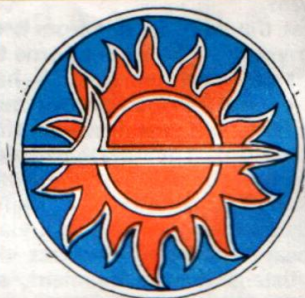


YOUNG REPUBLICAN

NEWSPAPER OF FIANNA ÉIREANN (REPUBLICAN YOUTH MOVEMENT)



THE REAL TERRORISTS



GET THEM OUT!

TORTURE, imprisonment, murder — these are the instruments of continued British rule in Ireland.

Little children murdered by plastic bullets; fathers and mothers framed and jailed for years on the word of paid traitors;

young Irishmen and women shot dead in their own streets like dogs by a foreign army — this (and much more besides) has been the tragic story of the last 15 years in the North.

The Irish people are one nation. And as one nation we have a right

to live in this island in freedom, justice and peace. The British presence in part of our country — the 6 Counties — denies us that right. Furthermore the British fund and defend the sectarian Northern Ireland state that treats nationalist people like second class

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from front page)

citizens.

Let the word go out from here: Irish youth — who have borne the brunt of British repression — have had enough. British troops must go! They will not leave of their own accord. They must therefore be forced out. All over the world, Britain's ex-colonies — Kenya, Cyprus, Aden, as well as Ireland — bear witness to the fact that she listens to one argument, and one argument only. That argument speaks from the barrel of a gun.

There is a war going on in the North of Ireland. It is a war between the 'have's' and the 'have nots'; between British imperialism

and Irish republicanism, between wrong and right. The nationalist people of the North are fighting for their freedom using the same type of methods and for the same reasons and against the same enemy that nationalist people in the South fought from 1916 to 1923.

'Muscail de mhisneach, a Oige na hEireann! Awaken your courage. Stand up for what is right. Side with the 'have nots'. Turn your face against British rule in Ireland, and support the armed struggle of the Irish Republican Army!

STATEMENT FROM THE FIANNA

AN ARD OIFIG (GHQ Staff) of Fianna Eireann (Republican Youth Movement) recognises the need to speak directly to the youth, and children and parents of Ireland through a regular paper. To this end we have encouraged the Fianna Sinsir to produce 'Young Republican'.

To the parents of our youngest comrades, the Fianna Oga, we say: Fianna Eireann offers an excellent training in out-door activities — scouting, hiking, camping etc — combined with activities which promote the Irish language and culture, and foster among our members a love of their country and its rich heritage.

To the Og's, we say: you are the future of our organisation, and the hope of Ireland. Honour the memory of those who have died for Ireland. Be aware that the comradeship you enjoy among young people who are happy to work for the freedom of our homeland is a precious thing.

To the Fianna Sinsir, we say: you have the urgent task of mobilising the youth of Ireland behind the Republican principles of national liberation, democratic socialism and non-sectarianism. If you want to succeed in mobilising others behind the freedom struggle,

you must first of all mobilise yourself! Read the history of our country. Educate yourself in the principles of Irish republicanism. Train yourself to defend our national birthright of freedom by word and by deed.

We expect from you the highest standards of discipline and commitment. We demand of you that you demand of yourself the best that you can give in everything you do as a Fian. And part and parcel of that work is spreading the republican message among other young people. There is no point in reading James Connolly, and keeping the socialist message he preached to yourself. There is no point in knowing all about the war in the North, but not standing up for the IRA among your friends and acquaintances.

We have a lot of work to do, all of us. Ar aghaidh go trean linn, a Fhianna.



● Na Fianna at Sean McDiarmada Commemoration, Kiltyclogher, Co. Leitrim





FIANNA OGA

FIANNA EIREANN is one of the oldest scouting organisations in the world. It was founded in 1909 by the Countess Markievicz, as an Irish and Gaelic alternative to the pro-British Baden-Powell boy scouts. Fianna Oga is open to boys and girls from six to 14 years. Ages and sexes are purposely mixed to correspond with real life, and to imbue in older Fiannaidhe a sense of responsibility for their younger comrades, and to foster among younger Fiannaidhe friendships and a sense of comradeship with older boys and girls.

The 'Og's' are involved in scouting and cultural activities. They are taught scouting skills ranging from how to put up a tent, to tracking, map-reading and how to build a survival hut. The 'Og's' are taken on regular hikes and camping trips during which skills previously learnt at slua meetings are put into practice. After a short period, the young Fiannaidhe are able to recognise birds, animals, plants, while the older ones are becoming acquainted with first aid, rescue work and orienteering.

We also aim to foster a love of the Irish language and culture among all our members. In many sluaite in different centres around the country, Irish is learnt at the weekly meetings as well

as our national heritage of music, dance and song. Visits are also organised to sites of historical interest, like Kilmainham Jail, the National Museum and the Magazine Fort.

We urge all republican families in the twenty-six counties to enrol their children in Fianna Oga. What our organisation has to offer, is a chance to learn about our country, the truth about its past, the hope for its freedom in the future, and a sense of pride in being what we are.

"Everyone, republican or otherwise, has his own particular part to play. No part is too great or too small; no one is too old or too young to do something."

Bobby Sands



Cad é an fáth ar chóir dúinn Gaeilge a fhoghlaim?

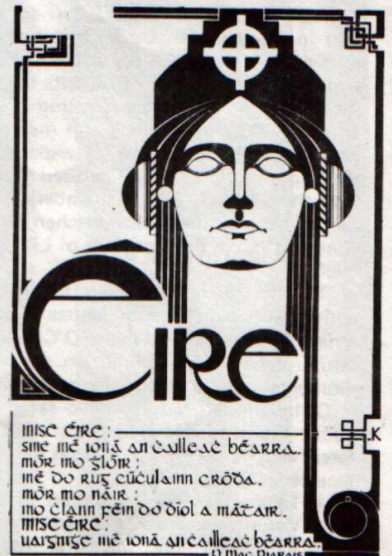
De thairbhe gur éirigh an Béarla chomh fairsing sin sa tír seo le céad bliain anuas tá cuid mhór daoine ann nach bhfuil a fhios acu gurb í an Ghaeilge teanga na tíre seo le dhá mhíle bliain. Le taobh na Gaeilge mar sin, níl an Béarla i bhfad uilig sa tír seo.

Labhraíodh teanga bhur sínsir ar an oileán seo ar feadh dhá míle bliain agus is beag an dul chun cinn a rinne an Béarla go dtí céad bliain anuas. Ba í seo oileán na Naomh is na mBard; ba í seo lóchrann an chultúir agus na sibhialtachta nuair a bhí cuid mhór den Eoraip san aois dorch; nuair a bhí an mhuintir atá ar smachtú anois a ndathú féin le goirmín, bhí muidinne sibhialta agus bhí cultúr againne a spreagadh ar fud na hEorpa. Gaeilge an teanga a bhí ag an mhuintir seo, ar sínsear.

Mar sin de, nuair a chuireann tú sin le taobh áithrithe a tharla sa tír seo le cúpla céad bliain, tá tú ag tracht ar réamhshampla a tharla corradh le dhá mhíle bliain ó shin agus níl briseadh ar bith i stair na Gaeilge sa tír seo le linn ár ama sin go léir. Le céad bliain anuas do díreach, de thairbhe céadta bliain de dhaorsmacht agus de dhianbhúr, a thosaigh an Ghaeilge a mheath agus a ghéilleadh. Chomh luath agus a tharla seo mhothaigh tírghráthóir gur mar an fpall é agus nach raibh a dhath i ndan don náisiúin seo againne ach bás dá ligfí don Ghaeilge, bás a fháil.

Anois, b'fhéidir go síleann cuid againh go dtig linne, Éireannaigh, a bheith saor agus Gaelach gan ár dteanga féin a labhairt ach ní chreidim go dtig linn. Ní shílím go dtig linn a bheith ar dhóigh ar bith neamhspleách agus muid chomh cóngarach do Shasain.

Ní shílím go dtig linn maistrín mar phobal neamhspleách gan ár dteanga a bheith againn. Is ionann gach abairt a fhoghlaimaíonn sibh agus píleir i streachailt ar son na saoirse. Is ionann gach cor cainte as bhur dteanga agus brice i dtógáil mór, aththógáil an náisiúin Ghaelaigh.



FIANNA EIREANN

the Irish Republican Youth Movement

1909 — 1985

FIANNA EIREANN (the Irish Republican Youth Movement) was founded by Countess Markievicz and Bulmer Hobson in 1909 "to train the youth of Ireland to fight Ireland's fight when they are older".

A Gaelic renaissance was sweeping Ireland at the time, and the Fianna were to be an Irish and Gaelic answer to the pro-British Baden-Powell scouts. Indeed the National Youth Council cites the Fianna as the first national Irish youth movement.

The Fianna of that time looked on the mythological Fianna of Fionn Mac Cuamhail as their exemplars and took their motto, "*glaine inár gcroíthe; neart inár ngéaga; agus beart do réir ar mbriathar*", as their own.

The legends of old Ireland extolled the courage and the daring, the discipline and the determination of the country's defenders — of Cuchulainn and the Red Branch Knights, and of Fionn, Oscar and Oisín of the Fianna Eireann. But their own courage and discipline were soon to be tested in the great lock-out of 1913, the training of the Irish Volunteers throughout the following years, and of course, the Easter Rising.

Fianna Eireann played an active part in the 1913 strike, both in a supporting role, and as a participant in it. Among the first batch of recruits taken into the Fianna were the young boys who acted as street-sellers and messenger boys for the daily newspapers. The Countess promptly recruited them into the ITGWU. Fianna members also helped with the soup kitchen the Countess ran in the basement of Liberty Hall.

The first of our members to die on active service died in the course of the strike. His name was Patsy O'Connor. While giving first aid to an injured worker during a baton-charge by the RIC, he himself was batoned savagely about the head. He died three months later, as a result of the injuries he had received.

1913 also saw the formation of the Irish Volunteers. Fianna Eireann members stewarded the inaugural meeting in the Rotunda Theatre, and four Fiannaidhe were elected to the first Executive Council of the Volunteers.

this is true or not I don't know) that they spent the weekend before the Rising in the basement making home-made grenades. Pearse and Connolly both supported the Fianna — both wrote articles for 'Fianna' — our news-



● Countess Markievicz (second from centre) with a group of Fianna Eireann at their first Ard Fheis in 1910 at the Mansion House, Dublin

Fianna Eireann members were also used extensively at a local level to train Volunteers in drill, fieldcraft, and also how to shoot (!).

The following year, 1914, saw Fianna Eireann taking part in the Howth gun-running, and shortly afterwards organising a gun-running expedition of their own at Kilcoole.

THE EASTER RISING

The leadership of the Irish Republican Brotherhood maintained a close interest in the Fianna, and it wasn't long before there was an IRB circle organised within the Fianna, which effectively ran the movement (much to the chagrin of the Countess who wasn't a member).

The history of the Easter Rising is interwoven with the stories of Fianna exploits and Fianna heroes. Padraic Pearse's school at Naomh Eanna had a slua of its own and it is said (whether

paper at the time; and Pearse himself founded a Fianna slua in Rosmuc, while James Connolly's daughter Nora was a Fian, and took part in the Howth gun-running.

The first shots of the Rising were fired by a party of Fianna and Volunteers when they attacked the magazine Fort in the Phoenix Park where British munitions were held.

Fianna officers were given command of important operations during the Rising. Fianna officers Sean Heuston, Countess Markievicz and Con Colbert were in command of the Mendicity Institute, the College of Surgeons, and Marrowbone Lane units respectively.

Members of the organisation were also engaged in other parts of the city where they carried out the dangerous work of despatch-carrying and scouting.

CONNOLLY AND PEARSE

Biographers of James Connolly recall how he was evacuated from the burning GPO: "Pearse stood in the street, indifferent to bullets, and directed the evacuation of the wounded, as Connolly was carried across the street on a stretcher. On one side of him, a young boy of Fianna Eireann ran alongside and sheltered Connolly with his own body while Winifred Carney sheltered his other side".

In all, six members of Fianna Eireann were killed in the fighting, and Fianna officers Sean Heuston and Con Colbert were executed by firing squad on May 8th 1916.

After the Rising and the release of many Fianna from prison at the end of 1916 and 1917, the Fianna were reorganised on more military lines. From 1919 to 1921 the organisation took an active part in the fight for freedom throughout the country.

They carried despatches for the IRA, reconnoitered RIC barracks, engaged in intelligence work and rendered first-aid to the wounded. These years saw a rapid growth in membership and in organisation for the Fianna - such that the Adjutant-General's report of 1921 estimates a membership of some 25,000.

THE TREATY

Our organisation stood solidly behind the Republic when the split came over the Treaty in 1922. The years and decades that followed were to see more deaths and imprisonment.

From the 1940's, when Fianna Eireann defied the ban on the main republican demonstration at Bodens-town by hiking the three miles there from Dublin and laying a wreath on Wolf Tone's grave under the guns of Free State soldiers, to the 1960's when Fianna sold the banned Easter lily publicly, and like many others were prosecuted for it, our organisation has always refused to be bullied or brow-beaten.

1969

The first republican to lose his life during the present phase of Ireland's freedom struggle was 13-year-old Fian Gerard McAuley who was shot dead in Waterville Street in Belfast on August 15th, 1969, while defending Clonard from attack by loyalists.

Others like 17-year-old Jim Donaghey and 16-year-old John Dempsey were shot by the British army. Jim Donaghey was killed on Bloody Sunday, January 30th 1972. John Dempsey was shot within three hours of the death on hunger-strike of Joe McDonnell on July 8th 1981.

EX-FIANNA

The majority of the Volunteers on the Easter Roll of Honour are ex-Fianna members, and the vast majority

FIANNA ROLL OF HONOUR

Fian Gerard McAuley	August 15th	69
Fian Michael Sloan	January 11th	72
Fian Eamonn McCormick	January 16th	72
Fian Gerry Donaghy	January 30th	72
Fian David McAuley	February 19th	72
Fian Sean O'Riordan	March 23rd	72
Fian Michael Magee	May 13th	72
Fian Joseph Campbell	June 11th	72
Fian John Dougal	July 9th	72
Fian Joseph McComiskey	September 20th	72
Fian Bernard Fox	December 4th	72
Fian Sean Hughes	December 4th	72
Fian Michael Marley	November 24th	73
Fian Robert Allsopp	March 23rd	75
Fian Tobias Molloy	July 16th	75
Fian Kevin McAuley	November 6th	75
Fian James O'Neill	February 13th	76
Fian Paul McWilliams	August 9th	77
Fian John Dempsey	July 8th	81

of current republican prisoners in the H-Blocks are ex-Fianna. Raymond McCreesh, Patsy O'Hara and Kieran Doherty were all former members of our organisation.

During the H-Blocks/Armagh campaign - from the start of the blanket protest in 1976 to the end of the campaign in 1981, Fianna Eireann played its part.

H-BLOCK/ARMAGH

Our organisation involved itself deeply in the youth against H-Block/Armagh groups both North and South. The Fianna in Dublin and Cork organised a large number of occupations - including the stock exchange, BHS, a British Airways airplane in Dublin Airport, the offices of Fine Gael and Labour, the British Airways office at College Street (several times), and the British War Pensions office.

The Fianna in Dublin took over a pirate radio station at one stage and broadcast messages in support of the prisoners' demands, and organised a number of youth marches in the city.

The Fianna in Cork, through the Cork Youth Against H-Block/Armagh groups, were largely responsible for standing Armagh prisoner Mariead Farrell as a H-Block/Armagh candidate in the city in the 1981 general election.



• FIAN BERNARD FOX



• FIAN JOHN DEMPSEY



• FIAN MICHAEL MAGEE

Nothing to get excited about

THE NATIONS of the world are celebrating 1985 as 'International Youth Year'. But the youth of Ireland have little to celebrate about this year. There are now over 375,000 people signing on the labour in this country, North and South. And more and more young people, denied a livelihood in the land of their birth, are being forced to emigrate to foreign countries to look for work.

One person out of every three unemployed is under 25 years of age. From 1980 to 1985, the number of young people out of work rose by a staggering 200%. And that doesn't include the huge numbers of school-leavers under 18 who are not registered as being unemployed, but who are still jobless.

Youth unemployment is a curse and a tragedy. It is a curse because it throws a dark shadow over the lives of young people, and their hopes and ambitions for the future. It is a tragedy because at a time of their lives when joy and hope and idealism should come naturally, some youth are driven to despair, and in their despair, to drugs and joy-riding and crime. We live in an Ireland where over 1½ million people live in poverty, and face a constant struggle to provide themselves with the basic necessities of life — food, clothing, warmth and accommodation. We live in a society where the increasing numbers of 'have nots' are taunted by the joys of 'having', of being one of the decreasing numbers of the wealthy and the privileged.

The rulers of this country — the Brits in the North and the Leinster House politicians in the South — don't even recognise the problem for what it is. They throw up schemes to deal with youth unemployment like the Youth Employment Agency in the Free State, and the Youth Training Schemes in the North. But these programmes either train youth for jobs that don't exist, or else act as a source of cheap, unskilled and above all temporary labour.

The YEA is a rip-off, and a farce. It is funded by a 1% tax levied on the incomes of all workers. Workers agreed to pay this tax to create jobs for young people. And since it was set up three years ago about £200 million has been collected from Irish taxpayers to do this. But comparatively few jobs have been created by the YEA-funded projects. Which is why it is a farce. And



● Each year, over 60,000 young people in the twenty-six counties alone, leave school and enter the rat-race for jobs. And each year there are fewer and fewer jobs for them to compete with each other for

more than half of the amount of money collected was used not to create jobs, but to help the Fine Gael/Labour government balance its budget by financing already-existing schemes. Which is why it is a rip-off.

The attempts of past (FF) and present (FG and Lab) governments to solve the problem of youth unemployment have been pathetic failures. They have failed because they hoped to entice and encourage private businessmen — capitalists — to take on more young workers by giving them grants and cheap labour. They were throwing good money after bad. It is the capitalist system that has failed.

Capitalism is an economic system where a small group of people own and control the wealth of the nation, competing amongst each other for more and more wealth. This wealth is created by

Irish workers. Our problem is not that Ireland is a poor country. It's not. The problem is that a small minority own most of the wealth: a mere 5% of the people own 70% of it. Half the wealth of the top 20 richest people alone could be used to create 50,000 jobs. But of course, that will never happen.

Unless you fight to make it happen. Fight in local unemployment action groups; in youth organisations (like Fianna Eireann); in trade unions; in political parties which represent the interests of working people (like Sinn Féin). Fight for control of the resources of our country to be taken out of the hands of private vested interests. Fight for all of the tremendous wealth of Ireland to be used for the benefit of all of the people of Ireland, and not just to make a greedy few, even more wealthy.

Continued from page 5

And Belfast republicans still remember how, when the British army attacked the funeral cortege of Joe McDonnell, and the IRA guard of honour had taken up positions to shoot back, it was the O/C of the Fianna Eireann guard who took control and calmly ordered the hearse to move on, and the Fianna, with bullets whizzing about their heads,

stepped into the Volunteers places and marched slowly on.

Thus the Fianna has played a much-underrated and often overlooked role in the history of the republican movement, and in the history of Ireland, Constance Markievicz, Liam Mellows,

Nora Connolly O'Brien, Sean Heuston, Con Colbert, Barney Mellows, Frank Ryan, Jimmy Steele, Charlie McGlade, Liam Hannaway, and many, many others who were members of the Fianna in their youth, made their mark in the service of Irish republicanism.





● Twinbrook Martyrs Memorial Flute Band, Glasgow

Scotland's Republican Youth Bands

SINCE THE H-Block hunger-strike of 1981, there has been a great rise in support for the Republican Movement among youth in the West of Scotland area. For the majority of these young people, their main form of support has been shown by their participation in demonstrations as members of republican marching bands.

Before 1981, there were only a handful of bands in Glasgow. But following the deaths of the ten hunger-strikers in the summer of that year, and the increase in repression of the nationalist people in the six counties, more and more young people of Irish backgrounds began to identify with the republican youth in the North, in their struggle against British rule.

In Glasgow now, there are a dozen bands, many of whom have adopted the names of Irish republican martyrs, who have died in the present phase of the struggle for national liberation. Over the last few years, these bands have attended many republican marches throughout Ireland. In June of last year, three bands from Glasgow attended the annual Wolfe Tone commemoration at Bodinstown. In August, there were nine Scottish bands present at the internment anniversary rally in Belfast which was attacked by the

RUC. Many of the band members were injured there, after being beaten up by the baton-wielding thugs of the RUC. One band in particular, the John 'Bap' Kelly Memorial Band, had hundreds of pounds worth of damage done to their equipment, after the RUC fired plastic bullets at the band's accordians.

In recent months, a Republican Youth Movement has been formed in Scotland. We are involved in various forms of solidarity work including campaigning in support of Irish POW's in English jails. In May of this year, we organised a band parade and rally in Glasgow in support of republican prisoners. Anyone requiring further information about the youth movement should contact:-

**Tony O'Mara,
PO Box 4,
Dumbarton,
Scotland.**

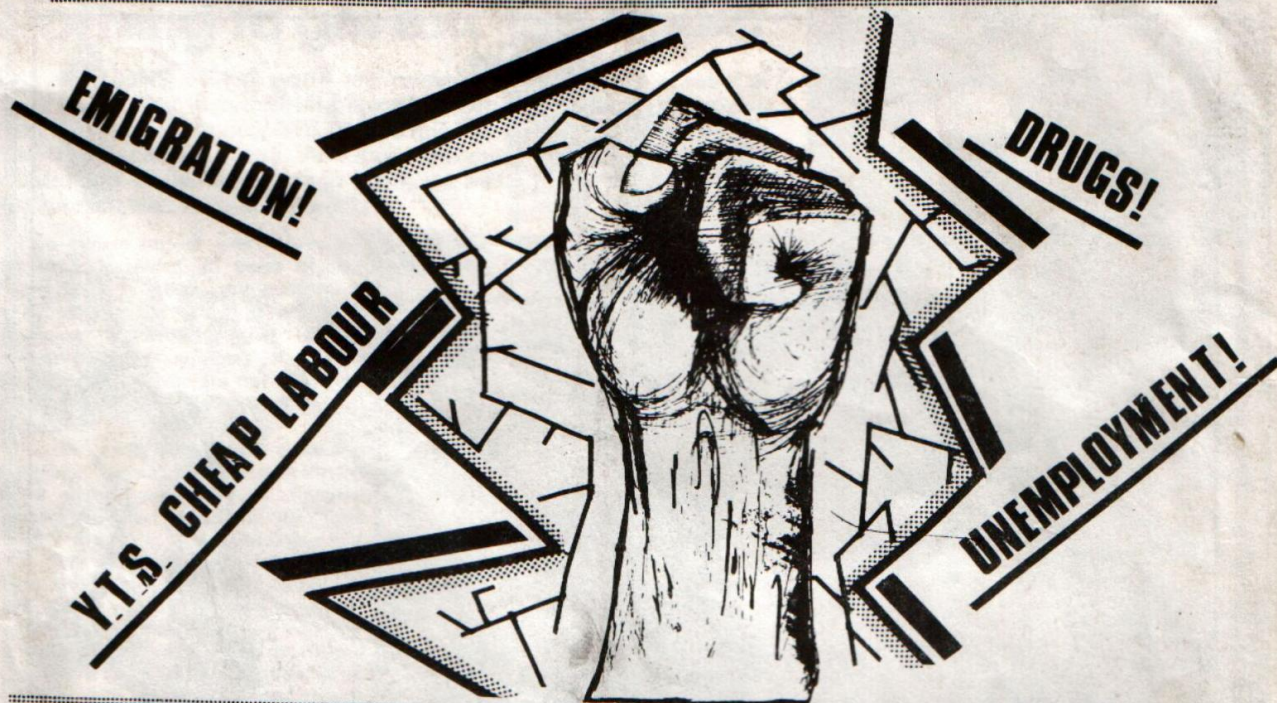
BUIOCHAS

FIANNA EIREANN (the Irish Republican Youth Movement) wishes to thank most sincerely all our friends and supporters in Govan, Glasgow, who recently donated £110(stg) to our organisation.



JOIN TODAY

IF YOU would like to support the Fianna in its work of promoting among the youth of Ireland the republican message of freedom, justice and peace, you can do so by becoming an Associate Member. Please write for details to Tony Barry, 44 Cearnog Pharnell, Baile Atha Cliath 1.



FIGHT BACK!

THERE ARE now nearly a quarter of a million people signing on the labour in the 26 Counties. And things are going to get a lot worse. Many of those on the dole are young people, often school-leavers. In fact, one person out of every three unemployed is under 25 years of age.

EMIGRATION — NO ANSWER

Every year, unemployment forces 20,000-30,000 young people to emigrate from Ireland to look for work. Most end up in the dole queues of foreign countries where the numbers of jobless are as bad as our own.

YOUTH TRAINING SCHEMES — CHEAP LABOUR

The government's answer to this massive and growing problem is half-baked temporary work experience schemes and training courses. More often than not, these are used as a source of cheap temporary labour by employers. Millions of pounds (paid for by the taxes of Irish workers) has been handed over by the government to entice employers to take young people on. But relatively few people have gotten long-term jobs as a result.

RIPPING-OFF THE YOUTH

Fine Gael and Labour (and Fianna Fail, too) are to blame for the increasing hardship, unemployment and emigration among ordinary people. They have ripped us all off! They don't have the courage or the intelligence to seriously tackle the problems we face, and to use the immense wealth that exists in Ireland to create real jobs with decent wages for Irish youth. They have sold out on the futures of thousands of young people.

SELLING-OUT ON IRELAND

This government, and previous governments, have betrayed us all. They have sold out on Irish youth. And they have sold out to Britain over the North. Instead of demanding that British troops leave our country, they spend millions of pounds guarding Britain's border for her. Instead of supporting the fight for Irish freedom, they extradite Irish republicans like Dominic McGlinchey and Seamus Shannon over the border and into the hands of the proven torturers of the British army and the RUC. Instead of having the courage to stand up to Thatcher, they whimper their support for her, and accept her contempt as if it was praise.

IT'S TIME TO FIGHT BACK!

Irish youth deserve better. We need, and we deserve better and we demand the right to work — to real jobs with real wages. We need, and we deserve and we demand the right to a decent education. And we need, deserve and demand the right to live in Ireland — all of it — in freedom, justice and unity.

FIGHTING FOR A BETTER FUTURE

Things don't have to be always like they are now. They can be changed for the better. If only YOU have the courage to change them. Fianna Eireann is the youth organisation of the Republican Movement. The Fianna was founded in 1909 by Constance Markievicz "to train the youth of Ireland to fight Ireland's fight when they are older". Today Fianna Eireann works for Irish freedom and socialism among young people through political, cultural and scouting activities. Fianna Eireann (Republican Youth Movement) is fighting for a better future in a united Ireland. Join us, and play your part in that fight! Contact 44 Parnell Square, Dublin 1.