

1974

Report from AGM, Pearse Cumann, Sinn Fein

Sinn Fein

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Spoken. → spell out.

At the AGM of the Pearse Cumann, Sinn Fein, held last night, Eric O'Broin, chairman, said that although 1974 ~~xxxxx~~ had been a year of political and economic crisis, it is ^{qualifying} ~~justifying~~ to report that increased progress of the cumann over the year.

"1974 was a year which saw the continuation of the Provisional Alliance anti-civilian bombing campaign and their Christmas truce. It saw the ^{SA} National Wage Agreements, redundancies, ^{and} 90,000 workers on the dole. We ^{saw} ~~xxxxxx~~ the beginning of the sell out of our ~~xxxxxx~~ resources by ^{Mr.} Justin Keating when he took only a 25% equity share for the state in Bula Mines. We witnessed the blackmailing tactics by the hospital consultants who forced Mr. Brendan ~~Covish~~ to shelve his free hospitalisation plans, and Mr. Richie Ryan likewise submitted to the lobbying pressures of the industrialists, rancher/farmers, speculators and landlords when he passed the farcical "wealth tax." ^{SD}

"Despite the usurpation of the name Sinn Fein by the Provisional Alliance, the ~~g~~ ^growing strength of our cumann is seen by the political education ~~xxxxxx~~ and the deeper awareness of economic and political issues. Above all, we have strengthened our commitment to the building of a thirty-two county ^{democratic} socialist republic. The Pearse Cumann membership has continued to grow ~~xxxx~~ proving ~~false~~ the much publicised statements of the recently formed I.R.S.P.

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"Alongside our internal growth is the proven electoral growth that ~~was made over the last year's~~ general election. Peigin Doyle, our cumann condadate in the Local Government Election held in June, gained % of the poll, an increase of ~~%.~~ ~~xxxx~~ The fact that we have gained most of our support at the expense of the Labour Party is proof that the electorate has recognized the need for a principled party fighting on socialist issues.

"Unlike members of established political parties who suddenly make their appearance to the public only at election time, and who after the elections are over, just as suddenly disappear, our presence was felt throughout the year. While Gerard Brady, recently elected Finna Fail Councillor for this area, might think that collecting and recycling old newspapers is what the electorate expects of him, Sinn Fein, standing by its pledge, has worked ~~daily~~ continually ^{in the area.} Every workingclass home ~~in the cumann area~~ has received our leaflets on "Prices and the EEC," and "Who Owns our Natural Resources?" ~~and~~ ^{It now has "Fearless Legal Rights"} ~~and~~ ^{and} Dublin Six, our local community magazine, has