

KEEP LEFT

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OF THE YOUNG SOCIALISTS



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THIS WEEK
Poverty in
Britain—P.4

THE COMMON ENEMY!

THROUGHOUT THE BRITISH ISLES AN ONSLAUGHT ON BASIC WORKING CLASS RIGHTS

- Northern Ireland—British troops in occupation since August 1969. Direct rule from Westminster.
- Irish Republic—Offences Against the State (Amendment) Bill 1972. Guilty until proven innocent.
- Britain—Industrial Relations Act February 1972. State control of wages November 1972.

These acts against the working class are part of the plan—masterminded by the Heath government at Westminster—to whip into line the working class not only of Ireland but of Britain as well. The only way these attacks can be defeated is through united action to force the Tories to resign.

DEFEAT THE COMMON ENEMY!

THERE ARE now less than four weeks left before Britain enters the Common Market—and the Tories have launched their biggest attacks against the working class and its organizations.

Hardly had the ink dried on the government's new wage control Bill in Britain when its representatives in southern Ireland took a sure step towards dictatorship.

In line with the Tories at Westminster the Irish government of Jack Lynch has proposed a new Bill which destroys all basic rights of people accused of political 'crimes'. The Bill will be able to impose penalties of £5,000 fine, five years' imprisonment, or both, for 'interfering with the course of justice'.

This Bill was introduced into the Dail, the Irish Parliament, last week as Sean MacStiofain, IRA Provisional Chief of Staff, lay dying after he was sentenced to six months' imprisonment by a special court in Dublin.

His arrest and imprisonment is only the beginning of the new Tory offensive against basic rights and living standards. In Britain the Tories have introduced their proposals for control of wages by decree. At the same time Edward Heath, together with close financial advisers, has drawn up plans to completely alter the power structure at Westminster.

He intends to make the Tory cabinet—together with a few other close friends—an all-powerful body to rule the country. The debates in the House of Commons would then be meaningless verbal gestures.

Actions of this government and its representatives over the past two years have formed an unmistakable pattern:

- In Northern Ireland, the army rules the lives of all people. Control of the so-called law-and-order forces is maintained from Westminster.
- In Britain the Tories have taken the unprecedented step of laying the basis for permanent state control of wages. The wages Bill together with the Industrial Relations Act is designed to destroy trade unions. This is what they need to do in order to be ready for the Common Market on January 1, 1973.
- Now in south of Ireland the Tories have instigated a similar piece of vicious class legislation. The Offences Against the State (Amendment) Bill was introduced after Jack Lynch's recent talks with the Tories in Britain.

This, briefly, is the line up of the ruling class against the working class in Ulster, the Irish Republic and in Britain. Which makes it a common task of all workers and youth to force the Tories to resign.

It is also the main reason why all workers and youth should carry out an immediate campaign in defence of Sean MacStiofain. In spite of our serious political differences with the bourgeois nationalist nature of the IRA there can be no equivocation when a freedom fighter is victimized for his opposition to British imperialism.

- Free Sean MacStiofain!
- Down with the Tories!
- No to the Common Market!
- For unity between British and Irish workers against the common enemy.

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Guilty until proven innocent

FOR the first time since the demonstrations after the Bloody Sunday murders on January 30 this year, workers in the south of Ireland struck work last week in protest against the six-month jail sentence on Provisional IRA Chief of Staff, Sean MacStiofain.

Dockers and carworkers in Cork last Monday laid down their tools and walked out as MacStiofain, after nine days' hunger strike, lay dying in Dublin's Mater hospital. His lawyer said it was uncertain whether he would last the night.

The previous night a 10,000-strong demonstration marched to the hospital to chants of 'Sean out, Sean out!' Standing by were 500 riot police armed with tear-gas. Over 600 soldiers were also reported to be on the alert nearby.

Staff at Radio Telefis Eireann—Eire's television and radio network—staged an immediate two-day strike in protest against the three-month sentence on RTE features editor, Kevin O'Kelly. He was jailed for defending a basic journalistic principle in refusing to identify to the court which jailed MacStiofain, the man he had interviewed in a radio broadcast.

The journalists have called on the support of the Irish Congress of Trade Unions for their action.



● Top: Jack Lynch
Above: Edward Heath

Meanwhile, Jack Lynch's Fianna Fail government pressed ahead with eager determination to show their Tory overlords at Westminster that they are determined to clamp down on the IRA.

On Monday they announced the most vicious piece of class legislation seen in Eire for the past decade—in the form of the Offences Against the State (Amendment) Bill, 1972.

This law brings in penalties of up to a £1,000 fine, five years' imprisonment or both for 'interfering with the course of justice'.

Other proposed changes in the laws relating to illegal organizations are as follows:

- Evidence given by a senior police officer not below the rank

Irish Republic's new Bill means end to democratic rights

of chief superintendent—that he believes an accused man to be a member of an illegal organization shall be accepted by a court that the accused was such a member.

● It provides new powers for the questioning of a suspect in relation to certain offences. Suspects in such cases not giving personal details or an account of their movements, or giving false information, shall be liable to a maximum fine of £200 or 12 months' imprisonment or both.

● All public statements, meetings or processions are declared illegal if they interfere with the course of justice—that is, if they are considered to influence any criminal or other judicial proceedings.

● Statements or conduct 'leading to a reasonable inference' that someone is a member of an illegal organization shall be evidence that he was such a member.

● And if the Bill becomes an Act, failure by an accused man to deny public reports—presumably press and TV stories—that he was a member of an illegal organization—will be taken as evidence of his membership. But, the Bill emphasised, 'the denial in itself will not be regarded as conclusive'.

This legislation, as a Sinn Fein spokesman, said last week, has changed the whole course of law in Ireland. A man now has to prove he is innocent of charges brought before him. It is no longer up to the authorities to prove him guilty—he is considered guilty until proven innocent.

VIETNAM

By Our Correspondent

Conspiracy against the North

RUMOURS of a negotiated settlement to the Vietnam war were scotched last week as the latest session of the so-called Paris peace talks ended on the brink of breakdown.

It has now become clear that all the promises of peace in Vietnam during the recent American election campaign were just so much hot air aimed at pacifying voters and making sure that Nixon remained in office for another four years.

In fact Nixon never had any intention of making a deal with the North Vietnamese. US policy and the massive new bombing raids in the past few weeks give the lie to the pre-election publicity about peace in Indo-China.

What is being prepared in reality is a major intensification of the counter-revolutionary war in Indo-China which is being waged by US imperialism to crush the liberation struggles of workers and peasants throughout Asia.

On November 22—just over a week after the election—US bombing of Vietnam reached an all-time high.

And the new wave of attacks was accompanied by a statement from the South Vietnamese US puppet regime that all North Vietnamese troops must be withdrawn from the South and from Cambodia.

The demand also put forward by the US negotiating team headed by Dr Henry Kissinger has been one of the main obstacles to any settlement. On other issues—particularly the



● Henry Kissinger and Le Duc Tho.

release of 20,000 political prisoners who are being held in the South—the American side has completely reversed its position.

Kissinger has indicated that they will not force Thieu, South Vietnam's president, to release the prisoners. This is totally different from the US position when the nine-point draft agreement was reached in October.

It makes it almost impossible for an agreement to be reached at the new session of talks scheduled for next month.

At that time the Americans refused to sign the deal claiming that there were 'points of detail' to be cleared up.

In answer to these totally unacceptable demands, the North Vietnamese negotiating team led by Le Duc Tho has renewed its demand for the immediate

removal of President Thieu. This was dropped in accepting the nine-point draft.

They have refused to withdraw their army from the south, pointing out, quite justifiably, that since Vietnam is their country they have more right to be there than the Americans.

The latest developments expose clearly the treacherous policies of the Stalinists in relation to the Indo-Chinese revolution.

When Nixon was elected the Moscow Stalinists hailed it as a victory of a 'peace-loving and realistic' foreign policy.

At the same time, the British Communist Party's paper, the 'Morning Star' was printing reports from its correspondent in Hanoi that peace was within sight.

Record bazaar for the YS

A RECORD Young Socialists Christmas bazaar was packed from 12 noon until 5.30 in the evening at the Poplar Baths in London's East End on Saturday November 25.

There was certainly plenty to attract every shopper with bargain sales on stalls selling anything from artificial flowers to wet fish, fruit and vegetables to cushion covers.

Big attraction for the youth was the well-stocked record stall and the boutique. Father Christmas was kept busy with a non-stop queue all afternoon.

A popular spot for the mothers was the bingo stall and just about everybody seemed to congregate round the bottle stall, where a 20p ticket could win you a bottle of whisky or a jar of pickles.

London Young Socialists had their own stall with literature and the Keep Left on sale. A team of YS members was on hand to sign up new recruits.

The success of the bazaar was a tribute to the hard work done by YS members and 'Workers Press' readers who had spent their evenings making all manner of goods for sale and to the generosity of those who had donated bottles and groceries.

The Young Socialists' next bazaar will be in Leeds Corn Exchange on Saturday December 16.



Packed reception for 'Right to Work' film

NORTH EAST

A PACKED meeting of youth and adult trade unionists gave a terrific reception to the 'Right to Work' film in Gateshead, Co Durham, last weekend.

At the first showing of the film in the area youth came from Teesside, Sunderland, South Shields, Hebburn, Gateshead and Newcastle.

Alan Simpson, a shipyard apprentice, said the Tory government's 'freeze' was a fraud. 'They can fine workers unlimited sums for threatening to go on strike, but prices are still rising,' he said.

'Apprentices and young workers are being forced to accept cheap-labour jobs because of the threat of dole.

Many apprentices are being made redundant as soon as they finish their training. The crisis of capitalism offers no future. We have to clear out the reformist leaders in the working class.

'The Young Socialists must be in the lead to build an alternative revolutionary leadership.'

John Simmance, YS National Secretary, said the Tory government can and must be defeated. 'The only people who have kept them in power are the traitors at the top of the trade unions.

'The Right-to-Work marches did not ask for charity. We were not begging for jobs.

'We were demanding the basic right to work and it was the support of thousands of workers all over the country which kept us going.'

In many parts of the north east, he said leaders of the Labour Party had tried to stop the march.

'They did not succeed in spite of all the witch-hunting in the Press and their refusal to allow us accommodation.

'They won't succeed in future either if we take up the challenge to build a new leadership.'

Many of the youth at the rally spoke during discussion time. A member from South Shields called for support for women on strike at Barbour's clothing factory.

Tony Cook, chairman of the meeting asked for support for another national march next year.

WALES

UNEMPLOYMENT is now being used by employers throughout South Wales to attack living standards of workers, Hayden Jones, Young Socialist national committee member, said in Swansea last weekend.

He was speaking at a very successful rally organized for a special showing of the new 'Right to Work' film.

The film—'a record of five national Right-to-Work marches'—was shown at University College, Swansea from where the South Wales contingent set off on February 19 this year.

Hayden Jones told the meeting that unemployment had become worse. Mining districts were being rapidly closed down and there was also a threat of huge factory closures.

British Steel Corporation had already announced its plans to reduce its labour force at Port Talbot by several thousand in the next two years.

The Right-to-Work marches, he said, had been organized with one aim—to mobilize the working class in the campaign to



force the Tories to resign.

'This campaign is now vital and should be the top priority for all workers and youth whose future is threatened by this government.'

He appealed to all youth to join the Young Socialists and help establish new YS branches throughout South Wales.

The rally was attended by a number of youth who had taken part in the Right-to-Work march from Swansea to London. During the march they received support from miners, steel workers and Labour Party members.

Keep Left Editor Gary Gurmeet said the main task was not simply to appreciate the value of the Right-to-Work campaign but to see its importance in the fight ahead.

The Tories, he said, had made

decisive moves towards dictatorship.

The new 'anti-inflation' Bill (90-day freeze) was aimed at forming a permanent structure of wage control. At the same time Common Market entry would reduce parliament to little more than a 'talking shop'.

This, together with new changes in government organization and the Industrial Relations Act, was to be the basis of a new type of Tory rule in Britain.

The Right-to-Work marches, he added, had dealt with the central questions, because unemployment was a Tory strategy which had laid the basis for rule by decree.

The rally ended with a discotheque and a dance in the evening.

The cost of living which has escalated so rapidly during the past two and a half years of the Tory government has slowly but surely produced definable changes in living standards among many sections of workers and old people—particularly those on fixed incomes.

Hardest hit of all have been old age pensioners. For them the huge jump in basic food prices has

driven old people living on their own to the strictest penny-pinching economies.

It has in fact driven many to poverty. Social workers in South London tell how, in the past year, scavengers for food at the close of a market are no longer just the expected tramps but often include pensioners who would not normally be considered poverty stricken.

Another sign of the changing times are the

advertisements in some London all-day bingo parlours. At one time prizes offered ranged from fancy furniture and money to inflatable dinghies—today there are first prizes of beef and meat on offer.

The government's own price index—the retail price index—now shows a total rise of 28.8 points since June 1970 when the Tories came to power. During their first year of office it jumped 14.4 and by June

this year it was a further 9.9 points up.

In the two years from January 1967 to January 1969 the index only recorded a 10 point rise in prices—when the rate of price increases rose by 2½ per cent in 1967 and 6 per cent in 1968.

In March 1971 it was predicted that with the rates of price increases then, the total number of people with incomes less than the official poverty level could ex-

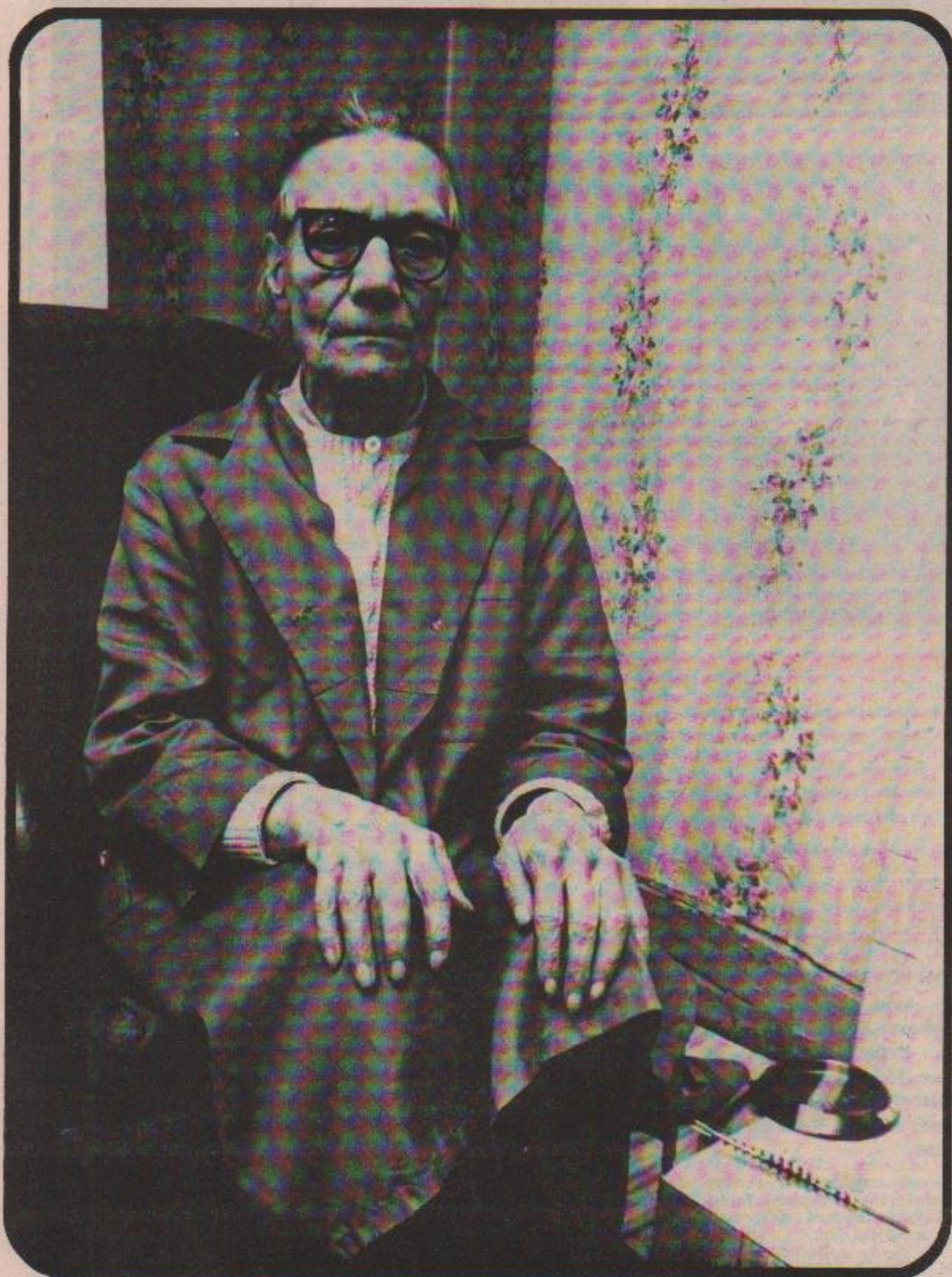
ceed 3½ million by the end of the year.

A month earlier the House of Commons had been told that the problem of poverty—workers earning wages below the supplementary benefit poverty level touched perhaps one in every 40 people in the country.

One wonders exactly what these figures will be once the introduction of Value Added Tax and entry into the Common Market in

POVERTY IN BRIT

By Sarah Hannigan



KEEP LEFT this week has taken a look at some of the conditions and circumstances which old age pensioners—not officially recognized as poverty cases—have to suffer.

Annie McDermott, 67, will spend her £10 government handout for pensioners this winter on a new coat and a new pair of shoes. For her it will be a chance to have a warmer coat than the one she has to wear every day because she has nothing else.

Miss McDermott lives in a slum tenement in south east London's Southwark borough. The block has been condemned since the war and yet she still pays the owners a rent of £2.78 a fortnight.

She shares the two small rooms and what she calls a 'Charles Dickens scullery' with her 89-year-old mother, Mrs. Annie McDermott.

Gave up

Miss McDermott gave up her job nearly four years ago to look after her mother who is permanently bedridden and unable to take care of herself.

Since then she has received a weekly pension of £6.88 until she was told last October that she was to have a £1 a week rise. 'But I only get £7.63 a week now,' she said, 'so I don't know where the £1 has gone.'

Her mother receives £6.75 a week retirement pension, plus a small amount from the social security to make a weekly total of £8.15. When they calculated it, they took into account the 93p a week pension she gets for her son who was killed at the age of 21 in 1944 in World War II.

The McDermotts' small rooms are on the fifth floor of the Winchester Buildings tenement on Copperfield Road. For Miss McDermott this means several trips daily up and down the steep, dark,

stone stairs—to empty her rubbish, do her shopping and find someone to talk to.

Her mother sleeps most of the day and wakes up very infrequently.

Annie's greatest difficulty is in keeping the old rooms warm enough to sustain her mother's life.

She told us:

'I have to buy 3 cwt. of coal a week and that's besides the electric fire I have to have on in the bedroom all the time because she's so cold.

'At £1.09 a cwt. that comes to just over £3.30 a week by the time I've given the boy a few pence for carrying it all the way up the stairs.

'Then there's the gas as well for the cooking and boiling water. We don't have a bathroom so you have to stand in the kitchen in front of the fire to wash yourself. I have to boil the water for everything we wash at home.

'I reckon the price of food is disgusting,' Annie told us. 'The other day I went to get a few lamb chops and it cost 40p. I have to buy eggs and extra milk and special foods like rice puddings for my mother. I have to buy ¼lb of ham because it's the only meat she can eat and that costs 19p. Even then she doesn't eat a lot.

Bundle

'Then there are all sorts of other expenses like bed clothes and towels. I have to wash things like sheets about three times a week because she sometimes wets herself. That costs a lot in the launderette and then there's soap powder and everything else.

'I have to go with a big bundle on my back all the way up and down the stairs.'

For the old age pensioner the jump in food prices has meant penny-pinching economies.

January next year begins to take its toll.

The introduction of VAT in particular will hit hard at the already low wages and incomes of the poor.

While the Tories and their banker friends sail around in privately-owned yachts and commute in their Rolls from country house to town house several million people living below the poverty level make do with the State's miserable hand out.

AIN

Returning to the prices question, Annie said:

'The bread has gone up, milk's gone up, beef's gone up. You buy a bit of beef at about £2 which only lasts for two days' dinners.

'I was brought up to be Labour all my life. I worked until I was 63 from the day I left school when I was 14. But,' she went on, 'I think the Labour people we've got now only do it for the money.

'If you're so disgusted with the rich like they say they are then why should they want to be lords and ladies of the land. We should get rid of them sort of things and all be equal.

Never

'Ever since the time of the last Labour government we've been told to tighten our belts and it will get better. But it never does.

'They told us that during the war as well. If you nicked half a dozen eggs in those days you got put in prison but when you read the papers they're all at the same thing—all at the back hand tap.

'I've always been in the lower class paid. When I worked in the Second World War I worked in the Ministry of Food in the Eggs Depot in Battlebridge Lane. I got 8s. a day, £2 a week.'

Annie laughed. She said, 'They tell you about Jesus how with five loaves of bread and two fishes he fed 5,000 people. I wish he'd come down today and give us a few bob.'



'... we've been told to tighten our belts and it will get better. But it never does. ... They told us that during the war as well.'

POST BAG

New turn in Ireland

THE IRISH government is rushing laws through parliament which lay the basis for a dictatorship in the country.

The arrest of Sean MacStiofain and the introduction of the new Offences Against the State Bill show this very clearly.

The government of Jack Lynch introduces these laws—outlawing political activity in the south—in collusion with the Tory government.

They are both driven on by their desperate need to solve the economic crisis at the expense of the working class.

Today in Ulster the British army rules by terror. The introduction of the new measures will bring Eire in line with this.

Thousands of Irish workers have died at the hands of British imperialism. We must not allow MacStiofain to be added to the ranks of the murdered freedom-fighters.

Irish workers are up in arms about MacStiofain's arrest. They will continue to fight for his release.

We can see that the politics of bourgeois nationalism in the IRA cannot unite the Irish working class in a struggle to overthrow imperialism.

Only the building of a revolutionary leadership in Ireland can achieve this task.

Rory O'Brady, leader of

the Provisional Sinn Fein has appealed to British workers to use their strength to secure the release of MacStiofain and stop Lynch's repressive legislation.

We must not let this call go unheard. Every Young Socialist branch must launch a campaign against MacStiofain's jailing.

We must demand the trade union leaders take action to force the Tories to resign.

S.L.

YS needs a bigger organization

AT THIS critical stage when the Tory government is deliberately seeking to take away all rights of the working class, the Young Socialists need to be made into a much bigger organization.

There has been a massive response so far to all our public meetings and rallies. In particular it was obvious at the 'Workers Press' anniversary meeting in London when a lot of youth came to see the new film.

Also at the weekend school recently held by London Young Socialists there was good discussion on the theory of Marxism.

This shows that the working class in this country is not going to be dictated to by capitalists and their system.

We have to start recruitment into the YS now on a very big scale and set up new branches.

Students should be recruited into the Young Socialists Student Societies in all colleges and universities.

This kind of work is going to be extremely important if we are to build a movement to force the Tories to resign.

Robert Small
YSSS

TWO NEW DISCS

By our pop correspondent

TO anyone who was at Empire Pool, Wembley for the big rally and pop concert which ended the Young Socialists' Right-to-Work campaign and march, Vinegar Joe will be remembered as one of the hits of the evening.

Their new LP 'Rock and Roll Gypsies' has just been released on the Island label. It's a good driving record of rock and blues.

Vocalist Elkie Brooks with that acid-sharp blues voice sings her heart out. One of the great tracks is 'Angel', a Jimi Hendrix number and another, the title track, 'Rock and Roll Gypsies'.

She has a really authentic blues quality, full of feeling but really controlled. A great talent.

On record you miss her aggressive stage performance but some good cover photographs remind you of it. She and Robert Palmer blend well together particularly on 'Falling'.

It's a good record by one of the best new groups in the country who are developing musically all the time. Worth adding to your collection.

Fumble set another YS concert alight in June this year and their first LP has just been released on the Sovereign label.



● 'Vinegar Joe' vocalist Brooks

It's vintage 1950s rock and roll all the way and every track on the LP is a classic—Everley Brothers, Elvis, Buddy Holly numbers.

For those who hanker after musical nostalgia with perhaps just a touch of irony in the presentation the record is a very good buy.

Very entertaining. For younger ones it's good driving rock and roll.

Incidentally for older ravers the cover is a marvellous recreation of the 1950s.

Don't forget Fumble will be appearing at the YS concert on December 17 at the Acton Town Hall. Be there!



STUDENTS IN EUROPE

In part two of our series on students in Europe our Special Correspondent analyses the consequences of the Spanish Communist Party's protest politics in the universities.

LAST January, as the student movement demonstrated, struck and occupied faculties throughout Spain, against the dictatorship, their representatives met and issued a statement on perspectives.

The aim of students should be to develop rapidly the united, democratic organization of students in the whole of Spain. . . to fight for the resignation of the Minister of Education Villar-Palasi, for the removal of police, for FREEDOM!

This is the policy which students fought for on the mass demonstrations held on February 14 to coincide with Palasi's statement in the Spanish Cortes on the Education Law.

Whilst Palasi spoke about those who wanted overnight changes to get more democratic education and used these questions for 'subversive agitation', students faced the police with a policy of mild reforms.

The Spanish Communist Party developed its treacherous policies for students throughout its fortnightly, illegal newspaper 'Mundo Obrero'.

The February 5 issue declared

in its lead story: 'The most revolutionary policy is to lead the great student masses in the struggle for freedom'.

The protest campaign led by the Communist Party had many casualties. In Madrid alone over 200 students were arrested. Some are still awaiting trial; others were fined £3,000.

The strikes continued until the great climax at the end of the summer term when all examinations were boycotted for the first time ever.

The success of the boycott was a result of students' anger at the expulsion of 20 students and a spate of brutal police activity on the campus which led to one student, Mediavilla, being seriously wounded when police broke up a mass-meeting with tear-gas bombs and shot-guns.

The euphoric descriptions of the events in June by CP students is typical of the hollow, empty-minded worshipping of student militancy and protest which has dominated the universities of Europe. Such outpourings deliberately dwell on the militant gesture in order to hide the new attacks which are being prepared.

Here is an extract from one diary of student protest which was circulating in Madrid and Barcelona during the summer-term boycott.

'Wednesday, June 7. Today's events could be summed up as victory all along the line in the Economics Faculty. Only yesterday a professor took refuge in a seminary and examined ten

students, but their examination papers were burnt in the afternoon by students who got hold of them in the Faculty.

'As a result of this, there was a confrontation with the police: the policemen, were carrying bombs and were very nervous.'

Blind and pointless heroic gestures gave the necessary radical appearance to the struggle for a 'democratic' university.

The dose of radicalism was pepped up by the various Maoist and revisionist groups operating amongst Spanish students. The CP in its end-of-term victory message singled out for special praise the Spanish branch of the IMG, the Revolutionary Communist League, which had co-operated fully in the university 'despite our differences'.

As we have seen, the fascist regime has got its inevitable revenge by mass sackings and expulsions backed by withdrawal of finance.

These moves are backed by Muñoz Alonso and the Falangist Organization of Spanish Youth. The removal of police from the campus—who have been in watchful residence since March 22—is possible now a fascist student movement is in the making.

Not only that, for the first time for years, a strong fascist students' union is being organized. Sigfredo Hullers and Fernando Garcia, leaders of the Syndicalist Student Front have had discussions with the leaders of the Falange National University Action and University

Defence with an aim to restoring the old Union of Spanish Students (SEU).

The ideology of student participation is now broadcast by the authorities. On November 3, the director general of Universities, Luis Suarez Fernandez, proclaimed that 'Student represen-

tation is a right recognized in existing legislation which will be respected in all universities'.

The gap between the empty radicalism of student leadership and the reality facing students could be no clearer than in the June and October experiences of Spanish students.



● Madrid students demonstrate in May this year.

spotlight on students



● Digby Jacks addresses NUS conference

NUS CONFERENCE

Stalinists move to far right

By Our Correspondent

DELEGATES to the National Union of Students' conference in Margate last weekend passed a vote of no confidence in union president Digby Jacks during a debate on the Queen's recent visit to Stirling University.

This followed an earlier rebuke by Jacks of Stirling students, 24 of whom face disciplinary charges for their part in the demonstration against the Queen's visit.

The resolution passed overwhelmingly said: 'Conference pledges wholehearted support for the rights of Stirling students to demonstrate against the extravagant and unnecessary visit of the Queen to Stirling University.'

The motion came towards the end of the NUS conference which this year has seen a distinct move towards the right wing.

This move was led by Communist Party members with the full support of revisionists of the International Socialists. Digby Jacks is himself a Communist Party member.

He opened the doors for the right wing when he attacked the students at Stirling University for giving 'ammunition to the enemy.'

The only motions to raise the real question—that of bringing down the Tories and returning a Labour government—were sabotaged by the Stalinists.

Two CP members combined

with Liberals and reformists in the Southampton delegation to have these motions quashed.

At the same time the revisionists of the International Socialists who had fought the Southampton motions at union meetings alongside the CP and the International Marxist Group, provided a 'left' cover for the Stalinists.

The Stalinists on the platform were content to see conference submerged in issues of procedure, women in society, finance and internal reform matters.

In this situation, the Stalinists were able to force through non-political motions on the vital issues of housing and grants. The Tory government's pay laws, their policy of inflation and Common Market entry were all ignored.

The motions simply listed demand after demand to be placed on the Tories or local councils and educational bodies. Rent strikes were also included in the campaign. But without any perspective of forcing the Tories out, it remains a meaningless and dangerous gesture.

In essence, the motions and policies adopted amounted to negotiation and collaboration with the Tories.

This running for cover by the middle-class is undoubtedly a reaction to the crisis of British capitalism. With the Tories' declaration of war on the working class and the middle class, protest politics has come to an end.

The Stalinist leadership have consistently fought against the

mobilization of students against the Tories.

And their most efficient supporters have been the revisionists in IS and IMG.

On each of the numerous occasions IS or IMG delegates spoke there was never a mention of bringing down the Tories.

Instead they produced ultra-left formulations which in effect said nothing could be done before the overthrow of capitalism, and left it at that.

On the subject of student representation, for example, they called for the withdrawal of all students from positions on academic bodies, turning previous policy on its head.

The revisionists refused to attack the Stalinists for their counter-revolutionary role. On the contrary, they went out of their way to seek an alliance with them, against the Young Socialists Student Society and against the construction of a revolutionary leadership among students.

The Tory government, despite the crawling of the NUS leadership, will drive home their attacks on students and workers alike.

But as the conference showed, without a firm, revolutionary leadership, based on Marxist principles, students will drift further and further away from a conscious political struggle.

That means the YSSS branches have to be constructed in every university and college as a matter of urgency.

NOTTINGHAM UNIVERSITY YSSS

Series of lectures on 'Theory and Practice of Marxism'

every Monday, 7.30 p.m.

Non-Smoking Quiet Room

Portland Building

Daily Bookstall in PB

12.00 noon to 2 p.m.

IMPERIAL COLLEGE YSSS

Mechanical Engineering Dept

Room 320, 1 p.m.

Every Friday.

SHEFFIELD UNIVERSITY YSSS

Meets every Tuesday

TV Room, 1.00 p.m.

Book Stall

every day 12 to 2 p.m.

near Porters Lodge

LEEDS UNIVERSITY YSSS

Classes on Marxism
Wednesday December 6:
'Revisionism'

BRANCH MEETINGS
Every Wednesday, 1 p.m.

CITY OF LEEDS COLLEGE OF EDUCATION YSSS

Marxist classes
Thursday December 14:
'Revisionism'

Branch Meetings
every Tuesday, 1.00 p.m.

BOOKSTALL
every Tuesday and Friday
12 till 2 p.m.
In Foyes

BRADFORD YSSS

Meeting every Friday

Bradford Art College

Room 11

2.30 p.m.

LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS YSSS

branch meetings every Monday

1 p.m. Room S 400

LEICESTER UNIVERSITY YSSS

Branch meetings

every Thursday 1.00 pm

Union Lecture Room,

Percy Gee Bookstall

every Friday lunchtime,

Concourse in Percy Gee

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON YSSS

Meets every Thursday 1 p.m.

UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

Marxist classes

every Wednesday, 7.30 p.m.

Grey/Blue room, Rootes Hall

OXFORD UNIVERSITY YSSS

Meets every Monday

Jesus College

Seminar Room 'A'

8.00 p.m.

Monday December 4

'The extreme right in

Britain.'

Writings of Leon Trotsky

- 1933-1934 £1.43
- 1934-1935 £1.43
- 1935-1936 £1.25
- 1937-1938 £1.25
- 1938-1939 £1.25
- 1939-1940 £1.05



These extremely vital writings by Leon Trotsky between the years 1929 and 1940—his third and final exile from the Soviet Union—are now available in Britain from the Paperbacks Centre, 28 Charlotte Street, London, W1.

PAPERBACKS CENTRE

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Sat 9 a.m.—5 p.m.

JOIN THE YOUNG SOCIALISTS STUDENT SOCIETY



NAME

ADDRESS

Fill in this form and post to:

YSSS 186a, Clapham High St, London, SW4 7UG.

WHAT'S ON WHERE



NORTH EAST

YOUNG GIRLS DEMAND UNION RECOGNITION

GIRLS and women at the Barbours rainwear factory in South Shields, Co Durham, voted unanimously last week to continue their five-week-old strike until they get union recognition.

Next week, on Saturday December 9, a mass rally of trade unionists has been called in South Shields in defence of the Barbours strikers.

The women have already received big support in the town for their determined stand in defence of their right

to be represented by a union of their choice.

The women and girls want recognition for the Transport and General Workers' Union of which they are members.

So far however, Barbours management have categorically refused to have any dealings at all with the union. Manager Mr K. Charlton has even refused a Department of Employment offer for an arbitration panel to decide the issue.

Throughout the strike there have been constant allegations

that the management are using non-union labour to carry out work at the factory.

Reports that the directors and their wives are working at night to put up parcels of goods have not yet been denied. Vehicles are reported to have been seen entering the premises at all hours of the night when the pickets are no longer on duty.

Since the beginning of the strike many of the young single girls aged between 18 and 22 have had great difficulty in claiming Social Security money.

On Friday November 10, seven of the girls visited the South Shields Social Security office with fresh evidence to appeal against an earlier decision that they were not entitled to any benefit.

Department officials refused to see them or consider their evidence. The next thing the girls knew they were being evicted by the police.

Two days later the South Shields Trades Council received an apology for the police action—after a deputation had visited the Social Security offices.

But the apology has now been rescinded. The trades council two weeks later received a letter—after a department enquiry into the incident—stating that the use of police to evict the young girls was 'quite justified'.

CLAPHAM YS
Youth Club
Every Thursday
Coronation Hall
Springfield Estate
Union Road, SW8
8 pm adm. 10p
Sports, records, discussion groups

HIGHFIELDS YS
meets every Thursday
Discotheque every Saturday
Queen Victoria
(Near 'Leicester Mercury' offices)
7.30 pm to 10.30 pm
Adm: 10p

WINSFORD YS
Discotheque
Every Sunday
Wheatseal Hotel
8 p.m. adm 10p

OXFORD YS
Discotheques
Friday December 8
Friday December 22
Friday January 12
Friday January 19
Cowley Community Centre
7.30 p.m.
Admission: 15p

PRESTON LARCHES YS
Youth Club
Every Friday
St Peter and Paul's
Park Avenue
7.30-10.00 p.m.
Adm: 5p Records

BRACKNELL YS
Meets every Tuesday
Priestwood Community Centre
Bracknell 8.00 p.m.

AVENHAM YS
Youth Club
every Monday
7.30-10.00 p.m.
Foxton Youth Centre
Adm: 5p Records

NOTTINGHAM YS
Meets every Wednesday
Wollaton Grange
Community Centre
Tremayne Road
Bilborough, Nottingham
7.30 p.m.

E OXFORD YS
Meets every Tuesday 8 p.m.
at Cape of Good Hope

BIRMINGHAM YS
Xmas party
Thursday December 21
Beachcomber Room
Farcroft Hotel
Handsworth

WESTERN REGION YS
Weekend School
December 9 and 10
Streathley Youth Hostel
Hill House
Reading Road
Streathley

COVENTRY YS
Xmas party
Monday December 18
White Lion
Walsgrave Road
Gosford, Coventry

READING YS
Meets every Wednesday
'Happy Prospect', Southcote
8.00 p.m.

SHEFFIELD YS FESTIVAL
Tickets 40p
Sheffield University
Students Union
Sunday, December 3
2.30 p.m.

LONDON YOUNG SOCIALISTS
NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY,
SPEAKERS' CONTEST
Sunday December 31
St Marlin's Church Hall
Vicars Road
Kentish Town
8.00 p.m.-12 midnight

Special showing of the
'Right to Work' film, also
a film by
Jean Luc Goddard

Revolutionary Readings by
Barry Hines
(author of 'Kestrel for a
Knave')
Terry Brindley.
Andy Gardiner, folk singer.

ABERDEEN YS
Discotheque
Tuesday December 12
Alexandra Hall
Skene Street
7.30 p.m.

Rally: Speakers:
Cliff Slaughter, Ray Jaxon
8.30 p.m.
Dance to the Brackets.

ABERDEEN YS
Meets every Tuesday
24 Adelphi
(near ABC cinema)
8.00 p.m.

ROTHERHAM YS
Discotheque
Monday December 4
St. John's Community Centre
St. John's Green
Kinberworth Park
7.30 p.m. Adm: 10p

WEST YORKSHIRE YS
Demonstrate against
rising prices!
Saturday December 16
Kingston Square, Hull
2.00 p.m.
Meeting and Discotheque
St. Jude's Hall
Spring Bank
3.00 p.m.

TOTTENHAM YS
Discotheque
Tuesday December 5
YWCA
Rheola Close
Tottenham High Road
(near Scotland Green
Labour exchange)
7.30 p.m. Adm: 15p

LONDON FOOTBALL LEAGUE					
	Pld	W	D	L	PTS
SOUTH WEST					
New Addington	3	3	0	0	6
Clapham	3	2	0	1	4
Blackheath	3	2	0	1	4
Thornton Heath	3	1	0	2	2
Tooting	3	0	0	3	0
Peckham	1	0	0	1	0
NORTH WEST					
Holloway	1	1	0	0	2
West London	2	1	0	1	2
Dagenham	1	0	1	0	1
Poplar	1	0	1	0	1
Tottenham	1	0	0	1	0
OUTER LONDON					
Kingston	3	2	0	1	4
Hayes	2	2	0	0	4
Fulham	2	1	0	1	2
Feltham	1	1	0	0	2
Southall	2	0	0	2	0
Acton	1	0	0	1	0
Harrow	1	0	0	1	0

KEEP LEFT

Weekly paper's first annual general meeting
Saturday January 6, 1973

Meeting and national speakers contest
East India Hall, East India Dock Road
London, E14

2.30 pm

DANCE 8 pm to 11 pm
Ram John Holder
'Average White Band'

LONDON REGION YOUNG SOCIALISTS

POP

CONCERT & RALLY

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17 7.00 PM ACTON TOWN HALL, HIGH STREET, ACTON, W3

McGUINNESS FLINT ★ FUMBLE ★ RAM JOHN HOLDER ★ NEIL INNES
PAUL JONES ★ SPIKE MILLIGAN

TICKETS: 50p

STOP RISING PRICES! FORCE THE TORIES TO RESIGN!