

solution to the problem. On the other hand the North has more than its share of skilled and realistic politicians. Faced with the near-certainty of independence they may be able to draw the political lines in new places. For some time now, of course, there have been contacts between Official Sinn Fein and militant Protestant working-class groups and there are now some signs of genuine discussion across the floor of the Convention. There may still just be time for the British to go leaving behind a relatively peaceful Irish state with real certainty of civil rights for Catholics, without a native machine of repression to replace the old foreign one and with the possibility of the growth of a working-class movement centred on real interests and not bemused by ranting clergymen. It is possible, but a good deal less possible than it was four years ago. There is no other way out of chaos.

H.McC.

### THE PRICE OF *NEW BLACKFRIARS*

The cost of printing and distributing *New Blackfriars* has, of course, risen sharply. We have been obliged to ask the English Dominican Province to help us this year to pay our bills. This, for us, is a sign that our price is too low, just as a profit would indicate that our price is too high. From September, therefore, we shall have to:

1. Raise the price of each issue by 5p to 40p.
2. Ask postal subscribers to pay for all twelve of their copies each year instead of only eleven as at present. They will still, however, receive them post-free (a saving of nearly £1). So the new annual subscription will be £4.80—there will have to be similar increases for subscribers overseas.

(You will still be able to have an extra year at the old rate (£3.90 or \$12.50) if you send us this amount before September 1st—regardless of when the renewal of your subscription falls due.)

We reckon that these measures will keep us solvent provided that all our present subscribers stay with us and others keep coming in at a normal rate.

If you want to help us, remember that the best thing you can do is to find a new subscriber.

The Manager.