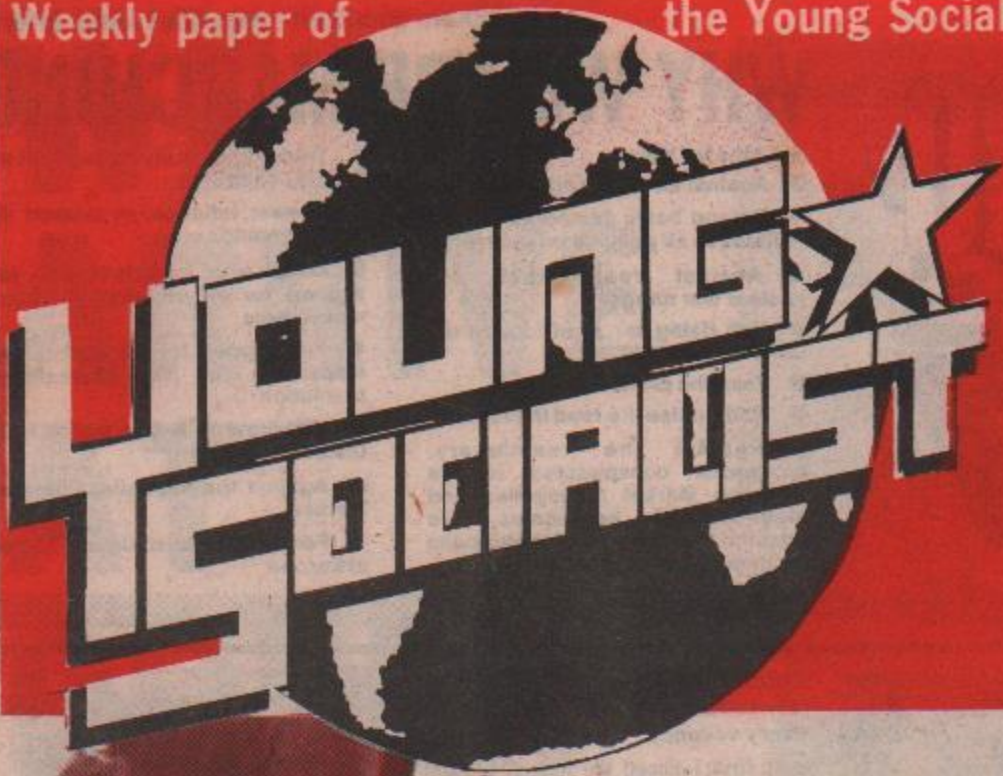


Weekly paper of

the Young Socialists Saturday April 23 1977 • Vol 2 No 8 Price 5p



**500 MILES FROM DORTMUND  
5 WEEKS ON THE ROAD  
EURO-MARCH 77  
IS HERE!**



**JOIN THE DORTMUND-LONDON EURO-MARCHERS  
COME TO THE INTERNATIONAL RALLY  
ALEXANDRA PALACE APRIL 24**

•See details page two

"We say..."

# HOW TO SMASH THE CONTRACT

LAST month prices rose ten times faster than wages according to Department of Employment figures. The annual rate of price increase is now 17 per cent.

The CBI, which represents Britain's bosses, last week said that workers' living standards should fall even more. They propose a new 'social contract' based on 3-per-cent wage increases.

Millions of workers want to scrap the wage-cutting 'social contract' and there is a rising tide of opposition to a new 'Phase Three' deal.

But the Stalinists of the Communist Party could only mobilise 3,000 for their London 'Smash Phase Three' demo last week.

They organised the one-day farce knowing full well that the Lib-Lab government would not pay the slightest attention to it.

They want to diffuse the growing anger in the working class in one-day stunts while the Labour government pushes ahead with a double-dealing Phase Three.

At the Scottish TUC last week the miners' resolution against the social contract was defeated by 50 votes.

Mick McGahey, the bogeyman of the Tory Press, proposed the resolution, saying: 'This is an exercise in how to maintain the Labour government and avoid the return of a Tory government at all costs.'

But the social contract is the sole basis for the existence of the Lib-Lab government. It couldn't survive ten minutes without it.

The social contract will not be smashed with strong feelings. It will be smashed by the mass movement of the working class in action to force the Lib-Lab wage-cutters to resign.

This is a central demand of Euro-March 77 which reaches its climax at the Alexandra Palace this Sunday.

This rally will be the first major rally of the working class against the social contract and the Lib-Lab coalition. Be there!

## £200 FUND

Comrades,

So far we have received £292.32 towards our monthly fund. We are determined to go well over the £300 mark this month.

Inflation is roaring ahead at 17 per

cent a year. We need every penny of our fund to keep up with rising costs. So please send all you can to:

Young Socialist Fund  
21b Old Town  
Clapham  
London SW4 0JT

# EURO-MARCH 77

## WHY WE ARE MARCHING

- Jobs for Youth
- Against all cuts in education
- Defend basic democratic rights — Release all political prisoners
- Against rearmament and nuclear war danger
- Halt rising prices of food in the Common Market
- Take the profit out of food
- Nationalise the food industries
- Against the reactionary, pro-fascist conspiracies of the Common Market monopolies and multi-national companies, we demand the opening of their books for trade union inspection
- Trade union unity throughout all the EEC countries
- Answer inflation — support all wage demands
- Down with imperialism — full support for all national liberation movements
- Full support for the PLO as the leadership of the Palestinian revolution
- Withdraw all British troops from Ulster
- Against the capitalist Common Market
- For the Socialist United States of Europe



Mirka

Mirka is a member of the Greek delegation on Euro March 77.

“This march means that the working class can fight against its common problems internationally and overcome them.

The fight for the march has forced many Stalinists and bureaucrats to give us accommodation, food and money.

I believe that this march is the beginning of revolutionary parties in France and Belgium. Big revolutionary parties can now be built in Greece, Spain and Portugal.

This march is only the beginning. There is much work yet to be done. The rally at Alexandra Palace will be the focal point of the whole struggle of the Trotskyist movement internationally.”

Brian Pearson is unemployed in Newcastle where 30 youth chase every vacancy:

“At first I joined the march to fight against unemployment and as the march went on I realised that it is a political fight and it became more and more interesting.

Talking to the working class people and getting fantastic support from them.

I thought the Dover meeting was fantastic. Really showed the strength of the movement, of the YS. A really moving experience after marching all that way, meeting comrades, youth who wanted to fight against unemployment.

When we were round canvassing a schoolmistress invited two of us into her house for a meal and she had never seen us before in her life.

A guy just pulled up in a car with his hand stretched out through the window holding a pound note for the marchers to collect.”



Brian Pearson



Bernard Purdy

Bernard Purdy from Sunderland:

“When I leave school I'm not going to get a job so I joined the Glasgow march. The marches are scaring the living daylights out of Callaghan.

We've had a lot of support from workers. In Coventry workers bought a dinner of fish and chips for us. In Sunderland 2,000 workers from the Plessey factory stopped work to meet us.

These marches are very important because the crisis is getting worse all the time.

We don't want the Tories in, the Lib-Lab coalition is rubbish, they're going against workers.

In many towns workers have marched with us, the support has been tremendous. This means that they think that our policies are right and that the coalition has to go.

I'm marching all the way to Alexandra Palace. The marches have been great so far, all youth should come along to Alexandra Palace. This is their future, we're fighting for a future, that's what the marches are all about.”

### Join the Dortmund-London Euro-marchers

ON THE ROAD SINCE MARCH 20

Next Sunday April 24

2 p.m.

ASSEMBLE: Lordship Lane Recreation Ground, Tottenham, London N.17

MARCH: to Alexandra Palace, London N22

for

## INTERNATIONAL RALLY

Speakers:

Ulli Rippert — Leader of Euro-March  
Peter Boylan — Ireland  
Enrico Santana — Portugal  
Angel Garcia — Spain  
Yiannis Tsirikos — Greece  
Simon Pirani — YS National Secretary

Michael Banda — WRP General Secretary  
Cliff Slaughter — Secretary, International Committee of the Fourth International  
Ernie Ennew — Chairman, Plessey's joint shop stewards committee, Sunderland and other speakers

- JOBS NOW!
- AGAINST THE COMMON MARKET!
- FOR UNITED SOCIALIST STATES OF EUROPE!

IN THE EVENING — Live Bands  
Southern Electric & Woman

Ticket £1

Doors open 2 p.m.

Starts 3 p.m.

# WE ARRIVE AT DOVER

BY YS REPORTING TEAM

**DUNKIRK, Sunday, April 17** — The captain of the 'Saint Eloi' paced gingerly along the upper deck peering onto the deserted dock awaiting his passengers.

He knew well in advance that he would not be making an ordinary crossing today. It was not going to be the usual tourists with their wallets stuffed full of francs going to Britain to take advantage of the collapsing pound.

His passengers were going to be 150 young people from Euro-March '77, the youth unemployment march which had travelled from Dortmund in West Germany, across Belgium and through northern France.

They had been four weeks on the road and marched 400 miles and now they were about to complete their adventurous trek across the English Channel.

Promptly at 10.30a.m. coaches

swung through the dock gates and pulled up at the gangway. As the marchers went aboard under the watchful eye of the captain, the march vans drove into the bowels of the vessel loaded with their ruck-sacks and sleeping bags.

There are teenagers from eight countries in the Euro-March contingent — from Britain, Ireland, West Germany, France, Belgium, Greece, Portugal and Spain.

They take off in small groups to investigate the ship — some to inspect the duty-free shop and see what they could have bought if they had any money (!), others to see the price of a cup of tea (20p), but most of them went on deck in spite of the chilly wind to try and be the first to see the coastline of England.

'How long before we get there, skipper?' someone asked.

'Three hours.'

'I'm going inside.'

'No, I think I'll wait up here.'

## 'Can you tell us the way...?'

**DOVER, Sunday, April 17** — 'Could you tell us the way to the Dunkirk ferry?' the coach driver shouts out of his cabin.

The rows of young passengers lean forward to listen as the police officer says, 'Yes, you go down here, turn right and follow the road to the western docks.'

There has been a procession of coaches since mid-morning arriving from Scotland, Wales, Liverpool, Nottingham, Coventry and London.

'Get the food unloaded from the vans,' someone shouts.

'They'll be ever so hungry when they get here.'

Crates of sandwiches are placed in an impromptu kiosk and the girls start preparing the tea.

'When will they get here?'

'I heard they'll be here at noon.'

'No, they won't clear customs

until one.'

'Let's go into town for a look around.'

'No, I think I'll wait here. I don't want to miss it.'

The man from Sealink, the cross-Channel ferry operators, is very obliging. He has organised for a contingent of 12 to be on the station platform which is adjacent to the berth.

'Who wants to be on the quayside?'

'There are 50 volunteers!'

'No, we can only take 12.'

Eventually about 20 from the Workers Revolutionary Party, the Young Socialists and official trade union delegations go off with the Sealink man.

It includes Jack Collins, Kent area representative of the national executive of the National Union of Mineworkers, the Bexley Trades Council secretary John Peters and a delegation from the local Dover Engineering Ltd.

## 'I can see the white cliffs of Dover...!'

**AT SEA on the 'Saint Eloi'** — 'Hey, I can see the white cliffs of Dover. Tell the others.'

Everyone rushes to the starboard side to unfurl banners and drape them over the ship's side.

These banners — 'Euro-March '77 — Dortmund to London' — have been carried through cities and towns in three Common Market countries demanding jobs for youth.

The wear and tear caused by rain, snow, sleet and high winds are quite apparent. The tears in the fabric are a reminder of the gruelling campaign that has been waged by the young unemployed teenagers.

Just as the banners are in position and marchers are perched on the top of lifeboats with huge red flags, the boat swings around to head into the other dock.

'Christ,' someone shouts.

'We're on the wrong side.'

There is a mad rush to unlash the banners from the railings and take them to the port side.

As the boat berths the Euro-marchers catch a glimpse of some of the welcoming party and begin to wave their flags with greater gusto. This has unforeseen results, as two banners flutter off their poles and into the sea!

With port officials looking on in some amazement the marchers broke into 'The Internationale' and the Young



The Euro-marchers leave the ship at Dover

**ON THE QUAYSIDE** — In the car park enclosure the steel band got into position on the back of the Euro-March campaign van.

Placards came out and the long banner welcoming the marchers was unfurled. Trades councils' banners, trade union banners, scores of YS banners — they all began to flutter in the bright sunlight.

The first roar went up when the marchers' vans appeared from the hold of the ship. But it was a short-lived business. Not long after, customs men and uniformed police appeared on the scene and instructed the vehicles to return to the customs area.

What's going on? Why are they taking the vans back? Inside the railway station the official welcoming party began to notice that things weren't going well. First they were told they could go onto the quayside and now they received a countermarching order that they would have to wait outside.

The ship had berthed on time but now it was an hour later. Still no marchers.

Then the news filtered through that customs had cleared the vans but the police suddenly intervened and asked that they be returned for a full search.

All the marchers had to go to the vans while they were unloaded with the purpose of identifying each item of luggage. In the event it turned out to be a cursory affair with the police paying scarcely any attention to what was in the bags.

It was officialdom at work;

the usual harassment.

By now 2,000 Ostend tourists had arrived and jumped into the queue well ahead of the marchers. Further delays. Then, with the reception committee growing more and more restless, and the crowd outside swelling to more than 1,000, the first marchers came up the pathway from immigration control bearing the Euro-March banner.

The station echoed with cheers and handclapping. Ulli Rippert, march leader from Essen, shook hands with the reception party, while others went to meet their comrades from the British regional marches.

Within 10 minutes everyone was cleared and the marchers got into formation for their triumphant entry onto British soil.

The excitement reached a new

pitch and their marching almost broke into running as they came out of the station, around the corner and into the square where cheering, flag-waving trade unionists and youth greeted them.

The marchers wheeled around the square chanting their slogans in unison in seven languages and then headed the demonstration through the city.

Townpeople came to their windows as the slogans of Europe became the slogans of Britain for the first time.

At a nearby hall a rally started with speakers from Euro-March '77 giving their experiences of the campaign and the solid support that had been won every day in the towns and cities of West Germany, Belgium and France.

It was the working class of these countries who provided food, accommodation and

finance to keep the march on the road.

But there was another, decisive factor involved. Gerry Healy of the Workers Revolutionary Party Central Committee told the rally:

'The march was able to keep on the road through bad weather conditions and under great difficulties because right in the middle was the strength of the leadership of the International Committee of the Fourth International.'

April 17, 1977, at Dover was the day of the International Committee of the Fourth International, and it was also the political maturing of the International Youth Committee of the Fourth International, founded in London in November 1975.

As Comrade Healy said, 'It is not what we have done but what we are going to do that counts.'

## SUPPORT THE EURO-MARCH

### LONDON — Rally at Alexandra Palace April 24

**YOUNG SOCIALISTS**  
**EURO-MARCH '77**  
**JOBS NOW!**  
**CAMPAIGN**

Give your support to the marches! Join in with your banner!  
Send financial support! Come to Alexandra Palace on April 24!

Name .....

Address .....

Complete the form and send to: Young Socialists (Euro-March)  
21b Old Town, Clapham, London SW4 6JT

# 'Our task is to unite the European working class'

AT A RALLY after the march, Workers Revolutionary Party Central Committee member Gerry Healy said that the march was not afraid to learn from its problems and its weaknesses.

'This march was able to keep on the road through bad weather conditions and under great difficulties because right in the middle was the strength of the leadership of the International Committee of the Fourth International.

Comrade Healy said the strength of revolutionary Trotskyism had remained unbroken since the dark days of the Left Opposition, founded in 1923 despite all the persecutions and murders by imperialism and the Stalinist bureaucracy.

He explained that these Euro-Marches would not end at Alexandra Palace; Euro-March 77 is but the preparation for further marches. Comrade Healy explained that every comrade on the march must consider themselves a leader.

Ulli Rippert, Euro-March leader said that the march opened a new epoch in the history of the working class. 'Our task is to unite the European working class. The marches have shown we are able to do this. We are a new force in this struggle, we have shown that we are determined to lead the working class to power.'

Comrade Ulli Rippert, the march leader, said: 'We are not only here to bring you revolutionary greetings, comrades, we are here with a clear message: the fight for workers power has started in Europe. A historic task, a task of uniting the working class on a socialist programme for power lies with the International Committee of the Fourth International.'

John Doherty, official delegate from the Transport and General Workers' Union, Scottish Cables said:

'We can say that every marcher and every trade unionist and youth here in Dover today has struck a powerful blow against the Lib-Lab coalition government

'All power to the Young Socialists! Jobs for youth now!'

Marcher Gerry Jacob from Ireland said: 'Greetings, comrades, from the marchers. The support we have got today is the same support we have got from the working class throughout Europe.

'Our supporters are the socialist leaders of the future. Let us go forward and build the Fourth International.'

Bringing warmest greetings to the marchers, Young Socialists national secretary Simon Pirani said: 'The Lib-Lab coalition is a front for the Tories. It is a stepping stone to a big Tory victory or a national government.

'Its purpose is to cut wages, drive up prices and smash living standards.'

He said the conspiracy to destroy all the gains which the working class had won went further than parliament and Whitehall.



Tatiana . . . 'We saw that the working class is going to fight'

## Reaching London on foot

'HOW can you walk any more with blisters like that?' asked the young West German ambulanceman bandaging the foot of a girl from Greece.

She told him why she thought it so politically important that everyone marched the whole 500-mile route to London.

The young ambulanceman was so fascinated by her determination and her explanation of the march that he immediately signed up to join the Fourth International.

He was just one of thousands along the 500-mile route across the Continent who quickly grasped the great political implications of Euro March 77.

Neither blisters nor sore feet through Germany, Belgium, and France, stopped the marchers.

Reaching London on foot became a big political goal to aim for.

It's not difficult to imagine the fantastic organisation necessary for keeping 150 marchers on the road across Europe.

Each new city, town, or village you approach is a fresh challenge.

But the march had no financial resources in reserve — and at every destination it needed donations of food, warmth, accommodation, and hard cash to keep it on the move.

We got those donations because of the political strength of the march. That political strength was decisive. Nothing else could have done the job.

The marchers were on the road to lead a fight against unemployment and nothing was going to stop it. The marchers looked to the working class for the response — and it came with a flourish.

Workers from countries whose language many of us couldn't understand saw in our march the political leadership they cry out for.

All along the route of the march we made it plain that the marchers were from eight different countries — and that the only way for the international working class to fight was to fight together.



Euro-March leader Ulli Rippert speaking at the meeting in Dover on Sunday.

'It goes to Brussels as well,' he said. He said the mobilisation of the working class to bring down the Lib-Lab coalition government was the central task of the hour.

He called on youth to join the YS and fight to build it as part of the establishment of a new revolutionary leadership in the working class.

A young marcher from Greece said Euro-March 77 had passed through some of the areas hardest hit by unemployment. 'We saw that the working class is going to fight,' she said.

'Our march is not over. It will not be over in London next weekend. It will be over when we have laid the basis for mass revolutionary youth organisations and parties all over Europe.'

Comrade Alberto from Spain said the fascist government in Spain was equipping the police and army to destroy the revolutionary upsurge in the Spanish working class.

With the imminent return of Dolores Ibarruri (Spanish CP president) to Spain the Stalinists were preparing the counter-revolution, as they did in 1936.

'Our task is to build alternative revolutionary leadership that will bring down the capitalist conspiracies and establish a socialist united states of Europe,' he said.



Gerry Healy

## 'The going was tough but worth it'

'THE support we have had on this march proves that the working class is behind us all the way', Margaret from Dublin, told Young Socialist when the march reached Dover last Sunday.

Twenty-year old Margaret and her sister Betty have marched every step of the way from Dortmund, where Euro March 77 started five weeks ago.

'The state of unemployment and the failure of the government to control prices, inflation etc. has just about reached the point where the workers will refuse to accept its policies any longer. They will get out from under the capitalists' oppression and fight', she said.

Betty said: 'I heard about the Euro March from my younger sister Margaret, who had joined the Young Socialists.

'After leaving London having worked in an office for six months, I returned to

Ireland to find that the unemployment had worsened. The youth are expected to work long hours and accept deplorable wages. I joined the Euro-March to fight these conditions, and to get together the support of the workers throughout Europe.'

Margaret also returned from working in England to find herself at the end of the long, long queue: 'Unemployment in Dublin is steadily rising. I think the official figure is twenty per cent. It doesn't matter what kind of education qualifications you have, the jobs are still few and far between.

'Employers pick and choose when interviewing applicants, to take on the one who will settle for the least pay and

worst working conditions.' The girls both agreed internationalism was the number one point of the march. 'I met youth from seven other countries, who are feeling the same effects of the economic crisis as the youth in Ireland,' said Betty.

'The unity and strength of your march, together with the fantastic support we received from the working class in Europe, proves without doubt that we will win our fight against unemployment.

'The march was tough going, but for me well worth it.'

Margaret also agreed: 'The march was a hard struggle but was worth every painstaking step we took'.



Betty

# WORLD NEWS



Youth standing in line waiting for summer job applications in the Forte Greene section of Brooklyn

## OVERNIGHT JOBS QUEUE

**YOUTH** in their thousands jammed centres all over New York City last week in a desperate scramble for jobs.

Over 1,000 young people queued up with heavy blankets and heavy coats for a cold night so that they could be in front of queues.

At one job centre in Harlem youth began queuing at 1p.m. on Tuesday afternoon, 20 hours before the job centre was due to open.

Many of the centres did not even open on time. So the wait went on.

At each job centre the police set up barricades and parked their squad cars within a few feet of the queues.

In New York only 58,000 jobs will be available, about one for

every fifteen youth who want to work. The few youth who do get jobs will get only \$2.30 an hour, the minimum wage. And they will only work 24 hours a week for seven weeks.



Michael

If last year is any indication even those who work may not even see a pay cheque.

The American Young Socialists spoke to youth waiting in the queue at Brooklyn.

Rita, who went through the same thing last year said 'I don't like it. It's cold out here, they make us stand, plus when we get in they might not have anything.'

### Disappointing

Michael Thomas, high school student said: 'It was a mess. Last year too we had to fight for the cheques. We had a hard time getting paid. It's really disappointing to stand here all day and maybe not get anything. Carter said he'd change things. It's changed. It's worse. Everybody here will back me up.' They did.

Dorsey, who did manage to get a job said: 'They send you where they want you to work in the mail. I start July 6. The



Elaine

system is messed up. For \$2.50 you can stay home and relax. They work you to death.'

Elaine said, 'It stinks. If they have applications for jobs they should just give them out to everybody and let us go home.'

## YOUNG SOCIALISTS APPEAL for the Lebanese workers and the Palestinian refugees

### Collect medical aid and clothing



Nineteen months of civil war — more than 40,000 killed — thousands maimed and wounded — families without fathers — children without homes — old people with no food or clothing — hospitals without drugs or bandages — refugee camps without water, electricity or food.

The Young Socialists issue an urgent call to the labour and trade union movement — give to those who have been battered by the artillery, driven out of their homes and herded into ghettos in Lebanon by the Syrian-backed rightists.

Time is precious — it means lives. Arrange collection of medicine and warm clothing. Woollen blankets, warm children's wear, winter underwear and clothing are now desperately needed. The extremely cold winter means that thousands face death from exposure. Act at once. Ask your local trade union branches and Constituency Labour Parties for contributions.

## Deadlock in Lebanon

A flurry of diplomatic and political activity in Beirut over the last week has failed to break the deadlock over the explosive situation in southern Lebanon.

The right-wing Falangists want to expel the majority of the 400,000 Palestinians now in the Lebanon, and disarm

the rest. The other Arab states are in favour of reducing the number of Palestinians over a period of months.

The international implications of the crisis were underlined by meetings of Arab leaders with the American and Soviet ambassadors in Beirut.

# ROCKY



Sylvester Stallone

## Film review by Marty Jonas

Sylvester Stallone, who both wrote and played the title role in Rocky, is a refreshing new talent.

By now, everyone knows the story which has become part of Hollywood folklore, of how he fought to sell the script to the studios as a package: they could only buy it if he could play Rocky.

Stallone sold the package and the film won an Oscar. The stuff that dreams are made of, as in the film when Rocky is picked up by a fluke from thousands of boxers to fight the heavyweight champ.

But, of course, there is a reason for everything.

The choice of Rocky to fight the champ is an accident, but the hand of fate is guided by the cynicism of the heavyweight champ and the boxing promoters. They think they can pack them in by capitalising on the Bicentennial and the racial difference between the champ who is black and Rocky who is white.

Rocky won the Academy Award because it has been the top grossing film in the country for several months.

The film has been playing to full houses because it is obviously something a great many Americans want to see.

Workers and youth are paying £3.50 to see a film about a young worker that is not a demeaning portrait.

The way in which workers have been portrayed in the movies or on TV has been as an ignorant bigot, as in *All in the Family* and *Joe*, or in parody, as in *Mary Hartman, Mary Hartman*. I cannot remember any American film being made in recent years which showed how workers really live. A good try was made about fifteen years ago by Paddy Chayefsky in the TV production of *Marty*, starring Rod Steiger, followed by the film version starring Ernest Borgnine. After that, nothing.

So it is no small thing that a film shows the day-to-day life of workers.

ROCKY. Directed by John Avildsen. Written by Sylvester Stallone, Starring Sylvester Stallone, Talia Shire, Burgess Meredith, Burt Young.

Rocky is a club boxer who makes £40 at most if he wins a fight. His values are fairly simple and can be summed up in the incident where he lectures a young girl about using obscene language: people will remember you for what you do. When the champ selects him as his opponent, he is convinced that he cannot win but his big victory will be if he can last through the last round. He courts a shy girl, the sister of his best friend, and brings her out of her shell. He trains prodigiously and is ready for the big fight. The fight, which is photographed and edited with the maximum tension, results in his not winning but in his staying the length of the match. The ending is upbeat, with Rocky victorious, kissing his girl and being acclaimed by the crowd.

Rocky is made very likeable, a character that any worker or youth could identify with. Most importantly, in a period where the pessimism of disaster films passes for creativity and thought, Rocky is an unashamedly optimistic film.

Its optimism, which is very rare in films, is another reason

why the film has been getting such a phenomenal response. When Rocky fights the champ (who is patterned after Mohammed Ali), he is fighting against the cynicism that has set up the bout, against the system that would just use him and throw him away afterwards. Against all this, he is fighting for his dignity and the simple values he lives by. That is why audiences (myself included) get caught up in the tension of the training and the fight.

The danger in this is that unless this is carried further in future films, beyond just the exposition of how workers live and beyond these values which aren't really that simple, this could all become cliché and degenerate into a 'style'. Stallone is now working on a sequel, *Rocky Returns*, as well as a script about a corrupt union leader, called *F.I.S.T.* Attention must now be paid to the day-to-day struggles of workers for their very survival.

Workers are entering history now, not as individuals but as a class. The next step, for Stallone and other serious film artists, is to put this on film.

# INTERVIEW WITH GREEK YS MEMBERS

## 'The youth took our side and we chased the fascists off'

Young Socialist interviewed comrades from Greece on the Dortmund to London march.

**YS:** What is the total unemployment in Greece?

**George:** The government figures are 100,000 youth unemployed but this hides the real truth which is that there are many more.

**YS:** How are the present economic upheavals in Europe affecting the youth in Greece?

**George:** The economic crisis affects the youth directly. Many went to Germany to find work but now they are coming back because they cannot get jobs.

This is pushing up the unemployment figures. An example of this is Salonika where workers who had just come back from Germany occupied a big estate which belonged to a big landowner. They started using it and cultivating it. Then police were called and there were running battles.

**YS:** Do the youth suffer much harassment from the police?

**George:** This is expressed in the strikes which the youth are involved in. Also the youth clubs are raided very often.

Near Salonika the youth went to support their brothers and fathers who were involved in a mining strike and they were brutally attacked by the police.

**YS:** What is the Karamanlis government doing to ease the burden of the crisis on the backs of the youth and the working class?

**Angelika:** The government has passed reactionary laws against the workers in order to find a way out of the crisis.

**YS:** Do you think that the laws passed by the government can solve the crisis?

**Angelika:** The government no matter what measures it takes cannot solve the crisis.

**YS:** What is the political situation two

years after the working class has overthrown the military junta?

**George:** From the strike wave that is going on now in Greece we can say that the workers and peasants have turned against Karamanlis' government because of the attacks of the government against them.

**YS:** Is there a danger of the military junta returning to power?

**George:** As long as Karamanlis is in office the doors are wide open for a new military dictatorship especially with the support of the Stalinists and the Karamanlis government. On the other hand it is us who lead the fight to take the working class to power.

**YS:** When campaigning for Euro-March 77, what was the response from the working class?

**George:** In the working class movement there was a great response. In working-class areas and in youth clubs and in the streets youth immediately



Greek marchers

signed the petition and gave donations from their pockets and the same response was found in the villages from the peasant youth.

Characteristically in the technical school when the fascists attacked us the youth took our side and together we chased the fascists away.

In the same incident the Stalinists took a neutral position. I was attacked by the fascists and badly hurt.

There were three of us campaigning for the Euro-March outside the school. There was a fascist trying to provoke us. When we isolated him from the other students he telephoned for help and after a short time a gang of fascists, and royalists — about twenty of them —

attacked us with iron bars and knives, and tried to set fire to our photographic equipment.

In the fight that took place they punched one of us in the eye and we damaged a few of their faces. When the rest of the students intervened the fascists stopped and waited for us in a corner. When the students started going into their classes they attacked us once again but the local people stopped them.

The whole incident took place under the noses and in full view of the police and they did not intervene.

**YS:** Do these attacks often take place?

**George:** The fascists are very isolated and separate from the working class and mainly they make attacks on individuals or make bomb attacks. Although this happens the support flows from the working class for us and recruitment is not hampered. As a direct result of the campaign for the Euro-Marches we have built a YS in Tripolis and the fascists have gone into hiding and do not show their faces.

**YS:** After the Euro-Marches what are your perspectives?

**George:** As a result of the campaign for the Euro-Marches we have got into towns with many layers of the youth especially in the provinces. New branches have also been established in the industrial areas. Forward to the United Socialist States of Europe!

# POST BAG

Send letters and articles to:  
YS, 21b Old Town,  
Clapham, London,  
SW4 0JT

## Conscious

THE demonstration which took place after the Euro marchers arrived at Dover, illustrated the achievements of the past four weeks — it was tremendous.

The response to the work of the marchers and to the marchers themselves by youth and trade unionists at the meeting which followed the demonstration was warmth that only these determined and courageous youth deserve.

The lessons are, however, being drawn from this march already. They are as expressed by WRP Central Committee member Gerry Healy. That is, that what we abstract from the last few weeks should be not only the accomplishments and strong points of the march but most important to the future of our movement and the development of the Young Socialists — the weak points.

The success these marches must not be taken lightly but neither, to ensure the most conscious and forward thinking progress of the party, should we sit back and feel that all the job has been done.

So I say forward to the most conscious practice ever in each branch.

Cess Howell  
Defoe YS.

## Monopoly

AS part of the campaign for the Euro march we contacted Halifax Labour Party who promised over the phone to let us use one of their rooms for a meeting.

Two days before the marchers were due to arrive, we rang them again to confirm the room. We were told very abruptly that after reconsideration they had decided that we couldn't have the room after all.

'The YS are not part of the Labour movement' we were told. 'Who are you anyway?'

We replied that we were just as much part of the Labour movement as the Labour Party, they don't have a monopoly on it. Then he altered his argument and said that the rooms weren't safe anyway.

The question raised by this is: In whose interests are these bureaucrats working by not letting us use their premises?

Certainly not the working class. It just exposes further: 1) the fear they have of workers and youth who want to come forward and fight, and 2) their position

among the ranks of upholders of capitalism.

However despite all their attempts they will not stop the Euro marches.

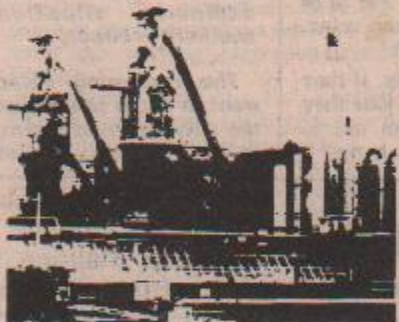
Anita Filton  
Huddersfield YS

## See sense

I THOUGHT the demonstration to support the Euro marchers in Dover was good, especially when we marched through the town centre.

The marches are important because they make some people see sense about the problems of today's young people.

Hazel  
Croydon YS



## Taxation

The working class are suffering because of the present tax system.

In this country the wages we get and the goods that are purchased are taxed, but in America only the goods are taxed and not the wages. OK America is a large expanding country but people have to work in order to live.

The government say that the tax we pay is spent on building or decorating new homes, street repairs, unemployment benefit, public conveniences etc.

But if you look at all these things we are still suffering, we don't get much out of all these things. We pay money towards it and there still isn't any change.

Many people have families to support. Many can't get a job — the right job with the right wage. Maybe the right wage but the tax laws say differently.

Taxation causes unemployment due to the fact that there is a service called the working class bank in other words the Social Security.

The minority of the unemployed will not work because of the fact that they think it is a waste of time working when they know they can get the same

money without working and also not getting taxed.

For instance a family man earning £40 a week after tax, insurance, pension schemes etc., will only get approximately £22 in his wage packet. Earn more and the system will keep it that small.

Tax has made it virtually impossible to live a decent life. What the working class really wants is for their wages to be less. They would probably have more in their wage packet.

Everton Williams  
Brixton YS

All workers have gone through the experience of looking at their wage slips and thinking how good it looks, only to find when they receive their wages that a large chunk has been taken out in taxes.

But Everton Williams from Brixton (see letter) is wrong in attributing the conditions that workers and youth find themselves in at the moment to the taxation system. The capitalists want us to believe that unemployed workers prefer the dole to work.

The bosses are trying to create the conditions where it will be possible for the government to cut the dole.

In fact money received on the dole is only a pittance. Only by borrowing large sums of money is it possible to live while out of work.

Everton says, 'Tax has made it virtually impossible to live a decent life', but the capitalist slump and the drive to make the working class pay for it, is the real reason for the poverty and unemployment that exists today.

Taxation doesn't cause unemployment. Unemployment is caused deliberately by the bosses to lower the living standards of the working class. Many youth have never had the chance to be taxed because they go straight onto the dole after leaving school.

Everton calls it a 'working class bank' as if it is possible to draw money out whenever you feel like it. On the contrary, to get what is rightly owed, workers have to go through the most vigorous and personal means test after waiting in miserable, soul-destroying queues.

Even if the tax system was totally revised, workers would not be better off. The bosses would still screw the money out of us somehow.

Reforms in the taxation system or any other will not help workers. Workers must fight to overthrow capitalism and build a new socialist society.

Editor

## Sunderland

SUNDERLAND has the highest area of unemployment in the country. There's no jobs at the moment and soon they're going to close down the Plessey factory which will mean even more out of work.

I've decided to join the Euro marches at Dover and to march to Alexandra Palace next week. This is because there is not mass unemployment just in Sunderland but all over Europe as well.

The marches are all about the working class fighting for power. The Tories and Labour have no chance of stopping us, because we're too big a movement.

You get all this talk about vandalism and soccer hooliganism. Sunderland is the worst area for crime, but this is because there is nothing to do.

Sean Conlon  
Sunderland YS.



## Entertainment

HARROW hasn't got many entertainment places after school hours. There is the Leisure Centre, but if you are not doing one of the sports that you pay for, you cannot go in after seven o'clock.

To get in some of the Discos you have to be over 18. The Young Socialists have the best discos around Harrow which is the only one for youth under 18.

Kim Scott  
Harrow YS

## Bureaucrats

I AM a member of the Glasgow to London contingent on the Euro-March 77 and I must say that the march has been the most tremendous experience of my life.

Through every town that we have marched, we have received fantastic support from the working class and the youth. They bought our papers and gave us generous donations and

demanding that we tell them more about the YS.

In complete contrast to the warmth and support given us by the working class we received nothing but hostility, hatred and fear from the Stalinists and labour and trade union bureaucrats. They are afraid of the YS. They know that we're not a protest march.

They know that we're out to build a mass revolutionary youth movement to smash the capitalist system, and establish the socialist society by the mass action of the working class.

That is why they fear us and they're afraid of the power of the working class which is represented by the march.

These people must be destroyed as the leadership of the working class and their places taken by revolutionary cadres from the YS and WRP so we can destroy capitalism before it destroys us.

We must destroy capitalism and build socialism. To offer the youth of this country a future free from unemployment and inflation and all the miseries caused by this rotten bankrupt capitalist system.

Mike Drayton  
Bradford YS

## Come-back

FROM about 1973 till about 1975 I was a prominent member of the Young Socialists in the Essex region. Then in 1975 I had many problems at home which caused me to leave home and try and find somewhere to work and live in a new area.

I found it relatively easy to get a job on the travelling fairground — to get work and live on one of the wagons.

In this time I lost contact with the YS, the job was OK for a while but come winter I wasn't wanted and I had to leave my job and what I called home.

Since then I have had two dingy dead-end jobs and travelled high and low over Britain looking for work. Then on Tuesday morning on my way to Brighton looking for work, I met someone who I hadn't seen for two years. She explained the present situation of unemployment amongst the youth and from what I have seen in Britain there is no work anywhere. I found this and many other things good grounds to join the fight for our rights once more.

What this movement tells you is true. There is no future under capitalism in this country or overseas. I am joining the Euro marchers in France and help them to enlighten people as to what is really going on in the world today.

Ray Porter

# Why we came to greet the Euro-March



Harrow YS members ... Lee Speak, June Elliot, Jeff Newman and Nigel Overton

Harrow Young Socialists brought eighteen members to Dover to greet Euro March 77. Here June Elliot, Lee Speak, Jeff Newman and Nigel Overton state their views on unemployment, the police and the marches.

'I came today to get jobs for everyone,' said June Elliot. 'The marches are all about getting jobs for all the youth in Europe.'

## Customs

It's terrible that they held us up at customs. They're trying to stop us from marching. The bosses don't want anyone to do anything about the unemployment. We have to keep on marching.

It's not just jobs that we are marching about. The Harrow Leisure centre has banned youth unless we're playing one of the sports.

Nigel Overton said: 'I was waiting outside some shops and a policeman

came along and picked me up. I told him I was waiting for some mates and he knocked me against the shop window.'

'He told me to get in his panda car and asked me again what what I was doing. He didn't believe me and called me a liar. He then slapped me round the ear and his thumb caught me in the eye. My eye was bruised for some time after.'

'I'm leaving school in the summer and I want a job. That's why these marches are so important.'

Jeff Newman said: 'The government should make more jobs for us. We have to tell them. That's why I'm coming to Alexandra Palace next Sunday.'

'The police pick on us for no reason and push us around and beat us up.'

Lee Speak, Harrow: 'I came down to greet the marchers because there are no jobs. When I leave school next year I doubt if I'll get a job.'

'We have to make the government realise the job situation, get our feelings through to them and make them do something about it.'

'Youth all over Europe are in just as bad a position as we are. That's why they're marching.'

Harrow YS is planning to continue its recruiting drive and maintain its highly successful disco's which have already helped to get a big branch going.

Local bureaucrats have already forced the YS to change the venue for the disco once but they haven't been able to close us down.

## 'Bosses say communism is bad—they fear workers control'

VAUXHALL in South London is part of the borough of Lambeth, which has the highest unemployment in London and some of the worst housing. There are 5,000 homeless people in the area. Youth who came down to Dover to greet Euro-March 77 spoke to *Young Socialist* about unemployment, the march, and what they thought should be done.

Kevin Breen from Vauxhall said: 'We had to meet the marchers. I've got friends on the dole, they get hardly anything, not enough to last them a week.'

'None of the demonstrations ever get Callaghan to do anything. To achieve anything we've got to fight.'

'The bosses always tell us how bad communism is but that's because they don't like the idea of workers taking control.'

## Not easy

Paddy Graham said: 'I leave school in July, I hope to get a job when I leave but there aren't many around. Even if you've got qualifications its still not easy to get jobs.'

'The government is not doing anything about the high unemployment. If they were we

wouldn't be in the bad state we are now.'

I thought the march was brilliant. It shows that these youth who are out of work are prepared to fight for more jobs.'

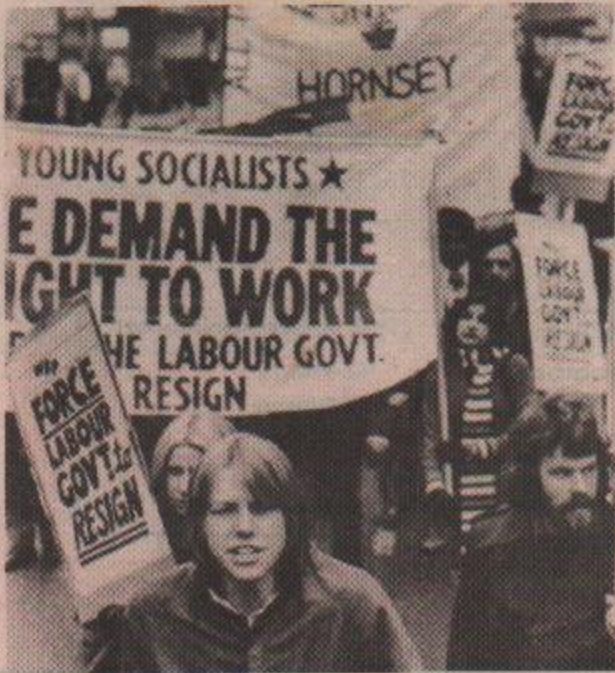
Danny Bowny said: 'The marches are all right. They're fighting for the right things. The police shouldn't be here. But they are because the bosses don't like what we're doing.'

'We have to support the marchers and join them in marching against unemployment,' said Robert McLeod.

'There are youth from all over Europe on these marches. This shows that there is unemployment in these countries as well. We have to keep demonstrating.'

WORKERS REVOLUTIONARY PARTY AND YOUNG SOCIALISTS

# DEMONSTRATE



**MAY DAY**  
Sunday May 1

**BRING DOWN LIB-LAB COALITION GOVERNMENT! SOCIALIST POLICIES NOW!**

ASSEMBLE: 2p.m. Speakers Corner, Hyde Park  
MARCH: 3p.m. via Oxford Street

**News Line RALLY**

Cambridge Theatre, Earlham St, 4p.m.

CELEBRATE FIRST ANNIVERSARY  
Further details to be announced later

## Brum YS football

A lively 5-a-side football tournament in Balsall Heath on Easter Monday produced keen competition and lots of goals.

In the first match, Balsall Heath United, the favourites, beat Calthorpe Rangers 3-0, goals coming from Rashied Lyners and Ali Shemshim (2) and Teddy Aiken looking unpassable in goal.

But they went down 4-2 to Jo-Jo after leading 2-0 at half time. Michael Small scoring an excellent goal for Jo-Jo.

Meanwhile Fiveways got off to a good start by defeating the Asian All Stars 4-0 (Roy Karim (2), Keith Ullah, John Ullah) and then narrowly winning 2-1 against Calthorpe (Roy Karim (2)).

Asian All Stars were beaten by Calthorpe and Jo-Jo and then Roy Karim scored a hat trick in Fiveways 3-0 victory over Balsall Heath.

This left Fiveways to play the final against Jo-Jo as the only two unbeaten sides in the tournament. It was a closely fought game and there were no goals until the final minute when Roy Karim capped a fine afternoon by scoring the winner.

YS members were recruited and several youth agreed to consider coming to Dover and the Alexandra Palace Rally.

## Burnley: building new branch

JIMMY Cadwick is from Burnley, Lancashire, and is building up a YS branch in his town.

'We get harassed by the police when we go out selling the *Young Socialist*. They are continually coming up asking questions and following the sellers about.'

And the harassment isn't limited to YS members. The local youth get it as well just for being on the street.

And in Burnley the youth have been forced onto the streets. Until recently there were no youth centres and Jimmy says, 'The council won't open the two brand new youth centres that they have built. They give the reason that the youth would damage and vandalise them.'

You can't stay in doors because, 'On Stoneyhome estate the housing is terrible. The houses have damp, they have damp soaking through all the walls.'

One local estate Blakehouse has been nicknamed Chicago because of the continual trouble between the youth and the police.

'The area also has high unemployment,' says Jimmy. '7 factories that were open when school, have since closed down.'

'Any vacancies that are advertised always get 20 or 30 applicants.'

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## Bristol pupils march against cuts

SOME 1,000 Bristol school pupils staged a five-mile protest march over education cuts last Wednesday.

The pupils, mostly from the Hartcliffe Comprehensive School on the outskirts of the city marched to Avon House, headquarters of Avon County Council, in the city centre.

The placard-carrying pupils were marshalled by more than 100 senior pupils, aided by some parents and teachers. A small deputation of their leaders handed in a protest letter to Dr Robert Glendinning, Labour spokesman on education on Avon County Council.

The march then moved off to the nearby Queen's Square for a rally.

March organiser Susan Lucue, a sixth former at Hartcliffe, said about half the school's population was involved in the demonstration, while the remainder continued classes.

She said: 'We have held the march in protest over education cuts in Avon schools. These are already having an effect in that there is a reduced choice of courses for the fourth year.'

The march was organised entirely by the pupils themselves to express our views at the cuts.'

The protest was timed to coincide with a meeting of the County Council's resources committee.

Nearly two hours earlier more than 200 parents, many with children in push chairs, had also lobbied the resources committee meeting.

## 'We are not accepting this dismissal'



HUNDREDS of playground workers staged a demonstration in London last Monday against the dismissal of a colleague.

Francis Prideaux, who has worked as a play leader and community worker in Notting Hill since 1968, has been made redundant by the council's spending cuts programme.

Jerry Corbyn, National Union of Public Employees area officer said: 'We are not accepting this dismissal.'

The community where Francis Prideaux works is one of high unemployment and bad housing. The Notting Hill adventure playground and other facilities will suffer if this redundancy is permitted.'

## CRACKDOWN ON YOUTH

Says Whitelaw



WILLIAM Whitelaw, one time Tory 'supremo' in the North of Ireland last week called for a crackdown on teenage criminals.

Whitelaw is now the Deputy Leader of the Tory Party. His 'get tough with hooligans' theory extends further than just football fans.

Last week's statement said, 'Recent outbreaks of football hooliganism and of violence in the schools are only the tips of a sinister iceberg of juvenile crime which poses a growing threat to our community.'

The youth of Ulster have experienced what a Whitelaw crackdown is like. It means harassment and state terror.

Young offenders should be placed in accommodation separate from adult criminals but from which they cannot escape, Whitelaw says. Long Kesh in Britain?



If Whitelaw was the most influential voice to back the 'get tough' brigade Labour Peer Lord Willis must be the most hysterical.

Willis is getting his reactionary views on revolutionaries, socialists and football fans serialised every day in the Daily Mail.

His new book 'The Churchill Commando' is about a neo-fascist vigilante band who patrol the country maintaining 'law and order'.

The 'Daily Mail', the paper that

backed fascist leader Oswald Mosley in the 1930s, says this book could be 'tomorrow's headlines throughout Britain'.

In last Tuesday's episode, 'The Lesson for the Soccer Louts', the fascist commandos hijack a trainload of football fans, brutalise them, then turn a fire hose on them.

Cheap thrills for the commuters on the 8.15 from Woking. It satisfies their blood-lust while it sends a thrill down their spine.



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