

# KEEP LEFT

OFFICIAL WEEKLY PAPER  
OF THE YOUNG SOCIALISTS

SATURDAY, MAY 12, 1973  
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## The bugs of Watergate

THE WATERGATE whitewashing operations by Nixon's administration have taken a further development this week.

New nominee for the vacant post of Attorney-General is Elliot Richardson—now Nixon's Defence Secretary. He is a staunch Republican and has so far not been tainted by the Watergate bugging affair.

As Attorney-General he will appoint an 'independent' investigator into the whole sordid affair. However, Richardson has announced that he won't reveal the name of his investigator until the Senate has confirmed his own appointment.

There is an added factor—Richardson would be responsible only to the President who is indecently keen on establishing his own innocence.

So, armed presumably with an outsize bucket of whitewash, Richardson should be all set to 'clean out' the White House. He has a mammoth task. There are 14 principal characters involved besides Nixon himself.

● See story page ten.



Four-page student supplement inside



## Union leaders to visit Downing Street again

ONLY A FEW days after one of the most powerful May Day strikes ever, the trade union leaders have officially accepted the trap of the Tory corporate state.

The trade union bureaucracy is on the dangerous brink of signing a deal with the Tory government. Such a deal would leave millions of workers exposed to the biggest attacks ever from a government which is armed to the teeth with anti-working class legislation.

The Tories will not hesitate to use this legislation.

Victor Feather has already declared his willingness to co-operate with Phases Two and Three of the state pay laws. He has defended the Tory government on a number of occasions. Last Tuesday he told an 'anti-inflation' conference:

'When people talk of the corporate state, they often think of Mussolini. But I don't need to remind anybody that Mussolini banned trade unions as one of the first things he did.

'That is exactly the opposite of a genuine negotiation between a democratic trade union movement and a democratic government.'

It was with this 'democratic' government that Feather had the latest round of secret talks on the economy.

Last Wednesday, after a meeting of the TUC economic committee, Feather announced the plans for a new round of talks with the government. The last major talks held between the TUC and the government laid the basis for the initial introduction of the state pay laws.

The TUC's retreat before the government is given added indecency by the fact that its call for a one-day strike on May Day was answered by millions of workers throughout the country.

Workers who took part in the strike were demanding that their leaders call all-out action against the Tories.

But no signs of a lead came from either the trade union leaders or the reformist Labour Party chiefs. In fact the only clear demand on May 1 was made by the demonstrations organized by the Young Socialists and the Socialist Labour League.

Young workers and older trade unionists who joined the YS-SLL marches all over the country did so because they wanted to expose and fight the reformist treachery represented by the TUC. Banners on the demonstrations called for 'General Strike—Tories Out'.

Workers throughout the country have seen their leaders collaborate with the government while prices continue to hold down wage increases.

New they have had enough and this was the message of May Day.

But it would be a foolish illusion to think that the trade union leaders who called the one-day strike will give any further leadership.

They will not. Instead Feather is concentrating his efforts on ignoring the seriousness of the economic crisis and doing the public relations work for the Tories.

That is why the YS-SLL demonstrations on May Day were most important. The urgency of building an alternative revolutionary leadership cannot be over-emphasized in this situation.

# School students' conference fails

## to give a lead

THE National Union of School Students held its second national conference in London's City University last weekend.

But in spite of a reported growth in membership—to almost 10,000 over the last eight months—only 80 delegates attended the two-day conference.

Discussion at the conference which centred on the problems facing school students came nowhere near to posing any solution at all for youth in schools.

The conference decided on five campaigning points around which it will organize a week of action next term. These were—fully comprehensive education; democratic school councils; grants for all school students over the minimum leaving age; for an end to secret academic files and the right of the union to organize and negotiate.

These demands, however, cannot be won by school students alone. And they will never be achieved as long as the present Tory government remains in office.

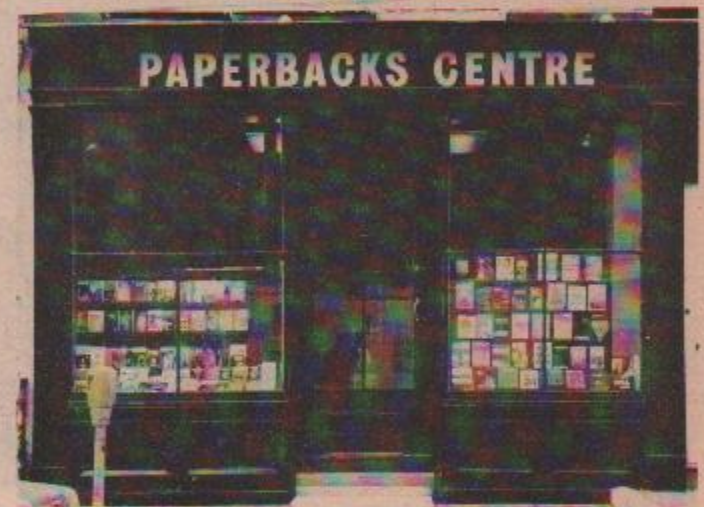
The right to free education was only won in a long struggle by the working class. It can only be defended today as part of the struggle of the working class to defend all its democratic rights now under attack by the Tory government.



● A section of last weekend's National Union of School Students conference.

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What's  
on  
Where

discos — meetings — sport — outings  
details of YS activities in your area



**YOUNG SOCIALISTS** branches and federations all over the country have now planned out and booked their summer programmes. On this page we give you some of the details of what is going on in your area. If you need any more information don't hesitate to write to the YS office at 186a Clapham High Street, London SW4 7UG. Any YS branch wanting to advertise events in **Keep Left** should write to us by Monday of each week.

**The Editor**

**FELTHAM YS DISCOTHEQUE**  
Wednesday May 16  
Bedfont Social Hall  
Halton Road  
Starts 7.30 p.m. Tickets 20p

**FELTHAM YS**  
5-a-side Football, Rounders  
Sunday May 27  
Kick-off 3 p.m.  
Log Cabin  
Long Furlong Drive, Britwell  
**DISCOTHEQUE**  
in the evening  
Tickets 20p

**POPLAR YS DISCOTHEQUE**  
Thursday May 24  
Large Hall  
Old Council Offices  
Poplar High Street  
Starts 8 p.m. Tickets 15p

**POPLAR YS COACH TRIP TO BRIGHTON**  
Sunday June 10  
Details of coach times and pick-up points to be announced.

**NORTH WEST YS**  
Dance and Cruise aboard the **NEW ROYAL IRIS**  
Monday June 18  
8 p.m. to 11 p.m.  
Sound system and live group refreshments and buffet  
Pier Head, Liverpool  
Tickets 50p

**EAST LONDON FEDERATION YS DANCE & BUFFET**  
Saturday June 2  
Raise funds for the building of the Revolutionary Party  
Bromley Public Hall  
Bow Road, E3  
Starts 8 p.m. Tickets 40p

**WATFORD FEDERATION YS COACH TRIP TO BRIGHTON**  
Sunday June 3  
Coach leaves:  
8.30 a.m.  
Odeon Hemel Hempstead  
9 a.m.  
Watford High Street Station  
Tickets 70p

**LEICESTER FEDERATION YS BRANCHES**  
Belgrave . . . Every Tuesday  
Jubilee Inn 8 p.m.  
  
New Parks . . .  
Every Wednesday  
Adult Education Centre  
New Parks Boys School  
8 p.m.  
Highfields . . . Every Thursday  
Saxby Street 8 p.m.

**Regional Games Tournament**  
Sunday May 13  
5-a-side football tournament, rounders, volleyball  
Harvey Hadden Stadium  
Bilborough  
Nottingham.

**EAST MIDLANDS YS SPORTS DAY**  
Sunday June 3  
Saffron Lane Stadium  
Leicester  
Contact local YS branches for entry form and details if you want to compete.

**Eastern Region Young Socialists**

**CAMBRIDGE YS DISCOTHEQUE**  
Friday May 18  
'Golden Hind'  
Kings Hedges Roundabout  
Starts 8 p.m. Tickets 15p

**PETERBOROUGH YS DISCOTHEQUE**  
Saturday May 19  
'The George'  
St Leonards Road  
Starts 8 p.m. Tickets 15p

**NORWICH YS DISCOTHEQUE**  
every Monday  
'The Mischief Tavern'  
Fye Bridge  
Starts 8 p.m. Tickets 15p

**VICTORIA YS DISCOTHEQUE**  
Monday May 21  
King William IV Pub  
Grosvenor Road, SW1  
Adm: members 20p at door 15p  
Starts 8 p.m.

**PADDINGTON YS FEDERATION MEETING**  
Wednesday May 16  
Methodist Church Hall  
Lancaster Road, W11  
Showing of the 'Right to Work March' film  
Starts 8 p.m. Tickets 10p

**KENTISH TOWN YS DISCOTHEQUE**  
Tuesday May 15  
St Martin's Church Hall  
Vicars Road  
off Grafton Road, NW5  
Starts 8 p.m. Tickets 15p

**ISLINGTON YS DISCOTHEQUE**  
Tuesday May 22  
The Church Hall  
cnr Gaskin Street/  
Upper Street, N1  
Starts 8 p.m. Tickets 15p

**CAMDEN YS FEDERATION RALLY & DISCOTHEQUE**  
Sunday June 3  
St Martin's Church Hall  
Vicars Road  
off Grafton Road, NW5  
Starts 6.30 p.m. Tickets 20p

**CAMDEN YS FEDERATION COACH TRIP TO MARGATE**  
Sunday June 10  
Details of coach times and pick-up points to be announced.

**SOUTH SHIELDS YS**  
Discotheque every Wednesday  
TUC Hall  
Westhow  
7.30 p.m.

**SHEFFIELD Central YS**  
meets every Wednesday, 8 pm  
YS Premises, Portobello  
(near Jessops Hospital)

**Hackenthorpe YS**  
meets every Thursday, 8 pm  
Frecheville Community Centre

**Firth Park YS**  
meets every Thursday, 8 pm  
Shiregreen Middle School

**Parson's Cross YS**  
meets every Tuesday, 8 pm  
Mansell School

**Sanford YS**  
meets every Tuesday, 7.30 pm  
Methodist Church Hall  
Broad Lane, L13

**WREXHAM YS**  
meets every Wednesday  
Fairfield Tavern (snug)  
Erddig Rd/Wellington Rd  
7.30 p.m.

**CALDER VALLEY YS**  
Coach trip to Blackpool  
Sunday May 20  
leaving Heben Bridge  
10 a.m.  
Todmorden 10.15 p.m.  
Tickets 75p

**LIVERPOOL YS**  
Five-a-side football every Sunday  
Meet, Central Cafe  
Sefton Park  
2 p.m.

**DURHAM Murton YS**  
meets every Wednesday  
7.30 pm  
Miners Welfare Hall, Murton  
Records and discussion

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

**CAMBRIDGE YS**  
meets every Tuesday  
'The Rose and Crown'  
(Corner of Newmarket Rd/  
East Rd)  
8.00 p.m.

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

**Don't miss this**

**London Area Young Socialists WEEKEND SCHOOL**  
'The Crisis of Capitalism and the Struggle for Workers' Power'  
Saturday and Sunday May 19 & 20  
The Pavilion  
Broadstairs, Kent  
Starts 2.30 p.m.  
Cost £3 including fare, bed and breakfast levy and DANCE on Saturday night.

**Have you joined the Young Socialists yet?**

**WRITE OFF TODAY!**

Join the socialist movement which fights against Toryism, anti-union laws, unemployment and low wages. For details fill in form and send to YS National Secretary, 186A Clapham High St, London, SW4 7UG.

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....



# BANNER BRIGHT



**Banner Bright**  
An Exhibition of Trade Union Banners  
April 25 to May 11  
Whitechapel Art Gallery  
Admission Free

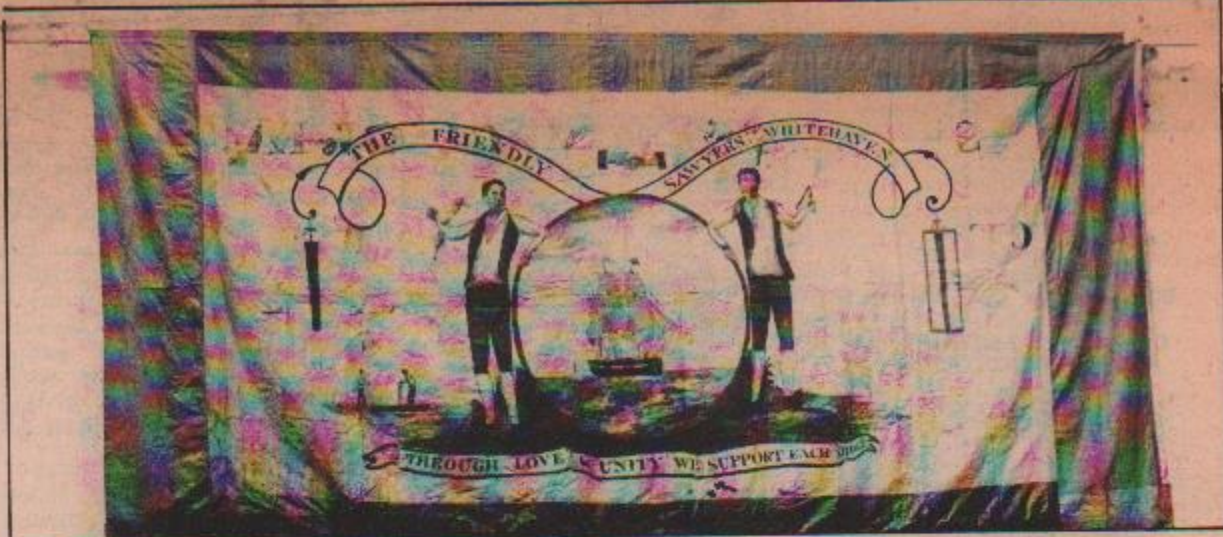
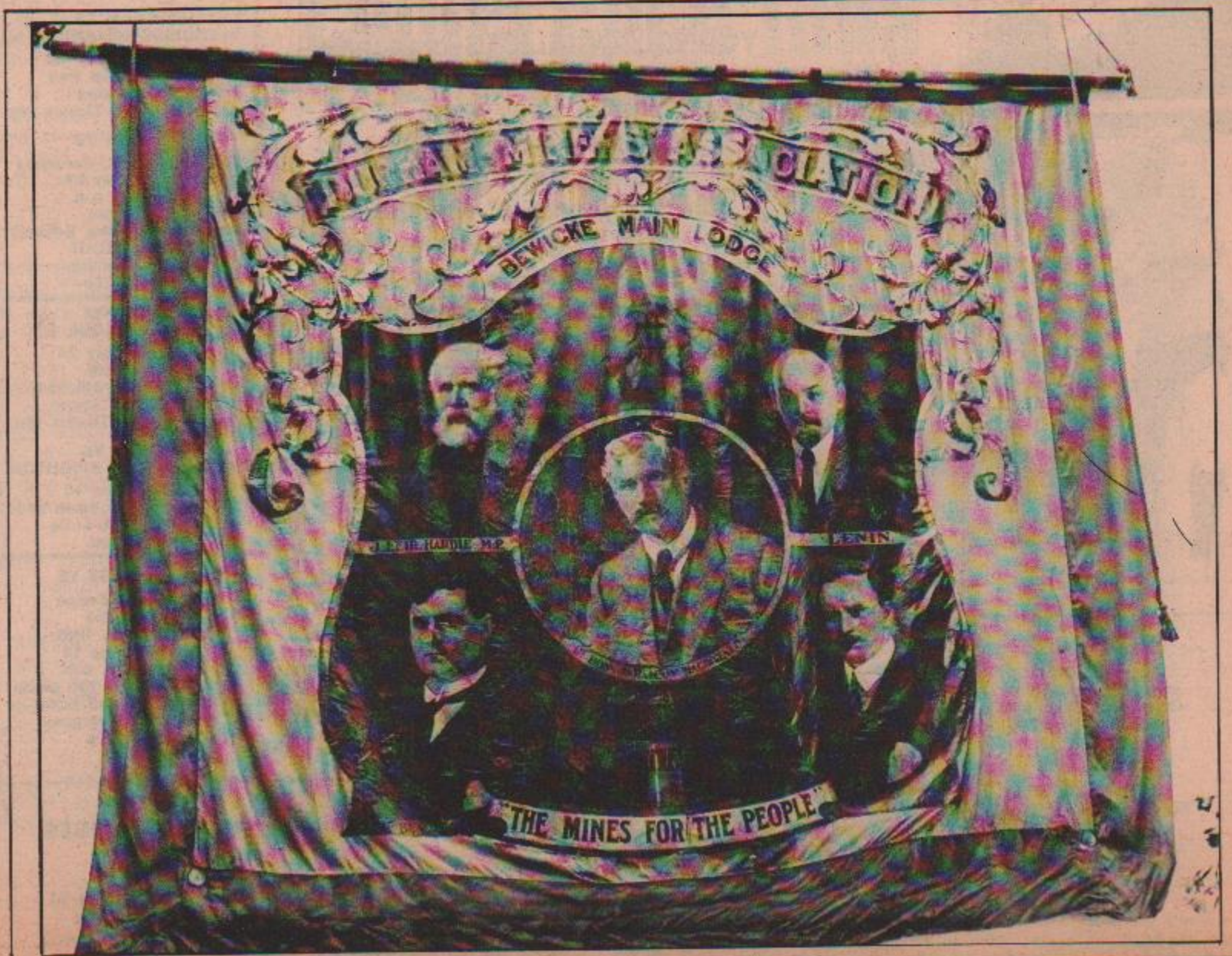
THE 48 banners in this exhibition are a vivid record of trade unionism in Britain.

The pictures painted on them show clearly the great struggle of the British working class to win its democratic rights.

It shows how the working class freed itself from the bonds of slavery to the boss, and won the right to things which we now take for granted, such as sick pay, pensions, the eight-hour day, and political organization.

The earliest banners from 1821 are marked by religious slogans. Later banners, especially those of the miners' lodges, show pictures of Marx and Lenin. The demands on the banners show that the working class had taken enormous strides forward in its consciousness.

Although the exhibition closes in London in a few days' time it is one which every member of the Young Socialists should see if possible. If it comes to your town organize outings, since these banners explain more clearly between the original purpose of trade unionism, and the betrayal of the present trade union leadership.





Special four-page supplement for students

# Tory inflation means poor students

## Fight for supplementary grants

### now and kick the Tories out

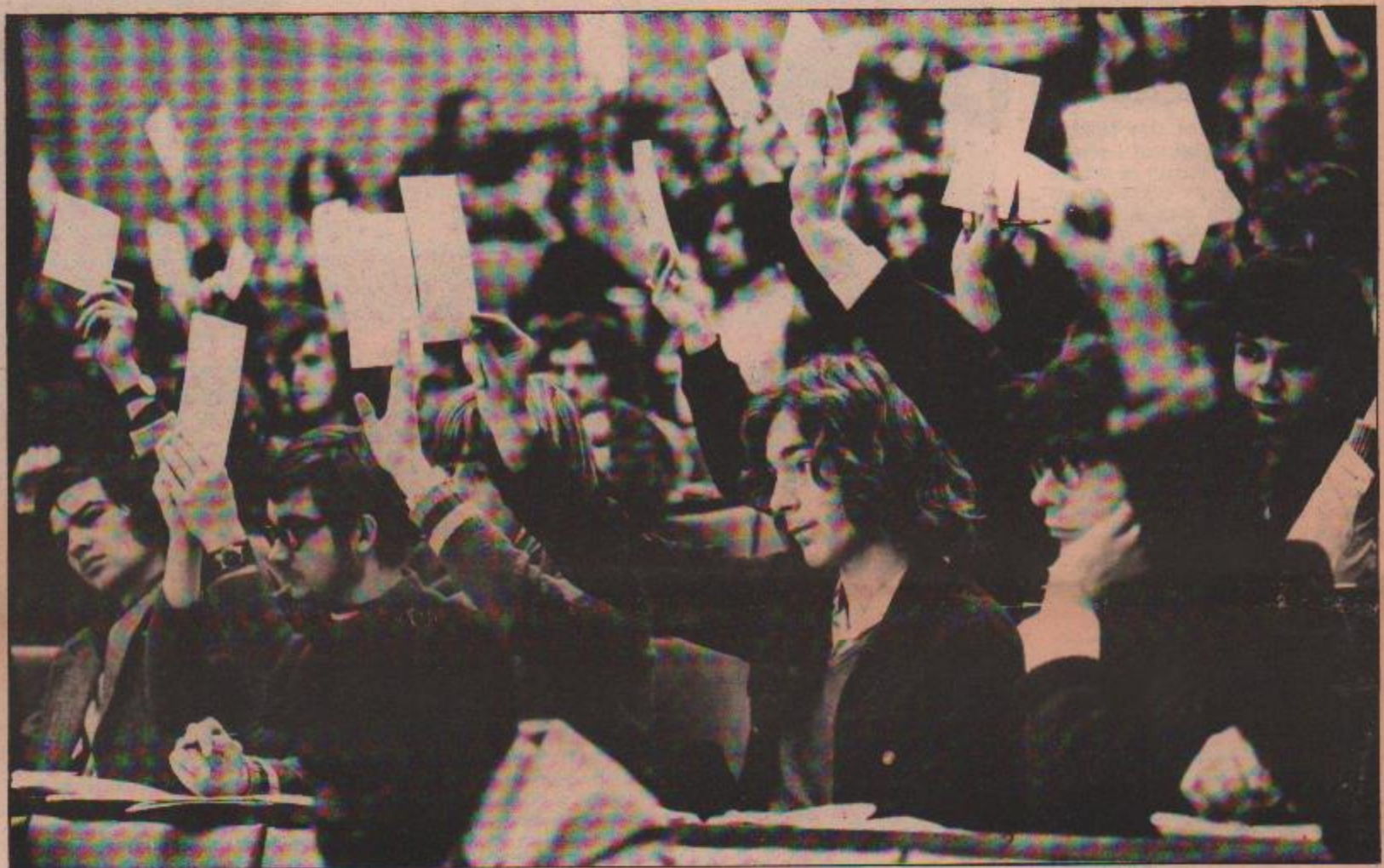
By Brian Prangle

THE Young Socialist Students Society is to hold a conference on Saturday May 12 on the burning issues of grants and the Tory cut-backs in education.

This conference is held at a time when record trade deficits have been announced by the Tories. This can only mean even bigger price rises and further attacks on the rights of the working class.

The operation of the Common Agricultural policy of the Common Market, which fixes food prices at the highest level in Europe, will nearly treble some basic food prices in Britain. On top of the increases brought about by Value-Added Tax this continuing inflation will start to affect students drastically.

Increases in mortgage rates will inevitably mean that families will have less to give their children to maintain them at college.



### Stabilized

Far from the government making a first offer and food prices being stabilized in college canteens as the National Union of Students executive firmly believe, this government will show all its class arrogance by putting the entire burden of the economic crisis on the shoulders of the working class.

The operation of the state pay laws and their acceptance by the TUC shows that no worker or student can advance his standard of living while the Tory government continues in office and the reformist leaders of the TUC are permitted to carry out their betrayals.

### Inflation

That is why discussion on the economic crisis and the revolutionary tasks of the working class that flow from it, will be central to the YSSS grants conference. Our campaign for supplementary cash grants now to beat rising prices, is the only one that starts from the fact that inflation is the main way that the crisis affects students.

Our demands are posed in order to create the conditions, together with the working class, for the removal of this Tory government and its re-

placement by a Labour government pledged to socialist policies.

Now that the YSSS have challenged the Stalinists for the leadership of the NUS, the whole history of the struggle for Marxist principles waged by the Trotskyist movement against the degeneration and betrayals of Stalinism occupies a central position on the conference agenda.

### Protect

It is the Stalinists in the Communist Party who are the chief obstacle to the development of revolution since at all stages they seek to protect the reformist leaderships of the working class. Their latest moves include acceptance of the state pay laws for teachers and the witch-hunting of militants in the National Union of Teachers.

In this union they play the same role as did Digby Jacks, CP member and ex-president of NUS, who victimized students at Stirling University.

The prime task the YSSS will set out at this conference will be to build a leadership in the NUS which will fight to not only intensify the grants campaign, but turn it against the Tory government in a joint campaign with the working class against rising prices and in defence of basic democratic rights.

This will be in sharp contrast to the rump conference organized by the revisionists the same weekend to discuss the defence of students victimized because they have been on rent strike.

Now that the protest politics behind the rent strikes lies shattered these 'left' phrasemongers are reduced to pathetic demands for national occupations as the only thing left to them as a means of 'pressure'.

Students now face a whole battery of attacks from the Tory government, especially the proposals for cut-backs contained in the White Paper on Education.

Particularly vicious will be the implementation of the Delaney Report (see our report

At Brighton Polytechnic, nearly £134,000 has been slashed from the training budget. At Maidstone College of Art 25 per cent of the teachers have been sacked. One college in Birmingham, the on pages 4 and 5). College of Food and Domestic Art, is being sold and closed down for property development.

### Erosion

Taken together with the insidious erosion of living standards by inflation, this amounts to a wholesale attack on the right to higher education.

The YSSS May 12 conference, held five months after the founding conference of the YSSS, is called at a decisive time for the working class and students.

We are now required to transform the Socialist Labour League into a revolutionary party to take on the tasks of leadership which the TUC and Labour Party have abdicated. The YSSS conference is to help lay the basis for such a revolutionary leadership throughout the universities and colleges.

Members of the Young Socialists Student Societies at the last national conference in November 1972, where the beginning of the campaign on supplementary grants was first discussed.

Young Socialists Students Society

## CONFERENCE

Supplementary cash grants now!  
Fight rising prices!  
Defend the right to higher education!  
Forward to the revolutionary party!

SATURDAY MAY 12, 2 p.m.—10 p.m.  
Lecture Theatre A, ground floor  
Mechanical Engineering Department  
IMPERIAL COLLEGE, LONDON



# Delaney Report — Keep Left assesses the Tories' latest proposals

**HARDLY** a week now passes without further announcements from obscure government committees that more widespread cut-backs are coming in higher education.

The number of pages justifying them as 'expansion' is impressive.

Higher education is a right established by the working class and must now be destroyed by the dictates of brutal trade war, along with all the rights won by the working class.

We are now not far away from conditions of total breakdown in higher education with some courses packed to overflowing, some almost empty, huge payrolls of senile professors and academic con-men carrying out useless research for fat rewards, high graduate unemployment and a slow stagnation produced by rapid drying up of government funds.

## Blows

Into the midst of this come the latest government proposals in the form of the Delaney Report. With the universities still punch-drunk from the series of blows launched on them by the Tories, the government now rounds with all its fury on to the smaller colleges.

Unable to meet the qualifications for universities because of the discriminatory nature of school education, the majority of working class students end up in these colleges. That is why the proposals are particularly vicious.

And they are already being implemented by several colleges and educational establishments even before the report has been implemented by the Department of Education and Science.

## Groups

The Delaney Report's main line of attack is on the student-teacher ration. Its aim is to cut back drastically the number of teachers available to students so the lectures and tutorial groups become huge affairs with little room for personal guidance and attention for individual students.

Education is to become literally a frantic production process where hundreds of students are crammed into lectures.

At Maidstone College of Art, 25 per cent of the teachers have already been sacked and Brighton Polytechnic faces a reduction of

# Tories round with fury on smaller colleges

'Education is to become a frantic production process where hundreds of students are crammed into lectures'

£134,000 in its teaching budget.

These sort of attacks affect not just the quality of the education that students receive but are a blatant attack on the right to work of college lecturers.

Art education comes in for particularly severe beating from Delaney. According to him, to be permitted to exhibit any artistic flair, you have to have at least two 'A' levels.

This, apart from being patently ridiculous, has the

effect of further restricting the availability of higher education.

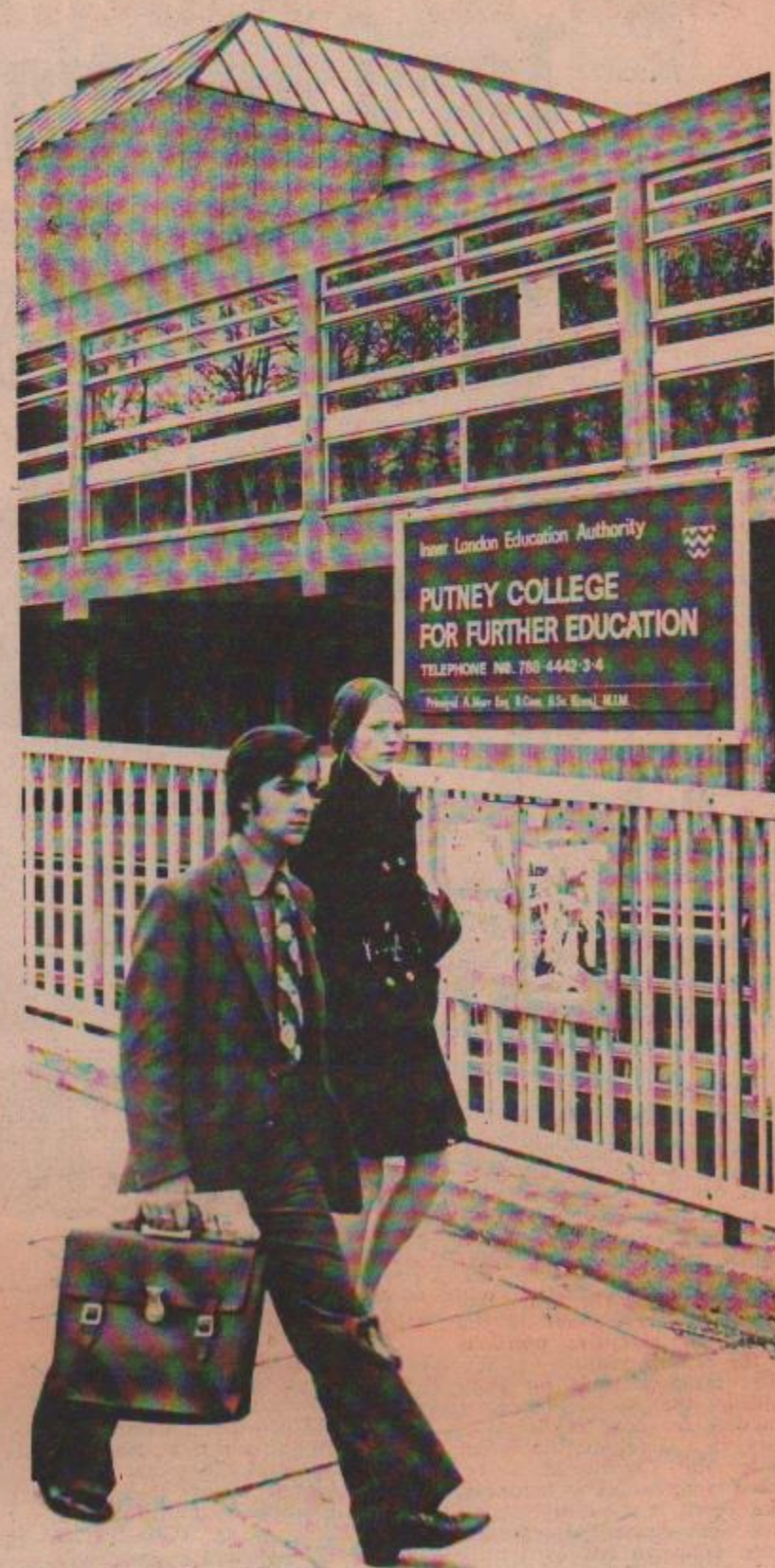
Faced with this enormous attack, students from colleges likely to be affected had to fight for nearly three days at the National Union of Students Conference against the Stalinist-led executive to even get a discussion of how to fight back on to the agenda. Such is the concern of the NUS executive over these proposals.

At one college, the Birmingham College of Food and Domestic Art, the Delaney


proposals are being carried to their logical extreme. The college is threatened with closure due to the proposed sale of the site it stands on—to a property developer.

The way to fight these attacks, must be to unite all the college staff and lecturers together with the students in a joint defence of higher education. This can only be done with the overall perspective of the defence of all working class rights against this Tory government.

Those who want to pave the way for these attacks on rights—while making fake left protests—must be cleared out of the way in the fight to build a revolutionary leadership which has as its aim the safeguarding of hard-won rights by bringing down the Tories and re-electing a Labour government pledged to socialist policies.



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**THE FIRST FIVE YEARS OF THE COMMUNIST INTERNATIONAL**



# Some lessons for the next term

By Sue Hinds

**STUDENTS** returning to the universities and colleges this term face a period of intense pressure as examinations pile on top of rapidly rising prices.

And for most of these students the decisions of the National Union of Students Easter conference, held this year at Exeter, can pose no solution at all to their problems.

For it was a conference which, after a term's bitter fight against the Tory government for the right to decent grants, decided to bury its head in the sand of reformist protest, and, like the proverbial ostrich, ignore everything around it.

The conference took place in the week that Phase II of the Tory pay legislation became law, the Pay Board started work and the week after Scanlon accepted the corporate state lock, stock and barrel.

But delegates were brought sharply back to reality by the stand taken by the Young Socialists Student Society delegates.

Many students wanted to turn away from the real issues and spent their time discussing homosexuality, doing some hard drinking and engaging in frivolous disruptions of the conference reminiscent of public-school, common-room pranks.

Nevertheless, students at the conference seemed to feel instinctively that they have to take on the government and not just meekly protest on issues such as grants. Yet they couldn't actually make the leap required for this political fight, with the leadership of the NUS as it is at present.

That was why the issues facing students crystallized in the contest for executive positions for the coming year.

The majority went for John Randall, the social democrat candidate for next year's presidency, in a closely-run campaign against the Communist Party-backed former NUS treasurer, Mike Terry. It showed that students were dissatisfied with the grants campaign led by former CP president Digby Jacks, and did not necessarily want the same kind of leadership.

Although defeated for the presidency, the Stalinists won the positions of Treasurer and Vice-President for Education.

The YSSS, by contesting every single position on the executive, were able to show students that there was a fighting alternative that was prepared, despite the wholesale retreats by the 'lefts', to spell out in a hard hitting way that what is required is a fight to defend democratic rights by



● **STUDENTS** are picketing the Department of Education and Science as part of an official campaign for higher grants. The protest started last week and will continue until May 21.

bringing down this Tory government.

In stressing the depth of the capitalist economic crisis which drives the Tory government forward, North London Polytechnic student, Angela Coulter, a YSSS candidate began her election address:

'The Tories are determined to take away every right from the working class. They cannot be persuaded to change their mind. We need a leadership which will not shy away from this struggle.'

The YSSS made an impact on the conference—few delegates, despite the heckling and the laughter, could ignore the basis of what the YSSS was saying.

All the YSSS candidates were agreed that the election campaign was a success, because we laid a basis for the next conference by posing all the political issues of the situation.

With the continual worsening of the economic crisis and the subsequent huge price rises facing students, the YSSS will be able to fight in colleges all over the country for our perspectives

and emerge even stronger at the next conference.

And that's what counts. Short-sighted people and vote-catchers can talk all they like about a 'defeat' for the YSSS. We didn't notice it. Our election campaign was only the opening shot of a fight to the finish with all the corrupt elements in the NUS who refuse to warn students of what faces them.

As such it was a training school in the fight against Stalinism and its hangers on and a prelude to deeper and broader struggle.

In contrast to this was the 'Alternative Left', made up mainly of IS members, posing as some sort of left-wing challenge to the Stalinist-dominated executive. This is the revision-

ists' second attempt at an organization to defeat the Stalinists in two years.

The last one was the short-lived Liaison Committee for the Defence of Student Unions (LCDSU). But with the YSSS speaking out on the political situation, the 'Alternative Left' sounded almost the same as the Stalinists.

In fact, it was impossible sometimes to tell the difference between them. Occasionally the 'Alternative Left' would issue more militant phrases and exhort students to ever greater militancy on the grants issue, but the essence of what they were saying was the same.

Simon Vevers, 18, a first-year French student at Exeter University said: 'The revisionists couldn't mention the crisis nor

offer a principled alternative because their whole basis of the students' role is as a band of militants.'

Simon was angry at the executive's arrogance in refusing to carry out a mandate for a free recall conference to decide the NUS's attitude to a government reply on the grants claim. And this after three votes on the issue.

Delegates wanted the recall conference to be free because most small colleges (which contain the vast majority of NUS members) have very little finances.

Simon told Keep Left: 'The NUS executive claimed it had no money to finance a second conference but the previous evening they had given a massive banquet for representatives of the capitalist press.'

When it came down to important issues the revisionists just covered for the Stalinist executive.

When it came to the NUS executive refusing to carry out the mandate of the conference to call a free delegate conference, the IS completely protected them by saying that the university unions would pay for the conference.

Students who want to fight for a decent grant have to start by looking at the economic crisis and break from the reformist policies of pressurizing the Tories put forward by the Stalinists and revisionists.

This crisis can't be ignored. It is this which above all drives the Tories to attack our living standards, with rising prices, cut-backs in education and the state pay laws to keep our incomes down.

Only the Young Socialists starts from this crisis as being insoluble under capitalism and fights to bring down this Tory government with the organized might of the working class.

Students can fight with the working class by training themselves as revolutionaries in the YSSS, to build the revolutionary party and then all the specific talents and knowledge that students have can be used for the benefit of the working class.

That is why all students should attend the YSSS conference to be held on May 19 at Imperial College, London.

## EDITION

**The First Five Years of the Communist International**  
This first volume of Trotsky's writings and speeches for the Communist International covers the period of its first three Congresses when the post-war revolutionary upsurge reached its peak and then began to recede. It establishes, without fear of contradiction, the important role which he played in the foundation of this, the Third workers' International, and in the formation and early development of the French, German and Italian Communist Parties. At this time the theory of 'socialism in one country' had not been invented and Joseph Stalin was still a second-line Bolshevik leader who played no part in the international movement which he was later to pervert and eventually destroy.

Price: £1.50, 421 pages. Available from:  
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or the Paperbacks Centre  
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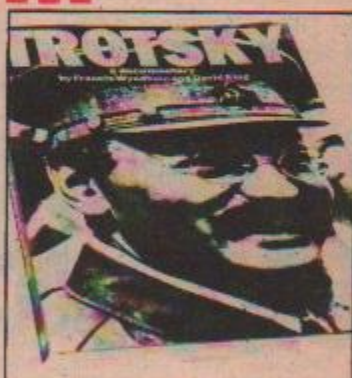
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# Students stage two-day sit-in

By Sarah Hannigan

**NORTH EAST** London Polytechnic students last week carried out a two-day occupation of the Barking administrative site in support of their demand for higher grants.

At 6 a.m. on Tuesday morning about 40 students who had slept in the building overnight stopped cleaners from coming in and officially started the occupation. The canteen had already been taken over to stop college authorities from locking it up.

Eventually over 100 students were involved—in manning switchboards, cooking meals and maintaining security throughout the block.

The decision to occupy the administrative block at Barking—one of the Poly's three main precincts—was taken at a union general meeting at the end of the previous term.

Jennie Drew, a spokesman for the students at Barking told *Keep Left*: 'We felt that the National Union of Students campaign on grants didn't go far enough. But now they are in agreement with us and have said that all colleges that want to take direct action can go ahead.'

Said Jennie: 'Last term and over the past year the NUS ran a campaign on grants which was rather reactionary in some ways. In effect they told us to be "nice" to the governors and to the government—that if we didn't tread on anyone's toes then things would be all right and we'd get our increases.'

'We took part in all the campaigns. We wrote to our MPs,

we lobbied parliament but we got nothing. We felt that like Woolwich—which had a two-week occupation last term—that we wanted more direct action.'

One of the NUS demands which particularly concerned Jennie was an end to the discretionary awards scheme, by which local authorities decide what size of grant any particular student is entitled to.

'At the moment,' she said, 'you are only entitled to a grant if you are on a degree course and have two "A" levels.'

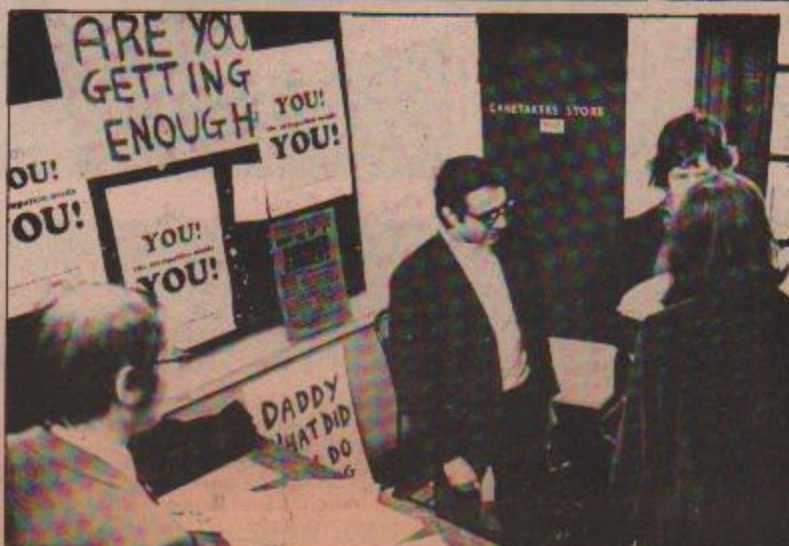
'There is no national system for awarding grants which I think is diabolical. Then there's the question of parental contributions. If the local authority decides that a student's parents should pay some of the grant then they automatically take that off the grant they give.'

'But parents are not committed to paying the money—there is no legal way of forcing them to do it. It's a fight to get a grant in so many cases.'

Jennie said that students at Barking also wanted to see the introduction of a cost-of-living index for grant awards like that in industry.

'What we mean is that we're not satisfied with just the £65 increase that the NUS is now asking for. We want a system whereby the spending power of our grants remains the same—that we get increases in our awards in line with the increases in prices.'

Most of the lecturers at Barking were sympathetic to the occupation and no classes were held during the two days.



**NORTH LONDON POLY**  
Meeting  
Wednesday May 16  
Ladbroke House  
Room 215 2 p.m.

**KINGS COLLEGE YSSS**  
Meets every Tuesday  
Committee Room  
E Floor Chesham  
1.00 p.m.

## Thai students protest against US military

**STUDENT LEADERS** in Thailand are planning to launch a country-wide campaign against the continued presence of United States military forces in the country.

The US and Thai governments say that 45,000 American

servicemen, mostly airmen, are required in Thailand to guard against breaches of ceasefire in South Vietnam and Laos.

Student leaders argue that Thailand should get rid of the American presence and declare that US bombing of Cambodia from Thai bases threatens to produce another Vietnam right

on Thailand's borders.

Tirayuth Boomi, secretary-general of the National Students' Centre of Thailand (NSCT) which has 200,000 student followers, says his organization is planning details of the campaign.

He has so far refused to reveal these details because the American military presence in the country is considered a 'delicate issue'.

They have distributed to students in two provinces a booklet called the 'White Menace', which attacks the dominating presence of American imperialism.

The Thai government is carefully watching the actions of the students.

It is particularly concerned with 'radical' or left-wing students.

Lieutenant-General Saiyud Kerdphol, director of the Communist Suppressed Operations Command (CSOC) says the government has a list of those students and they are being shadowed.

'These students want changes. They are not happy with the present social system and other things,' the General said.

To counter students' threats the government has formed a Thai-American Relations Committee headed by General Saiyud, aimed at educating Americans stationed here of their rights and 'responsibilities'.

**JOIN THE YOUNG SOCIALISTS STUDENT SOCIETY TODAY!**

Help the Young Socialists Student Societies build branches in every university with a socialist programme to make the Tory government resign. Write to us for more details on how to join.

Name.....

University.....

Fill in this form and post to YSSS, 186a Clapham High Street, London SW4 7UG.

- OXFORD YSSS**  
Jesus College  
Meets every Wednesday  
Seminar Room A  
8.00 p.m.
- SOUTH DEVON TECH**  
Torquay  
Inaugural meeting  
Friday May 18
- BROCKENHURST YSSS**  
(New Forest)  
Meets every Thursday  
Room 59
- CARTREFLE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION**  
Wrexham  
Report back from YSSS  
conference  
Thursday May 17  
1.00 p.m.
- PORTSMOUTH POLY YSSS**  
Meeting  
Tuesday May 15  
Union Council Room  
7.30 p.m.
- Report back from YSSS  
conference
- EXETER UNIVERSITY YSSS**  
Meeting  
Thursday May 17  
Devonshire House  
Room C  
1.15 p.m.
- SOUTHAMPTON UNIVERSITY YSSS**  
Meeting  
Wednesday May 16  
Clubs and Societies Room  
1.00 p.m.



# Billie Holiday—lady of the depression



## 'Give me a song I feel . . .'

**'Lady Sings the Blues'**  
Directed by Sidney J. Furie  
Starring Diana Ross as  
Billie Holiday.

IT takes Hollywood to make a film about a musician that hardly touches her music at all.

'Lady Sings the Blues', the 'life story' of the American Negro jazz singer Billie Holiday is such a film.

It's not that the film is badly made or produced. Diana Ross in the leading role is superb. But it's just not a film about the life and music of Billie Holiday.

For Holiday, music was something to be lived. As she says in her memoirs:

'I can't stand to sing the same song the same way two nights in succession, let alone two years or ten years. If you can then it ain't music . . .'

And: 'Young kids always ask me what my style is derived

from and how it evolved and all that. What can I tell them? If you find a tune and it's got something to do with you, you don't have to evolve anything. You just feel it, and when you sing it other people can feel something too . . . Give me a song I feel, and it's never work.'

It's a film that completely divorces her art from her social background and the conditions under which she sang.

She was born of two kids—her mother was 13 and her father 15—in Baltimore on April 7, 1915.

She grew up in the conditions of brutal poverty which were the fate of hundreds of thousands of Negro families and their children.

When speaking of the depression of the 1930s, Holiday wrote:

'A depression was nothing new to us, we'd always had it. The only thing new about it was the bread lines. And they were about the only thing we missed.'

At the age of 10 she was raped by a man 30 years her senior and

was sentenced to a Catholic institution. While she was there as punishment for some petty misdemeanour the nuns locked her up in a morgue for a night with a dead girl for company.

At 14 she was in a whore house in New York's Harlem and at 15 she was sentenced to a stint in Welfare Island—a prison for 'wayward women'. That place was filthy. Fifty girls were packed together in one awful ward, and some of them with TB. We got the kind of garbage to eat you wouldn't feed your dog.'

And yet in spite of the terrible oppression from which she came, Billie Holiday emerged in the 1930s very much a musician who pioneered later developments in jazz music.

Her singing expressed all the anger, frustration and hope of an oppressed people. She never forgot what it was to be a poor Negro—she was never allowed to forget.

During the early part of her career she toured the US with the Artie Shaw band—the first

ever white name-band with a black singer.

It was this band—and Shaw in particular—who fought for her right to perform in clubs and towns where a colour bar existed, where she was expected to go in back doors, to remain back-stage until she was due to sing and where sometimes she wasn't allowed to sing at all.

Of course, 'Lady Sings the Blues' makes a big thing about heroin addiction. In fact it's mostly a film about some black singer who was a drug addict.

The music contribution for which she is best remembered—several years spent with the Count Basie band—is as good as forgotten in the film.

In particular her relationship with Lester Young, a pioneer of modern jazz and the lead tenor with the band, is nowhere mentioned.

Lester, who broke from the 'big' sound of the 1930s, concentrated on long flowing lines of melody and a 'cool' tone in contrast with the 'hot' rasping sounds that everybody associates with swing.

He encouraged her to play and develop her talents as a jazz musician and take her place with the greats in countless clubs in uptown New York.

To omit this critical period from any biography of Billie Holiday and to concentrate merely on the oppression she suffered rather than the way in which she overcame it and expressed it is to reduce a great artist to the level of gossip.

cialist government—which will give us back our basic democratic rights.

Joy Robinson  
Leicester YS.

### YS Conference

I THOUGHT the 13th Annual Conference of the Young Socialists held recently in Blackpool was extremely interesting.

It felt good to know that so many youth from all over the country saw the need and urgency to remove this present Tory government and replace it with a Labour government pledged to socialist policies.

It is not easy for people to speak for the first time at a meeting so well attended by over 1,500 but with this government now in power they realized how necessary it was for them to get up and tell everyone exactly how they felt.

We all know what VAT has done in the past two weeks and things are getting worse. Why should we let our standard of living decline?

I say we must all unite and demand that this Tory government resign. We are not going to let them defeat us.

Pat Vauls  
Erdington YS.

## POP NEWS

AS Alice Cooper continues his 56-city trek of the US, some interesting episodes tell us more about this amazing musician. Pro-Franco Spanish painter Salvador Dali made a holograph portrait of him, displayed in one of New York's most exclusive art galleries.

'Billion Dollar Babies' has become Alice's fourth consecutive gold seller.

Four-girl group 'Fanny' are beginning their second British tour in mid-May, including a May 12 appearance with 'Stone the Crows' at the Rainbow in London. Fanny's third album, 'Mother's Pride', produced by Todd Rundgren, is just out.

The Atlantic record company celebrated its 25th year in show business with a huge party in Paris, where a new film, tracing the history of Atlantic from the old R & B days, through to the top British and American contemporary acts, was shown. The film is to be made available to colleges and film clubs.

Atlantic has signed on a new contemporary music band called Cross Country. Three of its members, Philip and Mitchell Margo and Jay Siegel, along with their co-producer on their first Atlantic album, Hank Medress, were known in the 1960s as the Tokens, and scored such hits as 'The Lion Sleeps Tonight' and 'Tonight I Fell in Love'.

## POST BAG



### Catering poor

CATERING students are already being used as cheap labour.

We spend a lot of time preparing meals for lecturers in the college. We don't have dinner breaks on three days out of five as we are cooking and waiting on staff.

So we work from nine to five with only a 20-minute break.

We don't of course get paid for this as it is considered part of our training.

After spending two years training in this way we are offered jobs at £10 per week from large companies who continue to use us as cheap labour.

Pensioners are also used in the catering industry as they can only earn about £9 a week without losing their pensions. So they are employed to do heavy cleaning work in bad working conditions at rates of about 25p an hour.

The catering industry must be unionized and mobilized with all other sections of workers to remove the Tory government.

We must nationalize all those companies such as the food companies.

Fiona Cairns  
Catering student  
Cambridge YS.

### Conditions

EVERY worker has a right to decent working conditions and decent wages. But let me tell you what I get in our place.

I am 18, a toe seamer in a small hosiery factory near Leicester. The room I am working in hasn't got any windows. I think it used to be a small stock room.

It's long with eight to 12 machines in a row. Often it gets very hot in there, especially in the summer, but when we complain nothing happens.

There is no union, so I don't think we can do anything about it. And it's the same with our wages. I get an average of £13 to £14 a week. This is too low.

I like my work but it makes me annoyed when I realize that others earn much more for the same work.

Maria Robinson  
Leicester YS.

### The rag trade

I AM Maria's sister and I work in a hosiery factory too. I am 16, a winder and I earn up to £25 a week.

I like my work but only because of the money not for the working conditions.

The machine I work at is very tall but it is kept in a low ceilinged room which used to be a garage.

The lights are placed too low and the room becomes unbearably hot in the middle and cold at the end near the doors.

But we are not allowed to open any windows because the bosses are worried in case the fluff flies around and sticks to the work on the machines.

If work is short we are told to have time off and we don't get paid. The night workers are the first ones to suffer because they are part time and notice has to be given if they are not wanted.

If there is a disagreement it gets discussed in the presence of the foreman and the manager. But all the foreman wants is peace and no trouble.

We do have a union but it is unable to improve any of the bad conditions.

The only way to get a better living now is to fight for a better government—a so-



In a bid to avoid responsibility for Watergate Nixon appoints

# 'Mr Clean' for the White House



General Alexander Haig

US PRESIDENT Nixon has now brought a top military man into the White House in a desperate effort to escape responsibility for the Watergate bugging scandal.

The man now being promoted as 'Mr Clean-up'—in an attempt to retain some credibility in the Nixon administration—is General Alexander Haig, army vice-chief of staff and former deputy to Dr Henry Kissinger, Nixon's chief adviser in the so-called Vietnam ceasefire talks.

As well as leaning on the military, Nixon has ordered a clamp down on any evidence of his own involvement in the affair with a declaration last weekend that all such evidence is covered by the secrecy of 'executive privilege'.

It is clear that Nixon intends to use all his powers as head of state and government and commander-in-chief of the armed forces to remain in office, in spite of the fact that the majority in the United States believe him guilty of aiding and abetting the bugging of the Democrat headquarters during the presidential campaign last year.

But Nixon's declaration of 'executive privilege' has not halted the emergence of evidence which implicates him in

the scandal—the worst political scandal ever to come to light about a US president.

Former White House counsel, John Dean, who has been forced to resign, gave evidence to the Watergate investigators that shortly after seven men were indicted for the break-in at the Watergate Democrat headquarters, he was summoned to the president's office and found Nixon and his chief-of-staff, Bob Haldeman 'all grins'.

They were pleased with his ability to 'keep the lid on'. Dean quoted the president as saying: 'Good job John. Bob told me what a great job you've been doing.'

And Dean's evidence dovetails with an affidavit signed by Egil Krogh, former deputy to John Ehrlichman, who breached the 'executive privilege' ruling to implicate Nixon in planning the theft of files on Pentagon Papers defendant, Daniel Ellsberg. Krogh's statement suggests that Nixon was planning illegal surveillance of Ellsberg as far back as August 1971.

The Watergate affair reveals the total corruption and decay behind the whole facade of American capitalist politics. The two-party system actively supported by the right-wing



Bob Haldeman and President Nixon.

trade unions and given tacit support by the American Communist Party—is a rotten conspiracy to dupe and exploit the working class.

The real issue raised by Watergate is the need for a Congress of Labour to break off relations between the trade unions and the capitalist parties and the opening of a mass campaign for a Labour Party.

This is the policy for which

the American Young Socialists have fought since they were founded.

It is the policy which will be at the forefront of their first national conference this month.

The fight for a Labour Party is the only policy which can politically prepare the working class for the opportunities—and the dangers—which they now face.

BRITISH companies in South West Africa — Namibia — are paying their African workers far less than in South Africa.

'In the Katutura compound near Windhoek, 5,000 Ovambos are being housed in circumstances which would disgrace a 19th Century prison,' 'The Guardian' said last week.

'A visitor can only be appalled by the compound's unrelieved bleakness, the barbed wire fences; the concrete bunks in dank overcrowded rooms in which up to 20 men sleep; the food being prepared with spades and pitchforks; above all the overwhelming stench of urine which hangs over the compounds.'

THE Pakistan government has rounded up thousands of Bengalis in Islamabad and is preparing to repatriate them to Bangladesh.

Large squads of police raided the Bengalis' homes last week and took people away with a few possessions to police stations.

The police operation was centred on an area of lower-class government housing where Bengalis formerly employed by the Pakistan government were recently ordered to concentrate at the rate of three families to a house.

JOURNALIST Peter Niesewand's release from Rhodesia last week highlighted the plight of African political prisoners still held in the country.

The Smith regime is known to have more than 120 African political prisoners detained indefinitely in six camps.

Many of them have been in prison for over five years and have been given no reason for their imprisonment.

Niesewand said: 'I was lucky. I was white and a journalist. In other sections of both Gwelo and Salisbury prisons scores of African detainees were incarcerated. Some have been held without trial or charge for a decade.'

## 'Baby nukes' in three years' time

AMERICAN armed forces are expected to be equipped with 'mini-nuclear bombs' within the next three years.

The new weapons have been developed by scientists employed by the Pentagon and are expected to come into full use on both sides of the Atlantic.

They are designed to cause controlled explosions on the battlefield. It is the first time that scientists have developed such weapons, which could be used frequently in any war.

Pentagon officials have claimed that the 'baby nukes' will give commanders the ability to drop a nuclear explosion equivalent to 50 tons of TNT within two or three feet of any target at any range.

### CONTROL

In the past nuclear weapons have not been made smaller than 1,000 tons of TNT. The air force commanders will also have a control of the radiation and fall out from the new weapons.

A bomb or shell could therefore be dropped with no blast, but with immediate and devas-

tating radiation, killing all human life in the area without any serious effect on the surroundings.

Alternatively the bomb can also destroy structures by increasing heat and blast, without the danger of radiation.

The new bombs also have a third important characteristic. They will be made of fissile materials so that there will be no long-term contamination of any battlefield through radiation.

Thus the army will have a highly destructive weapon which can be used with the frequency of ordinary bombs. They can drop the nuclear explosion, kill all inhabitants of the area through radiation and then move in to the area without the risk of further radiation damage.

According to 'The Times' some experts have already compared the bomb to the development of the machine gun during the First World War.

The enormous destructive power now stored in the hands of war-mongers in Washington is a sign of the new world situation.

The Pentagon has made no secret of its intentions to use the bombs in Europe—particularly Germany—against the Soviet Union. American scientists have spent many years trying to perfect just such a weapon.

### WEAPONS

Now they have it, there can be little doubt that imperialism will make use of nuclear weapons to the full.

Imperialism is rapidly making all the preparations for a third world war against Russia and China. The new weapons will add to the arsenal of destructive power concentrated in the hands of the Pentagon.



## Arab guerrillas fight it out in the Lebanon

HEAVY FIGHTING between Palestine guerrillas and the Lebanese army started again last week after days of clashes which left 125 dead and 210 wounded.

The guerrillas, grouped in camps, used a short break in the fighting to re-arm many of their members and to prepare another offensive against the army.

Early last week the guerrillas attacked a complex housing army officers in the south eastern Sin El-Fil section of

Beirut. The area also includes the home of Premier Hafez.

The clashes have erupted as a result of a long period of government action against the existence of Palestinian guerrillas.

The Lebanese government has been trying to impose tighter restrictions on the guerrillas and their right to operate against Israel from bases in the country.

The Palestine news agency Wafa, which acts as a spokesman for the guerrillas, has rejected the possibility of

re-negotiation of the 1969 Cairo agreement which laid down conditions for the resistance movement's presence in Lebanon.

The agency said the agreement was not a subject for bargaining or renegotiation. Units of the Palestine Liberation Army entered the south of the country from Syria soon after the first outbreak of fighting.

They were moved in apparently to help maintain control of the refugee camps which house Palestinian families and

children.

Hatred of the Lebanese government has increased within these camps where women and children were shelled and machine gunned by the army during the fighting.

Their shanty-town camps in Lebanon are the last remaining bases for the Palestinian guerrillas.

Two years ago King Hussein of Jordan moved his entire military strength in a bid to wipe out the guerrillas in his country. Lebanon is now the only Arab country where

the guerrillas are allowed to operate with any degree of freedom.

Last week's clashes were vital for the guerrillas.

A defeat for the liberation forces in Lebanon would be a serious blow and would leave the resistance army in a weak and disorganized position.

So far the guerrillas have managed to keep control of their own political 'autonomy', and the fighting has shown that they are determined to continue the struggle against Arab reaction.



# New recruitment drive by Scots YS

A special  
Keep Left  
report



**YOUNG SOCIALISTS** in Scotland have planned a new recruitment drive to build up their branches and strengthen existing ones.

Weekend schools, regular meetings, campaigns on the high streets and social events will be organized in the coming months as part of this drive.

YS national committee member for Scotland, Gordon Bailey, told Keep Left that the opportunities for building a very big youth movement in Scotland were now a reality.

'At the 13th YS annual conference youth from all over West Scotland spoke out against their living and working conditions.

'Young people get fed up with the monotony of large housing schemes which they live in and they are also fed up with the dead end jobs offered to them.

'When they take to the streets—because there is nowhere else to go—they are harassed and often arrested by the police.

'Another side to this problem is the large numbers of Scottish youth who travel down south to London, in search of "streets paved with gold".

'But of course they do not find ideal conditions. In London, like all other parts of the country, they face unemployment, homelessness and poverty.

'Some turn to drugs and crime and most are forced to spend the nights on the streets or in makeshift beds.'

Scottish Young Socialists intend to address such youth directly in their campaign.

They will ask the youth to



## Aberdeen's new YS branch

A NEW Young Socialist branch was set up in Aberdeen last week when over 35 young workers and school students attended a lively meeting in Hilton School.

The discussion which followed the main political report centred on the Tories' attacks on democratic rights, the betrayals of the TUC leaders, school strikes and YS history.

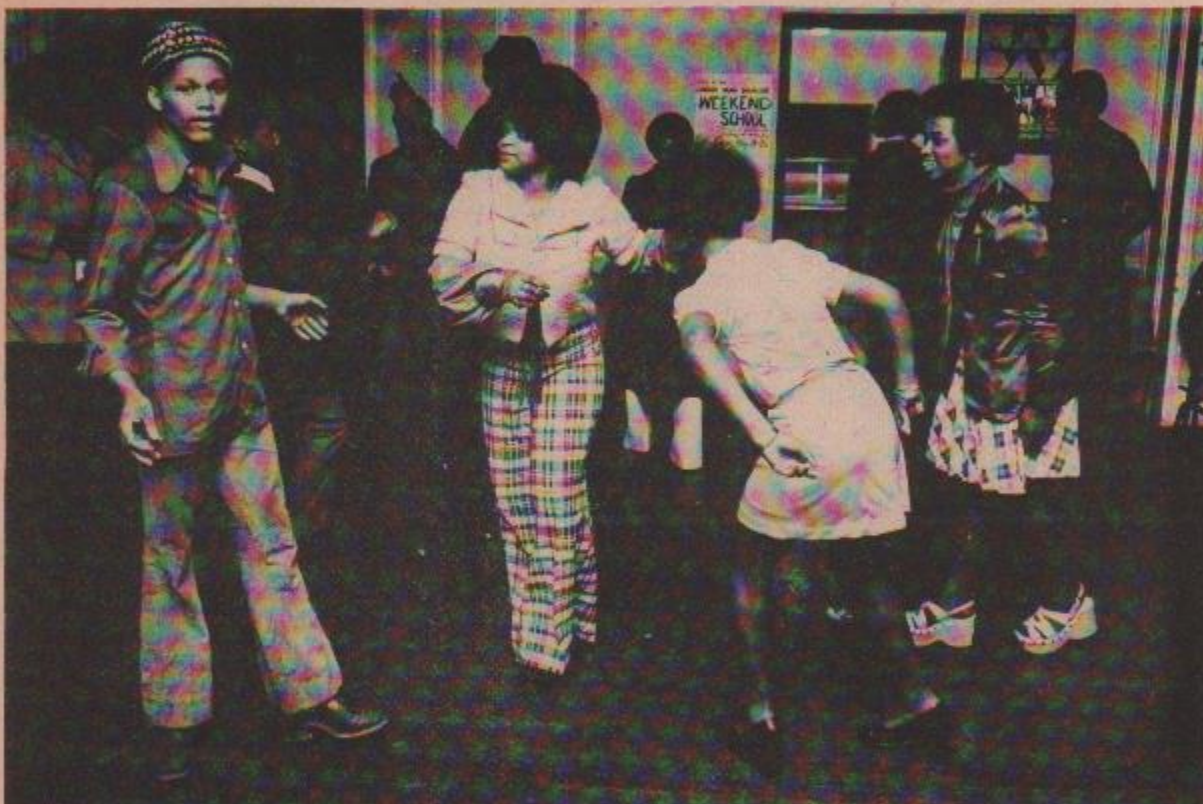
The meeting also elected

a branch committee which will draw up plans for an attractive summer social programme.

The meeting unanimously passed a resolution calling for the building of a mass YS to lead the fight against the Tories.

Neil Rothnie  
Secretary

**ABERDEEN NORTH YS**  
meets every Thursday  
Hilton School  
7.30 p.m.



## Battersea YS at the Town Hall

IT WAS a lively Monday night for Battersea YS this week when they held their first disco at the Battersea Town Hall. Attendance was good and the sound 'Big D' arranged by Douglas, the Federation's

Social Secretary, went down well.

The disco also gave a boost to the setting up of a new branch, the Nine Elms branch which will have its first meeting next Tuesday.

Further socials are planned. Battersea branch secretary, Rosalind said:

'It was a great night. We talked to a lot of new people and have got them interested in coming to the London weekend school.'

join the YS branches and help build up the movement with new branches and regions.

The answer to unemployment and 'ghetto-like' living conditions is to kick out the Tories and bring back a Labour government pledged to socialist policies of full employment and nationalization.

The campaign has already been received enthusiastically, even in villages like Naybole where the YS had no branches previously.

A social programme of discotheques, dances and film

shows, will be organized by the YS branches in all parts.

One of the big successes so far has been the regional conference. On May 19 and 20 a weekend school is to be held in the attractive surroundings of Stirling.

Sports days and football tournaments will be organized in July.

'The YS can be confident of building a big movement around here,' said one shipyard apprentice, 'it is the fight for principles that matters so much today.'

## No way to run a nursery

By  
Susan Penny

I AM a Young Socialist member and secretary of the East Ham branch. The reason for my article is to explain about the exploitation of young school girls.

The exploitation is at a privately-owned nursery, and the lack of organization and awareness among these workers is incredible.

Let me first explain the hours which I work—from 7.50 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. two days a week and 9.30 a.m. to 5.15 p.m. the other two days, and from 9 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. on Friday.

I don't get any lunch breaks or tea breaks but the employer does us the favour of giving us two hours off a week, which must be taken from 12.15 p.m. to 2.15 p.m.

They supply us with a supposedly substantial meal—coffee in the mornings, a roll and tea in the afternoon with a cake.

The food is on semi-school dinner standard, but we are more fortunate than the children—they get even less.

For my duties I get £8 a week, after National Insurance contributions it is £7.52 and I am 17.

They make sure you work for this mere pittance, for they are terribly understaffed. An example of this—on Friday we have the maximum amount of 56 children and there are six staff, including myself.

How can we possibly give these children the attention they need when you have 13 children to wash, feed and amuse the whole day.

There's racialism too. As we can see this is no way in which a nursery should be run. It must be stopped.

Due to the system mothers have no choice but to put their children into places like this nursery so that they can go out to work.

When I started to work at the nursery I was not told that there was any union I could join; there are no staff facilities whatsoever.

I feel the significance of my letter as this treatment goes on, not only in this nursery, but in professions all over the country.

The youth are not usually told of unions which they can join. The only way we are going to stop this exploitation of youth is to build a mass youth movement with a leadership which will get the Tories out.





**FOOTBALL**  
every Sunday

**COVENTRY YS**  
Operation Venture Park  
Willenhall 3.00 p.m.

**BIRMINGHAM**  
Short Heath Park  
3.00 p.m.

## Wales: Swansea win over Merthyr

Swansea 3—Merthyr 1  
LAST Sunday, May 6, Swansea YS football team met Merthyr YS at Swansea University playing fields.

Swansea was captained by Derek O'Brien and Merthyr by Clive Hadley who also plays for Ebbw Vale Town side.

The match started briskly with some very good play, to be stopped after 15 minutes by Swansea's captain injuring his knee. No bones were broken, but the injury was serious enough for Derek to be taken off.

The pace of the match was fast, for the most part, with

flashes of excellent play. Swansea went on to a decisive 3—1 victory and referee Neddy Davies said afterwards that he had enjoyed the game very much.

Merthyr put up a good fight and they are determined that the return match will be a very different story.

Grays 9—Basildon 1

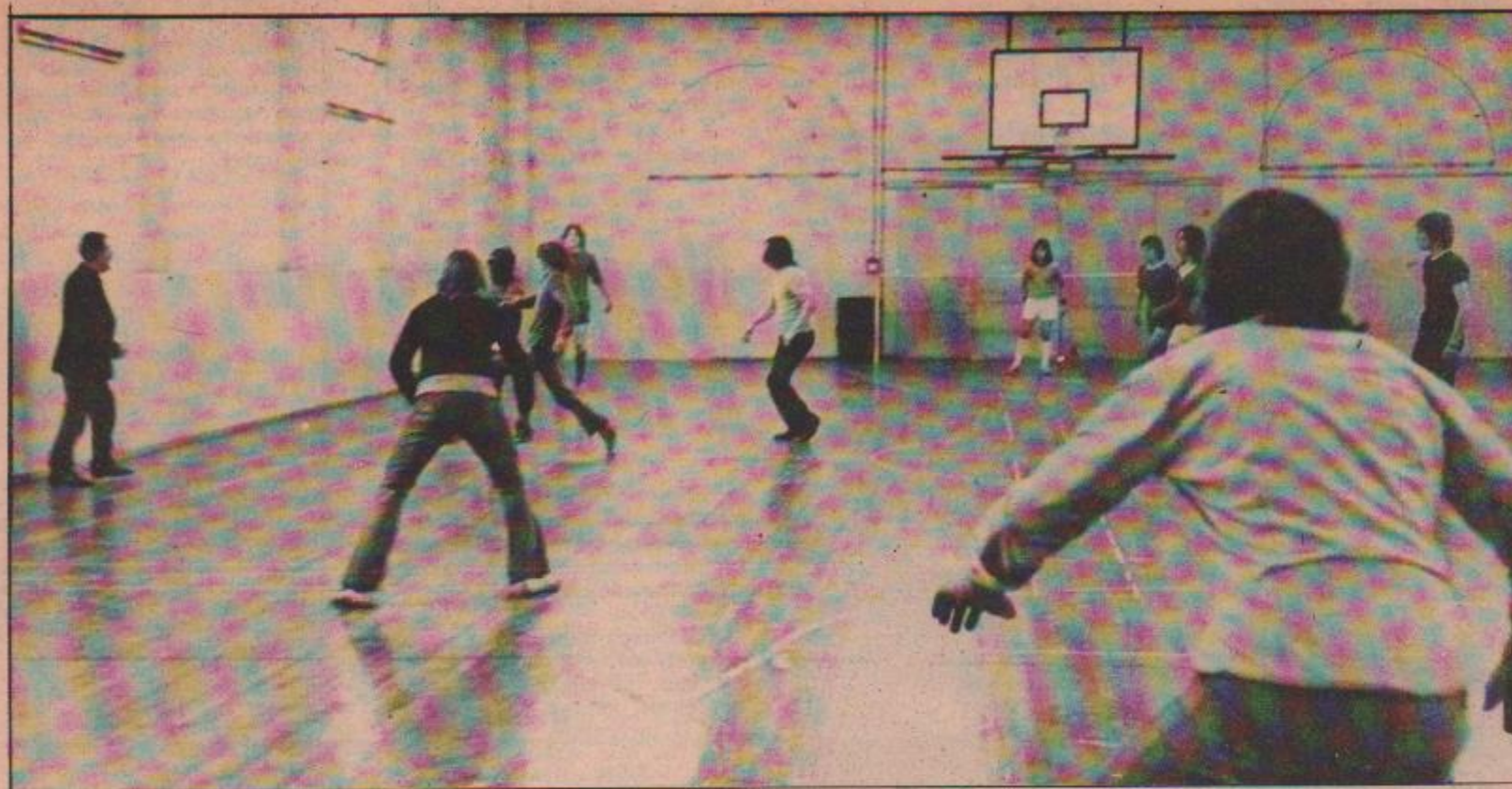
A DEFEATED Basildon team of only seven players crashed to a Grays team on top form last Sunday.

The first half was fairly even with both teams playing good football.

Grays went ahead after about 15 minutes but Basildon fought back and equalized. Grays scored once more and the teams changed sides with the score at 2—1.

In the second half Basildon's under-strength team began to tire, despite some spirited action.

Eventually Basildon conceded a further seven goals before the final whistle. Arrangements are being made for a return match which Basildon are confident of winning with a full team.



TWELVE teams took part in an indoor football tournament organized last weekend by Acton and Southall Young Socialists.

The matches were played at Hanwell Community Centre before a large group of spectators from the YS branches.

A rally followed the tournament and in the evening everybody stayed behind for a great discotheque.



## Semi-final win for Middleton

MIDDLETON YS won the semi-finals of the national football cup last weekend. The team beat Jarrow YS and will now go forward to the finals where they meet Clapham YS from London.

Middleton's 4-2 victory against Jarrow was a great boost for the team, which was formed only this season.

## Chepstow YS organize first disco

THE newly-formed Chepstow Young Socialists branch—part of the Bristol YS Federation—held a highly successful discotheque last week at the town's Beaufort Hotel.

Over 160 young people from the town danced to a local sound system.

This was the first major event organized by the branch, which holds its regular meetings on Wednesday's at the King's Head.

An enthusiastic group of apprentices and school-leavers make up the branch committee and take care of planning the programme and running the meetings.

**CRAWLEY YS**  
Discotheque  
Saturday May 12  
Tilgate Youth Centre  
Shakleton Road  
Tilgate  
8.00 p.m.  
Adm: 15p (members  
10p)

**MIDLANDS YS**  
Sports Day  
Sunday June 3  
Saffron Lane Stadium  
Leicester

## KEEP LEFT weekly fund

Comrades, this week's fund total was £30.19. Since the Young Socialists 13th Annual Conference we have campaigned to bring our weekly fund total up to £35 a week.

We have not yet reached that target. Can we make a special attempt in the coming week in all YS branches, federations and regions to have a big drive for the fund to take us up to our £35 goal?

**Rush in all  
your donations  
now! Post  
to KEEP LEFT  
186a Clapham  
High Street,  
London,  
SW4 7UG**