

MAY 1994

CLASS

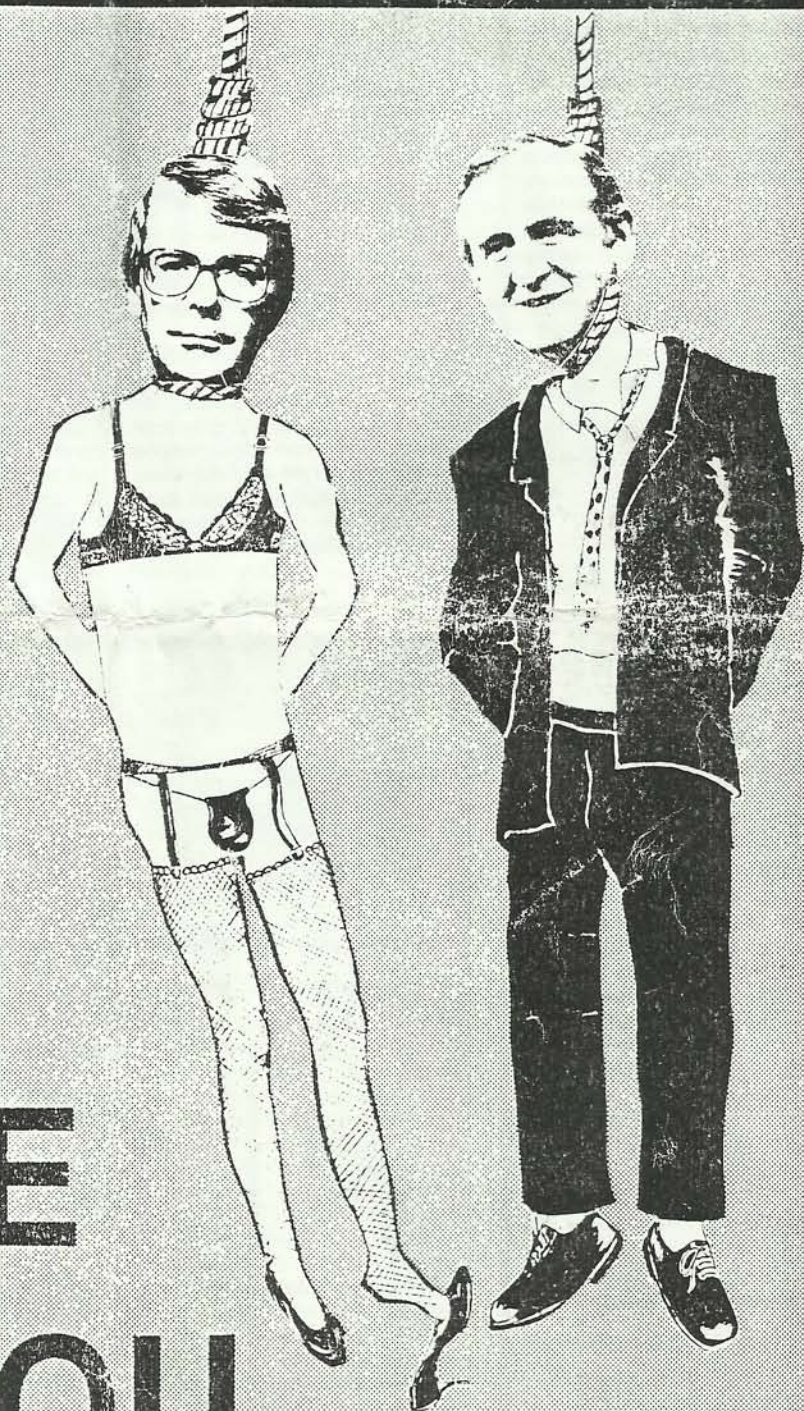


WAR

CLASS UNITY • CLASS PRIDE

30p

HAVE
WE
GOT
NOOSE
FOR YOU



Inside: NEWS, VIEWS, POLITICS & MUCH MORE

CLASS WAR

IF YOU WANT PEACE PREPARE FOR WAR

Recently the media has been full of talk about peace and ceasefires.

However one group has not given the slightest indication that they are willing to end the vicious campaign which they have been waging for years, and which their very existence depends upon.

The group in question is of course the Irish rich.

The existence of this group of parasites depends upon their ability to con, cheat and rob all they possibly can from the workers of this country.

These bastards long ago declared war on the working class.

Unemployment, low wages, homelessness, crime, discrimination and repression are the effects of this war.

Well if it's a war they want they it's a war they'll get!

Why should they be the only ones capable of going on the attack? After all, we are the ones who create all the wealth of this society. It's about time we set about taking it back. It's time we took the war to them.

Why should we remain hidden away on our estates and ghettos, in our low paid and dead end jobs, while they swan around flaunting their ill gotten gains in our faces?

These gangsters know all too well that a state of war exists between our class and theirs. It is about time that we started fighting as hard for our class as they do for theirs.

We have no demands to make of them. There are no reforms they can make to get rid of us. Our message to them is clear:

**YOU STARTED THIS WAR
WE WILL FINISH IT**

COMING SOON . . .
This is the first issue of **Class War** and it is also the last in this format. From now on we hope to produce a regular full tabloid paper.

HOUSING BOSSES ATTEMPT TO EVICT GALWAY FAMILY

A single mother of three has been told to leave her home by the Galway Housing Corporation, after they recently served her with a court eviction order.

Patricia Laffey, along with her children aged six, three and one, moved into their home when her sister left it to live in England in early October, 1993. Before that Patricia was living at her parents house, in crowded and cramped conditions, while, being on the Corporation's massive housing list for over five years.

The Housing Corporation got the eviction order after blaming Patricia and her children of squatting on Corporation property. However Patricia has always insisted on paying her rent to them on a weekly basis and on top of that she would even fork out to pay her sisters rent arrears. Obviously Patricia's calls of desperation, to have a roof over her and her kids heads, fell on deaf ears

among the scum who control the Housing Corporation.

Given the biased record of the Corporation's attitude towards single parents, all they had to offer Patricia and her kids was shelter at a home for 'battered wives', even though she doesn't fall into that category. Nevertheless this accommodation is only temporary and would basically result in leaving Patricia and her family

homeless.

Patricia Laffey is standing her ground against these thugs who plan to evict her. Attacks such as this one against Patricia should be met with an even stronger show of force. Our communities must get organised to make sure that Patricia and people in the same situation can never be singled out and forced onto the streets.



● PATRICIA LAFFEY'S FAMILY - FACING EVICTION



Give us back our unions

The recent Irish Congress of Trade Unions (ICTU) conference in Derry showed just what a sham the Irish trade union movement has become.

Any attempt to discuss politics was ruled out of order, as it always is at ICTU events. This is in keeping with the constitution of the ICTU which says that the organisation must remain non-political. For fuck sake - what is trade unionism if not political.

The idea that the trade unions are not political organisations is a lie. The Northern Ireland Committee (NIC) of the ICTU is one of the most favoured institutions of the Northern State. The NIC nominates people to numerous government bodies, in addition to receiving huge amounts of money from the British government.

ICTU officials are often seen accompanying British ministers abroad, to promote the North to potential investors, no doubt selling the fact that the six counties has one of the lowest wage levels in the West - 25% lower than those in the US.

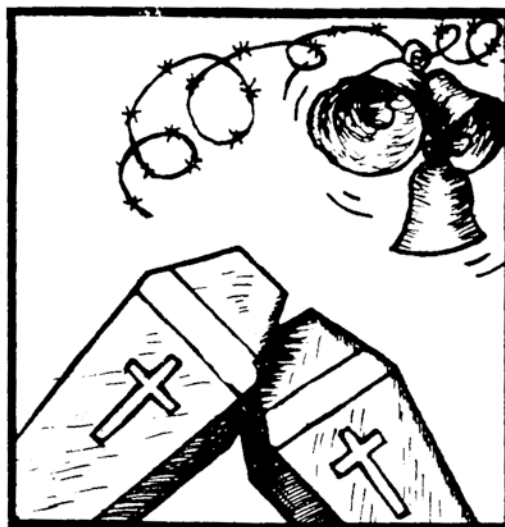
How the hell can they call this non-political. The very fact that the ICTU has such a relationship with a state, a sizeable minority of the population of which want to see destroyed, means that they are taking sides.

Unfortunately for those of us within the trade union movement who want to see a fighting alternative to the sectarianism of 'Northern Ireland', it's the wrong side.

BETTER DEAD THAN WED

For Ireland's rich and famous the social event of the summer will undoubtedly be the marriage of Gavin O'Reilly, the spawn of Tony O'Reilly, one of the richest men in the country. On the 25th June he is marrying the actress Alison Doody, who readers will probably remember from the last Indiana Jones film, where she played a treacherous nazi. Kind of appropriate really.

Due to the postal disruption which Dublin has been experiencing recently Class War's invitation to the wedding has not arrived. Oh well, maybe we'll just go along anyhow and give these two parasites *our best wishes* - we're sure nobody will object.



If, like us, your invitation has been *lost in the post*, don't worry about it - you know where to go. O'Reilly's private church is on his Castlemartin estate.

See you all there.

MICHAEL SMURFIT

BASTARD BOSS OF THE MONTH



The privatisation programme cost thousands of workers their jobs. Privatisation, the selling of publicly owned companies to make a quick buck, is also responsible for the huge increase in telephone costs for us. Remember the Telecom scandal? In addition to his huge salary it appears that Smurfit was also sorting out some pocket money, to the tune of millions, for him and his cronies. Smurfit resigned his post, but he faced no penalty or jail sentence and

IRISH CORPORATE SHARK, Michael Smurfit is often presented as a role model for the rest of us. The likes of Smurfit and Ben Dunne are presented as "captains of industry" and have the full backing of government and the national media.

What nobody is mentioning is that Smurfit's success and his billion pound empire was built by ripping off working class people. There is nothing he and his fellow "captains" won't do to increase their profits.

When his pals in Fianna Fail presented him with the lucrative post as the Telecom Eireann boss, Smurfit showed just what he was capable of.

his reputation is intact. Contrast this with the stigma which the media associates with working class scams, such as ripping of the dole or going a nixer for a few extra bob. The message being sent out is clear - corporate crime pays.

Overseas Smurfit's operations are more revealing. A seven month long strike at a Smurfit mill in Oregon, USA turned violent when the company locked out five hundred workers and brought in scab labour. One union chiefs comments sum up the anger felt;

"This is the most unbelievable company we've ever dealt with as a union, and we've dealt with the giants."

Most controversial of all is the alleged carry on in South America. In Columbia Smurfit hoods intimidated

communities of Paez indians off their ancestral lands in order to plant vast pine plantations for paper pulp. The bully boy tactics back fired when the indians resisted. Events took a sinister twist when a leading Paez activist 'disappeared'. Very convenient, but probably just a coincidence?

It's reasonable to assume that little distractions such as workers safety and environmental safeguards don't concern Smurfit too much. A gas explosion at a Columbian paper mill killed three and hospitalised seventy five workers. In places where there is environmental monitoring, such as the USA, Smurfit has been fined several times for poisoning streams and other niceties. So that's what it takes to become the pride of Ireland - a willingness to smash workers rights, destroy the planet and steal land from native people. Having risen to power and wealth on the back of the Irish working class, Mr Smurfit is now resident in Monaco, so he doesn't even have to pay tax here.

Though he did show his appreciation when he 'presented' a gift to the Irish people - that ugly "Flooze in the Jacuzzi" eyesore on O'Connell Street. We look forward to the day when another monument can adorn O'Connell Street. The lamp post is already there - who's got the rope?

Making room for the General

Have you heard the one about the actress and the Bishop? Of course you have - everybody has, so here's the one about the General and the singer. 'Stormin' Norman Schwarzkopf, who lead the Allied forces during the Gulf War has fallen in love with the voice of the Irish singer Susan McCann.

Susan had a tight schedule in Florida recently, but fitted in an extra performance when the General asked her nicely to play at a little gig he had organised. Schwarzkopf's high social 'charity' bash cost a mere \$5,000 a plate, with the money raised going to help paralysis sufferers.

What a caring soul is our General - who would have guessed. In 1991 the forces under his command set out to "bomb Iraq into the stone age". They did a pretty thorough job. Civilians and deserting Iraqi troops were blitzed as they tried to flee the devastation. We'll probably never know how many non-combatants - men, women and children were killed. We can not even guess how many paralysis sufferers were created when the 90,000 tonnes of explosives were dropped on the country.

Our advice to Susan McCann is to keep out of the Middle East - you're probably not that popular there. Then again that would be just like home, wouldn't it?

Cork fit ups continue

Not content with fitting up Don O'Leary in 1987 for IRA membership, the Special Branch in Cork are trying to scare people away from any sort of political activity outside of the status quo parties. In 1993 Paul Walsh, an active member of Sinn Fein, was charged with IRA membership. The evidence for this was a chief superintendents say so and the possession of incriminating evidence such as a republican calendar and song book. On Wednesday 13th April, Judge Morris adjourned sentencing him for a year, so that he could "adjust his way of life". In other words, stay out of politics or we'll have you!

Three other people in Cork were fined for the "subversive" activity of putting up abortion information posters. It seems the Special Branch think that they can scare us into apathy. Well these idiots have another thing coming if they think we're just going to sit back and take the crap they sling at us - we can't, we have too much to lose and everything to gain.

CLASS WAR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY DEPT.

THE INCREDIBLE SHRINKING HAT STRAP™

A team of scientists in Class War's top secret laboratory has come up with the latest in our innovative anti-cop devices - the Incredible Shrinking Hat Strap™. It looks and feels like a normal chin strap, but in response to a shrill blast from an ordinary whistle it suddenly tightens, with predictable but entirely satisfactory results. Remember kids, always keep your whistles handy, but stand well back as it does get messy.

EXCLUSIVE





ANGRY AND PROUD

the politics of

CLASS WAR



Class War is a working class revolutionary organisation. As working class people we know that this society is just not good enough for us. It is structured in such a way that it cannot function in our interests. We want this to change - we believe that a better world can be created. However, society does work in the interests of a small minority of people- the ruling class. Before we can have the better world we deserve, this parasite class and all that they stand for will have to be destroyed. This means revolution.

Society is divided into two main classes; the working class, who produce all the wealth of the world, and the ruling class, who benefit from that wealth. The power and privileged position of the ruling class depends on the subjugation of the working class. Put simply - this privileged class can only continue to exist through our continued exploitation. The bosses have always realised this and have been ruthless in their pursuit of profits, always at our expense.

Way back in 1795, Patrick Colquhoun (who is now recognised as the 'inventor of the modern police system') had this to say.

"Poverty is the most necessary and indispensable ingredient of society... it is the lot of man... it is the source of all wealth, since without poverty there would be no labour and without labour there would be no riches, no comfort and no benefit to those possessed of wealth."

We hate to agree with this bastard (even if he is dead over 200 years), but let's be honest, he really does just about say it all.

HOW DO THEY DO IT?

The ruling class represents a tiny minority (approx. 5%). In Ireland and throughout the world the majority of

people are working class. Not only do we vastly outnumber them, but it's our labour that produces the wealth of society. So how is it that they own and control it all, and more importantly, why do we let them?

The ruling class enforce their rule through naked oppression; the police, the army etc., when necessary. However, they much prefer to do so through propaganda and through control of every aspect of our lives. Their propaganda machine consists of the media, the education system, the church, so called entertainment and popular culture.

They need us to think that there can be no alternative to this society and we must never believe that we have any power to change it. A working class that realises it's own strength is their biggest fear. They understand one essential point of this class based society - they need us, we don't need them. If we, as a class, realised this and acted accordingly, then they know that they'd have reached the final chapter of their history.

They have to convince us that we are not a separate class with distinct interests of our own, in conflict with theirs. A constant feature of their propaganda is the denial of 'class'. Simultaneously they make various efforts to confuse and muddle the existing class relations. We are told that, "this is a classless society", "there's no such thing as class", that "we are all middle class now" and a wide variety of other such fairy tales. They try to convince us that with a lot of effort and just a little bit of luck anyone can make it. Many people go through life believing that success is just around the corner. Maybe it is - but would someone please tell us where the fuck that particular corner is and just how far away it is?

DIVIDE AND RULE

They know that the reality of class division is too strong for all of us to swallow their crap, so it's also essential for them to stop us working together

within our class. The main tactic they use to do this, divide and rule, is as old as oppression itself. It is, so to speak, the ultimate weapon in the hands of the bosses. They create and encourage divisions amongst us; male/female, black white, Catholic/Protestant, Gay/ 'straight' and soon. The ideology behind these divisions is totally false, but many of our class face real discrimination as a result.

They try to convince us that they are naturally superior, that some people are born leaders or have some god given right to rule us, and that this is the proper order of things. They create the myth that we need them and their institutions. For example, we're expected to believe that the police protect us from crime, when in fact their true role is to defend the bosses and contain any threat to their rule (as is blatantly clear in the North).

The so called democratic process gives the illusion that we have some control over our lives. This is a con job. The institutions of state and the entire political structure are totally subservient to the needs of capitalism, with the real power and decision making resting with those who own and control the wealth..

IT'S A WAR

We have already stated that the rich fully recognise the nature of capitalist society - they know that it is us and them. We totally agree - IT'S WAR - A war between the haves and the have not, the rich and the poor, those who create the wealth of society and the parasites who live off it - A CLASS WAR. No word other than war adequately describes the violence committed against our class in their quest for profits. It is no exaggeration to say that the responsibility for all the worlds problems lies on their doorstep, from famine in Africa, widespread ecological ruin, the wars raging across the world, to the violence of our everyday lives, crime, poverty, discrimination and unemployment.

Now that you've read this far you'll understand why we hate capitalism and the rich so much. You probably do too. At this stage you're probably asking, "So what are we going to do about it?"

First of all, let's get one thing clear - we make no ridiculous claim to be the 'leadership' of the working class, nor will we ever. We are not just another political party or group that is seeking to win power for itself. We do not see ourselves as 'political intellectuals', who can guide the masses to victory. When it comes down to it, we, as Class War, are just a bunch of individuals who have come together to do something about the society we are forced to live in. We want to help build and be part of an independent revolutionary movement, within the Irish working class, under the control of no one but the class itself. This movement will be inspired by, and will build upon, the traditions of our class - unity, solidarity and resistance.

As long as this society exists there will always be those among our class who realise what needs to be done and will organise themselves to spread their ideas.

So what exactly is this better world we are talking about. The first and most important thing to realise is that it will be completely different than what we have now. We believe that society can be structured so as to serve the interests

what about russia?

Those who argue against socialism often point to Russia as an example of how our ideas could never work. What existed in Russia was nothing like the kind of world that we want. It is completely wrong to describe Russia as communist or socialist. It was nothing other than yet another capitalist country. The defining factor of capitalism is that production is geared towards the accumulation of profit in order to compete with rival capitalists. In Russian the centralised authority conformed with this in order to compete with the western powers. This is known as "state capitalism", as opposed to "free market capitalism".

The 1917 revolution was a genuine attempt by the Russian working class to break the shackles of capitalism. We can learn valuable lessons from their experiences and subsequent events. One of the most important of these must be that no revolution can go forward on the basis of one party seizing power and administering that power on our behalf. The experience of the Russian working class shows us that a workers revolution cannot succeed in any one country while world capitalism survives. Revolution has to be international.

When the workers of the Eastern Bloc successfully smashed state capitalism we were among the first to celebrate. However we have no illusions that the "free market", which they have now, is any better. They, like us, have a long way to go.

of the vast majority of people. A society where work and production will not be subject to the chaos of capitalist profit making, but are planned by and in the interests of everyone. All decisions must be made by those who will be directly affected by them. Nobody will be granted any privilege over anyone else. People will not be divided on the basis of colour, sex or anything else.

When the motivating factors of profit and competition are removed, we can deal with the ecological destruction and the squandering of the earth's resources which are the legacy of capitalism. This can only happen in a society based on co-operation and mutual consent, a truly equal and democratic society, where no individual or group leads, and where the world's more than sufficient wealth is fairly distributed. In the past different people have described this type of society in a variety of ways; Communism, Socialism, Anarchism. We just call it common sense.

TIME TO CHOOSE

Many people reading this may now be saying that this all sounds fine but in real life it just can't work. To these people we just want to point out that for generations of working class people, all over the world, capitalism has not worked. The German revolutionary, Rosa Luxemburg, once said that the choice facing humanity was one between "revolution or destitution". With the increasing problems of environmental destruction, war and economic crisis throughout the world, many people are beginning to believe that it's about time to make that decision. You know which path we have chosen.

Our enemies are ruthless and brutal in pursuit of their class interests. If we are serious about winning we must be as ruthless in our intentions and as clear headed and organised in our actions. We don't intend to lose!

It is essential that workers realise their strength as a class and that they alone possess the power to get rid of this crap once and for all. We must fight all attacks on our class and defend every gain won from our enemy, but never lose sight of our final aim - to consign the rich parasites and their poisonous system to the dustbin of history. In our struggle those who side with the enemy (scabs, cops, prison warders, etc.) are scum. They are traitors to their class and deserve to be treated as traitors in any war!

Class War, as an organisation, will participate as equals in the struggle of the working class, constantly arguing among our class for the need to build strong organised resistance to the bosses system. We will fight along side all those who are willing to take up the fight of the working class. We reject the politics of those groups and organisations, who claim to fight on behalf of the workers, but who in reality have no genuine faith in the ability or power of our class. Real change in Ireland will come about when the working class, North and South, realise our power and use it in our interests. We are part of that class and proud of it.

HALL OF FAME

The Irish working class has a proud and inspiring history of fighting back. Time and time again we've struck out at those who would have us stay in our place. Let's take a look at our Hall of Fame.

Early in our history we had the struggles against rack renting landlords. This was followed by bitterly fought out trade union disputes at the beginning of the century.

1913 saw twenty thousand Dublin workers fighting the bosses of that city in the Lock Out, which led to the formation of the Irish Citizen Army, which had as its aim the overthrow of capitalism. The Irish Citizen Army was Europe's first workers militia of the twentieth century and took part in the 1916 Rising against the worlds most powerful imperialist power.

In 1919 the workers of Limerick seized control of that town and declared it a soviet, under their direct control. This was not just a one off occurrence. Between the years 1917 and 1923 (during the War of Independence and the Civil War), land and factories were taken over and run by labourers and workers all over the country.

When news of the Russian revolution reached Ireland ten thousand workers took to the streets of Dublin to celebrate.

In Belfast in 1932 workers united to combat the grinding poverty created by the world depression. This was not the first nor last time that unity has been forged across the sectarian divide, when workers found their common cause against capitalism.

Let's not forget the international solidarity shown from 1936 to 1939, when Irish and Spanish workers fought side by side against the rise of fascism in Spain.

the myth of the UNDERCLASS

The bosses propagandists are nothing if not inventive. They are always on the look out for new ways to divide us, and for new notions that can help complicate a straight forward analysis of conflicting class interests.

The newly developed concept of "underclass" fits the bill perfectly. This "class" is supposedly made up of those who don't and won't fit in - the homeless, "criminals", the long term unemployed ("scroungers"). In effect, we're supposed to believe that those who suffer the worst excesses of capitalism, the poorest and most deprived and alienated of our class, are

inherently different from the rest of us and besides it's their own fault anyhow. We are encouraged to despise them and thank our lucky stars we're not like them. If some of us do end up "like them" it's only through our own failings. So society is divided, between the decent folk and those who don't want to fit in. This is all bollocks. There is no underclass.

The consequences of this concept being widely accepted within our class would be disastrous. Those labelled "underclass" would become increasingly alienated, the rest of the class would grow more distant from them and resentment and hostility would be mutual. The fear of slipping into the "underclass" would greatly encourage people not to rock the boat and to accept the status quo, no matter how unhappy they are about it. In a nutshell, self centred attitudes and strife within our class would increase and hostility towards the real enemy would be curbed. Just what the bosses' doctor ordered.

CLASS WAR



Some people just don't want to work

WATER RATES • SERVICE CHARGES

WE'RE NOT PAYING



As we all know councillors and politicians have never been renowned for an abundance of common sense, but this time they have lost all grip on reality. This year will see them try to introduce both water and service charges throughout Dublin.

Not only do we have to suffer run down estates, little or no amenities, polluted water, and crap housing, but to add insult to injury we're going to

have to pay more for it. The Fingal and Dublin South councils are both going to slap a £85-£70 charge on working class families for using water. While a service charge of roughly the same amount is looming over the heads of the residents in the corporation districts. The minister for the environment, Michael 'Sleaze Bag' Smith and council managers are vowing to bring Dublin into line with the rest of the country.

To the ruling elite and their political puppets our class is only selectively useful. We're allowed to produce their profits with our labour, but when it comes to essentials such as housing and water we must be self sustaining for fear we might effect their huge profits. We have to pay for their existence and for ours. Pay from what? We're already pushed to the wall with income tax on wages (and benefits soon), mortgages, rent, insurance, education expenses and much more.

Councillors are quick to point out how they are running out of money. OK then, stop going on pointless junket trips around the world to see how other parasites waste money. Ever wonder how much of our money is wasted because of their back scratching scams. We all know that councils are mismanaged and run by idiots, that's why they have no money.

FINGAL

Fingal was one of the new councils that was set up at the start of the year. It includes the working class areas of Mullhuddart, Blanchardstown and

Swords. Families in these areas will have to pay water rates of £85 per year. The councillors, particularly Sean Ryan (Labour) gave hollow promises to residents that they would not concede to Minister Smith's pressure to include rates in their estimates. With labour being the spineless traitors that they are, it comes as no surprise that Sean Ryan was the one who led the U-turn, fearing that the council might be disbanded and a commissioner put in its place. Feeling

is running high in these areas and a campaign of non-payment looks more than likely. Working class people have enough to contend with without more bills. We're sure that if we showed them just how angry we are over this issue then Sean Ryan and his cronies would get

the message. He could probably expect to be thrown, bound and gagged, in the Tolka. That would be the only water that Class War would rate highly, although we would recommend a bucket of cement just to be sure.

DUBLIN SOUTH

Dublin South may sound like the plush suburbs of Dalkey and Killiney, but it's not. This new district includes the staunchly working class areas of Clondalkin, Neilstown, Tallaght, Palmerstown and Lucan. These areas already suffer enough from unemployment and all that goes with it, they don't need another kick in the teeth from councillors. It goes without saying that any attempt to rob £70 of these people will be a dismal failure. Areas in Dublin South have a good history of community solidarity and this will make non-payment more consistent. If the government ever does build the Tallaght hospital then what better way to open it than to throw the councillors through the doors of casualty head first.

SERVICE CHARGE

The city manager, Frank Feely, is proposing to charge all households in Dublin for the services provided by the Corporation. A quick look at these services shows just how our money will be wasted. Ballymun is a prime example, it has its own rent system separate from the rest of the corporation estates. This is because heating is meant to be provided by the council and paid for through the rent. Last year bureaucratic burkes in the

corpo had the heat set too high, resulting in tenants having to leave windows open as the heat was unbearable. When people asked why they couldn't control the heat individually they were told it was because they would have it on all the time.

The stupidity didn't stop there - it got worse. This year the heating is on too low and too little. The corporation have had the nerve to put the rent up, claiming that it is to pay for the extra heat that they are now providing - a total lie. When tenants questioned them on the lack of heating they were accused of leaving windows open and wasting heat. But the Ballymun saga doesn't even end there. After many years of fighting for better conditions in the tower blocks and in the estates, the corpo decided to act. They are doing up one tower block and are trying to make the residents pay for it. Faceless bureaucrats are making the working class people of Thomas McDonagh tower pay for improving the dereliction and neglect they have suffered for years, by doubling their rent. Many single parents have already gone into rent arrears because of this. This is the sort of service they would have us pay more for.

We have no option but non-payment. Our class should fight any service charges bitterly. As for the councillors, they'll begin to feel the real heat if they dare to canvass our estates during the next election.

The working class people of Waterford, and how they treated new charges, are an example worth following. Despite numerous attempts to make them pay they have successfully fought off new charges every time, through militant community action. Despite mass non-payment by residents the Waterford council decided to cut off water supplies. But this proved unworkable when whole estates came out in solidarity and physically prevented workmen from carrying out their task. The gardai could do nothing to carry out the councils dirty work. Even when water supplies were cut off, it wasn't long before a plumber would come and reconnect it. The end result was that every time round the council lost.

Water rates and service charges have always proved to be a sore point with our class and we're sure that our proud history of militant opposition to them will not be left behind, but looked upon for inspiration, as the battle heats up.

PIGS IN THE MIDDLE

WE HAVE already stated that there are two main classes, however there is also a third - the middle class. Their role in society is exactly as the name suggests, they act as a buffer between us and the ruling class.

They have been granted a privileged position in society in return for which they ensure everything runs smoothly for the boss class and that we toe the line. Essentially they act as middle management for capitalism. As the middleman they can have no distinct class interest as such - they only exist in relation to the other two classes. Their only aim can be to co-operate and hope that the ruling class allows them to maintain (or slightly improve) their position over us. This means that they usually ally themselves with the bosses.

In revolutionary terms the middle class is pretty irrelevant - some will side with us, some against us, it won't make much difference. We have full faith in our class and see no necessity in attracting or pleasing the middle class.

Many middle class people feel guilty about their privileges and rebel (often becoming 'right on' dogooders). This lot usually retain their arrogant and patronising attitudes, and often see themselves as intellectually superior. Basically they try to live out their middle class roles in guilt free, alternative ways. They can fuck off right now - they are unnecessary and unwelcome.

Some will genuinely side with us. They can only do this as our equals. Many of our class will distrust them (and rightly so, as the 'authority figures' we come up against in everyday life are mostly middle not ruling class) - they'll have to accept this. The bottom line is that they usually have the option to comfortably drop out of the struggle - we don't - we were born into it.



A MAJOR BANKER

Maurice Doyle, the Governor of the Central Bank, is to resign. Last November he claimed that the unemployed were scroungers and that the problems of the economy were caused by those receiving social welfare who were not genuinely available for work. Well Maurice Class War would just like to wish you a short retirement and an early grave.

COPWATCH

WATCHING THEM
WATCHING US

"THE BAD INSPECTOR"

Last year the Irish censor banned "The Bad Lieutenant", a film about a particularly disgusting cop. In one scene he exposes himself and abuses two young women. Maybe this was too close to the truth. Recently, an RUC inspector, Raymond Lindsay, was jailed for sixteen offences against schoolgirls aged between eleven and seventeen. He sat in his car, half naked, reading porn mags before calling girls over and exposing himself to them. He also assaulted six girls he picked up coming home from school. The most revealing aspect of the whole case was that Lindsay was a "rising star" in the force, with high promotion potential. He'd become an inspector within six years of joining.

What is it they say about scum rising to the top?

BIRD IN THE HAND

Apparently, a while back some cops were getting all hot and bothered about their pensions.

The Garda Representatives Association had plans to increase pensions and in return the cops would forgo a pay increase they

were due. It's not often that Class War offers a helping hand to the police force, but for what it's worth, here's our opinion. Go for the immediate cash - you can never guarantee being around to get your pension.

NECKS PLEASE

We would like to issue an apology on behalf of our Science and Technology Department. Due to an overwhelming demand for our new product, the Incredible Shrinking Hat Strap™ (see page 3), we have been unable to provide all our supporters with their supplies. This has led to some very unpleasant incidents, such as the one detailed in the Evening Press when a class conscious child of the night just couldn't wait any longer.

The result of such incidents has been sheer terror in the Irish police force. Maire Geoghegan Quinn has issued advice to all Gardai to carry supplies of holy water and garlic. We particularly want to apologise to the family of Garda Van Helsing who, in a moment of blind panic, tried to pass himself off as a six foot crucifix and hasn't moved in over three weeks. Sorry folks.

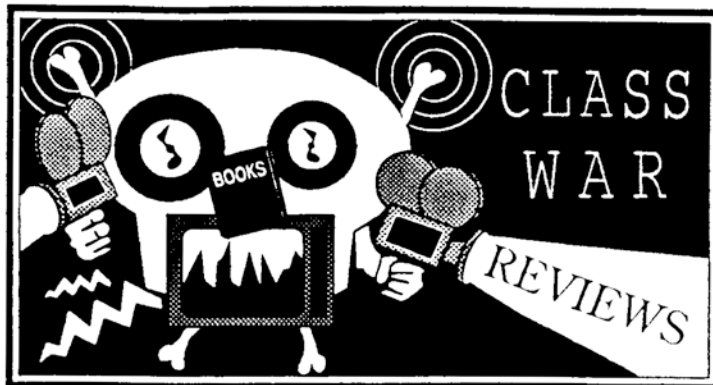
Vampire woman kills policeman

A young woman in the far eastern Russian city of Vladivostok stabbed a policeman to death and then drank the blood pouring from his wounds as stunned partygoers looked on in horror, a Russian news agency reported today.

The woman stabbed the policeman and then "began greedily sucking the blood from his wounds", with witnesses describing her as "highly excited", the RIA news agency reported.

It gave no further details.

EVENING PRESS - 11/4/94



Young Americans

AFTER YEARS of big screen appearances, Harvey Keitel is finally getting the recognition he deserves. He's been turning out some great performances recently - the critically acclaimed "The Piano", the cult hit "Reservoir Dogs" and the still banned "Bad Lieutenant". A fine selection by anyones standards. So what the hell is he doing in this? Not very much actually and nothing John Wayne, Clint Eastwood and countless others haven't done before. The basic plot is a real yawn - a cop operating in unfamiliar territory. You've seen it all before, but probably never as bad as this. Harvey is an American drug enforcement agent on assignment to London and the whole film consists of ridiculous coincidences, a boring romantic subplot and every cliché in the (bad script writing) book.

A cliché by cliché account would fill this page, but just look at the bad guys as an example: the finest collection of Cockney villain since The Sweeney, some pissed up Irish men, some black crackheads, some bent coppers and off course the international criminal mastermind who brings them all together. (They should apply for a group rate at Stereotypes Anonymous).

In the middle of all this lot, good lieutenant Harvey has sod all to do. He wasted his time making this film - you'll waste yours if you watch it. At least he picked up a pay check at the end of it all, nobody will get paid for watching it. Even if they did it still wouldn't be worth it.

Did we mention that Harvey's father was a cop who got killed on the job? Or that he's separated from his wife, she's got a new boyfriend and he misses the kids? Yes it really is that bad!!!

Masterminds of the Right

Emily O'Reilly - Attic Press - £7.99

If anyone has any illusions about the various "Pro-life", "Pro-family" groups and thinks that they are well intentioned but misguided, then this book is an essential read. It shows how group such as SPUC, Family Solidarity etc. originated and how they operate. Let's just say they're not nice people. Particular attention is given to one individual, John O'Reilly, and it is clearly illustrated how he and his cronies have made their right wing agenda a central part of Irish political life, and created a totally false sense of 'public opinion'.

Fascinatingly eye opening are the details on the Knights of Columbanus. This is basically Ireland's own Catholic secret service. Their immediate aim is to infiltrate and dominate institutions and groups throughout the country, to further their ultimate goal of the creation and maintenance of a Catholic state for a Catholic people. As John O'Reilly (a member of the Knights) puts it; "The order has members in many places and walks of life and in positions of influence", and he further observes, "An organisation or a group is never more powerful than when it influences events without itself being regarded as the initiator."

Despite the prominent involvement of many individuals who do not quite fit the bill, the Irish far right is not just a collection of sad arsed individuals and loonies. There is indeed method in their madness. They have a clear and precise agenda. This book clearly and concisely shows all this and details their activities through the 70's, 80's and right up to the X-case (1992).

On its initial release this slim volume was vastly over priced at £8, but it's now widely available in bargain book shops at half price or less. A very informative read, so look out for it.

Mine • Nervous • Scars

FLEXIHEAD - Single - Voice Box Pox Records

Flexihead are a three man outfit that look likely to go places or at least deserve too. They have a powerful sound with a strong base and some very original hardcore riffs. They've just released their debut three track, seven inch - "Mine", "Nervous", "Scars", which has attracted a good bit of attention. We reckon that unlike many Irish hardcore bands, with the

exception of FUAL and Cúnas, that they're here to stay. Too many hard core bands have been getting into the rut of churning out at worst old covers and at best new songs to the same over played styles. Flexihead have definitely avoided this and developed a style that is uniquely theirs. The band also do a great live set - so check 'em out. (See ad. on back page)

ONE ROAD TO PEACE

The initial optimism about the chances of an end to violence in the North, which was so prevalent in the media following the announcement of the Downing Street Declaration, now seems to have faded. But does this document really offer a chance of peace? After all there was very little in it that the British had not said before.

The Declaration cannot bring peace to the six counties because it does not tackle the real cause of the violence - the existence of the sectarian state of 'Northern Ireland'.

The violence, which the working class of the North have to live with, is a direct result of the partition of Ireland and the setting up of an artificial state whose founding principles were discrimination and bigotry. By

remaining in the North Britain is adding to the causes of violence. The Brits must go and the border must be removed.

We do not say this because we are nationalists or republicans. Class War believes that it is in the interests of the entire working class of this country to fight to build a united socialist Ireland.

The type of 'United Ireland' which republicans and nationalists are looking for has very little to offer workers, north or south. Their aim is simply to remove the British and end partition, while leaving in place the economic system which ultimately is the cause of the problem in the first place. This offers little to either the workers of the south or the protestant section of the working class in the

north. Unless there is something on offer which can deliver a better standard of living, better health care, good quality housing, etc. there is little chance of winning the majority of our class, and that must include the Protestants of the North, over to a position of fighting to end partition.

PAN-NATIONALISM

Recently the Republican Movement has been talking quite a bit about the need for all the nationalist forces to act with more unity of purpose. They are looking for the SDLP, the Irish Government and themselves to form a pan-nationalist agreement which could then put pressure on Britain. This type of cross class unity can lead nowhere.

Danny Morrison of Sinn Fein once stated that, "The south holds the key". If this is true then how the hell can you build any support among the workers of the south when you are pandering to the very bosses who are responsible for the unemployment, low wages and poverty that those very workers are suffering.

The reason that Sinn Fein do not

look to the working class of the south is because when they say that the south holds the key, they really mean that the southern government holds the key.

Sinn Fein are nationalists. They do not look to the working class to solve the problem of partition because they do not believe in the power of the working class - they do not believe in working class unity.

If there is ever to be a movement which can seriously break down the sectarianism of the north, it can only be a movement which is based on class. It is when workers look at where their class interests are, that they can be won away from sectarianism and towards building an Ireland that is worth fighting for.

BRITISH 'JUSTICE' STRIKES AGAIN

In 1985 Patrick McLaughlin, like so many unemployed men from Derry, went to England to find work so that he could support his wife and four children. Instead of finding a job, he is now serving a life sentence for a crime he did not commit.

He was convicted of "conspiring to cause an explosion". The bomb, found outside the Chelsea Army Barracks in London, was claimed by the INLA, who have repeatedly said that Patrick McLaughlin was not one of their members. The case against Patrick is that he was supposedly in a flat in Harlesden, London when a bomb was being made. Patrick was at a party in the flat the night before the explosives were found. The police claimed that a finger print on a bin-liner which was wrapped around the bag was Patrick's. In court they were unable to identify where this print was, as they said the identification sticker had been 'lost'.

A magazine with his name on it was found in a van which the cops say was used to transport the bomb. Patrick says that he had left the magazine and another at the Harlesden flat. It is extremely unlikely that a member of the INLA on a bombing mission would sign his name on a magazine and then leave it where cops could find it.

Police claim that he had an incriminating conversation with an officer in which he said he was aware of a bomb being made in the flat on the night of the party. Patrick denies this. The officer concerned admitted that he had not asked Patrick who had been making the bomb and another

officer said that he had never heard Patrick say anything about a bomb being made.

Five people at that flat were arrested by police and later released. Patrick was arrested some weeks later by the RUC in Derry. He had returned home when his money ran out, after being unable to find work.

Key witness who could have given evidence in support of Patrick's innocence did not appear at the trial. Police claimed that two of them were in Ireland and one in America, but that they were unwilling to give evidence because of alleged threats.

The judge at the trial spent ten hours emphasising the prosecution case but only two on the defence. He also allowed the introduction of unrelated 'evidence' which was likely to have a detrimental effect of Patrick's defence. For example he allowed the prosecution to state that Patrick had "TRA" roughly tattooed on his arm - as "proof" that he was an IRA supporter.

Patrick McLaughlin is yet another innocent working class Irish person who has become the victim of a British system of justice which is rotten to the core. He deserves all our support.

If you want to know more about the campaign to free Patrick McLaughlin, contact:

THE FRIENDS OF PATRICK McLAUGHLIN,
1 West End Park, Derry, BT48 9JF
Tel: 0504 268846
Fax: 0504 266453

Flexihead

MINE NERVOUS SCARS

Seven inch available from:
VoiceBoxPox Records
c/o The Attice
1 Georges Quay
Dublin 2, Eire

£2.50 post paid Fire & UK
£4 post paid Europe
\$7 post paid US & Canada

Choosing Abortion

"A practical guide to abortion and other options for Irish women with problem pregnancies"

Despite last years referendum results the government has made no attempt to make abortion information available, so this pamphlet, compiled by the Women's Information Network (WIN) is an essential release. As the name suggests, this is basically a guide for any pregnant women and details all the options available, from keeping the child (including social welfare and employment rights), through adoption and abortion. Also included is information on contraception and sexually transmitted diseases. The most useful section is four pages of addresses and phone numbers, detailing every organisation in Ireland which provides information and support for women. Every home should have a copy.

Available free from:
Women's Information Network
Abortion Information
Dublin 679 4700
Tues/Wed/Thurs 7-9 pm
Sat 3-5 pm

DO THE RIOT THING

If you want to join Class War send this form to:
CLASS WAR, P.O. BOX 4297, DUBLIN 1

name _____

address _____

telephone _____

JOIN CLASS WAR



Title: Class War, No. 1

Organisation: Class War

Date: 1994

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