

The Massive Cost of Enforcing Anglo-Irish Agreement

Extra Policing — £1,000,000

Publicity for Virtues — £200,000

Plus Extra Police off Border Duty

Plus 3 Extra Battalions of Troops

Since the signing of the Anglo-Irish Agreement the Conservative Government had appeared to have got its priorities mixed up, the Grand Master, M.W. Rev. W. Martin Smyth, B.A., B.D., M.P., M.E.P., told Young Unionists at Unionist H.Q., Glengall Street.

It was he said, spending money "hand over fist" on the Agreement, whilst at the same time provision of services, educational facilities and help for the unemployed are cut.

Extra Policing

He pointed out that up to April 1 the costs incurred by the Agreement were:

Extra policing - £1 million; publicity extolling the virtues of it has been estimated at costing £200,000; and, of course, every time the Inter-governmental Council meets extra police are taken off border security; then we must add the extra costs of the three battalions of regular troops sent over.

At the same time the Belfast Education and Library Board faced a cut of £1.6m, and £44 million has been cut from housing, and £400,000 has been cut from school meals.

Proceeding, Bro. Smyth stated that Unionists are always being told that the Anglo-Irish Agreement must be good because it is about improving security. "We agree. It is about improving security but not our security. It is about improving British and United States security in the context of global politics and securing important facilities. People have scoffed at my colleague Enoch Powell or stating this.

"Why is it then that we have been honoured with the appointment to the Anglo-Irish Secretariat at Maryfield of Sir Maurice Oldfield's former Private Secretary? Sir Maurice, for the uninitiated, is the former

head of the British Security services, and the real life model for 'M' in James Bond movies.

"Why also is Northern Ireland, with such a small population, to get no less than three civil defence 'Command Bunkers', to be completed by 1989 at a cost of £7.8 million? Not only this, but a further 21 smaller bunkers are to be converted from existing buildings, "to ensure the continuance of government in a war emergency".

"When it comes to British and American interests on a global scale, spending is no problem at all, indeed it is inconceivable that America

has not had an important input into the future arrangements for governing this island.

US Involvement

"It is not 'belligerent Unionists' who are saying this. The former Commander of the IRA, Sean McBride, now rehabilitated as 'a statesman and man of peace', writing in the journal of CND 'Sanity' stated: 'There have also been frequent references in the press to possible mutual defence agreements in order to establish better security measures on the border I am more afraid that some Fine Gael Ministers may try to involve us secretly in "understandings" or "arrangements" that might have the effect of jeopardising our neutrality'.

Bro. Smyth recalled that Sean MacBride wrote this in March 1985, and his prophesy was anticipated by Unionists

before that. Mrs. Thatcher was frightened at the prospect of Unionist non-compliance and also of those in the Republic who know that the sacred cow of Irish neutrality has been compromised. It was for this reason that

the government has taken powers to run Ulster's local Councils by decree, and to put in Commissioners. Maryfield with its iron gates and barbed wire, and all the rest of the government apparatus in Ulster, was beginning to look like a scene from the television series "Edge of Darkness", where government and the security services hold all power.

Continued on page 7



Orange Greetings to Her Majesty

To mark the 60th Birthday of Her Majesty the Queen the following telegram was sent to Buckingham Palace by the Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland:

"The Loyal Orange Institution of Ireland sends warmest congratulations and loyal greetings to your Majesty on your 60th Birthday. Long may you reign over us".

It was signed W. Martin Smyth, Grand Master, Walter Williams, Grand Secretary.



Belfast County Deplores Attacks on Police Homes

The County Grand Orange Lodge of Belfast at its monthly meeting discussed the implications of the Anglo Irish Agreement on the decision to ban the Apprentice Boys Easter Monday parade in Portadown and the subsequent events.

The eleventh hour announcement to ban the parade, says a statement, "has all the hallmarks of a Dublin Government directive to the Anglo Irish Secretariat, proving once again they have more than a consultative role.

"It is the opinion of County Grand Lodge that a political decision was taken to ban the parade and we are saddened to see the Chief Constable and his Officers being forced by the Northern Ireland Office to yield to pressure by the Government of a foreign country.

"The County Grand Lodge deplore the attacks on the homes of members of all security forces, and condemn those who seek to discredit the Unionist cause and injure R.U.C. members and their families, not to mention the damage to property.

"The R.U.C. for many years have stood firm and resolute against the force of Republican terrorism. We have supported them through those difficult years and shared in their sorrow. We would demand the Government not to use the Police Force, which has an outstanding record, to impose an Anglo-Irish Agreement".



M.W. Bro. Rev. W. Martin Smyth, M.P., presents Bro. Rev. E. D. Smyth, B.D. with an inscribed carrying clock the gift of Lisnadill Guiding Star L.O.L. No. 174 "in recognition of the promotion of 'Our Orange Roots'."

Story and Picture on page 2

Grand Master Joins in Celebrations at Lisnadill

A large gathering of brethren turned out to Lisnadill Orange Hall (South Armagh) on Wednesday 12th March to associate themselves with two very happy and important presentations.

The proceedings commenced with Bro. Rev. E. D. Smyth (County Grand Chaplain of Belfast and minister of Redrock Presbyterian Church) giving the final of his series of six addresses on the History of Orange Roots in the County of Armagh.

Bro. Smyth "rounded off" the series, of what can only be described as inspiring talks, with an address based on the period 1849 until the 1920's which included the background and facts surrounding Dolly's Brae, the denunciation of the "Home Rulers", the rise of "Carson's Army", Ulster's First Parliament and the formation of the 'B Specials'.

Bro. Smyth has also assembled an historical display which included the facsimiles of early handwritten Warrants, original sashes dating back to the 1800's and a host of artifacts and articles which proved of tremendous interest to all who were fortunate enough to be present.

The W.M. of the host Lodge, L.O.L. 174, gave a short account of the background to the idea of the talks, expressing the thanks of the Lodge to Bro. Smyth for the thought and research which he had undertaken so willingly.

He then invited the M.W. Grand Master to mark the occasion by presenting Bro. Smyth with an inscribed carriage clock.

The Grand Master expressed his delight at being associated with the presentation, indicating that he had known Bro. Smyth for a long number of years and congratulating him on the quality of his material. He also congratulated L.O.L. 174 for their part in the venture.



The second part of the proceedings involved the opening of the Lodge when the M.W. Grand Master was formally welcomed and invited to occupy the W.M.'s chair.

The W.M., Bro. Raymond Nesbitt, informed the meeting that 50 year service jewels were to be presented to eight of Lisnadill's senior members, representing well over 400 years of service to our glor-

ious Institution. The W.M. expressed regret that two of the brethren were unable to be present due to illness, Bro. Thomas Black being hospitalised and Bro. Joseph Black had just returned home from hospital following an accident.

The W.M. congratulated the six brethren present on achieving this milestone and thanked them for their individual contributions to L.O.L. 174. He invited the Grand

Master to present the jewels.

The Grand Master, on presenting the jewels, had a special word for each of the recipients which was very much appreciated by all concerned.

The Grand Master then gave a detailed and up-to-date account of the state of the Orange Institution and of the current thinking and strategy concerning the Constitutional

situation in Ulster.

A vote of thanks to the M.W. Grand Master, who had come straight from Westminster, was ably proposed by Bro. Fred Armstrong (D.M. L.O.L. 174), followed by the singing of the National Anthem.

All present were then treated to a delightful supper provided by the ladies of L.O.L. 174 members.

The W.M. and members of L.O.L. 174 would like to express a hearty word of thanks to Bro. Albert Nicholl (District Treasurer) who so expertly captured the evening in photographs.

Bro. Rev. Smyth's talks are to be transcribed into booklet form and to be published by L.O.L. 174. It should be available in the not too distant future.

Ballymena Golden Star L.O.L. 491

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RAPC Meet in County Donegal

A well attended meeting of the City of Londonderry Grand Arch Purple Chapter was held in Convooy Orange Hall, Co. Donegal, on 24 March. The City Grand Master, Rt. W. Bro. R. J. Ferris was chairman, and in attendance was M.W. Bro. Ken Watson, Grand Master R.A.P.C., Ireland, who received a very warm welcome from the brethren.

It was intimated that the next lecturers conference will be held in the Memorial Hall on 6 September.

Bro. Watson spoke of the Bursary Fund in memory of

R.W. Bro. John Glass, the former Grand Treasurer. He asked for two representatives of the lodge to be appointed as members of the committee of the fund. Bro. Ferris and W. Bro. Simpson, City Grand Treasurer, were appointed.

A letter was received from No. 3 District re the attendance of Bishop Meahaffey at a Derry City F.C. soccer match on a Sunday. It was agreed that a strong expression of disapproval be sent to the Bishop.

The installation of officers was conducted by the Grand Master, assisted by W. Bro.

John Gordon. After a ceremony, excellently performed, the presiding officers were thanked for their good work.

In his reply Bro. Watson expressed his pleasure at being present. He was much heartened, he said, by the good attendance and the way the business of the lodge was carried out. He hoped to take part on other occasions. W.

Bro. Gordon also replied.

The next half-yearly meeting will be held under the auspices of No. 1 District date and place to be arranged.

After the meeting supper was provided by No. 3 District. The brethren expressed their gratitude to the District Lodge for the meal and the very good arrangements to the meeting.

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Thatcher "Justifies" Agreement to World Orange Grand Master

M.W. Bro. John H. Gowans, Imperial Grand Master has released a reply to a letter he sent to Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher concerning the Anglo-Irish Agreement.

The letter, addressed from the British High Commission in Canberra, and signed by W. J. Dixon stated:

"Thank you for your letter of 1 December 1985 to the Prime Minister Mrs. Margaret Thatcher about the Anglo-Irish Agreement. Your views have been noted in London.

"PEACE AND STABILITY"

The Government has entered into the Agreement to promote peace and stability in Northern Ireland, to help reconcile the two traditions and to enhance cross-border security co-operation.

It has three main elements: first, both Governments affirm that any change in the status of Northern Ireland would come about only with the consent of a majority of people in Northern Ireland.

"The people of Northern Ireland can therefore be

assured that both the Irish and United Kingdom Governments are committed and bound in international law to the principle of consent. Northern Ireland's position within the United Kingdom is therefore assured by the will of the majority.

"The second feature is the Intergovernmental Conference. Through this the Irish Government can put forward views and proposals on matters specified in the Agreement.

"This is not new; successive Governments have listened to the views the Irish Government has expressed about developments affecting Nationalists in Northern Ireland. But this arrangement will allow the Government to do so in a more methodical way and help avoid misunderstandings.

THE MINORITY

"The Government believes it is right to do this because a substantial minority of the people of Northern Ireland think of themselves as Irish. Unless their identity and views can be accommodated,

and in particular unless we have their support for the security forces, the struggle for success against terrorism and progress towards peace and stability are that much more difficult.

"But I should emphasise that the United Kingdom Government's sovereignty and its ability to make decisions in Northern Ireland are in no way affected: the Conference has no executive responsibilities.

"The third element is the enhancement of cross-border co-operation, particularly in combatting terrorism. If this is successful, then obviously the benefits would be very worthwhile indeed.

"You suggest that the Government should seek the views of the people of Northern Ireland on the Agreement, and indeed many people have called for a referendum there. But in the United Kingdom, matters of international relations have generally been regarded as ones for the United Kingdom Government and for Parliament, in which all the people of the United

Kingdom are represented.

Parliament has, after an exhaustive two-day debate, given its verdict overwhelmingly in support of the Agreement. Because the status of Northern Ireland is unaffected (and indeed confirmed) by the Agreement the Government does not believe that it would be right to conduct a referendum there on an issue which had already been determined, and properly so, by the people of the United Kingdom as a whole through their representatives in Parliament.

"NO THREAT" SAYS KING

"The recent by-elections have shown that the support for Unionist parties remains unchanged. Many who voted for Unionist candidates may have been apprehensive about the Agreement. There have indeed been a number of quite unfounded rumours that some have sought to spread about the effects of the Agreement and these have understandably caused much concern about its implications.



The Prime Minister, Mrs. Margaret Thatcher.

The Secretary of State hopes that as it proceeds with its work you will see that the Conference does not represent the sort of threat that has been suggested but that it can steadily help to improve confidence and security in Northern Ireland.

"The Government remains determined to make work an agreement which Parliament

has overwhelmingly approved, and the Secretary of State hopes the people of Northern Ireland will give it time to work.

"But he also stressed that he is ready and available to talk to the Unionist parties about any matter concerning Northern Ireland, including the working of the Intergovernmental Conference".

Scots—Ulster Lecturers in Conference

The 39th annual Inter-Class Conference of Lecturers, of No. 4 Partick and No. 4 Belfast, was held in the Orange Hall, Whiteinch, under Warrant of R.B.P. No. 461.

Sir Knt. Ben Neill, R.W.M., presided, assisted by Sir Knt. G. Gallagher, W.M.

A warm welcome was extended, the Ulster brethren from Belfast, other visitors also Board members.

The proceedings were in charge of Sir Knt. W. Jones, President of Partick Class, assisted by Sir Knt. Geo. Telford, Belfast Class.

The ceremonial work was ably exemplified by both Classes.

Encouraging remarks were expressed by Sir Knts. John Shearer and James McCreary of the Scottish Examining Board, John Patterson and William Buick, (Belfast).

A silent vote of condolence was observed in respect of two members of Partick Class, who had passed away since the last meeting — Sir Knts. Malcolm Campbell and Hugh Munnis.

Both Classes attended morning worship in Partick Old Parish Church, on Easter Sunday, when Rev. John Jolly,

B.A., gave them a warm welcome.

During the weekend a visit was paid to Dunfermline, Fifeshire, where the visitors and friends were led through the ancient Abbey Church by the curator, who pointed out places of interest.

After an enjoyable tea, Sir Knt. Telford, President of Belfast Class, on behalf of his members expressed sincere, and grateful thanks for such a wonderful visit and most enjoyable weekend, which all his members had enjoyed.

Sir Knt. Jones in reply for Partick Class said he was very pleased, and delighted, that this good work and Easter visitation, would continue in the future.

He returned the compliments on behalf of his Class, for a safe journey home and hoped that the next joint Conference, would be held in Belfast next year.

The Royal Burgh of Dunfermline is famous for its Abbey, within whose walls are buried the remains of the fourteenth century Scottish King, Robert the Bruce. It is also the birthplace of the world-famous benefactor, Andrew Carnegie.

Certificate Presented

Outgoing District Master Carrickfergus No. 4 Junior District, Worthy Bro. Charles Johnston on left, receiving his Past Master Certificate from the present District Master, Worthy Bro. James Seaton. Bro. Johnston was District Master for three years, and during his term of office Carrickfergus District hosted the Belfast County Lodges for two years in succession on Easter Monday. The present District Master is Assistant Superintendent of Greenisland L.O.L. No. 52.



Greenisland Junior L.O.L. No. 52 five-a-side team who won the Carrickfergus Junior District League with the District Master, Bro. James Seaton (centre). From left: Bros. Mark Duff, Darren Sloan (captain), Stuart Pike and Jim McCormick.



STANDBEARER



If Garret Falls What Then?

Wouldn't it be supreme irony if the Anglo-Irish Agreement were to fall in pieces if Dr. Garret FitzGerald were to suffer one or two more defections from his party to the new Social Democrat Party which has emerged in the past few months in the Irish Republic? It may be closer than many believe. The public opinion polls would suggest that Charles J. Haughey is back in the esteem of the 26 County electorate, and it could well be that come the

next General Election he will be back as the country's political leader. As I have stated here on some previous occasions Ireland has a knack and a propensity for discarding her leaders. History has proved this to be true. What would Mrs. Thatcher do should this prospect materialise? Would she be forced against her will to do a U-turn not of her making or wish? Her position in such circumstances would be completely untenable and put her position

vis-a-vis the Tory party in jeopardy. Already we see that the monolithic support for Tory, Labour, Liberal and SDP parties is not so solid as heretofore. The latest news that Viscount Cranburne is to cease political life at the next General Election because he is dissatisfied with the Anglo-Irish Agreement must surely register with the British public and cause serious misgivings about the Government's disgraceful treatment of her traditional friends. Not only that,

but those who are their kith and kin. They have been disregarded by the British Government in their treacherous connivance with people who at heart and by birth and education wish to further annexe the remainder of this island of Ireland from the United Kingdom and Commonwealth as their forefathers did in the early part of this century and have consolidated that by the declaration of a republic.

Long May She Reign!

In the week that this issue goes to press Her Majesty the Queen has celebrated the 60th anniversary of her birth. It was very much a family occasion — that brilliant, homely service in St. George's, Windsor, her "home town", the welcome given to her by the children who carried armfuls of glorious daffodils to Buckingham Palace, and the Queen's meeting them in person. How

Not so Royalty: they succeed in Royal dynasty because they have no connection with the machinations that typify so much of all that is party political. Our Monarchs are in line with ancient dynasties: indeed there is some evidence to suggest that the British Throne goes back to the Throne of David. It has endured because it holds a very special place in the hearts and affections of the British people here in the British Isles and throughout the Commonwealth. Indeed it is not beyond the bounds of possibility that our Queen is held in very deep affection by the people of the United States of America. The mystique which enshrouds the British Royal Family is unique. It is also a bond which holds our people together as none other does. Long May She Reign!

fortunate we are to have such a wonderful Sovereign who holds her Realm in awe, to quote some words of one of our greatest poets. Contrast this with the tawdry system which has discarded Royalty, and replaced it with the Presidential office, often leaving it open to politicians who have reached the top by what for want of a better description were rather devious methods.

Hurd's Prompt Action Against

Libyans

After 17 years of turmoil, death and destruction in Northern Ireland was it not remarkable to learn that former Secretary of State for our Province had as Home Secretary ordered the deportation of 21 Libyan students from England because it was felt that they were revolutionaries. This news came hot on the heels of the decision of the British Cabinet to allow American bombers based in England to fly out to rain death and destruction on Libya and her people. Deaths, injuries and loss of property in the air raids reverberated round the world, and the anger

which it evoked placed Britain in a position of shame and disgrace. Mrs. Thatcher has strenuously defended the decision of the Westminster Cabinet to permit USA bombers to load up in England and fly by a circuitous route to Libya, France and Spain having refused to permit the Americans to overfly their countries on a shorter route. In

the event huge petrol air tankers accompanied the bombers to enable them to refuel as they sped southwards on their mission. Few in these islands will condone the evil thinking of Colonel Qadhafi and his known connection with the IRA, but undoubtedly question the wisdom of the methods employed to counter the Colonel's involvement

with worldwide terrorism. But here in Ulster we remember Douglas Hurd's sojourn at Stormont Castle and that of others of his rank in the same abode, who were less than resolute in getting to grips with the terrorists who attacked at will places like South Armagh and other parts of U.K. territory. By giving this approval for the U.S. planes to use U.K. soil to launch an attack on Libya Mrs. Thatcher and her Cabinet colleagues expose the hollowness of their failure to fully protect the loyalists of Ulster in their years of terror and sadness.

IRA And "Loyalists" of One Mind

The brutal murder by republicans of an RUC inspector while out walking his dog around midnight on April 22 and the simultaneous attacks by Loyalists on police in three places in Northern Ireland make sad reading. Sad in each instance that a policeman off duty should have been singled out by a gang concealed behind bushes and so-called self-appointed "Protestant" gangsters who are so aggrieved by

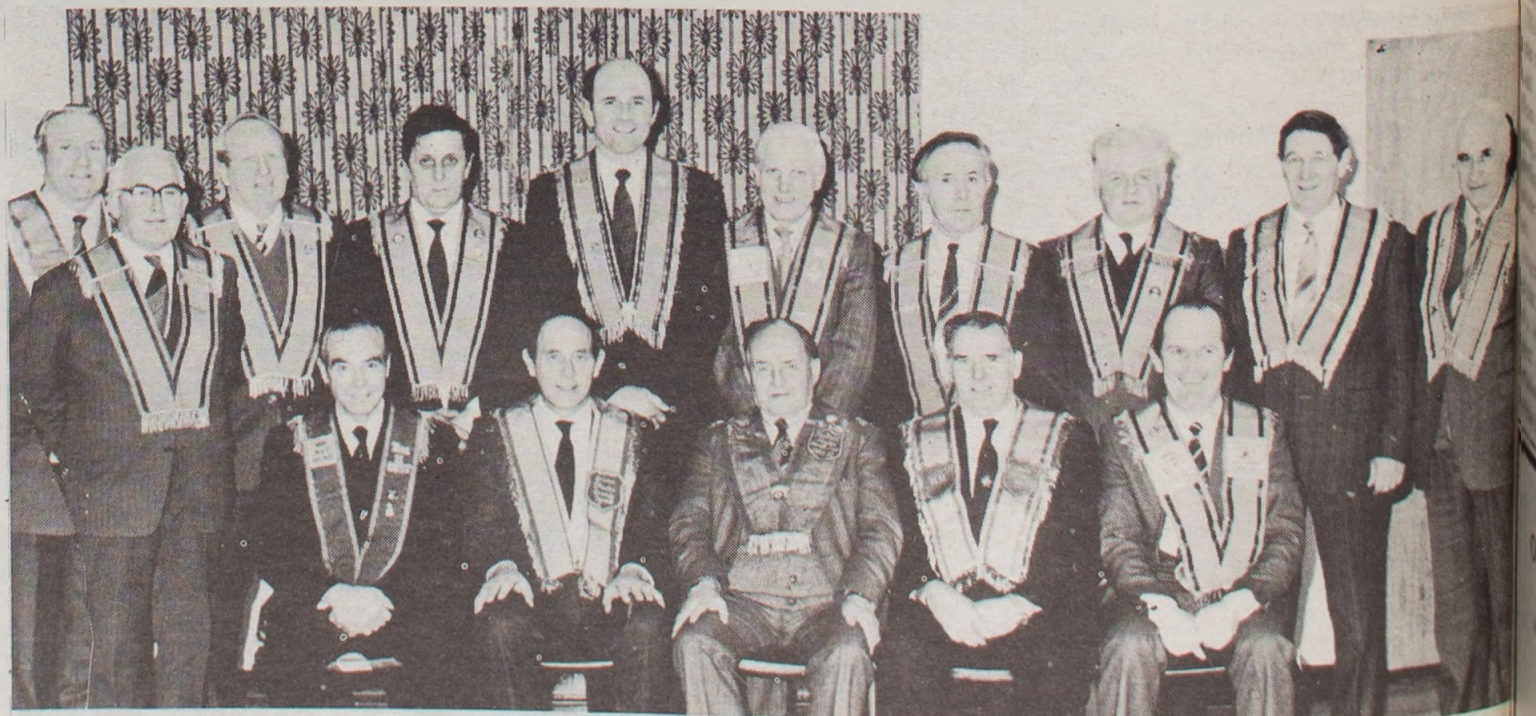
the Anglo-Irish Agreement, which in all likelihood they have not read for themselves, that, republican-style, they deem it their duty to "take it out" on the RUC. It is a well known fact that in Communist countries the first thing which was tackled was the undermining of the forces of law and order, and we may well be seeing the same strategy being used to remove from our midst the authority not only of the RUC but the very structures

on which democracy itself are founded. Leaders of political parties have warned in no uncertain terms that street politics are on the way and that unless measures are taken

to redress the situation then a state of complete chaos is sure to follow. Time is running out and the fault lies most assuredly at the door of Margaret Thatcher and Garret FitzGerald with their nefarious "Accord".

Ulster is approaching a crossroads, and the direction is far from reassuring. We can only hope and pray that commonsense will surface and normality be restored. Street politics is the way to disaster, and once taken in full flood the consequences do not bear thought. Sinister forces are at work and the activities of the National Front in various parts of Ulster have significant overtones.

Officers of Omagh Orange District No. 11



Front row: Bros. Jack Potts (Treasurer), Tom Reid, County Grand Master; J. Hamilton, P.M., Crawford McFarland, W.M., and Harold Doherty (Secretary).
Back row: Bros. Lexie McClaren, W.M., Sixmilecross District; Wilfred Breen (Chaplain); David Monteith (Committee); Samuel Crosbie (Committee foreman); Victor

Anderson (Lecturer); Samuel McGrew (Tyler); Jack Swann (Committee); Harry Beattie (Committee); Walter Armstrong, W.M. 339, and James Montgomery, W.M., Fintona District. Missing from photograph Bro. William Monteith, D.M. who was in hospital.

(Photo: Courtesy "Tyrone Constitution").

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Comment — Comment — Com

Placing The Blame Where It Lies

To say that the Province is in a mess is to echo the thinking of many of our people, most of whom could not be charged with being naturally pessimistic. Many of us find it hard to see how we can be extricated from situations which threaten to destroy our society.

The latest threat — the attacks on police personnel, their families and homes — have been condemned as the most foolish, most reprehensible kind of violence because it is against those who have braved every kind of terrorist attack for 17 years in order to maintain Law and Order and to protect our people in a country grossly victimised by terrorism for far far too long.

Well over two hundred of them have been killed for the one reason that they were policemen. Their deaths like all those of innocent people have grievously hurt their families and made our society the poorer for their loss.

The honest, honourable and proper reaction to the Anglo-Irish Agreement has been seriously disaffected by people whose conduct has made it easy for those who favour it to "blame the unionists, politicians, churchmen and all" for their inability to control the so-called Loyalist/Protestant arsonists, wreckers and gunmen.

Whilst the attacks on the police have angered and offended the great majority of Ulster people, they remain determinedly opposed to an Agreement which is abhorrent to them. Now they have another obstacle to overcome — this totally uncalled for diversion, on which the government and parliament have latched to help them attack the unionists — to persuade the government to face reality and to recognise that its contract with the Republic is the primary cause of both lawful opposition and criminal misconduct.

The attempts of the N.I. Secretary, Tom King, and law and order spokesman, Nicholas Scott, to blame everyone but themselves for what is happening here is at once cowardly and offensive.

Their appeals to church leaders to use their influence to persuade the violent law-breakers to change their attitudes to the police has met with a quick response. The government's refusal to listen to them when they warned about loyalist anger, despair and threat of violence because of the Agreement has contributed largely to the present emergency. They said this while unhesitatingly condemning those whose attacks on the RUC have brought shame on all of us and dealt Protestantism a blow that hurts.

So many are to blame for producing the most worrying Ulster situation till now that it has to be a "plague on all your houses."

We pity policemen who have to bear the brunt of abuse for

obeying the orders of their superiors. We are without sympathy for those whose decisions have made them the targets for those who are convinced that they are now their enemies being used as instruments for the implementation of the Agreement. Denials that the police are being used by the administration for such a purpose are not accepted by unionists who are convinced that the police are pawns in a game being played by London and Dublin.

Explanations and contradictions are an annoyance to people who expect to be told the truth and deeply resent being treated with that insensitivity which has characterised the government's determination to force its will regardless of unionist feelings.

Things change so quickly in a situation as fluid as ours that a statement made on a morning could be contradicted by events that evening. This could be a hopeful thing if it means that people are struggling to find solutions to our problems and thinking realistically about the possibilities if there is to be a happy future for law abiding citizens here.

While the front pages were full of the attacks on policemen's homes room had to be found for statements from Peter Robinson, M.P., and the Rev. Hamilton Skillen, Methodist Church President. They were to advise that on information received by them some southern politicians are sympathetic to the unionists, and understand their fears.

They would be agreeable to the suspension of the Agreement to allow Ulster politicians to enter into meaningful conversations and negotiations on devolved government. Mrs. Thatcher was named by Peter Robinson as the single reason why the Agreement was not set to the one side until the unionists and others could consult openly and without previously made commitments standing in the way.

In the nature of things there was a contradiction of the statements from Dublin on the same day.

Mrs. Thatcher on the same day at Westminster in a parliamentary debate trotted out the old clichés about the waylaying of Ulster unionists by their politicians. She refused to answer a member's question on whether she had been persuaded to negotiate the Agreement because of the continuance of IRA terrorist activities.

In her attacks she was supported by John Hume. Her certainty in the rightness of her decision has become so obsessive that when she signed the document she closed her mind. Whatever overtures have been made to her since and from whatever source if they

questioned the legitimacy, morality and usefulness of the deal she refused to listen, to what she heard.

Those who say that Mrs. Thatcher is not for turning should not be surprised when reality dawns on her and she does one of her U-turns. Willie Whitelaw has produced evidence from past events that she is not an immovable object.

Parade Ban — Hermon's Tactical Error

The banning of the Portadown Apprentice Boys parade on Easter Monday which led to the present violence was a repeat of the same mistake of the Twelfth last year same place. The agreement on arrangements by organisers, police and business people of Portadown could have ensured a peaceful event in the usual mould.

The Chief Constable by refusing to provide the evidence that the parade was to be taken over by criminals and paramilitaries has come in for attack of the kind to which he must have become accustomed. He remains impervious to criticism.

His public appearances to justify himself have done nothing to satisfy his many critics. The Apprentice Boys have demanded an apology from him for the implications that they lack the ability to have a peaceful parade at Portadown.

"Loss of Authority"

Merlyn Rees, the former Labour N.I. Secretary, in the Commons debate of 8 April, when advised of Mrs. Thatcher's willingness to talk with unionist political leaders about the Agreement expressed the opinion that recent events had shown that those politicians had no authority any more, for others had usurped their powers.

That is not the position but if such a situation arises the blame for it lies with those who forced something on people against their will. The fight for Ulster which involved armed insurrection is too horrifying to contemplate. People who have suffered so long and so much deserve much better from life.

Letter to the Editor

Thoughts on 'Street Politics'

Sir,
Personally, I have no reason to doubt the facts and figures released to a DUP Assembly regarding the relative strength of police and army personnel for the republican parades in Londonderry and Belfast on Easter Sunday and the banned Portadown march on Easter Monday.

If RUC headquarters are so certain that the numbers released by certain police officers are so widely misleading, then why are they so unwilling to give us what they consider to be the correct ones.

As a moderate politician, I feel that the Chief Constable has a lot to answer for in respect of the violence in Portadown during Easter Monday afternoon. The entire

Protestant population was seething with anger and frustration when people were told at almost the eleventh hour that the parade was being banned.

Of course we realize, despite his rantings to the contrary, that Jack Hermon was not his own boss. The Anglo-Irish Agreement has made full provision for "Barry Law" to be implemented in respect of Loyalist parades.

The Methodist president was quite right to ask why the news of the ban was delayed for so long. It is a pity the Chief Constable was never asked this question in his T.V. interviews. No doubt the decision was taken much earlier, but was obviously not transmitted to the local com-

manders on the ground who were just as dismayed as the rest of us.

Much as I deplore the serious rioting that followed and particularly the senseless petrol bombing of R.U.C. homes, one is bound to ask if the tremendous build-up of police and military strength on the Portadown streets and the consequent discharge of such a vast quantity of plastic bullets in such an indiscriminate fashion resulting in one death and serious injury, did not serve as an incentive to the violence that occurred.

It was inevitable that young Apprentice Boys and bandsmen would want to vent their anger and frustration on the Force that was barring their right to march along a traditional route which happened to pass some Roman Catholic housing estates.

Incidentally there was much media coverage of the confrontation situations on Portadown streets, yet we saw nothing of the deployment of large numbers of army personnel guarding the "oppressed Catholic population", in the Garvaghy and Churchill estates.

All Loyalist people knew that the decision to ban the Portadown parade was both

political and very unwise indeed. The Chief Constable and Nick Scott seem to think that the violence would have been greater, had the parade been allowed to go on as subversives had planned to infiltrate it and cause mayhem.

Yet, once again they hide behind a cloak of secrecy. Loyalists were enraged, precisely because the authorities were unwilling to come clean and divulge the facts behind the last minute banning of a Loyalist parade whilst allowing all republican parades to proceed and when the risk of guns being carried were just as great and in fact volleys were fired in Belfast and a soldier wounded in Londonderry.

Much as I can understand the reason for what has come to be called "Street Politics", I do wish the political leadership would make a far greater effort to channel genuinely held frustrations along constitutional paths and devise other forms of protest against the discredited Accord, e.g., non payment of rates and taxes, car tax, T.V. licences and the boycott of Irish products. We want more determined leadership.

Yours Sincerely,
(Cllr.) WILFRED BREEN,
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The great city and port of Liverpool only became a diocese of the Church of England in 1880. Until then it had been part of the Diocese of Chester.

Its growing prestige and prosperity required that ecclesiastical administration have a centre there. When the legal hurdles were surmounted and the See safely launched the clergyman appointed to be its first bishop was John Charles Ryle.

BIRTH

Ryle had been born in 1816 at Macclesfield, the son of a Member of Parliament and banker who hoped that his son would succeed him in banking and politics. J. C. Ryle was educated with that intention at Eton and Christ Church, Oxford, where he distinguished himself both as scholar and sportsman. He won a number of academic prizes and was captain of cricket and a rower against Cambridge in a boat race.

Ryle's background showed little promise of his future career, for from childhood to manhood he neither said prayers nor read the Bible. At 21 a sickness drove him to prayer and Bible study. When he began attending a new church at Macclesfield he came under the influence of an evangelical vicar and was affected by his preaching on man's sin and God's grace.

But his conversion came when as an undergraduate at Oxford with his final examinations worrying him he wandered into an Oxford Church as the second lesson was being read. It was Ephesians 2, and the words lodged in his mind, "By grace are you saved through faith, and that not of yourselves — it is the gift of God." Ryle was to say of that moment of realization, "Then I was fairly launched as a Christian."

John Charles Ryle : First Bishop of Liverpool

by S. E. LONG

(1816-1900)

A few years later the family's fortunes took a nose dive when the father was declared bankrupt. Ryle described what happened, "We got up one Summer morning with all the world before us that evening we were completely and entirely ruined." For a man who anticipated inheriting great wealth at 25 and a seat in Parliament the shock was devastating. But he soon came to describe what happened to him as God closing the door to Parliament because he wanted him for the ministry of the church.

MINISTRY

Ryle was ordained in 1842 for a country curacy in the New Forest. After two years he became Rector of St. Thomas, Winchester. He held incumbencies afterwards at Helmingham, Suffolk, 17 years, and Stradbroke, Suffolk, 19 years.

At Stradbroke he became known as "the Prince of Tract-writers." More than one hundred of his little booklets with their terse, vivid style and their arresting titles, "Are you free?"; "Are you happy?"; "Do you ever think?"; "Do you want a friend?"; had gained a very large circulation.

translations — Welsh, French, German, Dutch, Portuguese, Norwegian, Danish, Spanish, Italian, Russian, Hindustani and Chinese. Ruskin was to write of them "the pleasantest and most useful reading I know on nearly all religious questions whatever are Ryle's tracts."

It was Benjamin Disraeli (Lord Beaconsfield) who nominated Ryle to the See of Liverpool. It was said that he had been so stung by the High Church vote for W. E. Gladstone he resolved Liverpool should have an evangelical of the evangelicals.

EPISCOPACY

Ryle came to the episcopate late. He was 64. But his ministries in rural parishes were good preparation for a bishop. He had long been a reader and writer and leader among the evangelicals. It was he who persuaded them to cooperate in Convocation and not to avoid participation with other churchmen.

He first appeared on a Congress platform in 1866 when he showed himself to be a born debater. Quick witted, incisive, good humoured, he soon became one of the most popular of the Congress speakers.

The name of J. C. Ryle often appears in evangelical journals, and his essays and sermons are regular features in some of them. "He being dead yet speaketh."

As preacher and author he was clear-headed and forthright. He defended himself vigorously against the charge that he and his kind were less committed churchmen than others. As a preacher he learnt early the necessity of simplicity and clarity. In style he was homely and yet forceful and challenging. He preached to win men for Christ. Perhaps his best known book, "Knots Untied," shows Ryle at his most typically pungent and persuasive.

He was no mere party man. When he came to Liverpool he told clergy and people, "I come among you as a Protestant and Evangelical Bishop of the Church of England but I do not come among you as the bishop of one particular party."

Whilst he refused to allow Romish practises he respected the historical schools in the church — high, broad and low — while they respected the Anglican fundamentals, the

Creeds, the Thirty-nine Articles of Religion and the Book of Common Prayer. He earned a reputation for the way he cared for his clergy and their families.

His particular concern for ordinands showed in his pre-ordination retreats and post-ordination seminars. He had one piece of advice to them, "Read your Bibles, Men, read your Bibles." He said:— "Happy is the man who possesses a Bible.

Happier is he who reads it. Happiest of all is he who, not only reads it, But obeys it and makes it the Rule of his Faith and Practice."

Often he followed the advice on the Bible with warnings about Roman Catholicism and Ritualism.

Ryle made up his mind that he would not build a cathedral in his episcopate. His reasons were that he could see no way of raising the money — half a million — needed for that venture in the face of pressing needs in the diocese; and no agreement among the Anglicans of Liverpool on a site.

He expressed his feelings when he wrote, "The humblest cottage meeting where Christ is preached and the Scriptures honoured, and five real believers assembled, is more

pleasing in God's sight than the grandest cathedral in which the Gospel is never preached and no work of the Spirit goes on."

PRIORITIES

Ryle believed that the first need of the church was for pastors. He encouraged vocations so that there was a 136-man increase in the number of diocesan clergy. He saw a start made on a church house for the better administration of the diocese. His Stimulation and Pension Funds were of great benefit to churches and clergy. Forty-four churches and fifty-nine mission rooms were built in his time.

He had such a concern for working people that he encouraged them to get involved in the total life of the church. He was the one bishop who attracted great numbers of working men to his meetings and services so that he was called, "The Working-Man's Bishop." One listener said of him, "You man's no bishop. I can understand every word he says."

Ryle was fearless. When he reached conclusions on principles he stuck to them regardless of the consequences. But he was also a churchman of his day and age and like many another lacked deep concern for the poverty and deprivation of the citizens of a city suffering from the worst evils of an unrestrained capitalism.

He wanted to save men's souls. Like many Christians of his day he neglected the social implications of the Gospel. Social emphasis was to come later, too late to influence the great number of working people who had concluded that the church had no message for them, it was no champion of their rights.

Bishop John Charles Ryle resigned his See in 1900 and died that year.

Obituaries

Mrs. Essien

We regret to report the death of Mrs. Flora Novissi Essien, the wife of Most Wor. Bro. Emengo K. Aboki Essien, Grand Master of Togo, at Lome on March 18.

Mrs. Essien, herself a member of the Ladies Orange Association, was a considerable asset to her husband in his office in a jurisdiction which owes so much to his inspired leadership.

Her loss to her husband and the family is so great that Bro. Essien has been very emo-

tionally affected.

We offer him, the relations and friends, our heartfelt sympathy in their bereavement.

Right Wor. Bro. Walter Williams, J.P., has written, as Imperial Secretary, to Bro. Essien expressing to him the sympathy of the Imperial Grand Master, Imperial President, Officers and members of Imperial Council.

The many Irish friends of the Grand Master of Togo join in the condolences.

Noted Partick Figure Dies

Royal Black District Chapter No. 4 Partick have lost through death, another prominent member in the person of Sir Knight Hugh Munnis.

After a few days illness, he died suddenly in Gartnavel General Hospital.

Aged 71 years and a former employee of British Railways, he always found time to devote himself to both his Orders, and place of worship. He held many senior offices at Provincial, District, and Preceptory level, and quite recently was presented with a long service Jewel in recog-

nition of over 40 years service to the Black Institution.

The funeral took place to Craigton Crematorium on 27 March, when Rev. A. Robertson, Scotstown East Church, Glasgow, officiated and paid a striking tribute to Sir Knt. Munnis, and his life, and work, in the church.

A very large attendance of both Orders, wearing regalia attended.

The deepest sympathy of No. 4 District Chapter goes out to Mrs. Munnis in her bereavement.

M.W. Bro. Angus Dewar

It is with regret that we have received intimation of the death on 22 March of one of the stalwarts of Australian Orangeism, M. Wor. Bro. Angus Dewar, Grand President of the Grand Orange Council there.

R.W. Bro. Hilton R. Wickham, J.P., Grand Secretary, in a tribute to Bro. Dewar says, "Those of us who have worked with him in the Grand Council over the last fifteen years knew him as a truly loyal Orangeman, a practising Christian who had great faith in Almighty God, a devoted husband and family man, and a true friend."

"The Loyal Orange Institution in Australia, and particularly in South Australia, is much the poorer for his passing."

We express our sympathy to the widow, W. Sister Helen Dewar, and the family in their bereavement.

The Imperial Secretary, Right Wor. Bro. Walter Williams, has conveyed to Mrs. Dewar and the family the sympathy of the Imperial Grand Master, Imperial President, Officers and members of the Imperial Council.

He has also written the Grand Secretary of the Australian Grand Orange Council an expression of fellow feeling in the loss of such a distinguished and deeply committed Orange leader.

LITANY

When we worry as we do
When we hurry to get through
When we fret and do not pray
And forget the better way—

Bind us then with love's
strong cord
Pardon Thou and save us
Lord!

When our hands refuse Thy will
Thy commands will not fulfil—
When our feet would turn aside
When we meet temptation's tide
By Thy Spirit and Thy Word
Pardon Thou and save us
Lord!

When we doubt and cannot find
Ease without, nor peace of mind
When the light of hope burns dim
In our night can sign no hymn—
Tender-mercy then afford,
Pardon Thou and save us
Lord!

When our love to Christ is low
Lord above — Thou Who dost
know
All our needs and all our loss
Him we plead Who bore the
cross!
By Thy grace in Christ
restored
Pardon Thou and save us
Lord!

To Contributors

Owing to extreme pressure on space it is regretted that it has been found necessary to hold over some reports and photographic coverage

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Many Royal Black Chapter Elections



Blacksessiagh R.B.P. Officers Installed

Members of Blacksessiagh R.B.P. who were presented with medals to mark over 50 years in the Royal Black Institution. They are (from left, front row): Sir Knts. William Warnock, Joseph McCormick, William Logan, Assistant Sovereign Grand Master, who presented the medals, William Armstrong, James Maguire and William Clyde. Also in the picture are: Sir Knts. John Smith, District Master, Samuel Glasgow; County Grand Master, John Weir, W.M. (Blacksessiagh R.B.P.); Ivan Burnside, D.M., Wilfred Breen, Registrar; John McDonald, Treasurer and Charles Beattie, Chaplain. (Photo: Courtesy "Tyrone Constitution").

Co. Tyrone G.B.C. Election of Officers

The half-yearly meeting of Co. Tyrone Grand Black Chapter was held on April 12, in the historic Killyman Orange Hall (built 1871).

After the regular business Sir Knt. Samuel A. Glasgow, County Grand Master, requested R.W. Sir Knt. William J. Logan, Assistant Sovereign Grand Master to conduct the election of officers for 1986. Sir Knt. Rev. Hugh Ross, B.D., from Co. Down Grand Black Chapter occupied the deputy chair and Sir Knt. Joseph W. Trueman, Imperial Grand Treasurer acted as registrar.

Elected were: County Grand Master - Samuel A. Glasgow; Deputy Co. Grand Master - John Taggart, J.P.; Co. Grand Chaplain - Rev. James Kane, M.A.; Deputy Co. Grand Chaplain - Rev. Canon A. S. O'Connor, M.A.; Lay Chaplains - Neville Gallagher and Alexander Reid; Co. Grand Registrar - William A. Nesbitt; Co. Grand Treasurer - Samuel C. Douglas; Deputy Co. Grand Registrar - Ivan M. Symington; Deputy Grand Treasurer - Mitchell Cummings; Co. Grand Lecturer - James Slaine; Deputy Co. Grand Lecturer - Stewart McKinney; Co. Grand Censors - George A. Sommerville, John Sayers; Co. Grand Standard Bearers - William Cummings, Allan Rainey; Co. Grand Pursuivant - Robert J. Kirkpatrick; Co. Grand Sword Bearers - William S. Bennett, Sydney Sommerville.

After the meeting an excellent 4 course lunch was served in the nearby Parish Hall by the ladies of the host district.

Sir Knt. Samuel Douglas expressed a vote of thanks to the ladies, this being seconded by Sir Knt. Ivan Symington.

Joseph McCormick (55 years).

The sixth member Sir Knt. Oliver Kerr had 55 years service, but was unable to be present due to ill health. He received his medal in his own home later that evening.

Sir Knt. Weir, W.M. paid tribute to the distinguished service each recipient had rendered to the Royal Black Institution. He hoped that

each would be long spared to wear their medals on their collarettes. Sir Knt. McCormick had been a lecturer for over fifty years, he said, and was still in office. He warmly thanked all the visiting officers for coming and invited them to join with the Sir Knights of 1065 in their annual reunion dinner in the Royal Arms Hotel in Omagh.

Ballymena RBP Installation

Excelsior Temperance RBP 285 installation of officers took place in Ballymena Protestant Hall on Thursday 20th March.

Sir Knights numbering 75 were present, including 10 members from Carrigans RBP 501, Co. Donegal.

The Installing officer Sir Knt. Malcolm Gilmore, W.M. of Ballygarvey RBP 349; Deputy Installing officer, the W.M. of Carrigans RBP 501; Deacons, Deputy Master, Carrigans RBP 501 and Sir Knt. James Gault, D.D.M., Ballymoney District No. 5.

Regalia Steward Sir Knt. Douglas Gaston, Deputy Co. Grand Treasurer, Co. Antrim, and Chaplain, Sir Knt. B. Williamson, D.D. Master Antrim District No. 3.

Installed were: W.M. - Joseph Buick; D.D.M. - Michael Johnston; Chaplain - John Wilson, P.M.; Registrar - James Campbell, P.M.; Treasurer - Samuel Brown, P.M.; Lecturers - George Falconer, P.M., Alan Stevenson, P.M.; Censors - Joseph Crabbe, P.M., Nat Bamber, Standard Bearers - Wm. Ross, P.M., James Warnock, P.M., Adam Arthur, P.M.

Committee - Sam Craig, John Luke, Robt. McKean, Joseph Stevenson, William Stewart, William Arthur, and Adam Craig.

Following the installation

supper was served by members of the ladies committee and a very enjoyable social hour followed.

Chairman for the social hour was Sir Knt. Ivan Acheson, W.M. of Cloughmills RBP 214. Others who took part were Sir Knts. Joe Gaston, Northern Ireland Assembly Member, Dunloy

RBP 594; J. Bradley, Carrigans RBP 501, A. Ross, RBP 43, Noel Hanna, RBP 250, Campbell Rea, RBP 173, T. Adams, P.M., RBP No. 22.

A vote of thanks was proposed to the ladies and artists, by Sir Knt. George Falconer and the proceedings ended with the singing of the Doxology followed by the National Anthem.

Massive cost of enforcing Anglo-Irish "Agreement"

Continued from page 1

Our duty, he said, is to resist within the law the diminution of our national sovereignty which the Agreement represents. Should the government refuse to withdraw from the Agreement they would risk losing not only the loyalty of the people of this Province, but also any stability on this island as a whole.

Concluding, Bro. Smyth stated that James Prior once referred to the island of Ireland as possibly becoming

"Britain's Cuba" due to IRA terrorism. "I believe that this can only come about if the British and Irish Governments persist in imposing an Agreement which is totally rejected by the majority of loyal British citizens here.

"The logic of the situation is that only by using force can the government govern us. We for our part will remain within the law, but the war-like preparations being made by the government will not help stability here".

Alistair Stewart and Robert Warnock; Marshals - George Evenas and Basil Walker; Sword Bearers - Hector Coulter and Robert White.

Sir Knight Logan, A.S.G.M. apologised for the absence of the Sovereign Grand Master, Sir Knt. Rt. Hon. James H. Molyneux, M.P. He said he was delighted to be present on such a special occasion, congratulated all the officers and wished the Preceptory continued success in the years ahead.

He said the political future of the Province was very uncertain, especially since the signing of the Anglo-Irish Agreement, but he felt sure that Ulstermen has right on their side and urged the brethren to hold on firmly to

their Protestant faith and never let go of it.

The W.M. thanked the visiting officers for the efficient way in which they had carried out their respective duties before calling on Sir Knt. Logan to make the presentation of 50 year service medals he said the Preceptory was honoured to have had such a loyal band of men, six in all, who together had clocked up a total of 333 years service and he wished them many more years of health and happiness as honorary members.

Medals were then presented to the following five members in attendance: Sir Knts. William Armstrong (56 years); James Maguire (56 years); William Warnock (56 years); William Clyde (55 years); and

Castlederg District Chapter

Castlederg District Royal Black Chapter No. 6 held their election of officers for 1986 on 24th March in Kirlish Orange Hall.

Sir Knt. Robert W. McFarland, W.D.M. of Enniskillen District No. 1 conducted the election and Sir Knt. Henry Manley, District

Treasurer of Enniskillen District No. 1 assisted in the deputy chair.

Elected were: W.D.M. - Alexander Patterson (699); D.D.M. - Jack Burke (682); Chaplain - James A. Emery (76); Registrar - William T. Montgomery (76); Treasurer - Derek R. Hussey (556); Pursuivant - Bob McKinley (556); Lecturers - William G. Sproule (191) and Samuel Semple (682); 1st Censor - Norman McMullan (699); 2nd Censor - Sandy Speer (682); 1st Standard Bearer - Jack Sproule (556); 2nd Standard Bearer - Howard Speer (682); Committee - Sandy Speer (682 Foreman); John Lowry (76), Matt Boyd (666), David Hunter (666), Robert Buchanan (666), Kenneth Brown (699), and Robert J. Montgomery (76).

After the meeting the ladies of Kirlish provided an excellent supper and Sir Knt. Jack Burke, D.D.M., extended a warm and appreciative vote of thanks to them.

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Red Star of Drumree R.B.P. No. 30, honoured Sir Knight Moses Ruddell (left) by presenting him with a watch to mark 41 years service as Registrar of the Preceptory. The presentation to Sir Knight Ruddell was made by the Worshipful District Master, Portadown District, Sir Knight J. G. Toal.

South Tyrone Indoor Football Tournament

The five-a-side indoor football tournament organised by South Tyrone Junior District L.O.L. District Lodge was held in Aughtinboer Orange Hall, twelve teams representing the District taking part.

Bro. Alister Brown was referee and Bros. Douglas and Grimes supervised the draw and acted as time keepers and recorders.

After keenly contested matches enjoyed by the large number of parents and well wishers present the following teams eventually were winners in the following age groups: 8-11 years, Moygashel 11-15 years, Killyman; 15

and over, Aughtinboer.

Before presenting the trophies to each boy in the winning teams Bro. Thomas Fleming, W.D.M. thanked Aughtinboer L.O.L. for placing their spacious hall at their disposal. Bro. Alister Brown for being referee in such a capable manner. The superintendents and officers of Aughtinboer Junior Lodge for making all the local arrangements, and the officers of South Tyrone Junior District for all their help and encouragement in organising the event.

The boys were afterwards entertained by the South Tyrone Junior District L.O.L.

Fewer Roman Catholics in America



The number of Roman Catholics in the United States declined slightly last year along with new drops in the numbers of priests, nuns and children in Catholic schools, according to recently released figures.

The Official Catholic Directory for 1985 said there were 52,286,043 Catholics as of Jan. 1, down 106,891 from one year earlier.

The total had risen more than 300,000 the previous year, and church leaders have expressed no concern about the apparent levelling off in church membership. The National Conference of Catholic Bishops, however, has been closely studying the decline in the number of clergy, hoping to find ways to reverse that trend.

Professed Roman Catholics and their children still make up about 22 per cent of the U.S. population.

In other figures, the new directory said:
● There were 57,317 ordained priests at the start of 1985,

down 574 from one year earlier.
● Permanent deacons, who can perform many of the duties of priests, increased 502 to a total of 7,204, making up for part of the decline in priests.

● The number of nuns declined 2,641 to a total of 115,386, continuing a long-term drop.
● Men studying for the priesthood declined 234 to a total of 11,028.

In education, an issue of prime importance to the church, the number of Roman Catholic colleges and universities rose by three to 242, but enrolment dropped 10,895 to 549,940.

● There was a decline of 10 parish and diocesan high schools — to a total of 870 — with enrolment dropping by 6,107 to 478,044. Private Roman Catholic high schools showed a decline of 21 to 555, with an enrolment decrease of 1,305 to 315,984.

In elementary schools, pupils in 7,658 parish schools, down 38 from one year earlier, numbered 2,100,578.

Orange Badges — The Hobby With History

The hobby of badge collecting is a long and established pastime among thousands of people in many countries throughout the world.

Most people confine themselves to one specific subject, and so it is not unusual to find a collector specialising in, say, Army badges, or someone else collecting motorcycle badges, or even, in some cases, Bus Company badges.

On a more local front, there are many people like myself from various parts of the Province who collect Orange and Loyalist badges, and in our own particular way, are making our own contribution to the Orange and Loyalist cause in more ways than one, as each individual badge has its own piece of history behind it, and it's own story to tell.

Although my own collection is relatively small in comparison to some, it includes some unusual items. Pride of place goes to the handful of badges obtained from overseas, and prominent among them is one made as recently as 1977 to celebrate the 2nd. Trans-Tasman Conference of Loyal Orange Youth Lodges.

This badge bears the Coat of Arms of the City of Melbourne, and also incorporates the traditional Australian boomerang emblem. As only 250 of these badges were made for the delegates and members attending the conference, I have what is believed to be the only one of its kind in the Province.

Another Australian badge, in the shape of a seven pointed star, with the open Bible and Crown in the centre, was issued to celebrate the 150 years of the Loyal Orange Institution in Australia from 1830 - 1980. These badges were, believe it or not, made in Taiwan.

The third Australian badge in my collection was issued quite recently (in 1983) to commemorate the Centenary of the Grand Orange Council of Australia. It is gold coloured in appearance, and prominently displays the Bible and Crown along with five stars, with the lettering on a blue background.

Moving on to Canada, and also produced in recent times, is the badge commemorating

the 150th Anniversary of the Grand Orange Lodge of Canada in 1980. It is somewhat similar in appearance to many of our own locally issued badges, and includes the Maple Leaf, with William of Orange in the centre, and on the circumference the phrase "Civil and Religious Liberty We Will Maintain."

Another eye catching Canadian badge was issued by L.O.L. 1516, Ladysmith, Quebec, for their Centenary in 1982, and this comprises a Crown and Maple Leaf on a Union Jack background, with the Lodge's name and number on a scroll at the bottom.

Nearer to home, I have in my possession three of the well known original old UVF badges, with the Numbers A3953, 13261 and 13262 stamped on the back, along with one of the original boxes they came in, from the manufacturer Sharman D. Neill, of Donegall Place, Belfast.

Another badge worth mentioning is the one made in 1973 for the Orange Volunteers. It is circular in shape, has an Orange background, with the Red Hand of Ulster, and a purple five pointed star in the centre, with "Orange Volunteers, 1973," on the circumference.

The remainder of my collection comprises the various yearly badges and medallions produced by the Belfast, Carrickfergus and Cloughfern Orange Widows Funds, individual lodges, Black Preceptories, Orange Halls, and other Orange and Loyalist organisations to commemorate special events, or to raise funds.

In closing, one couldn't fail

to mention what was, and probably always will be, the most popular badge ever produced — the Ulster Covenant Jubilee badge of 1962. Thousands upon thousands of these badges were made and distributed worldwide, and although it is over 23 years since they first appeared, they remain one of the most common and easily recognizable badges in the Loyalist community. Should anyone wish to buy, sell or exchange any Orange or Loyalist badges, I would be quite happy to accommodate them at it all possible, and so in our own particular way help to propagate the Orange Cause.

Greg. Hopkins (Sec.)
Ligoniel Trues Blues LOL
No. 1932.

Youth Plans For South Tyrone Juniors

South Tyrone Junior District L.O.L. Number 3 half yearly meeting was held in Kilnacart Orange Hall, Bro. Thomas Fleming W.D.M. presiding, assisted by Bro. S. Douglas in the Deputy Chair.

Arrangements were then discussed and made for summer activities at District level: five-a-side football in early May, annual Church parade to Moygashel Church Hall, and General Knowledge competition in September, and the possibility of entering a team in seven-a-side football at Grand Lodge level.

Scripture examination at District level took place at this meeting. Bro. Rev. Hugh Ross, minister in charge of Newmills and Carland Congregation,

was Question Master, and after a very keen contest Kilnacart Juniors were declared winners, with Aughtinboer runners up. Kilnacart now go forward to Scripture contest at County level.

Bro. Fleming conveyed the thanks of District Lodge to Bro. Rev. Ross for his services and called on him to present the Trophies to the winning team and the runners-up.

The Brethren, Junior Brethren and visitors were entertained by the members of Kilnacart L.O.L. No. 296, and thanks for the use of Hall, and hospitality was conveyed to brethren of L.O.L. No. 296 by Bro. Sam Douglas, Junior Deputy Master.

A Query For Our Canadian Brethren!

This 60 year old photograph may have been taken at a Twelfth July parade in Charnley, Regina, or a Canadian town in that area. Note the Ladies Lodge in the rear, and the unique bugle, fife, pipe and drum band. We are indebted to Bro. Thomas Glenny, Derryadd, Birches, Portadown BT62 1TQ. (Secretary of L.O.L. No. 21, Derryadd).

