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THE AMERICAN IRISH NEWSLETTER

The Newsletter of the Action Irish

Vol. 9, No. 2

APRIL/MAY, 1984

PEC ST. PATRICK'S DAY CARD CAMPAIGN A SUCCESS

(See Offensive St. Patrick's Day Cards below)

NEWS BITS

by Andy Prior

Garret Fitzgerald addressed a joint session of Congress on 3/15/84 and while the press concentrated on his obligatory condemnation of violence they neglected this section "Britain with the responsibility for governing NI, has not hitherto addressed this problem with the combination of determination and evenhandedness that it requires. Nor has it given to it the priority which, as a great human tragedy, it demands. Britain has, moreover, hitherto seemed often to be pre-occupied with the security symptoms of the problem, at the expense of its fundamentally political character." (Irish Echo 3/24/84) ... "In the past three months 13 serving or former members of the Ulster Defense Regiment from Armagh and Ballymena have been charged with terrorist-type offences including the sectarian murders of Catholics." (Fortnight 3/84) ... James Delaney, head of the Irish-American Unity Conference, has joined Paul O'Dwyer and former US Attorney-General Ramsey Clark and others as sponsors of the Nicky Kelly Trust. The trust fund was established to raise money to pay for Nicky Kelly's civil legal action against the Irish state. (Irish Times 3/6/84)

"Irish organizations throughout the US have, during the past week, endorsed Sen. Gary Hart in his bid for the Democratic party presidential nomination ... Despite Reagan's carefully planned electioneering visit to Ireland in June, it looks as if Hart has already outflanked him for the Irish vote. From the outset of his campaign, Hart has endorsed a united Ireland. He has done so in unambiguous terms." (Irish Post 3/17/84) ... "You can flood the area with troops ... hide the SAS in the hedges, but you will not win the hearts and minds of the local Catholic farmers." — Hugo Morgan-Grenville, former Grenadier Guards captain. (Irish Times 3/10/84) ... Gerry Adams, president of Sinn Fein and a British MP, was shot and wounded along with three companions as they rode in a car in downtown Belfast. A passenger in the car, Robert Murray said "I asked Gerry if he had been injured, he was very calm. He said "Yes, I've been shot a couple of times, but I'm O.K." On 3/19 Adams was well enough to leave the hospital. (NY Times 3/15 & 3/20/84).

A.J.P. Taylor, the venerable British historian, has recently written, "In the long run, the British government has lost the conflict over Ireland, with Ulster as a contributing element. The detached observer can only propose the solution "troops out". The consequences which may follow are less alarming than the alternative." (Irish Post 2/25/84).

SEN. MOYNIHAN BOOED OUT OF PARADE

U.S. Senator Daniel P. Moynihan's illegal entry into the N.Y.C. St. Patrick's Day parade, under the protection of two armed bodyguards, was short-lived. The unpopular senator was forced to leave the parade after marching only a few blocks, due to intense and continuous booing.

Get the message Danny Boy! You're not "one of our own".

OFFENSIVE ST. PATRICK'S DAY CARDS

by John J. Finucane

At long last, the St. Patrick's Day Greeting cards have been cleaned-up. Reports from the field indicate that both American and Hallmark greeting card companies have indeed lived-up to their commitment to the Irish American community. We deem this a major victory for our community. Not only for *image* reasons, but also, it proves just how effective we can be if we *work together*.

Unfortunately, Recycled Paper Products insist on continuing to degrade *all* Irish Americans. A program for dealing with such un-American businesses is being developed and will be passed on when available. We are also in the process of communicating with two other major offenders. Depending on their responses, you will be notified of what actions to take. **THREE CHEERS FOR IRISH AMERICAN UNITY!**

BRITISH COURTS IN IRELAND: INSTRUMENTS OF THE STATE

by Fr. Desmond Wilson (Derry, N.I. Social Worker)

Three years ago I took a civil action against the British Army because I was unjustly arrested. The judge told me I had no case and that the British could arrest me at anytime, anywhere, for any reason or without reason.

There was a time in the north of Ireland when nationalists were being arrested at a rate of four thousand every six months. Some of the British soldiers involved in these mass arrests were appalled at what they were made to do. It is expected that in the near future some of these British soldiers will make public testimony. For these soldiers, the British campaign in Ireland was too much like what they had read about in Nazi Germany.

Nowadays the arrest are not as numerous due to public

(Continued on Page 2)

OPEN LETTER TO GARRET FITZGERALD

by Albert Doyle

We certainly hope you enjoyed your Saint Patrick's Day visit to America. We were also happy to see an Irish political leader again honored in being invited to speak to our Congress, although we could not help but notice the very different tone of your speech from that of the last Irish politician so honored. We are afraid our Congress may be confused about just what the Irish want. Like you, we too hope that the New Ireland Forum will produce a plan to advance the reunification of Ireland. Perhaps we are not as optimistic as you about the British response to such a plan, particularly in view of their recent visit by Prince Phillip to the UDR Barracks in Armagh, and then telling you to mind your own business. But then we realize that we are not as sophisticated as you are in recognizing the finer diplomatic nuances — because you saw that their reply was really an apology whereas we thought it was an insult.

We must tell you, however, that certain parts of your speech did disturb us. We are tired of being lectured about not supporting violence — as though that were the only problem in Northern Ireland and the only thing we do here in America. It seems that you and the others who pursue this line never seem to mention the oppression of the nationalist minority in the north, the perversion of justice in the court system and its draconian punishments and the massive British military presence. This all seems somewhat unbalanced. Are you afraid that Mrs. Thatcher will frown if you were so impolite as to mention these unpleasant things?

Worst of all, you warn us not only against directly supporting those who seek a military solution in Ireland, but also against giving them moral support "by making common cause for any purpose, however speciously well-meaning ..." with such people. Well, we are never speciously well-meaning and we certainly don't think that support for a united Ireland is specious. We hope you don't, but we are beginning to wonder.

Perhaps you don't understand Irish Americans. In our love of Ireland and the Irish people, we are not concerned with Irish politics and we have enemies neither to the right nor the left in our support for a united Ireland. We do not take lightly being told with-whom we may associate in order to be acceptable to you or anyone else. We believe in letting *all* viewpoints be heard and do not fear open discussion of all views and don't much care for your *censorship* at home of views you don't like. Naturally, we don't think your censorship should be extended here in America.

We hope this candid expression of our views will help you to understand us better. Perhaps you have not been listening to a broad enough spectrum of Irish American voices.

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Editor John J. Finucane

ENGLAND'S ILLEGAL PART THE MINORITY BECOMES

"Ulster will fight and Ulster will be right" was the war cry in 1920 of the pro-British loyalist when the treaty between Ireland and England was being negotiated. Actually, there should not have been any debate on independence for all of Ireland, because at the last general election (1918), when all Ireland (north and south) voted, more than 80% of the people of all Ireland voted for a *free, independent and sovereign* nation. But England which had inveigled America into "the war for the freedom of small nations" refused to grant majority rule to Ireland — freedom. England told the Irish delegates that the province of Ulster would be *temporarily* separated from the rest of Ireland until an accommodation could be reached with the loyalists of Ulster. The alternative given the Irish was an "immediate and terrible war".

When the Orange-English leaders took another look at Ulster they found that in six of Ulster's nine counties, the nationalists were in the majority and could conceivably vote Ulster into a united Ireland in their time. Then England unilaterally changed the rules of the game by excluding

BRITISH COURTS IN IRELAND (Continued from Page 1)

opinion. Today the arrests are more selective, seeking out people who are vulnerable, to recruit them as agents who will gather information and, if necessary, will testify in court against those whom the police want removed from the political scene. One is vulnerable if he; has committed a crime, has a marriage that is breaking up, has a drug problem, or has a fear of going to prison again. All areas in the north have a sufficient number of informers and observers waiting to report unusual activities by their neighbors.

There are presently men and women imprisoned for as much as two years awaiting trial on the word of an *informer*, who may very well retract his evidence. Their lives have been unjustly damaged, liberty and jobs lost. This is referred to as "internment by remand", a legal device with the effects of internment without the shame of it.

What is most frightening, even to those who normally uphold the British regime, is that the courts are more and more becoming an instrument of the state serving to remove from society political opponents. Lawyers are frustrated between their duties to clients and their inability to accept the integrity of the courts. Like churchmen who have witnessed the church's surrender to the demands of the state, lawyers are fast realizing their powerlessness in such a system.

There is no doubt that the British government abuse of the courts will fail. More and more lawyers and judges are in opposition. Even in England opposition to it is mounting. The English Lord Gifford has made it clear that it is intolerable to himself and others who are worried about the abuse of the law and the courts for political reasons.

There is equal certainty that the next British government device to remove nationalists from the scene will be *selective internment*. Men and women are bracing for it even now.

My dear American friends, as one who lives among the nationalist community and endures its suffering, I appeal to you for your help. I urge you to unite politically and to use that unity to induce American government support for Ireland's reunification.

UNITED IRELAND — GIVES A MAJORITY

by Thomas Garvey

three of Ulster's counties which had a strong nationalist majority. Gone was any illusion of fair play — do it our way or else.

But even they, with all their deceit and guile, could no longer sell this artificial statelet as Ulster. They had to settle for Northern Ireland. It has no historic or natural geographic boundaries, but only artificial boundaries drawn solely to ensure perpetual domination by the loyalists. England then illegally turned over the governing power of the new statelet to the *rabidly anti-Catholic* Orange Order and made a non-interference covenant with them, giving them free rein. Catholics were always treated as second class citizens under direct rule from London. But now under the Orange government conditions for the Catholics became intolerably worse.

In the words of Sir James Craig, prime Minister of Northern Ireland, 1921-1940, "I have always said I am an Orangeman first and a politician and member of this parliament afterwards — all I boast is that we are a Protestant parliament and a Protestant state." Sir Basil Brooke, Prime Minister, 1943-63, stated, "There were a great number of Protestants and Orangemen who employed Roman Catholics." He felt he could speak freely on this subject as he had not a Catholic about his own place. He would appeal to loyalists, wherever possible, to employ good Protestant lads and lassies. Every prime minister since has echoed the same sentiments.

Today's loyalist masses are kept in continual fear of Catholicism by the Rev. Ian Paisley's passionate crusade. His hushed listeners are told that all men are not children of God — some few are elected to be saved. **That Roman Catholicism is the Anti-Christ, Greatest of all Heresies, Mother of Harlots, Whore of Babylon, Enemy of Godliness and Freedom.** His religious oratory is without charity, moderation or ideas — a fierce blast of 17th century righteousness and emotion. In response to incitements from their leaders, they vented their feelings on the then defenseless Catholics by burning out whole sections of nationalist areas and leaving hundreds dead, injured, and homeless.

In 1968 when civil rights groups, including some fair-minded Protestants, held peaceful protest marches they were set upon and beaten by Orange mobs while the police turned their backs or joined the mobs: Nowhere in Christendom are a people so vilely persecuted.

YOU CAN HELP!

We wish to expand our EDUCATE A FRIEND program. As you know, an educated American public can be a great asset to the cause of a United Ireland. Please send us the name(s) and address(s) of influential people in your community. This effort is most important and can be very beneficial as these people are in contact with the public. Also, send us the names of concerned Irish Americans. We will forward the above our current PEC Information Package on the North.

Everyone can participate in this program which requires very little effort. The IAUC plans to make the Irish question a campaign issue in the upcoming Presidential and Congressional campaigns. People will be looking for information and we want to make it available. PLEASE SEND NAMES AND ADDRESSES TO: PEC, P.O. BOX 16, GARNERVILLE, N.Y. 10923.

FROM THE EDITOR

Some Irish Americans are in a quandary because of Senator Gary Hart's rise to prominence. Suddenly, a proponent of a United Ireland is a viable contender for the Presidency of the United States. The depth and sincerity of their support will be tested. Like this writer, they will be asked to make the issue of a United Ireland a priority over other very important issues. Traditionally, Irish Americans have not given importance to the issue of Irish reunification when deciding their vote for the Presidency. This trend appears to be changing, particularly among the more conservative thinking Irish Americans. This has a lot to do with President Reagan's strong pro-British sentiments. One thing is certain, Senator Hart is the only viable candidate committed to a United Ireland.

To date, the Irish American community has been very active in promoting the candidacy of Mr. Hart through the distribution of his statement on Irish reunification as published in the last issue of the AMERICAN IRISH NEWSLETTER. Now that the St. Patrick's festivities are over, we must take on a more active and *visible* role in his campaign. This is a must if he is to pursue his commitment as he will be faced with many pressing issues. We must leave no doubt in his mind that the Irish American community helped put him in office. *Visibility is crucial!*

We ask all of you, as the Irish American Unity Conference is asking its members, to contact your local Hart-For-President committee and offer your services. There are many ways in which you can help; preparing mailings, making telephone calls, distributing material, etc. You can give as much time as you desire. It is most important that you inform the committee chairperson that you are helping because of his commitment to a United Ireland. It is equally important that you inform him that you are a member of the PEC, the IAUC, or whatever your preference. They must be fully aware of our activities. (We urge all our readers to continue distributing the Hart Statement right through to Election Day. If you need a copy, drop us a line.)

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NATIONAL POLITICAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE

IRISH SETTLERS IN AMERICA

by Bob West, P.E.C. South Carolina

INTRODUCTION

In this and in subsequent articles the subject of Irish settlers in America and the West Indies during the 17th and 18th century will be treated. In addition, the involuntary changes from Irish surnames to English surnames will be discussed.

We have been told that the English have always enjoyed a numerical superiority over other groups in America. It cannot be denied that this was true up until the third quarter of the 17th century, but thereafter gave way to the Irish. The English controlled America politically and financially by way of their military power until the American Revolution.

The English invaded Ireland in 1169 and its troops and government have occupied all or part of that island for over 8 hundred years. The Irish have suffered greatly during this foreign occupation, more severely in some periods than others.

This first article will treat with the Irish in the West Indies during the 17th century, a few having arrived in pursuit of adventure, but by far most all having been transported against their will by the English Government. These Irish were almost exclusively Catholic.

IRISH TRANSPORTED (1612 - 1650)

(Irish Settlers in West Indies)

Records are replete with references to the earliest of Irish Catholics in the West Indies. Gwynn, in *Analecta Hibernica*, states "The earliest reference to the Irish is the establishment of an Irish settlement on the Amazon River in South America in 1612 . . ." Smith, in *Colonists in Bondage*, reported that "A Proclamation of the year 1625 urged the banishing overseas of dangerous rogues [Irish political prisoners]: kidnapping [of Irish] was common." Condon stated that the first considerable emigration from Ireland to the southern latitudes of America was to Guiana in 1629. Newton declared that Antigua and Montserrat were occupied as early as 1632 and that many emigrant Irish came out among the early planters and servants in these islands. Dunn, in *Sugar and Slaves*, tells us that: in 1636 Ireland was already a prime source of supply for servants; as early as 1637 on Montserrat the Irish heavily outnumbered the English colonists; and that 69 percent of Montserrat's white inhabitants were Irish. Lenihan said that in 1650 "25 thousand Irishmen sold as slaves in Saint Kitt's (St. Christopher's) and the adjoining islands, petitioned for a priest . . ."

IRISH TRANSPORTED (1651 - 1660)

In 1641, Ireland's population was 1,466,000 and in 1652 616 thousand. According to Sir William Petty, 850 thousand were wasted by the sword, plague, famine, hardship and banishment during the Confederation War 1641 - 1652. At the end of the war, vast numbers of Irish men, women and children were forcibly transported to the American colonies by the English government. These people were rounded up like cattle, and as Prendergast reports on *Thurloe's State Papers* (pub. London, 1742), ". . . In clearing the ground for the adventurers and soldiers (the English capitalists of that day) . . . To be transported to Barbadoes and the English plantations in America. It was a measure beneficial to Ireland, which was thus relieved of a population that might trouble the planters; it was a benefit to the people removed, who might thus be made English and Christians;" and Prendergast continues, "a great benefit to the West India sugar planters, who desired men and boys for their bondsmen, and the women and Irish girls . . . To solace them."

If additional evidence is required concerning the attitude of the English Government towards the Irish, J. Williams recited that an English law of June 26, 1657 stated ". . . That those who fail to

transplant themselves into Connaught [Ireland's western province] or [County] Clare within 6 months . . . Shall be attainted of high treason . . . Are to be sent into America or some other parts beyond the seas, . . ." those thus banished who return are to "Suffer the pains of death as felons by virtue of this act, without benefit of Clergy."

The following are but a few of the numerous references to those Irish transported against their will between 1651 and 1660.

Emmet has asserted that during that period "Over one hundred thousand *young children* who were orphans or had been taken from their Catholic parents, were sent abroad into *slavery* in the West Indies, Virginia and New England, that they might lose their faith and all knowledge of their nationality, for in most instances even their names were changed . . . Moreover, the contemporary writers assert between 20 and 30 thousand men and women, who had been taken prisoners, were sold in the American colonies as slaves, with no respect to their former station in life." Dunn said that in Barbadoes the Irish Catholics constituted the largest block of servants on the island. Higham estimated that in 1652 Barbadoes had absorbed no less than 12 thousand of these political prisoners. E. Williams reported that "In 1656 Cromwell's Council of State voted that 1 thousand Irish girls, and 1 thousand young men be sent to Jamaica." Smith declared "That it is impossible to say how many shiploads of unhappy Irish were dispatched to America by the English Government" and that "No mention of such shipments would be likely to appear in the State Papers, . . . They must have been very considerable in number."

Estimates vary between 80 thousand and 130 thousand regarding the amount of Irish sent into slavery in America and the West Indies during the period 1651-1660: Prendergast says 80 thousand, Broudin says 100 thousand, Emmet says 120 to 130 thousand, Lingard says 60 thousand up until 1656, and Condon says "The number of Irish transported to the British colonies in America from 1651-1660 exceeded the total number of their inhabitants at that period, a *fact which ought not to be lost sight of* by those who undertake to estimate the strength of the Celtic element in this nation . . ."

It is impossible to ascertain the exact number of those unfortunate victims of English injustice during this period, but we do know the amount was massive. Even though the figures given above are but estimates, they are estimates from eminent historians.

IRISH TRANSPORTED (1661 - 1700)

The flow of Irish to the American colonies throughout the remainder of the 17th century was large and continuous, but not nearly as massive as the 1651-1660 period. Some of the many statements by historians give evidence of this Irish tide. Higham reports that in 1664 the Irish took the place of the French on St. Bartholomew's. Smith said that in 1675, 500 Irish servants were brought to Jamaica within the previous 3 or 4 years by ships from Bristol, England that stopped in Ireland for provisions. Dunn said that in the Leeward Islands in 1680 that ". . . With so many Irish Catholic servants and farmers . . . The English planters became obsessed with the fear of popery." Dunn also stated that on Jamaica in 1685 the 2nd Duke of Albemarle, after his appointment by James II, a Catholic, mustered his chief support from the Irish Catholic small planters and servants and that the indentured servants who constituted the island militia were mainly Irish Catholic. In reporting on Father Garganel's statements, Lenihan tells us that "In 1699 Father Garganel, S. J. Superior of the island of Martinique, asked for one or two Irish Fathers for that and the neighboring isles which were 'full of Irish' for, he continues, 'every year shiploads of men, boys and girls, partly crimped, partly carried off by main force for the purposes of slave trade, are conveyed by the English from Ireland!'"

METHODS OF TRANSPORTING IRISH

Smith has recorded that "Servants sailed from every port in the British Isles, but by far the greater number came from London,

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Bristol, Liverpool, Dublin and Cork and doubtless it was principally the merchants of Bristol, Whitehaven and Liverpool which conducted the trade with Ireland." Emmet clarifies Smith's statement in detail by asserting that "The early and continued emigration of the Irish to this country during the 17th century *has been lost sight of*, in consequence of this change to English surnames and from the fact that no vessel was knowingly allowed to sail from Ireland direct, but by law was obliged first to visit an English port before clearance papers could be obtained. Consequently, every Irish emigrant [slave, servant, etc.] crossing in an Irish or English vessel, from either England or Ireland, *appeared in the official records as English*, for the voyage did not begin according to law until the ship cleared from an English port, and all passengers on arrival in this country [American colonies] were rated as English."

It is also of importance to be aware of the fact, as Dunn confirmed, that "Most population lists for Barbadoes, Jamaica and the Leeward Islands concern only parish registers of the Church of England, all other people were essentially ignored in the headcount."

SERVANTS OR SLAVES?

The English Government variously referred to Irish to be transported as rogues, vagabonds, rebels, neutrals, felons, military prisoners, teachers, priests, maidens, etc. All historians call them servants, bondsmen, indentured servants, slaves, etc. and agree that they were all political victims. The plain facts are that most were treated as slaves. After their land was confiscated by England who drove them from their ancestral homes to forage for roots like animals, they were kidnapped, rounded up and driven like cattle to waiting ships and transported to English colonies in America, never to see their country again. They were the victims of what many called the immense "Irish Slave Trade".

TREATMENT OF WHITE SERVANTS/SLAVES

All writers on 17th century American colonies are in agreement that the treatment of white servants or white slaves in English colonies was cruel to the extreme, that their treatment was worse than that of black slaves, that inhuman treatment was the norm, that torture (and branding 'FT' — Fugitive Traitor on the forehead) was the punishment for attempted escape. Dunn stated ". . . Servants were punished by whipping, strung up by the hands and matches lighted between their fingers, beaten over the head until blood ran . . .", all this on the slightest provocation. Ligon, an eyewitness in Barbadoes from 1647-1650, said, "Truly, I have seen such cruelty there done to servants as I did not think one Christian could have done to another."

DEPARTING THE WEST INDIES FOR MAINLAND AMERICA

It is a matter of great importance to realize that most of the white slaves, servants and small farmers abandoned the West Indies for the mainland colonies in America.

Dunn reports that "Between 1678 and 1713, Leeward sugar planters became more rich and powerful and controlled all local councils and assemblies so white servants and small farmers abandoned the Leeward Islands." Craven said that between 1643 and 1667, 12 thousand had left Barbadoes for other plantations and Dunn said the white population of the Leeward Islands was reduced by 30 percent between 1678 and 1708. According to Craven, in *Colonies in Transition*, prior to the 1680s the hopes which sustained the Carolina venture continued to depend chiefly upon the migration of settlers from the older colonies, especially from the West Indies. Smith asserted that after 1670 the emigration of whites from the smaller islands at least equalled the immigration. Condon declared that "In course of time many of those who had been transported to the West Indies in this manner found their way to the colonies on the continent, in search of greater freedom and a more healthful climate."

CONCLUSIONS

All writers on 17th century history agree that between one-half and two-thirds of white immigrants in the British West Indies and mainland America were servants, most of them severely mistreated.

Most all Irish immigrants were 'servants'.

Irish were almost exclusively Catholic (at least they were when they left Ireland) and most were of ancient Irish families even though they appeared in English records as English, if recorded at all.

After 20 thousand Puritans arrived in the American colonies from 1630-1640, migration of English colonists all but subsided. Some writers say after 1640 only a trickle of English colonists arrived.

THE CENTRE CANNOT HOLD

Britain's Failure In Northern Ireland

by Tom Collins

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In 1632 many Irish were on Antigua; in 1637, 69 percent of whites on Montserrat were Irish; in 1650, 25 thousand Irish were on St. Kitt's; and Nevis and some on other Leeward islands.

In 1652, prior to the wholesale transportation of Irish, most of 12 thousand political prisoners on Barbadoes were Irish.

From 1651-1660, from 80 thousand to 130 thousand Irish were transported.

From 1660-1700 there were a large steady flow of Irish immigrants.

Most whites, especially servants, slaves and small farmers went to the American mainland for more freedom, a healthier climate and economic betterment.

There are no verifiable records on the white population of all American colonies in the 17th century. Some estimates include blacks, some do not; some include women, some do not; some include children, some do not; some list only members of the Church of England. Estimates are made for Barbadoes for a certain year while estimates are made for the Leeward Islands for other years; the same applies to Jamaica and the mainland colonies. One estimate for the mainland colonies, white and black included, was given at 204 thousand in 1689.

In the absence of reliable records, I believe it is necessary to take the following into very serious consideration: migration trends, prolificness of people of varying national origin, laws in effect in the country from which people migrated; the prevailing conditions in the country undergoing emigration; the amount of control the emigrating people had over their own destiny; and the fact that all American colonies both mainland and the West Indies were very intertwined.

FINAL CONCLUSION

Well over one-half of white immigrants to the West Indies during the 17th century were Irish Catholic servants, most who, in the course of time, abandoned the West Indies for the mainland American colonies.

[The author has provided a rich bibliography, Ed.]

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ACTION LETTER

by Professor Charles E. Rice, Notre Dame School of Law

The United States Second Circuit Court of Appeals on February 21st, denied Michael O'Rourke's appeal from the order of Immigration Judge Lyons that he be deported to Ireland.

In May, 1981, Immigration Judge Ernest H. Hupp was about to rule in favor of O'Rourke when he was terrorized off the case by Immigration agents who followed him and led him to believe that they were agents of the IRA. Believing his impartiality to be compromised, Judge Hupp took himself out of the case, to be replaced by Judge Francis J. Lyons who proceeded to rule against O'Rourke. And O'Rourke's attorneys were not allowed by Judge Lyons to inquire fully into the circumstances of Judge Hupp's recusal.

The intimidation of Judge Hupp is a disgraceful perversion of legal process. The only recourse for such prosecutorial abuse would be the dismissal of all charges against Michael O'Rourke. Yet the Court of Appeals, in an incredible confession of judicial bankruptcy, stated that O'Rourke's "due process claims arising out of Judge Hupp's decision to rescue himself are so lacking in substance as to merit no discussion."

Michael O'Rourke is now seeking review before the Supreme Court. But this is an election year. It is time to lay this one on President Reagan. The whole mess is his ultimate responsibility. And if justice is not done, it will be his dereliction.

Again we ask you to write President Ronald Reagan. This is an election year. We must continue to apply pressure. *Please reproduce* this Action Letter for use at your organizations meetings. Have the members write a letter. Remember! One letter to President Reagan is worth the views of one thousand Americans. PLEASE CONSIDER THIS AN EMERGENCY!

Address & Date

Honorable Ronald W. Reagan
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

The Second Circuit Court of Appeals has rejected the appeal of Michael O'Rourke and has ordered him deported to the Republic of Ireland. Mr. O'Rourke would have been free

IAUC UPDATE

by John J. Finucane

The progress of the Irish American Unity Conference has been outstanding. From the period of mid-January to March 1, membership rolls increased by 16 thousand paid members! Such figures are staggering when one considers the very limited media exposure the IAUC has had. But this is changing. A number of newspaper articles concerning the IAUC have been published in different parts of the U.S. For the most part, this exposure has come about through the efforts of IAUC members. They have contacted the editors of local newspapers and syndicated columnists, who have been very receptive on learning of the Unity Conference's objectives and exceptional membership growth.

It is well to note that the IAUC is drawing its membership from all different sections of American society and for many it is their first time for being involved in any Irish-American organization.

James Delaney, President of the IAUC, attended organization meetings in Los Angeles, Calif.; Miami, Fla.; San Diego, Calif.; and Philadelphia and Scranton, PA. While in Scranton, he had a very positive discussion with Bishop John O'Connor, the new Archbishop of New York.

**We're getting respect —
the kind that only Unity can generate!**

FOR IAUC MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION CALL:
914-947-2726 or write: IAUC, Two North Liberty Drive,
Stony Point, N.Y. 10980. Please send to the above
address the names and addresses of people you feel
should receive IAUC membership information.

nearly three years ago if Judge Ernest Hupp had not been terrorized by Immigration agents into withdrawing from the case. This coercion of a sitting judge by the prosecution is an intolerable abuse of official power. Yet the Court of Appeals refused even to discuss this aspect of the case.

You are responsible for the administration of the immigration laws. Justice requires that Michael O'Rourke, who has been jailed for nearly five years, be freed and allowed to live in peace with his wife who is an American citizen.

Sincerely,

**NATIONAL
POLITICAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE
Post Office Box 16
Garnerville, N.Y. 10923**

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