

Socialist Worker

For a Workers' Republic and International Socialism 40p

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STOP THE NUCLEAR TESTS!

STOP NATO BOMBING IN BOSNIA

AFTER THE fall of the Berlin Wall and the end of the Cold War, many thought that the arms race was over.

But Chirac's decision to keep on testing nuclear weapons in the South Pacific shows that the world is still run by a ruling elite who want to spend more on weapons.

Why is Chirac testing his bombs, if there is no possibility that he will use them?

Since 1990, the number of nuclear missiles in the world has barely diminished. There are still 20,000 of these dangerous warheads. The US and Russia together have 15,000 and countries like France, China and Britain have between 300 and 500.

Nor has the trade in conventional arms declined. In 1994, £13.5 billion was spent in buying and selling conventional weapons.

According to the UN Development Report, the total amount of money spent on arms is equal to the income of the poorest half the world's population.

In other words if our rulers stopped the crazy arms race, they could start to abolish famines and the terrible diseases of poverty that infect the world.

But they will never do this. Their main concern is a greed for profit and domination.

Today the French army, which is testing its bombs in the South Pacific, is part of the NATO war effort in Bosnia. They have thrown out all pretence of being a neutral referee and have joined in one side of the civil war.

Sources

According to some sources, they have already hit a hospital in Pale with their bombs —yet the world media is staying silent about these atrocities.

We have to stand up against the war mongers who dominate our world. Their crazy system of capitalism of is in a mess and they are trying on ever dangerous manoeuvres.

Turn to page six and seven

Fat cats' £500m loot

Mackies gloat over low wages

IRELAND's biggest capitalists can face the long winter safe in the knowledge that they have just reaped huge dividends from the companies they run.

Shareholders and directors of publicly quoted companies will share a £500 million bonanza—double the £250 million loot paid out in 1990.

Top of the list is *Socialist Worker's* favourite fat cat Tony O'Reilly, chairman of Independent Newspapers, who gets £3 million on his personal holding of 33 million shares. Next is Michael

Smurfit, double-jobbing as chairman and chief executive of the Smurfit Group—his payout amounts to £830,000 on his personal holding of 24 million shares PLUS a further £189,000 on the 5.4 million shares he holds in trust.

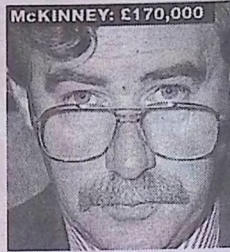
Windfall

The more 'modest' beneficiaries of this windfall include:



SMURFIT: £930,000
Neil McCann, chairman of Fyffe's—£426,000 on the 25 million shares he holds;

Eugene Murtagh, chairman and chief executive of Kingspan—£311,000 on his 8.9 million shares in the



McKINNEY: £170,000
construction materials company;
Bonanza
Craig McKinney, chairman and chief executive of Woodchester—



O'REILLY: £3 MILLION
£170,000 on his 2.5 million shares;
Michael Chadwick, executive chairman of the Grafton Group—£170,000 on his 1.7 million shares.
The *Sunday Business*



McCANN: £426,000
Post reported the figures on 10th September explaining that the bonanza was made 'on the back of a profit surge'.
On the backs of workers who create those profits, more like!

BOSSES at Mackies International in West Belfast have been gloating over the fact that the North is being 'sold' to international capitalists as a low-wage economy.

"The opportunity to utilise the engineering skills and facilities in Belfast, free of the costs of the Social Chapter and uncommercial exchange rates is interesting other EU manufacturers", said Mackies chairman Roger Looker.

The company, which had a 40 per cent rise in pre-tax profits this year, is situated between the Falls Road and the Shankill Road where the average weekly disposable income is less than £100. This is half the Northern Ireland average which is itself 20 per cent lower than Britain.

In a frenzied drive for even more profits Mackies intends to introduce the Japanese workplace philosophy of Kaizen, "which requires all employees to continually consider how they can improve processes and functions and take greater responsibility for performance."

Instead workers at Mackies would be better advised to continually consider how they can destroy an exploitative system which keeps the bosses rich at the expense of an abandoned and impoverished community.

There are many Galway landlords that would willingly rent a broom cupboard—and pocket the rent without letting the tax office know.

Class

And as for jobs the business class that Mr Madden represents has received nearly £1,000 million in grants in the 1980s—but they never provided the jobs in Galway or anywhere else.

Ringsend incinerator protest planned

AT 12.30 pm on Saturday the 23rd of this month a massive march and demonstration are scheduled to take place in Ringsend.

The demonstration is in protest at the proposed incinerator for the area and will involve local residents and environmental groups. Schools and other organisations have been contacted and there are plans to petition local workplaces.

Clare Watson of the Sandymount/Merrion residents association said those involved have been building hard for this and are expecting a big turn out.

Permission to build the incinerator was denied by Dublin corporation in April but An Bord Pleanála are due to hear an appeal by Waste To Energy, the company behind the incinerator, on the 26th and rumours are rife that the corporation's decision will be overturned.

The monster incinerator will cover 367 sq metres and burn up to twenty four tonnes of hospital waste from the Leinster area every day. Incinerators are a particular favourite with big industry.

Once the waste has been dissipated it is almost impossible to legally pin health and environmental damage down to the original waste generator.

Studies have proved that waste burned in these plants often produces chemicals that are even more dangerous than the original materials; and exposure to them can cause cancer, birth defects, spontaneous abortion and foetal toxicity as well as a host of other illnesses.

Then there's the danger of leakage and spillage involved in transport.

Those opposed to it have pointed out that the site would be close to recreational and other facilities, and the insanity of transporting hazardous waste through built up areas.

The campaign so far has been strong and well organised but it should not be restricted to Ringsend.

If any of the horror stories are to be believed this plant will affect the whole city of Dublin and maybe beyond.

The hundreds of thousands of ordinary people, working and unemployed, who will suffer if it goes ahead should be involved.

Politicians based in the areas affected are due to attend the protest. But they should not be trusted. Many of them belong to parties which brought in laws which hamper ordinary people's attempts to stop these projects.

We should rely on our own strength and organisation to stop this project.

Protest: 12.30, Saturday 23rd Sept, Clanna Gael, Sean Moore Road; Benefit Concert: Olympia, Sunday 24th, 8.00pm

Desmond's penthouse profit scam

REMEMBER Dermot Desmond? He was the businessman who set up the Telecom Ballsbridge deal where a few associates managed to buy a site at a dirt cheap price and then sell it to Telecom at an exorbitant price.

At the time Dick Spring denounced this sort of activity as a part of the 'Golden Circle'. Now the bold Dermot has found new ways of making money. He has

just sold the plush penthouse offices at Dublin's International Financial Services Centre. Our financial wizard raised a staggering £6

million on the sale. But he did not stop there. He then rented the office back off its new owners at a cost worked out at £50 a square foot.

System

Mad, you might think. But Desmond knows his way around the Irish tax system. There is a double rent allowance under the tax break scheme that op-

erates at the IFCS. For every foot that Desmond is renting, he can claim a £100 tax allowance.

All this is perfectly legal. He created no new jobs, added nothing to the productivity of humankind—but he gets much more in tax breaks than PAYE workers can ever get. And all thanks to the Labour Party's Minister for Finance, Ruairi Quinn. A funny old world.

'AIDS Avenger' whips up panic

FATHER Michael Kennedy from Dungarvan is running a modern witch-hunt. He has found the evil woman who brings disease and promiscuity to innocent men.

Fr Kennedy became world celebrity when he announced that one woman had deliberately infected 80 victims with AIDS.

Fr Kennedy gave the tabloid press a field day. A typical case was the *Daily Mirror* which described a "red-haired AIDS avenger who set out on a hate filled mission".

The reality is that Fr Kennedy is whipping up hysteria to build up propaganda against sex outside marriage.

■ If he was so concerned about the issue, why did he not immediately speak to the public health authorities?

The Sexually Transmitted Diseases Clinics in local hospitals have far more expertise than Fr Kennedy at tracing sexual partners.

■ He ignored the fact that it is more difficult to transmit AIDS from women to

men. According to Dr James Walshe, the National AIDS Co-ordinator, the woman would have had to have slept with the 80 men at least 500 times.

Fr Kennedy's story rests on the idea that a woman who stayed in Dungarvan for 6 months had sex 40,000 times!

But then Fr Kennedy wants to stay pretty loose with the facts. He and the bishops are not concerned about AIDS—but only enforcing their warped morality.

Concerned

If they were concerned, they would not have campaigned against wide availability of condoms.

In the next few weeks, we can expect more stories like these. The clergy are preparing for the upcoming divorce debate.

They will try on the most bizarre scare stories to win.

One Bishop has already warned about the formation of a Michigan style militia in Ireland. Another, Dr Clifford, has even warned that divorce causes more car accidents!

They are on the run and they know it. They should be laughed out of court.



Fr Michael Kennedy

Maddened by Galway's 'Bohemian set'

LIAM MADDEN, the Progressive Democrat councillor in Galway is hopping mad. His native town is getting a terrible "Bohemian reputation".

It seems that all these young people are leaving home at the shocking age of 18 and claiming rent allowance if they do not get jobs.

Champion

This champion of the entrepreneurial spirit

complains that 'they are vandalising properties, causing owners thousands of pounds in damage and then moving to new property to claim a rent subsidy'.

Funnily, *Socialist Worker* thought it was the other way around.

A cold shoulder in Cork

A SIXTEEN year old Cork girl who had twice attempted suicide was last week refused psychiatric help from the Southern Health Board.

According to board regulations the girl could not be treated as a minor but when a psychiatrist referred her to an adult unit she was told that they only

dealt with people over eighteen. Nobody suggested what she should do in the intervening two years.

Problem

Only after her doctor contacted the chairman of the board's community care committee was the

problem sorted out.

The Southern Health Board claimed that the whole thing was a mistake, apologised to the girl's parents and promised it would never happen again.

But it wasn't a mistake - it was board policy and nothing would have been done about it if it wasn't for the girl's doctor and her parents.

what we think

Bosnia: NATO joins in civil war

THE NATO war planes have started to fire Cruise missiles at Serbian forces in Bosnia.

Just as in the Gulf War, they claim there is "no collateral damage" but the reality is otherwise.

According to one NATO spokesperson the bombing goes on "24 hours a day .. until we are told otherwise".

The targets are no longer military but include bridges and water reservoirs.

As in Iraq, NATO is trying to bomb Bosnian Serbs back to the middle ages.

This brutality has received a universal welcome from the press.

According to the *Irish Times*, "At long last the West has done the right thing in Bosnia".

But the reality is that they have joined in on one side of a civil war. NATO says they had to intervene because of Serb brutality in Sarajevo.

The Serb nationalists have conducted a brutal war. But they are no more or less brutal than the Croatian and Bosnian forces who drove 150,000 Serbs from Krajina area.

People who lived in the area for 700 years were driven out in two days.

When the journalist Ed Vulliamy visited the village of Golubic in the area, he found Croatian soldiers playing soccer with a human head.

Yet the Croatian and Bosnian armies that carried out the operation were armed, trained and financed by the US and Germany.

Attack

The Western media claim that all of this is necessary because Bosnia is a "multi-ethnic" state that is under attack by fascists.

Just as James Connolly had to reject the argument about "poor little Belgium" being attacked by the "Huns", it is important that socialist reject this argument.

Today the Bosnian government behaves little differently to the nationalist brutes who run Serbia and Croatia.

It is run by an exclusively Muslim party, the SDA. Its leader Izetbegovitch has insisted that in the event of his death, his successor must be a Muslim.

It is allied with a Croatian government that has restored the old fascist flag of the war time Ustashe.

The NATO intervention is supposed to lead to a peace settlement.

Its proposal will carve up Bosnia into a 51% Serb area and a 49% Bosnian-Croat area.

These will be ethnically pure states that are run by the same warlords that began the horror. It is a recipe for further conflict and hatred.

But the NATO generals do not care. They will have achieved a

new foothold in the area as Bosnia and Croatia will be part of their "sphere of interest"

They see this as important in the event of any new conflict with Russian imperialism.

The one force that can oppose this savagery is the working class.

Whether or not it will move to settle accounts with the nationalist brutes, we cannot predict.

Hope

But that is where the hope lies. There are important signs of content.

Montenegro, a state allied to Serbia, is now refusing to hand up draft dodgers because of the anti-war mood.

Ever since the end of the Cold War, there has emerged in the



NATO warplanes scramble to attack Bosnian Serbs

West the "B52 liberal" who believes that the warplanes of the "civilised West" will sort out problems of injustice and tyranny.

They choose to forget that it was the Western powers who sold the

arms, supported the tyrants and stoked up the conflicts around the world.

Sort Out

Asking NATO and the UN to sort

out problems of injustice is like requesting a butcher to promote vegetarianism.

Their actions in Bosnia show NATO is not a neutral referee but a full player in the game of war.

Trimble: Why the Unionists choose a die-hard bigot



THE GOVERNMENT of the Republic were "privately stunned" by the election of David Trimble to the leadership of the Unionist Party.

They preferred John Taylor as "someone they could do business with", according to one political correspondent.

If Taylor is the new moderate, this shows just how sectarian the Unionist Party really is. Taylor at one stage sat with the fascist group of MEPs in the European parliament.

He argued that the activities of the loyalist death squads might be "positive" and "help-

ful". Trimble won because he joined up with Paisley in the "siege" of Portadown this summer.

Bigotry

He has a history of bigotry that is second to none.

He showed that all talk of modernising the party by loosening the ties to the Orange Order is just pie in the sky.

The middle class who make up the Unionist Party wanted a "die hard" because they are swinging to the right.

They are more than willing to

put peace at risk by insisting that the IRA hand up *all* weapons before talks.

But the same hypocrites have no difficulty talking to the UDA and the UVF.

The Unionist middle class knows that any new settlement will create greater room for their Catholic counterparts.

It will cut back on the number of jobs as managers, barristers or professors that are available to them.

Divided

Workers in Northern Ireland can swing between moods of sectarianism and class solidarity.

But bigotry is never in their interest because once they are divided, all workers lose out.

For the middle classes who enjoy great privileges in the North it is different.

They will always try to inject the poison of sectarianism into Northern politics.

They have been helped by the Tories over the last year. Major's new demand that the IRA surrender its weapons has given the Unionist Party a confidence to dig in.

The election inside the Unionist Party was met by mass apathy among Protestant workers.

An attempt to hold a survey on the Shankill on the leader-

ship race, collapsed due to lack of interest.

Thousands of Protestant workers know that Trimble represents a different class to them.

This is an important start.

But the awareness of a class difference with Trimble in itself will not be sufficient for a clear break with his politics.

The high levels of unemployment and the sectarian basis of all official policies encourages workers to think they are in competition with "the other side".

There has to be a socialist organisation that sets out consciously to break people away from the bigots.

This organisation will start as a small minority but as it grows it can appeal to the strong awareness of a common class interest.

This is why the SWP argues openly with Protestant workers that they have no interest in defending an Orange culture which promotes the idea of superiority over Catholics.

This is why we also argue with Catholic workers that they will never improve their lot, still less encourage Protestant workers to break from Unionism, by lining up with the "nationalist Ireland" of Fianna Fail or the Irish American racists who support Clinton.

inside the system

FF go for dosh

THE PARTY of the rich have gone mega-rich. Already this year, FF has put on a glittering display of hospitality at the opening night of "Riverdance"—at only £125 a head.

And they recently put on an exclusive week of events at the Galway races.

Again £125 for VIP treatment.

Reserved

And this month Bertie Ahern has reserved the

Lakeview pavilion at the Smurfit Euro Golf Open at the mega-rich K-Club in Kildare.

The four day special package, including corporate gifts, afternoon teas and complimentary bar, is ONLY £1,380 per person.

Bertie says he's a keen sportsman and makes no apology for the huge price tags: "I'm



delighted Fianna Fail is holding corporate hospitality..."

A caring Church?

THE POPE has been anxious recently to present himself as a caring '90s man.

He has apologised for the Church's role in oppressing women but that didn't stop him instructing Ireland's bishops to go all out to defeat divorce.

Others who don't live up to the new 'progressive' image include: ■ Fr Paul Lavelle, whose pamphlet called *Understanding Aids* warns married couples that they cannot use a condom if they want to pass through the Pearly Gates.

He is pretty insistent on this, as contraceptives "contradict the unconditional self-giving of man and wife".

■ Cardinal Ratzinger, second in command at the Vatican, who has revealed to the world that the Holy Ghost will only enter the wafers at mass and transform them into the body of Christ if they contain gluten.

This revelation means coeliacs cannot be priests since they have a deadly allergy to gluten.

COOKING UP A NEW DEAL

SO YOU thought that the British establishment did not really care for the people of the North. Just how wrong can you be.

Not only are they trying to find nice new structures for us, they have even come up with a cookbook to cheer us all up.

The book is called *Recipes for peace: 100 recipes to promote Peace in Ireland*.

Among the contributors are Baroness Thatcher, the Duchess of Kent and John and Norma Major.

Diners are however advised to carry a very large sick bag for the afters.

Young PDs rock the boat

IT SEEMS P.D. leader Mary Harney could be in for a tough time from the youth section of the party.

The Young PDs recently circulated a new policy document, "Generation 2000".



Cannabis

They have no problems with attacking workers' rights or slashing social welfare.

But these young "radicals" want to see cannabis decriminalised, the support of abortion in limited circumstances, and regulation for prostitution.

They are also critical of the disgraceful PD support for the recent Public Order Bill.

The wrong medal

JUST BEFORE David Trimble was elected the leader of the Unionist Party he received a medal from the Orange Order for his activities at the Garvaghy.

Imagine his horror when the medal was recalled. The valiant defenders of civil and religious liberty had put the wrong spelling on the medal.

Just a small omen of what is store for Ulster's chief bigot.

PRIEST'S RACIST FILTH

FATHER Neil Horan, originally from Scartaglen in Kerry and now ministering in London, hopes that within fifty years two-thirds of the world's Jews will have been exterminated in a nuclear attack on Israel.

Fr. Neil believes this is necessary to provoke the Second Coming and force those Jews who remain to see the error of their ways and accept Jesus as the Son of God.

Official opening

THE CHASE Manhattan Bank recently held an official ceremony to open the 'Chase Strivers Center' in the New York district of Harlem.

It's the first new bank-

ing facility of any kind to be set up in downtown Harlem in 38 years.

Dominate

But if you go to the Big Apple you will have to look very hard to find the new 'Center'.

It doesn't exactly domi-

nate the skyline since all it consists of is one Automated Teller Machine and a telephone.

Meanwhile Chase is to merge with Chemical Banking to form the biggest bank in the US.

The merger will result in 12,000 job losses and the closure of 100 branches.

letters

Apprentice Boys are sectarian

EACH YEAR in the six counties there are between two and three thousand Loyalist parades.

As residents' groups have increasingly mobilised to oppose these marches, unionist spokespersons have sought to characterise such opposition as intolerant.

These arguments are quite simply dishonest and will not bear scrutiny. For example on 11th August, Derry Trades Council in conjunction with Derry City Council held a one-day seminar on the sieges of Derry.

The Apprentice Boys, although specifically invited, declined to attend. Of course the problem

which faces the Apprentice Boys is not that they are misunderstood but rather that their agenda is understood only too well. In 1688 the gates of Derry were closed in the face of a British monarch whose authority had been rejected.

Misuse

With no apparent sense of irony the Apprentice Boys misuse the siege in an effort to re-establish an authority and a social order which have been comprehensively rejected by the people of Derry.

In demanding the right to parade through Derry with Union Jacks and loyalist flags, the Apprentice Boys reveal their central

purpose. These flags did not exist in 1688 and are of no relevance to the Siege of Derry.

Their significance in the context of the Apprentice Boys parade lies in the visible assertion of Orange and Unionist dominance.

The sectarian chants and the gestures of hatred in which the marchers indulge are ritualistic displays of triumphalism and superiority.

It is this behaviour which nationalists and indeed many non-nationalists including socialists quite rightly find objection-

able. The siege of 1689 is one episode in Derry's long history. Like many historical events it is open to interpretation.

Defiance

It could with equal validity be seen as a republican defiance of monarchy, an example of workers co-operative endeavour or a defence of religious liberty.

However, by proclaiming themselves sole custodians of the siege, the Apprentice Boys have ap-



Apprentice Boys march past demonstrators in Derry

behind the headlines

The con at the heart of the 'peace process'

by EAMONN McCANN

NOBODY is telling the truth in the row over IRA decommissioning of weapons. If they did tell the truth, the "peace process" would be exposed as a con.

The reason the British have insisted that arms should be handed over or otherwise gotten rid of is that this would amount to an acceptance by the IRA of the legitimacy of British sovereignty in the North.

It doesn't matter that the hand-over or destruction of weapons might be supervised by an "international commission". What matters is that it's the British authorities who would have been satisfied that it had been done.

Thus, it would be the British Government which had set the conditions for Sinn Fein's entry into all-party talks and then adjudicated whether the conditions had been met.

To accept this would be to accept British authority. The key question the republicans want to talk about would, by implication at least, have been settled in advance, and not in the Republicans' favour.

It is understandable that Sinn Fein should have been outraged that this was asked of them since the "peace process" was sold to the Republican rank and file precisely on the basis that nothing of the sort was involved.

On the contrary, the "peace process", they were invited to believe, was a brilliant plan to end British sovereignty in the North.

A powerful alliance had been put in place, joining Sinn Fein to the SDLP, the Dublin Government, and officials and people close to officials of the Clinton administration in Washington.

This mighty block would move inexorably forward, bringing its component-part Sinn Fein with it, towards the goal of a united Ireland.

On this understanding the IRA agreed to a "complete cessation of military operations". Rank and file Republicans were not discouraged by their leaders from believing that if this strategy didn't work, they could go back to the armed struggle. It is because they believed they had this option that many went along with the strategy.

However, this wasn't everybody's understanding of what was afoot. Two weeks after the IRA "cessation", the Loyalist paramilitaries called a ceasefire—on the basis that any threat to British sovereignty in the North

had been lifted. Spokesmen like Garry McMichael and David Ervine jeered at Paisley for his insistence that "the union" was still under threat—which helped greatly to endear them to bourgeois commentators in Dublin.

The same commentators chose not to listen as McMichael, Ervine, etc, consistently made it plain that their ceasefires would be abandoned if ever they came to believe the "link with Britain" was under threat.

Ervine claimed this month that Albert Reynolds as Taoiseach had assured his group that their understanding of the situation was accurate and that the IRA would be decommissioning "offensive" weaponry as a token of their acceptance of the new situation.

Reynolds denied this. What can be said for certain is that the Loyalist groups got their understanding of what the "peace process" entailed from *somewhere*—and nobody stood up to tell them they were wrong.

Responded

When the Framework Documents were published six months ago, proposing "cross-border institutions" with unspecified powers, Ervine responded that "all hell would break loose" if any attempt was made to put this into practice.

Everybody in the North knew what "all hell" meant in this context, and who would be on the receiving end. But supporters of the "peace process" sang dumb about this blood-curdling threat.

The Combined Loyalist Military Command last month gave a no-first-strike pledge. Or so it was eagerly reported by the Dublin papers and RTE. This month, Ervine pointed out that the CLMC had pledged no-first-strike—as long as "the democratic rights of the people of Northern Ireland were upheld".

In other words, not an inch on the constitutional question or the "war" (killing Catholics) starts again.

The "peace process" rests on a direct and glaringly obvious contradiction. It's a con on "both sides", perpetrated by two capitalist governments and their hangers-on out to pacify a divided working class, and facilitated by media which don't want to face facts.

Because it's a con it can't bring lasting peace, and it certainly won't advance the position of any element of the working class.

PAUL LAUGHLIN, DERRY

Police station no-one wants on peace-line

THE TORIES are pushing ahead with plans for a massive police station that will be the size of Wembley Stadium—despite the ceasefire.

The station will be in the Springfield Rd area of West Belfast, on the peace-line between the Protestant Springmartin and the Catholic Springfield Estate. There is growing opposition from people in both areas.

May Blood, a community worker in Springmartin, told *Socialist Worker*:

"We oppose this base for a number of reasons. People are worried by the sheer size of it, will it have a helicopter pad? The military traffic will endanger the kids playing.

"People are worried about all the high tech elec-

tronic equipment and the health risks. People do not want look out posts looking down into their front rooms.

Improving

"We want the money spent on improving people's living conditions. Peo-

ple on this side have exactly the same as those on the other side—we have only one shop and not much else"

While millions are spent on the base, the Springvale Housing development has been hit by cuts.

The Housing Executive

was supposed to build 200 houses—but in March it announced that only 69 would be built.

The Tories can find plenty of money to police the sectarian set up and the poverty that goes with it—but not for the houses that people need.

Row over Derry picket of Tory minister



CONTROVERSY was sparked in Derry when the local branch of the

Socialist Workers Party called a picket of the Tory Minister for Women's Issues, Baroness Denton.

The Tory lady said she wanted to 'hear the views and concerns of women'.

According to Helen Sharkey of the local SWP, "We should let her know what the women—and men—think of the effect the Tory government poli-

cies have had on working class women, both Protestant and Catholic"

'Good Friend'

But SDLP Councillor Annie Courtney said that Denton was 'a good friend of women' and that it is 'wrong to protest in the present climate of peace'.

The reality is that protesting against Tory attacks



New RUC station

on working class living standards can strengthen the peace by bringing people together across the sectarian divide.

When the Tories attack workers, they don't care about their religion.

According to Helen, "Working class women are the hardest hit by the in-

roduction of the Social Fund, the Child Support Agency and the abolition of Wages Councils.

Scrapping

The proposed scrapping of Lone Parent Allowance—the miserly £6.30 extra a week given to lone

parents on top of their Family Allowance—would be another blow"

Support on the streets for the picket has been brilliant, so much so that as we go to press there are rumours that the Robber Baroness is going to cancel the meeting rather than face the picket.

WATER CHARGES:

Thousands defy as councils threaten court action

TENS of thousands of households across the country are refusing to pay water charges.

And now many are receiving notices to appear before the courts.

At the beginning of September, Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown Council admitted that of the 45,000 households eligible to pay in their area, 18,000 had paid nothing whatsoever.

Many more had paid only a fraction of their bill.

This council, in an attempt to break the confidence of non-payers, has consistently claimed that the vast majority of people are happily paying the charges.

Their lies have now been exposed.

There is a 50 per cent non-payment rate in the rest of Dublin county while only 14 per cent of local authority tenants in Cork have paid up.

In South County Dublin and nearby Fingal council areas it is estimated that 60 per cent of those eligible have not paid this year or last.

People are going further than non-payment, however, and are now getting organised to fight the charges.

Campaign groups have been revived all over the Dublin county councils' area while there are long-standing campaigns in

The betrayal of Labour and Democratic Left

MANY Labour Party and Democratic Left councillors were elected on the basis that they would never introduce water charges.

Democratic Left even hesitated about going into Coalition until the water charges issue was solved.

They pushed for the Local Government (Delimitation of Water Supply Disconnection Powers) Act.

This forces local authorities to give out

three warnings and get a court order. But after this procedure—they can still cut off water supplies.

Dragging

Now both Labour and Democratic Left will be party to dragging people through the courts and cutting off the water supply to households all around Ireland.

However they will face considerable resistance.

Non-payers will be organising mass protests outside the courts,

demonstrations at council meetings and will resist disconnections.

The issue will be won by mass mobilisation and not by barristers arguments in the courts.

The mood is one of real anger and rightly so. As one non-payer said: "There's no way they'll get me to pay—this is double taxation.

"When they abolished rates in 1977 they increased PAYE to cover the cost of all these services. Now they want us to pay again—No way!"

Cork, Waterford and elsewhere.

Match

In Belgard in Tallaght, fifty people turned up to a meeting in the middle of the Ireland versus Austria

match.

According to Deirdre Cronin of the Ballinteer Anti-Water Charges group:

"There is a feeling that we can win on this one. People want to get active and do something.

"We held a meeting recently and there was a real enthusiasm to go and organise a picket on the local council.

"We are going to let these councillors know that we hold them responsible for what is going on"

TRADE UNION SOLIDARITY NEEDED

THE UNION which represents plumbers in local authorities is the EETPU now amalgamated with the AEEU.

Former EETPU area secretary Mick Brennan told *Socialist Worker*:

"The position of this union is clear. We are in the business of maintaining water supplies to people, not cutting them off.

"And that is our advice

to our members in local authorities.

"If any member refuses to disconnect they will get the full backing of the union."

Backing

"Water is a necessity, more important even than gas or electricity. These jumped-up County Managers are not going to get their way taxing working

class people.

"If a fraction of the profits of the property speculators was taxed there would never have been any need for the water charges."

Last November South Dublin County Council ordered 1,700 water disconnections. But action by local residents and the unwillingness of plumbers in the council to do the work meant that Inspectors were only able to disconnect 20 families.

Anti-water charges campaigners immediately reconnected them.

At the ICTU Conference in July the Technical, Engineering and Electrical Union put down a motion calling on Labour and Democratic Left to immediately outlaw disconnections entirely and urging the trade union movement to "adopt a policy of total non-co-operation with water disconnections".

ICTU bureaucrats insisted on the motion being referred back to the Executive Council where they have sat on it ever since. Rank and file trade unionists should insist that it is acted on.

Make the rich pay

ORDINARY workers are being taxed to the hilt while the rich in this country are getting away with paying little or nothing.

Between 1991 and 1995 for example PAYE taxpayers have paid £15,500 million in taxes compared to on £262 million from farmers.

The last tax amnesty for the rich brought in an estimated £500 million.

If there was a serious effort made to make the super rich pay their taxes there would be no need for water charges.

Likewise if the government cut down on the billions of pounds in grants and subsidies that go to the multinationals and Irish rich, if they cut their junkets abroad and facelifts for the Dáil, decent local services could be provided.

The water charges issue is becoming a focus for everyone who is sick of the attacks on jobs and the endless cutbacks in public spending.

The high levels of non payment and the increasing numbers who are getting organised show the potential that exists for forcing the government to back down and finally defeating the charges.

Beijing Women's Conference: Peddling the same old myth

by GER TUOHY

ALMOST 40,000 delegates attended the Fourth UN Conference for Women in Beijing.

But the conference will make little difference to the majority of women across the world.

Instead of offering solutions, the conference peddled the myth that smartly dressed women of the ruling class have something in common with working class women.

Across the world women suffer major inequalities.

A recent International Labour Organisation Report, for example, showed that women's wages are just 68% of men's.

The burden of childminding still rests with women.

There are only a small proportion of workplace creches in this country, so a large proportion of working women's wages are spent on childminding.

Nannies

But contrary to the message of the Beijing conference, all women do not suffer equally from this oppression.

Rich women have no problem in hiring nannies to look after their children or even procuring abortions in exclusive clinics if it is against the law.

So it is not the case that it is "all women together". Dunnes Stores boss, Margaret Heffernan has nothing in common with the women workers she tried to keep on zero contracts.

Nor has Tansu Cillar, the leader of the Turkish government, with the Kurdish women her armies are bombing and torturing.

Hillary Clinton attended the conference purporting to represent American women.

Yet the Clinton administration is savagely attacking single mothers, often denouncing them as "welfare queens".

The UN conference report divides the world along lines of sex. "The male community is going to hate us" commented one of the investigators on the report.

But the world is not divided in male and female "communities".

Rather capitalism divides the world between rich and poor.

The richest 20% of the world control 85% of the world income. Women are certainly often at the sharp end of that poverty.

Women's role as childbearers—especially in poor families where every extra child can contribute to the families survival—keeps them among the poorest.

The UN report says that 70% of the 1.3 billion people living in poverty are women.

But the poorest women of Africa, Asia or Latin America know it isn't the men they work with who force them to live in poverty.

"Senora, I've known you a week.

"Every morning you show up in a different outfit and on the other hand I don't.

"Every day you show up all made up and combed like someone who had time to spend in an elegant beauty parlour and who can spend money on that, and yet I don't.

"I'm sure you live in a really elegant home, in an elegant neighbourhood, no?"

"And yet we miner's wives only have a small house on loan to us, and when our husbands die or get sick or are fired from the company, we have 90 days to leave the house and then we're in the street.

"Now, senora, tell me: is your situation at all similar to mine? Is my situation at all similar to yours?"

"So what equality are we going to speak of between the two of us?"—Domitilia Barrios De Chungara, a Bolivian Miner's wife and delegate to a UN women's conference in 1975, attacking the President of the Mexican delegation.

It is rather the ruling classes of all countries who benefit from their plight.

In Zimbabwe, the government has accepted the dictates of the Western banks and the international Monetary Fund, and imposed a "Structural Adjustment Programme" on its people.

Brutal

Spending on health education and childcare has been slashed, leaving women the worst victims.

The brutal result is that the number of women who died in childbirth doubled in the last two years.

The poor—women and men—are paying a terrible price for the debt crisis.

The UN declarations made at Beijing are barely worth the paper they are written on. The leaders who sign them are the very people who head up this system that gives rise to inequality.

The real answer lies in looking to the international working struggles and solidarity between men and women workers.

WORLD WIDE STORM Stop Chirac madness

THE FRENCH government are pressing ahead with another nuclear test in the next three weeks. The bomb will be eight times more powerful than the one dropped in Hiroshima.

Every time there are tests the Muroroa Atoll sinks about a foot towards sea level. The danger is that the new tests will crack the rock under the atoll and release huge amounts of radiation.

Chirac knows the tests are dangerous and this is why he does not try to conduct them in Paris or in France.

The French government have dared to claim that the testing is necessary to "preserve world peace".

Yet the sole purpose of the weapons is to give Chirac the power to vaporise cities and kill millions of people.

The other big powers are watching France closely. They know that if the French generals get away with it, their armies will also start nuclear tests.

This is why the British Prime Minister refused to condemn France claiming that 'it is an internal matter'.

Clinton only expressed regret and asked the French government to delay the tests until after he had left Hawaii.

The tests give lie to the talk of peace and nuclear disarmament after the cold war. The reality is that the nuclear arms race is continuing.

The US, Russia, Britain, France and China, the five acknowledged nuclear powers, have not cancelled a single major nuclear weapons programme.

Obsolete nuclear weapons have been de-commissioned—only to be replaced by the new powerful and more accurate ones.

So in Britain, the Tories are still going ahead with four new Trident nuclear submarines which were ordered by Thatcher.

But the French government can be beaten if there is strong enough support for the world wide boycott and protest campaign.

After dismissing the protest movement as just 'media hype', the French government is showing real signs of nervousness.

They claim that they 'recognise the right to protest'—but are using utmost violence to crack down on the protests before they escalate.

When anti-nuclear campaigners tried to deliver a petition in Paris signed by up to four million people they were attacked by the riot police and 300 people were arrested.

In Polynesia, they have imposed a curfew and drafted in more troops to stop the protests.

They have seized the Rainbow Warrior 2 from Greenpeace—nearly a decade after they blew up the first Rainbow Warrior.

But despite the repression the protests are growing. Thousands now sense that the French government can be beaten.

If we escalate the action over the next few weeks and draw the trade union movement into the struggle, we can strike a major blow against this nuclear madness.



Fifty years of fall-out

IN THE fifty years since the 'Little Boy' and 'Fat Man' bombs destroyed Hiroshima and Nagasaki, 2,034 tests of nuclear bombs have been conducted worldwide.

Of the world total, 511 were atmospheric tests. These explosions were the equivalent of detonating 438 million tons of TNT.

According to *Scientific American* magazine, assessments by the United Nations have shown that these tests could have led to 1.2 million cancers.

Only about 15% of the dose has been delivered; the rest will accrue over the next one hundred years.

The numbers suffering cancer could be 50% or larger than the UN figure because the amount of radiation are still not fully understood.

But some groups are already suffering the tests.

The US government has already suffered 300,000 of its own soldiers and civilians from rates of fall out from tests. Many have gone on to develop terrible cancers.

In the Russian region of Altai where tests were also carried out, cancer rates among the population is significantly higher than elsewhere.

This is just part of the terrible cost of nuclear madness that the big powers have tolerated.

Dick Spring's crocodile tears

Dick Spring's response to the French nuclear tests has been weak and pathetic. He merely said that he was 'dismayed' by the French action.

But Spring is still pressing for Ireland to join the Western European Union. This would bring Ireland closer to a European wide army which the former EU commissioner Jacques Delors predicted would be fighting 'resource wars'.

Chirac has even offered the WEU the

protection of France's nuclear bomb.

If Spring were serious he would be re-calling the Irish Ambassador from France as a simple gesture of protest.

He would call an immediate halt to the Loop Head Telecommunication masts. This project is half funded by the French government. It has the capacity to track submarines in the Atlantic Ocean. Signals from the mast will be relayed to Brest—one of the main sites of the French Navy.

But Dick Spring will do none of

Socialist
Worker's
report

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OF PROTEST OVER FRENCH TESTS

Chirac's nuclear

Tahiti fights back

TROPICAL PARADISE, blue seas, white beaches, coconut trees blowing gently in the breeze.

This was the common image of Polynesia — the islands of the South Pacific until the recent French nuclear tests.

Today the protests in Polynesia are turning into an anti-colonial revolt. And the people there are absolutely right to fight back. They have been oppressed for decades by the Western powers.

France, Britain and later the US grabbed the islands, turning them into colonies and destroying the local society in the process.

After the Second World War the US promptly turned the region into a nuclear test site.

The tests continue today with the French explosions at Mururoa Atoll.

Fifty years of nuclear blasts have systematically poisoned the land, sea and air while indigenous people have suffered death, disease, exploitation and oppression.

The US exploded an atom bomb on Bikini Island in 1946 and conducted 65 more blasts by 1958.

Britain came next, carrying out six nuclear tests in 1957 and 1958 on Christmas Island.

Finally France established a test site on Mururoa, letting off 46 nuclear explosions between 1966 to 1974 and has continued with scores of underground explosions.

The tests have always been accompanied by appalling lies, evasions and cover ups. In 1946 the inhabitants of Bikini Island were told by US officials they had to leave their island "for the welfare of all men"

They were dumped on an uninhabited island with only a few weeks supply of food and water. By early 1948 a visiting US doctor reported the inhabitants were starving.

In 1954 the US exploded a hydrogen bomb 1,000 times stronger than that dropped on Hiroshima.

Darlene Keju Johnson recalled: "The people of Rongelap and



Tahiti airport burns as anger erupts

Utirik were not picked up until three days after the explosion.

"They were taken to Kajelein, given soap and told to wash off the radiation.

"Their hair was falling out, their fingernails were falling off, but they were never told why.

"Since the testing we have cancers. Children are being deformed. Now we have what we call 'jelly-fish babies'.

"They have no eyes, no heads, no arms, no legs. They do not shape like human beings at all."

To this day the US government refuses to organise proper health

checks. France followed the US lead. It began nuclear tests at Mururoa in 1966 after losing its Algerian colony and its first test site in the Sahara.

The choice of French Polynesia, said then President de Gaulle, "was a tribute to her loyalty to France"

Released

The French never released any radiological data from the fallout, while publication of health statistics for the colony was halted in 1966.

This nuclear colonialism in the South Pacific has produced resistance.

In 1969 a group of displaced people launched the first of many "sail ins" back to their home islands.

Another wave of mass "sail ins" erupted in 1978.

More protests followed in the 1980s. The US government responded by warning that any disturbance would "be dealt with as any other case of civil disturbance when our national security is at stake"

The French government has

also met resistance with brutal oppression. Oscar Timaru, leader of the independence movement in French Polynesia, has faced assassination attempts.

Now the French government has sent in the notorious French Foreign Legion. This is the equivalent of the SAS. The protests have forced them to reveal the true face of colonialism.

If worldwide protests, boycotts and blacking can force President Chirac to stop nuclear testing, they will also help the people of Polynesia to shake off their colonial oppressors.

TRADE UNIONS have been at the forefront of the fight against Chirac.

On the Mururoa Atoll itself the 500 Polynesia workers were planning strike action against the tests.

In Tahiti, it was the island's three main unions which organised the protests.

This is vital because the one power that will break Chirac is the organised action of workers across the world. A consumer boycott of French goods is a useful gesture—but it will take months to take effect.

But if dockers, airport workers, communications workers black French goods the result will be dramatic and effective.

When President Chirac recalled the French Ambassador to Australia, he complained about no mail deliveries to

his embassy, ships held up in ports and diplomats forced to queue with everyone else at the airports.

None of these sanctions were imposed by the Australian government. All were the direct result of action by trade unionists.

The Australian trade unions have given an example to the world, their action so far includes:

■ Some civil servants banning contact with French government agencies or French owned firms.

■ Transport workers refusing to service French commercial flights on Bastille day.

■ Communications workers banning mail deliveries and telecommunications installations at the French Embassy/.

■ Dockers imposing rolling bans of French ships holding them up for weeks.

■ Transport workers refusing to refuel French military planes.

■ Cabin crew on Quantas refusing to sell French products.

This is the example that Irish trade unionists should be following.

Protest Roundup

HUGE PROTESTS have developed against the nuclear tests. Right across the country, people are taking to the streets and boycotting French goods.

■ GALWAY: One hundred people took to the streets at 6pm on the Wednesday after the tests. The local Socialist Workers Party played a major role in organising the demo.

■ DUBLIN: Two hundred people

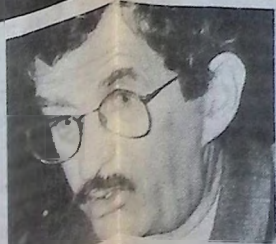
joined a protest outside the French Embassy on the night before the test. An effigy of Chirac was put on the guillotine.

On the weekend after the first test, another 200 people protested outside the GPO. Both events were organised by the campaign Against Nuclear Testing. Greenpeace also held a vigil at the French Embassy over the weekend.

■ CORK: Eighty people turned up to a street demonstration organised by the local branch of the Socialist Workers Party. Thousands of signatories for petitions had been collected in the weeks beforehand.

■ WATERFORD: Hundreds of signatures were gathered on the streets when the local SWP branch took up the campaign. Further street protests are planned.

Workers action will enforce the boycott



these things because he puts diplomacy before outrage at the tests. It will take a major protest movement in Ireland to force this government to really move.

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Socialist
Worker special
report



STOP NUCLEAR

fall-out

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in the UN figure because the effects
are still not fully understood.
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The Fenians: Hated by Empire and Church

by KIERAN
ALLEN

"A FENIAN" is a term of abuse used by extreme Orangemen. It is directed at "uppity Catholics" who they see as out to advance the cause of Rome.

Yet in their day, the Fenian movement was hated and feared by the Catholic hierarchy. Bishop Cullen, the most influential figure of his time, argued that the Church was frightened "not by English government nor by a 'no-popery' cry, but by the revolutionary and irreligious nationalists of Ireland".

The Fenians were born from the anger that swept Irish emigrants after the Great Famine.

Thousands of landless labourers and holders of tiny plots of land fled to America and Britain.

They knew the famine was no natural disaster but rather served landlord interests in the way it cleared the land.

The main Irish nationalist movement during the famine

But after the fiasco of the abortive rising of 1848, even O'Brien wrote that they were defeated not by British military preparations, but by "the influences brought into action by the Catholic Clergy".

The Fenian movement was determined this would never happen again. Its founder James Stephens had taken part in the abortive uprising in 1848 and fled to Paris where he joined the

"We aimed to kill clerical dictation, and we did kill it"

early revolutionary clubs that organised the first stirrings amongst workers.

Instead of relying on the

JAMES Connolly wrote that "the cities where the workers had made the strongest fight and class feeling was highest were the places where Fenianism developed the most"

Recent research has borne this out. Of the Fenians arrested between 1866 and 1868, 48 per cent were skilled workers, 6 per cent were town labourers, 5 per cent were farm labourers.

The working class base of the

movement terrified the new respectable class that grew up in the countryside after the famine.

As John Newsinger's new book on the Fenians noted, "The Catholic middle classes in both town and country, regarded the Fenians as a democratic threat to their domination of the Catholic population".

The connection between the Fenians and working class anger gave the movement a different character to modern day republicanism. The Fenians saw themselves fighting as part of an international struggle for freedom. Stephan's wrote that:

"Were England a republic battling for human freedom on the one hand and Ireland leaguered with despots on the other, I should, unhesitatingly, take up arms against my native land".

The strategy of the Fenians was not to look for allies among reactionary politicians but to fellow revolutionaries.

Stephan's joined the First International—the organisation led by Karl Marx to link together socialist revolutionaries and militant trade unionists across the world. Unfortunately, however, he did not press hard enough for those policies inside the Fenians.

But the Fenians still saw their struggle bound up with the fate of the British working class. Meetings between the Reform League who campaigned for votes for workers and the Fenians were organised. One of the leaders of the Reform League, Bradlaugh helped to draft the Fenian's British manifesto which boldly proclaimed:

"Our enemy is your enemy. Let your hearts be with us. As for you, workmen of England, it is not your hearts we wish but your arms.



Fenian prisoners being transferred to Mountjoy prison

"Remember the starvation and degradation brought to your firesides by the oppression of labour... avenge yourself by giving liberty to your children in the coming struggle for human freedom"

THE FENIANS came at the transition between the older forms of revolution and the new methods of working class struggle.

In Paris in 1848 Stephens had learnt that the road to revolution was through conspiracy and secret cells. He tried to build the Fenian movement around cricles and captains.

But secrecy often broke down as the Fenians became a mass movement with between

Stephans hesitated about the giving word for full scale insurrection, believing that the American wing was not yet ready to give military support.

The following year he was jailed but escaped with the help of a Fenian prison warder.

Again Stephens hesitated on the call for insurrection but the British authorities were clearly worried.

They had to court-martial and flog over 150 of their own soldiers who were Fenian sympathisers.

Finally 1867 was set as the date of insurrection. A French revolutionary, Cluseret was appointed as the key military adviser. He was later to command the workers army in the Paris Commune of 1871.

In February over 1,000 Fenians from the North of Eng-

terrorise the countryside. The Fenian uprising had collapsed.

Yet despite their military failure, they were one of the most serious movements to fight for a revolutionary and democratic Ireland.

Marx wrote that there was a "socialistic tendency" in them because they were against landlordism and the new forms of private ownership of land. After the crushing of their rising Marx and the First International organised a 30,000 strong demonstration to demand an amnesty for the prisoners.

The Fenians posed a deadly threat to the British empire. Their aim of uniting the radical working class tradition in Britain with the anti-colonial fight in Ireland was explosive. This is why the history books North and South still try to dismiss them as inept conspirators.

After their defeat, one wing turned to the futile tactic of small groups organising armed struggle. Others like Michael Davitt turned to mass organisation in the Land League. In the words of James Connolly, they were moving "towards the principles which inspire the modern labour movement".

Even though republicans claim them as their ancestors, there is a world of difference. The Fenians were a mass movement that aligned with revolutionaries across the world to win freedom.

At a time when the republicans seek greater access to the White House and the US establishment it is a lesson worth remembering.

John Newsinger: *Fenianism in Mid Victorian Britain* Pluto Press



Attack on the prison van at Manchester

was the Young Irelanders.

This had originally sought the support of "progressive" landlords, hoping to win them to the cause of Irish nationalism.

Even when they moved away from this absurd idea, they entered the path of revolution with all the nervousness of liberal gentlemen.

One of their leaders William Smith O'Brien urged the peasantry of Tipperary to revolt—but he warned that they should not fell trees to make barricades as they belonged to the landlords!

The Young Irelanders looked to the priests to help rouse the countryside against English rule.

priests, they were determined to win political support for their principles. John O'Leary, one of the early leaders, said that "We aimed to kill clerical dictation, and we did kill it".

When the Fenian movement was founded in 1858, it organised among the early Irish working class.

At the time there was a huge protest movement amongst skilled bakery workers against night work and long hours. In Wexford, Kilkenny, Waterford and Clonmel the master bakers were beaten and night work was abolished.

The upsurge of class anger laid the basis for the powerful Fenian movement.

reviews

O J SIMPSON TRIAL

Fuhrman:
Not just a
'rogue cop'

THE RACIST bile spewed out in taped interviews by former US police officer Mark Fuhrman shocked television audiences around the world and blew the OJ Simpson case wide open.

Fuhrman repeatedly referred to black people as 'niggers' and boasted of beating suspects, forging evidence and persecuting minorities.

The tapes discredited the officer's claim that a bloody glove found at the scene of the crime implicated OJ Simpson in the murder of his wife and her lover.

There were protests outside the courtroom in Los Angeles when Judge Lance Ito refused to allow the jury hear the full recording.

But the Fuhrman scandal is not an isolated case. There has been a whole series of blatant frame-ups and beatings by the police in several US cities.

Six Philadelphia cops have pleaded guilty to framing innocent victims and beating and threatening people. The main victims have been poor blacks in the city's 39th District. So much for the City of Brotherly Love!

Sworn evidence by one of the six, officer Steven Brown, was used to jail Joseph Morris, a black Philadelphia restaurant owner, on charges of drug trafficking.

Brown claimed that in late 1988 he saw a young drug dealer handing a roll of bank notes to Morris in return for a supply of marijuana. Brown and other officers broke down the restaurant door with a sledgehammer and claimed they found drugs on the premises.

The evidence was a complete lie from start to finish and 53-year old Morris is now free after more than two years in prison.

Other cases of police brutality and corruption include:

■The beating of Craig Mische in a bar in Minneapolis by officer Michael Sauro. A jury awarded one million dollars in damages to Mische.

■The murder of a woman who lodged a brutality complaint against New Orleans cop Len Davis. Officer Davis was found guilty of arranging her death.

■The assault, on 19th August this year, on striking Detroit News worker, Frank Brabene, who was kicked and dragged by three cops as they moved in a 'wedge' formation

against pickets.

Police Chiefs in every case have promised reforms to deal with what they claim are a few 'bad apples' within the force. But reforms have not worked.

Mark Fuhrman himself worked for the Los Angeles Police Department, four of whose officers were seen on film in 1992 beating up black motorist Rodney King.

The Christopher Commission, which pledged to reform the LAPD after the King incident, has done nothing in practice. It identified 44 'problem' cops but 33 of them remain on the force including 19 who still face the public on the street.

One of the 44 was Andrew Teague who confessed to forging a key document in a murder case. Another is Michael Falvo who shot dead 14-year old Jose Antonio Gutierrez who witnesses say had already thrown his own gun away when the police arrived.

Tough

The behaviour of these 'rogue cops' is contrasted to the tough but honest image of the US police usually presented in the media.

Not so long ago Gay Byrne fawned over New York's Dublin born police chief John Timony on the Late Late Show without once raising the question of brutality and racism in the NYPD.

One of the most popular seventies cop shows features the cuddly eccentric Lieutenant Columbo who only ever seems to convict rich people. More recently the film *Leon* showed a more realistic side of police wiping out almost an entire family in a drug raid.

But when cops are shown as thugs they are either portrayed as 'bad apples' or their behaviour is justified because of the 'low-life' they have to deal with.

Both images are used to cover up the biggest lie of all about police forces everywhere—the notion that they exist to protect ordinary people from murderers and robbers.

The real reason the world is full of corrupt and racist cops is because they exist to protect the rulers of a corrupt and racist system.

by DAVE McDONAGH

SPORT

Big money mars GAA thrills

by DEIRDRE CRONIN

IT'S THE high point of the GAA season. Clare have won the McCarthy Cup and Dublin and Tyrone are building up to the big football show-down on the third Sunday in September.

This year was the first Guinness sponsored All-Ireland hurling final and the black stuff was everywhere.

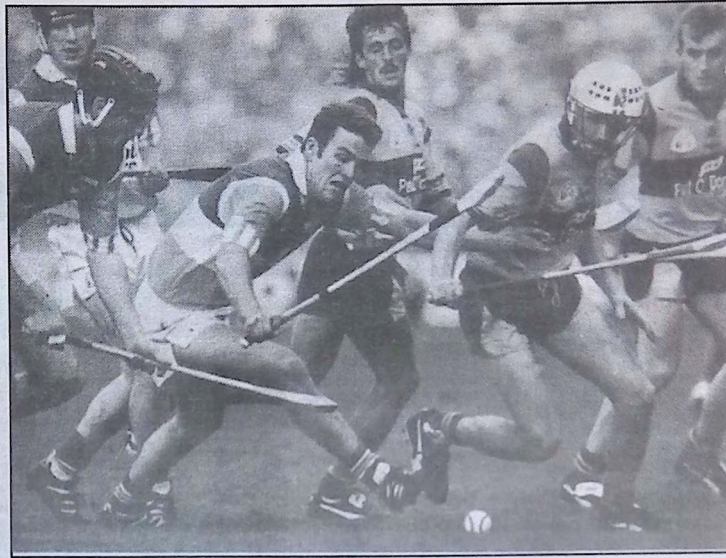
Colours

Gone was the county colours from the McCarthy cup as it waited to be collected. Ribbons bearing the Guinness logo adorned it instead.

GAA has become big business.

Money is pouring in from sponsors all around the country and county players can now expect to have anything from Barry's Tea to Arnott's emblazoned across their jerseys on big match day.

With all this money about many local clubs can't understand why they still have



to fundraise to buy jerseys for their under age teams.

Bishops

Tickets are becoming more scarce as GAA Headquarters entices companies to hire corporate boxes.

For those who do get a ticket, prices are exorbitant. A stand ticket for the final will set you back £30.

Old Age Pensioners who up to a couple of years ago were allowed into the Nally Stand—the worst seats in Croke Park—at concessionary rates now have to fork

out the full price.

The plush seats in the stands are occupied as always by representatives of Church and State.

After the game, big shot bishops and politicians rub shoulders as they gorge themselves at the post match reception in Croke Park.

Of course many owe their positions to the GAA. It has always been an important launching pad into politics.

The former FF Taoiseach, Jack Lynch, was a renowned Cork player.

Never one to miss an opportunity, he tried to convince the legendary Christy Ring to be an FF candidate.

Christy had more sense.

Michael Lowry, who is attacking ESB and Telecom workers, started off as Chair of the Tipperary County Board.

The Fine Gael TD, Jimmy Deenihan played for Kerry. Mind you Jimmy was such a dirty player that he drove one Cork player to hang up his boots for good after a Munster final.

Vital skills for membership of Fine Gael.

But it's the excitement of the games that draw many to Croke Park. The politicians and would be politicians try to leech off those feelings.

The vast majority of followers don't identify with the money grubbing, FF and church dominated GAA. For them, the GAA is the sport itself.

TELEVISION

Getting your own back

CATHY BEGIN
reviews TV
Nation

TV NATION is an intelligent, imaginative, and very funny programme about American life.

A few weeks ago, there was Payback Night, where people on the street were asked what really irritated them and then the company directors responsible were 'paid back'.

The head of a car alarm corporation was woken at 7 am by alarms going off from over 20 cars which were driven to his mansion.

In another report a bus load of people from New York were brought to an exclusive beach in Connecticut which is only open to residents in the area.

They were turned away. Undeterred they got a boat and attempted to sail to the strand. The cops came to stop them.

Screamed

They jumped overboard and swam to shore where they were greeted by the most horrible group of people you could imagine who screamed at the new arrivals to go back to where they came from.

The format of this programme is unusual, neither documentary or pure entertainment.

FILM

Brave heart or steady head?

DAMIAN McLOUGHLAN
reviews Brave Heart

WILLIAM Wallace was a fighter, a hero, a leader, a man of the common people. He lived in the late thirteenth century, in a Scotland not yet a country.

The lands were divided between clans, nobles, and lords.

It was an oppressed land, with the English, under the ruthless Longshank, ruling with an iron fist.

Many of the Scottish nobles had sold their souls to the English lords in return for lands south of the border.

They benefited, but not the common people who toiled the soil. The "commoners" wanted to fight back.

This is a film of how a people began tearing away the chains of oppression, became united and fought back with a ferocity now legend.

Mel Gibson directs and stars, and has made a well crafted film. The battle scenes, sometimes



flawed, are immense.

The film is an emotional roller-coaster.

It's long (it has an intermission), the music is brilliant. In some ways it's an epic.

Enemy

The humour, bravery and strength of the common people is epitomised by Hamish, contradicting the treachery of the nobles.

The Scottish National Party adore this film and have been leafletting outside cinema queues.

But the enemy of the common people today is not English lords but English and Scottish capitalists.

The shortest visit to the city of Edinburgh would be enough to show that Scotland's money merchants have more than gained from union with England.

In the film one character says that "History is usually written by those who do the hanging."

This is one of those films where the common people, by making history happen, force the rulers off the stage.

It shows the absurdity of how power is wielded, and investigates the injustices that are part and parcel of American capitalism.

At times this is highly original and effective.

At times the mixture is uneasy.

Effective

Sometimes the 'life is just bizarre' tone doesn't fit,

as in many of the reports of the American Far right in the last series.

But any programme which nails Newt Gingrich on his home turf gets the compliance of an

entire Welsh village to exchange their British citizenship for Argentinian, and bugs the little horrors on the Connecticut beach has got to be worth tuning in to.

where we stand

Workers create all the wealth in capitalist society. A new society can only be constructed when they collectively seize control of that wealth and plan its production and distribution.

FOR REVOLUTION, NOT REFORM

The present system cannot be reformed out of existence. Parliament cannot be used to end the system. The courts army and police are there to defend the interests of the capitalist class not to run society in a neutral fashion.

To destroy capitalism, workers need to smash the state and create a workers' state based on workers' councils.

FOR REAL SOCIALISM, EAST AND WEST:

The SWP welcomed the break-up of the USSR and the end of the East European dictatorships. These states were not socialist but were run by a state-capitalist class. We are against the domination of the globe by imperialist powers and we oppose their wars. We are for the right of all nations, East and West, to self-determination.

FOR AN END TO ALL OPPRESSION

We oppose all forms of oppression which divide and weaken the working class. We are for full social, economic and political equality for women.

We stand for: free contraception and free, legalised abortion and the right to divorce; the complete separation of church and state, an end to church control over schools and hospitals; an end to discrimination against gays and lesbians; an end to racism and anti-traveller bigotry.

We argue for working class unity in the fight against oppression.

FOR WORKERS' UNITY IN THE NORTH:

Northern Ireland is a sectarian state, propped up by the British Army. Catholic workers are systematically discriminated against by the state. The division between Catholic and Protestant workers weakens the whole working class. Workers' unity can only be won and maintained in a fight to smash both the Northern and Southern states.

We stand for the immediate withdrawal of British troops. Violence will only end when workers unite in the fight for a workers' republic.

FOR A FIGHTING TRADE UNION MOVEMENT:

Trade unions exist to defend workers' interests. But the union leaders' role is to negotiate with capitalism - not to end it. We support the leaders when they fight but oppose them when they betray workers. We stand for independent rank and file action.

FOR A REVOLUTIONARY PARTY:

To win socialism socialists need to organise in a revolutionary party. This party needs to argue against right-wing ideas and for overthrowing the system. The SWP aims to build such a party in Ireland.

news & reports—politics; the unions—

How the Wexford firefighters were sold out

THE WEXFORD firefighters strike ended on Friday 1st September after a Labour Relations Commission document was accepted by the workers.

The narrow vote in favour of acceptance 26 to 25 indicated that there was a strong level of dissatisfaction with the settlement.

The strike had lasted almost 15 weeks. But the return to work by the firefighters was a real tragedy because the dispute was on the verge of making a breakthrough. Strikers from New Ross had travelled to picket lines throughout the county to lobby for a "no" vote.

One of these militants told *Socialist Worker*, "We can't understand why the union was in such a hurry for a settlement."

"We were out for fifteen weeks but they called a meeting to discuss a settlement at one hour's notice."

Stitch-Up

"Half the strikers didn't know about the meeting and most of us didn't see the settlement document until we went to vote. It was a real stitch-up. The union laughed at me when I argued at the meeting that there was support for us out there and that we could win."

Firefighters in seven other counties had indicated their willingness to come out in solidarity with Wexford.

The day before the return to work vote was taken, firefighters in Tipperary North conducted a "straw poll" within the retainer service.

They voted by 61 to 2 to escalate the strike in support of Wexford. As the National Secretary of the Retainer Service said, "We will do

anything to see Wexford win".

But SIPTU leaders had postponed balloting other workers on a vote to spread the action. They argued that the strike would be illegal under the Industrial Relations Act and were waiting for a decision from their barristers.

One Wexford shop steward told *Socialist Worker*, "SIPTU are letting the barristers run this strike instead of us. We are being made to pay for the Nolans Transport judgement. They are quoting it to us all the time."

Instead of an escalation which could have led to an outright victory, the SIPTU leadership urged their members to vote in favour of a document which put them back to where they started from.

Binding

The LRC document only recommended setting up a committee of nominees from the Union, the County Council and the LRC. If agreement is not reached after eight weeks, there will be binding arbitration.

"We won nothing and are back to where we started after 15 weeks", was how one of the strikers put it. "It's the same old story, the workers are being made to pay. Managers and TD's get rises, we get cuts", according to another striking firefighter



Labour minister backed management

LABOUR'S Brendan Howlin, Minister for the Environment is directly responsible for the firefighting service throughout Ireland.

He is also the local elected representative for the Wexford area.

Striking firefighters told *Socialist Worker*, "From the beginning we wanted to have a go at Howlin."

We kept asking the union to let us target his constituency clinics and

highlight the dirty role he played". But SIPTU official, Michael Wall asked the strikers to be patient and give him a chance to look for an official meeting with Howlin.

Contact

Even after 15 weeks of a strike Howlin was let off the hook by SIPTU. His constituency clinics are held in SIPTU head office in Wexford.

Howlin and Michael Wall have regular and informal contact.

But the workers were prevented from making him their prime target. "Labour get the working class vote in this county."

But we can see how they are prepared to attack the same people who vote them in, just to stay in power and play the bosses game", was the angry comment of one of the strike committee leaders.

Plenty of money to spend on scabbing

THE ARMY played a key role in breaking the strike of the Wexford firefighters - and the scabs were treated very differently to the regular workers.

Most of the strikers are entirely dependent on their work with the retainer service for their income which is backed up by Family Income Supplement. They earn an average of about £100 a week. This princely sum is paid to those whose jobs are life-risking and life-saving.

In contrast the soldiers who were used to scab on the strike were paid an allowance of £22 per day, Monday to Friday, £33 for Saturdays and £44 for Sundays.

This was on top of their regular army earnings. They were also given free use of the local swimming pool, video libraries etc.

The cost of the army operation was about four times as much as the Council had hoped to save from implementing cuts of £100,000. The Department of the Environment say they will put the costs back on to the local council.

The local council insist they cannot bear the costs but the Department of Defence will be looking to recoup its bill.

Whichever bureaucracy ends up paying the bill, it all comes from the heavy taxes which working class people pay into this rotten system.

LESSONS OF THE WEXFORD STRIKE

THE WEXFORD strikes shows that there is a growing willingness among workers to fight back.

But it also shows the limitations of the union leadership.

They are allowing the Industrial Relations Act to break key strikes. Two years ago, thousands of trade unionists around the country collected for the Pat the Baker strikers who were trying to unionise their plant.

The Industrial Relations Act was introduced with the approval of the ICTU. It was designed to strengthen the position of the officials against their own rank and file.

But it can be broken. The Dunnes strike would never have been successful if strikers did not defy the law that limited numbers of a picket line.

Shop workers had voted to boycott the product but at the last moment SIPTU refused to implement the boycott and made a settlement which left Pat the Baker a non-union job.

Now the Wexford firefighters have fallen victim to the same cowardice.

The Wexford firefighters dispute shows that we need a rank and file organisation in our unions that is willing to break this law.

SWP branch meetings—all welcome

BELFAST CENTRAL
Meets every Wednesday at 8pm in Penny Farthing Bar, Upper North Street

8pm in the Anchor Inn, Georges Quay.

BELFAST SOUTH
Meets every Tuesday at 8pm in Queens Students Union.

DERRY
Meets every Tuesday in Badgers Bar at 8pm

CORK
Meets every Thursday at

BRAY
Meets every Thursday at 8pm Contact national address for details.

DUBLIN BLANCHARDSTOWN
Meets every Tuesday at 8pm in the Blakestown Community Centre, Blakestown Way.

Community Centre, beside Finglas Inn.

DUBLIN COOLOCK
Meets every Thursday at 8pm in the Artane/Beaumont Family Recreation Centre, Kilmore Rd.

DUBLIN NORTH CENTRAL
Meets every Wednesday at 8pm in Conways, Parnell St.

DUBLIN CLONDALKIN
Contact 8722682 for details of meetings

DUBLIN RATHMINES
Meets every Wednesday at 8pm in O'Connells Pub, Richmond Street.

DUBLIN DRIMNAGH
Meets every Tuesday at 8.30pm in the Bentley Pub, Drimnagh Road

DUBLIN PEARSE ST/RINGSEND
Meets every Thursday at 8pm in Trinity Inn, Pearse St

DUBLIN FINGLAS
Meets every Thursday at 7.30pm in Rosehill

DUBLIN TALLAGHT
Contact 8722682 for details of meetings

DUN LAOGHAIRE
Meets every Tuesday at 8pm in Smyths Pub.

GALWAY
Meets every second Thursday at 7.30pm in

Currans Hotel, Eyre Square—contact national address for details.

address for venue.

NEWRY
Meets every Wednesday at 8pm—contact national

WATERFORD
Meets every Thursday at 8pm in ATGWU hall, Waterford.

JOIN THE SOCIALISTS

If you want to join *Socialist Worker*, fill in this form and send it to: PO Box 1648, Dublin 8, Tel: (01) 872 2682

Name

Address.....

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Phone.....

There are *Socialist Worker* members in:

ENNISKILLEN; COLERAINE; LURGAN; CAVAN; DONEGAL; NAAS; LIMERICK; KILKENNY; DUNDALK; BRAY; ATHLONE; DROGHEDA. MAYNOOTH.

If you would like to get in touch, contact our national office at (01) 872 2682, PO Box 1648, Dublin 8

OUT NOW!

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The best beginner's guide in Ireland to all the basic ideas of Socialism—economics, history, oppression and the class struggle.

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Limerick binmen take action

REFUSE collectors in Limerick city have been refusing to work unpaid overtime over the last three weeks.

Their dispute has arisen over the Corporation's demand that workers push up their productivity by increasing the number of bins they load per day from 595 to 860.

The Corporation claims that since the introduction of wheelie bins in the city over a year ago this target is achievable.

However it has already used the wheelie bins as an excuse to cut crews, with a once-off payment of £1,000 to those who remained and £2,000 to those who moved to another area of the Corporation.

The number of workers

has dropped from 40 to 16. Because of a subsequent shortage of staff and vehicles, workers now have to work overtime in order to finish their routes each day.

The Corporation has refused to pay them for it.

Equalised

The Labour Court has made a recommendation on the issue, agreeing with the Corporation that routes should be equalised.

The workers, members of IMPACT and SIPTU, reject this and argue that only the employment of more workers and the purchase of

more vehicles can rectify the situation.

The Labour TD, Jim Kemmy is held in contempt by many of the workers.

He claimed to be working 'behind the scenes' but did nothing.

Kemmy had the gall to propose that private contractors be brought in as scabs to clear to the backlog.

Since the dispute has begun, the Corpo has also been threatening to privatise the service.

This is a vicious attempt to defeat the workers.

They should stick to their guns and appeal for solidarity to other trade unionists in the area.

Yunus for Unison

YUNUS BAKHSH, a Newcastle health worker and member of the Socialist Workers Party sister organisation in Britain, will be a candidate in the forthcoming election for general secretary of UNISON, the big public sector union in the North and the UK.

Yunus has so far secured nominations from 46 branches of the union, well above the number needed to be a candidate.

Almost 1.5 million UNISON members in councils, the NHS and education as well as the water, electricity and gas industries will be voting in October for a successor to current general secretary Alan Jinkinson.

The favourite in the election is current UNISON assistant general



Yunus Bakhsh: fighting government's attacks

secretary Rodney Bickerstaffe.

Bickerstaffe can make left wing speeches when he chooses.

Resistance

But he represents a continuation of the policies which have failed to defend union members' wages, conditions, and services.

Yunus is standing on a

platform of building resistance by ordinary UNISON members to the employers' and government's attacks.

This means organising solidarity and effective national backing for such struggles.

He is calling for a campaign by union leaders for national strike action over pay and public services in the NHS and local councils.

Yunus is demanding that the union be ready to fight for its members, whoever is in government, and to campaign for an incoming Labour government to set a national minimum wage of at least £4.15 an hour.

The dissatisfaction with the current union leadership in UNISON has been shown by the widespread support Yunus has won for his candidature.

The campaign will begin in earnest in two weeks. The bigger the vote for Yunus the stronger the basis for building struggle and solidarity in the months ahead.

Any UNISON branch, shop stewards committee or activist who wants literature from the campaign should contact Yunus on 0044 191 422 1217 or Jill on 0044 191 460 1927 or write to 100 Wellington Road, Gateshead NE11 9HE.

Guinness workers set to strike

FITTERS AND electricians in Guinness Brewery are due to go on strike after the failure of the company to agree a new pay structure.

In 1987, the company pushed for a Continuous Competitiveness Plan which led to many sacrifices from the craft workers. They gave concessions on increased training; new technology and changed work practices.

Promised

They were promised a new pay structure in return.

At the moment craft workers are stuck on a Grade 1 and can hardly make any improvements.

As one rep said "Other

groups have been moving up the scale since the 1980s—but we are stuck in the same place. We want new grades created with a jump of a 3% and a 4% pay rise between them".

The company are trying to introduce a new plan into Guinness—Plan 2000. For the craft workers it would mean more job cuts, an annual hours arrangement where basic pay would actually drop, and less supervisory jobs.

They already announced it to the media with great fanfare—even though only the SIPTU had agreed to it.

As the rep said "We are willing to discuss it—but they are not getting two plans for the price of one. They first have to come to an agreement with us about the Grade structure we were promised before".

Nurses demand ballot on early retirement

NURSES HAVE voted unanimously at their annual conference to ballot for strike action if no progress is made on their demand for early retirement and payment for increased productivity.

They have given the Department of Health until September 30th to start delivering on their demands.

Nurses have been on strike in several hospitals this year as a direct result of the overcrowding.

A new study has shown that staff numbers on night duty has fallen to such a low level that the health of elderly patients is being jeopardised.

The nurses have been seeking some form of early retirement for 15 years.

They have watched closely as the teachers union were able to mobilise their members on this issue.

As one nurse put it, "I am delighted that the teachers got some progress on early retirement. But no one can convince me that we are less deserving".

If the action goes ahead, it will start with a series of one day strikes. But they could be quickly escalated with only emergency cover being provided.



Socialist Worker Trade Union Conference

Saturday 23rd September
Teachers Club,
36 Parnell Square

BUILDING THE RESISTANCE

Time to make our unions fight... Come along and discuss how we rebuild solidarity and militancy...

Why we are going...

"I want to see workers in this country being more united. The firefighters issue in Wexford should have been made a national issue because it effects all of us."

"The union leaders failed to do that and we need some kind of links to make our fightback stronger."

"This conference provides a framework to link with other workers and build better unions."

—Pat, Wexford Firefighter

"I am looking forward to discussing the big political agenda with my colleagues in the public sector. Hopefully they won't have to suffer the attacks that we did."

"The only solution being offered through the industrial relations machinery in this country is to make us work harder and longer for less. And the Labour Party are pursuing the interests of the capitalists at the expense of workers."

"This socialist conference will help us understand the issues and try find a way to redress

the balance."—Dennis, Team Aer Lingus

"There is a real need for more political discussion about the attacks on workers. In the North fighting against the Tory agenda of privatisation could give show the way forward for unity between Catholic and Protestant workers."

"Royal Mail are pushing ahead with massive attacks and socialists in the unions can make a difference in pushing for a fight."—Richie, Belfast Royal Mail

TIMETABLE

10am: REGISTRATION

11 to 12.30: REBUILDING UNION ORGANISATION:

Jim Larmour (Belfast Trades Council); Dave McDonagh (CPSU Shop Steward)

12.30 to 1.30: LUNCH

1.30 to 3.30: THE ARGUMENTS OF THE ICTU:

Eamonn McCann (Derry trades Council) on Can multi-nationals be beaten?; Marnie Holborow (SIPTU Shop Steward) on Trade unions and the law; Jimmy Kelly (Chief Shop Steward, Waterford Glass) on Militancy or social partnership?

3.30 to 4.30: SOCIALIST WORKER IN THE WORKPLACE

Brid Smith (Socialist Worker Industrial Correspondent)

SOCIALISTS IN THE UNIONS:

Laura Duffy (INTO Shop Steward); Kieran Allen (Editor, Socialist Worker)

Please send me more details and a full programme of the Socialist Worker Trade Union Conference

Name.....

Address.....

.....Phone.....

Return to Socialist Worker Trade Union Conference, PO Box 1648, Dublin 8 or Tel: (01) 872 2682

Open to all supporters of the Socialist Worker newspaper

Socialist Worker

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Hated by
Church and
Empire —page eight

Fight the
Water
Rates —page five

DIVORCE:

Stand up to the Bishops

ON NOVEMBER 23rd Ireland votes on whether or not people have the right to re-marry.

Over 60,000 people are officially separated in this country. Many have never seen their former husbands and wives in years.

Some left relationships that were violent or abusive. Others agreed to split up amicably.

All of them have the right to get married again—if that is what they choose.

The Bishops are trying to mount a scare campaign on divorce.

They pretend that if divorce comes into 'holy Ireland' the fabric of society will break down.

Twenty years ago, they tried the same argument about contraception. But today there are condoms in many pubs and civilisation has not collapsed.

The Bishops are using two big lies.

Lie No. 1:

■ **Divorce causes the break-up of marriage.** It is like saying that omelettes are the cause of broken eggs.

Marriages break up for all sorts of reasons. Even when there is no divorce legislation, marriage break up.

Since the last referendum on divorce, the number of separations in Ireland has risen by 48%. Ireland has a higher rate of separation than Greece, Italy or Spain which do have the right to divorce.

Even the Bishops themselves are offering more annulments. In the decade between 1982 and 1992, the number of annulments jumped by 348%.

Lie No. 2:

■ **Divorce Damages the welfare of children.**

But children are far more damaged when couples are forced to stay together in tense, abusive relationships.

If people are already living apart in new relationships, what damage is done by a marriage ceremony?

On third of Irish children are dependent are on state support for their maintenance.

It is the daily grind of living on low income, scrapping pennies together that causes the most damage to children's welfare.

The Bishops who talk of children's welfare to day are pure hypocrites.

They never had this concern when it came to protect priests like Fr Brendan Smyth who were sexually abusing children.

This time around the Bishops can be beaten. But we cannot rely on this government to do it.

They are more interested in striking a deal with FF than campaigning clearly for the right to divorce.

Pro-divorce groups need to be quickly built around the country to get on the doorsteps and campaign for a strong YES vote.

The trade unions which have a pro-divorce policy need to carry the arguments into the workplaces.

Horse trading with FF

THIS government is planning to make divorce as difficult as possible—to secure the support of Fianna Fail.

■ They are forcing people to wait for four years before they can apply for a divorce.

With all the legal complications it will be even longer.

The Labour leader Spring said this was necessary because of the "Irish psyche".

But the reality is that he is horse trading with Fianna Fail.

Ahern told the Coalition that 'He wanted a five year wait.

"If it was three he would vote against. If it were four, we could talk about it".

Costs

■ Couples will have to appear in a court to apply for divorce—adding huge legal costs for working people.

■ Judges will be asked to consider whether someone has the financial means to get divorce and have a second family.

This will directly discriminate against working class people.

The message will be 'Stay married, if you are poor'.

This government says that these horrible restrictions are necessary to win the vote.

But it has the opposite effect.

It makes divorce look shameful and allows the FF party, which opposed divorce in 1986, to dictate terms.

It will be up to socialists to campaign for unrestricted divorce for working class people.

What you can do...

THE Socialist Workers Party will be campaigning actively on divorce. Public meetings are already being organised in every area where we have a branch.

We are printing tens

of thousands of leaflets for distribution around housing estates.

We will be producing thousands of posters to expose the hypocrisy of the Bishops who talk about 'the welfare of children'.

The Anti-Divorce

Campaign are already organising with glossy leaflets and posters.

They are well funded by bigots who want to roll back the clock in this country.

■ This is why we urgently appeal for funds to produce the

literature that will carry the arguments against them.

Send donations now to the SWP Divorce Appeal c/o P.O. Box 1648 Dublin 8.

■ Get involved in helping us to campaign.

Phone 872 2682 for details on literature.