they could not write to their families from gaol or speak to their visitors in Welsh; but no-one cared that ordinary Welsh-speaking prisoners were deprived of these rights, though I can't see why an additional punishment should be imposed on a Welsh-speaking burglar over and above that suffered by his English-speaking colleague of having to speak a foreign language. Though there were bitter complaints about the behaviour of the police at the time of the Investiture and the Free Wales Army trial in 1969; but no-one cared a few years earlier when an enquiry revealed the frightful maltreatment of mental patients in Trelai (Ely) Hospital in the suburbs of Caerdydd. Now in the wake of the recent police excesses a new organization, the Welsh Campaign for Civil and Political Liberties, has been launched. As long as its members realize that no man is an island and that other men's rights are the capes and promontories of their own; it may do much to reduce the petty arrogance of every upstart dressed in a little brief authority which makes life in Wales so depressing today. If they are only interested in defending their own selfish interests, they won't even succeed in doing that.

Ifan Lloyd.

#### **GWYNFOR EVANS TO GO ON HUNGER STRIKE**

The fourth TV channel campaign has been stepped up recently as the Broadcasting Bill in parliament was receiving its second reading - the last opportunity for the Government to change its mind. According to a statement by the Home Secretary at Bangor, however, the Government has no intention of sticking to their election promises for a Welsh language service on the fourth channel.

Several people have appeared in court as a result of withholding their TV license money and have been fined by magistrates. Cymdeithas yr Iaith have been active, painting slogans on government buildings and demonstrating on the streets of London.

One demonstrator, Angharad Thomas, a Bangor University student, was sentenced to three months imprisonment, for daubing slogans on Nelson's column in Trafalgar Square.

A dramatic development has been the announcement by Gwynfor Evans, President of Plaid Cymru, that he will go on hunger strike in October unless the Government keeps to its original promise. This action is bound to attract world-wide publicity and will increase pressure both on the Government and the Welsh people themselves to take action. During a TV interview Mr Evans declared that he was willing to make the ultimate sacrifice if need be.

#### **GOVERNMENT BOOST TO THE WELSH LANGUAGE**

Reaction has been mixed in Wales to the Secretary of State's "major announcement" on the future of the Welsh language. In a speech to representatives of Gwynedd County Council on April 15 he announced that Government

spending on identifiable Welsh-language items of £500,000 in the financial year just ended, will rise to £1m this year and to £1½ m in the next financial year. This extra money will include:

An extra £100,000 next year for Mudiad Ysgolion Meithrin the nursery schools organisation, giving them a total of £217,000.

£50,000 next year for the Nant Gwrtheyrn Trust, a project to rebuild a deserted village on the Llyn peninsula for learners, but only if the organisers can first raise £250,000. The introduction of a separate item for Welsh language spending in the Welsh public spending programme.

Extra finance next year for Urdd Gobaith Cymru, the Welsh Books Council, The National Eisteddfod and Bwrdd Ffilmiau Cymraeg (Film Board).

County Councils will be able to decide whether they want Welsh or English first on their road signs (the last Secretary of State, John Morris had rejected such a proposal on grounds of safety, causing much bitterness amongst language campaigners). The announcement was welcomed by many people, including those bodies who will benefit directly. But a Cymdeithas yr Iaith statement said that, set against total Government spending in Wales of £2,700m, the Government proposals were minor.

Intervention is limited to cultural and educational matters. If the Government were seriously worried about Wales they should also have included proposals dealing with housing, industry and planning.

A Plaid Cymru spokesman said, "Let no one delude themselves that the new measures go far towards meeting the just claims of the language, or compensating for the official vandalism of the past".

#### **TAITH I LYDAW**

Cynhelir Cynhadledd yr Undeb Celtaidd yn Redon, Llydaw, y penwythos olaf ym mis Awst eleni. Trefnir bws o Gymru, a'r bwriad yw aros ymlaen yn Llydaw am ychydig o ddyddiau wedi'r Gynhadledd i ymweld â lleoedd eraill o ddiddordeb ac ymuno mewn ambell Fest-Noz. I gael manylion danfonwch amlen stampiedig i:- Zonia Bowen, Tremlyn, Tal-y-llyn, Machynlleth (Ffôn: Corris 655)

(A bus is being arranged to take Welsh delegates to the Celtic League Conference in Redon, Briezh.)

#### **WELSH BRANCH ACTIVE**

The Welsh branch has been following up two resolutions passed at last year's Celtic League Conference:

- (1) Several letters have been exchanged between Welsh branch officials on the one hand and the Secretary of State for Wales and the Gwynedd Education Authority on the other about their language policies.
- (2) Following the announcement that the Government intended carrying out tests in an area in Southern Gwynedd and northern Powys to ascertain that area's suitability as a dumping ground for nuclear waste, Welsh branch officials have attended protest meetings and written to the planning officers of the two counties concerned asking them not to give permission for the proposed tests. A local opposition movement, MADRYN, has been formed with, at present, 5 branches. A Celtic League Welsh branch official is one of its committee members.



# ÉIRE

## POLASÁI NUA FUINNIMH D'ÉIRINN.

Is mór an chuís shásaimh é do chuile dhuine atá i gcoinne cumhachta eithnigh — agus sílim gur sin tromlach na ndaoine gur cas leo an cheist ar aon bhealach - go bhfuil athsmaoineamh a dhéanamh ag an rialtas ar tógáil stáisiún eithnigh i Rinn an Chairn, agus go bhfuil an tAire Fuinnimh taréis a fhógairt go dtógfar ginteoir gaoithe ar Inis Oirr ins na hOileáin Árann. Ag Ardtheis Chonradh na Gaeilge anuraidh glacadh le run ag iarraidh ar an rialtas an dá rud sin a dhéanamh; is fíor annamh a bhíonn toradh fabharach ar rún at bith laistigh de bhliain. Dar ndóigh séard a d'iarr an Conradh agus gach dream eile a bhí ag cur ina choinne, nach dtógfaí aon stáisiún eithneach ait ar bith in Éirinn. Cé nach bhfuil glactha go hiomlán ag an rialtas leis an polasaí sin go fóill, caol seans anois go mbacfar leis an chumhacht eithneach taréis d'Fine Gael a pholasáí frith-eithneach féin a fhoilsiú ar na mallaibh. Caithfear aithint go bhfuil baint éigin ag an Taoiseach. Cathal Ó hEachaidh leis an arthú meoin seo ag an rialtas, ó tharla go gcuireann sé suim áirithe sa timpeallacht agus go bhfuil ginteoir gaoithe in úsáid aige féin san ionad saoire atá tógtha aige ar Inis Mhicléáin ins na Blascaoid. Ach is léir go bhfuil an Tanaiste agus Aire Fuinnimh ag teacht leis ar an bpointe seo, agus rinne Comharchumann Inis Oirr sár obair chun buntáistí ghinteoir gaoithe don oileán a chur ar a shuíle dhó, mar a d'admhaigh Seoirse Ó Colla féin. An amhlaidh mar sin go bhfuil ré nua fuinnimh in aon duinn in Éirinn le breis acmhainne agus airgid a chaitheamh ar fhorbairt foinsí athnuachana ar nós cumhachta gaoithe, taoille agus toinne chomh maith le bithmhais (biomass)?

Is cinnte go bhfuil buntáistí ar leith ag an tír seo ó thaobh suíomh agus aeráide de, chun tairbhe a bhaint as na foinsí aicionta. Costas árd an míbhuntáiste is mó a bhaineann le forbairt na malairt foinsí (seachas an bhithmhais atá saor go maith ach go bhfuil saothar árd ag dul leis), agus go gcaithfear an chuid den teicneolaíocht agus crua-abhar a iomparáil. Ach de réir mar a leanfaidh luach na hola agus an ghuail ag árdú, is saoire a bheidh na malairt foinsí ag éirí; mar shampla is saoire an inhóin don BSL inniu chun leictreachais a ghiniúint ná mar bhí fiche bliain ó shoin. Tá gach deallramh ar an scéal gur ar chúiseanna eacnamaíochta is mó atá polasaí nua an rialtais agus an fhreasúra bunaithe. An bhfuil aon bhaint ag cuinsí idirnáisiúnta leis an athrú pholasaithe? Is cinnte go raibh brí a chur ag an comhphobal ar Éirinn glacadh le cumhacht eithneach. Anois tá Andrew Mac Killop inneasc saineolaithe atá den tuairim go bhfuil brú agus bolscaireacht á imirt ag an domhan forbartha ar na tíortha neamhfhorbartha go ndéanaidís forbairt ar mhálairt foinsí cumhachta atá i bhfad ró chostasach dóibh, fhad is a leanann tíortha saibhre an lathair ag idiu na hola agus an gháis. An amhlaidh go bhfuil Éire ag géilleadh a bheag nó a mhór don bhrú seo? Cé go gcaithfear bheith san airdeall ar bolscaireacht an domhain fhorbartha, go háirithe nuair a bhíonn teicneolaíocht agus crua-abhar le díol agus tá i gcás an chumhacht eithnigh - is mar tír fhorbartha a rinnear Éire anois; táimid ar an 20% de dhaonra na cruinne a ídíonn 80% den soláthar fuinnimh, cuid den domhan forbartha ar a bhfuil na

tíortha OPEC ag iarraidh ciorrú a dhéanamh sa soláthar ola d'fhonn freastal níos cothroime a dhéanamh ar an domhan neamhfhorbartha. Cé gur tír neamhfhorbartha í Éire laistigh den CEE is mar chuid dílis den chomhphobal atá ar gcuid trádála leis na tíortha OPEC a dhéanamh faoi láthair; rud a chiallaíonn nach féidir linn aon tairbhe a bhaint as pholasáí OPEC i leith an domhain neamhfhorbartha ó thaobh soláthair agus luach na hola de. Céim eile ar gcúl d'Éirinn glacadh leis na smachtbhannaí trádála ar laraín, tír atá taréis cuid den ghreim atá ag na comhluchtaí idirnáisiúnta ar dáileadh na hola a scaoileadh. Da mbheadh an tír seo ag glacadh seasamh neodrach i gcúrsaí idirnáisiúnta mar a bhíodh tráth ní bheadh sí i dteilleamaí na gcomhlucht mór ar son soláthar ola agus ag íoc an pingin is airde ar gach braon de, agus ní bheadh eacnamaíocht na tíre i mbaol ó chostas millteanach an fuinnimh mar atá faoi láthair. Níl de rogha againn mar sin ach dul i myuinín na bhfoinsí athnuachana cumhachta, fiú más costasach an infheistiú é duinn sa ghearrthéarma.

Ní féidir chan oiread súis ar agus glacadh leis go bhfuilimid tagtha slán ón gcumhacht eithneach agus gach baol a ghabann leis. Táthar ag dul ar aghaidh leis an mhianadóireacht úráiniam i mBaile na Finne agus in áiteacha eile sa tír gan mórán cur ina choinne; is cosúil gur féidir an freasúra a cheannach sa gnó sin; chomh maith le sin tá dream beag den lucht eolaíochta ins na hOllscoileanna anseo atá go mór i bhfách leis an chumhacht eithneach agus taighde da réir a dhéanamh acu; agus tá ar a laghad monarcha amháin sa tír ag déanamh páirteanna le húsáid i dtreallamh cogaidh eithneach, atá faoi láthair a neasportáil go dtí an Phacastain. Bímis buíoch más ea ar son an dul chun cinn ach ní haon tráth failli é.

(The above considers the shift in Government energy policy which is shelving nuclear power for the present and showing belated interest in renewable sources with the proposal to site a wind generator on Inis Oirr in the Aran islands. As a relatively undeveloped part of the developed world, and in moving aside from its neutral stand in International affairs to follow the EEC policy line, Ireland cannot hope for any favourable terms in imported energy the cost of which is putting a great strain on the economy.)

Brid Heussaff.

## NEW BILINGUAL MAPS

A new national series of ordnance survey maps to scales of 1:5000 and 1:2500 have been commenced by the ordnance survey office to replace the present 6" to 1 mile scale maps.

This new series will be bilingual — that is the administrative unit place names will be in Irish as well as English. The placenames office of the ordnance survey in consultation with the Placenames Commission will furnish the Irish versions on the basis of their historical and linguistic research. As the Irish versions will be the result of in depth research the work has value on a national level. Many of the names of the administrative regions and main physical features will be in print in Irish for the first time. Overall a large volume of material closely connected with Irish history and scholarship will be made available. It is intended to publish the basis of the historical sources on which the Irish versions are based.

## THE NORTH

There are few among the Unionist or, indeed the Nationalist population of Irelands beleaguered North Eastern corner who are not aware that the next six months are crucial to the finding of a solution to the problem which will just not go away for Britain as long as her troops patrol in a country which is not her own.

Recent months have seen a number of developments, the assertion by Mr. Haughey's government in Dublin that the North is on the top of its list of priorities, the meeting with Mrs Thatcher in London about which even the flies on the wall seem to know nothing, the rumours that the "final solution" before that meeting envisages some sort of return to majority rule in the North, the bowing out of Mr. Jack Lynch as a major political force and the continuing uncertainty as to what or who really rules the roost inside the main party of the nationalist population in the North, the SDLP.

This last development has not come to the fore in a dramatic fashion at the time of writing this article but could represent the most serious development of all those mentioned. The facts of the matter are that if the British government, despite the advice of SDLP leader John Hume and the Taoiseach, Mr. Haughey, decides (as one British reporter recently put it) to go for a solution which "Airey (Neave) would have approved of," the politics of the North could undergo one of those turbulent and very radical changes which have characterised the last ten years and which have consigned more political leaders to oblivion than is healthy for any society in that sort of a period.

Until now, the fate of Unionist politicians who appeared to accept any sort of political compromise has been to fall into the open mouth of "Jaws" Paisley and his school of carnivores. The possibility that the same thing could happen on the nationalist side of the political spectrum was not fully realised until the resignation of Gerry Fitt as leader of the SDLP.

In a situation in which the British government could decide to throw out a package which would only contain a few bones for the nationalist population of the Six Counties, a political leader of that section of the community could find himself either being driven to a militant approach or being forced to accept a compromise which would be rejected by his own people. Mr. John Hume, the present leader of the SDLP and member of the European Parliament, is without doubt as astute a politician as ever kissed a baby. He cannot be unaware of the feelings inside his own party about acceptance of anything less than a power sharing arrangement. It would certainly be folly of the most concentrated form to ignore a steadily increasing militant line within the SDLP.

It is thought that before the meeting between Mr. Haughey and Margaret Thatcher, the British had already formulated a plan for a devolution of government in the North. It was opined at the time that that solution would give nothing in terms of real power to the nationalist population. Whether or not the visit of the Taoiseach has changed this proposed solution, only time will tell. From what one hears on the grapevine, Mr. Haughey made his points firmly .... inasmuch as one can do so in diplomatic language where "My government wishes to express its concern ...." can be freely translated as "My government is flaming furious". In the same way if the words "intent to withdraw" can be

translated as "help to reunify", then indeed, Mr. Haughey did press for reunification. The message is all important, the means of transmission merely of secondary importance. How impressed was Mrs. Thatcher however who must have been very well briefed of the diminutive political tiger who faced her over a cup of tea? That will depend very much on how thorough the briefing given to her was. Was she aware, for instance, that Mr. Haughey has been having trouble from powerful elements within the Fianna Fail party and that some of these gentlemen have been busy turning the plough shares into swords since Mr. Haughey took office with a view to eventually using them on him. If Mrs. Thatcher is aware that Haughey's private political life from now on could lead him to make his priority one of personal survival rather than the North, she will probably not be over-impressed by the backing which Mr. Haughey could muster at home for any of his "firm" demands. A measure of how impressive Mr. Haughey's performance was at Dowling Street will be the inclusion or exclusion of any reference to "an Irish dimension" in any discussion document issued by the British in the near future.

There is one element however, which Mrs. Thatcher would do well to remember. If any solution is attempted which would send leaders like John Hume lurching towards militancy, the Dublin government will follow suit ... and this could mean the eventual abandonment of any collaboration on security on both sides of the border. The name of the game being ... if you (the British) do not recognise an "Irish dimension", then we will take you at your word, let us both forget that the other exists .... including our police and military forces. This could happen ... although it must be admitted that it would need a substantial measure of desperation on the nationalist side in the North and a great deal of frustration in Dublin.

Meanwhile, the gents who have placed the North in a very high position on the guerilla warfare world stakes sit in their backrooms and watch with mounting glee as the British government shifts its ungainly form to take up yet another position in relation to the North. They are satisfied that the emergence of Ian Paisley as a "possible Prime Minister" and the continuing intransigence of the Unionist population can only win them a begrudging respect from the nationalist population ... a respect born of the growing realisation that the Provos from the start have held one position and one position only.... "You get nothing from the British except at the other end of a gun. We told you so."

Peadar MacAirt

## I.R.S.P. MEN FREED ON APPEAL

Two members of the Irish Republican Socialist Party, Osgur Breatnach and Brian McNally, were released on May 22nd after winning their appeal in the Court of Criminal Appeal Dublin. They had been convicted in the Special Criminal Court in December 1978 of stealing £250,000 from the Dublin-Cork mail train in March 1976 and had already spent 18 months in jail.

This case from its outset raised many important political issues - Garda brutality, the validity of statements, the very nature of the Special Criminal Court, Garda perjury and the possibility of a political frame-up. It was by far the most important political case in many years in the 26 counties.

Both of the defendants stated from the start that they had been mentally and physically ill-treated while in custody and had much medical evidence to support this.

They held that the statements made by them had not been made voluntarily but had been extracted under torture. From the outset Breatnach and McNally proclaimed their innocence.

It is now commonly accepted, though never admitted by the Gardaí, that Garda brutality did exist on a very wide scale at this time and for some time afterwards, and that a special Garda unit, now referred to as the "heavy gang" existed in the period '75 - '76', at least, whose main work it was to extract statements from suspects. A Belgian lawyer who had come to Ireland to investigate the question of Garda brutality said of the heavy gang:

"The men involved do not conduct any detective work in the sense of seeking culprits and arresting them. Their job is solely to make captured men talk and to do so rapidly".

(Sunday Independent 15-4-76)

A report issued by Amnesty International in August 1977 also referred to the heavy gang and their work:

"Maltreatment appears to have been systematically carried out by detectives who appear to specialise in the use of oppressive methods in extracting statements from persons suspected of involvement in serious politically motivated crime".

Amnesty was also very worried about the manner in which the Special Criminal Court was accepting statements unquestioningly at this time, despite the many allegations of Garda brutality:

"In its submission to the Government, Amnesty International expressed concern that the Special Criminal Court has thus far consistently rejected allegations from defendants before it that statements used in evidence were extracted from them by the use of ill-treatment. Amnesty International told the Irish Government that the Special Criminal Court has seemingly failed or refused to scrutinize allegations of maltreatment according to the principles of law which govern the burden of proof with regard to the admissibility of statements".

(Amnesty newsletter September 1977)

(The Amnesty report also stated: "The Special Criminal Court has rarely dismissed a case on the grounds that the prosecution failed to establish beyond doubt that statements were voluntary, but it has thus far appeared consistently to accept police testimony as against that of the accused.")

There was therefore general concern at this time about the whole question of Garda brutality and the manner in which statements were being extracted from suspects. This was particularly important in the case of Breatnach and McNally who were convicted solely on the basis of their own statements. The Special Criminal Court rejected the allegations of Garda brutality but having had to admit that the defendants had injuries on their bodies held that these had been self-inflicted or inflicted in collaboration with others. The Court also rejected any possibility that the statements had not been made voluntarily and totally accepted the evidence given by the Gardaí. It is now accepted in many quarters that there was massive perjury on the part of the Gardaí who testified in this case.

It was on the question of the admissibility of the statements that the two men finally won their appeal. The Court of Criminal Appeal deemed the statements

inadmissible but, as go to press, has not, as yet, explained its reasons for this decision. It will be interesting to hear the full reasons.

The Special Criminal Court is an undemocratic, political, non jury Court, which has a very high conviction rate and does not follow the normal laws of evidence. Many people, including members of the legal profession, hold that the onus in this Court is on the defendant to prove his innocence rather than on the Court to prove his guilt. The twenty six county government was forced to derogate from section 6 of the United Nations Charter of Human Rights to establish this court. There was always a certain demand for its abolition but since the result of this appeal was announced, it is being widely called for. The true nature of the Special Criminal Court is eventually sinking home to people.

This case raises one other very important issue - was it a deliberate political frame-up, as the I.R.S.P. claim? Almost 40 members and supporters of the Party were arrested at the time and many of these were tortured in an attempt to force them to sign confessions. Was this a way of destroying a potentially powerful new organisation? Was this to be a testing ground for many other frame-ups? Or did the Gardaí care who they convicted as long as they convicted somebody for this robbery? It was common knowledge at the time that the robbery had been carried out by the Provisional I.R.A. and it has since been claimed by them. Would one not expect the Gardaí to have had this information as well? And what about those Gardaí whose names were continuously mentioned in relation to brutality, all of whom have since been promoted?

Many questions may never be answered in relation to this case. Their implications might be too far reaching. Breatnach and McNally were lucky. How many others lie unjustly convicted by the Special Criminal Court and how many more will be unjustly convicted before this Court is abolished for once and for all?

Íte Ní Chionnaith.

## ÁRDFHEIS CHONRADH NA GAELIGE

This year's Ardfheis (Annual Conference) of Conradh na Gaeilge was held in an Spideal in the Conamara Gaeltacht on May 9th-11th, 1980. The location was appropriate as the local branch, Craobh Mhairtín Uí Chadhain, has been in the forefront of a major battle to protect the language and the local community over the last year. It has opposed strenuously the plans of a firm called Luxury Homes Ltd. to build an "up-market" housing in the area. These houses would bring an influx of non Irish speaking people into the area and could have disastrous consequences for the language in schools, church and workplaces. An Conradh had felt so strongly about this issue that the National Executive had warned that it would not allow the "development" to go ahead and would take whatever steps necessary to stop it.

Referring to the Luxury Homes dispute in his annual report to the Árdfeis General Secretary Seán Mac Mathúna noted: "Problems of this kind are not confined to Ireland - they are to be found in every Celtic country. So far they are being dealt with by peaceful and legal means; but it was necessary in Wales to take to other methods when it became clear that the state authorities did not intend to rectify the matter". Udaras na Gaeltachta has now bought the land in question from the developers.



Indeed the *Árdfheis* itself passed two resolutions concerning the Homes in Wales. One reads: "that we sympathise with the concern of Welsh people regarding the migration of English-speaking monoglots into Welsh speaking districts." The motion goes on to say that every linguistic community requires an area in which its language will be predominant. The other resolution proposed by *Craobh na Scríbhneoirí* (the Writers' Branch) is more specific: "that *Conradh na Gaeilge* condemns the lack of policy on the part of the London government and the Secretary of State for Wales which leaves a large part of the people of *Cymru* without adequate housing while houses are being bought as holiday and Summer houses by English people on a large scale." The resolution goes on to state that "since these houses are predominantly in Welsh-speaking areas they form an obstacle to the development of the country's language and culture."

The *Árdfheis* made a gesture of solidarity to another Celtic people when it passed a resolution supporting the determined stand of the Breton people against the plan of the French Government to establish a nuclear station at *Plogoff* in Western Brittany "where it would interfere with the occupations of the local community, agriculture and fishing, apart altogether from the other dangers to health and safety intrinsic in nuclear development".

In his Presidential address, Albert Fry said that politicians were not the worse offenders when it came to language policy. Often they were sympathetic but their efforts were rejected by a section of the State which never accepted the National Revolution. "That section", he went on, "is the administrative system which was, which remained, and which is still there intact. Fundamentally, I do not believe that any political party has great powers in the matter of a linguistic revolution."

He issued the challenge: "If it is true that the politicians believe what they tell us about the restoration of Irish then it is incumbent on them to take the necessary power — power they haven't got at present, which even *De Valera* hadn't — from the English state system left them in 1922. All parties will have to come together to wrest the powers necessary. *Fianna Fáil* alone can't do it nor can the National Coalition. It must be a combined effort. But whether made or not *Conradh na Gaeilge* intend Irish to be a live political question in the next election."

The President went on to observe: "The efforts of Governments before this to Gaelicise the state establishment have been simply a sick English Music Hall Irish Joke."

*Tomás Ó Monacháin* (see *CARN* 29) spoke at length at the *Árdfheis*. He condemned the closure of schools in *Gaeltacht* areas and their amalgamation with schools which in practice were English-speaking. "When a school is closed" he said, "a light goes out for the community. As far as the Department of Education is concerned the *Gaeltacht* does not exist. They are paying *Gaeltacht* allowances to teachers but they don't care what the teachers do." The *Árdfheis* called for a special curriculum for *Gaeltacht* schools reflecting in part the general weariness about the wisdom of having an single educational programme for the entire state.

The disasterously low level of the teaching of Irish in schools, occupied a large proportion of the time allotted to discussion on education. In the case of post-primary schools, *Ite Ní Chionnaith* of the National Executive, said that not enough marks were allotted to the spoken

language in examinations. "The only way to emphasise the speaking of the language is to increase considerably the amount of marks for oral Irish", she said, "We do not want Irish to be taught like Latin. We want Irish taught as the language of the Irish people."

A *Conamara* delegate, *Pádraig Ó hAoláin*, said the standard of Irish in schools was scandalous. He proposed consultations with the teachers' unions before approaching the Department of Education.

In the past year an *Conradh* has been active in the development and protection of Irish-medium schools. It has spearheaded a campaign protesting against the refusal of the Board of Works to provide a permanent site for *Gaelscoil Inse Chór*. This school in a Dublin suburb was founded in 1977 with the General Secretary of an *Conradh* as secretary of the Board of Management. The school was not granted full recognition until December 1979 and only alter considerable agitation by parents and others; another project worthy of special mention is the organisation's involvement in the Irish-medium school in Belfast. Last year the National Executive gave a grant of £3,000 from its meagre funds to help toward the running costs of the school. So far the school has received no recognition or assistance from the Northern Authorities.

Much time was devoted to the Television Campaign. Although this is on a smaller scale than that in Wales 13 people have appeared before the courts for refusal to take out television licences. Five of these have been sentenced to periods of imprisonment of a week or more and have been guests of the state in Mountjoy Jail: *Flann Ó Riain*, *Ite Ní Chionnaith*, *Unsiún MacEoin*, *Eamonn Mac Mathúna*, and *Micheál Ó Loinsigh*. (On ten occasions in the last four years people have been imprisoned in the 26 counties on charges arising out of language agitation and there have been numerous court charges.)

The *Árdfheis* decided virtually unanimously to make a specific demand for an Irish-language channel. Other developments have been a campaign to obtain Irish-language programmes on the BBC and for some weeks members of an *Conradh* operated an Irish-language pirate radio in the Dublin area.

A most successful area of the work of an *Conradh* has been an *Rannóg Cearta* (Rights Bureau) which since 1976 has taken up 226 complaints against state and other bodies. 175 of these grievances were settled satisfactorily; the Bureau failed to achieve a satisfactory settlement in 25 cases and 26 cases are still under investigation.

*Conradh na Gaeilge* has been also active in the general question of prisoners' rights, (a Minister for Justice in the infamous Coalition opined that prisoners have no rights!) Nevertheless *Árdfheis* delegates felt that enough had not been done particularly in publicising the plight of inmates of the H-Blocks of Long Kesh Prison Camp. Many voices including that of the President were raised to demand that much more be done to secure political status for these prisoners who are being treated worse than animals because of their principled stand.

All in all the *Árdfheis* completed its agenda in a businesslike manner. Discussion was both intense and constructive. Above all there was a definite unity of purpose and an awareness of the difficulties which lie ahead. Albert Fry was elected unopposed for a second year. He has proved to be a most successful leader and a focus of unity for the organisation. The new *Tánaiste* (Vice-President) is *Cathal Ó Luáin* who is also secretary of the Irish branch of the Celtic League.

*Roisín Ní Loinsigh*.

● **Cailín Meiriceánach ag cuartú obair sa nGaeltacht.** Colleen Slater (2208 Girard Ave. So., Minneapolis, MN 55405), a keen learner of Irish would like to work in a Gaeltacht area from mid-Nov. on: Secretarial, clerical, waitressing or farmwork considered. An féidir leatsa cabhrú?

### IRISH SUMMER COURSE 1980.

The course in the Conamara Gaeltacht as advertised in/ Carn 29 will be going ahead (Irish Language Classes, Lectures, Tours) The course will be on August 18th (there are no courses on any other dates) for a fortnight — cost £110 including accommodation and meals. As the course is now definite the last date for entry has been extended. Those wishing to participate should send £25 deposit to Irish Branch Secretary as soon as possible but not later than August 1st.

### ALBERT FRY IN THE UNITED STATES

WASHINGTON, May 1980 — Speaking and singing to Irish-Americans in a dozen centers in the United States this April, Albert Fry, President of Connradh na Gaeilge, reminded his audiences of the richly expressive culture of Gaelic Ireland. His highly affective concert-lecture was one of the highlights of this year's Irish Fortnight programme sponsored by the Irish American Cultural Institute. He sang very movingly and spoke very fortightly about the neglect of Ireland's native language by the Government and judiciary of the Republic, and by the Catholic Church, citing recent examples of the derogation of the language by RTE, in the courts, and during the visit of Pope John Paul II. He vividly illustrated to his large audiences the value of a knowledge and appreciation of Irish towards a fuller comprehension of the national character, and encouraged those engaged in learning the language to develop in themselves an awareness of the political implications of that activity.

Cóilín Owens.

### AN CHOMHDHÁIL CHEILTEACH

(Craobh na hÉireann)

The International Annual Meeting of the Celtic Congress will be held this year in Ireland from the 28th July to the 2nd August next. The venue will be St. Patrick's College, Drumcondra, Dublin where most of the delegates will be accommodated and all the meetings will be held. The subject for discussion will be "The Living Flame within our Country" with particular reference to Language and Culture. There will be a speaker from each of the six groups affiliated in the Congress — Ireland, Scotland, the Isle of Man, Brittany, Wales and Cornwall. An interesting programme has been arranged for the week and it is hoped that the meetings will be attended by the local people as well as the delegates. The printed Programme will not be available until much nearer the opening date but the principal items will be as follows:-

**28 July Monday:** Dinner and Fáiltiú 6.00 p.m. Welcome visiting delegates

**29 July Tuesday:** Official Opening and lectures from Scotland, Isle of Man and Ireland - Céilí at 8.30 p.m.

**30 July Wednesday:** Speaker from Wales 10.00 a.m. Afternoon trip to places of historical and

antiquarian interest in Co. Kildare, tea at Rossobrough House and céilí at 9.00 p.m.

**31 July Thursday:** Speakers from Brittany and Cornwall Lecture and Céilí 8.00 p.m.

**1st August Morning:** Annual General Meeting of Congress. 8.00 p.m. Inter-Celtic Concert "The Cassidy's" from Ireland. Admission £1.

There will be film shows and other small functions during the week. For interested people the following list of costs has been arrived at.

- £7 Membership of Branch including tickets for the Dinner and the Inter-Celtic Concert.
- £5 Membership of the Branch and ticket for Dinner.
- £3 Membership of Branch and ticket (reserved) for Concert
- £1 Membership of Branch.

A limited number of places may be available in St. Patrick's College for Irish people who wish to stay there — particulars from Secretary.

While all delegates are encouraged to use their own language as much as possible during the Congress and the language of the Irish Branch is Irish it is necessary to use English generally to communicate with the visitors.

**Historical Note:** The idea of a Celtic organisation as we have in the Celtic Congress was first brought to public notice at the Eisteddfod of Abergavenny when a group of Celts from the different communities met and talked about it in 1838. It was again discussed at a meeting in St. Brieuc, Brittany in 1857. In 1898 an Irishman of Huguenot extraction, Edward Fournier d'Albe went to Brittany and contacted interested people there and in 1899 he did the same thing in Wales. In 1900 the Celtic Association was founded and this organisation held a Pan-Celtic Congress in Dublin in the Ancient Concert Rooms in 1901. Lord Castletown was the first President and presided at this meeting. It is interesting to note that Kuno Meyer read a paper at the Congress on "The Present State of Celtic Studies".

In 1917 at Birkinhead the first Celtic Congress as we know it was held. A Constitution was drawn up and, with the exception of the war years an annual meeting was held every year since in one or other of the Celtic Countries. Congresses were held in Ireland in the following years 1925, 1934, 1954, 1962, 1966 and 1973. Mr. E.J. John of Wales financed the first few Congresses and made it possible for the Celts from the different countries to come together. Dr. Douglas Hyde (First President of Ireland) sent a letter of encouragement to the Congress of 1917. Many Irish members held international office in the Congress - an tOllamh Úna Ní Fhaircheallaigh was President and Life Honorary President, the late Chief Justice, Conor Maguire held the office of President, the late Brian MacGiolla Phádraig held the office of Treasurer, the late Oscar MacUiliú held the position of General Secretary and the present International Secretary is Eibhlín Ní Chathailriabhaigh.

### The Objectives of the Congress are

To perpetuate the culture, ideals and languages of the Celtic peoples, and to maintain an intellectual contact and close co-operation between the respective Celtic Communities.

The Irish Branch Secretary is Eithne Ní Bhroin Bean Mhic Oistigin, 8, Bhailtín Palmerston, Rathmaonas Uacht, Áth Cliath 6.

# KERNOW

## PROVISIONALS A-GLETH

Gallas y leveryr an 'Provisionals' (Lu Gwerynyeth Ywerdhon) a gleth agensow hag yth level bos brassa ran an ysyly godreforyon ha tus rencas-ober erel a-dre ordyr yntra Gwerynyeth Ywerdhon ha'n North. Soudoryon noweth dhe'n 'Provisional's a-dhysk an maner dhe dhefnythya arvow ha gwlasgeyth a'n omlath arvek ha praga kekefrys. Y studh soudoryon noweth a'n pow a-dro dhe'n ordyr scryfadhaw a Gonnolly ha Tone ha re erel. Medras an 'Provisionals' yu poran kepar del o deryvys dhe'n Pask 1916 - gwerynyeth ha sosyaleth -ha'ga omlath dhe rythhe an voghosogyon ha'n obereth. Y a scodh war omsafow omwreth tramor yn tyen hag ynweth dynerghy a wrons kengres yntredhons aga honer ha strollasow a'n gleth mes gwytha arth emperoryon ynna. Menough y yn bruiys awos y dhe ladha ysyly an nencas rowtya, yn dysquedhans, Mountbatten. Y lever an vrusysy -ma y'ga mysk an strosob (SWP), bos an 'Provisionals' begeneth dh'y wul ha bekefoys gwytha na - dhrehaffo a wraf omsaf a'n bokel. An Provo's a amworthyp an Lu Gwerynyeth Ywerdhon dhe dhysplegya herwyth kynda mes a omsaf an bokel hag bell lusk an 'Provo's' a wra erya emperoneth a bow Saws. Hedra vyen ow-cortos mur a dus yowynk a omjoyn an bel arvek ytho pup ur-oll us dastenhythans.

John Payne.

The Provo's move to the left but they are criticised by the 'left' who accuse them of being elitist.

## NEWODHOW BER-KEMBRY

Re bu preder mur yn seythennow dewetha yn kever gwelhevyon Plaid Cymru ha-dres oll dhe'n govyn pyu a sew Gwynfor Evans re hyntyas mayth omdenno martesen yn kynaf kyn fu dewysys mys Hedra dewetha rak dyw vledhen. Crothfol erbyn Blaid yma awos bos re a roweth del leveryr gans an lewyth. Yn deryvas personal, y leveryr Dafydd Wigley, Esel an Seneth, na vynnas omkrofyha dhe'n soth lewyth mes y scothsa pyu pyrak vyth dewysys gans an eseleth dhe dhos warlergh Gwynfor Evans.

Awos an pyth re wharfsa agensow ha dres oll an wythysy dhe synsy 40 a dus wosa tannow y'n chyw nessa yn Kembra, y fu selyes caskergh Kembra abarth rythsys cyvyl ha gwlassek. Del hevel, nekas an dus-ma a ru-synsys termyn hyr hep cumyals gweles na tyluyow po tus an lagha, ha hep skes gwyr.

Dhe'n lyha my esel Plaid re ambosas sonya pe arghans dhe'n cumyals-pellwolok hag yma myl moy ow pos cuntellys. Y te an crothval-ma awos an 'Tories' (strollas Gwythasek) dhe nagha aga dedhewadow an dewysyans dhe scodhya Kembra dhe'n peswara chayn pellwolok. Nebes an kensa myl re bu res solabrys spalyow ynter £25 la £50.

(A move to change the Plaid leadership, the forming of a civil rights organisation and the fight for a Welsh T.V. channel are part of the latest news from Wales.)

● Cornish Nationalist Party's magazine **"THE CORNISH BANNER"**, from: Trelispen, Gorran, nr. St. Austell, 50p. Subscription £2.50 (overseas airmail £4.00).

## ANTI-NUCLEAR ALLIANCE

CANA - the Cornish Anti-Nuclear alliance was formed in Truro in November last year and since the announcement by the Central Electricity Generation Board of three possible sites in Cornwall, i.e. Nancekuke (Pontreath), Gwithian (both in West Cornwall) and Bugle (Mid Cornwall) it has become very active organising meetings throughout the country and holding various events to raise money.

That we need to raise a substantial amount of money to run any kind of campaign cannot be disputed, as it was printed in the local Press that the CEGB exhibition that has just finished touring Cornwall cost a modest £25,000.

This exhibition was incredibly slick with a seemingly endless supply of free pro-nuclear literature.

The issue of nuclear power has produced an extraordinary alliance of conservationist groups, Mebyon Kernow, the Labour and Liberal parties and even Conservative M.P.'s.

How long this unholy alliance would last in the face of a general election is anybody's guess, but at the moment, at least outwardly, differences are being buried while the common enemy is at the door.

Last month in Luxulyan (mid Cornwall) six women dressed in black and wearing blindfolds took part in a silent protest inside the hall where the CEGB exhibition was being held. This signified their rejection of the lies and propaganda of the CEGB meanwhile, outside 120 demonstrators from a village of 500 were throwing the literature onto a burning brazier. Later this same protest was mounted in St. Austell, but this time the literature was collected and sent for recycling thus serving a useful purpose.

The CEGB are certainly finding a lot of opposition but time and money are on their side. There are those that believe the democratic way chosen by CANA will not succeed and that at the end of the day it will come to a physical confrontation. Whatever happens it will be a long hard fight against the might and wealth of the establishment.

Forthcoming events - March and Rally in Truro public appeal to be launched on the same day July 26th.

Balloon release from the three sites involving local children and holiday makers Monday August Bank Holiday 28th August.

For more information contact George Pritchard 2, Penhalvean Cottages, Stithians.

J.B. Williams.

## UDB CONFERENCE

Mebyon Kernow's representative at the 15th Congress of the UDB said in his message that M.K. applauded the work of the UDB in Brittany and it was their sincere wish that the fraternal bonds between the two parties might be extended and strengthened.

The overall impression of the congress gleaned by M.K.'s representative were excellent and he reported that anyone not knowing anything of the Breton political scene would leave with the feeling of UDB being a very important party indeed.

Members of UDB's political bureau have shown an interest in future discussions with M.K. particularly



on matters of mutual interest such as fishing and one looking forward to attending future M.K. annual conferences.

UDB's first impressions of an M.K. conference will mean the making and breaking of any future relations. Being a party of the 'left' UDB may unfortunately decide that they and M.K., the latter reluctant to become a political party and remaining a broad based pressure group, have little in common. J.A.T.

Four CNP members attended the 15th Annual Conference of the Union Democratique Bretonne at St. Nazaire on the 5th, 6th and 7th April. They were, the chairman, Dr. James Whetter, Secretary of the party's North Cornwall branch Chris Measey, Delegations Organiser Justin Williams and the Secretary of the Mevagissey branch, Robert Furse. In the session devoted to welcoming foreign delegations on the Sunday morning, Dr. Whetter addressed the conference on behalf of the CNP "I must express the grateful appreciation of the Cornish Nationalist Party for the invitation to attend the 15th annual conference of the UDB. We are represented here in force. This conference gives us an opportunity to express solidarity with our Breton brothers in our common struggle against imperialism, for our own identities and for the redress of our common problems - high employment, the forced emigration of our young people, the imbalance of our economies with too great a stress being put on tourism. For better or worse the Celtic countries, Scotland, Ireland, Isle of Man, Wales, Cornwall and Brittany are in the EEC, an embryonic politically united Europe. The more we can combine forces - which will come naturally because of our common problems and our common Celtic backgrounds - the greater strength and impact we shall have. On behalf of Cornwall and the Cornish people the CNP sends to the Bretons and her main political organisation, UDB, greetings. We say - towards Celtic unity. Brittany and Cornwall for ever".

### AN WERYN

The independent radical nationalist periodical 'An Weryn' will appear again in July. A meeting of the editorial group decided that a demand for A.W. exists in Cornwall and its production has been made more necessary now that the Cornish people are facing the full effects of centralist Thatcherism.

Unemployment rises again, the fight against a nuclear power station gathers momentum, and persistent rumours circulate of further realignments within the national movement.

'An Weryn' aims to continue to keep people informed of these events and its editors hope that the second volume (quarterly, not bi-monthly) will have more internationalist content and be more theoretic in approach.

It was decided to retain the format roughly as it was in order to keep the price down to 15p. A years sub. is £1.20 (£1.50 Eire and Breizh). 25p (includes post) for a sample copy from 23 Basset Street, Redruth.

W.R.

● Mebyon Kernow's magazine "**THE CORNISH NATION**", from Trevels, 11 West St., Liskeard, at 25p each plus post, or £1.50 for 4 issues (incl. post).

## MANNIN

### NAEEARAGHT NY HERIN

With the increase in tension between the USA and the Soviet Union, it is even more important that Ireland maintains her neutrality. Cruise missiles must not be sited in north eastern Ireland.

Ta shin ooilley er chummal fo scadoo y vleaystan chesh-veanagh (nuclear) rish bleantyn nish. Dy jarroo, v'eh jeeaghyn dy row sleih ennagh er nyarood dy row cliwe Damocles erskyn ain. Agh cha nodmayd jarroo dy noddagh jerrey y teihll cheet tappee dy liooar. Er y fa dy chaill ad yn caggey ayns Vietnam as er y fa dy vel ny Rooshee syn Afghanistan, ta ny Americanee cheet dy ve debejagh. T'eh jeeaghyn dy jinnagh ny Americanee red erbee dy gheddyn greim er "yn coill ain hene" ayns Iran as cheeraghyn elley. Ta ny Rooshee toiggal dy vel teaymid gaueagh ayns Washington ec y tra t'ayn. Shegin dooin guue nagh bee caggey chesh-veanagh ayn. Sleih keoi as kimmee mollahtagh - shen ny deiney yinnagh iheid y chaggee shen. Ad shid ta smooinghtyn dy beagh ad bio lurg caggey chesh-veanagh, t'ad ass nyn geeall dy bollagh.

Ec y tra t'ayn, ta reilys Hostyn gaarlaghey yn poble da caggey. Dy chooilley laa, ta red ennagh taghyrt dy hoilshaghey shen magh. Ayns Lerpoo, myr sampleyr, ren oik reilys ennagh cur magh lioaryn-lowanse (ration books) trooid tuittmys. "Yn chie vee, 1981" va'n date er ny lioaryn-lowanse. Y sleih hooar ad, begin daue cur nyn enmyn gys yn Clattys ry-hoi Folliahtyn Oikoil.

Er y fa dy vel ny Sostnee myr guillyn-drid ayns shirveish America, oddagh shin ooilley ve marrooit ayns caggey smessey na Armageddon hene. Shen y fa dy nhegin da Poblaght ny hErin jannoo e cooid share dy 'reayll e naearaght gyn cron. Cha nhegin jee goll stiagh ayns NATO as cha nhegin jee lliggey da tilganeyn (missiles) Cruise ve currit er e thaloo, T'eh ymmyrchagh er dy chooilley chor dy bee Nerin aannaneyssit dy tappee roish my vee caa ec Sostyn ny tilganeyn shoh y chur ayns twoaie ny hErin. Shegin da Nerin ve naear.

Nearys y tra haink ny Sostnee sys Sostyn, t'ad er streeu dy fendeil ad hene noi noidyn er y cheu sheear oc. Ta shen dy ghra, cha nod ad jannoo lesh reilys ayns Nerin ta noidagh (ny naear). Shoh yn resoon ta Sostyn laccal tannaght ayns twoaie ny hErin yn resoon smoo scanshoil, aghterbee. Tammylt beg er dy henney. va pabyryn follit Glement Attlee clouit dy foshlit son y chie cheayrt. Va'n politickeyr Sostnagh er screeu dy ren Sheshaght-Obbree Hostyn e polasee y chaghlao tra daag Poblaght ny hErin Co-unanys ny Goal ayns 1948. Roish y tra shen, va'n Cheshaght Obbree noi scoltey ny hErin as ayns foayr jeh Nerin unaneyssit.

Agh tra daag Divlyn y Co-unanys Goaldagh, dooyrt yn Cheshaght-Obbree (dy follit) dy begin da Sostyn tannaght ayns twoaie ny hErin dy fendeil Sostyn hene. Dooyrt Airey Neave y red cheddin dy foshlit bleantynnlurg shen. Va Sostyn freggyrtagh da NATO, dooyrt eh.

Red beg, naearaght ny hErin mastey doilleeidyn y teihll. Agh lhisagh shynyn, ny Celtiee, coontey ram jee. Dy beagh ny Yernee gra dy baghtal nagh row ad laccal

ve stroit ayns caggey eddyr ny Rooshee as ny Americanee,  
verragh eh cree da Celtiee elley as da sleih onnoroil as  
keeallagh ayns Sostyn. Cha nel shin ooillee shirrey yn  
baase.

Brian Mac Stoyll

#### YN CHESHAGHT GHAILCKAGH A.G.M.

This years annual general meeting was held on Friday 18th April, 1980, in the Metropole Hotel, Douglas, beginning with the Chairman welcoming a good number of members to the meeting.

Following the Secretary's reading of the minutes of the last A.G.M. the Chairman gave a resume of the major achievements of the past year. Firstly the publication of Douglas Fargher's English - Manx Dictionary, the most important work on Manx for many years, and the result of 25 years work by the author, and the Chairman gave heartfelt thanks to Mr. Fargher for this work.

Oieghyn Gailckagh had been revived from last November, following a lapse of several months, these being monthly social meetings in a public house for the purpose of conversation in Manx, where the general public can hear the language in use, and members were urged to attend these meetings as often as possible.

A new class had been established in Douglas, led by Bob Carswell, meeting in the Albion Hotel in Thursday evenings. A class is held on Monday evenings in Peel, meetings at the home of one member. In Ramsey a class is held in a social - type atmosphere at the Queen's Hotel on Wednesday evenings, where about 50 people of all ages attend, following local advertising of the proposed class. The Chairman suggested that we should advertise ourselves more widely, as these social - type classes were proving more successful than formal evening classes and urged members in other parts of the Island to instigate more such classes.

The Ramsey class had held several fund - raising events, to purchase bi - lingual street signs, and several had been erected during the year, among them one at Ballaugh in memory of Mr. Charles Craine, and another at Andreas, thus helping to bring the language to public awareness.

A leaflet is being prepared and will be published shortly, setting out details of the type of premises we would wish to have as a headquarters for Yn Cheshaght Ghailckagh, and suggesting fund raising methods.

Finally the Chairman appealed to members for suggestions of further methods of putting the Manx Gaelic forward.

The Secretary's report followed. She thanked Colin Jerry for designing the 1979 Christmas Cards, and David Byrne for our 1981 Calendar. Volume 2 of Kiaull yn Theay is nearly ready for publication, and a commentary on Noo Ean is being prepared. An article in Manx Gaelic is written each week for insertion in the newspaper Manx Star. Several services have been held during the year in various churches throughout the Island.

Two week-end courses have been held during the year, led by Robert Thomson, and these have been profoundly interesting and beneficial to those who attended, and there are hopes of an O level exam in the Manx language being established in the near future. Lastly Mrs Ainsworth said that she was

sadly relinquishing the secretaryship after 5 years in that office, due to her vast involvement in political activities.

The Treasurer then presented a statement of accounts for the previous year. The sale of the Society's publications had increased by about 40% over the year before, and it was suggested that further efforts be made to advertise our books more widely still.

The elections of officers for the forthcoming year followed.

Lastly, people wishing to take O -level examination in possibly 2 - 3 years time were asked to hand in their names.

Joan Bayliss.

#### HUMAN RIGHTS IN MANN.

In recent years, we in Mann have sat back rather too complacently accepting that the Manx Administration were looking after our Human Rights. But as we learnt earlier this year it was not the case. The problems arose in 1976 when it was decided by the Governor (U.K. appointed) in executive council that the ability of the individual to appeal personally to the European Commission on Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms be withheld. This decision was confirmed by the Keys - the 24 elected representatives who form a majority when they meet with the Legislative Council to form Tynwald. This position came about because at that time the Manx Administration were themselves waiting to go before the European Court to defend their right to BIRCH\*. An appeal was lodged by an individual on the grounds that birching was contrary to Article 3 of the Convention. (No one shall be tortured or subjected to degrading treatment or punishment).

The United Kingdom Home Office was disturbed by this outcome as it could lead to a confrontation to the detriment of the Island.

These decisions were taken in private and not relayed to the people of Mann. It was leaked to the press presumably by a member of Tynwald and on Tynwald Day that year two demonstrations took place in support of individual human rights. Two days later, Tynwald in private, discussed Human Rights the outcome of which is not known. But on October 19th 1976 in open session it was moved that "Her Majesty's Government (U.K.) be authorised and requested to arrange for the extension of the rights of individuals in the Isle of Man to petition the European Courts on Human Rights for a period of 5 years from January 13th". It was emphasised "that if we refuse to pass this resolution we will be denying the right of every person in this Island of access to the European Commission - a denial of access on the subject of Human Rights. It would also mean that the Isle of Man's participation in the Convention of Human Rights was a sham, in that the Island purported to accept the principles of Human Rights at the same time denying the right of its people to exercise those rights. "This proposal was amended by the speaker of the House of Keys as follows: "Save that any such extension shall exclude the rights of individuals to petition against imposition by a Manx Court after due process of Law of a sentence of Corporal punishment". The resolution was approved without division, the amendment by 29-2.

It was stated by the Attorney General (a U.K. Crown Appointment) "that problems over Article 25 (concerning individual petitions) could well arise", but

Tynwald seemed obsessed by the birch and so chose to ignore his warning. However they seem to have been wasting their time as Article 27 states — "The Commission shall not deal with any petition submitted under Article 25 which (a) is anonymous (b) is substantially the same as a matter which has already been examined". Because this debate took place before the European Court had given judgement it would appear that Tynwald had prejudged the case and found against the birch!

Anyone who is mindful of Human Rights will be disturbed by Tynwald's inability to sort out our domestic position. When judgement is made by the European Court it is final and under Article 52 the High Contracting Party, in our case the U.K., undertake to abide by the decision of the Court in any case which they are parties. The birch is unimportant, irrelevant in fact, apart from the political problems it creates. For this reason it was not realised by the people or by many of the politicians of Mann until earlier this year that, presumably because of the amendment, our full membership was not possible. When this was realised moves were already underway to place before Tynwald a bill incorporating our own Human Rights Bill. The draft was forwarded to the U.K. Home Office but was found unacceptable, and returned for amendments. It is now in the process of being drafted for Tynwald.

A point which must now be made concerns the Manx Governments recent meeting at the U.K. Home Office requesting more domestic power. We would appear to be devolving our powers in an independent way. But almost in the same week Tynwald turned its back on controlling its own Police Force. So at the moment the Police and Judiciary are controlled and appointed by the United Kingdom Government. In order to have our own Human Rights Bill which would allow birching we would also require a Manx Judiciary to pass sentence and a Manx Police Force to carry that sentence out. It would appear however that a Police Force and Judiciary controlled by the U.K. would not allow corporal punishment to take place.

As Nationalists we are prepared to do our utmost to achieve for our country her rightful heritage - independence. We are also committed to fight for the right of the individual to appeal to an independent organisation such as the European Commission on Human Rights. We believe that this is essential to true Democracy. We are therefore opposed to this Manx Human Rights Bill.

We would wish to see the Manx People as full and independent signatories to the European Convention so that our own representatives could argue our own case for us and one of our Judges would sit on the bench alongside the judges from each other member nation.

We also feel that people have been grossly misinformed about the European Convention on Human Rights. In our preoccupation with the birch the Manx People have lost the right of appeal in any case concerning the most basic of human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms.

\* A "Birch" is a set of birch twigs tied together. A birching sentence can be passed on a Male between the ages of 17 — 21 following conviction by magistrates or deemster for violent crime. The convicted male drops his trousers and leans over a table, the number of strokes prescribed in the sentence are delivered by a policeman in the presence of a doctor and invited guests.

Hazel Hannan.

## **ECONOMIC UNIT REPORT**

### **Housing — A Burning Issue**

(The recent campaign against holiday homes in Wales has turned the attention of our economic unit to the crisis problem of Housing in Celtic speaking areas. The report on industrial co-operatives due to be published in this issue will appear in a future edition.)

It is widely recognised that sub-standard housing, or simply the lack of housing, has been one of the major causes of emmigration from the Celtic speaking areas. Lack of job opportunities and the neglect of housing needs have proved to be the double pressures on the young and energetic to leave the Bro Cymraeg and the Gaeltachd. The "high cost" of providing basic services to remote communities has traditionally ensured that remoteness and neglect were synonymous. (It is only fair to say that high cost could be reduced if planners could think in terms of small community needs and not in terms of mini urban replicas in a rural environment) A community caught in the downwards spiral of neglect, declining population mostly in the dependent age groups, withdrawal of services such as transport, closure of village schools, etc., inevitably accelerates its own demise by the community's own sense of despair. These symptoms of a dying community are evident in large areas of rural Wales and Scotland. As Ioan Aled wrote in the Guardian (9th April)

"It may well be part of this government's intention to create a mobile and flexible work force which has no real cultural or national roots, although the social and psychological results of the creation of such a Frankenstein society could well be calamitous". This view is well supported by the Employment Secretary James Prior's criticism "There is built into the present system a tremendous immobility of labour." However, the process started before the Axemen of Westminster were vogue. The disease is colony status under whatever government.

As the young have been pressured to leave through lack of job opportunities, the certainty of years on local authority housing waiting-lists has often been the deciding factor. Although shortage of council housing is not a problem unique to Celtic speaking areas, it is nonetheless exacerbated by the scenic attractions of these areas. The private rented sector has been geared to the holiday market. Scenery is at a premium. Public expenditure cuts have fallen heavily on local authority housing budgets, and the prospect over the next few years is exceedingly grim. This is at the same time as record mortgage rates and "scenic" house pricing have pushed home ownership beyond the reach of most young local couples.

Cottages and village houses in Wales used to be cheap, in line with wage patterns and local mortgage capability. The prices are now completely out of tune with the realities of their local communities. Well-breeched outsiders have stepped in, often oblivious to high mortgage rates or borrowing restrictions on older properties. They buy cash. Articulate and well-versed in a citizen's rights, they obtain grants to renovate and improve their properties. Their interests are not in the community even if they live there permanently. Soon the outsiders are forming communities to oppose new building or the erection of industrial units that might spoil the view or affect their



properties' values. In the areas desperate for work the process of strangulation is almost complete.

In recent years this new colonisation of Wales has greatly increased in volume, and changed in character. Previously well to do city dwellers would buy a weekend and holiday cottage, and might eventually retire to their retreat. Nowadays young urbanites can cash in on the house price boom in city suburbs, and manage to move with their profits to Wales, to a run-down sub-standard cottage. Free from mortgage worries and commuting costs, they live a healthy life by sea or amongst mountains either on the dole or setting up a craft cottage industry to cater for the summer tourists. The Housing (Homeless Persons) Act 1977 placed an obligation on local authorities to rehouse homeless families who can prove a local connection (six months residence) so opening up a new avenue of immigration. The homeless have priority over the local young people waiting in overcrowded conditions who do not declare themselves to be homeless.

Against the background of this steady human plantation we can see the firing of second home as a desperate reaction. A people who see their elected representatives apparently powerless to act will resort to direct action. The media had a field-day of course, but who in authority has examined the root causes or even cares?

Local authorities have been far from responsive to the needs of Celtic speaking communities, e.g. the dispersed resettlement and inevitable Anglicisation of Welsh speaking communities from W. Glamorgan amidst the concrete deserts of Swansea. (We might also remember that the local government trade union, NALGO, was proud that it was the only trade union in Wales to totally condemn devolution. This union, whose members are the servants of local democracy, paid thousands of pounds from its London coffers to "educate" its 45,000 Welsh members against devolution!)

If we accept that local authorities are either apathetic or financially incapable of solving the housing needs of our communities, we must consider alternatives such as HOUSING ASSOCIATIONS and CO-OPERATIVES.

In Wales there are some admirable schemes in operation, notably Tau Gwynedd and Adfer, committed to rehousing local people in the Bro Cymraeg. But the number of association properties must be greatly increased.

In Scotland the picture is very different. In English speaking Scotland some of the most attractive and challenging housing projects in Europe have been undertaken by the Scottish Special Housing Association, e.g. the town centre project at Jedburgh which won the Europa Nostra Prize. However in the Western Isles, (the only strong Gaeltachd, with a concentration of 23,200 of Scotland's 88,900 Gaelic speakers) there is a long council waiting list and virtually no use of housing associations. Until 1979 there wasn't any association active in the Isles. Then the Kirk Care Housing Association began construction of 30 small units (homes) for the elderly. A second association from mainland Scotland has tentative plans to move into the Isles. They intend to build up to three mini estates, of six houses each. Allocation will be tied to oil related industries such as drilling rig construction where "an influx of outsiders with specialist skills is expected". As Mr. Charles McDonald of the

Housing department assured me "Oil related industries are a benefit to the nation". (Which nation?) Also the British Legion are considering housing the elderly on a scheme in the Isles, retired armed service personnel who do not need any local connection.

In short, Housing Associations which I advocate as a solution for local needs are present in the Western Isles but only for the benefit of oil workers coming into the Isles or the aged. They make no impression on the generally poor housing stock available to the community's life blood, its young.

In Cornwall a small housing association, with the sole purpose of bringing together Cornish speaking families into a language based community, could have an enormous effect on the viability of the language. All non Cornish Celts look to Kernow with great admiration and hope as the language has found new strengths. The founding of a mini Cornish speaking community, where the children now growing up in Cornish speaking households would have the chance of using Cornish as the language of play, would give a natural base to the language's revival. Otherwise scattered Cornish speaking children face the likelihood of seeming "odd" amongst their peers, and might even feel anti Cornish despite the efforts of their parents. For Kernow this is a challenge of the greatest importance.

In the matter of our housing, we must take some of the initiative into our own hands, making full use of all available funds. The London based Housing Corporation, which finances and assists 2,600 housing associations in England, Cornwall, Wales and Scotland has a wealth of knowledge and experience that is there to tap. It is a prime example of how we could use the system to our advantage instead of letting the grass grow underneath our feet.

(The author of this report is a Housing Advisory Officer for a London Borough. Would anyone interested in a new self help initiative please contact the London Branch Secretary)

Micheál Ó Laoire.

#### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

1.) Members are reminded that the Celtic League A.G.M. will be held at Ti-Kendalc'h, St-Vincent-sur-Oust, near Redon in Brittany during the 30. 31 August week-end. Intending participants are requested to notify their branch secretary as soon as possible now. Suggestions for the agenda, proposals to be discussed, draft resolutions can be submitted to the secretary general, but preferably via the branch secretaries, not later than July 25, for eventual inclusion on the agenda.

As regards accommodation, bookings should have been made before June 30 by those wishing to stay at Ti-Kendalc'h. No guarantee could be given by the time this issue is distributed that any vacancies will remain. There will be camping space around T.K. and hotel accommodation in Redon, 8 miles or so away. But you can still chance TiKendalc'h.

2) If you are attending large gatherings, festivals, etc. this summer, help us to sell CARN. Send for copies to the secretary general, with advance payment. Money will be refunded if unsold copies are returned in good condition.

3) If you are in Germany, don't miss the Berlin Celtic Festival (15 - 20th July)! See Carn Nr 29 p.20.

## THE CYMRIC BORDERS

To help those unfamiliar with the Border questions in Cymru some definitions are necessary:—

**THE WELSH BORDER** is that printed on the usual maps and is the present administrative border. It is 'artificial' in that there are Cymry living on either side of it. It is largely based on the "Act of Union" which has never been ratified by the Cymry and therefore cannot be regarded as valid internationally.

**THE OLD CYMRIC BORDER** is based on the first printed map of Cymru by Humphrey Llyud in 1573. The Eastern border of the Kingdom of Powys was the river Severn; its capital was at Penwern, a fact recognised by Owain Glyndwr. As the inhabitants of the region between the two borders are mainly "Anglicised Cymry", the Old Border may form the ultimate aspiration of a free Cymru.

**THE CYMRIC BORDER** is the result of two years research, with the help of various county archivists, historians, record offices, publications and field work. The region between this border and the "Welsh Border" can best be described as Cymric Land under English Administration, as a careful study of both the history and of the place names reveals.

The enclosed sketch-map shows the location of the borders, with the numbered references. The cymric Borders have been superimposed with some care on single copies of the relevant O.S. 1:50 000 First series maps based largely on material provided by the various county record offices on a scale of 6 ins. to 1 mile.

The internal borders shown are the provinces of Powys, Gwynedd and Deheubarth before the conquest. They would form provinces of Canton status within a federation of Free Cymric states.

Offa's Dyke is given in many English History books as the border between Cymry and Saeson. The line of the dyke denotes the western limits of the Mercian military offensive under Offa II. In the south there seems to have been some measure of "concessional agreement", i.e. agreement under pressure, as to the line the dyke should take but only a few years after the construction of the dyke the "agreement" was broken by the English. Hence it is clear that no land west of the dyke can possibly be called English, much to the east is to this day peopled by Cymry.

It is worth noting that 37 years AFTER the annexations of 1536 the Old Cymric Border on the map of 1573 makes it clear that land between the Severn and the "Welsh Border" were regarded as Cymric under English administration.

### The Cymric Border

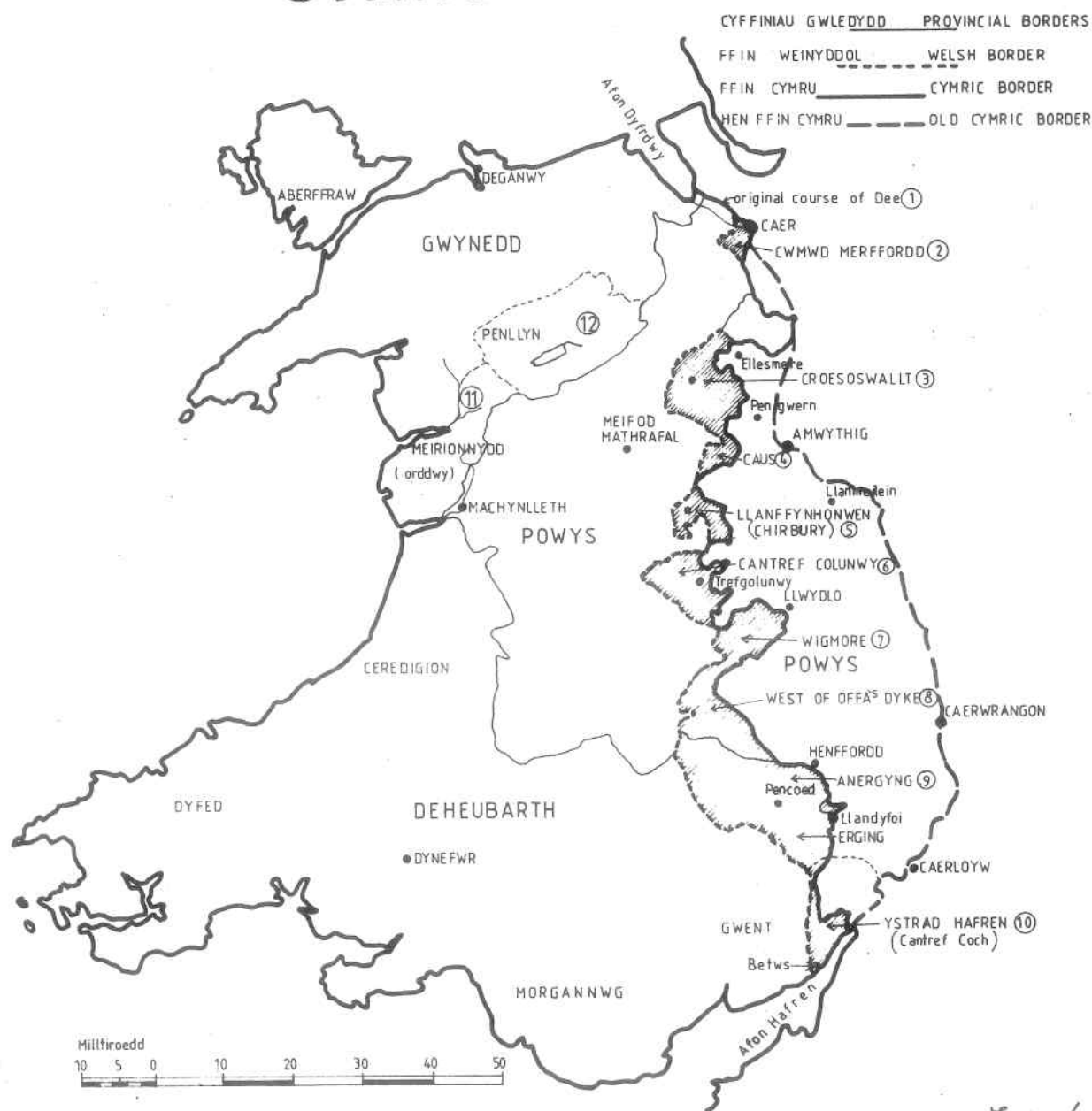
Detailed information on border sections, see numbers on map. References in brackets.

- (1) The Dyfrdwy/Dee border. Follows the original and natural course of the River Dee which downstream of Chester has been rechannelled artificially. The Cymric Border leaves the Welsh Border at Blaen Head to follow the old river bed. (Old maps provided by the Chester City Archivist, including the survey by Capt. Granville Collins.)
- (2) The cwmwd of Merffordd which together with the cwmwds of Maelor Gymreag and Maelor Saesneg formed the cantref of Uwchaant in Powys. Annexed prior to 1536. (Sir John Price's "Description of Wales" Caligula MS. 1559 A.vi., among the Cottonian MSS. in the Brit.

Museum. Appendix A. "The Welsh People" by John Rhys and David Brynmor Jones.)

- (3) The Welsh Border joins the Cymric Border again on the Dee Nr. Aldford and are consistent until Nr. Gadlas 3 mls. N.W. Ellesmere where the cwmwds of Y Traen, Y Dre wen (Whittington) Y Deuparth etc. were formed into the lordship of CROESOSWALLT (Oswestry). The River Perry being the border until just past and including Ruyton. (Victory History of Shropshire and Salop County Archives.) Annexed in 1536.
- (4) Gorddwr and Llanfihangel yng Ngheintun (Alberbury). The Cymric lands of the lordship of Cawres. Annexed 1536. (Welsh administrative and Territorial Units — by Melville Richards, Univeristy of Wales Press.)
- (5) Llanffynhonwen (Chirbury) part of the lordship of Montgomery. Annexed in 1536. (South Wales and the Border in the 14th Cent. by Prof. Wm. Rees and 'Welsh Administrative and Territorial Units'.)
- (6) Cantraf Colunwy (Lordship of Clun). Annexed prior to 1536, returned to Cymru in 1536. Annexed again in 1534-6. (Victoria History of Shropshire, Salop County Archives, plus extensive field work.)
- (7) Wigmore, this lordship being annexed in 1536. (Prof. Wm. Rees's maps of South Wales and the Border in the 14th Cent. also 'The Victoria History of Shropshire'.)
- (8) As there is no definable border east of Offa's Dyke, save that of the Old Cymric Border, we have no option but to take the line of the Dyke as the Cymric Border. The Dyke is incomplete in this area due to the original forest cover, but fortunately due to the work done by Cyril Fox in his famous book Offa's Dyke, in which he deals not only with the construction of the Dyke, but also its alignment and motivation, it has been possible to draw up the border with considerable accuracy, there is evidence here of "concessional agreement" as the border crosses the watershed at Ferny Common. The western half of this area was annexed in 1536, and the eastern half prior to that date by the Mercian English. The border reaches the River Wye (Gwy) at Bridge Sollers. (Offa's Dyke, by Cyril Fox.)
- (9) Anerging, annexed prior to 1536. Erging, annexed in 1536. The River Wye forms the natural border past Henffordd (Hereford) but crosses the river loop just east of Penallt. The border again follows the Wye until Llangystennin Garth Benni (Welsh Bicknor) where South Eastern bank together with the Wye loop at Symonds Yat is in the Cymric cantref of Erging. See note 10. (Offa's Dyke, by Cyril Fox & South Wales and the Border Maps, by Prof. Wm. Rees.)
- (10) Cantref Coch. The Cymric Border follows the Wye for about a mile from Symonds Yat where it joins the "Welsh Border" at Redbrook on the Wye. Again here the border follows Offa's Dyke — on the east bank of the Wye to Ystrad Hafren. Where the average distance from the Wye to the Dyke is about half a mile. The reason for this was obscure until the following information came to light:— In the 'concessional Agreements' the right of the Cymric navigation on the Wye was recognised by the English at that time, as Redbrook formed the tidal limit. It would be necessary for Cymric vessels to be able to tie up on either bank in the tidal reaches so from that

# CYMRU



*E. J. Gwynne*

point the border was placed well to the east. The east bank concessions up river (section 9) were for loading facilities, the main cargo being timber.

Cantref Coch was one of the three cantrefs of Gwent. Whose original border cannot be traced, so we are left with Ystrad Hafren which is the eastern part of the lordship of Strigoil – East of the Wye. It is only a fraction of the size of Cantref Coch which must have included the whole of the Forest of Dean, however, we are out to determine an exact border and Ystrad Hafren does just this so there remains no option but to accept this. (Offa's Dyke, by Cyril Fox, Welsh Administrative and Territorial Units, by Melvill Richards, Caligula Manuscript, South Wales and the Border by Prof. Wm. Rees, and Gloucester County Archives.) Annexed 1536.

(11) Meirionnydd, now part of Gwynedd but originally Cantref Orddwy of Powys.

(12) Penlllyn, now part of Gwynedd but originally a Cantref of Powys.

In conclusion the status of Ellesmere should be mentioned as this is included in the list of territories annexed in 1536, but in spite of intensive research, there is nothing to show that it ever ceased to be part of the English County of Salop after that county was carved out of Eastern Powys.

The confusion arises from the fact that the lordship of Ellesmere was granted to Prince Dafydd ab Owain Gwynedd in 1177 by Henry II of England after the marriage of Dafydd to Emma, Henry's sister. After the



death of Dafydd it became English crown land under King John of England who later gave the lordship to Llywelyn ab Iorwerth Prince of Gwynedd after his marriage to Joan his daughter, but it was always regarded as the personal property of a Cymric Prince in England and was subject to English law. Other estates were held in England by Cymric Princes, i.e. Owain ap Dafydd son of Dafydd ab Owain Gwynedd was granted the estate of Hales in Warwickshire, England, which then became known as Hales Owain and now known as the town of Halesowen.

Anyone wishing to see a particular section of the Border on a larger scale can send in the relevant map of the area in question, i.e. 1:50 000 O.S. map and it can be marked for them.

Eurig ap Gwilym.

Pencenedl, CENEDL CYMRU RYDD.

Swyddog Ymohwil, Research Officer, Cofiw.

● The American branch of the Celtic League held its 7th Annual Conference at Fordham University, Manhattan, on May 17. It included lectures by Robert Lowery (Sean O'Casey centenary), Yann Piumer (Brittany: People imprisoned, culture restrained) Morgan Llywelyn (about her recently published historical novel "Lion of Ireland - the Legendary Brian Boru), Christina C. Tourin (Celtic Harp Music: History, construction, demonstration). In the evening a concert of Celtic music was held in the Irish Arts Centre, 553 W., 51 Street New York City.

● Cornish-English Dictionary, R. Morton-Nance. 104pp. (1976) Perfect condition £2 (inc. post & packing) from Eoghan Robinson, Palace House, 460 Padinham Road, Burnley, Lancashire BB12 6TD.

A Charaid,

I found Ifan Lloyd's article "The Social Status of Women in Wales" extremely interesting; but I would like to comment on one little bit of it.

He says that until the 18th century Welsh Women kept their maiden names after marriage, and he quotes from an outside source that this practice was also common in Ireland at one time. Why does he ignore Scotland, where this custom still continues? A Scottish woman does not lose her name when she marries. Legally, she retains her own name, and she must be cited by it in any criminal or civil court proceedings. Socially, most women adopt their husbands' names; but the husband's name has no legal standing, although it is customary for it to be linked with the woman's own name in legal documents. Example: in a citation for divorce, if a woman is divorcing her husband the citation would read (say) Cameron or MacDonald v. MacDonald. Reverse the procedure - the husband divorcing the wife - and it would be MacDonald v. Cameron or MacDonald.

Leis gach deagh dhurachd,

Ronald MacDonald Douglas.

A Chara,

I would be interested to know if there are any books available which deal with words of Celtic origin surviving in Romance languages in areas where Latin supplanted former Celtic languages. Perhaps some of your readers might be able to help me, if you were to publish this request in your column.

An tAth Seán Ó Coinn, An Clochán, Biorra, Uíbh Fháilghe, Éire.

#### MEMBERSHIP AND SUBSCRIPTIONS

All who agree with the constitution and aims of the Celtic League are entitled to membership. The membership fee (entitling to CARN) and the subscription rates are £3.00 for Ireland and Britain; 28.5FF (or equivalent) for Brittany and Continental Europe in general; £3.50 (or equivalent) for non-European countries (this includes airmailing). For information about the Celtic League, applications for membership, subscriptions, write to any of the secretaries:-

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