

THE ANTRIM ALTERNATIVE!

ISSUE 2

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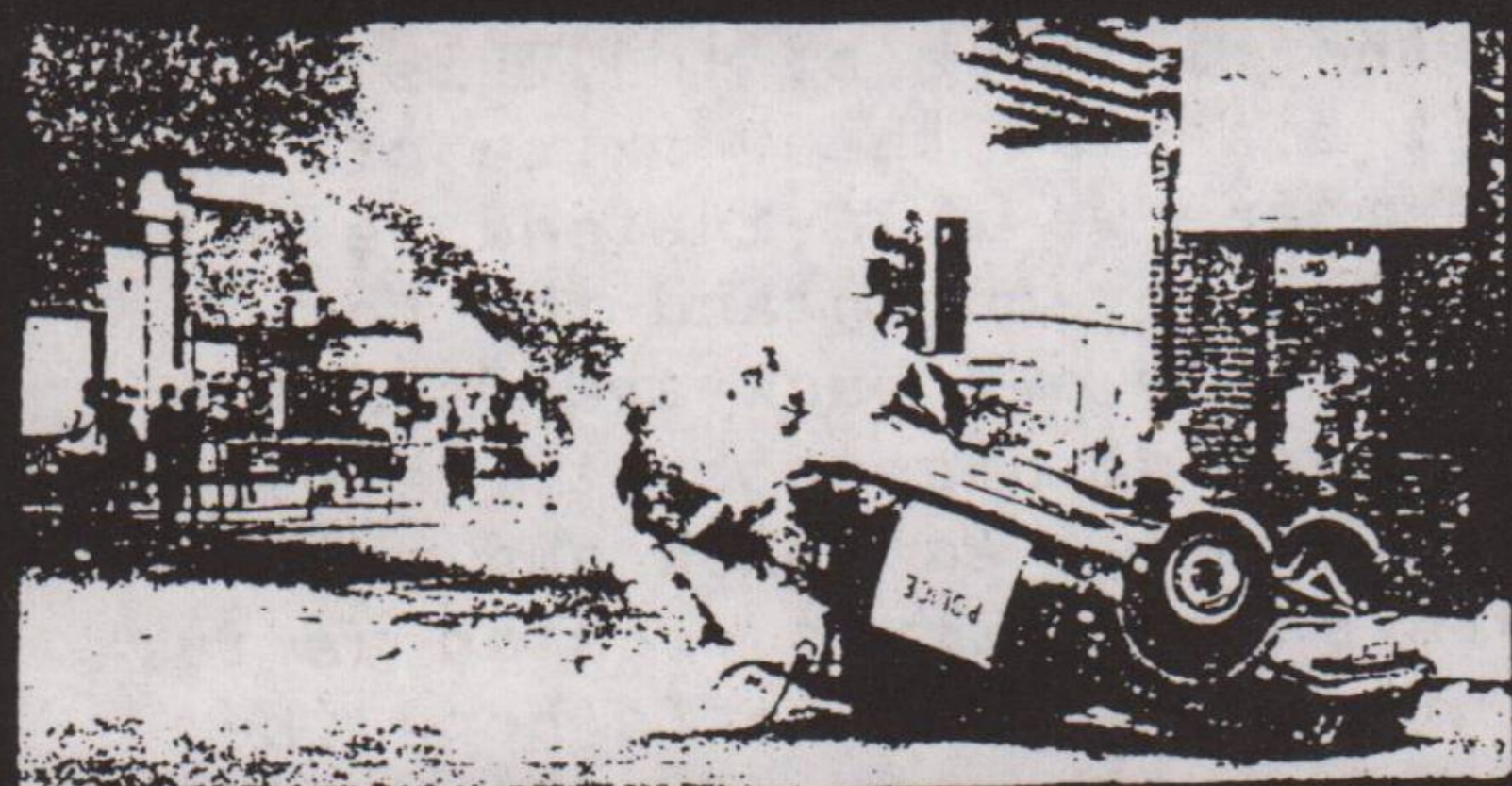
ELECTIONS - WHAT'S CHANGED?

FOR EVERYBODY WHO WAITED FOR THE ARTICLE ON THE LOCAL ELECTIONS, THAT WE PROMISED FOR THIS EDITION OF THE "ALTERNATIVE" WELL BECAUSE OF THE LATENESS OF THIS ISSUE, THE LOCAL ELECTIONS ARE WELL BEHIND US, MIND YOU NOT MANY PEOPLE CARED ANYWAY, THE FACT THAT ROUGHLY TEN THOUSAND PEOPLE DIDN'T VOTE AND A FURTHER 250-300 SPOILED THEIR VOTES, MEANS THAT DESPITE THE FLEETS OF MINI BUSES FERRYING PEOPLE TO AND FROM THE POLLING STATIONS, AND DESPITE THE PARADES, THE T.V. SHOWS ON 'WHO'S THE BASTARD YOU'LL VOTE FOR' DESPITE THE POSTERS AND THE PUBLIC APPEARANCES ONLY HALF OF THOSE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE COULD BE BOTHERED TO SACRIFICE AN EPISODE OF CROSSROADS FOR THE SAKE OF GIVING THEIR NOD OF APPROVAL TO THE BIGOTS WE THE ANTRIM AND BALLYMENA ANARCHIST GROUP WOULD LIKE TO ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE FACT THAT SO FEW PEOPLE VOTED, EVEN IF IT ISN'T TRUE, AS YOU LOOKED FROM YOUR BEDROOM WINDOW, THE MORNING AFTER THE ELECTION, DID YOU NOTICE ALL THOSE NEW JOBS COME ROLLING DOWN THE BELFAST ROAD, OR ALL THOSE NEW AMENITIES BURST FROM BELOW THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, OR DID YOU NOTICE THAT THE BANKS WERE LATE OPENING, OR THAT THE COURT HOUSE WAS FRESHLY DECORATED, WAS ENKALON SUDDENLY REOPENED, OR WAS IT JUST MORE OF THE SAME OLD STORY THE COLLAPSE OF LEAR FAN, RENTS GOING UP THE HOUSING LIST GETTING LONGER, THE AMOUNT OF VACANT HOUSING INCREASING, THE COUNCIL ELECTING TO GIVE THEMSELVES A PAY INCREASE, IN THE SAME BREATH AS 'SORRY, BUT THERE ISN'T ENOUGH MONEY TO SPEND ON LETTING THE PUBLIC ENJOY THEMSELVES'..... LIKE WE SAID: IF VOTING CHANGED ANYTHING, THEY WOULD MAKE IT ILLEGAL..... WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK THOSE TEN THOUSAND, AND ASK THE OTHERS WHO VOTED TO ASK EACH OTHER WHAT WAS ACHIEVED WITH THEIR VOTE?

INTRODUCTION !!

WELCOME TO ISSUE 2 OF THE ANTRIM ALT' We would like to hear from anyone who has an opinion about the group or the paper, any letters we receive could be included if you wish, it should be clear what we stand for, so if you have a disagreement or if you just feel like heaping praise upon us then please contact us. THIS IS NOT A SPACE FILLER!

WHOEVER THEY
VOTE FOR
WE ARE
UNGOVERNABLE



THE WORKING
CLASS STRIKES
BACK

A PRISONER IN YOUR OWN COUNTRY!!

OVER THE PAST FEW MONTHS WE HAVE WITNESSED YET MORE VIOLENCE IN SOUTH AFRICA. THE RIOTS MARKED THE 25th ANNIVERSARY OF THE 'SHARPEVILLE MASSACRE' WHEN 69 BLACKS WHO WERE PROTESTING ABOUT THE INTRODUCTION OF THE PASS LAWS, WERE MURDERED BY THE POLICE. THIS TIME ROUND THE POLICE MURDERED 19 BLACKS ATTENDING A PEACEFUL FUNERAL PROCESSION, WHICH WAS 'COMING TO CLOSE TO THE WHITE SUBURBS OF UTENHAIG'. THE SYSTEM OF LEGALISED RACISM PRACTISED IN SOUTH AFRICA IS CALLED APARTHEID, IT MEANS VAST WEALTH AND LUXURY FOR THE MINORITY WHITE POPULATION AND ABJECT POVERTY FOR THE SOUTH AFRICAN BLACKS. APARTHEID GROUPS PEOPLE ACCORDING TO THE COLOUR OF THEIR SKIN, THE DARKER YOUR SKIN THE LOWER DOWN THE SOCIAL SCALE YOU COME, EFFECTIVELY WHAT THIS MEANS IS THAT THE WHITES WHO CONSIDER THEMSELVES TO BE 'SUPERIOR' TO THE BLACKS; CONTROL THE GOVERNMENT AND ECONOMY OF THE COUNTRY, THE BLACK POPULATION HAVE ABSOLUTELY NO RIGHTS, POLITICAL OR SOCIAL. THEY ARE TOLD WERE TO LIVE, EACH PERSON IS GIVEN A 'TRIBAL HOME' THESE AREAS HAVE NO WORK, NO AMENITIES, THE HOUSING IS TEMPORARY AND THE SCHOOLS HAVE ONLY MINIMAL STATE AID, IN OTHER WORDS THE STANDARD OF EDUCATION IS VERY LOW. TO LEAVE THE HOMELANDS YOU ARE TRAVELLING FROM A BLACK AREA INTO A WHITE AREA, TO DO THIS YOU MUST HAVE A PASS (THE PASS LAWS) THIS IS A PASSPORT FOR BLACKS, THE LAW MAKES THEM IMMIGRANTS IN THEIR OWN COUNTRY, THEY CAN BE SENT BACK TO THE HOMELANDS AT ANY TIME FOR ANY REASON, BACK TO POVERTY, HUNGER IF THEY FIGHT AGAINST THE SYSTEM, IT ALMOST CERTAINLY MEANS DEATH AT THE HANDS OF THE GOOD OLD LOCAL POLICE FORCE, WHO AFTER ALL ARE ONLY PROTECTING THE GOOD CLEAN, CHRISTIAN WHITE POPULATION, FROM THE SAVAGE BLACKS?

EVERY WESTERN GOVT HELPS MAINTAIN THE SYSTEM OF APARTHEID, THEY INVEST IN THE COMPANIES WHO MAKE THEIR VAST PROFITS FROM THE DIRECT EXPLOITATION OF THE BLACKS, THEY SELL WEAPONS AND TORTURE AIDS TO THE S.A. POLICE FORCE, NATO HAS HELPED TO BUILD A NUCLEAR WEAPONS PLANT, WHILE BRITAIN, LAND OF THE FREE, IS SOUTH AFRICA'S SECOND

Hector Peterson - the first to be killed in the Soweto uprisings
16 June 1976



LARGEST TRADING PARTNER. OF COURSE ALL THE GOVERNMENTS SAY THEY DISLIKE APARTHEID, BUT THEY WOULD NEVER LIFT A FINGER TO DO A THING ABOUT IT, BRITAIN DOESN'T SELL ARMS DIRECTLY TO S.A. BUT NATO DOES, AND WHO'S PART OF NATO WHY GOOD OLD U.K. THE SPORTING BODIES TELL THEIR ATHLETES NOT TO GO THEIR, INSTEAD THEY HAVE WHITE S.A. ATHLETES IMPORTED TO BRITAIN BRITAIN SUPPORTS APARTHEID BECAUSE IT MEANS PROFIT, IT IS BECAUSE OF PROFIT THAT 69 PEOPLE WERE KILLED IN SHARPEVILLE AND MANY HUNDREDS HAVE BEEN EXECUTED IN PRISONS AND COUNTLESS OTHERS HAVE BEEN MURDERED IN THE TOWNSHIPS BY THE POLICE.....

THE FIGHT TO DESTROY APARTHEID IS AN ECONOMIC FIGHT AIMED AGAINST THOSE WHO STAND TO PROFIT FROM THE MISERY AND DEPRIVATION OF S.A. WORKERS. MASSIVE TRADE UNIONS HAVE SPRUNG UP ALL OVER THE COUNTRY, HALF A MILLION BLACK WORKERS ARE ORGANISED AND FIGHTING, SUCH IS THE GOVERNMENTS FEAR OF THE ORGANISED WORKING CLASS THAT THEY HAVE ALREADY GRANTED MINOR REFORMS AND CONCESSIONS ON PAY

THE STRUGGLE AGAINST APARTHEID IS NOT JUST A STRUGGLE FOR THE S.A. WORKERS BUT A STRUGGLE FOR ALL WORKERS WORLDWIDE, THE BLACKING OF SOUTH AFRICAN GOODS SHOULD BE THE POLICY OF ALL TRADE UNIONS. IN DUBLIN THE YEAR LONG DUNNES STRIKE CONTINUES, A CHECKOUT WORKER WAS SACKED BY THE COMPANY BECAUSE OF HER REFUSAL TO HANDLE S.A. GOODS, OTHER WORKERS ARE NOW ON STRIKE IN THE STORE. COMPANIES SUCH AS DUNNES, ROWNTREE MACKINTOSH, DUNLOP TYRES, NESTLES, TATE & LYLE, VOLKSWAGON AND BRITISH PETROLEUM -B.P. ARE ONLY A FEW OF THE COMPANIES WHO INVEST HEAVILY IN SOUTH AFRICA, A BOYCOTT OF THEIR PRODUCE WILL HIT THEM WHERE THEY FEEL IT MOST, IN THEIR POCKETS, THIS IS ONLY A FIRST STEP TOWARDS ERADICATING APARTHEID, ISOLATING THE S.A. ECONOMY AND WEAKENING IT AND THE S.A. RULING CLASS WOULD LEAD SWIFTLY TO THE BLACK WORKERS TAKING POWER IN SOUTH AFRICA AND ENDING THE RULE OF THE FACISTS IN SOUTH AFRICA.....

OPEN YOUR EYES, SEE THROUGH THE LIES!!

WHEN TALKING ABOUT ANARCHY OR CHANGE, THE RESPONSE YOU GET FROM MOST PEOPLE IS, "YEAH! GOOD IDEA, BUT IT WOULDN'T WORK, OR NOT ENOUGH PEOPLE ARE DOING ENOUGH ABOUT IT, THAT THEY DON'T REALLY CARE. Well I think people do care, but about the wrong things, they care about who wins a football match, or looking nice at the disco and what their friends might think of them. They seem to care a lot more about these things than a 1/3 of the world starving, an imminent nuclear holocaust and governments who are subtly controlling their daily movements. The attitude from most is that they care more about things that effect them directly rather than those that affect them indirectly, "my mate's just been knocked down, how terrible!" whereas the reaction to cruise missiles at Greenham common is 'so what, its got nothing to do with me'

There are many people who do care about what is happening, but because they are isolated, they think its not really worthwhile that its all pointless. Well of course its not pointless, anything from putting out a magazine to going on a demo is worthwhile even if at first there is little or no response, what is pointless is sitting back and thinking this is the way things are, what can I do. This is the way things are because this is the way we've let them be, we are afraid of change because it upsets the lifestyle that has been methodically installed in our hearts and minds by a system that we are taught is right.

The system can be changed, but not by sitting around waiting for it to happen, show people that there are workable alternatives to the mess the world is in at present, we've still got time to change things its not too late.....

WOMENS LIBERATION IS EVERYONES FIGHT ♀♀

IN THE PAST NUMBER OF YEARS WE HAVE SEEN AN INCREASE IN THE AMOUNT OF WOMENS RIGHTS GROUPS ACROSS THE WORLD. THEY HAVE BEEN ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN PROTEST FROM THE PEACE CAMPS AT GREENHAM, TO THIS YEARS PROTESTS ABOUT THE OPPRESSIVE LAWS GOVERNING CONTRACEPTION IN THE SOUTH. Unfortunately the position of women world wide has changed very little over the past 20 years, as in normal everyday life women are still seen as inferior to men, and thus are oppressed as a sex. Women are still seen as domesticated and submissive in both the home (bedroom and kitchen) and the workplace, where they are given lower wages and more menial jobs. These attitudes are reinforced by a male society and by the Catholic church who go to great lengths, to deny women freedom over their own bodies.

School plays a big part in reinforcing these divisions, separating boys and girls into different classes for different subjects, then after school, they are pushed into men only, women only jobs, with the women generally coming off worse in wages and conditions. This conditioning continues right through life, from walking down the street, to the church, to marriage, then to the bedroom. In all these situations women are taught to be inferior, and thus they accept this supposed inferiority anything else is seen as too masculine, butch or aggressive. Pornography is made by men for men is one of today's biggest businesses, millionaires profit from the fact that women are seen as inferior. Rape is acceptable because pornography is acceptable, the view that a woman is there for the taking stems from the view that a woman is worthless and must be obedient, LOVE HONOUR and OBEY..... Rape is not what women want, porn makes the male sex believe that this is what women want and enjoy, from the soft porn of page three, to the hard porn of the porno-movies, T.V. the media all reinforce these images and women themselves accept what they see and what they are told.

Women are also seen as domesticated slaves, to serve not only mans meals but their every whim and desire. It is because of this belief (begun in the beginning of time from mans self-styled superiority) that women fall into the trap of slave with men as their master, for if they don't they are regarded as abnormal or freaks. The church upholds the belief as society does the beliefs of the church, which stem from the bible, with the belief God created first man

SMASH THE STATE BEFORE IT SMASHES YOU

The policies of this Tory Government are blatantly making the rich richer and the poor poorer, yet what do we give back in exchange - absolutely nothing. They spent millions of pounds in their effort to crush the miners strike and are now making the working class pay for it!! They are bringing in new Government Bills to smash the Trade Union movement which our forefathers helped build (many paid with their lives!!) to protect the rights of the working class. The Government decimate the T.U. movement and still the Trade Union bureaucracy sit back and suck it all up, doing nothing. The time has come for an all out General Strike, with no holds barred. We should fight for our class.

They now plan to decimate the Welfare State which protects the working class from dying altogether - cuts in hospitals, cuts in Social Security etc. All are geared to smashing working class morale and drive us deeper into the gutter.

You will hear the Govt. twist Fowlers report with phrases like 'need for efficiency', 'long-needed overhaul of Benefits system' etc, etc; but the bare facts are that it's to save money - an estimated £2.9bn in all (much less than the cost of the Falklands escapade). Those who are to pay the price are the worst off already: the unemployed, the pensioners, women and children.

and then woman. The church generally being a man-made institution, couldn't possibly relinquish their power by seeing women as equal, now could they? Deep down the cause of womens oppression is not man, he only follows his chosen path as women do theirs, but it is the class system, with the economic and personal relationships it creates. The path towards womens freedom will be set when we ALL unite to abolish this capitalist system and pave the way for a truly, free anarchist society. Liberation will not come by women merely replacing men in govt. etc, like the Thatchers of this world, for it is the power structure which is wrong and creates the divisions. Women must rise up alongside men, in complete co-operation, with firstly a rejection of all the dominant/submissive roles on both sides and a rejection of ALL sexist values, this can be done by both sexes talking openly about their true feelings, not how they're supposed to feel. With the destruction of the class-system must come the abolition of the institutions which enforce the stereotypes ie; church, marriage, pornography and ultimately the STATE. The right for women to organise separately must be recognised, for it is they who are the oppressed. The struggle for womens freedom will be a hard one, but it is one which can only be achieved together and in doing so will require a total overhaul of the values some of us hold so dear, it is a lot to ask for but it can and must be done.

WOMEN DEMAND IT



THE UNEMPLOYED

UNEMPLOYED MEN AND WOMEN WHO ARE UNDER 25 WILL BE FORCED A LOWER RATE OF SUPPLEMENTARY BENEFIT, LOSING AROUND £5 A WEEK. THERE WILL BE NO MORE HOUSEHOLDERS ADDITION (ABOUT £6 A WEEK). INSTEAD BENEFIT WILL BE PAYABLE ACCORDING TO AGE. THOSE UNDER 26 WILL BE TREATED AS 'JUVENILES', SO THAT THEY WON'T BECOME HOUSEHOLDERS AND ARE ENCOURAGED TO STAY WITH THEIR PARENTS. THIS IS IN LINE WITH THE RECENT CUTS IN DHSS PAYMENT OF RENT TO THOSE IN B&B. 300,000 PEOPLE WILL LOSE UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT AFTER SIX MONTHS ON THE DOLE, WHEN IT WILL STOP. MORTGAGE REPAYMENTS WILL ALSO STOP AFTER THIS PERIOD, AFFECTING 140,000 FAMILIES AND 95,000 SINGLE PARENTS AND PENSIONERS. THIS WILL SAVE £100 MILLION AND MEAN THAT UNEMPLOYED PEOPLE WILL FACE POSSIBLE EVICTION AFTER SIX MONTHS. SINGLE PAYMENTS WILL BE ABOLISHED SO THERE WILL BE NO HELP WITH FUEL BILLS, CLOTHING FURNITURE, ALL OF WHICH HAVE TO COME OUT OF THE MAIN, REDUCED BENEFIT. UNEMPLOYED CLAIMANTS WILL HAVE TO PAY 20% OF RATES AND WATER RATES FROM THEIR BENEFITS TOO... AT LEAST £3 A WEEK. IF THIS MEANS YOU WILL HAVE PROBLEMS YOU WILL BE ABLE TO APPLY FOR A DHSS LOANS FACILITY. THE SOCIAL AID FUND WILL OFFER A LOAN TO TIDE YOU OVER WHICH YOU MUST PAY BACK - OTHERWISE THE BAILIFFS WILL GET YOU. HOWEVER THESE WILL BE LIMITED BECAUSE LOCAL DHSS OFFICES WILL ONLY HAVE RESTRICTED FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR THIS SERVICE.

WOMEN AND FAMILIES

THE CUTS HERE ARE ESPECIALLY AIMED AT MAKING WOMEN MORE DEPENDENT ON MEN, WHETHER IT IS THE FATHERS OF THEIR CHILDREN OR THEIR EMPLOYERS, THUS REVERSING REFORMS THAT CAMPAIGNERS HAVE STRUGGLED FOR YEARS. CHILD BENEFIT WILL BE FROZEN AND REDUCED IN VALUE. AND THE GOVERNMENT WILL OFFICIALLY

ANTRIM + B'MENA



GROUP

-AIMS AND PRINCIPLES

The Antrim + Ballymena anarchist group are class struggle anarchists.

We aim to create a free and classless society, we are fighting to abolish the state, capitalism and wage slavery in all their forms and replace them by self managed production for need not profit.

In order to bring about the new social order, the workers must take over the means of production and distribution. We are the sworn enemies of those who would take over 'on behalf of the workers'.

We believe that the only way for the working class to achieve this, is with independent organisation in the workplace and the community and federation with others in the same industry and locality, independent of, and opposed to all political parties and trade union leaderships. All such workers organisations must be controlled by the workers themselves and must unite not divide the workers movement. Any and all delegates or representatives of such workers organisations must be subject to immediate recall by the workers.

We are opposed to all States and State institutions. The working class has no country. The class struggle is world-wide and recognises no artificial boundaries. The armies and police of all States do not exist to protect the workers, they exist only as the repressive arm of the ruling class.

We oppose racism, sexism, militarism and all attitudes and institutions that stand in the way of equality and the right of all people everywhere to control their own lives and environment.

ABANDON THEIR PROMISE THAT BENEFIT SHOULD RISE IN LINE WITH TAX ALLOWANCES. THIS WILL SAVE ABOUT £200M A YEAR. 7M MOTHERS AND 12M CHILDREN WILL LOSE OUT. FAMILY INCOME SUPPLEMENT NOW PAID TO 200,000 FAMILIES WILL BE ABOLISHED. A NEW FAMILY CREDIT SCHEME WILL BE INTRODUCED WHICH WILL BE PAID ONLY FOR SIX MONTHS. FAMILIES RECEIVING 'FAMILY CREDIT' WILL NO LONGER BE ENTITLED TO FREE SCHOOL MEALS OR SCHOOL MILK. LEGISLATION WILL BE INTRODUCED TO PREVENT LOCAL AUTHORITIES PROVIDING MILK AND MEALS TO CHILDREN WHOSE PARENTS ARE NOT ON SUPPLEMENTARY BENEFIT.

Thatchers Government and the class it represents, have thrown down the gauntlet to the working class of Britain and they'll probably expect us to sit back and do nothing. We all have a part to play in the class struggle, which it so obviously is. The youth have shown their anger at Tory Govts in the past. In the summer of 1981 we saw youth riots in Toxteth, Moss Side, Leeds, Bristol and Brixton. We hope the summer of '85 will be even hotter for Thatcher than the summer of '81. The youth are set, primed and ready to explode this summer, we have now learnt the mistakes of '81. This time we won't smash up the working class suburbs where we live - instead we will take on the Government and the boss class in their own backyard. It's time for the working class to strike back. Too long have we sat back and watched as Govts continually suppressed us further into the gutter. Let's hope the T.U. Movement will get off its pedestal and show true support for those they are supposed to be representing. This is OUR WORLD - it is time we claimed it back.

CLASS WAR

CONTACT US AT: Antrim Alternative
c/o JUST BOOKS, 7, WINETAVERN ST. BELFAST