back in hospital

The television reporter Roger Cook is undergoing tests for head injuries after a car crash

on the M6 near Birmingham. The 39-year-old Cook Report presenter was discharged from the city's general hospital on Saturday but later admitted to the Priory | time. Hospital, Edgbaston, where he was described as stable.

Cheese helps fight cancer

Raw fruit and vegetables and hard cheese such as Cheddar can protect against lung cancer, say doctors writing in the journal of the US National Cancer Institute.

They said hard cheese contains substances that have been found to be powerful anti-tumour agents.

Man charged with abduction

Brian Williams, 42, of Buxton Court, Rhyl, north Wales, has been charged with abduction after an eight-year-old girl was snatched from Oakington school, near Cambridge, on Friday.

Williams, who also faces charges of assaulting a teacher and a girl pupil, will appear before Cambridge magistrates today.

Prison charge

A former assistant prison governor, Trevor Anthony Phipps, 48, is to appear at Avon North court, near Bristol, today charged with dishonestly receiving inducements to show favour to inmates at Leyhill open jail.

Strike ballot

College lecturers are to be balloted on strike action over proposals to impose longer hours and shorter holidays. Negotiations broke down last month when employers rejected counter proposals.

Coma man dies

A 24-year-old man known as patient S died in Cossham stop feeding him.

Fire kills two

lin yesterday.

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Reporter Cook HE Bates and the doodlebugs of June

By Robert Bedlow

A WARTIME manuscript by H E Bates, giving his account of the effects of the V1 flying bombs and V2 rockets falling on London and the south, is to be published for the first

The 30,000-word story fell victim to the 30-year secrecy rule because it was "too sensitive". But it has been rediscovered in the Public Records Office at Kew, 20 was lifted.

Bates, who died in 1974 aged 68, wrote it under the pseudonym Flying Officer X when he was commissioned by the Air Ministry as a flight lieutenant to write short stories about aircrew in the Second World War.

He was also asked by the Government to tell the story of the V1 and V2, their con-

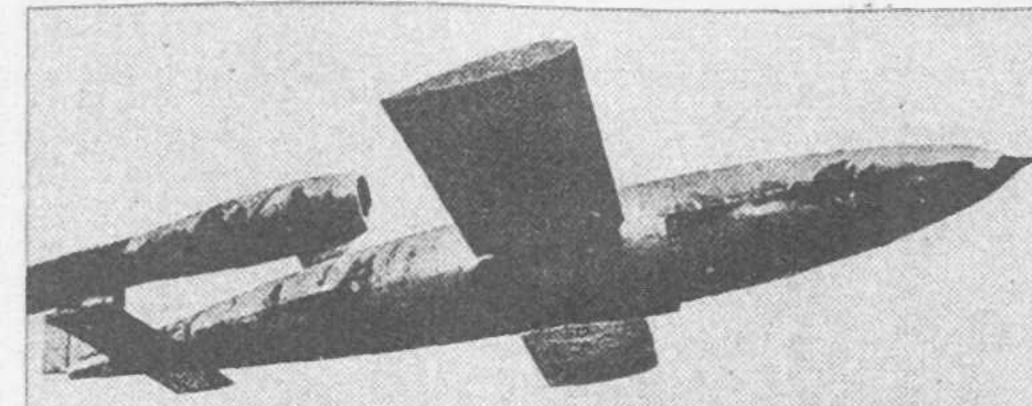
cept, development, launching sites and indiscriminate

With his novelist's eye he turned what would have been a sterile civil service project into a vivid pen portrait of a frightening phase in England's history.

Hitler's secret weapons killed nearly 8,000 people between June 1944 and the end of the war.

From the same fields in the Kent Weald, later to be the years after the official ban backdrop for his famous Darling Buds of May, he described the new doodlebug flying bombs as they droned overhead bringing death and destruction.

Living on RAF stations, and drinking in local pubs he page book in June. produced a memorable



Hitler's secret weapon: a doodlebug on its way

country and America.

France, a best-seller in this the doodlebugs and rockets, said: "It was too sensitive to the dart poised in their hand It also provided him with print at the time. A number ready to throw at the saloon the insight for his manu- of Government departments script on the effects of the were involved, including the flying bomb and the V2, War Office and Home Secuwhich the author's family, rity. They were worried who hold the copyright, say about the effects on people, never knew if they would see attending flight briefings, can be published in a 160- and also information being given to other nations anx-Mr Bob Ogley, 54, a Kent ious to join the ballistic mis- land will be published by series of RAF stories. This publisher, who discovered sile race. It is a remarkable Froglets Publications on knowledge formed the basis the manuscript while piece of work." During the June 3 - 50 years after the

plotted leaving France. Of these 2,419 fell on London, 1,444 on Kent, 400 on Essex. 800 on Sussex, 200 on Surrey and 80 on Hampshire.

This is how Bates in 1945 described the effect on the people of Kent:

"They saw the monuments and landmarks of centuries go down in dust. They never knew from one moment to another whether the meal they were eating, the glass of beer they were drinking, or bar board might be their last. "They said goodbye to

their children as they went to school in the morning and them again." Flying Bombs Over Eng-

for Fair Stood the Wind for researching his own book on V1 and V2 era, 9,000 were first V1 appeared over Kent.

THE THING THAT AIN'T QUITE HUMAN

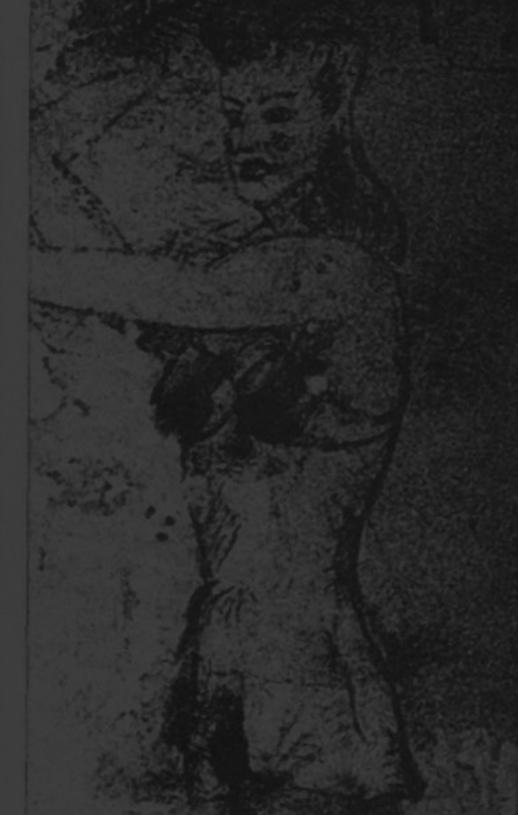
How Chapter One of the HE Bates manuscript begins:

ON THE night of June 12 1944, six days after the invasion of France, there appeared over southern England a new object in the sky. It dashed northward like a flaming meteor over the rich hayfields and ripening cherry orchards of Kent, startled even the warhardened citizens of that county into leaping out of bed and watching its fiery passage across the midsummer sky, caused a company of staid nightduty policemen at Maidstone to stand and cheer like schoolboys, under the mistaken impression that a German

aircraft was on fire, and

finally landed on a bridge at Bethnal Green, London. Next morning the British public knew no more about it than it could read into a dry communique recording that a single enemy raider had been shot down over the London area. But in official places ... there was no illusion about the fact that this, at last, was the Hitler secret weapon, long trumpeted and long expected; the pilotless flying bomb, "the thing", as a Cockney lady afterwards commented, "that ain't quite human", the Wellsian dream of robot flying power come

Breakthrough: a wartime picture of the tunnel's end, beyond the barbed wire



Preserved: the pin-up to distract the guards. Picture: M Hawthorne



Get away from it all with a tour of the PoW tunnel

Hospital, Bristol, at the AN ESCAPE tunnel dug by weekend after a High Court | German prisoners-of-war for tourist attraction.

people were injured when which 67 German service. But it is intended to retain months of painstaking work "an unknown destination". fire swept flats in north Dub- men made their bid for free- Hut 9, a listed building at the with prisoners using cans, Its name was changed to dom at Island Farm, near mouth of the tunnel, as a meat tins and knives from Camp 11 and held 160 Ger-

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6.25%

5.70% 4.28%

5.20% 3.90%

3.85% 2.89%

5.50% 4.13%

5.00% 3.75%

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3.56%

By Paul Stokes

monument to a unique piece—the canteen to dig out earth.—man officers, including the agreed on Friday to erect use as roof props.

during the late 1930s.

ISLAND FARM CAMP

High ranking German

officers' quarters

Other ranks' quarters

German officers'

and rest rooms

cookhouse, mess

Camp Commandant

Presumed path

decision to allow doctors to the biggest breakout in Brit- Bridgend, Mid Glamorgan, is perimeter fencing, it housed to provide ventilation. ain during the Second World being mapped by planners. up to 2,000 German prison- All 67 escapees were

War is to be preserved as a Much of the site, known ers-of-war before the mass rounded up within a week. simply as Camp No 198 dur- breakout took place over- On March 31 1945, all 1,600 The precise route of the 62- ing the war, will be cleared night on March 10-11, 1945. German PoWs at Island Two men died and eight foot-long shaft through for industrial development. The tunnel involved three Farm were transferred to

of wartime history. Mid Gla- They also stole oak ranks of general, admiral and

fencing to protect the hut and Herr Otto Wandling, a for- Among them was Field

in an unused dormitory. as a witness. In 1943 it was occupied by A pin-up picture was Mrs June Griffiths, who American troops and Gen- painted on the false wall, in owned a tailor's shop in Brideral Eisenhower visited the front of a storeroom where gend, recalled how he was camp to give a pep talk soil was dumped, with the allowed trips into the town before the D-Day invasion. intention of diverting the and forced his way to the

▲ A48 to

tins with the tops cut out were used to make a pipeline

morgan county councillors benches from the canteen to field marshal, pending the Nuremberg trials.

tunnel from further damage. mer PoW now living in Aus- Marshal Gerd von Rund-Island Farm Camp was tria, recalled how the men stedt, who played a key role originally built as accommo- kneaded clay into balls and in the fall of Poland and dation for workers at a muni- hid them by dropping them France. He was never tried tions factory in Bridgend through a hole in a false wall for war crimes, but was used

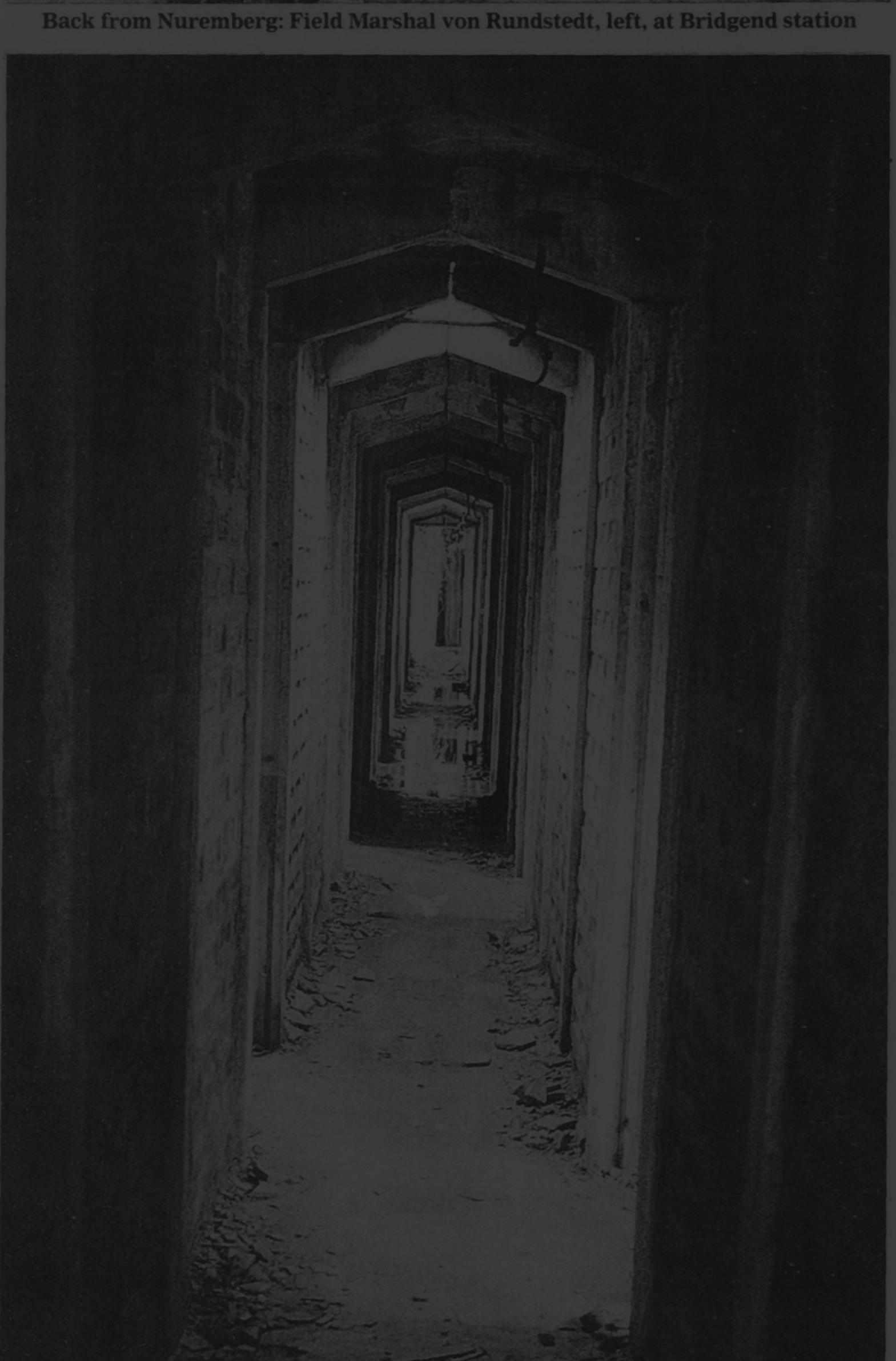
Later, complete with guards' attention. front of a queue to buy watchtowers and a mile of Empty condensed milk gloves. She said: "He would slam his stick on the counter for preferential treatment." There has been a mixed

reaction locally to plans to preserve the camp. Some criticise it as a glorification of war, while for others it has immense historical value. Mrs Susan Hawthorne, a

history teacher, researched and wrote a book, Island Farm, about the camp in 1989 with her pupils at Brynteg Comprehensive School, Bridgend, which led to an exhibiion at the National Museum It is largely through her

that the significance of the camp has been officially recognised, leading to Hut 9 being given a grade two listing as a historic building. Some 70 Allied prisoners escaped in a mass breakout

from the German Stalag Luft 3 during the Second World War. Fifty were subsequently executed on the orders of Hitler.



Due for demolition: the former German prisoner-of-war camp, but Hut 9 and the escapers' tunnel are to be preserved as a tourist attraction Picture: Huw Evans

Ulster 'should decide its own future'

THE public broadly supports the Prime Minister's recent handling of the Northern Ireland problem, according to a Gallup survey for The Daily Telegraph. But the survey also

Fewer than 20 per cent on the Amere 15 per cent disapprove. mainland have ever visited the prov- Most people in Britain do not see Some other country 44 32 51 46

accept the outcome of any referen- cent, are "don't knows". there once or twice.

province's citizens.

Broadly approve...... 60 81 50 70 Broadly disapprove...... 25 8 34 17 Don't know...... 15 11 16 13

Telegraph GALLUP

By Anthony King

shows a remarkable degree of Downing Street Declaration signed regard the province as in some way detachment in Britain from Ulster recently by Mr Major and Mr Albert "foreign". Reynolds, the Irish Prime Minister.

Nearly half, 44 per cent, regard Republic of Ireland — as a victory for This sense of psychological disevents in Northern Ireland as occur- the IRA.

ring mainly "in some other country". Only 21 per cent see it as constitut- the small number who have visited Most people are not even keen to ing an IRA victory. More than twice Northern Ireland. Asked if they had have a say in Northern Ireland's that number, 55 per cent, do not see ever been there, 81 per cent had not future. Instead, they are content to it in that light. The remainder, 24 per and a further 11 per cent had been land should be decisive or should meeting, along with Mr Tony

approve or broadly disapprove of Mr Fifty-six per cent think ministers over the past eight years. Major's handling of the Northern Ire-should talk to Sinn Fein if need be. Roughly a third would prefer to their own future. Support for a sepa-

the support of majorities in all politi- The people's sense of isolation it remain in the United Kingdom. Ulster's view decisive...... 75 78 74 72 issue, despite his low personal stand- emerge when Gallup asked: When the province becoming part of a Don't know....... 10 6 10 9 you hear about events in Northern united Ireland. If such a referendum were held, Among Tories, support for his Ireland, do you think of them more as The slight decline in the number the outcome would be a foregone recent efforts is nearly unanimous. things that are going on in your own supporting continued Northern conclusion. Nearly three quarters, All Con Lab Lib Dem country or more as things that are Irish membership of the United 72 per cent, say they would vote "to

Even though Northern Ireland has nificant. There has been an identical what the province wanted. A mere legally been part of the United King. drop in those favouring Irish unity. 13 per cent would vote "to preserve dom since 1801, a substantial minor- Gallup asked: If Northern Ireland the Union'. Roughly the same number of vot- ity of Britons, including nearly a were to leave the UK and join the Anthony King is Professor of ers, 60 per cent, approve of the third of Tory supporters, clearly Republic of Ireland, do you think we Government at Essex University.

All Con Lab Lib Dem Worse off..... Mainly in own country..... 45 53 40 44

tance is hardly surprising in view of

dums held exclusively among the A majority has no objection to the Asked what they would personally Government talking, if necessary, to prefer to see happen in Northern to let Northern Ireland go or not? "interesting reading". Gallup's interviewers asked: From Sinn Fein even before it has Ireland, respondents replied in what you know, do you broadly renounced its support for violence, much the same terms as they have convinced that the people of North-

land situation in recent weeks? Fewer than half that number, 27 per see the province become indepen- rate British referendum is minimal. Findings indicate Mr Major has cent, object. dent. One quarter would like to see

in Great Britain would be economically better off or worse off as a Sinn Fein is to unveil its verresult?

Better off No difference..... Don't know.....

to play an active part in determining | truth about the exchange of Northern Ireland's future. Gallup messages last year. The party asked: Suppose there were a referen- wants its version placed in the dum in Northern Ireland and the Commons library. people of Northern Ireland voted to | The Labour Left-wing MP. join the republic. Do you think the | Mr Jeremy Corbyn (Islingviews of the people of Northern Ire- | ton N), who sponsored the there be a separate referendum in | Benn (Lab, Chesterfield). Great Britain to decide if we wanted | said the documents made

Conservatives are among those ern Ireland should ultimately decide

All Con Lab Lib Dem

going on in some other country? Kingdom is almost certainly not sig- let Northern Ireland go" if that is

Sinn Fein view of talks to be put in House

sion of the IRA's secret con-Almost no one in any party thinks | tacts with the Government at Britain would be worse off. a news conference in the All Con Lab Lib Dem | Commons today after Tory 53 51 51 57 MPs failed to stop the event.

..... 9 10 10 8 Mr Tom Hartley, national 3 4 3 0 | chairman of Sinn Fein, will 35 35 36 34 present documents outlining The British show no great desire what his party claims is the



MEMBER OF THE BUILDING SOCIETIES ASSOCIATION