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Reference Code: 2001/6/522

Title: Pamphlet issued by Patricia McCluskey, chairman of the Campaign for Social Justice in Northern Ireland, urging voters in the British general election to vote for the Labour or Liberal parties.

Creation Date(s): June, 1970

Level of description: Item

Extent and medium: 1 page

Creator(s): Department of the Taoiseach

Access Conditions: Open

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CAMPAIGN FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE IN NORTHERN IRELAND

CASTLEFIELDS,

DUNGANNON, NORTHERN IRELAND.

June 1970

Dear Sir or Madam,

NORTHERN IRELAND AND YOU.

I am appealing to the Irish, and to all fair minded people in Great Britain, to use their vote in the General Election to ensure that the work of reform in Northern Ireland shall not be brought to a halt, which is what will happen if the Conservatives are returned to power.

For 50 years Northern Ireland has been controlled by the Unionist Party, whose representatives at Westminster have on all occasions allied themselves with the Conservative Party. Over the years appeals to Conservative Governments for social justice for Northern Ireland have been ignored. The warnings of this Campaign in the early Sixties of the imminence of civil strife, and direct appeals to the Tory leaders, including Sir Alex Douglas Home, Lord Butler, Lord Brooke and others, to do something about it, fell upon ears that did not wish to hear. Why should they change with 12 Tory-Unionist "Ulster" seats at Westminster safely in their pocket? Nor has the Tory attitude changed. On the 17th April 1970 Mr. Quintin Hogg was advising that Stormont be not pushed too hard!

When the storm broke in 1968, fortunately for Northern Ireland's Catholic minority, a Labour Government was in power. This Government has forced reforms upon the Unionist Government, activated by such good friends of ours as Paul Rose, M.P., Stan Orme, M.P., Reg. Freeson, M.P., Kevin McNamara, M.P., Ben Whitaker, M.P., Dr. Maurice Miller, M.P., Hugh Jenkins, M.P., John Ryan, M.P., and scores of other Labour M.P.'s and by Liberal M.P.'s led by Jeremy Thorpe, M.P. Jo Grimond M.P. and Eric Lubbock, M.P. who have also campaigned on our behalf for many years. The Labour Government was ready to take action to protect the minority from the worst excesses of the Orange programmists in August and October of last year. If the Conservatives had been in power past experience indicates that the Unionist and Paisleyite hordes would have been given a free hand to carry out their "final solution" in true Nazi fashion of the Catholic minority "problem" in Northern Ireland.

I am appealing therefore to all Irish and British people who are concerned with the implementation of human rights in Northern Ireland to support Labour and Liberal candidates who have shown by their actions that they can be depended upon to complete, when returned to office, the unfinished work of democratising Northern Ireland.

As one who lives in this unhappy statelet, under the direct protection of British soldiers, **I assure you we will all rest easier with Harold Wilson back in No. 10**

Yours sincerely,

(Mrs.) Patricia McCluskey (Chairman)

For THE CAMPAIGN FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE IN NORTHERN IRELAND