I don't work
I won't work
(just like the rest of my f**king family)
AS SADDAM launched murderous attacks on Kurdish and Shi’ite rebels, George Bush was living it up sailing and golfing in Florida.

That about sums up the West’s hypocritical attitude to Saddam’s regime.

When Saddam butchered his way to the top of the Ba’th party, the US quietly backed him. CIA support was increased as Saddam launched a terror campaign against the Iraqi communists and other opposition groups.

Again he was backed when he took on the arch enemies of the West - those mad mujaheneen from Iran.

When the war was not going so well, Saddam stopped up the internal repression on the Kurds and others, gassing thousands to death. Once again the West had a sudden dose of short-sightedness.

They knew he had his eyes on expansion, but they didn’t figure on him taking over the whole of Kuwait, looting stock and millions of oil barrels.

Love and behold, this did the trick - they saw the light and recognised Saddam for the murdering tyrant he is. Even if he was of their making.

Western muscle

They didn’t bother about what to do, the West assembled the biggest land army since World War II.

The West was victorious and 'liberated' Kuwait, meaning it became a virtual dictatorship again, but this time under its old ruler, the Emir.

After the collapse of the Iraqi war effort, Iraqi rebels launched their attack. Though the rebels fought (and still are) ferociously, they were no match for the heavily armed, retro-fitted Iraqi Army.

Nothing happened to the West’s promises to deal with Hussein once and for all. They now think that it’s not such a good idea to back the rebels. It could open a can of worms in the Kurdish nationalist struggle - which would mean involving Syria, Iran and the West’s Arab ally Turkey.

The rebels are not Western stooges, unlike Saddam who they’ve done business with before. The US comes out with their hypocritical line on national sovereignty to avoid the issue, clearly suffering from political amnesia when it comes to Vietnam, Panama, Grenada.

KURDISH REFUGEES FIGHT FOR FOOD.

KURDS

Yes, we support the Kurds struggle for self-rule, but not for their just to be an exchange of one set of rulers for another.

We believe in solidarity with the Kurds against the international ruling elite, and fight the only war worth fighting - Class War.

SIDES

Class War has always seen Saddam for the murdering bastard that he is. We also know that the Western leaders are a bunch of hypocritical, profiteering scum.

That’s why, unlike the British Left, we backed neither set of leaders.

That’s why, unlike the hypocritical Tory moralists, and the bleeding’ heart liberals, we don’t call on the West to complete its invasion of Iraq to ‘free the Kurds’.

WOULD THE REAL JOHN MAJOR STAND UP

WHAT HAS John Major got to hide? Firstly there’s his continuing claim that he ‘can’t remember’ how many exams he got at school, and then him ordering his old school not to reveal the truth.

Surely someone in his position must remember how they did in school, or at least have the brains to pick up the phone and find out.

So either the man running the country is an idiot who can’t remember basic facts about himself, or he has got something to cover up.

Secondly is the claim that he lied to get his first big break into politics. “Honest” John Major wasn’t, it seems, a resident of South London bougou in which he became a councillor in 1968.

Which made him not eligible to stand, so he lied and said he did live there. Now the media have got hold of the story and Honest John is running around producing “Landladies” at the drop of a hat to back up His claims.

Now it’s highly unlikely that John Major will be exposed as Lord Lucan, or some undercover KGB agent, but it’s barely a few months into his leadership and the shit is starting to hit the fan.

Class War can hardly wait for the next episode of the John Major story - what next we wonder - “John Major ate my hamster”?

OUT OF ORDER

A FIRM WHICH has just laid off 175 workers “to save money” has just coughed up almost 100 grand to buy flash, new company cars for four top company bosses.

A union official at the firm - Simon Container Machinery - in Stockport says “The company is in a state of total collapse. The only reason it can afford new cars for the bosses is because the workers are trying to make a living.”

OMMMMML! OMMMMM!

SUNNY SOUTH-WARK, London, will soon be bathed in the warm sunshine of peace and serenity if its residents follow the lead of their Labour Mayor, John Maurice.

Because Maurice has taken up Transcendental Meditation.

While Class War has nothing against ordinary meditation - we all benefit from a bit of relaxation - we remain unconvinced that TM will cure Southwark’s cronic crime, jobs and housing crisis.

But Mr Maurice must already have thousands of co-devotees in Labour backed neither set of leaders.

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IT'S OFFICIAL - Figures have just been released that prove what everyone already knew - the last ten years have seen the rich get richer - and the poor get poorer.

Even using the "official" definition of poverty over 11,000,000 people now exist below the breadline, including:

- 3,000,000 kids go without proper food and clothing, not lack of crisps or sweets or snacks but proper meals.
- Ten million people live in houses without proper heating or chronic damp.
- Seven million people go without decent clothing - no proper coats, shoes or waterproofs.

Five million adults, many elderly, are not properly fed. They live on just cold snacks or one meal a day.

While the poverty toll has risen by a massive 50%, the rich have seen their income grow by a staggering 40%. This cuts, wage increases and government handouts have boosted the wages of the rich to unprecedented levels.

The lifestyles of the rich have become an endless parade of foreign cars and holidays, designer clothes and yuppie accessories - car phones and £100 sunglasses. All flaunted in our faces.

SQUANDERED

While ordinary mums and dads worry about what their kids are going to wear to school, the rich squander hundreds on designer clothes so little Hugo and Charlotte will be the best dressed at their posh private school.

They spend fortunes on Nouveau Cuisine and expensive meals while school meals are scraped and the old go hungry. Over 2,000 elderly people died of the cold last winter, shivering to death of hyperthermia, too poor to feed the meter - whilst the conversation at top notch dinner parties was which of their foreign country they were going to jet off to.

PICKED OFF

Everybody knows that in order for capitalism to work the many must provide for the few. They get rich on our labour. Throughout the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries the working class have been picked off, isolated and defeated. (snakes, printers, the inner cities).

Now they have created such a high level of poverty and misery, spread among so many, that tricks like the £140 reduction in poll tax are too late - they'd better start watching their backs for a tide of class anger is rising up in this country.

Yesterday it was Trafalgar Square - tomorrow it'll be their porches.

TAX THE RICH NOT THE POOR ONE SOLUTION CLASS WAR!

TAKING THE PISS-PART 1

EX-EVERTON and England footballer John Godman takes the fucking biscuit this time round.

Not content with expecting gratitude for being a rich, lying, patronising git "I put a lot of money in and tried to bring jobs to a deprived area of Liverpool. I never thought I would be punished for it" when he got arrested, along with Degsy Hatton, for dodgy property dealing.

He reckons his six hour "ordinals" (yes hours, not years) in a cop shop qualifies him to claim "I know what it must be like for a woman who has been raped!!!"

STRAIGHT OUT OF WASHINGTON

Eazy-E of rappers NWA was recently invited for lunch at the Whitestone - lots of rich people were asked as a fundraising exercise for the Republican Party.

But Eazy-E wouldn't stoop to that, would he? The man who sang "Fucking The Police! Without a gun or a badge what have you got? A sucker in a uniform waiting to get shot!"

Well, yes he did! Amazing what money can do to a person.

TAKING THE PISS-PART 2

WHAT'S THE? Estate Agents all gone mad? Offering houses for £6000 with "generous mortgage schemes"?

No, of course not. These new budget houses are luxury Wendy houses! Apparently Princess Anne's daughter, Zara, loves the one at her school.

The only good thing about them is that the thatched roofs (class-conscious builder perhaps) catch light very easily, and could well bring a new meaning to the phrase treacle toffee (housed bastards!)

We live in hope...
ONE OF our class' greatest victories has finally become obvious, even to the government.

One year ago, six months ago, even three months ago they were all saying that the poll tax was the best thing since sliced bread.

One leading Tory MP, Michael Portillo, said back in October 1990: "Far from being a vote lose, the community charge will be a vote winner and launch us on a fourth term."

We've made him choke on his words. He's not the Labour Party leadership or the trade union bureaucrats who have smashed this Tory flagship - it's us, the working class.

But the party political parasites see things differently.

A few weeks back there was the pathetic spectacle of Paddy Ashdown - the leader of the Liberal Democrats in case you'd forgotten - on telly claiming that the poll tax had been scrapped because of their by-election victory in the Ribble Valley.

Neil Pittlock also tried to jump on the bandwagon as well, a far cry from his statements about non-payment being "wrong and dishonest".

What's worrying Pittlock and all the other "professional" politicians is that we've proved that we don't need them.

The poll tax has been defeated and our actions and struggles, not the empty, meaningless words of a few power hungry political careerist bureaucrats, or the ticking of some box on a ballot paper.

After the Tories had announced that they were scrapping the poll tax, The Times said that this was "the biggest U-turn by any government this century."

Too fucking right it was! And it was the practical actions of ordinary people that forced this Titanic U-turn.

Although they've binned the poll tax, they're busy finding other ways to screw us. VAT up to 17.5%, big increases on petrol, cigarettes and drink, and more people on the dole queue.

Whatever they replace the poll tax with - whether it's a new tax, a toilet tax or a rates tax, is still a tax! It'll be another tax on us that pays for them.

Taxes go to finance our bosses. So when you get beaten up by the police, remember we pay for them. We also pay for all the fascist MPs, the Royal Family - Every time Fergie prances off on another skiing holiday that's our taxes, our money down the drain.

But our bosses aren't stupid. They use our money to try and keep us quiet - so there are hospitals, schools, welfare benefits and so on, but these are mere crumbs off the table... and it's our money that's paying for these crumbs.

The struggle against the poll tax has shown that we don't have to accept their attacks on us - and what's more, we can defeat these attacks.

The struggle against the poll tax has shown what we can do but it has also shown where the problems are.

We can't allow the bosses to escape by either reforming a law or just scrapping it, without giving up their power. We have got to spread the fight against the poll tax to all aspects of society.

The struggle against the poll tax has been just one battle, now we've got to win the war.

TURN TO THE CENTRE PAGES FOR AN IN-DEPTH ARTICLE ABOUT WHAT NOW AFTER THE POLL TAX.

UNHAPPY - HE SOON WILL BE

THE ROWDY demonstrations outside the Sale Magistrate's Court (reported last issue) has had a long-lasting effect on officials.

Keith Gudack, of 82 Edgely Road, Stockport, is head of poll-tax recovery in Trafford. After the police told him that Class War were leading the anti-poll-tax battle at the courts he said he was unhappy about appearing in court for the prosecution again!

Should have thought about the consequences of your actions a long time ago Keith! Stay clear of court and other poll-tax recovery work - we'd hate to see your tears become facts!

EDINBURGH POLL TAX FORUM

THE POLL-TAX STRUGGLE has brought many people together. It has also taught people the means of organisation and action needed to mount successful and hard-hitting campaigns.

It is now the wish of many people to take the campaign beyond the poll-tax and on to broader areas of local service cuts, rent increases and other debt collections and to try and fight successfully against these. May will see a day long forum for Independent Anti Poll Tax Unions from all over Scotland where workshops on cuts, rent and debt will all be included.

Following on from the successful forum in Glasgow in February, May's forum is held in Edinburgh and hopes to attract not only those fighting the poll-tax but those from local hospitals, schools and housing associations who have individual campaigns in the area.

We can share skills, experience and tactics and hopefully benefit everyone who is fighting back.

For further details write to: Edinburgh CW, PO Box 421, Edinburgh, EH11 1QO.

LOCAL AUTHORITIES are bracing themselves for a massive rise in non-payment now the poll tax is on its last legs.

One hard pressed council treasurer admitted that in December, when the first official returns of the end of the poll tax leaked out non-payment levels shot up.

"We have already seen thousands of direct debits cancelled this month" moaned another.

The decaying corpse of the poll tax will linger on for another couple of years yet, but if the government, be it local or national, think that abolishment will encourage people to cough up, they've got another think coming.

"After all, who but a fool would pay a tax that is about to be given the boot!"
GLASGOW-ING.. GLAS-ONE!

ON MARCH 9TH around 4000 people marched through the streets of Glasgow against the Poll Tax.

After two years of a successful non-payment campaign and the end of the tax in sight the march was more of a Sheridan showcase than even before (if that was possible).

Most people had decided to stay at home on the day due to the crap weather conditions.

HELL BROKE LOOSE!

Eventually the march got under way from George Square to Queens Park. Again we were subjected to the usual boring singing of the marchers accompanying such songs.

Some groups were even heard to sing "Maggie, Maggie, Maggie" (you know the rest). Better late than never!

It was when the march reached Victoria Road that all hell broke loose. This was when something got arrested for something. What it was then that most of the independent groups rallied round calling for something independent and private. We were determined that the march would continue until he was freed.

Unfortunately we didn't bank on the federation outreach, who, in classic style, encouraged groups at the back to walk around us and continue marching until we were left a very small and very isolated group. We had no alternative but to continue the march.

On reaching the park we were subjected to a 10-minute Sheridan monologue on the same speech that he's mumbled off a million times before. Most people walked off, or better still, the pub. All that seemed to be left was the close friends and family of "our hero".

ABOLISHED!

A few days later the federation celebrated the abolition of the Poll Tax by letting a few hundred red (surprise, surprise) balloons go from George Square. If this is the best they can do for celebrations they must be running short of ideas.

Meanwhile those people who really did defeat the Poll Tax were going about their usual business. Family, friends, neighbours, we have all contributed in one way or another. We all did it by standing together, united in our workplaces and communities.

We still have a lot to go. On the day that they announced the abolition of the Poll Tax, pickings were still being attempted in Greenock. We must continue to stand together. The fight is only just beginning...

YOU SAID IT!

"EVEN MY own relatives are saying they're not paying the poll tax anymore because it's been scrapped.

Trying to get people to pay next year is going to be a hell of a job." --ALBERT TAIT, deputy finance secretary of the scottish local authorities.

SCHOOL’S OUT!

THIS SUMMER 600,000 seven year old kids will have undergone SATs (Standard Assessment Tasks).

"So what?" you might say, "kids are always being tested". But look again.

The education system in England and Wales is undergoing one of its biggest transformations for decades. But, to what? An education system concerned with education instead of trying to brainwash them? Like hell we will!!

IGNORANT GIT!

Just look at who's in charge, that ignorant git Kenneth Clarke. Remember what he did to the NHS? Kenneth Clarke knows as much about state education as a donkey - probably less - but that doesn't matter so long as he does his job.

And what's that? To shape the state education system so that in a few years time it will be churned out user-friendly workers who will be able to deal with the increasingly technological world.

With the introduction of the National Curriculum, the Government has even more of a say in what is taught in all state schools (but not independent and private).

JOKER!

Just like the health service, education is on the slippery path of privatisation. Where, according to the Tories, there is freedom of choice and greater parental control.

However the Tories' ace card 'SATs' has turned out to be a joke. It appears not all parents want their children tested at school and they especially do not want the results published.

The government hoped that these tests would gas up the so-called bad schools and parents would take their custom elsewhere.

RUSSIAN WORKERS have been flexing their muscles and showing their might to the Communist Party ruling class.

Millions have been out for some time now demanding the resignation of Gorbatchev as well as demands for pay increases. The strike action has been taken up by other industrial workers.

Workers have been setting up local strike committees and different sections of industry have been coming out in solidarity; strikers are well defiant to Gorbys calls to have bans put on strikes.

No doubt the West will credit this disruption to the influence of Boris Yeltsin. But when the miners' strike was first called, Boris wasn't saying where he stood.

PLOTTING!

This strike wave has the Kremlin in a panic. Their policy is slipping and they appeal to workers to end their strikes to avoid economic collapse.

But workers haven't got a lot to lose.

While the Kremlin pleads, it's also plotting to send the army in as strikebreakers.

Russian workers have shown their ruling class that they mean business, it's not some jumped-up politicians, who're forcing change in Russia. Workers there, like other places, have much more power and are fighting for what they want and how they want it.

Neither free market capitalism or state communist dictatorships can solve their problems.

Then the working class of Russia can take back what the Batalovika stole from them in 1917: autonomous workers' power and a REAL revolution.

WE’VE HAD ENOUGH OF GORBY! RUSSIANS DEMONSTRATE.

IF LABOUR get into power they’ve said they'll appoint a Cabinet Minister for Women.

But what will this Minister actually do for women? Will she be simply a yes-man to the government.

No doubt this position will be filled by some middle-class graduate who has nothing in common with, and no idea about what working-class women want.

Their idea of women's liberation is a woman filling a high-powered executive role in some big multi-national company - opportunities only open to the middle-classes and to which most working class women have no desire or chance to reach.

PATRONISING!

They say that they will appoint more women judges and be looking into pornography, violence and sex-crimes against women. Yet they ignore the system which, on the one hand forces working-class women have the likes of prostitution to earn enough to live, and then, on the other, criminalises them for doing so.

Working-class women don't want someone patronising them and telling them that they too can be the President of IC, and we certainly don't want to the Labour Party to achieve equality.

We must remember that Labour are so far away within the economics of the Capitalist system that even if they wanted to make some radical changes they couldn't.

NEVER!

Therefore there's a real need of working-class women; such as abortion on demand, publicly owned housing, genuine equal pay and the ability to walk the streets at night without harassment are not and will never be.

We don't look to the Labour Party or middle-class reformist women's groups to bring about the changes we want. We look to our own class with a revolutionarily solution - a class war of men and women together against capitalism.

LABOUR, THE GRABBER No. 1!

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THE THINGS THEY SAY

"There could be worse things than Saddam's survival.

DICK CHENEY, US Secretary of State, when Kurdish and Shiite rebels captured towns in North and South Kuwait.

"I've always understood that among people of our class it wasn't done to steal each other's servants."

LADY BETTY KENNARD, whining about having her butler poached by another toff.

"You must remember, the Birmingham Six are free today because of good police detective work.

ALAN EASTWOOD of the Police Federation, speaking on Radio 4.

"The average aristocrat is extremely kind, tries to help the underdog and they make good employers. We create wealth, but of course it's all taken away in tax. My employees have far better cars than I have."

JOHN CLOTWORTHY TALBOT FOSTER WHITE-MELVILLE SKENNINGTON, Viscount Naseby and Ferrand, in the Independent, January 8.

"Much of our worship is boring, tedious, long and mind numbing. The miracle of Christianity is that people still come to church."

JOHN CAREY, the new Archbishop of Canterbury.

"No Credible trade union believes in strike action.

DOUG MACVOY, NUT general secretary, speaking at their conference.

"Until now we were managed by Comrade Balay, who sat in his office surrounded by statues of Lenin, while Comrade Kolozsvar, his secretary, brought in Cossacks. With the call "victory" out scuttled I treat the comrades who came to see him.

Now it's Mr Balay who owns the firm, and else in an office surrounded by pictures of Mr Bush shaking hands with him, while his secretary, Madamolse Kolozsray, offers brandy to customers in his office.

The products remain the same, only the label's changed."

AN ENGINEER at a processing firm in Hungary.

WHAT'S NEXT

I'M THINKING of turning in this writing link to become a fortune teller. Cast your eyes back to my page in the last issue of class war and you'll see a little article about TUC supremo Norman Willis crowing to the Royals and asked where this would end.

Well it seems Norm's latest attempt at climbing the establishment ladder "has led him to attempt to join the exclusive Chelsea Arts Club (membershop £290 per year)."

What's next I wonder? Lord Norman perhaps?

BARKING MAD?

Brave Prince Charles is planning a polo come-back for May. A friend says "he will sweat blood to get it right". Well, the lucky bloke never sweats much working does he - being a bit of a joker really.

The friend added, "I am worried about how he will cope mentally". Well get in the queue. I reckon there's about 55,000,000 other people in this country who've been worried about how he's coping mentally for some time now.

NO LAUGHING MATTER

GERALD GROSVENOR, the Sixth Duke of Westminster, and one of the worlds richest people, has decided that life isn't all that bad after all.

"I would find things a touch harder being a worker" he recently said.

Well, how many workers have this little lot to look after; there's 300 acres of prime property in Mayfair, a huge family estate in Cheshire, several massive tracts of Sutherland, most of Co Fermanagh and a lot of Australia to "worry" about.

All of which makes him worth about £4.6 Billion.

"In my situation you have to be able to laugh at problems" he added.

Perhaps if this latest in a long line of thieving, aristocratic, parasitic bastards was relieved of some of his property and riches we might have something to laugh at.

SALLY SKULL

SHIT HOT GOSSIP WITH...
THE WEST MIDLANDS: Serious Crimes Squad have been found out yet again fitting up innocent people.

A Birmingham man who was framed for armed robbery on evidence of the squad has walked free from prison. He was cleared by the Appeals Court, meaning that there are now four men convicted of serious crimes by the squad who have had their convictions quashed recently.

QUASHED!

Lord Lane, Britains top judge, said irregularities in a disputed statement allegedly made by Constantine Wellington had caused the court "great concern." The court ruled that the conviction could no longer be regarded as safe and satisfactory. And not before time, neither!

LYING BASTARDS

A Class War reward must surely go to the man that invented the scientific ESDA tests.

These have proven that detectives in the squad are lying, deceitful bastards on many occasions, including the case of the Birmingham Six.

ESDA tests on Wellington's case showed that detectives had added made-up statements, then told the courts that he had written them himself.

But rather than letting Wellington out straight away after finding him innocent, he was made to serve an extra night in prison for not getting 'out of bed one morning during a protest about his innocence.

FRAMED!

Wellington walked free the next day, his first words being that he had just spent time with a lot of people that he knows to be innocent who have been tram by the thiefs.

FREED, ANTHONY WELLINGTON.

PLAYING DIRTY

AS THE RANKS of homeless people swell even further, Local Councils are using even dirtier tactics than usual to keep down the numbers that they'll actually accept as homeless.

...all in an effort to keep their costs down after the Tories have cut their funding.

A popular and scummy policy is to offer homeless families tenancies on homes that are already squatted! The family has little choice, as it's told that it's only got one offer, and is often encouraged to sign the tenancy without even seeing the home!

Once the tenancy is signed, the Council can legally evict any squatters with a PID (Protected Intended Occupier). Often, the PIDs are totally false, but you're in no position to question it's legal status when there's a couple of meathead bailiffs kicking your door in.

SQUAT

To add insult to injury, the family may have to live in a crummy bed and breakfast while the Council sorts about, taking its time over necessary work to the property.

This is a classic case of divide and rule - playing one desperate group off against another - don't let Local Councils get away with it...Squat the lot!

DIRTY STILL

Another Council policy that stinks like a sewer is the refusal to house women who have escaped violent partners.

If a woman is unfortunate enough to own a home with a violent man, councils can legally not house her even if she has a financial interest in another property. Is she supposed to say "O.K." and go back to being beaten and abused?

TRICKS

Recently, the father of Tory London Hillingdon Council have tried to use this trick against a woman, threatening to evict her even though she had little choice but to return to Barnsey, to the bastard who was beating her, or to live on the street.

There is good news though: a growing number of Council and Housing Association workers are refusing to put these measures into practice.

IDEAL HOME?

London's Action Against Homelessness has swung into action, with a full-scale picket of Earl's Court's Ideal Homes Exhibition, organised by homeless people, and housing groups.

They're promising a lot of interesting direct action to keep homelessness in the public eye in the run-up to the next Election, and until the homeless are housed.

BARMY BASTARD!

JAMES ANDERTON, Chief Constable of the Greater Manchester Police Force, has resigned.

Famous for his "direct line to God" belief he made more enemies than you average top cop with his anti-gay and "Policing is more about control than solving crime" remarks.

We say good-biddance to the BARMY, BEARDED BASTARD. We'd also like to say that we hope he goes straight to hell - but after what he tried to inflict on us he'd probably feel at home there.

But we're under no illusions - all coppers are bastards - so God only knows what his replacement will be like. Perhaps if Saddam Hussein is looking for a new job...

FIVE FOUL UTERRINGS FROM THE 'VOICE OF GOD' ANDERTON:

- After accusing AIDS victims of "swelling around in a cesspool of their own making, and quickly shutting up when his daughter came out as a lesbian, Barking Mad Jim let some more filthy flow:
  - ON CORPORAL PUNISHMENT: "It should be administered so that they actually beg for mercy and repent their sins. I'd thrash some criminals myself!"
  - ON BEING GOD'S PROPHET: "Given my love of God and belief in him and Jesus Christ, I have to accept that I may well be used in this way."
  - ON BEING CRITICISED: "Now I know how Christ felt when he was crucified."
  - ON DEMOCRACY: "The survival of ideals will increasingly depend upon the ability of the police and the state to hold the rate in serious crime and public disorder."
  - And last but not least; "I resent being cast as a crank!!!"
INTRODUCTION

ONE OF THE MAIN areas of disagreement within "left-wing" circles since the end of March has been whether or not the demise of the Poll Tax is a "Victory for the Working Class."

There are those, such as the Militant Tendency and the Socialist Workers Party who loudly boast "We've sunk the Tory flagship." Others claim that the Government's climb down has more to do with the threat of electoral defeat following their humiliation in the Ribble Valley by-election.

"We say that the most important question is not whether the end of the Poll Tax is a victory or not, but what lessons can be learned and, more importantly, what do we do now?"

REASONS FOR DEFEAT

There is no single reason why the Government decided to dump the Poll Tax. There is no doubt that the threat to a fourth term in office had some influence in their decision.

At the same time, however, they were aware that the Poll Tax had become impossible to implement in many working class areas across Britain. In some cases, whole communities have disenchanted themselves from "mainstream" society - few people are on the electoral register and many refuse to pay their taxes, let alone their Poll Tax, car tax, TV licence fees, rent, gas and electricity bills, and so on.

"All in the knowledge that the police are too scared to try and enforce payment or seize goods."

NON-PAYMENT

The level of non-payment has meant that many local councils are on the verge of complete insolvency or bankruptcy, particularly in Scotland where they have built up two years worth of arrears. In all, over ten million people across Britain haven't paid a single penny and millions more are in serious arrears. Over seven and a half million summonses have been issued.

Without intervention of central government, many local councils would grind to a halt.

The government has seen what has happened in East German cities like Leipzig where the local council has gone bankrupt and the services have come to a standstill. Every Monday night hundreds of thousands take to the streets in mass demo.

The threat of a major escalation into outright revolution is growing there by the day.

Such a scenario is a government minister's nightmare. So, out of the blue we all get £140 knocked off our Poll Tax bills for this year.

Councils will now get this cash directly from central government instead, meaning that they can continue to operate for another year - although they will make massive cuts in services.

So what can we learn from this? Quite simply that this society only continues because we allow it to. As soon as we withdraw our consent and make a conscious decision not to participate in their games, the whole system rapidly begins to crumble. It doesn't matter whether it's a matter of refusing to pay a tax, refusing to produce, or refusing to pay for anything, the result is the same.

Surely this demonstrates the immense power we, the working class, have in capitalist society, and what a precarious position the ruling class are in.

POLITICAL SHORTCOMINGS

However, we must recognise that the campaign of non-payment - as organised - has its shortcomings too.

Given the potential for creating working class unity it has done relatively little to bring workers together, either at work or in the community.

Not even 10% of non-payers in the country are even remotely involved in organised anti-poll tax activity.

Strangely enough this is largely due to the ineffectiveness of ruling class laws and the inefficiency of the collection procedures adopted by local council!

In England and Wales, for instance, bailiffs do not even have the power to forcibly enter your house to seize goods. This fact has been widely publicised by anti-poll tax unions (and rightly so).

The result is that many people have realised that they can get away with not paying relatively easily, and so have not bothered to turn up at court to contest their summonses or even to contact their local APTU when the bailiffs were expected.

They simply told the thugs to bugger off from an upstairs window (perhaps assisted with a bucketful of some unpleasant liquid) and that was that.

Similarly, few councils have got their acts together to seek attachments of earnings and benefits.

Certainly some gallant individuals have been sent to jail, but as we have already mentioned before most police forces have said they're unwilling to enforce warrants for arrests, so this is unlikely to become widespread (just let the bastards try)

WHY THE COURTS?

Why then has one of the main arenas of battle chosen by the anti-poll tax movement been the law courts?

Even if the courts did have some sort of real power we should still have been saying "Go ahead, give us all liability orders. We don't give a toss. We're still not paying!"

Instead we get Labour MPs getting their cases adjourned loads of times over some tiny legal point and individual activists spending loads of time and energy being Medics, etc.

Instead of fighting the battle on our own terrain - our workplaces and the communities - we have fought it on theirs, the courts.

As a result many non-payers have become isolated from each other and the campaign rather than spreading has, in fact, shrunk, with less and less people actively involved.

This cannot be put down solely to people becoming pissed off with the outrageous manipulations of organisations like Militant Tendency.

In many cases we have allowed ourselves to get caught up in the same traps as their misguided supporters and led genuine working class militants down a dead end road to apathy.

CHANGING THE RULES

It has always been clear that the government could change the rules of the game whenever they wanted, whilst we continued to fight the battle on their ground. It wasn't that long before they announced the scrapping of the tax that the govern-
TALKING CRAP!
• THOSE FAMOUS POLL TAX QUOTES...

"Once implemented and through the transition, I believe the new system will prove enduring and a vast improvement on the status quo" - JOHN MAJOR, July 1988. On implementation of the poll tax he was soon to scrap once in office.

"As I have travelled throughout the country, I have found widespread acceptance of the principle of the community charge" - CHRIS PATTEN, April 1990. Surely someone been winding your up there Chris.

"It is a complete distraction to fight the poll tax with an illegal campaign of non-payment" - NEIL KINNOCK, March 1988. - Go back to your bedroom and play with your toytown parliament Neil.

"It is quite wrong for honourable members to suggest that people should disobey the law by not paying their Community charge" - MARGARET THATCHER (and in response to that), "I agree with everything the Prime Minister has just said, as I have made clear for a long time" - NEIL KINNOCK (both March 1990). How can anyone still believe that the Labour and Tory leadership aren't sleeping together?

"Labour can still win the next election, ending over a decade of Tory misrule, but it must be worked for" - MILITANT, 19th March 1989. - 'Reformers' battles like that against the poll tax hold the seeds for something much bigger. All that is required is the injection of the right ideas to push the struggle in the right direction.

CLASS WAR
And that's where we come in. Revolutionaries like those of us in Class War have a vital role to play in all struggles against the 'evils' of capitalism. It is up to us to use the knowledge and experience we have gained to expose the enemies within our ranks and propose realistic strategies for victory which will carry the working class far beyond mere reforms. The struggle against the poll tax has taught Class War Federation many valuable lessons. Over the past year we've developed in leaps and bounds organisationally and politically.
We believe we are on the threshold of creating something new in left-wing politics. An organisation which draws the best from all political ideologies to produce one which defies labelling altogether.
Whilst the Left have shown themselves up as the power hungry bunch they have always been, Class War has become stronger. Our numbers have swelled.
We want to create an organisation that will help the working class of the world to realise the dreams of a society that all of us have. A society without war, without oppression, without need. It can be done.

IF YOU BELIEVE IT THEN JOIN THE ONLY WAR WORTH FIGHTING - THE CLASS WAR!
HEALTH OR WEALTH?

AS WE REPORTED in the last issue of Class War the NHS is about to undergo a massive change in the way it operates - the first step on the road to privatizing it, etc., etc. It is really a sad day for us, particularly as the NHS has been up and running since 1948. Now, with government changes, we are faced with a new set of problems. Like most of the other "false choices" that we now allegedly have, you only really have a choice if you have the money.

The rich and powerful will have the "nice" profit making hospitals, all pastel wallpaper and shiny new equipment - while everyone else will have to put up with old, shabby, second-rate treatment.

Particularly those who are disabled, elderly and elderly who need long term care.

NO DEFENCE

• OPTING-OUT of the NHS does have its rewards - if you happen to be one of the managers.

Ian Donnachie - General Manager at St James Hospital, Leeds, is now driving about in a $35 grand Lotus Elan Turbo!

In his defence he said: 'What's wrong with it? I know another six senior hospital managers with more expensive cars."

Not too shabby then...

MUGS!

• MEANWHILE, also in Leeds. Five other op privé hospitals have decided to spend over £6 million celebrating the fact by having custom made mugs done.

One hospital worker said: 'We couldn't believe it when 5,000 of these things turned up, we won't be decent enough, not fancy mugs.'

THE TEETH OF THE MATTER

WHEN IT COMES to marine pollution, it seems that the natural inhabitants have got their ideas straight...

When super rich hares, Jackie Kennedy-Osasal recently dived from her boyfriend's yacht out into the Caribbean, it proved the last straw for one class conscious shark.

Having had enough of the foul smelling, noisy, lezzy rich parasites who indeed the world's beautiful places, he took it on himself to do away with one pollutant, and moved in for the kill.

Justice was almost complete, however when the shark was unfortunately shot by "Larry". Now there's a martyrdom!

Rich Brats

The BEVERLY Hills Highschool, which the top TV show Beverly Hills 90210, is based on, is in an area where the average price of a house is $3,000,000.

The kids all, drive BMWs and Mercedes and splash out thousands of pounds on Cartier jewelry.

But these privileged brats of the rich and famous are "concerned" about the world.

In a recent interview they told of "their concerns" about Acid Rain, C.F.C.'s and the disappearing rainforests: "our school even has a part of the beach which we patrol picking up litter" said one of the pampered pupils.

But what about the world's inhabitants asked the interviewer "Oh, we don't care about them" They replied: "We'd rather go out shopping!"

If you go down to the woods

If you go down to the woods...

Digging the dirt on the green front...
PARIS FASHIONS

Late March saw angry Parisian youths taking to the streets in the working class suburb of Sartrouville. During three nights of unrest one youth, Djemel Chitou, was shot by a super market guard. Protest against these were not symbolic. Youths set out to attack the Town Hall and Sartrouville's right-wing mayor Louis 'Wassel' Wetzeln. Cops had to whisk away this tosser for his own safety, after there was an exchange of insults. Six hours of intense fighting followed, with five coppers hurt and only twelve arrests; not a bad score.

CLASS POLITICS ALIVE AND KICKING

IT'S OFFICIAL! Class consciousness is on the increase. Some leading political analysts have discovered this "disturbing" trend.

A poll in 1964 found that 42% of voters thought there was bound to be some kind of class conflict. By 1997, that figure had increased to over 53%. Just imagine what's happened since then: Poll tax, NHS cuts, heavy policing, Gulf War, etc. etc. Just imagine what has happened since then: Poll tax, NHS cuts, heavy policing, Gulf War, etc. etc. Just imagine what's happened since then: Poll tax, NHS cuts, heavy policing, Gulf War, etc. etc.

Welcome back? WELCOME BACK?

Well the Emir of Kuwait didn't quite get the reception he would have liked when he sneaked back home after any danger had passed. A couple of old folks clapping dutifully. But let's hope he gets the welcome he deserves when people who are fighting for drinking water with fieren desperately trying to quell oil fires, realise his Emir has 400 men working round the clock to complete the installation of gold taps and chandeliers at the palace.

And don't forget the 40 high water tower fountain in the courtyard. Any small oil fires that need putting out? Try stuffing this blasted bastard down it!

BANK ON THIS

200 angry militant miners stormed the Madrid offices of one of Spain's top banks, Banco Central.

Banco Central, was about to foreclose on a debt which would shut down their mine. Banks are at the principle of the world capitalist economy, and when our time comes, workers will make a run on banks, which will make the Wall Street Crash look like a quiet tea party.

CUT THEM OFF!

TELEPHONE OPERATORS in New Delhi, India, staged a 24 hour solidarity strike for a comrade who had been sacked when she cut off a government minister's call.

It makes you realise the power workers have! Telephone operators could save their jobs from the ruling class by ... and when they get bored of their drive: Cut them off!

TOGO PARTY

The government of the West African state, Togo, had to impose night-time curfew when riots erupted between demonstrators and cops.

President Eyenga, who recently gave in to a taxi drivers strike against fuel price rises, bledated about forthcoming reforms.

This empty rhetoric didn't stop protesters seizing control of poor districts in a couple of cities: an excellent chance to have some cop-free all-night parties.

THE GRAFFITI COMPETITION!

You've really got to pity our poor Prime Minister...

Little John's got a sore throat and an earache. We're sure all those waiting on NHS waiting lists for major surgery are weeping for "wiped out" and "weary" Margaret Major.

The top Tory's wife, Norma, and the high-paid yuppie doctors around him, blame too much stress and travelling.

Top consultant at the Royal London Hospital, Peter McKelvie, reckons that Major should reduce all his luxury journeys to Moscow, Germany, Bermuda etc. That's not all; the poor lamb is "Spending too much time in that Jaguar".

Medical experts at your ever-caring Class War, after extensive research, conclude that if travelling is going to cause Major discomfort and illness, he should do as much of it as he possibly can, preferably attached to the wheels of a steamroller.

Disappointed movie goers, in Los Angeles went apeshit when they were turned away from the opening night of "New Jack City", a film about urban crime and police conflict.

Not being able to see it on the screen, you're brought that conflict onto the their own street. The mob went on the rampage smashing and looting shops.

The potential of strategic voting in L.A. is huge. Just imagine the possible situations, like the battle of Beverly Hills or taking on Tinsel Town's main industry... BURN HOLLYWOOD BURN!

FLICKS KICKS

THANKS TO ALL WHO SENT IN POSTERS OF CLASS WAR GRAFFITI FOR THE COMPETITION. THE ARTISTIC FLAIR OF SOME OF YOU IS SOMETHING TO BE SEEN! THIS EDITIONS £10 WINNER IS D.J.S., SHEFFIELD. WITH THIS 'BEFORE AND AFTER' GEM. KEEP THEM COMING! ALL ENTRIES TO: CW PO BOX772, BRISTOL, BS991EG
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MELTING VINYL

HIPHOPRISY:
"FAMOUS AND DANDY"

THIS ONE is definitely for all you boyz and gals who like something different to dance to.
The rapper, Michael Franti (formerly of the radical outfit The Beanings) gives a full frontal aural attack on the white corporate's regime of racist stereotypes and black collaboration with it (be it intended or unintended).
This hardcore industrial funk meets hip-hop track, might not be rave material, but it's got an uncompromising beat and message to it - so you probably won't find it in your local HMV.

Check out the indie record shops in your town for this crucial piece of vinyl, by the band dubbed as the prophets of rage - RAGE ON.

RUTHLESS RAP ASSASSINS:
"JUSTICE (JUST US)"

THIS TRACK from the rap act tipped for the top in 1990, is a remix of one of C-I-O-3's tracks on their wicked 1990 LP "Killer", and is the BUSINESS - so radical you won't hear it on Radio 1 prime time slots.
The delivery is reassuringly slow and rhythmic, but it loses no power and pulls no punches in attacking racism in a cruel and racist stereotype in the U.K. Check out some of the lyrics:
"You only read about me when committing a crime"...Your only protection is the thin blue line...
"Social workers love me 'cos I keep them in work"
Comparisons can also be drawn on how the repress of the working class is subjected to mass stereotyping.
This MCsarian outfit shows it can cut it with the best and produce a mellow militant melody.

GARY CLAIL AND THE
ON-U SOUND SYSTEM:
"NATURE"

Bristol lad, Gary Clail has infiltrated the Top 40 with this radical dance track. It picks up where "Beef" (previous single) let off. This is massive on the dance scene, and thought provoking.

Modest Bristolian, Gary is no blue-eyed baby boy out of the blue - he's been around for a while, knocking about with the likes of Tack head, Mark Stewart (used to be in the Pop Group) and other On-U Sound talents. If you think you've heard the tune before, that's because it's used as the SNUS TV's theme tune (in BBO20).
This track is definitely going to keep your toes a-tapping and that baseline will be buzzing around in your head for some time to come.
One thing Gary, your say lyrics say that there's something up with human nature, we beg to differ, it's the nature of capitalism that's the source of 99% of all crapiness in the world!
Dear Class War,

It was good to see the Rams on the sport page of your last paper. Your approach to footy is good. The working-class "culture" on the terraces is unsurpassable.

Back to the point. The anger at the Mowll demo (and all that matches) was brilliant. Maxwell personifies the typical scumbag that wants to manipulate the game and turn it into a commercial and professional vehicle, profit and smashing down grass-roots support for the new toffee-nosed-bucktoothed scumbags in their posy executive boxes.

His fat and slobbering features also make him an even better target. People are beginning to put 2 and 2 together, when the coppers violently prevented a pitch protest (that's all that was attempted) chanted "kill, kill, kill the bill" provoked some worried looking plopes.

DIRECT ACTION

They're the ones trying to hide who's side they are on, and as the era of alienator stadiums approaches, we can only hope to see more direct action from all supporters regardless of "club-patriotism".

It's our game they're trying to steal from us. When we show 'em we're willing to fight they'll shut up and then we can attack the bastards like Maxwell. Never mind "we want Maxwell out!", more like "Tell 'em Mowll!"

It's never been more ripe for class-wars on the terraces, they can only get easier from here!

Up the Rams!

B.L. Derby

Dear Class War,

I would like to draw your attention to another example of hypocrisy and petty-mindedness in the police force.

PC Jim Parma-Hoyes of Macclesfield police station recently entered a competition for an anti-drink-driving slogan in which he won a holiday.

After hearing this fact in his local pub, the Boars Head, Higher Poynton, he was seen driving home in an advanced state of intoxication. Especially disturbing was the evident influence under the force for such a particular servant of the people: it is a regular occurrence.

The Boars Head is also his favourite venue for spreading his own brand of malicious good humour.

NO TRUST

It would appear that if you are a local charged with an offence in Macclesfield you needn't worry about the newspapers reporting your case as PC Parma-Hoyes will have already taken care of informing everyone in the town of your "offence".

He has no qualms about repeating even the most personal facts and although these complaints may seem insignificant compared to the beatings regularly dealt out by his inner-city counterparts, PC Parma-Hoyes is capable of causing great hurt in a small community such as Poynton.

His misuse of his position should lead us all to think that no trust can be placed in this country's police force, no matter what the area.

Yours - A Concerned local, Poynton.

Dear Class War,

Could an out girl who's been born and raised in a manchester slum, seventy two years ago, to an Irish Mother and Father, pass on a few tips to all those who discuss Ireland in your columns?

That is to try and read any Irish history from an Irish source preferably, before putting pen to paper, on the Ireland of today.

If you do not promise you an enrichment of the mind. You will build up a head of steam within you, that will engrave your opinions on an irish audience you already have for the system that we must all live in today.

Do not hail and lose your power of the good.

Bill Heywood, Lancs

Dear Class War,

I've just got back from the Poll Tax Demo (Oldham March) and I must say (I'm well impressed by your turnout. The Class War section was the most noisiest and most fun to be.

I'm an ex-member of the Socialist Workers' Party, and I can tell you what a load of bollocks it is.

You've got a lot of jumped up little middle-class journalists all happy to fight the revolution, hugging their crappy newspaper and mouthing the party line.

It made me so sick in the end I had to leave. I often think back to how much time and money I wasted and it makes me passe off that I only just discovered CLASS WAR!

Bill Heywood, Lancs

Dear Class War,

I've seen a couple of the Heavy Stuff, very impressive stuff. It'll help get the RCP (Revoluionary Communist Party) off my back - they're worse than bloody Bayroune.

Seen their latest trick? "The Next Step" (their paper) has been reduced to an internal leaflet sheet "cos they think they need to consolidate their "proletarian" position! (??)

WE DON'T NEED THEM

You wonder if they still believe the same old stuff at all. Their self-centred-ness annoys the hell out of me.

They claim class-consciousness is not developed enough, their activities, or lack of them, aren't enough to raise them.

They'll probably make great leaders, but we don't need that. All revolutions have had leaders who've been so amorous for change they've gone off half cooked.

The working-class, when we're ready, will act, without needing leaders.

No war but the CLASS WAR!

Dom, Sheffield.

Dear Class War,

At the college where I work the students enjoy reading my copy of Class War and generally reject the "Millitant" and similar boring leafy publications.

They are Tech students who mainly survive by working part time for Sainsbursys or McDonalds and the like. They don't identify with the "Student Movement" or the official Trade Unions. I was also thinking of trying to get in touch with the students around here to sell it.

Yours sincerely,

John, Birkenhead

REPLY; Good idea about newspapers John - get in touch with the bookorders address and they'll sort you out with papers etc.

Dear Class War,

The last paper was excellent. What's happened to "The Heavy Stuff", your journal? The last one was worth £1, but when (if ever) is the next one out?

REPLY; HAVE A LOOK AT PAGE 12 AND YOU'LL FIND OUT.

Dear Class War,

The CLASS WAR FEDERATION is an organisation of local 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 wealth and power. The ruling class, who are supported by the middle class, and the working class. Such a society is the cause of all the problems experienced by working class people the whole world over.

This can only be sorted our by the destruction of the ruling class by the working class. This is class war.

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

The law is merely a weapon of the ruling class and must be ignored and broken as soon as possible.

The ruling class divide us by keeping us from unity. We must not only unite but show the weakness and character of the so-called "revolutionary left". Politics must be fun, it's a part of ordinary life, we must all strive to be able to take the piss out of itself.

Dear Class War,

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

The CLASS WAR FEDERATION produce and distribute propaganda; a paper, journal, local leaflets and badges and organise mass class struggles and we encourage involvement in the CLASS WAR FEDERATION to do the above.

Class War Federation National Secretary - PO Box 39, SW PDD, Manchester, M15.

NO NEED FOR PRAISE

Dear Class War,

Thanks for sending me the last issue of Class War.

I would be very grateful to carry on receiving Class War for as long as you are able to send it here to me.

As you can probably gather only one copy of Class War goes a long way in here for both me and a small but growing number of friends, who look forward to getting their hands on it.

Anyway, I'm not going to blind you with morality nor tell you how good your magazine is, because it bloody well speaks for itself.

That's about it for now, thanks for taking the time to keep in touch it's really appreciated.

F.D.

HMP LONG LARTIN WORCESTERSHIRE

Dear Class War,

The last issue of "The Heavy Stuff", your journal, was rich in ideas. The one you sent me is even better! Keep up the good work.

I hope you continue to do a worthwhile job.

BEST WISHES,

S.K.

BEATS THE REST

LONDON

DOOPER IRENE

INSPIRING INSPIRATION

Dear Class War,

The last paper was excellent. What's happened to "The Heavy Stuff", your journal? The last one was worth £1, but when (if ever) is the next one out?

REPLY; HAVE A LOOK AT PAGE 12 AND YOU'LL FIND OUT.
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- Accommodation.
- Transport.
- Open to British comrades.

This conference is a most ambitious event. With the sole aim of forging a new class struggle movement on an Europe wide basis. Get in touch now for your invitation and further details;

International Secretary, PO Box 467, London, E8 3QX, Britain.

"CLASS WAR NEWS..."

ON MARCH 23rd, at the Poll Tax 'Victory' Demo in London, Class War et-ood out as the proudest, loudest and largest single contingent (see photo). Numbering almost 1000 people, with our placards, banners, drums, whistles and rotund slogans.

REAL VICTORY

Like many others, we claim the defeat of the Poll Tax as a hard-fought battle, won by the determination of us all, the working class.

BUT we are Revolutionary, justifiably opposed to the whole taxation system, as well as the capitalist system it props up.

It is the working class who build the houses, manufacture the goods, work in the factories and fields. The bosses and their friends make money from our need to fit in to survive. We keep the Rich and rich taxation money for the privileged!

Nicer taxation, under a 'different' government, a Labour government, as the Left suggests is a better bet, is rather like asking a burglar to take your trousers but not the shirt off your back - any tax is designed to rob us for as much as they can get out of us.

CONFERENCES

At the Class War National Conference at the end of April, a lively debate was around producing a new, in-depth political booklet.

After loads of lively and intelligent discussions, we'll be spelling out our views, in black and white, for anyone interested; a solid Class War publication is a certainty for the Summer, so be prepared for a milestone not to be missed.

We've already held a National Dayschool to organise our forthcoming INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE in September, and to work out the costly and detailed organisation necessary to make it a success. It's an important and huge event...any Class War supporter would be mad to miss it!

On the subject of conferences, Glasgow and Edinburgh groups are organising a Scottish Class War Conference, and they'd like you to get in touch with them about all details. Why not meet Edinburgh Class War at their benefit gig at Moray House, Edinburgh, on May 7th.

There'll also be a East & West Midlands Class War Conference in Birmingham on May 12. If your in the area, get in touch with them now.

A very welcome new Industrial group has started up based around the Coal Industry, if you're interested Class War Collier's wouldn't mind hearing from you:

C.W. COLLIERs:
C/O DAVE DOUGLASS
NUM Office, Hatfield Main Colliery, Stainton, Doncaster.

OTHER GROUPS AND INTERNATIONAL

C.W. HEALTHWORKERS: c/o Manchester address
C.W. BIKERS: c/o Derby address
C.W. POSTALWORKERS: c/o Glasgow address
FINLAND C.W.: Luokkakasot, PO Box 53, 00241, Helsinki.
USA C.W.:
C.W. NEW YORK CITY, P.O. Box 20370, Tompkins Sq. Stn., NYC 10009
TACOMA, WA C. W. C/O Bayou La Rosel, 302 N "J" St., Tacoma, WA 98403
TWIN CITIES C.W. C/O Profane Existence, P.O. Box 8722, Minneapolis, MN 55408

STOP PRESS...

SOME EXCELLENT news from Redditch Class War.

The Redditch group's brilliant local broadsheet recently dug up the dirt on two Tory Labour councillors, - Ron and Betty Pasallingham.

"Among other things they've been enjoying Toscana and Barbados holidays, paid out of the rates!"

BLEAT.

Their suspect attitudes have also come to the forefront in amongst other things, the cover up of a sexual assault by another Labour party pal.

So accurate is the hot gossip dug up on the pair, they were running to the local media protesting their innocence that all Betty could was:"Our feelings are to ignore it. It's horrible and we are too wise, to take advice."

We are sure our very own Sally Stoll could cobble!

MEMBERSHIP

Last year, Class War became a membership organisation. But don't be under any illusions, we're a strictly non-hierarchical organisation.

To join, you cough up a few quid, must have a basic idea of what we're about, and be prepared to get stuck in to do some practical and theoretical graft.

The plus side to your slightly lighter purse or wallet is that you get voting rights, free bulletins and publications, a life peerage and be part of the most dynamic mob or Revolutionsaries that Britain's seen for years.

For more info, write to the National Secretaries c/o the Manchester PO box of the Class War Hotline.

There's not enough room here to mention all that's happening around Britain Class War groups.

As we go to press, Parliament's scum may be off on their hols, but Class War is stepping up the pressure nationally AND internationally.

YOU KNOW IT MAKES SENSE.
ONCE UPON a time there were two organisations which ran football in England (abysmally), the Football Association, better known as the FA and the Football League. The FA is responsible for the laws of the game, for running the FA Cup and the England national team. The League runs the four divisions which contain the 90 professional clubs most people support. From these clubs the majority of the England team are picked.

FULL SCALE WAR!

To cut a tedious story short the people in power of both organisations have never seen eye to eye in case they lost the power they misused.

Since the beginning of the professional game in 1888, the League and FA bosses have continued their petty bickering until today. Now it's broken out in full scale War!

Due to the interest generated by the last world cup in Italy the FA want to host the competition in this country in 1998 but to do this the potential venues or league grounds will have to be improved or rebuilt.

However the government will only back the FA's bid for the world cup if both the FA and the League merge to form one organisation.

While the League was prepared to merge with the FA they wanted a 50/50 representation on the new organisation.

The FA however weren't prepared to accept this and have come up with plans of their own, which if successful will leave the FA in power and be detrimental to the fans and the game of football in England.

The FA want to start a SUPER LEAGUE containing 18 clubs in the 1992-93 season, after next season. To do this they will take over the First Division, and by relegating more clubs than will be promoted will end up with 18 clubs.

MONEY MAKING

There will however be two criteria involved in getting into the super league, 1. Promotion, and 2. Having a ground which comes up to the standards of the Taylor report in effect all the new stadiums. The FA's stated reasons for their superleague are...

1. To help the England team
2. To maximise the premier league's commercial opportunities

So as you see the FA has seized the opportunity to use the money making potential of the First Division clubs in order to promote it's aim of hosting the 1998 World Cup and turn the Football League into little more than a Sunday school organisation.

As far as we're concerned these changes to the game will do nothing for the fans and indeed worsen conditions for the majority of players who play in the League.

The superleague will probably benefit the likes of non-league clubs from gaining promotion into the League and further gain from the superleague.

Something Wimbledon fans have already experienced, unless their grounds are brought up to FA regulations.

GRAHAM KELLY-NEARLY LYNCHED

IT WAS FA Chief Executive Graham Kelly who set out the plans for the Super League - some other things he's been up to include, Getting dumped by Accrington Stanley, Making lame excuses after Hillsborough. And nearly being lynched by England Fans at the world cup!

SHEFFIELD UTD Manager Dave Bassett speaks... "Women have no idea about the physical side of the game. It's just one of those things. Just as you don't have brigadiers and generals who are women, it's the same with managing a football team."

Yes, we give this man the 'Prat of the Sports Page Award', and anyway, what do Sheffield Utd know about the less physical side of the game, in skill and strategy?

WHEN is mass murder an accident?

The Inquest into the Hillsborough massacre returned a verdict of accidental death... to the police's great relief.

At big games people are always in the hands of the police. The relatives of the victims cried 'Whitewash! They killed our children' at the police as the inquest result was declared.

A father of one of the killed added, "If 96 people had not been killed at Hillsborough I think we would have seen a different situation".

LOADSAMONEY

QUESTION: If English clubs are so rich how come they're all looking at new all-seater grounds with capacities of half or one-third of top European football grounds? (eg Sporting Lisbon 90,000, Barcelona 110,000, AC/Inter/Milan 80,000).

ANSWER: Small, seated stadiums with high demand and therefore high prices at low cost = Loads Of Money!

GROUNDBASH!

Down in Kent, struggling Fourth Division Football Club Maidstone United are facing more problems than just their position in the league.

After selling their ground - without first finding a new site - Maidstone are playing their third season ground-sharing with Beazer Homes premier division club, Dartford.

Now United are about to apply for planning permission for a new ground on the outskirts of their home town, three miles from the village of Hollingbourne.

BIGOTRY

Despite the site being on derelict farmland, the villagers are fighting the club's campaign. Although using pseudo-environmental arguments, the anti-working-class bigotry of Hollingbourne's mainly upper-middle-class residents was soon revealed as the real reason for their opposition to the ground.

Their view of fans of the 'people's game' is that we are all drunken louts hell-bent on attacking ordinary people or molesting their kids. If we're not planning in people's gardens then we'll be breaking into their house or car.

Several football clubs, in whatever league, either ground-share, or like Maidstone, want new ones. eg: Charlton (see other story) and Bristol Rovers.

We must realise that in supporting our clubs relocation schemes we may face, and be willing to fight, opposition from our class enemy.

Soccer clubs around the country are learning that they are being shafted, not only 'cos they're football supporters but because they're working class.

CHARLTON FANS MARCHED in their 1000s on April 2nd in support of their return to the Valley.

Independent fans' pressure has been crucial in forcing both the club and Greenwich Council into giving them back their "home".

Without it they'd probably have disappeared by now.