



Political developments in Ireland 4

History – Junior Cert

Quick Notes

Political developments in Ireland 4

In 1949, the Republic of Ireland Act was passed which made Ireland officially a republic, thereby breaking the last links with the commonwealth. The government tried to industrialise Ireland by setting up the IDA. Dr Noel Browne was made Minister for Health – he eradicated TB and introduced the mother-and-child scheme. The Catholic bishops objected, Browne resigned and the government fell. When Fianna Fáil returned to power, De Valera was Taoiseach once again. Yet the government achieved little and emigration increased. During the second inter-party government Costello was Taoiseach but still little was achieved. When Fianna Fáil got back into power from 1957 to 1973, de Valera retired and Lemass took over as Taoiseach. His plan was to industrialise the country and he succeeded at this through grants and tax concessions. In 1962, Telefis Eireann was established and in 1966, Minister for Education Donogh O'Malley introduced free secondary education. That same year, Lemass retired and was replaced by Jack Lynch. In 1969, Fianna Fáil were re-elected and that same year – ‘The Troubles’ in Northern Ireland began. On 1 January 1973, Ireland joined the European Economic Community. In 1985, British Prime Minister Thatcher and Taoiseach Fitzgerald signed the Anglo-Irish Agreement which gave the republic a small say in the government of Ulster. Unionists objected to it, however. The agreement survived and began a process that eventually led to the Loyalist and Republican ceasefires of 1994 and the Good Friday Agreement of 1997.

For more comprehensive Revision Notes Visit.... mocks.ie **Junior Cert
History Notes**