

UNITES ALL YOUNG WORKERS, STUDENTS, APPRENTICES,
UNEMPLOYED, IMMIGRANT AND SCHOOL YOUTH

KEEP LEFT

OFFICIAL WEEKLY PAPER OF
THE YOUNG SOCIALISTS
YOUTH SECTION
OF THE WORKERS'
REVOLUTIONARY PARTY

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YS DEMAND-LABOUR

• Release Brockwell Three!

• Stop police brutality!

• Restore basic rights!



**'WE ARE ALL
DETERMINED TO WIN'**

JENNIFER EVANS, 15 (left), and Pamela Florence, 14 (right), marched with the YS last Saturday through Brixton demanding the release of the Brockwell Three, and an end to police brutality.

Pamela told Keep Left after the march: 'If these boys didn't do anything, which is what a lot of people say, they should not be in jail.'

'This campaign has got to be made a big success.'

And Jennifer said: 'We went to the first demonstration for the Brockwell Three last Wednesday many of us risked taking the day off school. The Young Socialists march was just as powerful and you could feel we are really getting somewhere.'

'We are all determined to win. We've got to fight for the petition campaign to free the Brockwell Three right away.'

**MORE INTERVIEWS ON
BACK PAGE**

MORE THAN 400 Young Socialists members and supporters marched through Brixton's busy shopping centre last Saturday demanding the release of the Brockwell Three—Robin Stirling, Lloyd James and Horace Parkinson.

They are serving vicious three-year sentences following arrest by Brixton police outside a fairground last year. Local people say they are innocent and have been framed on assault charges.

The YS have launched a petition demanding that Labour Home Secretary Roy Jenkins immediately release the Three—and we will continue marches to mobilize support for their release among trade unions, the schools and tenant groups.

Hundreds of local people, angry at the police harassment of youth, both black and white, lined the streets to watch the march.

Sylvester Smart, South London YS member and Workers Revolutionary Party parliamentary candidate in the last General Election, told the public meeting that the YS would continue the campaign 'until our brothers are freed'.

A resolution passed unanimously called on Labour leader Wilson and Home Secretary Jenkins to release the three youths immediately.

The YS also plan to lobby local Labour MPs Marcus Lipton and John Fraser over the case.

Bringing support from the

Lambeth Council of Action, Vivien Mendelson, the secretary, said the Labour government was operating Tory laws—the state pay controls, the Industrial Relations Act which now threatens the engineers union and the Housing Finance Act.

She urged the calling of an emergency labour Party conference to adopt socialist policies to meet the economic crisis and the immediate abolition of anti-working class legislation.

Building worker Bob Portsmouth said the jailing of the Shrewsbury Six building workers was bound up with the savage sentences on the Brockwell Three. These actions by the police and judiciary must be seen as an attack on the whole working class, he said.

On behalf of the Workers Revolutionary Party central committee, Mike Banda said the continued existence of Tory legislation on the statute books was an indictment of the Labour government.

He said the WRP and the YS were in the forefront of fighting against all forms of state repression in all parts of the world.

He said the answer to the attacks on the building workers and the Brockwell Three was the construction of the Workers Revolutionary Party and the Young Socialists and the All Trades Unions Alliance to put an end to capitalism and lead the working class to take power.

STOP PRESS

THE National Industrial Relations Court threatened to sequester every penny's worth of the engineers' union's assets for refusal to pay fines in the Con-Mech case.

After this biggest-yet attack on the unions last Tuesday, engineers' leaders will meet to discuss calling a national strike to defend the union.

See page two for what KEEP LEFT SAYS about the court still active under a Labour government.

KEEP LEFT SAYS

THE THREAT by the National Industrial Relations Court to sequester the entire assets of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers represents an even graver attack on union rights than did the Taff Vale fine in 1901.

When Sir John Donaldson, NIRC president announced last Tuesday that he would order the entire assets of the AUEW to be sequestered on April 29 if the union refuses to pay the £47,000 compensation to Con-Mech engineering, he attacked the entire British working class and their unions.

It was against the threat posed to trade unions by the Taff Vale case at the beginning of the 20th century that support grew so rapidly for the formation of the Labour Representation Committee in 1906.

Today, it poses the building of a revolutionary leadership in every factory, union, office, mine and building site in the country.

The AUEW national executive will meet on Thursday to discuss proposals for a national strike against this order.

Such a national strike, however, must only be the start of the campaign.

First and foremost, all trade unionists and young people must demand that the Labour government immediately repeal the Industrial Relations Act and abolish the NIRC. All decisions and orders of this court must be quashed.

The Labour government and Employment Secretary Michael Foot must not wait until May 1 two days after this sequestration order is due to take effect.

An emergency conference of the Labour Party is now more important than ever.

The responsibility for the position which has arisen with the NIRC is directly that of Wilson and the Labour cabinet.

Their refusal to take a stand on the Industrial Relations Court from the day they were elected has led to the position where Donaldson can go ahead under the mantle of 'law' and attack trade unions for defending their rights to strike and organize.

In the same way Wilson has refused growing demands for the release of the Shrewsbury Six building workers.

And he has refused to introduce retrospective legislation quashing all fines and penalties against the Clay Cross councillors who carried out the

decision of the Labour Party conference and fought the Tory Housing Finance Act.

Right from the first day he took office, just over five weeks ago, Wilson has rejected outright even the minimum programme of the Labour Party during the General Election.

He has dropped all demands for nationalization. He has refused to abolish the infamous Tory pay laws and the Pay Board.

Like the National Industrial Relations Court these are institutions of the capitalist state brought in by the Tories. They must be abolished!

The Wilson government was elected by the working class to do just this. Heath was thrown out after three-and-a-half years of Tory rule by thousands of workers who fought against the introduction of the Industrial Relations Act, the Housing Finance Act and the pay laws.

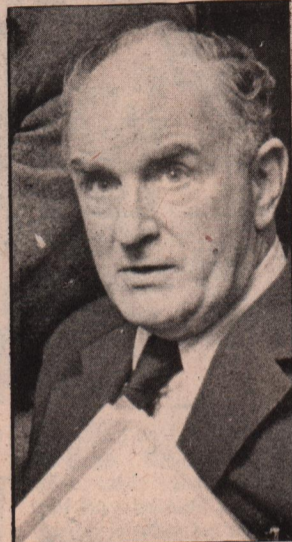
The time has come when Wilson and the Labour cabinet must be told decisively that they can no longer hold the rule of Tory 'law' above the interests of the working class.

When trade unions were first formed in the early 18th century, hundreds of miners, engineers and other workers broke the

'law' in actually forming associations of working men. They ran the risk of deportation and even death. In the same way today, the unions can only be protected and defended by fighting to defeat class 'law'.

The Young Socialists call on all young workers and trade unionists to demand an immediate emergency conference of the Labour Party to fight the attacks on the AUEW.

Build the Young Socialists, the youth section of the Workers Revolutionary Party as the only way forward for the defence of basic democratic rights!



Scanlon

Spotlight on the West Indies

BY OUR FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT

CRITICISM is growing in Trinidad over the inability of the government to implement its anti-trade union laws.

This was highlighted recently in the arrest of Raffique Shah and two other leaders of



Raffique Shah

the sugar cane workers by the police and their subsequent release an hour later when it was discovered the police had already given permission for the public gathering they arrested the leaders for organizing.

Meanwhile the struggle for union recognition of the Trinidad Island-wide Cane Farmers Trade Union goes on (as opposed to the company unions) with a vast proportion of the sugar cane workers obeying the Don't cut cane' call until their union is given recognition.

● The so-called war against crime has continued in Jamaica. Curfews have again been imposed on St Andrews and additional curfews mounted on the north coast in two areas in Montego Bay.

We reported last week how the government was attempting to create a hysterical atmosphere to pass its anti-union laws; one other purpose has been made clear. This revolves round the 'Gun Court Act' under which special courts for speedy sentencing of those accused of armed crimes will be built, along with special 'gun prisons' which are to be run on a 'prisoner of war' basis.

There is no question of taking over the economy and nationalizing the basic industries in order to meet the needs of the Jamaican people, but only of constructing new means of repression to brutally suppress the victims of an imperialist dominated economy.

Meanwhile the gun crimes carry on. The real criminal elements have quickly fallen in with the changing political scene. In Jones Town a group of men dressed up as soldiers, riding in a lorry raided a number of houses, shot two bystanders dead and seized an undisclosed sum of money!

Pompidou: an enemy of workers

By Alastair Campbell

GEORGES POMPIDOU, President of the reactionary and corrupt French Fifth Republic, died last week.

For the last five years he has been a worthy successor to De Gaulle in spearheading attacks on the working class throughout the world, wherever the French colonial jackboot could reach.

He will not be forgotten for the atom tests which devastated the homes and fishing grounds of Pacific Islanders.

He will not be forgotten by the Israeli and Arab workers for the arms supplies he poured into the hands of the Zionists.

Above all, he will not be forgotten by the French workers and students who fought against his armed police and special CRS riot squads in May 1968, during the mass demonstrations for the removal of De Gaulle.

One time teacher, he became a director of Rothschilds, the French merchant bank, after his appointment to De Gaulle's secretariat, and in 1962 was made Prime Minister, heavily supported by the big French financiers and banking community.

His career as President has been a series of Watergate-type scandals, which began with the Delon affair, when the Yugoslav bodyguard of actor Alain Delon, who has many connections with the French bankers, was found shot dead and sewn up in a plastic bag.

However press investigations were stopped when Pompidou claimed he was not involved in the affair, although he had been named as connected.

Other scandals in which he or his senior ministers were involved include tax evasion, corruption, prostitution, heroin smuggling and the illegal formation of a secret police force.

He has died in the midst of the most enormous political and economic upheavals in France where many sectors of the working and middle class have been taking to the streets in protest against the continually soaring cost of living.

Whichever puppet of the bankers is found to replace him, the question of workers' power and the building of a revolutionary party must be raised as an alternative to the preparations now being made by the French military to make the working class pay for the economic crisis.

Noose draws tighter round Nixon

A NEW TURN in the corruption of the Watergate affair was unveiled last week, which will speed Nixon towards impeachment.

Herbert Kalmbach, the President's former personal lawyer has alleged that banker and property speculator Bebe Rebozo lied when he testified that a \$100,000 contribution to the Campaign to Re-elect the President (CREEP) was never used.

Kalmbach claims that half the contribution, which came from multi-millionaire recluse Howard Hughes, was paid to Rose Mary Woods, Nixon's secretary and Donald Nixon, the President's brother and an employee of tycoon Robert Vesco.

It is in line with the testimony made by Donald Nixon last Tuesday that former Commerce Secretary Maurice Stans and former Attorney General John Mitchell conspired to stop a fraud investigation into the business activities of Vesco in return



Nixon

for a payment of \$200,000 to CREEP.

Vesco is charged with defrauding investors of \$224m

and has fled to Costa Rica to avoid imprisonment.

Meanwhile as patience wears thin in the fight to get to the bottom of Nixon's wheelings and dealings, the House Judiciary Committee has reached the end of its tether.

Having requested tapes of 42 vital Nixon conversations on February 25 and as yet received no reply from the White House, it has given Nixon until Tuesday to hand them over or it will issue a subpoena to get them. Such a move at this stage would push Nixon far along the road to impeachment.

Despite Nixon's offer to pay \$465,000 of the \$476,431 he owes in back-tax the noose is growing tighter round his

neck.

The Watergate Affair has far outgrown the issue of the original break-in at the Democrat Convention in 1972. Every new revelation further exposes the corruption and subterfuge which lies behind the facade of bourgeois democracy in the grip of the economic crisis.

This poses for the ruling class of the US the use of brute force to smash the living standards and democratic rights of the working class. This must be met by the building of a Labour Party, based on Marxist principles, to take the working class to power. The American Young Socialists is pledged to carry out this fight and demand that Nixon be thrown out.

New trouble erupts in Ethiopia

LAST WEEK University students demanded that the (Ethiopian) government declare a state of emergency to deal with famine in the southern part of the country. They called for a halt to the arresting of military and police personnel who are deman-

ding political reforms to the corrupt regime of Selassie.

A demonstration called by the students against the new government was viciously dispersed by charges of club-wielding police, while trucks full of riot police re-

inforcements stood by.

The students also demanded a stop to the killings in the south, where more than 20 peasants and students have been shot, speared or knifed to death in the recent riots.

Municipal workers went on strike in Addis Ababa and the

air force was said to be virtually on strike as well.

The police in Goba, the capital of Bale province, have placed a series of demands to the province's governor general, which includes one for better working conditions.

£50 FUND

ONCE AGAIN we have made our target. We have received £50.34 for our weekly fund.

We thank all our readers and supporters who have made this possible. The working class is now faced with the gravest attacks on its union rights as seen in the sequestration threat from the National Industrial Relations Court.

Keep Left and the Young Socialists must be in the forefront of this fight to defend all rights from the attacks of the capitalist state.

Post all fund donations immediately to:

Keep Left Fund
186a Clapham High Street
London SW4 7UG

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STUDENT CONFERENCE SPLIT

FURTHER EDUCATION college students demonstrate last term for grants. Now they are demanding action from the NUS executive.

DIVISIONS at last week's National Union of Students conference in Liverpool came to a head over the issue of discretionary grants awards and the way in which the whole campaign should be run.

An extraordinary conference of the union will be called as soon as the Labour government announces the findings of its grants review.

With this exception, the policy for the grants campaign is very little different from that passed at last November's Margate conference. It does not, however, propose any fight such as the national rent strike carried at Margate.

This is a result of the policies of the national executive, who, while mouthing criticisms of the Labour government, persist in generating illusions that more will be forthcoming from the Department of Education and Science under Labour Education Minister, Reg Prentice than there was under Mrs Margaret Thatcher.

Representatives of the smaller colleges—further education and technical colleges—bitterly opposed their newly-elected executive's proposals that all demands in the grants campaign should have equal priority.

For the small colleges the most important issue is not just one of an increase in grants—it is an issue whether they will get any grants at all.

The Tories' proposals, far from being reversed by the Labour government, have been increased. Throughout small colleges in particular, students whose grants are awarded at the discretion of the local education authority will be worst hit.

It was for this reason that large numbers of the 105 further education colleges

NUS CONFERENCE
REPORT BY
SARAH HANNIGAN



SMALL COLLEGES ARE ON THE OFFENSIVE

represented at the NUS conference—the biggest number ever—are determined their union leadership should not accept any grants offer until they are guaranteed equal grants to those in the universities.

NO GRANTS

But beside this are thousands of students who receive no grants at all. Many of them are on 'A' level and Ordinary or Higher National Diploma courses.

For them the only demand which makes any sense is for a full grant for all students over the age of 16.

Keep Left interviewed some of these delegates. Seth Prokop, from the London Col-

lege of Furniture, a college with only about 365 full-time and 400 part time students, said he represented the views of 12 colleges in the East London area.

'We are subject to wholly discretionary awards,' he told me. 'I've known people—all working-class kids—who've had to leave college because they can't afford it. On some courses students have to do a year in order to prove they are serious.'

'The maximum grant in our college is about £560 a year but the average is more like £250. At least one third of our students are getting about £30 a year. Many have to work at night to support themselves and others have to squat in empty houses because they can't afford rents.'

Andy Wood from Huntingdon Tech is studying 'A' levels. This is his first year as a college student.

'We have 200 full time and 3,000 part-time students,' he told me.

'At Huntingdon there are no grants for anybody as far as I know from local authorities. Some people get some supplementary thing—like one girl I know who gets about £3 a month because her parents are dead and she is being kept by another family.'

'The only thing that really relates to us is grants for all students from the age of 16 because that's the age of most of our people.'

'We've got to find out how

to secure more effective contact with our part-time students as well.'

Alison Gleave was a delegate to the NUS conference from Widnes, Runcorn FE college. Her college has 450 full-time students who exist on discretionary awards.

'Students from Cheshire,' she said, 'receive no grants at all. In Lancashire they get £24 a year to buy books, paper, pens, ink, in fact everything. They have nothing to live on except parental charity.'

'We are mostly on general education courses and Higher National Diploma courses. Some of the HND students are on a slightly different footing because they are paid by employers. We are all over 16—generally about 17 or 18.'

CAMPAIGNING

'We are going to be campaigning for £655 for all students. We think the education cuts affect further education colleges not only from a financial but from an educational point of view.'

Only the Young Socialists Student Society, who intervened at the conference with a full slate of candidates for the executive posts, were able to put forward a programme on which students could fight.

The YSSS has consistently fought for full grants for students over the age of 16 in all colleges, and the complete abolition of all discretionary systems.

And while both the 'Broad Left' and the right-wingers on the union executive refused to fight for a policy that will win a decent grant for students, YSSS members explained that this could only be done in the context of a fight for socialist policies.

Until students link their campaigns with the working class in this fight, in opposition to Wilson and the Labour traitors, they will be unable to learn from their campaigns and will face being forced out of colleges faster than ever before.

Those thousands of students, especially in the smaller colleges, who know that they have a bitter fight for their right to education on their hands, must

begin to tackle these vital questions.

For the first time in its history the NUS passed a comprehensive policy against racialism and in relation to overseas students.

But before it was passed, one section in particular raised loud opposition for a motley collection of self-styled socialists and liberals.

This was an amendment instructing the union executive to 'refuse any assistance to openly racist or fascist organizations or individuals' and telling all constituent organizations of NUS to 'prevent any racist or fascist propaganda being displayed, sold, distributed or propagated through meetings by whatever means may be necessary'.

But the champions of 'free' speech were defeated by the majority of delegates who decided that 'reason' was not sufficient answer to bullets and that the threat of persecution and fascist attacks could only be defeated by destroying such threats.

Other resolutions passed concerned the plight of post-graduate students who say they are used as 'cheap labour' in the universities while doing part-time work as demonstrators and marking essays.

Also for the first time a policy was decided giving part-time students greater representation within NUS to allow all students to participate fully in all the union's activities and concessions.



The youth who enjoy sport—they are the ones that pay

Nationalize the sport monopolies!

SAYS SPORT CORRESPONDENT ALAN MERRITT

LARGE SUMS of money are involved in sport—as Keep Left has shown in several articles during the last few weeks.

George Foreman, about whom we wrote, recently turned down a fight with Quarry worth one million dollars and he is now to fight Ali in September—a fight worth five million dollars to each boxer.

Foreman has since said he would jump out of an aeroplane and fight twenty Alis for five million.

Foreman was certainly looking for lucrative offers—as we said in Keep Left.

In the football world we can see that there is as much money involved—Chelsea has just transferred two players for more than half a million pounds.

The question still remains—what are they prepared to offer for Celtic's Dalglish Johnstone,

Manchester United's Lou Macari, Ian Hutchinson of Chelsea and Alan Clarke, in all of whom they have expressed interest.

In racing, we all know that millions of pounds are made every year, and hundreds of thousands picked up by owners of horses.

SQUASH

The capitalist class are constantly looking for new ways to spend their private funds and this is certainly true in sport. We note, for instance, the amount of money being provided for squash, a game

not yet as popular as those already mentioned. In Doncaster, £60,000 has been provided to build a Private Squash Club.

The source of wealth in all sports is the pockets of the working class—especially youth.

As we said in a previous article: 'Sport is now seen as a part of capitalism, a means of making profit, and of something that gives pleasure to those who participate and entertainment to those who watch it.'

For this reason sport is basically run by monopolies, and these monopolies should be

nationalized without compensation under workers control.

At the Fourteenth Annual Conference of the Young Socialists held in Blackpool last month, youth called for the nationalisation of all basic industries, land and banks, under workers control. This must also apply to sport and entertainment.

ABILITY

Only when sport is run by those who participate in it and teams selected entirely on ability and merit can it be developed, only then can standards and the quality of entertainment be improved.

This can only be achieved by a society run by the working class—therefore the fight for these things in our leisure are tied inseparably to the fight to overthrow capitalism.

YS ANNUAL CONFERENCE

YS ANNUAL CONFERENCE

YS ANNUAL CONFERENCE

YS decide on socialist

Building the Young Socialists and Keep Left

DISCUSSION AT LAST WEEK'S YOUNG SOCIALISTS ANNUAL CONFERENCE AT BLACKPOOL, BY A KEEP LEFT REPORTING TEAM

SYLVESTER SMART, speaking on building the Young Socialists told the conference: 'We would not have launched the Workers Press, daily paper of the Workers Revolutionary Party, and could not have launched the party itself, without the youth.'

'The youth have become the driving force behind the party' said Sylvester.

It was now essential to build the Young Socialists and to expand the circulation of Keep Left.

He added: 'It is a vital task because when the Labour government made its huge loan from the foreign bankers before the budget, the agreement with the bankers was to destroy the rights of

the working class.

Waveney Grant of North London, told the conference that the British ruling class was absolutely ruthless.

'Today they are faced with an unprecedented economic crisis and the ruling class is called upon to completely destroy the working class.'

'This Labour government is filling the social democratic role of treachery.'

'But we will base ourselves on the strength of the working class. We must not hesitate, but come forward and build the Young Socialists.'

Gillie Munn, Acton YS, said, 'We are going to fight this Labour government. It's budget was anti-working class and exactly what we expected from the Wilson gang. This

Labour government is a bourgeois government and does not represent the interests of workers. We must fight to build the Young Socialists as the alternative revolutionary leadership.'

'Keep Left aims to unite every single struggle of young people for their rights', said **Simon Pirani, Keep Left** assistant editor, speaking in support of a resolution on the paper.

'Keep Left has a long history of struggle against reformism' he told delegates. 'Ever since it was founded in 1952, it came into conflict with the leadership of the Labour Party.'

'During the 1964-70 Labour government, we fought to explain the importance of

nationalization under workers' control and the fight for socialist policies.'

'We fought the treachery of Wilson every month. Now, under this government, we are going to fight against his betrayals every single week, and we will get a much bigger response for this fight.'

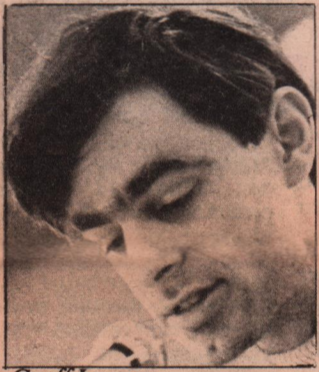
'Under this Labour government, we are posed with training the youth, politically, who will lead the revolution in Britain.'

He added the point that 'Keep Left is not produced like most magazines, in order to make money out of youth and con them. It is the paper of the Young Socialists and entirely written and produced by our members.'

INTRODUCING the motion on building the Workers Revolutionary Party, **Glenford Noble of Tooting YS** said: 'The election of the Labour government and the betrayal of all its election promises at Clay Cross, the refusal to free the Shrewsbury six, surrender to all the international bankers and the abandonment of nationalization, poses before the working class in the most urgent way the question of leadership.'

'The Workers Revolutionary Party is the only organization which has based its programme and policy on the world-wide conflict of classes, which is an expression of the conflict of productive forces of capitalism against private property.'

International discussion



Geoff Leeson

SPEAKING ON THE resolution dealing with the Fourth International, the international Trotskyist movement, **Geoff Leeson** from Thames Polytechnic said the task of revolutionaries was to break the working class from the stranglehold of bureaucracy. But the so-called International Socialists and the International Marxist Group refuse to mobilize the working class on socialist demands and limit any action to single issue demands.

'The YS has to pay attention to the treacherous role of these revisionists and expose their policies to the working class', Leeson added.

Derek Durrell of Paddington YS said what distinguished the Young Socialists from other movements was the way it fought for Marxist theory. Using the example of Greece he showed the way Stalinism had betrayed the working class at the end of the war and again in the fight to prepare the working class to defeat the military conspirators.

'It is now the task of the Greek Trotskyists to expose the Stalinist bankruptcy, fight for theory and build the revolutionary party in Greece to lead the working class to victory.'

On the Middle East resolution, **Christina Fraser of North Kensington** said the Zionist state was set up by US imperialism to defend the international oil companies in their exploitation of Arab workers.

'But the Arab workers have shown that despite the viciousness of the repression used against them, and the desperate attempts by their nationalist leaders to hold them back, the working class internationally have the



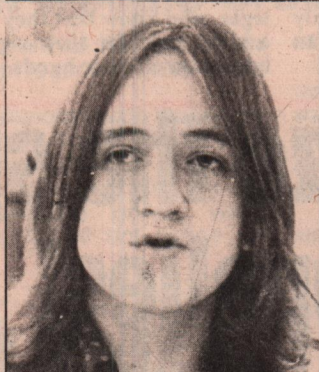
Christina Fraser

strength to crack this imperialist machine and bring it down.'

'Strength on its own is not enough. It must be conscious and revolutionary. We must build the YS, the Workers Revolutionary Party and the sections of the International Committee of the Fourth International.'

Speaking on terrorism **Ken Toomey of Battersea YS** said the spate of bomb attacks in Britain should be condemned by the YS.

'These acts do not advance the struggles or interests of the working class', he said. 'If



Ken Toomey

acts of individual terror were the means of establishing socialism, then we would have had it many times over.'

'In fact we say that these bombings help no one but the ruling class, for it gives them the excuse to mobilize the military and arm the police in preparation for civil war against the working class.'

'We say that terrorism is an evasion from the struggle to build a revolutionary Marxist leadership in the working class.'

● The conference passed emergency resolutions supporting the struggles of workers in Ethiopia and Grenada.

Right to education

A LARGE number of YS members spoke on education, both in schools and universities.

Kevin Dobson, a Durham student, said there had to be a big fight to raise the level of political consciousness among students.

'The fight must always be for Marxist theory. There are very few politically aware students', said Kevin who stated that education must not be the tool of bourgeois institutions.

An **Essex University student** spoke on the meaning of the 105 students arrested by police at the university.

He said the 'Guardian' newspaper had stated that students should not 'pretend

to be workers, 'pretend' to be trade unionists.

In fact, he said, students aligned themselves to a great extent with the struggles of the working class.

'The struggles in the miners' strike are related directly to the struggles at Essex University. To take the events in Essex as just police brutality would be absolutely wrong.'

He continued: 'We are coming into the era of mass arrests. To say they don't have prisons big enough for us is a lie. If they have not got enough prisons, they will take over a football stadium as they did in Santiago in Chile.'

Robin Aliu from Toxteth YS



Robin Aliu

said 'In this country the education is very poor.'

'I think that the Labour Party should give more money to the education and school system, pay the teachers more and let the children up to the years of seven have free milk—I see no reason to stop this milk.'

'I say there should be more education, better facilities and better pay for teachers.'



Below: voting for resolution at last week's conference. Above: large numbers of YS members queued to speak on different resolutions.

The army in N Ireland and Britain

HELENA MALONEY of Exeter YS told the conference how she had been harassed by the police since arriving in Britain from Northern Ireland.

She said: 'The troops in Northern Ireland play a two-part role: firstly, preserving the interests of big business, and secondly of providing a training ground for joint military and police operations in civil unrest. Having lived

in Northern Ireland since the beginning of the 1969 troubles. I want to stress to comrades here the seriousness of such a threat.'

She described how she joined the YS in Exeter shortly after arriving from the North. She was asleep in bed when the door of her flat was broken down.

'I was surrounded by plain-clothes detectives and one

policewoman', she said. 'They ordered me out of bed and would give no reasons for their intrusion.'

'I was taken to the police station, photographed and had my fingerprints taken. When I asked what I was being questioned for, I was told that myself and my friends were under suspicion for a fire in an army and navy surplus store.'

'We were questioned

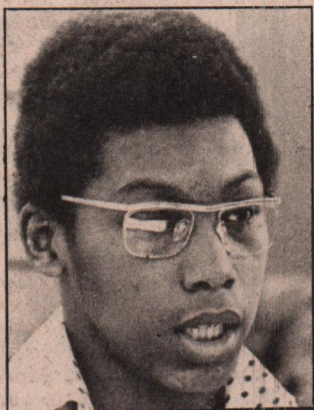
separately and the questions had nothing to do with the fire—but what were my politics, what names did I know of other people in the Young Socialists. I want to warn comrades here of the manoeuvres of the police in this country. I had no more rights here than I had in Northern Ireland.'

Peter Tester of Canning Town YS said that workers



YS ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Policies for the Workers Revolutionary Party



Glenford Noble

Glenford said that the Workers Revolutionary Party had to 'intervene, organize and mobilize' against the traitors in the Labour movement.

'It is vital that we re-double our efforts to transform the Workers Revolutionary Party into a mass revolutionary party with powerful leaders in the trade unions and among the youth.'



Racialism and youth



Astril Baird

IN THE discussion on racialism, Donald Neufville, Toxteth YS told the conference: 'I think race, like most other things, is not impossible to overcome.'

'The YS have shown this by the big dances they have held where both coloured and white youth mix as they should—as equals, not black in one corner and white in another.'

Astril Baird of Leicester YS and a newly-elected member of the national committee warned delegates of the way the ruling class was attempting to divide the working class with racialism.

She said: 'When Enoch Powell and the National Front speak against immigrants, they are speaking on behalf of the ruling class who will use any means to divide the working class so that they can remain in power.'

'We demand that the Labour government immediately repeal all immigration acts and give workers of all countries the right to work and live in the country of their choice.'



YS NATIONAL COMMITTEE ANNOUNCES SUMMER RECRUITMENT DRIVE

THE NEW YS National Committee; from left to right: Patsy Ballantyne, office worker, Scotland; Dave Buckley, building worker, Western; John Phildius, office worker, Kent; Sean O'Hara, car worker, West Midlands; John Bailey, miner, South Yorkshire; Astril Baird, waitress, East Midlands; David Wilson, unemployed, Manchester; Marian Frances, office worker, South Wales; Steve Slater, schoolboy, West Yorkshire; Waveney Grant, shopworker, North East London; Jan Ralph, printing apprentice, East Midlands (national chairman); Maureen Bambrick, National Secretary, Middlesex; Dave Hyde, apprentice, Southern Region. Not in picture: Rosemary Hannigan, national treasurer, South London; Ken Roper, North East; Robert Rome, Liverpool.

THE NEWLY-ELECTED Young Socialists National Committee announced a great new programme at their first meeting last weekend.

Its aim is to organize social activities and politics meetings up and down Britain, to recruit thousands of new Young Socialists, and to build a leadership which will head the struggle for young people's basic rights.

The activities that the YS have planned are:

MAY DAY: On this historic day when workers all over the world demonstrate their unity in the class struggle, the YS will be holding demonstrations in all its regions. These marches will lead the fight for socialist policies, and banners will call for nationalization under workers' control without compensation. Each demonstration will have colourful floats showing the fight for socialist policies.

LEAFLET CAMPAIGN: Each YS Region is preparing leaflets announcing all the activities in the areas, thousands of which will be given out at schools, factories, youth clubs, housing estates and everywhere young people go.

RALLIES: During May and June, the sixteen Regions of the Young Socialists will hold mass recruitment rallies, with five-a-side football and the showing of the new YS film 'Road to Freedom' as the highlight.

SUMMER FAIRS: To raise funds for the YS, summer fairs are to be held in most regions.

POP CONCERTS: After the highly successful Pop concert held last year South Wales YS, the National Committee decided to have as

- Recruit to YS branches
- Drive for new Keep Left subs
- Regional social programmes

many as possible all over the country. Those performing will be groups and artists popular with youth.

WEEKEND SCHOOLS: One of the most important activities of the summer will be weekend trips, to be organized during June and July, in various parts of the country.

Lectures and discussions will be held on the principles of the Young Socialists and the revolutionary movement, the Marxist theory on which our policies are based, economics and philosophy.

YS members will be able to go back into the campaign, armed with a political understanding which young people must have in order to carry the fight for socialist policies through to the end.

SPORTS DAYS: YS members will be training throughout the summer for

athletics—running, high and long jump, hurdles, discus, javelin, and other sport—preparing for a series of sports days which will be held throughout the country during August.

FOOTBALL: Five-a-side teams in each Region will be competing in League matches—and in September the winners and runners-up from each League will enter the national knock-out—which will decide the Young Socialists Star Five-a-Side team 1974.

KEEP LEFT: A drive to win thousands of new regular readers for the YS paper is to be launched, and a special subscription form printed.

The paper will also be featuring articles on the questions facing youth in different regions—unemployment, police har-

assment, low wages, and school conditions.

Through this wide programme of activities, the YS will fight to win thousands of young people to our movement who have never been involved in politics before.

We appeal for all young people to join the Young Socialists during our summer campaign—it is the only movement which fights for young people's rights.

Every Young Socialist member must join the campaign by bringing his school friends, work and college mates into the YS.

Above all, Young Socialists must fight to understand the part the Labour government plays in Britain today, of helping the ruling class and attacking workers.

The purpose of our campaigns to win young people is clear. The YS, now the official section of the Workers Revolutionary Party, must go forward and take responsibility to lead the fight for basic rights and for the working class to take power.

JOIN THE YOUTH MOVEMENT
THAT LEADS THE FIGHT FOR
SOCIALIST POLICIES!



JOIN THE YOUNG SOCIALISTS!
COME TO OUR DISCOS, FOOTBALL MEETINGS AND RALLIES.

I wish to join / have more information about the Young Socialists.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

Post to: YS National Secretary,
186a Clapham High Street, London,
SW4 7UG.

STALINIST DISTORTION OF TROTSKYIST PRINCIPLES



Above: French students demonstrate in Paris, May 1968—the revisionists led them into adventurist confrontations with the police. Below: many youth supported guerrillas like this one in Mozambique as a reaction against Stalinism.



THE STALINIST bureaucracy in Moscow have done everything possible to stop the working class taking power through revolutionary means in countries all over the world.

Worried by the fact that Trotskyist movements like the Young Socialists are gaining strength in country after country, based on the programme of taking the working class to power, the Stalinist Press agency produced the pamphlet 'Where the Trotskyists lead the Youth', in an attempt to slander our movement.

In the second of three articles, TOM KEMP here exposes the allegations made by Mikhail Basmanov, author of the pamphlet:

SUPPORTERS of the bureaucracy hate Trotskyism because it stands for a return to Soviet democracy, the end of bureaucratic privileges and the overthrow of the bureaucracy by political revolution.

They thus have to distort the position which Trotskyism holds on the nature of the Soviet Union and its defence.

Thus Basmanov lies when he claims that Trotskyists said the Soviet Union should not be given support against the Nazi invasion of June 1941.

He says nothing about the pact which Stalin made with Hitler in August 1939 nor does he refer to the purge of the officer corps of the Red Army which immensely weakened it when the Nazi onslaught came.

SLANDERS

He resurrects many old slanders which no longer carry any conviction such as that which says the Trotskyists 'objectively aided and abetted the forces of fascism'. On the contrary, it was Stalin's policy which opened the way for Hitler to take power in Germany and then paved the way for the second imperialist war and the near destruction of the Soviet Union.

The writings of Trotsky and the documents of the Fourth International are there to show that these dangers were pointed out well in advance and an alternative policy put forward which could have reversed the tide of defeat. Truth will out and the Stalinists are finding it increasingly difficult to get away with the old fables—hence pamphlets like this one.

It is when he comes to deal with the period since 1950 that Basmanov becomes seriously

worried about the growth of Trotskyist influence among the youth. This was the period in which the Young Communist movement everywhere went into decline and the youth turned to find an alternative.

In dealing with this period Basmanov makes use of some wilful distortions and sets out deliberately to confuse the reader. A number of organizations are referred to and public actions quoted which are described as 'Trotskyist' although they had nothing in common with the principles and policies of Trotskyism.

For example, the turn to the peasantry and the underdeveloped countries as the basis for revolution was made by the followers of the former secretary of the Fourth International, Michael Pablo, who abandoned the basic principles of Trotskyism and Marxism on the revolutionary role of the working class.

This position was carried through in a capitulation to the national bourgeois movements in the colonies and former colonies. But it had been preceded by a fundamental revision on the question of the role of the bureaucracy and of the Communist Parties.

Pablo who foresaw 'centuries of deformed workers' states', claimed that the Communist Parties could 'project a revolutionary orientation' and proposed entry into these parties in a way which represented a liquidation of the Fourth International.

The revisions of Pabloism were rejected by those members of the Fourth International who remained faithful to Trotskyism. They split from Pablo in 1953 and formed the International Committee to continue the work of the International founded in 1938.

Basmanov, without any reference to the existence of the revisionist split from the Fourth International, attacks

some of the Pabloite policies as though they were genuinely Trotskyist—he does not refer to any other movement at all.

The Pabloites, later joined by the US Socialist Workers' Party, were looking for a substitute for the revolutionary party and for the revolutionary role of the working class. That is why they turned to the peasantry, to guerrilla movements and to the students and youth, not to speak of Malcolm 'X', Fidel Castro, Ben Bella and the women's rights movement.

When Basmanov turns to the present situation among students he again reveals the anxiety of the Soviet bureaucracy. After 1945 it hoped, through the International Union of Students, to exercise control over the student movement and to work harmoniously with students of differing political views in some kind of Popular Front. The onset of the Cold War destroyed these hopes.

Then, during the 1950s, the student movement tended to be non-political or to be attracted towards broad single-issue campaigns such as the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament in Britain. The break-up of the boom in the 1960s and the Vietnam war brought a new politicalization, but one still confined to protest channels.

There was an eruption of student demonstrations, riots, sit-ins and protests of one kind or another all over the world. By that time there had been a vast increase in student numbers and the students were no longer a privileged layer of youth drawn only from bourgeois families, nor could they assume that they would find secure and well-paid jobs, or any jobs at all.

In any case, the kind of jobs they would be obliged to do as hired hands of big business repelled many of them.

If this was the basis for student protest it could, spontaneously, provide no alternative to capitalism. Many different currents and influences were at work during this period of ferment in the universities.

One thing was very clear: the Stalinists were unable to gain command of the student movement as they had done in the 1940s and early 1950s. Their own movement was in crisis, sparked off by the 20th. Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union in 1956, the Hungarian Revolution, the Sino-Soviet split and events in Poland and Czechoslovakia.

In fact, not only did Stalinist influence among students decline but there

was splits in their ranks during the early 1960s as a result of which some students moved towards Trotskyism. In fact, many of them were caught up in groups purporting to be Trotskyist, especially those affiliated to the Pabloite 'Fourth International' in Paris.

Impressionistic as always, the Pabloite theorists, like Ernest Mandel, now cast the students for a special revolutionary role—as 'detonators'. The turn to the students was a result of the same method which had previously led to a turn to the Communist Parties and to the peasantry or national movements.

DEVELOPMENTS

These activities are fair game for Basmanov, who amalgamates all kinds of groups and tendencies together as Trotskyist. In analysing the development of the student movement, however, it is necessary to point out that it was a protest movement and could only be that unless it was linked up with the working class under a firm revolutionary leadership which only the Trotskyists could provide.

The Pabloites were unable to provide such a leadership and instead conciliated with many of the backward, anarchistic tendencies which were manifest among students in the 1960s. Their activities, while paying lip service to worker-student unity, in fact walled off students from the working class as was very evident from their antics in the Sorbonne when it was occupied by the students in May-June 1968.

Basmanov is a very hot op-

ponent of 'ultra-leftism'—but he makes an amalgam between it and Trotskyism which has no basis in reality.

Trotskyism has nothing in common with Herbert Marcuse or with Daniel Cohn-Bendit, both of whom reject the need for a disciplined party and have no confidence in the revolutionary capacity of the working class.

Trotskyists make no concessions either to disillusioned followers of the ultra-lefts or anarchists, in contradistinction to the Pabloites, International Socialists and other revisionists who are ready to make every kind of compromise to gain some popularity or passing support in the student body.

Basmanov spends some time criticizing the position of the Unified Secretariat (Pabloites) on guerrilla movements. Of course, this uncritical support for the man with the gun was the obverse side of the neglect of Marxist theory and rejection of party building which Trotskyists hold to be central tasks.

But if many youth and students, especially in Latin America, supported and still support guerrilla struggles it is largely as a reaction against the bankrupt policies of the Stalinists and reformists based on the Popular Front and compromise with the national bourgeoisie.

The official Communist Parties have had behind them much larger forces than the Trotskyists ever had. They have led their followers into blind alleys, supporting bourgeois coalitions, playing the parliamentary game and creating all kinds of reformist illusions.

They do this because they

are no longer revolutionary parties but exist to prevent revolution from taking place and to bring about good relations between the ruling class of their own countries and the Soviet bureaucracy.

The youth and students drawn into the guerrilla movements have sensed the betrayals of the Stalinists without being able to explain them. The revisionists of the Pabloite International Secretariat have provided no alternative and have simply responded to the protest movement, which reaches its highest form in the man with the gun or the bomb who substitutes himself for the mass movement.

Basmanov carefully avoids any discussion of the role of the Stalinists in creating the conditions in which many of those who want to fight capitalism see no other way.

STALINIST MYTH

He accuses the Trotskyists of being ultra-left firebrands, always ready to set up barricades, go into confrontation with the police or call for an armed insurrection. This is all part of the cultivated Stalinist myth intended to establish their own political respectability.

It makes use of the technique of the amalgam to ascribe to Trotskyists in general what some people calling themselves Trotskyists may at some time or another have said or done. It does not hesitate to select quotations and take them out of context to back up a phoney argument.

There is a good example on page 57 where a quotation from the Pabloite youth paper in France, 'Avant-Garde', which appeared a few months before the May-June events is given as follows:

'In the advanced capitalist countries, the relative stability of the existing regions, and the extreme weakness of the vanguard obviously excludes, in the immediate period, all struggles of a revolutionary character capable of bringing down our own bourgeoisie.'

In fact, Basmanov gives as his source 'The Newsletter' for 18 February 1969 where the paragraph was quoted in an article attacking Ernest Mandel's views which the 'Avant-Garde' reflected. Basmanov says nothing about connection and a reader might suppose that 'The Newsletter' (then the weekly organ of the Socialist Labour League) also held a similar position.

FINAL PART NEXT WEEK

LESSON OF YOUNG SOCIALISTS — 14th ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Youth must fight for socialism

By a
Keep Left
Reporting Team

'THE BLACKPOOL conference was well worth going to to hear people's views on the issues of today', Kevin of Bexleyheath YS told Keep Left.

'Generally speaking, there was a fantastic response, and people were getting up and telling us of how the upper class are trying to crush all of the working class.'

'The workers are the element who could completely disrupt the system—but only if we unite.'

Fairground

'Some issues in relation to youth were expressed fantastically. For instance, it was explained that the incident of the Brixton fairground, where many youth were beaten for no apparent reason by the police, could have been a practice for the police to start the real fight that they will have against all the workers united.'

Kevin told Keep Left: 'I strongly believe that after the conference the membership of the YS and WRP could double.'

'We have got to make the whole of this bureaucratic society aware of how far we intend to go.'

'But we've also got to be aware that you can't trap a fox like the capitalists into a corner and expect to come out without a scratch. But the more members we get, the more stable base we will have to carry out socialist policies.'

'Under socialism, anyone who opposes the working class should be smashed into the ground, because if they try to bring the working class down and destroy its rights, this won't be allowed.'



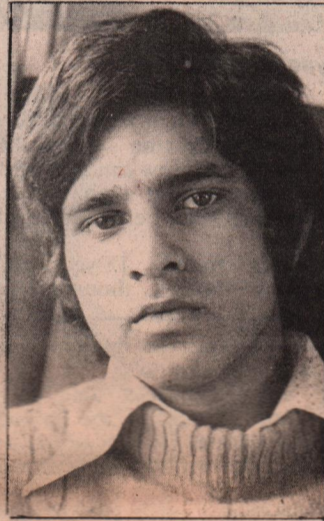
Young Socialists marching through Brixton last Saturday following the decision at our 14th Annual Conference to fight for the release of the 'Brockwell Three'.

ELTHAM YS member Saieed Beg, a member of the union Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs, told Keep Left that he believed the working class in Britain is very strong.

'But they have got to be made conscious of their strength and of the great political fight that has to come against the ruling class.'

'We have a Labour government, a minority one, but I think there is now a greater risk of a military dictatorship in this country.'

'The ruling class are preparing to hit back at the workers, and they are going to hit back hard. We need a movement to unite the working class against this attack. The sooner the youth recognize this, the better it will be for the



Saieed Beg

working class. The Young Socialists plays a very big part in building the Workers Revolutionary Party which will lead this fight.'

TIM HETHERINGTON, (15) of Fulham, London, who attended a YS conference for the first time, last week, told Keep Left:

'The Labour government must start by nationalizing the banks—and they should not get any compensation.'

'If you work in a bank you get paid, say £25 a week. But really the wages should be double, around £50 a week.'

'This difference between what you should be paid and what you actually get is the profit the banks make on your labour. This is how capitalism exploits.'

Tim added: 'I don't think the union leaders are doing enough, but they will not be able to stop the union membership from demanding a fight to defend living standards. We have to prepare for a struggle and that's why I went to the conference.'

'IF LABOUR make unions pay fines to the National Industrial Relations Court there should be a general strike', said Gordon Blakely, a member of Acton YS and of the engineering union AUEW.

In an interview with Keep Left, Gordon said this Tory court had put penalties of over £200,000 on his union.'

Return money

'There must be a general strike if Labour don't stop this court immediately and return all the money taken from the unions', he said.

'Foot is saying "Damn the unions" and we have

to fight against that. Scanlon our general secretary has got away for years with being a 'left-talker' for too long. He's being put on the spot now and we have to demand that Scanlon does not compromise on the fight to get our funds back from the court.'

Gordon (23) added: 'Now the attack has also turned to jobs. The youth today no longer have the right to work. The youth must fight to build the YS and fight in the trade unions to force the leadership to demand socialist policies.'

POST BAG



Grenada's Gairy has not carried out workers' policy

GRENADA is an island in the West Indies known as the Isle of Spice. It is only 21 miles by 12 with a population of approximately 120,000.

The country is ruled by Mr Eric Gairy, the Prime Minister, who has been in power for 24 years running. He was put there by the working class to work for the working class and carry out policies for them.

After 24 years he hasn't carried out any of the policies needed by the people. Now he has become a dictator in this little island, a second one similar to Papa Doc of Haiti.

Recently there has been unrest on this island. There was a general strike for one month and two weeks.

No trade from any other country was allowed onto the island. Electricity was cut off completely, which meant that the working class were affected and suffered severely.

The people on the island were against the idea of independence from Britain, but they were forced into it. After all this, Britain granted permission to the Grenadian

commissioners to go ahead with their independence on the chaotic island — which was granted on February 7. Then Gairy took over.

The previous British government actually encouraged and helped the Prime Minister in his work with the secret police, who are natural criminals from the prisons, who beat up and kill innocent people, especially the youth.

We as the Young Socialists and Workers Revolutionary Party must fight and build our movement to contribute to the struggles of all colonial peoples.

Louisa McGuire
Reading YS

Recent revelations about Harold Wilson's so-called 'land reclamation' once again raise the issue of the nationalization of land. What is your opinion about Wilson's deal? Write to: Keep Left, 186a Clapham High Street, London SW4 7UG.

Saturday's demo... a political platform was necessary

I THINK last Saturday's Young Socialists demonstration through Brixton demanding the release of the Brockwell Three had a relatively good turn-out, considering the one the Saturday before only had 200.

Saturday's demonstration was also meant as a political platform, although I couldn't agree with those who were shouting slogans like 'stop rising prices'.

Many people said that the boys were being used by the YS for their own political purposes, and there was hardly any mention of them in their speeches.

But personally I think that a

political platform was necessary to say why they were given three years and who put them there.

In the three years of Tory rule, the police and the army were built up as never before. They are used to crush the resistance of the working class and especially young people. That is how they were used at Brockwell Park and that's why our three brothers are jailed.

We urge everybody to support the campaign of lobbies, petitions and demonstrations to demand that the Home Secretary, Roy Jenkins, immediately releases the three.

Humphrey Fisher
Brixton YS

A trade unionist writes...

I HAVE been to several Young Socialists conferences and I have always been impressed by the seriousness of the YS and the high level of political discussion that takes place throughout the two days of the conference.

This year I thought that it was even better than usual. Of course it can be said that with all the big political events of the last few months: the miners' strike, the election, the minority Labour government and the immediate betrayal of Labour's programme by Wilson and company, that an increase in the political level of understanding should be expected.

One feature of the conference that, I think, reflected this growing political maturity in the youth was the large

number of amendments and addenda that came from the floor of the conference, seemingly put by relatively young and inexperienced members of the Young Socialists. I think this showed that these young comrades were seriously studying the resolutions being put to the conference and balancing them in the light of their own experiences in building the YS.

Then they were quite prepared to change, or add to the resolutions to bring them more in line with the political situation that they find themselves in.

John Thomas
Trade unionist and sympathizer of the YS Leicester

Young people haven't any rights

THE REASON why I hate the police, is because they pick on young people, and don't show us any respect. I know of a lot of cases where friends of mine have been attacked by the police, and when a complaint is made nothing is done about it.

If we had places to go there would be no reason for youth to hang around street corners. Police know young people

have to do this, because there is nothing to do. They use this against us.

If the Police are supposed to be for law and order, why is it that they use violence more and more against us? I've joined the Young Socialists because I've seen what they can do for young people, we haven't any rights.

Shirley Lewis
Finsbury YS



The new metal Young Socialists badge is out! Send off 25p plus 3p postage for yours, or a bulk order for your YS branch.

To: YS National Treasurer, 186a Clapham High Street, SW4.

Please send me new YS badges.

Money (.....) enclosed.

Name

Address

