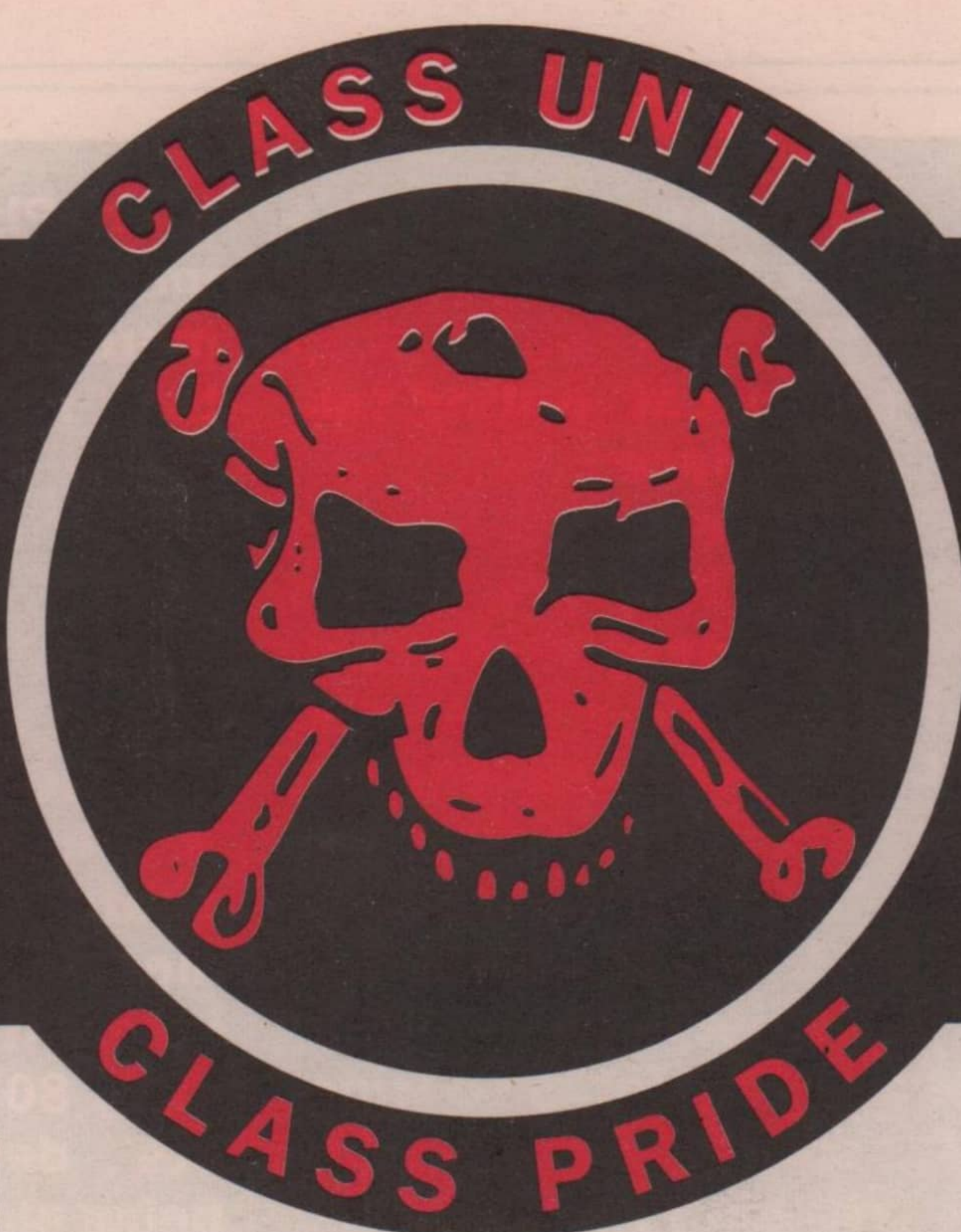
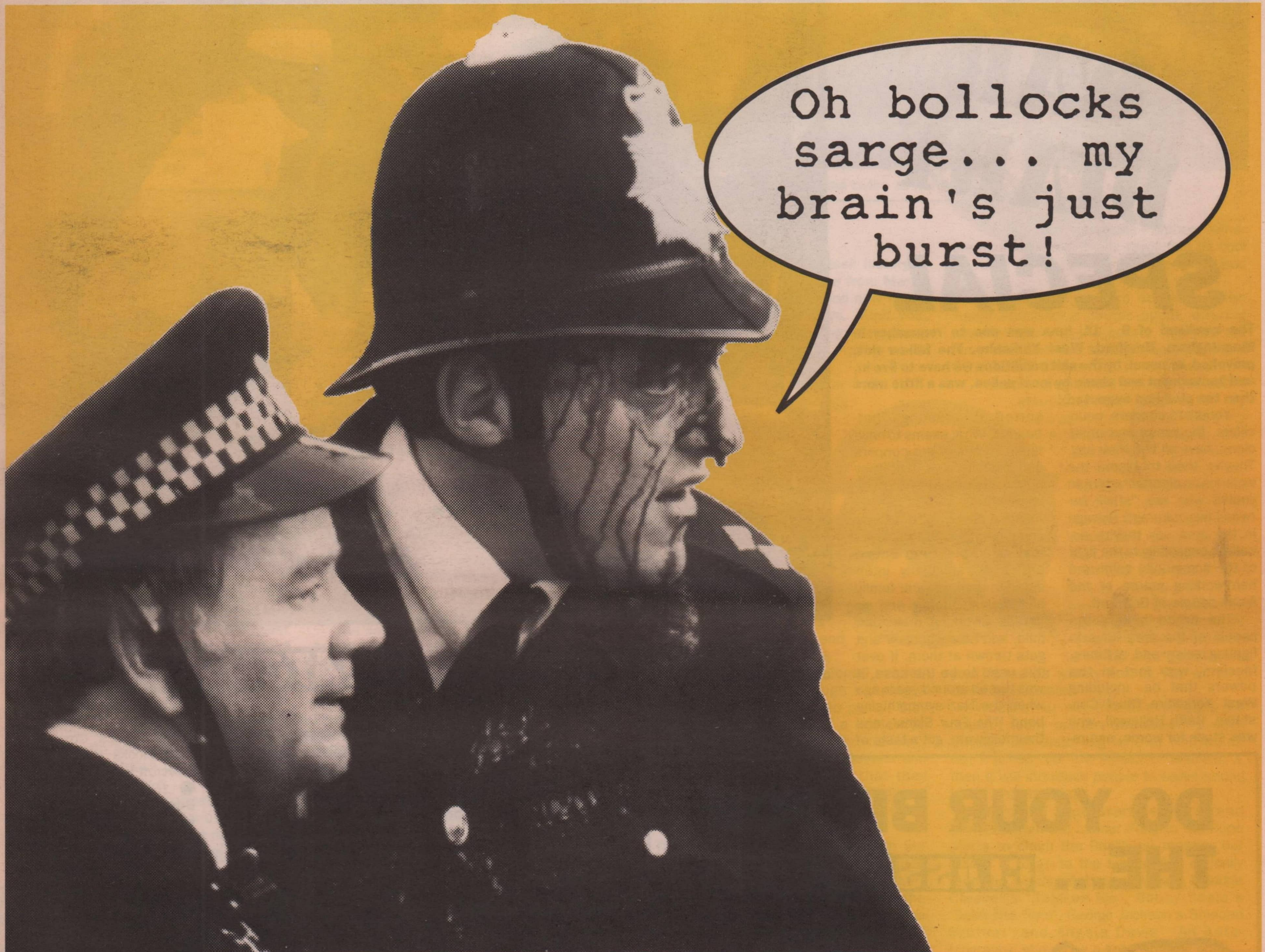


CLASS WAR



THE PEN IS MIGHTIER THAN THE SWORD
BUT THE HALF-BRICK IS BEST OF ALL...

ISSUE 68
JULY/AUGUST 1995 **50p**



Oh bollocks
sarge... my
brain's just
burst!

HERE COMES THE SUMMER!

**PHEW... WHAT A SCORCHER! POLITICS, SCANDAL AND SPORT
IT'S ALL IN YOUR SIZZLING SOARAWAY SUMMER SPECIAL!**

WHAT WE SAY

DO THE RIOT THING

Nothing panics the state so much as when working class people take control of their own lives.

When this means driving out cops from our communities the state positively craps itself. Politicians,

and and top cops queue up to either; Plan A. Deny that anything significant happened, Plan B. If that doesn't work blame it on anything else that comes to mind.

Plan A. is by far the most popular these days with riots and mini riots NOT being reported all over Britain. The official rea-

son they give for this media blackout is that they wish to stop 'copycat' rioting taking place.

The real reason is that they are scared that people will realise how wide-spread anti-state violence is, and also realise just how fragile the fabric of this screwed-up society is.

If a riot is so wide-spread that covering it up is impossible

then Plan B comes into effect. Plan B is more sophisticated in that it blames anti-state violence on 'other' causes.

EXCUSES

The most common excuses are that it's a 'race riot', black against white. The media still refer to the inner city riots of the early 80's as 'race riots', despite rioters being black and white

and the targets being cops, not white people.

Another favourite excuse is that it has nothing to do with local people but is down to gangs of either; criminals out to protect their profits, or political agitators stirring up the normally police-loving locals.

But no matter what lame excuses they trot out each time the cops get bricked we

all know the truth; despite whatever 'useful' social functions they do the police are the enemy.

Their purpose is to keep us in our place (at the bottom), and no excuse is needed to attack them and drive them out of our communities.



WAR DIARY SPECIAL

The weekend of 9 - 11 June was one to remember in Manningham, Bradford, West Yorkshire. The full-on riot, provoked, as usual, by the shit conditions we have to live in, and harassment and abuse by local police, was a little more than the plod had expected.

Yorkshire coppers, councillors, the press and politicians, have all had their say. They've tried to blame the violence on disaffected Asian youths who are "stuck between two cultures". Bigwigs in the area say they're appalled, especially in the light of the community spirit and hard-working nature of the Asian people of Bradford.

The proud history the people of the area have in fighting racism and, at times, fascism, was lost in the powers that be, including West Yorkshire Chief Constable, Keith Hellawell, who was stuck for words, and re-

sorted to blaming "hot-heads". What seems to have really surprised the coppers and politicians is that they hold a prejudiced and stereotyped racist view of how an Asian community functions and what it will put up with - that Asian people in Britain are quiet, singularly interested in their religion, family and making money and so are hard-working, meek and mild, and take whatever shit gets thrown at them. If ever this used to be the case, it was turned around years ago when the Nazi-sympathising band 'The Four Skins', and their followers, got a taste of



resistance in the Southall Riot of 1981.

The filth and politicians thought they had Manningham, and areas like it, sussed, got it badly wrong,

and paid the price.

What is alleged to have sparked the cops' battering was the ridiculous arrest of two lads, playing footie near a mosque. But the Bradford riots was obviously more about racist policing of a run-down area suffering poverty and bad social conditions: something that doesn't hap-

"It was a timebomb waiting to happen, it was going to come sooner or later. There's only so much a community can take."

pen over a couple of days or weeks, but builds up over years, until 'community' and 'religious' leaders simply can't 'negotiate' with the powers that be and appear to solve the problems that people face day to day.

Until we control our lives, we will riot as a necessary part of exercising our anger, our power, our voice.

Class War welcomes articles, letters or information from the people of Manningham and other communities who choose to fight back. We want to hear and print YOUR ideas, YOUR experiences, YOUR tactics, not some liberal media or lefty analysis of how and why we do what we do.

MATCH RESULTS

FRIDAY

● 9.30pm: Cops arrest 2 Asian lads at Roseberry Rd. 60 protesters march to the hi-tech cop fortress at Lawcroft House.

● 10.30pm: Windows smashed. A major riot kicks off at Andrews BMW garage, near the site of the arrests. Posh cars are burnt. The cops are battered.

● 4am: Time for a kip ready for tomorrow.

SATURDAY

● 2 - 7.15pm: Community leaders fail to get the 2 lads

arrested released by the cops. 300 protesters outside hurl bricks at cops. Cops set up road blocks either side of Lawcroft House.

● 10.50pm: Riot continues. Businesses trashed. Cops fought with, all over Manningham.

● 11pm: Citroen garage firebombed. Plenty of expensive new cars torched.

● 12.30am: Cops forced to pull out. A second firebomb attack on garage.

● 12.45am: Cops come back for more. Rioting continues until 2am.

ANTI-SOCIAL CRIME

One very positive fact about the Bradford riot was that the targets attacked were all legitimate. No residents were attacked and the cops being driven out wasn't used as a cover for anti-social crime.

This is vital. If the cops and media can successfully portray rioters as being mindless animals interested only in violence and crime then ordinary people will be welcoming returning coppers as saviours, not the enemy.

So remember; don't tolerate anti-social crime or macho shit - if you see it, stop it.

TACTICS...

Remember, ALWAYS use masks, and ALL media/camera crews are legitimate targets. Well done to the youths who removed film from photographers cameras during the riot.

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REASONS TO BE CHEERFUL... HA! HA!

Dead Tory Bastard

On May 17th, a bigmouth, bigoted Tory backbench MP popped his clogs. Geoffrey Dickens had been the MP for Littleborough and Saddleworth on the Yorkshire Moors, but not any more!

As MPs of all sides, journalists and 'friends' poured sickly praise over his still warm corpse, it became obvious that the man was distinctly unbalanced, throwing his ample weight around in the House of Commons for years.

He may have been loved by politicians of all sides, but then he was one of their own - a fat, stinking, scumbag. He will best be remembered as a prime exponent of right wing lies, arrogance and hypocrisy.

It's been said that he had a 'troubled childhood', and if this is the case, why the fuck did he choose to take it out on us?



Tory pig!

he had two extra-marital affairs and was deeply in love with one of these women. He told Parliament that he had left his wife, before she knew anything about it. He then cynically gained publicity by announcing that he had his wife had got back together.

BIGMOUTHED GIT

During heated debates about child molestation and rape, he yelled that we should "castrate the buggers"! However, his addled mind showed through when the git stated: "I can do every woman in this country a favour!"

Perhaps, not every woman. He was successfully accused of being anti-Jewish, and was in favour of the repatriation of non-white British people.

Dickens called for the birching of young criminals, and couldn't see any reason to isolate the racist South African state.

All in all, the man was a privileged, right wing, sexist, racist loud mouth pig who is about as missed as the Black Death.

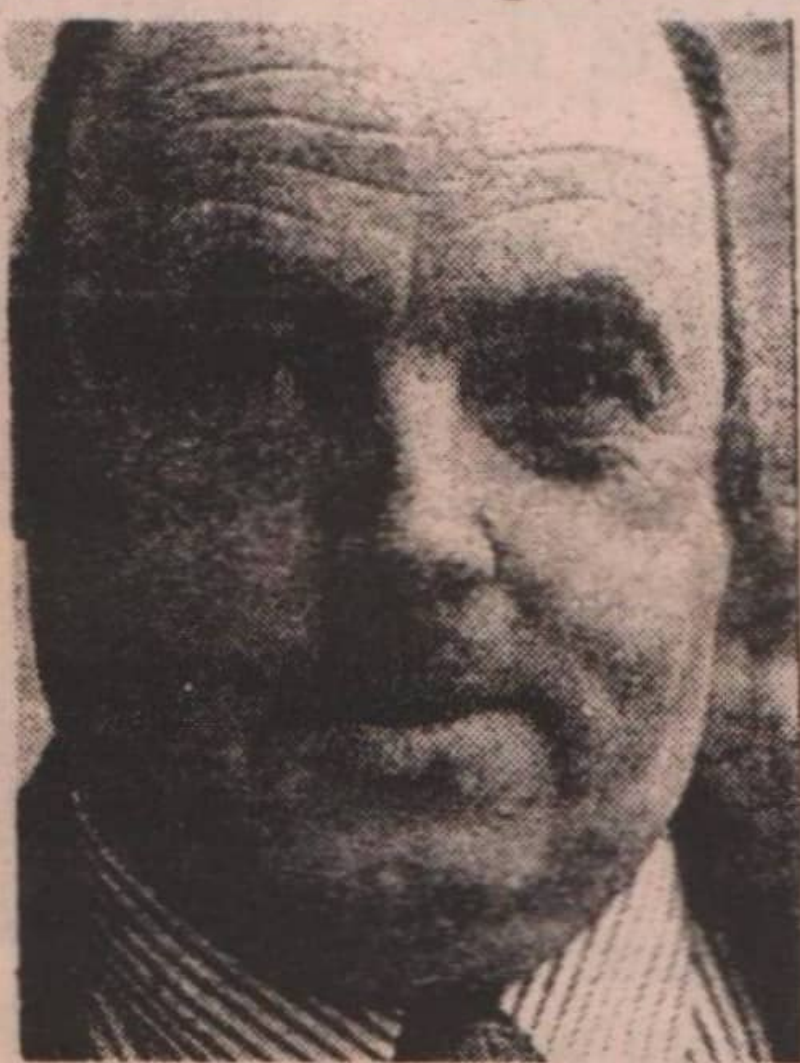
One down 648 to go.

DOGS

Dickens set himself up as the cuddly champion of dogs and children, while ranting and raving sexist and racist bigotry. He attacked anything that opposed the 'Back to Basics' crusade, and backed the white heterosexual nuclear family, and its "family values". He then announced that

CABBY'S RACIST RANT

Cabby Richard Christie, 47, of Kemnay, Aberdeenshire was upset after being banned from driving a taxi for life. The council took away his licence after hearing how, when asked to give a hand with his luggage by dreadlocked Larry Phillips of Wolverhampton, he screeched:



Racist Scum

"I'm no ones slave", harangued Rastafarian Phillips with racist abuse and threw his luggage across the pavement.

Despite statements from witnesses Christie claims he

is not a racist and is appealing to Scots Secretary Ian Lang (creep), claiming the council has no right to take away his livelihood. This cretin is lucky he is still able to drive at all. What people like him need is not a ban from driving but driving forcibly off the streets. Then others whose brain is in this decade of the twentieth century will be able to get on with their lives without having to listen to their poisonous spoutings.

SENT PACKING

Keith "schlithead" Schellenberg has been having a hard time in the Hebrides, where the no nonsense approach taken towards wealthy wankers by the residents of the Island of Elgg has left him frustrated and fuming.

Schellenberg recently sold the island after 20 years as it's loathsome laird. Those 20 years had seen the islanders feelings about him change from a surly hostility to a burning hatred. The scummy squire's vintage Rolls was set ablaze last year and now, after a long campaign of harassment he has been forced to sell up and get the fuck out.



"SAVE ME CONSTABLE"

LAWLESSNESS

Now he's accused the islanders of "lawlessness". Too bloody right! When he called

by recently to collect his belongings accompanied by seven hired thugs and some coppers, the entire population of the island turned out to have a laugh at his expense.

EIGG ON HIS FACE

Locals also turned out to stop the bastard nicking a map which has been on the island for 200 years.

The map was the first to be made of the island and the locals are fond of it, so they blockaded the building with a wrecked bus and Schellenberg was left looking pretty schtupid.

Class War sends it's congratulations to the brave and bolshy islanders. We wish them all the best of luck in chasing off the next upper class git to "own" their island.

JUST DESSERTS!

The Great Miners Strike might have ended 10 years ago, but the war goes on.

In South Kirby, West Yorks, ex-miner Bill Wright and his wife Mollie are being sued by their next door neighbour Arthur Horne, whose a copper. Filth Horne is claiming damages for what he says is ten years of harassment by Bill and Mollie, and their son Anthony, also an ex-miner, who lives opposite.

BITTER

The strike in South Kirby was particularly bitter with heavy street battles between miners and cops, the pit was closed in 1987 leaving high unemployment.

Scumbag P.C. Horne was instrumental in trying to start a back to work movement during the strike, he also spied on the Wrights who were on strike and ran a picket line canteen for the miners.

P.C. Horne regularly filled in local intelligence reports on his neighbours and even drilled holes in his walls to install listening devices and eavesdrop on the strikers.

HATE MAIL

Not ones to take this lying down the Wrights have fought back and a ten year battle has ensued. The Wrights trained powerful lights and video cameras at the filth house, P.C. Horne and his cop mates sent hate mail and undertakers to the Wrights.

Not be left out, the Wrights grandson Dean has bricked the cops windows, and allegedly attacked them. The cop also claims that the Wrights poisoned his Rottweiler on the day he left work due to depression caused by the Wrights!

P.S. - P.C. Horne lives at 10 Park Avenue, South Kirby, West Yorkshire.

SHORT & SNAPPY!

PISSED UP? PISSED OFF!

We all like to watch a good film from time to time. Actors, directors and other such celebs may not be the worst people on the planet, but when it comes to spending a million quid on a booze up, inviting all the rich scum from miles around and flaunting their wealth and waste behind a cordon of cops, some of us feel like reaching for the editor's knife and making a few choice cuts.

In mid-May Edinburgh witnessed the opening do for the patronising "Rob Roy" film, in which Jessica Lange's fake Scottish accent is thought too strong for Yanks to understand, so had to be redubbed to sound more "American". The drinking session was held in the city's Princes St. Gardens, which usually provide some sort of refuge for homeless folk at night. Not this night. A purpose-built two storey building (which was dismantled the next day) was put up and surrounded by coppers. Trees were uprooted from the highlands and planted in it. So when some of us can't seem to find a building to live in, these bastards have one specially built to get drunk in - ONCE! Then plant trees in it!

EXCLUSIVE

The cops kept anyone they didn't recognise off the telly outside the gardens (which are supposed to belong to the people of Edinburgh!) and didn't appear to be frisking any of the guests for expensive designer drugs on the way in. Meanwhile the blanket clad figures of the homeless huddled in doorways across the street wondered where their next meal was coming from.

FLAMES

Class War are currently seeking funding for the disaster movie to end all disaster movies. It's to have a glittering cast of thousands and will feature live scenes with no stunt doubles! The plot centres around a Hollywood party which suddenly bursts into flames.

LYNCH THE LANDLORD

Edinburgh, like any city has it's fair share of scummy landlords/landladies, but Bill Percy hit the headlines with a particularly repulsive bit of greed.

This lowlife Tory councillor left a 92 year old woman without a bathroom and hot water for years. The woman, also diabetic, has been having to heat water on a stove to wash with, despite repeated promises by Percy, formerly deputy leader of Lothian regional council, that he would spend money on the flat which he owns

LIAR

A local paper hassled him but he still did nothing, only lodging a planning application on the day they resumed their enquiries, then lying to cover himself by saying the delay was due to his application not being processed.

SUBHUMAN

While basic amenities are still being denied to people (and things are getting worse not better) we have to ask ourselves how long will we let subhuman scum like Bill Percy of Waverly Business Services, Rodney St, Edinburgh, control people's lives. This is just one example of millions. Its time to make these bastards suffer. GET ORGANISED - GET EVEN!

unfinished business... THE POLITICS OF CLASS WAR

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UNFINISHED BUSINESS...

the politics of Class War

NO DEATH PENALTY - SAYS WHO?

We're told that there is no death penalty in this 'liberal humanitarian' country: BOLLOCKS TO THAT! 55 prisoners 'died' in English jails alone last year and that's the official figures. Who says the death penalty has been abolished?

What else do you call sentencing 1000's of working class people to confinement in crumbling soul destroying jails, at the mercy of brutal screws, cutting them off from family and community, beating, drugging and moving them hundreds of miles away from home.

If they complain or resist? - more shit from the screws, solitary, etc... And so much of the anger, frustration, depression and hate is turned inwards on other prisoners or themselves leading to violence and suicides.

NO JUSTICE..

For most prisoners their crime is trying to get by in a society where we are offered little future, for trying to take back some of the vast wealth around us, made by us, controlled by the rich parasites and guarded by an army of cops and security.

Prison is there for us. For those of us who break their rules, for those of us who have been screwed by their sick society. They can dress it up in fancy language, put a wig on it, give you a lawyer to supposedly argue the toss - but prison are about class justice: their 'justice' against us.



A REAL HANGING JUDGE

**CLASS WAR PRISONERS
PO BOX 3241, SALTLEY, BIRMINGHAM B8**

One of six new Class War Prisoners stickers available from Birmingham Class War.

JUST US!

BUT.....It's not all bad news! Since 1975, in Canada prisoners their families and friends have commemorated 10th August every year as Prisoners Justice Day, remembering prisoners who died inside, and promoting resistance to prison authorities. Whether they've committed suicide, been killed by screws, other cons, neglect or illness - they've all been sentenced to death by class justice. In Canada 1000's of prisoners go on work strike, hunger strike or protest for the day. Meantime supporters outside demonstrate, hold meetings and broadcast radio shows in support of the prisoners.

PRISONERS JUSTICE DAY

In this country, since 1992 the Anarchist Black Cross has organised demonstration to mark Prisoners Justice Day. We believe we have to support and encourage class resistance to prisons - whether it's fighting the screws, escapes, work strikes, collectively trying to improve conditions by pressure from below or tearing down the jails that hold them. We are encouraging prisoners to take action if they can. We are calling on our class on the outside to show their solidarity with people on the inside and contempt for their 'justice'.

On Thursday August 10th this year there will be demos outside Armley in Leeds, Winson Green in Birmingham and a London nick. So, get along to the nearest one or hold your own demo at a prison near you...and let's admit it, there's enough to choose from!

For further details of Prisoners Justice Day contact London ABC c/o 121 Bookshop, 121 Rallton Road, Brixton SE London SE 24 0LR. Or contact Birmingham Class War

TERMINAL ILLNESS

The next really huge battle in the 'anti roads' war may well be over the proposed new £1 billion Terminal Five at Heathrow airport.

Terminal Five won't actually be a road of course. But the issues are similar and the same as class war everywhere: the needs of capitalism and profit versus the needs of working class people.

British Airports Authority (BAA), the company which operates airports, wants to build 'T5' to meet increased passenger demand, (expected to increase from 69 million passengers per year in the South East of England to 165 million by 2016), to improve the overall 'flying experience' and enable Heathrow to compete more effectively with other European airports.

It also has its eye on a very tidy profit from the accompanying shops - this is

where the big profits are made, BAA's retail and franchise operations already net in far more than anything else it does. It also reckons not buying T5 will harm London as a financial centre and prevent the creation of 7,000 jobs - this promise of jobs has been enough to guarantee the unions support for the plan.

CONGESSION

Heathrow is already the world's busiest international airport. The surrounding motorways are the most congested in Europe. The new terminal would be built on Green Belt land, and would, on its own be Europe's third largest airport. The implications for the quality of life of the millions of people living nearby - more traffic, roads, noise, pollution and less housing and green land are obvious.

The arguments are sim-

ple: the vast majority of passengers who use Heathrow are business people - it is not only that these people are not working class: their business is trying to keep us in our place, trying to make the working class work harder - for less.

Canals and then railways, used for transporting goods, were essential for the development of capitalism in the 19th and early 20th century. Since 1945 roads have been essential, and they still are, both for transporting goods and for helping to carve up the working class. Now, with capitalism so obviously a global system, air transport is also essential to its needs.

This is where T5 fits in - it's all about meeting capitalism's new needs - job creation arguments are just a red herring. And, of course,

it's also about BAA wanting its slice of the air transport profits.

The public enquiry into T5 is just beginning. With already 10,000 written representations from groups and individuals, 95% of them against the project, this is expected to last 18 months.

But, as well as these liberal campaigns, the swanky public officials and the government, who will attempt a final decision, must consider the militant direct action already being taken against roads elsewhere (see 'Road bollocks says Pollok' in CW issue 67). If they say no to T5 at the public enquiry stage it will be our victory.

If they grant the go-ahead...well, then we'll really start fighting.



STRANGWAYS SCAPEGOATS

David Bowen is serving nine years for GBH on screws and conspiracy (to do GBH) following the Strangeways Prison uprising in April 1990, and a further three years for a trumped up charge of perverting the course of justice.

On 12 June 1995, David went on trial again, this time for escaping from custody whilst being transported from Hull nick to Manchester Crown Court, during the scapegoat trials for the riot. He has pleaded not guilty to escap-

ing from lawful custody, and will present a defence of duress, citing his treatment in prison, including verbal and physical abuse from the screws at Hull.

CONVICTED

At the time of the Strangeways revolt, David was a remand prisoner, awaiting trial on a charge of shoplifting a pair of curtains, anticipating a sentence of weeks not years. He strenuously denies committing GBH against anyone or being in-

involved in conspiracy to do anything.

Found guilty in his absence, David like the other 22 men convicted at the show trials which followed the uprising have been made scapegoats by the prison system.

PROTEST

While the government responded to the protest with an official enquiry / cover up and promises to improve conditions, it was melting out punishment to any prisoners

that were present as a warning to prisoners not to oppose the conditions of their incarceration.

SUPPORT

David will be in court for three weeks. Send letters of support to David Bowen DA0146, HMP Leicester, Welford Rd, Leicester, LE2 7AJ. Contact Notts CW for details of further pickets.

WELFARE WARFARE

Next year sees the introduction of Incapacity Benefit and Job Seekers Allowance, vicious attacks not only on rates of benefit but also people's entitlement to claim. A two edged sword designed to reduce the welfare budget and reduce the wage expectations of all working class people.

Incapacity Benefit replaces Invalidity Benefit, which is the main income of thousands of long term sick and disabled people unable to work in April 96.

REDUCED

This new benefit is taxable and paid at drastically reduced rates. An 'All Work Test' has been designed by the government so that a quarter of a million people will lose their status as disabled. The tests are bizarre, one off tasks, - if you can pick up a pint of milk or bag of spuds at your test you could be found fit for work.

This will particularly affect people with fluctuating or invisible illness such as HIV/AIDS, ME, arthritis, sickle cell anaemia and mental health problems.

Those forced off incapacity benefit, even if their local

office is accessible in the first place, may not be well enough to sign on or fulfill the requirements of Job Seekers Allowance.

Job Seekers Allowance (JSA) will replace Unemployment Benefit and Income Support as from April 96 and be fully implemented by October 96.

JSA will reduce the income of many claimants and some will lose entitlement to all benefits. Unemployment benefit, currently paid for 1 year, will become contributory JSA (if you have paid enough NI contributions) payable for only six months.

You will then join the rest of the unemployed on means tested JSA. To claim you will have to sign the Jobsearch Plan, (much the same as the booklet you fill in each time you have a Restart now) and Jobseekers Agreement.

PRESSURE

The Jobseekers Agreement says that you must show you are 'actively seeking work' and 'making yourself available' for all work. It will be the go ahead for applying more pressure to make us take any shitty job or lose benefits.

It will also mean that the

dole can instruct you to 'take action to improve your prospects of work' - this may include telling you to change your appearance, send you on a scheme or give you a vacancy to follow up. (See earlier reference to shitty jobs!)

ROBBED BLIND

These two attacks on benefit are designed to rob

a quarter of a million people will lose their status as disabled

us of billions of pounds. It will force the disabled into deeper poverty putting their health and welfare at risk and encourage employers to offer not only shit pay but little or no health and safety or sickness provisions.

This will effect all workers currently paying NI who may become ill and find themselves ineligible for benefit. Groups are forming around

the country to fightback.

Incapacity Action have held protests outside Peter Lilley's home and more protests are planned. Not suprising, the Labour Party have no plans to abolish the new measures, if they get in.

So, when election time comes round politicians on all sides are fair game if like us you think they would have a different attitude if they couldn't work due to a severe disability.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

**INCAPACITY ACTION,
PO Box 9, Kingsland
High St. London E8
2NS.**

**Tel 0181 806 6455
(Or contact your local
Disability Action
Group).**

**BIRMINGHAM CLASS
WAR. PO Box 3241,
Saltley, Birmingham
B8 3DP**

**(For further details of
JSA)**

ONE SMALL WORLD

The global market might sound a bit odd but it's something that for all of us is becoming more and more real. It's not something that is new - raw materials and finished goods have been transported all around the world for hundreds of years.

But thanks to technology, the global market is getting smaller and smaller all the time. Goods can be transported across the world in a matter of hours and some multinational companies are now more economically powerful than most countries.

MAKING MONEY

And the primary motivation for these companies is to maximise profit: and if that means taking production to where wages are cheapest, so be it. One recent example of this was a plastic bag factory in Telford. Despite being open for only five years, it was closed down and production was shifted to China.

The lowest wage in Telford was £10,400 and going up to £20,000 for skilled workers - and the Chinese workers are getting £2,500 ("that's very good for them, top of the range in fact" commented one of the bosses). The Telford workers had been told not to worry about closure, that it wasn't on the cards but as usual they had been lied to and now have been made redundant or offered jobs elsewhere in this country by the company.

There is simply no way that workers here can compete with wages like that, though the ruling class must be having fantasies about it (thoughts of a small, well-paid and highly skilled sector and the rest of us struggling on in shitty jobs with shitty pay). There's no doubt that it is already happening, as shown by the decreasing number of people in full-time, permanent work (down from 55.5% in 1975 to 35.9% in 1993).

CROSSING BORDERS

One of the reasons that our wages and our conditions are under attack is that capital is going to travel to wherever it is offered the best conditions for growth. That's why we have to see our struggle in international terms, see it in terms of against capital not in terms of "other workers stealing our jobs". For a start, "our jobs" is merely work created by capital to make money - and these other workers are in the same situation as us, having to sell their labour to survive.

But that is a very precarious business, selling labour, always at the mercy of those who own the factories and offices. All they are concerned about is economically screwing us wherever we live, whatever our 'nationality' might be. Despite the flag-waving (when it suits them!), the ruling class think internationally - and so should we. Our struggles should never stop at national boundaries, the working class is global and that's how we should take on our common enemy.

CHELMSFORD BLUES

On 18th November 1994 over 100 bus drivers at the Eastern National depot in Chelmsford walked out on strike. The dispute had been bubbling under for a while, a result of management's attempts to maximise profit at the workers expense (nothing new in that).

It was the same old story of wages and conditions being undermined - as one driver put it: "I was on more money when I first started, five years ago, twice as much. Now I work about 48 or 50 hours a week for a take home pay of £166. My rent's £68".

MILLIONS

Of course, for management things are looking for rosy. After privatisation in 1986, profits have made the top cats millionaires for, as the 'Financial Times' stated, "a bus is a cash box on wheels". Funny that - we thought that a bus was a way of getting from one place to another.

And their millions have come from screwing both the workers and the passengers. As far as the workers are concerned, after years of giving up benefits such as paid meal breaks, the demand for further flexible working practices (ie what suited management best!) was the last straw.

The workers went through all the various legal procedures for embarking on a dispute (ballots, cooling-off time etc) - the vote was won, they walked out...and management sacked the lot of them! Just goes to show that the law is a complete load of bollocks and the more that it is ignored, the better - for its sole purpose is to tie us down and it doesn't give us any protection (whatever the liberals might say).

SYMBOL

The dispute has been ongoing since then and has now become a "symbol" for the trade union movement - which is about the

last thing that we needed. One bright point however has been the striking bus drivers have been running their own free service to undercut Eastern National. This has hit their profits and also raised a lot of public support for the strike.

It's imaginative ideas like that which can help to push struggles forward and there's certainly a lot of history of transport workers taking control and providing services for free. But it has to be said that this is being mainly funded by the union (TGWU) who could pull the plug any time they want and it can be used as an excuse to stop any action spreading (all the energy goes into providing the bus service rather than trying to bring out other bus workers) - because of course that would be illegal and we can't be having any of that.

TUC WANKERS

The boss of the TUC, John Monks, recently spoke in support of the strikers with statements like "we want fairness...we want our rights to be recognised". The sooner that nonsense is dumped in the dustbin of history the more successful our struggles will be. Such notions as 'fairness' (whatever that means!) prevent us from seeing what we need to do.

This is a class war and it's vicious and nasty. The striking bus drivers in Chelmsford should be congratulated for showing management two fingers. The scabs might think that crawling up the bosses' arse now will save them later but we can promise them that in a few years time they will be whimpering (if they haven't been run over by a bus by then!).

To be successful, our struggles must spread, must throw off the ties of unionism, labourism and fairness and must be fought ruthlessly and savagely. It's the only way up!



There might be a global market, but there's also a global class war

UP THE TEACHERS!

In the last few weeks we have seen teachers whining on about their conditions again, well we at Class War would like to add our bit to the debate

There's only one thing that we want to say to teachers and that is, FUCK OFF AND DIE SCUMBAGS! Yes there is always the one 'decent' teacher but the only reason that some stand out for being vaguely human is that the vast majority of teachers are total wankers!

TORTURE

I'm sure you remember the torture that we all went through at school, being made to feel inadequate by these bastards. I've still got a few scores to settle and I won't be taking the teacher an apple but a knuckle-duster! School has only one purpose in this society and that is to get us to conform to what the bosses want.

When I was at school I was told about how great people like Nelson and Churchill were, how Britain was the workshop of the world and of the days when the sun never set on the empire.

What we were never told was how Churchill ordered the troops to open fire on strikers, the real misery of the workers, (except when some middle class wanker took pity), or the disease, torture and death that the British forces inflicted on the people whose land was stolen.

The teachers job is to do the states work and introduce us to the role they expect us, the working class, to perform. Control of

peoples' minds is important for the bosses and it is the teacher who helps do this.

They try and tell kids who live in places that have up to 20% unemployment that if they work hard enough then they can get to the top just like Maggie used to tell us we could. Bollocks! We all know that most of the schoolkids out there will end up either on the dole or in a shit job paying about three pounds an hour (if they're lucky!).

The position that the teacher holds is also a way of conditioning us to accept



Doug McAvoy: the teachers bureaucrat

the idea of authority. Teachers by continuing this education system are just another part of the bosses method of control and are therefore some of the enemies of our class.

SCUMBAG

These scumbags who try and rule our lives when we are young are being supported by all the lefties. This is because the Trots want to run our lives as well and they sympathise with their middle class soul mates! Then again the teaching

unions and the students unions are the only organisations these lefty tossers have any influence in, so at least we know that most ordinary workers have more sense than listen to these pricks.

Of course if they go on strike you never cross a picket line, but then who the fuck is going to try and cross one to get into a school. I can't see the kids fighting through a picket line to get into lessons!

IMPORTANT

We think that education is important, we must learn the long history of working class resistance to this society and the way our predecessors could get the bosses to back down with a good riot.

The history of the way that our class has fought against the bosses system in all countries will put us in good stead to fight our present rulers.

The point is that we think people should be taught to overthrow the oppression of this system and everything that goes with it. It is up to ourselves to do this, all these bosses lackies will do is keep us in the shit that capitalism makes for us.

Here's some suggested reading for starters, (for a fuller list see the back of 'Unfinished Business, the politics of Class War'): 'The World Turned Upside Down' by Christopher Hill; 'The Making of the English Working Class' by E.P. Thompson; 'Heroes' by John Pilger.



GREEN SLIME

If you believe the papers, George Monbiot is "the new face of green revolution". His ugly mug is everywhere these days. Monbiot is the founder and leader of a new campaign called 'This Land Is Ours'. This well-heeled public school dick-splash is also a symbol of everything that's shitty about the new green politics...

Let's face it, you're more likely to find the Pope at Ibrox than see Monbiot on a barricade. Mummy was the Tory leader of South Oxford's district council for nine years, while Daddy is the head of the Tory Party's trade and industry section.

Not surprisingly, professional parasite George looks up to his professional parasite father, Raymond: "My dad is a decent bloke, a moral bloke. In some ways we look at the world in similar ways."

Monbiot isn't even George's real name: it's



There's only one way to get a permanently better environment: exterminate ruling class vermin like Monbiot

Beaumont. His family were French aristocrats who fled to England while the rest of their class were getting it in the neck during the French Revolution.

If we're serious about

improving our environment, we can start by recycling upper class toerags like Monbiot. Now let's finish off the job started by the French peasantry: bring forth the guillotine...

"Everyone recognises the need for demonstrations to be peaceful."

Gerry Adams proves that beneath the surface of a 'rebel' politician beats the heart of a bastard—just like every other MP

"Four months ago only 20 per cent of Soweto's residents were paying for their electricity. That figure is now 65 per cent."

Nelson Mandela thinks socialism means making us pay the lecky bill and sending in armed police to break up strikes... A right royal tosspot!

"The country would support Heseltine in the chair. The country would love him."

Leading back-bench Tory on plans to make Heseltine Tory Party chairman. He's right: I'd love to see Tarzan in the chair... as long as I get to plug him in

"Labour often looks as if it is about to engage in class war, but in fact it is full of rather decent and honest people."

As usual, Tony Blair misses the point. Labour has always engaged in class war: trouble is, it fights on the side of the bosses

"We knew early in the day that outside protesters were carrying weapons and we told the police—but nothing was done."

Animal rights campaigner at Shoreham carries on that fine old British tradition: "Coppers narks, animal rights, one struggle, one fight"

"Ginny is not a naturally clubbable person."

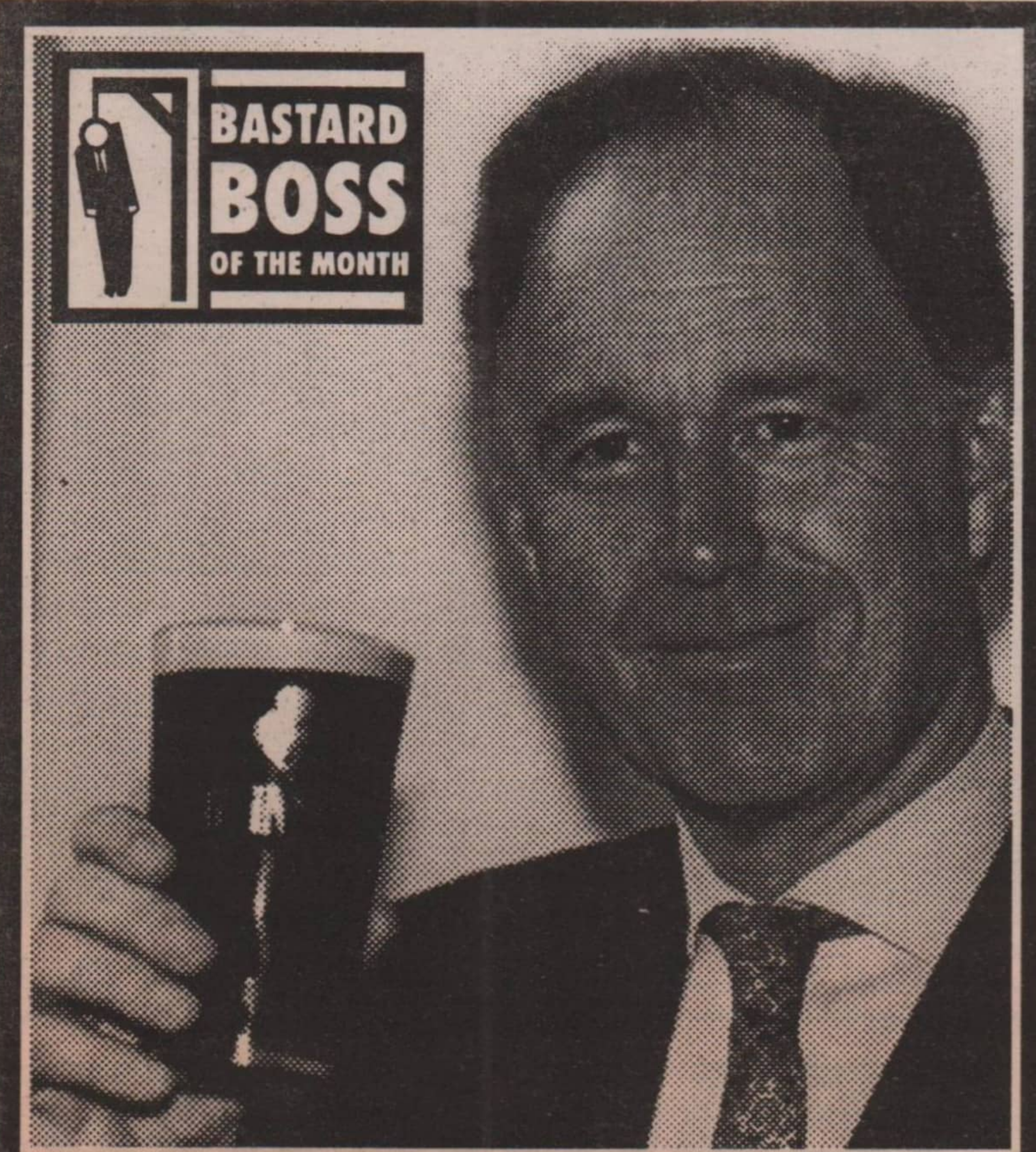
Anonymous friend of Virginia Bottomley. Not clubbable? There's only way to prove it: pass me a baseball bat...

"It was too fascinating an opportunity to pass up"

Arsewipe Howard Davies, director-general of the bosses organisation, the CBI, explains why he's taking up the post of deputy-governor of the Bank of England. So nothing at all to do with a salary of £180,000...?

"We have reached a stage where every man and woman in the House of Commons is an object of suspicion."

Ted Heath finally gets it, but he's about two hundred years too late. 'An object of suspicion'? More like a target for our class hatred



It's all jolly smiles for Anthony Armitage Greener, chairman of Guinness plc. Business is booming: Guinness made a billion pounds profit last year, dividends are up by 28 per cent, and things are looking good... So good that Greener's just given himself a tasty salary rise to a massive £700,000: this wanker pulls in more in one week than most of us earn in a year.

How does Guinness make its money? In 1986 it bought up the Distillers company—these were the scum responsible for 'marketing' the Thalidomide drug in the 1950s and 1960s. Thousands of working class women were encouraged to take the drug with horrific results: the worst affected victims, many now with kids of their own, have to struggle by on just £10,000 a year.

Greener and the other bastards at the top are quite happy to take the profits from Distillers: let's see them take some of the pain. I hope the next time Greener sees the word 'Guinness', it's on a broken bottle heading for his over-fed face...

OLD BOYS JOB CLUB

No 8 in a series of jobs you're unlikely to be offered

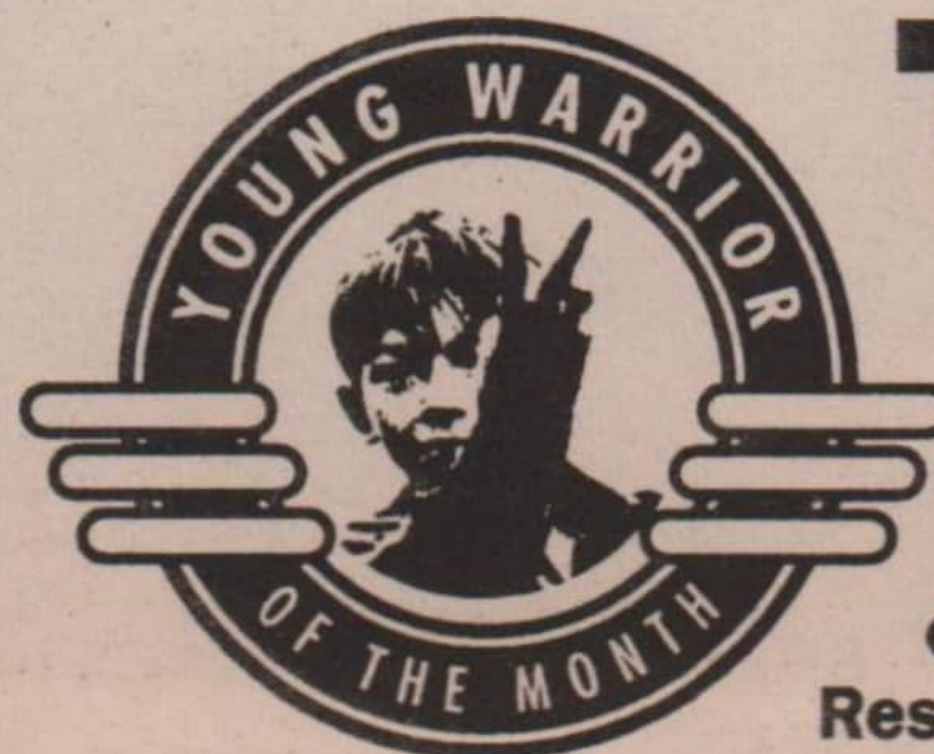
NATIONAL LOTTERY BOSS

QUALIFICATIONS: You'll need a degree in Brown-Nosing, Kickbacks and Masonic Handshakes. It goes without saying that you will be public-school educated: while sticking your greedy little snout in the trough, you will be rubbing shoulders with a variety of top bosses, ex-cops and assorted vermin. You will be expected to pass the port the right way.

EXPERIENCE: As chief executive of Camelot, you'll need a good head for massive figures: in the first 20 weeks of running the National Lottery, Camelot has raked in £1.2 billion and made £10.8 million. A 12-digit calculator will be provided.

SALARY: Due to public concern over rich bastards getting fat out of a 'tax on hope', we've had to keep your salary down to just **£331,367** for the moment (which is a measly £6,500 per week, or £1300 per day). But that figure *doesn't* include £112,000 worth of pension contributions, plus the usual backhanders and bonuses.

Post presently filled by Tim Holley



The contest for this month's *Young Warrior* award has been a close-run thing. Special mention goes to the gangs of lads and lasses across the country who have been bringing summer sales back into fashion—we've recently been enjoying another outbreak of "boosting", or mass shoplifting. Nice to see that kids are still learning something useful at school. And don't forget: the biggest crews get the biggest rewards!

Respect is also due to the two teenagers who saw popstar-turned-

moneymaker Adam Faith pulling into a petrol station. Adam went to pay the cashier, and our daring duo made off in his £70,000 Roller... Cool!

But top marks this month go to the anonymous muggers of Hampstead, north London. It's toughs against toffs, as the well-heeled parasites who live there are being daily robbed of their wallets, mobile phones, watches, and designer clothes. Tragic!

Among the 'victims' are Alexandra Williams, daughter of Michael Heseltine and ex-model Jilly Johnson. Gail Ronson, wife of the former Heron boss Gerald Ronson, had her £20,000 diamond-encrusted Rolex ripped off her wrist recently as she was standing outside a friend's house. At the last count poor Gail was worth £550 million: next time I hope they rip off her head as well her watch....

The pigs are so worried about this latest tactic that they've started putting plainclothes coppers on the beat kitted out with fake Rolexes. Big deal! As well as playing 'What's The Time Mr Wolf?', we can now while away the evenings with 'Let's Kick Shit Out Of The Old Bill'.

The pampered scum who live in Hampstead, St Johns Wood and similar ghettos all over the country have spent years flaunting their wealth in our faces. Why should I shed tears when they start to get a bloody taste of real class justice? There's never been a better time to mug the rich!



Gail Ronson: time's up, scumbag!

HARRY ROBERTS IS OUR FRIEND...

EXCLUSIVE! I don't think much of heroes of any sort, but if I've got a soft spot for one individual, that man is Harry Roberts... So I was chuffed to bits to get an exclusive interview with "Britain's most wanted man".

In August 1966 Harry Roberts and two mates shot their way to fame by killing three West London coppers. It was "the crime of the century". The Metropolitan police shat their pants, and the press and MPs went into a total panic. After three months on the run Harry was eventually arrested and sentenced to a minimum of 30 years in a massive show trial.

Out on the streets it was a different story: Harry was already being celebrated as a working class hero. Two days after the shooting, Robert Murray attacked a policeman in Nottingham city centre, shouting "Get shot, you bastard!" When the cop tried to arrest Murray, a woman stepped out of

the crowd and belted him with her handbag, yelling "Leave him alone!" In West London William O'Connell stood outside Shepherds Bush police station (the home of the three dead policemen) and taunted them: "We've had three... let's have four!"

And it's been the same story for years: on the terraces, on the picket lines, outside the pubs on a Saturday night, Harry Roberts has been a hero for thousands of us.

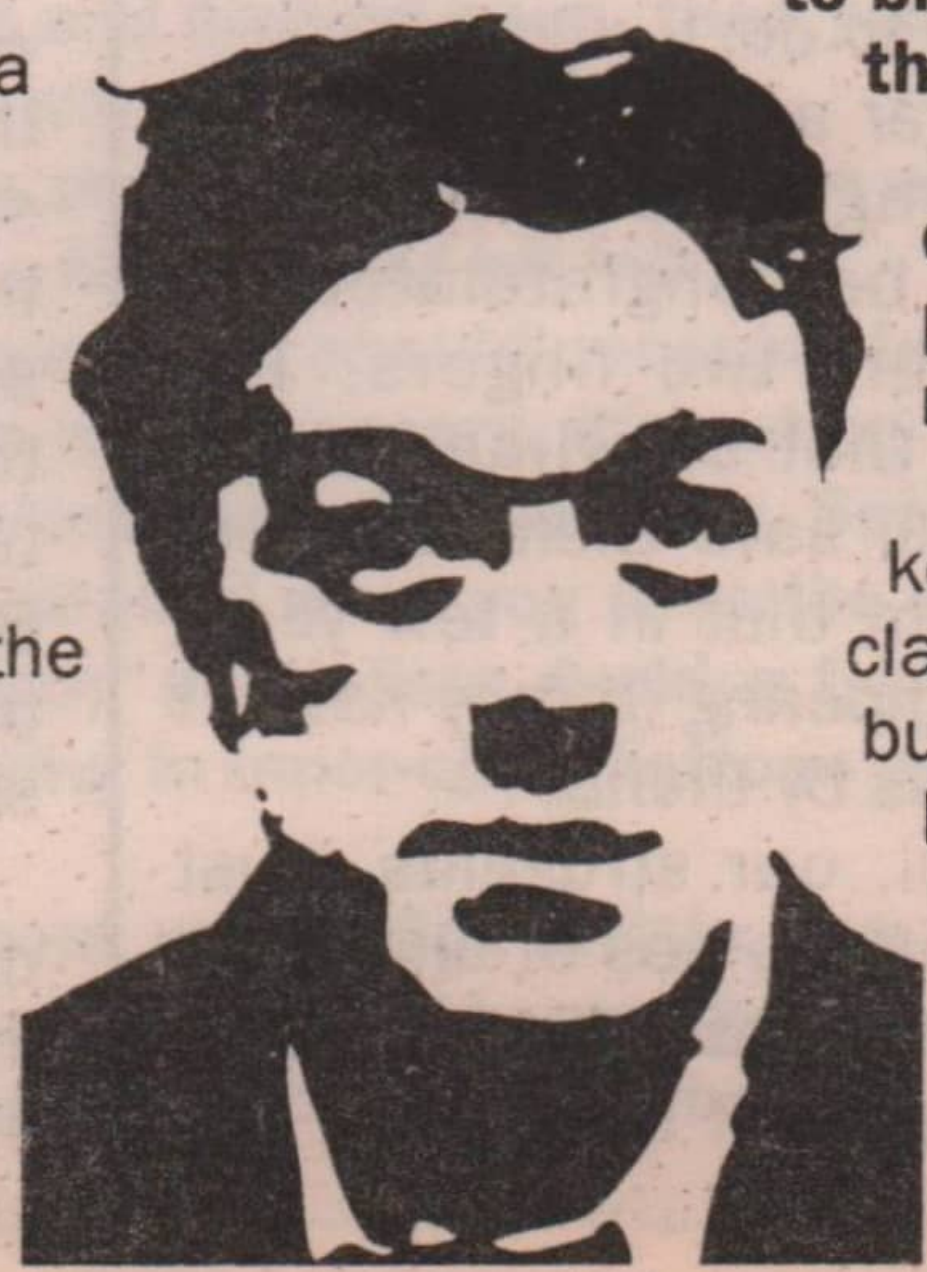
Now after 29 years in jail, he still shows no signs of giving in: there's no apologies.

Harry on cops: "I believed I had a right to be a criminal. For a professional criminal like me, policemen were the enemy."

Harry on prison: "Prison psychiatrists don't understand me and they don't understand my crime. If I was a rapist I would be out of here in a flash. They want to break me and rebuild me in a way that suits them."

Harry on class: "I would never dream of robbing working class people, or hurting children or raping someone."

That's exactly why the State keeps him banged up. He's working class and proud of it. He did the business and he won't say sorry. And he's kept his principles: rob the rich, not the poor. All together now: *Harry Roberts is our friend, is our friend, is our friend, Harry Roberts is our friend, he kills coppers...*



EQUAL BOLLOCKS

"The code covers job applicants and existing staff and is designed to help those who are discriminated against on the basis of race, marital status, class, disablement, sexuality, age or religious beliefs..."

This statement is to be found on every application form issued by the personnel section of Islington Council - and something similar can be seen on most of the application forms issued by local authorities, government departments and big employers. *Class War* looks at the rise of equal opportunities and whether or not it is in our interests.

CARING BOSS

Most employers are now describing themselves as equal opportunity employers - most of them also call themselves caring employers and we know how accurate that is! For most firms this commitment goes no further than a couple of sentences on an application form, or ensuring that a black person is always pictured in their publicity material.

Yet some employers, mainly local authorities, have actually articulated what they mean by equal opportunities and a quick glance at these rotten boroughs shows that despite the fine words, the equal opportunities industry (and that's what it is, an industry like any other) is not acting in the interests of the working class, white or black. The contempt that most people feel towards their local council (particularly Labour councils) is evidence enough of this.

SIX PAGES

When applying for a job with Islington council, you are expected to read and understand their six page equal opportunity statement. Normally the bloody job

description is only one page long! The word class of course is not mentioned once. You wouldn't think that it would take six pages to say that anyone who discriminates on the grounds of race, sex, etc is a wanker and has no place in our community - but it does if you're Islington council! Much of the statement is so long-winded, turgid and downright dull it makes the collected works of Lenin look like bedtime reading.

The council bosses are not looking for people to realise or actually understand why it is in our interests, as a class, to be anti-racist. What they are looking for is people to say they agree with their equal opportunities policy. A member of London Anti-Fascist Action was turned down by one council for a job because, he believes, they weren't happy with his understanding of their equal ops policy. Considering he'd earlier served a jail sentence for an attack on a BNP member I'd say he understood their policy all too well!

RIGHT NOISES

Also BNP members have made the right noises when asked equal opportunity questions and have gained employment as civil servants or council workers. Ian Dell worked for Greenwich Council for over 10 years, whilst at the moment Glasgow BNP member Gus McLeod is employed as a council worker.

With Islington council as much as half the job interviews can be taken up with questions like "what do equal opportunities mean to you" - stumble here and you've failed. Working class people are not being judged on their ability to do a particular job, but on their ability to say the things an interviewer wants to hear. We are being asked to jump



Real equal opportunities at work - putting sad-arsed fascists to flight at the Battle of Waterloo in 1992

through hoops for the bosses as per usual.

One result of the rise of the equal opportunities industry is that it has increased both the size and the influence of the black middle class. Well educated, middle class women and blacks are no longer largely excluded from the corridors of power. The working class is, and always will be unless we do something about it.

Clive Lloyd, the former West Indian cricketer and top North-west Tory is one of the governors at the largest comprehensive in Cheshire, Wilmslow County High. Lloyd actually sends his kids to private school 10 miles away, but having him on board is good PR for the council. Such window dressing by the establishment serves to show them as decent, fair minded people. Many US cities now have either a black police chief or black mayor. As the LA riots showed it's going to take more than a few black policemen to pull the wool over the eyes of the working class.

OLD BILL

In Britain the police were ordered to recruit more black officers after the

Scarman report found that many black people mistrust the police (never!) and found them to be racist (surely some mistake!). What the establishment will never understand is that it is not the colour of the person wearing the uniform that matters - the problem is the uniform itself.

There can be no room for divisions amongst the working class on racial grounds (or any other grounds). We either stand or fall together. The equal opportunities industry, however, does not serve to unite the working class but instead to give bosses a cloak of respectability, a right-on human face whilst they put up our council rents or try to cut our dole - "we may keep you waiting a year to repair your council house, we may be screwing you at work, we may be complete and utter bastards - but hang on, at least we're not racist or sexist, we've got an equal opportunities policy!"

Our equal opportunities policy is one all Class War members should put into practice at every opportunity. Let's treat all bosses, black and white, male and female, with equal contempt.

PIGS CAN FLY

Not content with surveillance cameras on street corners and at train stations, the Home Office has ordered that every police force must have a helicopter by the year 2000.

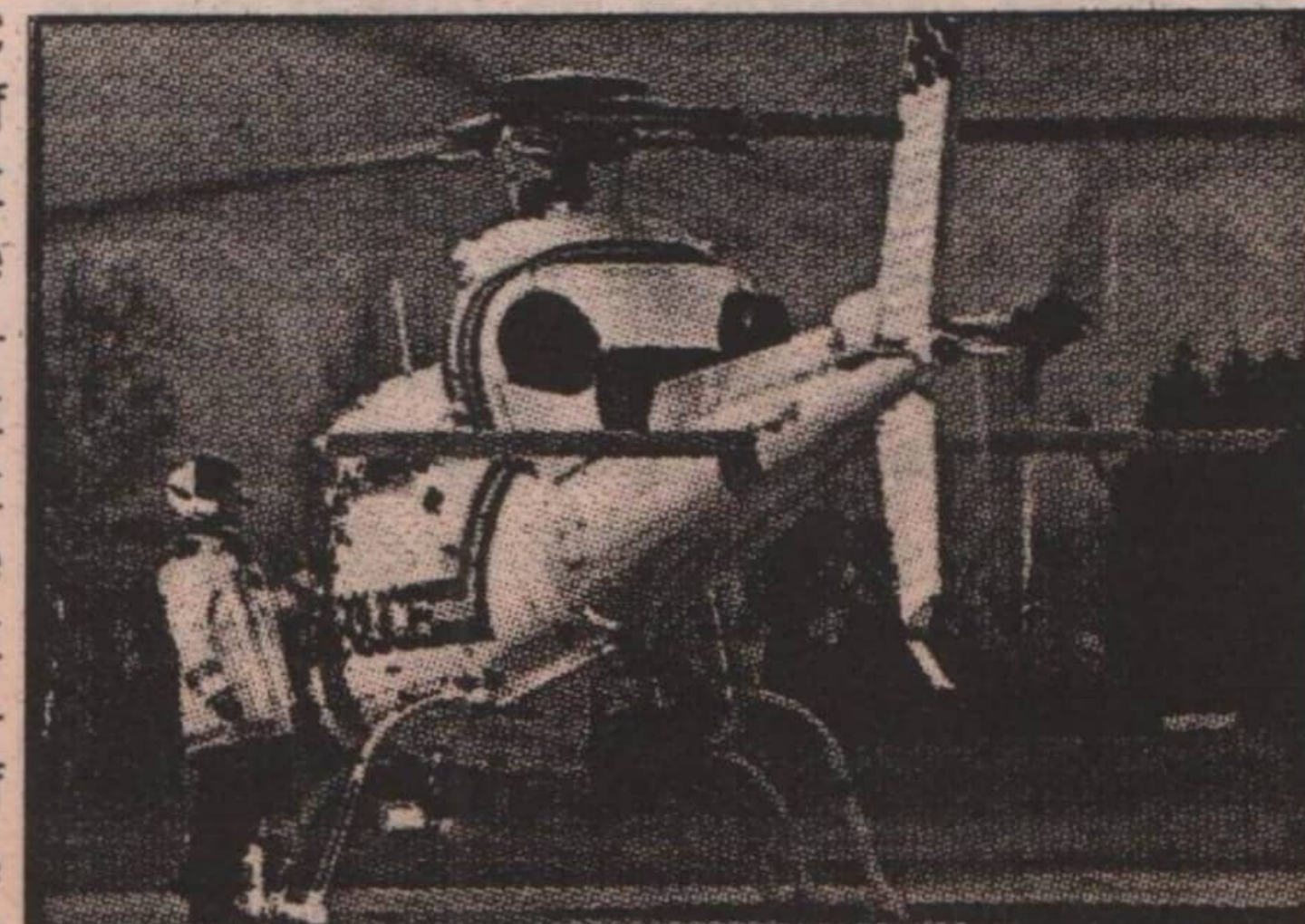
Whilst it's obviously preferable having the police several thousand feet up in the air rather than contaminating our streets (also it's a bloody long way down if anything goes wrong...) these helicopters are becoming as big a pain in the arse as the boy racers who roar around our streets in their wretched cop cars night after night.

The Metropolitan police currently have 3 helicopters based at their Air Support Unit at Lippitts Hill and share one with Surrey police at Fair Oaks (I seem to remember the IRA had a few good ideas on what to do with state helicopters) and 20 other police forces now have them.

Whilst these airborne arses pontificate how they're serving the community, it's obvious that their role is to reinforce the power of the state and to remind us that even when we are in our own homes we are being watched. Their searchlights and video cameras aren't trained on posh country houses or corrupt city traders!

TARGET PRACTICE

Many local councils love sending noise abatement officers to people holding late night parties, yet for some reason these officials seem to be off work when helicopters are on their noisy patrol. Even so, many people in inner-city areas have complained about this noise, both to the council and the police. PC Chris Raindle of the Air Support Unit told the 'Evening Standard' "We don't like to go out unless we are convinced that it's fully justifiable. If there's a police helicopter over your area at night it means one of your



Yes - It's a flying target (bonus points for crew going home in body bags)

neighbours has been mugged or robbed and it's the best shot we've got of catching the criminal".

Quite simply, PC 'bollocks brain' Raindle is a liar. Most cities have a routine police helicopter patrol, normally late at night. One flies over Hackney in east London 4 or 5 nights a week, normally between 11pm and midnight. As the number of police helicopters increase, so will the disruption to our sleep.

Whingeing to the council or the Police Complaints Authority is not going to do us much good however - we know whose side they're on and it certainly isn't ours! Class War would like to recommend to all our readers that you don't get mad, you get even. In the intervening period before we can that heavy artillery, there's always those powerful rocket fire works that might cause them a bit of shock if not more hopefully. PC Raindle has to come down from that helicopter some time....

ROAD RAGE

(by "C C Mumbler", a London bicycle messenger and CW supporter)

Pollution and smog causing massive increases in asthma and lead poisoning. Out of town shopping "centres" and road "improvements" destroying town centres and communities. Frustrated car-drivers leaping from their vehicles to attack that fellow road user who has denied them those vital twenty yards of progress along their traffic jams. It's a stupid utopia to suggest that we can do away with the car overnight, but people are ever more aware of how the car dominates society.

In the cities especially, car congestion and pollution directly oppresses more eco-friendly street users - pedestrians, cyclists, users of public transport. A few years back, statistics for traffic flow in central London showed that travel by car was actually slower than by horse and carriage at the turn of the century! In cities and villages, traffic levels have reached that critical mass at which point the system breaks down, comes to a near standstill, crawls along producing ever more pollution per mile - or a yard or two - travelled. Madness!

REVENGE

By way of a little revenge (and protest) the last Friday of every month sees a bit of central London taken over by a rather different critical mass. Cyclists!!! Hundreds of them. Direct action to create a tiny, temporary traffic-free zone (a place where cyclists are safe, not in fear of their lives as normal). A weird carnival of pedal-powered people from concerned cycle-commuting commuters to the dreadlocks

of the anti-roads activities. (It's better than sitting at home and watching telly anyway!)

For those at the front and back and along the sides, it's fun and games to bring the motorised traffic to a standstill. In-a-hurry-going-nowhere car drivers are reduced to impotence. Of course, the odd one flips out (could be argued that this is a natural reaction to traffic conditions anyway, stuck in a snarl-up after working all day - but then that reaction should be targeted at the real enemies) - perhaps a back wheel gets buckled, but generally when surrounded by 20 or so cyclists (plus D-locks!) most are sensible enough to sit tight out of understandable concern for their windscreen, headlights, bodywork, tyres...

GETTING BIGGER

At the centre of the mass it's possible to pedal along free of the noise and fumes, to trundle along looking at the scenery or having a quiet chat without fear of getting squashed. It's been happening for over a year now and, as summer comes, it's getting bigger month by month. The traffic chaos that surrounds it is snowballing: one evening a month it's our turn!

It's basically a bit of fun (nothing wrong with that) with a strange side-effect called empowerment. Most of the time we are just isolated individuals, atomised to the point of powerlessness, but suddenly we do have some power, some strength in our collective numbers. This does mean that some get a bit carried away but most are sensible enough to stop at zebras to let pedestrians cross - and if they're confident and careful, people can also safely cross

the road through the mass of slowly moving cyclists. It would be nice to give way to buses but it's difficult to separate them out without losing control of the road to the rest of the motor traffic. Fire engines and ambulances get an instant free path, of course. It's all pretty good natured stuff - we're in control for the moment and we know it.

TAKE TO THE STREETS

Up to now the filth haven't tried a mass lift under the Public Order Act/Criminal Justice Act/Whatever They Want To Do Act (though there has been video surveillance - which can be combated easily enough by cycle masks and sunglasses) - and we're one step ahead when they try to re-route it.

The May mass went north-eastwards out of the West End to a crossroads near the Angel where a cyclist was killed recently. After a minute's silence (which was actually about 15 minutes of holding the junction) we wanted to head back south into the centre. A TSG carrier parked across the road to try to stop us but within ten minutes enough people were the other side of this and it didn't matter.

It isn't actually going to change the world. The "ring of steel" around the City after the IRA structurally realtered it does more to create a better environment for cyclists than Critical Mass. But it really is laugh and is a chance for us to come together and express our power. It starts off from the Southbank outside the National Film Theatre at 5.45pm the last Friday of each month. Or it only needs 30 or 40 people to get together to start one off in another area.

as mad

introduction

Political activists are nutters. Women who get stressed are weak or on their period. Children who are 'too active' are problem kids. Old people who don't behave themselves as we think they should are senile. People who have trouble coping with the world as it is are bonkers, psychos, short of a full load. They should all be locked up, sedated and kept away from decent folk.

This article explains why these prejudices are complete bollocks, and looks at why most mental health problems are better called problems with living. Where do these problems come from and what can we do about them?

To sort out our ideas and views on 'mental health problems' it's vital to avoid prejudice as much as we can. Prejudice obscures and clouds any rational discussion on the subject. It is also used as a major tool to encourage us to run a mile from anyone who isn't abiding by all of society's rules and regulations, especially when they are behaving 'strangely'.

So called 'Mental Illness' has been prevalent in all societies known to us, throughout history. People who acted outside of social 'norms' were looked at as possessed or infected with evil. Such religious overtones, although totally destructive, affect us even now, and show up as a negative social fear of the unknown.

VICTORIAN VALUES

Mental problems have been said to escape social boundaries, potentially placing all of us at risk from their disease. That is why the Victorians in all their stupidity developed a massive asylum building programme, to isolate people away from the majority. Some of these people were treated as terminally insane and as a danger to society, even when some were merely unmarried mothers or orphaned children.

Mental health problems were viewed by 'professionals' as the result of physical, not social, conditions and this gave even greater powers to the emerging medical profession of the day. Those powers still exist today and are dangerously institutionalised, particularly in terms of law and the 'right' to prescribe psychotropic drugs such as modicate and librium.

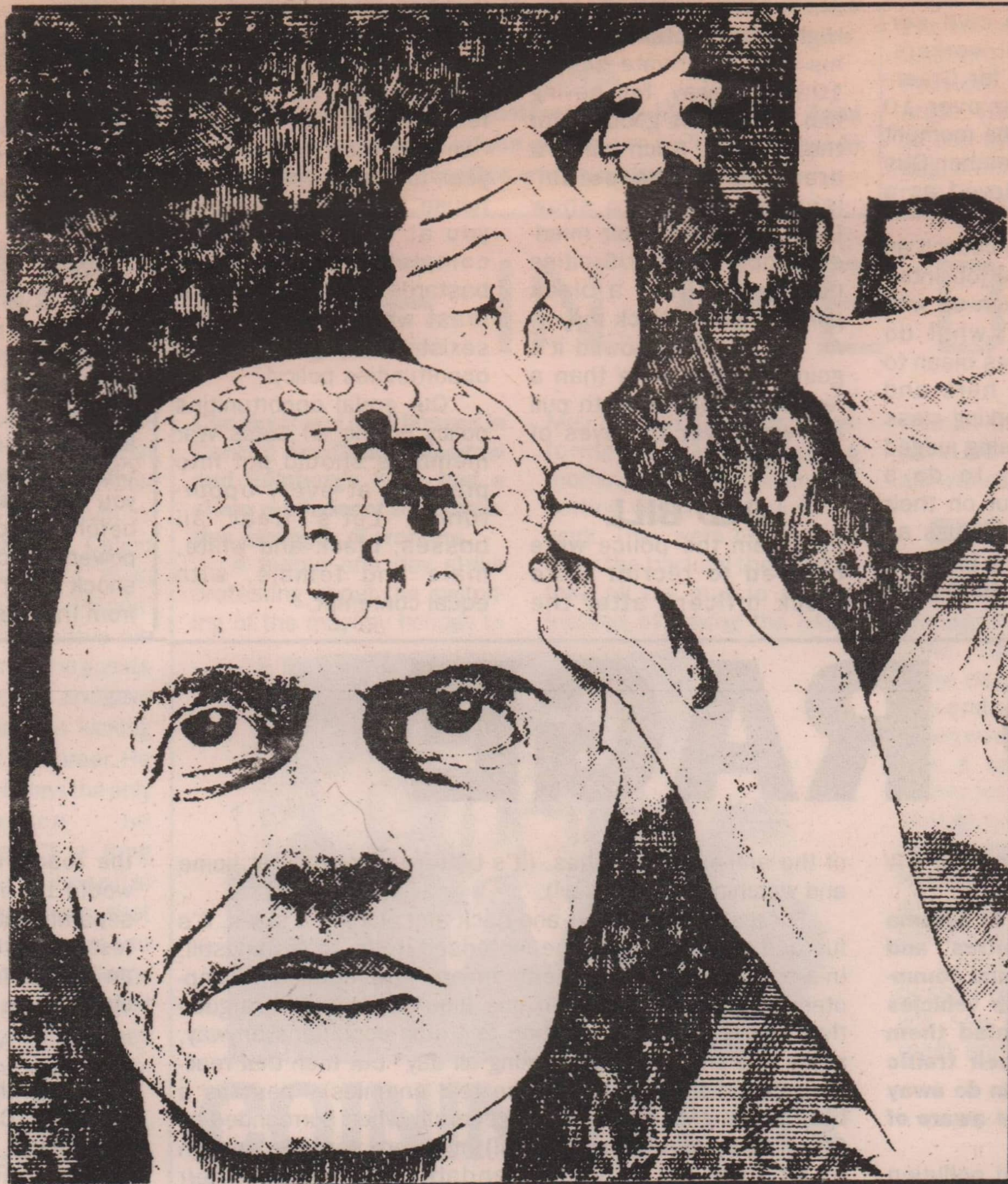
To look closely at this subject we need to see through the lies and myths about causes and cures, and to realise that mental health problems are part and parcel of a fast lane capitalist society. Without drastic changes to our society's blinkered and misinformed outlook, people with such problems will continually be forgotten, abused overlooked and misunderstood.

BAD P.R

Ever since the industrial revolution, people with mental health problems and mental illnesses have been accepted as 'necessary evils' which must be contained and controlled as the powers that be in society dictate at the time. It's obvious that this means people with mental health problems are completely misunderstood - partly because they are simply not listened to in the

first place. It is not in the interests of capitalism to listen to those who are its victims - that would be very bad PR for the boss!

Rather than accepting a person's state of mind, it is clear that the social structure we live in chooses to scapegoat them, and depersonalise their needs and wants, giving them an option: either conform to the laid down constraints of normality, or be doomed to eternal madness. There is plenty of



evidence of this. Be they teenage pregnancies, religious non-conformity extreme political ideas, or real illnesses that need support and therapy to be overcome, each in turn through history has been covered up with labels ...'schizoid, psychotic, neurotic, depressed, anxious, personality disorder, inadequate psychopath, manic...' all in their own sweet way meaning one thing - MAD!

Over the last century we've seen some absurd and obscene leaps in thinking on how to tackle society's 'lunatics'. The Victorians standing proud

behind their large scale, self contained Asylums; the Nazis by their gas chambers. Each at the time seen as methods of dealing with those labelled 'socially inadequate'. Each mocked by the other as dealing with today's problems with yesterdays solutions. Conveniently for the 'professionals', rarely along the line is it mentioned that social conditions may play just as large a part in these 'illnesses' as inherited or physical conditions.

We only need to look at our present government's movement towards so called 'Community Care' to see the real reasons for ignoring tackling mental

high level of conformity and an ability to 'fit in'. These demands are often too much for 'sane' people to put up with, let alone people who have mental ill health.

When our circumstances don't fit in with identified constraints, and for most of us this can be on a daily basis, we face stress, if not further mental and physical problems. This is NOT our fault. It's the direct result of the society we live in - in this case a 90s capitalist social system.

Once labelled as having a 'Mental Health Problem' it is found that instead of society encompassing our needs, it

"With up to one in four people estimated to suffer from mental illness at some point in their lives, it seems obvious that there is something very wrong with the system we live in"

health problems. In order for mental health issues to be accepted they need to be recognised to be part of and not separate from our society. The acceptance of homosexuality to a greater or

destroys any hope of returning to a so called normal existence. When caused by social conditions, mental ill health is seen as an individual's problem for them to get on with. This is also a prime tactic used by leaders, bosses and politicians in politics, social policy and the media - to encourage us to feel as alienated individuals, with unique problems that are our fault, not as people with common interests and common problems caused by the lives we have to lead.

It is interesting that these lies run so deep that when a member of the ruling class 'loses it', they are merely 'eccentric' or temporarily unwell. When one of us does, we are mad, inadequate, and it's time for the tablets.

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

We have to recognise differences between mental health problems. This itself is by no means an easy task to achieve. Unlike physical health problems which are more readily identifiable such as a broken leg or a bout of measles, mental health is hidden behind a haze of secrecy and denial: being more often than not branded simply as a 'nervous breakdown', encompassing a wide range of ailments.

It's not necessary here to go into the differences between psychosis and neurosis, but important to comprehend that mental health problems have a wide range of causes and an equally wide range of symptoms and interventions needed to resolve them.

As with crime it is important to identify the reasons for something occurring rather than seeing it as a failing of an individual's ability to cope.

TOO MUCH PRESSURE

The continued advancement of Western Society has become completely engrossed in the commercialisation of itself. This has led to increased pressure on individuals to conform. Regardless of a person's individuality, circumstance, sexual preference, cultural origin, colour, society is presented with a blueprint of perfection, like Aldous Huxley's book, "Brave New World": "Buy this. Eat this. Do this ... This is Cool. That is definitely uncool".

Stress itself is the predominant factor in most mental health issues. Closely followed by a reluctance in humans to

recognise/admit when we can't cope. We are, after all, encouraged to believe that weakness and inability to cope is not a good thing. This itself increases the difficulty in addressing mental health issues and formulating solutions. When mental illness is seen as a failing rather than a predictable outcome of social circumstance, it becomes impossible to resolve it.

Denial of the existence of pressure on the individual allows problems to escalate to a level where the individual becomes ultimately beyond help either from themselves their 'family', friends or professionals allocated to help. To advance the welfare of the individual it's vital for us as individuals to recognise when things are getting too much.

How can a woman beaten by her husband be expected to change her life when this is the norm she has come to accept? How can 'men' be expected to change their attitudes and become more expressive and less sexist as people when society dictates that they shouldn't?

MAKE CHANGES

Our society is formed around a Christian 'accept the shit you get and cope because then you'll go to heaven' perspective. Until this attitude is destroyed, mental health problems will escalate. It is only us who can make this revolutionary change - it is not in the interests of capitalism or the state to do so.

As Capitalism tightens its grip and distances itself from the individuals contained within it, mental health problems increase. We have to recognise our role: we are the cogs of society. Without us it fails. Without it's enforced chains we become responsible for ourselves and each other. The rationalisation of the state is that without it thousands of mentally ill people would die, starve or worse, murder their grandma whilst she's asleep in bed!

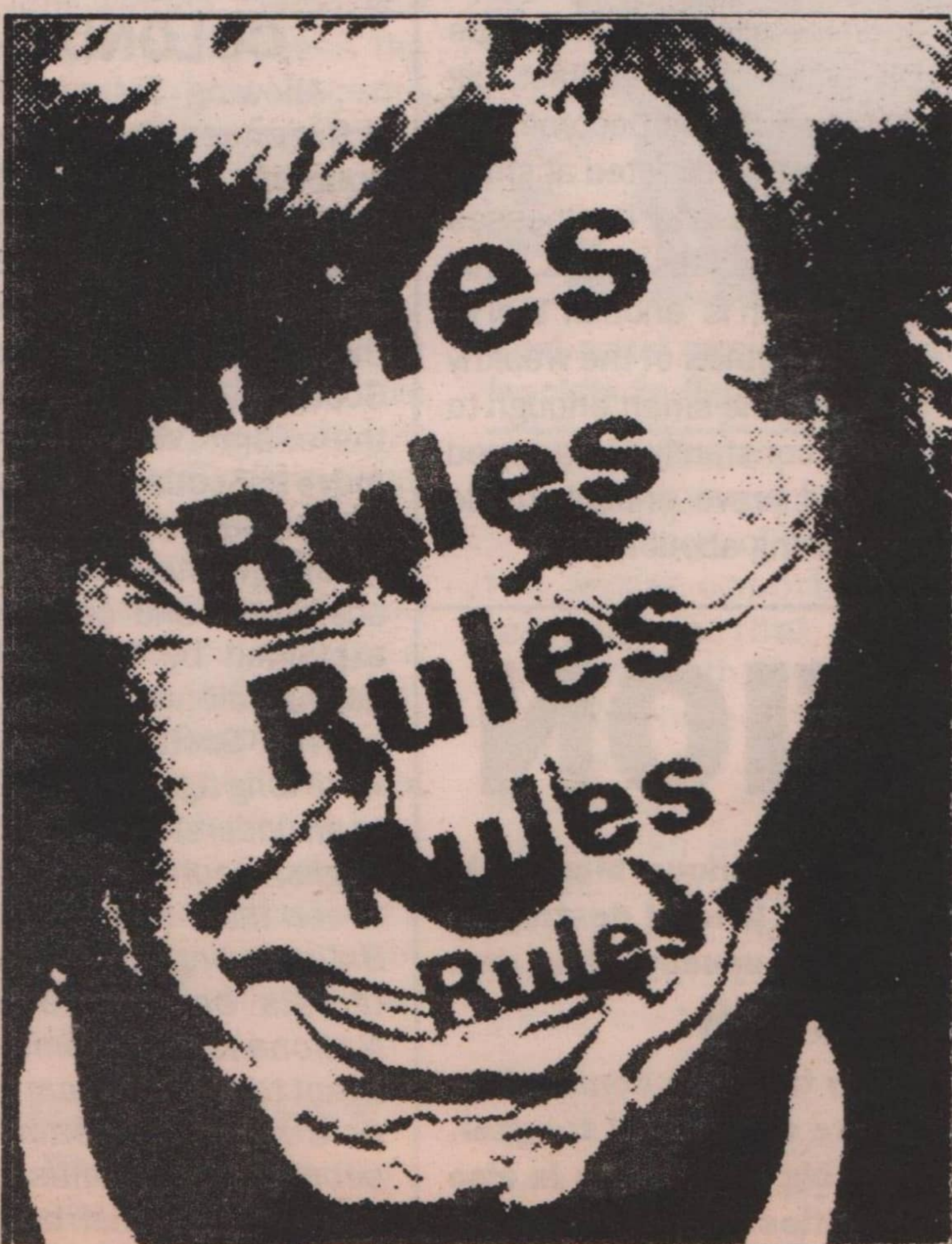
Without the State we've got, mental health problems would not be as prevalent as they are today. Without the state's intervention, mental health problems would be swallowed up and dealt with by each community as it felt necessary, hopefully with the individual's needs at the forefront of our minds and without the conglomerate pharmaceuticals having as much control over people's 'well being' as they have at present.

PRETTY PILLS

Creating a generation of pill popping neurotics is not a way forward. Encouraging self awareness and assertiveness is. "Doctor, Doctor, give me a pill to take away these bad thoughts..." is a scenario encouraged constantly by drug companies, GPs, many psychiatrists and the drugs themselves. It is important to step back and realise "This is why I feel this way. Until it's resolved its not going away". Examples of this can be seen very close to home. The percentage of people on anti-depressants in inner cities is astronomical.

The percentage of women in North-

ern Ireland prescribed Valium for the 'troubles' is astounding if not scary. Valium is as addictive as any street drug and yet until recently was prescribed indiscriminately to anyone. Persons on it describe themselves as being zombie like, able to function and carry out daily activities but unable to feel emotion: pain, anger, frustration and other positive revolutionary feelings. People are socialised to see an inability to cope as a failing and rather than slowing down and addressing problems, it becomes common practice to pucker up, pop a pill and keep on smiling, though fuck knows what for. This explains the growth in the use of Prozac, first in America,



and now here.

'Therapy' is a word bandied around and is becoming increasingly popular especially amongst the middle classes. In the good old U.S. of A. your personal therapist, amongst affluent sections of society, is seen as the thing to have. However therapy remains expensive and as long as this is the case it will continue to be exclusive. As with drugs, this can be useful in certain cases but equally a destructive step and not an advancement in itself.

Privileged and exclusive therapy removes the community's responsibility to care for its members. It can be seen to be breeding a generation of the enlightened ready to take control of your life for you.

COUNSEL TAX

Therapy can be like a religion - something that becomes your crutch, your anchor in the storm of life. It offers reasons and answers but offers no real solutions to the shittiness of life. If you've got 3 kids but haven't got a job, no matter how positive you feel within yourself, at the end of the day you still ain't got a job and you've still got 3 kids to feed. But you might find yourself able to cope with it a bit better.

Before considering a counsellor, psychologist or psychotherapist, check out their beliefs and philosophies first. Some are even anti-gay and lesbian, in the case of Professor Socarides, a shrink from New York, who visited Britain recently, and who states that:

"Homosexuality is a pathological condition which must be cured... it operates against the cohesive elements of society".

A good counsellor who doesn't exploit your problems to make a fat wage packet, can be extremely useful. Equally, a good counsellor, rather than a jumped up psychiatrist ready to prescribe lots of dangerous narcotics, will help you sort yourself out for yourself. If you do need a counsellor to help you deal with the world and your problems, and they start coming out with prejudice and telling you what to do... give 'em a slap and walk out - they're exercising their power and ideas, and not helping you to help yourself.

So, it's necessary to clarify a few points: Mental health problems can either be hereditary (either from social experience or genetic) or they can be brought on as a result of society's pressure placed upon individuals. We believe that both exist, but that most people who suffer these problems do so as a result of the world they have to live in.

Until we realise that our stresses are normal and a common experience within our class, mental health will always be prevalent and a particularly damaging aspect for working class people.

Time is precious in the functioning of this society and also in the management of mental health problems. Unless the balance is restored and society works for the individual, as a part of society, mental health problems will escalate, become unchecked, hidden and again forgotten. Society and its individuals will be none the better.

NOT BACKWARDS...

The State actually creates mental health problems and illness through the way it structures and manages society, with us as dispensable individuals, and the profit considerations of multinational drug companies always borne in mind.

The grand plan in the 1980s to begin the closure of old mental asylums, effectively brutal prisons in many cases, wasn't such a bad one, coupled with treating people according to their needs, in their communities. But the public were neither consulted or enlightened. The funds to make it happen were promised but the lack of them has proved to be a very sick joke.

The hospital closure plan seems to be less about improving patients' quality of life, and more about an economy drive to close expensive hospitals and flog off their land to the highest bidder. This profit has not gone into the community care budget.

Recent state proposals to have long-term patients monitored and subject to instant recall if they stop taking their medication is a life sentence, like permanent probation: an obscene affront to human liberty and dignity. Drugs cloud the issue, and contain the problem, they do not permanently solve them.

While there is genuine concern mixed with reactionary prejudice about the minority of patients who become violent, or the man who was recently so distressed he climbed into the lions' den at London Zoo to get treatment,

these are extremes and should never be used to deny those with mental ill health the means to live their own lives without continuous surveillance and enforced drug 'therapy'.

...FORWARDS

It is no coincidence that the majority of mental illness is found among poor people. Basically, working class people are easier to label, and less likely to have powerful allies to argue their case for them. Thousands of working class people have suffered problems at the hands of the world we live in, and then have been let down by mental health 'professionals'.

It is simply reactionary bollocks to write off members of our own class who can't cope, however temporarily, as 'a loony'. Class consciousness should tell us all that support and solidarity are far better alternatives than prejudice and ignorance.

Of the alternatives to drugs, hospitals and some bigoted 'professionals', there is the mental health survivors movement. There is also the skill of co-counselling, where two people agree to help each other out with a more equal relationship than 'doctor and patient'.

In terms of crisis situations, there are short term half way houses: the Richmond Fellowship, Philadelphia Association and Arbours are all projects that are independent of the medical profession - but they do, at times, rely on drug treatments.

If in doubt talk it out. We're not proposing that we all become social contact points for society's mental health care needs, but unless people communicate with each other, trust each other and share with each other, our collective mental health problems are doomed to increase.

The class war is about class and communities. We should do what we can to make ours more aware, healthier and stronger still.



An excellent source of information and advice on care, legal situations, useful contacts etc., and a wide range of books on mental health covering race, class and gender is:

MIND

National Association for
Mental Health
22 Harley Street
London W1N 2ED
Tel: 0171 637 0741
Fax: 0171 323 0061

as n e l l a

BLAIR'S BOZOS

The Labour party's recent successes in Scottish council elections shows that they have now taken nearly as many votes from the Tories as they have policies.

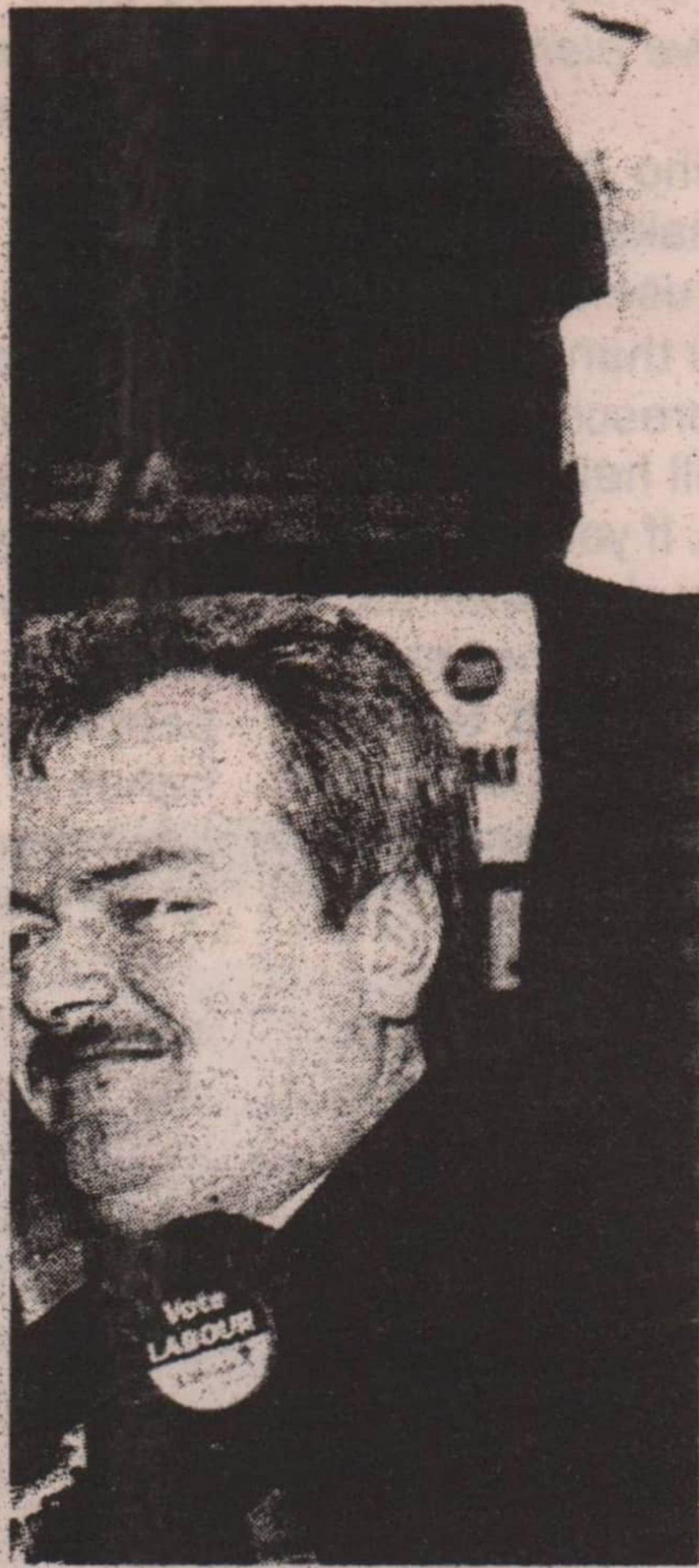
They delude themselves that folk are voting Labour because of their new "Blairite" image and that they are generally well liked and trusted.

REALITY

The reality is that when people choose between sticking their heads in a bucket of shite and a bucket of pish - the pish will win any time.

CARTOON

We at *Class War* are fed up with their cartoon politics. Mass working class action - That's the ticket!



Hands up if you'd sell your Granny.....

VIDEO NASTIES

We've always known that spy cameras in town centres weren't just "traffic monitors". Now Edinburgh cops have admitted that they're being used to watch "criminal activity", like demonstrations.

The cameras can zoom in and besides making videos which can be studied at the filth's leisure, they can also take high quality still pictures for circulation. But don't jump to conclusions, our beloved boys in blue have given their word: they won't abuse this spy system. Well, That's OK then....

ASSORTED SCUM

It would be foolish to think that on demonstrations we aren't already being photographed, filed and followed by Special Branch and all kinds of assorted scum. They've al-

ways done it and always will, whether peering out of high windows or using "traffic control" cameras. So from that point of view it makes little difference.

PROFITS

But 24hr surveillance of town centres has other effects. By making city centre theft more difficult the cameras will simply push crime out to areas where they haven't been installed. An act may be OK when done against big business, but will become anti-social when directed at small local shops and businesses in working class areas. This spy system is another tool to protect profits of the wealthy from anyone smart enough to resent constantly being ripped off and brave enough to do something about it.

ALIEN NATION

'Alien Watch' has targeted businesses in Edinburgh who mainly employ English folk. "English go home" stickers have appeared on shop windows. A leaflet with the slogan "Go home Anglo-Saxon Aliens" has been sent to some businesses. What are the group up to? Are they just a bunch of mindless racists who hate the English? Their leaflet suggests more than that.

COLONIAL

Allowing for population differences between the countries, there are six times as many English immigrants in Scotland as there are Scots south of the border. The further up the social scale in Scotland, the more English there are. Well-off English move to Scotland, in contrast with usually poor Scots who go south. These facts aren't accidental and can only be explained by Scotland still having colonial status.

The Scottish ruling class were long ago forced to come to an understanding with their English counterparts and between them they formed the British ruling class. Their interests became identical. Nationalism became irrelevant to most of them except as a means of getting poor people too fight British wars.

As most British business was and is English owned, English owners often bring in English staff to higher management, the ruling class has become more and more Anglo. This has filtered down to the middle classes with English immigrants finding it fairly easy to find 'good' jobs.

This varies in different areas. Edinburgh, historically the seat of the colonial government and a finance and commerce centre, has been more deeply affected than Glasgow, a mainly industrial city with fewer white collar jobs.

So if *Alien Watch* have their facts mainly right does it mean that *Class War* agrees with what they do? No! Their emphasis on the "Englishness" of the "invaders" obscures the class issues in-

DANGER!

Englishmen at Work - Scots on the Dole!

By proportion there are SIX times as many English in Scotland as there are Scots in England. In the 1980s the increase in the number of English in Scotland was over 100% and greater than in the 1970s. Less than half of Edinburgh University students are Scots and most of them are English. In the 1980s the increase in the number of English in Scotland was over 100% and greater than in the 1970s. Less than half of Edinburgh University students are Scots and most of them are English. In the 1980s the increase in the number of English in Scotland was over 100% and greater than in the 1970s. Less than half of Edinburgh University students are Scots and most of them are English. In the 1980s the increase in the number of English in Scotland was over 100% and greater than in the 1970s. Less than half of Edinburgh University students are Scots and most of them are English.

SOLUTIONS?

What solution does *Alien Watch* offer for the problems we face: "English go home!" This is no use. Will changing one set of Anglo bosses for home-grown ones change our lives and solve our problems? Not bloody likely! If we want solutions we have to accept that only class solidarity, revolution and free socialism have answers. Nationalism and Republicanism, if they ignore this, can only offer a new set of exploiters.

THAT PETROL EMOTION

Three young men from Edinburgh made petrol bombs and prepared for a campaign of rioting to draw attention to shitty conditions in Muirhouse, one of the city's poorest areas. They felt that rioting in Pilton, another run down scheme, was the direct cause of council money being poured into that area, and wanted the same for their own people in Muirhouse.

BLUNDER

Unfortunately when it came to carrying out their plans the first target they chose was a kebab shop with two workers still inside. At first the attack was assumed to be racist since the two workers were Asian but when the three were caught it emerged that they were simply trying to "put Muirhouse on the map". The two workers whose lives had been put at risk, but who escaped unharmed, accepted in court that there had been no racist motive behind the

bombing. The attackers had made a serious blunder in choosing a target and in any case the idea of destroying shops and facilities in our own areas is usually a bad one.

COMMUNITY COPS

Most local riots are kicked off by the cops coming into an area and they make a much more sensible, if tougher, target. Hitting back at the rich and big businesses is also an option but presents some difficulties. Targets must be chosen with care and while violence and rioting can help bring improved facilities to an area it's important that there should be wider neighbourhood involvement in resistance.

LEARNING

While we applaud the motives of the Muirhouse 3 (and if anyone knows there prison addresses we'd like to get in touch) their chosen tactics were pretty abysmal.

COP FOR THAT!

People in Lothian and Borders just can't stop clobbering coppers. It's official!

Crime figures are dropping but pig-pummelling figures are soaring! At least one copper gets a hefty wallop every day. One in five can expect a severe doing every year.

GETTING BETTER

While there's always room for improvement, these figures are highly encouraging especially since there seems to have been a reduction in anti-social crime.

It looks like a lot of folk may be waking up to who the real enemy is. The question on everybody's lips is do these "arrogant, overpaid, corrupt, pea-brained scum think they can go on treating us like shit and get away with it?"

Faced with this onslaught of scum-stomping the local constabulary has decided to get tough. They are introducing new side-handled batons, due to coppers often getting caught napping trying to figure out which end of the old straight kind they were supposed to hold. But due to the sheer popularity of bill-baiting

this seems unlikely to reduce the number of brained bobbies. Some folk are even using cop-kicking as the ideal way to celebrate that special occasion, as PC Dave Sturrock found out to his cost. Called out to "break up a fight" at an engagement party, 'Pillcock' Sturrock couldn't believe his beady eyes when all the guests promptly jumped him and gave

him the kicking of his career. He reckons the only reason he wasn't a long term hospital case was that there were so many people trying to kick and punch him they got in each other's way!

Let that be a lesson to us all - sometimes you just have to wait for your turn. But there's always one thing we can be certain of...

UGLY MUGS

Whenever coppers show their ugly faces, working class people get riteously pissed off. Because of this, being a copper is naturally a high-risk profession. So here's a message to all you uniformed and class traitors:

ONE LOSER EVERY DAY - IT COULD BE YOU!



Sutherland pleads "leave my boys alone"

ONE IN THE BAG

Cheeky Royal Mail bosses in Central Scotland, Glasgow and Edinburgh have had a sharp reminder of the collective strength of workers.

A feeble one day strike protesting about the switching of the mayday holiday to

May 8 for VE Day was transformed on the following morning when the delivery and sorting workers came in for work. They were told that to clear the backlog they had to take all the mail in one go instead of having the usual

second delivery. This would have led to a loss of break allowances.

BUGGER THAT

The posties said "bugger that" and walked out, leaving management with a big headache. They stayed out for three days causing huge delays and backlogs which have taken weeks to clear. It ended with a small but enjoyable victory for the postal workers (though not union bosses who didn't sanction the strike) and reminded the scumbag management who it is that keeps this society functioning.

Some day maybe the bosses will strike. Then we will see how useless they really are!



COINING IT IN

Local services may be getting slashed to ribbons and poll tax arrears are still being pursued by ruthless thugs on the instructions of council bosses, but it's not all doom and gloom for all.

In fact if you're a Scottish local council officer life is rosy! The local authority changes involve so much extra responsibility for these 'hard working public servants' that they'll have to be paid twice as much in "allowances". For example Keith Geddes, Labour hack and leader of the new Edinburgh City Council will now receive £23,000 a

year in allowances, double what he got under the old Regional Council. But that's still a grand less than dear old Bob Gould of Glasgow will be getting. Apparently Bob gets more because Glasgow is bigger!

After all how can our public representatives be expected to work up any enthusiasm for smarming around, bull-shitting and getting their ugly mugs in the papers unless they can afford that loft extension and the extra car they have always fancied?

Class War has a better

idea about how to spend some of that public cash. We feel that scum who take huge pay rises while presiding over crumbling council schemes and bending over backwards to carry out every disgusting Tory policy should be made to pay dearly. We suggest that the introduction of public flogging for all wealthy careerist politicians. We're sure this would be a popular move and might even bring in extra cash by drawing in floods of visitors anxious to see our class enemies get the only rewards they deserve.

CRAZY COUNCIL CAR CAPER

West Lothian district council have just decided what to do with a spare £4,000 they have lying around. Is it going towards funding homeless accommodation? No! Perhaps it's going towards pensioners heating bills? No! OK. Maybe a much needed donation to rape crisis or women's aid? no way!

BLOW THE LOT

No, the councillors have found a "use" for the money that is so stupid it beggars belief. Even if they had decided to blow it all on a piss-up at least some one would have got the benefit. Instead they are chucking it away on a customised licence plate for the council limo. And what will this four grand's worth say? ASX 1. Brilliant, eh?

BRICK

These useless wasters claim that "SX" has some dull historical connection with West Lothian. And "A1" speaks for itself - the car's occupants are a cut above the rest of us. While we at *Class War* are all in favour of having politician's cars made instantly recognisable we suggest that they save money by simply taping a piece of card in a prominent place with the words "BRICK ME NOW".

KID-ON COP IN COURT ROOM CRAP

James Brown of Brown Avenue, Troon, Strathclyde, proved himself the sort of prat that joins in kid-on cop activities like *Neighbourhood Watch*, when the real cops caught him with his car wired up with a blue flashing light and siren.

Two traffic cops on patrol in the centre of Kilmarnock spotted the blue light on the back. The former chairman of Kyle and Carrick crime prevention panel claimed that he had

so he could show it to someone before mounting it (a likely story). The Procurator Fiscal (crown prosecutor) asked him if these were both souvenirs and he said they were. When then asked if he did not think it was rather unusual to keep all these souvenirs in his car he said "not really". As he left court having been fined a total of £175 this jumped up little shit said: "I am angry and disappointed that a system which I



James Brown: Clueless Crusader Caught in Criminal Act

fitted the siren and light as anti-theft devices, he also said the blue light was over 20 years old and to the best of his knowledge did not work and was a souvenir of his days as a retained fire-fighter.

SPANISH DANCER

But on closer examination, police discovered a cable leading to the cigarette lighter socket and when they plugged it in and turned the ignition key on the light started flashing and a siren started to sound. He also claimed that someone else had put the light on the back parcel shelf. When his car was further examined they also found a baton with the word Mallorca and a picture of a Spanish dancer on it. This was

served loyally for twenty years should turn against me in this way, I am a highly respected member of the community and served as a fireman as well as helping the police to recover damaged vehicles".

GRASS

We at Class War say it serves the grass right. Did he expect that the law was only for dealing with the likes of our class and not for 'quality' people like him? We advise anyone who is up in court to tell some better stories than this self-serving dipstick who obviously got too carried away watching 'The Bill' and 'Heartbeat' and fancied himself as a crusader against crime.

BUSTED FOR KEEPING WARM

Unemployed dad Gary Lewis of Amamford in West Wales was taken to court for stealing six lumps of coal through a hole in a colliery fence!

His wife Amanda and three day old daughter Chelsea were due to come home from hospital that day and he had no money to heat the house after spending all he had visiting them in hospital 20 miles away.

£750 (well you've got to get those statistics in line!) where he was found guilty and given a 12 month conditional discharge and ordered to pay £25 costs. The couple have three other children and have to live on only £119 a week in benefits. Gary said: "I knew what I was doing was wrong but I had to look after my family."

BLAZE

We say that Gary did nothing wrong and any ordinary person would have done the same in his place. Even for cops this is a new low in fact this is the modern equivalent of hanging someone for sheep stealing and if anyone else has trouble heating their house we reckon one or two of these fat sweaty plod bastards would make a good blaze.

SPIED

Police with nothing better to do spied on him as he lifted the coal and arrested him as he started the two mile walk home. Anybody with a shred of human decency would have turned a blind eye (and given him a bit of silver for the kid) so it surprised noone that the cops and C.P.S. took it all the way to court at a cost of over

KICK UP A STINK

Shop boss Linda Logan of Mark 1 fashions in Aberdeen showed her true qualifications for being a member of the boss class by telling black shop worker Mercy Moyo that she smelled.

Mrs Moyo says she was forced to resign to stop further humiliation. She is also said to have sent another member of staff to give Mrs Moyo a can of men's deodorant and searched her bag every day in front of other staff and refused to give her training to work on the tills.

It was claimed at an industrial tribunal, where Mrs Moyo successfully sued for £4,500 damages for racial discrimination, that prior to Logan's arrival, 21% of shop staff were

black but now there were none. Shop supervisor Corina Clark said: "We may not have taken on some ethnic minorities because they do not speak English clearly". Chris Hendry, the assistant manager, claimed the numbers of staff from minorities fell because of no longer employing students and that they aimed to employ "indigenous Aberdeen Housewives". Mrs Moyo's council pointed out that in itself was racist.

Bosses like this exist in every corner of the globe. Their arrogance makes them believe that they can do what they like, when they like and every chance to take them down a peg or two is welcome.

BOBBY 'FALLS OUT' WITH FRIEND

Jilted cop Gordon Shearer, 28, jumped 30 feet from a bedroom window after his girlfriend binned him. It's believed his girlfriend, Gillian Dixon wanted to ditch him when he called at her flat last week.

COP'S DROP

They had a row which ended up with him walking through to the fourth floor window of her bedroom and jumping out. He was taken to Glasgow's southern general hospital but was found to have been paralysed by spinal injuries. If this is how cops behave when they find out someone doesn't like them could they please form an orderly queue and try the Erskine Bridge instead.

POLITICAL MILEAGE

A councillor who claimed £17,000 in travelling expenses for driving to meetings in Bathgate, West Lothian, he drove 40,000 miles in 10 months did not even have a full licence.

Terry Coleman of South Shields on Tyneside was also done in October 1992 for driving without a licence or MOT.

from the council's Bathgate headquarters. Cole-man has claimed more than £10,500 in expenses since moving to South Shields and could be in line for another £6,000 in backdated expenses after the Scottish Office backdated a rise in mileage rates.

CORRUPT

Coleman claimed to have done nothing illegal and to have acted in the best interests of the council and his family and denies having committed any corrupt act. But he was claiming about £100 for driving from South Shields in North-East England to Bathgate in South-East Scotland a distance of less than 140 miles. Was he driving a bus or was he going via Inverness or is he just lying to save his own worthless skin?

SLIME

This piece of slime quit his council post after a visit at home from West Lothian Labour Leaders, worried about the stench of corruption escaping to jeopardise their chances of controlling the council in the Scots local council elections which took place in April. Fraud detectives took away his last 10 months of claim forms

EVERYTHING YOU WANT FROM A STORE AND A LITTLE BIT MORE?

Bosses at Safeway stores in Scotland are planning to sack 1,000 workers and "downgrade" 1,000 more in a "restructuring" effort to compete more effectively with rivals like Tesco and Sainsbury.

Might we take the liberty of suggesting that they start with the seven macho men (or was it trolley boys?) who raced out of Safeway's store in Bishopbriggs near Glasgow in pursuit of ONE "suspected shoplifter"? We're sure that they will then be able to sign up with the real cop's instead off playing at being the Bill in their nifty bow ties and aprons. It fair warmed the cockles of our hearts to hear the bus queue slugging of these boys in green and commenting how it was their shopping bills that were paying for these "have a go heroes" to run about like the Sweeny.



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 of the problems experienced by working class people the world over.

This can only be sorted out by the destruction of the ruling 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

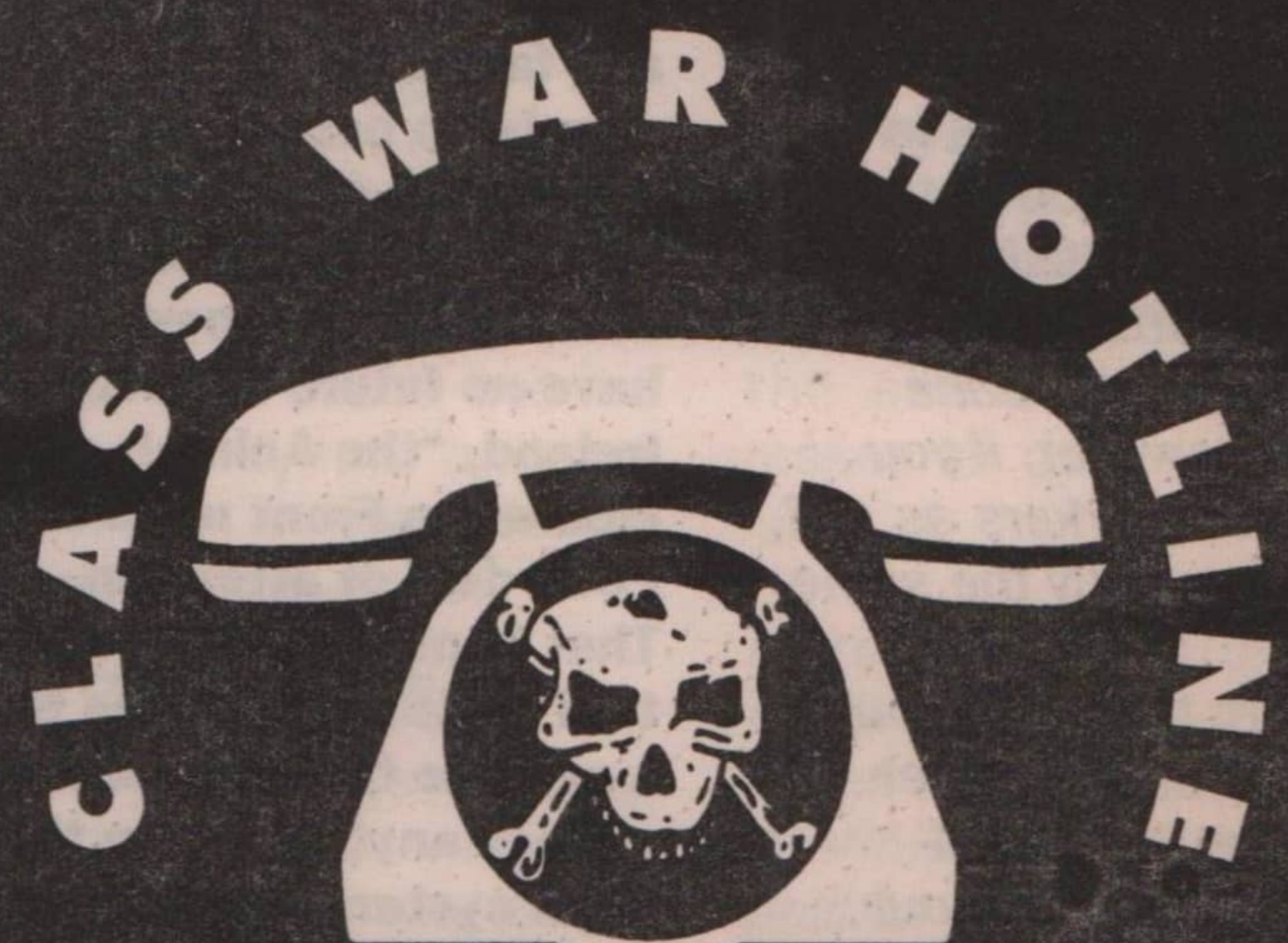
The aim of the CLASS WAR FEDERATION is not to lead, but to increase the militancy of working class people's attempts to solve their problems—through propaganda, active participation and debate as equals.

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!

**CLASS WAR NATIONAL SECRETARY
PO BOX HH57
LEEDS LS8 5XG
WEST YORKSHIRE**



0117 987 0050



LETTERS

WE PRINT 'EM COS YOU WRITE 'EM

CW Letters Page
PO Box 467
London E8 3QX



SEND 'EM DOWN!

Dear Class War

I'm writing to say how pissed off I was with the campaign to free David and Patricia Whitehead after they were jailed for lying about the details of their car crash. The whole campaign seemed to be based on how terrible it was that "decent" (meaning middle class) people could be jailed and how because the Whiteheads were church goers that somehow made them immune from getting sent down. I'd jail all church goers!

Seriously, I bet the bloke who David Whitehead knocked off his motorbike wasn't joining in the campaign. Typically the liberal establishment weighed in behind the Whiteheads (after all they couldn't see two of their own go down). A spokeswoman for liberty said "prison is for violent and serious criminals not people like this". Liberty would be better employed telling people that when they get arrested they should find a good story and stick to it - or better still say nothing at all. Had this case involved someone from Tottenham or Glasgow instead of a middle class couple from Hampshire, the media wouldn't have given a toss.

Andy, Cheshire.

DOWN THE TUBE

Dear Class War

About 'On Your Buses' article (issue 67), you might count LT staff as "on our side", I fucking well don't! Most LT staff are scumbags, they show us bollocks-all "working class solidarity" when they hassle us over tickets and fine us for overriding our fares. I'm not saying "spray them with CS gas when they're walking home alone at night" Maybe not all are cunts, but as with the cops, "if they're not bastards, they're in the wrong job".

I've never seen rich city types or commuters being hassled, stopped and brutalised, they always pick on us. If the LT scabs are gonna act like the enemy, they should be treated that way and deserve all the beatings and gas attacks they get.

Keep it hardcore
Maz, South London

CW Reply:

Class War has a number of LT workers as members and supporters who exhibit as much class solidarity to working class punters as do most of their fellow workers - one of the few areas in which they get job satisfaction is by hassling rich suits and toffs in fur coats on their way to Sloane Square! However, if you treat these workers as shit, you'll get exactly the same back.

You seem to be oblivious to the fact that only ticket inspectors (not ticket collectors) can dish out penalty fares and that normal station staff resent them as much as passengers do, if only because they make their jobs 100% more difficult.

Comparing them to the Old Bill is politically illiterate, Next time you are using public transport Maz, suggest your comparison to them and suffer some good hard class justice!

INSIDE

Dear Class War

Although your paper does not normally mention "animal rights" issues, I think it is important that you mention something about the imprisonment of ALF activist, Keith Mann, for 14 years for; attempted arson, attempted incitement, escaping police custody and possession of explosive substances, le weedkiller (crimes against property and the state, not people).

This sentence far exceeds many of those given to sex offenders and even murderers. Obviously, we can't expect any justice from the system, which is why we choose to make our own, by attacking the capitalist bosses whenever possible. The trial judge, Judge Allott, used to be Master of Beagles at Oxford, he regularly hunts and shoots and farms sheep. He has also been noted for his comments at an IRA trial in October 1994 about the new role of MI5 now they have no future in Northern Ireland, "the Animal Liberation Front need a good deal of attention. That is my next major trial". We have known for a long time that we cannot expect anything from the legal system designed to protect the rich from the poor - we must intensify the struggle in all areas, from animal rights to the class struggle.

Steve, Leicester.

GRAFFITI COMPETITION



Well, we never said that it had to be graffiti on a building! From the East Midlands comes this beautiful example of bodyart - keep 'em coming. Any pictures printed (whether graffiti on a building or on a body) will get a tenner. Send those entries to London CW, PO Box 467, London, E8 3QX.

UPSETTING THE (ORGANIC) APPLCART

Dear Class War

Sure, animals are hard to liberate now as they can't help themselves much (though my mates dog's ace at scaring the pigs) so what? It ain't either help animals or show class solidarity, we can do both and the stuff we learn in each helps the other. Also it's important we fight to protect our environment, you don't have to be a drippy-hippy mother earth worshipper to know that pollution and all the other ecocidal madness hits us, the working class, first and hardest.

You wouldn't take the piss out of burning the bosses car - why say burning bulldozers is reformist? If workers win more pay or holidays you wouldn't think this was worthless (course it ain't enough...) so why think that of freeing animals or saving the few green spaces that aren't covered by yuppie homes or motorways? Whether we're fighting the scum who rule us for more pay (or better an end to working for them full stop - hopeful I know), for a healthy environment, for all of our freedom - we've got to put the boot in, hard, and now, and in every little way we can.

Keep on fighting - no compromise in the class war, no compromise in defence of our earth.

Ahmed

To Class War

It's fair comment that a good number of animal rights and eco-active types are coming from middle class backgrounds. I agree with many of the criticisms of EF! and wanting to be spokespeople for the movement. What you fail to take into account is that the protesters you slag off are the only mass movement coming into confrontation with the police these days. What's more, they're getting a much more severe kick in and injustice than a good lot of people they arrest.

Your article suggests that class struggle and the environment are two totally separate issues. Unless we stop the rape of the planet and fucking soon, then you can wave bye-bye to class war.

Lets remember that it's people and people alone who have fucked this planet. As for slagging off folk for saying consume less, of course we should consume less for the obvious reasons it's not necessary, it's eating resources away and consumerism fuels the state. Before you go exaggerating your ideas of what you describe as "semi-nomadic, back-to-earth" lifestylists - fucking try it. What's your alternative; living in inner-city ghettos and wait for annihilation.

What really riled me about your bollox article was you totally fail to mention the amount of setbacks the ilkes of greenist actions are causing the bastards who hold

power. I've never seen Class War so much as rant and mouth off in the face of oppression. You've never organised any resistance so shut the fuck up!

Where were you on the countless times (this year alone) squads of Old Bill were carrying out the job at places like Stanworth, Pollok and Shoreham. You fail to organise or inspire action. Most of the working class people probably haven't even seen a copy of CW. Who are you aiming it at, 'cos the message just isn't getting through to anyone.

You've got some obscure idea that people who get involved in something like anti-roads are only into fighting single-issue causes. Well, that's shit, again get involved and find out the truth and don't print bollocks like the mass media.

Does it really matter where someone is coming from or what issues they choose to focus on? Be grateful there is someone out there causing the state a lot of time, hassle and money.

Yours ever fighting the bastards
Frank, Faslane Peace Camp

CW Reply:

Just because there's fuck-all else going on, doesn't mean that we should all jump on the first bandwagon that comes along and embrace it lovingly and uncritically, and to suggest that we seem to separate environmental issues from class is getting it arse upwards! We have stated that they are integral and cannot be separated into single issues.

Lets remember that it's the ruling class and the ruling class alone that fucks over the planet - 75% of all pollutants come from industry and it is patronising and insulting to tell working people who've got fuck-all anyway to have even less. It's obvious that the 10% of the population who control 90% of the wealth are able to "consume" a bit more.

No, strangely enough, we don't want to live in ghettos but perhaps living in working class communities is a bit more productive than living on elitist "sites" and peace camps! CW has never professed to lead any resistance nor to be moral guardians and we're proud of it.

Unlike your martyred self, Frank, we believe to do so would be self-defeating for our class most of which hasn't seen our paper although thousands of others have more respect for us than moralising wankers.

Finally, to all of you actually living on this planet CW members and supporters are facing heavy fines as a result of actions carried out at anti-roads protesters and live export things. Any donations will be gratefully received by Ipswich CW (PO Box 87, Ipswich IP4 4JQ)

THEY NICK CHILDREN, DON'T THEY...?

The original meaning of 'proletarian' was the lowest class in ancient Rome—those with no property whose only service to the state was to provide them with their children (proles).

Over two thousand years later the Greek ruling class, for one, are still taking the piss.

It has recently been discovered in Athens that a secret trade in babies has been going on since 1935, but particularly since the 1946-49 civil war and under the US-backed dictatorship of the Colonels from 1967-74.

Doctors, priests and directors of maternity wards have been falsely certifying as dead babies born to working class mothers in state hospitals. These sick scum have then been re-christening them, claiming they were abandoned by unknown parents, and flogging them to rich childless couples. One clinic in Salonika is reported to have made over £139 million from this trade.

Since this has been discovered, the government have made hasty moves to call the usual inquiry. This will not satisfy the Greek working class.

Greek people are very fond of their children—when they find those responsible no inquiry, court or judge will have the power to save them.

BRINGING HOME THE BACON



McRUSTLED

The history of the making of the working class has been the history of us being thrown off the land to make way for the landlords' sheep or cattle. Since then we've always done our best to rip the bastards off.

They're still bang at it in Texas. Cattle rustling has nearly doubled in Texas since 1986 and the FBI reports \$22 million worth of prime beef nicked in 1989 alone.

The enterprising Texans, using cell phones, CBs and trailer trucks, simply nick a trailer-load of cattle from a massive herd, put 'em in a truck, haul 'em a couple of hundred miles to an auction, pocket several thousand bucks and are in the next state before the rancher knows they're missing.

As herds are so huge now, thanks to big business ranching, fewer than a third of Texas' 15 million cattle are branded anymore, so the trading's pretty easy.

In 1993 less than 12% of livestock stolen in the US was recovered.

TROUBLE IN TEHERAN

On April 30 US president Clinton, following Israel's request, called for a total trade embargo on Iran. In the following two weeks the Iranian currency, the rial, crashed and the government announced the death penalty for illegal money changers.

Clinton's official reason for sanctions is some bullshit about a 'fundamentalist bomb'. The real reasons are more simple. While the Shah was in power, Iranian oil belonged to the US. Since 1979 the Yanks have been trying to get it back. They see today's crisis in Iran as an opportunity to stick the boot in.

This is playing with fire. Iran is indeed currently in crisis, a divided ruling class faces an increasingly confident and antagonistic working class. Iran is no stranger to class conflict. In the period of the Shah's dictatorship thousands of people were killed in demonstrations and riots against the regime, yet the protests were not crushed.

The 1979 revolution itself was not an 'Islamic revolution' that overthrew the Shah in order to replace him with Khomeini, but a long process of struggle between the working class and different organisations competing to win support and end the revolution.

Although the Shah fled in January '79 it was not until October '81 that Khomeini's party, the PRI, had finally crushed its competitors and was able to rule unchallenged. But once again in the last two years, working class Iran-



How much longer before they turn the guns on the real enemy?

ians have been taking to the streets in riots against the ruling power.

President Rafsanjani, at the request of the World Bank, has been trying to privatise nationalised industries, cut government subsidies on basic consumer goods and attract foreign investment.

The impact on working class living standards has been extreme. The cost of living and food prices have soared above wages. In April fuel prices doubled, provoking a major riot on 4 April in a working class Teheran suburb. The riot was eventually controlled but at the cost of at least one dead and many

wounded.

The ruling class in Iran is divided between Rafsanjani's 'modernisers' who are indeed trying to introduce 'free-market reforms' ordered by the World Bank, and the clerical establishment 'hard-liners', led by the Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, who are resisting all reform.

But neither Rafsanjani or Khamenei have the strength either to get rid of each other or to defuse the crisis of working class resistance—particularly not if the US seeks to undermine or destroy the Iranian economy.

In the end, as always, there is only one force left in Iranian society that has

the power to force change—the Iranian working class. The Khomeini regime may have exterminated independent labour organisations and left groups, but no one can get rid of working class resistance.

Sixteen years later, beset by the US, World Bank restructuring, 'reformers' and 'hard-liners' alike, for the Iranian working class the 1979 Revolution is still unfinished business. If the Iranian bosses get put up against the wall, it'll be a case of 'out of the frying pan and into the fire' for the US: they'll have lost one enemy only to be faced with a far more dangerous one—the risen proletariat.

I'M SO BORED WITH THE NEW SA...

After one year of the Mandela government in South Africa, middle class liberals the world round are still wanking on about how amazing it is to have a black president and how uplifting it is that change has been achieved without violence. Bollocks!

The vast majority of South Africans, the black working class, have seen fuck-all delivered in the first year of this government. There are still 12 million people without running water, 21 million without proper sanitation and between 7 and 9 million living in squatter camps.

The government appear to be more worried about a budget deficit of 6.4% of GDP. If these people had any brains they'd stop worrying about a budget deficit and start thinking about a future life deficit—their own!

Praised by international capitalists, the ANC are not

only worrying about keeping public spending down, they are planning to privatise 64 billion rands (\$18 million) worth of state-owned corporations, including the electricity company and Telekom, the local BT equivalent. So you thought South Africa was a long way from Major's Britain?

On the military front, over 25,000 anti-apartheid fighters (MK's from the ANC, and APLA soldiers from the PAC) have been told to report to the bases of their old enemy, the apartheid army, for 'integration'. 'Integration' consists of sitting in tents with crap food and no fucking money, being abused and insulted by ignorant racist SADF scum waving their wads.

In protest 3,500 MKs and APLA fighters walked out of one of the camps and refused to go back until some basic ground rules were sorted out.

The Defence Minister,

the ex-MK commander Joe Modise, went to the camp to get the MKs back in but had to make a hasty retreat from a hostile reception. Since then the rebel MKs have demanded Modise's sacking and are defying Mandela's order to return to the integration camps.

"We have been left out in the cold by our former comrades who are now the fat cats in their so-called 'New SA'."

"We have been left out in the cold by our former comrades who are now the fat cats in their so-called 'New SA'" said one MK at a meeting of ex-combatants near Cape Town.

Since deserting the integration camps, most ex-combatants are reported to have warned the 'Government of National Unity' that if their grievances aren't settled, they'll have no alternative but to dig out their hidden arms caches in neighbouring countries.

Meanwhile the violence of unemployment and chronic anti-social crime continues to plague the South African working class. But in several townships people are organising their own night-time patrols to fight anti-social crime.

In others the self-organisation has led to setting up people's courts which fix and publicise a code of non-prison punishments for anti-social acts. Rough justice? You bet! But these people have decided that inaction is unacceptable and that the solution lies in trying to take power over their own communities themselves.

The struggle continues...



STREAK OF SHIT

A mob of class conscious Sri Lankans, tired of being ripped off and exploited, stripped the owner of an employment agency and chased him naked through the streets, throwing stones at any shops where he tried to take refuge. Police had to rescue the scumbag. The usual cheerful looting and burning shops followed.

NEXT, PLEASE!

Mexico City's chief of transportation committed suicide after a crisis when the public bus service went bankrupt. Ordinary Mexicans waiting at the bus stop were reported as saying "Normally three come along at once, so we're waiting in hope..."

DOUBLE BUBBLE...

Three enterprising New York dole office workers re-programmed the computers to send out \$2.2 million's worth of false claims, splitting the proceeds with 95 people on benefit. Now that's the sort of service we want to see from DSS workers!

BOMB BENETTON

Benetton are to open a store in Sarajevo. As one local said: "If the shop is hit by a bomb, Benetton will have a very good picture for its next poster campaign." CW have some better ideas for a new Benetton poster starring the company bosses...

POSTIE POWER

US postal bosses unveiled new plans to curb workplace violence by special training for 40,000 supervisors on how to spot risky situations before they erupt. Class War's advice to all supervisors on how to avoid violence in the workplace is this: do exactly as we tell you and you won't get hurt.

CAPITAL CRISIS

Washington DC, capital of the dominant world super power, has run out of dosh, with a \$450 million budget deficit. As a result rubbish collection has been cut, pay cuts imposed on staff, and now public toilets have no toilet paper. Clinton's 1996 election manifesto is awaited with unusual impatience by the good citizens of DC.

CLASS WAR noticeboard



get in touch!

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Class War is active all over Britain. 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.

PLAIN REVOLUTIONARY

This Autumn Class War will be putting on a conference for like-minded revolutionaries and revolutionary groups to debate our politics, or-

ganise working together and make our part in the class war more effective... read this paper or get in touch with your local Class War

group for information nearer the time. Plain clothes coppers, liberals and right wingers need not apply.

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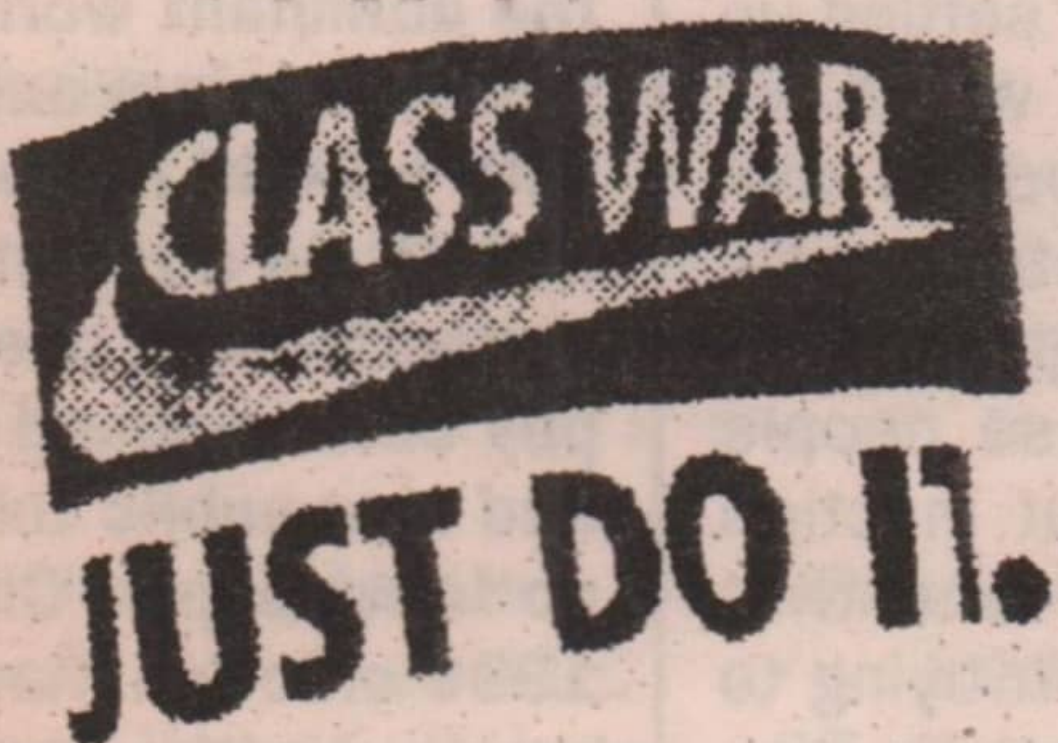
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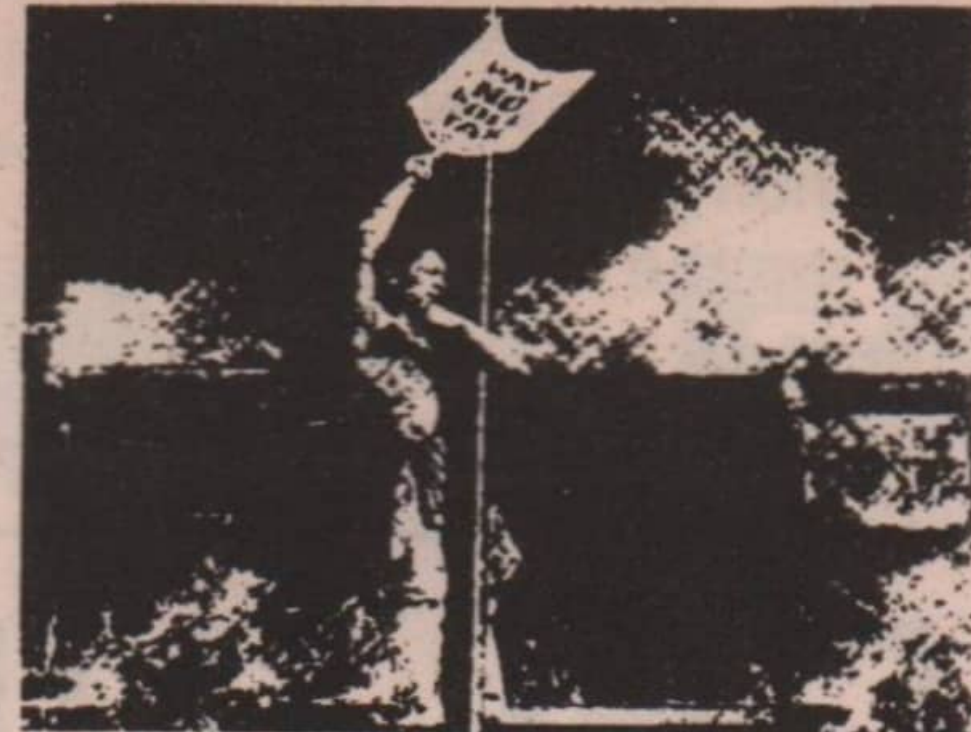
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REVIEWS

IN PRINT

STRANGWAYS 1990: A SERIOUS DISTURBANCE

Nicki Jameson and Eric Allison
(Larkin Publications £7.95)



Oh heady days! March 31 1990 saw the epic Trafalgar Square anti-poll tax riot. The very next day saw Strangeways prison in Manchester erupt into one of the biggest revolts in British history. This excellent book is (as the cliché goes) a long overdue insiders' account of that historic event.

Based as it is on interviews with the prisoners involved, it makes gripping reading. Importantly it also puts the uprising into context with accounts of Strangeways' history, the wider British prison system and previous revolts against it.

It also covers the aftermath and consequences of the uprising. For us it was an inspiring nightly cabaret on the news—who can forget the sight of prisoners having a

shower under the screws' water cannon? But ultimately the prisoners have had to pay a high price for fighting back.

Heavy sentences were handed out at the show trial that followed: David Bowen for instance, who was on remand for nicking a pair of curtains, received nine years for his part in the revolt, and then got a further three years for "perverting the course of justice". Bowen and the others have since been subjected to a regime of beatings and harassment from screws in revenge for showing the screws up to be the pricks and cowards that we all know they are. You have to read this book.

And when you've read it, write to David Bowen DA0146, HMP Leicester, Welford Road, Leicester LE2 7AJ. For more information on Strangeways prisoners, write to Nottingham ABC, PO Box 192, Nottingham NG1 1FJ.

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

This is a brilliant little pamphlet which documents the series of strikes and occupations at London's University College Hospital between 1992 and 1994. It's been put together by some of those involved in the occupations and includes a lot of their original leaflets and posters.

But *Occupational Therapy* is not some boring piece of historical analysis. As the NHS gets rapidly demolished, this booklet is full of hints and pointers for action. The enthusiasm and imagination shown by the occupiers is a million miles away from the cynical plotting of the student-dominated 'left-wing' parties (especially the SWP), and the backstabbing union bureaucrats in UNISON. If you want to give Bottomley a lobotomy, this is the one for you...

Available for £1.00 from News from Everywhere, Box 14, 138 Kingsland High Street, London E8 2NS

A SYLVIA PANKHURST READER

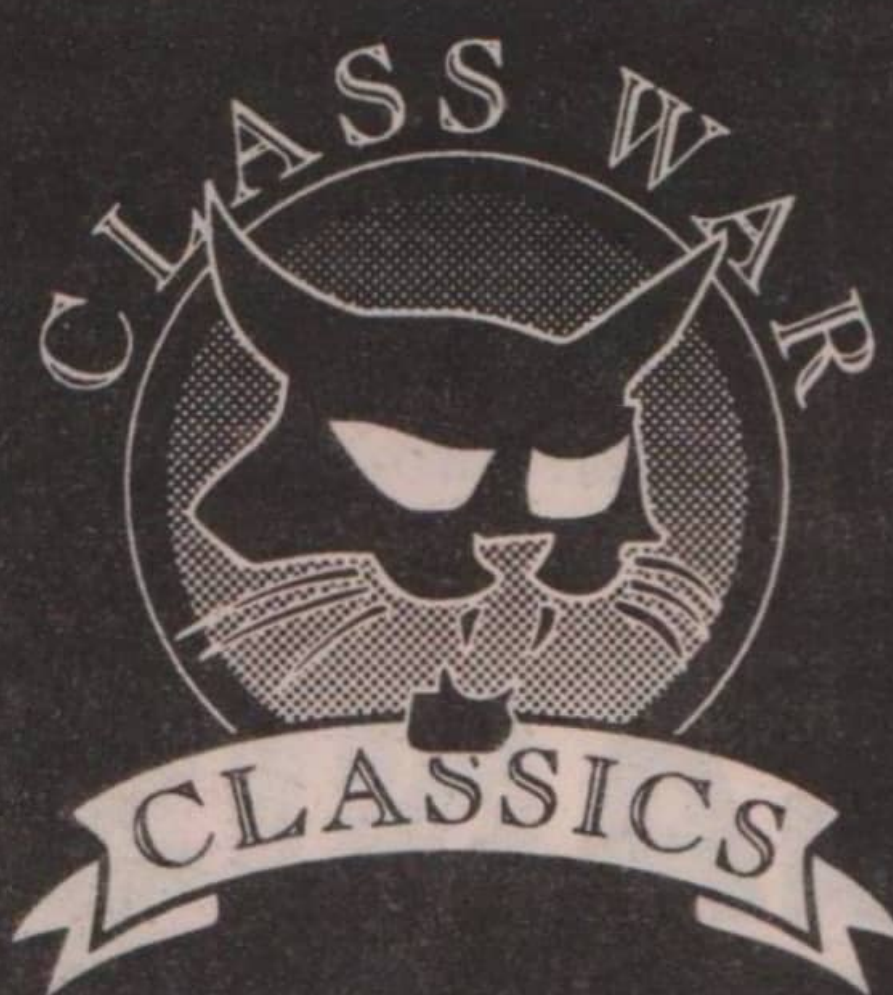
Editor K Dodd
(MUP, 1993)

Sylvia Pankhurst's writings have been virtually buried for seventy years by an unholy alliance of capitalist feminists and Bolsheviks. Now at last her work is becoming available.

Sylvia was the daughter of Emily Pankhurst and the sister of Christobel. Like them, she took part in the struggle for women to get the vote in Britain from around the turn of the century. Emily ended up as a Tory bigot supporting the government in the first world war; Christobel went even further and became a mystical fascist and Mussolini-worshipper.

But Sylvia, through her work with working class women and men in the East End of London and through contact with other anarchists and socialists, became a dedicated revolutionary.

In 1920, as the editor of *Workers Dreadnought*, Sylvia was one of the prime movers for setting up an anti-parliamentary communist party in Britain. Lenin saw her



as one of his most important enemies and attacked her in his pamphlet 'Left Wing Communism: an Infantile Disorder'. With typical modesty, Sylvia refused to reply herself but instead published Herman Gorter's 'Open Letter and Reply to Comrade Lenin' in the *Dreadnought*.

After the Communist Party of Great Britain was set up in 1921 as a Moscow puppet, Sylvia was isolated from the movement on the orders of the Kremlin. She later supported the Italian anarchists in their battle against fascism, and aided the Ethiopians in their struggle after Mussolini's invasion.

Artist, feminist, propagandist, revolutionary, libertarian communist and anti-fascist... Sylvia was probably the greatest revolutionary Britain has produced in the 20th century. It's hardly surprising that Lenin and the Bolsheviks did their best to erase her from history; but while she was forgotten in Europe, in Ethiopia—where she was buried—she is a popular heroine.

Jean Barrot, the French historian of the ultra left, said that Sylvia Pankhurst had the clearest conception of communism in the Europe of her time. Beg, borrow or steal this book. Now.

FILM



The Panthers: cool as fuck and twice as hard...

PANTHER

Hollywood's trawl through black history in search of credibility has gone from Martin Luther King to Malcolm X, and now it has finally reached the Panthers. Mind you, this may not be a bad thing: any group whose watchword is 'Off the Pigs' is worth a closer look!

The Black Panther Party for Self-Defence, as their name suggests, started out trying to defend their community from racist police and economic attack. The reason they moved on from this was that although they were originally a black urban thing, the Panthers were part of a process in the late 60s where different struggles around the world circulated and influenced each other.

The Panthers soon developed revolutionary class politics. Though keeping a strictly black-only membership policy, they saw themselves as part of a worldwide revolution. This also meant that they identified with the struggles in Vietnam and China—and it was from here that they picked up some of their more elitist and vanguardist tendencies which proved to be their weak point.

The film itself is not seen through the eyes of one of the leaders, but through those of Judge, a rank-and-file member. Consequently it tries to show some of the positive effects the Panthers had on the black community through their monitoring of the pigs (who they quite rightly saw as an occupying enemy force) and their community programmes, such as helping to provide food, clothing and education.

The film also shows the Panthers' other breakthrough: they made revolution as cool as fuck. If nothing else, the Panthers had style.

The story of the film develops when Judge becomes a double agent, offering misinformation to the police. This lets the film-maker turn the spotlight onto the FBI's COINTELPRO operation: this was the

state's programme for systematically attacking the Panthers, by harassing members, shooting or arresting the leaders, and ultimately physically smashing the organisation. Revolution is illegal, and those in power will always try to shoot the revolutionaries first. The problem for the Panthers was that if you are a vanguard, it is easier for the state to isolate you and eliminate you. The only protection is to try and generalise

your ideas as widely among the working class as possible.

Whether or not the film is accurate doesn't really matter: obviously it's seen through the distorting lens of Hollywood. But if it has half the impact of *Malcolm X*, then it will introduce people to some sound ideas and attitudes.

When the hype starts to bite, and everyone from the Labour Party to the Pope starts to claim the Panthers' mantle, our advice is to go to the source and critically read the words of those involved. Eldridge Cleaver's 'Soul on Ice', Bobby Seale's 'Seize the Time', George Jackson's *Soledad Brother* and Angela Davis' 'An Autobiography' should be a good starting point.

'Panther' will be showing at a cinema near you later this summer.

MAD DOGS AND ENGLISHMEN (18)

Laugh? We nearly pissed our pants. *Mad Dogs and Englishmen* is a trashy, exploitative film about aristocratic junkies and upper class wasters in modern day Britain.

If you can ignore the wooden acting, the bad script and the whole idea that we should give a toss about these parasites, then there's probably worse ways of spending a rainy evening...



Liz Hurley gets top billing and proves that while she's very good at getting mugged (ha! ha!), she's not even a third-rate actress.

Of course, Hurley's not really acting, as the film's

just an extension of her own pampered lifestyle.

She whines and bleats all the time about how much it means to her: "A large portion of my friends have had terrible drug problems, and some of them are dead through heroin and a lot of them are in recovery and a few of them are still using..."

Yep, Liz, it's true. Your class has produced a long line of drug fuck-ups and stiffs: Olivia Channon, Lady Alethea Savile, Jamie Blandford, the Hon Alice Ormsby Gore, the Marquess of Bristol... It's the one ruling class tradition we definitely want more of.

All records, books, magazines etc for review should be sent to: *The Reviews Crew* c/o Class War, PO Box HH57, Leeds LS8 5XG, West Yorkshire

SPORT

TOO TRUE

When Crystal Palace got relegated at the end of last season, it was no surprise that manager Alan Smith was the first to take a long walk off a short plank.

He had a long history of attacking club chairman, Ron 'Moneybags' Noades, and he refused to suck up to the expense-account bastards who are trying to run the game. Of all Smith's



Give this man a job!

attacks on the way the game is run, this one is destined to be a Class War Sports classic:

Interviewer: "What does staying in the Premiership mean to you?"

Smith: "I don't know but it probably means a bigger Bentley for the chairman."

That sort of piss-taking will be sorely missed in next season's Premier League!

SUPER LEAGUE STITCH UP!

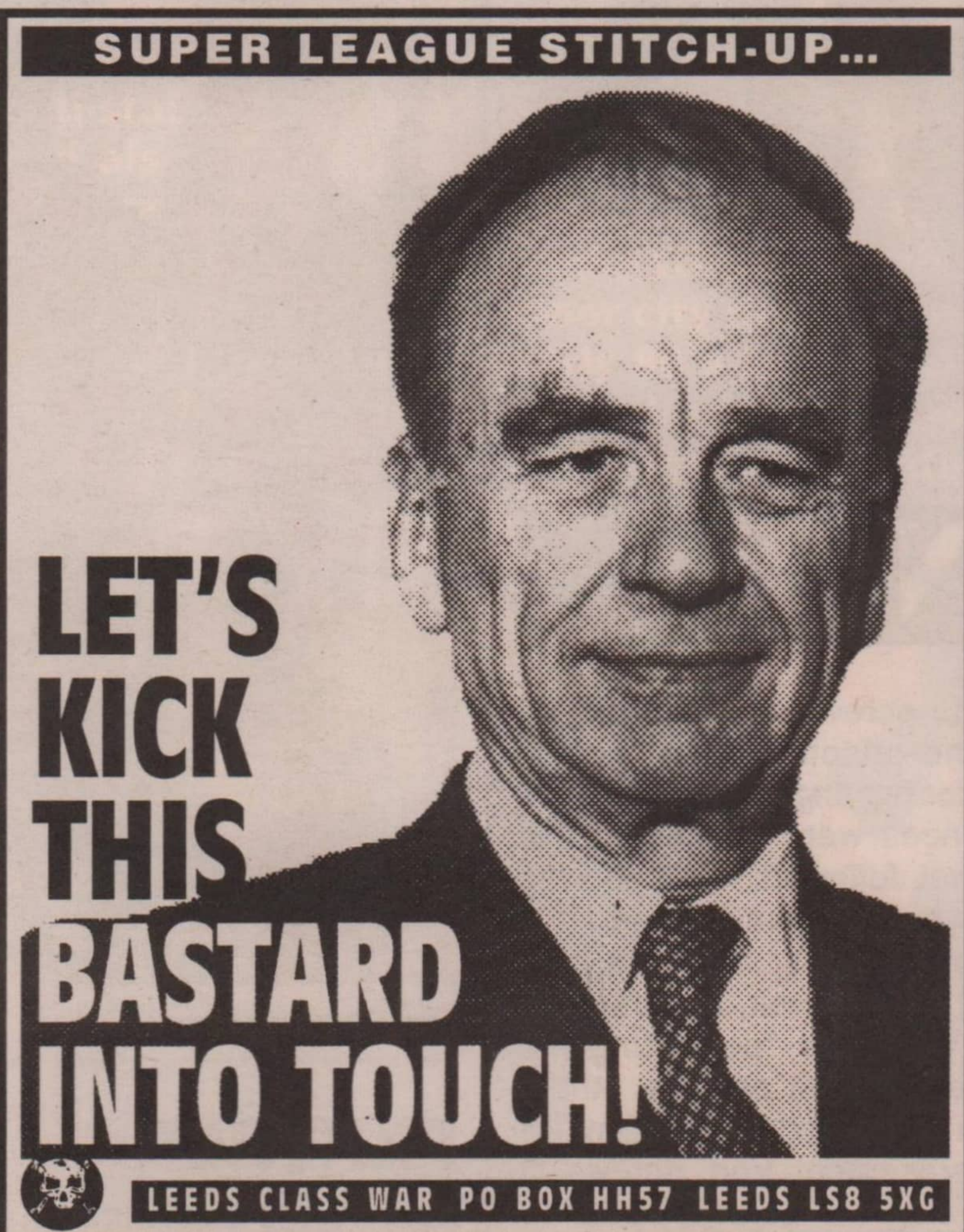
Money talks. That's the real lesson of the so-called 'Rugby League revolution' that's been taking place over the last few months. Sod the players, sod the fans, sod the sport: It's Murdoch's millions that call the shots...

It took just two hours for the bosses of RL to decide to change the game forever. Maurice Lindsay, the well-heeled toerag who heads the Rugby Football League, acted as Murdoch's faithful muppet and waved a £75m cheque in front of the other club chairmen. They thought about it for a minute and then snapped it up.

SUPERBULL

In comes a Super League, in comes summer rugby and in comes a five year deal for world TV rights. For virtually all the players and every fan, the first they heard of it was on the national news!

Of course the RL bosses talk about spiralling wages, falling attendances



and the need to take the game "into the 21st century". Bullshit! This is just a smokescreen: behind it, the men in sharp suits are out for a fast buck. Like all sport, RL isn't a business. Go to see Castleford or

Featherstone on a wet and windy Friday night in November and you won't be surrounded by a bunch of yuppies in red braces working out profit and loss on laptops. Whether the crowd is 300 or 30,000, it's a fan's game, our game.

Murdoch and the dick-heads like him don't understand that and that's where the new plans came seriously unstuck. The Super League proposal included 6 all-new clubs (Calder, Cumbria, Cheshire, Manchester, South Yorkshire and Humberside) that were to be created by merging long-established rival clubs.

FURY

A 'Fev' fan summed up the popular fury: "This part of the world has had 20 years of saying 'Oh no you don't'. They took away our council, they took away the pits. Now they're trying to take away our team."

Pitch invasions, banner demonstrations and angry pickets showed Murdoch

and Lindsay that we weren't gonna take it lying down. Within days we forced them to drop their merger plans and scrap the proposed new clubs. The RL bosses were shit-scared that the whole deal was going to be sent down the pan (and with it all their dreams of new fat bank balances).

But in the end, we backed off when we could have gone in for the kill: Murdoch has still got away with hijacking our game, and Lindsay has kept his new job as head of the Super League.

BASTARDS

These bastards might have won the battle but who says they're going to win the war? There's still a whole stack of anger on the terraces and it won't take much for it to explode. As one 'Cas' fan put it: "That shitbag Murdoch better not show his face round here."

Next time we should kick them into touch... permanently!

CHASE THE BASTARD

The frustrations of being a Norwich City fan have finally boiled over, a decent final league playing (3rd 92-93), two FA Cup semi-finals, a successful UEFA Cup run (beating Bayern Munich 3-2 on aggregate and a respectable 2-0 defeat to Inter-Milan in the quarter finals) plus producing quality players like Sutton, Fox, Dave Watson, Steve Bruce and the latest departures Efan Ekoku and Mark Robins has made Norwich a "nearly" team.

The start of the 94-95 season and £7 million from the sales of strikers Sutton and Fox should have at least enabled Norwich to put in decent bids for quality replacements.

SELL OUT

A pre-Christmas placing of 7th in the league and the sales of popular strikers Efan Ekoku and Mark Robins which brought in another £2 million left

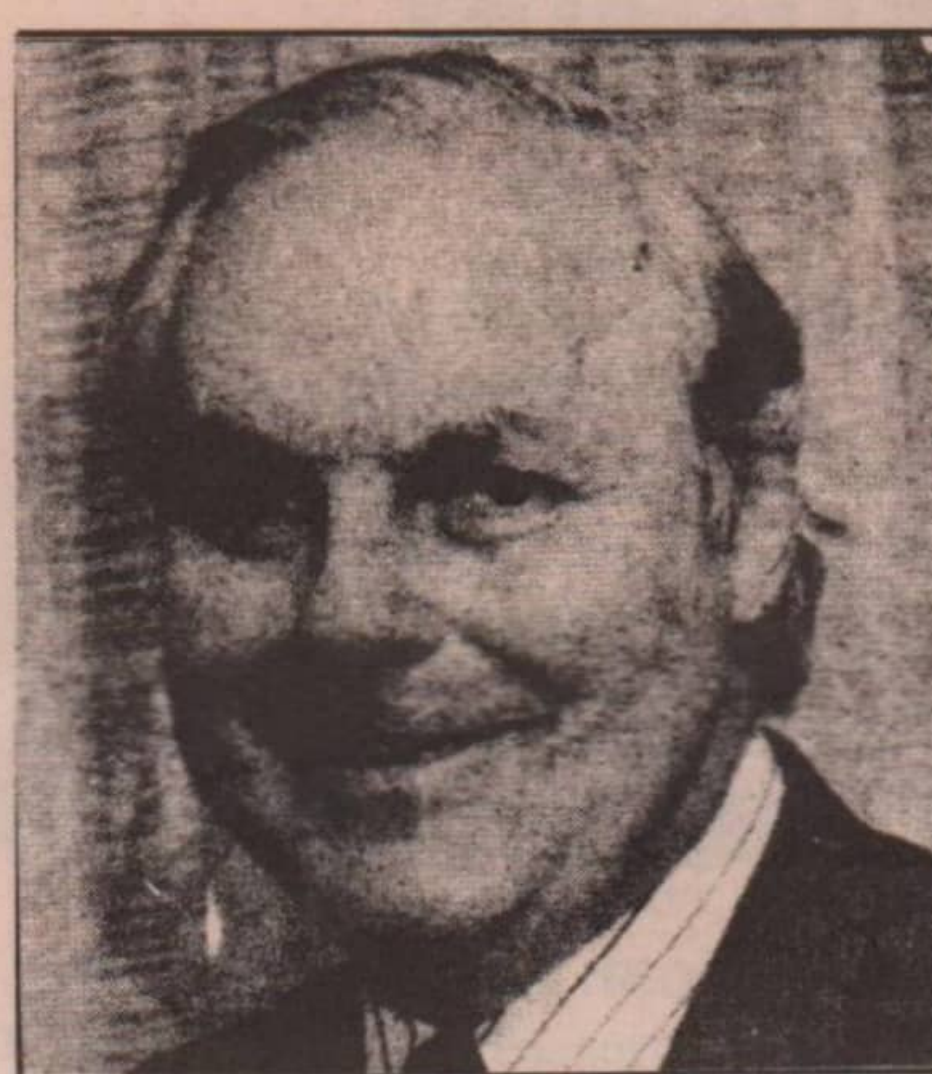
Norwich without a strike force! Signing strikers Mike Acron from Man City £850,000 and Ashley Ward from Crewe £500,000 have not been successful with one win from their last 20 games and relegation to the 1st Division.

GONE DOWN

It was at the 1-0 home defeat to Nottingham Forest that around 500 fans stayed inside the ground calling for Chairman Robert Chase (a former Conservative County Councillor) to resign.

Outside the ground fighting broke out as the police tried to block the ground. One copper whined "We gave supporters time to make their protest but when we started to tell people to move on fists were flying at both myself and my colleagues".

Before the home defeat to Liverpool, fans were handing out leaflets calling



Robert "rich man" Chase

on supporters to shout their frustrations with the Chairman's "sell, sell, sell" policy by holding up the leaflet during half time.

The more effective course of action being voiced at the Forest game was to boycott home games which makes sense as the Chairmen's interest in a club is as a business, something to make money out of.

The millions of working class fans have always been hated by their clubs

Chairman/Directors and the football authorities and our loyalties and deep passion for our teams are of no concern to "respectable" businessmen.

ATTACK THE BILL

Outside the ground a 1000 strong protest was attacked by mounted police. Thirteen people were arrested and two coppers injured. Courageous citizens decided they were going to give some back to the cops and chased the mounted cops up the road(!), showering them in coins.

The last game of the season brought Aston Villa to Carrow Road. The threat of relegation for Villa brought the two sets of fans together singing "We'll Meet Again" in a good natured atmosphere.

The night before about 600 Villa fans met up in the seaside resort of Great Yarmouth, around 11pm they began throwing bottles

at the police and two cops were injured, one receiving a swift boot to the groin. The game itself saw Villa beat off relegation with a 1-1 draw.

After the match around 500 fans fought running battles with the cops, throwing coins, bottles and stones. There were 36 arrests (15 being Villa fans). A Labour councillor said "The police horses went in at a canter. But having said that, I was happy with the speed they went at.". An indication perhaps of where his loyalties lie.

IT'S ALL OVER

These events show clearly that the police are not here to protect us but that their role is to protect the rich and powerful from us and that by uniting together using direct action there is a possibility for real change, be it in the directors box or the workplace.

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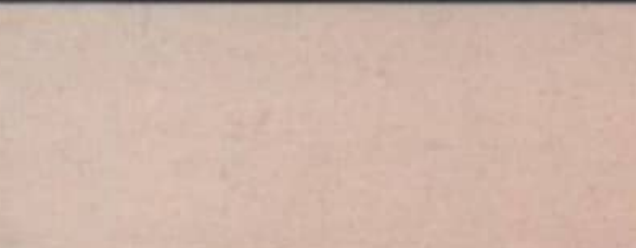
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