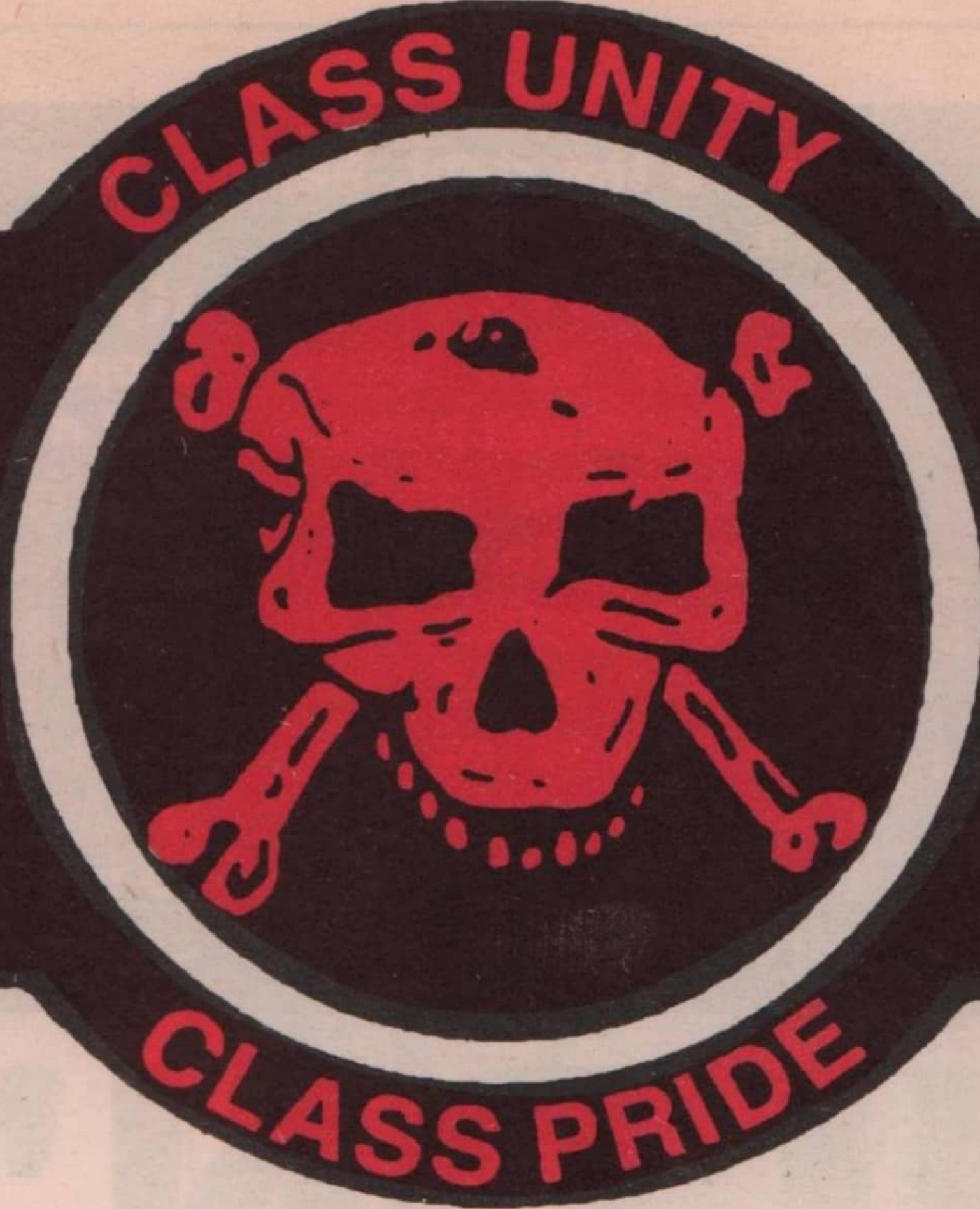


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CLASS WAR



KEEP WARM THIS WINTER...
BURN OUT THE RICH

ISSUE 70
DECEMBER/JANUARY 1995/6 50p

**POLITICIANS:
LET'S
TAKE
THE
WEIGHT
OFF
THEIR
FEET**



INSIDE YOUR WINTER WARMING CLASS WAR: NEWS, VIEWS, AND REVIEWS PLUS LOADS MORE!

what we say

Arthur Scargill is viewed by many working class people as a hero. A lone voice still calling for class based socialism in a New Labour party which has no place for it.

But now Arthur

has rejected New Labour, and says he intends to set up Socialist Labour, a working class socialist alternative.

But, just like others who seek to fill the void left by Labour going even fur-

ther to the right, he, and his party, is doomed to failure.

More and more working class people are become disillusioned with parliamentary politics. No matter what the reputations or policies of politicians, they can see that they offer us nothing.

We don't want some MP, or self-styled leader, who promises the earth, and delivers nothing. This is the essential problem with parliamentary politics; if they ever get into power, the state gives them little or no room to manoeuvre, whilst continuing to hold

onto the real power anyway. The MP's are just for show, the establishment pulls the strings.

So don't bother getting excited about Socialist Labour, or any of the other brands of frustrated would-be, leaders in waiting.

A leadership to or-

der us about, (and eventually sell us out), we don't need. Equality, and self-organisation we do.

So don't just sit there, forget your differences, and get fighting the class war.

We have a world to win.

IT COULDN'T HAPPEN HERE?

The new record number of prisoners being held in England and Wales (up 30% since 1992) has little to do with rising crime, and more to do with severe sentencing.

Plans for USA style 'Super-max' prisons (after the humiliation of the Whitemoor and Parkhurst escapes), "three strikes" laws and proposed changes that would require inmates to serve their entire sentences, add up to social control taken to its logical conclusion.

In 1979 one in twelve British families had no working members. Today it's one in five. The radical capitalist free market reforms of the last 16 years have destroyed communities, and the social cohesion that went along with them.

REFORM

Many of those in work exist on poverty wages and short-term contracts, they are required to live a life of unending job mobility and insecurity, while wages drop.

This was not always so. The health and social reforms that started in the late 19th and early 20th century, were a response to the British urban working class being unable to produce goods, or fight wars as well as other nations, due to chronic poverty and the ill-health, and the high mortality that went along with it.

Education reforms were similarly design to make us better equipped for a life time wage slavery. These reforms

reached their pinnacle with the Welfare State being set up in 1945.

But since then Britain has ceased to be the 'workshop of the world' and jobs have gone to those nations where the capitalists only pay pennies, not pounds, in wages. With the Empire gone Britain has lost its need for a huge army.

DECLINE

So why have all the expense of a welfare state? After all, those at the bottom of society, who made most use of it, are now 'surplus to requirements'. That's why state provided health and education are now in rapid decline.

A slower decline has also occurred in all other aspects of the welfare state. But this has accelerated in the last 20 years. This has removed, or drastically reduced, the safety net of work and social security. The poorest in society are now being abandoned to their fate.

Combine this with the destabilising effect of revolutionary capitalism, which allows nothing to stand in the way of profit, and you have a result which equals the destruction of the two core social institutions that have the most impact upon us; the family and community.

Once these two key restraints on our behaviour have gone, and you add in the poverty rife in all sections of our class, then crime levels rise as people try to find other

sources of income.

This is doubly so, for free market capitalism relies on the consumer society: We must all consume goods and services in order for it to survive. To do this they push expensive 'lifestyles' as equalling happiness and success. If you don't have one, then you're a failure, a second class citizen.

But all this poverty, inequality and the increased crime, which flows from it, isn't a mistake. Or even an unfortunate by-product of free market capitalism, it actually serves a purpose.

It allows the government to point to rising crime, urban decay and the dog-eat-dog world of the inner cities and estates and say; "look, see what scum people really are" they then argue that you need a strong government, and new tough laws to control these people otherwise they'll take everything you've got.

PARANOID

The frightened, fractured and isolated society which results from all this is also far less likely to take industrial, or mass action against those in power.

So there you have it, the perfect government scheme: Enrich the wealthy, impoverish the poor, and when the poor rebel through crime use this to justify 'strong' government. This lesson has not been lost on the middle classes who, in the meantime, have been frightened into collaboration.

But surely not, this all can't be true, *Class War's* gone completely paranoid, next they'll be saying that Elvis is dead!

Paranoid? Want to bet? Just look at America. The New-Right policies of Reagan and Co. have been continued by Clinton. Health Insurance is a luxury the working class can't afford, five million people are under some sort of legal control, mainly parole or probation, but over a million and a half are in jail.

In California over 1% of the population are in prison! And this is before the 'three strikes' laws (life inside for any three imprisonable offences) takes full effect.

The USA has become a society of transients and strangers where poverty and crime are life long anxieties for the vast majority.

It's also the place where the Home Secretary, Micheal Howard, has been, and looks to, for examples of crime and prison policy. He views prison as the only remaining institution which can stave off complete social breakdown.

This attitude is not going to change with a Labour government. They are committed to similar policies as the Tories, and in many ways actually seem to be trying to out-Tory the Tories.

Just look at Labour's

idea's on work schemes for your dole, or Jack Straw's anti-homeless and beggar comments.

When we say the choice is between revolution or barbarism we mean just that.

WORKING CLASS HERO

The 1990 Poll Tax Riot was back in the news as the 'Gladiator' of the Battle of Trafalgar was sent down recently.

Nick Jeffries was on the run from Shepton Mallett nick when he got involved in the thickest of the fighting with the coppers.

Nick was seen by millions on TV, and in the papers, as he harpooned a cop car with a pole. The cops inside "feared for their lives" as they came under attack from Nick and many others who have never been identified or nicked.

NOT GUILTY

After the riot Nick's picture was prominent in the "If You know 'em, Shop 'em" campaign that the media ran, and he wisely went abroad and settled in Holland.

Unfortunately he was nicked by Dutch coppers on another matter in January 1995 and was extradited.

At his trial he pleaded not guilty to charges of Riot and Attempted G.B.H. on a cop, and they had to be dropped in favour of lesser ones of violent conduct and



assault. He got 34 months.

This, however, should be seen as a better result than the charges of Attempted Murder that the law were talking about for him, and a number of others, during the aftermath of arrests and trials.

The poll tax riot was described in court as "the most violent scenes of disorder this century". It caused £6 million

damage, stopped the poll tax in its tracks, led to Thatcher being booted out, and for millions of people showed what strength we really have.

Class War wishes Nick a speedy release (however it happens) and a big shout goes out to all those who got away with it! You know who you are.

CALL THE NEW

CLASS WAR HOTLINE

(0117) 907 3667

WITH ALL YOU NEWS, VIEWS, PLANS AND SCAMS

● Following on from the "Shop-a-scrounger" article in CW 69, a reader has written in with the following suggestion.

Why doesn't everyone who is signing on, but who isn't working on the side, grass themselves up. Then sit back and laugh as the DSS snoops waste time, energy and money following you around, while those who are really at it, get away with it.

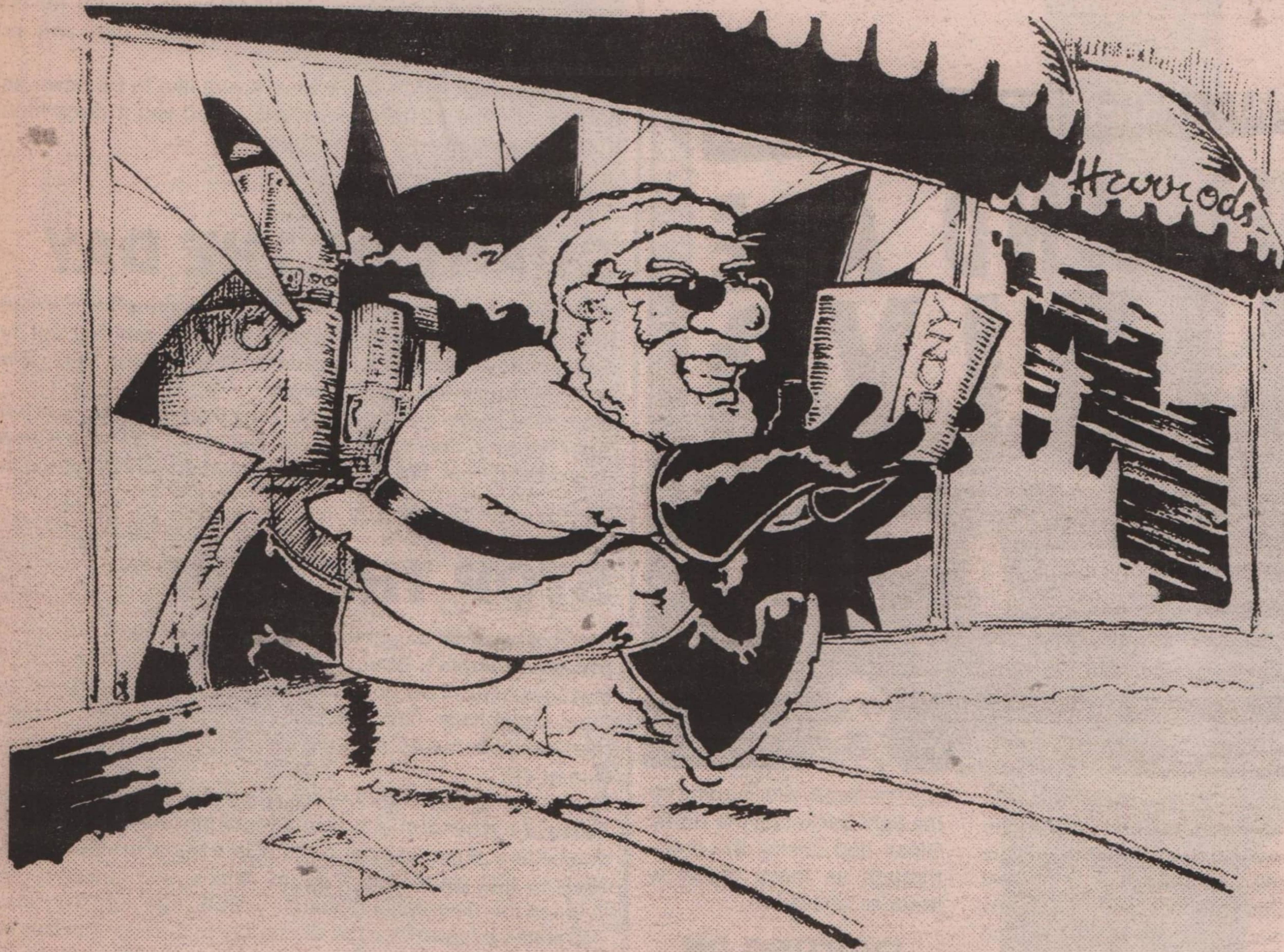
This is a well sound idea, not least because the snooper units only have limited resources. But it will also damage the credibility of the 'proper' grasses when they give information.

"a celebration of East End Anarchism"

the DAZENANT CENTRE
Whitechapel Road
London E1

Saturday 13th January 1996
7.30-11pm £5 waged £2 unwaged

DON'T LET YOUR XMAS SHOPPING BECOME STRESSFUL THIS YEAR...



GO SHOPPING AFTER THEY'VE SHUT!

A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO THE RALLY...

A recent attempt to hold a nazi knees-up in Leeds ended with a shock for the 'supermen' of Croydon British National Party. The vanload of southern stormtroopers had turned up at the Leeds National coach station where they were to meet up with other Jackboot fetishists.

However, no-one was there. Just when the clueless Croydonites were beginning to think they had the wrong bus station, a group of lads came out of nowhere. "Surely this must be the welcoming committee" they thought. But the hapless hitlerites soon changed their minds as the windscreens and windows of their hire-van exploded inwards.

The master-race morons were dragged from their van and given a lesson in working class justice. Their head honcho, Paul Ballard managed to score an unorthodox hit by puking over one of our heroes legs! but as he'd just been smacked in the face, and hit in the back of the head by a hammer, perhaps that wasn't too surprising.

Other aryan arseholes manfully crapped themselves in the van, possibly hoping the stench would drive off their proletarian persecutors.

As the anti fascists disappeared, the Leeds losers in blue turned up to stop the traffic and wander around aimlessly talking into their lapels. As the fash lay decoratively draped around their trashed trannie, Acting Inspector Kevin 'I couldn't catch a cold' Robbins said: "There were no complaints... the people who attacked them disappeared and there have been no arrests". Class War hears that the Croydon branch of the BNP had a painful and draughty ride home.

COP SHOP STOPPED

A car driver with a dodgy sense of direction apologised after ramming his car into Stevenage police station.

"I'm a fool," he said "I picked the wrong place. I should have done this at Luton police station!"

It turns out that he had been having an affair with a coppers wife, (some people have no taste) and when the copper found out, he fitted up our geographically challenged driver for drink-driving.

WPC Evans who was sat at the front desk at the time, reported how she saw someone peering in through the window. The next thing she knew she was underneath the remains of the nick.

No doubt the three months off sick she had helped her to make a full recovery. But she reports that she has lost her confidence and "felt like a target in her police uniform".

Isn't it nice when stories have a happy ending.

CRACKERS

It always does your heart good to see the Royal Parasites squirm. And by the look of things there'll be precious little 'festive cheer' around the tree at Balmoral this year.

Firstly, Diana, who's managed to find a bit of free time in between shagging Guards Officers and Rugby players, has spilled the beans about how miserable life is as a Royal, and what prats they all are.

Secondly, the war time goings-on of the Royals have been getting another airing as further news broke about how the ex-king, the Duke of Windsor, who was forced to abdicate, plotted with the nazi's to be returned to the throne once Britain had surrendered, and passed military secrets to them.

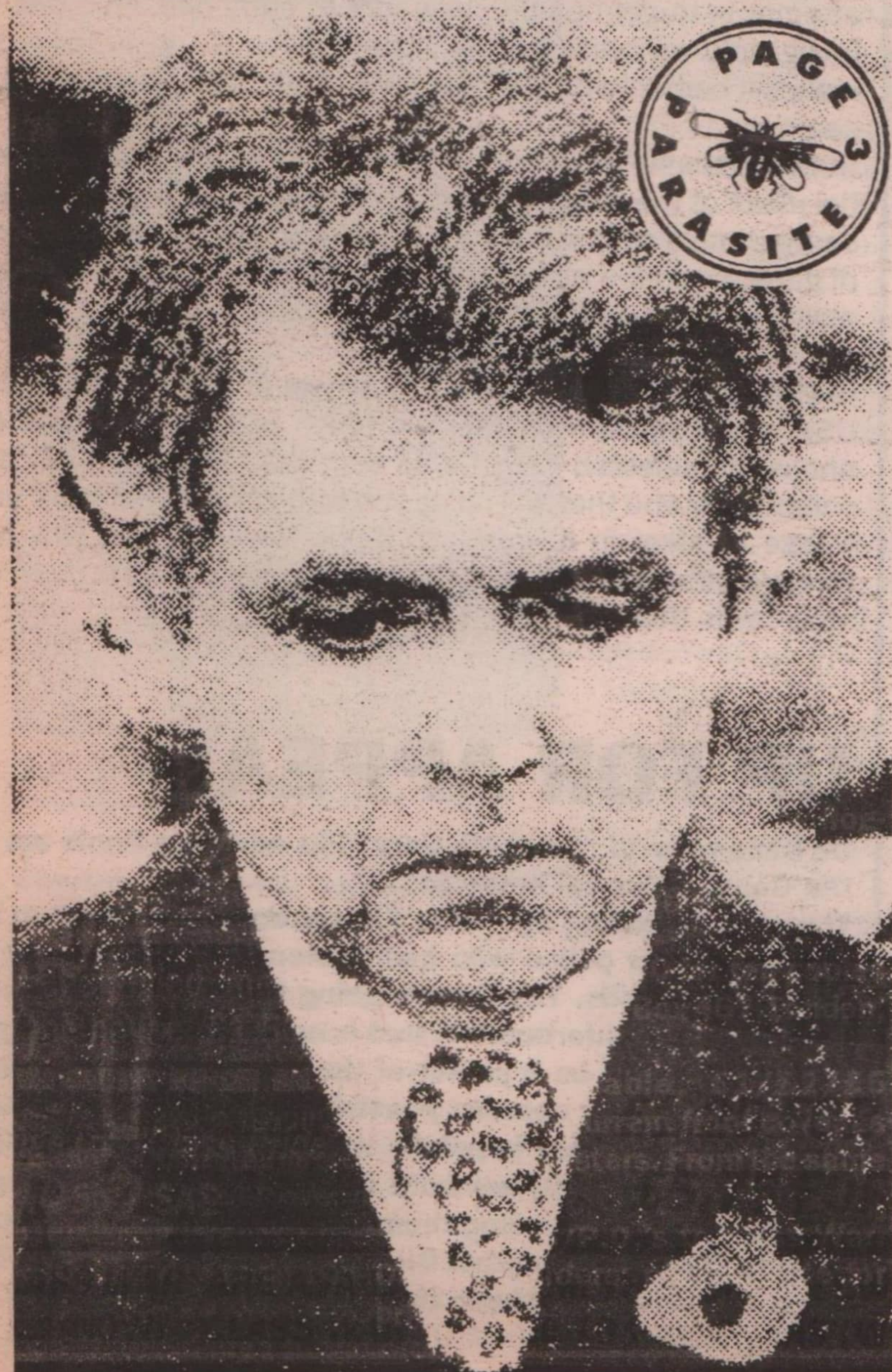
It also turns out that the King was forced out because he was a liability; a bumbling cretin incapable of thinking for himself, and not because of his love for a rich American woman whose sexual tastes and experience were somewhat 'exotic'.

Britains ruling class always did support the fascists, as they saw them as the answer to working class threats to their status and wealth. The Windsor's even visited Hitler and were photographed with him. But it went much further than that, and much plotting and scheming took place as one branch of the Royals tried to replace the other. *Sound familiar?*



The 'master race'? - We think not!

UGLY AS SIN!



We don't recommend a festive frolic with the little lovely pictured left.

What you see is the unpleasant vision of Tory MP for Teignmouth, and ex Party Vice Chairman, Patrick Nicholls.

As a high ranking (pronounced with a silent 'w') right winger, our Pat's statistics speak for themselves, but in November, he capped it all. He's paid a fat wad as an adviser to the British Shop and Stores Association, and has demanded a crackdown on High Street charity shops because they don't have to pay business rates. Are Oxfam doing a little better than his paymasters had hoped? This follows shortly after being rumbled for asking Plymouth-based company World Water Supplies for a 5% shareholding if he used his influence in Whitehall to act for them. He had to resign from WWS.

To this MP who said that the Nolan Report was caused by 2 "silly, greedy Members" we wish every success in his reapplication for a job with WWS - testing for pollution under a Polar ice cap.

DO YOUR BIT FOR THE... CLASS WAR



AND EARN EXTRA CASH!

Yes, you can do your bit in the war, and earn extra cash, by flogging *Class War* to your work/school mates, friends, neighbours family etc.

Just send £2.00 for ten copies to Bulkorders, PO Box 467, London, E8 3QX.

Also available, £1/£2/£5 packs of the current front cover as huge A2 flyposters. From the same address.

Cheques/P.O.'s to Class War. Overseas orders: please write for price.

THE WORLD IS OUR WORLD...

On Thursday October 26th Abdul Onibiyo was deported to Nigeria. He has lived, worked and raised a family in this country since 1964.

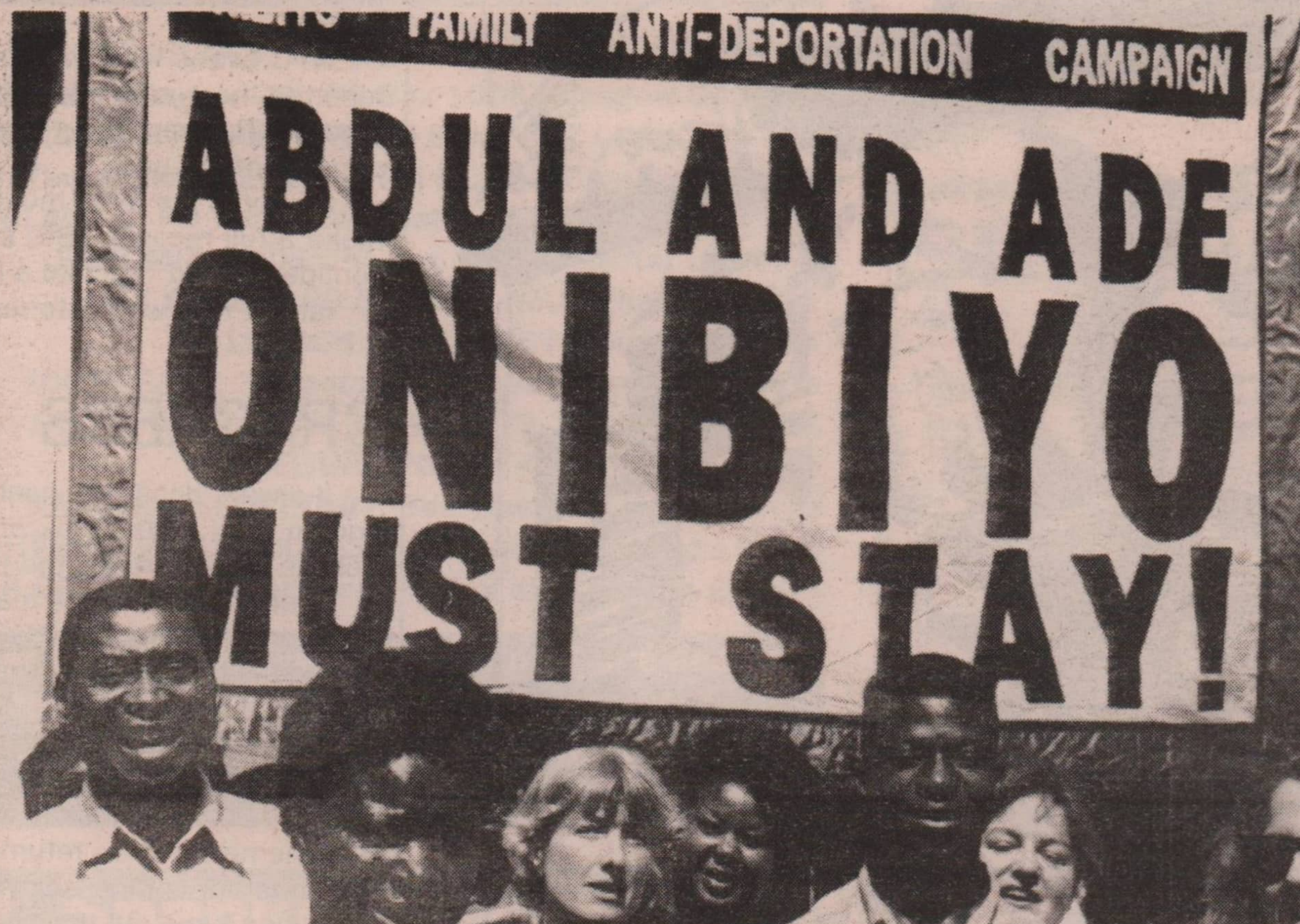
In 1974 he was granted permanent residency status, he owned his own house and worked in local government. But for a short time he worked in Nigeria and so the government claim he is no longer entitled to residency even though he continued to pay national insurance, his mortgage and even membership of his trade union (NALGO) during that time.

COWARDLY BASTARDS

In March 1995 he was snatched by the police and the cowardly bastards beat him so bad that he couldn't walk or eat for four days - even now he still has no feeling in his left arm as a result of the beating. From the pig shop he was moved to Harmondsworth detention centre where he discovered that his 19 year old son Ade was being imprisoned. After five months they were released on bail until September 95 when they were snatched once more following an appeal hearing and kept at Campsfield detention centre. Abdul has now been deported and Ade awaits a similar fate. Further deportation orders having been issued against his wife and two youngest daughters leaving only one daughter with the 'right' to stay in the country.

FEARS

The campaign are very concerned about Abdul's safety in Nigeria. He hasn't been heard from since he was deported and handed over to the Nigerian government who are torturing, imprisoning and



murdering anybody who opposes or speaks out against them. Like all governments they have their skeletons and in Nigeria's case it's one heck of a big cupboard.

They are particularly touchy about the genocide that they are committing against people who have occupied lands for hundreds of years and refuse to give it up to Shell who want to turn it into an oil field.

GENOCIDE

Yes them scum bags from Shell are at it again. On the other hand the British government are keen to keep things quiet as well not only because of the Shell connection but also because loads of Nigerian government ministers are bringing millions of pounds that they have stolen from the state funds into this country.

Yes it really does expose the immigration issue for what it really is. When you consider how

the wealthy Nigerians can swank about and launder the wealth stolen from the Nigerian people while Abdul and his family, like so many working class Nigerians (and other nationalities), flee poverty and political repression.

When they settle down and raise a family only to find that even after thirty years they get their lives completely destroyed by the racist scum in the Home Office.

When this happens, the class war is made clear. How often do you hear of a rich or middle class tosser getting deported? But then of course deporting people always plays on the race card.

Racism is a tool to divide the working class and through deportations the ruling class seek to play on racist attitudes within our class by criminalising 'illegal immigrants' who are 'over here taking our jobs'. What a load of bollocks.

If they wanted to get rid of the people that are taking our jobs then the CBI would be the first to go.

The family are keeping up the fight, picketing the Home Office and raising the issue through as many organisations as possible.

FIGHTING ON

They are demanding that the threats to the family are withdrawn and that Abdul is repatriated to what is his home - Britain. They urgently need people to write to: the Nigerian embassy in London to ask about Abdul's safety, to the Home Office, Queen Annes Gate, SW1 (quoting reference no. 0.107625) for the release of Ade, an end to the harassment of the family and repatriation of Abdul.

Messages of support and donations can be sent to:

Onibiyo Family Campaign,
c/o UNISON A Branch,
6a Acre Lane,
Brixton, London SW2

THE FINAL STRAW

We were delighted to hear that during the Labour Party conference in Brighton Jack Straw was on the receiving end of a bit of class anger when his statements about beggars and the homeless proved to be too much for one class warrior who on seeing Jack chinned him and put him on his arse.

For a while Jack got to know what it was like to be down and out. Shame the bastard recovered...mind you it does mean that he's available for further beatings.

CHANT OF THE DAY

In Brighton again there was a group of unemployed people that had been protesting against the new and hateful Job Seekers Allowance (JSA) and decided to barrack the Labour scum as they ebbed and flowed.

Were they there calling on the Tony Party to promise them jobs? No way, they came up with the chant 'We won't work, it hurts our pride. We'd rather be on holiday, By the seaside.'

STOP THE CITY

Birmingham was brought to a standstill on October 14th by the Disabled People's Direct Action Network. In protest at the inaccessibility of public transport, people with disabilities and their supporters descended on Birmingham and chained themselves to buses in the city centre and soon had the centre closed off.

Representing one eighth of the population the activists were highlighting the total lack of consideration for many people will disabilities. If you can get on to public transport then you are likely to find yourself in a goods vehicle and having to hold yourself for the duration because you can't get into the toilets. The action followed one the day before at the National Bus and Coach Exhibition at the NEC. Unlike the earlier protest the filth were forced into adopting the nice cop routine to avoid some bad PR.

We hope to report on future actions that will hopefully bring about the changes necessary for disabled people to participate fully in the life of our cities. Give them access not charity.

IT'S ON THE CARDS

More and more people are doing it. Much to the annoyance of Jobcentre staff and the amusement of those on the dole the usual all work and no pay, have a dull day job cards are being removed and in their place appears a fine range of worthwhile jobs.

Yes there's no end to the amount of fun you can have with this one. Apart from the cream of the crop, an executioner's job and a photo of the first 'client', one John Major, there have been vacancies for cleaners on £30/hour, company car and shares options worth up to £250,000 and true descriptions of the sort of slime required to thicken the police force. Just let your mind run wild, start the virus at your job centre today.

NO TO I.D. CARDS

Having failed to get footie fans to take up the ID card the next attempt is to get benefit claimants to carry one. This one is being sold as being to our benefit because it supposedly makes it harder to cash stolen giro. That 'fact' remains to be seen.

But from these 'innocent' beginnings lurks a sinister potential. Staff at the dole have already confirmed that the card will change into a cash card in a few years and we will see the end of giro. Once it's all computerised then there will be greater ability to make deductions from your benefit for fines, taxes, etc.

But worse still is a scenario that exists in some parts of the USA where you are credited so much to spend in selected shops, on selected items! Well stuff that. The cards are not compulsory and they will issue you with giro as normal if you refuse to take an ID card. So if you have got one why not arrange with a few mates to take them back and bust them up - the cards that is.

UP FOR APPEAL

On December 11/12/14th Gary Mills and Tony Poole are at the Court of Appeal in the Strand.

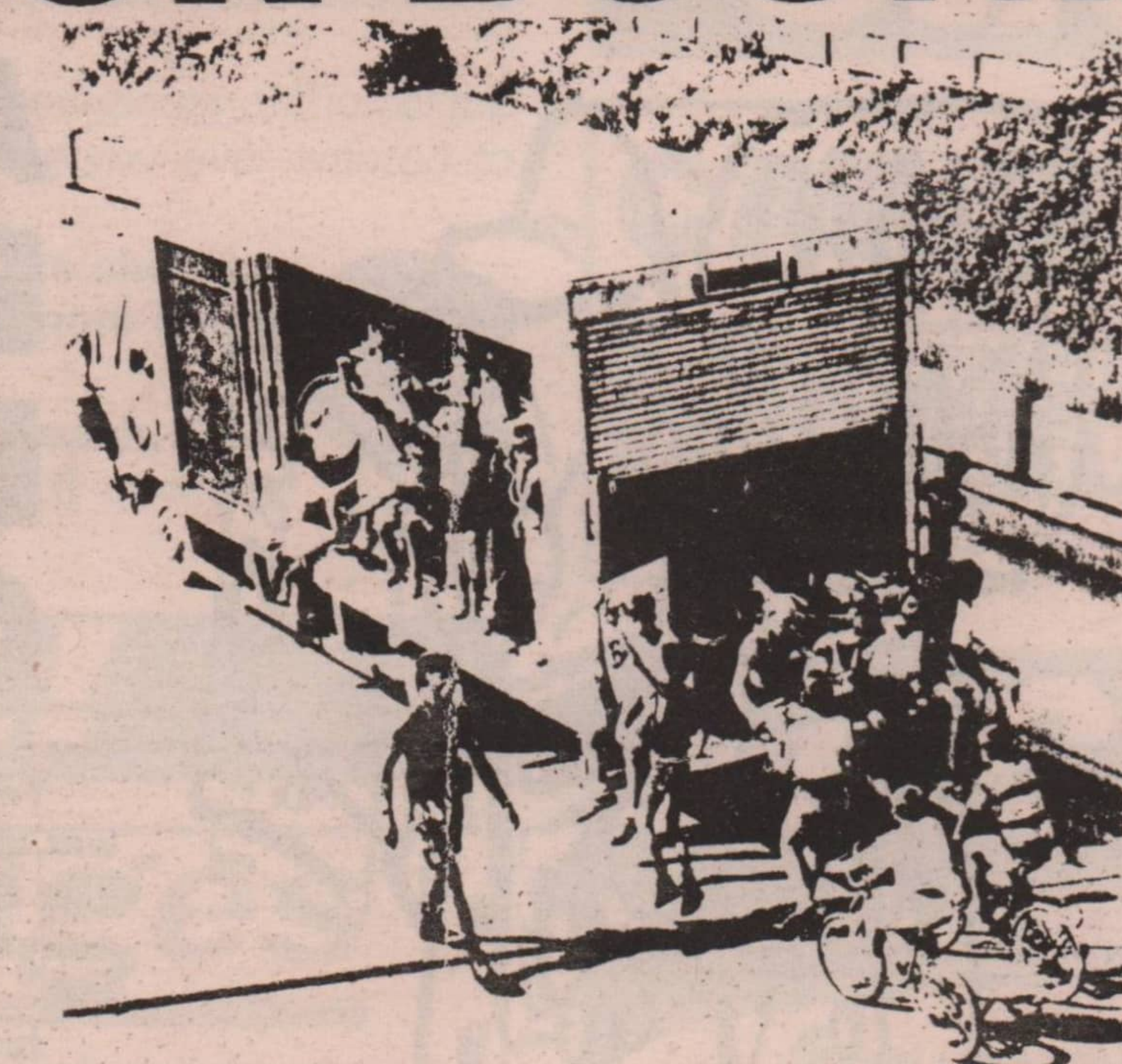
They are appealing against a life sentence, stitched up by the Gloucester police who had beaten Henley Wiltshire to death in the cells. Yes there's going to be some red faced pigs about but unfortunately that is as far as it is likely to go. There's going to be a picket of the courts to get as much attention to their case as possible and give them a good reception when they hopefully walk free. Gary (MW0469) and Tony (MW1030) are both in Long Lartin, S. Littleton, Evesham, Worcs., so drop them a solidarity message. If you want to know more contact Birmingham Class War. We wish them all the best and hope this is the last issue they will be reading behind bars.

AID FOR BOSNIA

'Don't be conned into thinking that it is impossible for you to do anything, that it is nothing to do with you.'

The invasion of Bosnia by Serb forces continues and the Bosnian people fight back to defend their multi cultural heritage against the nationalist, racist and fascist Serb army.

Despite the arms blockade the Bosnian army, made up of Serbs, Croats and Muslims, have repelled the heavily armed Serbian army and their policy of ethnic cleansing. Their struggle has been long and hard taking a terrible toll on the people. The atrocities committed against them are too numerous and horrific to describe. In Bosnia most workers are either soldiers or unemployed. Those that do



work like the miners of Tuzla have received no wages for three years, working with no food, no boots and with worn out safety gear. Hospitals work without electricity and basic supplies. Transport is almost none existent. The war looks set to continue for

a long time to come and the Bosnian people need support and solidarity from working class people the world over.

Formed by some activists that have been to Bosnia on the Workers Aid Convoy, they plan to raise enough cash to get a 7.5 ton truck full of aid

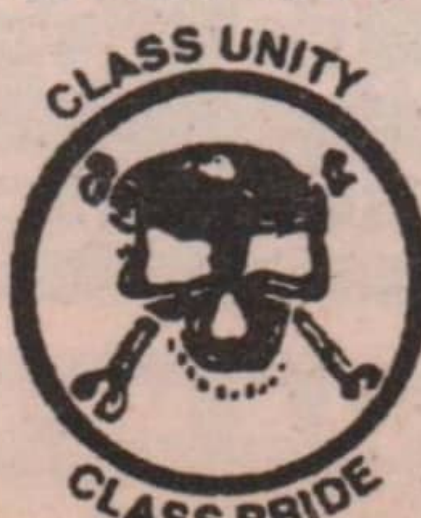
over to Tuzla with a convoy that is due in December.

ANTI FASCIST AID

Tuzla is at the centre of resistance to ethnic cleansing and has a long history of anti fascism producing many partisans during World War II. The miners of Tuzla also sent money to the miners during the 1985 dispute - now they desperately need our help.

If you would like to become involved in raising money or aid or would like a speaker to come and explain more fully then contact:

Anti Fascist Aid For Bosnia, BM Haven, London, WC1N 3XX.



BAILIFF BUSTING IS BACK

It only seems like yesterday that Class War was packed to the rafters with red hot bailiff bashing action as working class communities fought back against the poll tax. The British ruling class however is not stupid - if a law is made unworkable they have generations of experience of simply bringing in a milder law and ensuring that the system as a whole is never directly challenged.

The poll tax was replaced by the supposedly "fair" council tax and the days of riots outside Town Halls and bailiffs getting their cars trashed faded into the mists of time. But not quite...

STILL FIGHTING

Class War is proud to reveal that many people are still fighting back against the council tax and old poll tax debts. A special mention must go to Mervyn Hemphill of Wouldham, Kent who didn't hesitate to respond, all guns blazing, when the bailiffs turned up at his house. Tonbridge and Malling council claim Mr. Hemphill owes them £2000 dating back to April 1990. Mr. Hemphill simply claimed that if council officials didn't clear off sharpish he would drive a JCB over their vans. The bailiffs left empty handed!

It's this kind of resistance which has led many councils to deciding (though of course it is dressed up in fancy language and never openly admitted) that all old poll tax debts are going to be written off as the cost of recovery is far greater than the actual amount recovered. That just shows that struggle pays!

SCUM OF THE EARTH

Much of the attempted recovery has been done by bailiffs - of all the miserable specimens to be found on this planet, the bailiff is perhaps the lowest of all. By specialising in intimidating the weak and the poor with physical strength and legal threats, they earn our never ending contempt.

Like all bullies, bailiffs are a little less cocky when the tables are turned on them. Since the demise of the anti-poll tax movement, some of these characters have been getting a bit too big for their jackboots and are in urgent need of a slap. Please send any anti-bailiff news and information to your nearest Class War group - remember they don't like it up 'em!

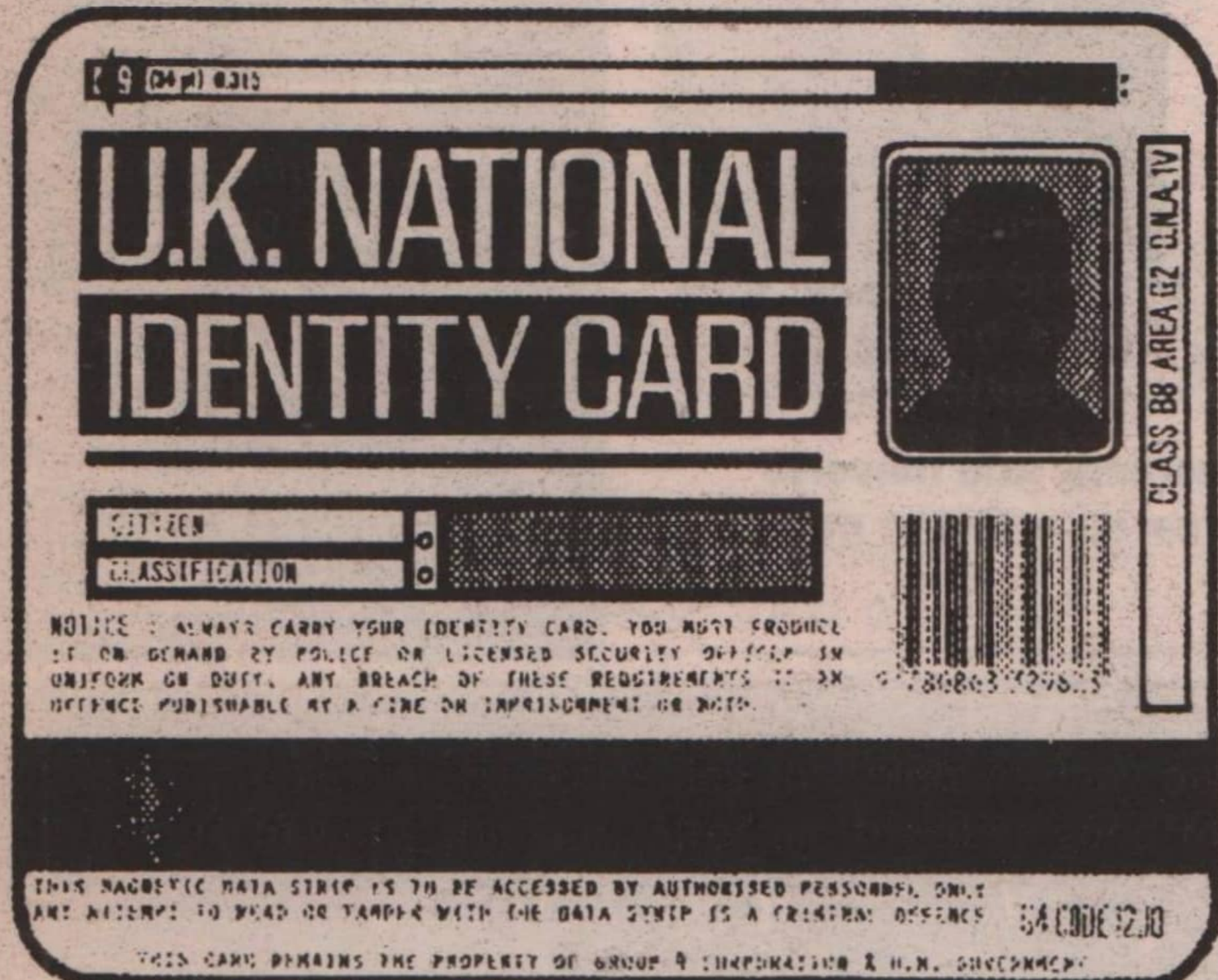
SHOVE IT

September 30th was a date that probably passed most people by, but for those that like a bit of privacy or simply object to being stopped by the police, it may turn out to have been a very significant date.

September 30th was the deadline the government set for written comments on the proposed National Identity card scheme. Basically John Major and co. have decided that the DSS, DVLC, police, MI5/6, local councils and medical record centres don't have enough information on people and what we really need is a National ID card.

BY THE BACKDOOR

At the Conservative Party conference Peter Lilley has already talked of smart cards to clamp down on "dole



cheats" (as the Tories have been in power for 16 years now, you do wonder if they could actually clamp down on "dole cheats" they would have got round to it by now - it's the same old record every year).

The most likely method however is a backdoor ID card that is given to welfare claimants, people released from prison, immigrants etc leaving the chattering classes and Guardian readers free from government snooping.

Until we know for sure what the government is actually up to it's hard to suggest ways of actually shoving this card up John Major's arse. After all, most people can hardly afford to come over all moral and refuse to claim their benefits - and if an ID card comes with the benefits we're probably stuck with them. Still, that sort of pessimistic talk we once heard about football ID cards and it has to be said where are they now?

TAKING A VERY LONG WALK OFF A VERY SHORT PIER...

Charity is a bit of a strange concept, one that we have never quite got the hold of.

Basically, the rules of the game seem to go like this: the working class create lots of wealth, of which we only see a little bit. The bosses get the bulk of this dosh and then if they feel like it they give some of it away...to the poorest sections of the very class that created the wealth in the first place.

ODD CRUMBS

Maybe they do it because they're all bleeding hearts (but we doubt that) or maybe they do it because they don't fancy the idea of us taking it directly from them so they reckon that by chucking the odd crumb at us we will keep quiet (that's more like it).

Another rule of the game seems to be for the

ruling class to exclude a particular section of the working class (eg disabled people who are frequently denied access to public buildings, public transport, etc) and then the very same ruling class organises Telethons and charity dinners for...disabled people! And they call Class War nutters!

FOUR KNOBS

The four knobs pictured here are some of the warped examples of this logic. Members of the Kent Executive Club (puke) are seen limbering up for their annual walk for charity - maybe they're planning to donate to the working class to compensate for all the exploitation and pain that these rich toerags have imposed upon us. Apparently this year's walk went off without incident (which



is a great shame).

But any more of this demeaning charity nonsense and the Class War supporters in the south

east will be forced to give Kent Executive Club a real walk on the wide side - and our boots are made for a lot more than walking!

THE FUTURE RULING CLASS AT HARROW...

"The Harrow boys give us the up and down with their eyes as if we're lower class" - 17 year old local.

"If you try to talk to them, they just ignore you. I'm not bothered about them being mugged" - 16 year old local.

Since the start of term to date at least 10 rich kids from the £13,000 per year Harrow public school have been attacked by angry locals during broad daylight in Harrow town centre.

KNIFEPOINT

One brat has been robbed at knife point and another was punched to the ground by a gang of five who then enterprisingly went through his pockets. Still more have been menaced with sticks and had money, cheque cards and pens stolen.

In a rare outbreak of honesty, the school magazine 'The Harrovian' said boys should "stop swaggering down the road like the stereotypical little rich kid and perpetuating the image that the Hill is inhabited by a snotty-nosed bunch of brats".

It also said that "hostility towards Harrovians was brought on by the not inaccurate perception that they are wealthy". Well fuck us - that's a turn-up for the books. They're rolling in the money and they know it. In a few years time they will be the ones lordng it over us, telling us what to do and what to think.

ARROGANT WEALTH

The Harrovians seem to think they will be safe without their uniforms but their arrogant behaviour and wealth will soon give them away to class conscious locals. As one 6th Former admitted "on Saturday nights the boys hang out of windows and shout insults at locals who are passing". He then added "we are sitting ducks in our uniforms" - too true!

Locals are to be applauded for getting their own back on these miserable little wankers, lets hope there are more of these attacks in future and that they spread to other snob schools.

DIG UP THE RICH

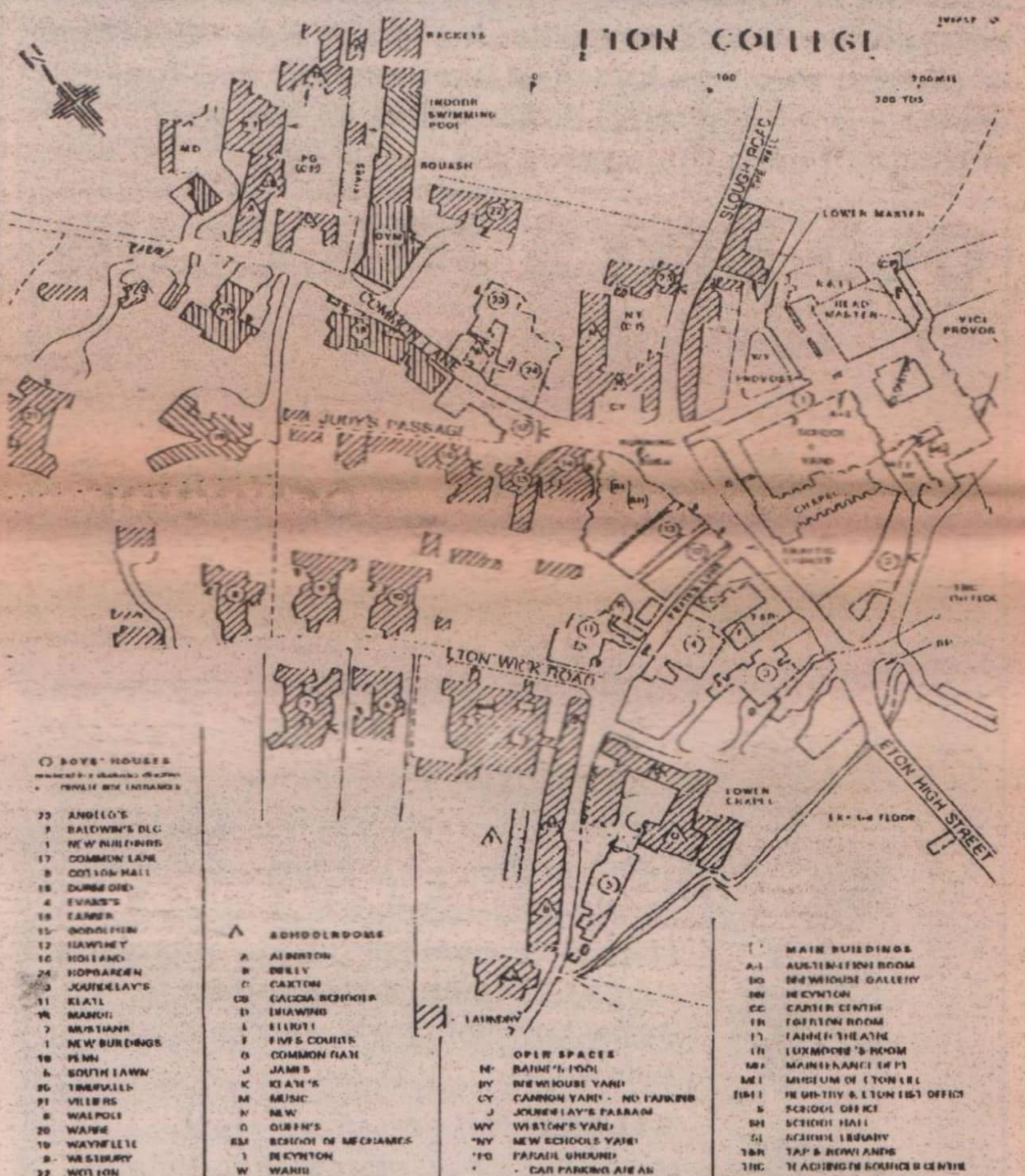
Top Tory tosser Michael "Tarzan" Heseltine got an early morning welcoming recently at his country retreat mansion at Thenford Hall in Northamptonshire.

A joint force of 50 people from mining communities, ex-miners and environmental activists invaded at 6:20am to dig up his front lawn in protest against pit closures and open cast mining.

COMPLETE BOLLOCKS

It was Heseltine who had loudly proclaimed that there was no need for coal and so most of the mines had to be closed yet now an increasing number of open cast mines are being started.

Of course it was complete bollocks about there being no need for coal, it was all about crushing the organised strength of the miners and very little else - so it's good there has a bit of class vengeance against Heseltine. Next time we should dig up his fucking house (with him inside as it collapses!).



...AND ETON

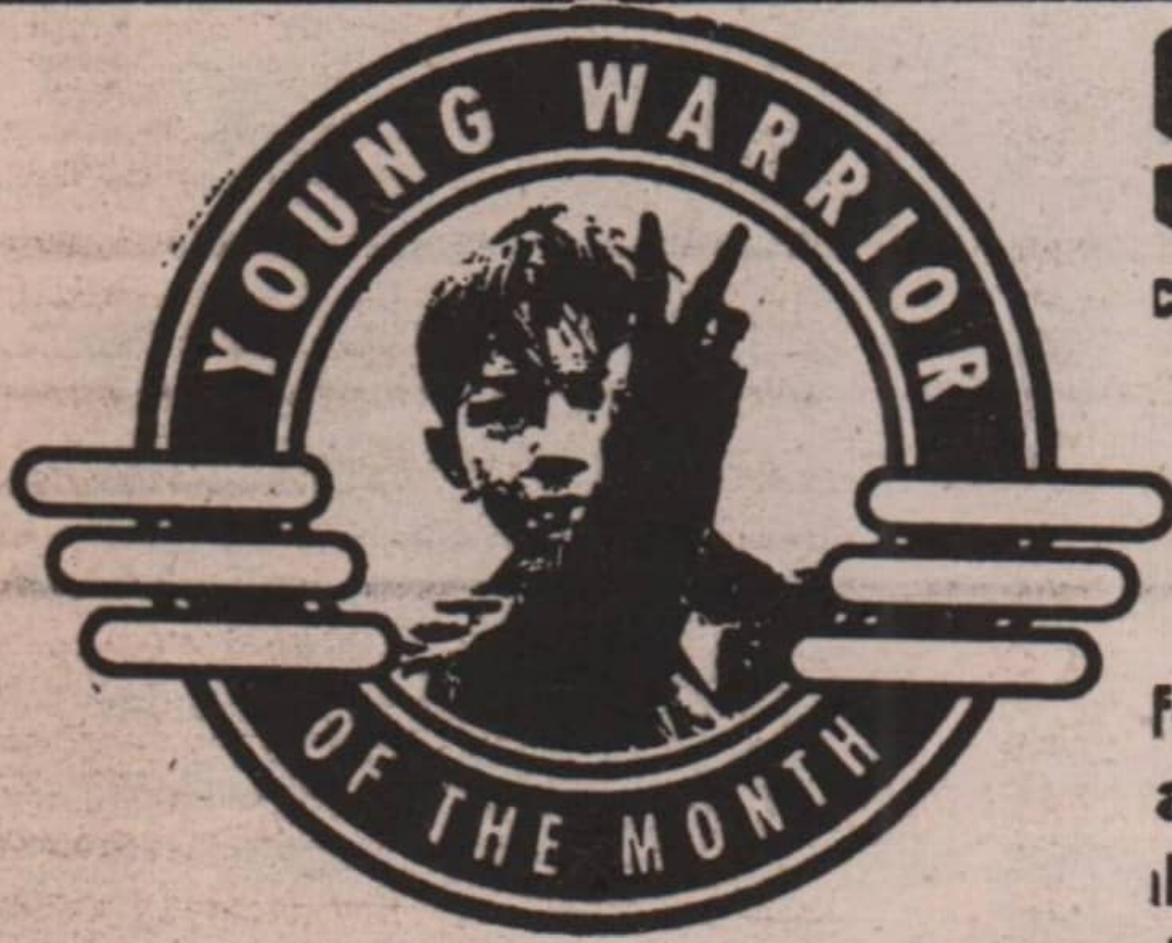
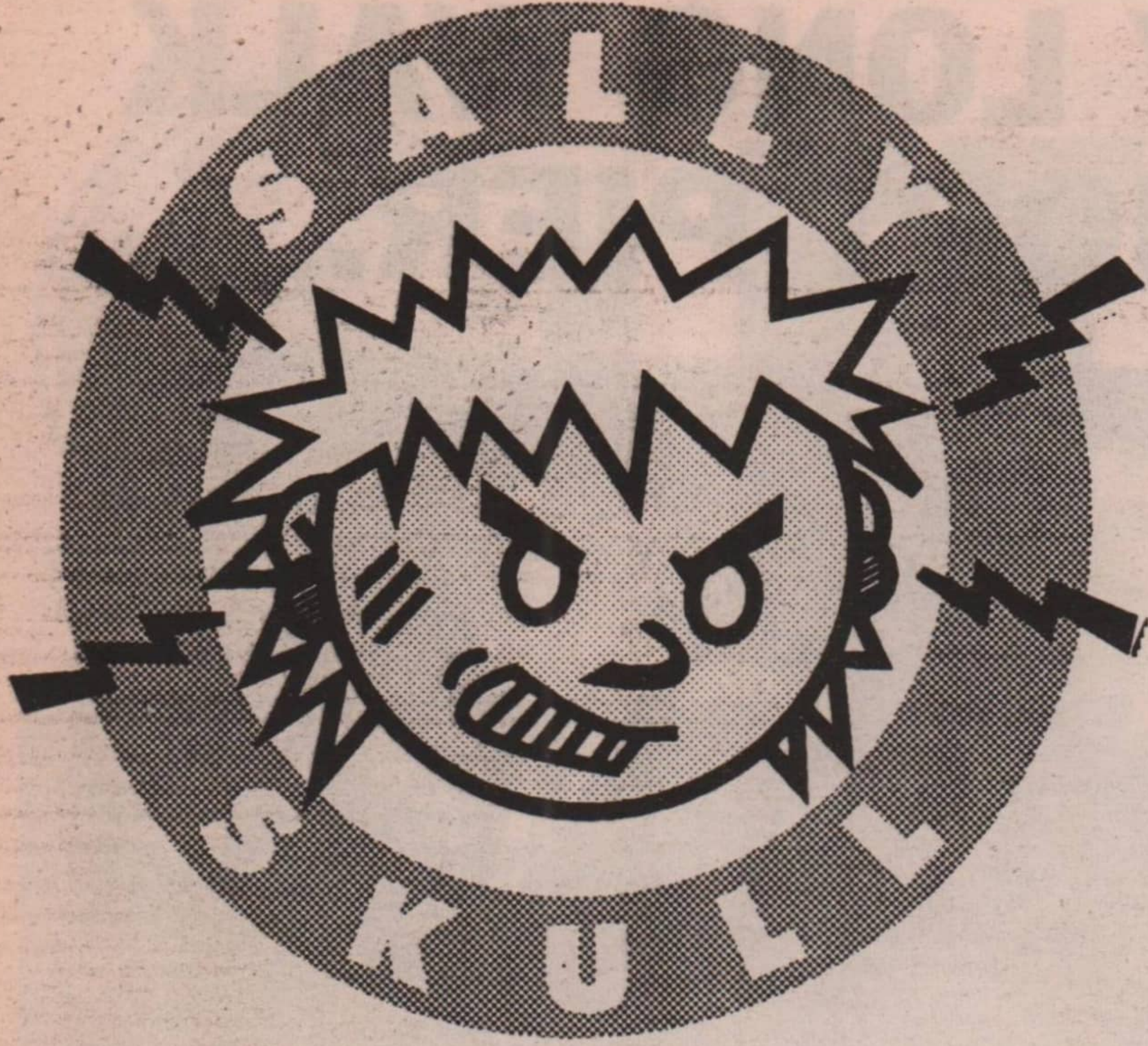
Following a long undercover operation we have finally come up with a plan of the top public school in the country (see above - better quality copies available from the London address). Eton College, where it costs over £14,000 per year to teach the rich scum, is where our ruling class are taught to be our future oppressors. So if any of you out there want to go and show the little wankers some working class justice, otherwise known as a good slapping, we hope that this will help you sort out escape routes.

If anyone manages to hit the bullseye and get to the biggest wanker of them all, Prince William, there will be a bag of Class War goodies on the way to you. If no-one does strike it lucky, then we hope that if the IRA ceasefire ever does breakdown by publishing this plan we may have done our bit towards the war. After all, the only good royal is a dead royal.

DOG BITES PIG

Probably the best Insurance you can have against unwanted intruders is to get a good guard dog. Proof positive of this comes from Innsworth in Gloucestershire where some very unwelcome visitors - four police officers - bit off more than they could chew when they raided a home.

Unfortunately for them (and how did we weep), the owners' pit bull couldn't bite off enough to chew, leaving one officer seriously injured and the three others requiring hospital treatment. Sadly both the dog and its woman owner were later arrested - pedigree chum in a dog pound will be a bit mundane after four slices of finest Gloucestershire pork!



Saturday night's alright for fightin'... coppers.

How about rounding off a night's dancing with ambushing a few cops, upping the ats per minute, so to ik? That's what Leeds youths have been up to, and I'm pleased to give them this

month's Young Warrior award.

Police were called after a battle was orchestrated in on of the city's nightclubs. But the pigs were attacked by around 100 revellers as soon as they entered the club. One particular target was the officer in charge, who was knocked unconscious and four others were hospitalised. According to one eyewitness: "Loads of coppers got battered."

OLD BOYS JOB CLUB

No 10 in a series of jobs you're unlikely to be offered



ENGLAND RUGBY UNION CAPTAIN

QUALIFICATIONS: As well as the usual public school and army officer background, you'll need to possess above average ability at the toffs' game with the odd-shaped ball.*

EXPERIENCE: Of course you'll need to be able to brown-nose with the best of them, and a special way with princesses may come in handy. Because you'll get paid to attend lots of posh dinners it's important to know how not to eat your peas off your knife.

SALARY: Not one of our most remunerative positions, unfortunately. You do get to be boss of your own company, teaching bosses how to boss, plus there are those after-dinner speeches at £10,000 a go. But you'll need to be a little more discrete sucking up to the royal family, and on Diana's toes, if you want to keep publicity deals with Nike, Aston Martin and a shaving lotion company, worth £300,000 a year. You may have to make do on just £136,000 a year.

Post presently William David Charles Carling

[* Apologies to our Welsh readers]

BRANSON'S PICKLE

Richard Branson, Virgin airlines boss, is none too pleased at picking up a £200,000 phone bill.

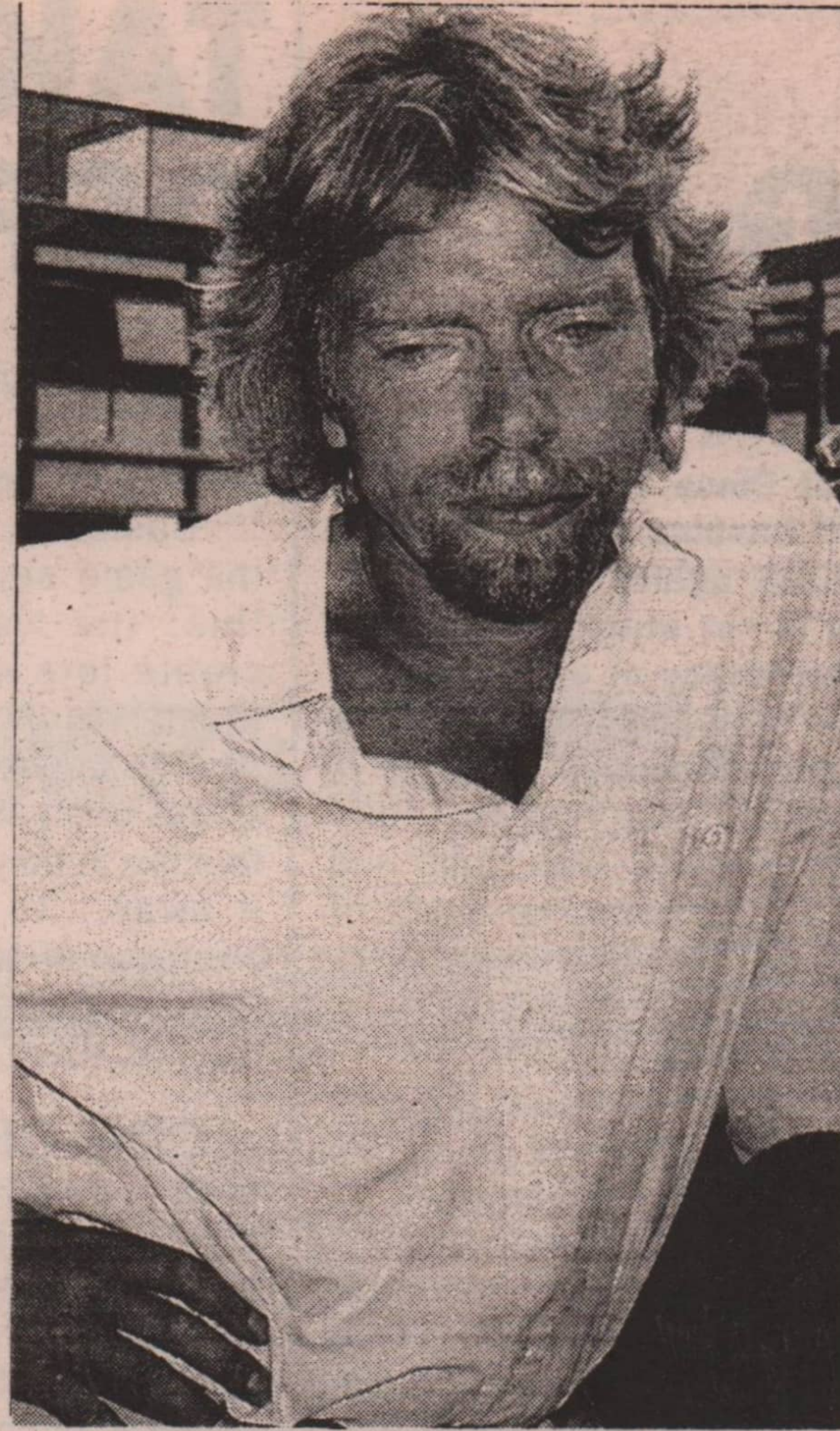
Branson, recently seen smooching it in the cockpit with Tony 'Blaaahh' Blair, is furious because all the calls were made by his own employees in a gigantic trans-Atlantic phone fiddle. He's worried bad publicity may damage 'the goodwill associated with the company's name'.

On-the-ball Virgin flight crew workers worked out how make calls for free by bypassing hotel switchboards. That meant they could talk for hours during U.S stop-overs without paying a thing. "Once the scam caught on, people were constantly phoning their friends, families and lovers at home in England."

When the scam was finally discovered, Branson had to pick up the bill. He's now faced with the tricky task of getting some of the money back from his resourceful employees.

One canny hostess alone made calls worth over three grand. Another said: "Huge numbers of unpaid calls were picked up by phone company investigators at this one hotel. But the truth is, this is just the only place we were caught."

These folk obviously know how good it is to talk...



International scumbag Richard Branson worries about his phone bill

"I have not had a bath or shower for three months, and nobody has noticed."

With Yorkshire Water threatening cutoffs and standpipes due to drought, boss Trevor Newton admits he's stinking rich

"Police officers believed... that members of the crowd were intent on causing them grievous bodily harm and there were occasions when they actually feared for their lives."

You can't argue there with Jonathon Laidlaw, prosecuting poll tax noter Nick Jeffries.

"I didn't join this party to run capitalism better than the Tories."

Arthur Scargill on the Labour Party. Why did you join then, Arthur?

"I bet he's very exciting in bed."

John Major's biographer on... John Major.

"The mother to whom my sympathy flows is Margaret Thatcher. Can you imagine the anguish she feels at the news that her son, the son she adores, is to be prosecuted for tax evasion?"

Mail on Sunday journalist. My heart bleeds...

"Failure to address this issue could endanger the capitalist system."

Bosses' organisation boss, Tim Melville-Ross is concerned about directors receiving massive pay hikes. Let's hope he's right; more likely poor Tim's just unhappy 'cos he's missing out

"You silly man. It's a pity it's not raining."

Lorna Greninel berates copper Michael Somerton as she hurtles down country lanes for 3 miles with Somerton on her car's bonnet

JUDGE DEAD II

This month's prize 'prick in a wig' is Judge David Griffiths. He told sex attacker David Vaughan he was "not a bad man", and went on to say: "If you had had the courage and good manners to say you were sorry and sent a bunch of flowers all would have been

forgiven."

Good manners? Flowers? Bollocks! Women don't want such sexist shit and bouquets.

The dick-splash judge then called the woman Vaughan had assaulted into court to share his 'wisdom' with her.

Class War readers can send their own flowers to Judge Griffiths at

Crosswell, Fosten Green, Biddenden, Kent TN27 8ER.

Personally, I won't be happy till he's pushing up daisies.

BUTTERED UP

Those on the inside, trying to get out, have had some mixed fortunes recently.

Unlucky was Matthew Collins, from Cheltenham. He dived to freedom through the window of a prison van only to be knocked out when he landed on his head. He was then squashed when the van reversed over him.

No such hiccups for American jailbreaker Quentin Bender, who has slithered his way to liberty. Quentin, only four feet tall, has a reputation for bizarre

escape attempts. He once tried to flush his way to freedom down a toilet. Another time he disguised himself as a large raccoon hoping he'd be released back into the wild.

All ended in failure until he hit upon the butter scheme. For three months he hoarded a variety of miniature butter and margarine packets, with which he was eventually able to smother himself. He then slipped away through the hatch of his cell. So far he hasn't been caught.

I say: "Better luck next time, Matthew" and "Quentin keep running!"

No xenophobe, me, this month's Bastard Boss is a 'European': Ferdinand Plech of Volkswagen.

"Work an extra 10 hours a week; but we won't pay you any extra cash for it." That's what Plech and his sidekick Peter Hartz are trying to tell workers!

Since 1993, when bosses threatened to axe 30,000 jobs, normal working week has been 28.8 hours, with workers effectively sharing jobs. Now bosses want to push it back up to 38 hours, including work on Saturdays, but without paying any more money. Instead they say that people can get time back later on.



Workers are having none of it. There have been strikes at VW's six factories in western Germany and massive demonstrations. Their slogan: Come up with the money or we'll turn out the lights.



VW boss Plech: time for a kicking...



Right, all up against the wall now: 140 Heads of State, plus U.N. boss Boutros 'boot-me-in-the-teeth' Boutros-Ghali, await their fate

PIG IGNORANT

A secret government report leaked to the press has concluded that coppers are mostly useless, incompetent and generally a waste of space. Big surprise!

The Audit Commission has also claimed that plod on the beat are the thickest of the bunch. They say that since ten cops are ten times as thick as one, spending money on more of them is a complete waste of time.

The report makes it quite clear that since cops are always skiving off, lounging about at the station drinking tea and getting their feet up, only the most complete clowns end up actually walking around the street, even though the chief constables feel that beat-work is the "key-stone" to police activity.

The police federation has



claimed in recent years that 55% of their officers are on the streets but it turns out the real figure is 5%. The rest are presumably kicking peoples heads in back at the station or making up a bunch of lies for their next court case. One explanation of their reluctance to walk the streets is that everyone hates the fuckers

and they receive constant abuse and are often subjected to violent attacks. Top cops claim that beat patrols are popular and reassure people. The only comfort people really take from seeing beat bobbies in action is that though the state may have huge resources all their frontline thugs are thick as planks.

SHITE

The report has recommended that coppers must behave more "intelligently" with more "intelligent" use of patrols and more "intelligent" use of the control room - it seems that they are trying to say something here! So the audit commission wants to make the police intelligent, and for their next trick turn shite into sugar.

COVER-UP? IT'S MURDER!

Shkander Singh, an unemployed bus driver from Govan, was found dead on the floor of a police cell at Stewart Street in Glasgow, with bruises on his arms, neck and back, his shirt torn and his turban stuffed down the toilet.

He died from a heart seizure 30 minutes after the officer on duty had checked his cell and concluded that he was "feigning illness" by lying unconscious on the floor.

NO WRONGDOING?

The sheriff in charge of the inquiry into this so called "fatal accident" offered some mild criticism of police proce-

dures but concluded that there was "no evidence of any wrongdoing".

He decided that the cops on duty were "overworked" and claimed that if there had been more filth around Shkander might not have died.



Those of us who are neither living in cloud cuckoo land nor ruling class scum, hell bent on protecting the cops can be sure that the last thing Shkander Singh needed in the last few hours of his life was more of those bastards

tormenting and humiliating him while he suffered.

SADISM

The fact is that he died because they didn't give a toss. He was working class and he was black and as far as the cops were concerned that was enough to make him a target for their twisted sadism, abuse and neglect.

WHITEWASH

The enquiry was a whitewash which ignored the condition in which Shkander was found, but we would expect nothing more. The ruling class knows how to look after its hired thugs. Of course working class people also know how to "look after" the boys in blue, and the next time the opportunity comes up, clobber a copper. Just think of Shkander Singh and all the others who have died brutal deaths in the cells.

TURNING THE SCREW

A CLASS WAR SPECIAL ON THE SADISTS WHO RUN SCOTLANDS JAILS

In October 1995 BBC Scotland showed a documentary as part of its "Frontline Scotland" series entitled "Beaten by the System."

The programme dealt with allegations of brutality by prison officers on prisoners in Barlinnie jail in Glasgow.

Following the Glenochil prison riot of January 1994, an Officer Jones was released unharmed after being held hostage. One other prison officer had been stabbed and £Millions worth of damage had been caused.

The prisoners had ended their protest after reassurances that none of them would be harmed and some of them were moved to Barlinnie. Subsequently there were a number of allegations of brutality from prisoners. The TV programme talked to Dr. Simon Danson, the medical officer in Barlinnie. He was speaking out on 3 specific cases of men that he saw.

Dr. Danson has worked at the prison for 6 years and is now himself the subject of 2 investigations of misconduct regarding medical examinations of women prison officers, which interestingly enough have only come to light since he spoke out.

HIS HEAD BURST OPEN

James McGhee, now in Glenochil, was moved to Barlinnie from Shotts on the 9th July 1993 following the riots there. Prison records state that James left Shotts without any injuries. By the time he reached Barlinnie he had been badly beaten.

James says he was put face down in the van with his hands cuffed behind his back. One prison officer stood on top of him and the others punched and kicked him "in a frenzy" and James' head was burst open.

Once at Barlinnie he was seen by the governor, staff and the duty doctor, who all looked at James and then left him, closing his cell door and leaving him till Monday.

When Dr. Danson saw James he said his injuries were consistent with James' description of what had happened to him and that it was a "classic picture of having been tortured" with similar bruises to those of torture victims. James had head to toe multiple injuries and bruises, a broken nose and an injured ear. Dr. Danson took photographs as he was so affected by what he saw.

He then contacted James' lawyer Seth Ireland as he believed James' basic human rights had been violated. The Scottish Prison Service investigated James' complaint ONE YEAR LATER and stated that there was no evidence to support his claims.

OVERINVOLVED

The Crown Office are now considering a report from the Procurator Fiscal, two and a half years since the original complaint was made. There was no official reaction and the only official investigation was into Dr. Danson - the Scottish Prison Service complained of "wholly unprofessional behaviour".

The Scottish Prison Officers' Association (Barlinnie), whose chairman is Michael Feeney and secretary is Paul Bennett, also said that Dr. Danson is a "maverick doctor by nature" and is "overinvolved in the case".

Tommy Monaghan, who is now in Shotts, was taken to Barlinnie after the Glenochil riots in 1994. He was told by prison staff in the van that he and other prisoners were "in for the journey of your fucking lives". Beaten and screaming, they were then told "if you think this is bad, wait till you get to the Pleasuredome" (Barlinnie's segregation block). They were beaten continuously on route. Once in his cell, a prison officer took a run at Tommy along the concrete block "bed" and kicked his left side. Tommy couldn't breathe but the officers

continued to kick the soles of his feet and stamp on him until his chest was black and blue and he couldn't stand.

Left alone, Tommy noticed that one of his ribs was sticking out further than it should - he panicked and asked for a doctor. He was told that he was to say he fell.

The governor came in first and asked Tommy if he had any complaint to make, with the officers who had just beaten him senseless in attendance; so he said no as he feared they would come back later and injure him further if he said anything.

The duty doctor came HALF AN HOUR LATER and said he would arrange for an x-ray in the morning. He gave Tommy two Panadol painkillers and left. Dr. Danson did not see Tommy until that morning and he saw immediately that urgent action was needed and that Tommy's life was in danger. Tommy was rushed to Glasgow Royal Infirmary where an x-ray confirmed that Tommy had a collapsed lung and a broken rib. Tommy was returned to segregation after only THREE DAYS. He told Dr. Danson that he was frightened to go back in case he was injured again. The attack was investigated but no action was taken.

That month William McKay (now released) was in isolation. While waiting to slop out, he banged on his cell door standing three feet behind. He said three or four prison officers then rushed in and the first one clapped his hands against his ears. William was taken to "the silent cell" in the segregation unit and his clothes were ripped from his body. He was then given "a doing I would never forget". Dr. Danson was asked to see him in the unit. William told the doctor that he had gone deaf after falling out of bed but Dr. Danson told him that was not possible or consistent with what he described.

TOUGHEST JAIL IN SCOTLAND

Barlinnie is "the toughest jail in Scotland". The governor at the time of these incidents was Peter Withers and it is now Roger Houtchin. The Chief Inspector of Scottish Prisons is Clive Fairweather and the head of the Scottish Prison Service is Eddie Frizzell. A Scottish Prison Complaints Officer was appointed in December 1994.

Dr. Jim McManus has dealt with 75 complaints in the past ten months, the "more serious and intractable cases".

None have resulted in disciplinary procedures against prison officers as none have involved allegations "that would justify such proceedings". Prisoners believe that complaining will result in worse recriminations and many solicitors who see their clients with injuries suffer from "wilful blindness".

Shotts prison could be the very blueprint for long term prison regimes with the erosion of human rights. Shotts was opened in the early '80s as a showcase maximum security jail, replacing Peterhead as the main "long term" Scottish prison. It was purposely built for "smaller group control" and surveillance, giving power back to the staff.

Harassment and bullying, including strip searches of visitors (even children and the elderly) resulted in a 1987 riot. The prisoners reacted again in 1992 and since then there has been a permanent lockdown, making Shotts a mass-control unit. In 1994 the Scottish Inspectorate criticised the lockdown and urged the reintroduction of a more open regime.

HOWARD COWARD

Shotts prison was recently designated the main induction centre for long term prisoners, where they are processed before being sent on to other jails. This "basic regime" of lockdown is their introduction to prison life, which is the "dream system" of Home Secretary Michael Howard with his talk of "earning privileges" in "austere regimes": a man who surely, like the god-fearing, right-wing politics he spouts, must suffer for his sins.

[With many thanks to John Bowden in Perth prison for the Shotts Information.]

SEX & GOD

Church elder Andrew Wallace showed his Christian spirit when he tied up a whimpering 14 year old girl and videoed himself abusing her sexually. This upstanding member of the community told her "The quicker you do as you are told the quicker we are finished"

This piece of slime put the girl through this degradation as a "punishment" and he abused her over a period of 2 years. But despite this Vicar Robert Martin of St Andrew's church in Killmarnock turned up in court as a character witness and to support Wallace.

Christians? Bring forth the lions!

FAT CAT FILLS POCKETS

John Reid bastard boss of Bell College of Technology in Hamilton, Lanarkshire needed no further education to see his way to a massive pay rise of £38,000 taking his pay to £92,000 with a rise of a massive 41%. Yet other staff in the College were expected to be grateful for a limit of 5% (or lump it) He also got back pay of £17,000 for "extra work" in making the college self governing.

But he made no offer to share it out with his workforce who did all the hard graft. This lowlife is also in overall control of about £8.15 million in course fees and Government funding per year.

NHS AXEMAN

A hospital boss brought in to slash costs was put up at a top hotel at a cost of almost £25,000. Brian Johnson was recruited to save cash so nurses were told they were only getting a 1% pay



rise this year one third of most trusts, and ten surgical beds were closed for 2 months to save cash, but when the boss came to Glasgow he was given digs at the £75 a night Tinto Firs hotel and ran up a huge bill. His boss class mate infirmary chief Barrie Small defended this spending saying it was meant as a short term measure but smirking fat cat Johnson could not get his

house sold to move north, so in the opinion of these bastard bosses the use of NHS money is not health spending but making sure that they are kept in comfort and stuff the patients and workers.

A BURNING HUNGER

Time after time, again and again starvation hits the headlines. Yet no matter how catastrophic the event, we never seem to get any nearer to stopping it once and for all. Why is that? Yet this inexcusable genocide has not always been limited to the other side of the North/South divide, it has happened a lot closer to home... it's just that they never made a big thing of it in history because... well, it's a lot closer to home. And it happened for EXACTLY the same reasons that it still goes on today. Here we look at the history of the Great Irish Hunger. So, eyes down for a history lesson. And fuck you Live Aid.

ONE MIGHTY BLOW

150 years ago this year black patches began to appear on the potato plants grown Ireland. This was the first appearance of the infamous potato blight which led to a series of crop failures between 1846 and 1848.

In turn, these crop failures started a chain of events which led to the halving of the entire population of Ireland by starvation, disease or emigration. Nearly everybody willing to discuss these events agree that they have had a drastic and long-lasting effect on Irish culture, yet on the 150th anniversary of this momentous tragedy, almost nobody in the capitalist media and cultural establish-

ment discuss their meaning.

This article argues that this silence is a guilty silence.

FALSE CLAIMS

In December 1845 the Tory leader Benjamin Disraeli attacked the early reports of the effects of the potato crop failure, calling it 'a false famine'. Ironically despite his anti Irish intent, Irish historians have agreed with him. Although the events of 1845-48 are officially known in the British version as the 'Great Irish Potato Famine', Irish historians and activists concerned with the truth prefer to call it "An Gorta Mor" - *The Great Hunger*.

The difference in name is to emphasise a radically different view of why over a million

Irish people died. A large percentage of the population had been pushed into dependence on one crop, the potato. What they are not so open about is what it was that pushed them into this situation.

Some revisionists answer that the growth of the population was responsible, regurgitating old Malthusian shite theory (see below). Others point out that the main reason is that more and more land was being taken from the peasant people by fair means or foul (mostly foul), forcing the majority of the population to rely on a smaller and smaller proportion of Ireland's land.

THE ROLE OF THE SPUD

The land seized by the landlords (many of the biggest being absentee English landlords or corporations) was used to grow food for export to Britain - vegetables, grain and increasingly, beef. Forced onto less and less land the Irish peasantry was forced to grow the most efficient food crop which was the potato, originally imported from South America by the English.

But why, when Ireland was then a province of the largest and richest empire in human history so far, was it not possible to bring in food from the plentiful supplies elsewhere in the World?

In fact in 1845 the Tory prime minister Peel did (quietly) make a start on setting up stockpiles of Indian corn to cope with the food shortages. In 1846 the Tories were defeated and replaced by the Whigs led by Lord John

Russell. His theory, which he spent the rest of his life desperately trying to find evidence to support, was that population growth was geometric, (ie. 2,4,8,16...), whereas the growth in food production was only arithmetic (ie. 2,4,6,8,10...). Following this argument, population growth was bound to outstrip food production, and as a consequence, population had to be limited either by "moral restraint", vice or misery.

By vice, Malthus meant prostitution, abortion, infanticide and the use of whatever contraception existed at the time. By misery, he meant the traditional 'horsemen of the Apocalypse' - war, famine, and plague.

Underneath all the polite talk, Malthus' basic theory was that "the poor" (that's us folks!) were poor because they were undisciplined, immoral and had far too much sex and too many children. He basically believed that only the rich and middle class had the strength to be "morally self disciplined" about not having children. The vast majority of others were for some reason doomed to have their numbers limited by war, famine and plague.

IMMORAL EARNINGS

Although Adam Smith (as in the Tory thinktank; Adam Smith Institute) is credited with being the father of Political Economy he was actually employed as a moral philosopher. Malthus in fact was the first ever person to be appointed as a professor of Political Economy, but his post was created for him by the East India Company who had founded their own college in the Home Counties.

As Professor he was the chief ideologue and justifier for the imperialist activities of the East India Company. His pamphlet was hugely popular amongst the English boss class. It was also originally written as an attack on both William Godwin's writings in support of the French Revolution, and the communist idea that the source of poverty was social institutions and that there was enough resources for every one to have what they wanted after a social revolution.

But Malthus' counter attack was not in any way scientific or rational - it was simply class prejudice, fear of revolution and old Puritan theological anti-Catholic crap wrapped up in new clothes. Although in coded form, it is clear that this division between the minority able to exercise "moral restraint" and the rest predestined to face the culling force of misery, was merely the old division between power holders and the poor.

In the end Malthus was convinced, the numbers of the poor would be limited by famine which "with one mighty blow, levels the population with the food of the world".

There is not enough room here to go through the frantic history of the class struggle from 1800 up until 1846 in

detail. But to understand the minds of the incoming Whig government in 1846 it is necessary to have a brief outline.

During the Napoleonic wars, the Tories had been forced to keep much of the army at home to keep down the revolution. The Whigs decided to ride the working class struggle to power by campaigning for reforms of the political system. They made much of the Peterloo massacre and even partly helped to finance and arm "physical force" class fighters to put the shits up the Tories.

Having ridden the struggle to power at the start of the 1830's, the Whigs made the changes they wanted in the 1832 Reform Act. When the working class realised they had been ripped off by the Whigs they began to gather around the Chartist campaign, many of whose leaders were Irish like Fergus



SPOT THE DIFFERENCE: Harpers Weekly depiction of the Irish as descendants of savages. Ain't we all?

Irish men women and children ended up dying from starvation, cholera and typhus. The official British version is that this was a famine caused by a crop failure - a natural disaster, or in insurance business speak, "an Act of God".

The dissenting view from Ireland is that this was not a natural disaster but a politically motivated act of conscious genocide.

During the whole period from 1845-1848 while millions of Irish people perished from starvation related diseases, Irish and British landlords continued to collect rent and taxes from the Irish and export corn, vegetables and beef from their land. The so called famine was not a general failure of the agricultural harvest in Ireland, but simply of one single crop; the potato.

As some historians have pointed out, the reason that so many died was that such a

Russell. Russell flogged off the stockpiles and refused to take any state-funded action to either restrict the export of food from Ireland or import replacement supplies.

MALTHUS - GURU OF GENOCIDE

In order to understand the true horror of what Russell did we have to look at his politics and the context of class struggle in which they were formed.

Thomas Robert Malthus (1766-1834) was an Anglican Minister who became best known for his 'theory' of population first released as an argumentative pamphlet in 1798. (1798 was also the year that French Revolutionary troops landed in Killala Bay to support the United Irishmen republican uprising).

O'Connor and Bronterre O'Brien. In desperation, the Whigs attempted a parliamentary pact with the leader of the Irish parliamentarians campaigning for repeal of the Union - Daniel O'Connell.

The Whigs ended up being squeezed between two fronts and lost power in 1841 as a combination of armed Chartist uprisings in Bradford and Newport, and O'Connell withdrawing support in the Commons after being pissed around for too long. The Tory Peel government came in in 1841 with an uncomplicated programme; repression by brute force and ignorance. Peel's new force "the Peelers" (or Police) spent the next few years, particularly in the North, "fighting for our

so as to make poor relief the sole responsibility of the Irish landowners from which class O'Connell and his followers came.

KILLING TWO BIRDS

The aim was to kill two birds with one stone - to either bankrupt the irritating O'Connell and the rest of his class, or at least get the poor to blame them for not saving them, while also distracting attention from the responsibility of Russell's paymasters; the absentee English landlords and London corporations.

The next elections for the Irish Westminster seats were coming up in Summer 1847

land.

Now they could read the writing on the wall in London. It was one word and the word was death. At some unknowable point that summer or Autumn the whole nation stared death in the face. The stream of emigrants turned into a flood.

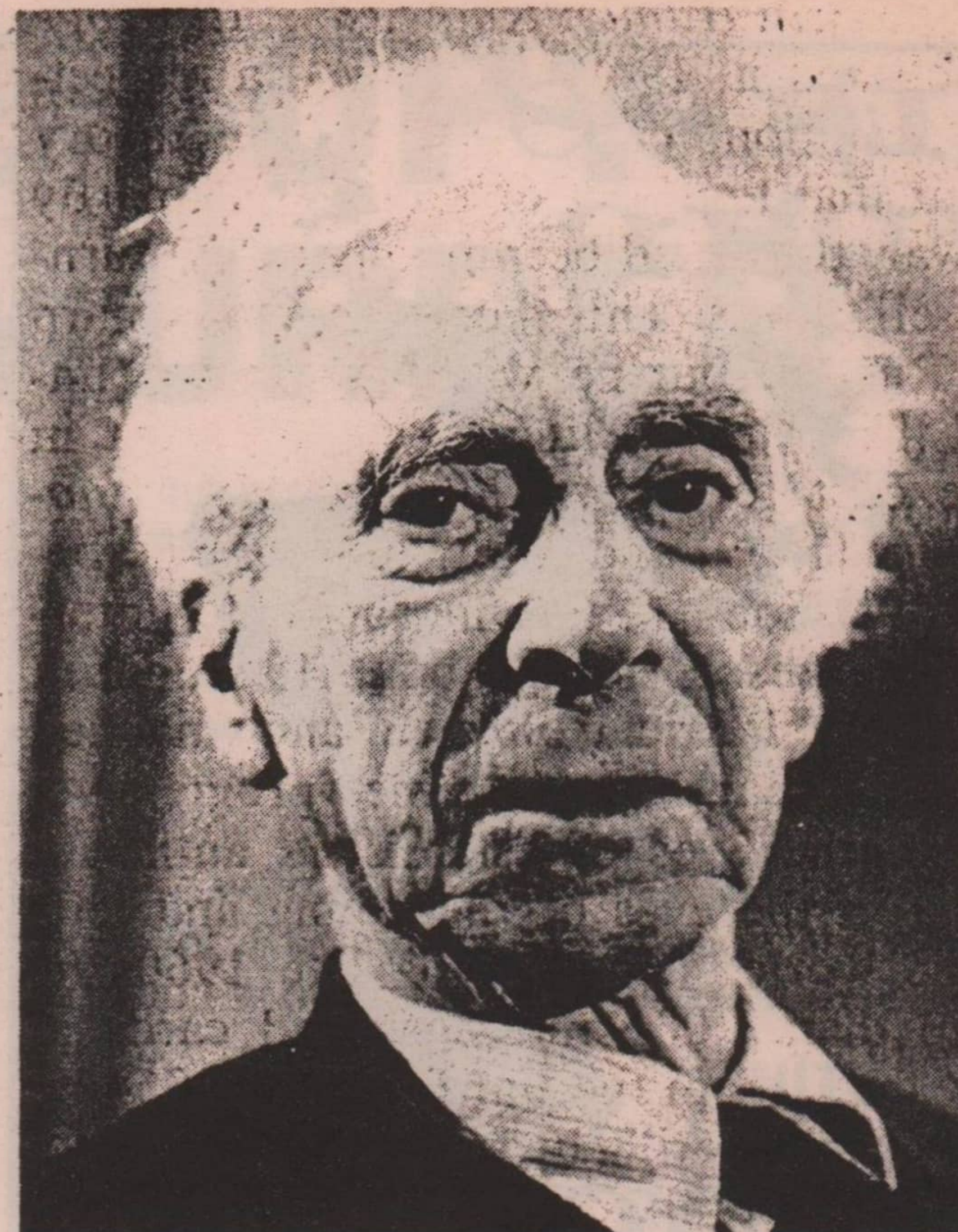
The sense of collective security had gone and everybody was left to save themselves as best they could. Those that could get a ticket on a boat fled for their lives. Those that couldn't, especially in the poorer margins in the West and South, just died. They died in the fields, in their houses and by the roadsides. With no-one to bury them, they rotted where they fell. But not so in the churches, most of whose gates were chained and locked to keep the desperation of the starving people out.

Then in 1848 the potato harvest had another total failure. This time the London media said nothing. As far as they were concerned it was wasn't happening, and even if it was it was nothing to do with them. The "White Man's Burden" did not extend as far as feeding the starving. The British Empire ruled over Ireland guaranteeing Pax Britannica, but in Connaught and Munster it was the peace of the dead.

INDEPENDENCE

Not all those who remained died. There was food in Ireland and in the rest of the world. Those who had money did not starve. Those who had larger pieces of land and grew other crops also pulled through. The point was that those whose lives depended on the potatoes were the workers and, above all the small peasants who had resisted losing the independence of self sufficiency that land possession gives. They had little or no money because they were still trying to live outside the full control of the bosses and the money system.

In a letter to David Ricardo, a fellow 'political economist' said: "... no permanent or substantial good can be done until all small farms and small tenancies are got rid of. They are calculated to destroy that wholesome dependence of the lower on the upper classes, which is one of the master links of



THE GREAT DENIAL; BERTRAND RUSSELL.

industrial North of the country, particularly Belfast, where their descendants today make up the ungovernable force that is the Nationalist community of that city. Worse still from the British perspective the spread of Irish around the world - particularly in the USA and Australia to provide political and financial support to the excluded nationalist communities of the British occupied North. This also narrows Westminster's room for militarist manoeuvres.

Irish emigrants and their descendants have continued to play a strong role in the class struggle in Britain and elsewhere in the world in anti-capitalist and anti-imperialist movements. Naturally being Irish or Irish-descended does not determine your politics or outlook on life. But when it comes to people dying of hunger because they have no money even though there's enough food in the world for everyone, those of us who stand up and say "fuck the money - give 'em the food - now!" won't take no for an answer.

Ten years ago today Bob Geldof set up Live Aid to raise money for the starving of Ethiopia. We say Geldof is a traitor to the memory of the Great Hunger because he helped to create a spectacle which covered up the political causes of hunger and the money system which causes it. Until the money system which dictates that those without money to buy food must starve is destroyed and replaced by a social system that guarantees all people, without exception, the right to food on the basis of valuing human life for its own sake, we will never rest.

FACE UP!

We will fight like fuck, and any bastard pacifist who condemns us for fighting had better first explain why their hero, founder and president of CND, and holier than thou pacifist, Bertrand Russell never had anything to say about the genocide committed by his grandfather, the Lord John Russell.

As for all the scum out there who merely regurgitate the genocidal ideas of Malthus and then have the nerve to wrap these thoughts in a Green 'ecology' flag, you'd be well advised to keep out of the way as well.

One thing's for sure; we've got a bone to pick with the British Empire and the capitalist system which condemns people to death by starvation for the crime of being poor. Actually we've got lots of bones to pick. Fucking millions of bones.

If you think this article has been too simplistic and biased, perhaps you'd like to check out the entry for "Irish Famine" in the Encyclopedia Britannica for a fuller and more unbiased exposition of the issues.

It doesn't take very long to read.



lives" as one police historian put it.

But Peel's police were unpopular not only with the working class people hunting them down in the streets, but also with the vote holding bosses who were supposed to pay for them. Open class war in the streets not only frightened the bosses, it was costing them money as well. This was the background against which Lord John Russell, descendant of one of Cromwell's lieutenants, became Prime Minister in 1846.

Like many bosses he saw the crisis of working class opposition as being caused by leaders and "outside agitators". Everywhere Russell turned in the various opposition fronts facing him were these 'outside agitators' - the Irish, fought by his Puritan fathers. Russell was going to have to find a solution to this 'Irish problem' and preferably one which, unlike Peel's invention of the cops, didn't cost too much money. Also he'd already tried accommodation and temporary deals which had cost the Whigs their power. This time they wanted a more permanent solution.

EXAGGERATION

O'Connell had been making impassioned speeches in the Commons warning of a catastrophe if nothing was done. The British media and politicians united in reviling him and claiming that the problem was exaggerated. Meanwhile Irish men, women, and children were already dropping dead from the 'exaggeration' all over Ireland.

Although the blight had appeared in 1845 the failure of that years harvest was not total and was not much worse than the occasional bad harvest. But the failure in 1846 was total. All over Ireland the potato plants were consumed into a foul mush which turned the fields black while the potatoes rotted in the ground. The scenes of devastation recorded by writers around the country read like some vision of damnation. The Catholic church later cynically argued that it was exactly that.

Meanwhile, Russell's Whigs could well see that the potato crop failure represented an opportunity to bring the Irish into line once and for all. One of the first things Russell had done when coming to power in '46 was to change the Poor Law as it applied in Ireland

and Russell wanted to win them from O'Connell and his party. To that end cosmetic efforts at famine relief including soup kitchens were publicly started by Russell.

CHARITY

Whigs, accompanied by society ladies in London, started charitable famine relief appeals. It didn't work. In the 1847 elections those Irish who could vote overwhelmingly backed O'Connell with his demands for suspension of all rent and rates to the English and export of food, while demanding proper famine relief and insisting on repeal of the Union. Russell was livid. No more Mr Nice guy! It was time for the 'hidden hand' of the free market ie. the hidden hand of Divine providence to strike down the ungrateful Irish along the lines of Malthus' "one mighty blow".

The Puritan God (or "market forces" if you prefer) is a vengeful God, particularly when it comes to dealing with ungrateful Irish Catholics who won't do as their English masters tell them to. The charitable societies were shut down, all relief efforts were stopped and the media campaign began to deny the starvation was happening, and even if it was it was all the fault of the Irish anyway.

Whether in street fighting or a nation facing adversity, there is, up until a certain point, a sense of the individual belonging to a collectivity and that as long as you stick together you can tough it out - safety in numbers. Beyond that point however, in the face of seemingly certain death, that sense of collectivity wavers and breaks as panic transforms the group into a collection of individuals forced to flee for their lives on the basis of everyone for themselves.

WRITING ON THE WALL

The Irish small peasants and workers had held on through the unimaginable suffering of late '46 and early '47 in the hope of seeing relief after the elections. The potato crop did not fail in 1847 but there had been no seed potatoes left after the previous years failure so there was virtually no harvest to come and typhus and cholera were rife throughout the



THE GREAT IGNORAMUS: MALTHUS.

society; and to encourage habits of idleness, which are the bane of all moral feeling... The two deficiencies in Ireland are want of capital and want of industry. By destroying small tenancies you obtain both".

UNGOVERNABLE

The Great Hunger certainly destroyed the self sufficiency of the Irish small peasantry and much else besides. The language was almost destroyed and through this and the general devastation, perhaps the bulk of Irish culture much of it memorised rather than recorded on paper, was lost for ever. But if the English thought that this would destroy Irish resistance to English rule, the opposite was true.

Refugees from the Hunger flocked to the



LABOUR WRECK HOMES IN ROAD SCANDAL

Despite over 600 letters against the proposal to extend Glasgow's M74 motorway extension and only a paltry 86 in favour the elected representatives of the people of Glasgow, their Councillors have decided to bash on with it and destroy 27 houses, five closes, Rutherglen Glencairn FC Social Club and 99 small businesses. The only good thing about it is two churches are getting the wreckers ball through them.



Local resident Willie McMillan said "The Government should be spending money on public transport, they have said that the new road will cut car journeys by 4 minutes but what's that worth if the kids get asthma." A couple from round the corner at Cambuslang Road, Peter and Margaret McPhee are awaiting news of what will be done to rehouse them, Peter said "I'm happy here there is a sense of community among the people. They have said they will relocate businesses - what about the people?"

Springburn councillor, Ballie (like an Alderman) Ron Davie, the chairman of the planning hearing is quoted as saying "You can't break an omelette without breaking eggs. We will look at the whole thing objectively and weigh up what is best for Glasgow as a whole".

But how can they make this decision when already the bastards have arrogantly declined to visit the affected areas. The only good thing is there will be room for a few councillors under the motorway pilings very soon.

BASTARD BETH BASHED BY BIG BIRD - A BONE GETS BROKEN

Class War scientists in Scotland have to apologise for the failure of our radio controlled grouse to get rid of Elizabeth "the Queen" Windsor well known crime boss and alleged head of notorious firm "The Government" (pictured right with notorious enforcer Margaret "The Iron Scumbag" Thatcher, incriminated in countless attacks on the working class including the "crime of the century (or poll tax) and the theft of milk from innocent schoolchildren in the 1970's)



GANGLAND LEADERS

KAMIKAZE

However we are anxiously awaiting the delivery of the trained Kamikaze condors from our South American office. Though one of our editorial team was heard to say "It was a pity she was not out anvil shooting"

The rest of her evil brood are also expected to keep up their habits of falling off horses trying to top themselves with overdoses etc. and we can only say what a shame they are so inbred they cannot even do that right.

HELPING HAND

Though we are sure that if they visit any council estate or housing scheme they will find plenty of willing volunteers to help them.

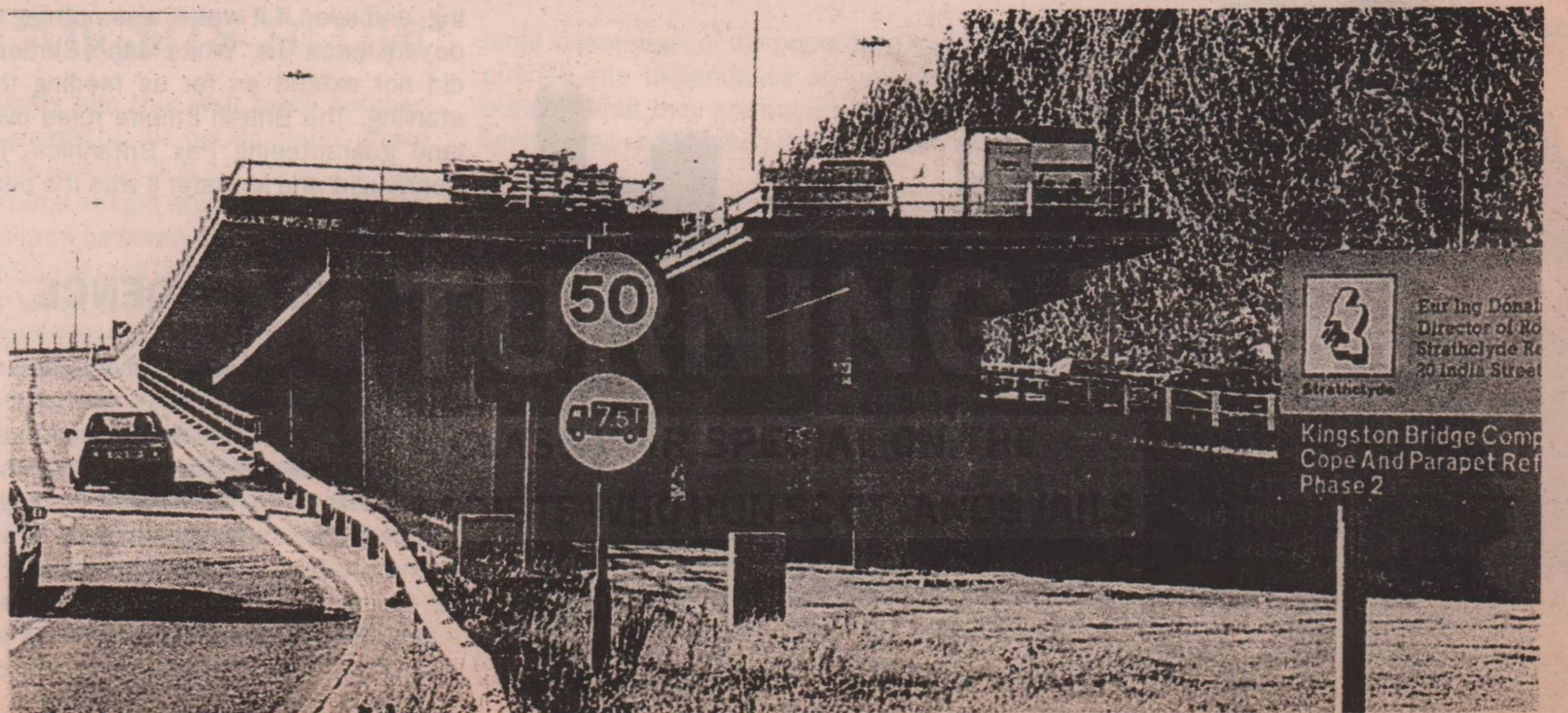
IT'S A CRACKER

We were well and truly saddened to hear about the tragic accident which befell Princess Diana's uncle, Bill Shand-Kydd.

The Class War Federation remains deeply saddened because like his pathetic niece this upper class twit couldn't even finish himself off properly and is still breathing.

The accident happened at a "country set" event in Northamptonshire when 'Bullet' Bill was thrown by his horse and broke his neck.

A close friend (and obviously no friend of ours) said: "Bill was an old fashioned playboy he partied, gambled and played hard". In fact everything except worked hard. It is only a pity that there was no one on hand to give him a helping hand on his way by giving the port soaked old piss-head a good shaking and well and truly crack his neck.



A BLACK EYE BONUS FOR BUMBLING BRIAN

A Teenager, Gary Doherty, who went to the door of Labour MP Brian Donahoe of Warrix Avenue, Irvine, Ayrshire, ended up giving him a well deserved black eye. Gary Doherty of Irvine went to Donahoe to get cash for repairs after the MP's son had allegedly kicked in a door.

EVASIVE

When the MP was evasive and arrogantly refused to discuss it, the young lad Doherty punched him full force in his slimy toad-like face. He said he whacked the wally inn self defence and who are we

to doubt him.

Doherty is now considering an appeal as there is no doubt that had he hit another teenager he would not have been heavily fined £750 but would have been given a lesser sentence. But as you can guess the law is more concerned with protecting the privileges of "quality people" and not with any attempt at justice.

Gary's father said "The fine was so heavy because of who Donahoe is, not because of the seriousness of the offence".

PORNO PORKER'S A PERVERT

Drunken copper Ian Gibson of Dundee offered to get a drugs charge dropped against Karen McNally of the Whitfield district of the city in return for sexual favours.

In a Scots court Karen stated that he had come back to her house after a drugs raid on there, made the offer and then rubbed her thigh and offered her money.

LYING

He was charged with assault, lying to get a search warrant, attempting to defeat the

ends of justice, breach of the peace and being involved in the supply of cannabis. We know this is all in a day's work for some of the boys in blue.

BEAST

Dundee Sheriff Court heard how police seized a small amount of cannabis when they raided Karen's flat but evil beast Gibson came back steaming four days later and sat beside her on the settee, saying they could "come to some arrangement" about her charges.

It is also said he claimed he could lie in court for his own ends.

PORNOGRAPHY

He went on to point to a picture in a pornographic magazine of a couple in a sex act and said "do you like doing that?" before trying to touch Karen.

Hopefully this perverted pig will be seeing the inside of a cell before too long and for a long time.

We hope those prisoners reading this issue will make a special welcome for the conniving corrupt bastard if he arrives on their wing.

WHO THE FUCKING HELL ARE YOU ?

Searchlight, the so called International magazine of the Anti-Fascist Movement, are becoming more and more wank ...

ENOUGH IS ENOUGH

For those lucky enough not to have anything to do with Searchlight before, they are the 'self proclaimed' combatants of Anti-Fascism who under their LEADER Gerry Gable have been investigating far-right groups for the past twenty-five years. Over these years they have been willing to work with many groups, Class War include, only to stab them in the back. They have recently criticised CLASS WAR publicly so much that enough is enough and we can no longer remain silent.

DON'T BELIEVE THE HYPE

Gerry Gable also has a nice little earner in the world of T.V. production. Anything about fascism that you see on telly will, surprise surprise, have probably come from Gerry and his cronies, who have set themselves up as the respectable face of Anti Fascism. This means that instead of informing and educating people about the fascist threat, it becomes media hype. Instead of combating fascists, he gives them a face of terror that doesn't exist. Programmes such as World in Action expose of far right group Combat 18 only helped to give them credence. Gable made them look like a bunch of vicious nutters on the verge of world domination when in fact they are nothing but sad wankers who could well be stamped on by the serious minded Anti Fascist movement within this country.

WHOSE SIDE ARE YOU ON?

Searchlight hold many cards when it comes to information gathering but have decided on numerous occasions not to inform anyone of fascist activities until after the event. Their refusal to work with groups like Anti Fascist Action must seriously call into doubt their seriousness at wanting to stop Fascism. For example Searchlight printed photographs of C18, the British National Party bootboys, happily strolling through Central London protecting a Loyalist procession in June of this year. This was an ideal opportunity for C18 to be stopped in their tracks. Instead, Searchlight took it upon themselves to take snapshots of them and complain about the inadequate policing of the march! Furthermore their excuse for not informing the Anti-Fascist Network was, "because of the danger of Serious Violence".

M.I.5 ?

With this in mind it can only be assumed that Searchlight have a hidden agenda. This agenda can be linked with the Security Service because as Gerry openly admits he gives evidence to the House of Commons committees on Fascism and aids the police in their 'attempts' to prevent an overthrow of an already fascist state. It is this co-operation that shows Searchlight's true colours, add this to the exposing of so called fascists within the Anti-Fascist movement and the claims that fascists are working within Class War. It all adds up to an organisation with too much influence and not enough facts.

...AND ANOTHER THING

At every opportunity Gable sees fit to slag off and lie about Class War. When talking to Time Out magazine last year he made claims that the poll tax riot was started by an alliance of Anarchists and fascists! He knows nothing about the truth and should not be trusted and treated in the same way as any other jumped up journalist who, under the guise of independent Anti fascists, put people at risk and talk enough shite to confuse the real issue. Printing names and addresses of Anti fascists calling them fascists is no way to run such a magazine and only shows how stupid and dangerous Searchlight really are. They have been given too much respect for too long. Searchlight is only good for looking at pictures of the working class enemy **AND WIPING YOUR ARSE WHEN YOU HAVE RUN OUT OF SHIT ROLL.**

A WHITE WANKER

According to John 'Gods on my side' Gummer, home ownership is "after all what people want". His White paper "Our future homes: Opportunity, choice and responsibility" was published in June and should appear as a bill in the Autumn. With a nice catchy title and the promise of 1.5 million new homeowners over the next ten years this has got fuck all to do with homelessness and loads to do with making lots of money.

So here's a quick guide to a bill that could screw your life up before you even knew they'd changed the law: Homeless families will lose the right to permanent rehousing. This has already been done by the law lords and means local authorities have no obligation to permanently rehouse homeless families. Seeing as there is very little emergency accommodation provided by councils or voluntary organisations, families could be stuck in temporary accommodation a lot longer than they need to be.

H.A.G

Housing association tenants will have the right to buy their houses with a voluntary purchase grant. You will be encouraged to buy with a Housing Association Grant (HAG)..you too can become a home owner. Sounds about right for the government that brought you such great ideas as buy your council house (so we don't have to build and look after them). Another so called money saving scheme which is in fact money making. Covering up for the mistakes they've made by taking services away from us.

Commercial developers can bid for HAG, changing the ethos of the public and voluntary housing sector from non profit making to make as much money as you can. Well fuck me, private business muscles in, buys all the houses and sells them for a profit - and they get a grant to do it! It's all so simple for the rich fuckers who make the money. Looks like they've forgotten that Housing associations do the job that the government won't do, house people. From teenagers to families to older folk, they all rely on the safety net of this sort of housing. Still if there's money to be made from it they'll do it.

They plan to make short term tenancy agreements easier for landlords. The shorter the agreement, the easier it is to get you out.

Mandatory home renovation grants will be replaced with a discretionary system. Basically it will be harder to get your house repaired, as if it wasn't hard enough already. Local Authorities will hand over control to private landlords. So less hassle for the government and more money for private industry.

So here's the plan. John Gummer takes the opportunity for housing away from people who need access to cheap housing. Gives you the Choice to buy a house from Housing Association and local authorities and leaves them without the house to use for other people once you've gone or sells it to a private landlord. And finally reduces the governments responsibility to house people leaving the voluntary sector, which is badly funded anyway and has been doing there job for them for years.

More homeowners = more money. The rich get richer and the poor live in hostels and shelters until the government decide to stop funding them and hand them over to private business. John Gummer and his mates better realise that a decent home is "after all what people want" and not profit. Living in shitty houses isn't a laugh. The way to help people is to build decent housing. **Housing problems go further than cardboard boxes and 1.5 million new homes would be better than 1.5 million new home owners.**



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

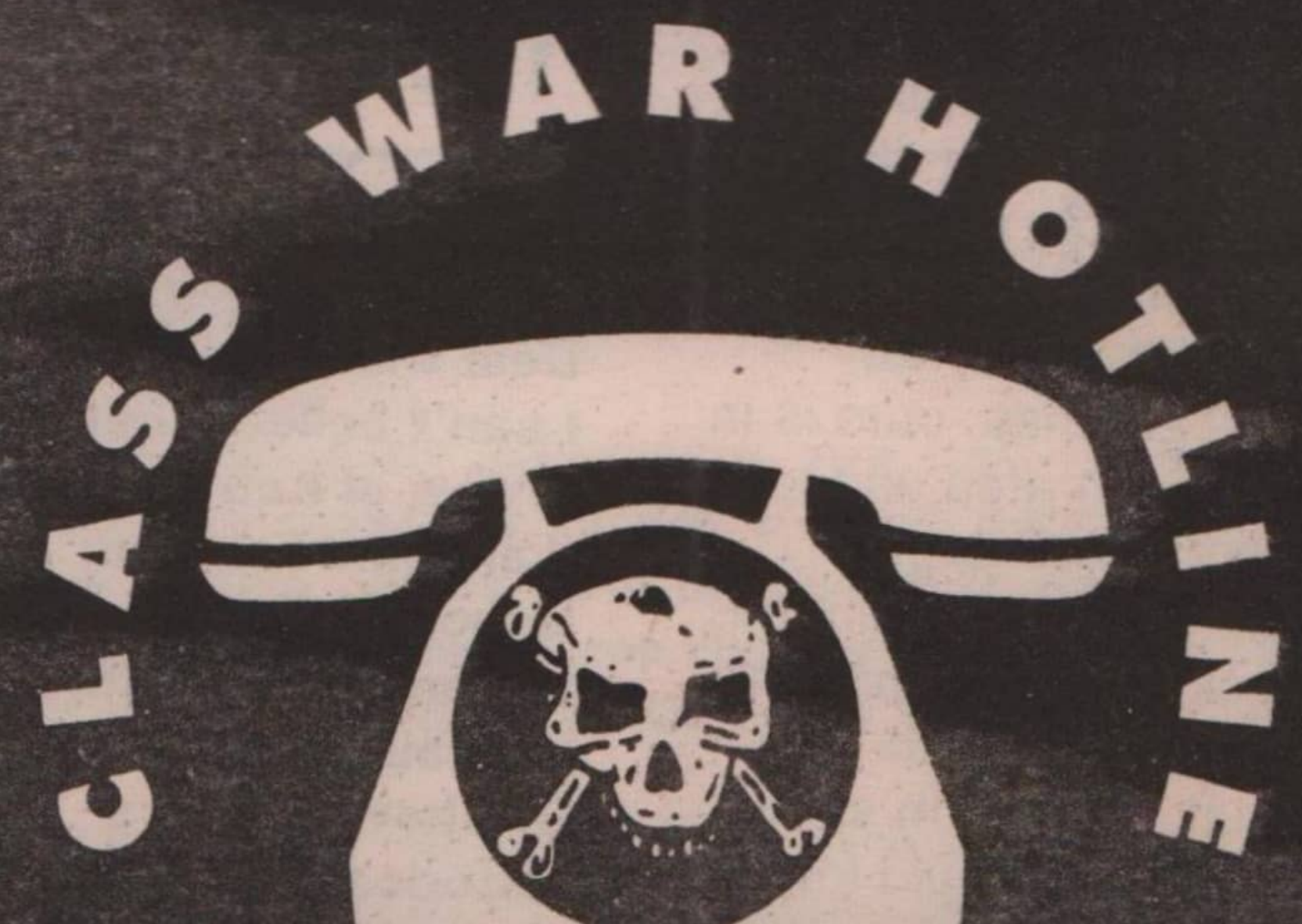
The aim of the CLASS WAR FEDERATION is not to lead, but to increase the militancy of working class people's attempts to solve their problems—through propaganda, active participation and debate as equals.

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



THE GREEN SLIME SPEAKS!

Dear Class War

Your glowing profile of me (Green Slime, July/August edition) was made all the more amusing by the circumstances in which I and my fellow parasites read it. I was handed the article claiming "you're more likely to find the Pope at Ibrox than see Monbiot on a barricade" while standing on the barricade at the bottom of Islington High Street during a Reclaim the Streets action. The news about the Pope and his clandestine affiliations is disturbing.

While I'm at it, could you ask your paymasters to stop bugging my house?

Best Wishes

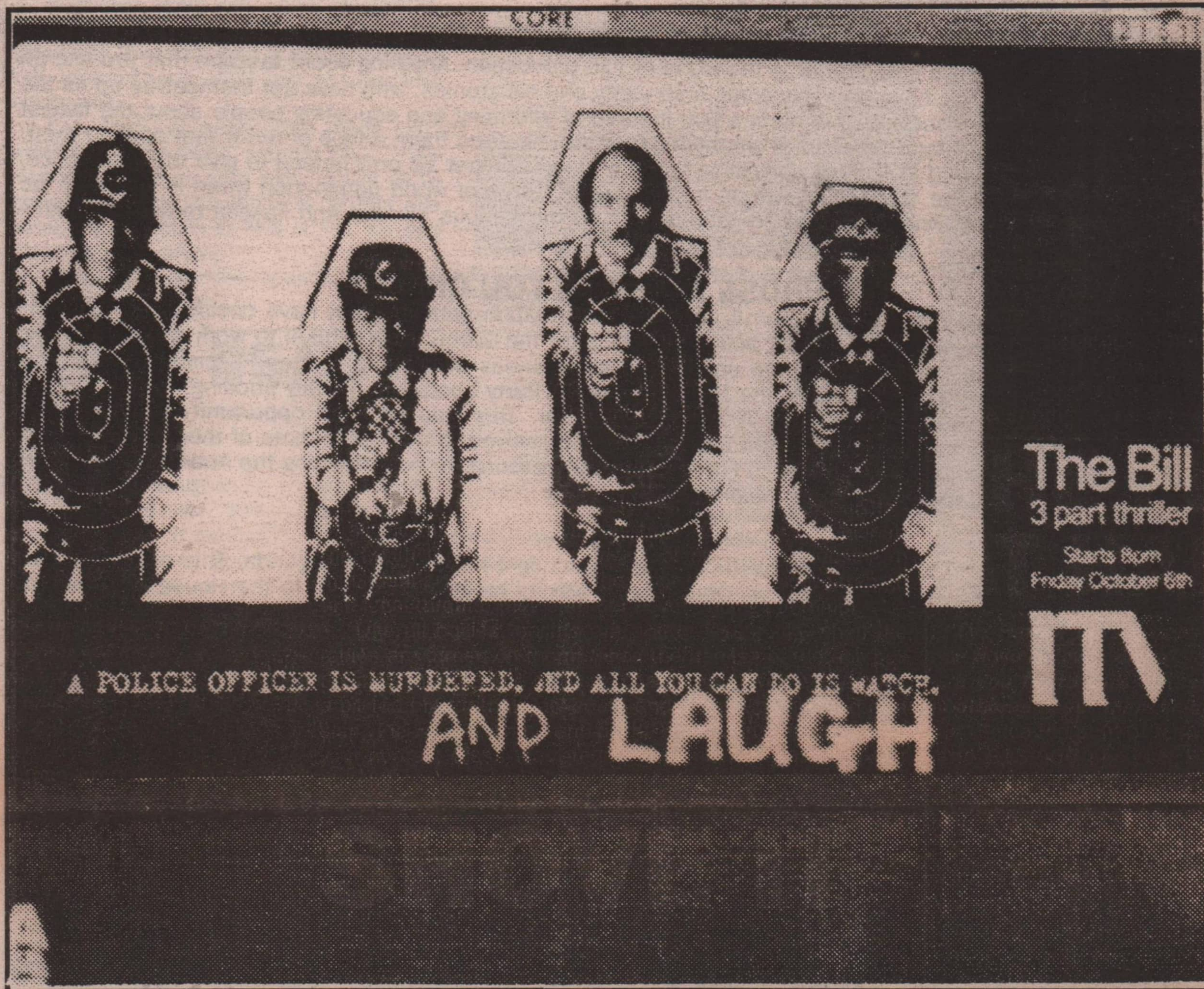
George Monbiot

CW Reply:

It's all very well rich bastards like you espousing your angst ridden rhetoric but when you agree with your Tory daddy's ideology and seek to subvert a worthy movement to your leadership, then we would suggest you return to your ancestral chateau and let the French working class finish what they started (see issue 68).

As for your manning the barricades, the pigs didn't seem too threatened on the day. And behind the barricades, not even one window got put through - the rule of property must be upheld, don't you agree George? Come the big one we're willing to put bets on where you will actually be standing - on the other side of it with the rest of your stinking, moralistic class. And rather than repeating the pathetic crap of 'Searchlight', 'Evening Standard' etc perhaps daddy could have a quiet word with his mates about your phone tap and maybe you could do something about ours?

GRAFFITI COMPETITION



TIME TO TAKE A RUNNING JUMP...

Dear Class War,

I am just writing to thank you for all the excellent coverage that you have done in the past on football and I would like to tell you about my own team, Fulham.

It has to be said that supporting them isn't easy - our current manager, Ian Branfoot is best remembered for making Southampton the most boring team in the top division. And that's some achievement considering that he had Matt Le Tissier at his disposal! And our chairman is old anti-christ himself, Jimmy Hill.

Despite all these handicaps, we are looking for every support possible from fans of other clubs in our bid to stay at Craven Cottage and in the football league. Unusually for football grounds, ours is in quite a posh area and local residents have been earbashing the Fulham MP to block a redevelopment that is necessary to save the club. Whilst I'm sure that everyone would love to see the end of Jimmy Hill's involvement in British football, losing Fulham would be a great blow to London football.

It is perhaps a sign of the way money has

distorted football that it's only 20 years ago that Fulham appeared in the Cup Final - now the club is at death's door. And if the middle classes of Hammersmith and Fulham don't like having a football club on their doorsteps, then all I can suggest is that the River Thames is only a short stroll from the ground - and how about taking their wanker Tory MP Matthew Carrington with them...

Keep up the good work
Tony, London

CHECK YOUR FACTS!

Dear Class War I can't believe that in the review of Ken Loach's film 'Land and Freedom' in issue 69, you associate the anarchists with the Liberals, nationalists and Bolsheviks. It is a historical fact that several Spanish anarchist organisations had a vital role in not only pushing the Spanish popular revolution forward but also fighting against Franco's fascist army.

Laugh - we nearly died. As they say, "the only good one is a dead one". This little porker of a classic comes from Birmingham. Keep them going - everyone that is printed gets a tenner. Send all entries to London Class War, PO Box 467, London E8 3QX.

Anarchist organisations such as the CNT (anarchist union), FAI (anarchist federation) and also anarchist militias such as 'Columna Durruti' (together with the Trotskyist POUM) unquestionably led the Spanish popular revolution of 1936-39. I agree with the writer of the review in that the Liberals, nationalists and Bolsheviks played a counter-revolutionary role in the Spanish civil war (there's nothing new in that) but please before making dangerously wrong and stupid statements such as the one at the end of your review, get some information about what the facts were in 1936 Spain.

Statements like yours are an insult to the thousands of Spanish anarchists who died fighting the fascists in the Spanish revolution. Maybe next time you do a review about a film you should watch it before writing about it.

Salud
Jordi, Spain

CW Reply

What we said in the review was "anyone who thinks that popular fronts of

anarchists, liberals and nationalists are the road to revolution will have to think again" - the criticism is of the idea and practice of being in a 'popular front'. The fact that the CNT eventually entered the government and became part of such a grouping is a mark of its earlier failures when power should have been seized. It's no good just running the factories, political power has to be seized from the ruling class and its hangers-on such as stalinists and social democrats.

SLAP A SCREW!

Awright mate At Glenochil Young Offenders Institution in 93 myself and another 39 young offenders ran amok and smash up C-Wing. It had been talked about all afternoon in C-Wing but never started till about 10 at night. We smashed through the walls with our beds, barricaded the doors and smashed up what little furniture we had. The windows and spy holes got it as well (it was on, a pity that we could not get the

window frames out).

It took the scumbags eight hours to get us all out of our cells that's with riot screws from Barlinnie, Saughton and maybe even Shotts as well). The wing was totally wrecked. For months they could only open the bottom flat, it caused a lot of trouble for Mr. Latio, the present governor. But that was the whole point!

So if you're reading this Mr. Latio, two's up ya Tory bastard. I would like to say "nice one lads" to all the warriors in C-Wing at that time. And to all the traitors in B-Wing and A-Wing who would not follow us in our demo, "yis are all grasses".

I love everything that you's have done and are doing

S
HMP Saughton

GETTING BETTER...

Hello Comrades, I'm writing to you to say issue 67 was the best one I've ever read. Congrats - the paper is getting better and better. The international news is really coming on, the article on

Rwanda was very good and offers fresh insight into the constant carnage the media churns out. If you want to write more about Mexico, as the situation there is very interesting, look at the latest 'Love and Rage' (Vol. 6, no. 2), they have a long in-depth article with updates and same critique of the Zapatistas.

It's a sad sign of this country that people are more likely to take to the streets en masse over veal exports than NHS cuts, unemployment, etc. It was very interesting to see your article on it, but please no more.

However I found the paragraph on Jill Phipps very disrespectful. From what I have read about her she felt as passionately about other issues as she did about animal rights. Her brother is right, it's not asking too much, it was never really started as a revolutionary uprising. It took off so quickly as it's the sort of sentimental issue that gets people up off their arses.

Makes you despair really doesn't it! Looking forward to hearing from you,
Mike, London

LOSING IT IN THE BACKYARD



Mexico City burns...whilst a cop does the decent thing

On 10 October U.S. president Clinton met Mexican president Zedillo to receive a \$700 million cheque—the first installment of the \$12.5 billion bail-out loan the U.S. was forced to put in to stop the collapse of the Mexican economic system.

Two days later the IMF and World Bank met to make changes to try and stop another Mexican crisis. The global money bosses bravely declared that the world economy was 'looking good'. All is well, all is well...

This isn't the way working class people in Mexico see it. The ruling class lurch from one crisis to another as decades of corruption and the last year's rash of top political assassinations threaten to choke the whole system. Unemployment continues to rise, while the real value of wages fall. Every day different protest demonstrations follow each other around Mexico City. Even the pigs are protesting!

Meanwhile the Zapatista uprising against the North American Free Trade



Agreement (NAFTA) and the political status quo remains unchallenged. North of Chiapas and the EZLN, the state of Guerrero is in a state of near rebellion against its hated governor.

As if to heighten the already fevered atmosphere, two major earthquakes have hit southern Mexico and everyone nervously awaits

the next, the 'big one'—but will it be geological or political?

The situation in Mexico is more than just a collection of crises. There's something else, something intangible, but unmistakable. A feeling of excitement and expectation is spreading. As the 'brave talk' of the U.S., IMF and World Bank becomes

increasingly desperate the attention of all the workers and peasants in Latin America is drawn to Mexico.

The rising of the Mayan peasants of the EZLN (the Zapatistas) has set off a chain reaction of events that has caught the United States and the world capitalist system by the balls. Watch this space...



SHUT DOWN IN SEATTLE

The world's largest airline producer, Boeing, is shut down tight after its 32,000 workers came out on a U.S.-wide strike.

Workers are responding to bosses taking the piss with a 'final offer', which attacks pay and conditions. Since 1990 Boeing has ripped off 6.6 billion bucks of clear profit despite a downturn in orders, and the bosses, including top dog Frank Shrontz, have awarded themselves multi-million dollar bonuses.

The strike is solid and angry. One Boeing worker said: "They thought we'd buy it, they told us it was 'fair and equitable'. We told them to fuck off."

ANTI-U.S. FURY IN OKINAWA

The people of Okinawa are up in arms against the continuing presence of U.S. forces on their island.

Okinawa, originally an independent culture taken over by Japan in the late 19th century, was the only part of the 'Japanese Islands' invaded at the end of World War II. During the war a third of Okinawa's population was wiped out, and ever since the U.S. military has occupied a fifth of the island's usable land.

The source of the outrage is the attitude of U.S. forces: since 1972 U.S. personnel have committed 4,716 recorded offences against the people, including a dozen murders and numerous rapes. The horrific crime of 4 September, when 3 marines kidnapped and raped an 11-year old, sparked open revolt.

Furious demonstrations of Okinawans demanding justice and the closing of U.S. bases have taken place. The Japanese government don't want the bases in Japan proper and are refusing to do anything.

Now over 3,000 small farmers/landowners, on whose land the bases are built, are refusing to sign the annual lease renewal.

The U.S. could ask the Japanese government to 'compulsory purchase' the land. This could, hopefully, turn the Okinawan anger into a two-way struggle against U.S. and Japanese imperial occupation.

FEAR AND LOATHING IN THE USA



O.J.: \$9 billion defence

In America, the Mother of all Courtroom Dramas has ended with O.J. Simpson walking.

From the very beginning of the trial O.J.'s \$9 million defence had a simple aim: turn the trial into a trial of Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD). \$9 million is a lot of dosh in anybody's money, and money talks, especially in the Land of the Free. So the 'dream team' succeeded in putting the LAPD in the dock for being a posse of racist gangsters who couldn't be trusted

with the TV remote control, never mind blood samples. The result was inevitable: LAPD, guilty as fuck.

This media spectacle has spelled out to everyone in the world who didn't already know, that the U.S. is a society saturated by the politics of racism. In the last days of the trial O.J.'s leading lawyer claimed to have been threatened, and appeared with minders from the radical black separatist religious movement, the Nation of Islam.

Nation of Islam boss Louis Farrakhan has tried to capitalise on the racist divide exposed by the trial by calling a mass demonstration of black men in Washington DC.

The demo was a huge success for Farrakhan with of hundreds of thousands of black men coming to demonstrate against the shitty conditions working class U.S. black people have to struggle to live in.

Despite women being excluded from Farrakhan's demo, a few women did speak on the platform. One was Betty Shabazz, the widow of Malcolm X. Earlier this year she was sued by Farrakhan for saying he had set up Malcolm's assassination. But, under pressure Shabazz caved in and publicly made up with Farrakhan for the good of 'the movement'.

Farrakhan is a cynical bastard—while Malcolm was alive he hated him and attacked him. Malcolm X and Farrakhan differed over separatism and many other things. But in the end their main difference was over capitalism itself.

Malcolm believed that black people in the U.S. and the rest of the world could not escape the result of the historic robbery of African peoples by European capitalists without breaking completely out of the capitalist system. In complete contrast, Farrakhan is only radical in

condemning the racism of the American white ruling class—the easiest target since the barn door.

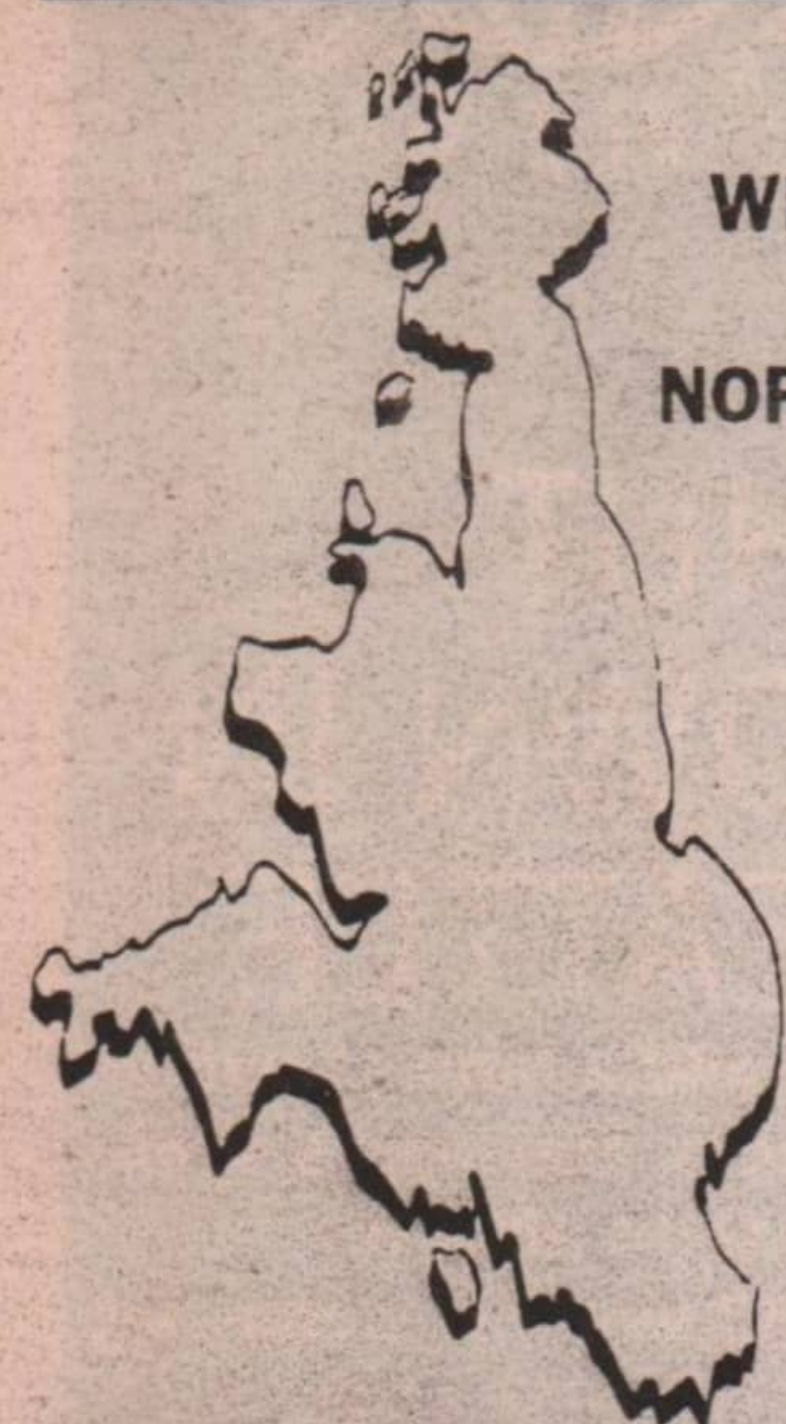
Behind the rhetoric, Farrakhan believes in black small business, 'self-dependence' and the work ethic, and cutting welfare and public spending. Behind the revivalist preaching, the heavy-looking minders and the bow ties, Farrakhan is a black Thatcherite. Born a christian, he now claims to follow the path of Islam. But in the end he worships only one god—Mammon, the holy dollar.



Farrakhan shows how he ended his argument with Malcolm X

CLASS WAR contacts

IT'S GOOD TO TALK!



EAST SCOTLAND: PO Box 1021, Edinburgh EH8 9PW
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 NORTH EAST: Leeds CW, PO Box HH57 Leeds LS8 5XG
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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.

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REVIEWS

CINEMA

POCAHONTAS (U)

The publicity around this film claims it is based on a true story. In real life she sure didn't look like this picture—she was bald and only 12 years old. That's showbiz for ya!

Walt Disney's Pocahontas is a stereotype in every way—our heroine is stunningly beautiful, athletic and sensuous, with a large heaving bosom and tiny waistline. And like every good Native American she's in touch with nature, 'listens to the winds.'

Everything's going nicely until a shipload of men arrive from England. Greedy rich git Governor Ratcliffe is in charge & demands that the crew go about a general rape of his new founded land & find him a lot of gold. Meanwhile the man in charge of the ship—John Smith, meets Pocahontas, their hearts entwine and he sees the light—who's the real savage in all this? It all works out in the end, no blood is shed but hearts are broken.

None of this is true. She did marry John Smith, but she loved someone else, she left her tribe & came to London to become

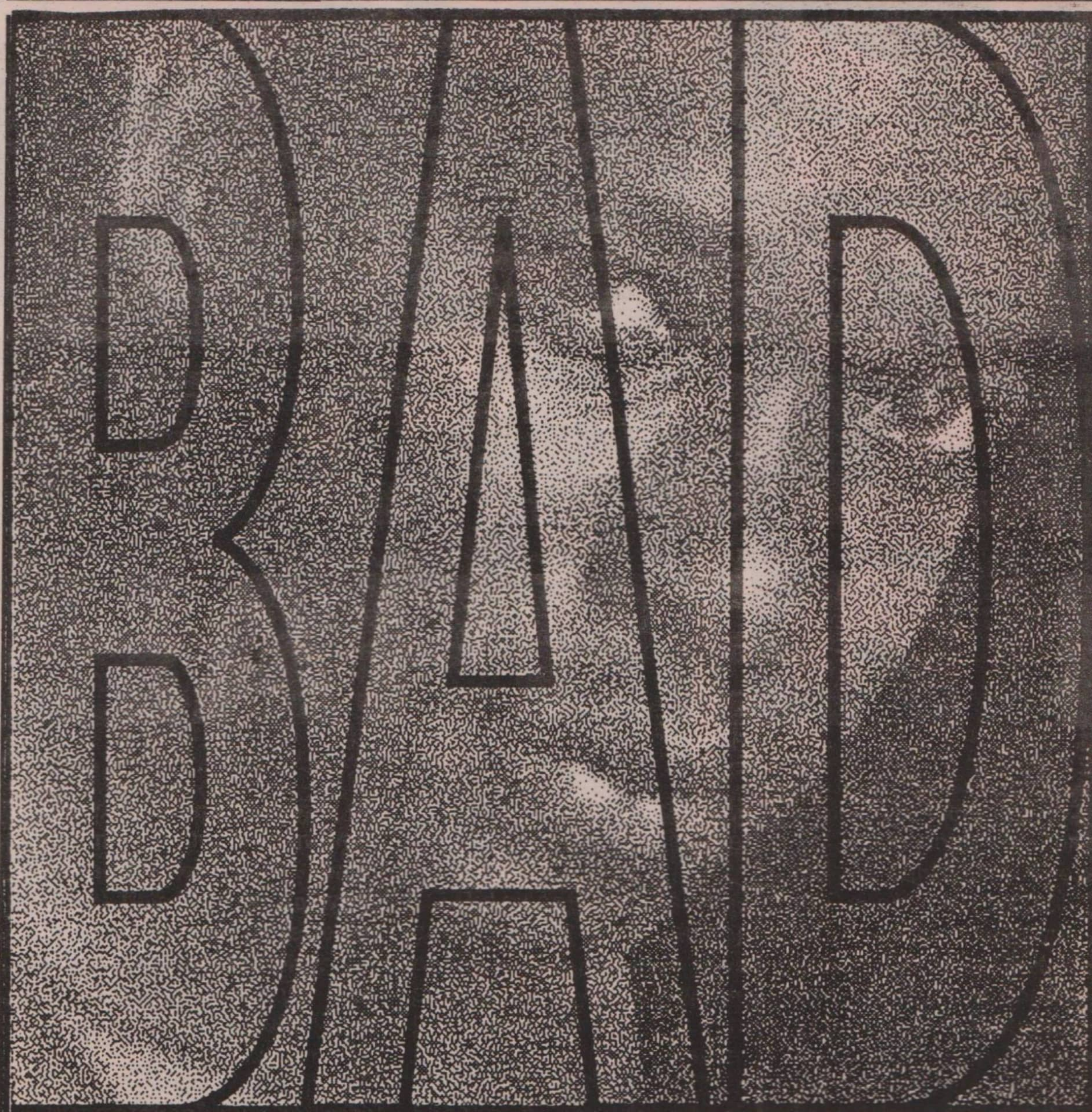


a devout christian and changed her name to Rebecca. She died at the age of 20 from Tuberculosis and is buried at Graves End.

If you've got kids or you like romantic weepies then this is for you. What sticks in my throat is that Imperialism didn't end when John Smith left America, but continues in cultural imperialism and the likes of this film. Instead of consuming whole continents, capitalism now consumes whole cultures, crafts & trinkets, music, philosophy. Today it's the Native Americans who are flavour of the month—not that we've got anything against humans being just one part of the picture—we're all connected & all that (at this point Pocahontas begins to sing) BUT we can learn about different ways of living without making millions of dollars out of it.

Whilst its striking to watch a feature length cartoon about a woman (I don't think Walt himself would have done it..) this film stinks of Capitalism at its worst, selling back oppression as a product to anyone who will buy it. Now to avoid the socks, pencils, lunch boxes, dolls, bags, pyjamas.....

IN PRINT



Not quite Michael Jackson

BAD, THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF JAMES CARR

(£5.95, Pelagian Press)

"When I was nine years old I burned down my school."

From young rebel to petty criminal to prison rebel, these were the early years of Jimmy Carr. Once in prison, he teamed up with George Jackson and helped form the notorious Wolf pack. This gang entered the vicious race war then raging in California's jails. They fought their way to the top and then worked to stop that war and direct it towards the prison system itself. When he was eventually released from prison Carr joined the Black Panthers as a hero, but soon discovered they weren't radical enough for him. Just after he finished writing this book he was shot dead in mysterious circumstances.

This is one of many stories from a similar era of someone radicalised by their prison experiences. What make this book stand out is its lack of moralism or victim mentality. This makes for a brutal and

honest read. Carr doesn't shy away from describing his own part in protection rackets, gang rape and fucking other prisoners over. But Carr survived all this brutality and managed to come to a clear understanding of his situation and the world around him. His criticism of the Black Panthers is all the more valid because of his history of prison struggle.

People radicalised in prison often make the mistake of seeing the prison system as the clearest example of how the world works generally. Carr makes clear that it isn't. In fact, prison is capitalism's most important sub-culture, a semi-feudal bureaucracy with its own economy and culture. This tends to lead prison radicals to see their fight as the most important one; the result's often a military, vanguard-type solution. For Jimmy Carr this applied to the Panthers too. 'Guerrilla ideology reduces all revolutionary questions to quantitative problems of military force.' This is ultimately suicidal and futile, both inside prison and out.

This book isn't a heavy theoretical text. It's a true life story about living and fighting, and that's the highest recommendation there is.

BILLY & HOLLY

Albert French

(£5.99 each, Minerva)

These are two novels from the Deep South of America.

Holly is the story of a young working class woman in 1944 North Carolina, whose life transforms when she meets a soldier on his return from the war. This is where the aggro starts—she's white and he's black, and the community just can't accept it...

Meanwhile, Billy is a 10-year-old black

boy charged with the murder of a white girl in 1937 Mississippi. The story is told in the middle of the picking fields, town streets, the heat, the dust and the poverty of the place during the depression.

Both books tell of the evil face of racism in America. The writer creates a whole picture of the times and places without you noticing it—in the end you feel the heat, the smells, the love, the colours and the fear—hard hitting stuff. The books are unsentimental and at the same time heartbreaking. No heroes and happy endings and all the better for it.

TELEVISION

POLICE, CAMERA, ACTION!

(Thursdays, 9.30pm, ITV)

There's a lot of closed circuit television footage stuff on the telly at the minute. Entertainment value seems to be the main justification for security guards being able to zoom their cameras into your bedroom...

This programme uses car chase film to interest people in a police public relations exercise. The presenter's from the 1930s, and tries to portray the cops as a something between Dixon-of-Dock-Green and Space 1999.

One bit of footage they'll never show though: a pig jumps out of his car to hit someone, leaves the handbrake off, and gets run over by the car, which was filming the whole thing. Cars and humans: Unite and Fight!

Which clashes with...



Jake's Progress: who gives a fuck?

BACKUP

(Thursdays, 9.30pm, BBC1)

Yet another cop drama this time set in Brum. Not quite as simplistic as *The Bill*—not just cops and robbers, goodles and baddies, but there's still barrel-full of bad apples, shock horror, bent coppers!

This programme is aptly named; it really does get your back up—bad acting,

bad writing, a pathetic attempt to get us sympathising with these people.

We really don't give a fuck about PC Barrett and his like. Let's concentrate on giving the filth some real back-up... against the wall.

And the biggest disappointment yet (and another clash)...

JAKE'S PROGRESS

(Thursdays, 10.00pm, Channel 4)

A short series about middle class families in nice houses having a hard time and totally missing the fact that their young son (Jake) is getting screwed up by life.

The disappointment is that *Jake's Progress* has been written by working class hero Alan Bleasdale, who penned the brilliant *Boys from the Black Stuff*, *The Monocled Mutineer* and *GBH*. If Bleasdale's success is showing through his writing we suggest he stop right now!

DYNAMITE

Louis Adamic

(£4.50, Rebel Press)

This is a book about the beginnings of anarchist ideas in America during the 1800s. As the title suggests, it's an explosive little number, full of people fighting back against bosses and state.

There's the Molly Maguires, a group of Irish Workers who specialised in murdering bosses (unfortunately most of

them ended up being arrested & executed).

Then there were the great riots of 1877, sparked off by the police & federal troops who took it upon themselves to attack & kill strikers in response they got more than they bargained for.

Dynamite is an excellent introduction to working class fightback. **Totally inspiring & highly recommended!**



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

BLADES 1 BOSS 0

Despite a disastrous start to the season on the pitch, there was some good news for Sheffield United fans in September. The hated chairman Reg Brearley has finally packed his bags and flogged off his shares. And it has to be said that this was not before time!

His move was achieved by a vigorous campaign by the Blades Independent Fans Association who mobilised popular support in the form of large demonstrations against this lowlife wretch.

SHOOT HIM

Sheffield United class warriors also did their bit - just before he left, Brearley was sent a letter advising him to leave which was also sent to the local media. We don't know if this friendly invitation finally 'persuaded' Brearley to do a runner...but every little bit helps, particularly when it includes threats to life and limb (that's certain to get them more worried than humble requests!)

Lets keep up the pressure on the new chairman. We're sure that he can't be worse but that's no guarantee he'll be any better.

THAT'S THE WAY TO DO IT!



Sport is at its most enjoyable when it is based on active participation of all - and here's a good example of that from the streets of Piraeus in Greece where a shipyard worker is attempting to break the plank-chucking-at-cop record. We don't know if he succeeded but we bet that he had a good time trying!

THE REF'S A..

Talk about jumped-up stupid bastards - this one is a classic from Oxfordshire. An under-13 footie match ended in rather a strange fashion after the referee, a Mr. Gerry "Little Dictator" Cullen sent off one of the goalkeepers in disputed circumstances.

When the match finally ended, the 12 year old players started singing that family favourite, "the referee's a wanker". Mr. Cullen unfortunately failed to see the funny side and promptly gave them all the red card - and then also showed it to some of the parents! Talk about a powermad dickhead.

MECHANICS WANTED

If you go on holiday to Devon or Cornwall and see a copper walking along who looks like that totally boring racing driver Nigel Mansell (remember, he was the sports personality of the year - a bit of a contradiction on both counts!), don't look twice it probably is him!

SAD BASTARD

In October this totally sad bastard signed up to be one of those particularly low forms of life, a special constable. This of course confirms that Mansell, like all other coppers, is a complete wanker who gets his kicks dressing up in

uniform and bullying little kids, since in my experience I've never seen a special picking on anyone over the age of ten. If you do see him then remember, once you have got over the shock, that most specials are totally crap as coppers, go on, smack the fucker, you know it makes sense.

It has also come to our attention that Mansell is intending to take up Formula One racing again next year, so if there are any Class War mechanics out there who know how to cut a brake line, we would love to hear from you - it would be a great service for all of us!

STANDING BY BOXING

Following the tragic death of James Murray after a British bantamweight title fight in Glasgow on October 13, Class War is again going to stand by our support for the sport that we put in issue no. 64.

Whilst we have been attacked by other groups for this, we reiterate that boxing is one way that we, the working class, can gain a degree of self respect and get a way to defend ourselves against the bosses system.

Whilst it is obvious that there are ways that the sport could be made safer (eg better medical backup, thorough pre-fight checks),

we think that most of the fault for the problems lies squarely at the feet of the promoters who make a fortune out of the game.

Whilst offering our commiseration to all of James Murray's family and friends, we would like to leave the last word against all those who want to ban boxing to James's father. On the Tuesday after his sons death Kenneth Murray backed boxing as a sport saying, "people who call for bans don't know about boxing. You have to have been a boxer to know about boxing" - something we are sure that the do-gooders haven't.



"ANOTHER DEAD POLITICIAN... WE KNOW A SONG ABOUT THAT, DON'T WE TIMMY?"

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