

I.R.A. STATES ITS CASE ON CAMPUS

"The civil war in Ireland is not a religious struggle but a class struggle and the British troops are in Ireland only to protect British investments," said Sean Kenny. The North American representative of the Irish Republican Army (I.R.A.) was speaking Thursday in the SUB on "The truth about the Irish Events."

The out-lawed I.R.A. is a working class movement. It is aimed at organizing trade unions and in encouraging people to fight for their rights.

The I.R.A. wants to replace both the Northern and Southern governments with a democratic socialist government. At the same time it is well aware that the way to organize a revolution

is among the poor, not among the rich.

Kenny said that under the Special Powers Act in Northern Ireland the authorities are empowered to arrest people without warrants, imprison them without charge or trial, deny recourse to habeas corpus or a court of law, and to enter and search houses with force and without warrant any time of the day or night. Authorities are even empowered to permit punishment by flogging. The Act further empowers the government to arrest a person who by "word of mouth" spreads false reports or false statements, prohibit the circulation of any newspaper or arrest a person who does

anything "calculated to prejudicial to the preservation of peace or maintenance of order in Northern Ireland, and not specifically provided for in the regulations."

Kenny said that these powers are significant because they are similar to conditions under the War Measures Act declared in Canada a year ago.

Kenny stressed that his group is not involved in religious sectarian warfare and deplored the fact that a break away group of extremists (Provisional I.R.A.) had bombed and injured working people. He said this religious warfare would set back the hopes of the I.R.A. whose policy is to defend the working people. The Provisional Army

demands that the I.R.A. drop socialist policies, involving itself by force only in the North.

The I.R.A. is demanding only that the British renounce sovereignty over Irish territories and that they end the internment without trial and torture of prisoners.

In conclusion Kenny said he did not expect a blood bath in Ireland. If a peace keeping force is needed the I.R.A. will support a force supplied by Protestant Catholic workers from the trade union movement. "River by river, farm by farm, city by city, we will continue our fight until we are master of our own homeland," he declared.



I.R.A.'s Sean Kenny

by Harold Moore

Students' Union budget passed with maximum confusion

With the not unexpected wrangling and debate, the final Students' Union budget for April, 1971 to March 1972 was passed at last night's council meeting.

Council approved in principle a break-even budget. A decrease in enrollment and the previous council's deficit budget make it highly desirable that this council not lose money.

The first major revision to the budget was a decrease in the amount allotted for executive salaries. This means that the SU executive will not receive the \$50 per month raises given them at a previous meeting. The raises will be postponed until there is a new executive.

SU president Don McKenzie said that the money saved should be re-allocated to communications. This, he said, was a higher priority as the media already on campus does not provide effective communication.

McKenzie said that the deferment of salary raises had been unanimously accepted by the executive. McKenzie said that consideration had been given to allocating \$25 to \$50 to each councillor to spend on leaflets or posters with which to communicate with his or her constituents. McKenzie also mentioned the possibility of a handbook telling how the Union's money is being spent, as well as a newsletter or paid advertising.

The budget created two new positions in the Students' Union bureaucracy. It provided salaries for two paid full-time permanent executive secretaries — one for Students' Council and one for the academic affairs board.

These individuals would provide continuity from one year to the next in council and would do research for student reps. Treasurer Frans Slatter said that the need for such

continuity arises from the fact that General Faculties Council or any other university authority can kick an issue around for a year and then drop it. By the time a commission reports to GFC, nobody in the Students' Union remembers it.

Academic vice-president, Dave Biltek said, "precious little money is spent on representing the students on the University councils, where it really counts." GFC student reps presently have no information except that provided by the administration, he said.

"Information is power," said McKenzie and this "is heavily weighted in favor of the university." GFC has a secretariat of over fifteen persons.

Secretary Vera Radio expressed consternation over the fact that the Day Care Commission portion of the budget was capitalized — that is that the deficit on it would have to be re-paid to the Students' Union. Radio said that she had been under the impression that money spent by council on the center would not have to be repaid. Slatter replied that it had been clear that the commission was to operate on a break even budget.

Radio said that the center would need \$8000 from sources other than the provincial government as it was, and it would be difficult to pay back the \$73 per year for ten years that council required.

However, an amendment by Miss Radio to de-capitalize this portion of the budget failed for lack of a seconder.

Another source of dispute among councillors was the \$6000 grant fund. The grant fund is the source from which money is drawn for projects

undertaken by SU clubs and deemed worthy by council.

Law rep and finance board member Gerry Riskin said that far more worthy projects are brought before council than could possibly be covered by \$6000. He labelled this sum "ludicrous".

Arts rep Barry McClaren lashed an executive elected on a services platform that was unwilling to offer more than \$6,000 for club projects.

McClaren's motion to double the size of the grant fund was defeated after heated debate. The Executive blamed the previous council for the necessity of keeping the fund to \$6,000 and McClaren and Ed rep Wendy Yurchuk (both of whom served on last year's Council) blamed the Executive.

A \$600 increase in Radio CKSR's budget and a \$200 increase in the Union's conference fund did pass as budget amendments however. These left Council with \$800 to cut from another section of the budget. Slatter moved that the money be deducted from the Women's Week budget. He said if the organizers for the event needed more money, they could get it from the Forums' budget which is helping to organize the event. Coordinator Doug Black said that the Forums' budget was very tight and could not be cut or used for Women's Week.

The motion to slash the Women's Week budget was defeated.

The \$800 deficit was avoided by postponing the hiring of permanent secretaries.

The budget passed as amended with 18 in favour, 3 opposed, and 2 abstentions.

by Bob Blair

Gateway Staff meeting

3:30 pm Thursday Nov. 18

SUB theatre lobby

Public more than welcome

Quebec general strike???

Montreal (CUPI)

The first general strike in the history of the Quebec labor movement maybe called within the next ten days.

At a special meeting Saturday, called to plan strategy in the four-month old La Presse conflict, 300 delegates to the Montreal Central Council of the Confederation of National Trade Unions, voted by an overwhelming majority in favor of a motion to launch plans for the strike.

Unless there is a break in the management-labor stalemate at the power corporation-owned daily newspaper, the CNTU's 70,000 Montreal members will almost certainly walk off their jobs for a period of between one hour and one day.

CNTU leaders have contacted Quebec's two other large trade unions centrals, Quebec Federation of Labor and the Quebec Teachers' Corporation, in an attempt to have them join in the work stoppage. QFL president Louis Laberge said it was possible some of the unions affiliated with his organization would participate. "It will be up to them to decide on the grass roots level," he added.

Quebec Teachers' Corporation President, Yvan Charbonneau said his central was "very seriously" studying the idea of general strike. "We might well recommend such a strike for a duration of at least an hour, but it will be up to the

individual unions, at the base, to decide."

Plans set in motion at the CNTU's Saturday meeting call for general assemblies of all CNTU-affiliated unions to be held this week. The assemblies would discuss the idea of a general strike and decide exactly what form it should take. Strategy committees will be formed and the assemblies will report back to the CNTU Central by Friday On Tuesday November 23, the leaders and most active members of the Paul Sauve arena of the individual unions will come together for a giant meeting at the Paul Sauve Arena and the strike will likely begin shortly thereafter.

The latest management offer relayed to the unions by Quebec Labor Minister Jean Cournoyer contains one major concession but many difficult issues remain unresolved and the unions are far from being convinced of power corporation's good faith.

The new offer would give job security to the four "legally locked-out" unions. The threat of layoffs due to technological change was the main issue in the dispute with these unions, all of which are affiliated with the QFL.

The 11 unions have formed a common front and have agreed that no union will return to work until the grievances of each union have been settled.