



## A happy birthday after all for king

AN attempted military coup d'état in Morocco has failed, the Moroccan news agency Maghreb Arabe Presse reported last night. Interior Minister General Mohammed Oufkir said in a communique: "The situation throughout the provinces of the kingdom is calm. King Hassan II holds the reins of power with the lucidity and the wisdom which have always characterised his action in favour of the people."

"I give the order to all civil and military authorities to stay loyal under the aegis of our monarch."

### 'In danger'

The Morocco news agency said a mutiny by seven army officers culminated the support of non-commissioned officer cadets to attack the king's seaside palace at Skirate after telling them the king was in danger.

The agency said that when the cadets recognised the king, who was giving a party to celebrate his 42nd birthday, they acclaimed him and put down their arms. The cadets still held the state radio station in Rabat. The building was surrounded by loyal troops who intended to dislodge them.

Meanwhile, the radio continued to broadcast a brief communique saying the monarchy had been overthrown. But at 23.40 the state radio in Rabat appeared to have gone off the air. Gunfire was still heard on Rabat's streets. Three army generals and the Belgian ambassador, guests at the party, were killed.

## Opposition M.P.s will 're-think'

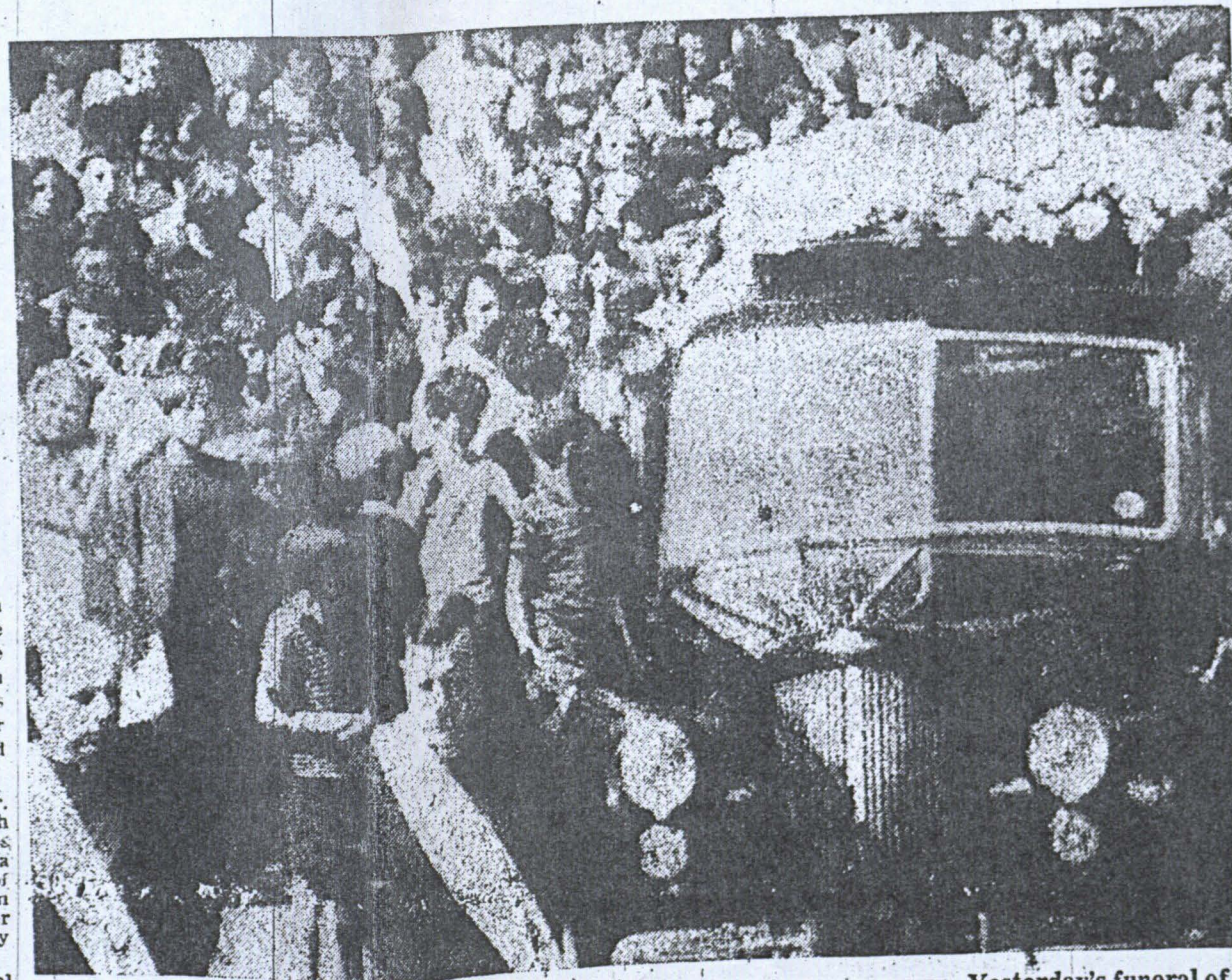
MR. IVAN COOPER, the Stormont opposition M.P., in an angry statement, yesterday, accused the Northern Ireland Premier, Mr. Faulkner, of smearing the two men killed in the Derry riots by using the terms "bomber," "gunman" and "common criminal."

He said that Mr. Faulkner in his entire remarks did not have a word of sympathy for the shooting of two innocent men and that the Stormont Premier's statement yesterday was "another attempt to cloak cold-blooded murder".

Mr. Cooper attacked Mr. Faulkner for backing British Army tactics in the Derry riots and called yesterday for a review of the whole future of parliamentary opposition in Stormont, and also a firmer stand from the 26 County Government.

The statement by the Social Democratic Labour Party M.P. revealed the serious disillusionment in opposition ranks with the Faulkner government and with parliamentary procedure at Stormont and it could be the prelude to a big return to the streets by M.P.s who have been associated with the Civil Rights Movement.

It is certainly a setback for moves by the Stormont Government to form a close working



### Over 100 perish in floods

### Reservoir guard fires at 'prowlers'

Yesterday's funeral of Desmond Beattie, 19, who was shot by troops in Derry on Thursday. The burial was at the City Cemetery in Derry.

NEW CAR PARK

## 12 shots fired at army post

GUNMEN fired two bursts of automatic fire at the Army Post in Eastway Road, Derry, early today. Twelve shots were fired but no one was hit.

Rioting continued with attacks on soldiers in Blighs Lane. Stones were hurled and troops replied with rubber bullets and CS gas. The crowd concentrated on the top of Blighs Lane and made continual attacks on the army. It was reported that three soldiers were treated in hospital for injuries.

Some soldiers moved into the grounds of St. Cecilia's Catholic School and fired rubber bullets from there.

Crowds fought a running battle with troops at the roundabout at the top of Eastway Road, outside St. Mary's Catholic Church. They hurled bricks, stones and bottles at the troops who crouched behind riot shields. Rubber bullets were fired at the crowd but eventually the soldiers were forced to retreat down Eastway Road.

They were also forced to retreat at the top of Beechwood Avenue when they came under a hail of bottles from a crowd of youths. Afterwards crowds again formed on the embankment facing the observation post into which the troop had withdrawn. They hurled stones and used mechanical earth movers to ferry stones for ammunition.



rett, Mulhuddart,  
Park Races.

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sador, guests at the party, were  
killed.

## Caging of boy will be probed

The education committee of  
Warley, Worcestershire, is to  
investigate the "imprisonment"  
of a seven-year-old boy in a  
school's pets' cages as punish-  
ment.  
The boy and an older boy had  
killed the school's pets—three  
hens, a cockerel and a guinea-  
pig.  
The boy's parents are now  
refusing to send him to Round  
Green infants' school, Oldbury.  
The assistant headmistress,  
Mrs. Joyce Stevens said that the  
boy had been put in the cage  
"so that he could see what he  
had done".

## A new play by Agatha Christie

"Fiddler's Five", a new play  
by 80-year-old Agatha Christie,  
is her first for ten years.  
It is about a tycoon's 70th  
birthday, and deals with a  
£100,000 inheritance. It will be  
presented by Mr. J. Anderson,  
who has been playing the judge  
in Miss Christie's earlier play  
"Witness For The Prosecution"  
in a recent tour at the Arts  
Theatre, Cambridge.

## Dry, warm with sunny spells

FORECAST: Munster and  
Leinster: Warm and rather  
close with sunny spells, becom-  
ing rather cloudy with perhaps  
a little light rain late in the  
day; light southwest winds  
becoming moderate or fresh.  
Connacht and Ulster: Rather  
cloudy, but with some sunny  
spells; a little rain spreading  
from the west during the day  
and clearing later; moderate or  
fresh southwest winds; close,  
with normal temperatures.  
Outlook: Dry and warm with  
sunny spells.  
Conditions yesterday were:  
Belfast 20 degrees C., fine; Cork  
21, fine; Dublin 20, fine, and  
Shannon 19, fine.



Mr. Neil Blakey, T.D., at  
the graveside of Seamus  
Cusack.

## The exodus

The exodus from the  
North continued yesterday  
with an extra 50 people—  
eight women and 42 chil-  
dren—arriving from the  
Belfast and Lisburn areas,  
but none from Derry or  
other parts of the west.  
Yesterday there were 143  
people in the Kilworth  
Camp, Co. Cork.  
The Minister for Defence,  
Mr. Cronin, has said that  
refugees should get in touch  
as soon as possible with  
army, gardai, civil defence  
or Red Cross representa-  
tives, who would advise  
them where to go and, if  
necessary, arrange for trans-  
port to an army refugee  
centre.

## Defective is 'critical'

Reading police detective Ian  
Coward is "critically ill" in  
hospital, Thames Valley police  
said last night.  
The condition of the 29-year-  
old detective constable, who  
was shot two weeks ago, was  
said in a bulletin earlier to have  
deteriorated. He had been  
"seriously ill" for several days.

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and that the Stormont Premier's  
statement yesterday was "another  
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murder".  
Mr. Couper attacked Mr.  
Faulkner for backing British  
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associated with the Civil Rights  
Movement.

It is certainly a setback for  
moves by the Stormont Govern-  
ment to form a close working  
relationship with the opposition.  
The statement said: "I believe  
that it must now be made clear  
to the Prime Minister that Derry  
will not accept the continuance  
of army presence since they have  
created unparalleled bitterness.  
Furthermore as a result of  
attempts by both himself and  
the army to conceal the truth  
about the deaths of Cusack and  
Beattie I believe that the entire  
future of parliamentary opposi-  
tion will have to be reviewed."

## 'No integrity'

"The Government of Northern  
Ireland lacks in both the in-  
tegrity and the determination to  
build justice within this com-  
munity and as a result normal  
democratic processes are useless."  
"In other words events in  
Derry in the course of the past  
few days have clearly shown the  
need for political reappraisal in  
the North and at the same time  
a more clear-cut and firm stand  
by the Government of the 26  
Counties."



## Over 100 perish in floods

More than 100 people were  
reported dead last night and  
many more missing after heavy  
floods in the vast jungles of  
southern Colombia.

Rescuers recovered 80 bodies  
after the River Putumayo over-  
flowed its banks and flooded the  
towns of Puerto Asis, Puerto  
Limon, Barbacoa and the Sibun-  
doy valley about 438 miles from  
Bogota.

Colonel Jimenez, deputy direc-  
tor of civil defence, said he  
feared more than 100 might be  
dead. He said supplies and res-  
cue workers were being flown  
into the jungle area.

## ROAD DEATH

An elderly man was killed  
when he was struck by a car  
while crossing the street at  
O'Connell Bridge early this  
morning. Gardai were waiting  
to contact his next-of-kin before  
releasing his name. The man  
was taken to the Mater Hospital.

## Reservoir guard fires at 'prowlers'

Shots were fired last night by  
a member of the Defence Forces  
security guard at the Roundwood  
reservoir when he saw "a num-  
ber of prowlers in the vicinity,"  
a spokesman for the Defence  
Forces said.

The prowlers made off and a  
search of the area was carried  
out by the Cavalry Patrol.  
Nothing was found. The spokes-  
man said there have been a num-  
ber of such incidents in the  
area recently.

## Fatal stabbing outside pub

A man died following a stab-  
bing incident outside the Wel-  
lington Bar in Conway Street,  
Belfast, early this morning.  
Police did not issue details,  
but said an early arrest was  
expected. They refused to release  
the name of the dead man.



Adrienne Johnston . . .  
weds an American song-  
writer.

## Adrienne marries on a Swedish island

In a little Catholic oratory in an  
island off Sweden, Adrienne  
Johnston of the Johnston's  
group was married yesterday.  
She married an American song-  
writer, Chris McCloud, whom  
she met in England a few  
months ago.  
None of her family were at the  
wedding, but they hope they'll  
see the newly-married couple  
when they return to London  
next week.

## On tour

The Johnstons are on a tour of  
Norway, Denmark and Sweden,  
but Adrienne decided to get  
married before the tour ended.  
Later, they plan to tour  
America.  
The island where the ceremony  
took place is just off Gotten-  
burg.

## Nothing to hide—Quinn

"We have nothing to hide,"  
said Mr. Pat Quinn, managing  
director of Quinnsworth,  
when the Consumer Associa-  
tion of Ireland erected a  
prices indicator board in the  
forecourt of Stillorgan  
Shopping Centre yesterday.  
(See page 4)

# Snowdon in row



Lord Snowden

## Threw wine at Queen's trainer

WINE flowed—and flew from  
the glass of Lord Snowden—at  
a dazzling party in London this  
week, says rumours reported  
newspaper.  
The victim, who is alleged to  
have suffered two glassfuls on  
his shirt front, was Peter  
Cazalet, the Queen Mother's  
horse trainer.  
The party, in Mayfair, was  
thrown by Jack Heinz, the  
canned food millionaire. Lord  
Snowdon allegedly threw the  
wine during a dance.  
He was then with Princess  
Margaret, but tried to cut in on  
Mr. Cazalet, 64, who was dan-  
cing with the Countess of West-  
moreland, 42. "This is not  
sal d'to have said, Lord Snowden  
is said to have thrown his glass  
of white wine over Mr.  
Cazalet's shirt front.  
The trainer and the Countess  
danced out of danger's way, say  
the stories. But Lord Snowden



Mr. Cazalet

## Belfast shooting

Police in Belfast are investi-  
gating the shooting of a 25-year-  
old Belfast man who was found  
on Friday night with bullet  
wounds in the nose and left hip.  
He is Mr. Edward Duffy, of  
McDonnell Street, who was found  
in a house in Hanabstown,  
several miles from the city.

## Yesterday's funeral of Desmond Beattie, 19, who was shot by troops in Derry on Thursday. The burial was at the City Cemetery in Derry.

## NEW CAR PARK

Work on the £11,000 car park  
at Eden Park in Sandycove is  
due to commence shortly.

army. It was reported that three  
soldiers were treated in hospital  
for injuries.  
Some soldiers moved into the  
grounds of St. Cecilia's Catholic  
School and fired rubber bullets  
from there.  
Crowds fought a running battle  
with troops at the roundabout at  
the top of Eastway Road, outside  
St. Mary's Catholic Church. They  
hurled bricks, stones and bottles  
at the troops who crouched  
behind riot shields. Rubber  
bullets were fired at the crowd  
but eventually the soldiers were  
forced to retreat down Eastway  
Road.  
They were also forced to  
retreat at the top of Beechwood  
Avenue when they came under a  
hail of bottles from a crowd of  
youths. Afterwards crowds again  
formed on the embankment  
facing the observation post into  
which the troop had withdrawn.  
They hurled stones and used  
mechanical earth movers to ferry  
stones for ammunition.  
At one stage, soldiers fired

on 35/31(2)

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THE START OF SOMETHING  
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409G.P. 11/7/71



## DESMOND FENNELL ON SUNDAY

### Two possible political solutions



PUTTING honesty in place of pretence is always constructive. By deciding to withdraw from the West British parliament and convene a Northern Ireland parliament in Derry, the S.D.L.P. has given a constructive lead.

It is a step in the direction which I advocated here last July. Then I wrote that the time had come for the Northern minority to build "their own law and order" — as distinct from West British law and order — in as much of the North as they can control. For this, I said, they needed "something like the Sinn Féin Dail" — based on the defence committees and similar bodies in town and country.

Whether or not the Derry parliament fulfils this role, it can contribute to the political solution which is urgently needed in the North. It can let us hear what precise political arrangement the Northern minority desire, and consider feasible, for now.

Only a change in the political set-up in the North can stop the fighting and suffering. General Tuzo, John Hume, Austin Currie and Gerry Fitt have said this. Surely it is time Mr. Lynch took note and stopped talking about political solutions, by peaceful means, around the year 2000 — if the Orangemen are good enough to agree.

The parliamentarians condemn the I.R.A., but the I.R.A. is the force that has filled the vacuum of political initiative and political expertise. Along with the British army and the ordinary people, it bears the burden of the politicians' helplessness. This is how parliament and democracy fall.

Fine speeches, protests to London, complaints about "army brutality", calls for re-routing of marches, expressions of sympathy, condemnations of violence, moral posturings, efforts "not to exacerbate the situation in the North" — all the tired stock-in-trade of the Dublin Government and Opposition, and of the Northern Opposition, has had its day. To continue peddling these lines, while the suffering goes on and worsens, is callous mockery of the people's needs.

The onus of proposing an immediate political solution does not rest on Britain. The onus lies on the Irish nation, North and South. Its dilemma of the

there is the first and basic cause of the present fighting, suffering and killing. If we accept the status quo, there would be none of that.

Essentially, there are two kinds of political arrangement which would bring peace to the North within a matter of months. One represents the maximum amount of change which is possible now; the other, the minimum amount which is needed to produce peace. Both could be implemented, given the necessary leadership and will on the Irish side and the British side. The solution of "maximum possible change" would be the transfer by Westminster to Dublin of its authority and responsibilities in the Six Counties, with no internal change in the political structure of Northern Ireland. Because of the security situation, this transfer would need to be made secretly and suddenly.

In a single night, the British army presence would be replaced, by an Irish army presence supported by the Northern republican militias. Martial law would be declared for a month. The maintenance of the political status quo in the North would be publicly guaranteed. If the Stormont government proved recalcitrant, neither its subsidies would be withheld by Dublin or it would be suspended and replaced, temporarily, by a military council.

The alternative to this is a solution which would leave the Ulster Protestants their British connection, give the Northern minority a connection with the Republic, and change the North's internal political set-up considerably.

Northern Ireland would be declared an international territory under the joint administration of the Irish Republic and the United Kingdom. An Irish Governor and a British Governor would be appointed. The citizens could opt for Irish or British citizenship, each of these citizen bodies constituting a "recognised nationality".

The parliament would be elected by the two nationalities on separate voters' registers. The Northern Ireland cabinet

## The boycott of Stormont pinpoints the trouble of Northern Ireland, says Claud Gordon.

WHILE armchair thinkers have been busy thinking out their theories for a new settlement of the "Irish problem", the actual agony being endured by ordinary people in the present deteriorating days of political crisis within the Six Counties has given birth to an idea which could eventually prove to be a realistic way out of an apparently bottomless bog.

While those dirty words, "a political solution", continue to cause paroxysms of apoplexy even among the reasonable men who today occupy Stormont Castle, the urgent needs of the actual situation now look like compelling events along a general direction towards the shape of change to come.

The dramatic decision by Stormont's largest and most moderate Opposition group, the Social Democratic and Labour Party, to quit the Unionist-dominated assembly marks the turning point.

The Party's proposals to discuss the setting up of an alternative popular assembly contain the germ of that idea so eagerly sought after for a new political solution — so long as proper advantage is taken of the initial, courageous step.

For, whatever the immediate reasons, the walk-out from Stormont by the SDLP Members — backed up by the Nationalist and Republican Labour representatives — is seen as a radical re-adjustment to the realities of the Six-County set-up.

It is an action which pinpoints what the trouble is all about. And the trouble is simply that it is too late for any Unionist Government and its friendly gathering of brethren at Stormont to pretend to reform themselves — however generous their gestures — if they will still not yield an inch.

Far, far too late. Too late, even, for Mr. Brian Faulkner, the latest and most ardent in a series of reforming Unionist Prime Ministers, acting under the compulsion of saving their own political positions, to come up with offers to the Opposition of "participation" in committees whose powers are known beforehand to be negligible.

Today, there can be no under-estimation of the implications of a boycott of Stormont by every member of the Opposition except for the faithful, one-and-only Northern Ireland Labour man, Mr. Vivian Simpson. It can mark only the total breakdown of the imitation-democratic system which has existed so long on its own make-believe.

Today there is no question of that former, negative and sterile abstention policy under which Opposition MPs got "elected" and then went home to sleep for five years.

What is proposed is a policy of active abstention in an alternative assembly which, if properly organised, could quickly become an effective power in the land, exerting actual and responsible authority and wielding considerable moral influence.

The danger to Unionism of this new departure was recognised at once by the Stormont Premier, Mr. Faulkner, who —

# It's too late, Mr. Faulkner

single amendment proposed by the Opposition was thrown out by the same old not-an-inch-voting machine.

The immediate cause of the Opposition revolt was not merely the tragic events in Derry and the killing of two young men by British Army soldiers. Nor was it altogether the refusal of the British authorities to hold an impartial inquiry.

The attitude of the Prime Minister, Mr. Faulkner himself, was largely to blame for touching off the political crisis, for he displayed not an ounce of humanity in his own immediate reaction to the bloody episode.

Symptomatic, indeed, of the political sickness in the Six Counties is the savagery of the selective sympathy expressed by the system's political defenders in the face of violent death.

Whereas the Taoiseach, Mr. Jack Lynch, was able to convey his condolences to the relatives of the two British soldiers who died as well as to the relatives of the two "dead" Derry men, the attitude of the Unionist Party is epitomised by the behaviour of small men like the Lord Mayor of Belfast, Alderman Joseph Cairns, whose gushing sorrow flows only if a British soldier is the victim.

Unquestionably, the two soldiers and the two civilians who died were all equally the

"real and effective participation" and "constructive work together" cuts no ice. Indeed, the Stormont Premier only succeeded in raising Opposition hackles all the more.

Referring to the Derry riots, he mentioned "the real guilty men of Londonderry" whom he said were behind them. Too late. Far too late, for he never had a word to say about the guilty, faceless men who created the situation in the city when they ruled the roost there.

Referring to the British Government, he declared that Mr. Heath "will not allow a part of the United Kingdom to become a stamping ground for thuggery". "Become", did he say? Too late again. He had no word to say about thuggery in the days of Burntfort and the Armagh civil rights marches.

Mr. Faulkner accuses. He accuses all around him. Everyone gets it but the Unionist Party and its record at Stormont. Earlier in the week he even accused Mr. Lynch (once again) of "encouraging the terrorists" by suggesting that Britain should take a cautious stand in favour of Irish unity.

Anyone who mentions a "political solution" is encouraging the terrorists, in the eyes of Mr. Faulkner — and that includes the British army commander and various British Ministers in the Defence Department.

## COMMENT

by Frank Ward

BORD IASCAIGH MHARA is to take a French boat building firm to court on behalf of four Irish trawler owners. They bought boats from the French and later discovered them to be rotting.

I do not intend to comment on this matter as I know nothing about it.

But during the week the Liffey Dockyard was reported as having put in a bid for the huge Upper Clyde Shipyard.

Now if the Dublin yard is large enough to take over the Scottish yard, then surely it should be equipped to build a few fishing trawlers and not have to go to France for them.

### NURSING A CAUSE

THE Irish Nurses' Organisation has asked the Minister for Finance for a better income tax deal for married nurses. It makes the point that many hospitals could not function without the help of married nurses.

Of course they should be treated much better. But so should many more married women. We can't improve it for one section and ignore the others. Let us improve it for everyone.

### THE IRISH QUESTION

IN the Dail during the week, Dr. FitzGerald of Fine Gael brought up the question of compulsory Irish in examinations in relation to children from the Six Counties.

He was speaking about the children of parents from the Six Counties who took up residence in the South. He felt they should be excused from having to pass Irish.

He was told that these children were treated in the same manner to those from the rest of the country. Thousands of Six Counties children had attended schools in the South and special arrangements were made so that they could acquire the necessary knowledge of Irish.

I think that they should be exempted from the rule. In most cases these children will be returning North after their examinations. And the Irish language will hardly be of much use to them.

### THE CHANGING CHEMIST

THE Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland has asked the Government to ban the sale of cameras, cosmetics, health foods and jewellery from chemist shops. The Society wants chemists to specialise in medicine and nothing else.

I am all for it. This is already the case in Belgium and France. This would also mean that supermarkets would not be allowed to sell any kind of medicine.

### THE NUMBERS' GAME

THE Minister for Posts and Telegraphs advises people to check their telephone bills when they arrive, because mistakes can be made. That's decent of him to admit that his Department is not beyond error.

But how does one check one's telephone bill? Is one expected to take a note of every single call made over a period of a few months? Life is tedious enough without having to go to all this bother.

### CHILD BEGGARS

A READER writes to say that she was returning to her car at one of the Dublin carparks with an English visitor late one night last week. As they neared the car, they were surrounded by about two dozen children whose ages ranged from seven to fourteen.

"They began begging for money and foolishly we gave a few pennies. They swarmed around us and prevented us getting into the car for a long time. It was embarrassing and frightening."

"The visitor remarked that it reminded her of Sicily. You can imagine the impression of Dublin that she took home with her. As if our tourist season wasn't bad enough?"

### HATS OFF

Sheamus Smith who says that interference in do

No 'Sev say

SHEAMUS S Days," admits but says that of attack.

"You cannot please people all of the time. If there are stories about social evils, the programme is subject of a trial won't stop up from injustices."

The 35-year-old photographer and dancer points out the story, giving all people should be screened body is hurt.

"We certainly won't hurt anybody or think our function is to inform and if you that's an added bonus. I don't envisage changes in format. There is a good to carry on the tradition of our former Mac Coghail."

Europe Sheamus, a B man, feels that in programmes, there of an emphasis on Europe, in view



parliamentary and democratic fall.

Fine speeches, protests to London, complaints about "army brutality", calls for reconciliation, calls for re-routing of marches, expressions of sympathy, condemnations of violence, moral posturings, efforts "not to exacerbate the situation in the North" — all the tired stock-in-trade of the Dublin Government and Opposition, and of the Northern Opposition, has had its day. To continue peddling these lines, while the suffering goes on and worsens, is callous mockery of the people's needs.

The onus of proposing an immediate political solution does not rest on Britain. The onus lies on the Irish nation, North and South, its dislike of the political set up in the North and its demand for change

The alternative to this is a solution which would leave the Ulster Protestants their British connection, give the Northern minority a connection with the Republic, and change the North's internal political set-up considerably.

Northern Ireland would be declared an international territory under the joint administration of the Irish Republic and the United Kingdom. An Irish Governor and a British Governor would be appointed. The citizens could opt for Irish or British citizenship, each of these citizen bodies constituting a "recognised nationality".

The parliament would be elected by the two nationalities on separate voters' registers. The Northern Ireland cabinet would be chosen by the two Governors jointly from the elected members of parliament. Garrisons of Irish and British troops would be stationed in the North.

The first solution would have the advantage of being clearly final. But it would cause bitterness in the Protestant North which would take a long time to die—as long as Scottish bitterness took after the imposed union with England.

The second solution would be accepted as reasonable by all but diehards. It would leave the way open for republican irredentists to start trouble again. But they would not have the popular support which they now have.

However, no political solution will be implemented unless political leaders, North and South, tell the British, very clearly, which solution the Irish nation demands. And if there's no political solution, the suffering, violence and death will continue.

breakdown of the imitation-democratic system which has existed so long on its own make-believe.

Today there is no question of that former, negative and sterile abstention policy under which Opposition MPs got "elected" and then went home to sleep for five years.

What is proposed is a policy of active abstention in an alternative assembly which, if properly organised, could quickly become an effective power in the land, exerting actual and responsible authority and wielding considerable moral influence.

The danger to Unionism of this new departure was recognised at once by the Stormont Premier, Mr. Faulkner, who — in his most alarmist statement to date, which was reminiscent of Terence O'Neill at his famous "crossroads" — chose to deliver a lecture the other day on "the duty of a responsible Opposition".

Waxing virtuous, he told them that "parliamentary representation is the right of the people" and that "it is not a moral act to disfranchise them".

Too late. Far, far too late. For the Opposition answer is simply: "Who disfranchised the people? Who cynically over-rode every democratically expressed aspiration of the minority?"

The leader of the SDLP, Mr. Gerry Fitt, MP, who has become known for his efforts to reach an acceptable arrangement within Stormont, remarked in disgust during the week that they had "got nowhere".

Even in debates on a recent Bill governing the rules of social benefit payments, every

political sickness in the Six Counties is the savagery of the selective sympathy expressed by the system's political defenders in the face of violent death.

Whereas the Taoiseach, Mr. Jack Lynch, was able to convey his condolences to the relatives of the two British soldiers who died as well as to the relatives of the two dead Derry-men, the attitude of the Unionist Party is epitomised by the behaviour of small men like the Lord Mayor of Belfast, Alderman Joseph Cairns, whose gushing sorrow flows only if a British soldier is the victim.

Unquestionably, the two soldiers and the two civilians who died were all equally the victims of the unfolding tragedy which marks the disintegration of the Unionist system.

Unquestionably, two of them were well armed when they died. Two of them, by all eyewitness accounts, were not armed at all. And so emotive words like "murder" are freely bandied about.

Understandably, the Opposition MPS swept aside the suggestion that they should wait for the coroner's court to establish the circumstances of the shooting of the two Derry-men.

By practice, now at such inquests, the chief witnesses are mystery men from the British Army, un-named and unidentified apart from "Private X" or "Sergeant Z" — a fact which inspires little confidence in the general public.

So the general mood is such that Mr. Faulkner's latest statement last Thursday about

say? Too late again. He had no word to say about thuggery in the days of Burntollet and the Armagh civil rights marches.

Mr. Faulkner accuses. He accuses all around him. Everyone gets it but the Unionist Party and its record at Stormont. Earlier in the week he even accused Mr. Lynch (once again) of "encouraging the terrorists" by suggesting that Britain should take a cautious stand in favour of Irish unity.

Anyone who mentions a "political solution" is encouraging the terrorists, in the eyes of Mr. Faulkner — and that includes the British army commander and various British Ministers in the Defence Department.

"What madness is it?" asks Mr. Faulkner in his statement about the Derry riots. It is the madness of the Stormont Government's resistance to real political change which, in the view of many observers, is now the greatest encouragement to terrorism that can be found in the six Counties.

The parliamentary Opposition have had enough of the game. By taking the first, tentative steps now towards the creation of an alternative moral authority, outside Stormont, they could be constructing a framework which could eventually provide a basis for ending the Unionist power monopoly.

If they can find an agreed formula for operating an active Opposition assembly, broadened perhaps to include wider area delegates, they will certainly be on the way to providing the new political solution which the armchair thinkers never thought of.

expected to take a note of every single call made over a period of a few months? Life is tedious enough without having to go to all this bother.

POL 35/31(4)

## CHILD BEGGARS

A READER writes to say that she was returning to her car at one of the Dublin car parks with an English visitor late one night last week. As they neared the car, they were surrounded by about two dozen children whose ages ranged from seven to fourteen.

"They began begging for money and foolishly we gave a few pennies. They swarmed around us and prevented us getting into the car for a long time. It was embarrassing and frightening."

"The visitor remarked that it reminded her of Sicily. You can imagine the impression of Dublin that she took home with her. As if our tourist season wasn't bad enough?"

## HATS OFF

THE Blood Transfusion Service went along to Leinster House and the Party leaders and over sixty Deputies responded to the appeal. This, I imagine was basically an exercise in public relations.

The Service needed a boost of interest. The 'bank' had been very low earlier in the week, possibly because of the fine weather.

Let us hope that the good example given by the people who shape our lives, will not go unheeded.

**DEPOSIT 50p**

Ladies' 17-Jewel Lever Gold Plated Watch. Excellent timekeeper. Five years' guarantee. Posted to you for 50p deposit. Balance to be paid in five monthly payments of £1.40. Total £7.50. Cash price £7.35. With rolled gold, expanding bracelet, 50p deposit, and five monthly payments of £1.70.



**50p DEPOSIT**

Gent's 17-Jewel Lever Gold-Plated Watch. Waterproof. Shockproof. Anti-magnetic. Luminous. Excellent timekeeper. Five years' guarantee. 50p deposit and five monthly payments of £1.40. Total £7.50. Cash Price £7.35.



**50p DEPOSIT**

Gent's 17-Jewel Lever Gold-Plated Watch. Waterproof. Shockproof. Anti-magnetic. Rolled Gold, expanding bracelet. Excellent timekeeper. Five years' guarantee. 50p deposit and five monthly payments of £1.70. Total £9.00. Cash Price £8.85.



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Feast: 16th Sunday of the year.  
Thought for Today: There is no substitute for love.

Suggested Spiritual reading: St. James 1. 19-27.

His wife is a chronic invalid, almost helpless. They have no children. She needs constant attention. He gives it. He has been giving it for more than twenty years. It is given, not only with goodwill but with obvious love. Why not send her into a "Home"? His answer? "I'd take the slates off the roof and sell them first!"

I hope you read the three instalments on Mother Teresa published in April in The Sunday Press. They are also obtainable in book form. This amazing woman began by picking up people left to die on the streets of Calcutta. "The first woman I myself picked up. She had been half eaten by the rats and the ants. I took her to the hospital but they could not do anything for her. They took her in only because I refused to move till they accepted her."

That is more than twenty years ago. Mother Teresa has since founded an Order of nuns whose vocation is to help in every way the poorest of the poor. Aspirants are flowing in and the work has extended and "we have lost few, very very few, of our aspirants; you could count them on your fingers." Nine years ago she founded a similar Congre-

by Rev. Robert Nash, S.J.

gation for Brothers. They number 92. These too, are increasing and they do the same exact work and live in the same poverty as the Sisters. "At present we are in 25 cities in India, and outside India we are in Ceylon, Tanzania, in Venezuela and Rome. As long as God gives us vocations it is a sign that He wishes us to spread and wherever there are poor we shall go and serve them."

The poor people are hungry and naked and homeless and unwashed, covered with sores, often victims of leprosy in an advanced stage. Mother Teresa and her Congregation are their servants; there is nothing humanly possible they would not do for them. But—and this is my reason for introducing her at all—what hurts most, she assures us, is the feeling that they are unloved and unwanted. There is a picture of the nun holding close to her heart a tiny baby who is clinging close to her. How obviously she loves him, and how clear it is that he has been starved, not only for lack of food and drink, but also for affection.

"This is her secret: this is fundamental in the training of her novices; from the start they must make contact with the

poor, and feed them and wash them and be their servants. But all this is not enough. They must love them; they must give them their heart as well as their hand and hands.

To be unloved, to be made feel one is unwanted, this is perhaps the most acute pain of all. To give, not only one's goods and one's time and one's money to relieve those in need, is much indeed. But it is not enough. Mother Teresa experiences "a happiness no one can take from me." Because she has given herself; because these poor people realise that they are wanted; that they are loved; and that love itself has a further secret. They are God's children, and whatever is done to them and for them is done to Christ. "In the Blessed Sacrament we have Jesus under the appearance of bread; in the slums, in the broken body, of the children, we see Christ and we touch Him."

What a revolting contrast to all this we find in the campaign for abortion and contraception! a hideous distortion that a mother should grow callous as to stifle that beautiful maternal instinct and submit to an operation to rid herself of her unwanted child. That medical men will be found to out-Herod Herod in a slaughter of innocents, and invent for their brutality the grandiose name "termination of a pregnancy!"

How does the mother feel

I wonder, who, after rearing a family of seven or eight, is not wanted by any of them in her old age? Who is pushed into a "Home" to be cared for by strangers and eat her heart out in loneliness? How did Christ feel when, standing on the balcony of Pilate's palace, His body bleeding after an inhuman scourging, His head crowned with thorns, He looked down through blood and tears at the mob surging below Him in the street? "Away with Him! We don't want Him. Crucify Him!" Except for His Mother and Magdalene and John, who were somewhere there in the crowd, He was utterly alone, unloved, unwanted. It is especially good for those who share His experience, often to recall that scene. "I have trodden the vinepress alone; I sought for one that would grieve together with Me and there was none; not one."

Are we, right in suspecting that many of our youth, for all their assumption of boisterousness, are in reality lonely in heart? Is their contempt for convention in manner and dress, a smokescreen behind which to conceal, even from themselves, their feeling of frustration and aloneness? Some of the "toughs" when made to realise that they are accepted, reveal their true selves and we find them to be, at heart, utterly sincere, considerate, with the stuff in them which produces a Mother Teresa of Calcutta.

# UNWANTED

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other points out in story, giving all should be screened body is hurt.

"We certainly want anybody to think our function is to inform and if you that's an added bonus."

"I don't envisage changes in form. It can't be any. There is a good to carry on the track by our former Mac Conghail."

**Euro**

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"There will be interest in Europe there. Men in fa



**Thieves with Pre**

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**STUDENTS**

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DESMOND FENNELL  
ON SUNDAY

## Squatting while the North burns



A FEW WEEKS back, I referred to the irrelevancy of what now passes in the Republic for "the public debate" and declared my intention of ignoring it, to talk about fundamental issues. You have an example of that irrelevancy these last weeks. The Dáil has been debating "squatting" while the North burns.

Doubtless this will pass into history as something comparable to Nero's fiddling. And the heroes of the farce will be the Fine Gael and Labour deputies. By deliberate choice, they have decided that this is an appropriate moment in Irish affairs to spend weeks on end disputing a section of the Forcible Entry Bill.

Which section? The section that makes it illegal to encourage people to occupy other people's property. They call that "Fascist" and say it threatens the freedom of the press, radio and television.

But they have had nothing to say about the freedom of half a million of our people in the North—how their freedom is to be achieved and how they are to be given institutional and legal expression. They condemn the violent methods which some of them are using to achieve their freedom. They say tut-tut as loudly as any.

But they propose no political solution which will bring the violence to an end. Their mental energies are devoted to squatting.

During the week, Garret Fitzgerald made a speech which tut-tutted at everyone from the Provisionals to Jack Lynch. But neither did Mr. Fitzgerald propose a political solution—or even a military one—which would bring peace to the North.

Conor Cruise O'Brien wrote in the *Children's Commemoration Committee*, tut-tutting about their commemoration and, in retrospect, about the War of Independence. The moral superiority of these liberals over ordinary patriotic morals is something which they never miss a chance to point out. But Dr. O'Brien's concern about the bad effects of the *Children's Commemoration* of the situation in the North does not extend to proposing a practical solution to the trouble there.

My friends, it makes one angry. If we Irish in the 26 counties are not willing to build up an

moransing waffle. This, God help us, was decisive action. The "moderates", turned Sinn Féiners, had let their uncles down.

The S.D.L.P. move can produce a clarification of the situation if they get the breakaway assembly established fast—and if it really reflects the out-feelings of the Catholic population. For then we can hope to know, clearly and cogently, what solution the Northern minority want for now. Let them state their demands as clearly as the Orangemen did in 1912.

Last Monday, the most important political document published in Ireland since 1925 saw the light of day. It contained the key to the solution of many major social problems: the overgrowth of Dublin, the social decay of the West and North-West, the lack of native economic enterprise, even the unification of Ireland. Naturally, since it was this important, it was ignored by all the public commentators.

I refer to the statement sent by the Irish Local Government Officials' Union to the Minister for Roads and Housing (commonly known as the Minister for "Local Government"). It was important not only because of its content but because of the body which issued it. The Local Government Officials' Union are not some mad-hat political splinter-group, but a corporation of persons deeply involved in the administration of the state.

They proposed to the Government the establishment of a commission to investigate ways and means of decentralising government and introducing real local government in all spheres of public decision-making and administration. The commission would concern itself "with the activities of all Government Departments and make recommendations for the decentralisation of such activities of the Departments

# Britain's choice on the North Repression or the conference table

The current political crisis that grips the North of Ireland is clearly recognisable by everyone involved to be the worst yet. Its effect on many people, including public figures, has been to produce a level of hysteria in keeping with the depth of the crisis. The result has been a plethora of statements from every quarter imaginable, most of them negative both in their content and their tone, few pointing a clear way out of the mess that threatens to engulf this whole island.

It is therefore, I feel, of value at this time, when everyone, including apparently the British Government, appears to be reacting to immediate events, to set down yet again what those of us who have been trying by peaceful and constitutional means to produce a solution to this problem, have been saying consistently since the current crisis began over two years ago. Today, because we have found the logic of our position and have followed to its logical end the consistency of our argument by withdrawing from participation in the system, we are pilloried as unconstructive and inconsistent or as "reacting to pressure". The facts are otherwise.

George V came to Belfast in 1921 in spite of the serious situation then obtaining to open the Northern Ireland Parliament. He spoke genuinely about his hopes that the settlement then produced would provide a basis for peace and stability in Ireland. He saw the problem in an Irish context: "Everything that touches the Six Counties touches Ireland as a whole." Yet the settlement which he came to implement and the system which he came to initiate were wanted by no one in Ireland.

Carson regarded it as a defeat. Craigavon disapproved and no Irish member of the Westminster Parliament at that time, including the Unionists, voted for it. They too saw the problem in an Irish context.

Fifty years later, the grand-daughter of George V was unable to come to Belfast, because of the critical situation, to participate in the 50th anniversary of the setting up of the system. Could there be a clearer lesson that the system initiated by act of parliament in 1920 was a failure? And yet the successors of the British Government of 1920, and the successors of Carson and Craigavon are today defending that system and are refusing to see the problem, as everyone in 1920 saw it, in an Irish context.

Fifty years of Unionist rule have meant that politics in Northern Ireland have in every election been reduced to one issue—the maintenance of the Government of Ireland Act, 1920. Every election has been a referendum for the retention of a system that no one wanted and instead of generosity on the part of the Unionist majority we have had their defensive mentality summarised in their slogans of

AN  
EXCLUSIVE  
ARTICLE  
BY  
JOHN  
HUME, M.P.



reason: that the people there have respect for the institutions of law and order and co-operate with them. Not so in Northern Ireland.

Instead there is very little confidence particularly in the troubled ghetto areas in the institutions of law and order that derive from the Northern Ireland system. Co-operation with the system is seen as a greater evil than the violence which most people deplore.

Hence repressive measures bring no solution. They either

bury the problem, or they have

There has been an extensive programme of legislative reform. The British Government pinned its hopes on the success of that programme. So did we all and in full supported that programme. But to us, the reality of reform has always meant more than the letter of the law. It has meant a change of heart as well. The change of heart has not been forthcoming on the part of the Unionist Party.

career, until recently has been devoted to the maintenance of "no surrender" politics and who heads a government containing men who voted for the downfall of his two predecessors and one of whom, for example, still remains chairman of the notorious and injustice ridden Fermanagh Co. Council, and another of whom actually led the anti-reform campaign within the Unionist Party.

Hence, the present administration, headed by Faulkner has no credibility whatsoever among the Northern minority. Any credibility that existed was finally exploded a few weeks ago when Mr. Faulkner and half the members of his government obliged a summons from the leaders of the Orange Order, of which they are members, to attend a meeting in Lurgan to discuss security policy relating to Orange parades—parades which threatened the peace of Northern Ireland.

Yet those same Orange leaders had a few weeks previously publicly urged their followers to defy a ban imposed by the security forces on an Orange parade through the predominantly Catholic town of Dungiven. Where else in the world would a government or Prime Minister behave like this?

Is it any wonder that we have no confidence in them or that we and those we represent can now see no future in the present system and have withdrawn our consent from it.

Is it unreasonable that we should come to the conclusion that we require constitutional guarantees for our position and that of the people that we represent. The Unionist population have not only always had constitutional guarantees for their position, they have sought and are seeking an almost weekly reiteration of them.

One possible explanation of the reluctance of the British Government "to act in the way that we suggest", is that British

## COMMENT

by Frank Ward

DUBLIN CORPORATION has the hard neck to appeal against certain proposed improvements to the precincts of Christ Church Cathedral, on the grounds that it would result in a serious reduction of the existing landscaped open spaces.

It goes on to say, and this is really laughable, that what was proposed would be visually objectionable to the amenities of the area.

Now as everyone knows, the same Corporation has grand plans to stick up a massive office complex between the Cathedral and the Liffey.

Now if that will not be visually objectionable, I don't know what is.

Or does it mean that there has been a change of heart about the proposed offices.

### DRINKING CODE

ONE has to welcome the new list of rules for drink advertising which has just come into effect. It is a voluntary business drawn up by the advertising people. As it is voluntary, it means there is no obligation attached but one assumes that if someone steps out of line he will quickly be hauled back into step.

My only criticism of the rules is that they do not go far enough. One of them suggests that people obviously over the age of 18 should only be used in such advertising.

Surely it would have been wiser to raise that to 21 years.

### LOWER E.S.B. CHARGES

DUBLIN CITY publicans want lower ESB charges. They have been pressing for this for some time and the recent increase came as a great shock.

I'm sorry for them, in the same way as I'm sorry for the rest of us.

But I don't see why they should be any different. I don't see why they should be given a reduced rate just because they are using a lot of it. We are all in the same boat and I dislike seeing people trying to jump overboard. We're in this together.

### WHY THEY DIDN'T

ALAN CARSON, Acting Secretary of An Taisce, writes in connection with my comments on its absence from the Gallagher press conference on the Leeson Street Development.

"Unfortunately the telephone call inviting us left too short notice for us to arrange for a qualified representative to attend, much as we would have wished it.

"By the way, An Taisce has not issued any 'warning' on this. In response to a Press query, we referred to our Dublin Study of 1966—and to the Draft Plan itself—both of which refer to the need for particularly thoughtful development of the small remaining central area of distinctive character, which includes Lower Leeson Street. When the plans are available for detailed study, we shall be in a position to comment."

That's fair enough.

### THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

IRISH rider Tommy Brennan came second in an event at Balmoral. Instead of the customary National Anthem to mark the event, the organisers played "The Irish Washerwoman" instead.

Have we reached a state of affairs that the playing of the Irish anthem at a horse show in Belfast is liable to lead to a riot. No official reason was given for not playing the Irish anthem, but I take it to be this.

### THE CIVIL SERVICE

I ASKED last week what was wrong with our Civil Service that it was finding it almost impossible to recruit staff and, more important still, keep them. A reader suggests that in his view the situation is easily remedied.

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Mr. Fitzgerald propose a political solution—or even a military one—which would bring peace to the North.

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My friends, it makes one angry. If we Irish in the 26 counties are not willing to build up an army which will liberate our people by force of arms, then the very least we can do is offer them the help of our practical intelligence and practical support in devising and implementing a solution which will end their suffering. Two weeks ago, I made my own proposals here. I think that our elected representatives must be able to do as much.

For their part, the SDLP have given a constructive lead. It was unwelcome to the liberal editors in London, Dublin and New York. Why? Because it threatened to clarify the situation, to bring events to a head. Another plank was pulled from the platform of endless

not only because of its content but because of the body which issued it. The Local Government Officials Union are not some mad-hat political splinter-group, but a corporation of persons deeply involved in the administration of the state.

They proposed to the Government the establishment of a commission to investigate ways and means of decentralising government and introducing real local government in all spheres of public decision-making and administration. The commission would concern itself "with the activities of all Government Departments and make recommendations for the decentralisation of such activities of the Departments as might be more appropriately handled by the local authorities".

Politely rejecting the conception of "local government" which holds sway in the 26 counties, the statement went on to say: "A more fundamental definition would describe local government as the basic socio-political, territorial unit of government, the unit to comprise a community providing their own social and economic services for themselves, taking an active and constructive part in the business of government, and deciding for themselves within the limits of what national policies and local resources would allow".

Even if we have had to wait a long time for it, this statement is a very welcome sign that Irish local government officials have actually begun to think.

system initiated by act of parliament in 1920 was a failure? And yet the successors of the British Government of 1920, and the successors of Carson and Craigavon are today defending that system and are refusing to see the problem, as everyone in 1920 saw it, in an Irish context.

Fifty years of Unionist rule have meant that politics in Northern Ireland have in every election been reduced to one issue—the maintenance of the Government of Ireland Act, 1920. Every election has been a referendum for the retention of a system that no one wanted and instead of generosity on the part of the Unionist majority we have had their defensive mentality summarised in their slogans of "not an inch" and "no surrender" produce the serious injustices in the political, social and economic fields which have been exposed by impartial observers and admitted by the British Government itself.

The result of all this has been 50 years of one party rule with the Opposition unheeded throughout that period, reduced to the role of giving respectability and an appearance of democracy where none exists and where opposition members and the people they represent have been totally alienated from the whole system of government and the institutions that derive from it.

Therein lies the root of the problem of violence in Northern Ireland. Riot situations in the streets of Birmingham or any British city can easily be brought under control for the simple

## HUME, M.P.

reason that the people there have respect for the institutions of law and order and co-operate with them. Not so in Northern Ireland.

Instead there is very little confidence particularly in the troubled ghetto areas in the institutions of law and order that derive from the Northern Ireland system. Co-operation with the system is seen as a greater evil than the violence which most people deplore.

Hence repressive measures bring no solution. They either bury the problem, as they have done before in the '20s, '30s and '50s, to rear its head again at another time, or they risk causing mass reaction as is happening at the present time causing an increase in sympathy for violent forces. The only solution is a system to which people can give their consent and co-operation.

That this conclusion has not now been reached by the Westminster Government can only remain a source of surprise if not amazement. When the British Government intervened directly in Northern Ireland affairs in August 1969, put its army on the streets to restore order and protect the Catholic community and forced a reform programme on a reluctant Unionist Government, what did such intervention after 50 years mean other than that the system of government in Northern Ireland had failed to produce the con-

ditions for peace, justice and stability?

There has been an extensive programme of legislative reform. The British Government pinned its hopes on the success of that programme. So did we, all and in full supported that programme. But to us, the reality of reform has always meant more than the letter of the law. It has meant a change of heart as well. The change of heart has not been forthcoming on the part of the Unionist Party.

There has been instead a significant hardening proving our oft-argued thesis that Unionism and justice were incompatible.

The evidence for such hardening of heart is incontrovertible, in spite of some honourable exceptions within the Unionist Parliamentary Party and the Unionist population as a whole. We have witnessed the steady rise of support for the anti-reform movement in the person of Paisley and reflected in electoral figures. We have witnessed the downfall of Terence O'Neill and James Chichester-Clark, both brought down by right-wing anti-reform forces in the Unionist party.

We now witness an administration headed by a man, described by Harold Wilson only two years ago as a hard-liner, one whose whole political

in the world would a government or Prime Minister behave like this?

Is it any wonder that we have no confidence in them or that we and those we represent can now see no future in the present system and have withdrawn our consent from it.

Is it unreasonable that we should come to the conclusion that we require constitutional guarantees for our position and that of the people that we represent. The Unionist population have not only always had constitutional guarantees for their position, they have sought and are seeking an almost weekly reiteration of them.

One possible explanation of the reluctance of the British Government "to act in the way that we suggest", is that British public opinion has been alienated by the deaths of British soldiers in our streets. It is understandable that the man in the street in Britain should react in this way, for the man in the street will always react to immediate events. It is not so understandable in governments whose duty it is to take a longer term view.

It is therefore worth recalling the circumstances which brought British troops to our streets.

Their arrival followed 18 months of protest against injustice in Northern Ireland, protest that is now agreed on all sides — except right-wing Unionists — to have been justified. Throughout that period the protests were largely peaceful and many of them were met by violence on the part of the "forces of law and order" or by the cudgel-bearing Unionist extremists.

Finally in August, 1969, took place what can only be described as the most horrible of many horrible events that have taken place in recent years in Northern Ireland.

Four hundred Catholic families were systematically burned out of their homes in the Falls Road area of Belfast by Unionist extremists and innocent people were shot dead. The horror of those pogroms was the immediate reason for the arrival of the British army and their presence as such was welcomed.

To many people, the events in the Falls Road are mere statistics. To many others, particularly those who live there, they were and are a living horror and it is therefore not remarkable, indeed it was practically inevitable, that there should be born a body of opinion in that area determined that this should not happen again and which took steps to arm itself to ensure that it didn't, and took further steps to bring down the system that allowed it to happen. Hence the Provisional IRA was born, as a reaction to right-wing Unionist violence. Many

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## GARABANDAL

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## THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

IRISH rider Tommy Brennan came second in an event at Balmoral. Instead of the customary National Anthem to mark the event, the organisers played "The Irish Washerwoman" instead.

Have we reached a state of affairs that the playing of the Irish anthem at a horse show in Belfast is liable to lead to a riot. No official reason was given for not playing the Irish anthem, but I take it to be this.

## THE CIVIL SERVICE

I ASKED last week what was wrong with our Civil Service that it was finding it almost impossible to recruit staff and, more important still, keep them. A reader suggests that in his view the situation is easily remedied.

"Army personnel are trained administratively after the Civil Service pattern and work is similar. Early retiring ages are effective for the Army—early fifties is the general rule.

"It would be a good idea to re-employ these men in the Civil Service up to 65 years of age, thus giving them a usefulness for further service to the nation and providing them with a better career structure.

"A further comment from you on these lines would be much appreciated and open employment prospects for the vast majority of long serving personnel."

That sounds like a good suggestion.

## WHAT A PITY

WHAT a pity that Iris Kellett's famous horse "Morning Light" will be jumping for France in this week's Dublin Horse Show. The horse is now called "Moet et Chandon" and is owned by a French champagne firm.

But such is the economics of the Irish bloodstock business. There can be little room for sentiment.

# MAGNET AND STEEL

by Rev. Robert Nash, S.J.

Feast: 18th Sunday of the Year.

Suggested Spiritual Reading: St. John 1: 35-51.

Thought for Today: "I will make you fishers of men."

THERE WAS a magnetism in the personality of Christ. It seemed almost irresistible. Instances occur on every page of the gospel story. "The whole country was stirred" when word got around that He was passing by. At once people were seized upon by one only desire, to see Him, to hear Him, to follow Him wherever He happened to be going. They loved this Man. There was something about Him which made Him different from any other person they met in their lives. What it was they were not too clear.

Thousands went along with Him for days at a stretch, forgetting their need for food and sleep, experiencing in His company a deep peace, a conviction that in Him they had found the answer to every problem. Money and a good time, somehow, did not matter any more. Domestic worries seemed to melt like mist before the sun. Even the Samaritans, traditional enemies of the Jews, welcomed Him into their city and let Him go only with reluctance. He had to tear Himself away from them.

Still True

Why does a boy want to be a priest or a brother? Why does a girl contemplate entering a convent? We raised

this question last week. The basic answer is that the person concerned becomes aware of the attractiveness of Jesus Christ. He has not changed. St. Teresa wrote: "Jesus Christ is my all; without Him, all is nothing to me." The words are stamped on the heart of many a girl who turns smilingly from the world's tinsel because the fire of a personal love of Christ is burning within her.

They are written in large characters, these same words, across the silent cell of many a recluse who has buried himself in solitude because he hungers for reality. These words have sped men and women to the ends of the earth because they were devoured by an insatiable longing to bring the Light of the World to nations sitting in darkness.

They are emblazoned, those same words, upon the banner followed by a whole army of martyrs and confessors in every age, who went to death with a smile on their faces, who braved exquisite tortures, who were hungry and cold and naked, or prostrate under exhausting heat, who were flogged to wild beats, or roasted over slow

fires, or scourged, or jeered at, or, like the great Model, done to death by crucifixion. They are with us still today, behind the curtain, in the Church of Silence, in concentration camp. On these the world casts a commiserating glance of pity, and with a shrug of the shoulders dubs them fools. And fools they are, but, says St. Paul, "fools for Christ's sake."

Personal love of Jesus Christ still surges up in many a generous heart, awakening a craving to express itself in the language known to every true lover, the language of sacrifice. Sugary sentimentality, empty phraseology, the cynic will say. But we are not writing for cynics.

We have in mind young people, and not so young, who are waking up to the thrilling truth that the attractiveness of Christ is a fact in 1971. Quivering with energy, today, right in the midst of the materialism and selfishness of our permissive society. Plenty of young people realise that we are living in a vacuum. Who will shout to them from the housetops that it can be filled only by Jesus Christ, that it may, indeed, be the first seed of a vocation, to the priesthood or religious state?

The Answer

Steep yourself in a prayerful study of Christ, especially in the gospels. Be generous in making sacrifices for love of Him. You can put great love into small things. Take time off to try to plumb the

depths of some of His terrific questions, like: "What doth it profit a man if he gain the whole world and lose his soul?" This is how to prepare the ground for that seed, if He plans to give you the incomparable gift of a vocation to be a priest or a religious.

The work to which He calls you is the most ennobling and the most rewarding imaginable. The Church needs priests, says the Holy Father, "religious men and women who will consecrate themselves completely to the glory of God and of Christ." Compared with this, the most brilliant achievements in other spheres lose much of their appeal. At best they are of this passing world only. The work of the apostolate endures throughout eternity. As the years close in around us we see what in life is real and lasting and precious and what is elusive and deceptive. And Christ longs to give this insight to our young people, with their spirit of adventure and high idealism; while there is still time to utilize it, to the full.

"Make of our youth, O God, a holy thing; let it not languish, die, and naught avail; Care it, we pray Thee in its blossoming; give it the beauty that can never fail. Let us not waste Thy splendid gift, O King; nor barter it for all the world's poor price. Make of our youth, O Lord, a noble thing; make our hearts, O Lord, a sacrifice." (Father P. O'Connor) Saint Columban's.

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discussions approach some results, Mr. Faulkner for future trials. At present prefers to em Craig, who 50 to be involved talks.

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