

**WHAT** a flop. The Transport House 'official' rally of Young Socialists at Morecambe last month was the most dismal event yet in a long series of similar rallies organised by Mr. Underhill.

Really, who wants to listen to the bankers' best friend, George Brown and the tired old tame lefts, Anthony Greenwood and Barbara Castle.

All they can offer the youth is 'Put your nose to the grindstone, and help the right-wing government of Wilson to operate capitalism better than the capitalists. Be loyal to the boss, be content and happy on your wages no matter how inadequate they are, don't go on strike whatever you do, and support the American atrocities in Vietnam.'

No wonder thousands of Labour supporters abstained from voting in the municipal elections held recently. If there was ever a group of people diligently working for the return of a Tory government then it is the National Executive of the Labour

Party, its willing stooges in the Parliamentary Party and the usual gang of hangers-on such as Underhill at Transport House.

In sharp contrast to all this is the experience of the Young Socialists, who last year placed their socialist principles and the policy democratically decided at the Brighton conference first. For this they were expelled by the right wing but now everybody can see who was right.

The right wing only just managed to rally over a couple of hundred Young Socialists at Morecambe. The Young Socialists rallied over 1,000 at their conference held in the same town at the end of February.

The present YS recruiting cam-

aign is off to a good start.

More and more adult members of the Labour and trade union movement are beginning to understand that the experience of the Young Socialists was part of the preparation of the right wing to sell-out to Toryism immediately after they won the election.

Young Socialists are rapidly gaining the respect and support of wide sections of the working class. On May Day in all the main towns they were in the forefront of demonstrations around the fight for more wages, and against the war in Vietnam.

Keep Left is confident that the rate of growth of the Young

Socialists will continue until it is easily the largest Labour youth movement in the country.

Already in changing the name to 'Labour Party Young Socialists', Transport House has conceded that the majority of the National Committee does, in fact, represent the overwhelming majority of the Young Socialists in Britain.

Much more, however, must be done. The Foyle's strike is a warning of the completely inadequate wages paid to tens of thousands of young people in hundreds of similar occupations.

A youth movement which strives to build an alternative leadership must establish the strongest base inside the trade unions. The future is not with the old right-wing bureaucrats of these organisations, but with all those Young Socialists who go into action in vigorous recruiting drives for trade union membership amongst the youth.

At the same time we must explain the necessity for young people to develop as Marxists in order to provide the necessary alternative leadership to the present right wing.

The way forward for the Young Socialists is not just by activity alone. The lessons from the results of all our activity must be discussed, debated and thought about. All members of the Young Socialists need a basic Marxist education. There is a vital need to train a leadership within the branches which will provide them with this.

Don't let us rest on our laurels now that we have so clearly defeated Transport House. The big job lies ahead. It is not enough just recruiting young people into the Young Socialists.

We must show them that the perspective for socialism in Britain is to take the power, abolish monopoly capitalism and its wars, and join hands with the working class of all nations to carry forward the fight for world socialism in our lifetime.

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# Keep LEFT

Official paper of the Young Socialists

Vol. 14, No. 6 4d.

## Foyle's strikers show the way

**SHOWING** the way for thousands of young shop workers in Britain, who suffer from low wages and unsatisfactory working conditions, girls and youths at Foyle's bookshop, Charing Cross Road, London, have been out on a strike which has shaken up the very 'respectable' West End.

With enthusiastic determination, these young strikers, many of them students from Europe, have manned picket lines outside Foyle's, giving out leaflets; arguing and persuading with customers going into the shop. They have been joined by London Young Socialists, particularly at week-ends.

The response from some sections of the trade union move-

ment has been tremendous. Rank and file members of unions such as the National Society of Operative Printers and Assistants, the Union of Post Office Workers, the National Graphical Association and the strikers' fellow members in the Union of Shop, Distributive and Allied Trades, have shown clear solidarity by sending in large donations.

### Much more

In spite of USDAW London Divisional Officer Callinan's assertions that there is no animosity between the strikers and the management, the dispute has much more to it than merely a stoppage over pay.

This strike of some 100 youth,

many of them on strike for the first time in their lives, embodies a struggle for trade union rights within the distributive trade.

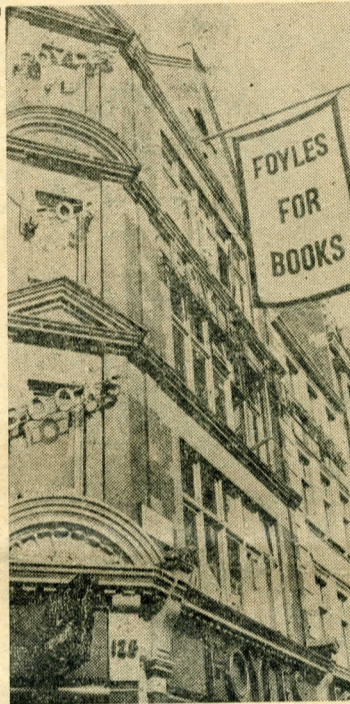
In an interview with Keep Left, Marius Webb, leader of the strike, explained how the dispute arose.

With the help of a few others he began to recruit workers at Foyle's into the union at the beginning of this year.

'A number of the people who work here are students from abroad who came to learn English. They do not live with their families and they have to manage on very low wages.'

Twenty-two-year-old Marius explained that his wage was about £9 before the strike.

'When we joined the union we had to hold meetings in a nearby cafe,' he added.



'There had been some dissatisfaction about wages for some time and when we were organised, we decided to let the management know about our grievances.'

Early in May a letter stating the workers' grievances was sent to the management and, about a week later, Marius was dismissed.

The response to this action was decisive—members of the union walked out on strike.

### Promise

After only four days of the stoppage the Foyle's management promised to reinstate Marius and an undertaking was given, in a signed statement, that negotiations on a new wages scale would take place with the union.

The strikers were demanding a £12 a week minimum at 21 for men and women and £13 10s. for workers in the package department, where no commission was paid.

However, the Foyle's workers came out on a second strike, when they learned of allegations that the management did not intend to negotiate with the union.

### Into action

With the setting up of a strike committee, the Foyle's strikers went into action to get support.

Mail for Foyle's was 'black'ed' by Mount Pleasant sorting office, drivers from publishers supplying the shop recognised the picket line, British Road Services and British Railways workers declared Foyle's 'black', and the

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Pickets plan the day's work early in the morning. Second from the left is Marius Webb, leader of the strike.

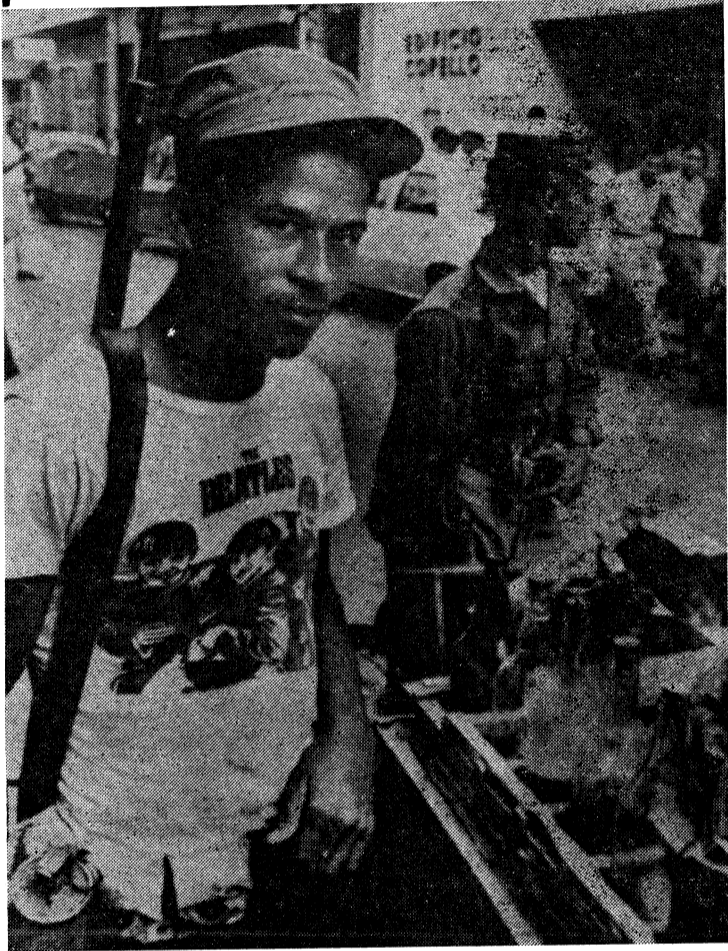


By Barry Evans

# Wilson:



## Ally Number One of American Imperialism



Young fighters—like this Beatles fan—have taken up arms to kick out American imperialism and its puppets.

**O**N opposite sides of the world, revolutionary youth take up the cudgels against American imperialism and deal it crushing blows.

Tens of thousands of United States' troops are poured into Vietnam and the Dominican Republic in desperate attempts to hold on to vital strategic, political and economic outposts of American big business.

In defiance of the horrific weapons employed by imperialism, these young workers, peasants and students are prepared to sacrifice their lives in the struggle to take power into their own hands.

In one of the most shameful episodes in the history of the British labour movement, a Labour government supports this terrible aggression against people fighting for their freedom.



As comrades of those who at this very moment are dying at the hands of imperialism, we shall not forgive the actions of Wilson and those who, like him, besmirch the name of the British labour movement.

**Our answer to Wilson will be to build, in Britain, a powerful Young Socialists movement which will lead the working**

were adequately armed.

Russian leaders cynically mouth protests against the latest American atrocities and then fail to give the military aid which could be decisive.

The Chinese government, which has just carried through its second successful nuclear explosion, will come under increasing criticism unless it answers the demands of the Vietcong for increased supplies of arms.

As we in Britain have, in the course of bitter struggles, seen the treacherous role of the Labour leaders, the revolutionary youth of Vietnam also see at first hand the treacherous role of Stalinism.



Recent events in Vietnam and the Dominican Republic deliver shattering blows at the theory of peaceful co-existence. How can the working class co-exist with imperialism?

President Johnson blatantly disregards the protests of his 'liberal' and 'pacifist' friends and proceeds to safeguard the profits and interests of American big business in the only way he knows how—with brutality and violence.

It is obvious that the American government is preparing for all-out war in South-east Asia.

In the Dominican Republic, ex-President Bosch, a 'liberal democrat', bitterly condemns the American intervention.

However, the primary concern of Bosch and provisional President Caamano is the revolutionary forces which have been unleashed by the arrival of the United States Marines.



Revolutionary youth, having taken arms into their hands to fight the reactionary military junta, are unwilling to cease fighting until the Dominican workers and peasants have taken power.

As Bosch states: 'I am not well prepared to deal with the thousands of young Communists that American actions are creating. This is the point which is causing some anxiety here.'

American imperialism contemptuously dismisses Bosch and Caamano because such 'liberal democrats' can no longer hold back the revolutionary youth.

All those so-called 'friends' of the colonial revolution,



With slogans on headbands Japanese students march in a May demonstration against the Vietnam war.

### YOUNG SOCIALISTS NATIONAL COMMITTEE RESOLUTION ON VIETNAM

The imperialist government of America is conducting a war in Vietnam with the most developed weapons of modern warfare, for the single purpose of terrorising and intimidating the revolutionary fighters of the Vietcong.

In this task they will fail, as workers and peasants throughout the world will continue to wage heroic struggles against American and other imperialist governments.

Another example has been given of this in the fierce resistance put up to the American invasion of the Dominican Republic.

The National Committee of the Young Socialists declares the task of socialists to be that of, at all times, opposing the armies of the

imperialist powers and giving full support to the struggles of colonial workers and peasants.

We salute the courageous efforts of the Vietcong and pledge ourselves to fight, within the British labour movement, for a policy of unconditional support for their struggles.

We condemn outright the disgraceful manner in which the Labour government follows the coat-tails of American imperialist policy in Vietnam.

We condemn no less the hypocrisy of the so-called 'left' critics of Wilson, who call for 'peace' talks—a polite phrase for secret diplomacy, carried out between imperialist powers and stooge governments above the heads of the working and fighting people.

whether liberals, pacifists or Stalinists, are in reality so impressed by the might of imperialism that they capitulate before it.

The role of the Soviet leaders is indeed a monstrous one. Vietnam has shown to the world that the United States can send its bombers against a state allied to Russia and China without any fear of retaliation.

As Young Socialists we stand four-square by the side of all those who fight against imperialism.

We regard with contempt those so-called 'Socialists' and 'Communists' who fail to extend the



Japanese students carry banners of Trotsky and Lenin on an anti-Vietnam war demonstration.

hand of class-friendship and solidarity to workers in struggle.

Above all we condemn Wilson with his miserable and treacherous support for any and every act of aggression by American imperialism.

We demand the calling of an immediate Labour Party Conference. Let the rank and file of the labour movement give a clear, decisive mandate to Wilson and company. Get out of Vietnam, victory to the Vietcong!

**American youth challenge government policy**

**I**N a recent news bulletin, it was announced that the American government was beginning to show concern over the political activity of the students and working-class youth in America. The youth there are beginning to turn their attentions to politics.

They are criticising and demonstrating against American policy in Vietnam and Dominica, expressing their sympathy with the civil rights movement, and demonstrating their support of the Negro population.

It is no wonder that the American ruling class is alarmed by the movement of youth.

They attempted to tackle this problem by sending Senators into the University campuses to present a 'full and real' picture of the need for the aggressive policies of the government.

Youth can see the complete bankruptcy of the continuation of the war in Vietnam. They can see the workers being slaughtered and children being mown down by American bullets.

The greatest danger to this new political interest of the youth does not lie within the strength of the American government, but in that there is a lack of correct political leadership in the movement.

If a leadership is not provided, this movement could very soon stagnate. The religious pacifists, such as Luther King, can offer nothing to this youth.

Only a leadership like that of the Young Socialists in Britain could fill the void of leadership in the movement, as it is doing successfully amongst workers, young and old, in Britain.

## Apprentice struggle at Stone's Fight - with the YS - for victory

APPRENTICES at Stone's engineering factory in Deptford, London, came out for their second one-day token strike this month.

They are claiming ability payments for apprentices working in non-production shops, where there is no bonus. The management are reported to have continuously refused

to grant these payments, despite the solidarity of the young strikers.

In the latest strike, only five apprentices went in.

The strike committee, through the convenor, have sent a letter to the District Office of the Amalgamated Engineering Union about the dispute.

There has been a good deal of sympathy from adult workers for the strike.

But Stone's apprentices must look beyond this fight.

Success through action over the ability pay would indeed be a victory.

But they must join the Young Socialists and become part of a political movement

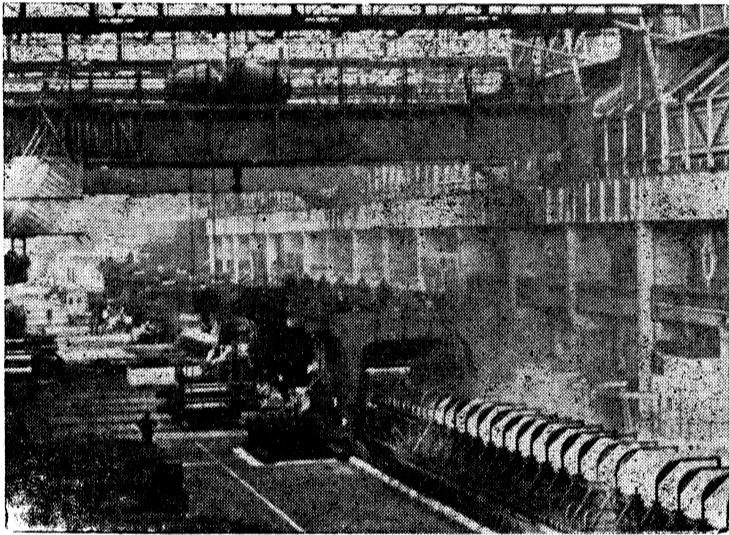
and make theirs a political fight, not only against the Stone's management, but against the bosses and the capitalist class as a whole.

They have to give an answer to the betrayal of the AEU leaders in signing the wage-freezing 'package deal'. Such leaders serve capitalism and the struggle against them can only be successful if it is seen as a fight to build a socialist youth movement that will challenge capitalism.

# Youth respond to YS campaign in 'Little Scotland'

By  
Midlands  
YS  
members

**I**N the public houses the dour Scottish steelworkers discuss the prospects of Rangers and Celtic next season and, with acute Scottish accents and expressions, they complain about the dust and heat at the steelworks, which gives them their thirst. But this is not Glasgow, Edinburgh or Aberdeen . . . this is Corby New Town in Northamptonshire.



'The steel industry MUST come under workers' control.'

cerned with steel.

Many of the youth in the area, seeing what the steel industry has done to their fathers and relations (the accident rates are high working in conditions of white hot metals, chemicals, dust and gas) have opted for jobs outside the industry.

### Apprentices

But many hundreds of other young people in the area do work in the steel industry itself. Some of them are, of course, apprentices. Apprentices at the steel firm are better treated and looked after than many others up and down the country.

They have their own training centre, which is being expanded at the moment to make it the most modern in Britain. Apprentices will be taught on internal television circuits, as well as by top-rate lecturers, in both theoretical and practical work. Wages are low, but generally the standard of training is very high—far higher than most other apprentices are getting.

The fact that, when implemented, automation will cause large amounts of unemployment, especially amongst the youth of the town is, of course, disregarded.

We cannot talk about the steel industry without talking of nationalization.

If we look at Corby, we can see the case for nationalization quite clearly. The steel firm there is almost completely owned by three or four families, helped by the bankers and financiers.

But will the lot of the worker be improved, if, and that is quite a big if, the Wilson government nationalizes the industry? The answer is: In its present form, nationalization will not help the workers.

### Private

Sir Geoffrey de Freitas, local Labour Party MP, at a private conference held in the Corby area between himself and trade unionists, is reported to have said: 'There are several dozens of MPs in the House who disagree with the nationaliza-

tion Bill and with the timing of that Bill,' but he thought the Party would remain united in the House, because they all realised the necessity to nationalize the steel industry in order to stabilize the (capitalist) economy.

At that same meeting, a resolution calling for 100 per cent workers' control of the industry was ruled out of order by the chairman, despite the fact that it would have been overwhelmingly carried.

We can see that the steel industry is being brought under state control to help the bosses and not the workers.

### Workers' control

The only answer is that when nationalized, the steel industry must come under workers' control.

What then does the future hold in the steel industry for the youth in Corby?

As we have seen, some of the apprentices of today might obtain good jobs, but in the near future, youth unemployment will definitely be a problem in Corby, as indeed, it will be all over the country. And for all these youth another grave danger looms ahead.

It is estimated that the iron ore deposits in Northamptonshire will only last approximately another 25 years. What then happens to the new town? Being in the centre of England, it makes the import of iron ore difficult and it is quite feasible that Corby New Town could become 'Corby Ghost Town'.

At night hundreds of young people can be seen hanging around the town.

### Moved in

In the town centre, only one coffee bar and youth club, 'The Crow's Nest', exist. That is run by the youth of the town themselves.

Yet something new has happened to Corby—the Young Socialists have moved in.

With a large van decorated with posters, Young Socialists from the Midlands leafleted the town centre and the youth of Corby responded gladly—many turned up to a May Day rally.

These young people realise that the only way to fight for better conditions, and a country run for the benefit of the people and not just the few financiers, bankers and industrialists, is to join the Young Socialists in their fight for socialist policies.

## Scottish apprentices recruited after factory meeting

**I**N Glasgow, the Govan-Gorbals Young Socialists branch has begun to hold a number of meetings at factories in the Kinning Park area of the city where there are a number of firms.

At each meeting, Young Socialist apprentice speakers have explained the necessity of calling off the May 10 strike as a result of the weakening effect of the disastrous November 2 strike, called last year by young supporters of the Communist Party.

This wild adventure had left the apprentices open to sharp attacks by the trade union officials and the bosses.

Apprentices in Kinning Park came out on strike in November and were the last on Clydeside to return to work. They were very bitter about the Young Communist League members, who spread false stories about the strength and extent of the strike and, when approximately 3,000 came out in Glasgow, left them high and dry without any leadership at all.

The Young Socialists, who spoke at the meetings, then stated how the first task facing the apprentices and young engineering workers was to build up a strong movement. This movement will have to be politically prepared in order to be able to give real leadership to workers, who will be faced with growing attacks on their wages and conditions.

This can only be achieved by recruiting large numbers of apprentices into the Young Socialists where they can draw upon the experiences which the Young Socialists have gained in the last few years in their struggle to defeat the right wing in the Labour Party and build a powerful socialist youth movement.

### RECRUITED

A number of the Kinning Park apprentices have been recruited into the Govan-Gorbals branch of the Young Socialists and into Castlemilk Young Socialists.

On May 13, a shop steward was invited to speak on the 'package deal' at the Govan-Gorbals meeting.

After he outlined the wage freezing effects the 'deal' would have, a discussion took place with some new apprentices, who had come along to the meeting, about building the apprentice movement.

All agreed it was necessary to join the Young Socialists and did so. Then the apprentices decided to form a football team and play in the Glasgow Young Socialists Football League.

Through these activities the apprentices will begin to build up in engineering a strong movement able to defeat the attacks being made by the employers and capable of giving, in the next period, leadership not only to apprentices, but to older workers as well.



# What is on

HERE is a special note for all apprentices, young workers, students and school-leavers. Give the Young Socialists a special place in your diary this summer. All the liveliest discussions, dances, barbecues, river boat shuffles and sports days will be taking place in the Young Socialists.

A few of the dates are given below and on page 5 (for further information write to Dave Ashby). Make a note of them now! Get to know about the Young Socialists!

## YS Northern Ireland

June 19 and 20

Week-end hiking in Mourne Mountains

July 16 and 17 **CANOEING AND SWIMMING**  
on River Bann (near Lough Neagh)

**BARBECUE AND DANCE**

Enthusiastic Northern Ireland members are setting up a motor bike and scooter club. Anyone want to join?

## YS Wales

Friday, June 18

**SKITTLES AND DARTS TOURNAMENT**

7.30 p.m., Lansdowne Hotel, Lansdowne Road, Canton, Cardiff

Sunday, June 20

**COACH TRIP TO ABERAVON BEACH**

Leaves the Twyn, Caerphilly, 11.00 a.m.

Leaves Fairwater Green, Cardiff, 11.30 a.m.

Leaves Western Welsh Depot, Cowbridge Road West, 11.45 a.m.

## YS North West

Sunday, July 11 **SPORTS DAY** at Walkden

Sunday, July 18 **SWIMMING GALA**

Saturday, August 14

**SHUFFLE UP THE MERSEY BY BOAT**

on the Royal Iris



Young Socialists march through the East End as part of a campaign to set up new branches. The demonstration was followed by a dance.

## YS London, Mddx. and Essex

Sunday, July 18

**AGAINST AMERICAN AGGRESSION IN VIETNAM**

1.30 Marble Arch

Sunday, August 22

**SPORTS GALA**

Come to Barrass Stadium, Edmonton

Sunday, September 5 **RIVER BOAT SHUFFLE**

Dance to 'The Bond' and 'The Hotrods' starting Westminster Bridge

Price: YS members 15s. Non-members 17s. 6d.

Sunday, September 12

**GRAVESEND TO FRANCE FOR A DAY**

Fare £2 2s.

## YS North East

Sunday, June 27

**DAY BY THE SEA AT SCARBOROUGH**

Sunday, July 11 **DAY SCHOOL IN REDCAR**

Saturday, July 17

**VISIT THE DURHAM MINERS' GALA**

**T**O be a young worker in Britain today is to be condemned to a dull, uneventful, routine life in which boredom is a constant problem.

No sooner have working-class youth left the schools than they discover that one demand only is made of them, by those who control and run the factories and law courts right the way down to the local youth clubs: 'Toe the line, accept your third-rate status and don't cause trouble.'

Young people have abilities and enthusiasm: they demand a life of excitement and adventure in which they can develop such abilities.

What do they get? During the day, long hours in dead-end jobs, when those concerned would prefer to be learning a trade. Apprentices are not much better off and are exploited by the bosses as cheap labour. The position of working-class girls is worse. All that is expected of them is to get married, raise families and remain chained to them for the rest of their lives.

But it is outside of factory hours that the boredom and frustration becomes unbearable. So much so that many young people, who demand excitement at whatever the cost, try to find it in drugs or acts of violence and rebellion. Or they seek a more limited form of escape in the world of fashion and 'pop' music.

Who gains from all this? Certainly not the youth.

If young people take drugs, then this means bigger profits for the bosses in the drug industry, whilst the youth become more demoralised than ever. If groups of Mods and Rockers invade seaside resorts, this is used as an excuse to strengthen the hands of the police and to impose stiffer fines and sentences.

Even 'pop' music has a purpose—to distract the attention of young people away from the real problems of the world. The 'pop' song maintains that 'There's a place somewhere . . .' For the majority of young workers there's a place nowhere under the sun unless it is a factory, a housing estate or maybe a dole queue.

What talents the youth have are cynically exploited: the minute they step out of line, they are brought before the magistrate.

This is a scandal and a disgrace. In the world today science makes possible a complete change in the way people live. Automation can increase production a hundredfold. It can free men from the need to work long hours in unhealthy conditions. It can free them for a full use of their leisure and make available facilities for sport, education and recreation.

Why is such a future denied to young workers today? It is because that class which controls production, the capitalist class, is not interested in what automation can achieve for men. Their only interest is whether there is any profit in it.

**But if automation makes possible an end to the working day and the labour force as we have known it for the last 150 years, then it certainly means the end of profit and the class that makes it out of the labour of workers.**

The truth is that the bosses are frightened of automation. They deliberately hold back from introducing it, except in one or two factories here and there. To introduce automation on a wide scale is impossible without socialism, without planning, and an end to the present system, where one class exploits the other.

Automation belongs to the future that the working class, led by the youth, can and must create. In the meantime, the bosses will cling desperately to their factories. They will never hand over power unless they are forced to.

The only future for young people today is in building the party and training the leadership that can force them to do this. Such a party would have a bold revolutionary programme and the determination to achieve it. It would need to have a popular appeal so that thousands of young people would join it.

Does such a party exist? Is such a party being built? Is there a party which will exclude no one from membership, but, on the contrary, will welcome into its ranks all those young people who are rejected by capitalism?

**In a word there is. And that party is the Young Socialists. Below I have tried to answer a number of basic questions about the Young Socialists, questions which I believe thousands of young workers will be asking in the course of the next few months.**

### How will the Young Socialists get socialism in Britain?

By building an alternative leadership for the working class which will not betray their struggles in the way that the so-called leaders of the Labour Party, Communist Party and trades unions have done in the past. We can only do this by turning to the working class and bringing them into the forefront of politics. This means first and foremost the recruitment of thousands of young workers to the Young Socialists during the summer months.

### Do you support Labour?

The Young Socialists support the struggles of workers throughout the world. The Labour Party was built with the aim of fighting for the interests of the working class in parliament. The present Labour government has betrayed that aim. For this reason we oppose and have fought against the Labour leaders. They are isolated from the real needs of working people and carry out policies which serve the interests of the bosses. That is why we must remove them and build an alternative leadership. They have no intention of fighting for socialism.



# Build Socialism with the Y

## JOIN NOW!

by Dave Ashby

### What do the Young Socialists offer you?

During the summer months Young Socialist branches in every area are organising attractive programmes of social and cultural activity. There are details of these activities on this page. Hold regular week-end schools at which you can begin to learn the kind of education you could never get at school: education in the theory of socialism and the history of the working class.

### How strong are the Young Socialists?

The Young Socialists are already a force to be reckoned with. We have our own newspaper, and our own members' badges. In many areas we have already established our own branches. At our last conference in Morecambe, at the end of 1964, a thousand delegates and visitors attended from all over the country. The Young Socialists is a growing movement, forming new branches all the time.

### When was the Young Socialists first formed?

The National Executive Committee of the Labour Party expelled the Young Socialists as the youth movement of the party in 1960. What they wanted were small select groups of young people, who would not fight for socialist policies, but who would support the official leadership. From the beginning, Keep Left supporters fought the branches to fight for socialist policies and to recruit thousands of working-class youth.

Gaitskell and Brown, who were the leaders of the party at that time, carried out a vicious witch-hunt against the Young Socialists and its supporters. The purpose of this was to exclude the Young Socialists from politics. It culminated, in the summer of 1964, in the Young Socialists branches being closed down and members expelled. The 1964 conference had voted for socialist policies and a majority of Keep Left supporters to the YS National Committee.

**The National Committee was, itself, closed down in 1964. The national youth officer of the party because he would not tolerate this witch-hunt. Instead it took a decision to build the Young Socialists independently of the Labour Party.**





# Build Socialism with the YS

## *JOIN NOW!*

— by Dave Ashby —

### **What do the Young Socialists offer youth now?**

During the summer months Young Socialist branches in every area are organising attractive programmes of social and recreational activity. There are details of these activities on this page. We also hold regular week-end schools at which you can begin to get the kind of education you could never get at school: education in the theory of socialism and the history of the working class.

### **How strong are the Young Socialists?**

The Young Socialists are already a force to be reckoned with. We have our own newspaper, and our own membership cards and badges. In many areas we have already established our own premises. At our last conference in Morecambe, at the end of February, over a thousand delegates and visitors attended from all over the country. The Young Socialists is a growing movement and we are forming new branches all the time.

### **When was the Young Socialists first formed?**

The National Executive Committee of the Labour Party set up the Young Socialists as the youth movement of the Labour Party in 1960. What they wanted were small select groups of middle-class youth, who would not fight for socialist policies, but toe the line of the official leadership. From the beginning, Keep Left called upon the branches to fight for socialist policies and to recruit large numbers of working-class youth.

Gaitskell and Brown, who were the leaders of the Labour Party at that time, carried out a vicious witch-hunt against Keep Left and its supporters. The purpose of this was to exclude working-class youth from politics. It culminated, in the summer of 1964, with branches being closed down and members expelled, even though the 1964 conference had voted for socialist policies and elected a majority of Keep Left supporters to the YS National Committee.

The National Committee was, itself, closed down by the full-time national youth officer of the party because it refused to tolerate this witch-hunt. Instead it took a decision to continue to build the Young Socialists independently of the Labour Party.





# Child Socialism with the YS JOIN NOW! — by Dave Ashby —

## What do the Young Socialists offer youth now?

During the summer months Young Socialist branches in every area are organising attractive programmes of social and recreational activities. There are details of these activities on this page. We also have week-end schools at which you can begin to get the education you could never get at school: education in the theory of socialism and the history of the working class.

## Who are the Young Socialists?

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## How was the Young Socialists first formed?

The National Executive Committee of the Labour Party set up the Young Socialists as the youth movement of the Labour Party. What they wanted were small select groups of middle-class youth who would not fight for socialist policies, but toe the line of the Labour leadership. From the beginning, Keep Left called upon these youth to fight for socialist policies and to recruit large numbers of working-class youth.

Bill and Brown, who were the leaders of the Labour Party at the time, carried out a vicious witch-hunt against Keep Left and its members. The purpose of this was to exclude working-class youth from politics. It culminated, in the summer of 1964, with the Labour Party being closed down and members expelled, even though the conference had voted for socialist policies and elected a National Committee of the Young Socialists.

The National Committee was, itself, closed down by the full-time national youth officer of the party because it refused to ratify this witch-hunt. Instead it took a decision to continue to build the Young Socialists independently of the Labour Party.

On September 27, 1964, a pre-election demonstration was held in London, called by the National Committee (Majority) at which 3,000 Young Socialists marched against the Tories and demanded that a Labour government carry out socialist policies.

The founding conference of the Young Socialists as an independent socialist youth movement was held in Morecambe at the end of February. This conference was prepared and organised entirely by the Young Socialists themselves.

## Who runs the Young Socialists today and who decides its policies?

The policies of the Young Socialists are decided by a democratic vote at the annual conference. Each branch elects one delegate for every ten members to represent it at the conference and also sends in resolutions to be discussed and voted on.

Once a resolution has been voted on and passed, it becomes the national policy of the movement. A National Committee of one member per region is elected at the conference and charged with the responsibility of leading the fight for these policies.

The Young Socialists is run, therefore, by members of the organisation and no one else. Each local branch has its own committee and every new recruit is encouraged to take on the responsibility of leadership.

## What are the policies of the Young Socialists?

At the Morecambe Conference we demanded the nationalization of aircraft, engineering, steel and chemicals, land and the building and building supplies industry, the banks and insurance companies, under workers' control. We declared our opposition to any form of wage-freezing, to sackings and rising costs. We called for the back-dating of the pensions increase and condemned the Labour government's squalid sell-out of the old people to the bankers. We passed a resolution of support for the apprentices in their fight for better wages and conditions. Conference also demanded an end to colonialism and the withdrawal of all support for imperialism in Vietnam and Malaysia. We called for an end to police violence against youth and declared our intention of fighting against racialism and fascism.

The most important decision of the conference was to build the Young Socialists into a mass movement that could campaign on these policies and win the support of large numbers of older workers.

## How are you going to win the support of older workers?

Millions of older workers are already disgusted with the way that the Labour government has carried out the policies of the employers. These policies have resulted in a steep rise in the cost of living and now Wilson and Brown are trying to impose a wage freeze on the working class. Workers in Britain will be forced to struggle against such actions. They will have to look for alternative policies and alternative leadership. Neither the so-called 'left' in the Labour Party, nor the leadership of the Communist Party, will give such a lead. They refuse to lead any campaigns against the Labour government, which could unite the working class in action. The Young Socialists alone are equipped to take on this responsibility. Our present policy is to demand a conference of the labour movement to change the policies and leadership of the Labour Party.

## What are your plans for the future?

We aim to recruit 5,000 new members to the Young Socialists during the summer. This will be a preparation for big political campaigns and demonstrations in the autumn.

By that time the policies of the Labour government will have resulted (as everyone who is not blind to what is going on admits they must) to a steep rise in unemployment. At the same time, many sections of older workers will be drawn into a wages struggle. In 1962-63 the Young Socialists were able to defeat the witch-hunt, organised and carried out by the official leaders of the Labour Party and their full-time agents, by turning towards a struggle against the unemployment, which was the result of the policies of the Tory government. A national demonstration was held in London on January 12, 1963, when, on a cold winter's day, 1,000 Young Socialists and unemployed workers marched through the streets of the capital demanding the unity of all workers, employed and unemployed, to fight Tory unemployment with clear socialist policies.

In this way we were able to prevent the right-wing leaders from isolating us from the labour movement. We won the support of trades unionists and rank and file members of the Labour Party. A few months later we took part as a sizeable contingent in a demonstration against unemployment organised by the Trades Councils on March 26.

The demonstrations we organise in the autumn of this year will take place in changed conditions. It is no longer a Tory government which is responsible for the rise in unemployment. The Young Socialists movement is a stronger, more experienced force in British politics than it was then. It is no longer tied to the Labour Party but will be able to appeal directly to the working class as an alternative leadership. Nor will we be fighting a rearguard action against a right-wing witch-hunt. These are the immediate plans which the Young Socialists have for the future. You can find out about our other plans by joining and taking out a membership card.

## How do I go about joining the Young Socialists?

By writing me a letter and sending it to 9 Chestnut Avenue, Leeds, 6, Yorkshire. I will send you details of when your local branch meets. So, why not join? You have nothing to lose and everything to gain. No one is going to give the youth a future today unless they build it for themselves. What other organisation except the Young Socialists is going to fight for this future?

# in your area?

## West Yorkshire

**Saturday, June 26 DEMONSTRATION**

Young Socialists policies  
End wage freeze! Nationalize the basic industries!  
Followed by meeting Unity Hall, Wakefield

**Sunday, June 27 TRIP TO SCARBOROUGH**  
30s. for the whole week-end

**Sunday, July 11 FIVE-A-SIDE FOOTBALL**

**Saturday, July 17 SWIMMING GALA**  
Hull Swimming Baths, 6.30 to 9.30 p.m.

## South Yorkshire

**Saturday and Sunday, June 26 and 27**  
(See West Yorkshire)

**Saturday, July 3 FIELD DAY IN HILLSBOROUGH PARK**  
2.30 until early evening. Admission 1/-. Refreshments

**Sunday, July 11 VOLLEY BALL TOURNAMENT**  
in Sheffield

## West Midlands

**Sunday, June 27 OPEN-AIR BARBECUE**  
at Hampton in Arden  
Admission 3s. 6d. from 4 p.m.

**Saturday, July 3 For the Birmingham Area at Cannock**  
**SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE MINERS' GALA**

**Saturday, July 3 DAY TRIP TO RHYL**  
All Coventry Members, Fare 16s.

**Saturday, August 21 SEE LONDON**  
Day Trip 17s. 6d.

## East Midlands

**Saturday, July 17 DEMONSTRATION**  
**IN NORTHAMPTON**  
Assemble at King William Fourth, 3 p.m.

**Sunday, August 28 BATTERSEA FUN FAIR**

**Sunday, September 26 FINALS OF FOOTBALL COMPETITION**

Members of the Southern Region sit on their recruiting van, which has become a popular sight in Sussex and Surrey.



## Southern Region

**Sunday, June 20 FOR A DAY IN ASHDOWN FOREST**  
Meet us at the Radio Centre  
East Grinstead, 11 a.m.

**Sunday, June 27 WHAT IS CAPITALISM?**  
Three Arch Hall, South Earlswood, Redhill, 2s. 6d.

**Sunday, July 11 YS SOUTHERN REGION CONFERENCE**  
12 noon Brighton Co-operative Hall Buffet Lunch, 2s. 6d.

**Sunday July 18 OPEN-AIR DANCE AND BARBECUE**  
Nutfield Village Club, High Street, Redhill Adm. 2s. 6d.

## Scotland

**Sunday, July 11 COACH TRIP TO THE TROSSACHS**  
**September 4 and 5 WEEK-END SCHOOL**  
**September 26 RIVER BOAT SHUFFLE**





The Darnall YS captain, in the Youths Final, receives the cup from Jim Beechall, National Committee Member.

**SOUTH YORKSHIRE 5-A-SIDE REGIONAL FOOTBALL**

Second Round	Semi-Finals	Final
DONCASTER 'B' 3	DONCASTER 'B' 3	DONCASTER 'B' 5
Doncaster 'A' ..... 0	Doncaster 'C' ..... 2	(after penalties)
Doncaster 'C' ..... 7	DARNALL 'A' ... 3	DARNALL 'A' ... 4
Manor 'B' ..... 2	Parsons X 'A' ..... 1	
DARNALL 'A' ... 7		
Brampton 'A' ..... 2		
Parsons X 'A' ..... 6		
Brampton 'B' ..... 0		

The regional football tournament held at the end of April provided three hours of continuous football. Over 120 players and spectators attended and YS branches entered 15 teams.

The final itself provided a ding-dong battle between branches, one from the Sheffield federation and one from the Doncaster federation, the partisan spectators cheering continuously for the team from their area. Punctuated chants of DON-CAS-TER and DAR-NALL rent the air.

Darnall looked well beaten at one stage as a disputed goal was allowed against them, and Doncaster crashed home another one to make it 3-1. As the ball lashed from one end of the pitch to the other, anything could have happened until, from a perfect

ball from the Darnall fullback, the Darnall centre-forward resolutely placed it well out of the goalkeeper's reach. Then touch-and-go in the last few minutes saw them score another to put the scores level at 4-4.

The final whistle blew and the referee announced that penalties would be taken to decide the winner.

A hushed crowd awaited the first one. 'Tomo', the Darnall captain, paused, then thundered up to the ball. A loud Doncaster cheer and a long Darnall gasp greeted the ball as it screamed inches over the crossbar.

Then the Doncaster 'spot' taker put the issue beyond doubt as he carefully drove the ball home, sending the Darnall goalkeeper the wrong way.

The players received silver and bronze medals.

# SOCCER IN SOUTH YORKSHIRE

By Keep Left Reporters

## SOUTH YORKSHIRE REGIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE

Challenge Cup Finals (Wath Recreation Fields)

Girls (10 minutes each way)  
 Mexbrough YS 1 (Half-time)  
 Darnall YS ..... 0 0-0

Strong tackling by Mexbrough defence, led by Kitty Fitzgerald (a transfer from Woodlands YS), gave them the necessary edge. However, the firm Darnall team gave little away, both Christine Needs and Kathy Barrett keeping their heads, despite strong pressure.

The deciding goal came a few minutes from the end when a well-placed corner from Rose Mullins beat the defenders, and Mexbrough's captain, Anne Brown, prodded the ball home from close range. The game was well received by the 60-strong crowd.

### Youths Final

Darnall YS ..... 8 (Half-time)  
 Doncaster YS ... 1 2-1

A strong wind in Doncaster's favour in the first half saw the build-up of several attacks on the Darnall goal. Bob Galloway, Doncaster's inside-right, made

full use of the wind, sending corner after corner into the goalmouth. At this point only Phil Osborn, the Darnall goalie, stood between the Doncaster attack and a bagful of goals.

O'Malley, Doncaster's outside-left, broke through, beating three men, only to see a glorious drive tipped over by Osborn. Eventually, the pressure told and GALLOWAY scored during a goalmouth tangle.

However, Keith Tomlinson, the Darnall captain and outside-left, inspired and led his team's fight back. One of his well-placed crosses found the head of John Stansbury and brought the best out of the Doncaster goalie in preventing the equaliser.

This came, however, soon enough, TONY READING ending a good piece of play by Darnall.

Doncaster fought back to try to restore the lead, but this came to no avail despite the strong wind in their favour, and minutes before half time, the writing appeared on the wall when Darnall's winger, ASHTON, scored a tremendous goal, thundering home a ball the goalie never saw.

The second half, with the wind in Darnall's favour, put paid to Doncaster's hopes. Every forward ended up scoring, as goals from STANSBURY (3), RUSKIN and TOMLINSON (2) hit the back of Doncaster's net. The spectators roared their approval.



Mexbrough captain, Ann Brown, in the Girls Final, receives the cup from Jim Beechall, National Committee Member.

## RUGBY LEAGUE

Salford YS ..... 45 pts.  
 St. Helens YS ..... 15 pts.

Salford convincingly defeated St. Helens in this rugby league local Derby.

From start to finish the game was a 'riot' with spectators continuously amused by the antics of the players. But still both teams played open, entertaining football. Several good tries were scored, though many remained in doubt, due, no doubt, to the fact that the referee was the secretary of St. Helens YS. Also it is not surprising, considering the fact that she didn't know the rules of the game.

In the evening, both teams, with their supporters, retired to the Salford YS headquarters for a social.

## Show spot by Bob Dickens True side of war?

**IN HARMS WAY**  
 A Paramount Film  
 Directed by Otto Preminger

'In Harms Way' is a film which received rave notices in the London press as one which showed the 'true side of war'.

But on seeing it, one certainly has many doubts. The film is set in the Pacific, and covers a period from the attack on Pearl Harbour in 1942, to early 1943.

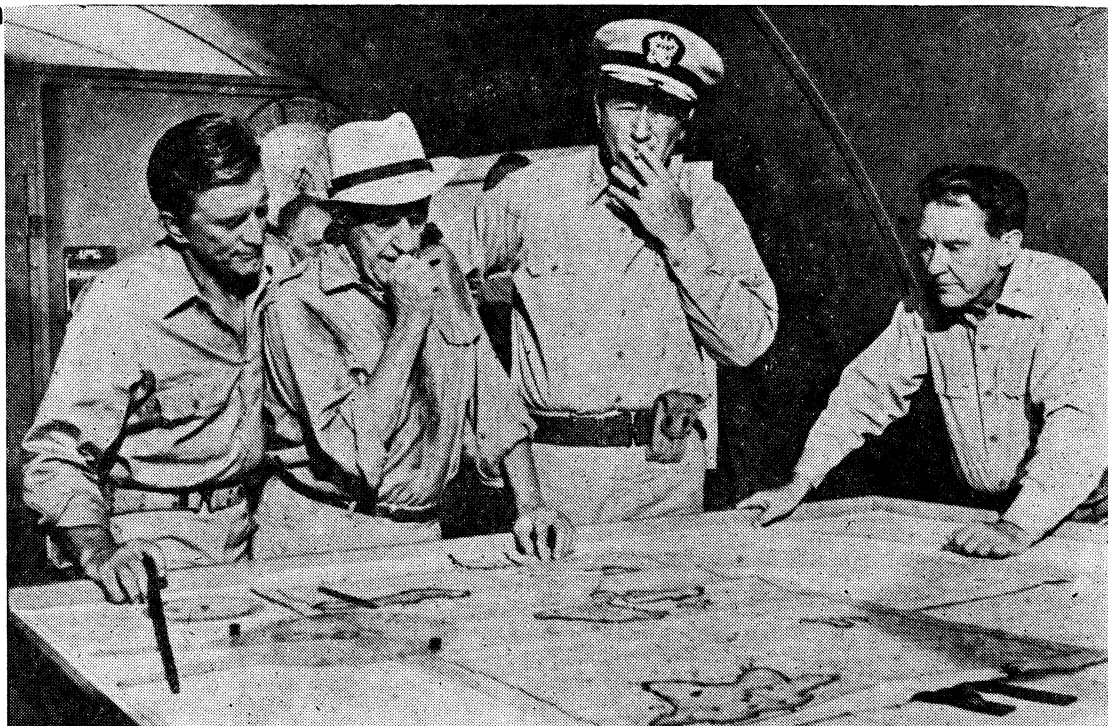
Starring in the film are John Wayne, who plays the 'all-American swash-buckling naval captain' (later promoted to Admiral) and Kirk Douglas, an officer refusing to crawl to

his senior officers—who, like all 'war heroes', dies in the most heroic circumstances, flying a plane to find the Japanese fleet and getting shot down and killed in the process.

The plot itself is very simple, taking place from the fall of Pearl Harbour to the battle for Midway Island. But it is all the same old blood-and-thunder with a bit of romance thrown in.

What Otto Preminger has tried to do with this very insubstantial plot is try and show all the personal conflicts, races to get promotions and petty jealousies between the officers caught up in a war where capitalism fights it out for its share of the world market.

As shown in the film, the results of these petty conflicts lead to thousands of sailors



Kirk Douglas (left), Stanley Holloway (second left) and John Wayne (second right) in a scene from the film.

being slaughtered in battle. This concentration on personalities is the main theme throughout the film. No doubt the idea was to give just another war film a psychological twist, and done properly it could have succeeded, but a man like Otto Preminger can-

not possibly portray the crisis of world capitalism and its tensions, which produce conflicts amongst their servants, the officers and admirals.

He can only present them as the idiosyncracies of a few officers and does not trace the conflicts to their root

causes. Most war films from Hollywood have a happy ending and this film is no exception. When Admiral of the Fleet (John Wayne) is injured he is nursed by a young woman who, blissfully turns out to be his girlfriend.



## Office girls organise

AT the engineering factory where I work, young girls are taken on straight from school as 'office juniors' for which privilege they are paid wages slightly over apprentice rates and are expected to work a 37½-hour week with no day-release.

The only training that they do get is a two-hour lecture on office discipline and a brief instruction on typing and book-keeping.

They are told, when they start, that they should not join the union since this would endanger their chances of getting into a decent part of the factory, and in the past several girls, who have resisted these intimidations, have been sacked on the slightest excuse.

In the wages department the girls are expected to work overtime whenever the management require them to, and if they complain, they are told this is one of the conditions of their employment, although nothing is said about this in their employment contract.

Recently one of the girls in the wages department was told to work the week-end. On saying she did not wish to work, she was threatened with the sack.

Two members of the apprentices' Direct Action Committee for the area were asked for advice.

These two apprentices told her she did not have to work and helped her gain support amongst the other girls in the department to start a campaign to recruit them into the union.

When she did not turn in for work over the week-end, she was summoned before the boss on Monday and told she was being sacked because she was not suitable for the job. She immediately went to see the two apprentices, who went to see the convenor to persuade him to take up the case.

At first he was very hesitant and said that it was nothing to do with him. However, after a discussion with the apprentices, who spoke of the unity of the whole working class, and the need for co-operation of all sections of the class, he took up the case and the girl was reinstated.

The rest of the girls in the department saw that their jobs were not secure, even if they gave in to the bosses' conditions, and a further six joined the union. All of them showed great interest in the struggle of the apprentices and the Young Socialists in fighting the bosses.

Victimisations like this will continue until the rest of the girls in the offices are recruited into the union to organise against the bosses. They must try to extend the contacts, which they have just started to make with the apprentices, whose struggle for better wages and conditions can give them a lead in how to organise themselves.

M.H.,

Manchester.

## Ryton

RECENTLY, two comrades from our YS branch wrote to Keep Left (see March edition) about conditions in Ryton. Since then we have had many more experiences of police violence towards youth.

Three lads who have joined the YS described how, one day when they were coming home from a walk, police with dogs chased after them, pushed them

into a van and questioned them about a break-in at a local club. When the police found they had nothing to do with it, the youths were told to get out of the van.

There were police constables, a sergeant and tracker dog in the van all looking for a man who, it was discovered, stole two packets of crisps and a bottle of lemonade.

In other words, the police were out plainly and simply to intimidate the youth.

In this, they are helped by the local papers, which constantly try to turn adult workers against the youth.

The other week a local paper had the headline 'Gang warfare at Chopwell' and a story alleging that gangs of youths had fought a pitched battle in Chopwell. In fact, the youths said to have been concerned were found 'NOT GUILTY' when brought before a magistrate.

On another occasion a member of our YS was phoning a friend when a policeman walked into the booth and made him hang up. And there was no one waiting to phone.

On May Day we marched through Doncaster and protested against police attacks on youth. We showed it was possible to fight back against police violence through organising in the Young Socialists.

We urge all youth to join the Young Socialists and form a movement that will take the power out of the hands of the bosses, who use the police to check the rebelliousness of youth against a life of waste and boredom.

C.B., L.M., W.R., R.A.,

Ryton.

## Housing

MY grandparents were living in a maisonette on a Corporation housing estate. They wanted a flat in another housing estate in Bradford called Holmewood, as my grandmother's knees were bad and she found it difficult to climb the stairs.

They also wanted to move to Holmewood because my parents are living there and can help them with their work in the house, because my grandparents feel worn out before they even finish doing it.

When my grandfather went to the Corporation housing department to register his name for a flat in Holmewood, he was told there was no hope at the time. He then went to his doctor for a letter to take to the Corporation telling them they had to move on medical grounds.

But this did not make any difference to the council officials.

My grandfather took at least four or five letters from his doctor. Then, about a year later, they were given a flat in Holmewood, which was rumoured to be sunk an inch and condemned. The flat itself is terribly damp and you could literally slip on bedroom floors with the dampness.

Most of the other flats in the same area are in the same condition. Most of the people living in the flats are either there on medical grounds or are old age pensioners, who require dry and good housing.

As well as not having any facilities on the estate, the housing is in a bad condition and rents are high.

The Labour government should be forced to put an end not only to high rates but poor building on the estates.

M.J.,

Bradford YS.

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



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

## Fight together

WE have worked for a firm which makes scouring powder for four months and the conditions are a disgrace.

The toilets are filthy, there is no soap or hot water, there is moss in the sinks, the toilet system does not work and the boss said we would have to drink our tea in the same room but we refused.

There are no covers on the light switches, leaving the wires bare, the stairs are broken (a man fell and dislocated his shoulder the other week), there are no guards on the machines (a man lost three fingers not long ago), and bags often fall off the conveyor belt on to us.

The place is running alive with rats and when the tractor breaks down, we have to push railway trucks by hand.

The boss has only just given us protective clothing for chloride and the switch for the chloride tank has to be reached by crossing a plank with no rails over the machines. Chloride leaks from the tank and burns our heads. The boss refuses to pay us holiday money when we leave.

We told everybody to get together and demand more money (we were only getting 5s. an hour), so the boss sacked one of us for this. He later agreed to pay 6s. if we worked 400 bags instead of 300.

The boss won this because only half of the men demanded the rise. So, what we have to do is get everybody to fight together against the boss.

J.M., G.D.,

London.

## Connolly

I MUST take issue with you immediately on one point in your editorial comment on J.A. of Putney's letter (see May issue).

Connolly was NOT a life-long Catholic. He was born a Catholic certainly, and he married in a Catholic church. But he did not believe in Catholicism and fought a life-long battle against the church and saw it as one of the greatest enemies of the Irish workers and peasants, as you will find out from reading his 'Labour in Irish History'.

The remarks and analysis of the role of the church in Irish history would not have come from a confirmed Catholic.

Before his execution in 1916, it was claimed by a Jesuit priest that Connolly had recanted and died in 'the faith', but this has never been substantiated and all those who knew him have denied this.

It was merely an attempt to lend 'respectability' to him, since to have had an atheist socialist among the 1916 leaders would have been far too embarrassing to the bourgeois nationalist propagandists.

Connolly is, however, to be criticised on the grounds that he continually allowed romantic and Gaelic mystique to cloud his Marxist tendencies, as a close study of 'Labour in Irish History' also reveals.

However, he did form the Citizens' Army in 1913 to protect the workers of Dublin and Belfast against the savage brutalities of the police during the fierce strikes of that year and they fought against both Nationalist and Unionist employers, recognising only the common enemy.

Unlike the so-called working-class leaders in Britain, he declared that the Great War was purely an imperialist war, and saw the need of the Irish workers as transcending those of the British capitalists.

The question of how the Irish workers were betrayed by the British union leaders is again another question, which needs discussion, relating the role of the working class in the Irish independence struggle, which would also show Connolly to be more justified by circumstances than you recognise.

Paddy Ryan,

Rainham, Essex.

● In reply to Comrade Ryan, I can only quote from the biography of Connolly by R. M. Fox (James Connolly: The Fore-runner).

'He (Connolly) was a man of great individuality, combining an acceptance of the Marxian view of economics and of history—as a record of social struggles—with the Catholic outlook which emphasised the value of the human soul.'

Another less well-known biographer of Connolly, the novelist, James T. Farrell, also agrees with Fox on Connolly's equivocal attitude to Catholicism. Commenting on Connolly's attitude to political democracy he writes:

'To him [Connolly] individualism was moral and it was also political—political democracy. As a moral doctrine, it found its source in his feelings and beliefs as a simple Catholic. He believed in the equality of souls.' (Portrait of James Connolly, 'New International', April 1948.)

Finally, Fox himself quotes an extract from an article written by Connolly in reply to a priest, which once again reveals his acceptance and recognition of the Church.

'I admit unquestioningly the obligation resting upon the Holy See to recognise the de facto Government and the de facto social order in any given country or age.'

No atheist would ever recognise the right of the Vatican to exist as a state power. In conclusion it must be stated that Connolly's acceptance of Catholic doctrine does not in any way detract from his exemplary struggle against foreign and native oppression in Ireland.

The discussion is now concluded—Ed.

## Discipline

At our last meeting, we had a discussion about discipline, because a group of the members have come to the meetings for a month, and they make a lot of noise, and mess about while the meeting is on.

We asked them what they thought of the Young Socialists.

They said they agreed with our policies.

But being a Young Socialist is more than agreeing with the policies. We must go to the estates and the factories to get many other young people to join and build the Young Socialists, and fight for the policies.

We are serious about building a movement that will lead the working class to take the power.

In our area we have called on young workers to organise in the Young Socialists and join their trade unions. Messing about in the meeting will drive the new people away, because they will think that we are not serious.

Our members agreed that if a section wanted just to use the Young Socialist branch to play around and not build it, they should leave.

H.L.,

Putney.

## The 'vandals'

HERE in East Kilbride, Lanarkshire, there are very few facilities for youth and many of us find our enjoyment in cafes around the town.

But recently at one, the manager has increased the prices . . . to teenagers only . . . because, he claims, there is too much vandalism happening. He thinks that by increasing the prices (for instance, lemonade has been increased from 1s. to 1s. 6d.) and putting a ban on teenage customers after 9 p.m. (the cafe closes at 11 p.m.), he will stamp out the vandalism.

At the same time that he makes a handsome profit from the higher prices, he tells the local newspapers that he is anxious to help teenagers because there is not much for them to do.

But it is no good looking at the question of facilities for youth from a position of 'doing good' then turning on the people because they appear to take advantage of the 'do-gooding'.

At our Morecambe conference we Young Socialists passed a resolution calling for better facilities for youth. But this was discussed along with and in line with resolutions laying down socialist policies embracing all the problems facing young and old workers. Only through a fight for socialism will better leisure facilities, along with better working conditions and pay be obtained.

Our conference carried on its business in an atmosphere of strict discipline—this was the strength of the politics, and the reason why there was none of the 'trouble' that the press men were waiting and hoping for.

The 'vandalism' at the local cafe is only an expression by the youth against the frustration of few facilities, dead-end jobs, low pay, bad working and school conditions and the 'do-gooders', who usually have some ulterior motive for their 'do-gooding'.

We must now continue to build the Young Socialists in the area through our summer campaign around the Morecambe policies among the so-called 'vandals' of East Kilbride.

F.W.,

Lanarkshire.



## Steel town's May Day demonstration

# Great YS impact on

## Corby by Our Own Correspondent

**T**HE May 22 May Day rally in Corby New Town, Northants, began with a colourful and lively march. Over three-quarters of this demonstration were youth, the vast majority being Young Socialists.

Behind the Keep Left banner and their brilliant red flags, and banners, the Young Socialists carried and shouted socialist slogans of nationalize the steel industry without compensation, arm the Vietcong, out with police violence and racialism.

The demonstration included the Youth Campaign for Nuclear

Disarmament, older workers, two bands and workers of the Transport and General Workers' Union carrying the slogan 'Hands off Vietnam'.

The gay, noisy procession worked its way through the streets of the new town centre where shoppers and youth lined the pavements in amazement to watch the liveliest and biggest socialist demonstration the town had ever seen.

Many of the youth joined with the YS and shouted socialist slogans.

The procession finished at the Glebe, where a Labour Party meeting began. The main speakers were a Kettering Young Socialist, Lord Mitchison, ex-MP for Kettering and Sir Geoffrey de Freitas, MP for Kettering.

### Policies

The YS speaker spoke about the policies of the Young Socialists, criticising the so-called 'socialist leaders' Wilson, Brown and Callaghan, over pensions, Vietnam and now steel nationalization.

Later, the YS went to the Corby village hall where a Keep Left meeting was held.

The room was gaily decorated with red flags, YS banners and political slogans and the main speakers were Maureen Healy, National Committee member for the West Midlands, and John Edwards, regional secretary for the East Midlands.

A lively discussion followed the speakers who explained the necessity to build the Young Socialists around the summer programme.

The repercussions of the intervention in the whole area were vast.

Prior to it, there had been seven Labour Party branches of 'Young Socialists' in Northamptonshire. However, these branches and their federation were left in utter confusion.

## Foyle's (from page 1)

printing unions sent a statement supporting the strike, calling for financial aid and the 'blacking' of the store, to all chapels.

Attempts to break the strike were made continuously by the management. New shop workers are being taken on and three young girls, who were offered a 'good wage' and later found they would only receive £7 10s. a week, joined the picket line.

The strong determination of the Foyle's strikers has not been the strong point of the union officials. Many of the pickets have voiced criticism of them, saying that more could have been done to stop all supplies of books and paper to the shop.

The role of the full-time USDAW officials has become very clear during the strike.

They are completely unable to give leadership to the strike. They have merely been pushed by the determination of the strikers.

Only the Young Socialists can



One of the YS posters, which were a big feature on Corby May Day.

This was conclusively proved when, at their federation meeting, despite the fact that the Labour Party agent and right-wing officials were present, delegates carried a resolution supporting the regional committee of the official Young Socialists.

The right-wing chairman said in a statement to the press: 'I just don't understand.'

Of course he doesn't. But to us it was quite clear. We offered to the youth a complete social and educational programme, designed to fight for the building of the Young Socialists and against the bankrupt reformists in the Labour government.

After the May Day rally the Kettering Young Socialists broke away from the Labour Party.

give a political leadership to such disputes and this all YS members must fight for. Through long struggle in the Labour Party we exposed the leaders and their officials in the Labour and trade union movements who either betray or hold back workers' struggles.

Young workers in Foyles are involved in a test case, which if they win, will give confidence to workers in large stores throughout the country, to take up wage demands. Our intervention in such struggles must be seen as part of a political fight to build the Young Socialists as a leadership.

Young Socialists must be quite clear about the full implications of the Foyle's strike, which has thrown down a challenge to the Labour government. There are thousands of youth in stores, hotels, laundries, etc., who can be organised, through the Young Socialists, into the trade unions, to lead struggles for higher wages and better working conditions.

## JOHN THOMAS

### Determined class fighter

Keep Left Reporter

**JOHN THOMAS**, a popular and enthusiastic Willesden Young Socialist, died in Highgate Hospital last month, aged 19.

Behind his mild and friendly manner, John was a fighter. Although his complaint interfered with his schooling, he struggled to learn a trade; and showed talent in making posters for YS dances and demonstrations.

He also contributed photographs to Keep Left and was a keen worker to build up the paper's circulation. In recognition of his work, Willesden YS elected him branch K.L. organiser, a few months before he died.

In all his activity John showed a strong class loyalty and determination to fight.

John realised that the working class needs socialist theory in order to take power, and put in a lot of effort to read and understand the works of Marx, Lenin and Trotsky. He took a copy of Leon Trotsky's 'My Life' to read in hospital.

The Young Socialists have lost a good comrade and serious fighter. We must carry on the work he did, to build a strong YS movement.

## Labour Party rally — an amateur performance

Keep Left Reporter

**I**N February we attended the official conference of the Young Socialists. Out of interest, we also visited the rally sponsored by the Labour Party in May.

The few remaining Labour Party branches of so-called Young Socialists managed to scrape together about 150 to 200 people for a performance that was very amateur from start to finish, as could be seen from the entrance tickets, merely duplicated on the back of postcards.

George Brown obliged us with a speech in order to give the meeting an official air and to produce some semblance of solidarity. In this he failed abysmally. Constantly heckled, he had to stop twice in mid-speech.

The majority, however, were faithful followers of the right wing, cheering loudly when Brown told them about the government's initiatives in Vietnam, of its magnificent treatment of the pensioners, and when he refused to make any more statements on steel nationalization.

The political content of the next week's proceedings appeared limited. Most of the time was spent in folly games.

No attempt was made to understand the electoral setbacks or to present a programme of political views and social activity around which to build a youth movement.

Compare this with our highly political and disciplined conference at Morecambe, where we laid down policies which laid the basis for building a mass movement.

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## March against war in Vietnam

**O**N Saturday, May 15, the Grimsby Young Socialists organised a successful demonstration against the war in Vietnam. A large contingent from Grimsby YS was joined by YS contingents from the Leicester, Nottingham and local CNDers, who marched four miles to the holiday resort of Cleethorpes.

The demonstration caused quite a stir as it proceeded through the main Grimsby shopping centre—the Young Socialists kept up a continuous barrage of slogans calling for the arming of the Vietcong, the removal of U.S. troops and an end to Wilson's betrayals.

The march ended on Cleethorpes' beach. A regional committee member of the Young Socialists stressed that the American action in Vietnam underlined the deep crisis of imperialism.

U.S. investment in Vietnam remained small, but the Americans were prepared to use every weapon at their disposal in order to keep the Vietcong from taking power and 'set an example' to other peasants and workers attempting to throw off imperialist oppression, he added.

A mass Young Socialist movement had to be fought for and this involved bringing new layers of workers into the fight around policies which were clear alternatives to Wilson's betrayals.

It is obvious, says our reporter, that Grimsby YS is at the crossroads—either it is going to turn outwards and bring young workers and apprentices into the

YS or it is going to remain content to criticise some aspects of the Labour Party, but never really attempt to give an alternative leadership to the workers in the Grimsby area.

## KEEP LEFT SPRING DRAW

Results

**1st Prize—Choice of Motor Bike or Scooter to value of £175 or cash**  
No. 54525 Kenneth Sharpe, East Kilbride, Scotland.

**2nd Prize—Holiday for two to value of £50**  
No. 38880 Ron Shepherd, Paddington, London.

**3rd Prize—Automatic, four-speed record player**  
No. 4201 Paddy Kinsoll, Birmingham, 8.

**Ten consolation prizes—Record Tokens**

2298 Frank Potter, Leeds, 12  
66019 E. McLaughlin, Glasgow  
61710 G. Burns, Bradford, Yorks.  
15893 F. Campbell, Belfast, 4  
53568 H. Burn, Sunderland, Co. Durham

12258 Alec Johnson, Lancaster  
43066 A. Simpson, Wombwell  
28319 Terry, London, N.17  
14645 W. Bilson, Leicester  
10267 Pauline Lomax, London, S.W.8

Holders of winning tickets must write claiming their prize to D. Longley, 156 Lambeth Road, London, S.E.1. Arrangements will then be made to hand over prizes to them.