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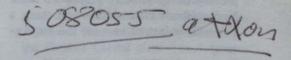
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# hungry man, reach for the book: it is a weapon

Bertolt Brecht



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## STUDIES IN POLITICAL ECONOMY

This series of detailed economic studies began in September 1974 with the publication of *The Great Irish Oil and Gas Robbery*. A further four titles have since been published. The series marks a significant development in Irish politics and is the result of the most precise and extensive economic research undertaken by any political party in this country. An important aspect of the series is that it demystifies political economy, strips it of the jargon of financial journalism and shifts economic debate to the shop-floor. The series is written by the Research Section of Sinn Fein's Department of Economic Affairs.

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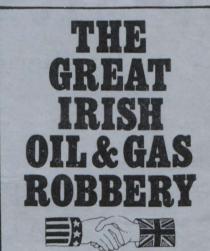
Such a plan is dependent on full State control of Irish oil and gas and on the massive expansion of existing State Companies.

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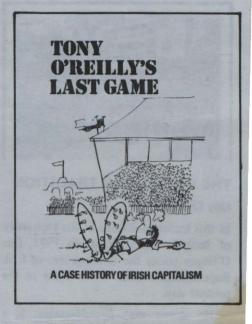
O'Reilly, the returned Yank, shot to the top of the Irish financial charts by applying the American code to Irish business. With the assistance of financial journalists, he cultivated a climate of success of which the greatest symbol was the Fitzwilton empire. Tipped by *Time* magazine as a future Taoiseach, O'Reilly was dubbed 'The Golden Boy'.

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He describes how the development of class politics in Ireland was retarded by the activities of the Provisional Alliance and other sectarian groupings. These activities opened the door to opportunist politicians who regained the leadership of a working-class sickened and terrorised by bombings, sectarian killings and repression

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He shows that Republicanism is a philosophy distinct from, but linked to the major progressive movements throughout the world. He further shows that it is far removed from the philosophy of reactionary and sectarian organisations which claim to be Republican. True Republicanism, Des O'Hagan asserts, is separatist, it is secular, it is socialist and it is internationalist.

Des O'Hagan, a native of Belfast and former Senior Lecturer in Sociology at Stranmillis College, is Editor of the *United Irishman*. He is author of the widely acclaimed 'Letters from Long Kesh' published by *The Irish Times* during 1971/72.

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