New possibilities of movement on partition opened up by Brooke's 'neutrality' claim

| Time to call Britain's bluff on the North |

Desire for this marriage to continue.* That is not of course the same thing as saying: "I want a divorce", but it is an essential first step to a split-up. The logic of a declaration of indifference - especially if there is another suitor waiting in the wings - in this case the Republic - is that the indifferent party moves on to a separation, as long as mutual consent can be obtained to the details of the divorce settlement. Simultaneously with Brooke saying: "Britain has no interest", he repeated the official position: "There shall be no constitutional change in the status of the North without majority consent." Between these two formulas is there not room for constructive politicians to take a creative initiative directed to the solution of the Irish problem?

Republicans have never accepted that six-county Unionists - an artificially created minority of the Irish people - should have a veto on undoing the national wrong that is partition. It is Britain's responsibility to move to undo that wrong, committed by Lloyd George in 1920. At the same time Republicans are not sacrificing any principle in recognising that it is desirable as a matter of expediency to get Northern majority consent to the final terms for reunifying Ireland. A Northern majority of achieving that goal. These necessary means are, of course, the financial, constitutional and political measures that would be needed at the end of the day if majority Northern consent were to be won to the dissolution of the Union. Such measures as consolidation of British subsidies for a period, to ensure people's living standards did not suffer, as well as constitutional guarantees for the rights of erstwhile Unionists within a United Ireland. To go back to the marriage/divorce analogy, one can distinguish between divorce as the ultimate intention of either of two partners, and consent to the terms of the divorce settlement - alimony, child custody rights and so on - which has to be obtained before the divorce decree is granted. Both partners, as well as any third party aspiring to a new marriage with one of them, can have a common interest in securing agreement on those terms.

* Turn to page 3

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[Image of John Major's takeover from Margaret Thatcher opening a window of opportunity as regards the North for the British and Irish Governments.]

Shall Britain have no strategic interest in the Six Counties, why does this keep happening?

Pic: AP/HNW

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| Signing away British sovereignty: the real meaning of European Union - and how to stop it |

| Who should get access to PTA detainees? |

| A truly great son of Ulster: yet Robert Lynd was all but forgotten until some of his writings reappeared in print |
The fools , the tools

EDITORIAL

If the Guildford Four had had a supportive visit, they might not have signed false confessions

CONNOGLY ASSOCIATION NEWS

OLYMPIC VICTORY

Ground-breaking site safety project

This month's launch of a ground-breaking project in the construction sector has been hailed as a significant step forward in improving safety for workers in the industry. The project, known as the Site Safety Project, aims to reduce the number of accidents and injuries that occur on construction sites. The launch was attended by representatives from various construction companies and trade unions, as well as safety experts and stakeholders. The project is expected to have a major impact on the industry, improving safety standards and reducing the risk of accidents for workers.

Replacing old myths with new visions

New campaign to develop the debate in the trade unions

The Northern Ireland Police Federation, which represents the Royal Ulster Constabulary, has also called for a new campaign to develop the debate in the trade unions. The campaign is aimed at challenging old myths and prejudices about the IRA and its activities. The Federation says that the IRA is not a terrorist organisation, and that its actions are justified by the British Government's policies in Northern Ireland. The campaign is expected to involve a series of events, including seminars, debates, and fringe meetings, to challenge the myths and promote a new understanding of the IRA.

Confusion on Articles 2 and 3

The Supreme Court has ruled that Articles 2 and 3 are not in conflict with one another. The ruling clarifies the legal position and provides a framework for future decision-making.

Time to call Brooke's bluff

If you want to join the campaign for Irish unity and independence, you must have the guts to act. The Irish government has staked the power, the ideas and the influence of the campaign.

Sustentation fund

The Connolly Association is launching a new fund to support activists and their families. The fund aims to provide financial assistance to those who have been affected by the political process in Ireland. The fund will be open to all those who have been involved in political activity, and will provide support for those who have been arrested, detained, or who have lost their jobs as a result of their political activities.

CONNOGLY ASSOCIATION NEWS

The Connolly Association is working on a ground-breaking project in the construction sector. The project aims to improve safety standards and reduce the number of accidents and injuries that occur on construction sites. The project will involve the construction of a new building, which will be used as a training centre for workers in the industry. The Connolly Association is hoping that the project will demonstrate the importance of safety in the construction sector, and that it will be a model for other projects in the future.

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Ireland's health service time-bomb

The prospects for derailing European Union look good

It's the European Commission that will have to make the tough calls.

The Commission's report, released last month, found that Ireland's health service is in crisis.

**25 years ago**

Two years have passed since the EEC Commission's report on health was released. In the meantime, nothing has changed. The report called for a fundamental reorganisation of the health service.

The government has promised a report on the Commission's findings, but has yet to deliver it. The report is expected to be published in the next few months.

**Defending neutrality**

NEUTRALITY is a cornerstone of Irish policy, not only because it is enshrined in the Constitution but also because it is an integral part of our national identity.

The Irish people deeply cherish their independence and their freedom from outside influences. This is why the EEC, with its aim of establishing a single European market, poses such a threat to our national sovereignty.

The EEC cannot impose its will on our country, and we will not be intimidated by its threats.

Defending neutrality is not just about protecting our sovereignty, it is about preserving the unique character of our nation. It is about ensuring that our children and grandchildren can grow up in a country that is independent and free from foreign interference.

**New coalitions?**

A new political landscape is emerging in Ireland, as the traditional parties are being challenged by new groups and movements.

The Green Party, for example, has gained ground in recent years, thanks to its focus on environmental issues.

The Workers' Party, on the other hand, has been struggling to stay relevant in the face of the economic downturn.

The emergence of new coalitions will make it more difficult for any one party to achieve an overall majority in the next election.

As the saying goes, 'the more things change, the more they remain the same'.
Long Kesh

There's a place just outside Limerick. It's a place that's not on any map. Where the Suir flows down and Mooncoin... You know it, Eoin? You can't find it on any map. It's situated between Adare and all those towns.

On the banks of the Suir flowing down the Mooncoin

Fond heart

Well away from the hills of her dear Irish home

By your waters clear sands the lark's merry song

How sweet 'tis to roam by the sunny Suir stream

The Common Market. John Bruton has many years been a leading contributor to the Government's opposition to the EC. Mr Bruton's position is clear. It is only possible to take a drink of fresh water.

WATER POLLUTION has reached the apocalyptic stage. Millions have died from drinking water and food. There is evidence that even the smallest fish of the rivers and lakes in Ireland are contaminated.

The Connolly Association urges that farmers should not continue to pollute the rivers and lakes in their area. They should work with the Connolly Association to find solutions to this problem.

The Connolly Association is talking to the farmers involved and is working to find solutions to this problem.

On 15 November it is the 25th anniversary of the Irish Civil War. The conflict was a battle for the future of the Irish Republic, and for the future of the Irish people. It was a battle for the future of Ireland, and for the future of the world. It was a battle for the future of the Common Market, and for the future of the European Union.

On that black day in August when Faulkener showed his hand

It was in '66 they came with your smiling faces then

By your waters clear sands the lark's merry song

How sweet 'tis to roam by the sunny Suir stream

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Robert Lynd (1879-1949)

A truly great son of Ulster

Because, since Robert Lynd died in 1949 his work seems to have been consigned to oblivion. Although still with some popularity in Germany and Japan, his 40 volumes, mainly of essays, have not been reprinted since his death.

Can his rapid concession to oblivion, after a career at which his reputation as a journalist and essayist achieved world-status, have any connection with the fact that Robert Wil- liam Lynd, born in Belfast on April 20, 1879, the elder son of a former Moderator of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, was a person who Establishment propaganda would have us believe, simply cannot exist?

That is, Lynd was an Irish-speaking, Belfast Presbyterian, Socialist Republi- can - a member of Connaught as well as a graduate and member of Sinn Fein. True, Lynd was like Francis Sheehy- Skoffington a resilient patriot but continued to respect and admire those who felt that armed struggle was the only way, while remaining convinced that they were misguided. His full-length political work on Irish independence, a Nation (published in 1918) is written as an un- emotional appeal to reason for Irish self-government.

Lynd is revered by the nation in the Ulster of the Nineties for which he wrote regularly from 1934- 37.

The Lynds were of Huguenot ex- traction who fled France and first settled in Scotland and then in Ireland. Charles Lynd became minister for Fada in 1789 and was noted for his seminars, delivered in Irish. Robert Lynd's father, who died in April 1894, became Moderator in 1888. His mother was Sarah Bethnal, daughter of another Presbyterian minister from Ballymoney, Co. Antrim. She was a schoolteacher, running her own private school for girls at Knock, Belfast.

Robert went to the Royal Belfast Academical Institution (known as 'Tart') and went on to study at Queen's where he took a degree in Classics. In 1916 three years before his death Queen's awarded him the degree of D.Litt. (Honoris causa).

It was at Queen's that Lynd's socialist- ism and militarism were forged. The Ulsterman who had the greatest influence on Lynd was a younger man - than him - a Quaker named Bul- ler Hobson (1863-1949). Hobson was from Co. Down, an Irish lan- guage enthusiast, who was imbued with the doctrines of Walter Tullic, 'The Rights of Man' and the real historic role of Ulster Presbyterians in the Irish republican tradition - as the originators of republicanism in Ire- land in the wake of the American War of Independence and the French revolution.

Throughout the pages of this book, Lynd became an admirer of James Connolly, who contributed to it, and joined the Belfast Socialist So- ciety. He worked on the independent Protestant paper Northern Whig in 1899. But he was too radical and not really a revivalist. He went through several hungry, freelance years before being asked to write for Today, which had been edited by Jerome K. Jerome. And he settled in London.

It was in London that Lynd found such diverse Irishmen as Yeats, Mih- ail Collins, Alice Stopford Green, Padraic O Conaire, with whom he remained friends, and others. He joined the London branch of Con- nardh na Gaelige and the Irish Literary Revue.

Lynd's first major work on Irish in- dependence was 'The O Connell'. It was written in 1907. 'England's game in Ireland has al- ready been to whisper one suspicion in the ear of the Protestant and an- other suspicion in the ear of the Catholic.' (1889) until he became initiated with each other, al- most to the point of murder.

A decade or so later, he could have dropped the 'almost'.

His work is an elegant piece of logi- cal persuasion aimed at his co-religionists and members of the Orange Order.

Because, his education, his Irish Ou- croghern would only let the scales of sectarian prejudice fall from their eyes, and would only open their eyes to the voices of the false- est lawyers and ambitious pol- iticians, would they not feel equally outraged, as Irishmen today, at being considered to weak and helpless and impor- tant that they can neither support nor legislate for Ireland without Eng- land's aid?

Lynd had come to England and found that 'Most of them (the Eng- lish) seemed to look on the Irish as a puny weed, and only to the expense of the English taxpayer. Far from regarding that they required assistance mainly, it was an English man, he concluded, in the course of a few months, that it would be better for the country to be governed by people who were, at least, interested in it.'

Lynd was a fluent Irish speaker, a constant visitor to the Dublin Univer- sity, which he became associated, because of his training.

Among his pupils were Roger Casement and Arch de Bles- cham, whose books included Gaelic Literature Surveyed (1920). Lynd, with P.S. O'Hegarty, became the London delegate of Sinn Fein (1916).

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During the War of Independence, Lynd became the most active peti- tioner for the reprieve of Roger Casement: 'If the Munich Agreement of 1938 was meaningless, Patrick Campbell wrote. Only the Lynds believe there will be war. The Lynds were right. In 1945 Robert Lynd stopped writing for the New Statesman pieces and for a few more years he worked part time for the Northern Whig.

He died on October 6, 1949, of em- physio - his 100 cigarettes a day habit finally catching up with him. At his own request he was buried in Belfast City Cemetery. Among those at his funeral were Sean MacEoin, Colonel J.O'Sullivan, representing the Presi- dent of Ireland, and Sam Porter, a former republican and socialist councillor. The funeral was sailed by the Belfast Socialist Society, who was the first to point out: 'The Lynds have been no reprints - until now. Lynd's only niece, Christine Foster, who worked as a nurse, took care of his last illness. Brixton. In his essay on Connolly, he always been to whisper one suspicion in the ear of the Protestant and an- other suspicion in the ear of the Catholic.' (1889) until he became initiated with each other, al- most to the point of murder.

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