

NORTHERN IRELAND 1969-1993 INTERACTIVE

Partition

Did relations between Catholics and Protestants improve?

Source A

“There are many Protestants and Loyalists who employ Catholics. There are too many Catholics in this country do not encourage them to stay. So only employ Protestant lads and lasses.”

Speech by Sir Basil Brooke a member of the Unionist government in 1933. He was Prime Minister of Northern Ireland, 1943-1963

Source B

“We were willing to work with the Unionists for the sake of the country. We do not seek power, we want to help. Instead the Unionists reject this help and you follow old lines of hatred. You treat 1/3 of the population as criminals.”

Speech by Northern Ireland Nationalist leader Joe Devlin, 1932.

Source C

“It is meaningless... I do not blame the poor, they are easily influenced when they starve. I blame the leaders and the Churches. They preach hatred and violence based on different religions and politics. These people are not Christians when they blame the other side for their empty bellies.”

Written by the Belfast coroner after the Belfast riots of 1935 between Unionists and Nationalists.

TASK

Read Sources A-C. Make a list of the reasons why there were tensions between the Catholic and Protestant communities.