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It's a Seanad double for Independent Ken Whitaker

DR. KEN WHITAKER has made history by being picked for the Seanad by two Taoiseachs—and by refusing a Party Whip each time. In 1977 he was nominated to the Seanad by the then Taoiseach, Mr. Jack Lynch, and did not accept the Fianna Fail whip.

he has insisted on preserving his independence in the Upper House. New FINE GAEL Senators are: Ulick Burke: a teacher from Loughrea, Co. Galway. Aged 37. Married with five children.

International Affairs Committee for Young People. James Higgins: A schoolteacher from Ballyhanna, Co. Mayo. Aged 35 and married with three children.

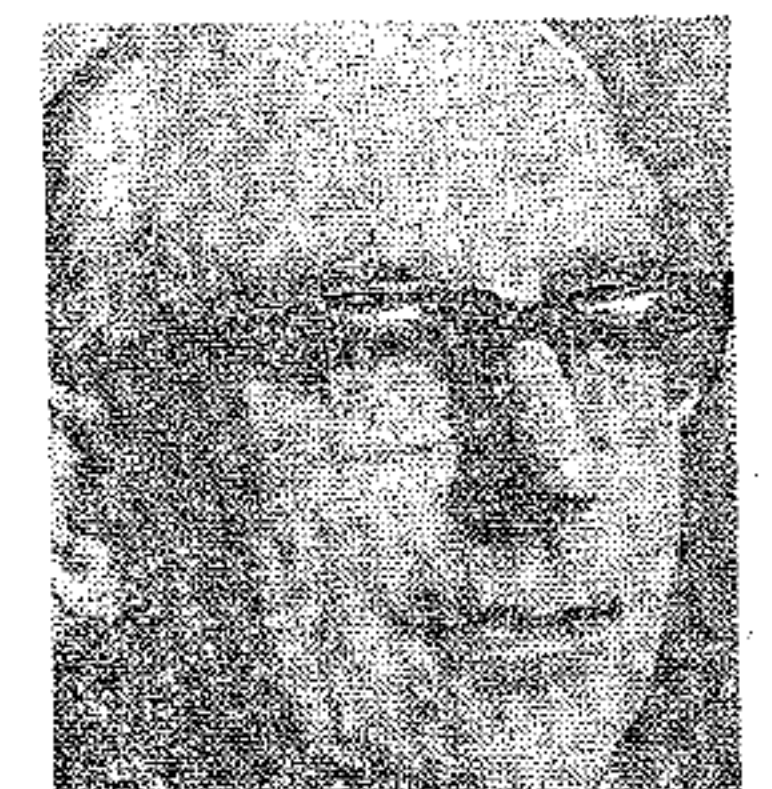
first became a member of Dublin Co. Council in 1948. New LABOUR Senators: Timothy Conway: An accountant from Naas, Co. Kildare. Aged 38, he is a member of Kildare Co. Council and has been Financial Secretary to the Party since 1978.



Senator John Carroll.



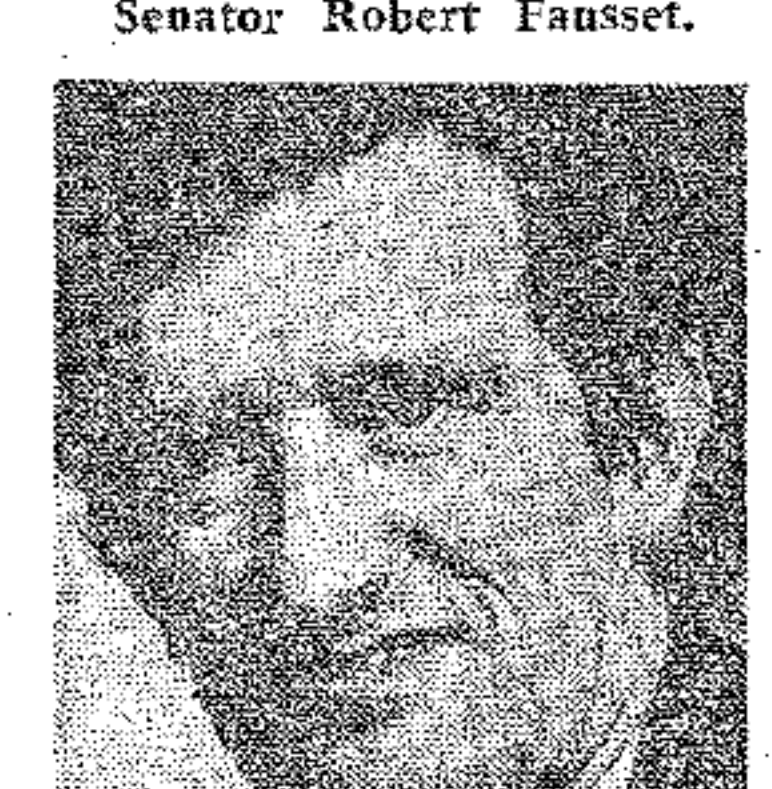
Senator Patrick Dunne.



Senator T. K. Whitaker.



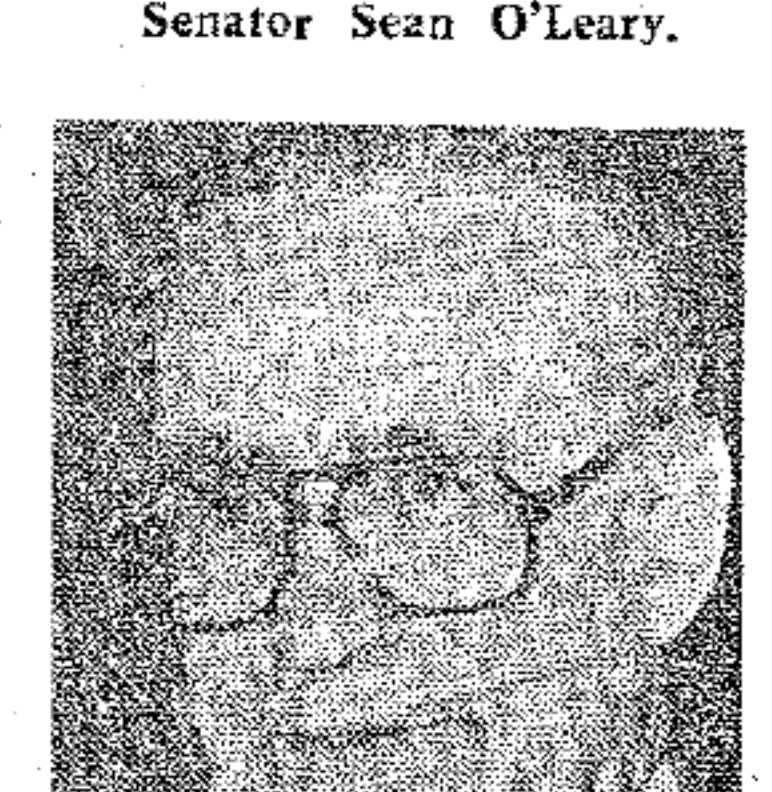
Senator Robert Fausset.



Senator Sean O'Leary.



Senator Ulick Burke.



Senator James Dooge.



The burned out van in which 18-month-old Daniel Lynch was burned to death.

Baby burns to death in van blaze

BY GORDON PATERSON

AN 18-MONTH-OLD baby boy was burned to death in the cab of a van only feet from the family home in a Dublin suburb last night.

As he played happily in the driver's seat with his toy cars outside the family home in a Tallaght housing estate, the van's engine burst into flame. Young children on a nearby green at The Grove, Millbrook Lawn, watched in horror as the baby's screams could be heard.

Second later little Daniel's mother and father, Donal and Margaret Lynch, rushed from their house in a desperate, but futile, attempt to save their child.

Mrs. Lynch was held back by neighbours as her husband frantically smashed the van windows to get at his baby. But he was fought back by smoke and flames.

It was the tragic end to a

scene that started only two minutes earlier when the baby—who was fascinated by motor cars—had been placed in the cab of the van by his brother Mark (11).

Late last night friends, neighbours and the family doctor arrived at the mourning household—50 The Grove—in the peaceful estate to comfort the parents and their three other children: Dean (14) Mark and Sonya (9).

The fire broke out at about 7 p.m. as youngsters from around the estate played only yards away. Early this morning, the charred remains of the van still lay outside the family home. Garda forensic experts were late examining the burned out wreckage.

A neighbour, Mrs. Mary Quinn, said last night: "It's a terrible tragedy. All the kids

around here just can't believe what's happened. I feel so much for the poor family."

Mrs. Quinn's nine-year-old son Edward, who had been standing only feet away, told the story: "The van just started burning. Daniel's mum and dad were trying to get him out the front seat. They were smashing the windows, but Mr. Lynch burned his hands on the van door."

"The baby was screaming inside. He had only been in there about two minutes. He was always playing with toy cars and loved them. Then the firemen arrived and put the fire out."

"After that they dragged Daniel out and wrapped him up in a blanket. It wasn't five minutes after Mark had put him in the van that it all happened."

Holiday mess ends for 121

Continued from Page One

sulant Dr. Michael Grimes, succeeded in securing alternative flights to Miami for all the 252 people involved. Capel says it had paid Sceptre fully in advance for their seats on the August 3 flight "therefore it was Sceptre (Ireland) Travel's sole responsibility to arrange alternative flights. Sceptre (Ireland) Travel Ltd. abdicated their responsibility."

Their statement added: "Pledges were made by Sceptre (Ireland) Travel to reimburse Capel Travel Ltd. for the tickets to the U.S. To date these promises have not been honoured."

"The position now is that Capel Travel cannot be expected to pay the full fares of passengers again. Sceptre have already been paid in full for these flights, therefore, as tour operators they are the party solely responsible for this situation."

"Rather than leave 177 Irish passengers in Miami (some of the 252 have already got home with little chance of return through Sceptre. Capel Travel decided to approach the Minister for Transport and seek his co-operation in bringing the passengers home," the company added.

Capel further stressed they were "a viable company" and would honour all holiday booked with them.

No contact could be made with Mr. Terry O'Neill, a director of Florida World last night. But in a statement released he said that Capel Travel had failed in its commitment for payment to Florida World of all the passenger monies thirty days in advance, in order for Florida World to fulfil its contractual arrangement with Capital Airways.

Florida World would refund "all monies advanced by Florida World passengers for services rendered to Florida. All Florida World passengers currently in Florida have been issued round trip tickets and none are left stranded."

Neither of the two firms concerned are members of the Irish Travel Agents' Association, which has a bonding system and rescue fund in operation.

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Mortgage deal proposed

AN INCOME related mortgage scheme is to be considered by the Government, Independent Socialist Deputy Jim Kemmy said yesterday after he had a meeting with An Taoiseach Dr. FitzGerald.

However, Mr. Kemmy said the Taoiseach had turned down his suggestion

that a special loans fund should be considered in light of the high repayments confronting thousands of home owners.

The Limerick Dail Deputy led a delegation of "Socialists Against Nationalism" who suggested to the Taoiseach that Ar-

ticles Two and Three of the Constitution should be deleted.

Mr. Kemmy said the group also told the Taoiseach it should be borne in mind that many of those imprisoned in the Maze had committed particularly serious crimes like murder.

Jail ordeal of deported holiday girl

By P. J. CUNNINGHAM

A Bangladeshi girl who arrived in Ireland for a holiday was forced to spend a night in jail—and was then deported.

University graduate Sheila Khan arrived in Ireland 10

days ago with her mother looking forward to a re-union with her sister—a doctor—whom she hadn't seen for nearly four years.

On arrival at Dublin Airport, 23 year old Sheila and her mother were interrogated by immigration officials for two hours. Eventually Mrs. Khan was allowed in because she had a return ticket to Geneva, but Sheila who is continuing her studies in America in September, had bought only a single ticket.

It took four days and nearly £700 before she could finally get into Ireland to enjoy her holiday.

Re-united with her sister and mother in Dublin last night, Sheila talked of her ordeal.

"We thought we had done everything right. My sister—a doctor in Cork—had written to the Department of Foreign Affairs who said we didn't need visas for our stay. We even showed them photocopies of the reply they had given to her query."

"But it was no use and despite the fact that I showed them my entrance letter to Mills College in Oakland, America; they obviously thought I was trying to stay here."



Sheila Khan pictured in Dublin last night

North by-election lacks the cry of traditional battle

From JAMES KELLY, Our Northern Political Editor

THE Fermanagh and South Tyrone by-election campaign ended in downpours of rain yesterday, and certainly not with a bang but more with a whimper.

In a constituency noted for its extraordinary high polls, there was little, if any, resemblance between this campaign and the traditional Nationalist versus Unionist battles of the past.

On the eve of polling I travelled from the offices of this rambling constituency to the other and found very little evidence of excitement or indeed interest. This must be one of the strangest election campaigns in the area.

First of all, by courtesy of the Westminster Parliament there was the inexplicable decision to stage the election in the middle of the August holidays with many people away on holidays. The public meetings drew very thin attendances and the publicity was of a decidedly meagre strain consisting mostly of small posters the size of handbills stuck on lamp posts and blank walls.

These were for Owen Carron the H-Block candidate and Unionist candidate Ken Maginlin.

A few cars with loud speakers speeded through village streets but before the people could come to their doors they were gone and the message, whatever it was, was left flowing in the wind.

Republican Clubs Workers Party candidate Tom Moore and Alliance Party man Seamus Close conducted quiet campaigns contenting themselves with door-to-door canvassing.

If it were not for the statements by political leaders on radio and television one could drive from Dungannon to the Fermanagh Lakes without being aware an election was on. And yet, the contest has attracted much outside attention.

The two candidates from England, Martin Green (Confine the Troops to Barracks) and Hal Ralsigh (peace candidate) have been described as the "ghost candidates". Apart from their election addresses it could be said they have been heard from a distance but not seen.

In a statement last night Mr. Carron, who was supported in a newspaper advertisement yesterday by Mr. Neil Blaney, MEP, Italian Mr. Mario Castella, MEP, and Mrs. Bernadette McAiskey, said the by-election had united the nationalist political forces in the area. He said he was confident he would win because of "massive support for the hunger strikers in the constituency."

FARMER SEEKS DOHERTY'S SEAT FOR FINE GAEL

By GERARD O'REGAN

A 46-YEAR-OLD local Protestant farmer is now practically certain to be the Fine Gael candidate in the pending Cavan-Monaghan by-election, which will have a vital bearing on the future of the present Government.

Last night Cllr. Robert Fausset was nominated as one of the "Taoiseach's Eleven" when the latest appointments to the Senate were announced. The by-election will be held as a result of the death of hunger striker Kieran Doherty, in a constituency where the Fianna Fail Party holds the majority.

Mr. Fausset, from Kildrough, Ballyjamesduff, who polled 6,875 first preference votes in the recent general election, is now the clear front runner for the party nomination as soon as the writ for this constituency is moved in the Dail. The constituency has a large Protestant vote and Mr. Fausset is particularly well-known in local agricultural circles.

The Labour Party was allocated four out of yesterday's 11 Senate seats and among the Taoiseach's seven nominees is former Governor of the Central Bank, who will not be required to accept the Party Whip.

Also included is Foreign Minister designate, Professor Jim Dooge, and it is clear that the other appointments were made with a view to "grooming" as many potential Dail candidates for the next election as was possible.

The appointment of Cllr. Ulick Burke in the Galway East constituency is clearly a reward for securing over 4,300 first preference votes in the recent election.

Following the constituency revisions, Fine Gael fortunes in the area have improved considerably and it is obvious that Senator Burke will now be chasing the seat held by Fianna Fail's Johnny Callanan, who is in his seventies.

Seanad muzzle on union chief

Continued from Page One

John O'Connell, may soon be prepared to vacate his seat in the Parliament. This would open the way for Mr. Horgan to be put forward as his replacement.

Mr. Dan Egan, of Fine Gael headquarters, revealed last night that the reason why general-secretary Peter Prendergast was not included in the Eleven was that he is "looking at a number of career options that would rule him out from becoming a Senator."

This means that Mr. Prendergast will be giving up the position as general-secretary.

Mr. Egan last night pointed out the emphasis on the role of youth and women in the Eleven—especially in the nomination of Miriam Kearney, the 22-year-old law graduate from Cork.

BIG TOM IS AGAIN KING OF COUNTRY

BIG TOM McBRIDE is back as King of country music.

After nine years without a number one record, the genial Castleblayney giant regained the mantle he held for two decades as Ireland's top country singer with his hit single, "Four Country Roads."

But the singer was not present last night at the official announcement of RTE Radio 2 awards in Dublin which named him as the favourite Irish male country singer. The shy Monaghanman, now nearing 40—had a recording commitment but promised through his manager, Kevin McCooey, to be present in Killarney next month for the presentation.

Big Tom's popularity has spanned over 20 years and his string of hits—including Gentle Mother, Love Letters and Broken Marriage Vows—have been danced to by two generations of dancers. After many years on the circuit Susan McCann kept ahead of keen competition to become favourite female singer in the country. And the incorrigible J.R. type character, T. R. Dallas, with three hits in the last year, was the winner of the favourite country album with "It's Hard to Be Humble."

The winners in each category were as follows: Favourite Irish male country singer of the year—Big Tom; Favourite Irish female country singer of the year—Susan McCann; Favourite Irish country band of the year—The Travellers; Favourite Irish country single of the year—"Old Fashioned Girl," by T. R. Dallas; Favourite Irish country duo of the year—Two is Company; Favourite new country act of the year—Grainne and the Strangers; Entertainer of the year—Brendan Shine; Hall of Fame award—Ray Lynam, Favourite international male country singer—Box Car Willie; Favourite international female country singer—Dolly Parton. All time favourite international song—Coward of the County, by Kenny Rogers.