

Labour right wing call police to expulsion meeting

THREE members of the Wandsworth Young Socialists were expelled because they brought along 30 young people to join the Wandsworth branch.

Never in the history of the youth movement has anyone ever before been expelled for recruiting members. On this occasion there was a united front of the right wing, London Regional Youth Officer, Bill Jones, the right-wing agent for Wandsworth Central, Ken Solly, and S. Mani, who is a member of the Editorial Board of the paper, 'The Militant'.

This traitor to socialism voted for the expulsions and actively collaborated behind the scenes

with Jones and Solly in arranging them.

In the fight against the genuine socialist left, the right wing and Pabloites ganged up together and used the disciplinary machine. This is another powerful demonstration of the rottenness of the policies which people like Mani pursue.

Before the meeting commenced the right wing decided to call the police. When the young people came along to join the Young Socialists they were immediately met by a black maria and a group of police, while a squad car cruised up and down the road outside.

The front door of the Labour

(Cont. back page, col. 1)



The three expelled members: from l. to r. Tom Hall, Tommy Phelan and Jimmy Ferguson



*Wishing you a pleasant Christmas
and a Happy New Year*

Aileen Jennings

Editor, KEEP LEFT

Don't forget—January 2nd is Keep Left Day!

AFTERNOON 2.30 p.m.

*Keep Left
Annual Meeting*

CONWAY HALL
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REPORTS, DISCUSSION, ELECTION OF EDITORIAL BOARD

EVENING 7-11 p.m.

Keep Left Dance

HAMMERSMITH TOWN HALL
Kings Road
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The Cardinals

COME AND HAVE A REALLY ENJOYABLE EVENING
ENTER 1965 WITH A SWING!

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Press statement by National Committee (Majority) of Young Socialists

Pay the Old Age Pensioners an increase **NOW!**

WHEN the Labour government announced its shameful intention of withholding the old age pensioners' increase until next March, the National Committee (Majority) of the Young Socialists took immediate action.

A press statement urging all trade unionists, Labour Party members and Young Socialists to voice their opposition to this action of the Labour government was issued after a meeting on November 29. The committee called on the Labour youth to organise a massive protest campaign leading up to the conference of the party on December 12.

At this conference, to be held in Brighton, the labour movement and Labour MPs will get an opportunity to show that they will not tolerate such capitulation by the government on a vital issue, says the statement.

Taking up the plight of the old age pensioners the statement comments:

6 Millions of old age pensioners face their first Christmas under a Labour government with the same miserable pittance as they had under the Tories. All those millions of workers and their wives who voted Labour are shocked by this retreat from Wilson's election promises.

Why cannot the pensioners have their increase *now*? The first excuse given by the Minister, Miss Herbison, was that there was 'too much paper work'. When some Labour MPs pressed for an immediate payment, however, they were told that the government's economic difficulties did not permit it.

Another betrayal

In other words, the big international bankers have laid down the law, insisting that Wilson gives guarantees of toughness in return for the billions of dollars lent to the government. Is it to be another betrayal like Macdonald's in 1931?

By March, when the increases are finally granted, the cost of living will have risen as a result of the 15 per cent import surcharges and increase in petrol tax. This cynical disregard of the old people, who face a winter of cold, sickness, even starvation, is part of the Labour government's evident intention to make the working people pay for a crisis which big business and the Tories produced.

This state of affairs cannot be tolerated in the labour movement. It will not be tolerated by the Young Socialists. 9

The workers did not vote for Wilson to carry out policies dictated by the banks and the monopolies. It was sheer hypocrisy to fight an election on the

theme of 'Labour Cares' and then proceed to ignore the urgent needs of old people.

The fight started by the Labour MPs, who signed a petition demanding the backdating of pension increases, should be carried on and not dropped at Wilson's word, the statement added.

Only a sustained fight backed by massive public sympathy could win the pensions increase before Christmas.

6 In the first four weeks of the Wilson administration, retreat after retreat has been made.

Whilst MPs' and Ministers' salaries have been handsomely increased—and backdated—almost every election pledge has been broken or shelved.

The National Committee of the Young Socialists *denounces* the decision to send Buccaneer aircraft to the Verwoerd government; it is a gross violation of election pledges.

We condemn Callaghan's assurances to the City that the Corporation Tax will bring no increase in profits tax. The rise in the Bank Rate, after all the attacks on 'stop-go', will quickly bring unemployment, as in the past.

Under a Labour government, the workers are being forced to pay for the crisis facing big business.

We say a Labour government must make the Tories pay.

In the first place, the Wilson government must be forced to carry out its election promises. Any demand but this at the Labour Party conference in Brighton on December 12 will be a betrayal of the aspirations of all those who voted Labour only two months before. 9

The statement described how in the past year the right-wing Labour leaders had carried on a vicious witch-hunt against the Young Socialists because of their socialist policies.

At the December conference, the statement warned, these same leaders would seek endorsement of their witch-hunt as well as their capitulation to the bankers. Their witch-hunt of the youth

was, in fact, a preparation for the present rightward swing.

In calling for the support of the labour movement the National Committee (Majority) said the December conference must be forced to demand:

IMMEDIATE INCREASES FOR OLD AGE PENSIONERS;

NO ARMS OF ANY KIND FOR SOUTH AFRICA;

A GOVERNMENT FOR THE WORKERS AND NOT FOR THE BANKS;

STOP THE WITCH-HUNT OF YOUNG SOCIALISTS;

MAKE ALL EVICTIONS ILLEGAL NOW;

THERE IS ONLY ONE WAY TO SOLVE THE CRISIS—THE SOCIALIST WAY.



Must millions of other old age pensioners like these men face a miserable Christmas?

Sheffield cutlery workers face 'atrocious' conditions

By a young Sheffield worker

SHEFFIELD is well known for its strong union organisation. This means that conditions in many large firms there are comparatively good. But there are also 400 small cutlery and silverware firms where union organisation is practically non-existent and conditions are atrocious.

The factory where I work looks as though it will fall down any minute. It is really dirty, not only with dust and litter but with oil and grease from the machines. There are scissors all over the place which does not leave much room to move about.

Many of these small factories do not provide canteens and you have to eat in the room where you work. We have an alternative. That is to go upstairs into another shop where there are odd scissors and paint all over, besides litter, dust, etc., and no chairs to sit on, only the

floor.

The toilets are absolutely filthy and the flush does not work. Clean towels are provided about once every ten days but after the first day or two they are black.

In all parts of the building there are broken windows, holes in the wall and gaps under the outside doors. When anyone complains to the foreman about the cold he says, 'you're not working hard enough'.

BORING

Most of the work is boring. People do the same work all the time. A worker only gets another job when someone else leaves. Some go on doing the same thing for weeks.

Many of these jobs can be learnt in a day. My own job is assembling scissors, that is, putting the springs and screws in. I can do 9 dozen pairs of scissors in an hour but I'm still

considered slow.

The worst thing about any job in a factory is that you either sit down or stand up all day. Because of this many girls only stay 5 or 6 weeks.

LOW WAGES

A lot of these small firms will not employ anyone who is 18 or over. Youth are doing the same work as adults but are getting much lower wages. A girl of 15 gets £3 3s. 8d. a week. Saturday morning is extra but one only gets the ordinary rate of pay. Six shillings and eightpence is the pay for a Saturday morning.

The hours are long, especially for school leavers who were used to being at school at 9 a.m. and finishing at 4 p.m. with an hour and a half for dinner. I have to be at work from 8 a.m. till 5.30 p.m. with only half an hour for lunch, 10 minutes break in the morning and 10

minutes in the afternoon.

The local paper last March reported that there was to be a joint investigation into the cutlery and silverware industry by both sides of industry.

Final findings of this investigation have not been published yet but the preliminary draft stated that some of the smaller firms did not come anywhere near satisfactory conditions of welfare, safety and hygiene. It is said that if these manufacturers were forced to implement higher standards the costs would be crippling.

In 1958 there were 107 reported accidents and by 1960 this figure had risen to 150.

The Young Socialists' policy is to nationalize these firms. This is the only way to abolish factories that keep going by giving low wages and using outdated machinery and buildings, and which pay no attention to the workers' welfare.

Apprentices' News

MIKE HUGHES, CHAIRMAN, MANCHESTER
DIRECT ACTION COMMITTEE



Serious struggle against employers lies ahead

ENGINEERING employers have once again said NO to the demands of apprentices for higher basic rates, a 35-hour working week, and four weeks' holiday with pay.

The leaders of the trade unions' negotiating team have just as meekly accepted this decision without a fight as they have in previous years.

It should now be quite clear to all apprentices and young workers that these demands will be won from the employers only by a real struggle.

Claims by the Stalinists and their supporters that the strike held earlier this month had been successful in forcing the trade unions to fight for the apprentices, have been exposed as an empty myth.

In fact, this strike has demonstrated only weakness to the employers.

Perhaps Joe Bush and those who called the strike will now explain just what they hoped to achieve. The fact is that despite all their pretentious claims about the support they had, the strike was a failure.

JOINED STRIKE

Some 2,000 apprentices in the Manchester and Stockport area joined the strike, some for one day, a few for nearly two weeks.

Apprentices in Bury, Accrington, Liverpool and Dundee, who came out in the belief that the strike had national backing, all returned before the end of the first week when it became clear to them that they had been misled.

With the strike in Manchester collapsing before the end of the second week, the Stalinist leaders made a last desperate effort to recover some support by misleading the Glasgow apprentices to down tools, and demonstrate for one week.

GENUINE

Many of those who joined this strike did so with a genuine desire to fight for the demands. The strike leaders irresponsibly seized upon the militant feelings of these apprentices, and by deliberately lying to them about the support for the strike movement, used them for purely factional motives.

Jimmy Reid, the National

Secretary of the Young Communist League told the YCL National Committee the day before the strike began that although they knew the 'strike was doomed to failure', it must go on.

It should be clear to all apprentices that the only aim which those who called the strike had was to destroy the support of apprentices for the

(Cont. on page 5)

London Direct Action Committee set up

NEARLY 100 London apprentices attended a meeting on November 20 to elect a Direct Action Committee in the city.

Paddy O'Regan explained why apprentices were forming themselves into Direct Action Committees to organise for a national stoppage.

Some apprentices, he said, still got only £2 at 15 and £8 at 20. Union leaders had ignored the decisions of the young workers and refused to fight for their demands.

Speaking on the question of the November 2 strike, he stated that those rank and file apprentices who came out then, would not be condemned. The lesson to be learnt from this stoppage was that if a struggle was to be successful it had to be prepared.

One of the ways to do this was by setting up committees like the one in Manchester.

Both Dave Rigg and Mike Davies, members of the National Direct Action Committee urged apprentices to take leaflets and copies of *Keep Left* to explain to fellow workers the importance of organising to win their demands.

Low wages and no training for young workers in Cardiff

By a Welsh apprentice

CARDIFF has few large heavy industries, but there are a great many small works and sweatshops in which apprentices are put on to the roughest and dirtiest jobs.

Apprentice motor mechanics in many garages get no decent training. They have to do general work, like car cleaning.

One mechanic pointed out to *Keep Left* that when the general public pay for work done by an apprentice, the bosses include adult labour costs in the price charged. This is just one way that young workers are being used to maintain high profits.

CAR WASHER

After five years of this so-called training they end up—'a skilled car washer'!

Dry dock apprentices are doing the work of adult labourers, riggers, painters and even train drivers, yet they are supposed to be training as fitters and turners.

Many plumbing apprentices find they are expected to do all manner of labouring jobs, without receiving the bonuses and special conditions money they are entitled to.

For this work, a large number of first-year apprentices are earning less than £3 a week.

Most young workers are determined that this state of affairs must end, but they have received no assistance in the fight for better wages and conditions from union officials.

PREVENTED

In fact, several right-wingers urged apprentices not to have any contact with the Direct Action Committees and a Young Socialist was prevented from leafletting at one works by the Boilermakers' Union convenor.

Despite these pressures, many lads from a wide range of work places and trades are now coming together to form an apprentices Direct Action Committee in Cardiff.

MIKE DAVIES, SECRETARY, LONDON
DIRECT ACTION COMMITTEE

Apprentices must prepare now for national stoppage



THE latest rejection by the engineering employers of the apprentices' demands for higher wages and better working conditions, signifies only deep contempt for young workers who are used as cheap labour.

Apprentices want to organise themselves into a national body so that they can fight for wages which will be in line with the rising cost of living. But the bosses are very unwilling to part with even a minute portion of their massive profits.

The expensive cars and huge mansions which these people can afford are things which apprentices can never even dream of.

FERRANTI APPRENTICES SUPPORT 1965 NATIONAL STRIKE

THE large electronics firm of Ferranti's (recently in the news when it made £4½ million profit from a government contract for the Bloodhound missile) is one of the main employers of apprentices in the Edinburgh area.

Ferranti's have a large number of factories in and around Edinburgh and of a total labour force of about 3,000 over 700 are apprentices.

Important

These young workers are very important in boosting the company's profits. While the basic rate for a skilled worker is £10 12s., the rate for a fifth-year apprentice is £7 13s. A third-year apprentice receives £5 14s.

But this wage ratio is misleading. Most Ferranti workers are paid an assessed bonus. For a journeyman, the maximum bonus is about £5—for a fifth-year apprentice, doing the same job, the top bonus is 27s. and a third-year apprentice is paid an average wage of £6—basic plus bonus—as against £14 to £15 for a journeyman.

There is widespread support amongst Ferranti apprentices for the 1965 strike, called by the National Conference of apprentices in Manchester on October 31.

Factory committees have been set up in conjunction with apprentices from other factories and in at least one firm there has been support from a large number of adult workers.

PROFIT

The employers have their eyes focussed on one thing—not the adequate training or paying of apprentices—but the accumulation of their own profit.

If an older apprentice is engaged on production work, which is invariably the case of apprentices during their contract, then it is only fair that they should receive 90 per cent of the skilled rate.

This, we maintain, would be sufficient to allow these apprentices to have enough money to live on instead of having to wait until their apprenticeship is ended.

Most younger apprentices do not even earn a wage—it is merely pocket money. We say in this case that 60 per cent of the skilled rate should be paid to them, so that they can pay their parents for their keep and have enough for clothes and entertainment.

DEMANDS

The employers refuse to recognise that apprentices' demands are demands that should have been granted a long while ago.

Young workers throughout the country are left with no alternative but to organise towards a national stoppage in 1965. We are sure that older workers, who were once apprentices too, will remember how hard it was to manage on a low wage and support us.

KEEP LEFT

THE PAPER FOR SOCIALIST YOUTH
156 Lambeth Road, London, S.E.1

THERE is an old saying that there is 'no smoke without fire'. Now we have the answer to the reasons for the notorious and vicious witch-hunt against the Young Socialists.

Never in the history of our movement has a Labour government retreated from its election policies so rapidly as the present administration in Whitehall. It has openly and unashamedly betrayed every pledge which it made to the working class, either on matters of domestic or foreign policy.

Let us consider the record so far.

Firstly, due to increased taxation the cost of living skyrockets and the value of real wages is reduced. Old age pensioners find that their pensions can buy less on the first Christmas of a Labour government than during the last Christmas of a Tory government. The reason is that the international bankers and counting houses of the City of London demanded that Wilson toe the line—and he did.

Wilson's side kick, Mr. Right Wing himself, George Brown, is busy conspiring to persuade the unions to freeze wages under conditions where the working class have suffered a real wage cut and where the employers are quite free to raise prices. What kind of socialism is this?

Secondly, in his pre-election speech, Mr. Wilson said that there would be no arms for South Africa. Now he has decided to implement the Tory policy and sell 16 Buccaneer planes to the pro-fascist prime minister Verwoerd. Large sections of the labour movement demand an end to apartheid. Wilson helps Verwoerd to maintain it.

Thirdly, during recent weeks, the United States and Belgian imperialist governments have been carrying out counter-revolutionary paratroop measures against the Stanleyville government in the Congo. Wilson not only publicly approved their actions but granted them the full facilities of Ascension Island in order to launch their attack.

Fourthly, Wilson has reversed his stand on NATO's multi-lateral force. He has now agreed to continue construction of the three submarines to be armed with Polaris missiles, equipped with nuclear warheads. He has also agreed to set up a special NATO fleet equipped with NATO weapons.

Finally, he has agreed to integrate the West German Bundeswehr, which is Nazi-trained and has a Nazi-inspired high command in this proposed NATO nuclear force.

Small wonder when you consider the magnitude of this betrayal that the international bankers were quite willing to loan this so-called Labour government the astronomical sum of three thousand million dollars.

The right wing fear above all the position of our Brighton conference decisions. More and more it will become clear to the sincere rank and file members of the Labour Party that only the policies adopted by the Young Socialists can answer the pressing very urgent needs of the British labour movement. The road of Wilson, George Brown and company is the road of Ramsay MacDonald. It is the road to disaster for socialism. Time is short.

We must fight back within the Labour Party and the trade union movement. The Young Socialists are growing and will continue to grow from strength to strength because they are fighting for real socialist policies. We appeal to all Labour Party members and trade unionists to help us win this fight.

APPEAL TO ROGER PROTZ

WE ADDRESS these remarks to Roger Protz, one-time editor of Keep Left, who in his own words, is a fighter for the rights of all Young Socialists.

Three members of the Wandsworth Young Socialists were expelled because they brought 30 young people along to join the branch. You may or may not agree with this effort to recruit young people but that is beside the point. It is to what happened afterwards that we have to draw your attention.

Mr. Bill Jones, the right-wing London Youth Organiser, who you know very well and Mr. Ken Solly, the right-wing agent for Wandsworth in collaboration with right-wing Young Socialists decided that the three young members who went out recruiting should be expelled. Supporting the motion for expulsion was Mr. S. Mani, a member of 'The Militant', a paper with which you are now associated. He is a colleague of yours. Do you agree that he should have lined up with some of the most reactionary right-wing elements in London to put three young people out of the Labour Party?

We shall be very surprised if you do. Come to think of it, we would be very surprised if Gavin Kennedy, after all he has written about the need to have freedom inside the Young Socialists, would agree with such an action. We therefore hope we are not going to be disappointed in the request that we now have to make.

Will you, as a colleague of Mani's, immediately publicly dis-associate yourself from him in the next issue of the paper? Will you also demand in the paper that these three young people be reinstated into membership of the Labour Party?

DATELINE + DATELINE + DATELINE + DATE

The other side of BEAT CITY

By a Liverpool Young Socialist

BEAT City! This is what Liverpool has become known as—the home of the Beatles, Gerry and the Pachelbel, Cilla Black and many other big names in the record industry.

Youth from all over the country have come to Liverpool to visit the famous 'Cavern Club', or in search of the legendary 'Jam Butty mines'.

Some have even stayed. But after a time the few who remain see another side to Beat City. Instead of queuing to go into the Cavern, they find themselves joining the hundreds of unemployed youth queuing for dole money, standing on street corners and getting moved on by the police.

Unemployment in Liverpool always has been a 'fact of life' and youth have not been able to escape this. Some young people spend many months living off the dole.

If they are lucky enough to get a job, it is low paid and offers no prospects for the future.

Bitterness

As one young lad put it, with some bitterness:

'Just before you leave school, inspectors and other officials pay a visit to tell you that you should think carefully about your future; not to rush into any job because if you are not happy in your job you will not work well.'

'They go on to say don't take a job because it is well paid but stick out for a trade which may pay low wages while you are training but ensures a safe future when you finish your time.'

'This sounds very nice until you leave school and find yourself with hundreds of other youth all queuing at the Labour Exchange. Then you consider yourself lucky if you get a milk lad's

job. As for apprenticeships—don't make me laugh.'

Up in Kirkby, a new industrial estate on the outskirts of Liverpool, big firms from all over the country have built factories there, in order to take advantage of government subsidies and the low rates of pay in the area.

Out on this estate all the trimmings have been done away with, only the barest essentials are to be found. Churches abound everywhere as do the pubs. There are no libraries, no cinemas, no theatres, no dance halls, only shops, a coffee bar and, of course, an ultra-modern police station.

No dole

In Kirkby, youth unemployment is also high. Some young people have been out of work for a long time and they have not received dole money since they left school because they have no stamps on their cards, and as everyone knows you cannot get stamps until you get a job—but in Kirkby there is little chance of getting a job.

Most families manage on the hire purchase, 'club-men', and the pawn shop to keep some sort of home. Parents rely on their sons and daughters leaving school, getting a job and bringing some much-needed money into the house.

But what happens all-too-

often is that their children go on the dole—without pay.

The result is that the parents then lose even the small advantage of family allowance on their child. This has led to cases where sons and daughters have been kicked out of home and told: 'Don't come back until you have found a job.'

Young people have slept in fields and bus shelters.

But it is not the parents who are to blame. They can see no way out of their overwhelming money problems. In absolute frustration they strike out at their children and not at the real cause of their misery, which is the Tory system run for profits for the bosses.

Training centres

Young Socialists on the Merseyside have fought consistently against youth unemployment, calling for the setting up of training centres, paying full trade union rates for unemployed youth, supporting the call for a shorter working week and calling for the nationalization of all the major industries, so that they are no longer run in the interests of the employers.

The Labour government's answer has been to increase the bank rate to 7 per cent; (this action was taken by Selwyn



These are the kind of houses many young people in Liverpool have to grow up in.

Wigan Young Socialists news

ONLY a few months ago it was reported that a second Young Socialists branch had been set up in Newtown, Wigan—since then this new branch has been forced out of its premises.

Before the anti-Tory rally in September the YS called on the local trades council for support and financial help towards the demonstration.

Thanks to a forged letter which slandered the YS national committee (majority) members, confusion was sown amongst the delegates and the motion to support the YS was defeated. Also permission to collect for the rally round the Labour clubs was refused.

Later the YS received support from several wards and trades union branches to call another meeting to reverse this decision, after the letter 'signed' by the national committee members had been publicly denounced by Dave Ashby, the majority committee's chairman and other members. But the executive refused to call such a meeting.

NO ALTERNATIVE

The YS then had no alternative but to go outside Wigan and appeal to the Labour clubs of surrounding areas. They received a lot of support and very generous collections. But the committee of the Labour club in which Newtown YS met, announced the branch could no longer go there.

When asked why, the club spokesman simply said: 'We just don't want you around.'

After some damage at a dance a second Labour meeting place was banned to the YS.

Members paint and furnish their own premises

Keep Left Correspondent

Meanwhile, a third Labour club, after being approached by the YS, agreed to allow meetings on the premises once a fortnight, and new members from the area began to join.

OWN PREMISES

However, realising that it would not be long before the YS was again witch-hunted in the area members, started looking for premises of their own.

They now rent a large room in the centre of the town, which YS members have scrubbed out, painted up, and furnished, by collecting old chairs from Labour clubs.

Here they have started holding record evenings and meetings.

Recently an Apprentices Direct Action Committee was set up in Wigan and the YS promised their full support.

Young Socialists in the area have helped the apprentices by handing out their leaflets and advertising meetings.

For doing this the YS has been attacked by local officials of the Amalgamated Engineering Union who claim the Young Socialists are interfering with apprentices and bringing politics into private union affairs.

An official even went so far as to demand that the Young Socialists be disbanded.

The district organiser knows

that in one local engineering works lads of 15 start at 1s. 9d. an hour piecework flat rate and that is the official union rate.

In Hindley, a neighbouring town, unemployment amongst school-leavers is about 6 per cent, the highest rate in the North-west.

Young Socialists have just started up a branch for the first time in this area. They are meeting in the Labour club—despite opposition from some Labour councillors.

Now the Wigan YS is to meet the executive of the local Labour Party for an inquiry. Whatever happens the Wigan YS branches intend to carry on building and recruiting and supporting workers' struggles.

Mike Davies' statement

Cont. from page 3

action being carefully prepared by the Manchester Direct Action Committee.

They were not concerned with soberly preparing to help apprentices win the demands.

A National Committee elected at the conference of apprentices and young workers held in Manchester on October 31, met on Saturday, November 21 and discussed in detail the campaign in all the main industrial areas to prepare for a real fight next March.

The rejection of our claim by the employers should make it obvious to all young workers that a serious struggle lies ahead.

Such passivity of the trade union leaders indicates that little support will be given by them to help us win.

Trade union branches, shop stewards' committees and district committees in all areas must be canvassed to win their support.

We are confident that the adult trade union movement in the localities and branches and the factories can and will support our fight.

With the danger of a wage agreement between the Trades Union Congress and the Labour government now imminent it is important that all young workers and apprentices be recruited into the union, for factory committees to be formed and strengthened, and a unity of working class youth forged in all areas.

All those apprentices who mistakenly took part in the strike earlier this month should now join the local Direct Action Committees in their areas or help to set them up and join with us in preparing for action next March.

Lloyd in 1961 and it paved the way for the sharp rise in unemployment in 1962 and 1963); to increase the price of petrol, which will mean a higher cost of living, making it harder and harder for people to live.

This only increases the burden already carried on the backs of the workers. Liverpool Young Socialists have this to say to Wilson 'Take the money off the bosses not the workers!'

Liverpool also has a big housing problem. The 'Liverpool Weekly News' recently spotlighted the plight of people who live in the Dingle area of the city.

● Mrs. Mary Edwards pays 35s. a week rent. Her rooms are flooded every time it rains and she has no chance of getting a house for many years.

● Mrs. Helen Chandler, who has lived for five years in Dingle, pays £2 5s. a week for two rooms. There is no gas or electricity and they share a toilet with two other families.

● Mrs. Eva Cabarelle lived in one room for two years with her five children and when it rained the water poured in. For this miserable hovel she paid 30s.

Solve problem

In the last council elections the Labour Party gained control of the city council. The self-styled 'progressive' leader of the Labour group Alderman Sefton said: 'We intend to solve the housing problem and give Liverpool a face lift.'

The only activity in this direction has been the cleaning of the whole of the St. George's Hall, which is used for concerts and assize courts.

This big clean-up is reported to have cost about £28,000 but it has done nothing to help the thousands of Liverpool workers living in poor conditions like the ones described in

this article.

Young Socialists at their annual conference earlier this year said that the problems of Racism and slums can only be solved by socialist policies and resolutions were passed saying:

'There is only one solution, housing must be a public service. This can only be done through the nationalisation of the building industry, of the land, of building supplies, building societies and insurance companies.'

Young Socialists in Liverpool are in full agreement with these proposals. We say to Harold Wilson, 'make the bosses pay and we will shout our approval and support, but if you try to solve the economic problems facing the bosses at the expense of the workers we shall not hesitate to voice our disagreement'.

South Yorkshire YS demonstrate against witch hunt

Keep Left Reporter

NEARLY 300 youth from South Yorkshire and the Leeds area answered the vicious witch-hunt that has been waged against the areas' federation of Young Socialists with a large and colourful demonstration in the centre of Rotherham on Sunday, November 22.

The demonstration wound its way round the centre of the town with banners and slogans demanding that the Tories pay for the present economic crisis, not the working class.

There was a large contingent from Rotherham itself and the march was led by Kimberworth

Park Young Socialists Left branch, who have built a big YS branch in the face of an intensive witch-hunt by the right-wing Labour councillors and the police.

Whilst canvassing for the demonstration in the town they were continually pursued by the police who tried to 'discourage' the youth from joining the demonstration.

BITTER EXPERIENCES

There was also a large contingent from Parson Cross Young Socialists in Sheffield, a branch whose members have had many bitter experiences with the police on the housing estates.

The march ended with an open meeting at which Derek Gaiton, a member of the Kimberworth Park Young Socialists spoke.

At another meeting later on Dave Ashby, chairman of the National Committee (Majority) of the YS said that this successful demonstration had vindicated the stand taken by the committee before the election when it had refused to close down.

He went on to outline plans to build up a mass popular socialist youth movement.

Other speakers from the Young Socialists gave support for the fight of the apprentices for higher wages.

Show spot • by Bob Dickens

Film glosses over real issue of French Resistance

THE destruction of French railways and installations by the Royal Air Force as the Nazis retreated from Paris, provided the background for a fast-moving, but very poor film, *The Train*, released by United Artistes.

Taking the period during the Second World War when courageous French resistance fighters were conducting a fierce battle against the German army, the film only glosses over the real issues involved.

A merciless thug of a Nazi colonel has a soft spot for French paintings. His love of art knows no bounds. He fills

a whole train up with art treasures and kides his superior officers that they will help to pay for the imperialist war.

Most of the action takes place around the resistance group's attempts to stop both the train containing the art treasures and a train containing armaments, from ever reaching Germany.

What really spoils the film is the portrayal of the resistance leaders, who see the art as embodying the 'Glory of France'.

After a nudge from star Burt Lancaster one old railwayman obligingly repeats 'Ah, yes, the glory of France'.

In real life the railway workers were probably recalling the treachery of the French capitalists and army generals who had, at the beginning of the war, welcomed the Nazis as their saviours from an imminent French workers' revolution.

French resistance was made



Burt Lancaster (right) in a tense scene from *The Train*

up mostly of Communists, socialists and trade unionists. They knew they were fighting German imperialism and the French capitalists as a common enemy.

This knowledge of whom they were fighting was the source of their now legendary heroism. It could not have been sustained for four years by the mere belief in the phoney 'Glory of France'.

Burt Lancaster's endearing cowboy bravado, as leader of the resistance fighters, would, in fact, have snapped like a dry twig under conditions of Nazi terror.

Real working-class conscious-

ness and socialist ideas steeled the French workers in their ruthless proletarian organisation and ingenuity, which the film shows well as the railway workers try to stop the train leaving Paris by constantly harrasing the baffled Nazis.

Many paid with their lives for sabotage and it was only the Communist Party leaders, with their call for unity behind de Gaulle that saved the French ruling class from being defeated by the working class.

To avoid bringing out such issues the film gets bogged down in a very intellectual argument on whether art should be valued above human lives.

Young Edinburgh workers face bad conditions

By a Scottish Young Socialist

IN a small biscuit factory in Edinburgh which employs 15 to 20 young people, the maximum wage is £5 15s.

These young people, mainly girls under the age of 18, work a nine-hour day with, they claim, only one break of half an hour for lunch. When asked about tea breaks one girl said: 'We get a break in the morning if there is time—but usually there is not time.'

'The factory is very warm and the only ventilation is from fans which are very rarely switched on.'

Another girl, a 15-year-old, said that her wage, after deductions, was about £3 9s.

There is no bonus schemes so the workers have no means of increasing their wages.

The youth in this factory and many similar sweatshops in Scotland's 'Capital City' expressed a keen interest in the policies of the Young Socialists and in *Keep Left*.

Young Socialists in Edinburgh must organise these young workers into branches to learn how to fight against such conditions and to expose the sordid reality of exploitation behind the pompous facade of this 'Festival City'.

Football

'hooliganism'

is

it

really

serious?

bill reynolds' sporting corner

ASSOCIATION Football is Britain's national sport and, as such, every incident in the game is bound to be reported in the national press.

The latest outrage in football is not very pleasing for the football hierarchy. Spectators throwing missiles and being generally unruly; players saying things they ought not to, to the referees and being severely punished for it; and the Football League refusing to let referees talk to the players on certain points before each game.

SPECTATORS

As far as the 'hooliganism' of the spectators is concerned, I think most of it is blown up by the Press. After all, spectators have been showing displeasure with bad performances since football began.

If a spectator gets worked up and thoroughly disgusted with his team, he will show it by throwing whatever is in his hand at the time.

It may only be a paper bag or

a paper cup, or something from his pocket. But the point is, he is not really throwing it at anyone in particular.

Incidents like this usually occur at the end where the goalkeepers stand. As the goalkeeper stands practically on one spot for 45 minutes, anything that comes over the railings, he claims, is being aimed at him.

NOTHING SAID

If a spectator in the middle of the field along the side of the terracing throws anything on the pitch, nothing is said because no one is hit.

If spectators went to a match to deliberately throw objects at the goalkeeper, they would take things that would really do some harm. Anyway, why should they pick on the goalkeeper? Why not the half-back, for instance, if he is playing badly?

After a few weeks the spectator trouble will die down, only to be brought up again into headline prominence when the papers need some startling copy.

The fact that professional

footballers utter comments about the decisions of referees should be deplored.

As professional footballers, they should have learned the laws of the game and have no excuses if they are punished severely.

A professional footballer I know once told me: 'We assume that we can get away with one diabolical foul, but a second one—off.' With an attitude like that, it is so easy for the game to get out of hand—it can mean 22 'diabolical fouls' in 90 minutes.

SUSPENSIONS

Take the recent cases of players who have been suspended. It was alleged that they had said something to the referee and had their names taken for it.

Frequently players of this class who are 'booked' immediately get the help of the national press, who cry out that they are being made the scapegoats for all the incidents in football.

But when a player from some

little Fourth Division club gets a two week suspension nothing is said in the national press.

Professional players should take their medicine like men. After all, if they didn't commit offences in the first place, they wouldn't face possible suspension.

If players are allowed to get away with things on the field, spectators will increasingly take the law into their own hands.

DIFFICULTIES

To overcome the difficulties, the Professional Footballers' Association suggested that referees should arrange to talk to players at their grounds on the interpretation of the laws.

The Referees' Association were in favour of anything that would help the game.

But the Football League has different ideas. They think it would be an attempt to white-wash the minority of players who think they are always right.

This is the same Football League that has kept players in bondage for years; the same Football League that thinks a dictatorship is good for football while attendances drop and 'incidents' harm the game.

Young Socialists (1)

'THE STEP' in Stalybridge, Lancashire, is a block of derelict houses. Every night large numbers of young people can be seen gathered there.

Sometimes they sit in a courtyard huddled round a fire to keep warm. This is the kind of life which is offered to thousands of young people in this part of Lancashire.

Stalybridge, like Mossley, Carrbrook, Hyde and Dukenfield is an old town of the early industrial revolution.

Since then, things have changed very little, people still live in the same stone-built houses that were lived in 100 years ago, houses like 'The Step' itself. For years it has been said they would be coming down—but they still remain.

There is absolutely nothing for the youth in the area except for a cinema and a cafe in Mossley, a half-hour's bus ride away.

The youth find they are victimised by the police. Several allege they have been intimidated.

At work, conditions are better. Most of the factories in the area are well organised and the youth support the trade unions.

In Dukenfield there has been an important strike, where a firm sacked all the workers and agreed to reinstate them only if they accepted an 'open shop'.

Employers in the area are preparing a showdown with the trade unions. In addition trade union organisation does not exist in all factories.

There is a clothing manufacturing firm where many young girls work and a factory where young lads clean damaged bales of wool—it is 'hopeless, back-breaking work,' one commented.

Young Socialists in Stalybridge must take some responsibility for the thousands of youth in the area and not just run a club for themselves.

At a recent meeting a speaker invited from the Manchester Apprentices Direct Action Committee spoke of working conditions and urged the YS to wage a fight.

The chairman then threatened that the YS would be closed right down if its members voted for such a campaign. Anyone voting for it would have to leave with the speaker and not return.

This prevented the resolution from being carried, but youth from 'The Step' stood firm. They later discussed with other youth in the meeting and asked 'How can you go to 'The Step' and tell them how you voted, how you sold them out?'

One thing is certain. The fight for the youth from 'The Step' is not over.

**Member of Lancashire
Young Socialists.**

Young Socialists (2)

PARSON CROSS estate, it is said, is one of the largest estates in the country without any facilities.

The youth are hounded and provoked by the police every night and work for low wages in cutlery firms in conditions which have changed little since

the days when Engels wrote 'The Condition of the Working Class in Britain'.

The Parson Cross Young Socialists have not yet been expelled by the Labour Party, but Hillsborough constituency Labour Party have sent people to inquire into the activities of the branch.

Parson Cross Young Socialists pledge their support for Keep Left in the future and are determined to fight for the Brighton conference decisions

**Member of Parson Cross
Young Socialists.**

Young Socialists (3)

FOLLOWING the suspension of the South Yorkshire Federation of Young Socialists two months ago, a Young Socialists Left branch was set up on the Kimberworth Park Estate in Rotherham.

The branch held regular meetings of 40, organised socials and ran a successful dance. Youth were recruited on the policies of the YS conference.

This immediately provoked the hostility of Labour councillors on the estate—one in particular is reported to have told the 'Sheffield Star' he would drive the Young Socialists off the estate.

The YS branch held its meet-

ings in the Garden Society hut until someone used influence to get the youth banned from the premises.

The group were accused of claiming they were an officially recognised section of the Labour Party and of recruiting youth under false pretences.

But YS members have continually pointed out to both youth and adults their political differences with the Labour Party leadership and its local officials. The local Labour Party was well aware of this and had been glad to accept the help of 30 Young Socialists on the eve of the General Election.

Fifty YS members went to a councillor's house to demand an explanation for his actions.

Following this, the Young Socialists took a petition round the estate explaining their fight and asking for adults to support them in their demand for the hut.

720 signed the petition!

However, when the youth attempted to present their petition to the committee which controls the hut, a policeman was called to remove the Young Socialists.

Whenever the youth meet on the estate to distribute leaflets, take round petitions or to discuss, the police move them on.

They aim to destroy the movement by splitting young workers from adult workers on the estate.

Rumours, allegations of deception and hooliganism and increased police activity are aimed at intimidating parents as well as the youth.

In fact, the Young Socialists

have acted correctly in explaining to adult workers on the estate that they are the official Young Socialists, even though banned by the Labour Party right wing, and that the programme in their Manifesto is one for the whole working class.

Rotherham Young Socialist.

Paint factory

IN a paint-making factory in Leeds a notice appeared on the works' notice board saying that if there was ever a strike in this factory all the staff would be dismissed and coloured workers would take their place.

In this factory wages are good compared with other factories in the area. All the labour is unskilled. The hours are also quite good—35 hours a week.

Pakistani workers have the worst jobs, they have to work without masks, whilst working with powder used to make the lead-based paints. The fine powder rises into the air in clouds, getting into the workers' skins, and they have to breathe it in as well.

The atmosphere is so dense that it is impossible to see across the building and the powder gets all over the factory.

As many people know lead is

poisonous and the dust must be very bad for the lungs. English workers have refused to do this job.

The workers can see no reason as to why they should join the union. It seems strange that there are such good wages and hours in this factory and yet the management find it necessary to put up such a notice.

Could this be that the chemicals cause serious harm to the workers, and the management knowing this, are afraid of anyone finding out and organising to fight it?

This notice is a direct attempt to split the coloured and white workers, by threatening their jobs.

**Member of Leeds
Young Socialists.**

Liverpool

HERE in Liverpool the bosses have taken further steps against the working class by extending the spying apparatus of the police force.

Just two weeks ago the watch committee gave their blessing to the plan of the Deputy chief constable Mr. Balmer, to install closed circuit television on all the highest buildings in the City to catch car thieves.

But this closed circuit television will not just be used to catch car thieves, it provides an admirable opportunity for the police to sort out working-class leadership by having them in full view whenever there is a demonstration through the town.

**Member of Liverpool
Young Socialists.**

Apprentices

THE FACTORY where I work is a good example of how apprentices are used for cheap labour. The firm built a training school for the apprentices and in it they put machines which are no good for the rest of the factory.

Apprentices were put on these machines without proper training, so it was only a matter of time before someone got hurt.

The other week a lad was hurt when a job flew out and hit him in the neck and he ended up in hospital.

The reason why the job was put on in the first place was because all other machines on which the job could have been done were being used by skilled men, and this would have meant paying more money, when they could have an apprentice to do the job and not pay him as much.

**J.F.,
Wigan.**

Docks

IN Liverpool recently the National Dock Labour Board have sacked about 300 temporary dockers.

Other dockers will be finishing their week's notice fairly soon. Eight months ago the National Dock Labour Board in conjunc-

tion should carry out a thorough investigation into the National Dock Labour Board.

However, the chairman of the local trades council, who is also an MP, threw the resolution out saying it was not an official resolution.

A Young Merseyside Docker.

Strike

THE apprentices' strike of November 2 was a deliberately engineered disruption by the Pabloites and Stalinists, of the apprentices' fight for their charter of demands.

Only two days before the strike took place, on Saturday, October 31, a mass national conference of apprentices in Manchester had voted to prepare and organise for a strike on March 29, 1965.

At this meeting four splitters, who had been expelled from the Manchester Direct Action Committee attempted to win support for a strike on November 2.

This strike was roundly condemned by the delegates from factories throughout the country. Instead of accepting the decision they walked out.

Why then did they continue on a suicidal course to go ahead with an apprentices' strike on Monday, which was doomed in advance?

**Send us your opinions,
branch reports, ideas
on how to build the
Young Socialists**

The answer is simple—the Stalinists and the Pabloites do not want an effective apprentice strike and they wished to deal a blow against those who do.

At a recent meeting a well-known Pabloite said that the first task facing the apprentices was to stop the sale of Keep Left and as far as he was concerned he would keep apprentices out until after Christmas if necessary to ensure that apprentices would not support the policies of Keep Left.

The policies of Keep Left concerning the apprentices' fight can only be won on the basis of united working-class action.

Any other course would represent a real danger for the apprentices since they are taking on some of the most powerful monopolies in the world, who are in addition faced with crises themselves.

It is in engineering that the crisis of exports is at its worst. How can the apprentices on their own challenge the monopolies which are able to dictate to the Wilson government, and win?

Keep Left wants an apprentices' fight that can win! Such a fight must also be a struggle to organise unorganised youth in dead-end jobs and in sweat shops, the youth on the dole, white and coloured workers and older workers.

This is why we support wholeheartedly those apprentices on the Manchester Direct Action Committee who campaigned against the senseless, idiotic and criminal leaders of the November 2 strike.

Manchester Young Socialist.

Young Socialists unite with Indians in strike victory

HUNDREDS of London Young Socialists and immigrant and white workers marched through Southall last month bringing 1964 to a close with a heavy crack against racialism.

For all those cynics in the labour movement who say racialism cannot be defeated, these Labour youth showed just how colour hatred, whipped up by the Tories in places such as Smethwick, can be met—with working-class action.

The demonstration followed a successful strike by immigrant and white workers at Woolf's rubber factory in Southall.

When one of their workmates was suspended for alleged violence against a foreman, 500 men in the factory walked out in protest and demanded his reinstatement.

The sacked man, who could not speak English, was asked for his work number and after he had replied by using signs, the foreman reported him.

Most of the workers in the factory are Indians and they have all fought consistently for trade unionism in the firm—which is now nearly 100 per cent.

Throughout the strike they stood firm in spite of the local trade union leaders—supporters of the Communist Party—who tried to get them to return to work. Many of them stood for long periods on picket lines, helped by local Young Socialists.

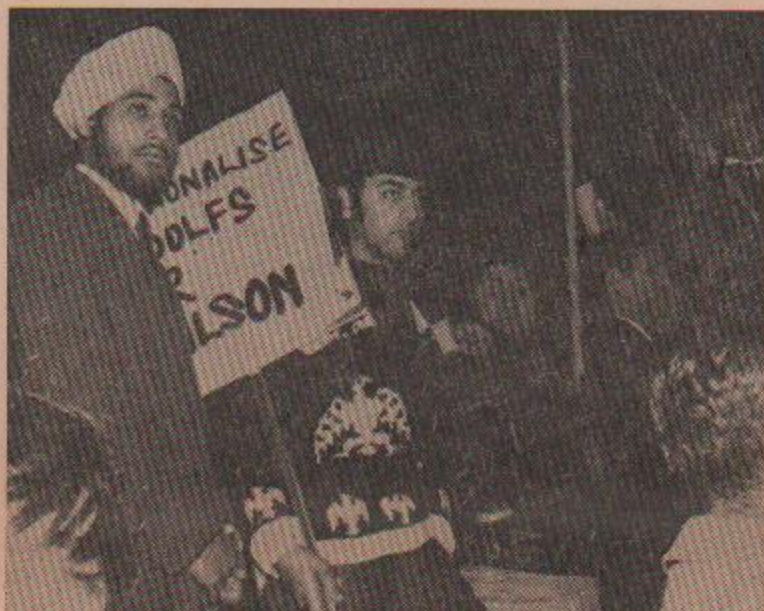
Young Socialists were the only section of the labour movement to support these workers in their struggle for trade union rights, by putting forward socialist policies of nationalization.

At a union branch meeting before the march members of the YS invited the strikers to attend the demonstration. Many

of the union officials tried to stop them speaking.

However, the solidarity of white, immigrant and young workers on the march through Southall showed the labour movement, which has done nothing in the area to combat racialism, that the Young Socialists are determined to lead such a fight.

Recruiting all sections of young workers—immigrant and white—demonstrations and joint working-class action, as the Young Socialists showed, is the only way to combat the Smethwick's and Southall's of this country and any other country.



Young workers carry a banner saying 'Nationalize Woolf's'



Young Socialists lobby an executive member

Belfast YS defend expelled councillors

Keep Left Correspondent

BELFAST Young Socialists have taken a lead in the fight against the expulsions of three members of the Northern Ireland Labour Party.

These are Alderman William Boyd, who is an MP in the Northern Ireland Parliament and councillors David Walsh and John Black. They were expelled after voting in the Belfast City Council against

Sunday opening of children's play centres.

Their reason was that the people who live in the area near the play centres do not want them open because the district is too crowded.

Whilst disagreeing with their vote the Young Socialists have led a campaign against all expulsions and linked it up with a call for the lifting of the ban on Keep Left.

When the Executive of the Northern Ireland Labour Party met to expel the three members, a 50-strong contingent of Young Socialists lobbied the members.

Although the rank and file of the Labour Party refused to demonstrate, believing that the executive would not carry the expulsions through, the Young Socialists insisted that it was more than just a question of a disagreement over the opening of play centres involved.

The right wing of the Labour Party, who were unable to attract a large working class vote during the recent general election and who did not give a lead during the recent Belfast riots, but allowed the workers to be divided on religious issues, are looking for a scapegoat.

They hope that their own role in betraying the working class will be overlooked by a highly critical and frustrated labour movement in Northern Ireland where four deposits were lost, by sidetracking onto a seemingly small issue.

What the three expelled members should have called for is the implementation of Young Socialists policies; that is the nationalization of the building industry, supply industry and insurance companies so that problems such as play centres are no longer insoluble.

Expulsion meeting

From page 1

Party rooms were locked, and when the youth tried to enter by a side door they were stopped by Mr. Bill Jones and told that Mr. Solly did not want them in.

Several policemen then tried to take the names and addresses of the young people and one plain clothes policeman was seen to act provocatively.

Intention

It was clearly the intention of the right wing to provoke a situation where there would be a number of arrests. In this way, they would justify expulsions. However, this did not happen, largely through the discipline of the youth.

Inside the meeting the Chairman, R. Hobbs, who until recently had been a member of the Young Communist League, said that the Young Socialists' September 27 anti-Tory Rally was sectarian because portraits of Lenin and Trotsky were carried on the demonstration.

Mani supported the expulsions and claimed that they were an organisational measure which

had nothing to do with politics.

The three expelled replied to the charges by saying that this action was being taken because they insisted on recruiting young people to the branch.

Opposed

They claimed that Mani and Hobbs and the right wing were opposed to the fight the Young Socialists had taken up on the question of giving old age pensioners a rise before Christmas. When the vote was taken, eleven voted for and five against.

The expelled members propose to continue with a branch of the Young Socialists Left in the area and to work closely with their comrades in the Streatham branch who were expelled during the summer.

Students lobby MP's over sedition trial sentences

SINCE the imprisonment in Nigeria of Dr. Leonard Victor Allen and three Nigerians on charges of sedition, British students and Young Socialists have been campaigning for their release.

Dr. Allen, a 41-year-old Leeds University lecturer, two trade unionists, Jonas Kiomasekenagh and Sidi Kayam, and teacher Oleshengun Adebayo are now serving one year's hard labour for allegedly attempting to overthrow the Nigerian government earlier this year.

The trial began on July 1, following previous proceedings against Dr. Allen, and ended on November 10.

On November 18 students and Young Socialists lobbied Mem-

bers of Parliament at the House of Commons. Several MPs agreed to support the demands for the release of the four men and set up a special committee to inquire into the case.

Students up and down the country are also backing an appeal fund set up by Leeds University students, and holding demonstrations in the university towns. Thousands have signed petitions, passed resolutions protesting at the sentences and imprisonment and donated money to the fund.

Trade union branches, Trades Councils and Labour Party branches are also joining in the protests against what they see as, not only a vicious sentence against four men, but an attack on the Nigerian working class who, just before Dr. Allen arrived in the country, won higher wages in a militant general strike.

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