

THE ORANGE STANDARD

"Lift up a standard for the people."

(Isaiah 62:10)

MAY, 1978

PRICE 10p



Lisburn Branch of the Apprentice Boys leaving Lisburn

DOUBLE STANDARD ATTITUDE OF R.C. CHURCH EXPOSED

GRAND MASTER OUTLINES ULSTER CASE IN NEW ZEALAND AND AUSTRALIA

Most Wor. Bro. W. Martin Smyth, Grand Master of the Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland, and Imperial Grand Master, has been speaking about the attitude of the Roman Catholic Church authorities in Italy in threatening excommunication to those who voted Communist, whilst Roman Catholics in Ireland are not excommunicated for engaging in "foulest terrorism."

M.W. Bro. Smyth, who had visited South Island in New Zealand, meeting people in Invercargill and Dunedin, said in Wellington, where he was given a civic reception, that the refusal in Italy to share government with those who had twenty-five per cent electoral support and the demand in Ulster to give participation by right to those who had less than 25% electoral support were contradictory.

Nevertheless Bro. Smyth was optimistic that the reality of the Ulster situation was slowly being grasped and that political advances were likely to occur in the near future.

On Monday, April 3, Bro. Smyth met the Rt. Hon. Robert Muldoon, Prime Minister of New Zealand.

Speaking in Christchurch, New Zealand, Bro. Smyth stressed the positive aspects of the Christian Gospel.

Nevertheless he said, in an imperfect world Governments dare not abrogate their divine authority for the protection of their citizens, and the punishment of evil doers.

One of the tragic lessons of Ulster was that Mr. Heath's prophetic vision of intra-national wars in contrast to international wars was not applied realistically to that part of the United Kingdom. The Security Forces were betrayed at a crucial stage of the conflict, and Ulster had reaped the awful harvest of carnage, destruction and death.

The posturing of the Southern administration which turned a blind eye to the Provo leadership in the Republic, who directed the overall campaign and yet claimed there was little involvement in the violence in the North was incredible. It only served to broaden the gap between them and their Ulster neighbours who knew the facts, and also rejected the Southern denials.

Bro. Smyth later arrived in Brisbane and addressed a meeting there before travelling on to Sydney.

His trip to New Zealand was a pronounced success with

particularly wide coverage in the media. He was welcomed by Mayors in most of the towns he visited, and charged to convey greetings to the Lord Mayor and citizens of Belfast.

Consultations have taken place with several Cabinet Ministers, and prominent citizens. Bro. Smyth found time not only to visit Orange Lodges, but discovered how the New Zealand authorities were coping with a pluralistic society and the care of the aged in particular.

Speaking in Brisbane he refuted allegations of intransigence against the Orange and Protestant community especially in Ulster. He remarked how the Roman Catholic Church in New Zealand had at last moved towards integration within the State system whereas they refused to do so in Scotland and Ulster. This caused added burdens on the National Exchequer, and also helped to divide the community, he said.

Mr. and Mrs. Smyth were received at Government House, Auckland, by the Governor General, His Excellency and Lady Holyoake.

At a farewell gathering prior to his departure for Brisbane, Queensland, Australia, Mr. Smyth stressed the ties which bound Ulster and New Zealand in the British Commonwealth. He regretted any loosening of those ties by undue emphasis being given to either European or Pacific groupings. They ought rather to be strengthened.

In this regard, he emphasised that the Ulster conflict had little to do with religion, and less to do with human rights. The basic conflict arose from a question of national identity, and the desire by a small band of activists, supported by the tacit consent, and sometimes open connivance, of the Irish Republic, to impose their views on the overwhelming majority of Ulster people.

Despite the attacks and propaganda, Ulster was tied more closely with the United Kingdom today although it was to be admitted that this was often in spite of the political views and actions of some British politicians.

DRINK SALES MOVE

Councillor Wm. Bell, prospective Ulster Unionist Candidate for West Belfast has welcomed the Government's decision to reverse their policy which enables the sale of intoxicating liquor in Recreation and Leisure Centres. The Minister's

declaration that he has bowed to public opinion on this occasion is "most welcome."

"Public opinion is also opposed to the proposed new legislation on homosexuality and abortion. May I suggest that they take the same action in this regard," Collr. Bell said.

New banner dedicated at Duncairn Temperance Junior L.O.L. No. 53 at their last monthly meeting held just before the Junior Demonstration to Bangor. The Belfast County Grand Master Bro. Thomas Passmore, and members of the Duncairn Temperance Jr. L.O.L.

Photo Allan J. McCullough



FOURTH IN A SERIES OF MEDITATIONS ON "ROMANS"

DELIVERANCE FROM SIN

By the Imperial Grand chaplain M. W. Br. the Rev. S. E. Long.

Reading: Romans 5:1-21.

"Sin is essentially a departure from God." (Luther).

"Sin is disease, deformity and weakness." (Plato).

"Sin is any want of conformity unto or transgression of the law of God." (Westminster Catechism).

"He who has slight thoughts of sin never had great thoughts of God." (Owen).

"No sin is small. It is sin against an infinite God, and may have consequences immeasurable. No grain of sand is small in the mechanism of a watch." (Jeremy Taylor).

"Whatever disunites man from God disunites man from man." (Burke).

Longfellow said that "Enthusiasm begets enthusiasm". Certainly St. Paul's enthusiasm is infectious. We have a good example here of that "genius of sincerity" which encouraged and accomplished so much. But there are many illustrations of this trait of the apostle in St. Luke's appreciation of him and in his own thinking and writing. What we have here, really is a prime example of St. Paul's happiness in his faith.

SOLEMN ATTITUDE TO LIFE

We make the mistake, very often, of seeing in the Scriptures and in the Bible people, a serious, solemn, smileless attitude of life, and we appear to believe that while joy and happiness are the gifts of faith they are not much illustrated by the faithful people of the Bible. The truth is that there are many Bible examples of that joyousness which characterises the people of God all the time and everywhere.

We suffer from connotation "Holy", a word which seems often to lack the essential Christian ingredient of joy as though happiness were sin. It is a fact of experience that the balance of Christ and Scripture is deep concern for the realities of life AND a happy appreciation of the benefits of godly living. "Joy is more divine than sorrow; for joy is bread, and sorrow is medicine."

It is a principle of our faith that the Christian life that is joyless is a discredit to God, and a disgrace to itself. The happiness which Paul radiated came from his Christ — inspired intimacy with God. To some God was a stranger; not to Paul.

He describes his indebted-

ness to Christ for his relationship with God. He explains that Jesus opens a door to us into the presence of God, for us to find with God grace instead of condemnation, judgement or vengeance. We enjoy the incredible kindness of God.

Having made the point, Paul, the eternal realist, thinking of the unideal situation in which Christians were living in an unsympathetic world, goes on to say that this joyous confidence in God makes it possible for the Christian to overcome his difficulties. It gives determination and strength, that unconquerableness which made Paul himself say; "I have often been knocked down but I have never been knocked out."

PROOF OF GOD'S LOVE

Many of us are beaten by our negative attitudes to life's problems. We are beaten before we start. If football jerseys were put on clothes-horses they would beat some teams for they have already beaten themselves in the dressing rooms. "It's not the size of the man in the fight that counts but the size of the fight in the man."

When a man's hope is in

God he can not be disappointed. He has behind him everlasting love backed by everlasting power.

The death of Christ is the final proof of God's love.

Paul points out that through Jesus man's standing with God has been changed. We are justified by Christ, put into a right relationship with God. That justification will express itself in the good character and exemplary conduct of the Christian.

Paul the enthusiast, Paul the joyful enthusiast, is an understandable person. Paul the theologian is less transparent.

Romans 5:12-21 is the apostle at his most profound and most difficult. He thinks in terms recognisable to the Jews but unfamiliar to us. His argument has a bad literary construction. It is weakened immeasurably by a digression from which he never returns.

The sense of the passage could be summed up in a sentence — the one Paul started out to write — "By the sin of Adam all men became sinners and were alienated from God; by the righteousness of Christ all men become righteous and are restored to a right relationship with God." This is what he said clearly in 1 Corinthians 15:21, "For since by man came

death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive."

PAUL'S PROBLEM AND HIS ANSWER

However he makes his case Paul is facing the problem posed by a question which could be put to him, "You say we are saved by what Christ did. Now granted that he lived a wonderful life, and died a death of perfect self-sacrifice, and we recognise that he provided men with an inspiring example, but how can his individual conquest of sin and his personal achievement of the human ideal be effective for other individuals?"

Paul answers by quoting the Rabbinic doctrine of the Fall of Man and appending to it the Christian belief that through Christ all men may attain to goodness. The value of this Jewish emphasis lay in the ancient concept of the solidarity of man. The unit was the community not the individual. (e.g., Joshua 7 and Achan and the curse on the clan). Adam's sin was the sin of the race.

With the rise of individualism solidarity diminished. The truth remains though that none of us stand alone.

No man is an island. Paul thought of the unity of humanity in Adam and the unity of the redeemed humanity of Christ. "The offence of Adam was negative in its effect, while Christ bestowed a glorious new gift. Adam sinned by himself alone, while Christ died to redeem the whole world of men. The judgment incurred by Adam was one of condemnation; the act of Christ was God's declaration that men are now set free." E.F. Scott.

Death, in this passage, is looked on as the disastrous consequences of sin, physical and spiritual. Paul views death as separation from God and sin as the corruption of the personality, so that the sinful man is dead while he lives.

Paul is also saying that good is infinitely more powerful than evil. This is our hope for the world, that if only we can keep goodness alive it will some day subdue all evil with its intrinsic might.

He applies this principle to the work of Christ. It counter-balanced the effects of sin. It did far more; it brought positive and triumphant power into the lives of men. Justified by faith in Jesus Christ they are enabled to live victoriously. Happy to believe with Paul!

ORANGE HOLIDAYS

Sir,—Once again the Ancient Order of Hibernians after their Saint Patricks Day parades in Belfast on the 17th March along with the SDLP have called for the 17th March to be made a public holiday. It is now time that the Apprentice Boys of Derry along with the Orange Order and other Loyalist groups called for the 12th August to be made a public holiday.

Many Orangemen feel that the Battle of the Boyne parade in July should be changed from the 12th July to some other date in July as many Orangemen find that the 12th July parade conflicts with their two weeks holidays. Either the first or last Saturdays in July could be considered.

The situation here in Northern Ireland is similar to what is happening in other parts of the world — for example Argentina and the Falkland Islands in South America, Guatemala and Belize in Central America and between Spain and Gibraltar. I wonder would Spain give up the cities of Beuta, Melilla and Ifri to Morocco. Or would France give up the Islands of Miquelon and Saint Pierre Island in favour of Canada.

One often hears about Protestant indifference towards Roman Catholics here in Northern Ireland. Yet Statemans Year Book

1975/1976 gives facts about Roman Catholic indifference towards Protestants in Spain, Italy and the Republic of Colombia in South America. Yet the Protestant Reformation still continues to an extent in Asia, with the Philippine Independent Church breaking with Rome in 1902 and the Patriotic Catholic Association in China breaking with Rome in 1953.

I would like to finish by quoting from two books (1) Britannica Book of the Year 1975 — under a picture of King William III Prince of Orange — William of Orange who defeated the army of James II in 1690 is depicted with drawn sword on a building wall in Belfast, Northern Ireland. Ulstermen's awareness of their past history is at least partly responsible for the presence of barbed wire in the streets today. The words at least partly should be underlined.

The second book that I'm going to quote is "Poetry Today 77" published by the Regency Press in London. A verse of a poem in this book goes as follows: "Memories take on a new deepening significance Start in me a new thought trend backwards into Time."

The poem is entitled "Memories Remain/Years Pass."

Yours faithfully
James Annett

PROTESTANT "APATHY" CAUSE FOR CONCERN

Christian Crusaders LOL No. 1339 and Christian Crusaders RBP No. 823 annual installation dinner was held on Saturday 18th March in the Park Avenue Hotel, Belfast.

After a splendid dinner which was enjoyed by all present, the company sat at their ease and enjoyed a wonderful Praise Service.

The Worshipful Master acting as chairman for the night gave a very cordial welcome to all friends especially to the young brethren who had joined the lodge since the last dinner. He spoke very strongly about the apathy of the Protestant people and especially those who belonged to the Orange

Order to play a greater part in the spiritual side of life.

Bro. Rev Kennaway stated that the troubles in Northern Ireland were not so much sectarian as that men and women had turned their backs on God. He appealed to all brethren to fight for what they believed in and that was a "turn about" to Jesus and he believed that then we would have peace in our beloved land.

Bro. Hugh Lindsay once more was the Master of Ceremonies.

Mrs Maisie McAlister, the accompanist, is the assistant organist in Carnmoney Parish Church in which both she and her husband, who is a member of both Orange and

Black Orders play a large part in Church activities there.

The community hymn singing was in the capable hands of Bro. Alex Andrews (Jun) and Bro. Ivan Roberts, and great help was given by Sisters and Brothers of the Salvation Army.

Solos were sung by Bro. Samuel Price P.M., Mr. Jim Grainger — Mrs. Nancy Griffiths — Mrs. Nancy McMaster — Mrs. Betty McConnell and Mrs. Ruth Andrews also Bro. Hugh Lindsay P.M. Two beautiful duets were sang by Mrs Jeannie Wilkinson and her daughter Mrs. Maisie McAlister and Bro. Ivan Roberts and his father.

Both this Orange Lodge

and Black Preceptory stand firm on the words contained in the Bible. Every member and Sir Knt are born again and can give a personal testimony to the saving and keeping power of Jesus Christ in their lives. They believe they were called of Jesus Christ into the Orange Order to be witnesses for Him and by their example of life that others would know that they had been to the Foot of the Cross.

The Lodge and Black Preceptory meet on the second Monday and second Friday of the month in Clifton Street Orange Hall, and they give any Bro. or Sir Knt a very cordial welcome to the meetings at any time.

RADIO MARKS 14 YEARS AS SECRETARY

After fourteen years of dedicated service as District Secretary in No. 4 District Bro. William Jenkins was presented with a radio-cassette by the Officers of No. 4.

The presentation was conducted by D.C.M. Bro. William McMurdie. Bro. William Jenkins thanked the brethren for this beautiful gift, and hoped that the future secretary would get as much enjoyment out of the Orange Institution as he has had and hoped to see it grow from strength to strength.

Picture left to right: Bros. William McClurg, D.C.M. William McMurdie, Bobby Paton, Billy Johnston, William Jenkins, W.M. Bro. William Eaton, John Anderson.



Photo Allan J. McCullough

GRAND MASTER'S TRIUMPHANT TOUR OF THE ANTIPODES



W. Bro. Richard Warnock, Grand Secretary of New Zealand, accompanied by Bro. W. D. Irvine, deputy Grand Master, and the District Master of Auckland, Bro. David Lennox, greeted the Imperial Grand Master and Mrs. Smyth when they arrived in sunny Auckland to commence their tour of the country.

PRESS, TV, MEETING

The speed of the tour was evidenced immediately as they were involved in a quick run round parts of Auckland to meet Press and Television people and to call on some friends.

Then followed a flight to New Plymouth where a similar pattern occurred.

The Grand Master was given an opportunity that evening to meet brethren of the Tananaki districts and to address them on the situation of Orangeism in the world, and in Ulster particularly.

After the sessions in Christchurch a tour of the South Island gave the visitors an opportunity not only to see the beauty of the island but to address brethren in Invercargill and Dunedin districts and to answer questions about the Institution in the world.

Naturally many questions were asked about the Northern Ireland situation. It was obvious some of the local papers reflected the antipathy against Orangism of those who espouse the Roman Catholic Faith. Mr. Smyth was able to answer the questions adequately and to refute the charges.

In each of the cities he visited he was given a civic reception.

The City of Christchurch welcomed the delegates attending the 53rd sessions of the Grand Orange Lodge of New Zealand with the 38th Session of the Ladies Conference. The title "Garden City" reflected the English atmosphere of colourful English gardens; the ducks on the River Avon; and Parks and Avenues dotted with trees, many of them imported from England.

EASTER TALKS

It was fitting setting for its beauty and for its historic associations — Christchurch an appropriate place to meet over Easter and for discussing matters concerning the Christian Faith — Cranmer Square and Latimer Square redolent with significance of the English Reformation. An appropriate background, therefore, for the Orange Institution to meet with its concern to maintain and extend the Protestant Faith.

The Sessions convened under the chairmanship of the Grand Master of New Zealand, M.W. Bro. Charles Ferrel, Wellington, well known in Imperial Council circles, a young man who has risen through the Junior Movement, being

Superintendent of the Juniors in New Zealand.

During his two years term as Grand Master he had given vital forward-looking leadership to the movement.

After the opening in traditional form there was a reception for distinguished visitors, especially the Imperial Grand Master, M.W. Bro. W. Martin Smyth.

The Sessions adjourned for a Good Friday service, conducted by the Rev J. B. Chambers, M.A. Past Grand Master, assisted by the chaplain, W. Bro. D. J. Humphrey. The principles of the Loyal Orange Institution were recited by Wor. Sister Chatterton, District Mistress of Ceremonies. Prayers were led by the Imperial Grand Master, and Bro. Chambers preached the sermon, the theme being "Were you there".

A unique event took place in the afternoon when the Mayor of Christchurch, Mr. Hamish Hay, spoke fitting words of welcome to the Grand Lodge which was then addressed by the Hon. H. J. Walker, Minister of Social Welfare in the New Zealand Cabinet. His presence marked the new concern in the New Zealand Lodge for social welfare and the Institution of an Orange Social Welfare Fund to promote the care of the aged and other cases of need.

The Grand Master addressed the Conference, his speech being given wide publicity on Radio New Zealand, national television and the local media.

ULSTERMAN ELECTED

At the election of officers, Bro. W. D. Irvine, Auckland, was chosen to succeed Charles Ferrel. Bill Irvine a native of Ulster, is the first brother of Ulster descent to be elected Grand Master of New Zealand since 1942. It is some 40 years since a brother from Auckland had been elected.

Not only was Brother Irvine elected to the Mastership, but Auckland F. J. McNickle was elected Deputy Grand Master with his twin brother, G. A. McNickle Grand Chaplain.

reverse of what some had expected for they thought that at a meeting in the South Island there would be a preponderance of South Islanders elected.

There was a church service on Easter morning in St. Paul's Trinity Presbyterian Church, when the Minister, the Revd R. S. Roxburgh, gave the address. The Samoan choir sang one of their hymns and there was also praise items incorporating the language of the Islands as well as English. The Imperial Grand Master and members of the Institution took part.

The Grand Lodge Sessions closed on Easter Monday after a fruitful round of discussions and social occasions. They held hope for the continuing witness of the Institution continues to

interest itself in public affairs as it identifies with the New Zealand Public Questions Society.

Travelling extensively through New Zealand the Grand Master and Mrs. Smyth were privileged to see a beautiful country, to meet fine people and to realise that they were representatives in various capacities of Ulster people.

MAYORAL GREETINGS

The Lord Mayor of Belfast, Councillor Stewart, had asked them when they met local Mayors to convey greetings on behalf of the citizens of Belfast.

Accordingly, it was their pleasure at a Mayoral reception in Invercargill to return such greetings. In Christchurch when the Mayor, Hamish Hay, extended greetings on behalf of the citizens and in giving them a civic welcome to the city asked them to reciprocate the Belfast greetings.

In Dunedin, the fine Deputy Mayor, Councillor Bill Christie, who made a flying visit four years ago to Belfast, a member of the Church of Christ, welcomed them.

In Wellington Councillor Bruce Harris attended on behalf of the Council to extend a welcome to the capital city, a city bustling with developments in Government buildings, banking concerns, the redevelopment of old areas, and motorway construction.

This was the most notable area of development for New Zealand is going through a period of recession something like the United Kingdom. But the inflation rate is not nearly as high as in the U.K., and the unemployment rate is running at 2½ — 3 per cent. Some of the unemployed are not really out of work because instead of paying them benefit they are employed in Government schemes for the community.

While in Wellington the Grand Master and Mrs. Smyth were privileged to be received by the Prime Minister, Mr. Robert Muldoon.

VISIT TO PRIME MINISTER

"Some friends thought it was simply a courtesy visit of only a few minutes on a day when there was tremendous pressure on the Prime Minister. Although the Ombudsman was received for four minutes before us, we had thirty minutes of Mr. Muldoon's time in which we were able to convey greetings from the Rt. Hon. Harry West to the son of a Fermanagh man, and to discuss not only the Ulster political position but the world situation, particularly as he shares our concern about international terrorism. It was a delight to know that New Zealand has been facing that problem realistically," the Grand Master said.

While in the Parliament Building the Irish visitors were able to view a painting of William of Orange signing the Declaration of the Bill of Rights, 1689. The artist was a New Zealander, and the work was executed in 1951.

It was also the privilege of the Grand Master and Mrs. Smyth to be received by Mr. Frazer Colman, on behalf of the Opposition Labour Party, the leader of which, Mr. Rowland, was regrettably burying his daughter that day.

One of the highlights of the tour was to attend at Government House at Auckland where His Excellency, Sir Keith Holyoake, and Lady Holyoake were in residence. With their Excellencies the Smyths had morning coffee, spending a most interesting hour in which the Governor's basic honesty and farming instincts were obvious.

Sir Keith related with some delight his experiences of a visit to Ulster when he had a most interesting and refreshing time as guest of the late Lord Brookeborough. He showed an avid interest in the Northern Ireland situation as he shared also with the Grand Secretary of New Zealand in the development of the Orange family in successive years in New Zealand.

A feature of the Dunedin gatherings was the excellent entertainment by local artists. One of the most delightful entertainers was a Maori, Kapi Eru, with a fund of Maori stories and an amazing ability to mimic the Englishman, especially the Geordie, and the Scotsman.

FAMILY EMPHASIS

In most of the places where the Smyths visited there was a strong sense of family. It was most pleasant to see children present with their parents at formal dinners, and light-hearted social evenings.

AUSSIES LEARN NI LESSON

At a farewell gathering in the Victoria Hotel, Melbourne, Australia, the Rev. W. Martin Smyth remarked on the tremendous similarities within Australia and Northern Ireland, despite

the vast difference of size and cosmopolitan character of the people.

None the less he was delighted to discover that some of the tragic lessons of Ulster had been learnt in Australia, and noted a tightening up of security and attitudes to terrorism. In Northern Ireland the majority of the people desire only to exercise democratic rights with proper facilities and provision for all citizens, and the safeguards where they are needed of minority rights. None the less a political minority could not by bomb and bullet terrorise political alert majorities into subjection. It could not be so in Australia, and it can not be so in Northern Ireland.

He urged freedom thinking people throughout the world to join together to defeat terrorism of whatever nature and urged upon the Australian people within the Commonwealth of Nations to demand democratic rights for every part of the Commonwealth — those rights which they cherish for themselves.

EIRE URGED TO SIGN

M.W. Bro. Smyth spent a very busy spell in New South Wales. He spoke at a dinner to welcome him to Sydney, and addressed a Parade Service in the Salvation Army Congress Hall.

Along with Bro. John Gowans, J.P., Grand Master of New South Wales, he had interviews with the Hon. W. Haig, Minister assisting the New South Wales Premier, and the Archbishop of

Sydney, Most Rev. Sir Marcus Loane, and visited Canberra for consultation with leading Australian politicians.

One message they stressed is the need for moral pressure to be put upon the Government of the Irish Republic to sign the European Convention on Terrorism.

Speaking in Sydney, Bro. Smyth emphasised how so much of the trouble in Ulster stemmed from the unwilling-

ness of Eire to abandon its territorial claim on this part of the United Kingdom. Even the introduction of the so called Court to try offences in any part of the land was an invasion of the rights of a country to try its own cases. They should cease to give moral credence to the IRA by recognising murder and destruction done by them as political deeds.



Members of the Ballymacarrett Junior Football Recreation Club ladies football team who competed in the recent five-a-side football

competition organised by the East Belfast Youth Leaders Council at Maysfields Leisure Centre, Belfast.

The girls are left to right:

Joan Baird, Roberta McLaughlin, Sandra Parker, Sylvia Glover and Laura Moore.

COMMENT — COMMENT — COMMENT — COMMENT — COMMENT

AIREY NEAVE AND THE UNIONISTS

Mr. Airey Neave, the Shadow Northern Ireland Secretary, made a speech to the Unionist Party April Conference, which if it truly represented the thinking of the Conservatives, was so pro-Unionist that it had to please them and annoy the SDLP. These were the reactions of the two parties by spokesmen who congratulated or condemned the man.

Time will tell whether or not the speech was anything more than a run-up-to-election attempt to woo the support of the Unionists if the General Election should prove to be another closely fought thing. The stronger economy, and the easing of financial restrictions, the results of Government policies in wage restraint and tax relief, has turned what looked some months ago like a certain Conservative victory at the next go into, for them, a narrow win. While things can change politically from day to day the chances of a clear cut victory, either way, are not good. And that means the other parties are likely to retain the kind of influence they have now at Westminster where their support is canvassed for measures which would fail without it.

Should our prognostications be wrong — and we have been known to err in our prophecies — and one party was to obtain a sufficient majority to make it unnecessary to plead for small

party help, the picture, and prospects, for Ulster could change dramatically.

Because we know the danger of a too ready acceptance of Conservative or Labour promises we hope that the Unionists will not depart from the policy of the Westminster M.P.s which is to do what is best for the Province whichever party is in power. That policy, if it has not produced startling successes, has gained considerable concessions.

It has been claimed by the N.I.L.P. that the Labour Government has been more generous to Ulster than the Conservative Government was or would have been. Whether you question that submission or not it is patent that the old slavish devotion to the Conservatives would have been a disastrous stance in recent years. For no-one forgets that it was the Government of Edward Heath which prorogued Stormont in a devilish stroke, turned democracy on its ear, and shattered the illusions of Lord Faulkner, who had trusted the Tory leader implicitly. Nor were the Tory N.I. Secretaries, Whitelaw and Pym, much good to us.

If we need to be wary of Labour and Conservative promises and policies we must worry in case Unionist stupidities allow other than Unionists to win Westminster seats. We do not like the noises we are hearing which threaten division among

Unionists at the polls. Those who feel that they should stand for Parliament must consider seriously what the effect of their candidature could mean to the future of Ulster if by splitting the vote republicans or pseudo-unionists were to win seats.

People may be convinced of their need to offer themselves. Their motives and policies may impress people who would vote for them. In our situation they must be aware of the dangers as they consider their chances of victory. They must put State before self. A hard decision. It is hard, too, to advise a person not to offer himself if he is a man of proven political ability. But to say this is to ask every Unionist candidate, sitting members, too, to consider their positions unselfishly. Constituency associations have to make decisions, and arrangements, which will be for the good of the Unionist cause. We hope that they will handle the matter well.

What we need, of course, are the best men available for a peculiarly difficult and onerous job demanding a quality of intellectual skill and dedication, and an expenditure of time and energy which makes the commitment entirely vocational. It has many frustrations. Members get more brickbats than bouquets. In a recent survey 50 per cent plus of the sample didn't know their M.P. and as many were totally disillusioned with politics and politicians.

MURDER OF R.U.C. CONSTABLE IS A 'POLITICAL OFFENCE'

A Co. Donegal labourer, whose extradition to Northern Ireland had been sought to answer a charge of escaping from the Maze prison on May 5, 1976, while on remand, charged with the murder of an RUC man and the attempted murder of another, was released in the Eire High Court.

Seamus O'Kane of Oldtown, Letterkenny said in an affidavit that the alleged escape occurred when he was a member of the "Irish National Liberation Army" in Co. Down. He was arrested in the South on September 13 last, and an extradition order was granted by Dublin District Court.

He said that he believed that if extradited, he would be prosecuted for a political offence or an offence connected with a political offence, namely the alleged murder of Constable Robert McPherson at Dungiven Co. Derry.

In a replying affidavit, RUC Ins. Cecil Russell, Coleraine, said that on February 19, he charged O'Kane with murdering Const. McPherson and with attempting to murder Const. William Elliott by shooting at him.

With a number of other prisoners, O'Kane escaped from the Maze on May 5,

1976. At no time had O'Kane alleged that he was a member of the "Irish National Liberation Army" or any other organisation. The INLA was not a proscribed organisation.

Mr. Eoin McGonigal (instructed by Michael D. White and Co.) for O'Kane said that Insp. Russell's affidavit did not change the facts in his client's affidavit.

Mr. T. K. Liston, S.C., for the Garda Assistant Commissioner, John Sheehan, said the offence appeared to be political on the plaintiff's affidavit and he could not displace it.

Mr. Justice Doyle said it seemed reasonably clear that the plaintiff had made out a prima facie case which could not be displaced.

Discharging O'Kane the Judge granted him an order under section 50 of the Extradition Act, 1965, and awarded him his costs.

PAST G.M. BOUNCES BACK

We are happy to report that the Past Grand Master M.W. Bro. John Bryans now 94 years old, is remarkably well after his accident and hospitalisation.

On a 19 April visit to the home of his daughter and son-in-law, Mr and Mrs



George Cathcart, where Bro Bryans has taken up residence, Grand Secretary, Bro Walter Williams, and Grand Chaplain, Bro the Rev. Ernest Long, found the good brother in excellent form and willing, as always, to express his opinions on matters of consequence to the Order and the Province. His unwavering interest in the Institution is an encouragement to all of us.

John Bryans has always believed that the Orange Order is a cause worthy of his full commitment. His contribution to Orangeism in the several ways he works for it puts most Orangemen to shame. May he continue to be an inspiration to us for a long time to come.

RATING RELIEF FOR ORANGE HALLS LIKELY

No subject has annoyed Orangemen more than the rating of their hall after the general revaluation of April, 1976. The fearsome figures they were called upon to pay for a little use of a building, often well used for community purposes by others, annoyed and worried them considerably.

The concern was taken up by Grand Lodge, and the Grand Master and Grand Secretary were much involved, with the help of our legal advisers, in fighting the Order's case for a rates assessment by a proper valuation, and appreciation, of the place and purpose of the Orange Hall in the life of the Ulster community. Patience and persistence were needed to plead a matter of serious consequence to the organisation.

The hall licencing case at Hillsborough is an illustration of the desperation of some brethren to meet the demands being made on them. The repercussions of that decision are still to be felt generally, and in the event it is likely to turn out to have been unnecessary for the Report of the Lawrence Committee — published by Her Majesty's Stationery Office, Belfast, at 85p — if accepted by the Government could mean rate assessments within the member's capacity to pay.

The whole question of community need for the facilities available by buildings like our Orange Halls is carefully examined, and accepted in principle. There is also the determination to safeguard the interests of the ratepayers.

The Grand Lodge gave written and oral evidence. The Report lists in an Appendix the large number of organisations which made written submissions, and the relatively few which

gave oral evidence as well.

The Professor R. J. Lawrence Committee — the members were R.J. Lynn, H.A. Frazer, P.H. Nicholl with four Assessors and two Secretaries — had as its terms of reference: "to consider the rate liability of bodies providing facilities for sport, recreation and community activities for the public or a substantial section of it and in doing so take account of the practice in comparable fields in Great Britain." It was appointed on 14 September 1976. The Report was submitted on 30 June 1977 and published in early April 1978. Professor Lawrence was interviewed then by the media on it.

The document has much information on the rating patterns in Great Britain and the differences with Northern Ireland which are generally to the Province's disadvantage. And the suggestions of interested parties on rating and grants make interesting reading, evidence of careful presentation of contrary cases. Anomalies of rating are there too. And Chapter Four is a brief explanation and examination of what is meant by "Charitable Exemption." Here N.I. is advantaged with complete exemption against 50 per cent relief in G.B.

The Report should be studied by all interested parties. Brethren must now wait decisions from the rating authorities on their halls. There is no point in badgering Grand Lodge or some politicians for information on the subject. The preliminary work has been done and hopefully the Institution will be pleased with the outcome.

L.W.O.F. SECRETARY FOR 25 YEARS

Of all the people in Orangeism who are connected with the administration and running of the Order Joe Watt has for last 25 years held the post of Secretary of the L.O.W.F. which must be hardest post of all.

Because Joe has been such a dedicated person he has

been happy to carry out his duties on behalf of the Order. "They have been 25 happy-sad years" said Joe, "Sad because I have had to deal with many wives of brethren who have died, and I was not happy to hear of any brother dying, and happy that I was in the position, as secretary, to

help in time of great need." "I would like to thank all those who were involved in the presentation of this beautiful painting and wish the incoming Secretary every success in his position on the Board of the L.O.W.F." he said.

Painting presented to Bro

Joe Watt by the Chairman of the Board, Bro. W. J. McConnell. Also in the picture are Bro Alex Murphy Asst. Tres, Bro. Samuel White, Treasurer, Bro Norman Spence, incoming Secretary and members of the L.O.W.F.

Photo Allan McCullough





EUROPE TELLS MANX

What is the connection between milk bottles and deliveries and birching? The answer: the European Economic Community.

At time of writing we are threatened with the cessation of our early morning milk deliveries because this age-old service enjoyed throughout the British Isles for many generations may well have to end in the foreseeable future just because it does not conform to European ideas.

And in the week that this edition goes to press we have been informed that the Isle of Man may have to cease its long-established respect for law and order by outlawing its mild deterrent, the birch.

That too, apparently, is outmoded in the modern Europe. "Spare the rod and spoil the child" is no longer to be the rule, upsetting the Biblical injunction which has proved its value, either as a reminder of what is in store, or what may be applied for ill behaviour.

Of course we can thank

our Conservative and Labour Parties for their obsession with Europe in the past decade.

Edward Heath, when Prime Minister and in Opposition, was a foremost figure in the clamour to bring this nation into Europe, and he did not do so badly out of it financially. Harold Wilson did not have the courage to commit the Labour Party to an actual decision, but he followed quietly when the time came, in the knowledge that if things would go wrong the resultant blame could not be laid at his door or the door of the Labour Party when in power.

So we are now well and truly caught up in European thinking and philosophy. No more milk deliveries in the morning and no birch in the Isle of Man. What a prospect!

Some years ago I spent a holiday in the Isle of Man, and observing the cleanliness of the place and particularly the absence of graffiti

inquired of a policeman why the "signwriting" on the walls was nowhere to be seen.

His reply was stunning: "We do not allow it." Would that we in Ulster and many parts of England, Scotland and the Republic could say with equal candour and frankness "We don't allow it."

But then we live in an age of permissiveness when we do not have the moral courage to say that the things which debase the demean our society shall not be.

Take our litter problem, as a simple illustration. Our streets are a standing disgrace day after day with the amount of litter which is tossed away unthinkingly.

When did you last read in your papers of anyone being prosecuted for a litter offence? Remember litter is costly at a time when so much of our food and confectionery is in coloured wrappings.

This may be a little

removed from the Common Market, but it is just another instance of how people become complacent regarding the things which are going on all around them. A minority of the people in these islands opposed entry into Europe and its implications, but not enough cared sufficiently to register their protest. And now we are in and we see the laws of our country being superimposed by regulations and restrictions coming from Brussels.

We have truly been sold down the European pass and not all the financial allurements will obliterate the loss of national sovereignty. This United Kingdom is indeed in a sorry mess, and patriotism is dormant. Even Lord Hailsham is writing in recent days of the fear for our national future.

Our only hope is a resurgence of faith in God and our innate powers of recovery. The times demand clear and purposeful leadership.

IRELAND MAY HAVE A KING ONCE AGAIN

After fifty years as a self-governing Republic the 26 Counties of Southern Ireland are showing signs that their love of Royalty is by no means dead.

Queen Margrethe of Denmark and her husband, Prince Henrik of Denmark the Prince Consort, have just paid a four day visit to Ireland and received a truly royal welcome from the people of the Republic.

Tradition dies hard, of course, and the respect which the Irish people have had for royal personages going back more than a thousand years is undimmed. The zealots who chased the British royalty out of the Southern part of the country are today witnessing a resurgence of Irish respect and esteem for all that is good in the monarchical system and who knows, some day Queen Elizabeth of England may well return to the Republic and receive the same kind of rapturous welcome which was accorded to her great grand-

mother, Queen Victoria, when she paid that magnificent visit to Dublin in the year of her Diamond Jubilee.

As Percy French put it. . . "when that welcoming roar come up from the shore, it was like coming home . . ." That was a description of her arrival at Kingstown, a name which has all but disappeared with the substitution of the Irish rendering "Dun Laoghaire."

Ireland, of course, was one of the first countries in Europe to have its territory ruled by Kings. There was the King of Leinster, and the King of Munster, and didn't we have Queen Maeve? So the tradition of monarchical reign in these parts has a long history. . . and in Ireland also history has a habit of repeating itself.

For wasn't it suggested during this most recent royal visit that a Prince of Denmark might one day become King of Ireland.

Its a strange old world.

PRESERVE THE OLD LAMBEG TUNES

On a recent Sunday there was a special service for the Lambeg drumming fraternity under the auspice of the Ulster Drumming Association.

It took place in First Portadown Presbyterian Church, in an area noted for its drumming enthusiasm. This takes in not only Portadown and its immediate environs but also such centres as Loughgall and Tandragee.

At this time of the year it is customary to hear the beat of the drum throughout Co. Armagh, a sign that summer and the marching season are on the way. It is a sound that comes with the same regularity as the arrival of the cuckoo and the cornrake.

There is something in the

beat of the Lambeg that stirs the blood in the same way as an orchestral preformance, though naturally I draw no comparisons!

My one regret is that so few of the Lambeg drummers perform without the accompaniment of fife or flute. And it is here that I suggest that some steps ought to be taken in time to ensure that the music associated with the Lambegs should be preserved for all time.

Would it be possible to organise the cutting of a disc or discs for this purpose? It will be too late when all the old exponents of the fife and flute have gone to their final rest, taking the tunes with them. Perhaps the BBC or UTV might do something to help.

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TRIUMPH OF GRAND MASTERS TOUR

We have become so used to reading and hearing of Irish politicians going overseas and meeting the important leaders, especially in America, that it is very refreshing news to learn of the outstanding success of the Imperial Grand Master and Grand Master of the Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland, M. W. Bro. W. Martin Smyth, during his visit to Australia and New Zealand.

The Institution which he has the honour to lead, both in Ireland and in the world context, owes him a deep debt for taking time off from a busy ministerial life to travel so many thousands of miles with Mrs. Smyth to put the Ulster case so effectively in his talks with political and leaders in both countries.

religious leaders in both countries.

Nothing but good can come from this tour, and especially is this true of his contacts with the brethren and sisters of our far-flung brotherhood and sisterhood in Orangeism.

It is especially heartwarming to note the cordiality of the reception which Mr. and Mrs. Smyth have had during their engagement-filled programme, and to see the regard and esteem in which every facet of Orangeism is held by those who far from these islands cherish the British connection.

We are still very much the British Commonwealth of Nations, a complete answer to those who regard the British Empire and all that it stood for as effete and harmful.

GOOD OLD IRISH FAMILY CUSTOM

I notice that Lord Home, the former Conservative Prime Minister, speaking on behalf of a Conservative review committee on the House of Lords, has suggested a reformed revising second chamber with two-thirds of its members elected by Proportional Representation.

Lord Home, it will be remembered, dropped for a period while Premier, the ancient Scottish title which he holds, and became Sir Alex Douglas Home.

No doubt Lord Home will find especial interest in the

hereditary principle which operates in the Dail down in Dublin as witnessed in the General Election in June last.

Of the 148 TDs no less than 39 are related to former or present TDs or Senators. That is to say that more than a fourth of the elected legislators are in this category. Nothing wrong with it, maybe; it is merely a fact of life.

The breakdown is as follows: Fianna Fail, 25 out of 84 deputies; Fine Gael, 8 out of 43 deputies; Labour 5 out of 17 deputies; Independents, 1 out of 4 deputies.

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"BLOOMING LILY" LODGE OPENED IN SOUTH SYDNEY

On Saturday, 4th February, over 100 members, including 18 Grand Lodge Officers, travelled to Shellharbour, 70 miles south of Sydney, for the inauguration of a new Orange Lodge, "Blooming Lily" No. 45, under the jurisdiction of the Loyal Orange Institution of New South Wales.

An official visit was made by the Grand Master of Victoria, Most Wor. Bro. Ian Black, accompanied by the Grand Secretary V. Wor. Bro. J. Davis, Wor. Bro. Fletcher of the Grand Committee and Bro. Crerer of L.O.L. 135.

Several members were readmitted into the Institution, the Grand Master, M. Wor. Bro. J. H. Gowans, congratulating them on again being associated with the Order.

Eighteen candidates were initiated, the ceremony being carried out in an impressive manner by M. Wor. Bro. Gowans and his officers. V. Wor. Sister A. Gowans was congratulated upon the manner in which she recited the "Explanations to the Candidates" and the "Final Charge". The candidates were:— Mr. John B. F. Hardie, Miss Anne S. F. Hardie, Mrs. D. A. Kicks, Mr. & Mrs. Hadley, Mr. W. E. Wilson, Mr. & Mrs. Calder, Mr. & Mrs. Rankmore, Mr. & Mrs. Thompson, Mr. & Mrs. Kerr, Mr. & Mrs. Oliver, MR. & Mrs. Mushet.

The majority of these members came from Scotland.

The Grand Master stated that the object of the Grand Lodge visit was to create a new Orange Lodge, "Blooming Lily" No. 45 this being due to the initiative and work of Bro. George Hardie, assisted by Bro. Stevenson. The Grand Secretary, V. Wor. Sister N.P. Downer, read the Warrant authorising the Grand Master to inaugurate the lodge, which he did by reading the special address, followed by the acting Grand Chaplain's special Prayer.

By permission of the Grand Lodge, nine members of the Institution affiliated with the new lodge, these being, Bro. & Sister Hardie, Br. Hardie Jr., Wor. Sis. Leach, Bro. & Sister Stevenson, Bro. & Sister Barnett, Sister Wilson. Most Wor. Bro. H. Wickham, I.P. Grand Master, sang solo, "Faith of our Fathers."

M. Wor. Bro. Black spoke of Victoria's activities with lodges and aged homes, and of a new historical section being arranged at Orange House, for which he had been presented with a fine silver trowel by the Prime Minister's mother. This trowel was used by the Prime Minister's grandfather, Mr. Simon Frazer, who was an active Orangeman, to open a build-

ing in Victoria in 1890.

M. Wor. Bro. Gowans welcomed Victoria's new Grand Secretary, Bro. Jeff Davis, who was a member in New South Wales from his junior days until "migrating" to Melbourne eight years ago. Bro. Davis said that the Grand Lodge in Victoria was greatly encouraged to hear of the opening of the new lodge, part of the Orange family, and it was good to know they had a strong link in the chain at Shellharbour, on New South Wales' south coast. He congratulated the new lodge, and spoke on the dangers of the Ecumenical movement.

After tea M. W. Bro. Gowans installed the officers of "Blooming Lily" No. 45.

Gifts were made to the newly installed Wor. Master, Wor. Bro. George Hardie — a fine pair of gavel, made from Queensland maple by Wor. Bro. R. Montgomery, by the Wor. Master of No. 12 District, V. Wor. Bro. T. J. McLoughlin, and on behalf of the Grand Master and herself, V. Wor. Sister Gowans presented a beautiful linen picture in glorious colour and a bowl of "Blooming Orange Lilies".

Wor. Sis. I. Chapple, Deputy Grand Chaplain and Wor. Mistress of No. 20 District Lodge congratulated the lodge and presented the Wor. Master with a cheque for 10 dollars. Most Wor. Bro. Gowans said it was a "red letter day in the history of New South Wales and a red letter day all over the world, because the ties and strength of Orangeism have grown." He read letters congratulating the new lodge and extending best wishes for the future from L.O.L. No. 33, Drummoine, L.O.L. II Penrith, L.O.L. No. 15 District on the far North coast, enclosing 10 dollars, L.O.L. No. 6 Gladesville, enclosing 20 dollars, L.O.L. No. 120 a small lodge on the North coast, with 3 dollars, RBP 593, Cabramatta, and from the Grand Masters of West Africa, Bro. Emmanuel Essian, New Zealand Bro. R. C. Ferrel, Western Australia, Bro. A. C. Baird, England Bro. R. G. Roberts, and from Sir Knight and Bro. James H. Molyneux, M.P. Sovereign Grand Master, the Imperial Grand Master, Bro. Rev. W. Martin Smyth, America, Bro. George Taylor, Scotland, Bro.

Thomas Orr, who was delighted to congratulate Bro. George Hardie as a former member of the Institution in his country.

Bro. Hardie conveyed the thanks and appreciation of the lodge to the visitors for their attendance and their gifts, and assured the gathering that the lodge will grow from strength to strength. In fact he had "closed his application list", feeling that eighteen candidates were sufficient for the Grand Lodge to cope with on opening day. He had a number of nominations ready for the next meeting. He especially thanked Most Wor. Bro. Gowans for his assistance and patience over recent months.

Bro. S. Stevenson, D.M., proposed a vote of welcome to the visitors many of whom had travelled great distances to be present. The Grand Master thanked all who had assisted with the meeting and the installation. Wor. Bro. Wm. Leach responded to the vote of welcome on behalf of the brethren and Wor. Sister Margaret Kirkland did so for the sisters.

Bro. Gowans anticipated the success of the new lodge with George Hardie, as W.M. and with another ten candidates waiting initiation.

Members were present from the coast lodge of Corrimall; the aged homes at Point Clare 50 miles north of Sydney; the Blue Mountains, 60 miles west of Sydney; the Sydney metropolitan area; Newcastle, 100 miles to the north of the city.

The Victorian party travelled about 560 miles by car driving throughout the night and had the same journey home the morning after the meeting. Many Sydney members travelled by car, and 41 travelled in a comfortable coach, stopping for lunch en route near the top of the Bulli Pass.

The "excursion" was on a perfect day. A week earlier and the coach would have been a submarine in the floods, though just a week before the temperature was 100 degrees F.

All came away feeling glad to be Orangemen and women, and determined to pass on their re-charged enthusiasm to their lodges. Another link has been formed in the chain of Orangeism.



The R.W.G.M., of the L.O.L. in New South Wales, M. Wor. Bro. J. H. Gowans, addresses the new Wor. Master, Wor. Bro. George Hardie.

R.B.P. LECTURERS IN CONFERENCE AT GLASGOW

The bi-annual visit of No. 4 Ballymacarrett, Belfast, Lecture Class, was on Easter week-end to Glasgow. The hosts were Partick No. 4 class.

The visitors enjoyed the first hospitality of the visit when they were entertained to tea on the Friday, on their arrival at Glasgow after their long train journey from Stranraer.

Next day the classes met at Whiteinch Orange Hall for their conference on ceremonial work. It was conducted under warrant of RBP 461. The R.W.M., Sir Kt George Butcher, presided, assisted by Sir Kt R. Smith, D.M., and Sir Kt M. Campbell, D.C. He welcomed the company and invited these Sir Kts to the platform, T. Compton, President No. 4 Belfast; J. Patterson, Past President No. 4 Belfast; G. Telford, Secretary, ditto; W. Buick, I.G.P.; J. Leckie, PGSB, D. Boyd, PPGM.

Among the apologies was one from Sir Kt David Hastie, P.G.L. who was ill in hospital. The brethren wished him a speedy return to health. Tribute was paid to the memory of Sir Kt James Hamilton, former President of the Partick Class.

Sir Kt W. Jones, President of Partick, was in charge of the work. The two classes magnificently exemplified the ceremonials of the Order.

At tea Sir Kt. Buick spoke on the message from the

Sovereign Grand Master, who had also sent fraternal greetings. Other speakers were Sir Knts Patterson and Leckie.

After tea in Partick Orange Hall there was a programme of song, music and dancing, with a break for a presentation from the Belfast class. It was by Sir Kt Samuel White, treasurer, who, after referring to the loss sustained by the death of Sir Kt Hamilton, gave his widow a Holy Bible, suitably inscribed, praying that it would be a reminder to her and his class of all that he held dear.

Sister Hamilton replied with thanks for the tribute and the gift. Then Sir Kt McNee, District Master Partick, also paid tribute to the work and worth of Sir Kt Hamilton, and presented Sister Mrs. Hamilton with the gift of a gold wristlet watch in memory of her beloved husband. Mrs. Hamilton expressed her thanks for the generosity of the officers and Sir Kts of Partick District Chapter No. 4.

During the week-end there was a coach trip around Perthshire and Stirlingshire.

The Partick Class accepted an invitation from the Belfast Class to meet in their city next year. The consensus of opinion was that the visit had been a great success. Sir Kt McNee was congratulated on the excellence of the arrangements he had made for the occasion.

ORANGE SUPPLIES

Due to many requests for suitable items for presentation to members and friends of the Order, the Grand Lodge have introduced the following two additional items. We believe — only the best quality for the Order will do.

Sterling Silver Cuff-Link with William of Orange Motif in Royal Blue Enamel.

(Hall marked stamped — in case — Price £7.00 plus Postage)

(This is a gem of a gift. Already selling well to the few who have seen them. Excellent presentation to a Lodge Officer or Member)

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These items are packed in suitable boxes

(Here is an opportunity to purchase a gift for the Sisters and other ladies who organise catering for Lodges; those who prepare Guest Teas, and in general offer a welcome helping hand in raising funds for New Lodge Banners etc. The Ladies who Unfur! Banners etc.)

Here is your gift which will be a fitting memento of the occasion

The initial supply is limited. Order now and avoid disappointment.

OTHER SUPPLIES AVAILABLE

50 Year Silver Gilt & Hand Painted Enamel Service Jewels (Hall marked stamped) With Ribbon & Bar — £20.00 Plus Postage.

25 Year Silver Gilt Service Jewel with Ribbon & Bar. Price £8.00 plus postage.

These two items are for Lodges in Ireland only.

(The 50 Year Jewel requires an application from the Lodge under Seal)

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Your last chance to obtain these Badges — don't delay

R.B.P. MAN FOR 52 YEARS

The annual dinner dance of Chinauley LOL 1734 and R.B.P. 994, held in the Downshire Arms Hotel Banbridge, had a special significance for one member of the Preceptory who was honoured with a gift in recognition of his long association with the organisation.

Sir Knight Isaac Davidson, P.M., has been a member of the Preceptory for 52 years and the gift of a handsome inscribed watch was presented to him on behalf of the members by Sir Knight Cecil Cummins, Deputy Grand Master of County Down. Mrs Davidson received a bouquet from Sir Knight Bertie Jamison.

Some 100 members and friends attended the dinner, and the event proved most enjoyable.

Our picture shows Sir Knight and Mrs. Davidson receiving their gifts.



APPRENTICE BOYS PARADE IN LISBURN



Dromore Club



Hillsborough Club



Lisburn District No. 3 Junior Orange colour party leading the parade on route of Lisburn before their departure to the main demonstration in Bangor.

TAYLOR SPELLS OUT BASIS OF UNIONISM

Speaking at Mid Ulster Unionist Association in Cookstown the former Unionist Minister of Home Affairs, the Rt. Hon. John D. Taylor said that very often in Western Europe and in Great Britain he was asked by press or political correspondents if there was any solution to the Ulster problem or if it was irreconcilable.

His answer always was "What is the problem"? He then suggested that the problem was a conflict

between a majority which favoured union with Great Britain and a minority which favoured separation from Great Britain and a Union with a Republic of Ireland which had a lower standard of living.

He stated that he always supported the Unionist position because they welcomed loyalty to the Crown; the advantage of being in a free society; and their preference for a more better off community.

He suggested that the SDLP favoured a United Ireland not because such a United Ireland would have a lower standard of living for Ulster people or because it was republican but because it would have a restrictive Roman Catholic atmosphere such as (1) Censorship of Books in Ulster; (2) Compulsory Gaelic in Ulster in order to get jobs in the Army; Police or University Entrance; (3) Divorce an illegal event; Family Planning a Criminal Offence in Ulster; (4) an educational system which favoured in Ulster the control of the education of Protestant children by Catholic Hierarchy representatives.

If these were not the reasons for the SDLP support for a United Ireland then the Unionist challenge was to the SDLP to spell out in simple language what evidence they had that such discriminatory legislation against Ulster Protestants would not exist in a United Ireland. If they could not supply such evidence then Ulster Unionists had a firm basis to reject the idea of a United Ireland and to dismiss the SDLP as a sectarian party which from time to time associated itself with the objectives of the Provisional IRA.

The former Minister said that in his experience of some 21 active years in Ulster politics he was convinced that the Ulster electorate could reasonably dismiss the sectarian approach of the SDLP and instead concentrate its attention on those real political issues which influenced the future economic and social development of Ulster.

He requested the electorate in Mid-Ulster — particularly those who considered reasoned argument rather than those who still voted SDLP on the simple basis that they were sectarian Roman Catholic candidates — to redirect their electoral support to those parties which favoured policies which allowed (1) freedom of expression; (2) freedom of

language; (3) freedom of family life; and (4) civil and religious liberty.

Mr. Taylor suggested that the Unionist policy of maintenance of the link with Great Britain preserved these freedoms for Roman Catholics and Protestants alike and he challenged the SDLP to answer this proposition.

Mr. Taylor said that the past few years had not only been ones of violence in Ulster but also of economic decline in the Western World. He suggested that not only was there now a general decline in terrorism in Ulster since the climax of 1972 when he himself had suffered, but that in economic terms there was now a recovery in Western Europe. During the past few years of violence Mr. Taylor alleged that Ulster had lost a potential 20,000 new jobs thanks to the IRA and this loss had mainly hit the Catholic unemployed.

The future way ahead was support for a Unionist Party which wished to improve industrial expansion to what it was under a Unionist Government in the 1960's; and a housing programme of some 15,000 houses per year as contrasted with the present dismal failure of the mis-managed Housing Executive; and a system of government at Stormont which not only regained confidence in Ulster from the outside world but which also gave the Roman Catholic community as well as the Protestant community a say in Government as was promised in the Convention Report which was so disastrously rejected by the SDLP because it did not promise John Hume, Austin Currie and Paddy Duffy jobs in Cabinet.

Mr. Taylor claimed that, whilst the real solution to Ulster's problems would never arise until there was a reasonable government in Dublin which ceased to interfere in Ulster's internal affairs and to give psychological support to the Provisional IRA through its arrogant claim to jurisdiction over Northern Ireland, there would be considerable progress towards normality in Ulster if the electorate, Catholic and Protestant, united behind an Official Unionist Party which was determined to develop Ulster's economy within the United Kingdom; provided United Kingdom; provide educational outlets; build new houses; improve the social and infrastructural framework; and generally work for the benefit of all Ulster people.

Concluding he said Ulster Unionism would enter a period of unparalleled support if it was now seen as the only party which, within the framework of the United Kingdom and the free Western World, was the only political party in Ulster which offered all Ulster people — Roman Catholic and Protestant — a better standard of living and a more permanent residence in the Ulster to which all of us, irrespective of religion, have a common loyalty.

LINE UP FOR TWELFTH DEMONSTRATIONS

VENUES :

CO. ANTRIM District Lodges Attending

MAGHERAGALL

Glenavy, Lisburn, Magheragall, Ballinderry, Derriaghy, Aghalee, and Hillsborough District from Co. Down.

BRAID

Braid District

BALLYMENA

Ballymena District

CULLYBACKEY

(Kilrea Road)

Ahoghill, Cullybackey, Portglenone.

BALLYCLARE

Cloughfern, Larne, Sixmilewater, Antrim, Carnmoney, Killead, Staffordstown, Carrickfergus, Randalstown.

RASHARKIN

Cloughmills, Ballymoney, Bushmills, Rasharkin, Ballycastle.

CO. ARMAGH District Lodges Attending

KEADY

Portadown, Richhill, Loughgall, Tandragee, Armagh, Lurgan, Killylea, Keady, Newtownhamilton, Markethill, Bessbrook.

BELFAST COUNTY District Lodges Attending

EDENDERRY

Belfast Districts — No. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10.

CO. FERMANAGH District Lodges Attending

LISBELLAW

Newtownbutler, Lisbellaw, Brookeborough, Lisnaskea, Enniskillen, Ballinamallard, Kinawley, Glenawley, Lisnarick, Pettigo, Magheraboy, Churchill, Maguiresbridge, Garrison, Tempo.

CO. DOWN

District Lodges Attending WARINGSTOWN

Lower Iveagh, Rathfriland, Banbridge, Lower Iveagh, West, Newry, Loughbrickland, Gilford, Carlingford Lough.

KILLYLEAGH

Lecale, Saintfield, Castlewellsan, Comber, Ballynahinch.

NEWTOWNARDS

Newtownards, Upper Ards, Holywood, Bangor.

KILKEEL

Mourne.

HILLSBOROUGH

Joins with part of Co. Antrim in Magheragall.

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Castledawson, Magherafelt, Garvagh, Kilrea, Tamlaght, O'Crilly, Ballyronan, Tobermore, Moneymore.

LIMAVADY

City of Derry Grand Lodge, and the following Districts: Limavady, Macosquin, Coleraine.

CO. TYRONE District Lodges Attending

OMAGH

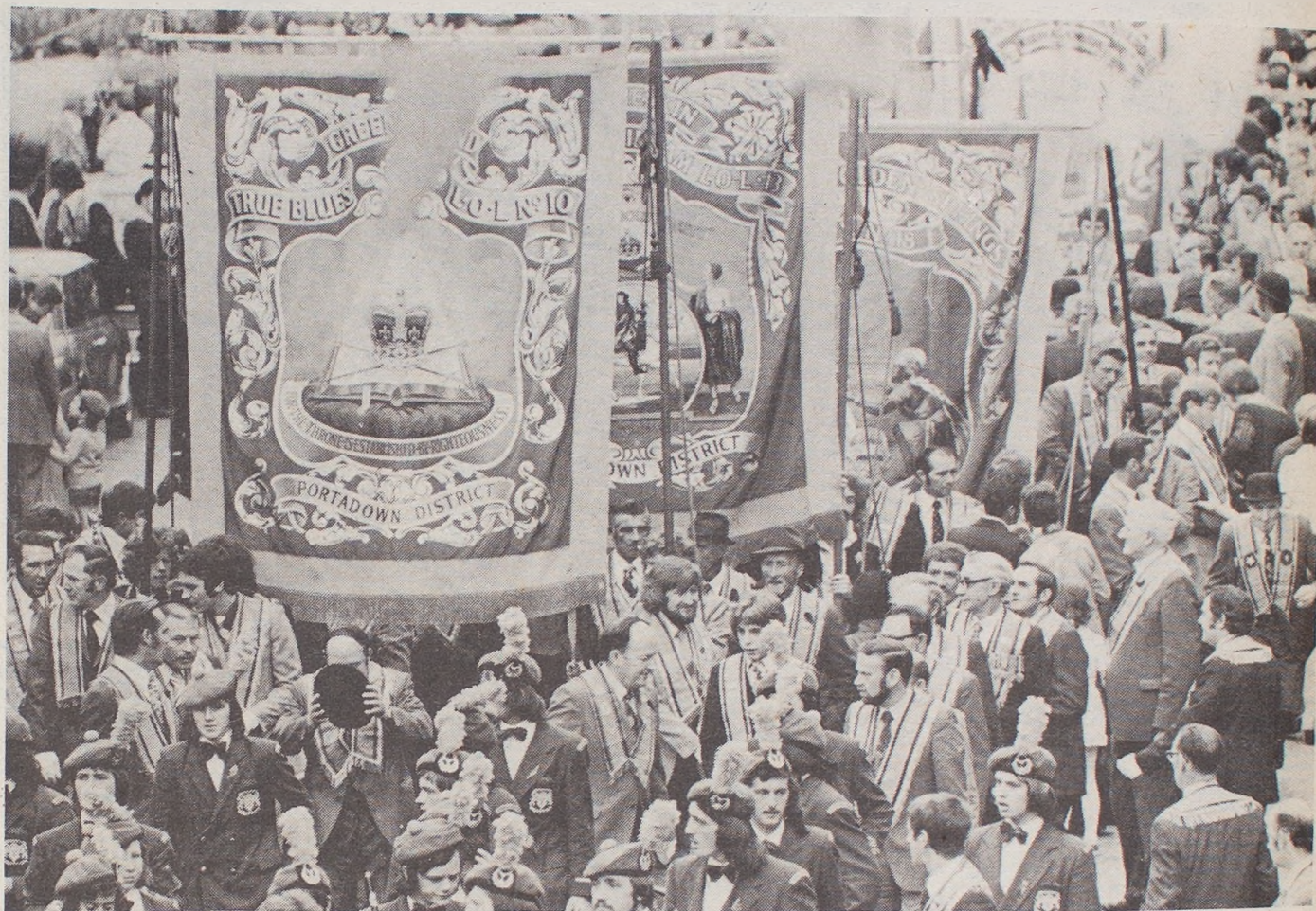
Sixmilecross, Fintona, Omagh, Newtownstewart, Killen, Strabane.

CASTLECAULFIELD

Pomeroy, Killyman, Stewartstown, Cookstown, Castlecaulfield, Benburb, Coagh.

BALLYGAWLEY

Annahoe, Fivemiletown.



CLOSKELT BAND CELEBRATES CENTENARY



A group of past band members (above)



Members of Closkelt Pipe Band pictured (right) at their Centenary Dinner