

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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DEFEND JOBS AND WAGES!

— SEE PAGE TWO



Steelworkers threatened with the sack marched through London last Monday demanding the right to work. The demonstration was simultaneous with a 15,000-strong march by teachers and students against the Wilson government's education cuts.

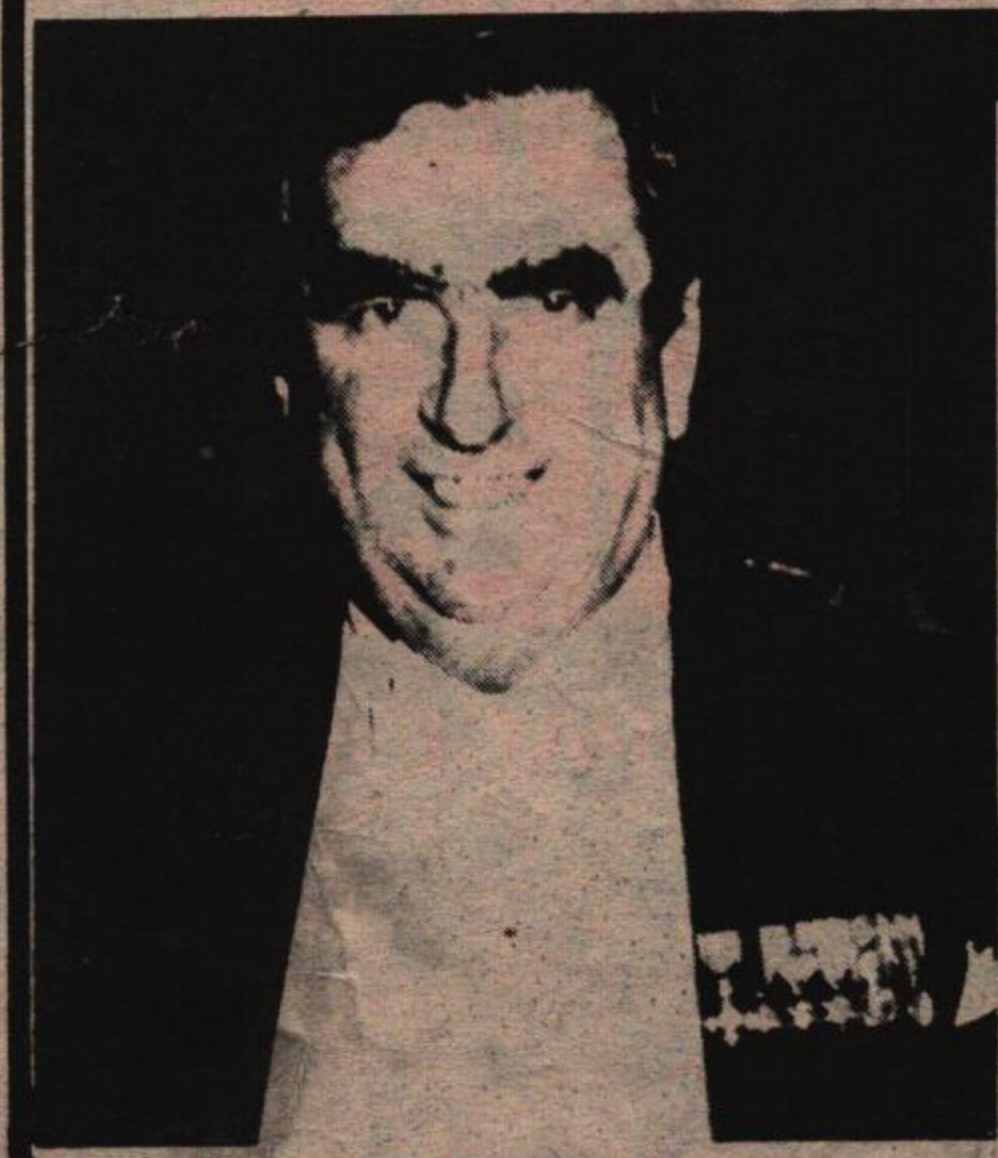
First World Conference of Revolutionary Youth!

SEYMOUR HALL, LONDON NOVEMBER 24-30, 1975

*Fight for the right to work and to a full education! Defend our democratic rights!
Down with Stalinism, reformism and revisionism! Forward to the world socialist revolution!
Build the International Youth Committee of the Fourth International!*

Fill in the form now on page 5

KEEP LEFT SAYS HEALEY AND THE INTERNATIONAL BANKERS



Tory arrogance:

'Nothing can prevent the coming winter from being a hard and painful one for millions who could never dream of enjoying the sort of hospitality you have given us tonight'

— Healey at the Lord Mayor's dinner

THE Labour government is helping the international bankers and capitalists to force the economic crisis down the throats of the working class.

The £6 pay laws have so far proved a magnificent success — from the millionaires' and capitalists' point of view. Since August 1st, prices have gone up 0.9 per cent and wages have gone up only 0.2 per cent.

If the gap between wages and prices continues to widen this way, workers will have taken a 10 per cent wage cut by the time a year is out.

The bankers, encouraged by this initial success, are determined to cut wages further.

The Governor of the Bank of England, Gordon Richardson, demanded last week that a limit of £1.80 be put on pay rises—less than a third of the present £6.

Speaking at the Lord Mayor's Dinner in London to bankers and merchants, Richardson also told the Labour government to get on with public spending cuts and drive up productivity.

Sitting beside him, feeling very much at home amongst the exploiters and moneylenders, was Labour Chancellor Denis Healey.

Any leading Tory would have been proud of his speech. 'Nothing can prevent the coming winter from being a hard and painful one for millions who could never dream of enjoying the sort of hospitality you have given us tonight,' he said.

He assured the tycoons that there are 'substantial cost increases in the pipeline; these are now working their way through to the shopping basket.'

The industrialists were told that unemployment 'will be the worst Britain has experienced since the war'.

He boasted that the Labour government had kept the union leaders like a dog on a lead. 'For the first time in our history a powerful and independent trade union movement has voluntarily agreed to keep settlements to well below what is needed to compensate for inflation over the previous twelve months.'

attempting to impose on them.

The Labour government was elected to power to fight for socialist policies and to defend the basic rights of the working class.

Expressed

The growing opposition to the right-wing Labour ministers was expressed in the splits and divisions at the Labour Party conference.

The Young Socialists say: **The Labour traitors must not be allowed to conspire with the Tories and bosses for one day longer. Speeches like the one made by Healey only encourage the ruling class to prepare a further offensive.**

● They must not be allowed to spread demoralisation and confusion in the Labour movement by their splitting tactics.

● The military conspiracies against the working class and its basic rights must be exposed. The raid on the Workers Revolutionary Party's education centre, the massive troop operations on Salisbury Plain, the suspected preparation of Identity Cards (Jenkins has so far denied this) — all these preparations are being made to use violence to force workers to submit to massive paycuts and unemployment.

For these reasons, the Labour government must be forced to resign. The strength of the labour and trade union movement must be mobilised to force them to a new General Election.

Youth must take the lead in fighting against the Labour betrayals and for socialist policies. The International Conference of Revolutionary Youth, taking place on November 24-30 in London, will be a historic step forward in this struggle not only in Britain but in every country.

The fight for that Conference, to bring a large number of delegates from every Young Socialists branch, is the fight to bring down the Labour government, the fight for socialist policies and for our future.

We call on every young worker, apprentice, unemployed or school youth who wants to take up the fight for socialism to decide to come to the conference and fill in the form on page 5 today.

We demand the right to work!

OVER 250,000 young people are unemployed in Britain.

This summer, 160,000 school-leavers went straight on the dole to join one million other workers.

Ten million American workers and a further five million in Europe are jobless. Youth unemployment in the EEC leapt from one million to one-and-a-half million in the last year.

Internationally, the slump is threatening the future of all youth. The capitalists are using unemployment to force the crisis down our throats.

The Young Socialists in every country are leading the

fight by preparing for the International Conference of Revolutionary Youth.

In Britain we are holding special 'Keep Left' rallies in every region. We call on all youth, unemployed, employed and at school to join the campaign for these rallies and the Conference.

YOUNG SOCIALISTS ★ KEEP LEFT REGIONAL RALLIES

*We demand the right to work!
Build the mass YS! Build 'Keep left'!*

YORKSHIRE REGION YS

Sunday November 9
Five-a-side football tournament 2 p.m.
Rally 5.30 p.m.
Knottingley Sports Centre, Knottingley

EAST LONDON REGION YS

Sunday November 9
Rally 6 p.m.
Disco 8 p.m.
Princess Alice
Romford Road, Plaistow

WEST LONDON REGION YS

Sunday October 26
Five-a-side football tournament 2 p.m.
Disco 7.30 p.m.
Wormwood Scrubbs
Scrubbs Lane W12

Rally 5.30 p.m.
Disco in the evening
Acklam Hall
Acklam Road, W12
(under flyover)

SCOTTISH REGIONS YS

Sunday November 9
Rally 5 p.m.

Disco in the evening
Partick Burgh Halls
Partick, Glasgow

NORTH EAST REGION YS

Sunday October 26
Rally 3 p.m.
Leam Lane Community Centre
Leam Estate, Newcastle

Disco 7 p.m.
St Peters Church Hall
Tickets 20p

EASTERN REGION YS

Sunday November 9
Five-a-side football tournament 2 p.m.
Rally 5.30 p.m.
Disco 7.30 p.m.
Howard Mallet Club
York Street, Cambridge
Tickets 40p

WALES REGION YS

Sunday November 9
Rally 4 p.m.
Disco 7.30 p.m.

Municipal Hall,
Pontypridd

'JOB SCHEME' CHEAP LABOUR

8p per hour

THE real face of the much vaunted jobs creation schemes for unemployed youth has been shown by the City Council in Exeter.

They are offering council jobs at the insulting rate of eight pence an hour!

The city council has adopted a scheme that sets a dangerous precedent — to employ 16 youth in its social security department as filing clerks. They are paying £1 to £2 for up to 27 hours a week.

First

The scheme in Exeter is the first of many to be set up all over the country.

Keep Left has always said that the new schemes are a means of employing youth as cheap labour and undermining the capacity of the trades union movement to fight for the right to work.

The overall plan for youth job schemes, now being implemented by Labour, was the brainchild of the Heath Tory government during the three day week.

The Manpower Services Commission was asked to draw up contingency plans for unemployment 'rising higher than at any time since the war.'

Allocation

These plans have been adopted in the Labour government's allocation of £30m for community projects for youth, university graduates and over 50's.

The Young Socialists completely reject this attempt to employ young people at degrading, demoralising wages reminiscent of the last century.

We demand a job, at a decent wage, for every worker and school-leaver — this is a basic right.

KEEP LEFT £200 MONTHLY FUND

As we go to print we have received £105.15 towards our monthly fund. In the next six days we have nearly half the fund to raise.

We are determined to do it. The Keep Left is vital for the campaign for the International Revolutionary Youth Conference.

Every week we can

report the progress of the campaign in the different countries and follow the developments in the class struggle.

To all the readers of Keep Left, now is the time to give generously to your paper. Post all donations immediately to **KEEP LEFT FUND, 186a Clapham High Street, London, SW4 7UG.**

SUBSCRIBE TO KEEP LEFT!



SEND OFF NOW!

To: Keep Left subs, 186a Clapham High Street, London, SW4 7UG.

I wish to subscribe to Keep Left for months.

Please send me one copy copies to sell.

Postal subscription rates: £1 for three months, £2 for six months, £4 for a year.

NAME

ADDRESS

Money enclosed

Proved innocent after three years inside

FREE!



Left to right: Ronnie Leighton, Colin Lattimore, Ahmet Salih



Reunion (left to right): Mr George Lattimore, Ahmet Salih and his mother, Mrs Ellen Lattimore and Colin, Ronnie Leighton and his mother

'WE'VE made it, son, haven't we?' cried a tearful Mrs Ellen Lattimore as she hugged her son Colin after his release. 'It's been worth it.'

'I am over the moon. I have fought hard to prove my boy's innocence,' she added.

Mr Lattimore said, 'These last few years have been difficult. We have spent quite a lot of money on this campaign but it has been worth it.'

'We have had to go without things — a holiday for instance and we have not had a decent Christmas since my son was convicted. But this year things will be different. This Christmas will be lovely.'

Colin, just released

from Rampton Hospital said:

'I'm excited at being free again. Being inside was so different — it was the boredom and I was bitter about being put inside for something I didn't do.'

Ronnie Leighton said he also felt bitter 'getting done for something you didn't do'. He added he wasn't 'too friendly with the police' but said, 'It's too late to be bitter. I just want to forget it all now.'

Ahmet Salih, now an assembly worker since he was released at the beginning of August, was sitting at the back of the court during the hearing.

Asked what advice he had for other young

people who face questioning by the police for alleged crimes, Ahmet said:

'Never answer a copper without your parents or a lawyer or someone you know there. We didn't realise how serious it was at the time. We were too young to know.'

'During the trial I never believed we would be found guilty. On the last day of the case I bought a return ticket home because I thought we would be free.'

'The way the police got the statements out of us was by conning us really. They said things to us and when it came to making the statements they told us if we didn't say the things they said to us then we'd get done.'

TWO innocent boys were released last week after being locked up for three years for a crime they never committed.

Colin Lattimore, now 21 and Ronnie Leighton, now 19, were cleared by the Court of Appeal last Friday of the killing of Maxwell Confait in Catford in April 1972.

The conviction of Ahmet Salih, now 17, on parole for arson was also quashed by the Appeal Court.

Immediately the verdicts were announced, Christopher Price, Labour MP for Lewisham West who campaigned consistently to clear the boys issued a statement announcing his intention to call on Home Secretary Roy Jenkins to order a full investigation into the case.

Inescapably

He said evidence to the court emphasised 'the substantial number of police officers from quite separate police stations who had been involved in taking statements and presenting the evidence to the court, on the basis of which these youths were originally found guilty.'

'Therefore, it inescapably follows from the court's verdict that a substantial number of Metropolitan Police officers must have been involved together in presenting statements to the Court which fell short of the truth.'

Both Lattimore, who was convicted of manslaughter and arson and Leighton convicted of murder and arson were sentenced in November 1972 and ordered to be detained 'without limit of time'.

Ahmet Salih, who was then 14, was convicted of

arson and sentenced to four years' detention.

The only bases for these 'convictions' were statements obtained from the boys at Ladywell Police station in Lewisham.

Quashing the convictions last Friday, Lord Justice Scarman said:

'The admissions, in whatever circumstances they came to be made, must be unreliable and the convictions accordingly must be unsafe and unsatisfactory.'

The confessions could not be true, he added, because of the fresh medical evidence.

Lattimore and Leighton had had long periods of incarceration for offences they did not commit, he said.

During the three long years in which their son was locked up, Mrs Ellen Lattimore and her husband, Fred, a 60-year-old postal worker have campaigned day in and day out for the release of their son and the other boys.

Keep Left, along with the 'Workers Press' was practically alone in fighting for the case to be re-opened.

After her son's release, Mrs Lattimore spoke bitterly of the way the case had been handled by the police.

She said it 'was shocking the way the police handled the matter. We shall see if we can get something to compensate my boy for the three and a half years he has done.'

'He should never have been locked up. I knew all along he was innocent.'

Thanked

And she thanked 'Workers Press' and Keep Left reporters for their campaign. 'The articles were a great help,' she said. 'Everyone else tended to play it down — there was nothing in the papers.'

Both Mrs Lattimore and her husband had earlier signed the petition condemning the raid on the Workers Revolutionary Party education centre.

Mrs Leighton also thanked Keep Left and 'Workers Press'. 'Reading the articles made all the difference. There's got to be a lot wrong if things like this can happen. They were only kids at the time.'

Keep Left was the first paper to publicize the Lattimore - Leighton - Salih case. This article in August 1974 demanded an inquiry into it



Special Patrol Group moves into South East London

THE police 'commando squad', the Special Patrol Group, are moving into south east London.

The 'heavies' of the SPG have been brought in on the pretext of the new crime figures for the area.

Police chief commander

Douglas Randall says that Lewisham police have called on the SPG to combat muggings which have more than doubled this year.

Randall said that muggers were 'a small hard core group of lazy vicious little criminals'.

And he attacked local community relations workers who have pointed to the terrible housing and

social conditions in the area coupled with the great increase in youth unemployment as the cause of the increase in mugging.

Randall said that most of the muggings were carried out by coloured youths.

If this is true it is only because conditions for the black youth in these areas are even worse than those for other working class

youth. In any case talk of mugging is only a flimsy cover for the introduction of SPG riot squads into the major working class areas in preparation for the rent strikes, factory occupations, demonstrations that must now take place as the twin effects of roaring inflation and unemployment turn the huge estates into ghettos.

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

FIRST WORLD CONFERENCE REVOLUTIONARY YOUTH

In every part of the world the Young Socialists branches are fighting for a mass attendance at the International Conference of Revolutionary Youth.

This assembly, the first world congress of revolutionary youth, has enormous significance not only for Young Socialists sections but for the whole of the youth all over the globe.

Since the victory of the workers and peasants in Vietnam revolutionary struggles are not merely the inevitable result of slump they are the immediate question in every continent.

New York, the economic centre of the greatest imperialist country on earth, is convulsed in struggles involving the whole future of millions of workers in conditions where the taking of power by the working class is the only way forward.

In founding the Fourth International to make possible the victory of the working class, to resolve the crisis of leadership Trotsky stressed the need for a new generation of young leaders to carry on this fight.

Take up this challenge, come to this conference. Fight for the biggest possible delegation from your Young Socialists branch.

The youth are the future but we must fight for our future.



WHY WE ARE GOING

ANDY BOYD, Glasgow South YS: I am going to the International Youth Conference because I think that it is necessary to unite all the working-class youth in the world.

The conference is important because all the youth from America, Australia, and many other countries and we, the youth of Britain, will be putting up a big fight to bring hundreds to it. That way we will jointly learn from the struggles of all the youth throughout the world.

The capitalists think that they can bring down a movement like ours, but



here in Britain we are getting big support from the miners and other workers in the fight for democratic rights, which is being led by the WRP.

We the youth have to show the way forward to world revolution. Working-class youth, students, school youth and unemployed youth unite!

New York City bankruptcy

NEW YORK CITY is on the brink of financial ruin. Money taken from workers pension funds by the treacherous union leaders, is all that stands between New York and the knackers yard.

Last week, the teachers union agreed to cover \$150m of New York's debts last Friday night. The decision was forced through at the bidding of Mayor Abraham Beame and with the total opposition of rank-and-file union representatives.

No money

As we go to Press, there is no money to cover New York City's debts this week.

A banking collapse worse than the 1931 Kredit Anstalt failure, which led to a chain

reaction of bank failures round the world and then the great depression, is now imminent.

'You'll either have to send in Federal money or Federal troops,' said New York State Governor Hugh Carey, warning of the social conflict that would result from the city's bankruptcy.

'New York City is facing an economic Pearl Harbour,' he added.

The American ruling class is completely split over what to do about the city.

The first cracks in the hardline approach of the administration appeared when Vice-President Rockefeller for the first time admitted the possibility of Federal aid being used to stop a financial disaster.

But Rockefeller has also said that 'for the Federal government to rescue New York would be the end of solvency of the United States.'

President Ford on the other hand has re-stated the hard line position of No aid — carry out the redundancies — sit it out.

BY JULIAN LEACH

The banks themselves, as creditors and as potential loan sources for bailing out New York, are being sucked in to the abyss.

The bankruptcy of the W. T. Grant chain store has left \$640m in unpaid debts to 27 major banks.

The Grant collapse is also having a domino effect in the retail trade, among their suppliers.

And on top of this the same banks have major debts due from the big airlines which face massive losses or even bankruptcy.

Debts

At least 75 American banks hold debts in New York equivalent to half their net worth. Of these some 30 to 35 would be in serious danger of collapse if the City defaults.

The capitalists must drive back wages, use mass unemployment to smash the unions, whip up racial

frenzy to divide the working class and prepare new provocations. This way they will try to justify repression and dictatorship as a way out of the problem.

This is creating the conditions for revolutionary struggles.

The deep split in the ruling class over how and when to implement these policies is coupled with unprecedented militancy among American workers in opposition to their cowardly reformist leaders. This situation poses the building of the new revolutionary leadership.

The American Young Socialists have started a campaign on the following demands:

- Every worker must go into action!
- Fight for an immediate general strike!
- Demand the restoration of all jobs, wages, and services!
- Force the Beame administration to resign!
- Convene an emergency congress of the entire labour movement!
- Break with the two capitalist parties and launch

an independent labour party to defeat Ford and Rockefeller!

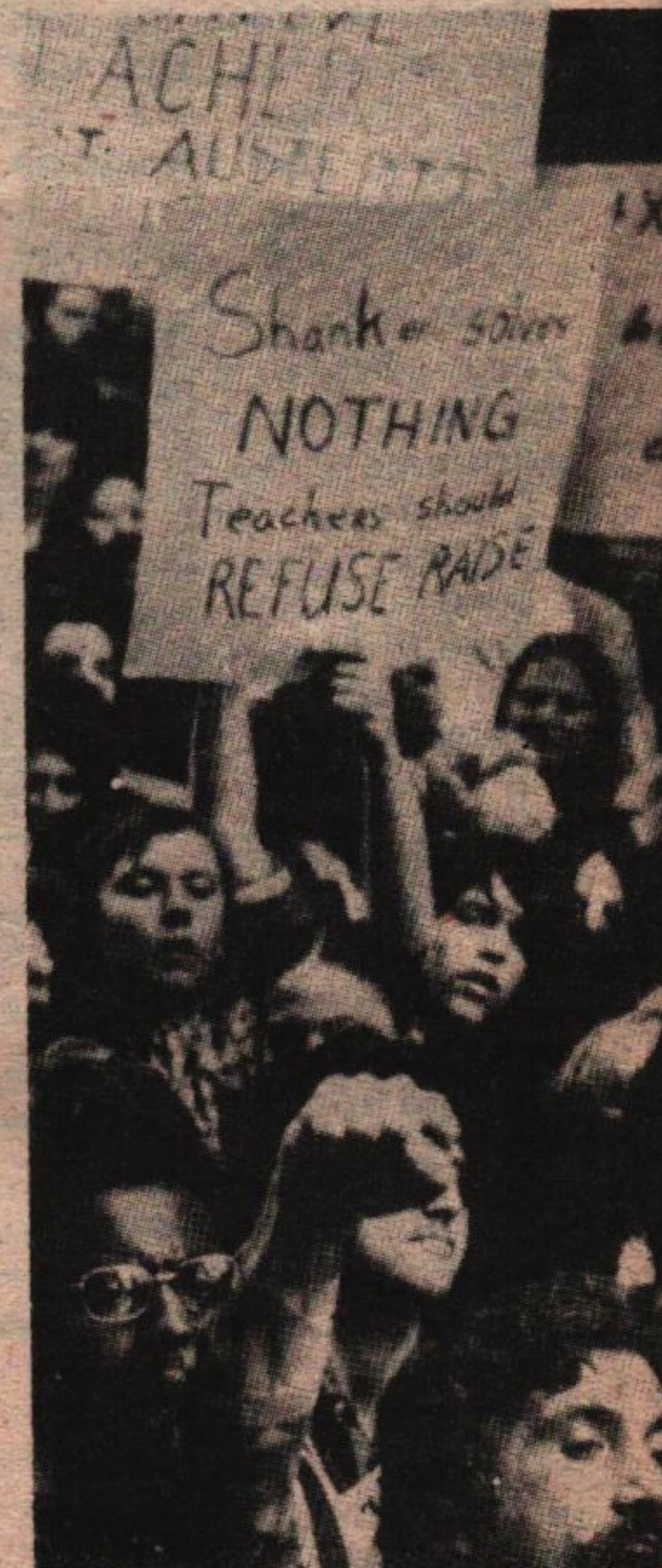
● Bring in a workers government pledged to full employment, defence of the unions, billions for the social services, and the nationalisation of basic industry and finance under workers' control!

Historical

This struggle not only meets the historical requirements of the situation but also matches the immediate needs of the working class.

The American Young Socialists will use this campaign for the most widespread recruitment to the revolutionary movement.

They are campaigning — in New York and throughout the United States, Canada and parts of Latin America — to bring a plane-load of young people to the International Conference of Revolutionary Youth.



Demonstrators outside New York

WORLD OF REVOLUTIONARY YOUTH

World wide preparations for conference

THE German Socialist League of Youth (SJB) has taken a giant step forward with the publication of their monthly paper, 'Links Voran', for the first time.

The first issue of the new paper — which has

GERMANY

eight pages and is printed in violet, red, yellow and black — came out on October 10th.

The publication of the paper comes during the SJB's campaign to bring a plane-load of young people to the International Conference of

Revolutionary Youth in London, November 24-30. Its front-page headline reads: 'Build the International Revolutionary Youth Movement.'

The name 'Links Voran' means 'Forward with the Left' or 'Left, Go Forward'.

The paper has an article on the severe budget cuts that have been imposed by Germany's Social-Democratic government. Education spending has been slashed. Thousands of unemployed school leavers are getting no benefits at all.

History

An article on the history of the SJB is included, as well as items on the 'Revolutionary Pop Concerts' which the SJB are now organising in different towns, and the International Photo Competition which will be judged at the International Conference of Revolutionary Youth.

The 'Hands of the WRP' campaign is featured on the foreign news page.

In preparation for the International Conference, the SJB have also produced a pamphlet entitled 'Leon Trotsky Speaks' which contains articles by Trotsky, addressed to youth, about his experiences in the revolutionary movement.

Now the SJB are fighting for a maximum turn-out at the International Conference.

THE founding conference of the Greek Young Socialists, youth section of the Workers Internationalist League, was held last weekend at the basketball stadium in Milan.

Over 400 young workers and students who attended the conference were addressed by Takis Nikolaidis, secretary of the newly-formed central committee of the YS.

Giving the main report to the conference, he said: 'This founding conference is an historical step forward for the Greek and international working class.'

'We live in the epoch of deepest crisis of world capitalism that gives us enormous possibilities to build the mass youth movement and revolutionary party, that will lead the working class and smash the capitalist system once and for all.'

Scores of youth spoke at the conference about problems at high schools, universities and factories.

Peasant youth delegates addressed the conference and pledged to fight to build the YS, 'to forge the revolutionary coalition of the working class and the peasants'.

Delegates from the army spoke about miserable conditions in the bourgeois army and oppression by fascist officers.

Greetings were given by Palestinian militants.

Fraternal greetings were brought to the conference by a representative of the International Youth Committee of the Fourth International. The delegate

GREECE

called on the Greek YS, to send a strong delegation to the International Conference of Revolutionary Youth in London, November 24-30.

Lefteris Sklavos, general secretary of the Workers Internationalist League, which is the Greek section of the International Committee of the Fourth International, brought greetings to the conference from the League's Central Committee.

Reality

'If we fight to build the youth movement, being aware of this reality, we will form such a strong movement that nothing can stop it from bringing the working class to power.'

The conference included political films on the Athens Polytechnic uprising in 1973 and the film 'Looking for Freedom' of the British YS.

Famous musicians and entertainers participated in an evening of celebration and there was a magnificent collection of £140 towards financing the YS.



German SJB members on a recent march

ING TO THE CONFERENCE

John Altkenhead, New Cross YS: Why an international conference?

The ruling class say that it is their right to make millions of workers go hungry because they are not making a profit.

For them to make a profit they must, by means of their state, smash the working class. But we know that the working class has to—and will—fight back.

For this to be a successful fight we need leadership that will go the whole way—the leadership in the Fourth International.

Claire, of Croydon YS: I will be attending this conference because I think that it is vital that youth come together.

We must start to insure a firm ground for our fight. This conference will show the strength of our movement and give us a chance to hear from our comrades about the situation in their countries.

It must be an international revolution because the capitalist class know that while we

are divided we are weaker. The more powerful we make this conference the more successful the revolution.

Think how important the comrades from the rest of the world must consider this conference as they are spending so much money and in some cases risking their necks to come.

As many youth as possible must realise the importance of this conference and make the effort and come.

INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS

At the conference the finals of several international competitions will be held.

On Wednesday the British Young Socialists will be entering a pair of dancers in

the international revue. Heats will be taking place at local YS discos.

There will be an exhibition of photographs taken by YS members in their different

countries and they will be judged at the end of the week.

There will also be a football tournament throughout the week leading up to the finals on Saturday, November 29.

BOOK NOW!

International Youth Committee of the Fourth International

First World Conference of Revolutionary Youth

NOVEMBER 24 - 30, 1975

Monday November 24

10 am: CONFERENCE at Seymour Hall, Seymour Place, W1.

5 pm: Conference ends.

7.30 pm: SOCIAL EVENT at Seymour Hall.

Tuesday November 25

10 am: CONFERENCE at Seymour Hall.

5 pm: Conference ends.

7.30 pm: DISCO at Acton Town Hall, Acton High Street, W3.



Wednesday November 26

Free Day to VISIT LONDON.

7.30 pm: INTERNATIONAL REVUE at Seymour Hall.

Thursday November 27

10 am: CONFERENCE at Seymour Hall.

Evening: FILMS will be shown.

Friday November 28

10 am: CONFERENCE at Seymour Hall.

5 pm: Conference ends.

7.30 pm: CONCERT with top-line bands at the Porchester Hall, Porchester Road, W3.

Saturday November 29

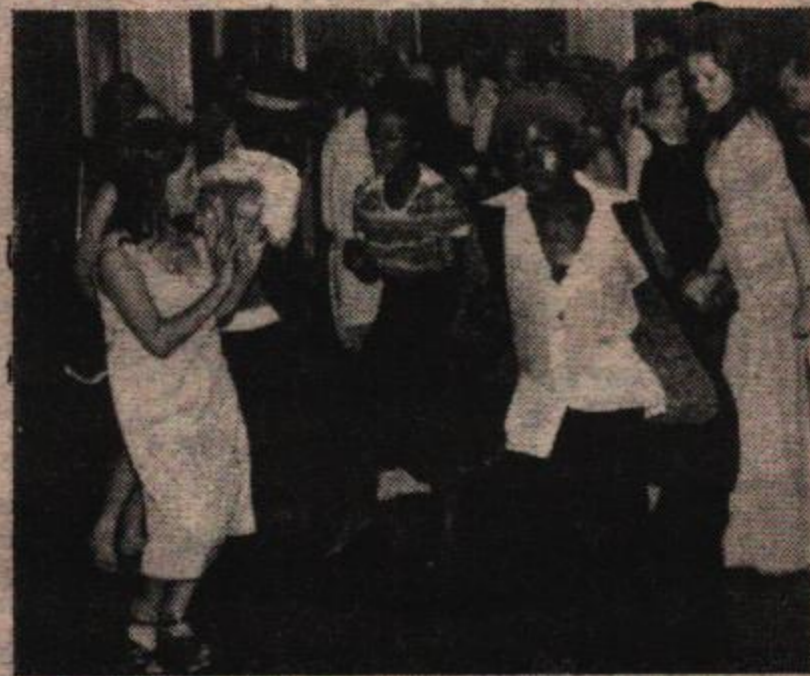
Free day: During the day, the finals of the INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALL COMPETITION will be held.

Evening: SOCIAL EVENT.

Sunday November 30

2 pm: INTERNATIONAL RALLY at the Hammersmith Palais, Hammersmith.

7.30 pm: POP CONCERT at the Palais.



Complete this form and send to: International Conference of Revolutionary Youth, Bookings, 186a Clapham High Street, London SW4 7UG.

I would like to come to the International Conference of Revolutionary Youth/join the Young Socialists

Name

Address

Phone

Deposit enclosed £ :

(Total cost, including events, accommodation, food: £10.00. Travel will be arranged from all areas.)

I am interested in entering (tick if applicable):

International Talent Show (Dancing)

International Football Competition

International Photographic Competition.

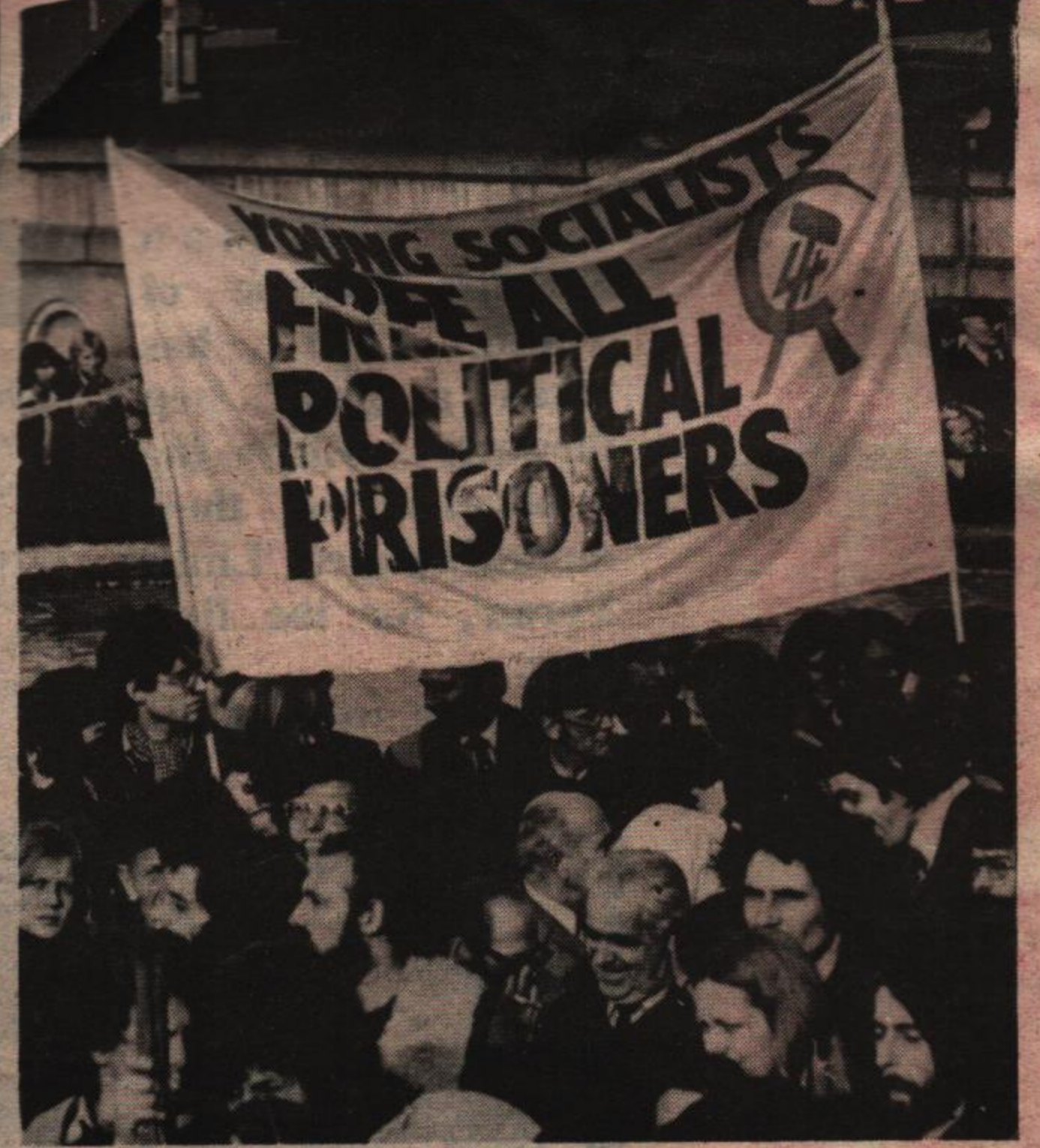


City Hall

**YOUNG
SOCIALISTS
JOIN
MARCH
AGAINST
FRANCO**



The head of last Saturday's march through London



The Young Socialists banner

**KEEP LEFT ANSWERS
THE 'DAILY MIRROR'**

**POLICE
POWERS:**

what young people really think

LAST week Keep Left paid a visit to the Selhurst High School to interview pupils about Croydon Council's decision to start serving up fake meat in the school meals in order to save £15,000.

But immediately it became obvious that what these youth really wanted to talk about was the articles in the Tory Press about more powers for the police and the threatened closedown of youth clubs in the Surrey area.

Sharon McCartney said, 'The real thing is they can't afford to buy proper meat.'

She said that the reasons behind it were linked with the cash shortage that the council is suffering and which is affecting the whole economy.



Sharon (left) and Janet

On the question of closing youth clubs she said:

'They can't close the youth clubs down. There'll be nowhere to go for us then. There will be trouble on the streets and more trouble with the police.'

As soon as our reporter mentioned the article in the 'Daily Mirror' which said that youth in Britain wanted the police to have more powers she said that she was completely against it.

'A friend of mine swore at a

'BRING back hanging, say the teenies' said the 'Daily Mirror' last Tuesday.

'Death to the murderers and bombers! This was the call from Britain's youngsters yesterday.'

The 'Mirror' is actually talking about a survey carried out among 100 youth in Waltham Forest, north London.

These youth, aged between 14 and 20, were interviewed by the local youth council.

How did the youth council find a group of youth that wanted:

- soccer hooligans locked up in stocks
- the return of the birch and deportation for certain crimes
- a curb on the powers of social workers and probation officers
- hanging for bombers and murderers?

There are several thousand youth in Waltham Forest (at least). How were a hundred found that wanted these powers for the police? Were they picked? Did they volunteer? What form did the questions take?

The 'Mirror' does not give us the answer to any of these

BY JULIAN LEACH

questions — yet it wants to assert that these are the views of 'Britain's youngsters'.

We don't believe a word of it.

In the last two weeks thousands of youth in all parts of the country have signed the petition condemning the police raid on the Workers Revolutionary Party premises.

Students unions, trades union branches and committees of young workers such as the Post

Office Youth Committee have supported this campaign.

The youth who have signed this petition so far, and the thousands that will sign in the next few months represent the true voice of working class youth in Britain.

The text of the petition they have signed is printed in the Keep Left every week

We can say right now where these youth have signed these petitions — on the high streets, in the youth clubs at their colleges or places of work.

inside the van.'

Said Janet, 'That's what they used to do at our local police station. A friend of mine left there a few years ago because of it.'

'She was working there as a typist and they would give blokes in there for a night a beating.'

'That was a long time ago now but I don't think that the police have got any better.'

'The police are racials too. When the stabbings took place in Streatham not so long ago the police tried to pin it on a gang of coloured youth who had been attacked by the people that were really doing it.'

Cages

'The police want to make youth frightened to do anything, too frightened even to complain.'

'That's why they want these animal cages and that for football hooligans.'

Sharon said, 'They say that the police are there to protect the public but it's not true, they protect who they want to protect.'

The same question was raised with the next group of youth that Keep Left talked to. Gary told us that the police were there to protect the public but Steve said:

'The police aren't there to protect the public at all — we're part of the public — they don't protect us. They are there to protect the people with the money.'

John Drummey said, 'The police just pick on you. They can do it for all sorts of things, e.g. loitering. They say you intended doing things

that you never even thought of.'

'They say things like, "If you were a few years older I would knock you stupid".'

Mike said, 'Once you're in

the courts you've had it. They always believe the police if it's your word against theirs.'

None of these youth thought that the police should have any extra powers!



Youth at Selhurst High School... a clear point of view on the police

THIS WEEKEND!

Saturday 25th October

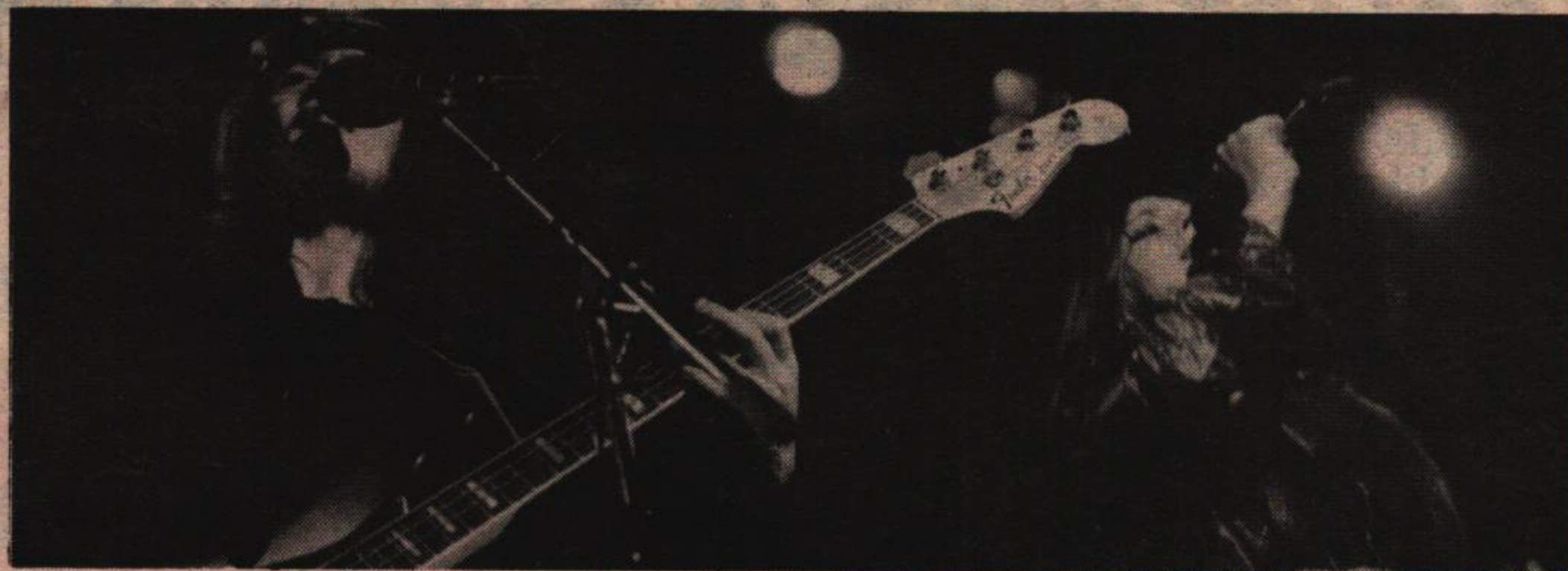
WORKERS PRESS

CABARET

STARCROSS SCHOOL
RISINGHILL STREET N1
Doors open 12 noon

We are celebrating the sixth anniversary of our daily paper, 'Workers Press', with a fair this Saturday in celebration

Crisis facing small bands



THE music scene today, like the capitalist state, has reached its final crisis.

What with taxes being imposed on electrical goods left, right and centre, van hire fees going up, insurance premiums going up etc. etc., it is not surprising that the number of bands and the rate of bookings is going DOWN.

Bands cannot get work, and small bands are finding the going so tough that a lot of them lose heart before they even hit the road — as my own experiences prove.

I can remember when a friend and myself virtually worked ourselves to the ground trying to get a band started — only to find that we couldn't get anywhere to play except small dances of 30-40 people.

To really understand what is happening we must look towards the economic state of the country and how it is affecting the music industry.

Tax exiles

As we know, tax exiles are a common thing these days. Everyone will also agree that the prices of entertainments are rising

fast. So fast that you never know from one week to the other how much it is going to cost to get in your local dance hall.

But where do these price increases come from?

up? It is to pay for higher charges, van hire, road taxes, insurance policies and so on.

Who really is to blame? Who else can it be but the government. THEY impose

case of being able to play an instrument and look good doing it is walking around with a head full of illusions.

You have to be your own manager, accountant and you have to find your own

Don't get me wrong — there are good times as well. But the good times only come as a result of a long hard fight for recognition — a fight against people with no feelings, no scruples or principles.

PAUL ELLIS of Swansea YS explains the crisis on the rock music scene . . .

Exploitation has a lot to do with this: bands are being exploited and so are the public.

We are always given the story that bands are to blame for price increases. But why are bands putting their fees

taxes, THEY have brought this crisis about.

The financial problems facing some bands are enough to give you ulcers! There are some bands working seven days a week to pay for equipment they bought on hire purchase two years ago.

bookings. If you can't do that then you are going to get taken for a ride — with big disappointments at the end.

I have known bands to be thrown from one end of the country to the other on tour, and then only get half the money they should have — all because they made a verbal contract instead of a written one.

There is always someone who comes out with the 'I'm only trying to give the boys a break' line. What you must remember is that everyone is in the business for money and they are not fussy how they get it.

There is no room for trust in the music game. A lot of people go into this business with a headful of ideas and a pocketful of nothing.

Increases

While these taxes and increases are being imposed how can bands possibly win this fight?

The only way we can achieve anything is to expose these people and their system. We should expose the Labour government for what they really are — the puppets of the ruling class, tools of the capitalist system — they carry out the increases and restrictions under the orders of the ruling class and the capitalists.

● What are your views on the music industry? Send any comments or letters to Keep Left, 186a Clapham High Street, London, SW4 7UG



Split up

Only recently, that long standing band Global Village Trucking Co, who were very popular on the London pub and college circuit, had to split up because of financial problems. This is only one example — there are countless other bands facing the same problems.

Anyone who thinks playing in a band is just a

POST BAG



Building the YS—from two Runcorn members

RUNCORN YS hold a disco every Saturday.

At the moment we get one hundred to the disco.

We plan to recruit a lot of youth and get them to join the YS.

In Runcorn there are

no facilities available for youth, except one youth club between nine estates, so the youth are forced to hang around the streets where they get harassed by the police.

There are about 1,000

youth on the dole in Runcorn and factories are closing down all the time. We feel that to make the youth realize what they are up against they must read 'Keep Left' and join the YS.

We appeal to all

youth in Runcorn and all over the country to help fight to unite the young workers in our society, to build a mass Young Socialists movement.

Dawn and Jean Runcorn YS

Leadership is decisive

There are four unemployed school leavers chasing every job at my local employment exchange.

This is the exact reverse of last years situation when there were four jobs for every leaver.

The new statistics are no longer amazing. Things that would have hit the headlines twelve months ago are now commonplace.

In every town and city unemployment is rapidly rising.

Factories are closing down and others have a policy on non-recruitment.

At the same time inflation is hitting the roof, everything is costing more and more.

Working class families are finding it tougher and tougher to make ends meet.

These are the indications of the crisis of the capitalist system

which is decaying throughout the world.

The British ruling class are trying to prop up capitalism.

This is a fight to the finish in which every member of the working class is involved.

In this fight leadership is the decisive question.

That's why the Young Socialists are building a new leadership among the youth and trades unionists.

Our problems of no money, no jobs, no leisure are the problems of the whole working class.

The ruling class has to destroy the living standards of the working class. It has to make the working class pay for this crisis.

But there can be no peaceful destruction of our living standards.

Civil war is on the agenda in this country.

Capitalism is doomed but it won't go quietly.



Four youth chasing every job

The situation can only be resolved by the taking of power by the working class and the establishment of socialism, not just in this country but as part of the world socialist revolution.

As the speed of events becomes quicker and quicker we will become lost without revolutionary theory — as Lenin said there can be no revolutionary practice without revolutionary theory.

So the YS calls on all its members to study Marxism and put it into practise in the fight for the biggest possible attendance at the International Conference of Revolutionary Youth in November.

Forward to the International Revolutionary Youth Conference! Forward to the world socialist revolution!

Margaret Dwyer Wembley YS

OUR CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE RAID

Letter of the week from West

I am writing this letter to Keep Left because I think that the urgent task of building the mass youth movement is the most important task facing the Young Socialists.

We can now see the beginnings of mass unemployment, the attacks of the police, the introduction of the SPGs etc.

In the last couple of weeks we have seen the

London YS

attack of the police on our education centre in Derbyshire.

The police came in to raid. They held our comrades under what amounted to house arrest.

This is the preparation for what is to come.

The raid was carried out under the firearms

regulations but we say this was only the excuse for a raid on a working class, political organisation.

We have stated time and time again in the Workers Press, the Keep Left and at our Public Meetings that we are against individual terrorism on principle.

We have said that any member of our party with a firearm would be immediately expelled.

Since the raid we have started a petition which we will take to every trades union and Labour Party branch calling for the defence of basic democratic rights and a full inquiry by the trades union movement.

Our YS branch has taken the decision that we will turn out to all youth in the colleges, on the high street, in the youth clubs and on the estates in this campaign as part of the fight for the international conference of revolutionary youth in November.

Wood Green YS members.

West London YS member.

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.

POLICE USE RAID TO INTIMIDATE YOUNG WORKER

THE police have begun a campaign of political intimidation against the Workers Revolutionary Party and Young Socialists, following the raid on our education centre in Derbyshire on September 27-28.

The raid involved 100 officers, including Special Patrol Group men, Searchlights, police dogs and a convoy of vehicles were used in the raid.

Our members were abused, threatened and had possessions confiscated. Women were strip-searched and leading members held incommunicado for several hours.

The police have remained silent about questions arising from the conduct and authorisation of the raid. Derbyshire's Chief Constable says there will be a delay in answering questions from the WRP's solicitors because the officer in charge of the raid is ill.

The WRP has categorically denied all knowledge of nine bullets that police claim they found on the premises.

A statement which has now been made public shows that intimidation tactics are being used following the raid.

The statement is from a 21-year-old Irish worker who was detained in a north London labour exchange by plain-clothes police and held under the 'anti-terror' laws.

Handcuffed

He was handcuffed, bundled into a car, which had no police markings, and driven to Caterham, where a pub bomb had exploded two weeks before.

The police interrogators tried to force him to admit responsibility for the blast. They produced detailed information they had already acquired about the youth, both in northern Ireland and since his arrival in Britain.

The interrogators then tried to link the WRP and

Young Socialists with terrorism and violence.

In a statement the youth says: 'Then the detective inspector started questioning me about the WRP. He said, "Oh yes, the Young Socialists. That's sort of a branch of the Workers Revolutionary Party, isn't it? What have they to do with arms, ammunition and explosives?"

I said nothing at all, they were a non-violent movement.

The detective inspector said: "The Workers Revolutionary Party — the word revolutionary implies armed." I said, "No revolutionary in doctrine", the detective inspector started to get stroppy.

He pushed me off the chair onto the ground. He said, "Look, son, we want some answers." I was told to sit down again, though I did not want to.

The detective inspector said, "Are you sure that the Workers Revolutionary Party doesn't carry guns or bombs?" I said no they did not.

He said, what did the WRP do? I told him to read the Workers Press. He got angry again and pushed me off the chair.

The statement says that another of the questioners said they 'hadn't even started the treatment yet', so he had better not get cocky.

The questioner told him he had better give some answers 'because the

STEP UP 'HANDS OFF WRP' CAMPAIGN NOW!

detective inspector was subject to moods of violence and anger.

The detective inspector came back and said: "What about the Red House in Derbyshire. Is this where you go?" I said I didn't know, that I had never been there. He said: "Well there was bullets found there wasn't there?"

Interrogation

I said: "Yes, as far as I know." The detective inspector said: "So some of you people are armed." I said: "We don't carry guns or any weapons whatsoever."

This interrogation took place on October 9th. It shows that the police are continuing a monstrous lying attack on the basic democratic rights not only of the WRP and YS but of the working class as a whole.

We state once again that we are not 'terrorists' and our political principles are totally opposed to the use of individual violence or terrorism.

The bullets allegedly found in Derbyshire were not ours and we don't know how they got there.

The raid on our premises was not carried out because of firearms. It was carried out because the Workers Revolutionary Party and Young Socialists held political ideas opposed to those of the establishment.

Our response to the raid has been to launch our biggest-ever campaign for support in the workers' movement. Trade unions and workers' organisations representing many thousands of workers have passed resolutions condemning the raid.

Trade union branches up and down the country have flooded the Home Office with letters and telegrams.

Trade union leaders, show business personalities and others have sponsored our call for a trade union inquiry into the raid.

Response

Student unions and Labour Party Young Socialists branches have supported the campaign (see reports this page).

Neither the WRP, the YS or any section of the working class will be intimidated or illegally

harassed by the police. Our response to this latest provocation will be to step up our campaign a thousand times.

We call on all young people to sign our petition, which will be sent to Home Secretary Jenkins, protesting about the raid.

Raise it in your union

branch, students union or any other organisation. Campaign among your friends, school, college or work mates for a massive turn-out for the demonstration on November 16th through London.

Hands off the WRP and YS! Hands off democratic rights!

Demonstrate Sunday November 16

Workers Revolutionary Party and Young Socialists

Hands off basic democratic rights

For a trade union inquiry into police raid on WRP

ASSEMBLE: 2p.m. Hyde Park, Marble Arch

MARCH: 3p.m. Oxford Street, Regent Street, Piccadilly.

MEETING: 4p.m. Trafalgar Square.

Bring your banners

Everyone welcome

SIGN THE PETITION NOW!

Let the movement speak now!

We, the undersigned strongly protest against the raid by the police of the Workers Revolutionary Party premises in Derbyshire on Saturday night and Sunday morning, September 27 and 28, 1975.

The raid, which was authorised under the Firearms Regulations, was nothing but a flimsy pretext to raid a working class political party which has publicly, in its Press and meetings, condemned terrorism in principle. Any member of the WRP carrying firearms would be immediately expelled.

We demand to know who authorised this raid. Was it a decision of the Labour Home Secretary Roy Jenkins? Did he and/or others authorise the police to occupy and search the premises for one and a half hours before permitting representatives of the WRP to accompany them? Did he and/or others authorise the placing of leading officials of the WRP under what amounted to arrest and confinement in one room without charge whilst the raid was in progress?

We believe that it is in the interests of the defence of the democratic rights of all sections of the labour and trade union movement that these questions be answered immediately.

Fill in this form and send it to the Workers Revolutionary Party, 186a Clapham High Street, London, SW4 7UG. We will compile a grand total of signatures which will be delivered to Jenkins at the Home Office, Whitehall.

NAME & ADDRESS _____

ORGANIZATION _____

Wide support from students,

LPYS branches

YOUNG people have been in the forefront of the fight to defend the Workers Revolutionary Party and to defend democratic rights.

Last weekend, the Young Socialists National Committee pledged to fight for the maximum turn-out from every branch for the national demonstration on November 16 in London.

Young Socialists regional committees are laying plans for filling young coaches during the next three weeks.

Massive support has flowed in from the student movement. Executive members of the National Union of Students

including deputy president Al Stewart have signed the petition condemning the raid.

The National Union of Students Polytechnics Conference overwhelmingly passed a motion condemning the raid and calling for a trades union inquiry. The conference also voted to send a telegram to Jenkins.

A mass meeting of students at Hull University voted to send a telegram of protest to Jenkins.

The Students Union at Huddersfield Technical College representing thousands of students has sent a letter to Jenkins.

The Student Union Executive of Kent University has also passed resolution condemning the police raid.

A motion condemning the raid has been passed at Kings College in London and will be submitted to the National Union of Students annual conference in Scarborough next month

and to the London Students Organisation Conference.

Goldsmiths College Students Union has overwhelmingly passed a resolution supporting the campaign, which has been forwarded to Jenkins at the Home Office.

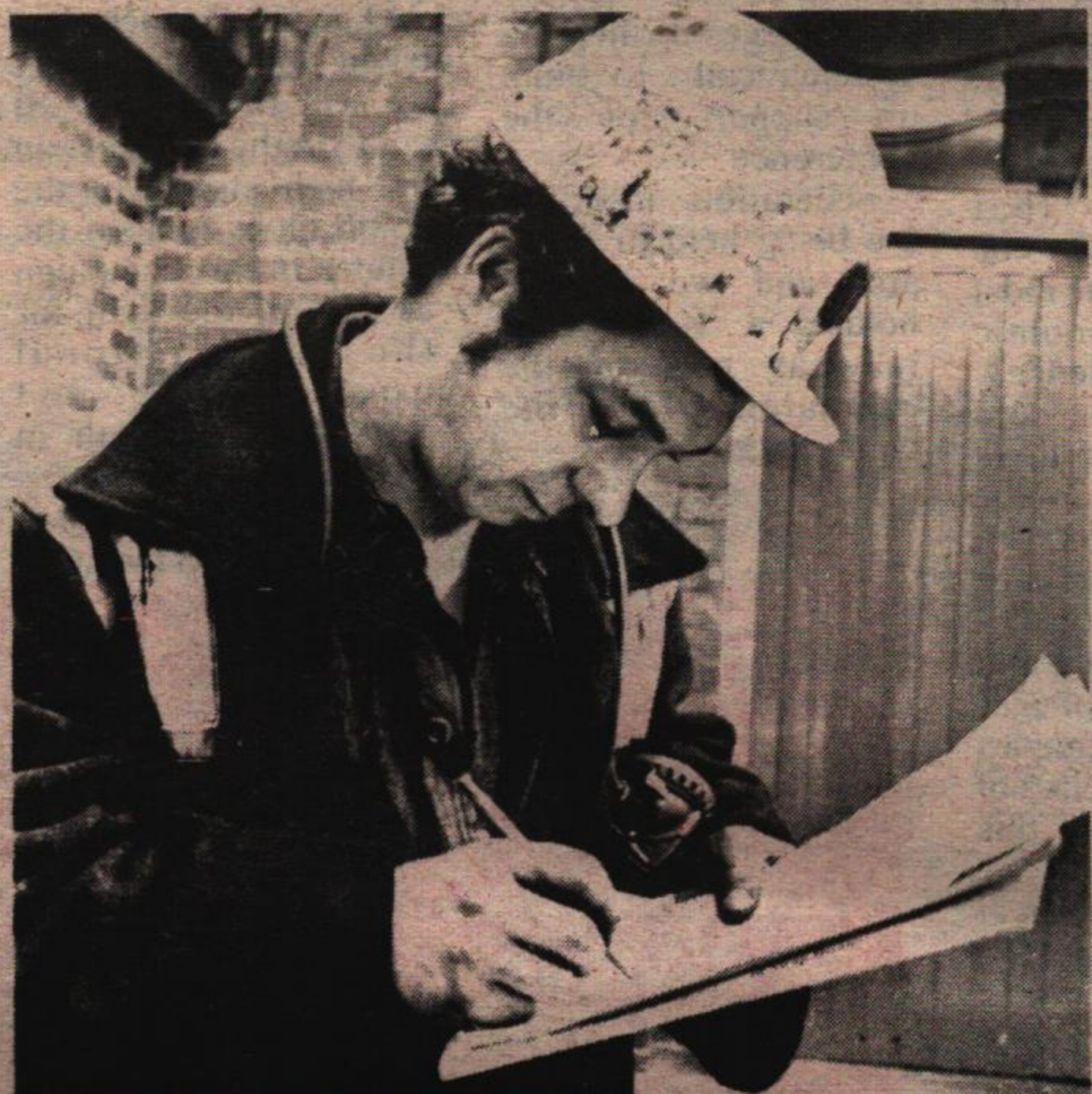
The General Meeting of York University Students Union has supported the WRP's campaign on basic rights and a telegram of protest has been sent to Jenkins.

Many Labour Party Young Socialists



Al Stewart, NUS deputy president

branches have supported the campaign. Hazel Grove branch in Stockport has passed a resolution and sent off a telegram. The branch secretary has said that he thinks that 'a storm of protest should be raised in the Labour movement.'



Miners signing the protest petition