

Roman Catholics recognise the merits of this State and the Union with Great Britain. No one can deny that.

Mr. Currie: With that type of Unionist Party would any sort of person vote for it?

Mr. Caldwell: Let me come back to my point. My point is that Republicanism is only a small segment. I had many feelings for civil rights and I still have. I genuinely feel that the present Government are on the right lines but civil rights did not play a major part in the riots in Derry on Tuesday, 12th August. This, as I have said, was nothing more than hooliganism, sectarianism and pure revolution.

On Tuesday at one crucial point in the evening I tried to contact the hon. Member for Foyle. I was offering to go across no-man's land into the Bogside to try to make an appeal with him to the Roman Catholic people there. Unfortunately I could not get across but I will go tonight to Derry with the hon. Member if he will take me. I am prepared to go to Derry tonight.

Mr. Fitt: For a small consideration he will take the hon. Member down.

Mr. Caldwell: I want no consideration or crack from the hon. Member for Dock (Mr. Fitt).

I feel that the salvation of this Province of ours is in our hands. It is in the hands of the Government. It is not in the hands of the Prime Minister of Eire. It is not in the hands of Bernadette Devlin. We have got our salvation in our own hands. I am not an optimist. By and large I am a pessimist but I genuinely believe that given time we will find a solution.

Mr. Fitt: How long a time?

Mr. Caldwell: Before I sit down I should like to make one final appeal to Westminster. All that we want from Westminster at this time is sympathy, tolerance and understanding. This applies also to the entire British nation. This afternoon the Prime Minister asked for moderation in the speeches. There

was some bitter hate in the speeches from the opposite side this afternoon.

Mr. Keogh (South Down): And from the Government side.

Mr. Caldwell: This is a time for prayer and a time for thought, a time for deep consideration, a time for love. I repeat my offer to the hon. Member for Foyle. I will go to Derry tonight. If the presence of a Protestant M.P., of the moderate type, if you like, can help at all in the Bogside I will go.

Mr. Fitt: Bring Johnny McQuade with you.

4.41 p.m.

Mr. Hume: Probably more than any other Member of this House I know what the last few days have meant to people. I had hoped that perhaps crisis could bring out the best in some people in this House but I regret to say that the sterility of this House was never more in evidence than it is today. I do not wish to engage in any verbal battles with anyone to add to the bitterness that already exists, but after listening to Taylor's speech, which was a jack-boot speech in the present crisis, I can only say this in reply: we are quite firm; we shall not be moved. My colleagues and I, Mr. Speaker, will say goodbye.

The hon. Member for South Fermanagh (Mr. Carron), the hon. Member for Mid Londonderry (Mr. Cooper), the hon. Member for East Tyrone (Mr. Currie), the hon. Member for Dock (Mr. Fitt), the hon. Member for Foyle (Mr. Hume), the hon. Member for South Down (Mr. Keogh) and the hon. Member for Mourne (Mr. O'Reilly) then withdrew from the House.

4.42 p.m.

Mr. Burns: May I say that I support wholeheartedly the Motion by my right hon. and gallant Friend the Prime Minister? I am very sorry that certain Members of the Opposition have seen fit to leave, because they said certain things to which I should like to refer. According to them, the difficulty that we are at present facing is due to one cause and one cause only—that for the past 50 years there has been no social