

Keep Left

The Paper for Socialist Youth

4^p

ASTON, BARKING, BEDDINGTON AND WALLINGTON, BEDFORD, BLABY AND DISTRICT, BURY, CARLTON, CATHCART, CHORLEY, COVENTRY CENTRAL, COVENTRY EAST, DAGENHAM, EALING SOUTH, EAST HAM SOUTH, EAST SALFORD, EDINBURGH CENTRAL, EDINBURGH NORTH, FINCHLEY, GLASGOW CENTRAL AND KELVINGROVE, GORTON, GOVAN AND GORBALS, HACKNEY CENTRAL, HENDON NORTH, HENDON SOUTH, HULL, IRVINE, LEAMINGTON, LUTON, NORTH KENSINGTON, ORMSKIRK, RUTHERGLEN, SKELMERSDALE, SOUTHGATE, SOUTHPORT, STOCKPORT, TAMWORTH, URMSTON, WEMBLEY NORTH, WEST DERBY, WIGAN AND WOLVERHAMPTON YOUNG SOCIALIST BRANCHES.

Vol. 10 No. 4

May, 1961

Keep Left Exclusive— 'DON'T THROTTLE THE YS!' says ROGER PROTZ

Ex-Editor of New Advance

NO comrade, your eyes aren't deceiving you. This is Roger Protz writing in *Keep Left*. The editorial board has offered me this column, with complete freedom to put my own point of view. The pages of 'New Advance' are closed to me, as a journalist and a Young Socialist. I have therefore turned to another Young Socialist paper with a national circulation; a paper with only a part-time staff and no machinery behind it; a paper that owes its success to the foot-slogging loyalty of its readers.

I have clashed in the past with some aspects of *Keep Left* policies. That doesn't stop me writing for them. A lively paper is one that is open to all shades of opinion.

Nevertheless, this is a sad time for me. 'New Advance' had many faults, but you don't live with a paper for eight months without feeling some affection for it. As I made quite clear when my future was under discussion at Transport House, I wanted to go on working for the Party, to produce the best possible paper for the YS.

I was dismissed from Transport House because of the 'unsatisfactory nature of my oral and written statements concerning my action at the YS Conference.' In other words, I was sacked because I refused to retract what I said in my statement at the conference.

This then is the great democratic Transport House machine, where free speech and brotherly-love prevail!

But enough about me. I'm a very small drop in the Labour Party ocean. It's the Young Socialist movement that has been kicked in the teeth, not me. The future of the movement is at stake.

If the heavy hand of Transport

House is going to continue to throttle what little life 'Advance' had, what hope can the Young Socialists have for the future?

Are the demands of the YS really so outrageous—freedom to discuss policy at all levels, control of the official YS journal, representation on the NEC and at Annual Conference?

Are these the demands of disrupters? No! They are the demands of young people, dedicated socialists, who love the Labour Party but who are dismayed at its present chaotic state. We are young people prepared to fight for a society free from the evils of capitalism and class-warfare, a fight which must be channelled constitutionally through the Labour Party.

The ageing Party urgently needs a militant youth movement, tens of thousands strong. Such a movement can only be built if the Young Socialists themselves are allowed to run it, free from the 'guidance' of greying bureaucrats.

We want freedom to build a large youth movement, dedicated to socialism and to return the Party to its former greatness.

Roger Protz was sacked from the Transport House Press Department on April 26. Protz is a 22-year-old journalist and secretary of East Ham South YS. He joined Transport House in August 1960 after completing his National Service. Questioned by a *Keep Left* reporter, he said: 'It is vital that

our movement should have a strong monthly paper. "New Advance" will not fill that rôle until we control it. As far as *Keep Left* is concerned, I stand by what I said in my statement: "I dislike some of the things you say, but I will defend your right to say them."'



At its meeting on Friday, 28 April the 115-strong East Ham South branch voted on a resolution to sponsor *Keep Left*. Only one hand was raised against. East Ham is just one of the many branches to decide to support the paper since the YS Conference.

N C BACKS PROTZ

THE first meeting of the National Committee of Young Socialists has demanded that Roger Protz be reinstated as Editor of *New Advance*. The Committee passed a resolution submitted by Liz Thompson, North-West Regional member, which declared:

'This National Committee of the Young Socialists dis-associates itself with the action of the NEC in sacking Roger Protz, editor of *New Advance*. We demand that Roger Protz be reinstated immediately.'

The meeting was held in London on April 29/30, 1961, and was attended by all 11 members. The Committee elected Alan Mullarkey as Chairman and Janet Dugdale as Vice-Chairman.

NEW ADVANCE

The resolution passed by the annual conference demanding democratic control of *New Advance* was discussed.

It was decided to elect a sub-committee of the NC to act as an editorial board. This arrangement should only be temporary and the next annual conference should elect

the board.

It was also decided to advertise for an editor of *New Advance* and that the NC should interview all candidates and recommend one to the National Executive Committee of the Labour Party.

These decisions, however, cannot be put into operation until ratified by the NEC.

The two resolutions on *Keep Left* discussed at the conference were noted and no action was proposed on them.

GAITSKELL

The resolution moved by Bury YS at the conference and carried, which supported the Scarborough decisions on nationalization, defence and called for Gaitskell to resign, was discussed. It was decided to refer this to the NEC with a recommendation that this body should meet the NC to draw up a campaign on the lines of the resolution.

Amongst resolutions carried by the annual conference, supported by the Committee and forwarded to the NEC for their consideration were those in opposition to the H-bomb and for political discussion at regional and federation level.

FIGHT FOR A STRONG Y S MOVEMENT!

Wigan Branch Sets the Pace

By Liz Thompson

BUILDING a strong socialist youth movement is a complicated and hard task. But it is a rewarding one. The problems are many; finding premises, avoiding a rough house, getting an understanding between the youth and the adults within the Labour Party, getting the politics to the non-political youth, overcoming 'superior' attitudes toward the non-political, and getting a stable team within the branch.

The problem of premises varies from district to district. But there is one thing to steer clear of—that is holding meetings in someone's house. Book a room, or use the local Labour Party offices until better premises are found. You must constantly be turning outward if you are going to build.

The importance of understanding between adults in the party and the young socialists cannot be underestimated. The Right-wing seek to confine the vast energy of youth. They bottle up a live youth movement, taking the stopper off the bottle for elections, a rally and a school here and there.

Adults Afraid

But some of the other adults in the party, who really do want a strong youth movement, tend to be afraid of youth. They see us as irresponsible, doing damage, and causing all sorts of havoc.

'We can't have just any type of youth in the branch', is one of the favourite pieces of advice. They praise us for being rebels but then seem ashamed when rebellious acts happen.

In a branch in the North-West recently, damage was done. Bitter feeling existed on both sides. The party wanted to shut down the branch and re-organize it on political lines. Here were 35 young people who said they had done the damage for laughs.

The adults wanted to re-organize

on a political basis at one fell swoop. But getting politics to youth is planned work. One cannot give politics in the course of one evening. It is a process.

No Kid Gloves

This doesn't mean to say that young people who cause disorder need to be treated with kid gloves. Any tendency to treat all adults as the 'enemy' and to look upon the Labour Party as 'them' must be countered.

The Young Socialists must be the ones to capture this moving, living and uninhibited youth. Let us harness their strength to the cause for socialism.

A Team

Just a word to the 'superior' attitude types who say 'what can be done with such wild ones'. Build a team within the branch of those who are coming to politics for the first time together with those who are political. Such a team can only assist one another.

I have found that once young people coming to politics for the first time begin to move politically, then they do so at a swift rate.

Great strides can be taken, if we constantly refresh our ideas and don't allow them to become part of the furniture.

History shows that all working class movements had to be fought for. We now have to fight to build a great Young Socialist movement.



Wigan YS Forge Ahead

We haven't got room to show all the members of the Wigan branch. There are over 330 of them! But here are just a few of the happy Young Socialists, members of one of the strongest branches in the country, built on solid political and social lines. Secretary Liz Thompson is on the National Committee—despite the attempts of the Right wing to keep her off!

Anti-Bomb Marches Go International

By Michael Anderson

DISPERSED, footsore, tired, but still the voices rang out and the banners were held high. This was Aldermaston Four, the biggest annual event in the British political calendar.

Ambitiously the Campaign organisers had decided on a two-pronged march. Aldermaston, the gaunt death-giving factory, was to be one rallying point, and Wethersfield, NATO war base, to be the other.

Quickly demonstrators assembled. By coach, rail, car and on foot they poured into the fields earmarked for the assembly points.

The overwhelming number of demonstrators were in the teen-age group. YCND sections from district after district raised their banners. But this year the political youth groups were seen in strength.

Quit N A T O

Young Socialists had come prepared. Banners and placards declared firmly for unilateralism and a withdrawal from the NATO military alliance. The Keep Left banner which led the Young Socialist contingent on the Aldermaston march called boldly 'Labour Must Quit N A T O, Close Rocket Bases, Stop Making H-Bombs'. A firm stand on the Scarborough decisions was the keynote of these marchers.

The Young Communist League was also prominent in the marches. Trade unions, too, were demonstrating their solidarity in the fight against the bomb. Banners previously reserved only for May Day and strikes now took the road to

Trafalgar Square. Labour Parties had their members striding along with the youth of the Party.

German Delegation

International contingents gave colour and weight to the demonstration. USA, France, Israel, Ghana: country after country were present. Late on Friday night the marchers were joined by a German delegation some 400 strong. These were young metal workers who had travelled many hours to join the protest. This was a big change to previous years. The international section was not only stronger, but it was young trade unionists who were giving it the strength.

100,000 Greet them

The march through London, though in pouring rain, gathered strength and when, thanks to excellent organisation, the two marches came together at Whitehall, some 32,000 entered Trafalgar Square. Here over 100,000 waited to greet them.

As the marchers gathered they heard the message of solidarity and greetings from the Young Socialist Conference which had met that week-end.

This was the fourth march. Still the great need is to bring the emphasis on the participation and struggle within the Labour movement. We must win those young people who demonstrated into the ranks of the Young Socialists and give their beliefs a political backing.



Keep Left banner on the march.

ALGERIA

French Workers Demand End to Bloody War

By Barry Jones

FOR over seven years the Algerians have fought for freedom. This has been one of the bitterest conflicts in the long history of colonial struggle for independence. French imperialism mobilized in its notorious paratroop regiments and Foreign Legion the fascist dregs of Europe. Brutal torture of the most hideous kind was the stock in trade of these 'supermen'. But they could not halt the fight for freedom.

This long, drawn-out war was gradually making France bankrupt. The French imperialists were divided amongst themselves. One section felt the war was too costly and that peace should be negotiated and the other, mainly the colons of Algeria, insisted that the war should continue.

In May 1958 General Charles de Gaulle assumed dictatorial powers in a last-ditch effort to stabilize the French economy. This brought him into open conflict with the colons.

Labour Movement

Although de Gaulle has triumphed over the mutiny of the French army generals in Algeria he has done so with the realization that had it not been for the Labour movement intervening energetically against the pro-Fascists in Algeria, he might well have been defeated.

This is cold comfort for de Gaulle. He represents French capitalism which is now in great difficulties. Those who have mutinied did not stand alone. They obviously have friends in high places, even inside de Gaulle's administration. The general has

paid a heavy price for defeating them.

He faces growing demands from the trade unions and working-class organizations for improvements in living standards. More and more the French working class are refusing to pay the bill for the war in Algeria. De Gaulle knows very well that it will not be long before he has to turn against those on the Left who helped him to defeat the mutinous generals.

The Real Face

Like President Kennedy of the United States he is a staunch supporter of capitalism. As he is forced more and more to oppose the working class, so he will in his own way open avenues for regrouping the 'extreme' Right-wing Fascist forces.

For the time being he will try to keep them in reserve and at the same time reduce living standards as much as possible.

Stormy days are ahead for France. After the Belgian general strike the French working class can be expected to press forward their just demands in the next period. It is then that we shall see the real face of General de Gaulle.



One Hour Token Strike by Car Workers

Car workers from the Renault factory in the Boulogne Billancourt district of Paris staged a one-hour token strike on April 24 to protest against the fascist coup in Algiers. Their banners demanded: 'Peace in Algeria', 'Stop Fascism', and 'Jail the Felon Generals'.



Angry Parisians Demonstrate

In another part of the capital tens of thousands of angry Parisian workers gathered in a railway station and demonstrated against the French generals power-grab. They, too, had led a token strike. The strength and militancy of French workers must be giving de Gaulle many sleepless nights!

THE Monroe Doctrine's most important provision is 'hands off the American republics', meaning in effect that no non-American country, like Britain or the Soviet Union, can do political business of the highest importance with states on or off the American continent without the approval of 'Uncle Sam'.

Yes, until the Cuban Revolution burst upon the Western hemisphere like the revelations of Christ among the ancient Jews, the USA had been directing, exploiting and punishing its unhappy neighbours with ease, smugness and typical capitalist ruthlessness.

Sponsoring

By secretly sponsoring, through the notorious Alan Dulles, those rapacious, well equipped hordes of reactionary, mercenary and Batista loving counter-revolutionaries to overcome the legitimate regime of Dr. Castro, President Kennedy, the 'liberal' saviour of the 'Free World', is committing infanticide.

How come? Simply by the fact that the regime Kennedy wants to murder is the child of American economic imperialism, the reaction of a rich in resources, but impoverished country, that for too long has known itself to be a subject nation with 10 per cent unemployment

due to the policies of its masters. It now seeks a place of respect and independence in the world.

True, Fidel Castro has made what appears to many Western eyes to be 'mistakes'. He has seized much property indiscriminately and his outspoken language is often appalling.

President Eisenhower did not give the young fledgling friendly advice to set a steady course, but ostracized him from the start, prompted by the lobbying of the dispossessed monopolistic sugar company that dominated Cuban agriculture. Kennedy now shows no change of heart, declaring that since Cuba takes Russian oil, weapons and economic aid, Castro is a communist.

Socialist

But the point is that Cuba is forced to do these things because these necessities are not forthcoming from 'Uncle Sam'.

Castro, the experts admit, is no communist, but a good enthusiastic socialist. What the Americans fear is not that Dr. Castro's government may turn out to be communist, but that it is socialist in the least degree, that for instance, its ideals are that of the British Labour movement. In fact, the American attitude is one of intolerant hatred of socialism in any form whatsoever.

Hands off Cuba!

By R. B. Heisler
Hackney Central YS



London:
Keep Left
supporters
on protest
march
against
Cuban
invasion.

Against the Tories and Their Bomb' said the headline of the **Keep Left** being sold at Beaver Hall, London, at Easter 1961. The 360 delegates assembled for this first National Conference of the Young Socialists proved this true. Over two days of vigorous and sometimes violent debate, a programme for the building of a socialist youth movement was hammered out.

These Young Socialists wanted to do serious battle with the Tories and the employers. "Fight the Tories" and "Reject Gaitskell's policies" was the order of the day. This came out in the debates on the

In this debate, the delegate from Barking spoke of the recent struggles of the Sunpak girls, young seamen, engineering apprentices and A.A. clerical workers for better working conditions. He went on "These young workers have seen the real face of the Tories and if we go out to win them on the basis of a programme of socialist nationalization, then we can recruit thousands to the Young Socialists." Conference endorsed this view by passing both resolutions by an overwhelming majority.

The delegate from the Bury and Radcliffe Young Socialists had great difficulty in making himself heard when he proposed his resolu-

ference at Scarborough on Defence and Nationalization. It urged the National Executive Committee and the Parliamentary Labour Party to accept these decisions and called

(Glasgow) made the point "We have heard a lot of talk today about Party unity—and about how we would all like to get together. How can we unite in a Party when we have a leadership that opposes Party unity and is going to expel, witch-hunt and withdraw the whip from those who support Conference

First Annual of Young

BEAVER HALL, APRIL

DISARMAMENT

This Conference, believing that the following steps are a necessary pre-requisite to the achievement of general and complete disarmament, calls upon the Labour Party to campaign for:—

- (a) the cessation of the manufacture, testing and storing of nuclear weapons by Great Britain;
- (b) the removal of all nuclear bases from British soil and the withdrawal from N.A.T.O.
- (c) the discontinuance of Hydrogen Bomber patrol flights over British soil;
- (d) the pursuit of world peace through the co-operation with other genuine Labour Movements throughout the World.

On the acceptance of these, this Conference wishes to send a message of goodwill and solidarity to those people marching from Wethersfield and Aldermaston to London.

Moved by MIDDLETON & PRESTWICH C.L.P. Seconded by HORNCHURCH C.L.P.
CARRIED—For 222 : Against 97

Health Service charges, nationalization and disarmament.

The issue of unilateral nuclear disarmament provoked the longest and stormiest of the conference. The decision adopted by the 1960 Scarborough conference of the Labour Party were endorsed enthusiastically by Labour's youth movement.

tion on the Scarborough decisions and Mr. Gaitskell. Opponents of the Scarborough decisions constantly interrupted him with slow handclaps and jeers. Left wing delegates eventually effectively stopped these interruptions by drowning them with applause.

The resolution endorsed the decisions of the Labour Party Con-

upon the new National Committee of the Young Socialists to meet the National Executive Committee to plan a campaign to popularise this programme amongst youth.

The resolution concluded—"Conference has no confidence in a leader of the Party who persists in an undemocratic fight against Conference decisions and, therefore,

decisions?"

In view of the policy resolutions which were carried, many Young Socialists will be surprised at the voting on Keep Left.

It is worth noting that many of the outstanding resolutions, which conference approved with large

NATIONALISATION

This Conference pledges full support to railway workers, miners and other workers in nationalised industries who defend their industries against Tory plans to return them to private enterprise.

It fully supports the stand taken by the Labour Party and Trade Union Conferences in endorsing Clause IV of the Labour Party Constitution and resolves to campaign within the Labour Movement for the implementation of Clause IV.

Conference, therefore, calls upon the National Executive Committee to campaign for a programme of the nationalisation of engineering, aircraft, shipbuilding, chemicals, banks, insurance companies and the land.

Conference considers that when the jobs of many young workers are becoming involved in disputes, Young Socialists can successfully use this policy for recruitment.

Moved by BARKING C.L.P. Seconded by NOTTINGHAM NORTH.
CARRIED.

Conference expressed concern over the many problems that affect young people. Delegates went on to propose answers and actions on these problems. Improvements in the apprenticeship system, the vote at 18 and better educational facilities were demanded.

Labour youth are determined to obtain democratic rights in the struggle for socialism. One of the main grievances over the past months has been the gag placed on discussion of political resolutions at Federation level. Delegates demanded the right to discuss political resolutions at all levels.

Two composite resolutions on nationalization were presented to delegates.

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with

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calls for the resignation of Mr. Gaitskell as Leader of the Party."

The delegate from Ebbw Vale declared his support for the resolution and asked "Where are our decisions made? In a conference of Labour Party members, or over coffee and biscuits in Frogmal Lane?" The representatives of Labour youth gathered in Beaver Hall answered this question by passing the resolution by a large majority.

An emergency motion calling for the re-instatement of Konni Zilliacus to Party membership and the return of the whip to the five M.P.s was carried by 193 votes to 96.

In the discussion on this motion the delegate from Craighton

majorities, were moved and seconded by branches which sponsored Keep Left.

Practically every resolution carried at the conference was in line with the policy of Keep Left.

For several months prior to the conference Right wing agents had been busily propagating Trotskyist scare stories in order to divert the

APPRENTICESHIP

This conference requests permission to investigate the abuses regard to:—

- (a) Improvement in wages
- (b) a reduction in the length of apprenticeship
- (c) better educational facilities
- (d) ending of Bound Apprenticeship
- (e) the removal of any legal strike action.

In view of the fact that Conference produce an increase in the number particularly in small firms, Conference demand legislative action to apprenticeships and Government

Seconded

CONFERENCE

YOUNG SOCIALISTS

This Conference instructs Young Socialists to draw up a new constitution, which will give more freedom of representation from the adult party and a recognition of need for ratification of the constitution.

It also believes that:—

- (a) All officers should be elected by the Young Socialists
- (b) there should be no attempts to infringe official Party machinery
- (c) that Young Socialists should be consulted at all levels.

This should be done in the form of a resolution to remain an integral part of the Labour Party.

Moved by TOXTETH C.

Conference Socialists

L 1st & 2nd 1961

attention of Young Socialists from the fact that the paper was defending the Scarborough conference decisions.

During the secret session on Saturday afternoon many delegates were deliberately confused by the platform on the role of Keep Left.

So great was the confusion that if

APPRENTICESHIPS

Labour Party to set up a committee of the apprenticeship system with

of apprenticeships;

es;

iceships;

to taking and to participating in

Government exhortation has failed to

of apprenticeships available, par-

calls upon the Labour Party to

ce employers to provide such

ion to supplement private schemes.

ved by CHESTERFIELD C.L.P.

by ISLINGTON NORTH C.L.P.

CARRIED.

we examine the voting figures it can be seen that at least 29 delegates voted for the Right-wing Leyton resolution against Keep Left as well as for the Wigan composite motion supporting the paper.

United Nations. Mr. Gunter alleged that Keep Left is in oppo-

CONTROL OF THE ORGANISATION

National Committee of the Young

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Party.

Seconded by CHELSEA C.L.P.

CARRIED.

sition to UNO. We have had occasion to criticise UNO sharply in relation to its role in the Congo. It was the facilities afforded by airfields under the control of UNO troops that enabled Patrice Lumumba to be transported to the province of Katanga where he was murdered.

Secondly, Mr. Gunter spoke

about our differences with the late Aneurin Bevan. It should be borne in mind that the same Mr. Gunter ardently supported the Gaitskell faction when they were attempting

We did, however, disagree with Aneurin Bevan when he supported the H-Bomb and spoke against the first unilateralist resolution on behalf of the Right-wing N.E.C. at the 1957 Brighton Conference.

Keep Left appreciates very much the courageous action of Roger Protz the editor of New Advance who produced a statement outlining his views on the paper for the delegates. He was prevented by Reg Underhill, Assistant National Agent, from speaking at the conference because he was an employee of Transport House.

We appreciate his stand all the more because it coincides with the policy of Keep Left in relation to a

Transport House, in other words as a subsidiary of the Right-wing propaganda machine, it has no future. The real point with which Roger Protz emphasized and with which we agree is that Young Socialists must have their own paper. Keep Left will continue the struggle for this in the months ahead.

Keep Left pledges itself to carry out the political policies decided by conference. We remain convinced that the Right-wing National Executive Committee of the Party will either ignore or shelve these policies. They have no intention of carrying them out.

The only one which they may attempt to put into practice is the

"NEW ADVANCE"

This Conference demands that "New Advance" be democratically controlled by the Young Socialists, otherwise the paper can be of no value to the organisation as a whole. Therefore there must be:-

- An Editorial Board comprising one member elected by each region to meet not less than monthly to decide the contents and policy of the paper within the lines laid down by the National Conference and the National Committee of the Young Socialists;
- An Editor to superintend the carrying out of the decisions of the Editorial Board and appointed by the National Committee of the Young Socialists. The Editor and members of the Editorial Board must be members of the Young Socialists.

Moved by SHOREDITCH & FINSBURY C.L.P.

Seconded by HENDON NORTH C.L.P.

CARRIED—For 180 : Against 130

to expel Aneurin Bevan from the Labour Party in 1955. At that time Keep Left did everything it could to oppose such action and to defend Aneurin Bevan.

socialist youth paper controlled and run by the members. Keep Left is such a paper. As long as New Advance continues to be run by the Press and Publicity Department at

attack on Keep Left. We are confident, however, that they will be defeated if they should try this. Our paper has a solid basis in the ranks of the Young Socialists.

"KEEP LEFT"

This Conference expresses its concern at the activities of the unofficial "Keep Left" movement, and in particular the policies of its paper "Keep Left".

It believes that the fullest scope for political activities and organisation is to be found in the Constitution of Young Socialists, and knowingly or unknowingly those members who take part in organisations such as that supporting "Keep Left" are acting in a manner that might be calculated to disrupt the present Young Socialists organisation.

Moved by LEYTON C.L.P. Seconded by CHIGWELL C.L.P.

CARRIED—For 201 : Against 116

This Conference deplores the action of the National Executive Committee in banning the publication of the Young Socialist paper "Keep Left". This paper has consistently fought for the implementation of the Scarborough decisions. Conference believes that the banning of this paper is a deliberate attempt by the leaders of the right-wing to use the party machine against the Labour Party decisions as decided at the Scarborough Conference 1960.

We stand by the principle that Young Socialists should produce what publications they think necessary in the struggle for Socialism.

It demands that no ban be placed on the publication and distribution of "Keep Left".

Moved by WIGAN C.L.P. Seconded by COVENTRY BOROUGH L.P.

DEFEATED—For 148 : Against 172

REPORT OF THE FIRST ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF YOUNG SOCIALISTS

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Gaitskell Must Go!**

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The Story of Labour Youth



A Keep Left Pamphlet By PAT SHORRILL Price: One Shilling

'Dear Comrade Editor' . . . speak

UNO Is Not Neutral

ONE bitter lesson the world Labour movement should have learnt by now is that they can have no common interest with their rulers on any question.

There can be no neutral 'super-class' organizations. On this point I disagree radically with the views of Robin Grove in the last issue. The United Nations is based on an overwhelming majority of capitalist nations—the security council reflects this domination.

The alleged existence of a large bloc of 'non-committed' nations is often quoted. But in reality these

Implement Decision On New Advance

'This branch of the Young Socialists insists that the resolution passed by the Easter YS National Conference demanding that New Advance be placed under the control of the Young Socialist movement be implemented as soon as possible and protests against the fact that full-time officials of Transport House were able to suspend Protz.'

North St. Pancras YS

nations by their capitalist basis of production are very heavily committed to capitalism.

The UNO Congo operations are a real object lesson for serious socialists. The whole range of NATO nations had important interests to protect in the Congo. There are two NATO bases and large uranium, copper and diamond mines. Face to face with these interests was the MNC of Lumumba. The MNC was basically a trade union organization which since the war has made some major advances.

To smash the MNC it was necessary for the capitalist nations to cling together and the UNO swung into action, handing over the power to the Tshombe-Mobutu-Kasavubu clique.

The imperialist nature of the intervention was hidden by the use of Afro-Asian troops but is exposed by an investigation of the control of these troops. The Tunisian troops had officers drafted from de Gaulle's army, the Ghanaians were led by General Alexander and the Moroccans by General Kettani who led French imperialism in Indo-China.

Our opposition to the UNO must not be opposition to internationalism but opposition to the international co-operation of capitalism—against this we should pose the internationalism of the world Labour movements.

CHRIS SAMES
Sutton YS

Excellent!

THEORETICALLY the United Nations is an excellent organization. It is not enough to rest on common loyalty and the honourable obligations of unwritten constitutions. Economic problems of most nations are similar, and UNO is a public recognition that isolation is an anachronism. It gives self-governing colonies a chance to speak, and to break away from their motherland on controversial issues.

But the process of decay has already begun, even sooner than it did in the League of Nations. For example, the scant respect shown by the states concerned over Palestine and South-West Africa and the growing tendency to by-pass it in making such projects as the Marshall plan for American aid to Europe; the formation of NATO; the argument over the admission of China; and the alignment of forces in the Korean war.

And recently, the use of the British vote on colonial affairs. Out of the 22 resolutions that have been put, Britain voted with America on 16 of them. Britain **abstained** on a resolution to ensure political rights and freedom for all inhabitants of South West Africa, **abstained** on a resolution deploring apartheid and voted **against** a resolution deploring additional representation for the African states on the Economic, Social and Security Councils.

Wasn't the British delegate mandated to vote against apartheid after the House of Commons' resolution in December? We cannot allow the Tory government to disgrace us with its hypocrisy!

DYAN WADE
Ealing South YS

American Working Class?

I WAS amused to read in your April 1961 edition that 'the main force that will prevent the United States going to war on the Soviet Union is the American working class.'

There is no American workingclass worthy of the name which could be recognised as such by a sectarian Left-winger. I would quote Heilbroner, the figures are for 1950:

'Significantly, the factory worker, Karl Marx's beloved proletariat and the proverbial underdog of capitalism—is **not** to be found among the ranks of the poor. The worker in an average manufacturing establishment makes thirty five hundred dollars a year and one in five makes over five thousand.

'The truly poor in America are not the working class but its fringes, and remnants of the old pioneering element. One family out of ten shared in the national wealth only to the extent of twenty dollars a week.

'These were the economic zeros of the nation; the aged, the handicapped, the pathologically unfit, the tenants on backwash farms, and a large

Support Protz

'We, the Young Socialists of Aston Manor, support Roger Protz in his fight against the undemocratic way in which the Right-wing section of the Labour Party has treated him as Editor of New Advance.'

number of the Negro population. . . . One family out of the remaining nine fed and clothed and housed itself and perhaps went occasionally to the movies on an income of two thousand dollars a year. . . .

'Add all this together and you reach the appalling figure of thirty-five million Americans who drag behind in the parade of wealth. . . . To one American family out of four the idea of capitalism as a benign system of comfort, dignity and

personal advance is only a myth, or worse, a bitter mockery.'

Clearly the factory workers as a whole in America and the USA are quite comfortable under the present system. The requisite, according to Marx, of any successful movement against the bourgeoisie, an underprivileged, underpaid proletariat, does not exist.

Of course, there is a peace movement in the USA but supported mainly by students and beatniks, yet the support for the un-American activities investigations shows that the rest of the population emphatically disagrees with them.

So your brave slogan 'Labour and Labor Unite Against British and American Imperialism' is, unfortunately, a little unrealistic.

J. INGERSON
Ruislip

Whose Bomb?

ALTHOUGH this year's Aldermaston and Wethersfield marches, comprising mainly young people, were much bigger than ever before, the ideas of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament are still not supported by many young workers.

Supporters of CND are often told by young miners and factory workers that they are anti-British and that we would be leaving Britain unprotected by giving up the H-bomb.

Britain relies for its existence on industry and because that industry is for the most part privately owned then obviously the men who control and own the industry also hold the reins of the country. British foreign policy, therefore, has always been run in the interests of the bosses of big business.

When President Kennedy says that he will take any risks to protect the capitalist system and when American statesmen have said, 'We will die sooner than be overcome', there should be no doubt in our minds that if the people of Britain or the USA decided to throw out those thieves and gangsters, the ultimate deterrent would be used to deter them.

If the Soviet Union, with her planned economy, began to take too big a share of world markets, the men who say that the West would never use this weapon first, would become ministering angels of excruciating lingering death and catastrophic destruction.

We must decide now to disarm these people in whose already bloody, irresponsible hands lies the fate of all mankind.

The Labour movements of Britain and America must organize the people to take industrial action against the retention and manufacture of all H-bombs and nuclear missiles.

JACK KILLINGBACK
Nottingham

Little Benn v. the Big Boys

SO Mr. W. Benn doesn't want to enter the House of Lords. This makes a change from the leaders of the Labour Party, and indeed most of the Labour MPs, who continually bow down before the capitalist class for just such an opportunity. Why would the majority of the Parliamentary Labour Party vote in favour of the retention of the House of Lords unless they had hopes of one day receiving this highest possible reward for services rendered to Queen and country?

However, this is only to be expected from a system whereby a person is elected to a position for a period of five years, during which time he is answerable to nobody (not even annual conference), and who receives either an exorbitant salary or the chance to make one in outside business, providing that he doesn't anger the ruling class too much.

This inevitably leads to the cult of the individual, with personal interests being put before the interests of the community as a whole, and the working class repeatedly being sold out in the endless manoeuvring for prestige among the chosen few. Add to this the tremendous part played during elections by finance, and we see what a hoax this 'democracy' is.

RAY MUSGROVE
Ealing South YS

Good Luck Benn

Delegates to the YS Conference signed a letter wishing Tony Wedgwood Benn good luck in his campaign to stay out of the House of Lords.

Increase Labour Vote

THE highest poll at Dagenham in the council elections was recorded at Chadwell Heath where all three candidates, Labour, Liberal and Conservative polled over 1,000 votes each.

Being a marginal seat at last year's elections, Dagenham YS and Dagenham Divisional Party joined together to make a concentrated attack on this area, touring every street with loud speakers, taking people by car to the polls and knocking on doors.

The result was extremely gratifying. The Labour candidate was returned with a larger majority.

All branches of the Young Socialists can do a great deal to increase the Labour vote in their areas. I urge all branches to make a great effort in the coming Borough elections in May.

VALERIE SALMON
Dagenham YS

Should We Help Right-Wing Candidates?

THE Right of the Labour Party are jubilant at the return of Dennis Howell with an increased majority at Birmingham. This proves the correctness of the Gaitskell line and Hutchinson in the Herald, March 24, says that this reinforces Mr. Gaitskell's argument that if the party fought on a unilateralist ticket, they would lose a hundred seats. How, he does not explain.

Most of the press the next morning were pleased with the result, the Express telling its readers that this was a victory for Gaitskell and his policy, even gloating at the smallness of the Tory vote with its headline 'Votes slam the Tories!'

In view of this, one wonders what business it was of the socialist Keep Left youth and the CND to canvass and campaign on behalf of a candidate that is opposed to the Left and who will certainly do his best to see that the Scarborough decision is thrown out!

SYDNEY BARTON
Hornsey

your mind in KL

Hypocrisy

FOR years Right-wing members of the Labour Party, and recently New Advance, have said that unilateralists are pursuing their policy to break up the party.

However, recently, after the withdrawal of South Africa from the Commonwealth, the same Right-wing members and New Advance thought this was the best thing, even though it weakens the Commonwealth.

They should stop this hypocrisy as they want their own way at any price.

The Commonwealth should not stand for racial segregation nor the Labour Party for mass murder.

D. HENDERSON
Stanley Y S

Apology

IN the December issue of Keep Left, under the heading 'Essex Threatened', there appeared a report of the December 3 meeting of the Metropolitan Essex Federation of the Young Socialists.

In this report it was stated that Mr. D. Garnett, the Eastern Region organizer had said at one point in the proceedings: 'Don't force me to shut down this Federation.'

At the March 18 meeting of the Federation, minutes were accepted which reported Mr. Garnett as having said: 'Don't force me to take any action.'

In view of this, I would like to take the opportunity as the author of the article, to apologize to Mr.

Garnett for any inconvenience or embarrassment that the article may have caused him.

DENNIS GILLIGAN
Barking Y S

Thanks Bedford!

OUR group was formed last October and we have a membership of 30. Members come from varying walks of life and include a journalist, a teacher, a philosophy student, apprentices and people still at school.

Ten of our number marched behind the Bedford Y S banner from Wethersfield to Trafalgar Square. On Saturday, April 8, our social secretary, Monica Wilmer, organized a visit to the Cambridge Theatre to see 'Billy Liar'.

Other meetings include a table tennis tournament with apprentices from Allens—a local factory; a talk entitled 'Education and the Labour Party'; and a discussion with the local Young Communists. Denis Cox, who is on the staff of the Bedford Times, has organized a group of canvassers for the forthcoming county and borough elections.

Our committee decided to sponsor Keep Left because we support it in its aims of campaigning for more nationalization, for freedom for the colonial peoples, for building a mass Labour youth movement and above all for its condemnation of the defence policy of the Right wing of the Labour Party.

JENNIFER APPS
Bedford Y S

'WORKING CLASS' WOODY LIVES IN STYLE

By Jim Maitland

REPRODUCED here are a number of extracts from an article printed in the magazine 'Housewife', October 1959 edition. Entitled 'The House in My Life', this article was written by Lady Moorea Wyatt, wife of Woodrow Wyatt, Labour Member of Parliament for Bosworth (Leics.).

All members of the Labour Party will no doubt wish to join in congratulating Woodrow Wyatt on the brilliant success of his campaign to cut surtax, and will rejoice in the knowledge that one of their comrades has struck a mighty blow in the defence of his standard of living.

DISPELLED

Any doubts that may have been felt by the Party Executive at Comrade Wyatt's writing for the Big Business organization Aims of Industry, must now be quite dispelled. The Chancellor of the Exchequer has accepted and implemented recommendations in respect of taxation from a member of the Opposition.

The House in Their Lives is 'Tower House', London, N.W.1, one of the last Regency houses designed by John Nash, and owned during the last war by Norman Hartnell.

Lady Moorea comments:

'The main hall chandelier was a problem—it is seen from underneath and then, climbing the stairs, from above. So many chandeliers, wired

for electricity, show their works on top—masses of wires and bare bulbs—I had to give up all idea of those splendid glass-dripping varieties and bought an ormolu one with candle bulbs. The wires are the same colour as the gilt so they don't show.'

What genius! Thus Woodrow, on his way to bed and hard earned rest will, presumably, be spared any embarrassing thoughts about the E T U.

The Wyatts don't go in for old port and roast pheasant. They leave that to their class enemy, the Tories. 'We have three courses, one cold in winter, two cold in summer. In winter it is often soup, probably Bisque d'Homard followed by game; then Monte Bianco made with fresh chestnuts, and fruit salad for those who find it too rich.'

With regard to the problem of servants and their lazy and careless habits nowadays, the Wyatts have taken due precautions.

SILVER PLATE

'Slowly we have collected silver knives, spoons and forks. My latest buy, which I insist is also a long-term economy, is a set of silver plates which I got at a sale. I counted up the number of plates broken in the last two years, multiplied it by forty (I assumed I shall have a fairly long life), allowed for increased prices in china and the saving came to £532.'

And lest we should be anxious for the welfare of our comrade, Lady Moorea tells us that they keep a flat in Milan.

Around the Regions with Keep Left Reporters

'I WANT to forget that Conference', bemoaned Arthur Johnson, Lancs. Regional Youth Officer, in his Chairman's address to the Regional half-day school, on April 9. Only 22 delegates turned up to hear the report of Reg Underhill, Assistant National Agent, on the development of the Young Socialists.

The Runcorn delegate asked if a full report of the conference would be made available. 'A report will appear in New Advance, but it will only deal with the main points. We don't want columns of dry resolutions.'

Liz Thompson, newly elected National Committee member, asked, 'Why was Roger Protz not given permission to speak at the conference on the statement he issued to delegates as Editor of New Advance, and was in fact man-handled from the platform?'

Employee

Mr. Underhill replied, 'Protz was there as a journalist on behalf of the NEC. He was only allowed into the conference as a member of the staff. Therefore as a member of the staff he must not speak against his employer.'

'Keep Left should be told to go to blazes. They are disruptive. They visit branches and canvass for support.'

The Wigan delegate challenged this view of Mr. Underhill and instanced her own branch.

'We have 337 members. We are fighting a Tory stronghold in the coming May elections. Our members are active in the local Labour movement. We have used Keep Left to build our branch. Yes, we have visited other branches, and other branches have visited us regularly. The outcome of these exchanges has been to strengthen the Young Socialists all round.'



Liz Thompson

Mr. Underhill was critical of one delegate who had challenged his statement that 'the Labour Party has given you this national organization.'

The delegate pointed out that it was the 'working class who built the Labour Party, and therefore it

isn't the Labour Party that is giving anything to working class youth.' Mr. Johnson smiled approvingly as Mr. Underhill replied 'Don't use big words.'

D. COVENTRY

S. E. Essex

A CLASH of policy was one of the highlights of the South East Essex Federation's annual general meeting which was held recently at the Labour Hall, Boston Avenue, Southend. Mr. Steve Drewer, president, in his opening address expressed the importance of Young Socialist members supporting such progressive organizations as the CND and MCF.

The Basildon branch then moved that:

'This Federation, whilst realizing as Young Socialists and members of the Labour Party, that there are certain basic duties towards the Labour Party, condemn restrictions on members which are akin to witch-hunting, and we consider a more intelligent attitude by the NEC in accepting the obvious militancy of the Y S will assist in bringing a greater unity in the party.'

This was in direct contrast to a previous motion moved by an executive committee member and backed by the regional youth officer

in December which was a direct attack on Keep Left. It spoke of the paper as an 'organization' whose aim it was to disrupt the Y S movement by installing 'communist like' ideas.

Trickery

One delegate speaking in favour of the Basildon resolution referred to the attitude of the above people as deplorable and sheer undemocratic trickery. He went on to say that after reading some copies of Keep Left he clearly saw that it was not an organization but an extreme Left-wing socialist newspaper, striving for Labour Party conference decisions and unilateral disarmament.

He ended by saying that it was doing good work for the Labour Party. The other delegates greeted these words with applause.

The resolution was accepted by an overwhelming majority, and it was decided to delete the previous one from the minutes.

Another resolution passed was:

'This Federation, recognizing the need for greater liaison between Young Socialists, considers that a widening of the scope and the introduction of political education would stimulate further interest and activity.'

It was also agreed that the Federation will affiliate to the MCF. It is hoped to run many social events in the coming year.

RODNEY ALLEN

Workers of the World Rally on May Day

ALL over the world the working class demonstrates on May Day. How did May Day come about? It was first set aside as a day for universal working class demonstrations by the First Congress of the Second International, meeting in Paris in 1889. May 1 was chosen mainly because of events in 1886.

On May 1, 1886, Chicago workers had come out on strike for the eight-hour day. During an armed police attack on the picket lines somebody threw a bomb which killed seven policemen. The culprit, who was never discovered, was believed to be an employers' agent.

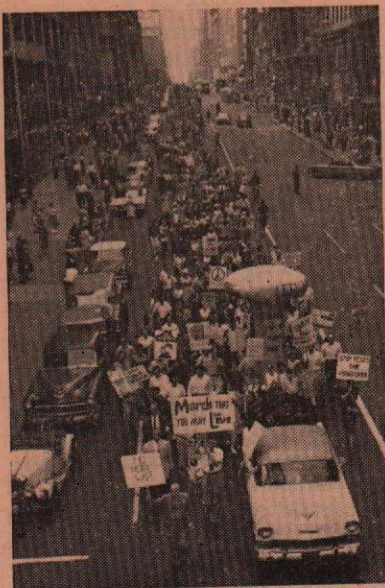
This incident was used as the pretext for unleashing a reign of terror on the labour movement. Eight anarchists were arrested and charged with First Degree murder.

Executions

The trial was a farce. The radical political opinions of the accused were the only 'proof' of their guilt. A handpicked jury sentenced them to death after a big press campaign.

Only a world-wide protest saved four of the men from execution.

The first May demonstration was held in London, Sunday May 4, 1890 when about 100,000 joined the procession and 250,000 people gathered in Hyde Park. Despite bans on processions there were widespread strikes and demonstrations throughout Europe.



Courtesy 'Young Socialist' U S A

New Yorkers March

Easter 1960. New Yorkers, mainly high school and college students, march for disarmament and an end to the testing of nuclear weapons through the streets of the city.

The world has changed a great deal since that first May Day. Most important of all the October Revolution of 1917 represents a great landmark in the struggle of the international working class.

Soviet Union

Admiration for the achievements of Soviet science, however, is no substitute for the further advancement of these struggles. The achievements of Russian scientists stimulate imperialism to even greater military efforts to catch up. Only the working class can break this deadlock.

The policies of the present leaders of the Soviet Union for peace through negotiations with capitalist statesmen are not the way to remove the threat of nuclear war or to bring socialism.

The struggles of the Belgian workers, the Japanese youth, and young Africans over the last year show the way forward. Only the successful outcome of these struggles can safeguard the great achievements of Soviet science by overthrowing capitalism and building socialism throughout the world.

MARK JENKINS

Jazz Social

Saturday, May 13
7.30-11 p.m.

Seymour Hall, London, W.1
(near Marble Arch Tube)

Admission 3s. Bar

KEEP LEFT SCHOOL

The Tonbridge Club,
Judd Street, W.C.1.
(near Kings Cross Tube)

Sunday, May 28, 1961

3.30 p.m.
The Colonial Revolution
7.0 p.m.
The Young Socialists

Write at once to 9 Salisbury Court,
Spur Road, Edgware, Middx., for
details and tickets.



From Canada . . .

THE Canadian Young Socialist Alliance sends warmest May Day greetings to Keep Left, the fighting paper of British Young Socialists.

We congratulate Keep Left for being in the forefront of the anti-war struggle, never ceasing to demonstrate that the fight against the H-bomb is part of the class struggle and not simply a question of the bomb itself.

A major victory was won by the vote of the last Canadian Co-operative Federation Convention in favour of withdrawal from NATO, but in order to retain this decision, and to secure a socialist programme for the new party, the battle will continue.

We are confident that by our combined efforts we will be able to strengthen each other, and that in the future, as well as in the past, you may be assured that you are not alone.

Gagarin

STATE PLANNING WINS— EVERY TIME!

IN 1917 the Soviet Union was a nation of illiterate peasants, a small working class, no scientific or technological skill, and with very little exploration of her mineral resources. In 1961 a Soviet cosmonaut was projected 180 miles into space, to circle the globe and return to a pre-selected landing spot—all in 89 minutes 6 seconds.

How was it possible to advance so far in 44 years? It required a planned economy; the planned direction of resources, research, manufacture, and the tremendous educational projects which have created a literate and cultured working class.

The emphasis on the development of science and technology, and all these features of Soviet society, are the direct result of the October revolution.

'A STUNT'

The capitalistic press have tried to play down this wonderful achievement. Sir Harry Massie, chairman of the British National Space Committee, said in the Express, 'There is no justification for an expensive man-in-space programme, from the scientific point of view.' Sir Marcus Oliphant called it 'a stunt'. 'The flight was only brought about by sacrificing all scientific and technological advancements in other industries.' This is obviously nonsense. Gagarin's flight was only achieved by the co-operation and mutual research of all major industries.

The accuracy with which his flight was controlled—a difference

From USA . . .

THE American Socialist Alliance extends warm fraternal greetings to the supporters of Keep Left on May Day, the international holiday of labour.

We have followed with great interest the struggle of Keep Left among the Labour Party youth and the CND. The decisions of the recent YS conference can in large measure, we feel, be attributed to your efforts to build a strong Young Socialist movement.

Now more than ever it is crucially important to educate a new generation of youth to socialism: to fight for the idea that the working people of the world can rely on no outside force—no heads of capitalist governments, no United Nations, no Kremlin bureaucracy—to end war and establish socialism. Only the working class itself, organized and conscious of its aims, can accomplish this.

of one foot when the spaceship 'Vostok' began to descend would have meant an eventual difference of 30 miles to his landing spot, or a few miles too fast and it would have burned to a cinder—was only made possible by every component of the rocket and control gear being of the highest standard.

All this called for new and exacting industries. In the electronic and servo field new transmitting and receiving techniques were needed, and the existing forms of remote electronic control had to be mastered and perfected.

FUEL RESEARCH

New demands were made on the fuel technologist. A fuel was required that was low in weight, had safe handling properties, and which would be capable of delivering the 200,000 pounds per square inch thrust necessary to lift the 4½ ton 'Vostok', together with its 150 ton mother rocket, into orbit.

All this was a result of the social relations established by the October Revolution. To the workers, scientists and technologists of the Soviet Union we send our sincerest congratulations.

JOHN LEVY