

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

KEEP LEFT

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YOUNG SOCIALISTS' YOUTH
SECTION OF THE WORKERS
REVOLUTIONARY PARTY



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Toxteth, Brixton and Handsworth: youth say

STOP POLICE VIOLENCE!



**'The police
were
like
animals'**

— HOUSEWIFE
WHO WATCHED
250 POLICEMEN
INVADE A
TOXTETH HOUSING
ESTATE

Top: youth in Toxteth, Liverpool, who spoke to Keep Left about police violence in the area

HOW UNEMPLOYMENT DRIVES YOUTH ONTO LONDON'S STREETS: PAGES 4 AND 5

KEEP LEFT SAYS

Pickets at the Norton Villiers Triumph plant last week fighting to defend their jobs

THE Labour government is launching unprecedented attacks on the working class.

To carry them out it is summoning up all the forces of the capitalist state machine.

The wages bill which has been passed in double quick time with enthusiastic Tory help contains the following powers:

- The power to cut the £6 limit to any amount — even to nothing without consulting parliament for up to 28 days.

- Legalized contract breaking by employers who have agreements with workers to pay more than £6.

- The power to cut subsidies and grants to local governments who pay above the limit.

- Conspiracy charges in the High Court against workers who strike for more than the limit.

Possible fines or imprisonment for contempt of court.

These laws have been brought in by stealth, through the connivance of the Tories, the Labour government and the trades union leaders.

Dictate

They give the employment secretary powers to dictate the wages of 18 million workers.

At present the



employment secretary is former 'Left' Michael Foot but the law would still be ready for use if he is replaced by, say, Reg Prentice. Or if a government of 'national unity' is formed in which the Employment secretary could be Heath or Carrington.

Powers

With the wage laws comes the Employment Appeals Tribunal. This is nothing more than a revamped National Industrial Relations Court, with all the same powers.

Its creation is part of the Employment Protection Bill. The bill includes amongst other things a 'Scabs Charter'.

The Tory papers are screaming for laws on squatting. They want two new criminal offences: entering premises by force without legal authority and unlawfully being on property and failing to leave.

This would cover factory occupations as well as homeless families who have taken over property.

A Tory government

could not get away with such attacks.

Their pay laws were smashed by the miners who in the process brought the Heath government down. The National Industrial Relations Court was smashed by the engineers.

The Labour Government is the pliant tool of the Tories and the capitalists.

The bankers deliberately forced down the pound in order to get the Labour Government to bring in the wage laws.

Devaluing

Now they are devaluing sterling further to dictate the next stage of Labour policy — the creation of mass unemployment and the enforcement of the laws.

They hope to make the pay laws work through creating hordes of jobless who would be played off against workers still in the factories.

This is a Ramsay McDonald-bankers conspiracy but on an even larger scale than in the 1930s.

This government's willingness to increase unemployment is shown in the decision to cut off cash for Norton Villiers Triumph.

Other industries reliant on public money face the same treatment, among them British Leyland.

Ten thousand sackings are planned in the steel industry.

The working class must not accept from the Wilson government attacks that it resisted from the Tory government.

Why should it? The Young Socialists say that there is no option now other than force this treacherous government to resign.

Mobilized

The full strength of the working class must be mobilized behind the demand for the end of this Labour government, and for socialist policies to be adopted by the re-called Labour Party conference.

Reformism can offer nothing to the working class. This Labour government is living proof.

What is urgently required is the building of the revolutionary movement, the Young Socialists and the Workers Revolutionary Party.

Police viole

TOXTETH: 'IT WAS LIKE THE FILMS YOU SEE OF AMERICA'

WORKERS and youth in Toxteth, Liverpool are demanding action against the police, who launched a violent invasion of the area last Thursday.

Over 250 police — some wearing crash helmets and face visors — descended on the Berkley estate, they told Keep Left reporters. They used truncheons against workers, housewives, youth, small children and old people.

The running battle began when police from all over Merseyside went on to the estate, allegedly investigating a car theft. Two black youth were accused of stealing the vehicle, and were set upon by four men with hammers.

A crowd gathered and, according to local residents, it took only ten minutes for a 200-strong force of police, drawn from stations throughout Merseyside, to reach the scene.

The question posed by the military-like speed of the operation is: was it a prepared and premeditated invasion, to be used to intimidate the whole population?

Keep Left reporters spoke to one person living on the main road nearby who counted 70 police vehicles going past in five minutes. A large number of people in Berkley Street recounted the police brutality to Keep Left:

Dogs

Steven Browne, 10 years old, said: 'They told us to get in our houses. We started to go home and then they set the dogs on us. They even tried to knock one girl down with a jeep.'

'They took my brother, my sister and mother. They were hitting us with truncheons. The riot police shouted: "If all you shower of niggers don't get in your houses in five minutes we'll arrest every one in the street".'

One 53-year-old woman said that she came home



Mrs O'Rourke and children from Berkley Street

from work and all the people were in the streets.

'I went to the door and said: "You've got my sons". They just got hold of me by the hair and dragged me on the floor and kicked me; then they flung me in the jeep.'

'My friend said: "That's my friend, leave her alone. We've just come home from work". So they dragged her in.'

'Later when my elder son came home with his girlfriend he came down Essex Street police station to look for me and they dragged him in and told his girlfriend to go home.'

'Later the police said to me: "Your kids are trash and that's what they're all like round that area".'

'They were trying to provoke me,' she said.

One young housewife told how police got hold of her mother. She said her mother shouted from her upstairs flat that the police were in there.

'...What are you doing?'



POLICE with the 'CO' shoulder badge in action at Red Lion Square. It is claimed that the CO means they are members of the Special Patrol Group (SPG).

FROM STAN BOYD LIVERPOOL YOUNG SOCIALISTS

Leave my mother alone. She's done nothing', I said. The police shouted back: "Come down here and we'll have you as well".'

She said the police were always coming round and insulting the youth. 'But it has never been as bad as this. It was like they were prepared.'

Elane Lee Griffiths said: 'It was the policemen's fault. Within 10 minutes there were jeeps, cars, minis, bikes and dogs everywhere. The police ran out with their truncheons, they had loud speakers.'

'It was like the films you see of America. They were hitting kids and women. They ripped the blouse of one pregnant woman. It's no wonder the kids round here don't like coppers.'

Twenty two year old Elane was standing on her step holding her baby and saw an incident involving her neighbour and her neighbour's son.

'The two of them were walking up the path and the police went for the boy.'

'One copper tried to punch him and he moved out of the way and I was punched in the face. The lad ran into the house and tried to shut the door. The front window was open and the cops jumped through it. Another two burst open the door and got the lad on the floor inside and ripped his coat and jumper off him. He did not have a chance.'

Dragged

'Then they dragged him outside and they all jumped on him. Even the dogs were on him. They were all booting him. They dragged him into the jeep, he tried to get out, they pushed him back in and as they did so they hit him on the back with truncheons.'

'He was screaming and shouting inside the jeep "Mam, help me, help me". This is the worst I have ever seen. The police were like

WORKERS REVOLUTIONARY PARTY

35th ANNIVERSARY OF TROTSKY'S DEATH



Sunday August 17, 3 p.m.
Hammersmith Palais

Speakers: G. Healy (General Secretary)
Mike Banda (Central Committee)
Vanessa Redgrave
Simon Pirani (YS National Secretary)

In the evening, a play
WHERE IS BRITAIN GOING?

PREMIERE PRESENTATION OF TROTSKY

A 30 minute documentary film containing Historic Russian Film Archive and Newsreel material — The most complete film of Leon Trotsky's life and work.

Presented by the International Committee of the Fourth International

Tickets available from your local YS branch or 186a Clapham High Street, London SW4 7UG. Cost £1.

Police stepped up



Youth interviewed by Keep Left

animals. They were hitting kids of about ten to 14.

The youth involved in this incident told Keep Left what happened to him.

'They were hitting me with truncheons. I heard one copper shout. "Stop, you are going to kill him". But they didn't stop, they hit me until I was unconscious.'

Running

Fifteen year old Donna Allyne said: 'Me and Margaret Brown came out of my mate's house, the police were running all over. A group of youth ran through our block and shouted "Run". So I ran upstairs with some women.'

'The police ran after one woman and battered her. They carried her to a jeep and threw her in head first. They grabbed a lad and beat him with truncheons.'

'Then they threw him on top of the girl in a jeep. The lad's sister went over to see what was happening and they beat her and threw her in.'

Mrs O'Rourke, a housewife said: 'I was sitting in the house when I heard screams. I was with my friends. I went outside and a lad was unconscious with blood pouring from him. We brought him inside.'

'We went out again and a group of women and kids had gathered on the corner. We asked the police what happened.'

'They just pushed us to one side and said to one of us "Fuck off you black bastard". They then started using their truncheons.'

Beat

'They grabbed my friend's brother and when she went to his aid four or five policemen really beat her badly, handcuffed her and arrested her. She is having a baby. The police were going wild shouting "Get back to the jungle".'

'The police always start the trouble, everyone in Berkley estate hates them. Something should be done about them.'

HANDSWORTH: 1,000 ARRESTS-ESTIMATE

A CONFERENCE of black people in Handsworth, Birmingham, has unanimously passed a resolution calling for 'the immediate cessation of police harassment and brutality towards black youth in Britain.'

The police have launched a concentrated campaign of harassment against black youth in Handsworth over the last few weeks.

Youth are hauled off the streets, photographed, fingerprinted, beaten up and then sometimes let go.

The cue for the police-state style operations was the death of a policeman last month. Since then, it is estimated that up to 1,000 people have been rounded up and taken to Steelhouse Lane police station.

Steelhouse Lane is the central link in the operation which is now being carried out by forces throughout the West Midlands.

'Never before have there

been arrests on such a scale for any incident in this country,' says a leaflet being circulated by black people in Handsworth.

Many of those arrested have been assaulted, illegally finger-printed and photographed.

Desmond, a Handsworth youth being held in Winson Green jail, has been the victim of especially brutal attacks.

His mother broke down and fainted when she saw him on a visit two weeks ago. A bulletin issued by Desmond's friends says he was unable to walk and had to be supported by two prison warders.

'His face was swollen and he had complained of being beaten in his stomach, and of not receiving anything to eat,' the bulletin says.

His mother's visit was cut short and she was not allowed to give him food.

Other cases of women and girls being accused of being prostitutes, physically assaulted and then arrested are numerous.

Parties held in the black community are systematically raided. Van loads of police wait outside the Rainbow Suite in Birmingham and hurl insults at youth coming out.



Handsworth youth

Preparation for dictatorship

A MASSIVE campaign of intimidation against working class communities is being organized by the police.

In the last two weeks, harassment, arrests, beatings and racialist attacks have been carried out on an unprecedented scale.

A force of over 200 police ran amok on an estate in Toxteth, Liverpool, wielding their batons indiscriminately against housewives, youth, small children and elderly people.

It is alleged that in Handsworth, Birmingham, over 1,000 arrests have been made in a series of 'sweeps' in the black community.

Community organizations in Brixton, south London, say that the Special Patrol Group 'heavy mob' has returned to the area.

This campaign is not just the result of hatred, thuggery or supremacist mania on the

The ruling class know that the organized working class, which has fought through the trade unions to win a good standard of living, will not accept these attacks.

They will have to use state repression to smash factory occupations, strikes, demonstrations, and all actions by workers in the coming struggles.

It is no coincidence that Detroit, USA, was last week the scene of huge battles between unemployed youth and police.

The slump in the car industry has driven unemployment in Detroit — once known as 'Motor City' — up to 50 per cent.

It is also no coincidence that the British police have chosen areas of high unemployment, bad housing and large immigrant populations to make their intervention.

Youth everywhere face enormous battles against unemployment, to defend their basic rights from the effects of the capitalist crisis.

The Young Socialists fully

KEEP LEFT COMMENTS

part of policemen. It is part of the preparation for a dictatorship by military force which the capitalist class require.

Special squads are being trained to control working class areas. Last week's incidents follow other training sessions for violence:

The shooting of two young protesters by SPG officers at India House in 1972;

The violent attack on the Windsor Park music festival last summer, made in collaboration with the army;

The use of mounted police against left-wing demonstrators at Red Lion Square which resulted in the death of student Kevin Gately.

These preparations for dictatorship are being made because the capitalist system is gripped by an insoluble economic crisis. The bankruptcy of whole industries is resulting in world-wide mass unemployment, mass sackings from factories and uncontrollable inflation which is reducing workers to complete poverty.

support workers and youth who have fought back against the police with all means.

There is only one way to win the battle against the police. That is to destroy the system which uses the police to defend its right to exploit workers — capitalism.

This means mobilizing the entire strength of the working class, the trade union and labour movement, and providing a political programme to prepare to take the power.

It is the Young Socialists and Workers Revolutionary Party who are making this preparation every single day.

We are preparing, with the International Conference of Revolutionary Youth being held in November, for revolution throughout the capitalist world.

Socialism means the working class controlling the factories, the state and the whole of society. Essential for this is the disbanding of the police and standing army, and their replacement by a workers' militia which will safeguard the interests of the working class.

BRIXTON: YOUNG SOCIALISTS SPEAK OUT

INTERVIEWS BY JULIAN LEACH

POLICE in Brixton, south London, are carrying out early morning raids, random street searches and brutal arrests against young workers.

The new campaign, which has recently been detailed by the Lambeth Campaign Against Police Repression, includes:

● **Random arrests.** 'Another tactic is doing a sweep of areas where black youths congregate, carrying out body searches, and arresting people on "suspicion".'

● **Forced signing of statements.** The LCAPR, describing the case of an arrested youth said: 'In the fingerprints room... he was beaten by two officers. When he still refused to sign

the "confession", two dogs were brought in on long leads. "You know what we do with black boys who refuse to sign statements" said one policeman.' He signed.

● **Evictions.** On May 15, over 50 policeman including 10 SPG officers, one armed with a riot shield, arrived to evict two women, a man and three children at Spenser Road. They broke down the door and cut off electricity. Police cordoned off the entire street to stop the squatters' friends coming to the rescue.

Continuous

Last week, Brixton Young Socialists members told Keep Left what they thought about the continuous police harassment.

Paul Lancaster said: 'I think the police are trying to separate the white from the black.'

'It's just one big manhunt around Brixton.'

Stopped

'I got stopped the other night with some of my mates for doing nothing — it happens all the time.'

Branch secretary Alan Weaver said: 'The attacks in Brixton are not just white policemen against black youth.'

'The police are part of the capitalist state. They are paid to do a certain job by the capitalists. They protect the property of the ruling class.'

'In Brixton the conditions we face are bad housing, bad unemployment and bad education.'

'If we all fight back to change the system we can change it.'

'The police are there to split us up and stop us doing that.'

Eileen said: 'Another thing the police do is plant drugs on people, you read about it in the papers quite often.'

'The police come and cause trouble at peaceful festivals every year. Last year it was Brockwell fair, this year it was the reggae festival.'

Another member said: 'I heard the sound of fighting in the street.'

'There were three cops on the other side of the road holding one boy. There were three men holding another boy.'

'They were police too but we didn't know that. They were not in uniform.'



Brixton Young Socialists at the London Sports Day last Sunday

'There was a crowd of youth around shouting "Don't break his arm". The police were screwing it up behind his back.'

Watched

'The youth did not touch the police. They just watched.'

'Then a girl, I think it was

his girlfriend, picked up a bottle to hit one of the policemen.'

'She was crying. The police turned for her.'

'Then the bottles started to fly. When the police left one lady said she heard a policeman say they would be back to get the "Black bastards".'

Unemployment drives youth onto London's streets

ABOUT 2,000 people sleep rough in London every night. The total number of homeless in the capital — including squatters, people in one-night stop-overs or sheltering in derelict buildings — is over 20,000.

Many of these are young people come to London from the provinces, looking for work. Many of them have run away from home, away from impossible and overcrowded conditions or are perhaps just attracted by the 'bright lights' of the big city.

Large numbers of these youth end up drifting penniless on the streets of London.

From then on they are at the mercy of forces such as those which killed 'Billy Two-Tone', whose stay at the Old Catholic Church Community Centre and eventual death was shown in the ITV documentary 'Johnny Go Home'.

Keep Left has investigated the conditions facing youth arriving in London. We spoke to voluntary workers dealing with young homeless people.

Services totally inadequate

They were in unanimous agreement that services for homeless youth are completely inadequate.

Local Authorities deal out some money to recognized charities for homeless youth, but they take little or no interest in the overall facilities.

And even the small amount of available accommodation is rapidly shrinking.

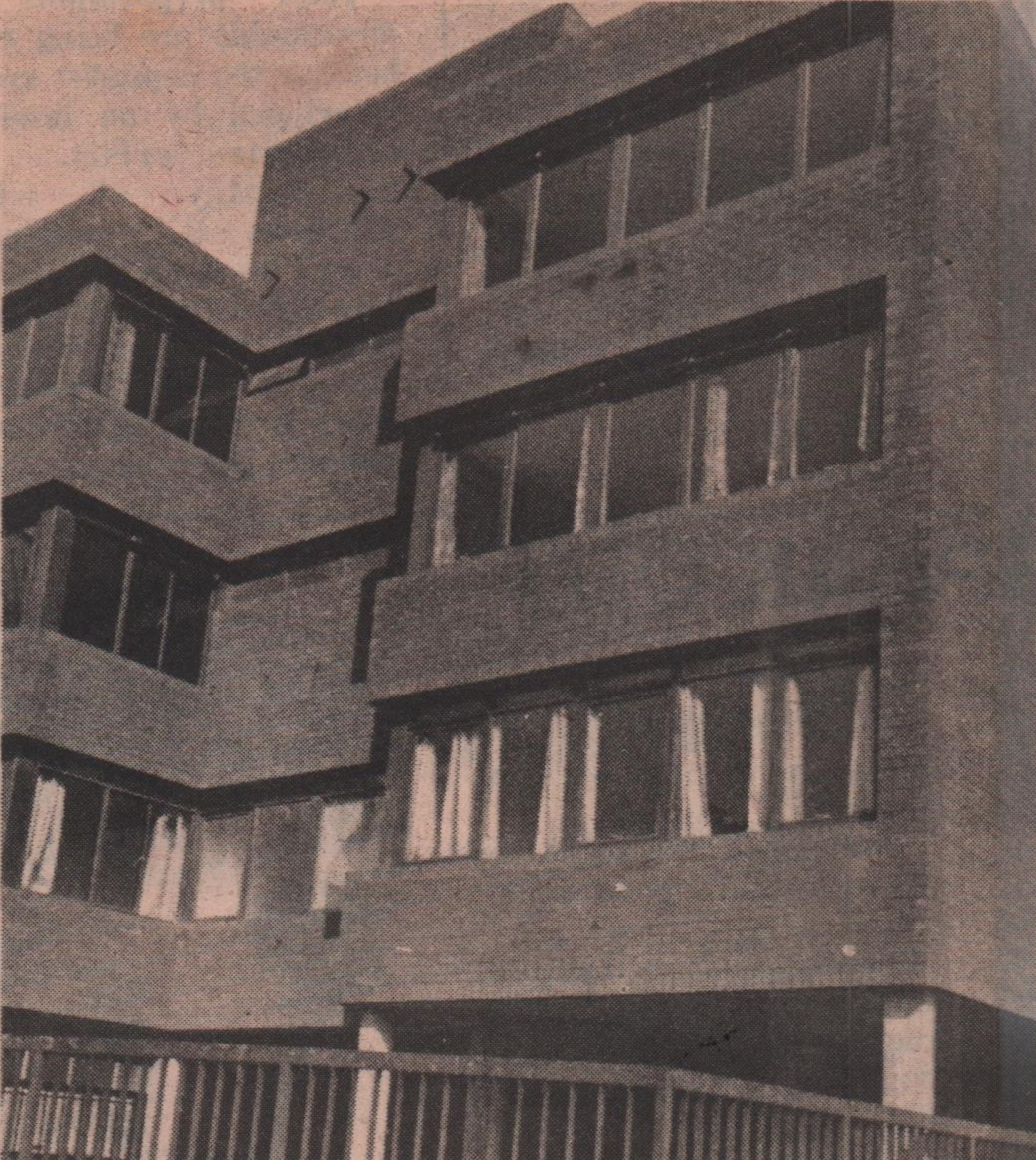
Hostels which cater for homeless youth are already being cut back because of social service cuts and lack of finance.

Charities dealing with homeless youth in London's West End say they expect the growth in unemployment in the last few months will again drive hundreds of young people from Scotland and the provinces into the capital.

The numbers of Scottish youth drifting homeless and jobless on the streets of London in late 1972, jumped rapidly in direct relation to the development of chronic



Drifting in the big city



Whitechapel Centre for homeless youth

unemployment in the Greater Glasgow area.

Bob Blythe, Director of the Blenheim Project, one of the London charities dealing with homeless youth told Keep Left that after a huge influx of youth to the capital in 1972, numbers dropped off in 1973 but started to rise again in 1974.

Mr Blythe said that research in the Glasgow area had shown by December 1972 only 10 per cent of school

leavers had found jobs a month after leaving.

This had dropped from a rate of 70 per cent of school leavers placed in a job within a month at the beginning of 1972.

It was in late 1972, he said, that the projects dealing with homeless youth in the West End had noticed a marked increase in the numbers of Scottish youth on the streets without homes and jobs.

In 1972, Centrepoin, a

charity which provides homeless youth in the West End with a bed and a meal for up to three nights, and Soho Project which provides a day centre service, both recorded big increases in numbers of Scottish homeless youth in London.

In 1975, even bigger numbers of Scottish youth have ended up drifting in the West End.

Drifting in the West End

Figures for the two organizations showing the numbers of Scottish youth are as follows:

| Year | Centrepoin | Soho Project |
|------|------------|--------------|
| 1972 | 1,115 | 151 |
| 1973 | 875 | 80-90 |
| 1974 | 1,178 | 205 |

Both these organizations, to the best of their ability, try to keep youth off the streets of London's West End and try to provide services through which they can find accommodation and work.

But they point out that without any accommodation facilities for youth who drift into London from the provinces there is no solution for the young people who end up in the West End and become easy prey for drug peddlers, or the unscrupulous individuals highlighted in 'Johnny Go Home'.

And while Scottish youth form the bulk of those coming to London hoping to get jobs and a place to live, hundreds of 16 and 17-year-olds from the high unemployment areas of the North East, North West and Wales are in the same position.

The Young Socialists say that the homelessness scandal, the lack of facilities to cope with it, and the accompanying increase in youth unemployment, are part of the crisis which is gripping the capitalist system.

What are the authorities proposing to do about homeless youth in London?

They are now discussing the setting up of information points at London's main railway and bus terminals to tell youth where to go if they need help.

This little action was only prompted because of the concern expressed recently after the ITV film.

Yet the people dealing with homeless youth in London have said this in itself can go nowhere near solving the problem.



The road from the Scottish dole queues...

June Lightfoot of CHAR (the body which campaigns on behalf of organizations dealing with homeless) told Keep Left:

'The only answer is housing. Any other solution is just an interim measure. It's not much good having information points without any back-up resources.'

'All London boroughs should provide at least one small hostel for people arriving in London.'

Peter Main, director of St Giles Institute, Camberwell, south east London, went even further.

'Information centres are a sop. Liaison services between Local authority social

Department of Employment
EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGE
YOUTH EMPLOYMENT OFFICE

Employers
Employment (Men & Women)
Disability Resettlement Office
Youth Employment Office
Passports
Insurance (Men & Women) - s

HOURS

MONDAY 9.0 AM - 5.0 PM
TUESDAY 9.0 AM - 5.0 PM
WEDNESDAY 9.0 AM - 5.0 PM
THURSDAY 9.0 AM - 5.0 PM
FRIDAY 9.0 AM - 5.0 PM

services and housing without any extra housing, without any extra facilities, with no extra job prospects are a sop.

'There are no extra facilities being provided because basically the authorities don't want to know or do anything about the homeless question.'

'There is no way they are going to allow us more money for any particular project.'

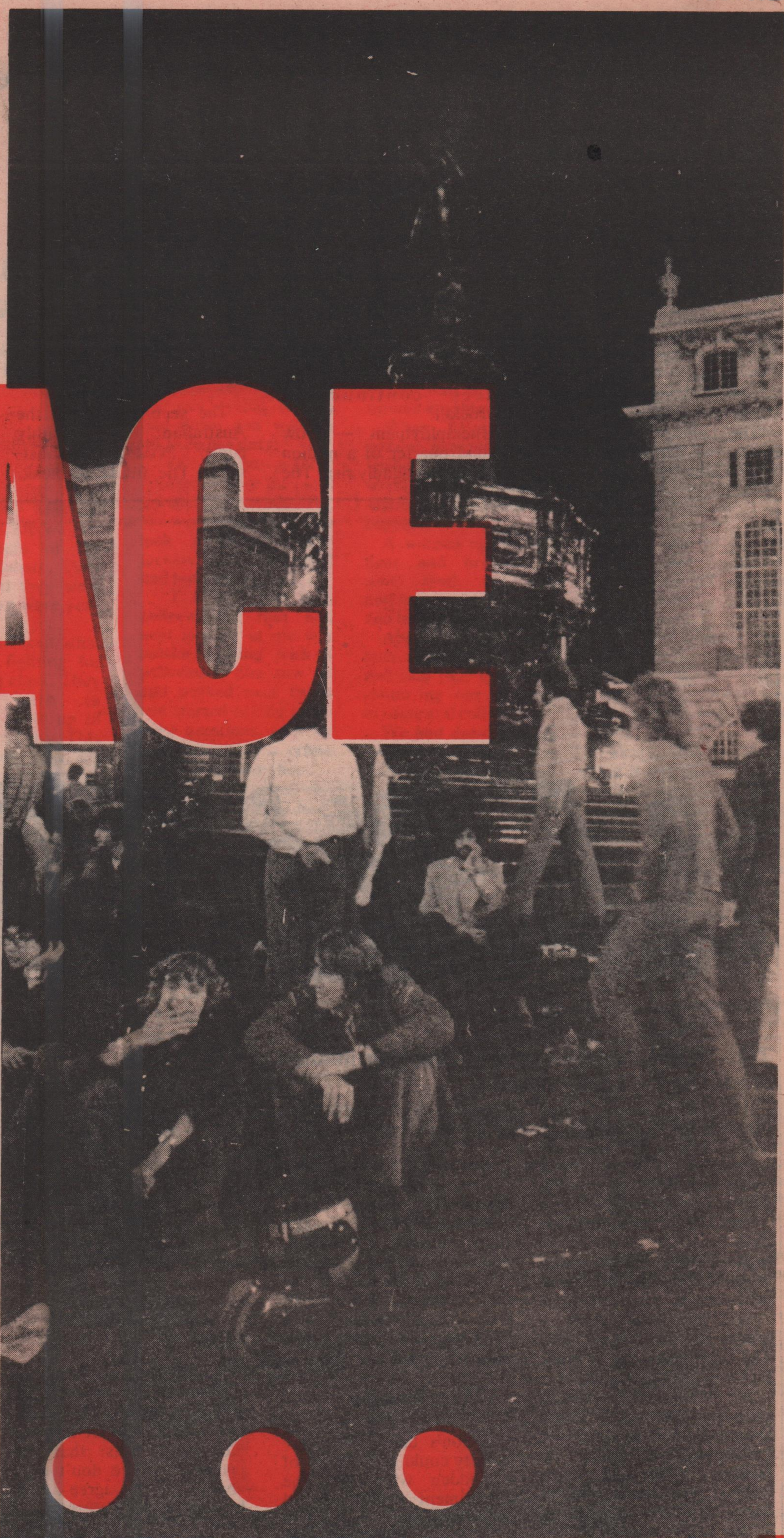
'The grant we get for our hostel here is from the London Borough Association. Our grant this year is on the same level as last year — in other words a 20 per cent cut due to inflation.'

'We will be about £4,000 to £5,000 in the red by the end of next year — if we can continue to keep going. Meanwhile we get young people coming to us continually.'

Mr Main also pointed out that the youth most likely to hit the streets would be the unskilled and those without qualifications. For them, coming to London looking for a job and somewhere to stay



NO PLACE TO GO



... leads to the seedy side of London's West End

... become more difficult as employment rises. All these social workers pointed out that there will be no solution for homeless youth in London as long as

is. There are a few officious authorities providing 'information services'. They cannot and will not do anything to change the situation.

To carry out such a programme requires the immediate requisitioning and redecoration of all empty property for use by the homeless.

UNDER THIS CAPITALIST SYSTEM. The only solution to homelessness is to nationalize the land, banks and building societies under workers'

Under socialism it will be possible for all workers and youth to be guaranteed the right to reasonable accommodation.

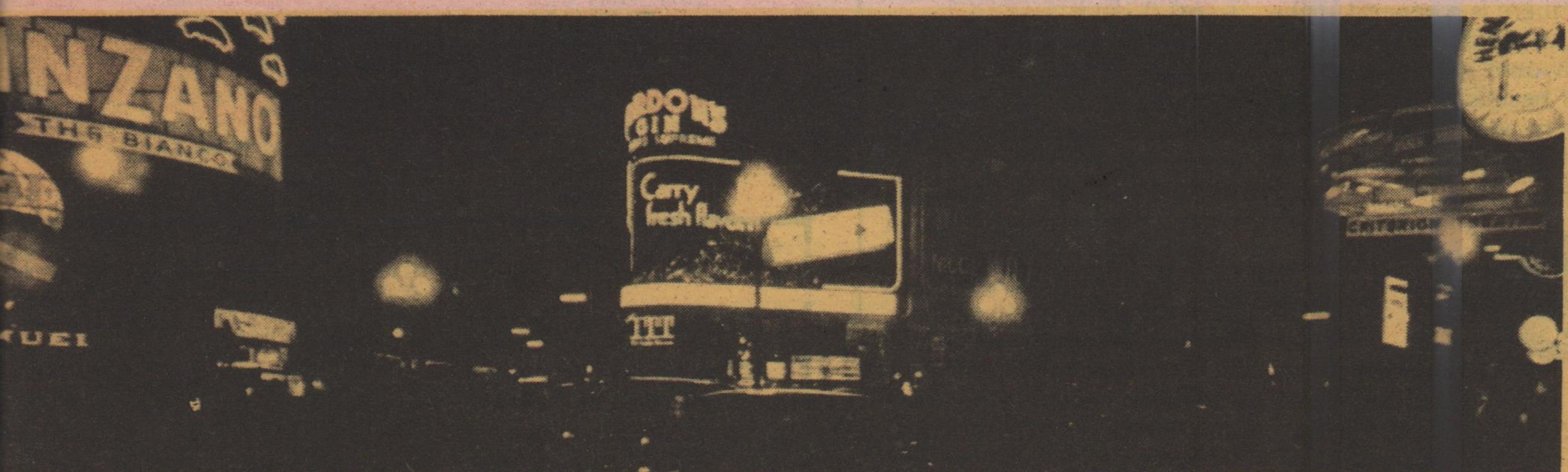
Likewise, the answer to unemployment is to nationalize the industries under workers' control, without any compensation to the exploiters. Only then will every young worker be provided with the right to work, to learn a trade or career, and to earn a decent living wage.

The future under capitalism is a catastrophic slump worse than the 1930s in which all our basic rights will be destroyed. Chancellor Denis Healey himself is talking about unemployment going up not to 1½ million or 2 million but to three million.

No section of youth can avoid the crisis which is now driving unemployed youth on to the streets.

The Young Socialists are leading the fight to build a revolutionary party, to mobilize the entire strength of the working class to take power and establish socialism.

Only by building the revolutionary movement which is preparing to put an end to capitalism can we fight back. That is why we call on all young people who are prepared to fight against a future of unemployment and homelessness to join the Young Socialists right away.



SARAH HANNIGAN investigates the truth behind the bright lights of London

There is no adequate accommodation for young people coming from the provinces. There are plenty of gooding liberals pointing how shocking the situation

The Young Socialists say that a crash public building project must be started immediately to meet the needs of thousands of single homeless people.

But this can only start to solve the problem. **THERE IS NO REAL SOLUTION TO HOMELESSNESS — OR UNEMPLOYMENT —**

control. Housing must be taken out of the hands of the property sharks, the Rachmanist landlords, the landowners and building societies.

The fact that youth are wandering the streets without homes or jobs is a sign that the economic crisis of the capitalist system is really hitting home.

A sign of the economic crisis



FORWARD TO THE REVOLUTIONARY YOUTH INTERNATIONAL 1975

Australian YS prepare for International Conference

THE Australian Young Socialists have held their first two conferences, and are now preparing for a nationwide Right to Work campaign.

The conferences were held in Melbourne (July 26-27) and Sydney (August 2-3), and discussed a socialist programme for youth in Australia.

The Labour government, headed by Gough Whitlam, is preparing attacks on the

working class just as their treacherous counterparts in Britain are.

They are planning attacks on wages, jobs and the public services in a forthcoming budget.

Tied down

Wages will be tied down to a phony price index while prices continue to skyrocket.

Unemployment — now around quarter of a million — will immediately rise. The

growth of the public services has been cut back and this means that thousands of school-leavers, who would normally go into government departments, will be thrown out of work.

Whitlam and co are also planning big tax increases.

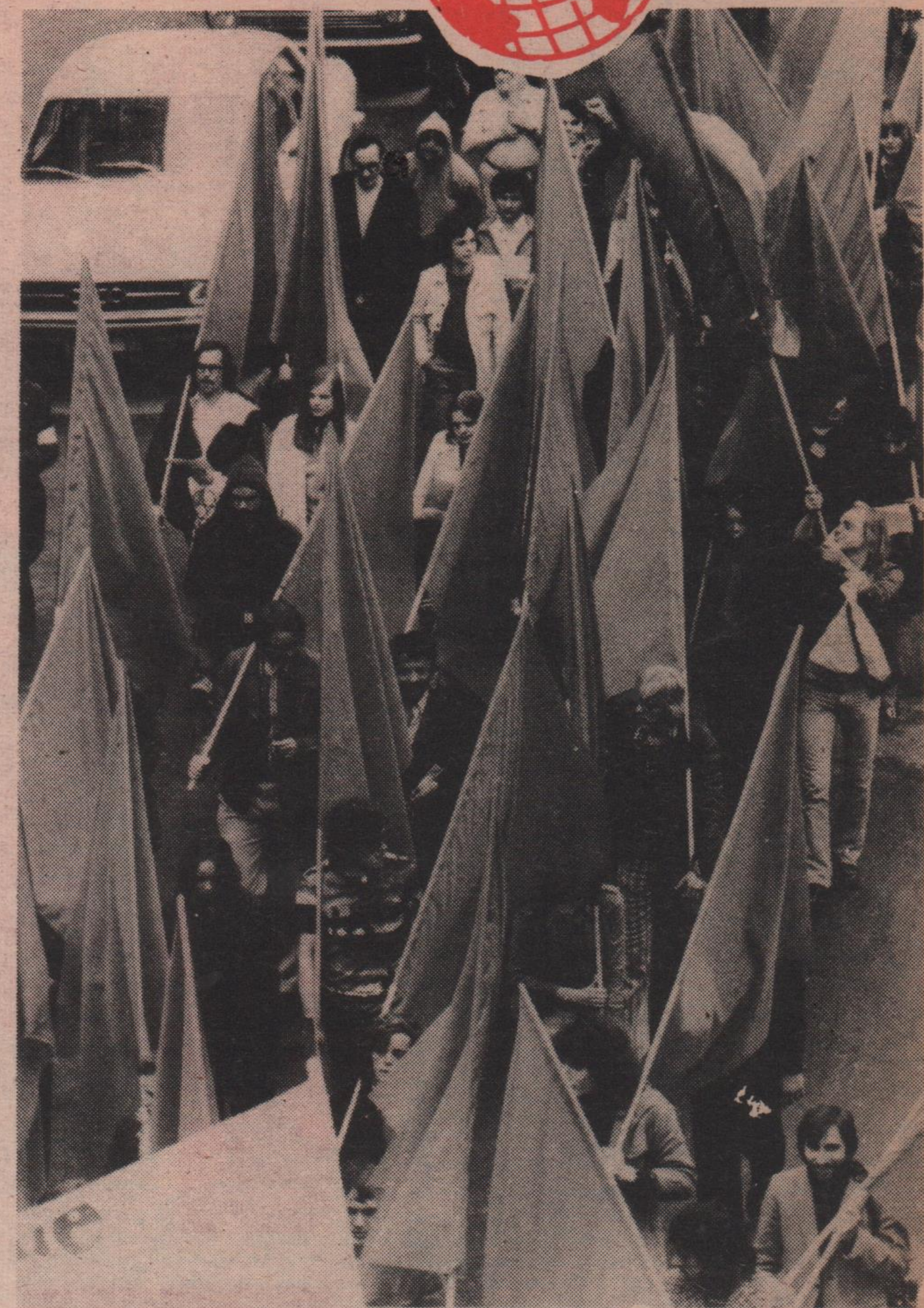
Bleak

The second issue of the Australian YS monthly paper 'Young Socialist' says: 'The future is bleak.

The quarter of a million school leavers face two alternatives. Either they find a low paid job or they join the dole queues.'

The paper announces the Right-to-Work campaign which the YS are organizing in October.

The Australian YS have now launched an \$8,000 fund, which will finance a contingent of youth from Australia, New Zealand, Sri Lanka and India to come to the International Conference of Revolutionary Youth, in London in November.



A recent German YS demonstration

AMERICAN YS FIGHT FOR RIGHT TO WORK



The dole queue in Detroit

THE world capitalist crisis is pushing millions of youth onto the dole queues.

The American Young Socialists are campaigning throughout the country against unemployment.

Keep Left here reprints interviews with unemployed youth from the American YS paper 'Young Socialist'.

Pam, from Minneapolis, said: 'I really didn't finish high school. I was on a grant to go to the Free School in Minneapolis. They told me I could go there until I graduated, but I never did. The funds were cut—I think by Ford—so I had to leave.'

'I joined the Young Socialists because I knew something had to be done. Unemployment splits up families. When you can't support your family then all sorts of problems come up.'

'My father supported our family all my life, then he couldn't get a job for a long time and now my mother is on welfare — really forced into it.'

'The government is trying to keep us from fighting back.'

Borrowed

'Big business has borrowed so much money, then they make us pay for what they've done. It's the

future youth that is at stake — we have to make a revolution.'

Robert, from Lafayette High School, Brooklyn, said:

'I feel that it's not the little man but the president and the Congress who are responsible for the unemployment.'

Go broke

'I don't understand how the city could go broke all of a sudden when it's the government which has all the money.'

'I think the sanitation workers were right to strike because of the layoffs. If they don't fight it, then the people who are left will have to work twice as hard.'

'I don't understand it. These layoffs mean cutting off people's lives. Without work, how can you survive? Everyone can't live on welfare.'

'The bosses, the mayors, the politicians, they don't have to worry. If they don't work, they can't lose a job.'



Robert

'I think the best thing that could happen is to get rid of this government. It seems that working people have to face up to this: that the people in office don't care about us. I agree with building a labour party.'

Stop working

'All the people everywhere should just stop working, but not just in New York City, because even if they could find a solution in New York City, what about the other cities?'

'If there is a general strike in New York City, though, that would spread to other cities because people would see how we're fighting here and want to do the same thing.'

DETROIT RIOTS

RIOTING broke out on the streets of Detroit last week.

It started with the shooting of an eighteen year old coloured youth by a bartender.

But this was just the spark.

Unemployment in the town, which is completely dominated by the car industry and has been known as 'Motor City', is now nearly 24 per cent.

All the car monopolies — Fords, Chryslers, General Motors etc — have sacked thousands of workers. And now the supplementary benefit they were receiving has run out.

Amongst the youth, and particularly black youth, the jobless rate is much higher.

On Thursday night about 300 people, mainly black youth, threw stones and bottles at policemen.

Over 80 people have been arrested so far.

Police showered the area with vast quantities of tear gas cannisters.

At the moment things are quiet, but they cannot remain so.

Huge confrontations between the working class and the police are inevitable.

The growth of the capitalist crisis can only throw more and more workers onto the streets with no money and no work.

The fighting capacity and militancy must not be diverted into rioting. The task is to unite American workers against the capitalist class and it's state who are the common enemy.

This is what the American Young Socialists are fighting to do.



The 'Young Roots' band at a recent USAYS dance

GERMAN YS SUMMER CAMP

THE German Young Socialists, the Sozialistischer Jugend Bund, are making important steps forward in building the revolutionary youth movement in Germany.

For the last two weeks they have run a summer camp in Westerwald in West Germany.

Over 140 Young Socialists followed courses on the fundamentals of Marxism, dialectical materialism and political economy.

There was intensive reading and discussion between the lectures and the bookstall did great business.

Superb weather

assisted a highly successful social programme of football, volley ball, hikes, swimming, talent shows and discos.

One evening was spent singing German revolutionary songs.

Many new members joined the SJB and pledged to fight for big meetings to commemorate the 30th anniversary of Trotsky's death.

The SJB is fighting for a large turnout for the International Conference of Revolutionary Youth in London in November.



THE YOUNG SOCIALISTS!

THE YOUTH MOVEMENT THAT LEADS THE FIGHT FOR SOCIALIST POLICIES.

NAME

ADDRESS

I AM INTERESTED IN (tick where applicable):

- DISCOS
- MEETINGS
- ATHLETICS
- CRICKET
- FOOTBALL
- SWIMMING
- NETBALL
- COACH TRIPS

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

POST BAG



POLICE HARASSMENT OF YOUTH—AGAIN

Letter of the week from Edmonton YS

MY FRIEND and I went down to the town one day on a shopping spree (although I didn't have much money, about £8.50) to try to find a denim jacket. (This was last year.)

There were police everywhere. Most of them were going into the amusement arcades coming back out again with about three kids.

There were a few policewomen on their own, one kept looking at me and eyeing me up and down and walking off to do her duty.

We went into a large boutique where they sold jewellery, clothes etc. We went inside to have a look at some denim jackets. My friend and I had both bought one.

The same policewoman that had kept looking at me was outside talking with a policeman. She saw us and walked over to us and started asking us all these questions, as if we had committed a crime by going into the shop.

One of the questions was: 'Do you come here everyday chatting up the men?'

Before we could say anything she continued: 'How much have you got on you?'

I said: 'What are we meant to have done?'

She said: 'I want to know what's in that bag.'

I wouldn't show her it unless she told me what she wanted with us.

She said she was taking us off down to the station (down in Vine Street off Regent Street).

When we got there she deliberately pushed us to sit down, asked us our names, where we came from, and what we were doing down here.

She took our bags and

told us to take off our jewellery etc. Then we had to undress to see if we were carrying any drugs etc.

The policewoman never told us why she picked us up. I kept asking her and she just went off to do her duties.

We were put into a cell. There was a button on the wall in case you wanted anything.

When I pressed it nothing happened so my friend and I started scribbling on the walls saying things about the coppers.

A woman opened the door and brought in some food, she said nothing and went out and locked the door.

About three hours later a sergeant came in and said that they were contacting our parents, to come and collect us.

We had done nothing — only come up to the west end to look around — and we ended up in a police cell.

In the station there was a young boy aged about 17. He was shouting in the cell (as my friend and I could hear): 'Leave me alone ... I ain't done nothing ... please don't hit me on the back.'

Finally our parents arrived to pick us up.

with a bad look on their face. When I claimed that I wanted my jacket the police wouldn't give it to me. They said we had stolen them.

I told them they could come with us to the store to prove whether we had stolen them or not, so we proved them wrong.

In the end, they still did not tell us what they had picked us up for. They only said that they had seen too many young girls get picked up by old men, who lead them into 'going on the game'.

My friend, our parents and myself all laughed our heads off and walked off without giving them a second look.

I've seen so many kids from where I live get picked up by the police for no reason whatsoever, black and white.

That's why I think that if the youth realize what is happening they should join the YS, and fight to build the mass revolutionary youth movement. We must finish the capitalist state, and not think twice about it.

So keep up the good work on 'Keep Left'.

Lynne and Lesley
Edmonton YS

Why we joined the Young Socialists

BEFORE I joined the YS, my capitalist education had led me to believe that no one, least of all me, could do anything about this crisis that Britain is in at the present.

Going to a concert I bought a paper. It lay in my house for a week until I got around to reading it, and I thought it was true what was said.

I did nothing until I met a member of the YS outside my school. She persuaded me to come to a meeting, and this opened my eyes to the situation in the crisis.

I saw the cause of it, capitalism, and the solution, socialism.

We can't put anything right before we understand it.

I am now an active

member of the Young Socialists and trying to bring others to understand the real situation.

Ralph,
Wandsworth YS

TODAY at Muswell Hill Youth Club we met two members of the Young Socialists. They told us what they were doing and we were very interested.

We found out that they were fighting for the working class. They wanted youth in England to grow up in to a decent society. This is the reason why we joined, and we hope to achieve what the YS are going to do.

Sharon and Coral
Arnos Grove YS



The crisis facing school-leavers

Socialists to smash capitalism.

Mick
Watford YS

Comrade Mick is right about the situation facing school leavers, but Keep Left does not agree with some of the solutions he suggests.

The 'O' and 'A' level system is used by the employers to cream off a layer of skilled and white collar workers, while the education of millions amounts to almost nothing.

But getting rid of the 'O' levels would not solve unemployment amongst young people. Mick says this himself.

The Young Socialists fight to defend the right to a job and the right to education in the only way possible through the smashing of capitalism and the construction of a socialist society.

IN WATFORD there are an enormous number of people unemployed. Kids leaving school are joining the dole queues, making the unemployment about double what it was last year.

What can we do about it? We could stop 'O' and 'A' levels so that youth who have not got them stand a better chance of getting a job, and also try to stop languages like French or German being compulsory for a job.

There are managers asking for employees but if they say you have to have 'A' levels and so on you just don't stand a chance.

People with 'A' levels also find it very hard to get jobs because the system is in crisis. Skilled and professional workers are on the dole too.

The only way to stop unemployment is by building up the revolutionary Young



Recruiting new members

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.

What's on where

WESTERN REGION YOUNG SOCIALISTS

SPORTS DAY

Sunday August 31
Horsepath Stadium,
Oxford

100M
200M
400M
800M
1,000M (boys only)
1,500M (boys only)
4 x 100M hurdles

4 x 100M relay
Long jump
High jump
Discus
Javelin
Shot-putt
Tug-o-war

DISCO

in the evening
Tickets 25p

NORTH-EAST REGION YS

Outing to
SEATON SLUICE BARBEQUE

on the beach

Sunday August 24

Coaches from Newcastle, Felling, Jarrow & Sunderland

Due to lack of space, we cannot advertise all our meetings, discos and sports activities. For more details, fill in the form on page 6.

FIVE-A-SIDE FOOTBALL TOURNAMENTS

SCOTTISH REGION YS

Sunday August 24

Bellahouston Park,
near Ibrox Stadium,
Glasgow
Starts 2.30 p.m.

DISCO

in the evening
Kingston Halls,
Paisley Road West.
Tickets 40p

YORKSHIRE REGION YS

Sunday August 24

Rawlinson Sports Centre,
Dyche Lane, Sheffield 8
Starts 2.30 p.m.

DISCO

in the evening

EASTERN REGION YS

Bank Holiday Monday

August 25

University Grounds,
Milton Road, Cambridge
Starts 2.30 p.m.

DISCO

in the evening

Tickets 30p

* * *

LIVERPOOL REGION YS

Saturday August 9

Speke Community Centre,
Speke

Starts 2 p.m.

RALLY & DISCO

in the evening

Tickets 25p

LONDON AREA YS

SWIMMING GALA

Saturday August 30

Seymour Baths,
Seymour Place, London W1
Starts 6.30 p.m.



Girls 50m Breaststroke
Boys 50m Backstroke
Girls 50m Backstroke
Boys 50m Butterfly
Girls 50m Butterfly
Boys Relay
Girls Relay

Boys 50m Freestyle
Boys 100m Freestyle
Boys 200m Freestyle
Girls 50m Freestyle
Girls 100m Freestyle
Boys 50m Breaststroke
Boys 100m Breaststroke

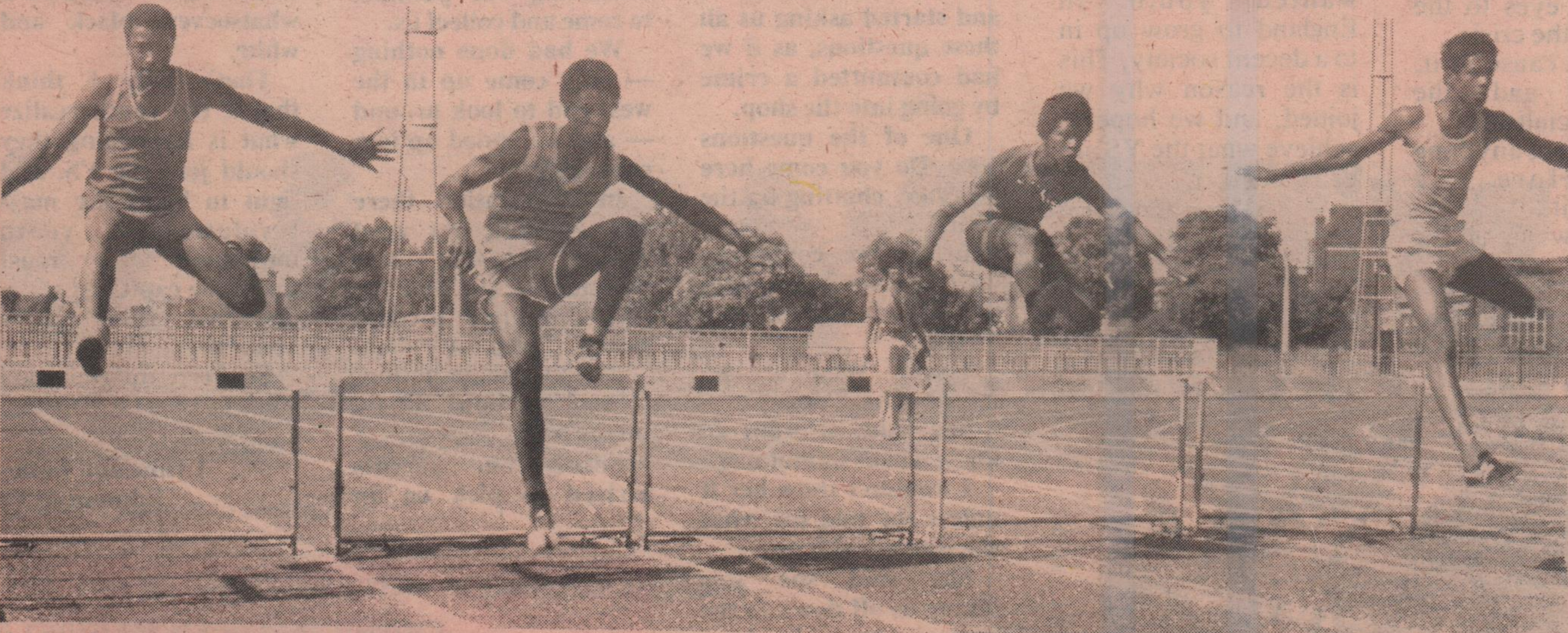
Diving

Tick the events you want to enter and post off (with your name and address) to YS, 186a Clapham High Street, London, SW4 7UG.

LONDON SPORTS DAY



The boys high jump



A tough competition in the hurdles



A section of the audience

THE FINAL RESULTS

BOYS 100M: 1st Michael Wilson, West London, 11.0 secs; 2nd Cuthbert Francis, North London, 12.0 secs; 3rd Petrie, North London, 12.2 secs.

GIRLS 100M: 1st Anne Smith, South London, 13.0 secs; 2nd Valerie Baker, East London, 14.0 secs; 3rd Debbie Tomlin, West London, 14.2 secs.

BOYS 200M: 1st Michael Wilson, West London, 25.0 secs; 2nd Hugh Brandford, South London, 26.2 secs; 3rd John Wilson, West London, 26.5 secs.

GIRLS 200M: 1st Anne Smith, South London, 28.9 secs; 2nd Myrtle Phillips, West London, 36.0 secs; 3rd Debbie Tomlin, West London, 44.0 secs.

BOYS 400M: 1st Patrick Charles, West London, 62.0 secs; 2nd David Prestcott, West London, 62.3 secs; 3rd Gerry Murray, West London, 63.5 secs.

GIRLS 400M: 1st Debbie Wrong, North London, 66.0 secs; 2nd Eula Alexander, West London, 74.8 secs; 3rd Catherine Bellot, East London, 96 secs.

BOYS 800M: 1st Joe Smart, West London, 2m 18.0 secs; 2nd Michael Hudson, South London, 2m 27.8 secs; 3rd Steve Jones, West London, 2m 28.5 secs.

BOYS 1500M: 1st Joe Smart, West London, 4m 56.0 secs; 2nd Jude Streeks, South London, 5m 0.5 secs; 3rd Gilbert Matthews, East London, 5m 7.0 secs.

BOYS 4x100M RELAY: 1st West London 'A' team, 49.0 secs; 2nd North London 'A' team, 50.0 secs; 3rd West London 'B' team, 51.0 secs.

GIRLS 4x100M RELAY: 1st North London, 56.8 secs; 2nd East London, 58.2 secs; 3rd South London, 59.2 secs.

BOYS 100M HURDLES: 1st Danny Neville, West London, 15.0 secs; 2nd Leo Lionel, West London, 15.2 secs; 3rd (dead heat) Ian Gerber, Southern-Kent, Devon Gale, North London, 16.0 secs.

GIRLS 100M HURDLES: 1st Anne Smith, South London, 16.2 secs; 2nd Elizabeth Simon, East London, 18.4 secs; 3rd Claudia Bellot, East London, 21.5 secs.

BOYS LONG JUMP: 1st Kenny, West London, 18'11"; 2nd Francis, North London, 18'3"; 3rd Josiah, North London, 18'1".

GIRLS LONG JUMP: 1st Anne Smith, South London, 17'7"; 2nd Yvonne, South London, 15'6"; 3rd June, North London, 13'4".

BOYS HIGH JUMP: 1st Devon Gale, North London, 5'8"; 2nd Kenny, West London, 5'5"; 3rd Ian Gerber, Southern-Kent, 5'2".

GIRLS HIGH JUMP: 1st Yvonne, South London, 4'3"; 2nd tied between Pauline, North London, Anne, North London, Elizabeth, East London, Paulette, East London, Debbie, West London, 4'0".

BOYS JAVELIN: 1st Augustin, West London, 130'0"; 2nd Desmond, West London, 127'3"; 3rd Hugh, South London, 119'5".

BOYS DISCUS: 1st Jerry, West London, 103'0"; 2nd Stanley, West London, 96'0"; 3rd Miller, South London, 85'0".

SIX hundred young people watched a magnificent West London team run and jump to victory in the London Young Socialists sports day last Sunday.

The competition was held in the burning-hot sun at East London stadium, Mile End. Teams from East London, North London, South London YS regions and a joint Southern-Kent side opposed West London in the competition. The teams were selected at a series of regional sports days held last month.

West London boys team dominated the track — Michael Wilson won both the 100m and 200m events, and West London took first, second and third places in the 400m race.

Anne Smith of South London stole the day in the girls events, however. She came first in the 100m, 200m, 100m hurdles and long jump — the best all-round performance of the day.

Joe Smart of West London won the mile race, just 4.05 seconds ahead of Jude Streeks of South London.

A good all-round performance, and a clear win in the girls relay, put North London in second place, just 20 points ahead of South. The final score was:

| | |
|---------------|-----|
| West London | 178 |
| North London | 110 |
| South London | 90 |
| East London | 55 |
| Southern-Kent | 17 |

The climax was the tug-o-war. The combined

BY A KEEP LEFT REPORTING TEAM

strength of West London, East London and Southern regions overcame North London, South London and Kent.

Teams of YS members went round the grandstand talking to the youth who were attending a YS event for the first time, recruiting, selling Keep Left and tickets for the Trotsky memorial meeting at Hammersmith Palais next week.

A rally afterwards was addressed by YS National Secretary Simon Pirani. 'Young people are now facing struggles on which our entire lives depend,' he said.

'The main danger is unemployment — it is now up to one million. It is not a question of the temporary loss of a few jobs. The international economic crisis has pushed unemployment up to 12 million in the United States, 1½ million in Italy, over a million in France and Germany.

We are preparing for the International Conference of Revolutionary Youth in November which will lead the fight for revolution in every country. This is the only way we can fight back.'

After discussion, a collection was raised for the Keep Left fund by Waveney Grant of North London YS.

A trophy was presented to the captains of victorious West London.

In the evening more local youth turned up to dance to the sounds of West London YS sound system 'Red Star'.



The girls relay change-over

WEST LONDON YS CABARET

WEST London and Herts YS held a glittering cabaret last Saturday.

The venue was the YMCA in Watford.

Famous West End Stars performed: Malcolm Tierney, Tom Kempinski, Maggie Nichols and 'Snatch' jazz band, and Peter Armitage.

BY MARGARET DYWER

Jokes, music and sketches followed thick and fast.

The audience thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

An auction was held which raised £6.50 for a guitar and £4 for a badminton set.

The federation secretary made an appeal on behalf of

the YS which raised £19.50.

The 'Oak' disco then provided the sounds for a very lively and packed dance floor.

At the end of the evening we cleared £86 towards the party building fund to train youth and workers to lead the struggles against unemployment and inflation being created by the capitalist system.

BURNLEY YS COACH OUTING

BURNLEY Young Socialists first-ever coach trip last Sunday was a big hit.

About 30 youth travelled to Blackpool where they tried out the excitements of the Pleasure Beach and Stanley Park.

Afterwards the boys organized games of football and cricket while the girls played rounders. Everyone enjoyed themselves and the branch is planning another trip soon.

Other events planned are a Jumble Sale this Saturday to raise funds and a football match on Sunday.

KEEP LEFT £200 MONTHLY FUND

COMRADES, so far we have received £19.07 towards our monthly fund.

We must push this figure up immediately. It is vital that we collect a large amount of money this weekend and do not leave the fund to the end of the month.

Keep Left is more important than ever in this political situation. It is only our movement that now calls boldly for the working class to force this Labour government to resign.

Through our paper we can win youth to the alternative revolutionary leadership.

Young people will respond to the political lead given in our paper. Help us to turn out and expand.

Post all donations straight away to:

Keep Left Fund
186a Clapham High St
London, SW4 7UG.

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
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Money enclosed