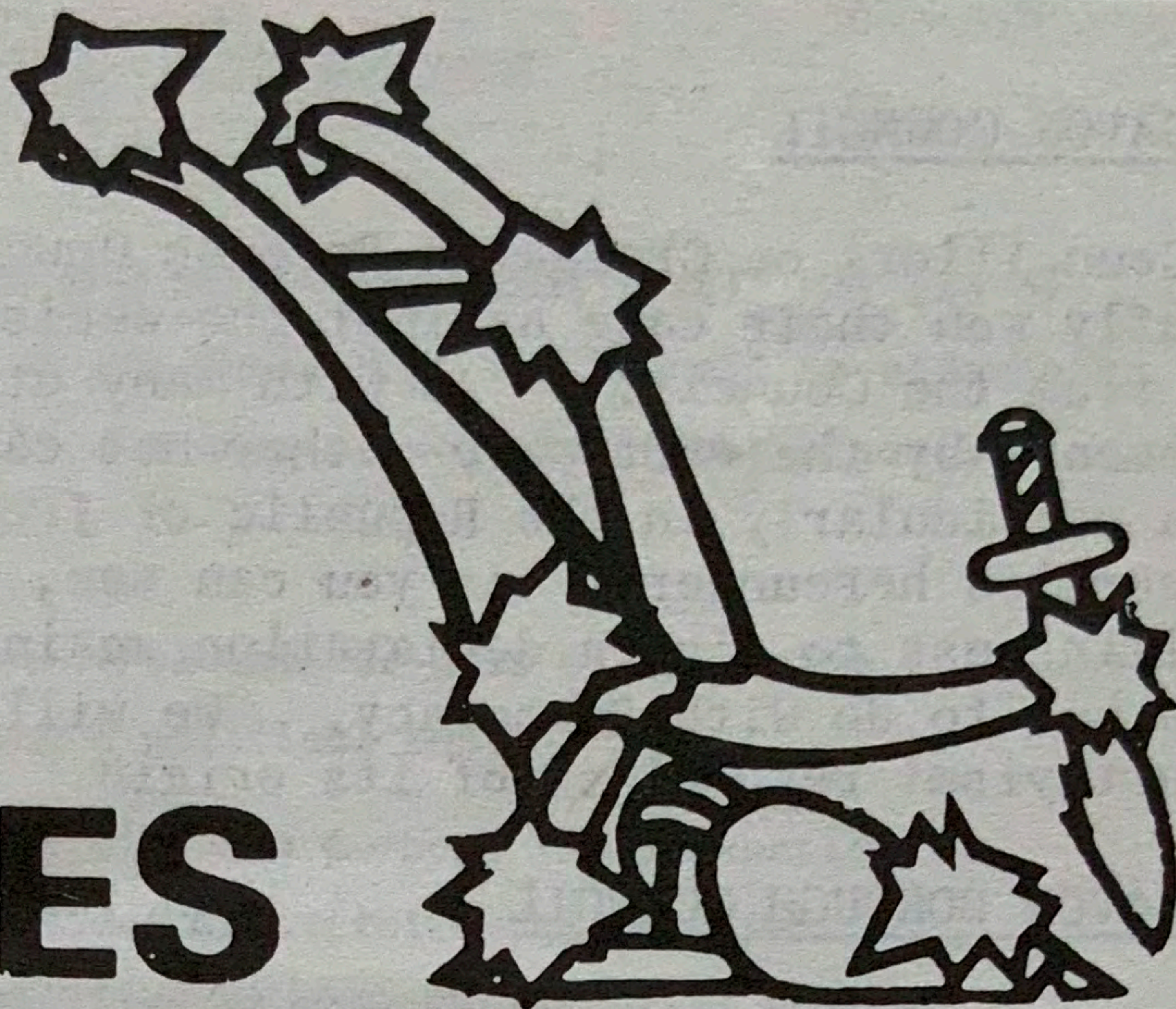


AUGUST 1985



# NOTES & COMMENTS

Internal Newsletter of The Workers' Party

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CRAIGAVON COUNCIL

Our Councillors on Craigavon Borough Council - Cllrs. Breen & French - recently won their case against the decision of the Councillors to debar them from the Council. As with many other matters pertaining to N.I., statements by the Party are either not carried or are distorted in the media particularly in the Republic of Ireland. The motions and statements are carried hereunder. As you can see, the issue is not to do with "An unwillingness to sign a declaration against violence" as portrayed in the media but to do with Democracy. We will stand steadfastly against 'McCarthyism' regardless of its origin

CRAIGAVON BOROUGH COUNCIL

11th July, 1985

AGENDA

1. NOTICE OF MOTION - COUNCILLOR MRS MCCULLOUGH

That the Members of the Council condemn all persons and organisations who engage in any activity or perform any act aimed at the destruction or limitation of any of the rights and freedoms set forth in the European Convention on Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms

2. NOTICE OF MOTION - COUNCILLOR HATCH

That the Members of this Council do not support the attainment of any political end or object by means of violence, unlawful activity or any act of terrorism, whether directed against persons or property.

3. NOTICE OF MOTION - ALDERMAN CALVERT

That the Members of the Council, being apprehensive concerning the personal safety of Members of the Council, Employees of the Council Guests of the Council, Associates of Council Members and the security of Council and other property, hereby resolve that no Member be entitled to attend or participate in any Meeting or Event of the Council, or any of its Committees, or to have access, in his/her capacity as a Councillor, to any Council Officer, Records or Information until such time as a Declaration and Acknowledgement in the form appended hereto, duly signed by that Member, is lodged with the Clerk & Chief Executive.

4. NOTICE OF MOTION - ALDERMAN S GARDINER

In the event of any Member who has not signed the Declaration and acknowledgement attending, or attempting to attend, any Meeting or Event of the Council or any of its Committees, the Mayor or the person presiding shall require him/her to leave forthwith.

The following is the text of the statement of declaration as proposed by Motions 3 & 4.

DECLARATION AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I \_\_\_\_\_ declare and acknowledge that I will not use my position as a Councillor, whether at any meeting of the Council or elsewhere, for the purposes of advancing any of the aims or objects of any organisation which:-

- (a) Engages in violence, unlawful acts or acts of terrorism with a view to obtaining a political end.
- (b) Has as its avowed aim or ultimate purpose the subversion of the State and the present Constitution by means of violence, unlawful activities or acts of terrorism whether directed against persons or property.

I declare and acknowledge that I will do my utmost and use my best endeavours to prevent any proceedings of the Council being used by any person to gain or lend support or aid to any organisation which engages in violence, unlawful activities or acts of terrorism with a view to obtaining a political end or subverting the State or the present Constitution.

I declare and acknowledge that I will not communicate any information or material concerning Council business, Council employees or personnel, or Council property which may be of assistance to any unlawful organisation or any organisation which does not reject violence, unlawful activities or acts of terrorism as a means of obtaining political aims.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Councillor/Alderman: \_\_\_\_\_

The following statement was delivered to the meeting of Craigavon Council on July 18th. by Councillors Breen and French. It was also issued to the media and it illustrates our attitude to all motions put before the Council and to the situation in general.

This Council was elected democratically by the electors of Craigavon on May 15th 1985. Since that time we have failed to exercise our limited powers on behalf of the electorate while awaiting a lengthy legal process and decision. The judicial ruling at the end of the case is quite clear and unambiguous: "This Council would not have the power to exclude...had it sought to do so...by exercise of its protective and self-defensive powers."

The Workers Party accept the judicial decision. We believe that the rate payers money has been used extensively, if not perhaps wisely, to establish the legal position. If this Council accepts the rule of law then we have a political obligation to proceed with the business we were elected to do.

Workers Party is one of the few parties in NI that has for many years, called for a Bill of Rights for NI which would incorporate the European Convention. We have therefore no hesitation whatever, and indeed welcome, the notice of Motion Number 1 on the agenda. This motion, if passed by this Council, will mark a watershed in the history of Craigavon Council. This Council, by condemning those who seek to limit or destroy the rights and freedoms of the European Convention, makes itself amenable and answerable to the Convention for all its own actions and decisions. This has profound implications therefore for how we proceed with regard to such matters as the Fair Employment Agency and Sunday opening of recreational amenities: are we now saying that we will guarantee civil and religious liberty to all ratepayers and end the imposition of the moral views of some on all citizens? We sincerely hope that this is the case.

#### Motion 2:

The Workers Party has a long record of opposition to violence and terror and it has paid a heavy price for this. We welcome this opportunity to place on record our abhorrence at the violence perpetrated in this council borough last weekend. The perpetrators of that most wilful, premeditated and murderous violent activity against the law enforcement agencies were those who have so often shouted for rigorous Law and Order enforcement on a partisan basis in the past. There can be no such partisan support for Law Enforcement. Neither can there be partial denunciations of violence. The Workers Party rejects and condemns all violence, regardless of the perpetrator or victim. This Council should demonstrate here tonight that it is not hypocritical in its condemnations of violence or partisan in its attitude to law enforcement.

#### Motions 3+4:

In light of what we have earlier said about the European Convention of Human Rights and the court action this Council engaged in, the Workers Party regards resolutions 3+4 as a legal nonsense. The Council has no power to exclude any of its elected members from its business. The proposers of these motions should come clean and tell us what they are really seeking to do: they want to further prevent this Council sitting down and dealing with its business and seek instead another costly, and probably fruitless legal battle in the courts. Councils in NI have limited enough powers in : any further procrastination and manoeuvring here could well lead to the suspension of this Council and its powers transferred to an undemocratically appointed Commissioner. Is that what we really want? In an end to the limited democratic rights the people of Craigavon already have? We were not elected to spend the next four years fighting legal battles: we were elected to get on with the business of running the services provided by this Council for the benefit of all the electorate.

We should stop evading that responsibility. The Workers Party does not believe it right or proper to leave our principal officers taking decisions without political direction. That is an abdication of responsibility and undemocratic. We owe to those people in our employment to provide the leadership and direction that is properly and lawfully given to us, all elected members, under the Local Government Act.

Motions 3+4 are a nonsense and The Workers Party will not be supporting them. Let us proceed with the business we were elected to deal with.

## THE LOCAL ELECTIONS

Both in Northern Ireland and in the Republic, we performed very well. Victories are important to morale and particularly when we know our victories are based on hard work over a long period.

Our support is not based on emotion but on reasoned argument. We have a very solid base on which to build and we should communicate with this base. For example, in Leixlip, the branch, over the month of August, began a canvass of electors, who committed their first preference vote in the Local Elections, for Irish People Sales. The success rate has been very encouraging. We must further educate our base in order for it to expand and propagate our ideology.

We must tell our supporters of our successes and ensure they are not seen as isolated victories. Our transfer rate between candidates, where we stood more than one, was unprecedented - over 90% in one case. We did not contest and lose any seat which we held prior to June. No other Party can say this. We expected all the seats we won. We narrowly missed seats in Navan, Athy, Cork City, Blanchardstown, Lucan and Belfast. Should we have had candidates, it is conceivable that we would have won seats in Gorey, Athlone, Mullingar, Castlebar, Letterkenny and Killarney to mention some areas. Our holding of Council seats went from 9 to 21. It is important, however, that these seats were won after years of hard work and that further victories will only be based on hard work and consistency.

## COUNCILLORS

It is important that we see our public representatives as delegates from the Party. The work load has to be shouldered by us all. Advice Centres must continue as Workers' Party Advice and Information Centres and be seen to be such. Business and strategy for Council meetings is a matter for the local branch, constituency or region, as the case may be. Everyone must feel part of the job and no elected representatives can be allowed to grow away from the Party.

Council seats must be used to build the Party. They are stepping stones to Parliamentary representation but only if the work is done. We don't have a majority on any council so we can't sit back and relax - remember, one councillor, two or three is only the beginning.

The pressure on Councillors is tremendous, and in particular on newly elected ones, so every effort must be made to ensure a back up team is available to help with Advice Cases, Publicity, Research etc..

## WATER TAX

Most Councillors have now tabled resolutions seeking the abolition of the tax and in some cases, an amnesty for defaulters. Fianna Fail in typical fashion, are trying to duck out of their 'commitment' given over the course of the Local Elections. The Water Tax issue became such because we made it so, now, it is crucial to keep the pressure on

All the arguments we put forward over the last two years are still valid. Fianna Fail and Fine Gael will not scream about uncollected tax, youth employment levies, health charges etc. as they are all owed by their friends.

The situation should be monitored carefully and where you don't have Councillors or a Councillor raise the matter with your local media. Especially on Fianna Fail controlled Councils, their equivocation or about-face should be exposed. It would be worthwhile to pick quotes from election speeches.

#### FUNCTIONS OF CONSTITUENCIES

- a) to co-ordinate branch activity in the constituency
- b) to extend Party membership in the area
- c) to establish and monitor new Party branches.
- d) a constituency council should convene a general members meeting within the constituency to nominate candidates for National and Local Government elections, subject to ratification by the Ard Comhairle/C.E.C. All members of good standing in the Cumainn/Branches within the constituency should be entitled to vote and receive notice of the convention in writing.
- e) to supervise and direct candidates/public representatives of the Party in the area.
- f) to develop Party educational activity.
- g) to oversee fundraising and general finance of the Party in the area.
- h) to promote the sale and distribution of Party literature in the area through all appropriate channels.
- i) to hold public meetings to promote the Party in the area.
- j) to facilitate the involvement of non-members in constituency work for the Party and to maintain contact with them on a regular basis, through social activity, public meetings, fund raising etc. The Constituency Council may, where feasible, establish 'Constituency Associations' in its area.
- k) to elect two delegates to the Regional Council.
- l) to ensure the registration of all members annually.

#### NEW BRANCHES

While every encouragement is given to the formation of new branches, would Constituencies please notify the Executive Management Committee, at least two weeks in advance of their formation.

#### CHAIRPERSONS & SECRETARIES

Fundamental to the operation of any committee of the Party are efficiently run meetings. As most Regional, Constituency and branch committees are newly elected the following points, while not exhaustive, are for the benefit of Chairpersons and Secretaries.

#### SECTION 31 !

Under Section 31 of the Health Act (1970), the Minister for Health can declare overspending by the Health Boards as illegal. Mr. Desmond has done just this and has informed the Health Boards that overspending on their budget will be illegal this year.

The South Eastern Health Board, for example, will run out of money by November and after that date it will be illegal for the Chief Executive to sign cheques. The budgets were handed down to the Health Boards by the Minister.

Cutbacks in the Health Services have been ongoing for the past number of years. However, there does not appear to be any genuine efforts being made to collect Health Charges outstanding or to question charges for services levied by private companies.

The following extract from a National Daily will throw some light on the position in the various Health Boards. The Health & Social Services Committee will be requested to draw up a plan of campaign on the cutbacks and you will be informed when details become available.

#### Extract:

"So far the Minister is sticking to his guns. The Health Boards will HAVE to live within their budgets. It's that simple. But sometime soon Mr. Desmond will have to publicly recognise - as he surely does privately - that some Health Boards are not going to make it.

- \* The Mid-Western Health Board estimates that it will exceed its budget by £1.5m, plus another £800,000 on the G.M.S. scheme. Two new modern units in the area - renal dialysis (kidney) unit in Limerick and a maternity unit in Ennis - remain closed; 100 beds have been closed in Limerick Regional Hospital since July; Holiday periods are being staggered; locum staff reduced and various works have been deferred. "Any further cutbacks would mean a reduction in the level of service, which is already at a minimum acceptable level", says programme manager Mr. Paul Robinson.
- \* The Midland Health Board expects to be over expended on the GMS by £½m by the end of the year, but a major rationalisation programme has just about kept them on course with day to day spending. Deputy CEO Mr. P.J. Fitzpatrick said the poor weather has contributed to higher energy costs and it will be very difficult for the Board to live within its budget of £55.2m.
- \* The Southern Health Board was overspent by £1.4m by the end of June, including £785,000 on the G.M.S. Financial Accountant Jim Murphy said they were hoping that a clampdown on holiday relief during the summer would improve the picture for the second six months. The Southern Health Board ended last year with a deficit of £2.1m, and £700,000 of this had to be incorporated into this year's estimates. Some wards have been closed and only 1 in 3 vacancies are being filled by the board.
- \* The Western Health Board is the only one in the country living within its budget but 124 beds had to be closed in Galway Regional Hospital and 178 Merlin Park Hospital, also in Galway, for six weeks during the summer.
- \* The North Eastern Health Board expect to be £1m overspent on the GMS and slightly over in other areas. C.E.O. Mr. Pat Clarke wants medical Card holders to pay for future shortfalls.
- \* The North Western Health Board adopted a number of measures, including the temporary closure of 90 beds in Sligo and 60 in Letterkenny.

SECTION 31 cont'd.

Some hospital departments have been closed to all but emergency cases. The Board received an allocation of £63.3m. and expect to be more than £1/2 million overspent.

\* The Eastern Health Board have a working group examining the situation and they will be meeting on Tuesday. The budget is over-running to some extent and the G.M.S. alone will probably cost the board around £2m. The board's allocation was £150.0m, £6m. less than they had asked for.

Percentagewise, the Boards are not very far off target, but officials say that if they have to carry their deficits into next year, services will suffer considerably.

Others are not thinking so far ahead. Chief executives are genuinely in the dark about what's going to happen when the money runs out sometime this winter.

It's an issue you're going to hear more about, and the next time you hear mention of 'Section 31', it just might not be about broadcasting.... "

YOUTH  
\*\*\*\*\*

ATTENTION ALL CONSTITUENCY YOUTH OFFICERS AND STUDENT CONVEYNORS

With Freshers' Days coming up at the end of September, it is a 'must' that we have a presence in every college in the country. N.Y.O. is drawing up a programme and a travelling exhibition is available including recruitment leaflets etc.. It is vital that Youth Officers and Student members link in to the scheme. Recruitment in this sector is a must for 1985.

Don't let the side down !

FOOTBALL

Macra na Feirme has invited Workers' Party Youth to participate in a 5 a side soccer tournament on November 12th. Our team will comprise 3 male, 2 female players. A number of warm up matches will have to be arranged to bring us in line with current rules of the game and to ensure we are fit for the occasion. Those wishing to participate in this event and the Dublin Constituency competition please indicate to N.Y.O. at Head Office.

WORLD FESTIVAL OF YOUTH & STUDENTS - for a full report read the next issue of Workers Life.

DUBLIN REGION REPORT

Dublin Constituency Youth Officers are meeting on a fortnightly basis and are getting a number of activities off the ground notably Youth Newsletter "Socialist Youth" Fundraisers for Dunnes Strikers, Belfast Exchange visit, 5 a side football competition between constituencies etc.. An officer board has been appointed. Secretary and Dublin Youth Organiser, Fearghal Ross can be contacted at National Youth Office.

YOUTH PARLIAMENT

Workers' Party Youth made a big impact on the inaugural national Youth Parliament held in Kings Hospital, Dublin, last month. Producing a 'Youth Charter' which is broadly in line with Workers' Party policy was no mean task and Workers' Party Youth delegates worked well into the night drawing up amendments to tighten up on reports from the various workshops. Workers' Party Youth delegates had inputs to workshops on Education, Employment, Health, Law Environment and despite right wing opposition from Ogra Fianna Fail and Young Fine Gael, pushed through resolutions on young People's right to organise in trade unions, condemnation of privatization of the Health Service, access to education among other progressive proposals.

The final charter was presented to senior politicians in Dublin Castle. Frank Fahy (F.F.) and Paddy Cooney (F.G.) passed it off as being too radical, Dick Spring (Labour) also found it very 'left wing' and financially out of bounds.

The only one agreeing with the sentiments expressed in the charter was Tomas MacGiolla who got the best reception from the 120 delegates present.

YOUTH OFFICERS' APPOINTMENT

To-date, not all branches have appointed Youth Officers. To fail to do so contravenes Party policy and inhibits development of the Youth Organisation. Members who wish to take on the role of Youth Officer must be aware of the demands of the post as the establishment of Workers' Party Youth requires considerable effort in terms of recruitment, organisation and development of young people in our political process.

Belfast Region Youth Meeting

Recently National Youth Organiser addressed a well attended meeting in Belfast of Youth group members from all over the city. N.Y.O. pointed out the importance of organisation and that groups should be engaged in campaigns on issues affecting young people in Belfast. Efforts must be made to 'crank up' activity on the ground and give Workers' Party Youth a higher profile. He went on to speak of development of the organisation and used as an example the successful communications and Arts working group and outlined how other groups can be formed. Fundamentally, he stated that recruitment was a priority and that exposure of our aims and objectives to young people in both communities in Belfast must be immediate. He went on to stress the need for greater contact between Youth across the border and proposed that a programme of exchanges take place, which would involve education lectures/workshops, sport, on joint campaign/demonstration such as 'Youth against Sectarianism'. This proposal was supported by John Rush, Belfast Regional Youth Organiser who stressed the need for cooperation and greater awareness between Dublin & Belfast. John Lowry, Chairman of Belfast Executive, in addressing the meeting, made it quite clear that maximum assistance and support would be forthcoming in the development of the Youth Organisation. From the 'senior' Party members of the Downpatrick Youth Group put forward a proposal that Downpatrick figure in the plans for cross border exchanges.

The first of these exchanges will take place when a group from Dublin visit Belfast for weekend 4/6 October. Youth members wishing to participate should contact National Youth Office as soon as possible.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

300 Draw for the Anti-Apartheid Dunnes Strikers

Our International Affairs Committee is organising a special 'once off' 300 draw in aid of the anti-Apartheid Dunnes Strikers.

There will be £800 in Prize Money - 1st £400, 2nd £150, 3rd £100, 4th £50, 5th £40, 6th £25, 7th £10, 8th £10, 9th £10, 10th £5. Tickets £5. (5 dollars) each and limited to 300 with the draw in Club Ui Chadhain, 28 Gardiner Place, Dublin on Friday 27th September, 1985 at 10.00 p.m.

A dozen young men and women have been on strike since July 1984 at Dunnes Stores in Henry Street, Dublin. The dispute began when one of the workers, Mary Manning, was suspended because she refused to handle South African goods, under her trade union's instructions.

The courageous stand of the workers in Dunnes Stores is in stark contrast to the mealy mouthed attitude of successive Irish Governments, who, while expressing opposition to apartheid, have taken no action to stop the importation of South African goods into this country.

Enclosed is a photocopy of the draw ticket. Each branch/supporter is urged to buy at least one ticket, and more if possible - names of purchasers and cash to be in by September 18th., at the latest, when all tickets will be allocated and branches/supporters notified.

We ask for your best support for this Special 'once off' draw!

Is Mise,

Sean O'Ciennaith, Chairman International Affairs Committee.

GOVERNMENT SHOULD RECOGNISE AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS (ANC) SAYS WORKERS' PARTY

The International Affairs Committee of The Workers' Party has called on the government to grant formal recognition to the African National Congress (ANC) as the authentic representative voice of the majority of South Africans.

The Committee said, in a statement, that the ANC should be invited to establish an office in Dublin and full diplomatic privileges should be extended to its representatives.

The declaration of emergency and the recent 'no surrender' speech by the Sth. African Prime Minister, Mr. Botha, show clearly that the struggle against Apartheid is now reaching a crucial stage. Sanctimonious statements from the Irish Government are no longer an adequate response to the racialism of the South African government and the violence of their security forces.

The ANC has led the internal opposition to the South African regime, and it is granted formal recognition by many countries throughout the world. The Nobel Peace Prize Winner, Bishop Desmond Tutu, recently pointed out that the majority of South Africans looked to the ANC and its jailed leader, Nelson Mandela, as their legitimate representatives.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS CONT'D.

By formally recognising the ANC, the Irish government would be seen throughout the world to be taking an unequivocal stand in opposition to the vile system of apartheid. This move, coupled with strong Irish pressure for mandatory international sanctions would be the most effective response to the developments within South Africa.

Official recognition should also be extended to SWAPO as the representatives of the Namibian people. While international attention in recent months has been focussed on internal developments within South Africa, that country's illegal occupation of Namibia continues, and its security forces continue to wage a bloody war against the Namibian people.

The Workers' Party Coat Badge in SILVER £4.00 + p.&p. from The Bookshop,

30 Gardiner Place, Dublin 1. Open Monday - Saturday, 9.30a.m. to 5.30 p.m. Tel: 01 - 741045.

Support Dunnes Stores. Anti-Apartheid Strikers 300 Limited Draw

ALL PROCEEDS OF THIS DRAW WILL GO TO THE DUNNES STORES ANTI-APARTHEID STRIKERS

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

Seller \_\_\_\_\_

Organised by: International Affairs Committee, The Workers' Party, 30 Gardiner Place, Dublin 1. DRAW WILL TAKE PLACE AT CLUB UI CHADHAIN, 28 GARDINER PLACE, DUBLIN 1 ON FRIDAY 27th Sept 1985

PRIVATE MEMBERS DRAW

SUPPORT DUNNES STORES ANTI-APARTHEID STRIKERS 300 Limited Draw £800 in Prizes

1st Prize £400; 2nd Prize £150; 3rd Prize £100 4th Prize £50; 5th Prize £40; 6th Prize £25; 7th £10; 8th Prize £10; 9th Prize £10; 10th Prize £5

Draw will take place at Club Ui Chadhain, 28 Gardiner Place, Dublin 1 on Friday 27th September 1985 at 10pm

ALL PROCEEDS OF THIS DRAW WILL GO TO THE DUNNES STORES ANTI-APARTHEID STRIKERS

Organised by International Affairs Committee, The Workers' Party Results will be published in The Irish People and The Northern People on Friday 4th October 1985

TICKETS \$/£5

Private Members' Draw

### CHAIRPERSONS & SECRETARIES CONT'D..

1. Notice of meetings should be properly communicated to all concerned.
2. Meetings should commence at the appointed time.
3. A prepared Agenda should be read to the meeting and agreed, and adhered to.
4. The minutes should be kept in a hard backed book, be read and signed at each meeting.
5. The administrative elements should be at every meeting and be dealt with quickly i.e. subscriptions, registration etc., reports from officers, sale of publications.
6. There should be an educational content at all meetings.
7. Development of the Party should be a regular item tabled for discussion and this should not be confined to the electoral arena. We need constituency associations, Youth & Women's groups etc.. How to spread the Party ideology in your locality requires discussion.
8. A commitment to work should be sought and ascertained from each member so it doesn't become a topic for griping
9. Meetings should finish on time.
10. A register of membership subscriptions, associate membership, accounts and minutes should be kept in a secure place by responsible personnel.

Finally, if you have read these notes it is likely you are neither a Chairperson or Secretary, so if you are unhappy with the way your meetings are being run, raise the matter and quote 'Notes & Comments'! If you are however, a conscientious Chairperson or Secretary, take note that many hard won recruits drift away because of badly run meetings where no campaign work or education was discussed.

### AFFILIATION FEES

Branch Affiliation Fees are now due. The fee remains at £50.00 and every effort should be made to pay the full amount by the end of September. The fee for student branches is £20.00 per annum.

### Re-Registration

Members are required to re-register on May 1st each year. This is done by the Branch Secretary submitting; Fully Paid Up Cards for the Outgoing Year with £1. to Head Office. The right hand, inside page of your card should be completed. According to records there are a lot of members unregistered at the moment so Secretaries are instructed to call for Card checks at all meetings. In fact, all members are encouraged to request card checks at any Party meeting.

Section 10 of the Party's Constitution requires that all re-registration be completed within 3 months after the Ard Fheis i.e. by the end of July!

The Ard Comhairle (CEC) met on Friday 6 and Saturday 7 September. The main business of the meeting was to elect the officer board, the Political and Management committees and the Chairpersons of the various specialists committees.

However, lengthy discussions took place on the Ard Fheis and every aspect of it; the recent local elections; the role of our Councillors; and the functioning of the party's structures. A review committee was established to examine structures.

A full report on decisions etc will be contained in the next issue.

The Officer Board for the current year is: General Secretary: Sean Garland; Administrative Secretary: Peter Kane; P.R.O. Tony Heffernan; Treasurer: Padraig Mannion; Finance Officer: Gerry Doherty.

Vice Presidents: Seamus Lynch; Triona Dooney; Proinsias De Rossa; Joe Sherlock.

Ard Comhairle Chairperson: Tomas MacGiolla. Secretary: Peter Kane.

Political Committee: Chair: Proinsias De Rossa. Secretary: Sean Garland.

Management Committee: Chair: Tomas MacGiolla. Secretary: Sean Garland.

The members elected to the Political Committee were as follows: P. De Rossa, T. Dooney, D. Geraghty, C. Goulding, S. Harrison, T. Heffernan, P. Kane, J. Kelleher, S. Lynch, M. McMahon, S. O' Cionnaith, D. O' Hagan, E. Smullen, S. Walsh.

The management committee is as follows: P. De Rossa, S. Harrison, T. Heffernan, P. Kane, S. Lynch, S. O' Cionnaith, D. O' Hagan, E. Smullen, Gerry Doherty, P. Mannion, and John Gallagher were co-opted onto the Management Committee.

Sean Walsh, John Lowry, Padraig Mannion and John Gallagher were co-opted onto the C.E.C.

### IRISH PEOPLE

It is a function of every Branch & Constituency "to promote the sale and distribution of Party publications in their respective areas". Any Committee of the Party not carrying out its functions presumably cannot continue in affiliation to the Party. Each Branch must look at this and rectify the position if required.

### THE REGISTER OF ELECTORS

Many constituencies have reported that voters, supporters of The Workers' Party, were not on the register of electors for the recent local elections in the Republic. Should this have been the case with Fianna Fail or Fine Gael, there would have been an outcry so it appears we were most affected. It was also reported that in some streets the number of voters far exceeded the number of residents. While it is practice in some areas to check the register between elections, this is not widespread.

Constituency Directors should now engage each branch in checking the register between now and Christmas. This can be done quietly but thoroughly. While you are creating votes Fianna Fail & Fine Gael are just putting names on the Register of Electors. It is likewise important to check your strong areas and ensure the sons and daughters of supporters are on the register. It appears that this practice of fictitious names on the register is growing especially since the introduction of new legislation to combat personation.

# NOTICE BOARD

Ard Comhairle (C.E.C.) Meeting, Friday 6th & Saturday 7th September.

Munster Regional Meeting, Mallow 3.00 p.m. Sunday, September 15th.

Navan - Public Meeting - September 26th.

Dublin Students, General Meeting, Saturday 14th September 2.30 p.m.  
(Agenda - Programme of Work - Head Office)

Dublin Youth Officers' Meeting - Monday 15th September, 8.00 p.m. Head  
Office.

Belfast Exchange Visit - 4th/6th October.

N.I. Students General Meeting - to be announced.

## LIST OF NATIONAL COLLECTION DATES

- Sept. 21/22nd Wicklow Garda District  
Wexford Garda District Termonfeckin Collon  
Tullamore, Birr, Clara, Dunleer, Kilsaran, Clogherhead
- Sept. 28/29 Gortnahoe, Glengoole, Urlingford; Kilcock, Co. Kildare.
- Oct. 4/5/6th New Ross, Rosbercon, Tullagher  
Dunlaoire, Dundrum, Blackrock, Ballybrack Shankill  
Enniskerry, Bray, Greystones  
North & South Inner City including Ringsend/Irishtown  
& Kilmainham/Inchicore
- Oct. 12/13th Gorey Garda District except Gorey on Sunday 13th (Gorey  
Garda district includes Arklow, Ballycoog, Avoca, Barniskey)
- Oct. 20/27th Sligo Town & Trim
- Nov. 2/3rd Westmeath, Longford incl. Blacklion, Gowra
- Nov. 9/10th Sligo County & Leitrim, Ardee, Tallanstown & Louth Village  
Dublin City North District. (All North City outside the  
Canal and incl. Swords, Howth, Portmarnock, Malahide,  
Blanchardstown, Clonee).
- Nov. 29/Dec 1st. Co. Monaghan, Monsterevan, Co. Kildare.
- Dec. 7/8th Co. Kildare excluding the above and below.
- Dec. 21/22nd Kilcullen/Newbridge, Co. Kildare.

Door to door permits for all of the above are for the Month of September.  
Permits or queries should be directed to Gerry Doherty to P. Mannion,  
Head Office.



**Title:** Notes & Comments, August 1985

**Organisation:** The Workers' Party

**Date:** 1985

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