

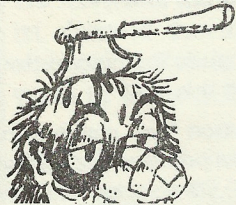
RESISTANCE

Issue No.1 February, 1983

DUBLIN ANARCHIST COLLECTIVE

Price 10p

cut it out!

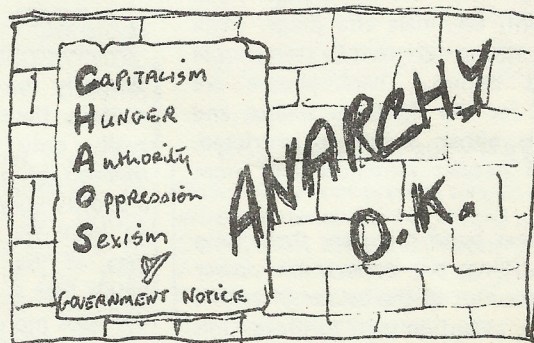


By now the severity of the government cutbacks has sunk in. Even before the dreadful budget, basic survival is becoming a harder job for more and more ordinary people. These vicious measures which hit health education and social welfare are a blatant attack on the working class, workers and unemployed alike, the most vulnerable and powerless, old people, school kids and people in poor health. From the cuts it is obvious whose side the government is on. As prices rise they call for keeping workers wages down. As the dole queues lengthen Dukes and his cronies tell us not to expect an increase in social welfare payments. The only concern of these self-styled leaders is maintaining their own wealth and power and that of the ruling class whom they serve. As the rich get richer and the poor suffer increasing misery the politicians go to great lengths to ensure that the existing inequalities are further reinforced.

Its an easy decision for Alan Dukes to say the dole payments won't increase. He is as sure of never having to try and make ends meet on £26 a week as he is of never having to take a C.I.E. bus. Because of lack of state funding the Coolock Law Centre closes. Again it was those with least political voice who depended on this service, but the governments attitude is to hell with them. Very little is said about the fact that bosses and employers owe £300m in unpaid workers taxes. That is a third of the much talked about national deficit. Of course the tax is taken from the workers but the bosses failed to hand it over. Another case of daylight robbery over which the worker has no control.

So those with an unfair share of the wealth and privilege are in effect immune to the cut-backs and the real hardships of the recession (*created in the first place by the greed and ineptitude of capitalists and politicians*). And they are apt to use every underhand trick in the book to con people into thinking they have no alternative but to take these measures. This is a blatant lie. It is galling to think Hussey cut free school transport when she herself has access to a state mercedes (*paid for through workers tax*) while young kids are forced, through poverty to walk to school or stay at home. Education is something which should be free anyway. Careers guidance, remedial teachers and classes of a reasonable size are something every child should have access to, not just those who (*through whatever rip-off process*) can afford to pay. The teachers attempted to fight back but failed to unite on the issue through a divide and rule tactic by the government; the post-primary teachers and national school teachers were divided as the cuts on remedial teachers were withdrawn.

Those whose own lavish lifestyles are not in the least affected continue to get away with implementing measures which threaten the lives and dignity of ordinary people. The health cuts and the increasing shortage of hospital beds mark a regression to last century where people who havn't the means to see a doctor are forced to suffer or indeed die. Fianna Fail in an election document had the hard neck to claim that only



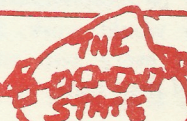
unnecessary and cheap items were being taken off the G.M.S. scheme. *What a load of rubbish.* Most are essential for treatment of serious diseases (*often caused by lousy working conditions*). Seven pounds out-patients fee may not seem much to an economist or politician on thirty thousand a year but for someone depending on the pittance that is social welfare or miserably low wages it is a fair slice of their income. No-one voted for the cuts and the politicians greedy for power failed to mention them. So much for the ballot-box which we are led to believe gives us a say in decisions which affect our lives.

The Coalition, Hussey and her ilk have the effrontery to claim that they are merely implementing Fianna Fail policy. Why have an election at all then: Are they finally admitting that the whole election process is a farce — a con-job designed to give people the illusion of control and create a diversion from the root causes of the problems — the exploitative and authoritarian nature of capitalism.

At the moment it is very handy that the phone-tapping drama is making the headlines and the more important issues of increasing hardship and rising unemployment are being pushed into the background. It is also worth noting that phone-tapping as repression has always been used against people who are suspected of posing a threat to the existing order. ➔



YOU DON'T FEEL THE CHAINS UNTIL YOU BEGIN TO MOVE



COMMUNITY COPS ?

These days we're always hearing about the increase in crime and the breakdown in law and order. The way people are going on you would think that the streets were so bad that you daren't go out without at least two armed bodyguards. There has been an increase in crime which we don't see as being a particular problem. As long as a small group of people (our rulers!) continue to hold all the wealth of this country while others live in poverty, people will steal — and rightly so.

What is a problem though is that increasingly it is working class people themselves who are becoming the victims of robbery and muggings. Old people become especially vulnerable. We *do* see this as a problem. We don't believe though that total responsibility falls on the individual who carries out these acts, but that most of it lies with the system which exploits us, dumps people on the dole and stops us having an effective say in how our lives are run.

There have been various responses to the general rise in crime. There are those who say the cops need a stronger hand to deal with criminals and thugs: there must be a strong deterrent to stop people committing crimes. These people are screaming for the rights to silence and bail to be either ended or restricted; they want heavier sentences and more cops.

On the other hand there are those who say that giving the cops more power takes no account of the *causes* of crime. There is no attention paid to prevention that is eliminating the causes of crime and stopping people committing crime in the first place. These people say that the main emphasis must be on prevention.

This *sounds* fair enough. If this kind of thinking is taken to its logical conclusion though then these people would be out fighting for a social revolution which divides the wealth of the world equally among all people and gives people an equal say in making decisions which affect them. They would be saying that the cops should be disbanded, recognising them as part of the system that oppresses us all.

But of course they aren't. They still see a role for the cops — that of a "community police force". According to this the police would become an integral part of the community; they would provide a service to the community by getting involved with local groups and helping to iron out problems before they arise — as if cops could solve the problem of poverty! These cops would be recruited from the areas where they would work. Some would suggest that every two streets should have a cop of their own.



Basically the community policing notion accepts that policing is necessary and really only involves a change in the *method* of policing (rather than having a heavily guarded paddy-wagon we would go back to the Dixon of Dock Green idea of the bobby on the beat). The whole idea is ultimately aimed at making the cops more acceptable by giving them a human face.

This idea has been called revolutionary by some: the ultimate answer to the problem of crime. We believe these people are coddling themselves.

As long as you feel you need police you're really failing to get to the real causes of crime.

The role of the police is to protect the power and privilege of the ruling class. The cops are one arm of the state - the institutions through which the ruling class protects its wealth. The government makes the laws aimed at protecting private property (factories, shops, etc). The role of the cops is to enforce these laws. The cops therefore are involved in making sure that people (mainly the working class) obey and respect laws which they have neither made nor serve their interests by being obeyed.

The community policing idea believes that the cops and the people in working class areas have something in common. In other words it believes that the working class should be interested in obeying (and enforcing) laws which only help to deprive them of the necessities of life.

The idea of community policing never confronts the fact that the working class don't run this society and are not involved in making the decisions about their own lives. We believe that only when we get rid of the small elite who control us will we be able to get rid of the causes of crime.

If the causes go so must the cops as they only exist to protect this elite.

The only real reason for community policing is to give the police a nice human face. The reason why a community police-force is wanted is that the cops are having trouble catching people! In most working class areas there is a dislike of the cops, an unwillingness to co-operate with them.

If the cops become "community workers" they can gain the confidence of people, find out who's who and who is doing what. The only result of having a community police force will be that the cops will have an efficient information-gathering system. The fact that the Association of Garda Sargents and Inspectors supports the idea must immediately make us view it with cynicism.

The State will always attempt to change the "face" of its repressive institutions to suit particular situations. Most often these changes involve more obvious repression. In some cases, as with the community policing idea, they attempt to hide what they are doing by trying to make the face more acceptable to us. We must reject all forms of repression whether they involve the cops smiling at us or bashing us over the head.

WATCH OUT, THERE'S A BUG ABOUT!

We find all this furore over the Buggings pretty hilarious! The phones of three *journalists* tapped...imagine...horrors! Sacred cows must not be touched - nor even sacerder (sic) ministers, Taoiseachs, ex-Special Branch men — surely the unkindest *cut* of all, seeing as how the Branch for *years* have been bugging the phone of every political activist and their friends. This is not to mention all the folders they keep on us detailing all our activities. But *naturally* you never hear journalists scream about that carry on. Probably only part of either Fianna Fail or Fine Gael's dirty linen will come out in the wash — for *National Security reasons naturally*...but you have to ponder...isn't it all dead convenient to distract people from other awkward questions being asked? What for instance of the McArthur case, the dirty business with Nangle (the ex-Special Brancher's cop brother-in-law, and the even dirtier murder of young Eamon Byrne down on North Wall, shot dead by cops? We are still waiting for public enquiries into these hushed-up and hastily buried stories.

GET IN TOUCH



Welcome to *Resistance*, No. 1, which has been produced by the Dublin Anarchist Collective. We are a group of Anarchists who have been working together for about a year now. We have also produced a pamphlet called "Nobody Rules, OK!" outlining our views. This pamphlet is available from Steve Woods, 46 Amiens Street, P.O. Box 1305, Dublin 1.

We have started with the aims of spreading our understanding of Anarchist ideas. We want to provide an anarchist slant to events occurring around us. We want to know what you think of *Resistance*. We welcome letters, articles, useful information — if others won't print it you can be sure we will. Send your goodies or secret tapes to Steve at the above address.

We hope to bring out *Resistance* every month to six weeks. We are dependent on you to keep going. Send subscriptions £2.90 to Steve. Also if you would like a regular bundle to sell to your friends let us know.

⊕ ⊕ ODDS AND SODS ⊕ ⊕

ARMAGH WOMEN ATTACKED

Strip-searching in Armagh jail reached a pitch in mid January when three republican prisoners were physically assaulted by 7 screws.

They were forced to the ground, held down and sat on, and one of them was blindfolded during the searches. Their clothes were forcibly taken off them and one woman had her sanitary towel removed.

As a result the women received bruising to the ribs, arms, back, and ankles. There is no let up in the repressive policies of the new governor, Murtagh.



AnCO SANCTIONS CHEAP LABOUR

Our special correspondent in Finglas has heard that AnCO believe that young people should take low-paid jobs. Apparently the instructress of the sewing course encourages young women to take these jobs in sweat-shops all over the city. She believes that once you get a start you're bound to get something better — that's if you are willing to work for £30 a week for two years. AnCO seems to know their role well — training young people to accept the exploitation of the world of work.

BABY GIRLS MURDERED

China's birth control laws, combined with traditional preference for sons, are leading parents to commit infanticide.

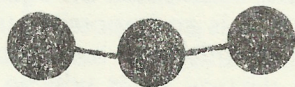
Old couples with no sons run the risk of being abandoned to live out their days alone and uncared for.

In the cities proper pensions are paid, but in the countryside, home of 800 million people, there are usually no benefits.

One father bit off part of the nose of his 8 month old daughter so he could try again for a son under regulations permitting a couple to have a second child if the first was deformed. In rural districts 3 out of every 5 surviving infants were boys. China Youth News said *"if this phenomenon is not stopped then in 20 years a serious social problem may arise. A large number of young men will not be able to find wives"*

Some mothers of girls also suffer maltreatment from their husbands for not producing boys. One killed herself by taking poison offered to her by her husband.

(Eve.Herald, Jan 22, '83. Italics ours).



The next meeting of the WOMENS RIGHT TO CHOOSE CAMPAIGN will take place on Wed.Feb.9th.in the Trinity Inn,Pearse St. at 8pm.A talk/discussion on "The International Struggle For Abortion" will be held.All are welcome to attend.



DON'T FORGET NICKY KELLY

Nicky Kelly is at present serving a 12 year prison sentence for his alleged part in the Cork-Dublin mail train robbery in 1976. At his trial (before the juryless Special Criminal Court) the only evidence against him was his statement: there were no witnesses and no forensic evidence. The court rejected two independent medical reports of extensive swelling and bruising of his body following his brutal police interrogation. The robbery was claimed by the Provos, and Kelly was a member of the IRSP, a different group altogether. 2 of his co-defendants have already been released after the Appeal Court found their statements were inadmissible as evidence.

There is now a Release Nicky Committee which is a broad based group of people who are utterly convinced of his innocence and believe the reasons for the rejection of his appeal lie in the cover-up by successive Governments of serious allegations made against the police (the Heavy Gang) at the time. To release him could possibly re-open the whole controversy and remind people of the political climate which existed at the time of his arrest. We support the campaign to ask people concerned about the blatant injustice of Nicky Kelly's trial to write to the Minister for Justice and demand his release.

The Committee meet every Wednesday night at 29 Mountjoy Sq. at 8 p.m. all sympathisers welcome.



.....JUST BRIEFLY.....

Everyone has felt, with varying degrees of intensity, the oppressive nature of the system we live under, a system which exploits and oppresses us in all aspects of our lives, our leisure, our work, our lack of work, and our relationships. Submission to authority is instilled in us from an early age. We are not encouraged to use our initiative but rather to do as we are told. So we have little control over our lives and no say in issues that concern us. The majority of people suffer the isolation and frustration that goes hand-in-hand with living in this competitive rat-race. People often fail to see the cause of their deprivation and often turn against each other or take it out on themselves, so social problems like violence against women, racism, drug-addiction and alcoholism arise. This does not mean that human nature is evil, but that under extremely bad inhuman conditions people misdirect their anger.

As anarchists, we believe the only way to stop these evils is to put an end to all that is authoritarian, which means the state and all its machinery of oppression — the police, its laws (which protect the rich and their private property which has been stolen from the community) and its bureaucracy. We believe in a need to end all structures and relationships in which one group or individual has power over another. How can people be free and creative beings if they are forced to submit to authority of any sort? People are free only when they have complete control over their own lives — gaining such autonomy and insisting that everyone has it is a major goal of Anarchism.

However, Anarchism is not about isolated individuals doing their own thing but is, on the contrary, based on mutual aid and co-operation, while allowing for individual creativity and spontaneity. We believe in the socialist desire for equal sharing of resources and control in the hands of the workers. But, unlike the rest of the left, we see the abolition of state control as essential. For the state is always a dominant force, wielding power for its own interests and those of the privileged class, whether left or right, and while the state exists there will always be inequality and repression.

As Anarchists we believe that the personal is as important as "bigger" social issues, and desire mutual aid, co-operation and respect to be part of our daily existence. Anarchism means revolution in our everyday lives as well as in the political and economic spheres.

Because we have seen no good coming out of movements with a leadership elite, we believe that people must transform the conditions of their existence themselves. It cannot be done for us.

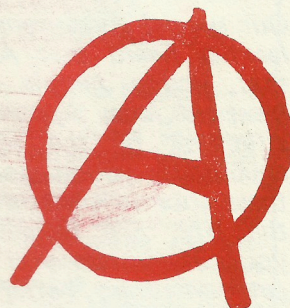
Contrary to popular belief, Anarchism is not chaos or disorganisation — what could be more chaotic than capitalism! The organisation we practice and envisage in a future society, is horizontal as opposed to hierarchical, a type of organisation in which everyone has a say in decision-making. We envisage skill-sharing, rotation of tasks and technological progress used for the benefit of all the community and not just to make profit for a few.

This goal of a free society without a dominant class based on equality and co-operation is often knocked on the grounds that it is an impossible utopia. But it is only in an Anarchist society that our true humanity can be realised and once achieved it would be in nobody's interest to destroy it. It will be achieved by people believing in it — by shaking off our fear of freedom.

FIND OUT MORE.....

WOMENS CENTRE
53, DAME ST., DUBLIN 1. (Over Nico's)
TALK AND DISCUSSION
by ANARCHA/FEMINISTS
Sunday 6th February at 7.30pm.

ANARCHIST BOOK SERVICE
MAIL ORDER SYSTEM NOW AVAILABLE
For further information, catalogue etc:
Write with S.A.E. to:—
Box G19, 40, Lr. Ormond Quay, Dublin 1.



The whole point is that the cuts are not only unnecessary but also do not hit the rich the same as the poor. Cutting expenditure in health and education is even more disgusting in the light of the willingness of the politicians to flog over £1 million on a useless abortion referendum, when that money could be used to set up creches or for school transport. Those who claim to be so 'pro-life' are more concerned about their fanatical demands and because they have power and money, the government gives in to them. The same may be said for the eagerness of politicians and the ruling class to put more cops on the streets and build more prisons. This is no answer as so many must rob through sheer need but serves as another way of protecting the interests of private property and maintaining a system based on inequality.



These cruel and savage cuts demand that people fight back. For too long the bosses and politicians have been laughing all the way to the bank. We've had enough bullshit about budget deficits, cash flows and the national interest. The so-called "National Interest" is always that of the ruling class. We have had enough of the media, a prop of the state, labelling those on the dole as lazy scroungers when unemployment is created by capitalism. We have to fight back not by taking out our anger and frustration on each other which is what the state wants, but by rejecting the system which exploits us. Our demands must go beyond merely getting back what little was given to us before the recession and the cutbacks — we demand the whole bakery! an end to exploitation and repression and a free non-authoritarian society based on equality and mutual aid.

IF MEN COULD GET PREGNANT- ABORTION WOULDN'T BE A CRIME.



VOTE NO!

Control of our own bodies is one of the most basic demands we can make, indeed, it should be an unquestioned right, but despite limited gains made by women as regards access to contraception, our right to control our own fertility is again under attack.

The Coalition government has agreed to hold a Referendum on abortion in March. Since, as you know, abortion is already punishable by a life sentence, a referendum to give a constitutional right to life to the foetus is unnecessary to say the least. Why then are they bothering?

Well, first of all, the major parties were asked to undertake the Referendum before an election and election promises are made easily, and especially easily when it comes to an emotive subject like abortion. (Note how they never fulfill promises which might actually benefit people). Both Fine Gael and Fine Fail have always been very wary of stepping on the toes of the Catholic Church, remember our lousy Contraception Bill or even further back, the Mother and Child Scheme? Even though a fool could see that a referendum was unnecessary they couldn't afford to be seen to be 'less holy than thou' and rumours of pro-abortion sympathies would have lost them many votes. No doubt this is also the reason for the uncertain stance of the Labour Party and the deathly silence from the Workers Party on the whole issue.

A second reason why the two right-wing parties agreed to holding a referendum is that heated debate and widespread media coverage on such a topic is a great way of diverting attention from soaring price increases and plunging living standards.

In this sense the referendum is a bit of a 'Godsend' for our exploiters, but it is Irish women of course who will pay the cost and not just in terms of the fight for choice in the case of an unwanted pregnancy.

The State acknowledges the right to life of the unborn and with due regard to the equal right of the mother, guarantees in its laws to respect and as far as practicable, by its laws, to defend and vindicate that right

The above is the wording you'll be asked to vote on. Although it is very vague below are some of the most likely implications of the amendment if adopted.

ABORTION

It is most likely that clinics such as the Irish Pregnancy Counselling Centre which do abortion referrals and pregnancy counselling, will have to close. So we'll have the spectre, once again, of Irish women travelling to England for abortions, totally isolated and without proper information on reliable clinics there.

CONTRACEPTION

The I.U.D., the low dosage contraceptive pill and the post coital pill may work by preventing, not fertilization, but implantation. So these types of contraception could be banned and women would have to return to using the high-dosage contraceptive pill which has many dangerous side-effects.

WOMEN'S HEALTH

Since the foetus would be given an equal right to life as the woman what would happen when a pregnancy threatened the life of the mother? Just one example of this is in the case of cancer. The cancer cannot be treated without severely malforming the foetus and if proper treatment has to be delayed until after the birth in order to protect the foetus, it could be too late to save the mother.

This amendment, if adopted, would directly affect the majority of Irish women and not just those who find themselves with unwanted pregnancies. It will indirectly affect the whole of Irish society by pushing even the discussion about abortion back behind closed doors.

It is important that no one should dismiss this amendment as a diversionary tactic on behalf of the ruling class because, while it is undoubtedly this, it is also a gross attack on our already very limited rights to control of our fertility. We urge you to get involved in fighting it because the wealth and power of the right means that at this stage they certainly have the upper hand, even the Irish Times who are opposed to the Amendment are not above taking advertising from them when it comes down to brass tacks i.e. money.

Fighting the right on this issue means that we not only are against the Amendment but that we challenge the right of the courts and of our oppressors to make decisions for us. So, even though it sounds strange coming from Anarchists, we ask you to vote no!

ANTI-AMENDMENT CAMPAIGN

c/o 60 Eccles St., Dublin 1
Phone: 308636

ANTI-AMENDMENT PUBLIC MEETINGS

Tuesday 8th Feb. 8pm.
8a Main St., Finglas (behind Post Office)

Tuesday 15th Feb. 8pm
Hollybrook Hotel, Clontarf.

UNEMPLOYED FIGHT BACK

What sort of increase are we going to get on social welfare — NONE, 10% or 15% as the I.C.T.U. suggested we deserve? Even though more is obviously better than less we can be sure that this government, like every other government, will keep us at just basic subsistence level. That is, they'll give us just enough to make sure we don't starve to death, but not enough for us to live comfortably.

Even if it were a period of economic boom the story would be the same. Unemployment and it's resulting misery is a very good thing for the bosses. It's a good threat to use in wage negotiations or in the face of protests about bad working conditions — 'accept this or join the dole queue'. Unemployment is useful to the bosses in dividing the working class, but whether working or not we're being exploited for their profit, only the quality of living is marginally different.

There are differences too in the way the employed and the unemployed can fight to change their conditions. Those who have jobs can at least strike, while the unemployed cannot hit back where it really hurts, i.e. in the bosses pockets. Being unemployed means that we're more isolated as well. We don't have a workplace to meet and lack of money means we can't even socialize, so there isn't the same solidarity among the unemployed as there is among working people. Our major advantage though is time. That's something we've got a lot of (!), and this time can be used productively despite our lack of money.

Over the last two years small groups of unemployed people have been getting together to see what we could do for ourselves and also how we could support those who are working when they are in protest.

The Dublin Unemployed Action Group is one such group. There are various different political beliefs represented within the group but our unity is based on the belief that the unemployed are capable of organizing themselves

and that the struggle of those in work is our struggle as well. Our activities to date reflect this thinking.

We produce a newspaper for the dole offices, *Hard Times*, we've put on cheap gigs, we've had pickets on the Dail to protest against miserly dole increases, we're campaigning for unemployed centres to be set up, and we have also linked our struggle to that of working people as in our support for the Clondalkin Paper Mills workers.


Last year we organised a march from Waterford to Dublin in association with other U.A.Gs and this sparked off the formation of other groups around the country. There are now 7 centres of dissent! At the present time we are strengthening links with these groups so that our protests will be stronger and more effective. At least we are showing that we're not going to sit back and take the crap.

In the end of course there are limits to what we can achieve in such groups. To win even short term gains we need the support of working people. As for the solution to unemployment, the abolition of capitalism, that's another story altogether.


D.U.A.G. c/o A.T.G.W.U., Marlboro Street, Dublin 1. Meetings: Thurs. 3rd Feb. 8pm Maguires (upstairs), Nth. Frederick St. and every second thursday after. Conference of unemployed groups and supporting trade unions and political organisations. Sat. 21st Feb, 2pm at A.T.G.W.U. Hall.

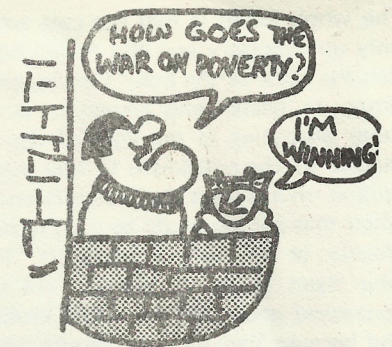
PICKET THE DAIL. SAY NO TO DOLE CUTS.
Tuesday, February 8th from 6.30-7.30pm.

WORK AT ANY COST

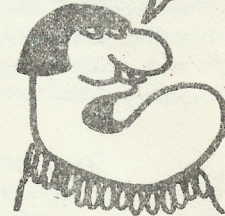
One of the few areas where there are jobs available happens to be in the war-trade. 300 new production workers have been taken on by the Shorts Aerospace Co. in Belfast. Shorts supply arms and weapons to numerous war-mongers including both Argentina and Britain. The Managing director (Sir) Philip Foreman said "our products are still proving successful" and export demand for their missiles has risen. Is this what is meant by 'jobs in jeopardy'?! 

DOUBLE-THINK

The difference in reaction by the British establishment to the shooting of an innocent (english)man by the police in London and to the shooting of two unarmed republicans by the R.U.C. on Dec. 12, is amazing. The shoot-to-kill policy of the R.U.C. is acceptable in relation to taigs but in London its not cricket. Whitelaw protests his outrage and the cops concerned are up on a murder charge. One law for England — another for Northern Ireland. 



THEN HOW DO YOU EXPLAIN SO MANY BEGGARS IN THE STREETS?



DOLORES LYNCH

In 1979 a campaign was begun for the rights of Ireland's prostitutes to ply their trade without harrassment from the cops, rip-offs from pimps and danger from their clients. The chief spokeswoman was Dolores Lynch.

Supported by friends Dolores later managed to make the incredibly difficult change-over from prostitute to hospital worker, but in her free time she continued the campaign by compiling a list of Dublin's pimps - the shit-heads who live off the prostitutes' earnings. For this she was harrassed and attacked by pimps and some of the prostitutes.

When it became obvious that Dolores was not going to give in to these threats she was cold-bloodedly and brutally murdered. A fire was started in the home she shared with her mother and aunt and all three were burned to death. So far one man has been charged.

We salute the spirit of Dolores Lynch, one of the most courageous of fighters against exploitation.

Shorts