

“YE’LL VOTE FOR ME ”

a short Irish skit

by Mattie Lennon

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Set; A cottage door, in rural Ireland, set in a whitewashed wall with a small window on either side is facing the road .

A nearby telephone pole, to the right, has an election poster attached with a picture of a young handsome man and the caption "Number One for Barton." Tim, an elderly pipe-smoking man wearing a battered hat is leaning over a half-door, looking towards the poster and talking to himself. He has all the hallmarks of a small farmer and has a habit of spitting mid-sentence.

TIM; I told them in 1937 ' vote for the constitution and you vote for your own downfall'. But would they listen? No. Too many of them knew too bloody much. Ah yes,

" . . . The Irish nation hereby affirms its inalienable and sovereign right to choose its own form of Government . . " Sovereign right me arse. What right have we now? Sovereign or otherwise. Oh, they may wipe their arse with article33 now. "There shall be a Comptroller and Auditor General to control on behalf of the State all disbursements and to audit all accounts of moneys administered by or under authority of the Oireachtas." And then , " . . . every citizen without distinction of sex who has reached the age of twenty-one years, and who is not placed under disability or incapacity by this Constitution or by law, shall be eligible for membership of Dail Eireann." Aye , "eligible". No wonder we have the shower o' gobshites that we have above in Leinster House. The lord have mercy on the old people. I remember before the foundation of the State. . .

An overweight middle-aged man approaches the door from the right, Tim's "blind-side", He is carrying a number of leaflets and and is wearing a rosette bearing the words; "Vote for Jimmy Miley."

POLITICAN; Good morning to you Tim. It's younger you're getting. How are you getting on?

TIM; *(Turning round but showing no signs of embarrassment)* Ah, I'm middlen' Jimmy.

POLITICAN; Isn't it after been rough old weather. . and. . . . isn't the cost of living terrible?

TIM; I suppose we can't do much about either of them.

POLITICAN; Well, a change of government would do something about

the living cost.