Yard's cream sours

Tom Fawthrop. |

The secret diaries of James Humphreys, notorious nightclub owner and more than generous patron of police balls have led to the unprecedented arrest of four of the Yard's former high-ranking detectives.

The carefully-kept entries have unfailingly recorded the endless list of payoffs between James Humphreys and the leading blue lights of the law over a 5 year period. These transactions over giving pornography — both "dirty" books and blue movies — a free hand in London, has finally left shit under the boots of coppers up to the rank of commander.

The arrests were made by the Yard's anti-corruption squad known as A10 which normally specialises in cover-ups. However, as the guilty men were all retired, the normal principles of police solidarity have been relaxed. Espec-

ially in the light in the well publicised diaries were:

- ex-commander Ken Drury former head of the Flying Squad (glamourised on the box as 'Sweeney').

- ex-commander Wallace Virgo, former chief of murder squad.

- ex-Det. Chief Supt. Bill Moody, former head of Obscene Publications Squad..

- Ex-Det. Chief Inspector George Fenwick, one-time Regional Crime Squad head.

There were also 8 other detectives charged over conspiracy and protect-

ion rackets over a 14 year period.

These arrests have provoked plenty of celebrations from among the many victims of these bent cops. Commander Drury is renowned for his role in the case of the Luton postmaster. Investigating the post-office hold-up, Drury, heading the muder inquiry, arrested 4 men, one turned queen's evidence, the other three were convicted and Drury split the reward with the informer. This case of R. v. Murphy, McMahon & Co., is still under review in an emergency session of the court of appeal.

