

CLASS WAR

"The great only appear great because we are on our knees. Let us rise." James Connolly.

ISSUE 63
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50P

WE WANT MORE COPS



ON OUR STREETS

INSIDE: SIZZLING SUMMER SCANDAL, SEX, SPORT, NEWS AND VIEWS

what we say



The pathetic 36% average turnout in the recent Euro elections is something that worries politicians more than they care to admit.

Why? Well, it could mean that more and more people are seeing through the myths and lies of parliamentary "democracy". The real reason we have elections is to control us. The ruling class, (top civil servants, senior army and police officers, aristocrats etc) is at the very most only 5% of the population.

We outnumber them, and yet they rule us and take the vast bulk of the wealth we produce. But with so few of them they can't do this through only physical means. They need a way to control us that keeps them safely in their position, and gives the rest of us the illusion that we hold power. That's how we ended up with elections and votes.

The election game is so rigged that it makes Tory unemployment figures look like a model of truth and honesty. It may be a cliché but the fact is that whoever you vote for the government gets in.

We are only given the choice of what party we'd like to govern us, not the real choice of whether or not we'd like a government in the first place.

But even this idea of a party governing us is false. We are not, and never will be, allowed to vote for the replacement of those people who hold the real power in society.

DESTABLISE

We are only allowed to vote for the choice of which lackey, or which figure-head, we'd like to administer capitalism for the benefit of the ruling class. It's simple; the ruling class rules, they don't need to govern as well.

To stand for, and take a seat in government, you have to play the game by their rules, which are plain; "heads we win, tails you lose."

And if the ruling class, the bosses of bosses, don't take a shine to any governing party, they destabilise them, and make them unelectable next time round. This is child's play for them since they control the wealth and political power.

Economic 'dirty tricks', lies, half lies, slander and blackmail are all weapons in their armoury. The media their eager allies. Ex-top spy Peter Wright touched on this in his book *Spycatcher*, after seeing it attempted, first hand, against Labour in the 1970's.

But the myth of parliamentary democracy is even more simple to expose. In 1987 the Tories won a 'landslide' election with just 42% of the voters, or just over 8 million people. So what about the 58% who voted against them?

You don't have to be a mathematical genius to see that there is something very wrong in 8 million people deciding the future of a society of 56 million people.

The bosses will keep on winning the class war right up until the day we defeat them. A day that will come, and which will come that bit faster, when ordinary people begin to see through some of the crap that keep the bosses in their positions of wealth, power and privilege.

Class War issue 63

Class War is the paper of the Class War Federation. For more information about us turn to page 14 or ring the Class War Hotline on 0272 870050

RICH BASTARDS BEWARE!

The finest 'brains' in the police force are currently trying to track down the person who's been sending letter bombs to rich scumbags.

The first target was tycoon Peter Wood, the boss of Direct Line insurance who paid himself a cool £18 million last year. Second target was Terry Wogan, the unemployed has-been who 'only' pulls in about £350,000 a year.

The Wogan bomb included an anonymous note which said "Rich bastards! Roger Levitt will be next!" Levitt was the dirtbag who got just 180

hours community service after his investment scam went under, losing £34 million of people's savings.

Sending bombs through the post is pretty stupid: the only people who'll get hurt are the poor sods who are paid to deliver or open the mail. But it's OK, don't panic, we can all breathe a sigh of relief: the cops are close to a breakthrough in their investigations. Apparently they're looking for someone with "a grudge against the rich". Well that's narrowed it down to about 40 million people...

UNFINISHED BUSINESS THE POLITICS OF CLASS WAR

As the left in Britain and elsewhere cry into their beer over the failure of their plans, we in Class War think it's about time to throw their methods into the dustbin of history and return to the basics. We argue here for the recreation of an independent revolutionary movement within the working class inspired by the best traditions of unity and solidarity. This is our unfinished business.

WHAT THEY SAID...

"Statement of political intent from Britain's only credible revolutionaries... relevant, thought-provoking, often amusing..." THE FACE.

"...reveals a thoroughly reactionary disdain for the whole theoretical and practical struggle... to build a mass party capable of smashing the state and overthrowing the capitalist system." THE WORKERS REVOLUTIONARY PARTY.



the politics of Class War

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STONED AGAIN

KEITH HELLAWELL, top cop in West Yorkshire, has been grabbing the headlines recently with his call for a complete review of the drug laws.

Of course, the press and politicians have been foaming at the mouth about it, calling him every name under the sun. So do we support Hellawell and all the other liberals who want dope to be legalised? *Do we buggery!* It would be meaningless.

The whole thing is just a con-job, the same tactic used by police forces all around the world. It's the Mr Nice and Mr Nasty routine. One pats your hand and offers you coffee and a fag while the other knocks seven shades of shit out of you with a chair leg.

SMOKESCREEN

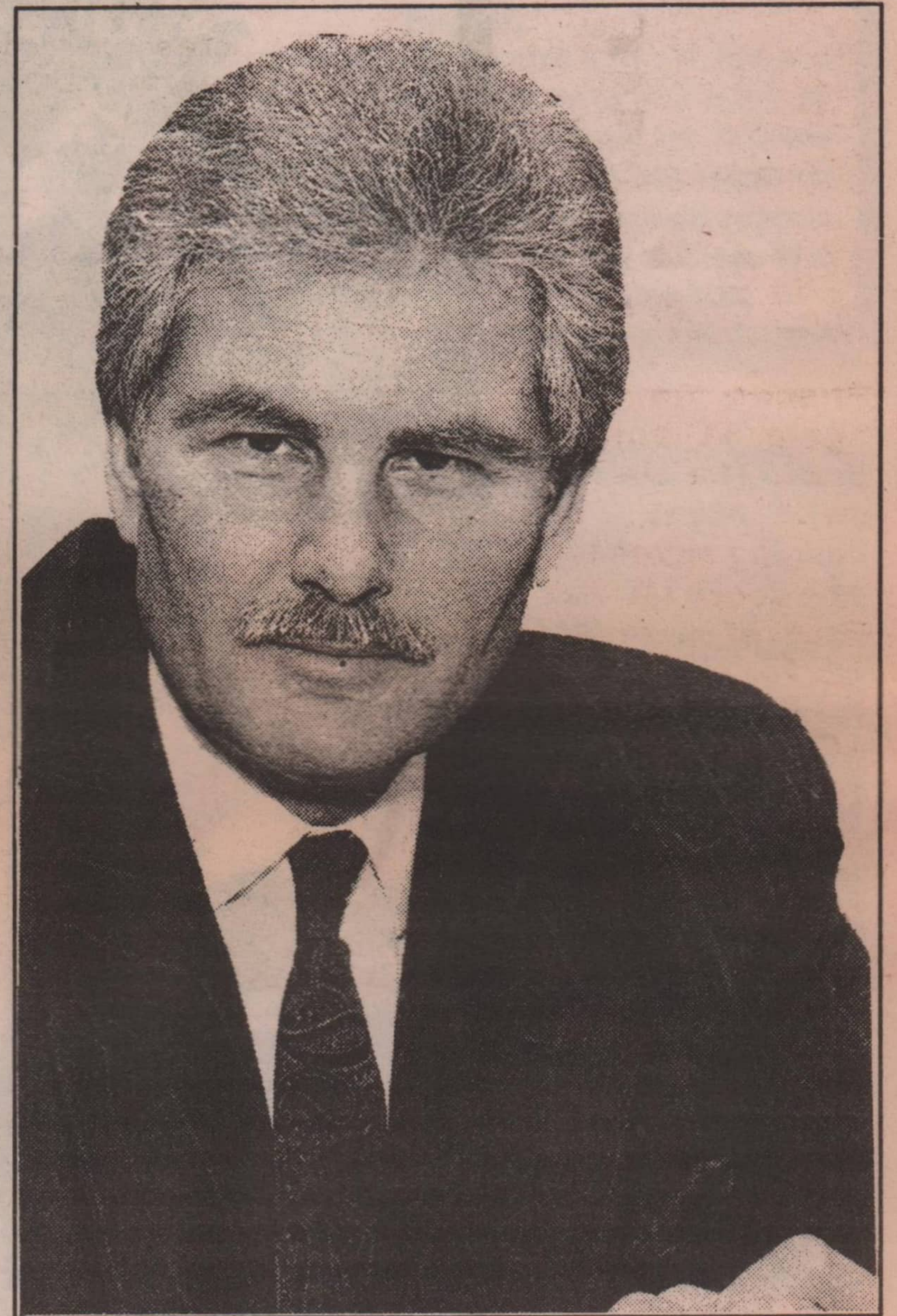
One offers you a spliff, the other tries to put a bullet in your head. In fact, Hellawell himself is well known for trying it on with defendants who exercise their right to silence. He boasts:

"I would take my coat off, the criminal would perceive that this act would be followed by a thumping or a fist or something, and that put the person ill at ease and certainly more likely to tell me what I wanted to know."

So much for Mr Nice Guy. In the end it doesn't matter a toss what Hellawell thinks or what *The Scum* says. It's only a matter of time before so-called 'soft drugs' get legalised. All the talk about stamping out drug use is a smokescreen for what's really going on.

On one side, the big pushers and the drugs mafia are getting well pissed off: they do the government's dirty work by screwing up thousands of working class kids with shit like smack and crack, but they just don't get the OBEs and the seats in the House of Lords.

On the other hand, the Treasury and big business,



NOT A VERY NICE MAN: HELLAWELL

the 'legal' criminals, are frustrated because they still can't get their hands on the massive profits to be found in the drugs trade.

Brewing giant Carlsberg-Tetley knows the score: it's already spent thousands of pounds looking into how 'cannabis cafes' work in Holland and how a similar set-up could rake in the cash over here. In America the big tobacco companies are already well advanced with their plans to produce

marijuana, knowing that legalisation can't be far away.

Hellawell claims that "Some of the feelings that you get from some drugs are good. I've never taken them so I'm not speaking from personal experience." Well, it's an old joke but we're still issuing an open invitation to Hellawell, the maggots of the press and all those puffed-up MPs in the House of Commons: anytime, anywhere, give us a call and we'll make sure you get well and truly smacked up.

WAR NEWS...

With the Metropolitan police about to be issued with firearms, and police areas such as Avon and Somerset reckoning on 25% of their officers being armed by 1999, it's a little reassuring to know that a wee bit of firepower might just drop into your lap.

In May, a Blackburn town armed response vehicle managed to deposit two loaded Smith and Wesson guns onto a local roundabout.

They were handed in to the nick by a member of the public, and the divvy cops' excuse was that they were left on the van's roof after a shift change.

LYING VERMIN

In the last few months we've had a whole barrage of Tory and ruling class double standards.

The Conservative Party has made a complete balls-up of its own twisted moral campaign. The 'Back to Basics', family standards and Victorian values crusade against kids in school, single parents, travellers, squatters and those of us not rich or powerful enough to squirm out of our own hypocrisy.

In *Class War 62* we featured a Rogues Gallery of Stephen Milligan, Tim Yeo, Alan Duncan, David Ashby, Garry Waller and Lord Caithness. These MPs and Tory ministers all had a few too many used condoms and suspender belts to explain away.

This issue, the spotlight beams on the particularly unsavoury spectacle of Alan Clark, the man who said:

"I suppose my morality is different to most peoples."

ROGUES GALLERY



CLARK AND JANE: TWISTED

At the beginning of June, the tabloids and broadsheet papers were full of lurid details about ex defence minister, Alan 'trouser snake' Clark.

Clark is a ruling class Eton schoolboy, known to be a rampant nationalist and right-winger. He's slagged feminists off; he's a good buddy of Thatcher and he seems to have quite a history of not being able to control what he does with his penis.

In case you missed the media coverage, Clark has had countless affairs, and boasted about them, during his 36 years of marriage to Jane. The bloke's published his diaries, hence all the outrage. His wife's comment tells exactly where she's

coming from:

"If you bed people of below-stairs class, they will go to the papers".

What kind of patronising shit is this? Perhaps just a case of a ruling class woman backing her man at her own expense.

The real issue is that Clark admits to having had sex with his old mate, Judge Harkess' wife and her two daughters, during the same period of time, when one of the girls was 14 and the other just 15 years old.

Under the Indecency with Children Act 1960, the bastard could go to gaol. Knowing how power and privilege work, if he gets a sentence, it'll probably be a lenient one. In the meantime, his diary will no doubt sell



THE HARKESS': BLOODSUCKERS

well, and he'll be getting lots of attention and offers from TV stations and newspapers.

The Harkess family, who've lived in Cape Town, South Africa, since 1976, are over gunning for as much as they can get: not justice, but money.

DIRTY WORK

They've employed the Public Relations 'whizz kid', Max Clifford, to do their dirty work for them, and somehow, the horrors of sexual abuse of young women have taken a second place to radio interviews and the selling of 'exclusives' to the gutter rags.

They've even gone so far as to claim that Clark has a 'love child' 24 years old - whether it's true or not is irrelevant to these elite scum.

When money and publicity are concerned, they seem to be prepared to do or say anything.

If Clark was a working class plumber, or a teacher, unemployed, or a single mother, the media would have lynched him. He'd be facing many uncomfortable and fearful years inside, as a Rule 43 prisoner, and he'd be the pervert we all get encouraged to hate.

But some journalists have said that what Clark does is fulfil many male fantasies. This is doubtful anyway, but fantasy is NOT reality.

If there's one law for them and one for us, let's hope Clark dies of overprivilege and media attention before he even gets to court.

NO SEX PLEASE - WE'RE CAPITALISTS

Nick Fischer's AIDS prevention booklet *"Your Pocket Guide To Sex"* was recently withdrawn on the orders of Health Minister Dr. Brian Mawhinney, who said that it's "smutty".

This has been followed by the Health Education Authority withdrawing another 10 publications that deal with HIV and sex. In January Baroness Cumberlege forced the dropping of an anti AIDS campaign that was quite sensibly promoting the use of condoms and safe sex.

She said that only one of it's planned adverts was "acceptable". The establishment regarding even sexual health education as smutty and unacceptable shows just how immature, hypocritical and alienated from nature they actually are.

Due to this state enforced ignorance these perverts can now be seen as having the blood and suffering of people with AIDS and unwanted pregnancies on their hands. Just what do they think is "acceptable"?

PERVERSE

When you look for proof in their behaviour, it seems very clear: sexual harassment by the boss at work, using prostitutes, rape, child abuse and sexual assault; or, for that matter, putting up with unhappy relationships and sexual confusion and unfulfillment - these are all products of a class society, with a hierarchy like ours.

By late June, Penguin Books had bought the rights to the book and were peddling it as a racy and controversial bit of smut.

Sexual repression and misinformation is the meanest con put upon young people by the powers that be.

CHINOOK CHOPPER'S TOP TEN

Following the glorious news of no less than 25 members of Special Branch, MI5 and army top brass meeting their maker, courtesy of faulty electronics, or living proof that their is a god. We bring you the pilots' top ten hits, compiled hurriedly, just before metal met rock:

1. MULL OF KINTYRE Paul McCartney
2. GREAT BALLS OF FIRE Jerry Lee Lewis
3. TRAGEDY The Bee Gees
4. GROUND LEVEL Stereo MCs
5. HERE COMES THAT SINKING FEELING The Eurythmics
6. RESCUE ME Madonna
7. BURNING SKY The Jam
8. IF YOU ALL GET TO HEAVEN Terence Trent D'Arby
9. I SAY A LITTLE PRAYER Aretha Franklin
10. SHOOT YOU DOWN Stone Roses

SCREW YOU!

Prisons are once again at boiling point. The state is so intent on banging anyone up who doesn't fit their idea of a model worker - obedient, loyal and willing to work for peanuts - that the UK prison population is now fast approaching 50,000.

But there's good news. Somebody escapes from behind bars every 38 hours.

Assaults on prison officers have leapt up to a massive 21% over the last year; and there's increasing resistance from those inside. One maximum security prison, Full Sutton, near York, has released the following figures for 1993: 6 concerted acts of 'indiscipline', 2 demonstrations, 7 fires, 17 incidents of food refusal, 16 home leave 'failures', 5 escape attempts, 17 drug finds and 28 assaults - that's just one prison! The



situation is the same all over, and the state is terrified that this summer will see a repeat of the prison riots of the past few years. Ministers are so worried that they've ordered new trials of electronic tagging to start in Manchester, Reading and Norfolk next year. The tags will be used alongside curfew orders which are meant to keep 'offenders' under house arrest from dawn to dusk. This crap idea was thought up by a

demented American judge, who got it from a Superman comic! It doesn't work (one bloke even complained it came off "during sexual activities"), so that's good news. Despite the obvious humour factor, tagging is all about bringing prison discipline into YOUR home. But if the state wants a prison in every front room, let's give 'em **Strangeways on every street corner.**

JIM SCREWED IT FOR ME

Sir Jimmy Saville, Britain's one-man charity, had a pretty uncomfortable brush with reality recently when he had to run a marathon of abuse from over 100 disabled protesters.

The venue: Leeds train station. The cause: a very expensive garden. The sides: on the one side, the disabled protesters and their able-bodied supporters, organised by the disabled peoples' Direct Action Network. On

the other, an assortment of stuffed suits, from the Lord Mayor to rail officials, alongside the stuffed shell suit of Jimmy.

The protest was against the spending of £40,000 on a garden for the disabled when Leeds city station still has no passenger lifts to platforms. Anyone not able to use the stairs is relegated to a goods lift.

Once on the train itself, there's at best only room for one wheelchair user per carriage - meaning two can't

travel together. In fact, disabled people sometimes have to travel in the guards van along with luggage.

A lovely photo opportunity for Jimmy's album was spoiled by the protesters occupying the garden, shouting "Piss on Pity!" and "Jimmy off our backs!", leaving Sir James looking like someone had spiked his cigar.

How's about that then, guys and gals...?

SLASH THE RICH, NOT HEALTH CARE

Rich sponger, Tony Anstee managed to swindle the tax payers out of £100,982 in a "relocation package" scam.

Halton Health Authority in Cheshire employed this leech as a General Manager from October 1989 to Autumn 1993, when he took 'early retirement'. The auditor found that in addition to the health authority legally paying him £127,147 removal expenses (!), a further £92,780 was paid for loss of capital on his London home, £5,699 in property maintenance and £2,503 in other expenses, giving a grand total of £228,129 - all this while nurses are told to make do scraping around trying to find lousy accommodation on their lousy wages.

Could Tony be a contender for intensive care, we wonder.

FAT, ROUND, BURIED UNDERGROUND

John Smith was *"The best prime minister we never had"*, according to the Daily Mirror. They're right, the only good primes minister is not having one.

But political friends and so-called enemies heaped on praise as did the media. What this shows is how they're really on the same side - the side of the capitalists and the privileged.

The 'debates' and political confrontations between Labour and Tory are no more than pillow fights: a circus for the masses, to pretend there is a real choice, when the difference between them is no thicker than a gnat's willy.

There is no real political war being waged in the House of Commons, but there is by the army, police, DSS, Child Support Agency and other parts of government and state, used to keep us down.

A decent man? He was good to his family, and as far as we know, didn't take direct bribes. He may even have been sincere about caring for the poor and homeless, but only in the way that someone cares about a pet dog - and the working class should never wag its tail for anyone.

PILLOW FIGHTS

John Major called Smith a great debater, a man without malice, meaning that he let him off the hook when the going got tough. He was hated by many relatives, who regarded him as a traitor to Scotland.

We were quite surprised when he died - we always thought he was a cardboard cut-out. He may have had the friendly face of the bank manager, but then bank managers smile just before robbing you. John Smith was a Christian Socialist, with a paternalistic view of the working class - he was the head of Her Majesty's loyal opposition, against trade unions and a mover to the right of the Labour Party.

He offered us nothing and his death is no loss.

CLASS HATRED

Regular readers will know how much we love Princess Di.

Indeed, it has to be said that our favourite slogan is undoubtedly "di, baby, di".

But enough of that. It has recently been bought to our attention that Di is currently spending £3,000 per week on personal grooming. Now if that is not a good argument for involuntary euthanasia we don't know what is.

WE ANNOUNCE

On the subject of the royals (dontcha love 'em?) we are pleased to announce that London Class War have just bought out a new sticker - "the great royal debate: do we hang them or do we shoot them?"

Grab some while stocks last by writing to London CW at PO BOX 467, London, E8 3QX (enclose a donation).

PUT IT ON THE SLATE

Up until last year, villages around the closed pits in the Durham coalfield were frequent scenes of mini insurrections against the forces of law and order. From time to time Stainforth and Edlington in Doncaster have followed suit.

In late May it was South Elmshall, with over 1000 village folk having a go at the cops drafted in from all over Yorkshire to deal with 'the riot'. Cop cars were put belly up, windscreens shattered and police bricked in a real act of community policing, involving old and young in an evening of fun.

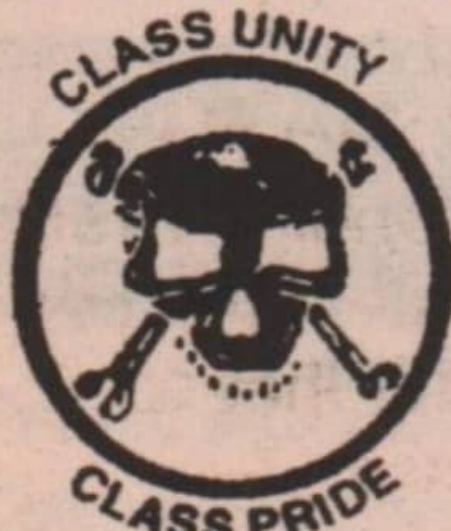
NO TROUBLE

Trouble, well it wasn't trouble really, occurred when a lad, pissed off with life in general, sat on a roof and started lobbing slates around. A small crowd urged the police who arrived to leave sharpish, and that the local community would sort the matter out itself. No mining village ever need the help of thugs who invaded so many villages and occupied them in 1984/5.

However, the local bobbies still hung around looking for bother, claiming that they were 'enforcing the law'. At this point people decided the cops were due a good thumping, more than the lad on the roof, and they made this very clear with a method the working class has become accustomed to.

It might not have occurred to PC Boothead and his mates but pit communities really aren't his pals and he'd do well to do himself a favour and stay out of them - unless someone gets hurt.

Class War Colliers.



COMPETITION, CUTS, CHAOS AND COMMUNITY CARE

We are increasingly being told by bosses and politicians that 'community care' services are improving. If you weren't born yesterday, you'll know that this is a sick joke.

The Government's community care initiative is a con. People are being thrown on to the streets, or left alone in their homes to fend for themselves, while services crumble around them. Workers face pay cuts, longer hours and atrocious working conditions.

We are not stupid. We deserve better than this. It's time that workers and families at the cutting edge of community care stopped trying to paper over the cracks and started organising together - along with users - to resist the attacks of community care. People have a right to care according to need, not their wage packet.

CARELESS

The Government's Community Care Act last year introduced wholesale competition. Privatised care companies, many of them profit making, are buying up day centres, homes and other services. Care organisations now undercut each other, the aim being to pay the lowest wages, and to get away with providing as few staff as possible, working under the worst conditions.

They present the filthy lie, along with politicians, that it's going well and that services are actually improving.

Charges for caring for old people have massively increased and now, for the first time, people with learning difficulties and mental health problems are being told that they have to pay for day or

like other workers.

The government and the bosses have, up to now, been able to use this situation to walk all over us. The few areas of active workplace union organisation are being



home care. The most needy, and the people with the least money are asked to pay for services they can't afford.

Most community care workers are not organised in unions. Many work in small, often demoralised workplaces, and don't have an opportunity to get together,

attacked, and shop stewards, or anyone else who speaks out, are being "de recognised" and and/or victimised by management.

The priorities of the current unions provide no real protection for workers and often act to disempower, in terms of actually defending

ourselves. Union leaders' strategy is increasingly to rely on European law to protect us, wait for a Labour government, and meanwhile send out glossy magazines, offering cheap insurance and holidays. This is an insult to workers who are on poverty level wages and daily fighting to keep jobs and basic employment rights.

Workers have nothing in common with the careerists, bureaucrats and profit-mongers. They are out to exploit us and people being cared for, for their own ends.

It's vital that we defend the right for genuine, free, community based services for people's real needs.

There is enough money to provide work and resources to meet the needs of everyone. But at the moment, after years of all-out attacks on services, government and the bosses are happy to keep it for themselves, and for us to fight over the few scraps that they throw us. They will keep taking away our services as long as we let them get away with it.

The agenda of those in power is very different to ours. They have their own private health schemes, paid for from the profits we have made for them. We need to take on the bosses at their own game. We can sabotage their profits and lies by "whistle blowing": publicising the truth about what is happening to services.

We need to resist and campaign against the many ruthless anti-union care companies now taking over

services. We need to take direct action: Workers' and users' occupations of services that the bosses try to close. We need to get on the streets - with users - taking strike action when necessary, and expose where managers are making cuts. If those in power are threatening to close down and vandalise our services we need to respond in kind.

"We have to get organised.

Community care is a hot potato - and we know who it should burn."

We are the ones who do the work and run the services. We have nothing in common with those who are attacking our right to provide decent services. We also have nothing in common with the leaders of UNISON who have no intention of stopping what is happening. They don't do the work we do - They just live off our union dues, and make an occasional statement about how bad the Government is.

If we organise together and decide what action to take on the strength of what we think is practical, not on what union leaders want us to do, we have the power to bring a halt to the destruction, and to start to build for a different system in which we look after each other as a community.

By a community care shop steward. East London

WITH A HAMMER HERE AND A HAMMER THERE

It is with great sadness that we report on two savage attacks on leading British National Party (BNP) members. We have all been crying so hard that we have hardly had time to write this story.

Attack one: Michael Davidson, BNP local election candidate in Newham (East London), met 10 men. There then followed a full and frank exchange of views on the question of race and nation. Unfortunately for Davidson, his opponents had iron bars at hand to help them with their argument.

A RESULT

The final result was Davidson in hospital, minus an eye. So we can now say not only is he thick, he's half-blind as well. Doesn't it break your heart?

Attack two: Mike Newland, BNP press officer, answered a knock at the door of his flat. Three men with hammers in hand proceeded to quiz him on

his political positions. He fell to the floor with severe head injuries such was the strength of their argument. Later reports suggested that the men used a Pest Control vehicle to gain entry into Newland's flat. A suitable vehicle if ever there was one.

LAUGHING

After we stopped crying we started laughing - and we laughed and laughed and laughed. These bastards had it coming for them and we offer full congratulations to those who very satisfactorily did them.

The full-of-shit 'Searchlight' magazine is trying to say that they were done by other fascists. This is bollocks. 'Searchlight' just wants to present fascists as big, nasty, violent criminals and anti-fascists as these sweet, nice, passive liberal democratic types.

The only way to get rid

of fascists is by putting the boot in to them and their poisonous anti-working class ideas. And most importantly into the system that has spawned them

and allowed them to survive. Fascists aren't some horrible plague from outer space. They stand alongside the police, the state and the ruling class

as problems that we have got to deal with. And certainly Davidson and Newland were very nicely dealt with - more from where that came from please!

COURTING DISASTER



The above picture shows four members of fascist British National Party en route to be sentenced by a Leicester court for affray in Mansfield town centre.

The four attacked a group campaigning against hospital closures.

Adrian and Stephen Belshaw got 80 hours community service. Simon Chadwick and Graham Tasker got a pathetic 120 hours community service. We're sure the East Midlands' Asian, Black and gay communities could think up a more appropriate sentence

For some time fascists have thought the East Mid-

lands was pretty much a stronghold for them. Their activities to date include a gig - an event so 'hard' that it needed a police escort; a few 'secret' gigs and a handful of paper sales in small towns around the area. Not what you'd call a stronghold. This amounts to nothing. With strong opposition, these members of their own disaster race hardly show their faces.

But with this and another attack on a bookshop ending in the arrest of all of them, they aren't doing too well, much to the amusement of locals who see them as annoyingly pathetic thugs who cause trouble.

With BNP candidates standing in local elections this motley crew of social inadequates can't be seen as any alternative to even our current gang of privileged, low life murderers and money makers in government.

ABBOTT - TURN

There has been a lot of nonsense talked recently in the north London borough of Hackney.

First off was the widely despised local MP, Diana "in for a penny, in for a pound" Abbott.

Diana laid down the law at the TUC anti-racist demonstration in March. She declared that racism must be fought "by any means necessary". Radical words indeed for a Labour MP.

But, fear not, she had soon swallowed them. The Labour council leader John "no brain" MacCafferty demanded that our Diana withdraw her declaration. Without a whisper she did, saying that what she had really meant was that racism must be fought "by any means necessary.. within the law".

WHINGED

Silly us thinking otherwise, thinking that Diana was upholding our right to put a boot in any racists' face. What is it that they say? Never trust the Labour Party? All politicians are lying scum? Something along those lines we think.

And talking of lying, the Socialist Workers Party recently featured in the local rag, 'The Hackney Gazette'. The SWPers had been having problems getting a meeting together on council premises. Apparently the police had put pressure to the council to not allow the meeting, of course the council had bent over backwards to satisfy the cops.

So what did the SWPers do? They whinged on about how the police should not be harassing them, they should be harassing the fascists (the meeting was supposed to be on fascism). Talk about a bunch of pillocks - what planet do these people come from? What do they think the police's function is? To be nice to old ladies? To find lost moggies? To help Johnny cross the road? Bollocks! The old bill's function is to keep us in line - and that's that.

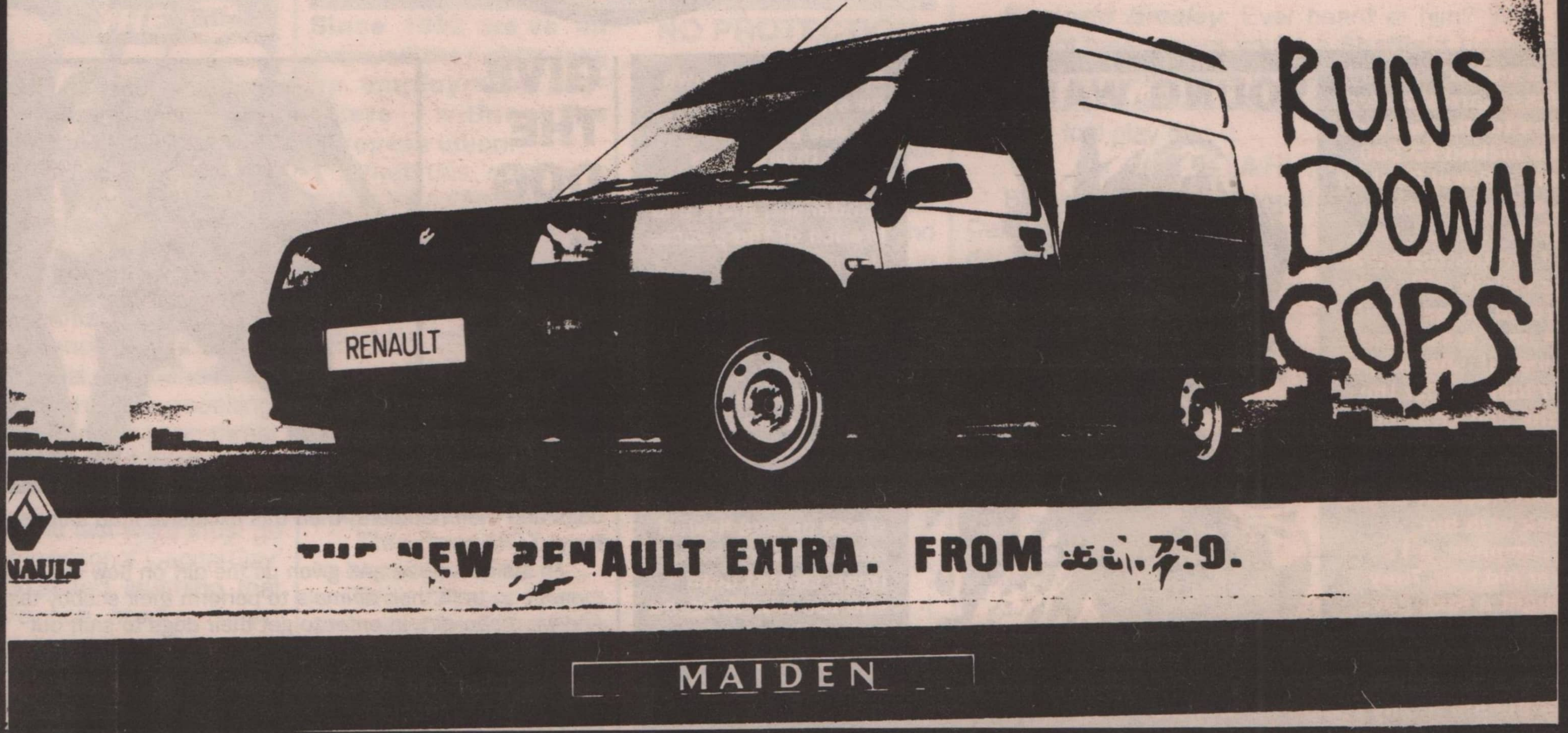
STENCH

And now for the last bit of nonsense from Hackney: it's from local people's favourite place, the flying pig sty, better known as Stoke Newington Police Station. The stench of corruption and brutality is still seeping out from behind its shiny glass front. The top cops are still play the line of "corruption? what corruption?" despite the growing mountain of evidence. Their sole concern is to cover up and cover up fast. Whoever mentioned "justice", or "the law?"

Anyone who thinks that the police believe in that needs a new brain. What we think is that they are all a bunch of lying scum: Abbott, MacCafferty, the council, the SWP, the police. Talk about birds of a feather - or how about pigs can fly?

GRAFFITI COMPETITION WINNER

WORKING CLASS HERO.



SCUMBAG - MARK 1

Geoffrey Robinson is Labour MP for Coventry North West.

But he's more than just some mere MP. He's a high flyer, a big wheel, an industrialist - and he's got a lifestyle of sheer opulence and wealth.

This man (remember he's a Labour MP, a representative of the 'people's party') has recently bought a new house: Marsh Court, a snip at £800,000.

It stands in 47 acres of garden, has 15 principal bedrooms (plus five "other" bedrooms), a billiard room, four cottages, a swimming pool... and more.

But Marsh Court is not his only home - Christ, no. What do you expect a Labour MP to do? Live in poverty? Robinson also owns an eight-bedroom mansion in Godalming, Surrey (a long long long way away from his constituency in Coventry). He bought this humble little pile in 1984 for £300,000 - what a bargain!

To help him get between his two mansions, Parliament



ROBINSON: RICH USELESS PRAT

and various business interests (a man with fingers in many pies), Geoffrey has two chauffeur-driven Jags. *Did someone say it's alright for some?*

Despite being an MP, Robinson doesn't often go to Parliament. Last year he participated in a mere 40% of the votes (over 600 MPs did better than him!).

Now we are not saying that we believe MPs should vote - in fact, we think that they should be shot. But just think what would happen if we only turned up to work 40% of the time. We wouldn't last for long. Robinson has been an MP since March 1976. A long time to sit on your arse and do sweet FA.

But the Labour Party aren't going to kick him out because he's a millionaire. The only people that the Labour Party kick out are those on the left. Did someone mutter something about "voting Labour but with no illusions"? Don't make us laugh!

Robinson recently got into a punch-up with another

Labour MP because one of his companies was closing down its factory and moving over to Ireland - where wages are lower and profits are higher. No business like good business! Now what was the Labour Party policy on that...?

A while ago Geoffrey shot his son in the foot. All that we can say is that it's a shame that he didn't turn the gun on himself first - and in the mouth as well.

The Labour Party is rotten to the core, a capitalist organisation through and through. Scum like Robinson show clearly how true this is: a Labour MP who has got more money than he knows what to do with, a man surrounded by wealth, power and possessions - a man who undoubtedly deserves our award of scumbag of the year.

(If you would like to contact Geoffrey yourself, you can ring him on 0483 419497 or write to him at Orchards, Munstead Heath, Godalming, Surrey, GU8 4AR or how about popping around to see him one day?)

AND MARK 2

Last September a 30-ton lorry laden with limestone careered out of control in the Yorkshire village of Sowerby Bridge.

It crashed into a row of shops and houses killing six people. After the crash a team of investigators discovered that both front brakes were worn through, right to the rivets, and that the lorry should never have been allowed on the road.

Nine months later, the case finally comes to court, where Fewston Transport Ltd.

were charged with running a defective lorry. It turns out that it was more than 30 days overdue for a maintenance check and that one driver had already complained about the brakes.

Faced with these facts, the company pleaded guilty to the offence and was fined just £5,000. That's less than £850 for each of the people it murdered. They even tried to suggest in court that the driver, one of the dead, might have been at fault.

If you've ever wondered how the bastards who run these sorts of companies can sleep at night, *Class War* can give you the chance to find out.

Ring Fewston Transport Ltd, on 0765 76235 and ask to speak to the managing director. Or why not pay them a visit - in a 30-ton truck of course - at Rock cottage, Skipton 'rock Quarry, Harrogate Road, Skipton.

The boss disease needs the severest treatment.

FROM OUR NEW ZEALAND CORRESPONDENT...

As we all know, when it came to dishing out brains cops weren't at the back of the queue, they were wandering around trying to FIND the queue.

So it should come as no surprise to find that a pair of particularly intellectually challenged coppers managed to hospitalise themselves, and a local youth when they crashed their patrol car after they decided to re-enact a high speed crash that had happened only 45 minutes earlier!

The two cops in Auckland, New Zealand, were attending the scene of a crash that ended up with a car losing control and careering into a electricity pole.

As the pair were obviously frustrated method actors they then thought "we can do that", and they did, complete with having the fire brigade spending twenty minutes cutting them out of their wrecked patrol car.

Senior Sergeant MacGibbon said later that re-enacting crashes was "not normal procedure".

What a shame.

crafty, cutting comment from...

SALLY SKULL



This month's *Young Class Warrior* award goes to the two kids who nicked £2,500 from a Royal Bank of Scotland branch in Dundee. An 11 year old girl distracted a bank clerk with some foreign notes. While his back was turned, whoosh!, she slipped her hand under the grille and grabbed a bag containing the cash. Then she lazily sauntered out of the bank with her accomplice, a 12 year old boy. They caught a taxi, gave the driver a £20 note and told him to keep the change. When the Old Bill finally caught up with the daring duo, they found less than half the money stuffed into a rucksack in the girl's bedroom—the rest had

YOUNG WARRIOR

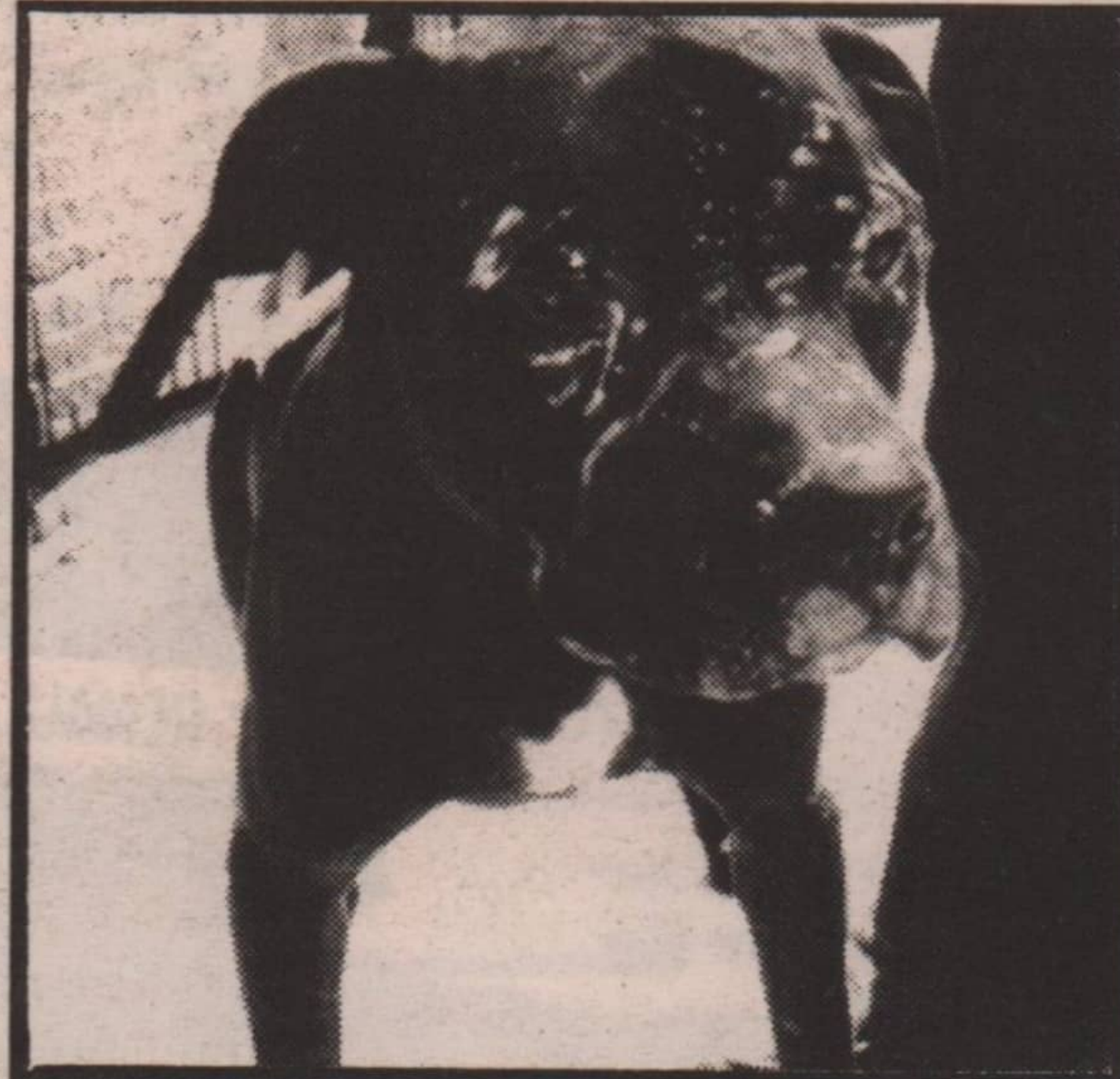


OF THE MONTH

already been blown on sweets and arcade games. With previous convictions for vandalism, theft and breach of the peace, the girl was identified in court as being the brains behind the blagging: she got two years detention. As the sentence was read, she lashed out and attacked the cops, while her mum stood up and hurled abuse at the sheriff (magistrate) until she too was dragged out of the court. Under legal rules, neither the girl nor the boy can be named—but wherever you are, *Class War* hopes you're well and wishes you both better luck next time. Stay cool.

GIVE THE DOG A BONE

PART ONE: If you've ever wondered about that 'special relationship' between police dogs and their handlers, then this exclusive little snippet is for you...



An inside source has given us the dirt on how the police manage to train their animals to perform their scabby tasks. And we mean *dirt*. In order to get their dogs to sniff out drugs, cops will slowly wank them off and then slip a lump of hash (or whatever) under the dog's nose right at the crucial moment. The theory is that the next time the dogs sniff out a bit of blow (blow?!), they'll associate the smell with orgasm and go sex-crazy. Now I know why those sick bastards are called dog handlers...

PART TWO: Of course there are some people who think that animals just aren't capable of class consciousness. PC Steve Hodgkins knows different. Last summer, the brave young copper and his colleague spotted three blokes having a drink outside a bank in London. Brainless Steve decided that this must be an offence under the 'Keeping the Working Class off the Streets Act' and moved in to make an arrest. He'd reckoned without Coco the dog... Coco is a Staffordshire bull terrier belonging to one of the three blokes. Steve the Fuckwit got as far as asking what sort of dog it was—and then Coco clamped its jaws round the copper's groin. Now the thing about bull terriers is that once they've got hold of something, they'll shake it, they'll pull it, but they won't let go. Poor old Steve—permanently scarred. When the case went to trial Coco's owner was found guilty of assault. But the judge got one thing right, saying: "I feel rather sorry for the dog." Give the dog a bone. Woof, woof!

ARSEWIPES

Sad and lonely Prince Charles may have had the best education money can buy, but he's still as thick as pig shit.

Recently he's been making a lot of noises that sound suspiciously like the Tories' 'Back to Basics' campaign. Unfortunately no-one seems to have told our Chas that 'Back to Bollocks' is already swirling around in a cesspit of its own making. So what are Charlie's speeches about?

• **Education.** Charles has never been near your average comprehensive—and it shows...

• **Housing.** Charles' idea of a housing problem is deciding which multi-million pound house he's going to live in—and which one he's going to give to his wife.

• **Child rearing.** What do you pay an army of nannies for?

• **The police.** Doing a wonderful job in difficult circumstances.

• **Marriage.** Ermm, nothing about marriage...

• **Regicide (mass murder of royals).** Ermm...

According to Jug-ears, all of Britain's problems would be solved if we could just "change our attitude". Dickbrain! On the other hand, he did say that smacking kids was alright. *Class War* readers should form an orderly queue outside the gates of Prince Harry's school.

While I'm on the subject of little shits, I see that Princess Diana has sent Charles her 'personal grooming' bill for 1993. Total cost for one year's pampering of this royal parasite: £160,000.

That includes £18,000 for private holidays and £17,000 for manicures. Diana also spent £1200 on underwear—which seemed a lot until I remembered that she shells out £1500 for 'colonic irrigation' (which involves warm soapy water being pumped up her arse every fortnight).

You're being ripped off, Di. Colonic irrigation is a total waste of money. Let's face it, when we put you and your whole bloodsucking family up against the wall, you're still going to shit yer pants.

"John Smith was a man with a great heart." Anne Diamond on daytime TV wins this month's Sally Skull award for Biting Sarcasm

"Labour leader John Smith should be telling Major to get out at every opportunity." *'Socialist Worker'* editorial two days after John Smith's death. But then again, supporting a corpse is nothing new for the zombies of the SWP...

"Nobody trusts him. Nobody really likes him." Anonymous transport union leader on why Tony Blah-Blah-Blair is ideal Labour leadership material

"When I do it, I go somewhere where it's posh and they've got money—they've got a lot more money than us."

Damien, a 14 year-old burglar on BBC's 'Panorama' programme, proves that class-conscious crime is alive and kicking

"One in six MPs feels they are overworked and have little control over their lives." Occupational psychologist Ashley Weinberg makes my heart bleed for those poor little bastards in Parliament living it up at our expense

"I would burn the bloody bitches... I can't see how a woman can represent Jesus. I would shoot the bastards." Rev Anthony Kennedy speaks out against women priests. Like all the God-squad, he's got it arse-backwards: all priests should die, not just the women, and it's crucifixion they need, not shooting...

"The secret of the astonishing success of the British police is that we are all-rounders, providing a comprehensive service to the public." Richard Coyles, chairman of the Police Federation, at the launch of the Fed's new handbook, '57 all-round ways to comprehensively beat up, frame and imprison the public'

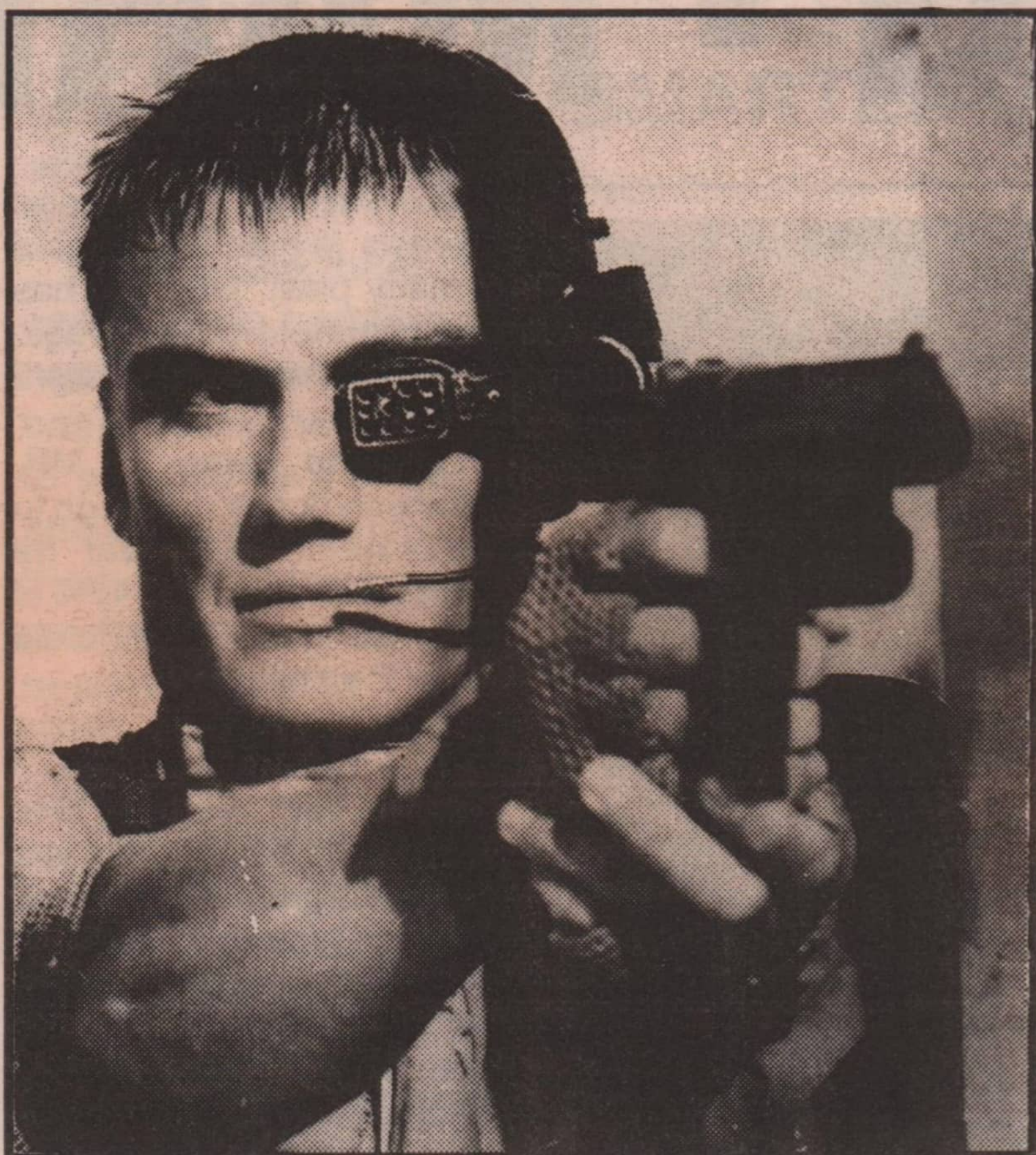
"It's not acceptable to be out on the street. There's no justification for it these days. It's very offensive." John Major invites the homeless to squat the House of Commons, No. 10 and every other rich bastard's house

ARM THE WORKING CLASS

Pepper sprays, body armour, American telescopic truncheons, an increase in the number of armed officers patrolling the streets... I'm not going to cry crocodile tears over the death of the 'traditional British bobby'.

That whole Dixon of Dock Green image was just one more stinking lie, designed to keep us in our place and make us think that coppers were innocent, harmless figures put on the earth to do God's work.

I'll say it again. The police have always existed to protect the rich and their property and to stop us getting what's rightfully ours. And we've always hated them for it. As my little brother says, "Until they resign, they are all legitimate targets." One old lady who the



cops won't be helping across the road is 81 year old Margaret Thomas. She was murdered by a speeding cop car just outside her home in west London. She died on the same day as John

Smith: her death got just five lines in the press. The pig who killed her can carry a gun, wear body armour and drive a tank for all I care: one day he'll be made to pay in full for his crime.

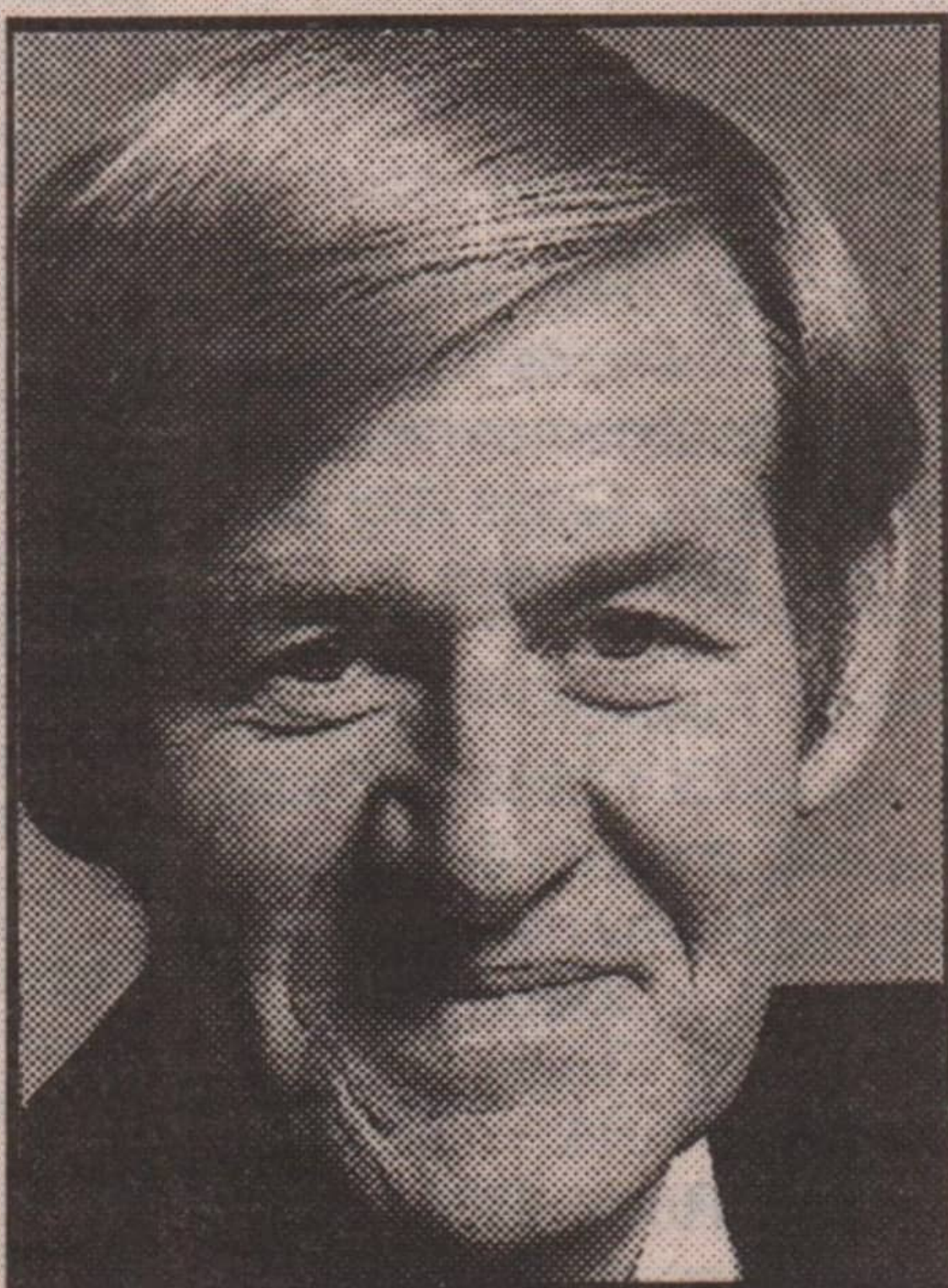
OLD BOYS JOB CLUB

No 3 in a series of jobs you're unlikely to be offered

BOSS OF KINGFISHER

Qualifications: Kingfisher are the huge retail group who own Woolworths, B&Q, Superdrug and Comet, so you'll need to be a fully qualified megalomaniac getting your kicks from owning the crap shops that clutter up every high street

Salary: Sadly because of the recession, your basic pay will only be £622,000 per year. But Kingfisher will add a performance-related bonus of £323,000 (that's a bonus for recent staff lay-offs). And then there's the long-term incentive of £105,000 (that's an incentive for you to carry on laying off staff). Oh and did we mention the pension contributions of £264,000? All in all, it's a tidy £1.31 million a year. That's over £25,000 a week—about £600 an hour. Sorry, but that's all the firm can afford at the moment, old chap...



Post presently filled by Sir Geoffrey Mulcahy. All over the world Woolworths is famous for cheap crap so it's nice to know it's run by an overpaid shitbag.

WHO'S RECOVERY?

A report by the International Labour Organisation says that there is 30% of the world's workers unemployed, that's 820 million people, either without work completely or employed sporadically. Of these 120 million are "officially" unemployed.

If we look at Germany, the major European power, it will be obvious that this mythical recovery in the economy is nothing more than capitalist propaganda. Germany is right up shit creek. It has the highest levels of unemployment since the 1930s depression - 4 million officially out of work. And more redundancies are on the way. 50,000 jobs are expected to go at Daimler-Benz and another 30,000 in the chemical industry. According to the ruling class' economists, a growth in production of 2.5% is needed to put a halt to rising European unemployment.

LAUGHABLE

But politicians and their economic experts - the laughable '7 wise men' - use the media to herald 'the recovery'. A recovery for who? Not for the working class, that's for sure. The only way out of a crisis is to exploit your work force more than your competitors exploit their's, and this is exactly what's happening at the moment. When a company says it's 'improving

productivity' you can be sure they're laying people off, demanding pay cuts, longer hours and lower safety standards.

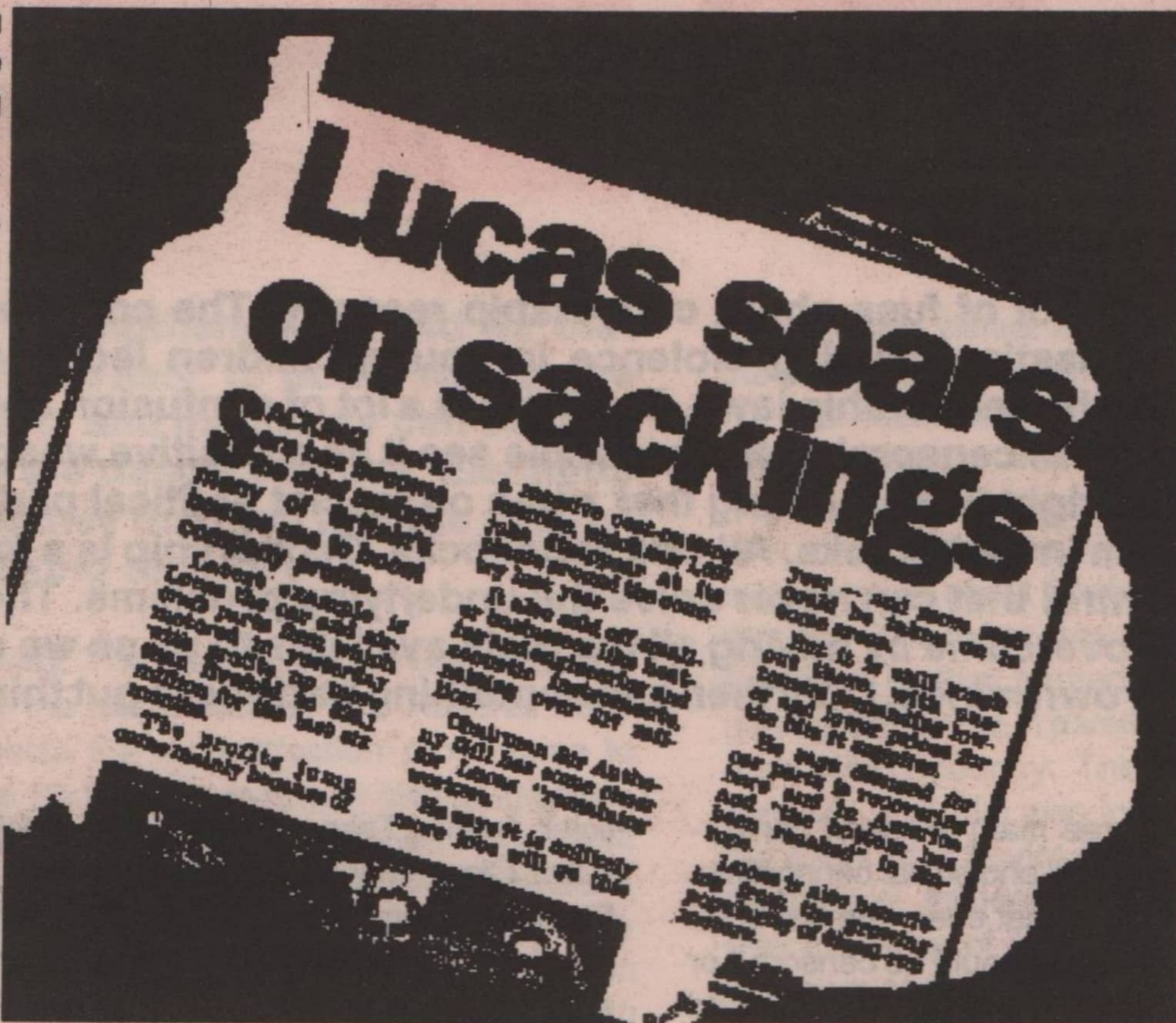
SKY HIGH

Just take a look at Lucas Aerospace. The company's profits jumped fivefold to £20.1 million in six months after they sacked 1,000 workers. This just goes to show who's benefiting from this "recovery" - the bosses and their shareholders.

The chances of workers being better off are nothing more than a joke. Any jobs that are created are largely part time, low paid and un-unionised. Jobs for life are a thing of the past. This is good news for the bosses.

PIE IN THE SKY

High unemployment is here to stay because capitalism needs a reserve army of labour to keep down wage increases, allowing the bosses keep more of the surplus for themselves. Any talk of a return to full employment under capitalism is wishful thinking. Plenty of decent jobs tips the scales in favour of the workers who can pick and choose where they work, and demand wage



increases without fear of the unemployed being given their jobs.

WORKFARE

But high unemployment is expensive, and those on the dole quickly lose faith in the bullshit work ethic. That's why the government are planning to make the unemployed "work" for their benefits, forcing them to do all the shit jobs no self respecting worker would do, and to re-educate them into the work ethic. If this idea, known as Workfare in the US, is tried over here there is a real threat that solidarity between workers and the workless will be further eroded. We mustn't fall into

this trap. We're all in this together.

The bottom line has to be our struggle to survive from day to day, aiming for something much better than this shit.

CHOKE

The workers at Middlebrook Mushrooms have been doing just this, striking against wage cuts and worsening conditions. It is they and the rest of the class in struggle around the world who prove we don't have to take this shit lying down. The bosses can choke on their talk of recovery. **Bollocks to it and bollocks to them!**

The only good union boss...

You know what we think of bureaucrats "the only good one is a dead one!" Well, Class War has received even more information to support this idea - the salaries of top union bosses.

Leading the fat wad stakes is a certain Alan Johnson, boss of the posties' Union of Communication Workers. He's on a nice £72,570 a year, unlike his members who average £14,000. It's alright for some!

Johnson's most recent act, apart from sitting on his arse, was to condemn Merseyside postal workers on a

scab and fat wad stakes. Doug McAvoy of the NUT gets around £71,000 and has tried to break more strikes than we've had hot dinners!

Then there's Alan Jkinson, top dog of UNISON, who pulls in a mere £60,000. He's currently presiding over 10% pay increases for his senior union buddies such as Rodney Bickerstaffe while most of Unison's members are facing a wage freeze!

PRESSURE

These bastards are obviously part of the problem. They pretend to be on our



Boot in the Balls

A woman in Bensham, Newcastle, recently won the hearts of all of us who like to see the police get a good kickin'.

After being confronted at her door by two officers she got the hump and chased them down the garden path, kicking one of them in the bollocks. In court, the prosecution said the officer "suffered extreme pain and severe discomfort". All together now, "aah, poor little dear." Now that's a bit rich considering the amount of violence they regularly dish out to us.

She was alleged to have said, "which one of you two do I have to hit first?". The answer, in unison, was most

probably "HIM!". She didn't have to pay any compensation because she was skint, leaving her free to commit more acts of working class justice.

But beware of the snakes in the grass! Her defence lawyer declared, "She has a dislike of figures of authority. A police uniform acts like a red rag to a bull." With lawyers like that, who needs enemies?

We've no problem with people hating the police, but don't use it in your defence when your in front of the magistrates.

The good old "no comment" gets more 'not guiltyies' at the end of the day.

wildcat strike and order them back to work immediately.

They told him where he could shove his orders! But again he insulted the very workers who pay his wages by telling members outside Merseyside to scab on the strike. Johnson deserves a good seeing to.

But he's not the worst of a bad bunch, especially in the

side, but try to make sure we don't step out of line.

The only "pressure" we should put on them is a size 11 between the eyes. If more workers followed the example of the Merseyside posties and took things into their own hands then the union bosses would be on the dole, where they belong!

Daylight Robbery

Closing the coal mines and putting VAT are fuel are two forms of state robbery. One has robbed people of jobs, and the other is robbing people who can't afford their fuel bills in the first place.

But recently the Women Against Pit Closures at Parkside Colliery in Lancashire decided to organise some "robbery" of their own.

200 STRONG

Parkside was closed 16 months ago, but there was still enough coal to sink a ship left lying on the site, which British Coal claimed it couldn't sell. The Parkside women knew local people could find a use for it. On 1st April, the day VAT was put on fuel, they

got 200 people to turn up at the colliery. Armed with buckets and shovels, they walked in and helped themselves.

This was done under the noses of a few local coppers, who couldn't make up their minds whether it was a 'crime' or not. British Coal committed the real crime by losing 6000 jobs when it shut Parkside. The mine is still being maintained and could easily be reopened.

The Parkside women have camped outside the



colliery gates for the past 16 months. In that time they have occupied the mine and its

buildings several times, but their biggest victory was last October when they prevented

British Coal from filling in the mineshafts. To stop lorries getting in with rubble for infilling, the women chained themselves to entrance gates for ten days and nights. On the tenth night the riot cops went in to get rid of them, but by this time the lorry drivers had given up anyway.

British Coal had the women's pit camp evicted on May 18th, using the excuse that they want to sell the land for redevelopment. They said it would be "disastrous for the local economy" if the firms who want to buy the site went elsewhere.

DISASTER

The biggest bloody disaster to the local economy was closing the mine in the first place. Redevelopment might bring 200 new jobs, but

that's a piss in the ocean compared to the 6,000 jobs there used to be. The women are still there. Five days after the eviction they'd set up a new camp on the opposite side of the road. British Coal is going to try again to fill in the mineshafts. The women are still ready to stop them.

DONATE!

Lancashire Pit Women Against Closures need donations, as British Coal is personally suing one woman for all their legal costs. This is being done out of sheer spite and BC need to be taught a lesson.

Send donations to: Sylvia Pye National Appeal c/o Bernie Cavanagh Common Road Nurseries Short Street Newton-le-Willows Merseyside WA12 9JJ.

IP F R S O S R E E

THE LIES

There's been a lot of fuss about censorship recently. The comments about video nasties causing violence in young children led to the tightening of the censorship laws. But there is a lot of confusion about the whole idea of censorship. Many people see it as a positive weapon if used in the right way, thinking that a ban on fascist political parties will stop them in their tracks. All this is bollocks. Censorship is a form of social control that can never solve the underlying problems. These can only be overcome by having all the facts available to us so we can make up our own minds. Only then can something be done to put things right.

There are three main areas of censorship - media, political and social censorship. The big problem is that everyone has their own idea about what should be censored or not, whether it's the BNP, porno films, lurid lyrics or even *Class War* itself. Confusion reigns because the ruling class play the old game of divide and rule, giving us conflicting information on a regular daily basis.

HYPOCRISY

There are countless examples of such hypocrisy all around us. Children having



Derek Beackon of the BNP: We'd rather 'ban' him permanently than have some politician force him underground where we couldn't get at him and he couldn't make such an idiot of himself.

underage sex become evil products of irresponsible parents, but a skantily clad just-turned 16 year old woman is a sex symbol - and there's nothing wrong with buying tabloids that condemn one while printing the other, is there?

The bosses alone control 'official' censorship and use it to satisfy their own ends. They encourage a few choice bits of hysteria to make us believe they are doing the right thing. In the case of violent films, children and adults are affected by them to some degree, but only in a handful of crimes have they had even the slightest influence. Very few people are that easily brainwashed by an obviously unreal film or cartoon, but it's easy to censor them because 'something has to be done'.

CENSORSHIP IS NOT THE ANSWER!

Censoring anything won't make it go away. It doesn't stop people wanting it, and it doesn't stop people making a profit out of it. In fact it often does quite the opposite. If every porno mag and film was banned, along with every copy of the 'Sun' and the 'Sport', some people would still want to see porno. They'd still buy it at higher prices, lining some bastard's pocket. The problem is not that porno is available. The problem is the sexism encouraged by this society where people are reduced to mere commodities, chunks of flesh, whether it's 'Naughty Nympho Nuns' or 'Gay Stud Spanks Me Silly'. Only when sexism is driven out of our class, and we become sexually liberated, will this degradation finally end.

Media censorship can also take less 'of-

ficial' forms. Take so-called news 'black-outs'. *Class War* was involved in the Anti-Election Alliance during the 1992 general election. The largest anti-election demonstration in recent history passed through the streets of London but not a word was mentioned about it in the press. This is only a small example of how the 'free' press decide what everyone else should know about. This takes us into the area of political censorship.

Here the tactics of confusion and lies are used to the full. The IRA are portrayed as stinking, murdering dogs who deserve to be shot, and have their representatives censored. But the British Army are 'our brave boys' who get paid for carrying out physical and psychological warfare. The ruling class paint such a black and white picture because it allows them to continue with the occupation of Northern Ireland. People who want a wider debate about the issues surrounding the six counties are branded IRA supporters.

PUBLICITY

The bosses clearly understand how dangerous the oxygen of publicity can be to their interests. All states use censorship to some degree, from 'black-outs' to death squads, in order to maintain stability and crush dissent. The British state is no different. But when talking about political censor-

ship it is important to remember what the censor wants to achieve. Representatives of Sinn Fein have been censored to stop criticism of British rule in Northern Ireland while Ian Paisley is allowed to spout his implicit support for the UVF/UFF. Why? Because the Loyalists support the British state and the Republicans don't.

NEO-FASCISM

The state will also use the current hysteria over neo-fascism to divert the working class away from the class struggle. Instead of fighting on our own terrain - strikes, riots, sabotage and direct action - the bosses will try to convince us to defend parliamentary democracy by voting for the mainstream parties and taking part in peaceful demonstrations. Banning the BNP might make it more difficult for them to operate, but they'll still be there. The same would happen with *Class War*, you can be sure of that! Censorship will never destroy an idea, however good or bad it is. Ideas, and the people who hold them, are only eradicated when enough people physically see to it that they are crushed. Hitler knew the score when he said the Nazis were only vulnerable when they were few and weak.

CONTROL

Censoring isn't just an obvious 'ban'. It can be more subtle and merge with other forms of social control such as keeping dole money below poverty levels. This creates an impoverished and immobile section of the working class who are easy pickings for slave labour at £1 an hour. Economic ability is censored. Of course, the ruling class have a field day here and tighten social control at

every opportunity. After the murder of James Bulger they did nothing about the sick and degenerating system that drives children to commit such crimes, but strengthened the laws on child detention and promised to build more prisons.

This just goes to show that the ruling class don't give a fuck to what happens to anyone in working class areas. With shit housing, poor health care and unemployment it goes to show they don't care if rival gangs blow each other away, if joyriders kill innocent bystanders or if children kill babies, as long as there's people willing to have their labour exploited to make their profits. What they are worried about is any outburst of working class struggle, because of the potential it has to take on the capitalist system.

That is why the state is always interested in adding anything it can to its repressive armoury, including censorship - and in waging campaigns that urge us to see them as the only defence against the madness that threatens us from all sides.

TRUST

Censorship and bans are not the answer. We must never depend on the state to do anything for us. We must create and encourage as much debate as possible about issues so we can make up our own minds. The ruling class don't trust us to do this, but we have to trust ourselves.

It has to be our choice to see things as we want to, and destroy them when we see necessary.

video nasties

On the 12th May this year, a new clause to the Criminal Justice Bill was passed in Parliament, allowing the reactionary old gits of the British Board of Film Censors even more powers to control and restrict our freedom to watch films of our choice.

This bill was proposed by Lib Dem MP David Alton (famous for his stupid abortion bill), and it was supported by right wingers Sir Rhodes Boyson and Sir Ivan Lawrence, along with their Labour moralist sidekicks Ken Livingstone, Clare Short and Neil Kinnock

FREEDOM?

Britain's censorship laws are already the strictest and most archaic in Europe - more rigid than even the former Eastern Bloc countries: so much for freedom of choice under capitalism!

For example, *The Lover* was quickly given an '18' certificate in Britain, but passed for all ages in Holland and France. While in Spain and Portugal, censorship is illegal, with films being classified, so you know what you're likely to see, but NOT cut or banned.

The BBFC are now the most powerful film censorship body in Europe and not accountable to anyone. Ten out of thirteen censors on the board will be leaving at the end of the year, with three of them saying they were sacked by their autocratic boss, James Ferman, who's banned them all from speaking publicly!

BE CREATIVE

Ways have to be found to beat these laws: one suggestion is to smuggle in uncut versions of worthwhile film, like *A Clockwork Orange*, not crap and exploitative porn, from the Continent, where they're on public sale.

● Anyone interested in more radical views on censorship could get in touch with: **Feminists Against Censorship**, BM Box 207, London WC1 3XX



S BEHIND

The collapse of the Eastern bloc has strengthened the old lie that capitalist democracy means freedom. From Italy to South Africa, the working class is told that fascism, poverty and inequality can best be defeated through the ballot box. These are dangerous lies. Elections are used to atomise the working class as they threaten to unite against the present offensive on working and living standards.

Recent elections in South Africa show how democracy works. International sanctions and domestic instability were crippling the South African economy. Since 1985 \$10 billion of capital has flooded out of the South African economy. To survive, the white ruling class had to share power with Mandela and his black ruling class so that foreign investment could return. They aren't crazy. The ruling class will do anything to save their own skins.

They also knew that the ANC could provide the stability needed for capitalism to

poverty. The class war continues no matter who the ruling class is. The National Party expects the reconstruction programme to take 10-15 years to create lasting improvements but the people of Soweto won't wait that long. Of the one million ANC members, half are on the radical side of the party. Only time will tell how soon the South African working class will lose patience, see through the sham of democracy, and return to the terrain of the class struggle.

Recent events in Italy also show how capitalist democracy pays lip service to free-



So after years of struggle, we've voted for a new capitalist boss and party and I still haven't got running water in my home.

operate, and that the ANC can effectively control the majority black working class. Mandela's close advisor, Mbeki, said that stability must "Safeguard the first impression the new South Africa makes, especially on the investor community inside and outside the country." So much for the working class!

After the results the Johannesburg stock exchange soared: McDonalds and Coca-Cola announced they'd be resuming their operations in South Africa. Behind the talk of freedom, liberation and democracy stands the need for the ruling class to keep their economic system intact.

RECONSTRUCTION

Black people queued up to vote for the first time thinking that soon their hardship would end. Unemployment in South Africa is running at 6 million and 18m people earn less than \$220 a month. 10m homes are without running water and 23m homes don't have electricity. The ANC's \$11 billion Reconstruction and Development Programme aims to create 2.5m jobs, improve education and health care, build 1m houses and supply 2.5m homes with electricity. It's no wonder that millions of blacks voted for improvements in their living standards. But whether the ANC will be able to deliver the goods is another big question.

The South African economy is dominated by manufacturing and agriculture. These sectors are high waged and heavily unionised, whereas skill levels and productivity are low. Compared with the low waged, high productivity Far East economies the new South Africa is at a competitive disadvantage. The ANC have not completely taken over. Much power still lies with the white ruling class in the civil service, army, police and in business. Any plans to increase the national debt will be resisted, as will any new taxes on the rich. What is certain is that although living standards may rise to some degree, to compete in the international capitalist system the working class will be forced to endure exploitation, unemployment and

dom and equality while behind the scenes the ruling class factions are fighting for control of the economy and means of repression. The elections were cast as a huge cleaning out of corrupt politicians and officials. A large section of the aged ruling class was definitely removed, only to be replaced by younger elements. Media tycoon turned politician Berlusconi has managed to form a fragile 'Freedom Alliance' made up of his Forza Italia, the federalist Northern League and the neo-fascist National Alliance. Their aim is to cut the state's \$1 trillion debt down to size, reduce taxes on the rich from 56% to 33%, and boost the flagging economy to increase profits. But one of Berlusconi's advisors, Martino, has already stated that the 4 million public sector jobs must be drastically slashed.

We know there will be opposition, even social unrest. But if we don't fire a lot of people right away we'll never get anything else done.

NEO-FASCISM

There is much talk about the rise of neo-fascism across Europe. But most of it is coming via the ballot box. We must always remember that Hitler's National Socialist Party won elections first, and when invited to form a government they murdered any significant opposition. Fascism triumphs through capitalist democracy, not against it. Only the



Berlusconi: The grinning, media face of fascism

revolutionary defeat of capitalism will stop the potential for fascism.

The Italian state is no stranger to this. After the second world war, Italy had the largest stalinist Communist Party (the PCI) operating outside the Soviet bloc. The CIA were worried about Soviet expansion, and that the PCI might win the first post-war elections, so they formed a clandestine organisation that ran in parallel with the state in each NATO country. This was the Gladio network: the aim was to counter-attack in the event of a Soviet invasion and to fight Communist influence. The Italian section was made up of "old" fascists, the Mafia, members of the secret services and armed forces, big business and the Vatican.

TERROR

In the end the PCI didn't win but the Gladio network was maintained in case it was needed again. In 1969 a wave of strikes swept Italy, signalling a resurgence of the class war. NATO strategists were worried about this destabilisation and adopted a strategy of provocation. A series of bomb attacks were blamed on anarchists but later it was found they were the work of the extreme right and the US and Italian secret services. Even the activities of the Red Brigades, including the kidnapping and assassination of president Aldo Moro in 1978, were eventually controlled by these secret services. This is what democracy really means for the powers and the powers that be. It is their excuse to own and control us and our world. It has led to global capitalism, hunger and terror, with those responsible sitting pretty - their 'democracy' must be opposed with all the strength and ability we have.

election selection

As June's Euro-election results came trickling in, one thing was obvious: voters were none too bothered and have no great enthusiasm for any particular party.

Reports state that British voting was 'sluggish', and a large protest vote was registered for Labour, and against the Tories. What this means is that people haven't been out in their millions, voting for any particular party: and if they bothered, they voted for what they saw as the lesser of the evils - a useless exercise in itself. Voting for a 'representative democracy' is a farce, designed to keep a small minority of tin-pot would-be rulers in power. The parties standing look more like each other, than ever.

Whether the Euro or national MPs are so-called socialists, christian democrats, conservatives, neo-nazis or liberals, they all bat for the same team, and that team's colours are capitalist blue.

One of the biggest jokes was the by-election held in Eastleigh, Hampshire, the same day as the Euro elections. This was the seat left when Tory MP Stephen 'Stocking Filler' Milligan died. Eastleigh is the fourth biggest British constituency and was a Tory stronghold. Whether usual Tory voters were all in hiding is up for speculation, but the Lib Dem David Chidgey was voted in, overturning the 18,000 Tory majority. Far from being a 'victory' for the soft Tories of the Liberal Democrats, this shows how bankrupt and distrusted our government is, even by its own supporters. It also shows how, with a system of central government, where we are expected vote for idiots to run our world, the best protest vote we are 'allowed' is to vote for another party: and there is NO real difference.

Because this whole system works in favour of these parties, and certainly not us, however unpopular government is, we can only get rid of them by either sitting on our bums waiting for the next general election, or by revolution, where we all have our say. We favour the latter.

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Burning desire

Is it a bird?, Is it a plane... It's the 'Peasants Liberation Army'.

Well whoever it is someone is putting a flaming spanner in the works of property developers near Barling in Essex.

BURNING

Since 1988, there have been a number of attacks by the Barling Burners on

developers sites and property. The last attack left four bulldozers, six trucks and two diggers ablaze. This time the protest was against the building of a road.

Previous attacks have been carried out against a barge that was HQ for a yacht club, a barn being converted into a posh house and a £300,000 house that was

blown up.

Barling is a small friendly village split in two. There are the commuters and the indigenous working class, some families having fished and farmed there for 400 years. Local solidarity has held out and no one has claimed the four figure reward for grassing on the Burners. Here at Class War we

reckons that Barling gets the 'Class War Best kept Village Award'.

HINT

The yacht club took the hint, the charred timbers of the barn stand as warning. The Barling Burners will hopefully continue to contribute to the local struggle against big business and urbanisation.



THOSE HALCION DAZE

CLASS WAR EXPOSES MAJOR U.K. DRUG BARONS

There's very few people who haven't known someone who was on prescribed tranquillisers. So firstly, a few facts and figures to kick things off;

- At any given time 20% of the population will have some symptom of depression.
- There are 3 million tranquilliser users in GB.
- The NHS spend £100 million per year on psychotropic drugs (25% of their drugs budget).
- Worldwide, 23% of medicines expenditure is on tranquillisers.
- In 1989 the prescription figure for tranquillisers in GB was 8.5 million.

STRAIGHT JACKET

Since the decrease in the use of Valium and Librium, new antidepressants called Beta-Blockers have become fashionable. These remove the physical symptoms of anxiety. Beta Blockers are now the most widely prescribed drug in the Western World, while twice as many women as men are prescribed them.

While we can worry about the effects of tranquillisers, we must address the root causes of their use, namely our abysmal society.

People are obliged to become 'tranx' users due to social and economic pressures; stress at work, unhappy marriages, fear of not conforming to social norms etc. One London GP hit the nail on the head when he found that over half of long

term tranx users did not want to kick their habit for fear of becoming "unable to conform to an idealised model of normal behaviour and social values".

What sort of society is it that people have to become junkies in order to cope with its demands? People must be encouraged to realise that conformity to the stifling laws of the capitalist hierarchy are both ridiculous and the cause of their alienation.

BLIND BELIEF

The socially acceptable idea of "sanity" is one where people are expected to stunt their intelligence with a blind belief in the superiority of a boss or god.

Compare this with a truly sane community, where the individual is free to explore their own ideas, liberated from social repression, with a view to being of benefit both to themselves and the rest of the community.

THE ONLY EFFECTIVE ANTI-DEPRESSANT IS CLASS WARFARE.

Stay healthy... kill the wealthy.

Further reading on the subject can be got from: "The Lost Years-Tranquillisers and After" by J.Jerome and L.Bilgorri(Virgin),

"Cured To Death-The Effects Of Prescription Drugs" by Arabella Melville (Secker and Warburg),

"Social Origins Of Depression: A Study Of Psychiatric Disorders In Women" by Brown and Harris.

THREE STEPS TO FREEDOM

Satpal Ram, currently midway through a life sentence for defending himself against a racist attacker, took what will hopefully be the first step to his release.

He won an application (or leave as it is called) for a Judicial Review of his case.

The Judicial Review gives Satpal the chance to challenge the Home Secretary's decision not to grant him leave to appeal.

NO HOPERS

Satpal, an Asian man, was eating in a restaurant in the Lozells area of Birmingham, when a group of no hoppers started dishing out racist and threatening comments to the Bengali waiters.

Satpal told the mouthiest gobshite to shut it, and the bloke attacked Satpal slashing him with a broken glass. Satpal armed himself with a

knife and the racist got a bit of his own medicine.

They were both taken to hospital where the racist refused treatment, and bled to death. Satpal hired an unfortunately shit solicitor, and is now doing time while he should be held up as a hero.

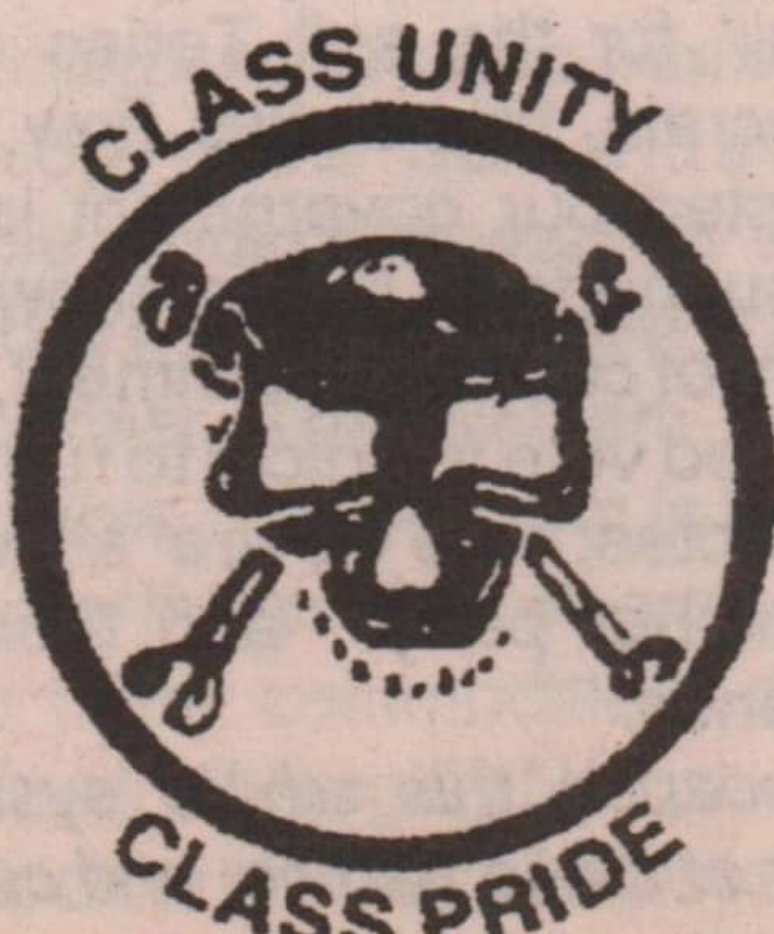
The main points that Satpal is asking to be taken into consideration are that no interpreters were made available to Satpal's Bengali speaking witnesses, two independent witnesses were never called at all and his solicitor built his defence on provocation rather than self defence.

If the Judicial Review is successful, then it's through to the court of appeal.

RESIST

Satpal has always fought for his release and resisted the prison system. In order to try and break his spirit he has recently been shipped around from nick to nick. The screws will try every trick to try and isolate and demoralise Satpal.

A letter of support can prove even more crucial at a time like this. He can be contacted via: SATPAL RAM E94164, HMP Full Sutton, Moor Ln, Full Sutton, York. Campaign address, c/o 101 Villa Rd, Handsworth, Birmingham.



Campsfeld uprising

Asylum seekers being held prisoner at the Group 4 run Campsfeld Detention Centre staged a roof top protest in early June during which at least four escaped.

The protest was at the deportation of a comrade. It started with non cooperation but rapidly escalated into a mass occupation of the roof. Group 4 couldn't handle it and called in the filth. Eventually all the protestors were dragged off the roof and many have been shipped out to other prisons or put into isolation.

This latest protest follows hunger strikes, strip protests and general non cooperation with the screws. Meanwhile support outside is growing.

On June 4th 1000 people protested outside calling for the closing down of Campsfeld.

ANTI DEPORTATION

The powers that be having once carved up the world into countries, have controlled and used the movement of workers to their advantage. Slave ships once carried black workers to the Americas, and prison ships deported English and Irish to New Zealand and Australia, providing cheap labour for the bosses. Enclosure laws, a lean jobs market... the list is endless on how they've forced us into cheap labour.

But once an immigrant population has been implanted, then they are scapegoated for all the ills of the class system; unemployment, poverty, bad housing etc. Immigration laws are designed to re-enforce that racist bullshit and create an artificial race division between working class people.

Should any future conservative or National Front government succeed in repatriating immigrants, will their emigrants be returned to take up the vacancies? This would mean that for every West Indian or Indian deported, on a fair statistical basis, one New Zealander, four Canadians, Half a South African white and no fewer than fifty American WASPs (White Anglo Saxon Protestants) would return. A mere 200 million more people.

It must be understood; THERE IS NO LINK BETWEEN UNEMPLOYMENT AND IMMIGRATION.

DOING TIME FOR A COPPERS CRIME

How's about this for a bit of 'sloppy police work'? A bloke called Hensley Wiltshire is picked up after a fight with a friend of his. The police during questioning give him a further beating breaking three of his ribs, a leg and smashing his nose and back of head. Hensley dies and the police charge two of his mates with the murder. They then do deals with a few witnesses, scare off another, withhold evidence from the defence and lie in court. All in a days work for the pigs.

BANGED UP

Hensley has been dead for 4 years now and Gary Mills and Tony Poole have spent that time banged up for life to cover up for yet another murder by the filth. They have been working hard preparing their case and supporting other prisoners doing like wise.

Meanwhile, back in their home town of Gloucester, family and friends are rallying support and putting on what pressure they can. They are getting results and hope for an appeal in January 1995.

Letters of support etc. can be sent to the two direct: GARY MILLS WMO469, TONY POOLE WM1030, HMP Gartree, Market Harborough, Leics. LE16 7RP

BRUMMIE BOTHER

The battle against racism and deportation in Birmingham is looking set for a long hot summer.

Birmingham has a good record for winning anti deportation cases and the battle to stop the deportation of Prakash Chavrimotoo and her son Prem is stepping up. Prakash and Prem have just lost the final review of their case.

They are appealing against the decision but that may only serve as a delaying tactic. W. Midlands Anti Deportation Campaign is mobilising to raise the profile of the case starting with a 12 hour hunger strike in Brum city centre on June 22nd.

Sunburnt

On June 10th, 'The Sun' decided to step up its usual bigotted campaigns of nonsense.

This time it ran shock horror reports about the supposed increase in 'lipstick lesbians' being portrayed in films, magazines and on the telly. The papers angle is that homosexuality is wrong and the occasional 'normal' looking woman, in a lesbian role, will corrupt the nation's young women into deviance.

LAUGH

You could laugh if The Sun didn't take its right wing moral hypocrisy so seriously.

Everyone is completely entitled to their own sexuality - gay, straight or bisexual - and this is no one else's business, least of all seedy journalists, as long as that person doesn't exploit or maltreat another.

It's not a shock that The Sun's attitude is quite the opposite. Maybe the

editors are terrified that every young woman who 'comes out' is one less possible recruit for 5-minute fame on page three.

DIET

Homophobia is part of the daily diet of racism, sexism, nationalism and



double standards that most of the media feeds us. The working class is diverse; full of all colours, all ages, all skills and sexual preferences. So it should be, for its own benefit, but a divided and 'Sun seeking' working class is no threat to an... at itself.

SEX

The last word must go to the editor of 'Capital Gay' who stated, laughing, that 'Women having been having sex with each other since sex began. It will take a lot more than the Sun to stop that'.

LATEST FROM THE COAL FRONT

British Coal are now going to import high-grade Polish and South American coal to blend with low-grade Yorkshire coal which they are planning to flog on the premium markets.

And - taking the piss completely - they are going to use the site of a closed colliery (RIP December 1993 Grimethorpe) to do it on.

That colliery had 64 million tonnes of coal reserves - now gone. Grimethorpe residents are angry and they are talking

about blockades, pickets and other action. We wish them luck in their ongoing struggles.

And at the same time the Grimethorpe scheme was announced, it was revealed that British Coal have recently appointed a new director on serious money (and when we say serious, we mean serious).

His title? Director for non-operational collieries. Talk about taking the piss or what? Wastes of space like this should be burnt at the nearest stake!

Turning the tide

The Government has picked fights with many people over the last ten years, but few so strange as the protesters at the M11 in London.

Hardly had 1994 begun when this rabble army defended the chestnut tree at Wanstead from 200 police, and extra security men who wanted to cut it down.

PISSED OFF

An odd mix of Earth First! activist travellers, squatters and pissed off locals had decided to defend the tree against the Sheriff of London. Instead of the picket of banner waving middle class do gooders they found angry activists prepared to defend their local green from the bulldozers.

Although finally having lost the tree, the campaign continued. The campaigners squatted two old houses at Wanstead and opened a cafe. More locals angered at a road

that would poison their kids with car fumes, and destroy their community, turned up to support them.

Over 600 cops were eventually brought in to evict the Wanstead squats, where they had to drag people from the roofs with cranes. Even though the houses were knocked down the campaign against the M11 extension goes on. The DoT has to demolish 350 houses to complete this stage of the M11 extension into London. This is only the first of 4 stages.

CONTACT

The struggle continues. There are hundreds of houses to squat and wherever the bailiffs appear they will be resisted. Anyone who is interested should contact the M11 office on 081 558 2638.

The campaign is about more than roads. While thousands are living on the streets the Department of Transport is wrecking perfectly good houses in

AUF WIEDERSEHEN PET

Since 1992 we've all 'enjoyed' the right to take up employment anywhere within the European union.

What this means is simply the right to be ripped off abroad as well as at home, and nowhere is this more obvious than in the most exploitative of industries: construction.

INJURY

Of all those who work for 20 years in construction, 60% will suffer a major injury at work and one in 600 will be killed at work.

This does NOT have to happen.

The British governments commitment to workers safety is best shown by the Chair of the Health and Safety Commission, Frank Davies CBE. Old Frank divides his time between the Commission and, you guessed it, his business interests.

Prior to his appointment in 1993, the bloke had NO safety expertise whatsoever! Sounds like a case for allowing at least the one accident at his place of work, then.

MYTH

The so-called 'unification' of Germany meant a massive building programme in the East and many British workers were attracted by the offer of high wages. The reality is that sites as just as dangerous as in Britain, and generous living and wage standards are a myth.

NO PROTECTION

Officially, building jobs in Germany are only available via the German employment service. But bosses are past masters at getting round rules that inconvenience them, and agents simply advertise in British papers, using Dutch addresses.

Most of these jobs are only available if you have an E101 form from the DSS - it makes you exempt from paying German national insurance and means you are not protected by any health and safety legislation - a bosses wet dream.

LOOK OUT

If you like the look of any building work advertised like this...

Ignore the crap about "generous" pay and conditions.

Don't forget that all bosses want to make money out of you for the lowest possible wage.

From July 1994 building employment agencies will be allowed to operate in Germany. It's hard to imagine that they can be worse than ours - it's a long way to go to find out.

If you're interested contact:

The Construction Safety Campaign, c/o 255 Poplar High St., London E14.

Tel: 071 537 7220.

If you're interested in making the boss pay for his crimes, use your imagination!

SHOW HIM THE RED CARD

Reginald Brealey. Ever heard of him? Well you might not have unless you're a Sheffield United fan, because he's the owner of the club. However, Brealey is also notorious in other business ventures, notoriously good at foul play that is.

STARVING

Brealey owns a business, the Victoria Jute Mill, near Calcutta in India, where his snide money grabbing dealings have led to one of the workers starving to death, with another 20,000 on the verge of starvation.

This is all down to Reggie's desire to "restructure" the mill and its workforce. What this means in real language is redundancies, and more work for even less pay for the remaining workers.

To add to his crimes, Brealey has siphoned off £2.5 MILLION in pensions and statutory benefits from the workers, along with 6 months worth of unpaid wages. Workers are lied to constantly about their futures, while their boss covers his own back with blatant racist statements like: "I'm not an Indian...I don't lie"

FOUL

Naturally, when pushed to the extreme like this, the workers are fighting back. On October 20 1993, the lackey police fired on them without provocation, and since, the police have attempted a reign of terror in the area, by raping women, burning and raiding homes and beating and arresting workers.

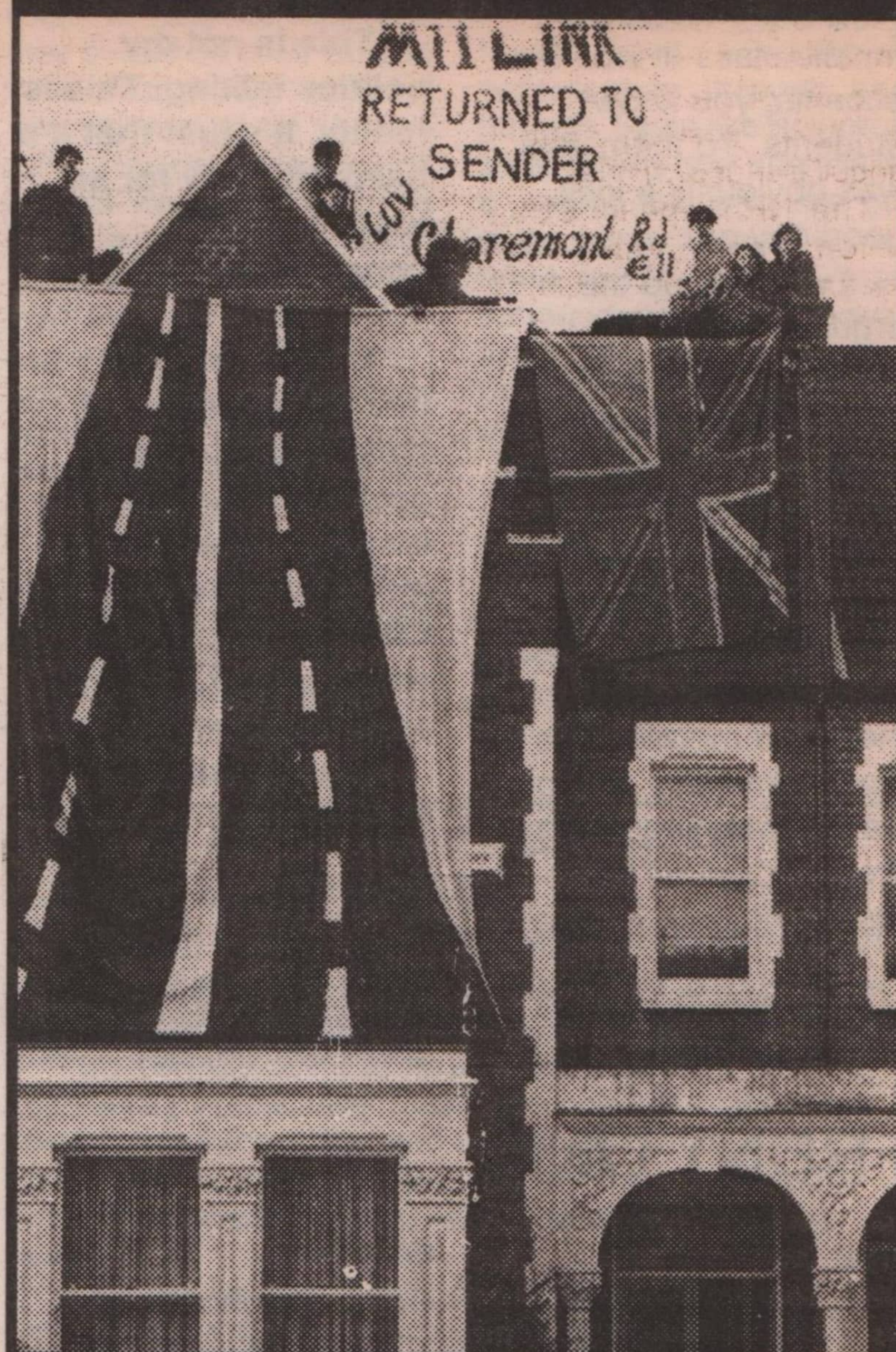
The workers plan more action, including a railway blockade, to highlight their demand for Brealey to be extradited to face charges.

All power to them. It's time the boot was on the other foot.

Money and messages can be sent to the workers union: The Bengal Chatkal Mazdoor Federation, c/o A. Chakrabarthy, CPI (ML), 21/1/1 Creek Row, Calcutta 700014, India.

More info. is available from South Asia Solidarity co 205-207 Kings Cross Road, London WC1 9DB. Tel: 071 713 7907

Taking it to the top!



Protesters against the M11 link road occupy the roof of Transport secretary, John MacGregor's house in London recently.



LETTERS

WE PRINT'EM COS YOU WRITE'EM

CW Letters Page
PO Box 467
London E8 3QX

STAR LETTER
CASE AGAINST HANGING

Dear Class War

Recently the news has been whether or not to bring in the law of hanging cop killers. I would like to put forward my argument against this.

What the fuck are our kids supposed to do when they grow up? I certainly don't want my child being hung.

Greze, Leicester.

DIY TIME

Dear Class War

Setting aside debate on effectiveness of demonstrations, let's talk about the demo against the Criminal Justice Bill in London on May 1st.

The posters said "Do It!" and "If you don't do anything, you've only got yourselves to blame". That's a joke, due to appallingly bad advertising, only one coach went from Leicester. And worse, it left with two empty and paid for seats when a couple of people failed to turn up, even though there were at least five other people who wanted to go.

Where is the solidarity in this? There is none, because this trip was organised by carefully ragged but definitely middle class (it was the accents, you know) students. To them, this was obviously a jolly good day out.

I've endured the arguments that say music exposes and opens people's minds to politics, but when things like this happen I have my doubts. Whether your politics are dictated by your true feelings or your favourite band aside, there is a moral to this story comrades - if you want something doing properly, get off your arses and do it yourself.

LC, Highfields Popular Front, Leicester

FRONT LINE

Dear CW

In view of the Queen Mother's poor health, I'd like to offer her these few words... **die fucker die**. Hopefully the rest of the House of Windsor and their mates will follow her

SOUNDS SIMPLE

Hello

In issue 62, the letter 'Con Party' asks what people's views on voting for the Labour Party are.

Well, I don't think they're any different to any other party. If they were in power nothing would change.

Any decisions made by any party in power are for the benefit of business.

They make token gestures on housing, healthcare and other basic social needs just to sap people's anger and frustration until they can get back to the job of creating opportunities for business to make more profit.

This is not my politics talking. This is reality. It's just that it's been this way for so long, we don't consciously recognise it.

MPs of any party are not in a position to tackle the everyday problems we face because their lifestyle is so extraordinary, ie £30 odd thousand wage packet, doubled with expenses added. Sounds simple because it is.

Scott, Leeds

example.

Chris, Loughborough

PS, one day you will wake up to find that your front door has become the front line.

MILITARY CAST OFFS

Dear All

Due to her Majesty's servants in blue, the beast (police) and my attitude towards an arrogant pig and the establishment he stands for I am currently residing in a penal dustbin, again owned by her majesty and run by her servants. They are mainly military cast offs or power happy pricks who think they are the boss in the factory. They are only cops in a big machine the running of which they have nothing to do with.

Since my stay in this shit hole, I have been given your address. Could you please rush me an info pack asap.

Mark, HMP, Chelmsford.

INSIDE INFO

Dear CW

I'm serving a 3 year sentence for Robbery and Malicious Wounding of a Guernsey copper. I'm new to the anarcho-political scene, but I reckon that's a fucking good start! Just wanted to show off!!

Sorry that I've not got any real heavy political issues to sound off about, but, if anyone wants to write and help me get more clued up politically, don't hesitate to write job offers welcome!

WN 2082, Darren Heller
- Rennie, HMP Cornhill, Shepton Mallet, Somerset, BA4 5LU.

SMARTEN UP YOU LOT

Dear Class War

I've seen you lot on TV a couple of times and what I want to know is why do I never see any ordinary people?

I mean, everyone looks like them fucking awful travellers, and everyone assumes that them travellers are them feeble, embarrassing lefty types, 'Socialist League' or whatever.

Me and all me mates read your paper and yet we look at home on the terraces.

Why don't they fuck off? They're not going to

HARD MAN

Dear CW

Just a few opinions on the letter from Anthony in issue 62.

For a start he's obviously a macho prat in referring to people who have different opinions to him as 'wimps'. Being capable of killing a rabbit or whatever does not make you a hard man. He also presumes all 'animal rights' people are middle class. I dislike a lot of animal rights people for various reasons but the ones I've met were mostly on the dole and from working class backgrounds.

It seems that people generally let their opinion

change anything by dancing naked round camp fires and stuff.

We'd like to turn up for any action doing on the streets but not with them about, I mean a lot of us would like to turn on them!

Ta, Terry Firth

Dear Terry, we can see your point, most alternative types are just that, all fashion and attitude with none of the suss or the politics. But still, if that's what they want to do it's their business. Class War is made up of ordinary people, and anyway, it's not looks which count, it's your politics and your actions.

of 'animal' people justify abuse. I've met quite a few anti-fascists who were right-on lefty wankers but this certainly doesn't cloud my judgement as far as fascism is concerned.

Finally, my last moan is, why is everything working class seen as good by some people? People must be out of touch with reality if they think it's just the rich scum voting the Tories in time after time.

Emma, Enfield

! Thanks to all who wrote on the subject of animal rights - CW letters.

TURNING REBELLION INTO REVOLUTION

Dear Class War

Slugging off the Manic Street Preachers in CW 61 is a little unfair considering that there are 1000s of bands and millions of individuals that take radical postures, the point is to turn rebellion into revolution.

The Manics may not be perfect but at least they are moving in the right direction. CW chooses to ignore the far more deserving target of Chumbawamba. At the start of their career, they could rightly see what a load of bullshit charity is and took a stand against the white liberal guilt shit of Live Aid. Now Chumbawamba have decided to revive a flagging career by climbing onto the anti-fascist gravy train. No doubt the next album will be *Pictures of Anti-fascism sells records*.

Chumbawamba actively encourage single issue politics which they know can't solve anything in the long term. Raising money for anti-fascist Trotskyist front groups may well endear them to a student audience, but does not impress disaffected working class youth. It wouldn't be so bad if they were getting the message across, but having done paper sales (of CW) at their gigs the average response is "I'm only here for the music", fair enough, but not very good if your aim is to get politics across.

Chumbawamba say the revolution is only possible through pleasure acts, well who are the arty situationist wankers now!

The criticisms of the Manic Street Preachers would be true of any band that does not solely sing about love and romance and is not raising money and actively participating in armed struggle - by this reckoning MC5 is the only band Class War members should be listening to. MC5 was an American band in the 60s and 70s that helped finance the White Panthers (the white wing of the Black Panthers) and whose managers and bassist (as far as I remember) got jailed.

Love, James, Luton

RAG WEEK

Dear CW

I'm writing this letter to respond to Mick the CW poacher and all the other meat-eating animal abusers who read this rag.

First by oppressing, torturing, testing and mutilating animals we are treating them as our personal slaves, just like the rich do to us. And animals don't even make minimum wage!

Anyways, the personal is political and if you're really for class war you're not going to try to hunt other defenceless beings in the struggle. The struggle for animal rights is just as significant as the struggle against the bourgeoisie.

Shaira, California, USA

DODGY

Dear Class War

Batman's made a return to our screens recently. Have you noticed that this superhero does sod all for ordinary working people?

I mean he looks very alike to the millionaire Bruce Wayne - a bloke who hangs around with the Commissioner and Police Chief O'Hara. Know what I mean?

I'd like to warn the citizens of Gotham City, this bloke's a fake. He's not protecting you - he's looking after his own.

We can't rely on superheroes to protect us. We need to protect our own by sticking together and that means young and old, black and white, man and woman.

Mind you, Spiderman is alright.

Peter Parker

"TOO BIG FOR THEIR BOOTS"

CLASS WAR READERS TELL US ABOUT COPS

Well, would you know it? Following the recent 'Cop cuffs kid' episode in Minehead, Devon, the *Class War* hotline has simply been buzzing with activity as you:

- jammed the *Class War* switchboard for two hours,

- wanted to have your say on the episode.

- told of dozens of other similar occurrences up and down the country

Out of a "too many to record" number of callers:

- 97% felt P.C. Guscott needs showing what a real cuff round the ear feels like... with a cricket bat.

- 2% thought it should be a plumbers wrench.

- 1% wanted a deep pan hawaiian, with extra cheese and pineapple.

So, are the cops of today just getting too big for their size 10s? Too flipping right, squire!

DUFFERS

They may be plod, but it doesn't mean they can go cuffing and duffing their way around the place, though that would be news to most of them. No, it isn't anything new.

Since someone gave them a uniform and a big stick, they've fancied themselves as being above the law, dishing out treatment as and when they feel like it.

ENEMY

P.C. Guscott has shot to the top of the tabloid hero charts for doing them in power a favour. That is, enforcing the view of countless middle

class suburbia dwellers who stupidly still think that a copper is a nice bloke, who cuffs you round the head when he catches you scrumping.

They naively like to believe that the plod is there to help you out when your cat is stuck up a tree.

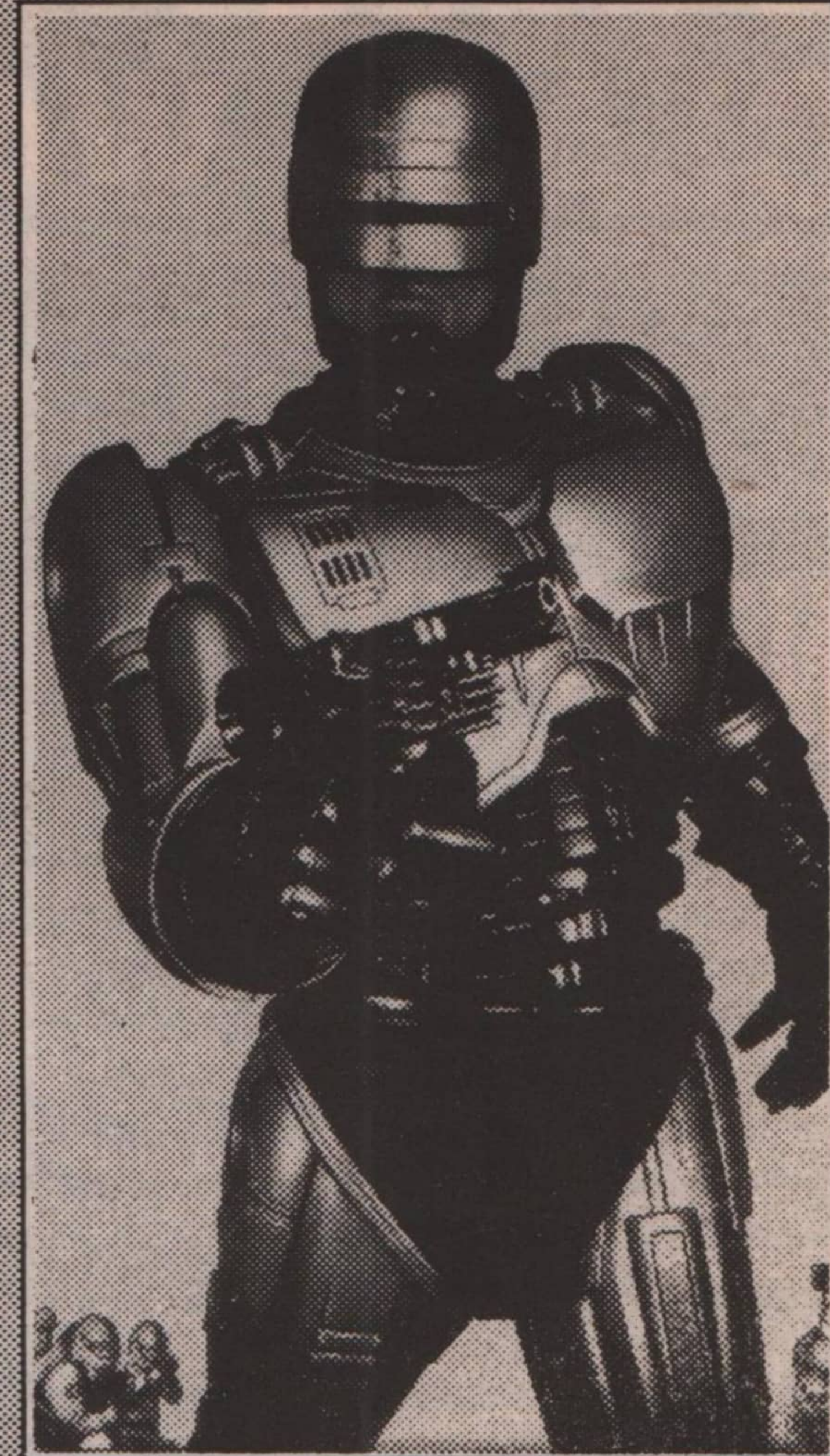
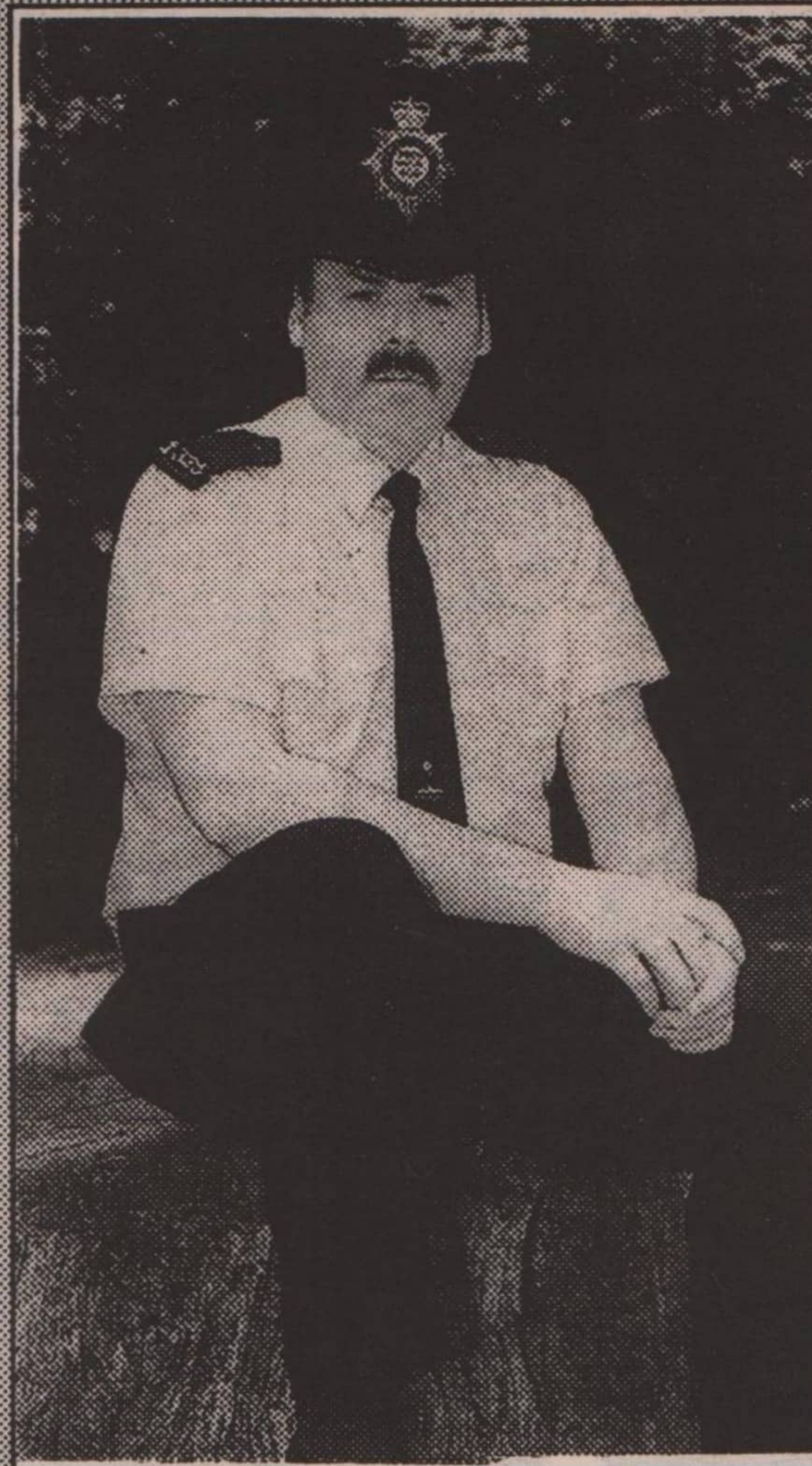
But let's face it, as we and the thousands of callers to the *Class War* hotline know, coppers are part of the enemy. It's them and us, now, and it always has been.

CRUNCH TIME

When it comes to the crunch, they'll stop at nothing in the line of duty. Duty that is to those who hold the strings in society.

So, P.C. Guscott and his marauding band of uniformed louts, your time is nigh... beware one that yields the cricket bat. *There's an awful lot of cuffing to come.*

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE!



P.C. GUSCOTT AND ROBOCOP. ONE A REAL LIFE COP FROM DEVON, THE OTHER A TOTALLY FICTIONAL COP FROM THE FUTURE. CAN YOU TELL WHICH IS WHICH? NO NOR CAN WE... THEY'RE BOTH COCKY, TOO-BIG-FOR-THEIR-BOOTS GITTS WHO THINK THEY ARE THE LAW.

class war merchandise

BACK ISSUES

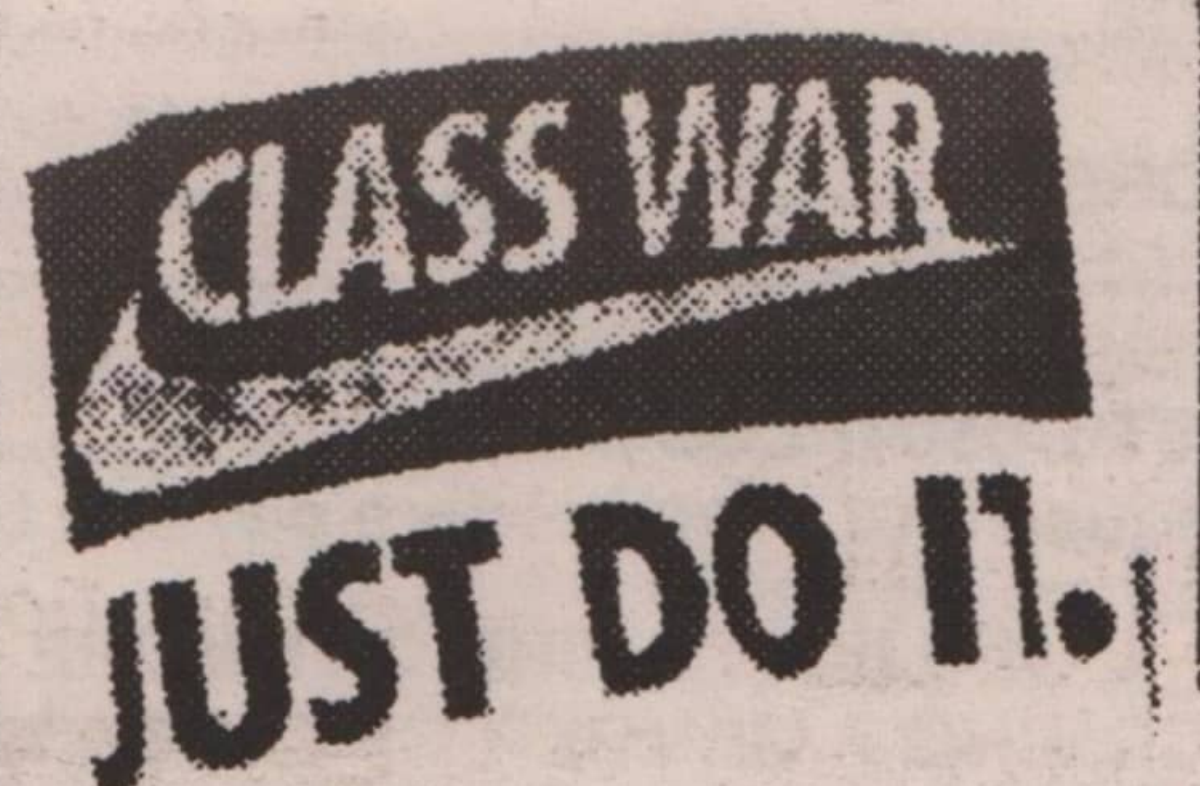
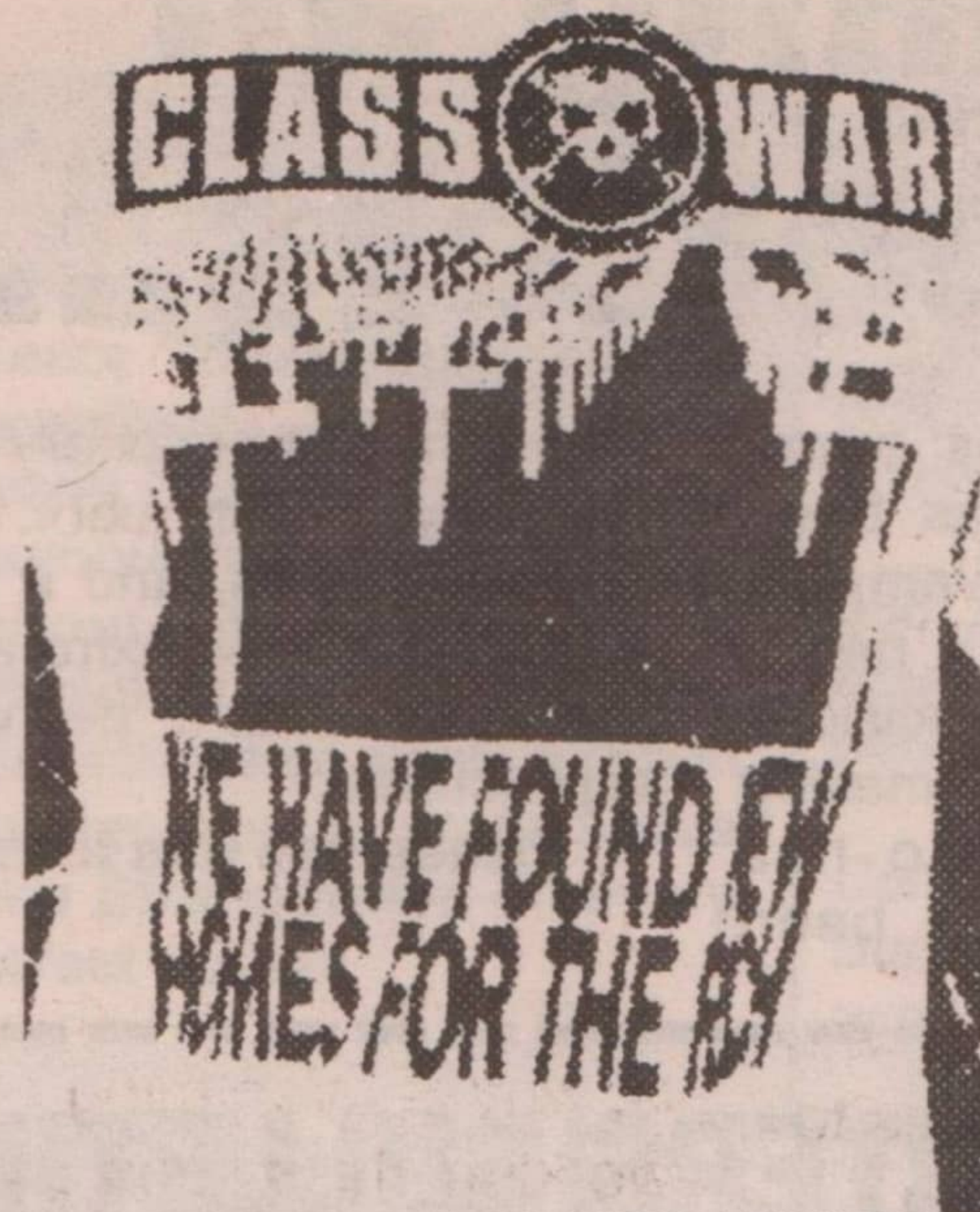
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- "DECADE OF DISORDER" - 130 pages of the best articles, pictures and graphics from the first 50 editions of *CLASS WAR*.
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PRICES inc. p&p
 "DECADE..." £6.00 (£8.00 IN THE SHOPS).
 "THIS IS..." 1 - 4 copies are £1 each, 5 - 9 copies are £0.75p each, and 10 or more copies are £0.50p each.

there's only a limited few Class War 1994 calendars left..snap 'em up now!

THIS IS CLASS WAR!

The CLASS WAR FEDERATION is an organisation of groups and individuals who have come together to do something about the society we live in.

WHAT WE BELIEVE

This society is divided into classes based on power and wealth. The ruling class, who are supported by the middle class; and the working class. Such a society is the cause of most all the problems experienced by working class people the whole world over.

This can only be sorted out by the destruction of the ruling class by the working class: this is class war.

Real change can only come about by working class people organising themselves to deal with the problems that they experience: using direct action against the institutions and individuals that cause them. There is NO alternative. Violence is a necessary part of the class war - but as mass class violence, out in the open. Not elitist terrorist actions.

Class society creates other oppressions based on sex, ethnic origin, disability, sexuality etc. To the ruling class, this 'justifies' extreme exploitation of people placed in such groups, and divides our class.

The class war MUST fight all these divisive oppressions, on all fronts.

Above all, the CLASS WAR FEDERATION believes that politics is life and life is politics. We reject the so-called 'revolutionary' left. Politics must be fun; it's a part of everyday life and must be able to take the piss out of itself.

OUR AIM

The aim of the CLASS WAR FEDERATION is not to lead, but to increase the militancy of working class peoples' attempts to solve their problems - through propaganda, active participation, and debate as equals.

WHAT WE DO

The CLASS WAR FEDERATION produces and distributes propaganda: a paper, discussion and debating magazine, other books and pamphlets, as well as local and national leaflets, posters and newsletters.

We're involved in working class struggles and we encourage involvement in the Federation, to do the above - for discussion and for a laugh!

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NATIONAL SECRETARY
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WEST YORKSHIRE**



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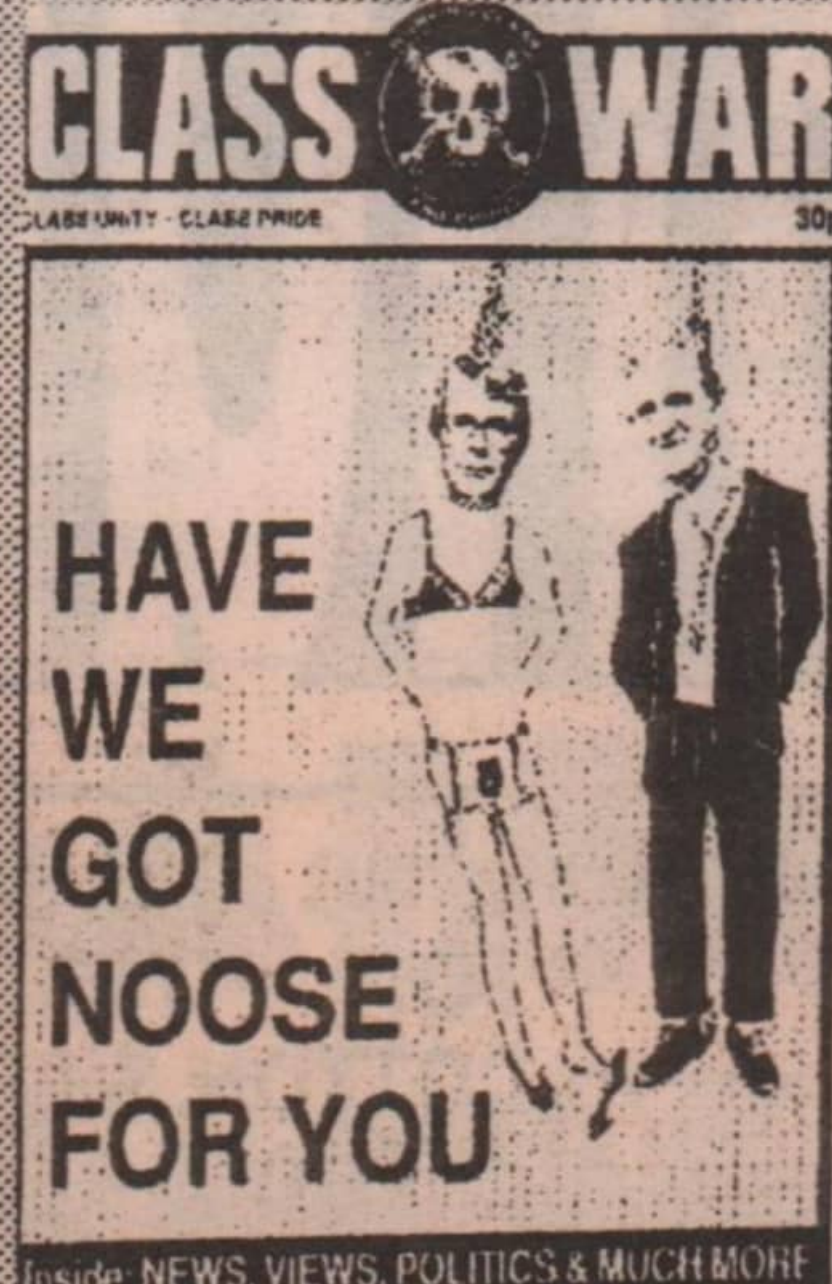


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SOCIAL WANKERS?

London Class War have put together a leaflet about the politics and practices of the Socialist Workers Party (SWP). While it's not all that hard to slag them off for being hypocritical, opportunist and soft, this leaflet tries to do a bit more than this.

It exposes the SWP for being the opposite of what it claims: it is not democratic, revolutionary or for workers control, but undemocratic, reformist and all for party control. On top of this, what the SWP say about the class struggle depends on what is good for the party, NOT the working class.

This leaflet was issued to try to stop the SWP putting people off class politics, as they'll continue to do for years unless they're stopped. It is aimed at anyone involved with, interested in or plain pissed off with the SWP.

Send an SAE to London Class War and say how many leaflets you want.

If you'd like some 'Defend Barts Hospital' posters, these are also available, for a small donation, from London Class War.

"TIME FOR PEACE ... TIME TO GO!"

On the 25th anniversary of the deployment of British troops on the streets of Ireland, a large march and demonstration calling for their withdrawal is taking place.

Class War is calling on all its supporters in Ireland, and further afield, to join our contingent.

For more information contact:
Class War,
PO Box 4297,
Dublin 1, Eire



Saturday 20th July

calling all supporters...

The Federations' supporters' bulletin has been relaunched and revamped.

It's packed with news, views, debates and decisions that the Fed has been making and having. It also has updates on what's been

happening both regionally and nationally. It costs just £1.50 for three issues, and if you want to give a bit extra as a donation, that'd be well appreciated.

Please use this form:

SUPPORTERS' BULLETIN

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

COST £1.50 (PLUS DONATION?).....
Cheques and postal orders payable to *Class War*

I'D LIKE TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT BECOMING A MEMBER OF CLASS WAR - SEND ME MORE INFORMATION (tick box).

SEND TO: P.C.W PO BOX 108, PLYMOUTH, DEVON

GET IN TOUCH!

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WEST SCOTLAND: Glasgow CW, PO Box 1008, Glasgow G42 8AA

NORTH:

NORTH EAST: Leeds CW, PO Box HH57 Leeds LS8 5XG

NORTH WEST: PO Box SWDO, Manchester M15 5HN

EAST & WEST MIDS.: PO Box 2531, Smethwick, Warley, B66 2NH

WALES: c/o CSG, PO Box 368, Cardiff CS2 1SQ

EAST ANGLIA: PO Box 467, London E8 3QX

LONDON: As above

SOUTH EAST: Temporarily use above London address

SOUTH WEST: PCW, PO Box 108, Plymouth, Devon

IRELAND: PO Box 4297, Dublin 1, Eire

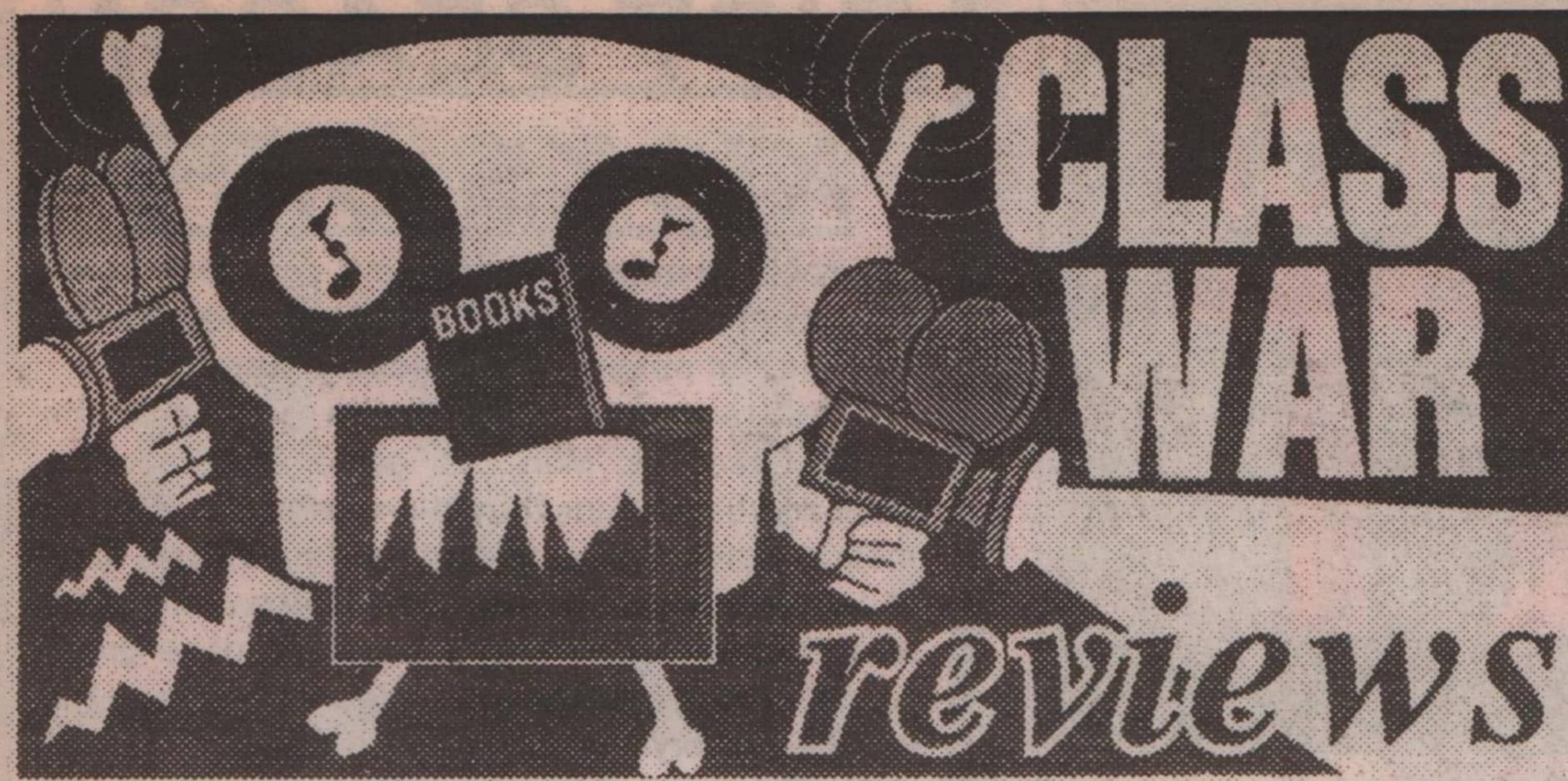
NATIONAL SECRETARY: PO Box HH57, Leeds LS8 5XG

INTERNATIONAL ADDRESSES: Contact International Secretary

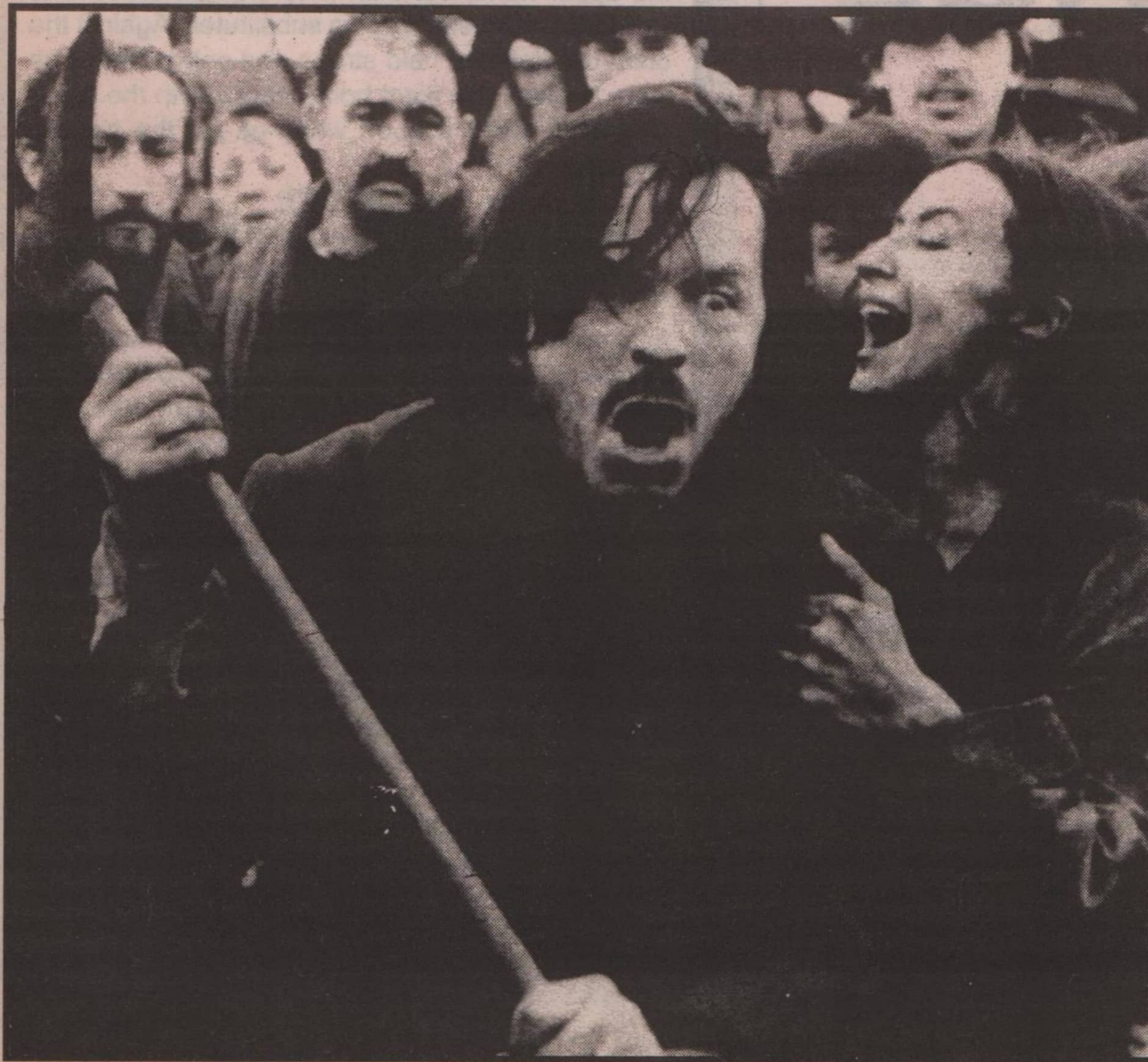
CLASS WAR International Secretary: See National Secretary address

BULK ORDERS of *Class War*: PO Box 524, Luton, Bedfordshire LU1 1QS

Class War is active in most towns and cities. If you want to find out more and get involved in your area. Write to your closest regional secretary. DON'T FORGET, there's probably a local Class-War group closer to you than the regional address.



CINEMA



By all means necessary: good old-fashioned class violence erupts in *Germinal*

GERMINAL (15)

Class struggle on the silver screen! *Germinal* is a French-made version of the classic book by Emile Zola, a 19th century French writer. Set in the mining communities of northern France in the late 1860s, it's a brutal and raw snapshot of working class history.

The opening shot sets the tone of the whole film: a bleak, dark horizon punctured by flames from the coal mine at Voreux. An apocalyptic scene of fire, rickety wooden structures and a bustling workforce greets Etienne, a railway mechanic who has been sacked for belting his boss. Driven north by unemployment, hunger and cold, Etienne finds refuge by one of the pit's braziers and soon teams up with one of the miners, Maheu (played by Gerard Depardieu).

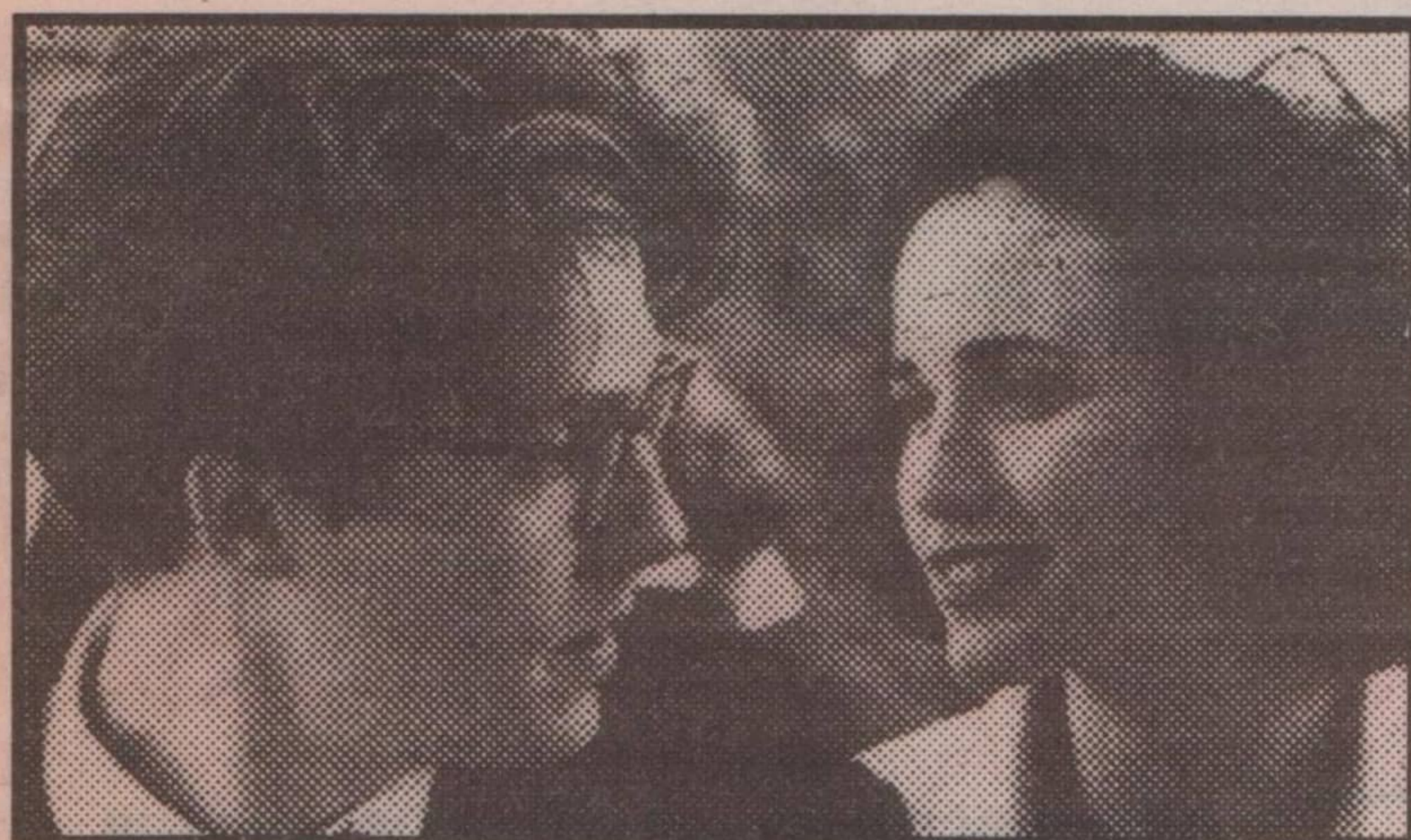
Conditions in the village are tough, and when the bosses decide to cut wages, it's the last straw for the miners who come out on strike. Etienne and Maheu take leading parts in the struggle, but as the strike drags on, it's the strength of the whole community that becomes more and more

important. Just as in the UK coalfields in 1984-5, it's the women who collectively flex their muscles. Maheu's wife, Maheude, is typical: she sees her family die of consumption or shot down by the army, but she refuses to contemplate surrender.

Germinal is pure class conflict, a million miles away from the tackiness and falseness of Hollywood. Sure, the scenes of daily poverty and brutality are overwhelming, but there's none of the drippy soundtracks and tear-jerking scenes you normally get with big budget movies. And all credit to the director for keeping in one of the best episodes in the book—the local grocer has been getting women in the village to sleep with him before he'll give them bread for their starving families; he is attacked and castrated by a furious mob.

That aside, there's not many laughs, and the joy of the initial unity is matched by the final feeling of devastation. But then again, that'll come as no surprise when you consider the aftermath of the miners' strike here and the wholesale carve-up of the coal industry.

See the film, read the book, and prepare for the fire next time... Our day will come!



FOUR WEDDINGS AND A FUNERAL (15): Upper class chipmunk Hugh Grant (left) stars in a smarmy little fable about the magic of 'true love'. The real world doesn't figure at all in this offensive waltz through the 'beautiful people' of upper-middle class Britain. The romantic finale may warm the cockles of your heart—but then again, so would a blazing police car. Watch and forget.

SURVIVING HEART ATTACKS

Health Education video starring John Smith MP. Very instructive viewing. Apparently the best course of action for anyone with a dodgy ticker is to stuff yourself senseless at £500-a-head banquets to raise money for hopeless political causes.

I must remember to pass it on to Michael Heseltine...

TELEVISION

CRIMEWATCH

These days there's a whole stack of programmes based on true crimes, either reconstructed or using actual film. *Crimewatch UK*, with Nick 'The Family Man' Ross and Sue 'Concerned' Cook, is the grand daddy of them all.

With a blinkered view of the police as the thin blue line standing between us and a murderous horde of violent criminals, it's no wonder that *Crimewatch* ends up as primetime TV propaganda for those poor old boys and girls in blue. Like a sick and demented sadist, it concentrates again and again on the most horrific and bloody incidents, terrifying its 11.5 million viewers into thinking that World War 3 has broken out on the streets. By the time the credits roll, we're so busy cowering behind the settee or putting an extra three locks on the door that we miss the little reminder at the end that crimes of violence are actually a lot rarer than most people think.

Recently, however, there's been a bit of a re-think. Producers have realised that showing the big crimes, the bank raids, the armed robberies etc, doesn't actually achieve anything—and may actually encourage a new generation of 'have-a-go' blaggers (shame!). At the same time, the cops are getting more edgy about using crime as entertainment. So the recent trend has been towards the low-budget end of the market: cheque book fraud, little credit card scams, even shoplifting...

The new strategy means that Nick Ross and Sue Cook have to be even more careful not to put ideas into our devious little heads. I mean, what would happen to the



Hardened criminals captured on film: Nick 'Mad Dog' Ross and Sue 'Hatchet' Cook prepare to mug more unsuspecting members of the public

profit margins of the insurance companies if we all ripped off a few quid here and there?! So now we're treated to the ludicrous sight of petty 'criminals'—who are hurting no-one except banks and massive companies—being presented as worse than child-molesting, Devil-worshipping mass murderers.

Mind you, the programme does have its good points: you can always try spotting your mates whipping tins of catfood in Sainsbury's or writing out cheques from that chequebook of yours that went 'missing'. One memorable piece of closed circuit footage showed a bloke queuing up to cash a dodgy cheque: he was so nervous that he hopped around the bank like Fred Astaire with a swag-bag. Laugh? I nearly robbed a building society. **Superb!**

IN PRINT

LOADED

£2.00; monthly. Being a 'lad' is back in fashion. Well that's what the bosses at IPC Magazines reckon—which is why they have thrown wads of money at their new publication *Loaded*.

The subtitle reads 'For men who should know better'—but it'd be more accurate as 'For sad bastards who try too hard'. *Loaded* is packed with articles on football, sex, booze, sport, shagging, alcohol, scoring, women, drinking... You get the picture? And the worst thing of all—it's badly written, childish and *totally* boring.

Get a grip, lads! Sticking in the words Arsenal or Manchester United every other sentence *isn't* the same as writing about football. Describing women as 'birds' who are 'gagging for it' might have been a 'jolly good laugh' at your grammar school but out here in the real world it's more likely to end with a swift kick in your knackers. And the last time I went down my local, drinking was something you *did*, not something you read about.

All this and soft-porn photos too? File under **B** for Boring Bollocks.

MARX AND FEMINISM

Selma James
(Crossroads Books, 1994, £1.50; available from King's Cross Women's Centre, PO Box 287, London NW6 5QU.)

Don't be put off by the title—this little pamphlet is excellent. Selma James may call herself a 'marxist feminist' but she has sweet FA to do with those feminists who see men as the enemy, or those who think women can be 'liberated through work'. And she is just as violently opposed to those marxists who try to rigidly define and limit the working class and our struggles.

In *Marx and Feminism* Selma James has written a clear and easy-to-understand analysis of the relationship between class and gender. We are all of us working for capital—the work of the 'housewife' is just as essential to its reproduction as that of the man in the office or factory.

She also reclaims Marx's insights into the way that capitalist society works. These bits of Marx are well worth knowing—they weren't written for boring academics to build careers on, they were written for *us*, as working class revolutionaries, to help us destroy capitalism.

TRIALS BY ORDEAL IRISH POLITICAL PRISONERS, ENGLISH LAW

Available from Irish Prisoners Support Group, BCM IPSPG, London WC1N 3XX; £4.99, cheques payable to IPSPG

This is not the book to read if you're looking for an easy introduction to the political situation in Ireland or to the workings of the British criminal 'justice' system. But what it does do is provide a whole heap of examples and information that prove that, whatever the British state or media say, Irish people on political charges are "guilty until proven guilty".

Trials By Ordeal looks in particular at the Royal Commission on Criminal Justice (which finally published its findings last year). It shows how the Commission right from the outset had a skewed idea of justice and was never in a million years going to make the link between the war in Ireland and the workings of the so-called 'justice' system.

Trials By Ordeal is not an easy book but it is another useful weapon in our war against the state. As things get tougher, we can't say we haven't been warned.

class war world of SPORT

IT'S ALL THE RAGE

In the last 15 years bodybuilding has spread throughout this country, inspired by such stars as Arnie Schwarznegger. More and more people, especially men, are getting down to their local gym to work out big time.

But for many bodybuilders it is not just working out in the gym that counts - it is what they are taking. Many are using steroids as a way of developing their muscles much faster than normal. Some are putting on 2.5 stone in six months, most of it muscle. One popular steroid, Equipoise, was developed for racehorses. Many bodybuilders were impressed by the results and started using it themselves.

ABUSE

When questioned, most steroid users wouldn't admit to drug abuse. They say ster-

oids are treated as an aid to muscle development. But it's not that simple. Heavy steroid use leads to liver and kidney disorders, acne and high blood pressure.

RAGE

Another side effect is the decrease in sexual drive and infertility. At first, sexual drive is increased by steroids. But later on it declines to the point where the user is not interested in sex at all. This leads to the ironic situation where extremely well-built men are unable to get an erection. Steroids also affect the user's mind and violent mood swings are common, often known as "roid rage".

WORTHLESS

But is it surprising that people are taking steroids in a society where individuals are treated as being worthless and only certain aspects as money, background, physical athleticism are val-



ued? We are constantly being told we are shit, that all we can hope for is some crappy office or factory job, that we have no real control over our lives. It is obvious that many people will try something different, from robbing banks to taking smack... or becoming a gym junkie pumped up on steroids, ignoring the cost to their

health and lives.

POTENTIAL

It is capitalist society which is crushing our potential to be full human beings. The abuse of steroids is just one of the responses to capitalism's inhumanity. Only by creating a world where everyone is valued for what they are will we see an end to self destruction. **This is our task.**

RIOT SEASON KICKS OFF!

The football season's over so if you don't know what to do, Class War is proud to announce that the riot season has officially started.

The pre-season build up came to a head at the recent Leeds vs. Man Utd. game when about a thousand Leeds fans turned on the police after the match, hurling bricks, bottles and fence posts. One of our correspondents was on the scene and sent us this report. "The lads and lasses done great. After a slow start we got settled in and took the initiative. Everything was thrown up front, route 1 style. The opposition obviously had a big height advantage, with the horses and helicopter, but they couldn't handle the speed and ferocity of our attacks.

"As the second half wore on we were getting the upper hand, but then they brought on several van-loads of shield carrying substitutes. Against the odds our defence held strong and only a few of us were booked. We went home happy with the result and felt it were a good warm-up for the coming season."

PLAY OFF

But things got off to a bad start at the Millwall vs. Derby play-off. Another on the spot CW fan reports. "This was a crap night out. There's just no excuse for it really. We just played right into their hands. We let them dictate the style of the match right from the start. Millwall fans had a crack at Derby fans and players, it was pointless. I could just see the directors laughing at us from their executive boxes. We did take the game to them a couple of times, trashing a BBC Radio Derby van and almost overturning a cop van. But by and large it was a performance I want to forget. We've got to get back to the drawing board and sort out our tactics or we'll never get results.

RIOT IN

This summer will see another spate of riots and mob attacks on the police, but most of it won't get into the media. **But you can be sure we at Class War will give you a blow-by-blow run down on the latest events. Send your full match reports (treated in the strictest confidence) to Class War Sports Desk, PO Box 467, London E8 3QX**

Jumping For Joy

The most popular working class sport in this country, even more than football or fishing, has to be fare dodging. Every day millions of us attempt to try it on. Some we win, some we lose. **But we enjoy it all the same.**

FINES

But in London, the bastards have mounted a major crackdown involving a huge anti-fare dodging publicity

campaign backed by inspectors who impose spot fines of £10 on those without valid tickets. This is crap. The spot fines are completely unenforceable because the inspectors have no legal powers of arrest, and if they do push it, they can be sued for wrongful arrest.

FARE RISES

They expect us to cough up big money for some shitty service. Well bollocks to that!

Our incomes have never kept up with fare rises and the service is going down the pan, even more so after privatisation.

When it comes down to it, fare dodging is a financial necessity, as well as being fun and two fingers to the bastards.

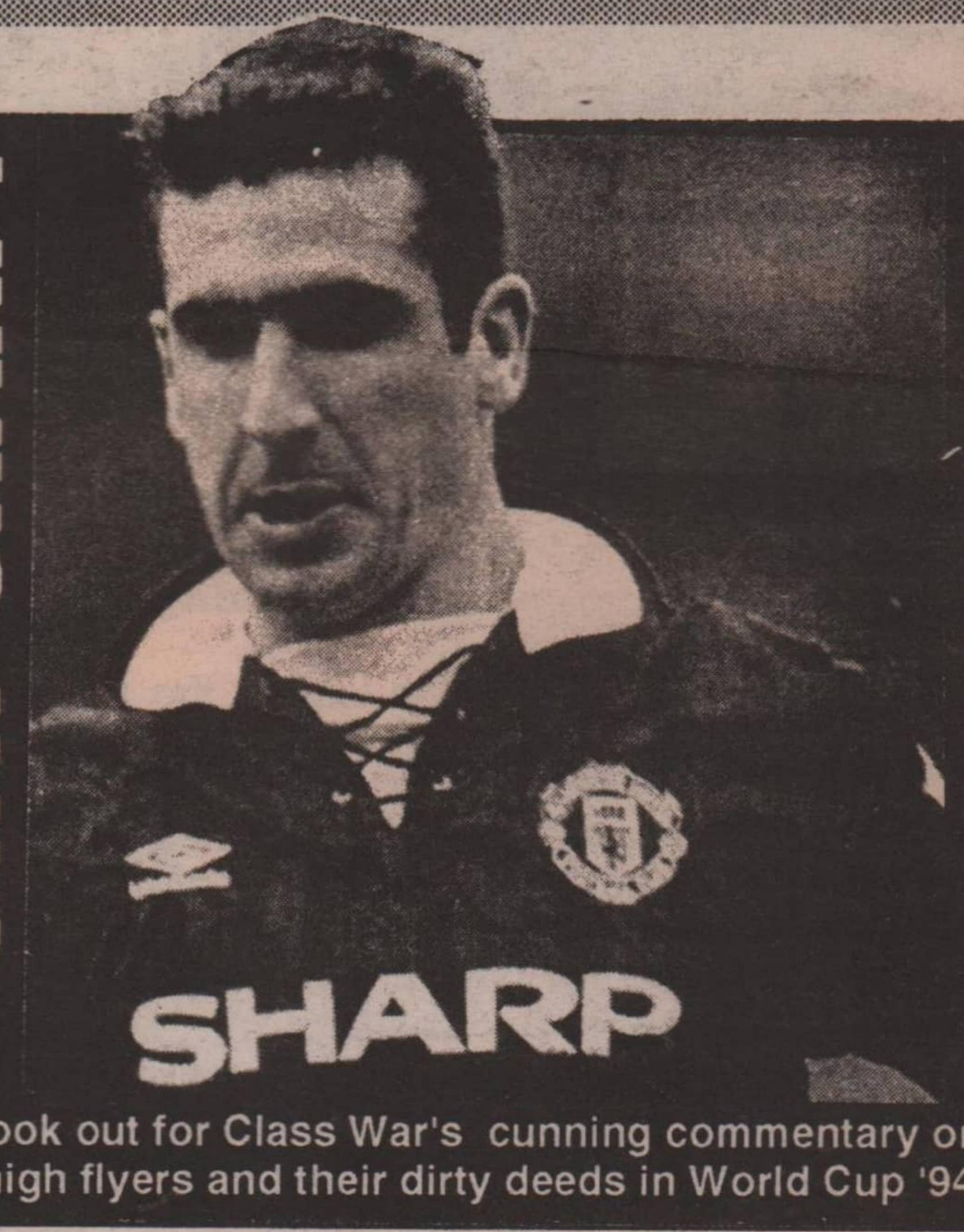
There are a even few idiots about who think fares will rise for "honest" travellers if more people dodge

them. But the opposite is true! The less we resist paying their fares, the more they try to get away with. The more we act like passive sheep, the we'll be fleeced!

ONE WAY

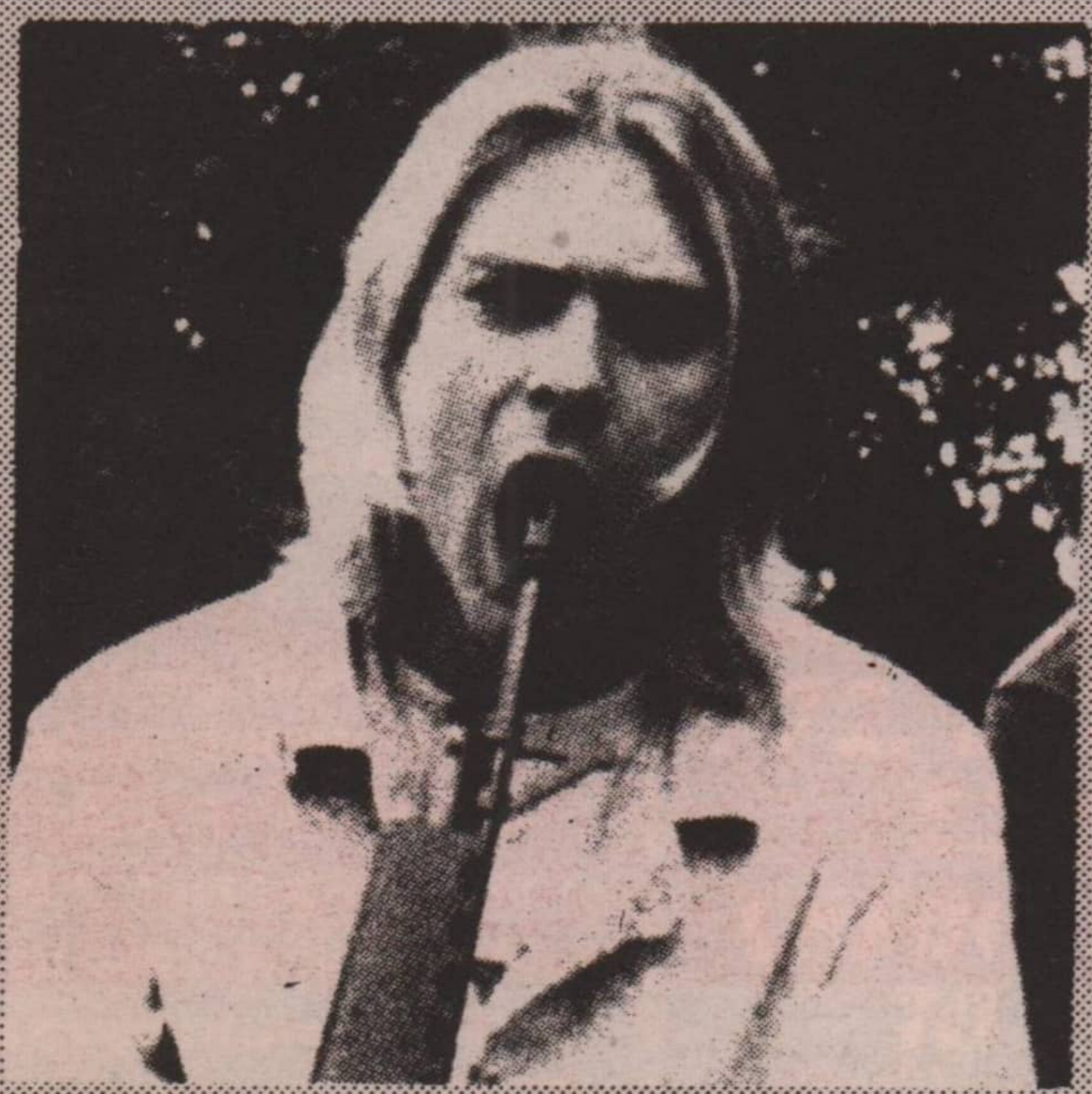
So come on everyone, don't be scared, give it a go. The sooner we give the bosses a one way ticket to the sun, **the sooner we'll have a free and efficient transport system!**

STAY SHARP!



Look out for Class War's cunning commentary on the high flyers and their dirty deeds in World Cup '94

DON'T LOSE



YOUR HEAD

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