

Stalinist Enemies of the Celtic League

The quaintly named B & ICO self-styled communists are an interesting example of the propensity of the extreme left to gyrations leaving them on the side of the right. By radical sounding exertions and neo-marxian semantics they end up endorsing the status quo.

Since they endorse the English Imperialist Supremacist attitude they deny the nationality of the unfree celtic nations within the United Kingdom. And being obsessed with the anglophone "thing" they don't comment on the situation in Breizh.

They are also the most assiduous peddlers of the "Two-Nations Theory" (revived) in Ireland and this might lead some to regard them as "nationalists" of a type. They are in fact, of their own admission, anti-national and virulently so. But as they admitted lately they were ignorant of the fact that the 'two nations theory' is old hat. They seem to be also ignorant of the fact that their model, Stalin — in his victory speech — celebrated the role of Russian nationalism in resisting German aggression and invasion in World War II.

Cymru and Alba are, of course, not nations in their eyes — they have even published a pamphlet to "prove" this theory as regards Cymru. That upwards of 70 per cent of the people in these countries designate themselves as Welsh or Scot is of no importance apparently. In 1970 Richard Rose published his pamphlet *The United Kingdom as a Multi-National State* (Strathclyde, 50p) and on p10 produced figures as to what the inhabitants of these countries think of themselves as. In Glasgow 1 per cent thought of themselves as Welsh; 4 per cent did not know or were mixed; 29 per cent claimed British nationality while 67 per cent asserted themselves as Scottish. In Wales 1 per cent were Irish; 13 per cent English, 1 per cent Scottish; 15 per cent British and 69 per cent Welsh. As Rose says "Even though the law does not recognise the status of Scottish or Welsh nationality, the residents of these lands subjectively assert this as their primary identification, when asked to choose from a wealth of alternatives." But then facts which cannot be strained through the eye of their pre-conceptions are ignored by the British and Irish "Stalinists".

One of their members was huffing and puffing, about the concept of "Ulster", in *The Welsh Nation* recently. Perhaps he should look at the map of Ireland depicting "The Historic Fifths" opposite P.1 of Michael Dolley's recent volume (in the Gill History of Ireland series) *Anglo-Norman Ireland*. Michael Dolley teaches medieval history at Queen's University, Belfast and his map offers no consolation to the BICO correspondent of *The Welsh Nation*: it may not put the quietus on his huffing but it puts the caidhpl bhais on his "thesis".

They also endorsed the Fianna Fáil establishment's closure of the Dún Chaoin school in the Munster Gaeltacht — something one might have thought to be at odds with their ghetto or reservationist thesis about the Irish language — one wonders by what shifts they will get around to celebrating its opening by the new National Coalition Government in Dublin.