



Irish class history in photo

The man pictured on the right above is reported to be an ex-British aggressor soldier. It is said that he was tarred and feathered by the "IRA". Moreover, a number of different theories have been put forward in the imperialist press as to why action was taken against him in the early hours of Sunday, 10th January.

So there is quite a lot of confusion at the moment as to the root of the issue. But there is absolutely no confusion regarding the reason why the British imperialist press ran this photograph accompanied by banner headlines such as "This is Irish justice" etc etc. True to form, British imperialism uses the incident in order to whip up a racist hate campaign against Irish people struggling in Ireland and here in this country. This is all part of the ruling class tactic of divide



and rule the working class by turning worker against worker.

The other photograph, however, is printed as a reminder to the British ruling class that as far back as the 1798 rebellion its own aggressor troops—matched only in their brutality by those now occupying the northern part of Ireland—not only tarred the Irish masses, but put the tar into caps (the torture became known as "pitchcapping") and then set light to it and with it the heads of tens of thousands of Irishmen, women and children. So let the ruling class that still in 1971 exploits and brutally murders the people of Ireland on their own soil understand that that which they now condemn with crocodile tears as "injustice" is a practice that they perfected centuries ago, and in their case most definitely for unjust reasons.

YEAR GREETINGS

INLSF comrades wish all workers a revolutionary new year. Both the INLSF and the "Press" have gone from strength to strength in 1970 and the new year heralds the beginning of a new stage in the building of a mass-based workers' anti-imperialist movement in this country. Why not join us, now. For information ring 01-455 6968.

INLSF POLITICAL EDUCATION

The INLSF has a monthly programme of political education and discussion class, and each month a revolutionary film is shown. This programme takes place at the Marquis of Clanricarde public house, Southwick St., off Sussex Gdns, Paddington. The nearest tube stations are Paddington and Edgware Rd. All serious people welcome. 7.30 pm each Sunday evening.



INCREASED FREQUENCY OF PUBLICATION

From this issue onwards the "Irish Liberation Press" will appear once every four weeks. Previously the workers who make the "Press" have attempted, though for reasons beyond their control sometimes unsuccessfully, to bring the paper out every calendar month, i.e. approximately every five weeks. Recognizing their responsibility to provide the working class with the best possible service the frequency of publication is therefore being increased.

"Press" more compact and to save on costs, the paper will probably fluctuate in size from ten to twelve pages in future. It is hoped that this year will see the "Press" appearing once every three weeks. These objectives, of course, depend upon the absence of basic production problems, which always take time to resolve.

TROTSKYITES AND "IRISH COMMUNIST ORGANIZATION" FROTH AT MOUTH

The regular exposure of Trotsky and Trotskyism in this paper is apparently—and understandably—driving Trotskyites crazy. They have even attempted to disrupt the sale of the "Press" by causing anti-working class scenes in public houses. However, issue 7, like its predecessors, has sold out, 7000 copies in all, with support growing rapidly.

As for the I.C.O., suffice it to advise readers to contrast the "Press" exposure in issue 6 with the latest jabberings contained in "The Communist", number 33. In helpless frustration, and unable to deal with the statement in the "Press", here readers will be able to see for themselves the true role of this isolated clique. For those who do not object spending money in this way, the "Press" draws it to the attention of our readers that "The Communist" number 33, which contains their anti-"Press", anti-INLSF statement, can be obtained from Collets Book shop, in Charing Cross Road. Nearest tube station is Leicester Square.



INLSF INTENSIFIES STRUGGLE

● RULING CLASS ATTACKS AGAINST INLSF ESCALATE—INLSF ATTACKS AGAINST THE RULING CLASS ESCALATE: MASS WORK INTENSIFIES AS SUPPORT FOR INLSF GROWS

At the beginning of December, comrade Jim Hillis and Donald O'Se were kidnapped by the pigs from outside the Gresham Ballroom, Archway, while selling the "Press". The pigs responsible were Sgt. N.438 and constables N.120, N.404, and N.145. They were kept in solitary confinement until 3.15 a.m. They came up for trial on the charge of "obstruction" and Jim Hillis was fined £4. The week after the kidnapping the INLSF mobilized a strong picket outside the Gresham Ballroom with placards bearing slogans such as "We will not allow fascist police to intimidate us or stop us from supporting the just struggle of the Irish people against British imperialism!" and "We insist on exercising our right to sell the 'Irish Liberation Press'". Cameras were on hand to film any pig brutality. Pig Panda cars were flashing round frantically. However, when they saw how organised the people were not a single pig dared approach any of those on the picket line. And that's the way it's going to be every time fascist police attack the INLSF.

● DECEMBER 8TH R.C.C. STAND

The December 8th mobilization against the fascist "Industrial Relations Bill" set the stage for not only a massive campaign against the Bill, but more importantly witnessed a new departure in the fight against revisionist and Trotskyite counter-revolutionary politics in Britain.

The workers of the Anti-Fascist Revolutionary Co-ordinating Committee of National Minorities (the R.C.C., see issue number 7, volume 1 of the "Press"), made up of members and supporters of the INLSF and the Black Unity and Freedom Party, seriously posed in this way for the first time in many years revolutionary socialism against revisionist and Trotskyite sell-out politics. The R.C.C. pointed out that it is not just a question of "Killing the Bill" but at root a question of killing capitalism; a question of making revolution and establishing the political power of the working class in the only way possible—through mass revolutionary violence. At the end of the march, organised by the revisionist "Communist Party of Great Britain", in alliance with various Trotskyite groupings, the R.C.C. set up a separate platform at Speakers' Corner and many hundreds of workers supported it and heard for the first time revolutionary politics. Many workers congratulated the R.C.C. for their initiative

in setting up their platform and for playing the "Internationale" over their loudspeaker system through the streets of London. At Tower Hill, pop music was contemptuously played from the revisionists' loud-speakers to the thousands of workers as they assembled for the march. None of the other so-called Marxist-Leninist groups so challenged the revisionists and Trotskyites on December 8th in London.

● R.C.C. VIETNAM/IRELAND SOLIDARITY RALLY AND DEMONSTRATION

On Sunday December 13th, the R.C.C. held a rally at Speakers' Corner to denounce the resumption of the bombing of North Vietnam by U.S. imperialism and also to demonstrate against the threat made by lackey Lynch to open political concentration camps in the south of Ireland for Irish patriots.

This well attended meeting of Irish and Black workers, on the basis of international working class solidarity, was indeed a unique occasion, in fact possibly the first time in the history of the labour movement in Britain that national minority groups have come together in this way. The rally was followed by a demonstration to the U.S. embassy, 10 Downing Street, and the Irish embassy. Letters of demand were handed in at these respective buildings.

The pigs, confused and worried at the coming together on a revolutionary basis of Irish and Black workers, desperately tried to provoke a riot. At Speakers' Corner, for example, three pigs deliberately tried to provoke a Black worker. On the demonstration the pigs harassed comrades by kicking them on the heels and tried to push them onto the footpath. However, about 150 demonstrators refused to be trapped and the politically disciplined demonstration was a complete success. Recognising the importance of Black and Irish workers getting together, and in doing so giving the bosses' divide and rule policy a big kick in the teeth, none of the national papers who reported the demonstration mentioned the fact that about half of the people on it were Black workers. In this way they censored the truth in the service of their capitalist class interest.

Following the rally and demonstration the R.C.C. organised that evening a meeting where the film "A day in Hanoi" was shown.

● INLSF — SOLIDARITY WITH SPANISH WORKERS

On 20th December several INLSF members joined in the demonstration in support of

the democratic struggle of the Basques. During the demonstration two pigs kicked the legs of comrade Leo Bunting in an attempt to trip him up as he was selling the Irish Liberation Press. The INLSF, in accordance with its statement of aims pledged to support the struggles of oppressed people everywhere, was at an hour's notice able to mobilize ten comrades at the request of Spanish patriots living in London to help picket the Spanish embassy on December 28th, to demand the release of the six Basques condemned to be murdered by the fascist Franco regime.

● INLSF SOLIDARITY WITH PALESTINE PEOPLE

Early in December a joint meeting between the INLSF and the Kensington and Paddington Branch of the Palestinian Solidarity Campaign took place. The meeting discussed the similarities in the struggles of the Palestinian and Irish people and the need to build a principled anti-imperialist solidarity movement in Britain.

● INLSF — TENANTS

The INLSF accepted an invitation during December to attend meetings of the North Islington Tenants' Union. Discussion revolved around the terrible housing conditions existing in the area. The involvement of the INLSF in this and other community work will be intensified this year (see article in this issue "The Case of Mary McGonigle").

● INLSF — IRISH LIBERATION PRESS: INFLUENCE EXTENDS IN IRELAND AND BRITAIN

The recent visit to Ireland of two INLSF members has done much to extend the influence of the organisation and the "Irish Liberation Press". The "Press" was received with great enthusiasm south and north and the people were very anxious to know about INLSF work in Britain. In Dublin the paper was sold in working class areas and also to students in the colleges. Over two hundred papers were sold in Dublin despite the fact that much time had to be allocated for discussion with various people. Some newsgents also agreed to sell the "Press" regularly. As the comrades moved around the country the reception was always very enthusiastic. In the little rural town of Killarney, for example, in the space of one and a half hours over seventy copies were sold.

As they moved north where the struggle is most acute at the moment, the many people with whom they spoke were critical of the lack of real revolutionary solidarity coming from Britain in the past. They also pointed

out that the demand for "civil rights" was by no means enough and that preparation for a protracted struggle must begin. The visit was a huge success with many more useful contacts being established and over six hundred copies of the "Press" being sold.

An INLSF comrade from Belfast who returned there over Christmas sold more than two hundred copies of the "Press". He reports a great reception, which is a measure of the vast potential for the "Press" within Ireland.

During the weekend 9/10th January INLSF comrades travelled from London to do work among the masses in Coventry, Birmingham, Liverpool and Manchester. Selling the "Press" and talking to people realized many new contacts. Several hundred copies were sold in these important industrial areas. Newsgents also agreed to take copies.

INLSF comrades used their Christmas holidays to sell the "Press" in bitterly cold snowy weather. Despite conditions sales were even higher than average and hundreds of workers in pubs, in the street, and outside dances and churches bought the "Press". Many workers remarked on their respect for the comrades working in difficult conditions and many new friends were made.

● INLSF OFFICERS "GUILTY"

Two officers of the INLSF, Joe O'Neill, chairman, and Brian Rose, vice chairman, were convicted, together with Vincent McEneaney, an INLSF member, at the Liverpool Magistrates Court in December of breaking the "Representation of the People Act". In fact these three workers had demanded the immediate release of all Irish political prisoners, the expulsion of British aggressor troops from Ireland, and the cessation of C.S. gas warfare, during a General Election meeting which was addressed by Barbara Castle. They were each fined £10, and the reactionary judge imposed £40 costs per comrade, so in fact the total fine amounts to £150. The comrades are appealing against the cost-ruling. Even if they are successful in getting the costs reduced, which is unlikely, the imposition of a £10 fine will on its own present these workers with considerable financial hardship, particularly in the case of comrade O'Neill who is married with a baby daughter. Hence the INLSF herein issues an appeal to all readers of the "Press" to contribute as generously as possible to assist these comrades whose only "crime", in reality, was to stand up for the rights of the Irish people against British imperialism.