

North package a sell-out, say loyalists

West to seek Faulkner resignation

INITIAL loyalist reaction last night to the Sunningdale agreement was along predictable lines, with the leader of the unpledged Unionists, Mr. Harry West saying he would start immediate moves to have Mr. Faulkner sacked as leader of the Unionist Party.

"I think Mr. Faulkner is in big trouble—his triumph will be short-lived," he said.

"I will be consulting the chairman of the Unionist Party about having a Unionist council meeting on January 1, with the aim of securing a majority to condemn Mr. Faulkner for committing us to these policies.

"The aim will be to remove him from the leadership," he said.

Mr. Faulkner had gone against Unionist policy in agreeing to a Council of Ireland having executive powers and not just being an advisory body.

Unionists would be a minority on the Council because the SDLP would line up with Dublin members, he said.

The suggestion that a general might cross into the North in a joint policing operation was interference in Northern affairs and was "quite repugnant," he said.

R.U.C. men would not be willing to cross South, said Mr. West. And he expressed doubt about trying criminals in the South for offences committed in the North because Northern witnesses would not be prepared to cross the Border.

Mr. John Taylor was equally firm in his rejection of the proposals. He described the pact as "scandalous" and "a major step towards Irish unity."

He complained the agreement maintained "the offensive clause in the Republic of Ireland's Constitution, which claims jurisdiction over Northern Ireland.

"It fails to provide for extradition of criminals from the Republic to Northern Ireland. It provides for the R.U.C. to become indirectly subject to influences from Dublin, and it gives executive powers to the proposed Council of Ireland.

"Every Ulster Unionist should reject this agreement now. I hope that in the interests of peace, Ulster people will not be denied a democratic opportunity to reject this agreement in the same way as Ulster loyalists were denied a place at the Sunningdale conference."

Rev. Ian Paisley and Mr. William Craig announced early today that they are to start an immediate campaign against the agreement. They would address rallies throughout Northern Ireland every night until Christmas.

Mr. Paisley said that the Republican Government had got everything they wanted and Mr. Faulkner had only got an agreement between Britain and Ireland that they recognised what had always been a fact—the right of the people of Northern Ireland to decide their own destiny.

"The time for resisting this

capitulation to Republicanism has come and the Loyalist Assembly men will spearhead the battle," he said.

East Belfast Vanguard Unionist Association said "the settlement was a further sellout by the Faulkner-led Republican Unionist Party to the SDLP.

"We wonder how Mr. Faulkner proposes to try and sell this to his remaining supporters. We believe we are much closer to a united Ireland than at any time in our history and we are convinced that the package deal can only be a recipe for civil war. Loyalists will not take this lying down," the statement said.

Prof. Kennedy Lindsay, whip of the Vanguard movement said the agreement "is the most shocking betrayal since the Nazi massacre in Warsaw. It cannot and will not be accepted.

"The fact that it is to be registered with the United Nations is worthless. The Northern Ireland Constitution of 1920 was also supposedly protected by the international agreement registered with the League of Nations in 1925," he said.

Capt. Austin Ardill, deputy leader of Vanguard, warned that true loyalists would not agree with Mr. Heath that the Irish Government had made a major concession on the issue of recognition of the North.

The unpledged Unionists said the agreement was a "half-way house to a united Ireland

because the Council of Ireland was in effect a parliament of Ireland and he was totally opposed to it.

"As a Unionist, I'm totally opposed to it: I'm utterly disgusted and greatly angered that this should have happened. There has been no talk of immediate extradition, yet there are at least 32 people down there across the Border wanted for crimes up here who cannot be brought back. It is a bad package for Unionists," he added.

The chairman of the New Ulster Movement, Mr. Brian Walker said: "Messrs. Faulkner, Fitt and Napier have done an excellent job. Protestant fears of a sell-out have been removed and Unionists can join with Nationalists and the rest of the community in building a secure and honourable political future for all our people.

"We look forward to friendly and co-operative relationships developing with the Irish Republic benefiting both communities," he said.

The Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, Mr. Francis Pym, said the agreement provided "the best prospect for future happiness and peace in both North and South."

Mr. Pym said: "I cannot help admiring the political courage and strength of character of the elected representatives who are of a mind to create conditions in which all sections of the community can look forward to brighter and calmer days.

"They have given a lead to the men and women of good will in Northern Ireland, who are the vast majority."

The leader of Aontacht Eireann, Mr. Kevin Boland, said the agreement was a sure formula for a future similar to the past 50 years and to the present.

"It is a cynical decision to deliberately revert to the pre-1937 position of a ratified boundary agreement taken by professional politicians who have a personal vested interest in the retention of the status quo of two separate States with two separate sets of institutions," he said.

The statement on the status of Northern Ireland is treachery to the Irish nation, said Mr. Boland.

Later last night Mr. Boland said he will seek legal advice today about the proposal to register yesterday's agreement at U.N. He thinks the Government have no power to do this as it is, he feels, a breach of Article 3 of the Constitution, and any change in the status of Northern Ireland can only be changed by a vote of the majority.

The chairman of the Irish Sovereignty Movement, Mr. M. O. Loinsigh, said the government was going to fully accept, by solemn declaration, the validity of the partition of Ireland. In return, the British government was maintaining the position which it had in 1920 giving the majority in the Six Counties the right to stay out of a united Ireland.

The president of Sinn Fein (Gardiner Place), Mr. Tomas Mace Giolla, said last night that both Belfast and Dublin had made some concessions to each other and to Britain, but that Britain had "conceded nothing."

"Mr. Liam Cosgrave, on behalf of Fine Gael and the Labour Party, has formally recognised the permanence of the British Partition solution and has agreed to register it in the United Nations as an international declaration of intent by the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, Executive of the British Government and the Northern Ireland Executive would nominate their representatives to a Council of Ministers. The Secretary General would be directed to proceed with the drawing up of plans for such headquarters. The Council of Ministers would also make arrangements for the recruitment of the staff of the Secretariat in a manner and on conditions which would, as far as is practicable, be consistent with those applying to public servants in the two administrations.

8. In the context of its harmonising functions and consultative role, the Council of Ireland would undertake important work relating, for instance, to the impact of EEC membership. As for Executive functions, the first step would be to define and agree these in detail. The conference therefore decided that in view of the administrative complexities involved, studies would at once be set in hand to identify and, prior to the formal stage of the conference, report on areas of common interest in relation to which a Council of Ireland would take executive decisions and in appropriate cases, be responsible for carrying those decisions into effect. In carrying out these studies, and also in determining what should be done by the Council in terms of harmonisation, the objectives to be borne in mind would include the following:

(1) To achieve the best



The Taoiseach, Mr. Cosgrave, shakes hands with the British Prime Minister, Mr. Heath, after signing the Council of Ireland agreement at Sunningdale last night.

Mr. Corish flies back



Mrs. Corish

The Tanaiste, Mr. Corish, made a sudden return home from the Sunningdale talks yesterday to see his wife, who had been taken ill in Wexford.

At Dublin airport he refused to comment on the discussions, but said he would not be returning to them as "they would be concluded before I could make it."

Great success says Heath

Tribute to delegations

THE BRITISH PREMIER, Mr. Heath, said at Sunningdale last night that the tripartite conference had ended "in success". "We have reached agreement on all the matters which were before us. This I regard as a very considerable achievement," he said.

"The first achievement was the statement by the Irish and British governments that the formal agreement would be registered at the United Nations and therefore have international status.

"The status of Northern Ireland will not be changed without the consent of the people of Northern Ireland.

"In the view of the British government, this is the first occasion on which the Irish government has made such a statement and given it international status."

Mr. Heath said the next achievement was in making the necessary arrangements for a Council of Ireland—"We have agreed about the constitution of the Council," he said.

"We can now institute the Council which will lead to much greater co-operation between North and South in all those matters which they feel are beneficial to them.

"We have also agreed on further co-operation between North and South to deal with criminal activities and men of violence.

"Both the British and Irish governments have expressed their determination to deal immediately with the problems which face both North and South in this respect."

Mr. Heath said the next achievement was in making the necessary arrangements for a Council of Ireland—"We have agreed about the constitution of the Council," he said.

"We can now institute the Council which will lead to much greater co-operation between North and South in all those matters which they feel are beneficial to them.

"We have also agreed on further co-operation between North and South to deal with criminal activities and men of violence.

"Both the British and Irish governments have expressed their determination to deal immediately with the problems which face both North and South in this respect."

Mr. Heath said the next achievement was in making the necessary arrangements for a Council of Ireland—"We have agreed about the constitution of the Council," he said.

"We can now institute the Council which will lead to much greater co-operation between North and South in all those matters which they feel are beneficial to them.

Policing issue caused delay

SDLP and Unionists clash

From AIDAN HENNIGAN and MICHAEL MILLS in SUNNINGDALE

DIFFERENCES on the vital issue of policing in Northern Ireland were behind the long delay in reaching an agreement at the tripartite talks in Sunningdale. The S.D.L.P. and Unionists appear to have had almost irreconcilable differences on the establishment of an acceptable police force throughout the North.

Mr. Faulkner held that the reformed RUC should be accepted by all, while the SDLP stuck to its argument that an acceptable police force was essential to the success of the political institutions and that the Council of Ireland must have a role to play. The arguments went backwards and forwards through Saturday, all night and through Sunday morning.

An adjournment was announced at eight o'clock yesterday morning until three in the afternoon and Mr. Heath went back to Chequers. Some of the politicians went off to bed while others went on with the discussions in committee groups.

At no time apparently, was the question of breaking up without a settlement considered a possibility. Everybody was determined to stay until a compromise had been hammered out.

The Saturday and Sunday discussions occupied the longest

continuous section of the marathon conference. From early Saturday morning until the announcement last night, discussions were going on continuously.

Early on Sunday morning agreement looked certain to be reached but a hitch arose again. Nobody would concede the necessary ground between the two opposing viewpoints.

At three p.m. yesterday Mr. Heath arrived from Chequers and the conference started again. For the third day running there was the hopeful forecast that agreement was possible inside two hours but as usual, nobody really believed it.

The discussions at Sunningdale were followed with intense interest by Britain's opposition parties, particularly by Mr. Wilson, the Labour Party leader and by Merlyn Rees, Labour's front-bench spokesman on Northern Ireland and Mr. Stanley Orme who was his junior spokesman.

Mr. Heath said the next achievement was in making the necessary arrangements for a Council of Ireland—"We have agreed about the constitution of the Council," he said.

"We can now institute the Council which will lead to much greater co-operation between North and South in all those matters which they feel are beneficial to them.

Talks end with historic pact

From page 1

was prepared to make a solemn declaration on this issue provided the British Government made a reciprocal declaration in relation to a united Ireland if in the future the people of the area indicated a wish for it.

The controversy over Articles 2 and 3 of the Constitution claiming jurisdiction over national territory did not apparently arise, and there was no major opposition from the Unionist Party, led by Mr. Faulkner, once the Irish Government had indicated its preparedness to enter into a solemn declaration on Northern Ireland's status.

Confusion

There was some confusion at the press conferences in relation to the matter of the Irish Government's undertaking to take "immediate and effective legal steps so that persons coming within their jurisdiction and accused of murder, however motivated, committed in Northern Ireland, will be brought to trial."

It was confirmed later that under the common law which at present exists in Ireland and in Britain, it is possible to charge people alleged to have committed murder in the areas of these islands relating to the crime of murder.

It would have been possible at any time in the past to charge people accused of murder in the area of their arrest either in the Republic, Northern Ireland or Britain, but apparently the need never arose.

The Irish Government have now undertaken that in future people accused of murder in Northern Ireland will be charged and brought before the courts in the South if they are arrested within the area of jurisdiction of the Irish Government.

This undertaking will not apply to persons against whom warrants for murder have already been issued in Northern Ireland and who are opposing extradition on political grounds. The Government's attitude is that it would be oppressive to apply the legislation to people already seeking the decision of the courts against extradition. It will apply only to the crime of murder in the future.

Covered

In the meantime, a scheduled list of offences, including murder, will be drawn up by legal experts to apply in the proposed Common Law enforcement area whenever it comes into operation.

The crime of murder is being included as a tidying-up process in the law, although strictly speaking, according to the legal experts, it is not necessary to do this as the crime is covered by existing law.

It is surprising, in view of earlier speculation, how relatively easy it was for the conference to get certain issues out of the way at an early stage. It was thought the British Government might find it difficult to accept that more British finance should be put into Northern Ireland to help the Council of Ireland to carry out its functions.

Instead, the British Government seems to have responded favourably and quickly to the Irish Government's proposals that the Council should be funded by grants from the two governments.

An estimate of the amount to be provided is not clear, but there seems to be general acceptance that it will require a substantial amount of money to carry out the projects now proposed to be drawn up in consultation between the two governments.

Britain will not be involved as a participant in the Council of Ireland, but arrangements will be made to safeguard her interests in her financial involvement in Northern Ireland. Mr. Heath will make a statement on the agreement in the House of Commons today, while Mr. Cosgrave will make a statement in the Dail tomorrow, and is expected to be followed by the leader of the Opposition, Mr. Lynch.

The president of Sinn Fein (Gardiner Place), Mr. Tomas Mace Giolla, said last night that both Belfast and Dublin had made some concessions to each other and to Britain, but that Britain had "conceded nothing."

"Mr. Liam Cosgrave, on behalf of Fine Gael and the Labour Party, has formally recognised the permanence of the British Partition solution and has agreed to register it in the United Nations as an international declaration of intent by the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, Executive of the British Government and the Northern Ireland Executive would nominate their representatives to a Council of Ministers. The Secretary General would be directed to proceed with the drawing up of plans for such headquarters. The Council of Ministers would also make arrangements for the recruitment of the staff of the Secretariat in a manner and on conditions which would, as far as is practicable, be consistent with those applying to public servants in the two administrations.

8. In the context of its harmonising functions and consultative role, the Council of Ireland would undertake important work relating, for instance, to the impact of EEC membership. As for Executive functions, the first step would be to define and agree these in detail. The conference therefore decided that in view of the administrative complexities involved, studies would at once be set in hand to identify and, prior to the formal stage of the conference, report on areas of common interest in relation to which a Council of Ireland would take executive decisions and in appropriate cases, be responsible for carrying those decisions into effect. In carrying out these studies, and also in determining what should be done by the Council in terms of harmonisation, the objectives to be borne in mind would include the following:

(1) To achieve the best

Full text of the communique

From page 1

would consist of 60 members from the Dail chosen by the Dail on the basis of proportional representation by the single transferable vote, and 30 members from the Northern Ireland Assembly chosen by that Assembly and also on that basis. The member of the Consultative Assembly would be paid allowances.

There would be a Secretariat to the Council, which would be kept as small as might be commensurate with efficiency in the operation of the Council. The Secretariat would service the institutions of the Council and would, under the Council of Ministers, supervise the carrying out of the executive and harmonising functions and the consultative role of the Council. The Secretariat would be headed by a Secretary-General.

Following the appointment of a Northern Ireland Executive of the Irish Government and the Northern Ireland Executive would nominate their representatives to a Council of Ministers. The Secretary General would be directed to proceed with the drawing up of plans for such headquarters. The Council of Ministers would also make arrangements for the recruitment of the staff of the Secretariat in a manner and on conditions which would, as far as is practicable, be consistent with those applying to public servants in the two administrations.

8. In the context of its harmonising functions and consultative role, the Council of Ireland would undertake important work relating, for instance, to the impact of EEC membership. As for Executive functions, the first step would be to define and agree these in detail. The conference therefore decided that in view of the administrative complexities involved, studies would at once be set in hand to identify and, prior to the formal stage of the conference, report on areas of common interest in relation to which a Council of Ireland would take executive decisions and in appropriate cases, be responsible for carrying those decisions into effect. In carrying out these studies, and also in determining what should be done by the Council in terms of harmonisation, the objectives to be borne in mind would include the following:

(1) To achieve the best

utilisation of scarce skills, expertise and resources; (2) To avoid, in the quests of economy and efficiency, unnecessary duplication of effort; and (3) To ensure complementary rather than competitive effort where this is to the advantage of agriculture, commerce and industry.

Identifying

In particular, these studies would be directed to identifying, for the purposes of executive action by the Council of Ireland, suitable aspects of activities in the following broad fields:

(a) Exploitation, conservation and development of natural resources and the environment;

(b) Agricultural matters (including agricultural research, animal health and operational aspects of the Common Agricultural Policy), forestry and fisheries;

(c) Co-operative ventures in the fields of trade and industry;

(d) Electricity generation;

(e) Tourism;

(f) Roads and transport;

(g) Advisory services in the field of public health;

(h) Sport, culture and the arts.

It would be for the Oireachtas and the Northern Ireland Assembly to legislate from time to time as to the extent of functions to be devolved to the Council of Ireland. Where necessary, the British Government will co-operate in this devolution of functions. Initially, the functions to be vested would be those identified in accordance with the procedures set out above and decided, at the formal stage of the conference, to be transferred.

Revenue

9. (1) During the initial period following the establishment of the Council, the revenue of the Council would be provided by means of grants from the two administrations in Ireland towards agreed projects and budgets, according to the nature of the service involved.

(2) It was also agreed that further studies would be put in hand forthwith and completed as soon as possible of methods of financing the Council after the initial period which would be consistent with the responsibilities and functions assigned to it.

(3) It was agreed that the

Council of Ireland would be shared equally, and other services would be financed broadly in proportion to where expenditure or benefit accrues.

(4) The amount of money required to finance the Council's activities will depend upon the functions assigned to it from time to time.

(5) While Britain continues to pay subsidies to Northern Ireland, such payments would not involve Britain participating in the Council, it being accepted nevertheless that it would be legitimate for Britain to safeguard in an appropriate way her financial involvement in Northern Ireland.

Jurisdiction

10. It was agreed by all parties that persons committing crimes of violence, however motivated, in any part of Ireland, should be brought to trial irrespective of the part of Ireland in which they are located. The concern which large sections of the people of Northern Ireland felt about this problem was in particular forcefully expressed by the representatives of the Unionists and Alliance parties. The representatives of the Irish Government fully shared this concern.

Different ways of solving this problem were discussed. Among them were the amendment of legislation operating in the two jurisdictions on extradition, the creation of a common law enforcement area in which an all-Ireland court would have jurisdiction, and the extension of the jurisdiction of domestic courts so as to enable them to try offences committed outside this jurisdiction.

It was agreed that problems of considerable legal complexity were involved, and that the British and Irish Governments would jointly set up a commission to consider all the proposals put forward at the Conference and to recommend as a matter of urgency the most effective means of dealing with those who commit these crimes. The Irish Government undertook to take immediate and effective legal steps so that persons coming within their jurisdiction and accused of murder, however motivated, committed in Northern Ireland, will be brought to trial, and it was agreed that any similar reciprocal action that may be needed in Northern Ireland be

taken by the appropriate authorities.

11. It was agreed that the Council would be invited to consider in what way the principles of the European Convention on Human Rights and fundamental freedoms would be expressed in domestic legislation in each part of Ireland. It would recommend whether further legislation or the creation of other institutions, administrative or judicial, is required in either part or embracing the whole island to provide additional protection in the field of human rights. Such recommendations could include the functions of an ombudsman or commissioner for complaints, or other arrangements of a similar nature which the Council of Ireland might think appropriate.

12. The Conference also discussed the question of policing and the need to ensure public support for and identification with the police service throughout the whole community. It was agreed that no single set of proposals would achieve these aims overnight, and that time would be necessary.

The Conference expressed the hope that the wide range of agreement had been reached, and the consequent formation of a power-sharing executive, would make a major contribution to the creation of an atmosphere throughout the community where there would be widespread support for and identification with all the institutions of Northern Ireland.

Devolution

13. It was broadly accepted that the two parts of Ireland are, to a considerable extent, inter-dependent in the whole field of law and order and that the problems of political violence and identification with the police service cannot be solved without taking account of that fact.

Accordingly, the British Government stated that as soon as the security problems were resolved and the new institutions were seen to be working effectively, they would wish to discuss the devolution of responsibility for normal policing and how this might be achieved with the Northern Ireland Executive and the police.

15. With a view to improving policing throughout the island and the development of community identification with and support for, the police services,

the Governments concerned will co-operate under the auspices of a Council of Ireland through their respective police authorities. To this end, the Irish Government would set up a police authority, appointments to which would be made after consultation with the Council of Ministers of the Council of Ireland. In the case of the Northern Ireland Police Authority, appointments would be made after consultation with the Northern Ireland Executive, which would consult with the Council of Ministers of the Council of Ireland. When the two police authorities are constituted, they will make their own arrangements to achieve the objectives set out above.

Detainees

16. An independent complaints procedure for dealing with complaints against the police will be set up.

17. The Secretary of State for Northern Ireland will set up an all party committee from the Assembly to examine how best to introduce effective policing throughout Northern Ireland, with particular reference to the need to achieve public identification with the police.

18. The Conference took note of a reaffirmation by the British Government of their firm commitment to attention to an end in Northern Ireland for all sections of the Community, as soon as the security situation permits, and noted also that the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland hopes to be able to bring into use his statutory powers of selective release in time for a number of detainees to be released before Christmas.

19. The British Government stated that, in the light of the decisions reached at the Conference, they would seek the authority of Parliament to devolve full powers to the Northern Ireland Executive and Northern Ireland Assembly as soon as possible. The formal appointment of the Northern Ireland Executive would then be made.

20. The Conference agreed that a formal conference would be held early in the New Year at which the British and Irish Governments and the Northern Ireland Executive would meet together to consider reports of the studies which have been commissioned and to sign the agreement reached.

DEATHS

SUNNINGDALE—(Continued from page 1) December 8, 1973. At the Health Hospital, Elizabeth, beloved wife of the late William Binnery, 83, Co. Wick. Mrs. Binnery, deeply respected by her sorrowing sons and daughters, and her daughters-in-law, grandchildren, relatives and friends. Remains to be removed this (Monday) evening to the Augustinian Church, Thomas Street, at 8.15 p.m. Burial at 10 o'clock tomorrow (Tuesday) after 10 o'clock Mass to Mount Jerome Cemetery.

M.H. POOLS
 44 O'Connell St., Dublin 1
 ★ STAR PRIZE ★
 by MR. HUTCHINSON
 c/o Lucky Duffin
 148 Parnell St., Dublin.