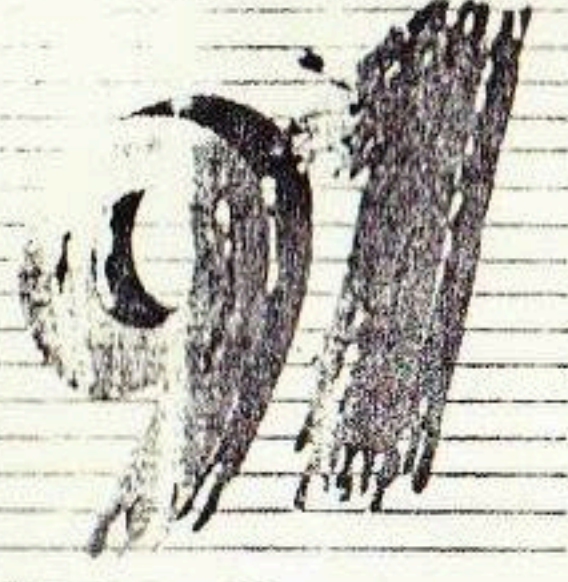


SUNNY DAYS

CORK SCENE

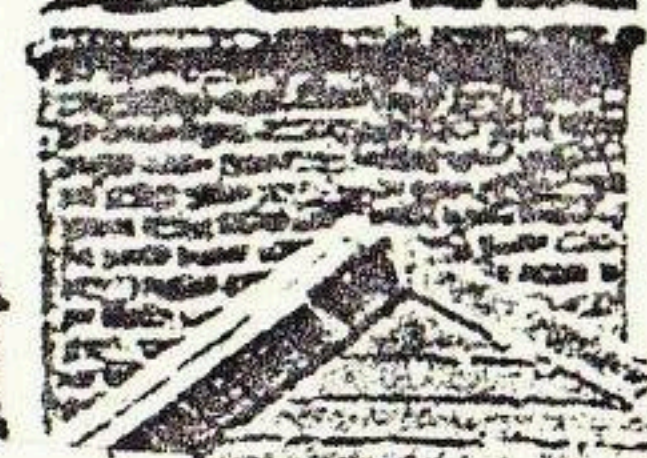
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CORK ROCK



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interview

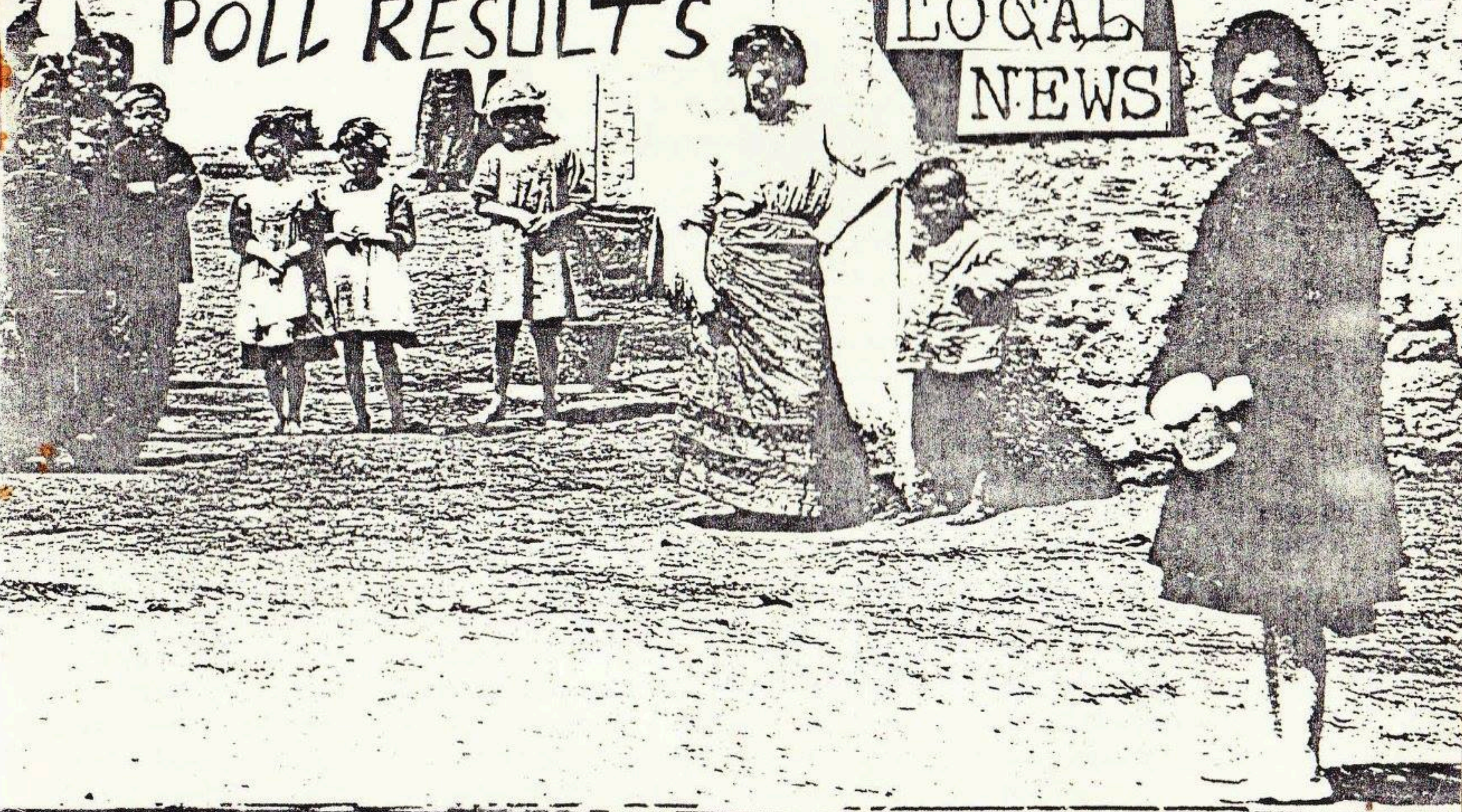
FRED THE KEATONS
THE DIVINE COMEDY

LOOSE THE POPGUNS

cowboy killers interview

POLL RESULTS

LOCAL NEWS



the Cranberries

The Cranberries are an exciting young band hailing from the fair city of Limerick. Although comparisons with bands such as The Smiths and The Sundays are obvious they have their own unique sound as well and they've become one of the top Irish bands over the past 6 months. The band are Dolores O'Riordan - vocals, Noel Hogan - guitars, Mike Hogan - Bass and Ferg Lawler on drums. I did an interview with the band a while back and it went something like this.

S.D. "How many tapes have ye had out so far?"

Fergal "We've had one cassette single out since Christmas just in Limerick itself which has sold well for us. We sold out the first batch of 250 tapes in a week so we had to order more."

S.D. "Ye've had alot of interest from record companies"

Fergal "Yeah, great interest. There were 13 or 14 of them here tonight. There's nothing definite but we're looking at a few offers."

S.D. "Ye'll be hoping to have a record out soon"

Fergal "Yeah, hopefully in the summer and we'll be touring around Ireland then."

S.D. "What do you think of the Irish scene at the moment?"

Fergal "I think the Irish scene is great myself. Emotional Fish are my favourite band at the moment. I think alot of bands down the country say Cork, Galway and Limerick should get more exposure because it all seems to be centered around Dublin.... You have to be alot better than a normal Dublin band to get attention from the press."

I went on to speak to Dolores and first I asked her what she thought of them being compared to The Smiths and The Sundays.

Dolores "When I was told we were like The Sundays when I joined The Cranberries first, I'd never heard of them but I love The Smiths. I suppose people will compare us to The Sundays because of the female singer you know, they'll kinda link up."

S.D. "Alot of your lyrics are really personal"

Dolores "It's just phases I go through, it seems to be..I don't know... easier to write about personal things I suppose."

S.D. "Where did you get your voice?"

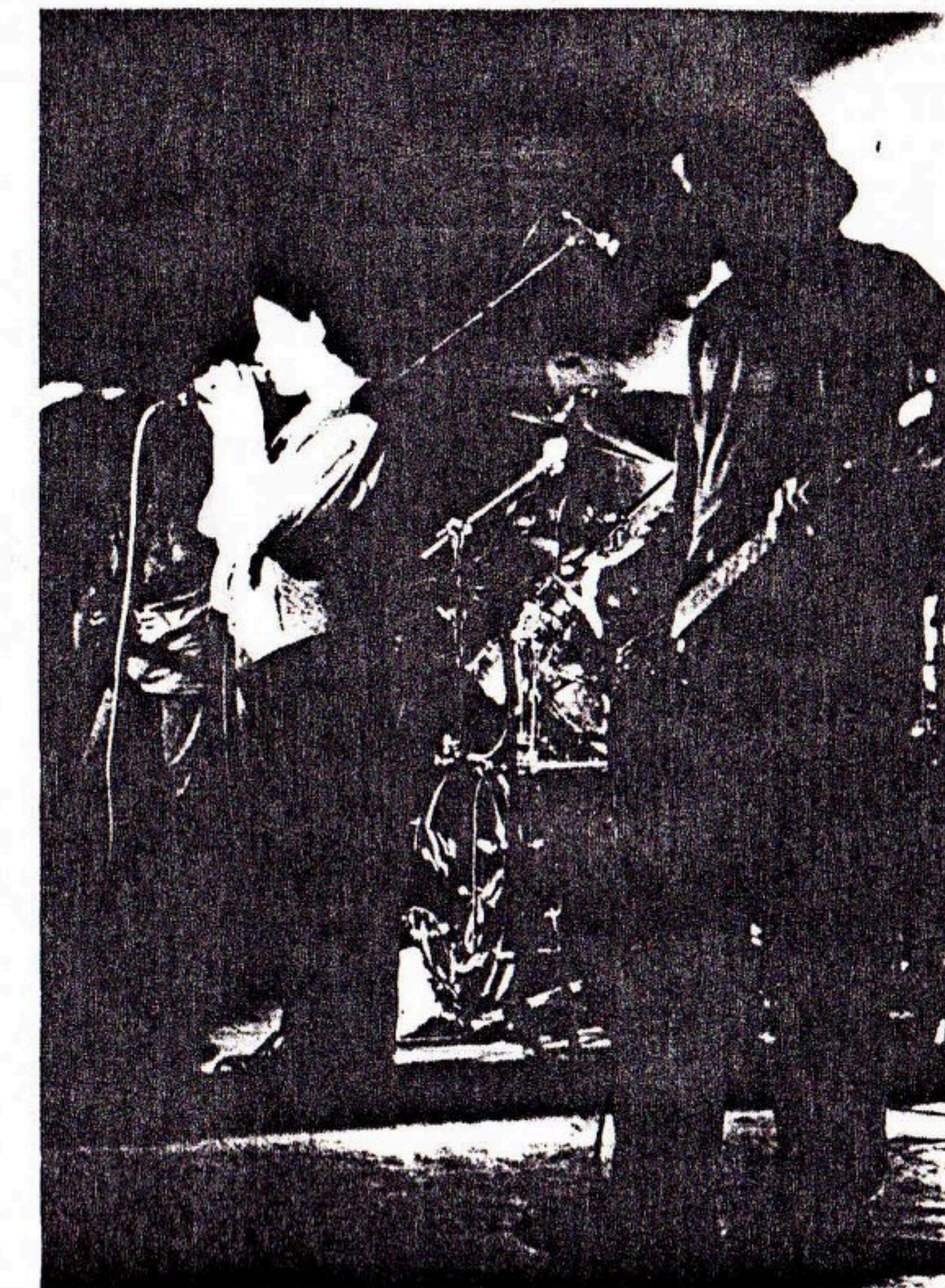
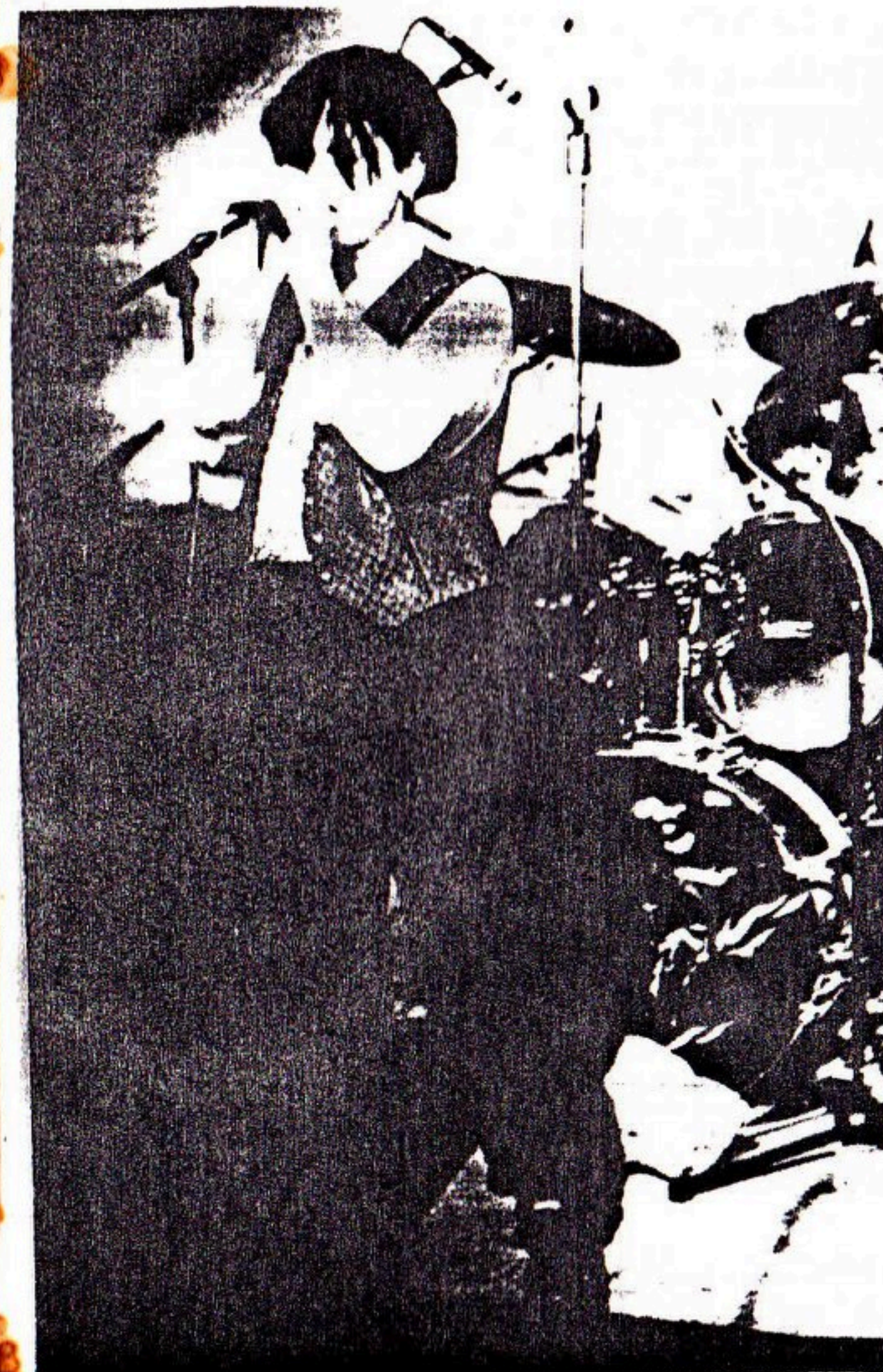
Dolores "Oh - the family, you're born with a voice you don't get it from listening to the radio, you know what I mean?"

S.D. "Alot of people seem to be able to relate to the lyrics"

Dolores "Yeah, that's right, because the experiences that I have gone through are experiences loads of people have. I'm only 19 and the things I write about and things that an 18-20 year old thinks about whatever... broken hearts, boys..... what's it all about (laughs)."

S.D. "What kind of influences would you have yourself?"

Dolores "I'm just influenced by life in general.... just experiences.. before I moved into town I hadn't a clue about bands."



Then we talk about this and that before I ask her about the pressure put on them knowing that the record companies are watching them.

Dolores "I was really freaked out earlier today, but now I'm taking it all in more than anything else and I'm learning from it. They're just ordinary people like us. It's hard to know what what decision to make but our manager is great so he'll look after us."

S.D. "Why did ye drop the keyboards from the band?"

Dolores "Because I used to use the keyboards to write music before I joined the band. It was handy because you can't just go up to the rest of the band and say "hey, I've wrote a song ... listen" without having a tune. It just helps. It helped me to develop my voice at the time."

S.D. "Are you afraid that people are going to be taking your lyrics as gospel a la Morrissey etc?"

Dolores "I'm not really afraid because it's what I totally believe in.... I never say anything really bad...it's just feelings."

S.D. "You can handle the fact that alot of people will relate to you?"

Dolores "I think it's great that we're actually creating a renaissance here, not us but everyone, the whole country. I think that there is a new awareness coming...there's a real strong spirited thing coming from the youth today. I don't know what it is but it's like a new dimension or something."

The Cranberries will have a record out soon and they'll be touring in Ireland during the summer as well as doing dates in London so all the best to them and next time they come to Cork go and see Limericks finest. You won't be dissappointed.