

KEEP LEFT

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OF THE YOUNG SOCIALISTS

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MAKE EMPIRE POOL PAGEANT

The biggest ever

anti-Tory rally!

IN three regions of Britain the Pageant of Workers Rights is well under way ready for the climax at Empire Pool Wembley on Sunday March 11.

In Jarrow on Tyneside, in Middleton, North Manchester, in Dowlais, South Wales the history of the working class is being brought to life—mainly by young workers.

From Jarrow, the town that sent out the famous hunger march in the 1930s depression the struggle to build the early miners' union is being re-created.

The action centres on the execution of Will Jobling, a miners' leader who was hung and gibbeted on the Tyne estuary after being found guilty of a crime he never committed.

In South Wales the Taff Vale drama is being rehearsed. This was the famous court judgement of 1901 which made it impossible for unions to fight without facing heavy fines.

In Manchester the Peterloo Massacre and Chartism are being revived.

St Peter's Field, Manchester was the scene of one of the first massacres of the working class—men, women and children—by the military. Many more have followed, the latest being Bloody Sunday last year in Derry.

These three episodes will be brought together at the Empire Pool, Wembley and put on before 10,000 workers.

But the Pageant is not a play or acting as the people taking part in the three areas have found out.

The history of workers is being revived to show the way forward today.

In 200 years of struggle workers have suffered and given their lives to gain rights—the right to strike, the right to work, the right to a decent standard of living.

Now the Tories under Heath want to take all these rights away.

The Chartists needed a mass movement to gain even minimum

concessions from a Parliament controlled by employers and landowners.

The working class needs to take the lot to make sure their rights are defended today. This is the lesson of the Pageant and why its other title is 'The Road to Workers Power'.

In Middleton, a mill town eight miles from Manchester three young workers told Keep Left why they had joined in this battle.

'This is a good movement,' Charles Young, 20, said. 'At first I was not interested but when I talked with the organizers about my rights I decided to join.'

'It does not take a genius to see that the Tories want to take rights off the working class—there's no future for me under this set up—I've been on the dole since the last factory I worked for shut down. That was months and months ago,' he said.

'But you have to fight and get off your knees if you want to do something about it.'

'The Tories are the main enemy in this Pageant. I get £6 a week and I have my board to pay from that—I can't do anything on that money. One of the big things about Peterloo is that it showed just how the Tories were.'

'If they did it then, killing the workers, they will do it again. This is one of the big messages of the Pageant.'

'The main difficulty is going to be convincing the working class as to what the attacks of Heath mean. To do this you have to read history and what men like Marx wrote about workers' struggles.'

'There are a lot of children coming out of school as well who don't know anything about the history we show in the Pageant. We have to get hold of them and show them as well.'

'Most workers don't think it will happen again—things like Peterloo. But I think it will happen again, in fact its happening right now in Ireland.'

The other day the army were recruiting in the local centre. A lot of boys go in because they



● A scene from rehearsals for the Pageant being held in Middleton.

'The history of workers is being revived to show the way forward ... in 200 years of struggle workers have suffered and given their lives to gain rights ... now the Tories want to take them away.'

have no jobs. Some were standing around listening to a soldier. I told them they must be stupid to listen to him. He told me to clear off, he hated me.'

Charles said the main lesson of Chartism was the need for a true leadership.

He is one ordinary lad who

has joined the fight against the Tories. He has decided now to have done with the dole, low pay and exploitation. More important he is helping to get rid of the Tories by building a revolutionary movement.

All youth must join this fight. They have two choices — be

smashed or fight. Jobling, Peterloo, Chartism and Taff Vale prove workers prefer to fight than be slaves. Join in the Pageant now, buy your ticket for the Wembley Pool and tell all your friends! Fill in the form on page three and send it to the Pageant Office in London.

TORIES PREPARE WAGE LAW INSTRUMENT

IN less than six weeks' time the Tory government will have added another instrument of anti-union repression to its armoury.

On April 1, Phase Two of the government's plan for state control of wages becomes law. Together with the law will be established a Pay Board to implement the wage controls.

The Pay Board, like the National Industrial Relations Court set up under the Industrial Relations Act, will be a decision-making body. It will operate Phase Two which puts millions of workers fighting for higher wages into the criminal category.

The Pay Board, in short, will be an instrument of the Tory government in its fight against standards of living. It will become a powerful 'club' which the government will use against workers like gasmen, car workers, teachers, civil servants and hospital workers.

These are the brief 'terms of reference' of this body which the Tories are now trying hard to 'sell' to the trade union leaders. And this is where the biggest danger for the working class lies.

The TUC has advised that trade unionists should not serve on the Pay Board. But it has not yet ruled out the possibility of trade union leaders taking their claims to the Board.

If the Tories manage to win the support of trade union leaders behind the new body, then the Pay Board will become a central part of a corporatist dictatorship. Official leaders of the working class will be hiding behind the Pay Board while their members are legally strangled by rising prices, anti-union laws and direct wage controls.

Trade union bureaucrats are already preparing for this step. They have, over the past few weeks, ignored calls for all-out action in support of the gasmen and hospital workers. On Monday March 5, the TUC will hold a special congress, where union leaders will undoubtedly seek to carry this policy through.

Their aim is to divert and divide the working class. The one thing they all fear is united action by the working class to bring down the Tory government. The TUC at Central Halls, London, will be one of the decisive meetings.

The All Trades Unions Alliance has called for a lobby of the meeting on March 5. We urge every single reader of Keep Left to support this lobby and demand that trade union leaders get off their knees and start fighting.

The lobby will demand that the TUC mobilize the working class in a General Strike to make the Tories resign and elect a Labour government pledged to socialist policies.



Low-paid hospital workers are furious

Interview by Cissie Lodge

HOSPITAL workers will start selective strike action on March 1 to press their claim for higher wages.

Earnings of hospital ancillary workers such as porters, switch-board operators, laundry and kitchen workers are £16 take-home pay.

Mark Palmer, who is in his early twenties, and secretary of the St George's Hospital National Union of Public Employees branch explained how hospital workers were now prepared to fight. He is a switch-board operator.

My take-home wage for a 40-hour week is £17. Women get £2 less. Many sections are even lower paid.

Yard men, who slog around corridors, stoking hot incinerators, and carrying rubbish, get £14-£15 take home pay. Until the union took it up, they had no protective clothing, not even gloves. That was handling rubbish in paper bags, including needles from syringes and scalpels.

The domestic supervisors have a deliberate policy of recruiting foreign workers. They travel to Spain especially to do this. When Enoch Powell was Minister of Health, he recruited West Indian labour.

But we have organized most people into the union. The

Spanish and Portuguese workers were frightened to join because they are tied to the hospital by their work permit. If they lost their job, they lose their work permit and have to leave the country.

But we got a translator to explain to the Spanish girls what it was about. When they understood, the foreign workers were most active in supporting the unofficial action.

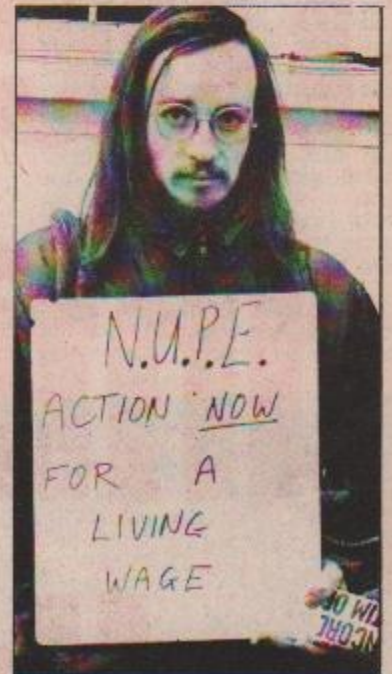
We should be pushing for a General Strike, knowing that we may not get it. We should demand that the TUC call a General Strike, although they will try and stop it. The pay situation is horrific and the standard of living is bad.

This Tory pay board is an attempt to fob workers off. It will make "fair" judgements which are going to be fair in the same way that the wage freeze is fair.

The NUPE leadership sees itself as a separate section, like the whole of the trade union leadership. They mediate between the two classes instead of being representatives for the working class against the ruling class.

They will try to keep up this fight to have selective strikes for selective grades in selective hospitals.

We had a special conference last Saturday for NUPE stewards and branch secretaries. It was a very angry conference. People



● Mark Palmer.

were asking why the leadership was bothering with a ballot when they had ignored the result of the vote.

The whole ballot was playing for time to carry us into Phase Two, in the hope that we would be made a special case, which didn't work out. They are excusing Tory policies instead of fighting them, to avoid the confrontation which is essential.

This special case policy got no response at all. People were much more interested in joining with the teachers and the gasmen. Members aren't that stupid. They know they can only win by joining with other sections of workers.

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THANK you very much for last week's great total of £35.25. Keep it up.

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NEWSBRIEF

A GREEK doctor who went on trial in Athens last Monday immediately objected to a prosecution witness, who, he said, had tortured him during police interrogation.

Dr Stefanos Pantelakis (53), who is accused of planting home-made bombs in protest against the military regime, told the court:

'This man put electric wires on my genitals and tortured me, so I want him to be exempted as a witness.'

But the military tribunal rejected his objection against the prosecution witness, Constantinos Klonaris, a major in the gendarmerie.

The doctor's co-defendant, Anastassios Minis, a retired Wing Commander, also said he had been brutally beaten by soldiers during interrogation.

SPANISH students and riot police clashed violently last Tuesday during three illegal demonstrations in Barcelona. Over 1,500 youth were protesting against a police jeep running down and seriously injuring a young girl.

During one of the clashes a young law student sustained a fractured skull and two others were taken to hospital

NEWSBRIEF

after they had been clubbed by riot police.

IN Italy last week fierce clashes between left- and right-wing students raged in Rome when neo-Fascists tried to stop left-wing students distributing leaflets.

One student was taken to hospital with skull fractures and scores more were seriously injured. Shots were heard but no one seemed to be injured by them.

Teachers in Milan and North Italy staged a one-day strike last Tuesday in support of higher wages. Public transport workers fighting for a new contract also staged a regional walk-out. In Rome and Milan street cars, buses and subways were halted for four hours.

On the same day about 1.3 million metalworkers were on strike.

BOTH Paris airports came to a standstill last Tuesday and all France's major airports were seriously disrupted as air traffic controllers throughout the country went on strike in support of their demand for freedom to strike and for higher wages.

Since 1964 the air control-

NEWSBRIEF

lers have been limited by law to working-to-rule as their only weapon of industrial action.

A spokesman for the CFTC trade union federation, to which about 1,000 of France's 1,500 controllers belong said, 'We do not want to be second class citizens but to benefit from the right to strike as are all other categories in society.'

GREEK students who oppose the colonels' dictatorship can now be forcibly drafted into the army under a new decree issued last week.

The new law is designed to intimidate students involved in recent strikes and demonstrations against the regime.

At Athens Polytechnic students have been boycotting their classes for almost three weeks in support of their demand for the repeal of repressive legislation.

They are also calling for the withdrawal of police agents from the campuses.

Under the new decree any student who steps out of line can have his military deferment withdrawn immediately by the Ministry of Defence. This action can be taken if a student even misses classes.

Empire Pool campaign: Young Socialists move into action



● REHEARSALS for the Pageant of History have started in four parts of the country—north west, north east, South Wales and London. Pictures show some scenes from the rehearsals. Teams are also recruiting for other workers to take part (right). The pageant will find its climax at Empire Pool, Wembley, on Sunday March 11 (See story page one.)

Union support for Willesden youth



YOUNG workers from Grunwick Laboratories, fighting for their right to work, were supported last week by local trade unionists and other factory workers.

The youth held a meeting at the gates of Grunwick, where they have been picketing for the last six weeks.

They were joined by trade unionists from nearby Park Ward Rolls-Royce plant and local workers on London Transport. The youth have

been outside the factory gates ever since they were sacked.

They allege that the management at Grunwick Laboratories took the action after some attempts to form a trade union.

Shop steward Tom Docherty said last week: 'They don't recognize the union, they never have. The management does not even recognize the fact that we are here outside the gates.'

A total of 25 young workers were sacked by the

company during their efforts to form a branch of the Transport and General Workers' Union.

About 15 have now found alternative employment out of hardship. The rest still remain outside the gates. They are determined to fight for union recognition and their jobs.

Tom Docherty claimed last week that other unions in the area had given them support and 'blacked' goods going into the Grunwick premises.

BOOK YOUR TICKET FOR EMPIRE POOL NOW

DEFEND ALL DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS
 Defend trade unionism and basic living standards
 Unite in action to make this Tory government resign
 The road to power is through the building of the revolutionary party

SUNDAY MARCH 11th 3pm
PAGEANT • RALLY • CONCERT

I would like to take part in the Pageant/come to Empire Pool. Please send me further details.

NAME

ADDRESS

No. of tickets required Amount enclosed (£1 each £.....)

Complete form and return to:
 Pageant Office, 34 Hamilton Gardens, London, NW8

New YS federation in Glasgow

GLASGOW Young Socialists have established a new YS federation in Renfrew. A special committee meeting last week, attended by 11 delegates, decided to organize a big programme of meetings and social activities.

The new federation will be made up of YS branches in Renfrew, Greenock, Paisley and Linwood.

New branches in the federation are also planned by the committee. The federation committee is to campaign for a large attendance from the area for the Pageant of History at Empire Pool, Wembley on Sunday March 11.

One of the main events planned for the campaign is a rally—including football and discotheque—on Sunday March 4.

Students support Wembley rally

STUDENTS at South East London College for Further Education in Lewisham have decided to send a 40-strong delegation to the Pageant of History at Empire Pool, Wembley on Sunday March 11.

Student union representatives last week bought the tickets after a unanimous decision.

Have you joined the Young Socialists yet?

WRITE OFF TODAY!

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

NAME

ADDRESS

'At 6.35 p.m. on July 24 near milepost 104 on the Kursk line an aerocoach left the rails. Travelling in it were Comintern delegates and some other passengers who had left Moscow to make visits to factories and plants in the Moscow area. Six of the 22 passengers in the coach were killed: the chairman of the Central Committee of the Union of Mineworkers, Comrade Artem (Sergeev); Otto Strupat from Germany; Helbrich also from Germany; Hewlett from England; Ivan Constantinov from Bulgaria and Comrade Abakovsky. Six were seriously injured among whom Comrade Freeman Paul from Australia died during the night of July 28.'

Pravda

'COMRADE ARTEM' is a nickname. His real name was Fedor Andreevich Sergeev and later when he was in jail he was known as 'Fedor Loud-Voiced' on account of his strong and powerful voice.

He was born in the village of Glebov in, Fatezh county, Kursk province on March 7, 1883, the son of a rich peasant who soon after migrated to the Ukraine as a contractor for construction works in the industrially blossoming south of that time.

Here in Ekaterinoslav (Dnepropetrovsk) Artem first went to a private preparatory school and then to Ekaterinoslav Modern School which he successfully finished in 1900.

In the autumn of the same year he went to Moscow to enter the Higher Technical School where he joined the Social-Democratic organization and in his first year was arrested for taking part in a demonstration as a result of which he was sent to Voronezh jail where he served some four months.

And it was at this point that Comrade Artem's education in Russia ended, for after his release from prison in 1901 Artem went to Paris and started at Professor Kovalevsky's school there. He lived and continued to study there until 1903 when he returned to Russia to devote himself wholly to party work.

Moving

In 1904 he worked in Ekaterinoslav province moving from factory to factory as a worker, or being employed on the railways as a fireman while at the same time undertaking party work in the area.

1905 found Comrade Artem in Kharkov where he had been switched by the party as an active worker. Here the wings of this young eagle of the party were to spread themselves fully and in a short time he became the leader of the organization of such a major working class area as

Kharkov along with its dependent factories in the outskirts.

One of his characteristic qualities was that he could completely elude the police and gendarmes who regarded him as literally weaving a 'cap of darkness'.

He paid special attention to the Ivanovsk district which included the cable factory and the Heflicher-Sade works at whose gates he was to lead an armed rising. It was here that when everything had been lost and almost all the leaders had been re-arrested Artem slipped out of the hands of the police, found his way to Saburov's country house from where he managed to flee clad in a dressing-gown like an invalid. On another occasion he was again caught at Saburov's house and this time there seemed to be no escape for there was a guard on all the entrances and exits.

But Artem found one: he got into a coffin, had the lid nailed down and was carried out past the guard like a corpse. He had got away again.

Finally in 1906 he was caught and put in Kharkov jail from where Artem soon escaped and received a new assignment from the Central Committee—to take up work in Perm in the Urals.

Here in Perm, Artem fell sick and then was arrested and put in prison from where he was sent into exile. Artem fled from exile, roamed for a long time through the Siberian taiga until he fell ill again.

When he appeared in the nearest settlement he was arrested and sentenced to hard labour.

In 1910 Artem escaped again and made his way to Korea from where together with three comrades he headed for Japan and finally in 1911 to Australia where he was to remain until 1917 working as a docker, and as a labourer in the slaughterhouses and on the sheep stations.

In Australia Comrade Artem began to carry out agitation against the war of 1914 winning the sympathies of Australian workers and exerting heavy pressure upon the trade union conciliators and with a great effort he managed to bring about a certain shift within the trade union movement there.

Return

He did in fact generate an atmosphere of anti-militarism around himself in Australia. The February revolution of 1917 however afforded Comrade Artem the opportunity to return home to Russia.

He was to arrive in Kharkov in June 1917 and from that moment the work of the Kharkov organization began to develop. At first Comrade Artem concentrated his main activity in the Kharkov plants, the Osnovyansk workshops, in Novaya Bavariya and in the plants at Budy.

In July following the celebrated July days he began to expand his work yet further to take in still wider areas like Lebedin and the workshops at Izyum where the SRs predominated, as well as working in that stronghold of Bolshevism, the railway wagon and locomotive shops of Kharkov itself and also at the

Heflicher-Sade works where he was still remembered from 1905.

During the August and September days Comrade Artem moved the focal point of his activity to the region of the Donets Basin which gradually started to spread out from Kharkov as its base to embrace the Donbass. He was to establish links with Lugansk and Kadievka, Yuzovka (Donetsk) and Nikitovka, Shcherbinovka (Dzerzhinsk) and Rovenki, where he had good contacts, old friends and firm comrades. By linking together the Donets Basin by thousands of threads he forced all and everything to be drawn towards him in Kharkov.

In the September and October days Comrade Artem turned to the Kharkov Soviet which was saturated with Menshevism and occupied himself in earnest with the preparation of the first detachments of Red Guards, waging a struggle against on the one hand the Chuguev junkers and on the other the White officer shock-force which was heading through Belgorod and Kupyansk to join up with Kaledin on the Don.

He brought large cadres of skilled workers out from Kharkov for the battle with Kaledin and adopted rigorous measures for arming the whole of the Donbass.

Wagons

It was upon his initiative that an expeditionary force was despatched to Tula from where some 56,000 rifles, 500 revolvers and two railway wagons of machine-guns were obtained and distributed through the regional committee to all corners of the Donbass.

In the middle of October Comrade Artem was summoned to the party's Central Committee in Petrograd where he was to remain during the historic moment of the insurrection.

In December 1917 he returned to Kharkov to begin at once to struggle on three fronts: the first was against the Central Rada and the already semi-moribund Kharkov Menshevism; the second was against Kaledin.

Comrade Artem hastened to set up a Committee for the Formation of a Red Army in the Donbass which would recruit mineworkers to the battle against the White Don.

The third front was that of his struggle against those of our comrades who orientated themselves more towards Kiev than the Donbass.

At this point our comrades in the Ukraine began to divide into two groups: the Left Bank and the Right Bank. Artem became the leader of the Left Bank group which stressed the necessity of turning the Donbass into the fortress of the Ukraine.

Comrade



F. E. SERGEEV (1883-1923) leader in his own right and if vich smacks a little of hero w on the basis of a newly-emer namely the school of the 'Tsar

This was the nucleus o nurtured and raised in the v named Stalingrad), the centre ing the civil war. This clique bourgeois tendency amongst military cadres.

It found substance from Ukraine, which was then a re lural region with a long sup and concentrations of industr bass areas, worked however b

Artem, himself a great R different calibre to his biogr abilities much higher than the nessed by the notorious incid the Bolshevik regime was end of Rukhimovich and Vorosh Stalin.

Along with Trotsky in M with the representative of the a milestone in the unification of the USSR.

Artem joined the RSDRP Revolution he was head of the Rog Soviet Republic; membe Committee and government a tionary War Council of the Uk November 1918. He was an in Litovsk controversy and sup union dispute of 1921. Elected at the sixth, seventh, ninth an



● Left: Group of partisan fighters in Ukraine. Right: Map of Southern Ukraine showing the positions of Ovsenko and (right) Trotsky as Co

It favoured shifting its centre of gravity there to form a Ukrainian Petrograd as a bulwark from which to prosecute the struggle against the enemies of the working class.

When subsequently this point of view was defeated he advocated as a counterweight to the Central Executive Committee of the Ukraine which had been organized in Kiev a new Krivoi Rog-Donets Republic of which he became the head.

And how great was the energy that Comrade Artem exerted in the battle against German imperialism which then arrived in our Ukraine! Comrade Artem would literally indefatigably spend entire nights on end in the Kharkov Central Special Staff where questions of the correct deployment of our garrison, the formation of new Red Guard detachments and of involving fresh cadres of factory workers in the struggle were decided.

HEROES OF THE RUSSIAN REVOLUTION 7

In this new series of articles Keep Left will publish profiles of the leading members of the Bolshevik Party who carried out the revolution in Russia in October, 1917. Some of them are well known, others less so. Many of them were framed by Stalin in the purges of the 1930s and liquidated on his orders. Some of the articles are translations from the writings of Leon Trotsky who, as the most prominent figure in the Bolshevik Party next to Lenin, worked with them politically and knew them personally. Others will be newly written for the series. The Bolsheviks built a party of a new type, the only kind which could lead a successful revolution, so their stories contain many lessons for today. As the articles show, they carried on their work under enormous difficulties, under the shadow of a relentless police oppression of the Tsarist autocracy. They knew the inside of the Tsar's prisons, spent years in deportation in desolate parts of Russia or were driven into exile. All the time they deepened their knowledge of Marxism and perfected their methods, ready for the decisive struggles of 1917.

Artem

borating on the Press, working in the city and regional committees and leading the Soviet faction.

One of the toughest months in the revolutionary era of the Donbass was April 1918 when under the onslaught of the German bayonets we had to retreat beyond the bounds of the Ukraine and to abandon the Donbass.

Seeing how circumstances were changing Comrade Artem hastened to Liman station despatching onwards all railway material and rolling stock of value, ordered the immediate evacuation of the Lugansk cartridge factory with all its reserve stocks and called together all leading activists to Debatsevo to discuss the question of the subsequent tactics and retreat.

Here the fate of the Donbass was to be decided. There were some hotheads to be found among our comrades who proposed to flood the mines, destroy all the installations and leave no stone upon stone for the benefit of our enemies. Comrade Artem hotly protested against these proposals declaring:

Formless

'We'll be coming back again and all this will be of use to us. Don't dare destroy the coal empire.'

Everyone submitted to Comrade Artem's wish. The Donbass was left intact.

After the departure from the Donbass, Comrade Artem rushed on to Likhaya station where all the retreating units of Antonov-Ovseenko's former detachment had come together. Out of these formless masses and undisciplined, partisan, disorderly, scattered units he wanted to create strong revolutionary regiments and this he succeeded in doing.

Comrade Artem was to become the favourite of the whole retreating group and his bravery and courage riveted the attention of his comrades.

He in person boarded an armoured train, swept across to the enemy side and forced a way into their ranks.

And then only with the greatest difficulty did he fight his way back to his men having visibly demonstrated how revolutionaries should fight for their just cause.

Having then gained prestige in the eyes of the Red Guard ranks he began to 'dress down' his men and demanded the enforcement of iron discipline within our ranks. He demanded that the severest penalties be inflicted upon those who did not submit to discipline and introduced disorganization into our ranks.

He insisted on the creation of a regular army as early as May-June 1918, that is at a time when the isolated units on the Likhaya sector had as yet no briefing from the

centre on this question.

Comrade Artem organized combat militias out of non-combatant elements in the army for safeguarding the rear and restoring the wrecked railway along the line of retreat. Then he broke through the enemy front and rapidly established contact with Tsaritsyn (Volgograd) so as to co-ordinate operations.

But Artem did not forget our operational units. With his rifle in his hands and his kit bag on his back he was frequently to be found in the front ranks of the advancing or retreating lines.

Handle

Yet during a respite following action you would often see a large crowd of Red Guards surrounding Comrade Artem to whom he would be enthusiastically relating how Australians fight, how the dockers there handle their loads or what harm warm clothing does to a healthy man. Unusually straightforward, unpretentious, resourceful and sincere he became everyone's favourite. When near Morozovsk station Comrade Artem was retreating under a veritable hail of bullets and shells, a cossack horse took fright, reared up and upset its cart laden with sheafs of hay. Without a second thought Artem halted and rushed over to help the cossack set his cart right. In this act you could see all of Artem: his fearlessness, his sensitivity and his simple nature.

Following Tsaritsyn, Comrade Artem moved to the

Caucasus to organize the transport of petroleum to Russia by laying the necessary railway spurs at Kizlyar. He had also quickly to restore order among units falling back from the Caucasus. Then he was appointed to take up work in the Ukrainian government and with the liberation of the Ukraine in January 1919 he assumed the post of People's Commissar for Agitation and Propaganda.

With the advance of Denikin's forces in May 1919 he asked to be posted to one of the combat sectors. This request was granted and he found himself on the Chuguev line of advance as commissar of the sector, where, together with Comrade Berenkovich's unit, he beat off the enemy, only retreating step by step and surrendering positions with a fight.

At the direction of Comrade Trotsky, Artem was appointed Commissar for Recruitment and Training for all the units on the Sumy line of advance. It was here at Glukhov while working with the reserve units that he contracted typhoid for which he was sent back to Moscow. On recovery, Comrade Artem was directed by the Central Committee to work in the Bashkir Republic.

When the Ukraine and the Donets Basin had been liberated from Denikin and the Whites Artem rushed back to his territory and became chairman of the provincial executive committee in the Donbass. However, a sudden summons to go abroad on the business of the International Council of Trade Unions tore

Artem away from the Donbass. Away he went and in his broken English and German began to spread the ideas of Bolshevism to foreign workers.

Returning from abroad he took the leading position in the Central Committee of the All-Russian Union of Mineworkers and though chairman of that body he apportioned the lion's share of his time to his Donbass. In 1921 he travelled to the Donbass to hold the provincial congress of mineworkers. Meanwhile he toured the mining areas and everywhere talked with workers and technicians, going down the pits, inspecting installations, studying every aspect of the Donbass in order to understand its needs and to diagnose its complaints so as to be able gradually to undertake its final cure.

Mining

At the 3rd Congress of the Comintern Comrade Artem gathered together a group of active workers familiar with mining matters and hastened to show them our mining industry and its condition. We also wanted to demonstrate to them an invention of a Russian worker, a railcar with a motor driven propeller which could develop a speed of up to 150 miles per hour. He wanted to take them for a ride in this railcar and to fly at the speed of lightning through our ruined and backward country. He was not one to flinch before any danger for he had seen it millions of times along his path and was not frightened by it.

But this time the railcar left the rails and took away with it its inventor, some foreign comrades from the Comintern and with them our beloved Donbass leader, our dear friend. No longer is "Fedor Loud-Voiced" in our ranks, no longer in our ranks is that first-rate agitator, one of the very best men amongst us!

Kommunist (Kharkov)
M. Rukhimovich
7th November 1921.

was a Bolshevik and a this account by Rukhimovich it can be explained gingschool of hagiography, tsyn clique'.

f the Stalin bureaucracy icinity of Tsaritsyn (later of the southern front dur- was essentially a petty- the party's political and

ts native environment, the atively prosperous agricul- pressed national tradition. y in the Donets and Don y great Russian immigrants.

ussian, was however of a phers. Trotsky rated his use of the 'clique' as wit- ent of January 1919 when angered by the indiscipline ilov, secretly backed by

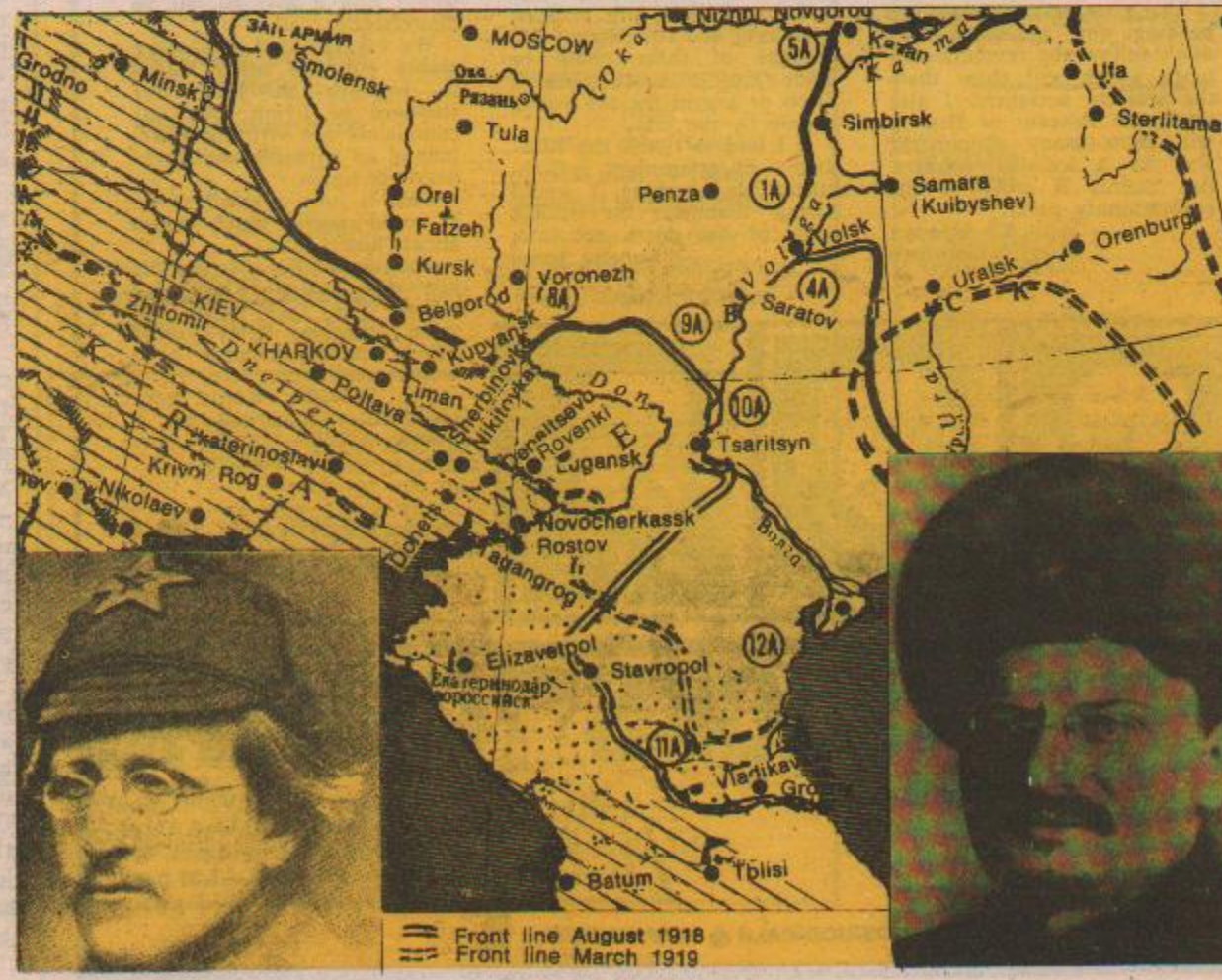
arch 1920, he negotiated new-born Bashkir republic, of the diverse nationalities

in 1901. After the October e short-lived Donets-Krivol r of the Ukrainian Central nd member of the Revolu- rianian army established in ternationalist in the Brest- ported Lenin in the trade) to the Central Committee d tenth congresses.

taken prisoner by interventionists n Russia. Inset (left) Antonov mmissar for War.

Meanwhile in the daytime Comrade Artem would from early in the morning receive tens and hundreds of envoys from the Donbass, issue further directives on the work of the Army Formation Committees in the localities, sit on the telegraph in continuous communication with the Yu-zovka Central Staff, transfer the entire staff of the retreating Eighth Army from the Rumanian Front to the Donbass with all its equipment, reach an understanding with the now deceased Comrade Crusser over the rational utilization of war material, supply the Central Staff with weapons and uniforms, organize training courses for Red commanders and energetically work on the evacuation of everything of value to Soviet Russia.

At the same time he continued, albeit spasmodically, to visit the factories, plants and workshops of Kharkov city, where he conducted an enormous task of agitation, colla-





Results of an episode

'Colonialism strengthened the Western European ruling class and capitalism as a whole. Particularly in its later phases, it was evidently given a new lease of life to a mode of production that was otherwise dying. From every viewpoint other than that of the minority class of capitalists, colonialism was a monstrous institution holding back the liberation of man.'

WALTER RODNEY lays emphasis on the slave trade from the African continent as the basic factor in African underdevelopment. The transportation of millions of able-bodied men and women placed serious strains on the labour forces of the continent.

Slavery was a violent system which was replaced later only because it served the capitalists better to have men

working for them in the colonies than having to transport them to other countries such as the Americas.

Throughout the book Rodney deals with the conception put forward by bourgeois writers that the Europeans were bringing 'civilization' to the dark continent. On the contrary, in order to keep the colonies under the heel of capital, imperialism had to deliberately distort economic development and devise brutal military political and social methods to do so.

The result is seen today in the extreme political instability of the African countries.

Since 1965, there have been no less than 16 military coups of one description or another

in Africa. The latest was Uganda under the dictatorship of General Idi Amin.

This type of upheaval in the so-called 'independent' African countries leads to only one conclusion—that colonialism was a system which perpetuated its rule in order to continue economic exploitation even after formal 'withdrawal' of the imperialists.

Colonial governors-general and 'On Her Majesty's Service' departments were replaced by chosen local stooges. Where such a system did not work, the next step was to investigate the military coups. This was helped by the fact that during the colonial period imperialism had deliberately created eco-

BOOKS

'How Europe underdeveloped Africa'
By Walter Rodney
Begle-L'Ouverture Publications
65p

conomic and social divisions among the local people.

Consequently they could always rely on support from one tribe against another or from one particular well-paid section against another.

Walter Rodney's book is a useful study of the process by which imperialism strangled the economic development of the colonial world. It deals in great detail with the historic, pre-colonial periods in African history.

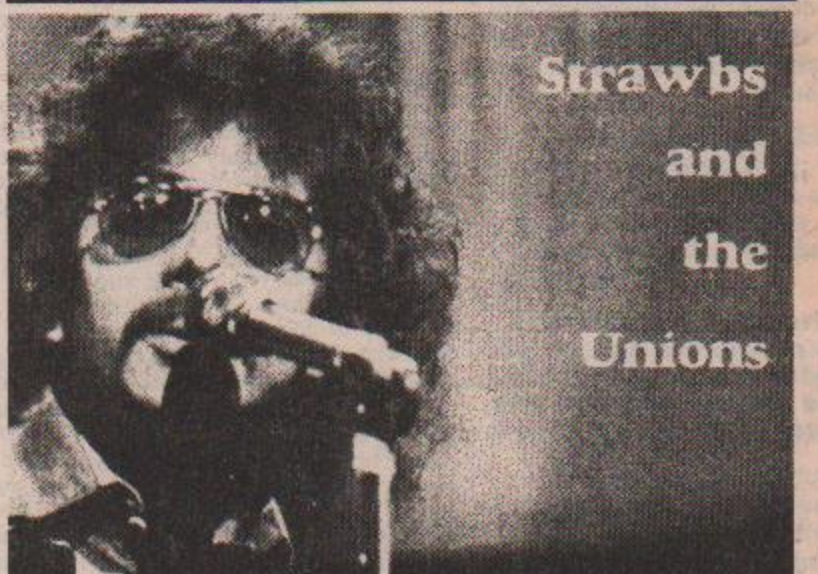
Political instability in Africa today, of course, only reflects the general more serious economic chaos in the whole of the capitalist world. It would be correct to say that people in the colonial world will undoubtedly be the worst hit in the trade war that is now

rapidly becoming the dominant pattern in the economic structure of all capitalist countries.

The economic—and consequently the political—structure of all colonial countries is so closely tied up with imperialism that all talk of separate or free development is an absurdity.

Walter Rodney's central theme in the book is to deal with the fact that European capitalism—not some sort of native backward culture—was responsible for Africa's underdevelopment.

'How Europe underdeveloped Africa' is a book which must be read if one is to acquire an understanding of a major episode in the development of European capitalism.



Strawbs and the Unions

● John Ford

WITH the record 'Part of the Union' by the Strawbs now number one in the charts this week, it's time an assessment was made of the song's meaning.

Since it was first released at the beginning of this year, discussion has been widespread.

A pop record which for the first time ever pounded out the lyrics, 'You don't get me, I'm part of the union', was bound to cause controversy in a situation where thousands of youth up and down the country are coming into class battles.

For older workers too, who see their trade unions attacked every day of the week in the capitalist Press, it would seem like a change to be welcomed.

And, of course, it has come under fire from the right wing. Harold Soref, Tory MP and chairman of the extreme right-wing Monday Club's Africa committee, the man who led the witch-hunt against the Young Socialists summer camp last year, complained to the BBC for playing it.

But the song does not intend to be a 'good union anthem' as it has been hailed by Jack Jones, leader of the Transport and General Workers Union. (He is even proposing to launch a recruiting drive among young people on the basis of it.)

Last week 'Melody Maker' asked Strawbs Richard 'Hud' Hudson and John Ford what they thought about the controversy.

'Melody Maker' reported:

'The lyrics to "Part of the Union" date back to pre-Strawbs days when John and Hud were working at a packing factory. The job was boring and to pass the time they decided to see how many boxes they could pack in a day.

'They worked like the clappers until the union man was on the scene. They were causing trouble and doing the work of three men they were told. Enough was enough, and if they packed more than their capabilities men would be put out of work.

"It wasn't written to have a go, not really," said Hud. "But we're Conservatives actually, true blue like Ted." ('Melody Maker', February 17.)

But the lyrics belie the statement that it wasn't written 'to have a go'.

The portrayal of workers as 'mindless militants' who will follow anyone who shouts 'Out brothers, out' is a slander against the efforts of thousands of ordinary workers who fight day in and day out to maintain a decent living standard for themselves and their families.

POST BAG

Poverty in Newcastle

COMING originally from a poverty-stricken area in Newcastle, I know what my family and friends have gone through under the capitalist whip.

Living in slums with big families and about 30s a week to live on; down the pits 16 hours a day chipping the coal off the face, they hardly ever saw the day.

The capitalist whip kept on through generations and it made my ancestors suffer. They knew what it was like. They were made slaves.

That's what workers are heading for again if they don't follow the revolutionary party which will show them the way to socialism. I also think the Pageant of History will show many people the way to a socialist country. But mainly it must be the revolutionary party.

YS Member
Bedworth

Youth clubs and bingo halls

IN KIRKDALE, Bootle and surrounding areas, the entertainment life is dull and dreary. There is only one good youth club which is for boys from 11 to 16 for playing football and the play centre for six to 11 year olds.

But for me there are no activities. After 6 p.m. the club shuts and there is nowhere else for the boys to go so they hang around the streets and often get into trouble etc.

We fight for better houses and higher wages but I think we should really be fighting for the youth of 1973.

As entertainment for men and women goes, in the main road where the youth club is situated there are at least nine pubs and two bingo halls. Anyone of these could be made into a youth club, a disco or a gym for the young people in the city.

If I had to thank the Kirkdale Entertainment Committee for anything, I would 'thank' them for the trouble some of the youth get into.

Annette Jones

Rules of the house

I WANT to keep my name anonymous but my address is: The Thomas Jackson Memorial Hostel for Boys, Whitechapel, E1.

I am giving the example of a working hostel boy bringing 'home' £11 to have a set of rules, rammed down his thinking every day. The rent is £5.

The boys here are sick of these few rules taken from a two-page rule sheet: Be in at 11.00 p.m., lights out at 11.30 p.m., breakfast 7.00 a.m., be out of the hostel by 9.45 a.m., do not arrive back before 4.00 p.m.

These rules are dictated to us every Thursday night at 10.30 p.m.

If we protest the staff just turn around and say: if you don't like it here, get out. If we had money to spend after paying expenses we would find a flat, go out to discotheques, etc.

We ask the staff for longer nights out and other things to improve at least our standard of living. But our complaints are written down, pinned on to a file and never heard of again.

This is only a small story, I could write much more about hostel life.

But remember it is not just one hostel. There are others and they have the same troubles and some which almost certainly have worse conditions.

The following words were scribbled on a wall by a friend of mine:

'We work all week to pay our keep. If we don't pay we don't get "nought" to eat and get chucked out on Whitechapel High Street'.



PAPERBACKS CENTRE

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London W1



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Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs
9 a.m.—6 p.m.
Fri 9 a.m.—7.30 p.m.
Sat 9 a.m.—5 p.m.

BOOKS ● PERIODICALS ● NEWSPAPERS

NUS GRANTS CAMPAIGN;

Call a national demonstration!



● A section of last Wednesday's NUS grants demonstration in London. It was one of nine all over Britain.

AFTER the tremendous response from students on nine regional demonstrations last Wednesday only the 'national day of action' on March 14 is left before the Stalinist-led NUS executive winds up its campaign on grants.

With serious economic crisis on an international scale, the Tories, on the other hand, have made it clear they do not intend to compromise on the fight against wage demands.

We must make no mistake about it. There is no room for manoeuvre. Around the gas workers' strike and the Tories' state control of wages lines of civil war are being drawn.

There is no other way to defend our standards of living except by forcing the Tory government out and re-electing a Labour government to carry out the demands of the working class.

Now that the gas workers, hospital workers, school

teachers and car workers are mobilizing, with other sections of workers not far behind, the conditions for removing the Tories are being created.

Yet the trade union leaders refuse to issue a call for all-out action. The NUS executive is no different. All the NUS executive has been able to do is organize demonstrations to make the government change its mind.

The YSSS calls on every student to demand the NUS

executive get off its knees and start fighting.

We must not allow the campaign for decent grants to finish up on Wednesday March 14, after a traditional protest. We demand the NUS calls a national demonstration on that day.

Students must mobilize in thousands to demonstrate their determination and strength.

The main slogan of the demonstration must be to demand all-out action to defeat the Tory government.

Cambridge sit-in ends with demonstration

HUNDREDS of students demonstrated in Cambridge last Monday at the end of their sit-in. The occupation started on Wednesday, February 14, in protest against the findings of a report by Lord Devlin.

Students are particularly annoyed over the report's recommendation to continue non-recognition of Cambridge Students' Union.

The report was commissioned after last February's sit-in to secure reforms in the economics examinations system.

Stirling: The fight continues

THE case of students victimized after the Queen's visit to Stirling University last October continues.

John Devenport, the secretary of the Council of Stirling Students' Association, was found guilty last week by the university's discipline committee of actions 'calculated to encourage and result in a disorderly demonstration'.

Last Sunday the annual conference of the Scottish NUS decided to stage a mass picket on Saturday March 3, when appeals against the disciplinary decisions are to be heard.

Exeter students demand supplementary grants

AFTER the recent collapse of the NUS rent strike at Exeter University, students there have voted for a policy of removing the Tory government as the only way to secure higher grants.

The resolution passed at a union meeting called for supplementary grants to beat inflation.

Keele students demonstrate

STUDENTS at Keele University demonstrated last week in protest against victimization of a fellow student.

They demanded an end to disciplinary proceedings against James Logue, who supported the rent strike at the university.

The NUS has also written to Keele's vice-Chancellor, Professor Cambell Stewart, asking for an end to the disciplinary action.

The rent strikes being held at 43 universities and colleges throughout the country are part of the NUS campaign for higher grants.

WHERE YOUR YSSS MEETS

BRADFORD UNIVERSITY YSSS

Spring Term Programme
Branch meetings every Thursday at 1.00 p.m. In Room E22.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY YSSS

meets every Monday
Jesus College Seminar Room 'A' (New building) 8.00 p.m.

EXETER UNIVERSITY YSSS

meetings every Thursday 1.15 p.m. Room C & D Devonshire House

NORTH LONDON POLYTECHNIC YSSS

meets every Wednesday
Ladbroke House Room 215, 2.00 p.m.

LEEDS UNIVERSITY YSSS

Marxist classes every Wednesday, 8.00 p.m.

CAMBRIDGE YSSS

meets in Trinity College Junior Parlour, 8 pm
Wednesday March 7:
'Who are the extreme right?'

POULTON-LE-FYLDE COLLEGE

YSSS meets every Tuesday
Room 16, 7.30 p.m.

PORTSMOUTH POLYTECHNIC YSSS

meets every Wednesday
Student Union Building 1.00 p.m.

BRADFORD YSSS

Meeting every Friday
Bradford Art College Room 11 2.30 p.m.

IMPERIAL COLLEGE YSSS

Mechanical Engineering Dept
Room 320, 1 p.m. Every Friday.

LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS

YSSS branch meetings every Monday 1 p.m. Room S 400

SOUTHAMPTON UNIVERSITY YSSS

meets every Wednesday 1.00 p.m. Clubs and Societies Room

PORTSMOUTH POLY YSSS

Meets every Monday
Union Council Room 7.30 p.m.

PRESTON YSSS

4.30 pm, Sixth form college
Winkley Square, Preston meets every Thursday

NOTTINGHAM YSSS

meets every Monday
Room C21 Portland Building 8.00 p.m.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON

Meetings every Friday
Digby Room

TRENT POLYTECHNIC

YSSS meets every Tuesday
Sports and Societies room
Byron Building, 7.30 p.m.

LEICESTER UNIVERSITY YSSS

Branch meetings every Thursday 1.00 pm
Union Lecture Room,
Percy Gee Bookstall every Friday lunchtime,
Concourse In Percy Gee House

SHEFFIELD UNIVERSITY YSSS

meeting every Tuesday 1.00 p.m. TV room
Bookstall every lunchtime 1.00 p.m. In foyer
Classes on Marxism every Tuesday, 8.00 p.m. Committee Room 2

JOIN THE YOUNG SOCIALISTS STUDENT SOCIETY

NAME

ADDRESS

Fill in this form and post to:

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

YS football cup moves into second round



Exciting game at Leeds

North West 7 Yorkshire 6
THE match between Langley Young Socialists from Middleton, Manchester (North West) and Chapletown Avenue Celtic, Leeds (Yorkshire) on Sunday February 18 at Seacroft, was a very exciting contest indeed.

The first goal, after three minutes, went to the North West—but it was an own goal from the Yorkshire side. After some hesitation in the home side's defence Peter Price scored again for the North West, followed by Thorburn who headed in Middleton's third goal across from the right wing.

After the first 20 minutes the home side were up to full strength—before they had played with 10 men—and reduced the margin with a goal by Walton who lobbed it in from ten yards. Chapletown continued on the attack but excellent saves by Kevin Brown prevented further goals.

The North West, however, absorbed the pressure and increased their lead in the 35th minute with a goal from Billy Allen. Then Colin Murphy made

the half time score five one to North West when he lobbed home a well-placed ball from 20 yards out.

In the second half, Yorkshire right winger, Sutton, reduced the gap with a shot from the 18 yard line, but the North West suddenly scored their sixth goal through Thorburn.

The home side quickly replied when Dene, the small left-winger, completely beat two defenders and passed inside to Chapletown captain, George Brown, who scored.

With the score standing at 6-3, Ward (Yorkshire) won possession in midfield, accelerated past two defenders and went around the goalkeeper. But the North West kept calm and Malliday put home their seventh goal.

Chapletown fought back determinedly and their fifth goal was well deserved. Then Alfonso for Yorkshire, with a magnificent 30 yard volley which hit the crossbar and went across the line, scored the sixth goal for the home side.

But the North West held on to win this closely fought and entertaining match with a one goal margin.

Hayes 11 Harrow 3

AT the end of the first half the Hayes team was leading 5-0. The second half opened up with Harrow scoring a quick goal and it looked as if Harrow was going to close the gap.

But this was proved wrong when Hayes started to play attacking football again. This, coupled with Harrow's lack of defence, gave another six goals to Hayes.

YS FOOTBALL LEAGUE TABLE (LONDON)

SOUTH :

	P	W	D	L	Pts.
Clapham	7	5	0	2	10
Blackheath	7	4	0	3	8
New Addington	5	4	0	1	8
Thornton Heath	6	3	0	3	6
Balham	5	2	0	3	4
Streatham	1	0	0	1	0
Peckham	2	0	0	2	0

NORTH :

Dagenham	7	3	1	3	7
West London	5	3	0	2	6
Poplar	4	1	1	2	3
Camden	3	1	0	2	2
Stepney	4	1	0	3	2
Tottenham	4	0	0	4	0
Stoke Newington	2	0	0	2	0

OUTER :

Hayes	5	4	0	1	10
Kingston	5	3	0	2	6
Acton	3	2	0	1	4
Fulham	4	2	0	2	4
Feltham	3	1	0	2	2
Willesden	3	1	0	2	2
Southall	3	0	0	3	0



WHAT'S ON WHERE

BILLINGHAM YS

Education classes, discussion, discotheques every Friday
 Billingham Tech
 6.00 p.m.

RENFREWSHIRE YS

Federation rally
 Sunday March 4
 4 p.m.
 Glenburn Community Centre
 Glenburn, Paisley
 Discotheque in evening

HERSHAM YS

meets every Thursday
 7.30 p.m.
 The Choir Vestry
 The Congregation Church Hall
 Queen's Road
 Walton on Thames

KINGSTON YS

meets every Tuesday, 7.30 p.m.
 The Albion
 45 Fairfield Road, Kingston

BALHAM YS

meets every Thursday
 Balham Baths Club Room
 Elmfield Road
 Balham
 S.W.12

SOUTH SHIELDS YS

Discotheque every Wednesday
 TUC Hall
 Westhow
 7.30 p.m.

BASINGSTOKE

Basingstoke YS Discotheque
 Russell Howard Pavillion
 Paddock Road,
 South Ham Estate

Sanford YS

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

PRESTON LARCHES YS

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

HIGHFIELDS YS

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

SHEFFIELD

Hackenthorpe YS
 meets every Thursday, 8 pm
 Frechaville Community Centre

Parson's Cross YS

meets every Tuesday, 8 pm
 Mansell School

Firth Park YS

meets every Thursday, 8 pm
 Shiregreen Middle School

Central YS

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

LEEDS

Middleton YS
 meets every Thursday,
 7.30 pm
 St Peter's Church
 Belle Isle, L11

TOOTING YS

meets every Tuesday
 Tooting Baths Club Room
 Tooting Broadway
 S.W.17

CAMBRIDGE YS

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

DURHAM

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

PRESTON YS

Discotheque
 Saturday February 24
 St Michael's and All Angels
 Tulketh Road
 Preston
 Tickets: 20p (live music)

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APRIL 14/15 1973

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