

UNITES ALL YOUNG WORKERS, STUDENTS, APPRENTICES
UNEMPLOYED, IMMIGRANT AND SCHOOL YOUTH

KEEP LEFT

OFFICIAL WEEKLY PAPER OF THE
YOUNG SOCIALISTS' YOUTH
SECTION OF THE WORKERS
REVOLUTIONARY PARTY



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2300 AT YS CONFERENCE

FORWARD TO WORLD REVOLUTIONARY YOUTH MOVEMENT

THE biggest-ever Young Socialists conference at Scarborough last weekend decided policies to fight the slump.

Speaking to 1,100 delegates and 1,200 visitors, 18-year old YS national secretary Simon Pirani said: 'Portuguese workers, Greek workers and now Vietnamese workers have shown the way.'

'It is not enough to describe this period as the death agony of capitalism. It is necessary to prepare to organize the death of capitalism.'

Delegations attended from Portugal, Greece, the United States, Ireland and Germany. Many of the 150 speakers stressed the need for an international revolutionary youth movement.

The victory of Indo-Chinese workers and peasants confirms that the time is ripe for workers internationally to do away with capitalism. Phnom Penh, capital of Cambodia, was entered by liberation forces the day after the conference.

**FORWARD TO THE WORLD SOCIALIST
REVOLUTION!**

KEEP LEFT SAYS

THE Young Socialists demand that the Labour Party National Executive Committee fight against the Common Market.

The Common Market is a capitalist alliance, working in the interests of the big European monopolies — the men who organized two world wars and killed millions of workers.

This imperialist trading bloc was formed in the trade war with the United States. It is anti-working class to the core and will aggravate, not solve, the capitalist economic crisis.

For workers in all countries it means soaring prices and growing unemployment.

That is why the Labour movement has taken a stand against the Market time and time again.

The Labour Party, Co-operative Party and Trades Union Congress conferences voted against it. Even the majority of the Parliamentary Labour Party opposed the Wilson line in parliament.

Wilson and the right-wing leadership are ignoring the decisions of every section of the working class movement and lining up with the Tories.

Roy Jenkins is chairman of the Keep Britain In campaign, lining up with Heath and Whitelaw against Labour Party policy.

Eric Heffer has been sacked by Wilson for daring to stand up for Party policy. The Young Socialists have themselves experienced Wilson's methods in 1964—our membership was expelled wholesale because we fought for socialist policies.

And yet Wilson actually encourages the right-wing to fight against Party

LABOUR NEC MUST SAY 'NO' TO THE COMMON MARKET

policy. Two years ago Jenkins, Williams and others voted for the EEC and kept the Heath government in office.

The Labour leaders are in a coalition with the Tories in all but name.

The 'lefts' in the Labour Party — many of whom sit on the NEC or hold government posts — have accepted the rule laid down by the right-wing anti-party minority and not fought for the decisions of the conference.

While Heffer spoke out knowing he would lose his

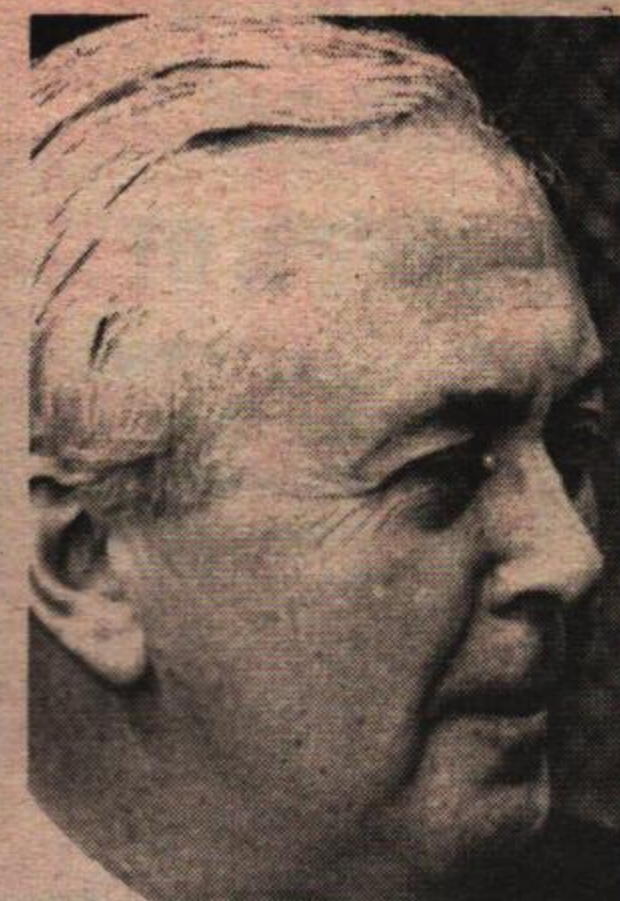
post — and this is a late and limited stand — another 39 'left' ministers have obeyed Wilson's orders to keep silent. These include Michael Foot and Anthony Wedgwood Benn.

Even Heffer, speaking on TV said he had 'no complaints' about Wilson!

The 'left' must be told by the special Labour Party conference to stand up and fight for party policy. They must mobilize the entire resources of the Party to campaign for a 'no' vote in the referendum, to fight the massive lie



HEFFER



WILSON

campaign to get support for staying in the EEC.

The Young Socialists re-affirm their policies to fight against the Common Market:

- The whole Labour movement must be mobilized to fight for a 'No' vote in the referendum.
- Immediate withdrawal from the EEC.
- Force the Labour Party NEC to get off the fence and fight for Party policy.
- Expel the right-wing pro-Market traitors from the Labour Party.

● No support to fascist and 'nationalist' opposition to the Market.

● Build the Young Socialists and Workers Revolutionary Party, and all sections of the International Committee of the Fourth International, for the building of mass revolutionary parties to prepare to take the working class to power.

● Fight for a United Socialist States of Europe and drive out the capitalists once and for all.

POST BAG



A kick in the teeth

FROM my own personal experience, going to work is just one big kick in the teeth. You get your wages in your left hand and the capitalists take it back from your right hand.

I work in a place which deals in travel and export, imports and barge services. We deal with a lot of well known firms — Hawker Siddeley Aviation, Rolls-Royce, Alcan (UK), etc., etc.

I have a middle-class jumped-up travel clerk with a boarding house and shares in the company as a so-called boss travel manager. He has me as his run-around doing all the jobs he does not like to do, which is just sickening.

I have found that the only way to get the rights that our parents have fought for through generations is to build the Young Socialists and Workers Revolutionary Party, and fight through the young people's ideas. Their ideas are what hold most youth down from facing up to reality, from wanting to come out and build the Young Socialists—this is what I have experienced.

So I say build the Young Socialists in the biggest possible way to hold on to what rights you are supposed to have, and not let them slip away with the capitalist ways of dictatorship and traditionalism.

Claire Elliot
New Cross YS

COMRADES, as I write this letter I am sitting at the YS Conference at Scarborough, listening to the resolutions being put forward and explained by delegates from all over the world. This is a truly historical event, for here around me now are the people who will lead Britain to socialism.

Only the Young Socialists and Workers Revolutionary Party can do this—for only these movements have the revolutionary policies to smash the capitalist state and take the working class forward to freedom.

We can only do this by building a mass Young Socialists to give leadership within the working class.

Dave Castley
Halewood YS

Your opinions of the Scarborough conference

THE conference at Scarborough was a great success. We had a great disco with Mungo Jerry and the Red Star Sound. The meeting itself was great—there were a lot of youth at the conference and there were lots of good speeches.

We had a good collection which raised over £360.

Norman Dillon
Toxteth YS

I THINK the 15th Annual Conference is a great step forward for the YS and the whole future of the whole international working class.

It was very well attended by youth, from all over the country and internationally. YS members from Portugal, Greece, Germany and also the USA were in attendance. This attendance was a reflection of the massive revolutionary situation youth and workers are now facing.

The standard of the discussion was very high and the conference was very orderly. This shows how serious the youth and YS are in our fight to build the revolutionary leadership to take the working class to power.

John Forde
Speke YS

The drug escape

THERE is a danger today of youth becoming increasingly dependent on drugs as a means of escaping from the pressures of the capitalist crisis.

But behind the obvious disadvantages of drug addiction are two less obvious dangers. The use of drugs by the police to attack youth and workers, especially in crowds is one.

At festivals such as the Windsor Festival, the police moved in on the excuse that they suspected that drugs were being used. In fact they were using the excuse to intimidate the youth and workers at the festival.

Horrible acts of brutality were used to



clear the site, for example the case when a pregnant woman was kicked by a policeman, who as a direct result of the attack had a miscarriage.

Police snatched cameras from reporters to stop them from taking pictures of the atrocities taking place.

The other danger is that the youth will turn to drugs instead of

politics to solve the problems facing us when all that drugs can do is to distort the situation.

So we must fight to build the Young Socialists and Workers Revolutionary Party to construct socialism, and take society forward in reality, not just in your head.

Jill Roberts
Woolwich YS

DISCRIMINATION AGAINST FOREIGN STUDENTS

Letter of the week

I AM a student of East Ham College. Like most techs, it faces course closures and complete collapse due to lack of finance. But the most exploited section of students are those at Ashburton Annexe.

A majority of these are overseas students. This annexe was an old school which was to be demolished, but instead they converted it into an annexe of the main college. There is no central heating system, only paraffin heaters, and no inside toilet facilities.

These students pay full fees but because many do not know their rights, the college continues to treat them in this appalling manner. This is in spite of pressures from the Student Union.

The students have been told by the college authorities that if they campaign against the conditions or otherwise, in anyway, they will be

expelled or deported from the country.

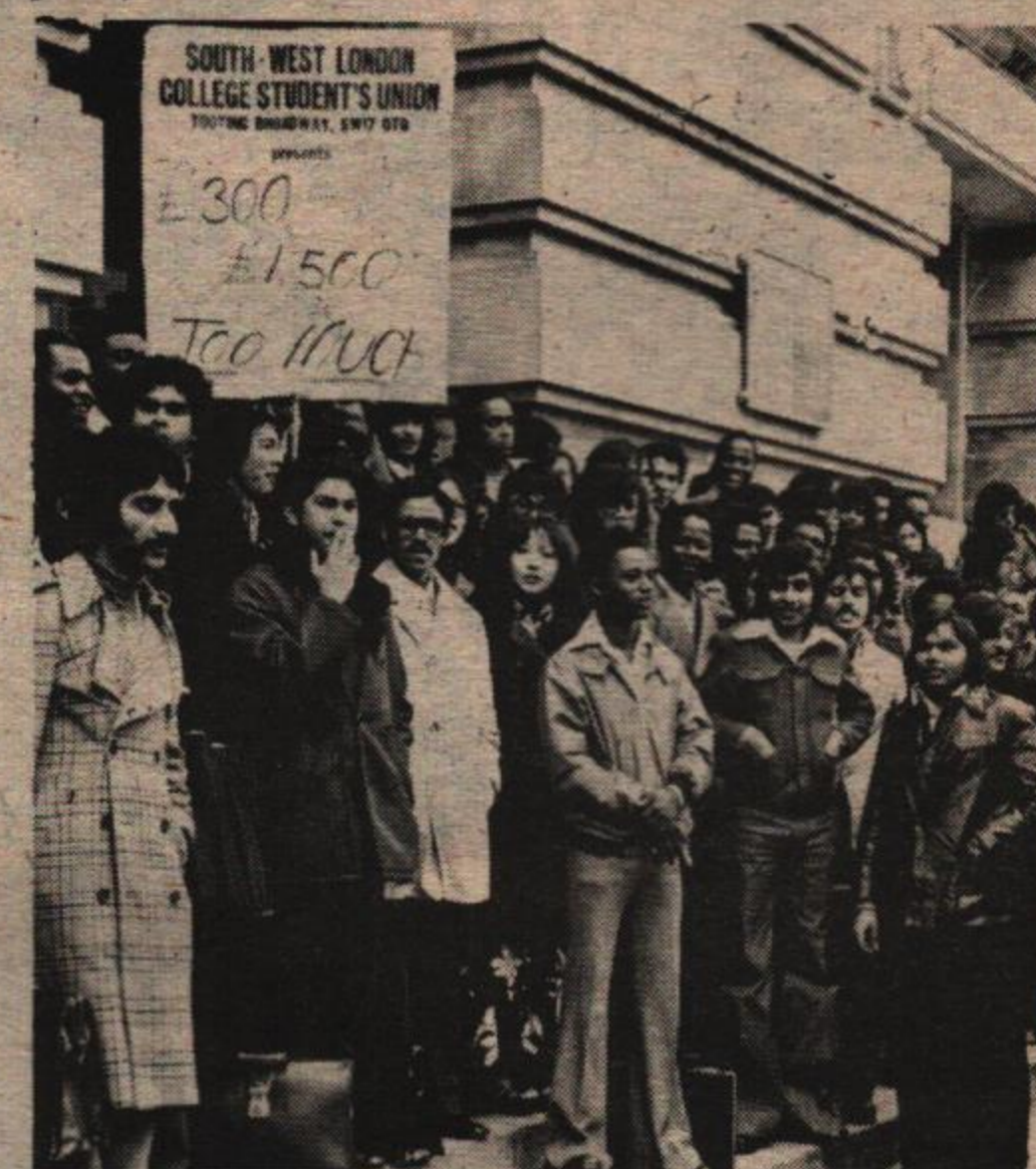
Many of the union executive members are themselves overseas students. They have also been threatened with deportation if they fight for the rights of their fellow students.

This is an attack on the basic rights of the students to organize themselves and protect themselves against the onslaughts of the ruling class.

Only by building a mass Young Socialists and YSSS in any college, can we defend the rights of all students and working class youth. No other group have any policies — their only role in this period is to betray.

So we must be firm and go forward to the socialist revolution, which will make it possible for everyone to have the right to a decent education, what ever their race.

Maureen Shakes
East Ham College
of Technology
YSSS



Overseas students protest

CAN YOUR BRANCH write the letter of the week? Send your views to Post-bag, 186a Clapham High St. London, SW4 7UG, or phone 01-720 5661-2.

HERE we reprint the main report to the Young Socialists 15th Annual Conference in Scarborough presented by Simon Pirani, newly elected YS national secretary.

Comrade Pirani in his report points out that many new developments have taken place since the YS national committee presented its draft resolution for the conference, 'Youth in Recession'.

For this reason we reprint his speech here as part of the discussion which must take place in all YS branches following our most successful - ever national conference.

I'D LIKE to take this opportunity to join our comrade chairman in welcoming all delegates and visitors to the Young Socialists 15th Annual Conference.

And particularly, we'd like to extend a specially warm welcome to our comrades who are here from overseas, from Greece, West Germany, Portugal, Ireland and the United States.

This is by the far the most representative conference that the Young Socialists has held in its 15-year history.

This is not difficult to explain. We are meeting at a time of unprecedented economic and political crisis for the capitalist system. The last three months of 1974 saw a decline in production in all the major capitalist countries.

At the same time the National Debt of these countries increased to its highest level since the end of the Second World War. The rate of inflation reached record levels while the growth of unemployment increased in all the major countries to the highest level in a quarter of a century.

Alongside this deterioration in the economic crisis, we have seen over the past year, a political crisis building up to the greatest in the history of capitalism.

Just a few weeks after our conference last year, the working class of Portugal in the forefront of which were hundreds of thousands of young people, rose up and smashed the fascist regime that had ruled there for half a century.

Three months after, the workers and peasants of Greece created a situation where the junta collapsed, opening the way for general elections.

Vietnam

Now in the last few weeks, we have seen the greatest and bitterest of all struggles against imperialism coming to a climax in Vietnam.

This war has gone on for a quarter of a century and has been a struggle of unparalleled bitterness and cruelty in which the most horrific methods of warfare known to man have been used.

All the forces of United States imperialism with the backing of capitalist classes all over the world were thrown in against a courageous people, who despite enormous destruction of their own country, are about to inflict total defeat on United States and world imperialism.

The victory of the Vietnamese Revolution is at hand. With this victory we have reached a decisive turning point in changing class relations all over the world.

The Vietnamese workers and peasants have inflicted crushing blows on US imperialism from which it can never recover. The resignation of mass war criminal Nixon and the present moves to oust Secretary of State Kissinger are part of the deep crisis shaking the American ruling class.

Death agony

This is not an incidental or episodic crisis but one that is taking place in an epoch described by Trotsky as the death agony of the capitalist system.

It is our estimation of this crisis which lies at the heart of all the differences between ourselves and all schools of revisionism. These differences were particularly to the forefront over the past 15 years, over the question of Vietnam.

The revisionists confined themselves to protest politics, in which pacifists and muddle-heads were brought forward in place of



Delegates at the conference vote for acceptance of the report

YOUNG SOCIALISTS 15th ANNUAL CONFERENCE



Simon Pirani

the mass movement of the working class.

Our position was fundamentally different. We did not confine ourselves to protest. We called continually for the total victory of the Vietnamese people and the withdrawal of American forces as a result of that victory.

We were confident in that victory because it is only we who are confident in the revolutionary nature of the working class. Right from the start we campaigned for all-out victory while the protesters were looking for a compromise peace.

One voice

The 15th Annual Conference of the Young Socialists must speak out with one voice loud and clear. The purpose of our conference is to go forward with all the effort we can command to build the Young Socialists and the Workers Revolutionary Party, in preparation to lead the working class to take the power.

Portuguese workers, Greek workers, and now Vietnamese workers have shown the way. It is not enough to describe this period as the death agony of the capitalist system. It is necessary to prepare to organize the death of capitalism.

Since we published our draft resolutions 'Youth and Recession' some important developments have taken place, which make it essential to bring up to date some points of that draft.

Firstly it is necessary to emphasize the difference between a recession and a slump.

The word recession is associated with a period in which a number of countries are enduring a crisis, with the

possibility that others, through inflationary means, are temporarily overcoming the crisis.

But that is not the case today.

Unemployment

All the major capitalist countries are affected simultaneously by rising prices and growing unemployment.

In the greatest capitalist country of all, the United States of America unemployment now affects 10 per cent of the working population. In Great Britain, unemployment is over one million, even though official figures have tried to falsify this to keep it officially below the million mark.

In West Germany, unemployment exceeds a million and the same is true of Italy and France. That is why we say the recession has now turned into a slump.

At the end of 1974, the United States started to reflate the economy. But this has not yet made any conceivable difference to the growth of the slump.

As unemployment grows, the cost of living increases by leaps and bounds. The situation is so serious that at a recent meeting of the Common Market countries a decision was reached to halt reflation, because this method was only deepening the crisis and reducing the value of money still further.

In other words, what the capitalist countries are coming to realize is that you cannot cure inflation with reflation, and that is why we have developing today side by side a major crisis over jobs as well as wages.

We have short-time working in the motor car industry which is creating enormous problems for the workers involved.

Dole

It is young workers who are caught hardest by this crisis. Preparations are now being made to throw young school leavers straight onto the dole queue.

The slashing of the education budget and the massive teacher shortages which have been imposed cannot be separated from the growth of unemployment.

At the same time student grants are falling far behind inflation, and youth are being forced out of colleges without completing their courses.

We are also seeing the

enormous growth of militancy in schools — we saw it at our demonstration in London demanding the expulsion of right-wing education minister Reg Prentice from the Labour Party.

The determination of college students has been demonstrated in two massive marches against education cuts this year, held in spite of the divisive and treacherous tactics of the National Union of Students leadership.

Many young workers hoped the crisis would go away — but it is getting worse.

The situation today is characterized by feverishness and tension. Throughout the work for this conference we had to argue for and politically explain the fundamental nature of this crisis, knowing that the harder we fought, the more results and support that we got.

It is through such experiences in the factories and on the streets, that we begin to understand the all-important question of basic Marxist education within the Young Socialists.

In a situation which is moving rapidly towards a major confrontation of class forces, we can only build the Young Socialists if we understand the continuous changes taking place in this crisis.

Philosophy

This is where a basic training in the principles of Marxist philosophy is vital. Young Socialists must not only be the most militant activists. They must also be the most serious thinkers, agitators and propagandists.

This is why we have given considerable attention to ways and means of training our cadres in the coming period.

As you know we have secured large premises in the countryside 200 miles from London. We hope shortly to convert it into a school for our members and leaders.

The emphasis must be on the training and more training of leaders. We need a revolutionary leadership that will stand up and fight, not run away at the first sign of difficulties.

The building of the Young Socialists is one of the most important tasks we have to carry out. The most important task of all is to build the revolutionary youth international as a section of the International Committee of the Fourth International.

To say the Stalinists are a 'left' cover for the right-wing trade union bureaucracy is a gross understatement.

This is particularly true of the Shrewsbury Two. The Stalinists first of all engaged in purely protest action to get these pickets out of jail, relying entirely, on the trade union bureaucracy.

As soon as the Workers Revolutionary Party and the Young Socialists fought to mobilize the independent action of the working class to release the Shrewsbury Two, we encountered opposition not only from the Stalinists but from all the revisionist groups, including the International Socialists and the International Marxist Group.

Protest

Behind the battered banner of protest we find cowardice and treachery. Since the poorly attended lobby of parliament in January, not only have they not lifted a finger to release the Two, they have opposed the great march organized by the Wigan Building Workers Action Committee, and the march at present underway under the auspices of the Shrewsbury Two Action Committee.

We are proud and delighted to have in our conference today the marchers who are on the road from Hull to Liverpool.

Our brothers and comrades have shown the way forward for our trade union work. We work, basically for the independent mobilization of the working class, to use their class strength against the enemy.

We are proud that the Young Socialists are in the forefront of these marches and played a leading part in bringing thousands of workers out to demonstrate in Trafalgar Square to greet the Wigan to London march.

We hope that everybody here will join us next Saturday in Liverpool behind the marchers in what we hope will be the biggest rally yet demanding a General Strike to free the Shrewsbury Two.

And everybody here today should note—not only have the Stalinists betrayed the Shrewsbury Two as well as the Glasgow drivers. They have recently assisted to persuade the two imprisoned brothers not to put up any resistance in the jails.

The Stalinists who started off this year as the protesters have now become the jailers of the

Shrewsbury Two. Such is the speed of events at the present time.

This process is also seen at its clearest in the campaign now building up around the Common Market referendum.

Right from 1971 when the Tory government actively began completing negotiations for the European Economic Community, there has been widespread opposition from important sections of the working class against entry.

Millions of people are beginning to realize that the fight against the Common Market is inseparable from the fight against monopoly capitalism and the conspiracy that the monopolies are now engaged in against the working class.

The Common Market is being seen as the scene for the growing counter-revolution. That is why we counter-posed to it the social revolution, the construction of revolutionary parties in every country and the establishment of a United Socialist States of Europe.

We must see immediately the nature of the opposition inside the working class. In doing this we separate ourselves totally and fundamentally from the chauvinists, the nationalists and the fascists.

The Communist Party, on the other hand, are to be found in that reactionary camp.

The Young Socialists start today from the fact that the overwhelming opposition to the Common Market contains within it the Trade Union Congress, the entire Labour Party conference, and even the Labour Party Young Socialists.

Debate

In the parliamentary debate last Wednesday, Wilson and Roy Jenkins lost control of the parliamentary Labour Party. A little time earlier, the 'left-wing' dominated national executive of the Labour Party decided they should sit on the fence.

That is why we are in the forefront of the demand that the Labour Party national executive should get off the fence and fight, mobilize the resources of the entire labour movement and fight for a 'No' vote against the Common Market.

What is at stake is not just the Common Market, but the break up of reformism. The extreme right-wing, together with the right-wing centrists such as Wilson are being driven more and more towards a

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coalition government with the Tories.

Our campaign against the Common Market is inseparable from our campaign against dangers of a coalition government.

Everywhere within the trade unions and the Labour Party, the Young Socialists fight irreconcilably for the independence of the working class against all forms of bureaucracy, all forms of corporatism, such as the so-called 'Workers Management.'

We are for revolution, NOT for class collaboration. Class collaboration leads today along the road to defeat for the working class and counter-revolution.

This is the bitter lesson of the experiences two years ago in Chile.

At the end of this conference we shall be holding another smaller conference to discuss the international implications of our youth work. We need to organise in the coming months the continuous exchange of Young Socialists between countries.

We have to prepare for the first international conference of revolutionary youth later this year. We have to create the situation in which Young Socialists from all countries can learn from the problems of Young Socialists of other countries.

During the course of our discussions today, we need also to have a serious understanding of the crisis growing in the trade union movement. The changing class relations are breaking up the old bureaucratic leaderships in a way that gives very real possibilities for the development of a revolutionary leadership in the trade unions.

This task falls first and foremost on the youth. We must insist that every Young Socialist is an active member of his or her trade union at factory branch and committee levels.

The old bureaucratic leaderships can, in the course of this revolutionary struggle, be quickly swept from the scene of history.

The future belongs to the youth inside the trade unions, no matter how imposing the present-day bureaucracy appears to be.

We are now in a period of revolution. New leaders are called upon and we must provide them. These leaders must fight consistently for a programme that will provide all those in struggle on jobs and wages with the broad leadership that will prepare them to take the power.

Lower paid

We have heard much talk from union leaders such as Jones about the necessity to increase the wages of lower paid workers. But it is a stark fact that every struggle by these workers has been betrayed by the official leadership. Take as an example the great struggle of the Glasgow dust cart drivers. If ever there was a struggle on the part of low-paid workers, here it was.

The majority of these workers are employed by local authorities such as the Labour-controlled Glasgow council. And yet, when they fought week after week for a decent wage, they were betrayed at every step by the official leadership, actively assisted by the Stalinists of the Communist Party, in a situation where troops were brought into the picket lines in an attempt to break their strike.

Everybody knows that the Stalinists control the Glasgow trades council. But apart from one poorly-attended demonstration, they did not help the dustcart drivers in any way.

Not only that, they did everything in their power to smash and isolate the strike to give the impression that it was going to be beaten.

The danger of war arises with the break-down of United States Secretary of State Kissinger's 'peace' talks. The American imperialists have built up military bases and sea-power in the Middle East and supplied Israel with nuclear weapons.

The danger of a third world war, which could only result in a nuclear holocaust, is inherent in the world economic and political crisis.

This is the way the capitalist system must work out its internal contradictions. We must emphasise in discussing the struggles of workers all over the world, that since the time when the Stalinist bureaucracy began to pursue power in 1925, we have been in the forefront of the fight against the bureaucracy.

Never

But we have never in all that time joined hands with the capitalist class and its agents in this struggle.

We believe that despite this Stalinist bureaucracy the Soviet Union rests upon the revolutionary nationalisation carried out by the Russian working class in the Russian revolution in 1917.

We furthermore believe that these property relations, despite the bureaucracy, greatly strengthen the forces fighting for the socialist revolution all over the world.

This is why in fighting Stalinism, we will have nothing to do with the anti-communists and other capitalist riff-raff, financed by the CIA, who recently engaged in demonstrations against the trade union delegation from the Soviet Union bureaucracy which came to this country.

The bureaucracy either of the trade union or social democratic type, or of the Stalinist type is a degeneration of the international working class movement.

The task of removing it belongs to the working class and the young people, under revolutionary leadership.

As the conditions for the world revolution develop so they make way for the overthrow of bureaucracy by the working class, under that revolutionary leadership.

Our principled struggle against Stalinism and reformism applies with equal force to the limits of bourgeois nationalism. Nowhere is this seen more clearly today than in Ireland.

Everyone associated with the Young Socialists knows that we were the first tendency to call for the withdrawal of British troops from Ireland.

But as in the case of Vietnam, we have had to separate ourselves consistently from the Stalinists and revisionist protestors in this all important struggle.

Drawing my remarks to a conclusion, I want to refer to the all-important role of the Young Socialists and in particular our weekly paper 'Keep Left.'

We are the only socialist youth movement in Britain which has a weekly paper. We are the only socialist youth movement with no debts at our printers, and pays on demand our bills each week.

The struggle to maintain Keep Left would not be possible without the wholehearted backing of every single Young Socialist. But we cannot for a moment relax this fight.

Over the past few months we have had some anxious moments about the future of our paper, chiefly because of the growth of inflation and recession.

As we see it, the only alternative to these dangers is to continuously increase the circulation of Keep Left among every section of young people.

The more we sell the more we help to pay our way.

At the same time, every reader of Keep Left is a potential member of the Young Socialists.

Building the circulation of Keep Left means building the Young Socialists.

We want to appeal to this conference that before we conclude this weekend, branches, federations and regional committees should discuss the question of circulation, and have new targets for increasing circulation in the coming summer months. This must be part of the most enormous campaign that we have ever waged to build the Young Socialists and the Workers Revolutionary Party as the alternative revolutionary leadership.

I realise that in bringing this report to a close there are several important questions I have not been able to deal with, among them the question of the CIA, their presence in Britain, the necessity to turn them out of Britain, before they organise what they did in Chile. But I am sure other speakers will take up these issues and deal with them adequately.

So now I would like to move the main resolution 'Youth and Recession' which is before you and thank you for the way you have listened to this report.



The marchers arrive at the Spa, Scarborough, to a tumultuous reception

ROUSING W SHREWSBU

THE Shrewsbury Two Action Committee marchers received tumultuous applause as they walked into the YS conference on Saturday afternoon.

Mike Farley, Shrewsbury Two Action Committee secretary, extended the greetings of all the marchers to the conference.

'I would like to thank the

Young Socialists on behalf of the Shrewsbury Two and the Wigan Building Workers' Action Committees.

'It is a fact that on both marches, from Wigan to London and this one from Hull to Liverpool, youth predominated and led the campaign.

'The Young Socialists must never underestimate the impact they are making within the Labour and trade union movement.

'On the march we found that in town after town, on

site after site and in factory after factory young workers are able to explain to older trade unionists the truth about the fight to defend their basic rights and the threat posed by the jailing of our two brothers.

'Workers are impressed by a movement made up of youth with such political determination. They ask what kind of movement is it that can get youth on the road and steel them in struggle.

'We on the march know that the Young Socialists

FRATERNAL GREETINGS FROM THE WORKERS REVOLUTIONARY PARTY

GERRY Healy, general secretary of the Workers Revolutionary Party brought fraternal greetings from the Central Committee of the WRP to the conference.

He stated: 'The transition from recession into slump is already well under way. The December figures for the overall decline in production in all the major capitalist countries shows that there is not today within the capitalist world a single country that is able, that has the resources, to come to the assistance of other

countries in relation to the development of slump.

'The International Monetary Fund set out last year to build up resources of some six billion dollars in order to lend out money to assist those countries requiring some assistance in regard to payment for oil.

'This fund has only at this point reached four billion dollars. In other words, not only is a slump under way, but all the political developments that are taking place at the present time are attributable to the development of this slump.

'What has to be understood is that the relations between

the two major classes on a world scale has already fundamentally changed because of the development of this slump.

'And the more these relations change, the more panic-stricken becomes the middle class and all those heterogeneous sections in society which exist in between the two main classes.

'That is why we have a considerable attention paid to the work of revolutionaries in relation to the struggle for Marxist principles. The Press are concentrating on trying to discredit and belittle the work

of the revolutionary movement. We must expect this.

'We know that the struggle is becoming so sharp that no compromise between the two main classes is available.

'We have no friends outside our struggle to develop leadership inside the working class movement.'

Cde Healy said it was impossible to stress the enormous importance of education in Marxism.

'The real ideological battles of the future are being fought out now. Attempts to discredit our movement are a

continuation of the attempts to discredit Marx.

'We plan to teach Marxism to the youth, to trade unionists, and all those coming forward into responsibilities of leadership in our party.'

Referring to the Common Market, he continued:

'There is much more involved here than the question of the Common Market.

'Into this debate is poured all the dissatisfaction of the working class with the role of the Labour and trade union leaders.

'The extreme right of the Labour Party, both Wilson and

Jenkins, is isolated. This shows the movement emerging is enormously broad in scope and has already created conditions, even in the most reformist apparatuses in the world, for a reflection of the movement to take over.

'There is developing an enormous movement to the left. This will shake the apparatuses of the reformist and Stalinist bureaucracies in one country after another.

'The more the working-class movement moves forward the weaker bureaucracy becomes. The challenge is to construct



WELCOME FOR MARCH

have a tremendous role to play in the working-class movement. Without the YS and the struggle of the YS there would be no march, there would be no Workers Revolutionary Party and no Workers Press.

'Forward to the mass YS and the mass Revolutionary Party.'

Farley was speaking to a resolution which was passed unanimously at the conference calling for a General Strike to release the two pickets, Des Warren and Eric Tomlinson, and to

repeal all anti-trade union law.

Moving the resolution, Steve Martin, from Gravesend YS, said:

'In a period where the economic crisis of the capitalist state forces the ruling class to unleash the most ruthless attack on the rights and living standards of workers, we witness the abject failure of protest politics and one-day strikes and pressure on government and trade union leaders.

'The jailing of the Shrewsbury Two must be seen as a conscious escalation of the class war on the part of the bourgeoisie which prepares the way for military dictatorship.

'It is only the principled campaigns of the Shrewsbury Two Action Committee, the Wigan Building Workers' Action Committee backed by the YS and the Workers Revolutionary Party that will prevent this happening.'

the enemy within the workers' movement, to go amongst working-class youth threatened with unemployment and threatened with war, to bring the message from this conference into the working class, into the youth, in a way in which they become levers of history.

'A lever of history is such an instrument, and that instrument is constructed under the policies for which we fight blend with the requirements of the working class in the course of the development of the revolutionary struggle.'



Gerry Healy

DISCUSSION at the YS 15th Annual Conference started immediately after the main report.

Young people from all over the country demonstrated the willingness of youth to fight for revolutionary leadership against the Labour reformists' attacks.

Waveney Grant of Wood Green YS moving Composite Resolution One on the Labour government and the anti-terror laws told conference:

'Look at the nature of this Labour government. Jenkins votes with the Tories and a finger is never lifted against him, he is allowed to stay.

'On the other hand Heffer votes and speaks for Labour Party policy and he immediately gets removed from office. Prentice consistently attacks the working class and especially education but he goes unchallenged.'



Waveney Grant

She went on, 'We saw last week in the EEC vote that if it wasn't for the Tory votes, Wilson would have been defeated.

'Wilson was well defeated in the Labour Party. We have a situation where the entire Labour movement is against Wilson on the question of the EEC.

'Today we see a major confrontation building up between the right wing of the Labour Party and Tories against the working class.

'The Young Socialists say that the time is here when the class struggle is taking on a revolutionary form—that's why we put forward demands for a political solution to the crisis.'

Our demands, she explained, are revolutionary demands. 'They can only be won by the building of the YS and Workers Revolutionary Party and the smashing of the capitalist state.'

Tommy Allen, from Blantyre YS, moved an emergency resolution condemning the Labour government's and the Glasgow Labour leaders' use of the army to break the council drivers' wages strike.



Tommy Allen

He said: 'The Stalinists on the Clydeside and the transport union leaders have left the men on their own. This is a betrayal of the whole working class with implications that stretch far outside Glasgow.

'This kick in the teeth by the Labour government, which has never worried about health hazards in Glasgow in the past, is

another step in the direction of a military dictatorship.

'If they use troops against the Glasgow binmen, what's to stop them being sent in against factory workers and the whole working class?'

'But right through the 13-week strike, the YS and the Workers Revolutionary Party fought for a General Strike to get the troops out of Glasgow and we fought the Stalinists and reformists in action.

'We are determined to defeat the attacks of the capitalist state and we are confident we can do it.'

Eric Coleman, Paddington YS said: 'The economic crisis gets worse and worse. More and more youth are thrown on the dole.

'The Army tries to attract youth as recruits. But today's youth must not be forced into being tomorrow's strike-breakers.

'Employed and unemployed youth must join the Young Socialists and demand the standing army be disbanded and a workers' militia formed instead. Forward with the YS and the Workers Revolutionary Party.'

Speaking in discussion Mike Debono from Kilburn YS said that the Shrewsbury Two Action Committee march from Hull to Liverpool is giving a real lead to the working class when every other group have forgotten Warren and Tomlinson.

'The Shrewsbury Two are pickets kept in prison under the 1875 Conspiracy Act, jailed by the Tories and kept there by the Labour government.'

He called on all YS members to take part in Saturday's demonstration in Liverpool to welcome the marchers.

Second section of the debate dealt with housing and social services.

Moving the housing composite, Margaret Dwyer, Wembley YS, explained:

'All governments, both Tory and Labour, place great stress on solving the housing problem, particularly in the course of elections.

'Neither of them however have the slightest intention of solving the housing problem for a good reason — you cannot solve the housing problem as long as the land is owned by private owners and landlords.

'This is what makes the housing question the most revolutionary issue in politics.'

All available housing, she said, should be expropriated and land nationalized without compensation.



Colin Trew

Colin Trew, delegated to the conference by the NUPE branch at Westminster hospital, London, said:

'Last month our branch decided to take action to pressure the Labour government into fulfilling its election promise, namely to legislate against the existence of a dual-standard health service.

'An NHS patient can and does wait up to two years to get into hospital for important

operations, whereas a private patient can get a private room complete with colour TV and phone to have cosmetic surgery, such as removing facial lines and straightening noses in a London teaching hospital within 24 hours.

'The consultants can hold the so-called socialist government to ransom and when a branch of NUPE decided to take action against injustice, our own union officials backed down and left one hospital to carry on the fight.

'We are, however, not going to be defeated by a union executive which betrays its members and principles by making private deals with the Labour government.'



Jean Christie

Jean Christie of Feltham YS demanded an end to the exploitation of foreign students and nurses in the NHS. All student nurses, she said, must be encouraged to fight to improve their training facilities and wages.

The fight against the capitalist state and its attacks on young people came next on the agenda.

Mick MacParland, Huddersfield YS moving a composite resolution on Northern Ireland said:

'During the Ulster Workers' Council strike last year, the army refused to act. Yet they had no reservations about moving in on the dustmen in Glasgow.

'The UWC strike was not a strike, but a lock-out and a collaboration between the employers and the police and the army. All this took place under a Labour government. In other words, the army and Labour leaders work for the interests of the capitalist class.

'This is seen by the events such as "Bloody Sunday" and the use of jobs in the Harland and Wolff shipyards in Belfast to split Protestant and Catholic workers.



Mick MacParland

'Under a Labour government we see the continuing use of torture as a means of intimidating the working class in the north of Ireland and as a training ground for Britain.'

Peter Twining, Lewisham YS, moved a resolution which congratulated 'Workers Press' on its exposure of CIA activities against the labour movement in Britain and which called for a trade union inquiry into the CIA as well as its disbandment, expulsion of all its agents and destruction of records kept on workers.

'The CIA is an arm of American imperialism designed to bring about military coups and to divide the working class in order to

Continued on p. 6

continue the reign of capitalism.
 'The CIA is in Britain because the capitalist system is decaying. We are the "weak link" in Europe.'
Julian Leach, Hershams YS, moved a composite resolution on the police, saying:
 'There is hatred of the police among young people who have seen police attack the Windsor pop festival and read about the death of Kevin Gately in Red Lion Square.'



Julian Leach

'Young people have been harassed and pushed around by the police. The role of the YS must be to take the spontaneous hatred of the police and turn it into a conscious movement.'

'It is the growing slump in the capitalist system and the opposition by the working class to unemployment and cuts in living standards that forces the police to launch these attacks.'

'The Labour government is tied to the system and now uses the state for the employers. If we are to have a future we have to replace the police with a workers' militia recruited from the trade union movement.'

'To do this, we need a disciplined Marxist movement. We need the building of the Young Socialists.'

Derek Tuddenham from Halewood said:

'In Halewood the role of the police is shown in the way that they treat the youth.'

Young people, he said, were constantly harassed and picked up by the police, stopped and searched for no reason at all other than keeping a check on what they were doing. These activities were an insult on the working class.



Eileen Feeney

Eileen Feeney, Paddington YS spoke about the CIA and the role of a revolutionary youth leadership in the present struggles.

'All the issues that are being raised here are alive. We must see the period of history we are living in. Some young people still seem to believe they have a future under this system. The future is non-existent. The only future we will have will be a future we fight for.'

'We are not just going to talk about socialism and about building an independent movement — we must do it. We have got to build a mass revolutionary youth movement and fight for it.'

NEXT WEEK WE WILL CONTINUE OUR REPORT WITH DETAILS OF THE DEBATE ON EDUCATION, BUILDING THE MASS YS, THE WRP AND A FULL COVERAGE OF THE INTERNATIONAL DISCUSSION.

FRATERNAL GREETINGS FROM GERMANY, US, AUSTRALIA, GREECE, PORTUGAL, IRELAND

GERMANY

BRINGING fraternal greetings from the Socialist Youth League, German sister organization of the Young Socialists, Ludwig, head of a 140-strong delegation, said that the German working class were being betrayed by their social democratic leaders.

While the international economic crisis has put over a million workers on the dole in Germany and a further million on short time, the Social Democratic government under Chancellor Helmut Schmidt spreads the illusion that 'the boom will come in the summer'.

Comrade Ludwig said that the threat of the sack for 34,000 workers at Volkswagen in Wolfsburg, Ingolstadt and Nekarsulm gave the lie to this illusion.

The SJB is running a national campaign for the right to work to climax in a mass demonstration at Essen on May 8.

Delegates cheered when they heard of plans to transform the fortnightly 'Der Funke' into a weekly paper in the course of the year.

USA

'I bring greetings from the American Young Socialists, youth section of the Workers League,' said American YS secretary.

'As the chairman stated in the main report this conference takes place under conditions of unprecedented crisis in the world capitalist system.'

'Decisive blows are being dealt to US imperialism day by day. We salute the movement of the Vietnamese workers and peasants — and workers throughout the world now on the offensive.'

'The Ford-Rockefeller government are in a deeper crisis than Nixon.'

'Unemployment has now reached depression levels — 9.9 per cent of the total work force are jobless. In Detroit, auto capital of the world unemployment is over 27 per cent.'

'Youth unemployment nationally is 20.6 per cent and in Detroit it is over 85 per cent. This summer the majority of youth will not be able to find jobs.'

'We will take our experiences back to the US from this conference as we struggle to prepare the forces there for the world socialist revolution.'

AUSTRALIA

Dear Comrade,
 The Australian Young Socialists send fraternal greetings to the British Young Socialists 15th Annual Conference being held at

Scarborough on April 12 and 13.

The Conference is being held at a time when youth in Britain as well as in Australia and every other capitalist country, are facing the bitterest struggles of their lives to defend wages, jobs and the right to a future.

The struggle will only be taken forward to victory for the working class in the building of the revolutionary leadership in the Young Socialists and the Revolutionary Party.

The British Young Socialists have shown the way forward for their Australian comrades. The determined and tenacious fight they have led to build a mass revolutionary youth movement has been a tremendous inspiration to the Australian Young Socialists.

The Young Socialists in Britain have led the fight to build the Workers Revolutionary Party as a mass revolutionary party in struggle against the rotten Tories and now against the betrayals of the Labourites who are bringing the whole state apparatus including the army, into use against the working class.

We are holding our First Annual Conference in June of this year. Both conferences will be most decisive in building a revolutionary leadership amongst youth.

We extend the warmest possible fraternal greetings then, to our British comrades.
 Yours fraternally,
 National Executive.

GREECE

Bringing greetings from the Greek section of the International Committee of the Fourth International a young Greek worker told the conference:

Revolutionary youth, today more than ever, need to develop dialectical materialism, theory and knowledge of Marxism, in order to destroy ideologically and politically the revisionists through practice.

'The bourgeoisie cannot confront the working class movement only with its own forces. Stalinism becomes the police of the capitalist system and revisionism is the left cover for Stalinism.'

This was most evident in Greece and Portugal today, he added.

PORTUGAL

Greetings from the Portuguese section of the International Committee of the Fourth International were given by a young worker from Lisbon.

She said on behalf of the League for the Construction of the Revolutionary Party (LCPR):

'Fascism fell after 48 years in Portugal. Now we must destroy the capitalist state.'

'All that has been discussed and approved here at this conference is right. The working class and youth must fight for these resolutions for socialism.'

She said that despite the betrayals of the Stalinists, the Portuguese working class was moving towards socialism and knew that the fight was not an isolated one.

IRELAND

Irish YS fraternal delegate bringing greetings to the conference welcomed the Shrewsbury Two marchers for their fight to release the jailed builders' pickets.

In Ireland, he said, workers north and south had already suffered enormous attacks on their basic rights with the introduction of internment and a police-military dictatorship in the north.

'This march is pioneering the struggle against similar attacks in Britain in the form of the jailing of these two trade unionists.'

SRI LANKA

Sri Lanka (Ceylon) Young Socialists sent a telegram of greetings wishing every success to the YS 15th Annual Conference.



Above: Mungo Jerry; below: part of their enthusiastic audience.



Dance—a huge success!

Young Socialists members and international delegations alike hailed the dance on Saturday night to Mungo Jerry in Scarborough's Spa Ballroom as one of the most enjoyable they have attended.

Mungo Jerry's wide range of rock hits kept the floor packed full all evening and Red Star Sound are old favourites of the YS.

A magnificent collection!

YS National Treasurer **Rosemary Hannigan** made the collection appeal at the conference last Saturday.

The final total — including donations of Deutsche marks and dollars — came to £389.94 a magnificent collection.

The money will go towards the decoration and equipping of a large house in the north of England to be used as an international educational centre.

When completed this centre will have facilities for study, reading and lectures on a continual basis for youth and trade unionists.

New YS National Committee

- Tommy Allen (Scotland)
- John Crowther (North East)
- Stanley Boyd (Liverpool)
- Martin Cegla (Manchester)
- Matt Hayes (Yorkshire)
- Sean O'Hara (West Midlands)
- Edward Cairns (East Midlands)
- Marion Francis (Wales)
- Tony Phelan (Western)
- Ian Ralph (Eastern)
- Valerie Wallis (North London)
- Dave Brotherton (East London)
- Eileen Feeney (West London)
- Mike Penver (South London)
- Julian Leach (Southern)
- Geoff Porter (Kent)
- Simon Pirani (National Secretary)

POP

WHOSE INTERESTS DOES IT SERVE?

A KEEP LEFT DISCUSSION ARTICLE BY MICK McPARLAND HUDDERSFIELD YS

SINCE the Second World War a very distinct pop and youth culture has developed.

The right for young workers to go to dances, discos, pop concerts etc, had been won after many years of bitter struggle against the capitalist class.

Before the war, working class youth had to be satisfied with going to the occasional dance at the local church hall, because they had no money to go anywhere else. This was because capitalism at the time was in the grips of a very severe economic crisis.

Life for young workers at this time was terrible. There was no entertainment; they had very few clothes and no money to buy them — what money there was had to be spent on absolute basic necessities such as food.

Boom

In the 50s, after the war, entertainment for the working class started to get very much better. Capitalism was now going through an economic boom following the Bretton Woods agreement in which the International Monetary Fund was set up.

Following this agreement, lots and lots of paper money was created but there was no gold to back it, the consequences of which are hitting working class youth today.

During the boom, the capitalists could dish out lots of hire purchase credit to young workers, so that they could buy clothes which were fashionable, go to dance halls and buy cars etc.

The standard of living of the working class was increasing, built up around this fictitious credit.

It was during the 50s that rock 'n' roll music developed, and in a sense the 50s rock 'n' roll era represented a 'revolution' in the way that entertainment for working-class youth had changed.

No longer was entertainment a solemn affair in the local church hall, dancing cheek to cheek on a squeaking dance floor.

Expressive

Now working class youth could go to large dance halls in the town centre and listen to their favourite bands, singers or groups. Dancing was much more expressive and faster.

Rock 'n' roll music was very simple and to a certain extent expressed the joys of growing up during the boom. It also represented a blow to the conservative sections of society who denounced it as permissive and claimed it would eventually lead to the corruption of young people's minds.

But the rock 'n' roll era showed the capitalist class that this music could be used to transmit bourgeois ideology into the heads of working class youth.

During this period capitalism started to exploit young workers in a new way. Not only did it begin to influence the way in which young people dressed and what hairstyles they would have, it also began to

influence people's ideas towards life.

Rock 'n' roll opened up the floodgates of idealism which was pumped into the heads of working class youth.

Songs were written expressing the idea that it was easy to get to the top as a rock 'n' roll star. In reality for a young worker in any field, to get to the top is not an easy task, but a very hard and

pump the ideology of capitalism into the heads of young people through the mass production of pop records.

During the early 60s capitalism found a way of splitting working class youth by giving full coverage in the capitalist press to the riots between the rivaling so-called 'youth cults' of mods and rockers.

the major transmitter of idealism to young people at this time. It set out to revive religious belief among young people. Many pop groups, including the Beatles for a while followed this trend.

As Marxists, we in the Young Socialists start from the material world, and we see human society as part of the world of nature. We regard everything as knowable even

with diamonds' by the Beatles.

Consequently drug taking became a fashionable talking point among young people and a trendy thing to do.

Drug taking, as far as the YS is concerned is another form of idealism and we are totally opposed to it, not only because of health reasons, but also for political reasons.

We in the YS are not

Today, soul, reggae, rock and most modern pop music is still used against working class youth. It tells us to forget all our troubles, everything will be all right and all we have to do is dance or go and get another 'fix'.

It is important for young workers to realize that the YS is not against young people enjoying themselves whatsoever. In fact the YS is all for better entertainment facilities, cheaper entertainment and young people being able to enjoy themselves.

But now things have changed. Capitalism is no longer in boom time, and things aren't going to be all right. World capitalism is set irretrievably on the road to slump.

Entertainment facilities for youth are being attacked everyday. Admission fees into dances and discos are continually rising, the price of clothes is also rocketing as too are the prices of pop concerts.

Beginning

This is only the beginning. Very shortly the working class internationally will be thrown into revolutionary struggles, as have already started in Portugal.

Young workers must have a thorough grasp of what pop music is used for by capitalism and once this has been grasped it will be a major step forward for workers' power.

● Nationalize the entertainments industry without compensation under the control of workers and youth.

● Demand the Labour government defends the right to entertainment.

● Fight for the YS social programme.



Elvis Presley in 'Jailhouse Rock'

almost impossible one, even during the boom period.

This is because of the class nature of capitalism, which allows very little opportunity for young people to develop their talents educationally or in any other way.

Songs such as Elvis Presley's 'Jailhouse Rock' even went as far as to idealize life in prison, trying to get over the very false idea that life in prison is quite nice and that prisoners are treated very well. This is indeed a very wrong conception of prison life.

The capitalist system had discovered a new way to

The riots at Margate and Blackpool were given massive coverage in the capitalist press to cause more friction between these two groups and to divert young workers from the real fight against capitalism.

It was also during the 60s that we saw the rise of 'flower power'. This was a really reactionary force aimed at working class youth, although to many young people at the time it must have appeared to be quite a 'liberal' movement using the slogan 'Make love not war'. But this was not so.

Flower power or the hippie movement was a major if not

though there is an infinite amount that is unknown.

Therefore our standpoint is the very opposite of idealism and religion which states that there is a mysterious world which is outside the knowledge of mankind, a world of the spirit.

Religion and the ideas it fosters among the working class are very false. It tells us not to bother about life on this earth because everything will turn out fine in the end when we reach the next world.

During the 60s, songs were written expressing the joys of drug-taking such as 'A Day in the life' and 'Lucy in the sky

'liberals'. We are a disciplined revolutionary youth movement — drug taking solves nothing. People who take drugs say that it helps them to meet and cope with the pressures of every day life.

On the contrary, it removes the drug-taker from the realities of life, making him or her less equipped to face up to life.

It is a dangerous form of escapism which solves nothing and yet again it diverts young workers and students from fighting capitalism, to momentarily escaping from capitalism.

KHMER ROUGE ENTER PHNOM PENH!



Victory to the Indo-Chinese revolution!

KHMER Rouge liberation forces have entered the capital of Cambodia, Phnom Penh.

A Japanese news agency report said that Khmer Rouge forces were in the western districts of the city.

'Residential houses in the area are now on fire and citizens are converging on the central part of the capital,' it continued. 'The situation in Cambodia is now becoming critical.'

Two rebel Cambodian government planes, which had presumably gone over to Khmer Rouge, bombed the headquarters of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, killing or wounding 50 soldiers.

The Cambodian embassy in Bangkok admitted that government troops had pulled back half a mile on Phnom Penh's southern defences earlier on last week.

Pochentong airport has been shelled by the liberation armies for several weeks. Later reports said that they now control the airport.

Long Boret, who has taken over from fugitive premier Lon Nol, the puppet of American imperialism, clamped a 24-hour curfew on Phnom Penh.



THE YOUNG SOCIALISTS!

THE YOUTH MOVEMENT THAT LEADS THE FIGHT FOR SOCIALIST POLICIES.

NAME

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I AM INTERESTED IN (tick where applicable):

- DISCOS
- MEETINGS
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Post to: YS national secretary, 186a Clapham High St, London SW4 7UG

GREAT RESPONSE FROM ALL WORKERS

FROM MATT HAYES AND SONNY, KEEP LEFT REPORTERS ON THE MARCH

THE Hull to Liverpool march demanding the release of the Shrewsbury Two is still on the road. The march has been campaigning in all the industrial areas of South Yorkshire.

Marchers are calling for general strike action for the release of the two building workers jailed for picketing.

On Sunday April 6 we arrived in Sheffield, tired but happy. We intended to stay there for two days.

At 6 a.m. on Monday morning a concentrated

campaign began directed at the predominant steel industry and also the building sites in the area.

One worker, on a housing project said that Warren and Tomlinson should never have been jailed and that general strike action was the only way of releasing these two pickets. He thoroughly supported the aims of our march and gave a large donation.

It was reflected throughout the day's campaign where marchers intervened in some of the Stalinist-led steel factories.

Despite their corrupt leadership the workers responded with great enthusiasm to our campaign and gave donations willingly.

During the day we encountered the most hostile police harassments so far. While on a street sale in the city centre, police attempted to disrupt our campaign by charging one comrade with obstruction and illegal collection but they soon left when our photographer arrived and took pictures of them.

They also stopped our van and took the driver to the police station where they attempted to find a charge against him on any grounds.

This shows the hostility of the police against our march and movement because we expose the role they play in society as the guard dogs of the capitalist system.

The jailing of pickets and the use of troops as strike-breakers are direct attacks on the basic rights of every worker.

● More next week—we apologize that lack of space prevents us carrying the full account of the march last week.



GREET THE MARCHERS IN LIVERPOOL SATURDAY APRIL 19

ASSEMBLE: Kirkby Library, Town Centre, 11 a.m.

MARCH from Kirkby to Liverpool

MEETING: Concert Hall, St Georges Hall, Opposite Lime Street station, Liverpool, 4 p.m.

Bring your banners — Greet the march.

DISCO GIVES BIG BOOST TO IPSWICH YS

WHEN Ipswich YS started campaigning for Scarborough they found a lot of youth who agreed with the policies of the YS but were either unemployed or low-paid workers and couldn't afford the £6 fare.

Some of them had their own sound system 'King Tom' and they thought the best idea to raise money was to hold discos.

So the week before the conference they held two very successful discos. Over 80 people attended each disco.

Recently in Ipswich, the Manor Ballroom has closed down its reggae and soul disco on Monday evening, so the youth had nowhere to go.

Ipswich YS and 'King Tom' disco have solved the problem. While campaigning to build the YS in Ipswich, we have also got the best soul disco in town every week.

IPSWICH YS DISCO

Every Monday
Waveney Hotel,
Bramford Road,
7.30-10.30 p.m.
Tickets 25p.

FIRST DISCO FOR CHELSEA YS

BY A KEEP LEFT CORRESPONDENT

CHELSEA Young Socialists held their first disco last Friday. The disco was campaigned for by new members in the estates and on the High Street.

Over 100 people attended and many bought tickets for the coach trip to Littlehampton organized by the West London Region of the YS and came to Scarborough.

After the success of the disco all members are determined to build a big YS branch in Chelsea and have used the campaign for the Scarborough conference to do this.

The branch is also organizing regular football on Saturday and are challenging any other team to a match.

THE National Union of Students conference in Llandudno last week exposed a new and dangerous trend as a result of the demoralization caused by the 'Broad Left' executive retreats.

In elections to the national executive, a liberal candidate successful for the first time in ten years and members of the right-wing Radical Action Group and self-styled 'liberals' showed big increases in their first preference votes.

In spite of reports in the capitalist Press that the NUS is led by 'Marxists', President Charles Clarke and deputy Al Stewart, the union leadership elected last week was a significant shift to the right.

The election of both Clarke and Stewart was warmly greeted by the Young Conservatives, who stated that their 'moderate' policies had won them the votes of many right wingers.

Hugh Lanning, newly elected treasurer, a former member of the National Organization of International Socialist Societies was also elected with the support of

'Broad Left' retreats encourage right

NUS CONFERENCE REPORT



Last week's NUS conference

many second-preference votes from these 'liberal' elements.

The other full time executive post, that of NUS secretary was won by Sue Slipman, Communist Party member and Broad Left, who has earned the well-deserved hatred of overseas students for her assertion that it was 'alarmist' to suggest that their fees next year would be over £300 a year.

On the central issues facing students—of housing, grants, education cuts and victimizations—the NUS leadership showed themselves totally unwilling and incapable of leading any fight to defend even the most basic of rights.

The resolution proposed by the Broad Left and adopted by conference on the fight against education cuts has no coherent policy or campaign to defend colleges threatened

with closure or staff who face sackings as a result of reductions in spending.

But more dangerous still it leaves the decisions of 'specific plans for action' in the fight against the ending of the rent freeze, the social contract and the education cuts in the hands of an executive which has shown itself unwilling and incapable of leading this struggle.

No national action is proposed before the autumn of 1975—this means the whole summer term will go by without any major action on education cuts or proposed redundancies at a time when staff contracts are due to be renewed—and it is expected many will not be.

In spite of the fact that the grants and cuts motions contain a list of 32 instructions to executives and Constituent Organizations there is no mention of the fight

for abolition of discretionary awards.

The resolution does contain a call for 'equal fees for all overseas students'—but it does not mention ending the discriminatory high fees which operate at present.

Presumably all overseas students would be satisfied if they pay equal fees, no matter how high!

Students throughout the country—in colleges, universities and polytechnics—will in the months ahead experience even more sharply than at present, the effects of the swingeing education cuts launched by the Tories and carried through by the Labour government.

There is no doubt whatsoever that the policy agreed at Llandudno is woefully inadequate.

The fight to defend education, grants, to win decent housing facilities and to defend students threatened with victimization is now inextricably bound up with the fight to build an alternative to the Broad Left in the student movement.

The Young Socialists Students Society is pledged to build this leadership, in fighting for full mandatory grants of £845 for all students, for an end to discretionary awards and the means test, for the ending of discrimination against overseas students and in implacable fight to defend the right to education.

KEEP LEFT £200 MONTHLY FUND

OUR fund is falling behind this month—we have so far collected £79.30 and have less than two weeks to go.

The Scarborough conference showed the enormous determination of young people to fight. The discussion reflected the fact that every single layer of youth is hit by the economic crisis.

We decided to go forward from Scarborough to build the mass youth movement in Britain and internationally.

Let's go out this month to make the fund go over the top—as we did last month by £50.

Change the position immediately and send all donations to KEEP LEFT FUND, 186a Clapham High Street, London SW4 7UG.

Workers Revolutionary Party and Young Socialists



MAY DAY MARCH

through London

Thursday May 1

Defend the right to work! Nationalize under workers control!

No to the social contract! No police state laws!

Victory to the Indo-Chinese revolution! Build the Revolutionary Party!

Assemble: 6 p.m. Malet Street (near Euston Underground station).

March: 7 p.m. down Oxford Street.

Meeting: 8 p.m.

SUBSCRIBE TO KEEP LEFT!



SEND OFF NOW!

Please send copies of each issue.

To Keep Left subs, 186a Clapham High Street, London SW4 7UG. I wish to subscribe to Keep Left for months. (Postal subscription: 78p for 3 months, £1.56 for 6 months, £3.00 for a year. Delivery by local YS branch: 36p for three months, 72p for six months).

NAME

ADDRESS

Money enclosed