

STATEMENT OF CONGRESSMAN JOHN E. FOGARTY, MAY 29, 1957, COMMENTING ON HIS VISIT TO IRELAND, UPON HIS RETURN FROM EUROPE WHERE HE SERVED AS ADVISER TO THE WORLD HEALTH CONVENTION IN GENEVA.

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After my visit to Ireland - and I visited both parts of that divided country - I am more than ever convinced that the country ought to be united.

I believe that would be in the best interests of all the people of the island, without distinction of politics or religion.

Unity can only be achieved by peaceful means. The Irish Government, and the opposition there, recognize that. Friends of Ireland in this country - and there are quite a few of them - ought to cooperate along those lines.

One way we can help is to make known America's interest in Irish unity. That is the object of the Resolution which I have sponsored in the House. This Resolution, H. Res. 27, simply provides for a declaration of the House of Representatives that the people of all Ireland should have the right to determine the form of government under which they desire to live. It follows the basic philosophy and the statement of principle which is the bedrock of our nation's foreign policy when applied to every other country throughout the world. The United States

government pleads for a united Germany, a united Korea and a united Indonesia. My resolution calls for consistency in our foreign policy by urging a united Ireland.

There is another way in which all of us can help. That is by buying those goods which are uniquely Irish - whatever part of the country they come from. Irish linen is Irish linen - whether it comes from County Cork or from County Antrim. And in the same way, Irish spirits are Irish spirits, from whatever side of this artificial border they happen to come. Similarly American tourists who visit Ireland ought to ignore that border as much as they can. They ought to visit the whole country. They will find themselves welcomed, on both sides of the border, by friendly Irish people among characteristic Irish scenes.

By bringing economic prosperity to the country as a whole America can help to create an atmosphere favorable to unity. I am exploring ways and means in which these ideas can best be put into effect. I believe I can count on the support of Irishmen, north and south, and of the many friends of Ireland in this country.