A people rises from its past, The going gets unduly tough And you have (surely . . . ?) had enough The time has come to yield your place With condescending show of grace - An Empire-builder handing on We reap the ruin when you've gone. All your errors heaped behind you. Promises that do not bind you. Hopes in conflict, cramped commissions, Faiths exploited, and traditions". Bloody sputum filled his throat He stopped and coughed to clear it out. And finished, with his eyes-a-glow: "You came, you saw, you conquered . . . You gorged - and it was time to go

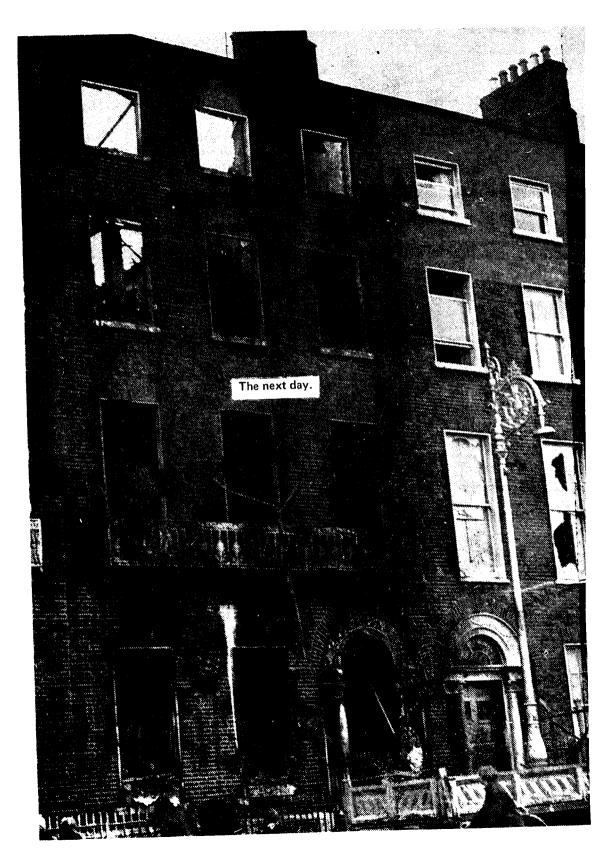
Good riddance. We'd forget – released – But for the rubbish of your feast, The slops and scraps that fell to earth And sprang to arms in dragon birth.

And the poet ends;

I stood like a ghost. My fingers strayed Along the fatal barricade. The gentle rainfall drifting down Over Colmcille's town Could not refresh, only distil In silent grief from hill to hill.

• Gardai under a barrage of petrol bombs outside the British Embassy in Dublin.





THE WAY FORWARD

The Irish Republican Socialist Party was formed at a meeting held in Dublin on Sunday, December 8th 1974. The inaugural meeting was attended by approximately 80 delegates from Belfast, Armagh, Co. Derry, Derry City, Donegal, Wicklow, Cork, Clare, Dublin, Limerick and Tipperary.

It was unanimously agreed that the object of the Party would be to "End Imperialist Rule in Ireland and Establish a 32 county

Democratic Socialist Republic, with the Working Class in control of the Means of Production, Distribution and Exchange".

To this end, it was agreed that the Party would launch a vigorous campaign of political agitation and education, North and South, on the following issues:

6 COUNTIES

- Recognizing that British Imperialist interference in Ireland constitutes the most immediate obstacle confronting the Irish people
 in their struggle for Democracy, Nationial Liberation and Socialism; it shall be the policy of the I.R.S.P. to seek the formation
 of a broad front on the basis of the following demands.
 - (a) That Britain must immediately renounce all claims to Sovereignty over any part of Ireland and its coastal waters and should' immediately specify an early date for the total withdrawal of her military and political presence from Ireland.
 - (b) Having specified the date for her total withdrawal from Ireland, Britain must immediately withdraw all troops to barracks; release all internees and sentenced political prisoners; grant a general amnesty for all offences arising from the military campaign against British Forces, or through involvement in the Civil Disobedience Campaign; abolish all repressive legislation; grant a Bill of Rights, which will allow complete freedom of political action and outlaw all discrimination whether it be on the basis of class, creed, political opinion or sex. Britain must also agree to compensate the Irish people for the exploitation which has already occurred.
 - (c) It shall be the policy of the I.R.S.P. to seek an active working alliance of all radical forces, with the context of the Broad Front, in order to ensure the ultimate success of the Irish Working Class in their struggle for Socialism.
 - (d) It will be an immediate objective of the party to launch an intensive campaign of opposition to E.E.C. membership. We therefore, intend to play an active part in the E.E.C. Referendum in the 6 county area and through our support groups in Britain.
 - (e) Recognising that sectarianism and the present campaign of sectarian assassinations arises as a result of British manipulation of the most reactionary elements of Irish society: we shall seek to end this campaign on the basis of united action by the Catholic and Protestant Working class against British imperialism in Ireland.

26 COUNTIES

- 1. The I.R.S.P. shall seek to have an organisad United Campaign of all democratic forces against repressive legislation in the South and against the policy of blatant collaboration with British Imperialism, which is now being pursued by the 26 County administration.
- The I.R.S.P. is totally opposed to the exploitation of our natural resources by multi national corporations. It is, therefore, the policy of the party to give active and sustained support to the present campaign for the nationalisation of the resources.
- Recognizing that the rapidly increasing cost of living and rising unemployment are to a large extent a direct result of our E.E.C.
 membership; it shall be the policy of the I.R.S.P. to actively support the formation of peoples organisations to combat rising prices
 and unemployment.

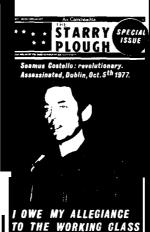


telling the truth



The STARRY PLOUGH, published monthly, is the official organ of the Irish Republican Socialist Party, and covers Irish economic, political and cultural affairs while also giving some foreign coverage. It represents the views of the Irish Republican Socialist Party. It has outlets in Europe and America as well as in Ireland. An annual subscription is available for only £2.20 (Ireland); £2.70 (Europe); and 6 dollars (United States].

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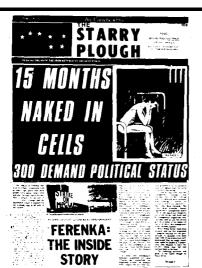
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