

Special
24-page
Issue

KEEP LEFT

UNITES YOUNG WORKERS - APPRENTICES - STUDENTS - UNEMPLOYED AND IMMIGRANT YOUTH

JANUARY

1972

Vol. 21, No. 1

3p.

Official paper
of the
Young Socialists



1,200 Keep Left readers say

FORWARD

to the

'Right to Work' marches

and

Weekly Keep Left

AGM main report

21 YEARS OF PRINCIPLED STRUGGLE

YOUNG SOCIALISTS were the first in the field to organize the great national campaign for the Right to Work, Aileen Jennings told the Keep Left Annual General Meeting.

Presenting her last annual report after eight years as the paper's editor, she said the YS accepted the responsibility of leadership with eagerness.

'The "Right-to-Work" marches will be the central point of the struggle to make the Tory government resign.'

The AGM, she said, was an occasion of considerable importance. After a lapse of 45 years the miners were at war with the Tory government and its puppets in the National Coal Board.

CENTURY

'This could well be the class battle of the century as far as the British working class and the future of trade unionism are concerned.'

'We in the Keep Left make no bones about the dangers in the situation. We are now entering our 21st year of publication and during this entire period we have

consistently warned of such dangers.

'Our future in the struggle for a socialist society is inseparable from the working class and if the miners suffer a serious defeat we will have suffered a serious defeat.'

Keep Left had fought inside the Labour Party for a policy of nationalization under workers' control.'

'We insisted right from the start that not a penny piece should have been paid to coal owners and money lenders. Legislation for workers' control in the pits was the only answer to the bureaucratic Coal Board and its local agents, the colliery officials.'

'For this struggle—which everyone can now see was correct—we were expelled by the Wilson leadership.'

In the two years following May 1964 Keep Left was banned

and its readers witch-hunted by the Labour Party leadership.

'And what was our crime? We said the Wilson government would betray the working class in the same way that the Attlee government did from 1945 to 1951.'

WARNING

'And who today would say this warning wasn't absolutely true?'

'Let the facts speak for themselves.'

'We had 10,000 readers in 1964 when we were expelled. Now we have 21,000.'

'We were eight pages in 1964, now we are an average 16 pages.'



Aileen Jennings

'We had a monthly paper in 1964, now we go forward to a weekly paper.'

Meanwhile the revisionist youth papers, which had sided with Wilson, had folded up one after another.

'The lesson for us is that because we prepare our work as revolutionary Marxists we are inseparable from the working class, despite the confusion which may prevail from time to time.'

'As we enter 1972 the YS and Keep Left are, more than ever before, a part of the vanguard in preparing the revolutionary leadership of the working class.'

'I am proud to say that in Belfast and other areas of high unemployment in Ulster, contingents are being organized to join our marches. Decisive sec-

tions of the trade union movement in Belfast are preparing to give us the fullest support.'

'On the weekend of March 11 and 12 we hope to organize the most inspiring mass demonstration ever organized on the basis of revolutionary principles.'

CONVINCED

'And we are more than ever convinced that the working class is going to forge ahead to defeat this hated Tory government.'

Comrade Jennings thanked Keep Left readers and Young Socialists for the outstanding support they had given to the paper and to her as editor.

MINERS' STRIKE

MOBILISE WORKERS TO DEMAND GENERAL ELECTION



Gerry Healy

GERRY HEALY, national secretary of the Socialist Labour League, urged the meeting to go forward and launch the revolutionary party later in 1972.

The miners had entered their first national strike since 1926, he said.

Ready

'But this is not like 1926. The working class is ready to fight; we must be prepared to give leadership.'

What the National Coal Board and the Tory government were saying about this dispute was very much in line with the things the League and the YS had been trying to argue over the past two years.

The Heath government was unlike its predecessors.

It had come to power at a time of profound world crisis for the capitalist system, which was descending into slump and recession.

'This is not a bluff—it's the real thing', comrade Healy stressed. 'The Tories' aim is to force the working class to give up all the gains it has made since World War II.'

Declaration

'Behind the statement of Ezra, the Coal Board chairman that all pay offers are withdrawn now the strike is on, lies a declaration of war: we are out to cut wages, reduce purchasing power.'

'What he is saying is: we and the government are going to inflict a defeat on the working class if you let us get away with it.'

Prevented

The strike was going to test out all the class forces in a way which most of those attending the meeting could not have seen, because of their youth, comrade Healy went on.

Preparations for it had been begun by the Tories in June 1969 when the Labour government was prevented by the strength of the working class from introducing laws against the trade unions.

The Tory leaders had blatantly lied to all and sundry to get back to power. Now strike-breaking was on the way on a massive scale.

Darkness

Real hatred inspired the capitalist class against the miners.

Said comrade Healy: 'Ancestors of the Tory government made their fortunes by sending young children of eight to 14 down into the darkness to scabble for coal.'

'Now this class is corrupt, degenerate and ready to be removed from the scene, they round viciously on the miners.'

'In other words this strike can only be fought to a successful conclusion by mobilizing the working class to force a general election as soon as possible.'

Keep Left

January 1972

FOR A REVOLUTIONARY PARTY!

THE Tory government will not slacken its anti-working-class offensive in the coming year. Instead, strengthened by the union chiefs' continued retreat and the escalation of unemployment and driven on by the international economic crisis, Heath and his ministers intend 1972 to be a year of increased misery and deprivation for workers and their families.

Eighteen months of Tory rule have already created a powerful movement of workers against the government. The miners are confronting the Tories with a major wages struggle and behind them stand the engineers, the railwaymen and the power workers.

The struggle against unemployment and factory closures is also growing in scope. Workers at Fisher-Bendix on Merseyside and at Allis Chalmers in Flintshire have followed the lead given at Plessey, Alexandria, and occupied their plants. The same feeling is even more powerfully reflected in N Ireland in the unanimous hatred and hostility against the British troops among the Catholic youth.

The Young Socialists in 1972 have a leading role to play in this movement. The campaign for the 'Right to Work', spearheaded by national marches from Scotland, Merseyside and Wales, is winning support in trade union branches throughout the country. The right to a job is the most fundamental right any worker possesses. But it cannot be fought for by protest, as the betrayals by the Stalinists of the British Communist Party at Upper Clyde Shipbuilders clearly indicate. The main demand of the 'Right-to-Work' marches is: Force the Tory government to resign and elect a Labour government pledged to implement the Charter of Basic Rights.

The campaign to win support for the marchers from young people on the labour exchanges, in factories and among all sections of workers is a vital necessity. It is an essential step in bringing together forces from the working class to prepare for the launching of the revolutionary party during 1972.

With this aim in front, the National Committee has also begun the preparations for this year's Scarborough conference. Draft resolutions are being discussed in the YS branches all over the country and the Young Socialists are planning to go forward from the March 12 Wembley Pool 'Right-to-Work' rally against the Tories to a record conference in Scarborough.

Keep Left calls on all young workers—employed and unemployed—on students, school-leavers and immigrant youth to take up the fight against the Tories and join the campaign to launch the revolutionary party and lead the struggle for power.

LEON TROTSKY

LESSONS OF OCTOBER

YOUNG SOCIALISTS

We demand the right to work!

Make the Tories resign!



BUILD THE REVOLUTIONARY PARTY IN 1972!

12th Annual Conference at Scarborough
Saturday and Sunday April 8 & 9, 1972
Grand Hall The Spa Scarborough

**FORCE THE TORY GOVERNMENT TO RESIGN!
FOR A LABOUR GOVERNMENT
PLEGGED TO SOCIALIST POLICIES**

Dance to 'Brave New World'
Saturday April 8 The Spa Ballroom
Scarborough 8 p.m.
See a star-studded show

Coaches leaving from all areas (train from London).
Cost approximately £4.50 including bed and breakfast, fare, conference and the dance on Saturday evening.

Complete form and send to J. Simmance, 186a Clapham High Street, London, SW4.

I would like to come to the conference. Deposit enclosed £.....

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

MINERS' STRIKE

'We stay out'

Apprentices

APPRENTICES in S Wales are solid behind the first national coal strike since 1926.

Thirty-seven thousand men in 35 pits voted overwhelmingly against the National Coal Board's latest 7.9 per cent pay offer.

The Welsh miners have gone it alone twice before since 1969 in desperate attempts to raise the living standards of day wage men and their families struggling to survive on £12 to £13 a week.

Throughout the 11th-hour wrangles between right-wing leaders of the National Union of Mineworkers and the National Coal Board the men were watching like hawks for any hint of compromise.

topple

With the NCB's derisory £2-a-week pay offer safely rejected and with unity among all 16 divisions of the British coalfield, the S Wales men launched into the strike on January 10 confident they were in the strongest position for nearly half a century.

'It's not 1926 now,' said Ivor England, face captain at Maerdy Colliery, Rhondda Fach.

'There's a huge organized working class in this country ready to topple the government.

'It's not just a question of wages, it's the whole business of Tory incomes policy,' he told me.

Merthyr Vale's Britannia Lodge chairman Tom Bowden said: 'It's about time we had some fresh thinking in the trade union. We've got to go into 1972 wage fights with 1972 methods.

'We nursed the Labour government. Everyone said don't rock the boat and now we're paying for it. They were just a pale shade of Tory.

'This is the worst Tory government we've had in 30 years. Our living standards are being reduced every day.'

Although at least three Welsh pits could shut if the strike goes on longer than a month, the old fear of pit closures has disappeared as one mine after

Ian Yeats reports from South Wales



Miners at Oakdale Colliery, S Wales.

another has been axed, despite a huge drop in the labour force and massive productivity increases.

The S Wales men claim they are faced with bursting Tory wages policy and that the eyes of 5 million other workers with pay claims in the pipe line are on them.

jail

They are ready for a long, hard fight. They have the support of the transport unions and they say the alleged 32 million tons

of stocks are worse than useless if they can't be moved.

Nor are they afraid of the Industrial Relations Act. There's not a man on the coalfield who wouldn't rather go to jail than back down at this stage of the fight for their 45 per cent pay claim.

They are not deluding themselves that it will be easy. Before it is over families may have to sell their homes to live and small shops could be ruined.

But the miners, their wives, and the youth faced with over 10-per-cent unemployment and with empty pockets believe Tory efforts to pauperize the working class must be stopped and they are determined to do it.



Apprentices at Oakdale.



Tony Walker looks at sport

Tennis Bother

THE BUSINESSMEN running tennis down at the LTA are having a spot of bother.

They fought for years for open tennis, 'to end hypocrisy', they shrieked.

Also gate receipts and profits had a little to do with it. Why should Jack Kramer cream off all the best players and make all the money? they argued.

Well, now tennis is 'open' and the top 30 players are hog-tied by the World Championship Tennis businessmen group.

And WCT are making all the money too.

Wimbledon made a profit of £100,000 in 1969 and a mere £56,000 in 1970.

WCT say they want a bigger slice if they are to release the contract players to play at Wimbledon.

The LTA are shocked rigid. Those terrible American capitalists screwing innocent little us for more money! Terrible!

Chinese Sport

IN THE WAKE of China's diplomatic overtures into Europe, America and the UN, sport seems to be ear-marked for a particular role: 'To make friends and impress people.'

In the recent table tennis tour of England it worked like this: an unassailable lead was hacked out in short order. Then, when it didn't matter, a couple of games would be thrown.

China entered the world table-tennis championships for the first time in 1957 and by 1967 they swept the board.

They have dropped out for the duration of the 'Cultural Revolution', but they obviously remain immensely strong.

In November 1971 there was a monster 51-nation tournament in Peking. Ten years ago China took up badminton and now their best players are considered on par, if not better, than the world's best Indonesians.

Football teams from Albania (1-1), Cuba and Congo have recently visited Peking.

Pakistani athletes, a Rumanian ice-hockey team and a N Korean badminton side have been to Peking in the last few months.

The International Olympic Committee have made it clear that there is now no obstacle to China competing in the Olympic Games, whenever she cares to reply.

Chinese football team drew 1-1 with Tanzania last month.

Such form won't win any world cups. But Ni Chich-Chim has jumped 7 ft 7 1/2 ins, which is better than any other human ever.

And Chinese sport is going the same way. Up.

Cyclo-cross

IN 1973 Britain will stage the world Cyclo-cross championships for the first time at Crystal Palace Park.

We like to think we invented all sport going. Well, not this one.

Cyclo-cross started in the 1920s and the first Criterium International, forerunner of the world championships, was held as far back as 1924.

Since 1960 professional and amateur riders have their separate races.

Britain has never gained a medal.

John Atkins won fifth place in 1968 and 1970 in each race.

ANYONE FOR FOOTBALL?

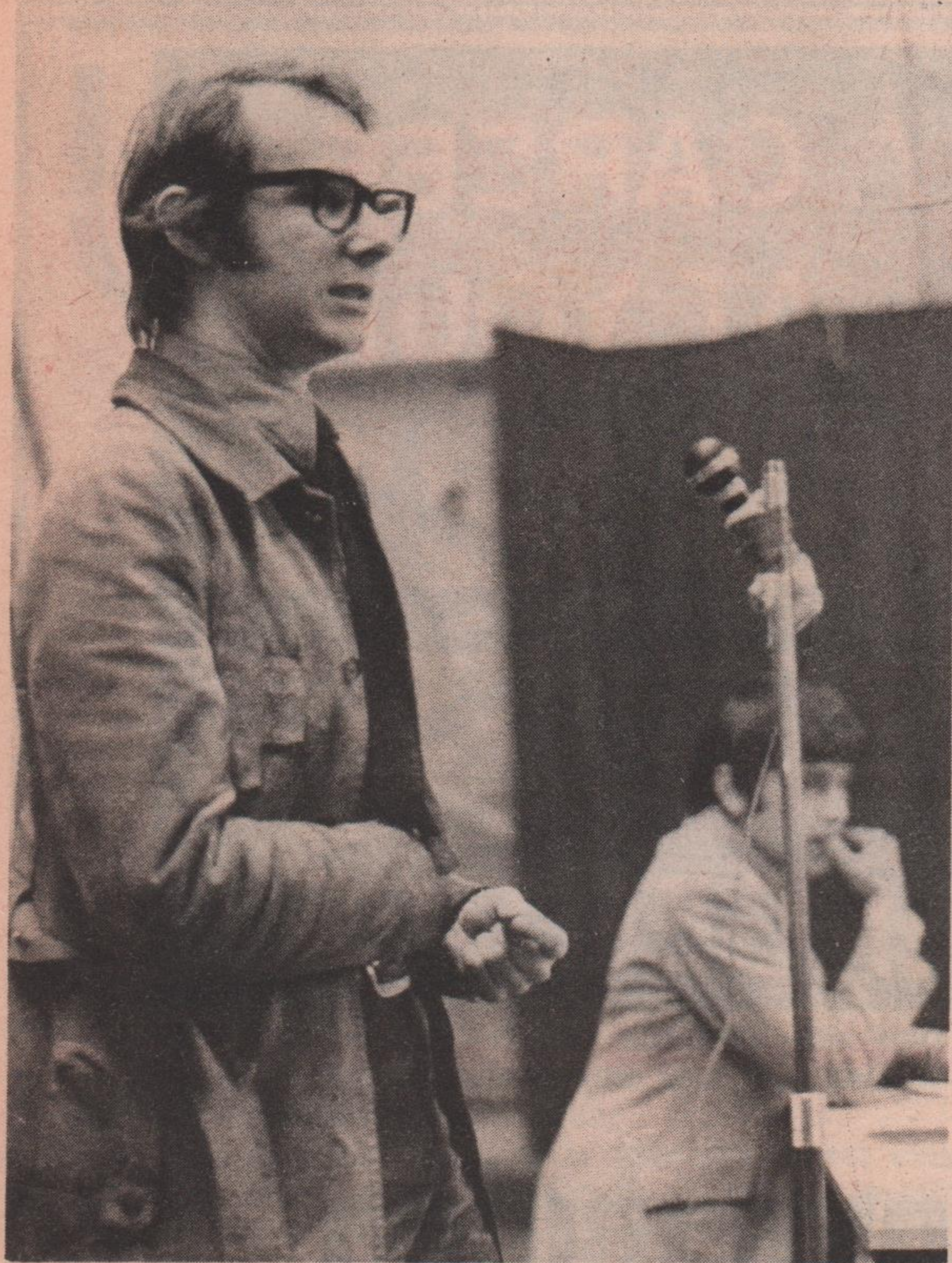
- Do you want to join the Young Socialists Football League in your local area?
- Does your factory or school team want to challenge the Young Socialists to a match? If so write to us for details. Fill in the form below and post to: Young Socialists Football, 186a Clapham High St, London SW4.

Name

Address

Name of team

Date suggested for game



Above left: Director Ken Loach addresses the London YS school.
Below left: A break in discussion provides time for a quick game of football.
Below right: SLL national secretary Gerry Healy speaks on 'Launching the Revolutionary party in 1972'.

Successful series of YS weekend schools prepare for 'Right to Work' march



present a great opportunity for the revolutionary movement to break the working class from idealism and reformism.

Particularly important was a realization that the Young Socialists would play an important part in the preparation to launch the revolutionary party in 1972. And it was with this perspective that the YS members engaged in a serious study of Marxist theory and struggle to relate it to the practical tasks of building the movement.

Young Socialists at all the schools, which were held in Buxton (Derbyshire), Edinburgh, Grange Farm (Chigwell, Essex) and Saltburn (N Yorkshire) joined in discussion on aspects of Marxist theory, the 'Right-to-Work' marches, launching the weekly Keep Left and building the revolutionary party.

Special guest speakers at the schools were film directors Roy Battersby and Ken Loach, film producer Kenneth Trodd and actor-playwright Neville Smith, whose 'Gumshoe' is reviewed on our film page.

SERIOUS preparation for the national 'Right-to-Work' marches began at the Young Socialists' regional weekend schools held during December.

Socialist Labour League national secretary Gerry Healy and Central Committee member Cliff Slaughter, who gave the main lectures at the schools, stressed the enormous change in the relationship of class forces which has taken place as a result of President Nixon's August 15 statement and the devaluation of the dollar.

Explaining the break-up of world capitalism's equilibrium — achieved through the 1944 Bretton Woods agreement — the lectures showed how today's events

Xmas in Glasgow

By John Cassidy

THE GREY damp tenements still exist in today's jet-set world. Broken windows, curtainless and shutterless, reflect the anguish of small faces not yet old enough to understand their misery.

Glasgow on Christmas Day isn't full of joy and Christmas spirit. The streets are deserted. There are no screaming children bubbling with joyous excitement.

Maybe they are still inside, awaiting the arrival of Santa. He may have slept in or perhaps he's been sacked, made redundant—it happens all the time now.

Employed and unemployed share the depression of being hard up and unable to give their kids the Christmas they expect and deserve.

Their anguish never disappears. It takes the shape of hate and remains in their hearts.

The hate and contempt is kept alive and preserved for the people who, they realize, are responsible for their suffering.

I spoke to many unemployed

and employed men, all of whom blame the Tory government, and the big business it represents, for the increase in unemployment.

A young man who had been serving his apprenticeship in the shipyards was given the sack just before Christmas. The reason they presented was bad time-keeping.

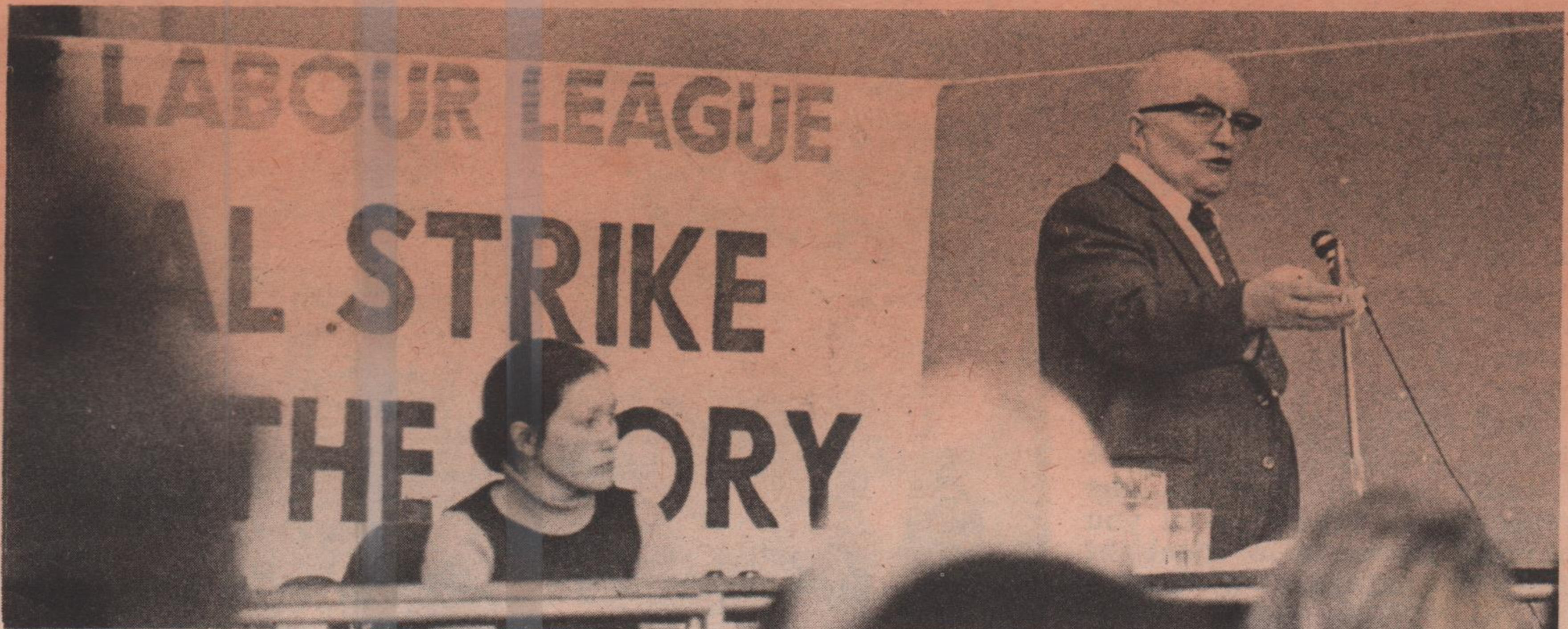
He said his time-keeping wasn't perfect, but he was no worse than many of his work mates. He feared that many more will be paid off on the basis of false excuses.

The fight to preserve the yards has steadily collapsed because of the compromise of the union leadership. There are those in the yards who realize what is happening and their numbers are growing.

Mr MacDonald, an unemployed labourer, told me about his merry Christmas. His unemployment benefit has just been reduced by £3.

This is because his son James has just left school and although he has been unable to find a job, the £3 is still deducted.

continued on p. 21



What's on in London?

YOUNG SOCIALIST MEETINGS

HAYES

Every Wednesday
Community Centre,
Station Rd, 8 pm

THORNTON HEATH

Every Tuesday
'Plough and Harrow',
London Rd
(near the Pond), 8 pm

S NORWOOD

Every Thursday
'Spread Eagle',
Portland rd
(near S Norwood baths)
8 pm

N PADDINGTON

Every Thursday
'The Old Plough',
Kilburn Lane,
off Harrow Rd, W9
8 pm

W LONDON

Every Thursday
St Martin's Hall,
Vicars Rd, N5 — 8 pm

WILLESDEN

Every Tuesday
Trades and Labour Hall,
High Rd, NW10 — 8 pm

DISCOTHEQUES

CLAPHAM — Every Friday

St John's Church Hall,
Clapham Rd, 8 pm
10p Members 5p

KILBURN

January 17 and
February 14
(St Valentine's Disco)
St Mary's Church Hall,
8 pm
(corner Abbey Rd/
Priory Rd, NW6)
10p Members 5p

W LONDON—Every Friday

St Martin's Hall
Vicars Rd, N5
8-11 pm
10p Members 5p

YS 'Right-to-Work' Committee PUBLIC MEETING

Thursday January 20, 8 pm
'The Merrymakers',
Langley, Bucks.

Tickets 5p

Keep Left looks at the 1971 Careers Exhibition

What a future!

THERE WAS just one big sign of enthusiasm at last month's National Careers Exhibition. It came from the country's law - enforcement authorities.

Amidst one of their most widespread publicity campaigns, Britain's police forces and the army looked set on capitalizing out of the desperate jobless situation amongst youth.

'We are expanding all the time', said an officer at one of the stands. And he was not joking.

Over 25 per cent of the ground space at the exhibition was taken up by display stands of capitalism's different repressive forces, including Scotland Yard, Metropolitan Police, Royal Navy and the Royal Air Force.

Britain's police stand was the biggest ever with 'entertainment and participation activities for visitors'.

Among 'celebrities' visiting the stand at the special request of the police forces were footballer Geoff Hurst, DJs Tony Blackburn and Jimmy Saville and Miss United Kingdom Marilyn Ward.

Ambitious

'Altogether,' said the Home Office, 27 police forces have combined to make this the most ambitious police exhibit ever mounted in this country and during the show about 130 policemen and women will be on duty to man the displays, give the demonstrations and answer queries about the range of work and play in today's modern police.

And recruitment wasn't too difficult either. The nice friendly copper next to the super motor bike showed you how to sit on it in the right position and how to switch on the various gadgets.

In a simulated control room, one was able to send pictures or messages by radio to a facsimile receiver in a police car on the stand.

Others tried their hand at Photofit identification while some had their finger-prints taken, tried on police helmets, caps and crash helmets and used a frogman's communication set.

Character

All one required to join the police was a good character and medical approval.

Things were much tougher at other stands. Not only did one need to have the necessary qualifications for common professions such as osteopathy and gospel-preaching, but competition, we were told, was keen. Those who made it, however, had a grand future ahead.

'They're really trying to impress the handful of people who stay on at school every year,' said one 16 year old.

'There are thousands of others who end up in labouring jobs in factories. I suppose that is not considered to be a "career".'

It certainly wasn't the sort of thing one would expect after four or five years in a secondary modern school. Apart from a mass of colourful literature and a glimpse of technical achievements in industry, the majority of youth left the exhibition with little else.

All they got was an idea of the potential stored up in scientific methods used today in almost every single profession.

The architectural section displayed well-polished walls and designs, while the Ministry of Defence stand next to it showed a small scale model of a bombed-out house with a tank nearby.

And the Youth Employment Service put forward about ten bright new booklets for sale, knowing full well that it had failed to place over 19,300 school-leavers in any sort of jobs whatsoever.

That was the reality behind 'Opportunity '71' and one which did not succeed entirely in fooling the youth.

'The exhibition is very impressive and well laid out,' said John Dunn (15). 'But they have one every year. This one might look very much the same as last year, but the fact is that of all my friends who left

school last summer only three have found jobs.'

A visit to Empire Hall, Olympia, he added, would not make things any different. 'The police seem to be doing all right. They're about the only people taking on new recruits.'

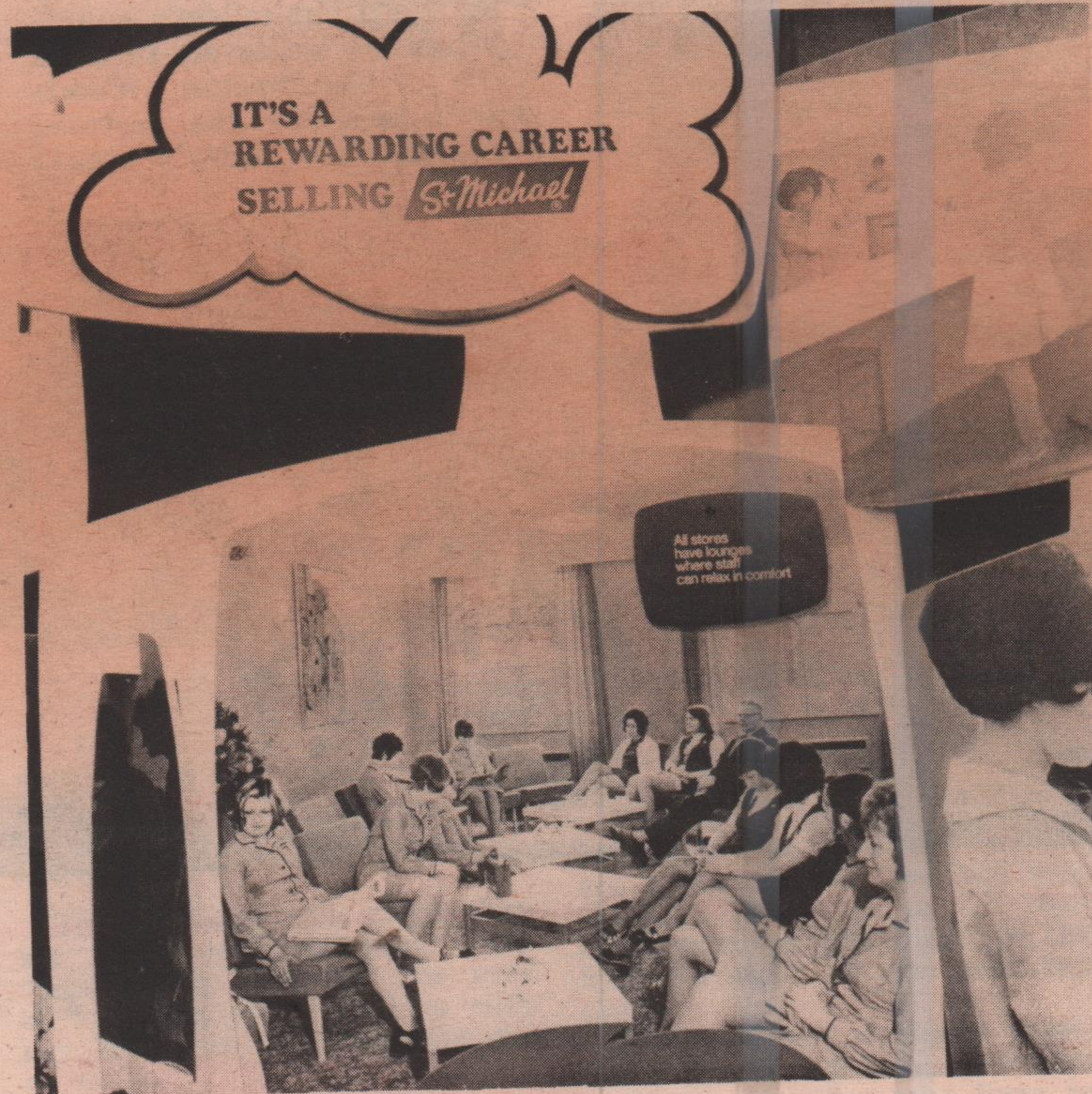
'I will never join the army or the police,' said another 15 year old.

'It seems crazy to me to make a career out of destruction. One of those rocket launchers which the army is displaying could devastate a large piece of the world.'

While shell-throwers, artillery, guns and rockets dwarfed all the other exhibits at Olympia, the evening papers, on sale at the entrance, reported 'heavy casualties' in the war between India and Pakistan.

'The Indians are using the same machine as this field gun,' said an attendant proudly. 'And it is very effective.'

in this?



or this?



An expanding industry for death and destruction

Keep Left Reporter

THE ARMY Recruitment Information Office in the Strand, just down the road from Trafalgar Square, is filled with huge photographs of highly complicated electronic equipment.

Smart young soldiers in uniforms stand around eager to discuss their skills with any potential recruits.

The recruiting officer is very friendly. All enquiries are welcomed. Young men are invited in for an interview.

If they pass that, they have to sit a written test, unless they have three GCEs. ('Just to make sure they can read and write.') Then comes the medical.

If all these hurdles are jumped successfully, the would-be soldier is sent to a camp for three or four days to see what different branches of army work are open to him and to decide which branch he would like to join.

No danger of redundancy here!

'That's precisely it,' the recruiting officer agreed. 'Our figures are going up all the time. We're about the only really expanding industry right now.'

Booklet

A lavishly-illustrated 48-page booklet is given out free of charge to help a young man make up his mind.

'This Is The Army', it proclaims. 'A Career—A Varied Life—Travel—Good Pay—Security—Free Further Education—Resettlement in Civilian Life—The Best Friends You'll Ever Make—Long Holidays—All the Sport You Want.'

For young men interested in the Intelligence Corps one of the attractions offered is 'Interrogation'.

No mention, however, of 'interrogation in depth', keeping men standing for days propped up against a wall, hooded, starved, beaten, subjected to constant noise, stress and lack of sleep.

That sort of ruthless brutality is one of the things a suitable recruit can be persuaded to develop later.

Pay is indeed good by civilian standards. The most unskilled recruit joining the army at 17½ years of age is paid a starting wage of between £18.76 and £22.54 a week, depending on whether he signs on for the minimum of six years, or nine years or more.

The most technically-skilled ranks start at the same age at between £28.07 and £31.85 per week.

And no need to worry about finding the rent and food money. That's all laid on free. 'Your pay is all yours, to spend or save.'

Pension

And to cap it all, a pension after 22 years' service—if you live long enough to claim it.

Only once does a hint of reality intrude into the recruiting propaganda.

'Today, the British soldier plays a more important part than ever before in keeping the world at peace . . . You may be called upon, at a moment's notice to fly half way across the world from a British winter to a tropical summer.'

'You may find yourself in a helicopter rushing to the scene of a hurricane, rebellion or riot.'

Precisely!

It is no accident that at this time the Army is going to so much trouble and expense to step up its recruitment.

The Tories know that 'riots and rebellions' are going to take place on an increasing scale as the economic crisis forces world capitalism to take ever harsher measures against workers and peasants everywhere.

They hope to persuade young unemployed workers in Britain to join the Army so they can be used to put down the 'riots and rebellions' of poor, unemployed workers wherever they occur.

'Peace-keeping' means ensuring that the rule of British and Irish Toryism continues undisturbed in Ulster, with all its unemployment, poverty and religious discrimination — it means upholding and defending the most hated system of the bankers and big business.

ULSTER IN 1971

A review of the past year's events
by Sarah Hannigan

1971 was a year which clearly marked the beginning of the end for world capitalism.

Nixon's August 15 statement removing gold backing for the dollar marked the end of the Bretton Woods agreement and the end of the era of Keynesian economics.

It plunged capitalism into its worst crisis since the 1929 Wall St Crash—which heralded the development of the depression of the 1930s and the growth of fascism and right-wing reaction.

In 1971, the reflection of Britain's deepening crisis was shown sharply in N Ireland which saw the introduction of internment, and brutal torture of Irish workers in Nazi-style concentration camps.

This trend was rapidly becoming evident right from the beginning of the year.



Soldiers were told by Premier Faulkner: 'shoot first ask questions later'.

A TORY DICTATORSHIP HAD BEEN ESTABLISHED IN ULSTER.

The raids were carried out before Prime Minister Faulkner announced that internment had been introduced and Heath was reported to have known that it was coming since the previous Friday.

James Callaghan of the Parliamentary Labour Party welcomed the introduction of internment without trial.

Both Wilson and Heath continued to sun themselves on their respective beaches.

Days later the first stories of brutal beatings emerged. Dozens of people were shot by the army in the heaviest fighting seen in the province and thousands of refugees took shelter in the 26 counties.

Eye-witnesses confirm that they were not.

More troops were sent in to deal with the rioting that followed the murders. The N Ireland Opposition MPs decided to boycott Stormont and form an 'alternative assembly' following refusals for an inquiry into the shootings.

In the last weeks of July rumours of internment were rife as the army launched a series of massive security raids all over N Ireland on Republican homes.

The capitalist press carried hysterical anti-Republican outbursts and a climate of panic and fear was provoked throughout the province.

AUGUST: On August 2 an extra 2,000 troops were sent in. Father of six, Henry Thornton, was shot as his car backfired passing an army post.

In the early hours of the morning of Monday August 9, hundreds of homes throughout the province were raided and 300 men were arrested under the Special Powers Act.



Chichester-Clarke (right) who resigned over the question of more troops was followed by Faulkner (left) who announced 'swift and decisive action'.

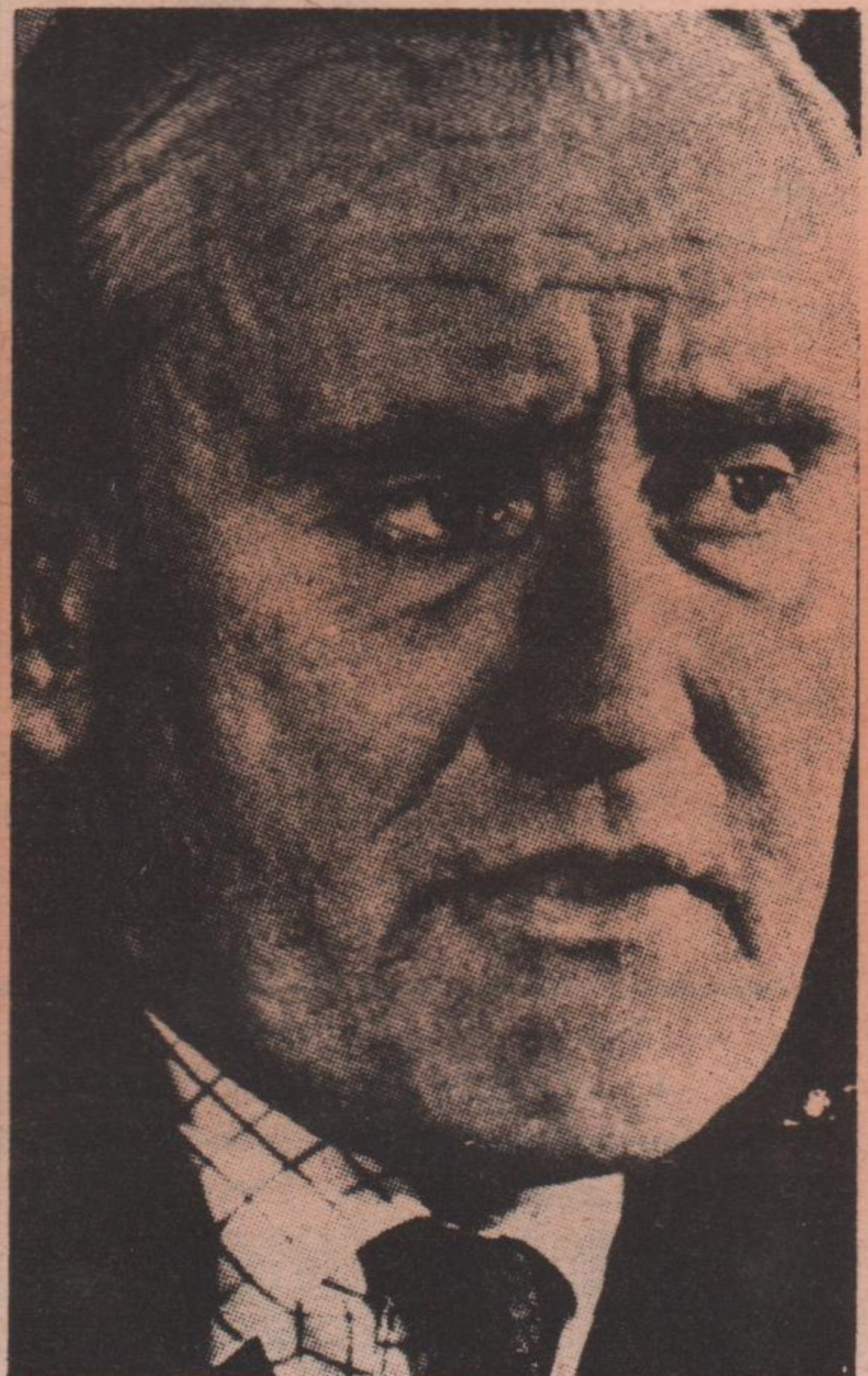
Meanwhile, the Army Chief, General Tuzo, repeated his 'Shoot to Kill' warning.

Wives, after visiting their interned husbands, reported they were being subjected to 'inhuman torture' aboard HMS 'Maidstone'.

SEPTEMBER: The IRA Provisionals announced their five-point plan and stepped up their bomb attacks. On September 7 Lynch, Eire's Green Tory Premier, had his first round of secret talks with Heath.

On September 16 'Workers Press' was the first paper in Britain to publish details of the horrific new tortures being carried out on internees in N Ireland.

A new series of arrests took



place on September 17—19 men were arrested quite arbitrarily—one a man of 77.

The torture ship 'Maidstone' was closed and internees lifted to Long Kesh, near Lisburn—this camp is reminiscent of a German concentration camp.

Rent strikers were threatened that Social Security payments would be stopped to pay rent and rate arrears from the civil disobedience campaign.

September 29 saw the end of the tripartite talks between Lynch, Heath and Faulkner. They agreed to closer collaboration.

OCTOBER: Paisley visits Maudling to explain the basis of his new right-wing party—one of its aims is the overthrow of the Faulkner government.

The Labour Party conference ended with no policy decision on Ulster. Faulkner is promised another 1,500 troops.

Torture picture builds up—'disorientation techniques' send men mad.

NOVEMBER: Four hundred troops and dogs are let loose on prisoners in Long Kesh—they were only protesting about the quality of the food.

The Royal Ulster Constabulary reserves—the former hated 'B' Specials—are rearmed.

The Compton white-washing report on torture is published. Its findings?—No cruelty in Ulster!

Alongside this comes the news that Britain's top counter-insurgency expert, Brigadier Frank Kitson is stationed in N Ireland. (Kitson was the man responsible for the slaughter of the Mau Mau tribesmen in Kenya in 1954.)

Labour leader Harold Wilson visits Ireland and on returning presents a ten-point plan which receives the wholehearted support of the Tories.

Fifteen people are killed in the McGurk's bar explosion—the Army Special Air Services allegedly to blame. The 'Sunday Times' INSIGHT team reveals collaboration between IRA Provisionals and the British Army as late as February, 1971.

DECEMBER: Joe Cahill and other IRA Provisional leaders announce they would 'welcome talks with Paisley'.

Internees' relatives banned from seeing prisoners because of an outbreak of scabies.

Army terror reaches new peaks in raids throughout the province. (396 CS gas canisters fired in one street by the army in a two-hour period during an attack on the Creggan Estate in Londonderry.)

An 11-month-old baby 'arrested' along with its mother and held for 12 hours. A 16-year-old boy Lee Martin McShane is murdered at Coalisland—the army claimed he was armed.

Labour-Tory coalition over Ulster continues with preparation for all-party talks on resolving the crisis.

JANUARY: Saw the announcement of a new 'get tough' line on the part of the British Army of Occupation. The right-wing Unionist Faulkner was tipped as a successor to the more 'liberal' landed-gent Prime Minister, Chichester-Clarke.

FEBRUARY: More troops were sent to N Ireland and an extra 1,400 part-time members of the Ulster Defence Regiment were told to report for duty.

After renewed, bitter fighting the army announced a 'Shoot to Kill' policy. The Belfast police demanded to be rearmed.

MARCH: Tory Home Secretary Reginald Maudling visited the province to discuss the escalation of military 'security' measures. He was followed a few days later by TUC general secretary Victor Feather.

Unemployment in Ulster was 'too high' he said.

Maudling sent in another 450 troops but days later Chichester-Clarke threatened to resign if he didn't have more troops. He got an extra 1,300.

However, Chichester-Clarke did resign and became the province's second prime minister to do so in two years.

Brian Faulkner took over and announced 'swift and decisive action' to quell any trouble. Faulkner met Heath.

APRIL: Provocation from the Unionist right wing, particularly Paisley, was rife during the annual Republican Easter 1916 Commemorations.

Paisley held rival marches of Ulster 'loyalists'.

The British and Irish Stalinists produced a policy document on Ireland which completely evaded the question of withdrawal of troops and called for a 'Bill of Rights'.

MAY: In May, Faulkner made a surprise announcement in Stormont that soldiers may 'shoot first and ask questions later'.

Since then they have carried out this policy on numerous occasions.

JUNE: Throughout June there were increasing fears on the part of non-Unionists that the 'B' Specials, or worse a 'Black and Tans' force, would be returned in Ulster. More troops were sent to the province.

JULY: The build-up for the Unionist Orangemen's July 12 parades was the brutal murder of two young men in the Bogside, Derry, within the space of 24 hours.

Seamus Cusack and 19-year-old Desmond Beatty were shot. The army said they were armed.



Left: Gas-filled streets—CS gas used by the troops—are an everyday occurrence.

Living under Tory rule

KEEP LEFT SURVEY

'I THINK a nice bathroom is very important', the businessman said as he gazed from his lounge window across Regent's Park.

'I enjoy a long soak in a hot bath and now I'm retired I can indulge myself more than I used to.

'That's why I decided to have my bathroom done up at the same time as we had the kitchen altered recently.

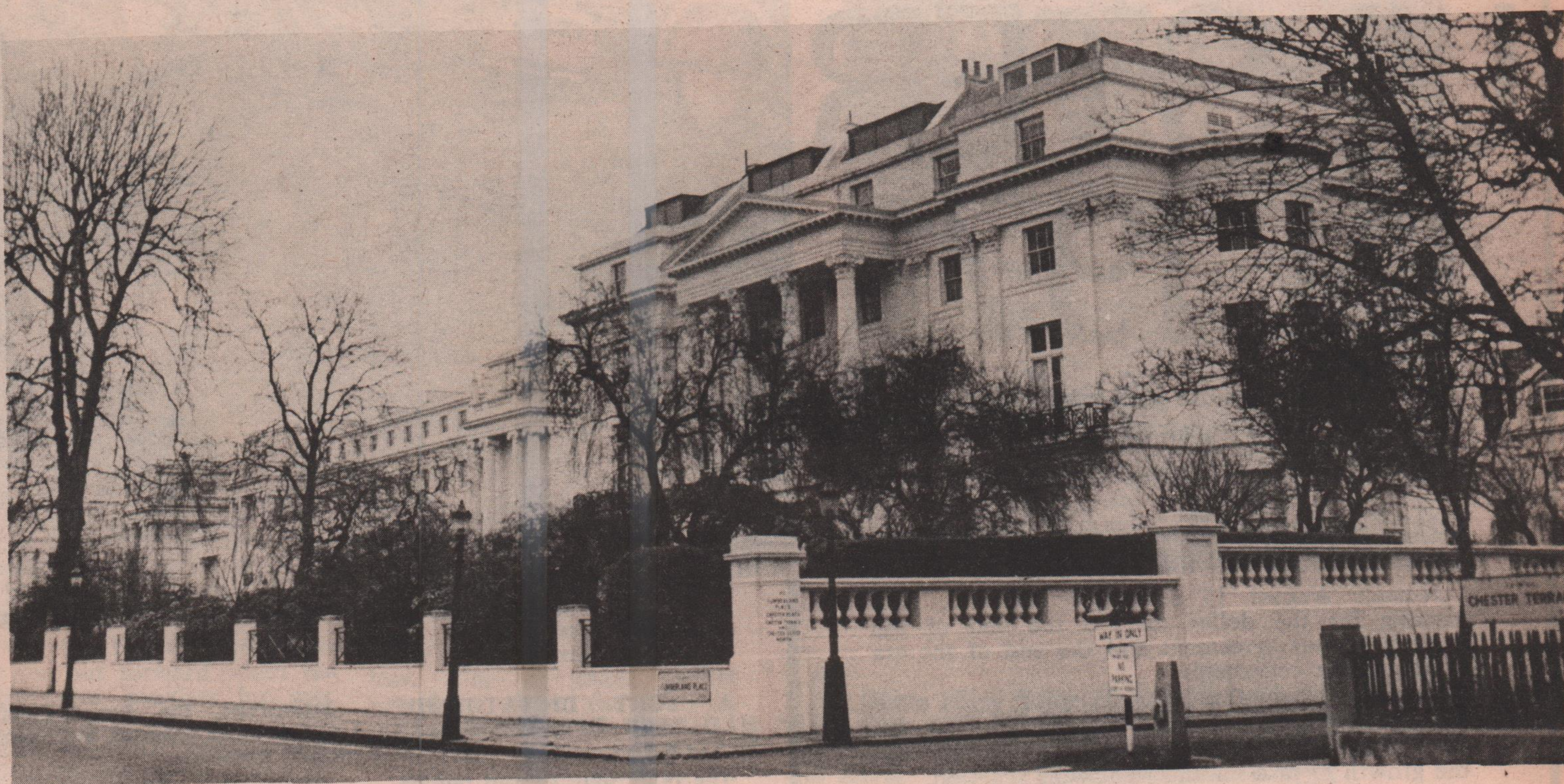
'It took me a long time to decide on the colours, but I think it looks all right now, don't you?'

It certainly did. Dark brown, imported, Italian mosaic on the walls, matching wall-to-wall carpeting, a specially contoured bath in old gold, with wash-basin, toilet and bidet in the same colour.

'A very nice place for a long soak.

How much?

'Well, I don't know exactly. We've paid the builders an interim sum of £4,000 for both the kitchen and bathroom, but there will be perhaps as much



Plush surroundings in Regent's Park—for those who can afford it.

£4,000-worth of renovation for kitchen and two bathrooms in Regent's Park

again to pay by the time the final bill comes in.'

His wife's bathroom was quite different. A symphony in pink—pink bath, wash-basin, toilet and bidet, pink carpet, frilly pink curtain and a lacey cover on the toilet seat, decorated with a large, pink rose.

'I think pink is such a feminine colour,' she said.

Their luxury flat is part of a large, elegant Victorian block in

one of the most exclusive and expensive parts of London.

The 'His' and 'Her' bathrooms are only two of the 15 rooms at their disposal: ('One needs space if one is going to do a lot of entertaining, and one must have a spare room.')

'I suppose it is a bit big just for us,' he conceded.

'But we use all the rooms,' his wife insisted. 'We couldn't really do with less.'

The living-in maid, who, amongst other duties, waits at table even when they aren't entertaining, is Portuguese.

'They are so loyal and hard-working. She won't let us do a thing in the place and is so grateful every time we give her anything.'

Current discussion between husband and wife centres on the maid's boyfriend. She has recently become engaged to a Portuguese who works in a nearby hotel.

'Now the weather is getting colder it's difficult for them to meet. She told me they had to walk the streets for three hours the other night because they had nowhere to go.

'My husband says we should

let them use her room, but I don't like the idea. After all, I don't want her getting into trouble in my home.

'However, one doesn't like to be unkind, particularly as she is such a good girl. So I told her she could take a couple of chairs into the kitchen and entertain him there when they are off duty.'

'With so much homelessness, poverty and unemployment around,' the husband said, 'I know you think there's something wrong with the way we live. I know there are lots of things wrong with the world, but what can one do?'

Well, one can always go and have a long soak in a hot bath.

or . . .

TO THE young mother in Brixton a bathroom is important, too—at least it would be if she had one.

It is rather difficult trying to care for four young children when you have to share the only bathroom in the house with two other families.

It would be nice to have a kitchen, too, instead of sharing that with the same number of people.

All she has is one basement room for herself and her children, whose ages range between two and a half and 11.

The oldest girl has been referred to a Child Guidance Clinic because of behavioural problems largely due, the doctor thinks, to the over-crowding and lack of privacy.

The mother is herself under medical treatment for an ulcer which is aggravated by worry over their situation.

This is only one of the 15,000 families at present on the housing list in Lambeth. The Council have held out little hope that they will be able to be re-housed in the near future.

Justify

Questioned on the telephone, a spokesman from the Council Housing Department said the family did not have sufficient points to justify re-housing.

'Of course they are overcrowded,' he said, 'but three-bedroomed units don't become available every week.'

'This family has only been on the housing list for one year, and we have had some families waiting for that type of accommodation for years who are just as overcrowded.'

Shortly after the last Borough elections, which ousted the Tories and returned a Labour

A HUGE SLUMP in house-building was revealed in figures released by the Department of Environment last year.

Some 91,000 houses were started and 83,400 completed, compared with 94,700 and 95,800 respectively during the same time in the year before.

In addition a total of 70,728 houses were demolished or

closed due to lack of funds from the government.

As a result London residents suffer from a serious level of homelessness, overcrowding and unfit dwellings.

One family in every seven lives in an unfit house in London, while 200,000 others are on council waiting lists.

Council housing, however,

offers little joy to the homeless. Earlier last year the Tories made it clear they would step-up the sale of public housing projects to private owners.

An average of 55 council houses are already being sold by the Greater London Council.

Quite different conditions for Brixton families where new building has come almost to a standstill.

Ulcers and 15,000 on the housing list in Brixton

Council, Councillor Ken Livingstone, vice-chairman of the Housing Committee and, before the elections, a leader of the campaign to bring squatting to Lambeth, accused the previous Tory administration of the 'cruellest deception' in covering up for the poor housing figures when they were in office.

In a statement to the 'South Londoner', he said:

'Lambeth will now be undertaking the bulk of all new building in the Borough. This is in line with our election promise and our overall responsibility to those in need in the borough.'

'The Tories claim that the council does not have enough staff to do this, because they ran down the direct-labour department to only 35 men. We will reverse this trend.'

Last month bricklayers working for the Council were told there was no more work for them and they could either voluntarily transfer to Wandsworth, or remain in Lambeth on just basic pay with no bonuses.

Redundancy payments were refused to those who offered to leave and look for work elsewhere.

One bricklayer said he had

stood around in the yard for weeks waiting for work.

'They kept telling me to go to the canteen in the hope I would just go away,' he said, 'but I wouldn't go. I just stood out in the yard and button-holed everyone from the Building Department who went past.'

Re-pointing

'Eventually they got so fed up with me they sent me to do some re-pointing on the brickwork on an estate which is so old it ought to be re-built from scratch. But they said that's all there is.'

The Brixton and Clapham branch of the Amalgamated Union of Building Trade Workers have stated that they are 'disgusted by the action of this Socialist Council which is con-



tinuing with the Tory policy of running down the building division'.

Shortly after the elections the Lambeth Trades Council wrote to the Council welcoming the election of a Labour majority and calling on them to carry out policies in the interests of the working people who had elected them.

The letter called for a campaign in the labour movement to bring down the Tory government and the election of a Labour government pledged to socialist policies, including the nationalization of the land, banks

and building industry in order to solve the chronic housing shortage.

They insisted that, in the meantime, the Labour-controlled Council should start an immediate crash housing programme and, if necessary, withhold interest re-payments to the banks and building societies and go into deficit in order to finance it.

They called for the enlargement of the direct labour scheme to provide the manpower to do the job without handing it over to private contractors.

To date, no reply has been received.

Mangrove trial

Two found guilty of affray given 15 months suspended sentence

AS LONG as there are people hanging around with nothing to do there will be trouble with the police. It's not our fault. We never ask for such trouble. But the police refuse to leave us alone. They have raided our restaurants, the youth clubs and even tried to provoke people on demonstrations.

Jimmy Sullivan, a 17-year-old Jamaican living in Notting Hill Gate, London, was commenting on last month's 'Mangrove Nine' trial verdict.

The trial ended at the Old Bailey after ten weeks' fierce police activity, aimed at proving 'riotous assembly' and 'affray' charges against the nine defendants.

The jury found all of them not guilty of riot. Two were found guilty of affray and given suspended sentences of 15 months.

The trial cost a total of about £60,000 and provoked a widespread, angry reaction from large sections of youth in London.

What then made the police so determined to prove the nine guilty?

By
Gary Gurmeet

But as they neared a junction with Portnall Rd, police at the head of the march decided to slow them down.

Those towards the rear of the march, however, continued walking and caused a congestion in front.

Many of the demonstrators claim the police used this as a pretext for attack.

A reinforcement of lawmen moved in carrying truncheons and a 'scuffle' followed.

Twenty-seven people were arrested at the scene and during the course of the day. There was nothing spontaneous about the way the police reacted.

During the final hearing at the Old Bailey Rhodan Gordon, one of the defendants, accused the police of maintaining a special 'heavy mob' to deal with active militants in the area.

During the demonstration four policemen—PCs Pulley, Reid, Lewis and Rogers—had hidden themselves in a van equipped for observation, he claimed.



Jubilant 'Mangrove' supporters outside the Magistrates' hearing of the case.

'Nine' have alleged police harassment

A senior Metropolitan policeman recently told a House of Commons committee that large numbers of young West Indians were leaving home and joining militant groups.

tendency

James Starritt, assistant commissioner in charge of operations and administration, said there was a tendency for such youth to vent their feelings upon police as the visible representatives of authority.

'It is hoped,' he added, 'that this mistrust and fear of police can be dispelled.'

'But the task will NOT be easy.'

These four coppers knew every single black activist in Notting Hill Gate by sight.

Their record in the area was related to the jury by Rhodan Gordon.

When certain complaints were laid against specific policemen, they would disappear until things cooled down. They would then return to the area.

The police used this special 'department' to deal with 'riotous' and militant youth.

Their main aim, however, was to watch the political elements, such as the Black Power movement members in the area.

The police are obviously getting worried by the increase in political activity amongst youth deprived of jobs and social amenities.

licence

Jimmy, who has lived in the area for over three years says the police were trying to buy a licence to carry out intimidation in future.

'They wanted to come out clean in order to use the harassment again.'

When over 150 mainly black youth marched in August, 1970, in protest against the police raid on the Mangrove Restaurant, they saw these tactics in use.

The demonstrators had no weapons and carried placards alleging police brutality. They mentioned individual instances where black youths had been beaten up.

London's East End a 'ghost town for unemployed youth



'To let' signs abound in East End.

TIM DOHERTY looked at his watch. It was 12 noon. He had been standing outside the youth employment office for three hours.

Turning around to one of his friends he said: 'It's a big mess and we are in the middle of it all.'

It was the sort of comment which could be heard coming from any 16-year-old unemployed youth in the country.

But this happened to be in the East End of London where the situation has forced even the youth employment chief to mouth a strong protest.

John Branagan, chairman of the East London Youth Employment Committee, said last month the borough was rapidly becoming a ghost town for teenagers to find work.

The number of vacancies left for last year's school-leavers had dropped from 3,000 to 1,800. More than 2,000 young people left school in the summer.

The committee's annual report, published last month, revealed 40 examples of youth who had

failed to find a 'future' in one of London's most depressed areas.

The youth had all wanted to become engineering apprentices but only two could find a place in Tower Hamlets.

The rest were forced to join firms outside the area and they occupied jobs which needed no qualifications.

'Those who found jobs outside the area,' said Branagan, 'had their wages almost swallowed up by fares. It is a tragedy that only two vacancies were available in an area which at one time could not find enough people to go into engineering.'

The immediate cause of the problem was the closure or take-over of many firms in Tower Hamlets.

'Because there are so many boys and girls trying to find jobs the less qualified ones are being left behind.'

'Another factor is that the number of people changing their jobs has dropped considerably. Obviously fear of unemployment keeps young people in jobs which in former times they would have left.'

'Finally it is no secret that a number of well-known firms are due to move out of Tower Hamlets in the near future. Work prospects are far from rosy.'

A large number of parents have started asking their children to stay on at school after the age of 15, says a local youth employment officer.

But with the aimlessness of the education system and the boredom of East End's slum neighbourhood, that is also proving difficult.

John Mervin, 16, left school knowing it would be impossible to find a suitable job.

'I couldn't stand it anymore,' he said. 'I'd rather be on the dole than spending half my life studying for no reason at all. Qualifications are just about worth the paper they are printed on.'

'This place is a hot bed in many different ways. Look around you and you see nothing but slums and rubbish all over the place. Go to the employment exchange, and there is nothing going...'

The sight of two hefty policemen approaching around the corner interrupted our conversation..

A town that is ready to boil over!

Gary Gurmeet pays a
visit to Peterborough

CATHEDRAL SQUARE, Peterborough, is a place owned and controlled by the church, but almost exclusively used by the town's unemployed youth.

Gangs of youth gather here every day and talk about things that do not exist for them—jobs, money, youth clubs and discotheques.

Apart from Thursday afternoon—when the shops close early—and Friday, when some of them collect their dole hand-outs, anything up to 150 youngsters can be seen hanging around in the Square.

Christmas Eve last month was no exception. On that day about 600 youth 'congregated' after the pubs closed in the afternoon.

There were some minor scuffles amongst the crowd and police intervened in large numbers.

What followed was a straight fight between the youth and the police. Five police officers were hurt and nine arrests made.

It was the climax to a year full of boredom and frustration—and Peterborough's police had prepared for it. They brought in extra squad cars from other areas and waited for the right moment to make the arrests.

Annual event

'This happens every year around Christmas time,' said Steve Gordon, 18.

'But it was big enough this year to make national news. I suppose after spending a whole year sitting in this place you are just about ready to burst out at anything.'

The city of Peterborough was chosen, among others, to accommodate London's overflow population.

'Greater Peterborough,' as the Development Corporation called it, aimed to provide new homes, new industry, more employment and even a better social life.

All promises of a better Britain that are so reminiscent of the 1970 Tory election manifesto were applied here.

Yet last month there were approx-



STEVE GORDON (18): This happens every Christmas.

imately 20 vacancies in the area with over 2,000 people out of work.

About 1,113 youth left school last summer; 156 are still unemployed and over 40 looking for their first job.

Arthur Gostage, the town's chief careers officer, is aware of the signs of demoralization creeping in amongst Peterborough youth.

'It gets to a position,' he says, 'where the depressed youth will take any job, no matter what the wage, just to gain their self-respect and pay their own way.'

The fall in self-respect and a feeling of isolation was at the centre of the Christmas Eve 'riot'. The youth were sick of scrounging cigarettes day after day and borrowing money for a cup of coffee at 'Purdies'—the Square's nearest café and one that has often suffered serious damage from such riots.

Unemployment, says a leading member of Peterborough Young

Socialists, is a catalyst that speeds up the break-up in normal family life in the town.

The local 'Evening Telegraph' recently reported the story of 19-year-old Colin Rastall, who had been reduced to something like a tramp by the jobless situation.

Colin had told the paper's reporter: 'I need a job, I've tried, believe me I've tried. I need it for money to get a roof over my head, a decent meal and to stay out of trouble.'

Absorbed

Youth unemployment figures do not, however, reveal the real picture. Most of last year's school leavers were absorbed by the local technical college—on the advice of the employment officers.

More qualifications, they said, lead to better prospects of a job.

'after spending
a whole year
sitting in this
place, you
are just
about ready
to burst out
at anything'

After all, in Peterborough you need to have four 'O'-levels before you can work behind the counter at Marks and Spencer!

Tension builds up among the youth not only in the over-crowded college classrooms but also in the primary schools.

An example is the recent proposal of the town's education committee to close two primary schools in Ramsey and cram the children into a third junior school building.

The latter has been condemned as a slum by the school's vice chairman Albert Peters. It has cracks in the classroom floors and out-house buildings with no water facilities.

To be out of work in Peterborough is doubly frustrating because the town is situated over 40 miles from the nearest industrial centre.

And most of the development work going on around the town is done by outside contract labour.

The contradiction between this 'boom' and the reality of stagnation apparent at Cathedral Square does not escape the thinking of the unemployed.

Geoffrey Aspitte, 18, has been out of work for nine months. Apart from a couple of temporary jobs, he has found nothing that will provide any security.

'There are plenty of others who have been out of work longer than me,' he said. 'These are the ones who have given up completely.'

Stephen McGill is one of those who have given up. 'There is nothing left for us to do except dress up like "skins" and spend our time together. The nearest dance on Saturdays is too far for us to afford the bus fares. The local youth club is always full up of 14 year olds.'

Fights between rival gangs are rare in Peterborough. The hatred is directed almost entirely towards the police.

During conversations at the Square individual lawmen are referred to by nick-names attributed by the youth.

They have given one particular policeman the contemptuous name of 'Hitler'.

Unemployment

... is a
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in the
town



A group of Peterborough youths in Cathedral Square.

Nothing settled for world finance

Keep Left looks at the economic crisis

THE OUTCOME of last month's talks in Washington between the finance ministers of the ten top capitalist countries is a major victory for the United States employers.

As a result of the currency realignment agreed in Washington, the United States now has an overall trading advantage of about 9 per cent over its capitalist rivals, compared with the situation before August 15.

On that date President Nixon finally smashed the post-war monetary system which had been drawn up at Bretton Woods in 1944.

His action followed the steady drain of gold from the United States, leaving an estimated \$60,000m circulating overseas with only \$10,000m-worth of gold to back them.

SEVERED

By refusing to sell gold for dollars to the holders of US currency overseas, Nixon severed the tenuous links which had bound the main capitalist currencies to gold.

From that date on it was every man for himself. The US demanded huge concessions from its overseas competitors to make it easier for American corporations to trade and invest in Europe and Japan.

After four months of blackmail and bluster, the United States obtained the first of its objectives: an upward valua-



Connally, US representative, sits at the head of the table during the 'Big Ten' meeting on world finance.

tion of the main currencies against the dollar, giving it a considerable advantage over the rest of the capitalist world.

In return, Nixon undertook a 7-per-cent rise in the price of gold—but gave no guarantee that he would resume gold sales.

The ink was not dry on the Washington agreement before the US moved onto the second phase of its objectives: to

break down the trade barriers erected against US goods by the Common Market and Japan.

William Eberle, Nixon's special trading representative, met opposition from the Common Market Ministers when he unveiled his list of stringent demands.

But he is confident that America can force the European countries to accept.

Such a big slice of Euro-

pean trade goes to the US that the employers there can simply threaten at any time to cut off the Common Market from its main export outlet unless American terms are accepted.

Far from 'solving' the capitalist crisis, the Washington deal has in fact ushered in a new and even more rapacious stage of trade war. More important still, the main capitalist currencies are no longer

linked to value in the form of gold and there is increasing reluctance on the part of employers in every country to accept paper in settlement of overseas contracts.

The post-war inflationary boom has so thoroughly undermined the value of paper money that it is no longer possible from month to month to say what will be the relations between the various currencies.

DRIVE

The consequences of this situation must be an intensification of the drive against workers' living standards and rights throughout the capitalist world.

Despite Nixon's victory at Washington over the currency realignment, however, the capitalist class in the major industrial countries faces a working class that is 'stronger and better organized than ever before.'

It will lean on the treachery of Stalinism and reformism, but both these agencies of capitalism are themselves in mortal crisis and the coming year opens up very big opportunities for the revolutionary movement throughout the world.



The Tories reinforce law and order

BY PAUL FELDMAN

TORY plans to repress and harass youth took a new and sinister turn last month with a call from London magistrates for more Saturday and Sunday afternoon detention centres.

Two centres are already in existence, one in London, opened for eight years, and the other in Manchester. For two hours on Saturday after-

noons 17- to 21-year-old youths are kept in detention. The magistrates have asked Tory Home Secretary Reginald Maudling, responsible for British troops in N Ireland, to open centres in every town in Britain.

It is clear that the moves are aimed solely at working-class youth who, without jobs or money, are harassed by police in the streets of the cities.

'Anti-social offences' is the term used in the report by these purveyors of Tory-style

law and order. You might consider things like murder or bank raids 'anti-social', but you would be wrong.

As far as the magistrates are concerned they include—breaches of probation, vandalism, 'hooliganism', breaches of the peace (which can cover shouting in the street), failure to pay fines and some traffic offences.

Capitalism is in mortal crisis and cannot provide decent jobs for youth, forcing them instead onto the dole. Its agents then

go further and try to break the spirit of the youth.

They are designated 'anti-social' and only fit to be kept on some sort of a lead, under constant supervision.

The magistrates see attendance centres as an alternative to prison. But that doesn't mean it is a more 'liberal' approach to the question.

The idea of Saturday and/or Sunday afternoon detention is undoubtedly to break people's spirits. The magistrates openly

admit they want to break the 'Saturday afternoon routine'.

Of course they know this is the time most youths go out and enjoy themselves, if they have a few pence to spend, at football matches or shopping. And that is 'anti-social'!

Here they will have a cheap form of detention, aiming to do the same job as the more expensive prisons.

Make the youth conform to Tory notions of social behaviour—that is the plan.

'We are convinced that with better understanding of their work and purpose, the senior attendance centres can develop into one of the most valuable and least costly weapons in the limited armoury provided by the penal system for dealing with young offenders,' says the magistrates' report.

At least they are frank about their purpose.

The British ruling class justifiably fears the youth. They know the new generation of fighters will come from this section of the working class.

The youth in N Ireland have demonstrated in a heroic way what they think of British imperialism.

Detention centres on the scale envisaged in the report must be a warning to all of us in Britain.

review : records : books : films

Keep Left talks to 'Third World War'

say goodbye to commercialism

'all we are doing is singing lyrics about day-to-day people'

UNOFFICIALLY banned by BBC radio and television, slandered by the music magazines—that is the major problem created by the mass media for the 'Third World War'.

The group's songs, mainly concerning the day-to-day life of the working class, obviously find a stingy reception in the boardrooms of the publishing houses.

'They just don't want to know,' says producer John Fenton.

'They don't want to know the truth. Our work is not necessarily radical. Workers are getting ripped all over the world. This is what's happening.'

John Fenton is personally slandered in the music business for using his talent to express reality.

BORED 'Zombies'

People, he says, are being turned into 'zombies' by the mass media. So you have to give them something new, or they become bored, irate and confused.

So 18 months ago Fenton and two other musicians were faced with a decision: they either 'stuck to the crap' or got information about '90 per cent of the people getting ripped by 10 per cent of society'.

They wanted a band which people could identify with.

Their first album — 'Third World War' was almost totally neglected by the mass media.

'Melody Maker' described the group as the 'worst band in the world' and their songs were

heard just once or twice on radio.

But they went ahead with the rock and roll lyrics about workers on the shop floor of factories and youth caught in the dead-end trap of joblessness and poverty.

There was a lot of hatred, negativism and discontent in people which they wanted to express in their music.

'Music is probably the strongest media to get through to young people of our generation. It is very powerful.

'Young people don't vote. Who would they vote for? They don't go to church. What would they pray for? They don't even go to school if they can help it.

'I feel very strongly about it. If something isn't done soon it is going to burst out and it will start in places like Notting Hill Gate,' commented John.

The group's song writer Jim Avery was a member of the 'Thunderclap Newman' band previously. And his father is a shop steward at a London factory.

Terry Stamp, the singer, was a lorry driver.

'Groups like the "Rolling Stones" don't have any validity because these are people living in their millionaire mansions while talking about power to the people,' says Terry.

'Third World War' has not

made any money since they first started. In fact they lost about £30,000 in the first 18 months.

Record companies don't view them as a commercial group. Even if they were to get a financial offer from any concern, says Fenton, it would be in order to tame them.

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here we would probably get an "OZ" trial slapped on us,' said Fenton.

'Take the trade unions for example. The history of the TUC is one of struggle, but look at it now.

'On the Clydeside, Communist Party shop stewards have invented this incredible myth of a work-in and the workers are going to get ripped. The CP will do a deal with management.'

The country's media—monopolized into a few hands—prevents the group from getting through to the people they have written the music for.

Things are tough because the 'Third World War' wants to 'play to the working class' and rejects the 'negativity of the pop industry'.

Jim Avery, who writes most of the group's songs, left the

glamour world of music and money to join John Fenton two years ago.

How can you express ideas, he says, if you know you are selling yourself?

Television and radio is prepared to accept something which is at the level of a ten-year-old's understanding.

TAKING Chances

'Anything above that and you're really taking a chance,' he added.

'We got out of the environment by rock and roll because we wanted to help people like us who are caught in a rut.'

'All we are basically doing is singing lyrics about day-to-day life of people.'

TWO PRIVATE eyes will be chasing each other round the provincial box offices early this year.

'Gumshoe' and 'Shaft' are two highly entertaining, fast-moving movies—one set in Liverpool and the other in Harlem, New York.

'Gumshoe' Eddie Ginley and John Shaft are both unwittingly involved in cases with political undertones which they are forced to solve.

At the end of each film both men walk away from the disarmed and exposed 'bad-dies', leaving them to the conventional lawmen.

A bingo caller, Eddie, takes on more than his crooked brother when he celebrates his birthday by advertising himself as a private investigator.

This leads him into a plot involving drugs, Rhodesian sanction-breaking and kidnaping. The snatch victim is the daughter of a white liberal oppositionist organizing the natives against a reactionary regime in S Africa.

She is attending Liverpool University. Eddie becomes involved when a mysterious telephone call and visit to a hotel room brings him £1,000 in notes, a gun and a photograph of the girl.

John Shaft becomes the unofficial 'go-between' for the black Harlem boss of the hash and whores syndicate and a Black Power faction who join forces against Mafia agents attempting to take over the Harlem rackets.

Working outside the law and facing immediate physical danger in their exploits, both men are really watching events from the outside. They are both of the uncommitted, 'loners' brigade — 'Gumshoe' Ginley living part of his life with Humphrey Bogart, paperback illusions; Shaft, a personality in the shabby, poverty-stricken ghetto area, retreating to his cute middle-class girlfriend in a comfortable 'pad' whenever he wants an escape.

The appearance is that they can stand out from the crowd and are immune from events.

But both films also clearly illustrate capitalism in full swing, in all its degrading tardiness.

They are well-set against their backgrounds of the

At the pictures this month

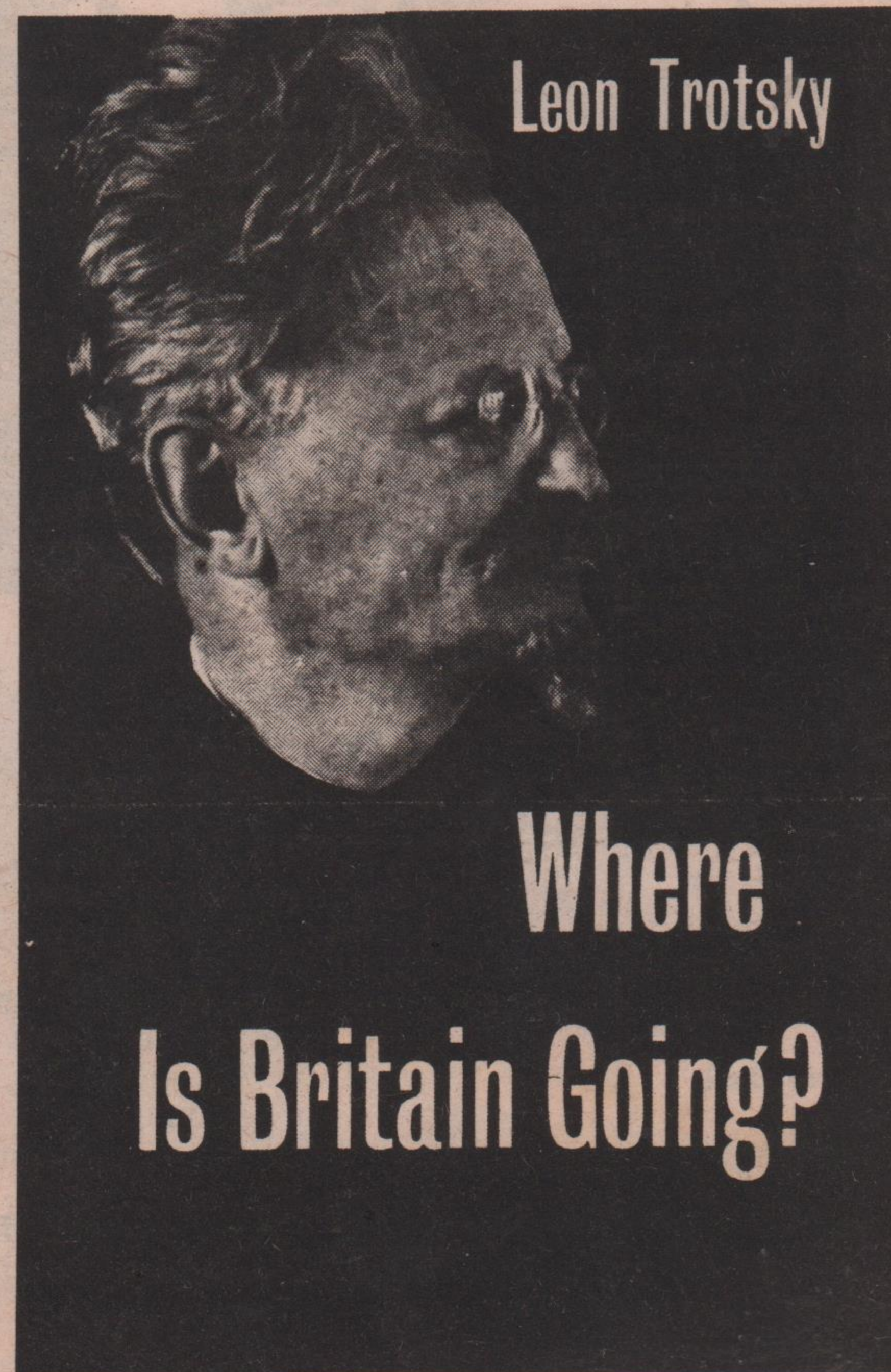
slums and dole queues of the working class and the 'cheap' opulence of the big-time operators. Harlem and Liverpool are used sparingly, but to good effect by the cameramen.

The films also touch on the way both white liberals and Black Power can become involved in unprincipled deals.

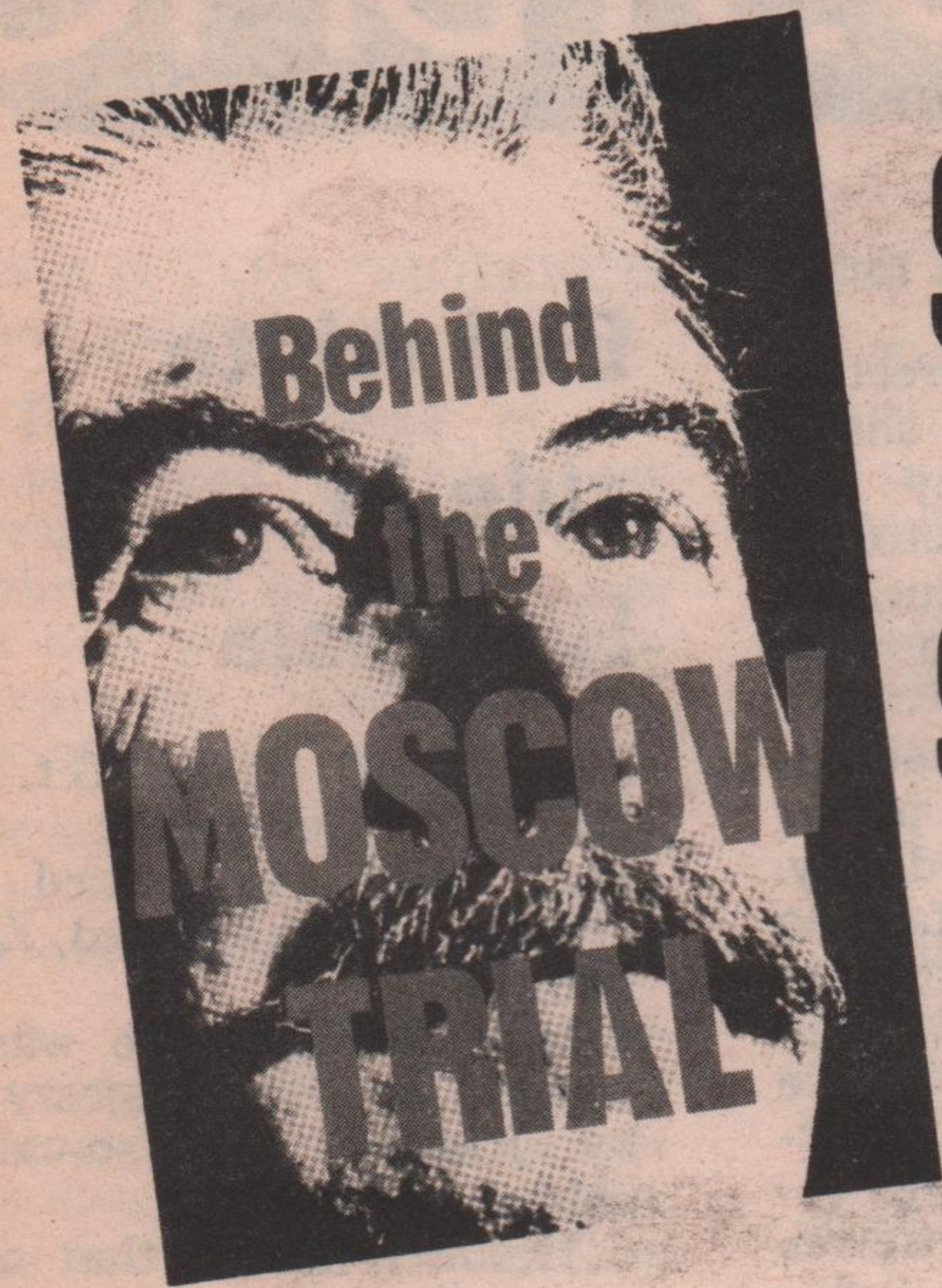
Certainly not superficial films—especially if you are not taken in by the apparent superficiality of the two main characters, whose attitude to events appear to leave them virtually in the same frame of mind at the end of their stories as at the beginning.

FOOTNOTE: Having listened to the double LP of Isaac Hayes' 'Shaft', I must say this excellent music was under-used in the film.

Available from New Park Publications 186a Clapham High Street, London, SW4.



review : records : books : films



Stalinist lies and slander are exposed!

'Behind the Moscow Trial'
By Max Shachtman
New Park Publications
Price 75p

By a Keep Left Guest
reviewer

How to be a really bad cop

Reviewed by
Cissie Lodge

'Sir, you bastard'
By G. F. Newman

New English Library, 1971

HOW DO YOU get on in the police force? By being more corrupt than your colleagues, suggests this book.

PC Terry Sneed, the 'hero', is quick to learn.

He knew that without an evident 'susceptibility to corruption', he would not be recommended for CID work.

'Corruption in the CID has reached the saturation point and an uncorrupt detective might blow the whistle.'

Corruption is the key to promotion. The desire to manipulate other people and greed are the driving forces of a policeman who wants to make the grade.

A religious view of the law—everyone is guilty of some offence, and a complete self-seeking opportunism: 'Scruples, conscience, ethics, principles, integrity weren't in his dictionary.'

Inside

Newman describes PC Sneed's climb to power with what appears to be an inside knowledge of the police force and the underworld.

The shady-dealing and the intricate bribery and counter-bribery, blackmail and prostitution which forms Sneed's daily life have a most convincing ring of truth to them, especially since a number of cases of police corruption have come to light recently in London.

Promotion is based largely on the number of convictions Sneed is able to pin on a 'criminal'. And he obtains these in any way he can. The only means his victim has of inducing Sneed to show mercy is bribery.

Weakness

'Sir, you bastard' is worth reading for an understanding of what the police force is like.

The weakness of the book is that it shows no real understanding of Sneed's motives. He remains his shadow of a character.

The purpose of the police

ON AUGUST 25, 1936 the Russian press announced that the appeal for mercy by the condemned had been summarily rejected by the Presidium of the Central Committee of the Soviet Union.

The same announcement reported: 'The verdict has been carried out.'

In this way, the world working class learned of the death of men who, in 1917, had led the Russian workers to take power.

They were shot in the back as 'fascist counter-revolutionaries' in the cellars of Stalin's secret-police prisons.

Max Shachtman, at the time a member of the American Trotskyist Party, wrote this book as a reply to the monstrous tissue of lies weaved by Stalin and his police.

He wrote the book to examine what lay behind the charges and as a warning to the international working class that Stalinism had become a conscious counter-revolutionary agent.

As he points out at the beginning of the book, 'involved in this comprehensive case is nothing less than the fate of the greatest event in human history—the Russian Revolution.'

Shachtman begins with an examination of the charges—assassination and terrorism—illustrating how the despotism of the Tsar in pre-revolutionary Russia was the breeding ground for such methods.

But as he points out, the Marxist movement in Russia was built in a fight against such activities.

Whilst terrorism 'was a duel from which the masses were excluded', Marxism 'proceeded to organize itself as a vanguard inextricably bound up with the daily struggle of the masses themselves'.

Shachtman says that by its

nature 'terrorism had no confidence in the masses and prevented the masses from acquiring confidence in themselves'.

The fight to build the Bolshevik Party in Russia meant a determined struggle for this principle.

Whoever passed through its ranks in that period was permeated to the marrow with this Marxist attitude.

Shachtman shows how politically preposterous the charges were by giving short biographies of the accused. All of them were devoted fighters for the working class.

Among them were Zinoviev,

Kamenev and I. N. Smirnov who took up the cudgels against terrorism in Russia and in 1917 stood at the head of the Russian and international working class.

'Maybe so,' claimed the Stalinists (and some still do) 'but didn't they confess?'

Yes they did—the recent French film 'L'Aveu' gives some idea of how such confessions were obtained.

(Some methods, such as marathon interrogations, deprivation of food and sleep, physical beatings and ill-treatment of families, have been copied by British troops in Ulster.)

Throughout the trial, the 'evidence' is self-contradictory: dates differ by years, the composition of a mythical 'organizing centre' varies from one testimony to the next, and Smirnov, who eagerly 'confessed' to the charges, was in prison throughout the period involved!

One of the key meetings 'took place' at the Bristol Hotel, Copenhagen in 1932 even though it was demolished in 1917!

So, both politically and from the evidence itself, Shachtman can correctly state that the 'prosecution invented the plot and compelled the accused to enact it at the trial for the first time in their lives.'

The prosecution had succeeded in indicting 'not the executed and the prisoners, but the bureaucracy itself'.

But Shachtman does not rest there. He gives a penetrating analysis of why the bureaucracy found the trial essential.

First the hostility aroused by Stalin's economic policies (forced



Leon Trotsky pictured here with Lenin.

Continued on page 19

Jim Masters spotlights a Joni Mitchell L.P.

Don't ask too many questions

A review of
Joni Mitchell's LP
'Blue'
(Reprise)

'I have a friend I've never seen; He hides his head inside a dream

—Yes only love can break your heart...
(Nigel Young—'After the Gold-rush')

IT ALL BEGAN with Bob Dylan.

Some years ago he produced an album called 'Another Side of Bob Dylan', in which he showed that if he got away from chiming the platitudes of the liberal-pacifist protest politics ('how manee times must thee cannonbawls flah') and examined experiences closer to home, he could come up with lyrics that were more subtle and more meaningful.

In the track 'My back pages' he laughed at his commitment to peace-movement/civil-rights politics.

'We'll meet on edges soon said I—proud neth heated brow—ah but I was so much older then—I'm so much younger now.'

Of course, it was not Dylan's commitment to politics that

was wrong, but the politics to which he was committed.

There is no space in this review to examine Dylan's evolution, but suffice it to say that 'Another Side' started the avalanche.

All the cohorts of semi-feudal songsters in the protest movement had found a new battle cry—'Tell it like it is! Back to self! Personal honesty!'

And thus many lesser souls were sucked down into the swamp of their individualism.

Naturally the audience for music had changed over the years. A lot of middle-class people had decided that they had given 'peace a chance' in Grosvenor Square and elsewhere.

DREAM

It was now time to hide their heads inside a dream, say hello to the 'sisters of mercy', go down to Suzanne's place by the river, join the Hell's Angels or stand up for Jesus.

As someone once said—these things must change even if they are to remain the same. ('The Leopard'.)

It is not surprising that Joni Mitchell's album 'Blue' has met

with a lot of success in this situation.

On the positive side the music is tight, although none of the tunes is a knock-out until you start to get into it.

Joni Mitchell has also learnt from Dylan that a weak line mouthed well can come over strong. In this album she does a lot of mouthing.

But what does she mouth about? Now if you really want to enjoy this album that is a difficult question.

You ought not to ask too many questions. That's Joni Mitchell's method after all and fans must stick to it.

For the rest of us, she is singing about love affairs. Old love affairs, new love affairs, the last love affair, the next love affair, and the plane journey between the two.

At the centre of all these events is Miss Joni Mitchell herself.

We meet Miss Mitchell first of all in 'Paris, France, reading the news and it sure looks bad'.

Like many other young American ladies of her class she is 'doing Europe' for the summer.

Certain Mediterranean beaches accumulate Joni

Mitchells by the score during the summer.

Long blonde hair, slim-jeans, California sunshine smiling ladies all doing their best to compensate for the ugliness of the world through personal effort to be beautiful.

This effort includes an addiction to naïveté that borders on wilful stupidity. One cannot develop critical intelligence since that might involve cynicism or struggle, none of which helps a young lady to be beautiful.

No, they argue, the way to a world of love and peace is to start by being peaceful, loving and dumb.

CAUSES

Joni Mitchell fans will argue that she has taken up the causes of radical politics (whatever they are). True she has tried denting world imperialism with a few clichés about peace ('Woodstock') and pollution ('Big Yellow Taxi'), but it didn't work.

That's why the news is bad in Paris. They won't give peace a chance, it was just a dream some of us had.'

Continued on page 19

Continued on page 18

EDITORS POSTBAG

Bad Cop!

Continued from page 17

force is not explained. This makes the book one-dimensional.

But, and this is more than a defect, Sneed is seen as a strong, hard man in control of his own destiny, which no force can stop.

In other words, he is idealized, and made into a hero. His

callous attitude to women is only tempered by his realization that he must make a few concessions to them in order to keep what he wants.

This is seen as part of the hero's image. The twist at the end goes a little way to pricking his image, but nowhere near far enough.

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Address.....

Federation.....

No. of entries.....

Fill in this form and send to: Keep Left, National Film Competition, 186a Clapham High Street, London, SW4.

Sensational writing

I BOUGHT your paper Keep Left for the first time. Looking through it I notice that your style of English is extremely radical.

For example in your article 'Peckham youth fight police provocation' you say that:

'With the sharpening of the political and economic crises, the Tory government is beginning to use the instrument of state (the police) which was formed to protect the ruling class and its property.'

For a start from the historical point of view this is rubbish, but from the point of view of the use of English it is purely a piece of sensational writing designed to attract the attention of a small minority, who don't know any better.

I hope you don't misunderstand me, I am a socialist like yourselves, I feel strongly about many of the social injustices, but I do object to extremism, and I feel you are encouraging this in many of your articles.

Surely a paper like yours should try to enlighten more people to the ideas of socialism, not turn people against it, by preaching a policy of violence and hating people of a different social class.

Surely it would be better to try and persuade the people of the 'ruling class' that they are wrong, and that socialism is right.

I hope you do not reply that the only way to make the 'ruling class' understand is by force, because yours is a socialist paper not a communist paper.

I don't really expect you to put this in your column but it would be very gratifying if you did.

R. T. Watts
Todmorton, near
Badminton, Glos.

The faceless men with the profits

MOST large companies today have shareholders.

What is a shareholder? To the worker on the shop floor the shareholder is a faceless man to whom a large slice of the company's profits are given.

According to an American book entitled 'Banking' a shareholder is, 'a party who holds a part ownership in a company'.

That is what they are, but in practice who are they? Banks, assurance companies, building societies and financiers.

Banks invest part of their income in large companies with a record of steady profits. They also speculate on a 'bear and bull' system.

They act as guarantors in some cases for money due to a company from another.

Assurance companies invest their income in much the same way. Both banks and assurance companies have shareholders as well as

being shareholders themselves.

The boards of directors are elected from shareholders. In this way any man who was a director of a bank and an assurance company would be a very powerful man.

If he extended his activities to industry his power would increase accordingly.

Many men who in fact do this are financiers. They use their position in banks and large companies to influence governments in order to accomplish two things — greater profit for themselves and greater political influence to protect their activities.

The death of a few million people means nothing if the profit gain is big enough.

It can be seen then that the people who are in control are not always the people we see as the members of a government.

Many of these people's families made their first million out of the slave trade, sweated labour in the cotton mills or in scurvy-ridden ships.

If those old-time financiers could see their descendants today they would be proud of them.

They are the real people behind wars. These are the vultures fattening on the workers' sweat, skill and eternal poverty.

To help the Tory is to help these speculators.

It can be seen then that the worker is not only working for himself but for big-time speculators.

From the misery of millions of poor people the speculator makes a big profit.

These people will do anything to protect their interests, their power and their wealth.

This is what the Tory government has done to date.

1. The Industrial Relations Act.
2. The end of free milk at schools.
3. The increase of charges for school meals.
4. The compulsory liquidation of sections of industry.
5. Increased charges for prescriptions.
6. Selling of profit-making parts of nationalized industry.
7. Concentration camps in Ulster.
8. Over a million unemployed.
9. The sell-out of the Rhodesian majority.
10. Ted Heath buys a new boat.
11. Threatened action against those councils who defy the government on free milk.
12. Increase of food prices.

All this is to help the speculator at the expense of the worker.

It is done to undermine organized labour: to make any organized labour movement liable to conviction for acting as free people. The Tory government cannot have any help from the worker.

A slave who helps put the manacles upon himself is a fool indeed.

Syd de Basquerville

End white rule in Rhodesia

SIR ALEC DOUGLAS HOME'S settlement with Ian Smith is aimed at creating a white-ruled Zimbabwe.

In fact Zimbabwe wasn't created by Her Majesty or by Rhodes, the so-called gold-digger.

Home is afraid that now in the United Nations there are some members who are prepared to foster sanctions practically and bring the opportunist cowboy to his knees.

Britain's history of lies is well known all over the world.

In all the colonies people have been exploited ruthlessly. Even corpses of the dead have not escaped from this.

This is the case in Ireland and the same in Zimbabwe.

Kapi Chinonyiwa
London

Cheap labour in Jamaica

JAMAICA is known for such products as sugar and ginger.

The British government buys the sugar from Jamaica, Trinidad and Guyana.

Yet when anyone from these countries comes to England they have difficulty in getting a job.

Why? England buys our sugar, she takes all that we produce and we get nothing in return.

For example Guyana asked for some money to build a sugar-purifying factory, but the British government refused.

The fact is that black people are used for cheap labour in these countries.

When Princess Margaret and Lord Snowdon went to Barbados for a holiday, the whole beach was cleared so they could swim there.

Yet when we asked for money to help build up the islands they refused.

But they have enough money to create civil wars in Ireland, S Africa and Rhodesia.

Innocent people are dying because of the stupidity of this Tory government.

Religion is also playing a rotten role in Ireland. People there are starving, dying and suffering for nothing.

We should unite and fight for Irish people the same as for black people because the problems are the same.

Workers, students, immigrants and unemployed should really fight hard against this government, and the social structure it supports.

All the capitalist thinks about is his pocket.

Therefore we are calling on all youth to join the Young Socialists and fight for your rights.

We have to fight for working and living conditions in England. All troops should be withdrawn from N Ireland.

Cecil B
Slough YS

EDITORS POSTBAG

No facilities for the youth

'WANTON VIOLENCE, hooliganism, young radicals.'

These are some of the words used by the Tory press, television and local radio when carrying reports on how gangs of youth are supposedly wrecking our society.

They use this excuse to attack working-class youth all over Britain.

By getting newspaper readers to believe that all young people are dangerous maniacs, they cover up the real facts of life for millions of young people—slum conditions in housing estates, boring low-paid jobs, increasingly high unemployment, no-good clubs and discotheques.

In some areas there are no recreational facilities on whole big estates. As a result many young people end up simply standing about on street corners with nothing to do and nowhere to go, or wandering the streets with no money, looking for something to do.

Naturally trouble brews up. The reaction of the Tories to this is to encourage more brutal action on the part of the police.

(Proposals are being put forward to widen the powers of courts against youth too.)

Police continuously harass, provoke and beat up groups of youth.

In N Ireland it is, of course, the armed forces

that keep 'law and order'.

These attacks are coming particularly thick and fast at the same time as all other attacks on the whole working class—lower wages, attacks on trade unions, soaring prices, high unemployment and the racist Immigration Act to divide workers.

The basis of all these attacks on the organizations and living standards of the working class is the economic crisis, which is now shaking the world.

This crisis is making profits more and more hard to come by for the bosses and their political representatives, the Tories.

All profits that they get will have to be snatched from the working class and so they will try to crush all opposition—in particular amongst the youth.

As long as this government stays in power, conditions and entertainment facilities for young people will get worse and worse.

There is no future for any of us in this system.

We therefore appeal to all young people to join the Young Socialists and spend their time building a mass movement throughout the country which will lead the fight against the Tory government.

Simon Pirani
Deptford YS

A future for the working class

BEING A NEW member of the YS I wish to draw a conclusion from the All Trades Unions Alliance conference in Birmingham last November.

I am beginning to see a new future for the working class. I have much confidence in the YS and will fight alongside the rest of the members.

You might wonder what this has to do with the conference. Well, I have the experience of youth leaving YS through trivial reasons caused only by the boom which most of them have lived in all their lives.

This has a lot to do with the conference, because I am convinced—after sitting for hours and listening to trade unionists complaining about the Tory government—that if you do not fight now there is no future for your family in this country.

Why? Because there is so much hate in the working class and in the trade unions that it will work and bring about a revolution.

Will the Tories sit back and let it happen? No! They will fight back, but we will be ready for them.

Brenda Hemsall

Support for the Right to Work march

I HAVE SPOKEN at two trade union meetings about the Coventry Right to Work committee.

At the first meeting members of the union supported us.

An old member also supported us when we asked for three trades council delegates to back the committee.

They also said they would support the Right to Work march.

At the second meeting, the union branch decided to give £2 for the committee funds.

Robert Wright
Coventry YS

Correct information

SEVERAL SLL publications have put out the wrong information for young people about the dental section of the National Health Service.

Treatment is still free up to the age of 21, except if the patient is at work, when he or she has to pay towards the fitting of false teeth.

We expect free treatment only to be available up to the age of 18, at the same time next year. This will depend on a Bill going through parliament.

So it is best for your readers to avail themselves of the free treatment while they are under 21.

The timing of the Bill

through parliament is unpredictable.

Under the existing regulations those over 21 who go regularly every six months and look after their teeth and gums, should pay about £1.

The first course of treatment will cost between £2 and £5 if you only go every year or two.

Dental Surgeon
Socialist
Medical Association

A welcome for the weekly

I AM WRITING this letter on behalf of the Young Socialists' branch in Meanwood, Leeds.

I have only been in the YS movement for three weeks. I must say how wonderful Keep Left is.

Because in Keep Left you can express all your feelings, about things that go on in the world about us. I am very pleased with the paper, and would be more pleased if it was turned into a weekly.

If we could get more people to join us in the YS I'm sure we could deal with the Tories without any trouble at all.

On Saturday November 27 we held a demonstration against unemployment. We marched through the city of Leeds and then held a meeting where we could express our feelings and our points of view.

The meeting, I am glad to say, was a great success. I hope the movement in the Leeds area grows bigger.

John Richardson
Meanwood, Leeds

Money for 'top people'

I AM WRITING about money. Many people seem to be earning vastly different amounts than others.

The Queen, for instance, gets £1m and the people in top offices earn about £2,500 a year.

If that is the pay of top officials how could you compare it with people doing 'ordinary' work?

The second thing I'd like to say is if we let Heath stay in office for four years there will probably be between 4 and 6 million people unemployed.

It is already 1 million and the Tories have been in office for only a year.

When I leave school I am hoping I get a job. Because if I don't I could be on the dole for the rest of my life, and I don't want that to happen.

I want to work for a living. But we can only do something about the unemployment situation if we fight against the Tories.

I am glad I have joined the Young Socialists because this is the only way we can build a movement.

The third thing I would like to say is that I like the monthly Keep Left. We should raise money for it and keep it going.

Billy Aitchison
Meanwood YS (Leeds)

Continued from page 17

Questions

So if politics ignore Miss Mitchell's dreams, Miss Mitchell's dream is to be able to ignore politics. 'I wish I had a river I could skate away on,' she sings. But she hasn't.

Her concern for beauty is concern about where to get money for beauty-parlour bills when she is 40.

'I am a lonely painter—I live in a box of paints—I'm frightened by that Devil—and I'm drawn to those that ain't . . .'

Now the trick here is that you are supposed to be disarmed by the 'honesty' of it all. You are supposed to admit that you are frightened by the Devil as well, and you would like to make a lot of money too.

This may be true for middle-class people, but Joni Mitchell has nothing to say to those young workers coming into political struggle in this period.

No one suggests that personal experience is not a good starting point for an artist. Many of the greatest artists of this century concerned themselves with microscopic analysis of subjective experience.

They were able to do this because of their enormous talent which enabled them to keep a balance between objective reality and subjective states they examined.

To do this requires not only talent but a real searching honesty and courage.

These are the qualities that make the artist 'the natural ally of the revolutionary' in Trotsky's words.

Not venality, fear and weakness passing themselves off as 'beauty'.

Stalinist lies

Continued from page 17

collectivization of farming and inequality associated with the Stakhanov movement) had to be deprived of potential leadership.

Secondly the maintenance of the bureaucracy's privileges rested on the isolation of the revolution from the European working class and on friendly relations (now known as peaceful co-existence) with imperialism.

This brings us to the man who did not appear in the dock but was nevertheless the main defendant—Leon Trotsky.

Trotsky, who alone had fought for principles of Marxism against the rise of bureaucracy, was now accused of conspiring with Hitler.

Trotsky, more than any other, represented the Bolshevik Party of Lenin.

As Shachtman says, the ruthless execution of political opponents was an assault on those figures who symbolized the dread words 'World Revolution'.

It was Stalin's way of saying that the international revolution, as far as the Kremlin was concerned, had been long interned.

'That is just it. Stalin has dug the grave of the Third International, its founders, its traditions and literally filled it with corpses.'

It is a very important book for the Young Socialists today.

The discussion in the book, on terrorism, is of immediate relevance to our position on Ireland.

We remain firm on the Bolshevik principle of organizing the working class, and deepening its consciousness to destroy the system.

The Stalinists' liquidation of the leaders of October symbolized their liquidation of socialist revolution.

But 1971 is a different period. From Trotsky's lonely struggle we are emerging as a mass movement that will politically destroy Stalinism and lead the workers to power.

Bulletin

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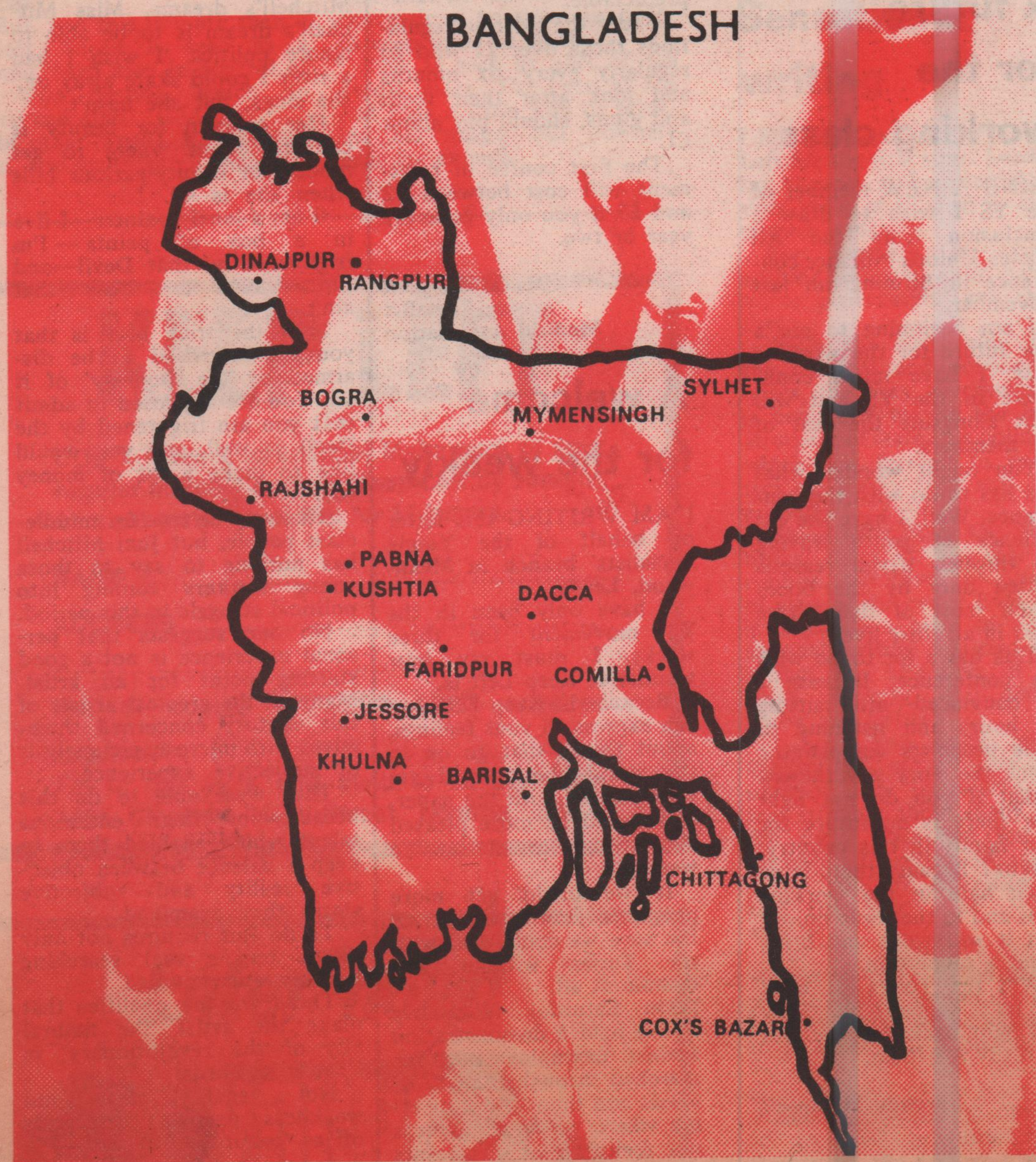
For details of how to join fill in this form and write to YS National Secretary, John Simmance, 186a Clapham High St, London SW4.

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WORLD NEWS

BANGLA DESH



BANGLADESH

What faces the new country in 1972?

Keep Left correspondent

THE NEW NATION of Bangla Desh was formally born in December after nine months' terrible bloodshed and sacrifice.

The whole of the W Pakistan army unconditionally surrendered to Indian armed forces.

'Dacca,' declared Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, 'is now the free capital of a free country.'

It was the greatest victory so far for Bengali people.

But it also brought into power a new regime committed to the continuation of capitalism in Bangla Desh.

The Awami League—which received unanimous support for its independence demand in March last year—said it would seek friendly agreements with all countries.

In taking power in Bangla Desh on a capitalist programme the Awami League cynically betrayed the hopes and aspirations of the country's workers and peasants, millions of whom gave their lives in the struggle against W Pakistan domination.

Leaders of the party hypocritically declared that Bangla Desh would have a political structure guaranteeing 'life, liberty and property'.

The country, they said, would be a 'parliamentary republic'.

It was the same radical phrasemongering used by Indian leaders when they set up an 'independent' capitalist India over 23 years ago.

India now has one of the world's most impoverished working classes and 40 million people unemployed.

Memories

These bitter memories, together with the human slaughter in Bangla Desh, remain. It was in an attempt to control the expected tidal wave of revolutionary upheavals that the Indian government recognized Bangla Desh.

The stories of butchery at the hand of Yahya Khan's forces ('they killed us like rats') brought into India by refugees were beginning to stir the feelings of oppressed people in the whole of the peninsula.

Coupled with this atmosphere was the obvious loss of morale and fighting capacity of the W Pakistan army itself.

There was indeed overwhelming support for the people of Bangla Desh.

With a population of 78 million the country is the eighth largest in the capitalist world. It is also

OVER 71,000 people—just over 8.1 per cent of the working population of the Irish Republic — are now unemployed.

And the new annual total of redundancies for 1971 is expected to be around 9,000, an increase of over 6,000 on the 1970 figures.

In October 1971, 1,253 redundancies were notified and 1,064 during November. Figures for December redundancies are also expected to be over the 1,000 mark.

In the first nine months of the year, 2,907 redun-

dancies were notified in the country's manufacturing industry, 961 of them in the textile industry which has been badly hit by the world recession.

During the same period, 751 workers were made redundant in the food and tobacco trades and 578 in distributive trades.

But one ray of light is still apparently shining in the gloom. The Republic's redundancy fund is still in a fairly healthy state. It had a surplus of £1,525,000 in November 1971.

New developments in the US

THE VIETNAM WAR has always been a popular subject for the world-wide protest movement.

In America the relative boom in capitalism allowed the growth of a large middle-class movement around the issue.

It never hurt anyone—least of all the people behind war—if a few thousand students took to the streets every now and then smashing windows and fighting the police.

But today United States capitalism faces a new situation. And the protestors face their biggest crisis ever.

The American working class fights to maintain its rights on the one hand and on the other there is a rapid emergence of fascist tendencies.

This has been the pattern of events for the past few months brought about by the economic crisis of the capitalist world.

Movement

As a result the liberal peace movement is disappearing fast.

Its last big attempt at revival ended with a complete flop on November 6, the day of the annual anti-war demonstrations.

Only a fraction of the originally large following attended the peace jamboree, organized mainly by the revisionist Socialist Workers Party and the Communist Party.

Less than 1,000 turned up in Washington, whereas the demonstration against the Cambodian invasion a year ago had attracted 200,000.

November 6 was the last dying gasp of the middle-class, protest movement in America.

Only weeks after the demonstration the National Peace

End of the line for the protest movement

Action Coalition, which had organized the protest, split wide open at its conference in Cleveland, Ohio.

Four of five NPAC coordinators refused to run again for the posts in a dispute with the Socialist Workers Party.

A mood of pessimism dominated the rest of the conference, the smallest in the history of NPAC.

Convention

Meanwhile the People's Party, constructed from the remains of the 1968 peace movement led by former Senator Eugene McCarthy, had only 200 delegates to its convention in November.

This compared with nearly 3,000, four years ago.

But while the protest movement disintegrates the economic crisis also brings with it a new threat of fascism.

The past few months have seen a distinct emergence of right-wing elements in the shape of racials and religious maniacs.

The Jewish Defence League, a neo-fascist organization, has dropped its claims to fighting anti-Semitism and has stepped up physical attacks on Black and socialist organizations.

In the middle-class neighbourhood of Forest Hills in New York city recently, hundreds of white residents were whipped up into a racialist lynch mob against a low-income project for minority groups.

In a similar demonstration residents of Pontiac, Michigan,

tried to prevent, by force, the sending of their children to integrated schools.

Prominent in the demonstrations was the Ku Klux Klan.

Issues such as crowded schools, slums and crime are used by the right wing to shift the blame on to Negroes and turn the discontent of the middle class into a completely reactionary direction.

The capitalists call upon the fascists when they face a situation of civil war. Today the capitalist system is at a complete impasse and Nixon is moulding the state apparatus to meet the crisis by systematically taking away the façade of democracy.

There is no place in such a situation for humane and liberal protestors, hence the crisis in these circles.

Protest politics is not only impossible but positively reactionary.

Only a revolutionary party can determine the fate of the working class and the middle class through the destruction of capitalist society.

Crushed

All the capitalist countries in the world—including India—stood aloof in the hope that the revolution would be crushed.

Their plight went almost unnoticed as far as the liberal charity organizations were concerned.

It was a world-wide conspiracy.

US imperialism stepped up its arms supplies to W Pakistan and the Chinese Stalinists continued their full support, both physical and moral, for the barbaric regime.

And the Soviet bureaucracy extended its backing by saying it was an internal affair.

Now the tide is turned—although not completely—in favour of Bengali workers and peasants and a new challenge has come to the fore.

Is Bangla Desh to be ravaged once again by monopoly capital—this time in the shape of Indian and Bengali bankers, landlords and capitalists?

The answer cannot be provided by the impotent and reactionary programme and policy of the Awami League.

Regular

The League already has plans for disarming the Mukti Bahini guerrillas and the establishment of a regular army and police under control of the state.

And while still making overtures for a political deal with W Pakistan, it has decided to set up almost exactly the same bureaucratic structure that existed under the previous regime.

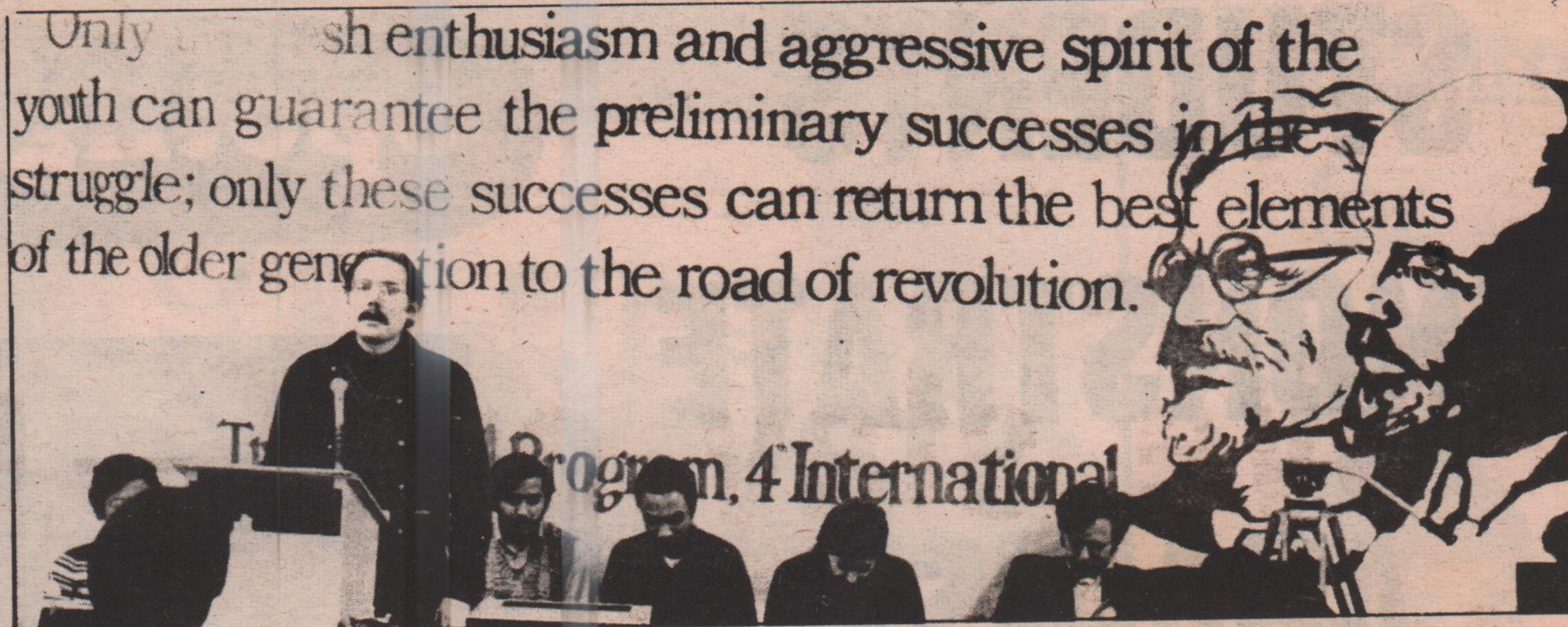
Land holdings are to be 'rationalized' (not nationalized). The landless peasants who fled to India return therefore to a country still out of their hands.

But they return full of expectation and with an unparalleled history of struggle and sacrifice.

This history can only be channelled to serve them through a revolutionary institution of socialism.

This is a task which Bengali workers and peasants can carry out only by building their own independent revolutionary party.

Any faith in a capitalist future for Bangla Desh would be fatal.



Only the enthusiasm and aggressive spirit of the youth can guarantee the preliminary successes in the struggle; only these successes can return the best elements of the older generation to the road of revolution.

Left: Dany Sylveire speaking at YS conference. Right: In New York.

A REVOLUTIONARY youth movement was launched last month by the American Trotskyist organization, the Workers League.

At a packed conference hall in New York a provisional steering committee of the youth movement decided to call the new organization the 'Young Socialists'.

Over 300 young workers, unemployed students, Puerto Rican and black youth attended the launching conference on December 18. They came from New York, Philadelphia, Boston, New Jersey, Baltimore and Connecticut.

Bringing fraternal greetings from the Socialist Labour League and the British Young Socialists, Dany Sylveire said it was symbolic that the first youth conference in the US should coincide with the meeting of the capitalist powers (Group of Ten) in Washington.

'As you all know this meeting was called to discuss the greatest economic crisis in the history of world capitalism and, contrary to the superficial liberal observer no tangible solution can be reached.

'Capitalism in its death

agony is economically beyond repair.'

This, she added, was the most timely period to launch the revolutionary youth movement in the US.

The conference voted unanimously to accept a youth programme as the basis of the Young Socialists and to prepare a massive demonstration in March against unemployment and attacks on youth.

The programme demands full employment, free higher education and job training. It calls on the labour movement to organize a General Strike against the Vietnam war and to construct a Labour Party for the 1972 elections.

Tim Wohlforth, National Secretary of the Workers League, told the conference that youth played a decisive role in bringing older workers into the revolutionary movement.

'Youth seek a revolutionary solution. They have been through the experience of the poverty programmes, the student protests, the demonstrations which produce nothing.

'Youth seek more power to fight with. George Jackson before he was murdered took up a study of Marxism and said that Engels' "Anti-Duhring" was the most important book he had ever read.'

The missing ingredient, said Wohlforth, was not the desire of workers and youth to fight.

'The problem is to construct the revolutionary party. Youth have the major responsibility for the development of theory.'

Gil Gonzales and Abby Rodriguez, two leading youth members, presented reports on perspectives and programme of the youth movement.

The conference ended with two films, the British YS film 'The Year of Lenin and Trotsky' and a preliminary showing of a film made in New York.

Young Socialists is the first youth movement of its kind in

the US. Its development reflects the turn of many youth towards Marxism and revolutionary politics.

To those youth emerging from the explosive American scene and who have been previously led into blind-alleys by the protestors and reformists, the Young Socialists provides the only alternative.

The YS will conduct a ruthless struggle to expose all revisionists—Pabloites and Stalinists—in all its work following the December 18 conference.

FIDEL'S STRANGE FRIENDS



Castro with Peruvian generals.

FOR YEARS Fidel Castro has talked about armed revolution and made marathon speeches against American imperialism.

His empty rhetoric appealed to revisionist movements throughout the world, used it to present the Cuban leader as a 'natural Marxist' and a leader of the colonial people.

Last month Fidel discarded his fake revolutionism and embraced some of the most vicious dictators of Latin America.

He was welcomed in 'cordial' talks by the Peruvian military dictatorship of Gen Valesco Alvarado.

Valesco, who has the back-

ing of the Peruvian Communist Party and the British 'Morning Star', has recently packed his jails with left wing opponents of the regime.

In one massive sweep, he witch-hunted 'agitators', Trotskyists and working-class militants in the factories and mines.

According to Castro, Valesco and his aides are 'men who are anxious to do a great deal for the future of Peru.'

Castro was also met with a friendly reception in Ecuador, where President José Ibarra heads one of the most servile governments in Latin America.

Fifty five per cent of the country's exports are appropriated by the United States.

These reactionary dictators obviously found Castro a useful instrument in presenting themselves as 'friends of the people'.

Himself a rabid anti-Trotskyist, Castro blended his own reformist position quite well with the counter-revolutionary tactics of American imperialism.

During his tour of the Latin American countries, Castro still wore the thick beard and para-military uniform.

But his speeches were those of a reformist being swiftly driven into the arms of reaction.

XMAS IN GLASGOW

Continued from page 5

Mr MacDonal doesn't blame his son. He knows the prospects of a job are doubtful.

Few jobs are created while many more are being destroyed. Christmas, said MacDonal, was the most depressing and humiliating time of the year.

His other two kids expect the usual Christmas presents. James understands but what do you tell two youngsters who wake up Christmas morning with smiles that quickly disappear when they are confronted with two cheap secondhand watches.

Unemployment is being used as a weapon against the jobless.

New methods of production

are introduced in the form of Measured-Day Work and this leads to the speed-up of production. The installation of new advanced automatic machinery does not reduce the working hours, it reduces the labour force.

Capitalism exists not for the needs of the people, but for profit. Its destruction is the only way forward for the working class.

Soviet fear of Trotskyism

INFLUENCE of Trotskyist ideas amongst youth is on the increase in the Soviet Union and it is worrying the Stalinist leaders of the Communist Party.

The Soviet bureaucracy has called for an intensified campaign against such political opposition.

In a recent issue of the Soviet magazine 'Kommunist' CP central committee secretary Boris Ponomarev expressed his fear over the increased activities of Trotskyist groupings in individual countries and in the international arena.

Ponomarev admitted that Trotskyism was 'capable of turning into a major political movement.'

His article in the 'Kommunist' was an official admission of the bureaucracy's fear of the Fourth International and the international working class.

Ponomarev, a veteran enemy of Trotskyism, himself survived the mass purges in the 1930s and is today a leading 'theoretician' of the Soviet CP.

It was his articles which started the wave of arrests of central committee members and party functionaries just before the Third Moscow Trial of March 1938.

He has now admitted that the purges were unable to destroy the revolutionary position of Trotsky's 'Left Opposition'. And he is most concerned about the new generation of Soviet youth emerging out of a long period of repression and Stalinist terror.

In his latest book Joseph Berger, founder member of the

Communist Party of Palestine, says the youth are intensely interested in the past and they want to know the truth.

Berger was expelled from the Soviet CP in 1934, having been accused of following Trotsky.

The Soviet bureaucracy keeps thousands of political opponents imprisoned on false charges in conditions which have changed little since Stalin's days.

Last month the KGB security police said it would not allow any more public demonstrations against the bureaucracy.

They made this declaration after the 'Pushkin Square demonstration', an annual event commemorating the arrest and imprisonment of writers Daniel and Sinyavsky six years ago.

Among those held by the KGB at the demonstration was Pyotr Yakir, one of the leaders of the anti-Stalinist opposition in the USSR.

'Yakir, who has been barred from working as a professional historian was told to keep his mouth shut about the history of Stalinism.

'Which way do your eyes face?' he was asked by a KGB official. 'Forwards or backwards? You are always looking backwards. We understand of course, you have had a hard time. But you ought to look to the future.'

The bureaucracy fears, above all, this attempt by young writers and historians to trace the events following the October revolution.

To look back would be to see the Bolshevik generation which Stalin physically destroyed.

But as Ponomarev's article shows, he failed to destroy the ideas of the Russian Revolution, which find their expression today in the international Trotskyist movement.

STUDENTS DEMONSTRATE AGAINST TORY PLANS

Spotlight on students

By a Keep Left Reporter



Students on December 8 demonstration.

OVER 250,000 students took part in the nationwide 'Day of Action' on December 8 last year in protest against the Tory government's plans to control student union finances politically.

Students in universities and colleges throughout Britain and N Ireland marched, boycotted lectures, held protest meetings or staged sit-ins in response to the National Union of Students' call.

Leading a march of 100 union presidents in LONDON, was Communist Party president of the NUS Digby Jacks. He led the presidents to the Department of Education and Science where he handed in a statement rejecting the government's document.

Police

The statement said that the Tory proposals would result in control of student union finances by college and university authorities.

At a meeting of 1,000 students earlier in the day at London's Imperial College, Jacks said that the 'necessary degree of consciousness' to defeat the Tory government 'has not yet been reached by the working class and student movement'.

Police were involved in minor scuffles outside the London School of Economics when pickets tried to prevent right-wing students from entering the building and attending classes and visiting libraries.

On the deputation to the DES was an uninvited delegation from the London Film School carrying a large banner declaring: 'Fight for a General Strike to get the Tories out'.

About 10,000 MANCHESTER students marched in a two-mile long demonstration through the city centre. Police described it as the 'largest-ever student demonstration'.

In BIRMINGHAM, 5,000 students marched to Calthorpe Park for a rally addressed by ASTMS general secretary, Clive Jenkins.

NEWCASTLE students chanting 'Tories out' and 'Sack Thatcher' stopped traffic in the city centre for two hours in a big march and rally. Local MPs said they should 'pressure' the government to change its mind by writing protest letters.

Students from GLASGOW were joined by workers from the Upper Clyde Shipbuilders and Plessey's factory at Alexandria in a demonstration down Sauchiehall Street.

In EDINBURGH and ABERDEEN the majority of students boycotted lectures.

At DUNDEE University, over 100 students held an all-night sit-in at the university tower block.

In COLCHESTER and COVENTRY students marched and demonstrated through the city centre.

Over 800 of YORK's 3,500

students marched calling for the sacking of Tory Education Minister, Mrs Thatcher.

Students at SWANSEA and BATH occupied university buildings.

A boycott of lectures and classes in N IRELAND was almost total—except for Queen's University, Belfast.

In spite of this massive turn-out, however, the NUS leadership confined the students merely to protest action.

Demands for the removal of the Tories and Mrs Thatcher did not come from the leadership but from the mass of the student body.

Scorn

Students, at the London Imperial College meeting who pointed out to Jacks that nothing could be gained by negotiating with the Tories were treated with scorn.

The working class and students were not 'conscious' enough was his reply.

Thus the way has been prepared for the inevitable retreat before the Tory proposals because the policy that somehow the Tories can be forced to change their minds is that from which Jacks and the NUS leadership are starting.

REVISIONIST PROTEST

REVISIONISTS in the National Union of Students have decided to fight the method of protest action with 'more militant' protest action.

Early in December they founded the 'Liaison Committee for the Defence of Student Unions', presumably named after the Stalinist-dominated trade union defence committee.

A spokesman for the committee said that its aim would be to 'work hard to push the NUS to the left to take a more militant stand on the consultative document'.

And what will the 'more

militant' stand consist of? Why a campaign of student strikes-demonstrations and occupations to continue after January 23!

This programme, they say, will have a chance of persuading the Tories to drop their proposals.

And that is precisely what Digby Jacks says!

The only difference is that he believes that his personal contact with the Department of Education and Science through the Parliamentary Under Secretary for Education, Mr William van Straubenzee will also help a lot.

The Young Socialists Students Societies have consistently pointed out that only a fight to win the majority of students to a campaign to prepare for the defeat of the Tories can defend the autonomy of student unions.

YS STUDENT SOCIETIES LAUNCH 'RIGHT TO WORK' CAMPAIGN

YOUNG SOCIALISTS Student Societies in London have planned a big campaign in all the London colleges during the coming term.

Central to the theme of the campaign will be the Young Socialists' 'Right to Work' marches and the fight against the Tory government in terms of

students' rights and organizations.

The campaign will kick-off with one of the earliest public showings of the film 'Young Socialists, 1972', with a meeting on the 'Right to Work' campaign, addressed by leaders of the campaign's national committee.

This will be followed by a series of meetings in all the

London colleges on N Ireland, Bangla Desh, student autonomy, grants and all major issues facing students.

Fund raising activities for the 'Right to Work' marches will be launched in all the colleges and students will be asked to contribute in whatever way they can.

JOIN THE YOUNG SOCIALISTS STUDENT SOCIETIES

Please contact the YSSS by completing this form

Name.....

Address

Keep Left AGM

Full discussion on 'Right to Work'

DISCUSSION at the Annual General Meeting centred on the Right to Work campaign with many contributions from young and older workers facing the menace of the dole.

Opening speaker **CHRISTINE SMITH**, Kirkby, said unemployment was being deliberately created by the Tories. 'The working class answer is the occupation of factories,' she said, referring to the Fisher-Bendix sit-in at Kirkby. 'The working class is past the stage of just ordinary wage struggles: it is now a fight against the Tory government.'

DONAL O'SULLIVAN, from the editorial board of the Irish YS paper 'Youth Bulletin', said Irish unemployment was twice as high as in Britain. 'Ten per cent are unemployed in the North and 8 per cent in the South.'

'The Labour and trade union leaders are absolutely scared stiff. That is why we are sending two contingents to the Right to Work marches—from Glasgow and Liverpool.'

'Youth Bulletin' is to become a fortnightly from February 1—a big step forward for the Irish Young Socialists.'

RAY JACKSON, an unemployed worker who plans to march from Leeds to London, said: 'We're not going down to



Donal O'Sullivan

— Keep Left and "Workers Press".

He was followed by **ALAN WASSALL**, an apprentice miner from Glasshoughton Colliery, Yorkshire. 'For 20 years,' he said, 'miners have seen successive Tory and Labour governments undermine their jobs.'

'Since the early 1950s we have come down from one of the best paid to one of the lowest paid workers, with married men taking home sometimes as low as £12 and £13 in their wage packets.'

'We need the support of all other sections of workers. We need to turn this strike into a General Strike to bring about the downfall of the Tory government.'



Alan Wassall



Ray Jackson

CLIVE NORRIS (Swindon) national secretary of the Campaign, told the meeting the Tories were determined to disarm, defeat and smash the working class.

'The very survival of the capitalist class depends on what the Tories do to carry this out,' he said.

'The Right to Work campaign is the biggest the Young Socialists have ever mounted. It is a fight for the leadership of the working class in which the YS put themselves forward as an alternative to the traitors at the top of the labour movement.'

STEVE MARTIN, unemployed five months, from Nottingham, said the march was 'not just against unemployment, not just against the Tories, but for the unification of the working class in a common battle against the government.'

North London housewife **MRS MARY HEITMAN**, mother of five, told the meeting: 'Now is the time. United throughout the whole country we can bring down the Tory government. If they have their way we'll all be thrown on the scrapheap. They'll just trample us. I'm all for a fight.'

Actor **MALCOLM TIERNEY** said: 'Capitalism wants to condemn the working class to slave labour, fascism and World War III. More and more actors, themselves hit by unemployment, are extending their support for the Right to Work campaign.'

East London Young Socialist **FRANK SWEENEY** told the meeting that the job of the Young Socialists in the 'Right to Work' campaign was to mobilize the youth who want to fight.

'We must prepare the 'Right to Work' committees and the youth in them to lead the movement,' he said.



William Aitken



Steve Martin

This has been condemned by the 'congenial sectarians and abstentionists' of revisionism, including the Organisation Communiste Internationaliste in France, comrade Banda said.

These people were substituting for Marxism their own empirical improvisation, just as they had done in May-June 1968 in France.

Emphasizing the weakness of British capitalism faced with a powerful working class, he said: 'The employers had better not crow about 1926. Then British imperialism still had some fat and muscle.'

'Now this fraudulent Tory government would not last ten minutes without the treachery of the Labour and trade union leaders.'

Pledging the League's backing for the development of Keep Left as a weekly paper and the launching of the revolutionary party, comrade Banda concluded: 'We will transform this movement into a tidal wave of opposition to the Tory government which will sweep it off the face of the planet.'



Mike Banda

FRATERNAL GREETINGS FROM SLL

BRINGING fraternal greetings to Keep Left from the central committee of the Socialist Labour League, 'Workers Press' editor Mike Banda spoke of the crisis convulsing the capitalist world.

'The bell that Nixon tolled on August 15 tolled for every capitalist leader throughout the world,' he said.

'The partial devaluation of the dollar and the "dirty floating" carried on since by the main capitalist countries is only the beginning of the greatest trade war the world has ever seen.'

'The first casualties in this war will be the working class. It is on the working class that the employers are trying to dump the burden of their crisis.'

The crisis was particularly affecting the colonial world, comrade Banda said.

'The victories of the liberation movement in Laos, Cambodia and S Vietnam are immensely important. Even more so is the victory of the people of Bangla Desh.'

'Our movement was the only movement which not only supported the struggle of the Bengali people, but gave critical support to the invasion of "E Pakistan" by the Indian army and the Mukti Bahini.'

New Editor

for Keep Left



Gary Gurmeet

KEEP LEFT'S new editor Gary Gurmeet has been a staff reporter for 'Workers Press' since July 1970. He is a member of the Central London Branch of the National Union of Journalists.

He has written and reported extensively for 'Workers Press', concentrating particularly on matters affecting young workers and African politics.

Gary was born in Nairobi, Kenya, 20 years ago and came to Britain in 1968. He worked as an apprentice engineer at Westland Aviation in W London and joined the Young Socialists at the time of the May-June General Strike in France.

An active member of his local branch of the Young Socialists, he is well known to members in London, as a leader in the Middlesex area.

Editorial Board

- Sylvester Smart
- Maureen Bambrick
- Sarah Hannigan
- John Simmance
- Cissy Lodge
- Simon Pirani
- Steve Mckinnon
- Bill Poulton
- Frank Sweeney



Geraldine Bishop

WINNER of the AGM speakers' contest, Geraldine Bishop, from the East Midlands region, said:

'I have been on the dole for two weeks and that's long enough. Being on the dole means you are regarded as layabouts and dossers.'

'My friend worked in a hosiery factory—she left after three weeks. Her wages were £3 the first week, £2 the second and £1.50 the third.'

'Edward Heath and his Tory government are taking money from working people. I support the 'Right to Work' campaign and I will not be a slave to the Tory government.'



Christine Smith

the Tory government to beg for jobs. We're going down there with one simple message—just get out, that's all.'

Another prospective marcher, **WILLIAM AITKEN** of Birmingham, said his home town had once been a boom area, but now there were 25,000 unemployed.'

Birmingham University student **EIRWEN REES**, spoke of the threat to student rights from the Tory government. 'Students must join with the rest of the labour movement to force the Tories to resign.'

TONY CALLAGHAN, of Shipley YS, said young workers today had incomparable advantages over their fathers in the fight against the Tory government: 'Above all, we have the Young Socialists and the finest thing in journalism in the country



Clive Norris

AGM

SOME SCENES from Keep Left's biggest Annual General Meeting.

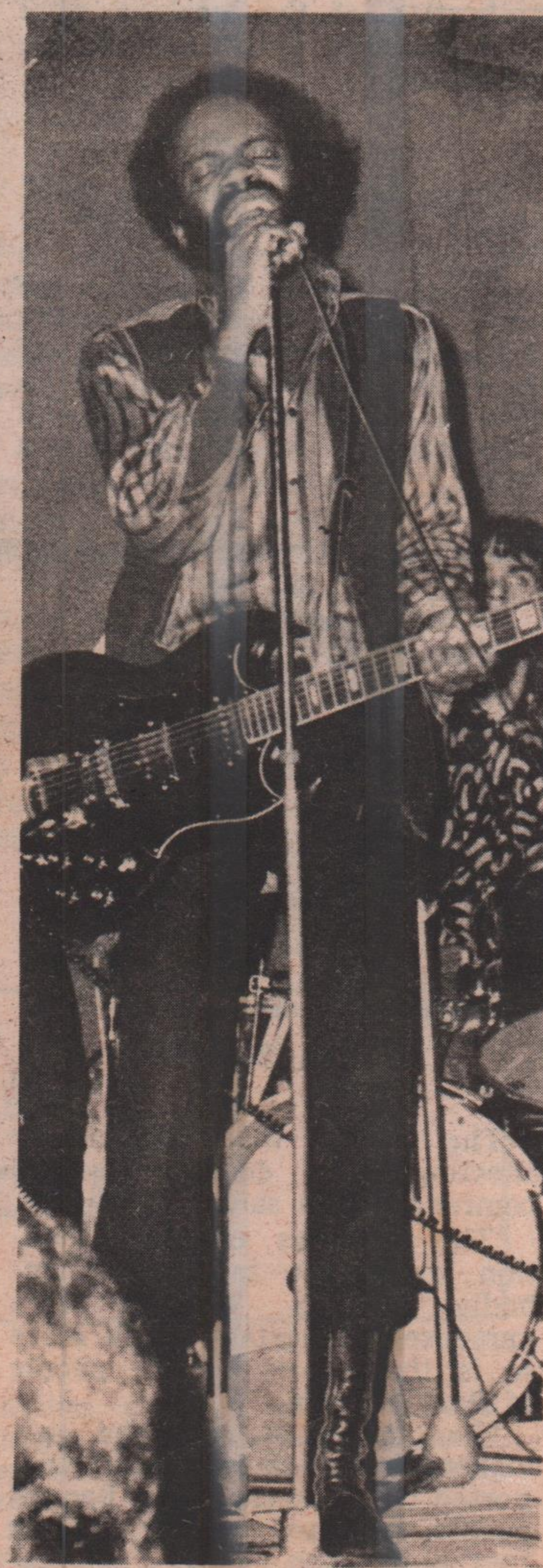
After an afternoon of serious discussion on the 'Right-to-Work' campaign and expansion of the paper, the meeting featured a packed entertainment programme in the evening.

It included music from the Pete Banks sound system, 'Third World War' and a special appearance by soul-singer Ram John Holder.

Bottom right: Smiles as Aileen Jennings retires from Keep Left's editorship after eight years and Gary Gurmeet (seated, left) takes over.



A section of the AGM audience. Left: 'Third World War'.



Ram John Holder

