

KEEP LEFT

OFFICIAL WEEKLY PAPER
OF THE YOUNG SOCIALISTS

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THIS WEEK
Special survey
on prices P4

**STOP
RISING
PRICES!
NO STATE
CONTROL
OF
WAGES!**



MAKE THE TORIES RESIGN!

Young Socialists National Campaign see editorial page two

STOP ALL PRICE INCREASES!

THE FIGHT against rapid decline in standards of living is to be at the centre of an all-out Young Socialists campaign in the next few months.

Increasing prices of almost all basic items is one of the main issues facing millions of workers and their families throughout the country.

As workers begin to feel the full effect of the Tory government's legal stranglehold over wages they will come up against one of the most glaring contradictions of the 'anti-inflation' legislation.

Prices of most food products are not going to be 'frozen'. They will continue to rise and the government's Bill leaves important loopholes for this.

That is why the Young Socialists' campaign during the Christmas shopping period will be a vital one. The YS National Committee has planned demonstrations against price increases in all the main city centres of the country.

These demonstrations will aim to unite thousands of youth, trade unionists, housewives and office workers against the Tory government.

Their call will be to force the Tories to resign and elect a Labour government pledged to socialist policies.

The only answer to the inevitable and huge increases in the cost of living today is the nationalization of the food industry under workers' control.

The Tory government's 'anti-inflation' measures have legally placed trade unionists fighting for wages in the criminal-court bracket.

Meanwhile there is relatively little guarantee that manufacturers and retail merchants will be stopped from increasing their prices.

The inflation Bill makes provisions for manufacturers to apply for such price increases. This is also made clear by a guide to the Bill issued last week by the CBI to all its 11,500 members.

The guide—prepared in collaboration with Whitehall—says that in 'certain exceptional circumstances' authorizations for price increases may be given.

The items listed under this 'exceptional' title in fact cover a major proportion of the shopping done by any housewife.

The CBI adds: 'The prices of fresh food (such as fruit, vegetable, meat and fish) and imported raw materials vary according to external or seasonal factors.'

It is not intended that specific consent be sought for such price increases by enterprises handling these products without applying any manufacturing process to them . . .

In other words the manufacturers have a free hand at increasing prices of basic food items at will. They only need to quote 'increased costs' as justification.

And they have already started. In only eight days after the Bill was first announced on November 6, government departments received 50 applications for food price increases.

On the other end of the scale the Tory legislation has laid the basis for a corporate state and dictatorship in Britain.

Heath's attack is part of an all out drive by employers to create mass unemployment and impoverish the working class in preparation for entry into the Common Market.

And trade union leaders who actively collaborated with the government in the preparatory stages of the so-called freeze will not lead any opposition.

That is why we call on all youth and adult trade unionists to take up the fight now. A successful YS campaign will be a big step forward.

Help us to organize the biggest demonstrations ever. Join the Young Socialists and build a new revolutionary leadership in the working class.

Nixon shows his claws

BY CISSIE LODGE

THE man who supposedly won one of the greatest electoral victories is already showing his real intentions regarding the American working class.

In the 1960's Johnson and the Kennedy administrations set up poverty programmes which affected the 20 million Americans who live below the poverty line and the five and a half million unemployed.

For these people, and for the working class itself, Nixon has a kick in the teeth. He intends to cut government spending on welfare and throw out these relief programmes.

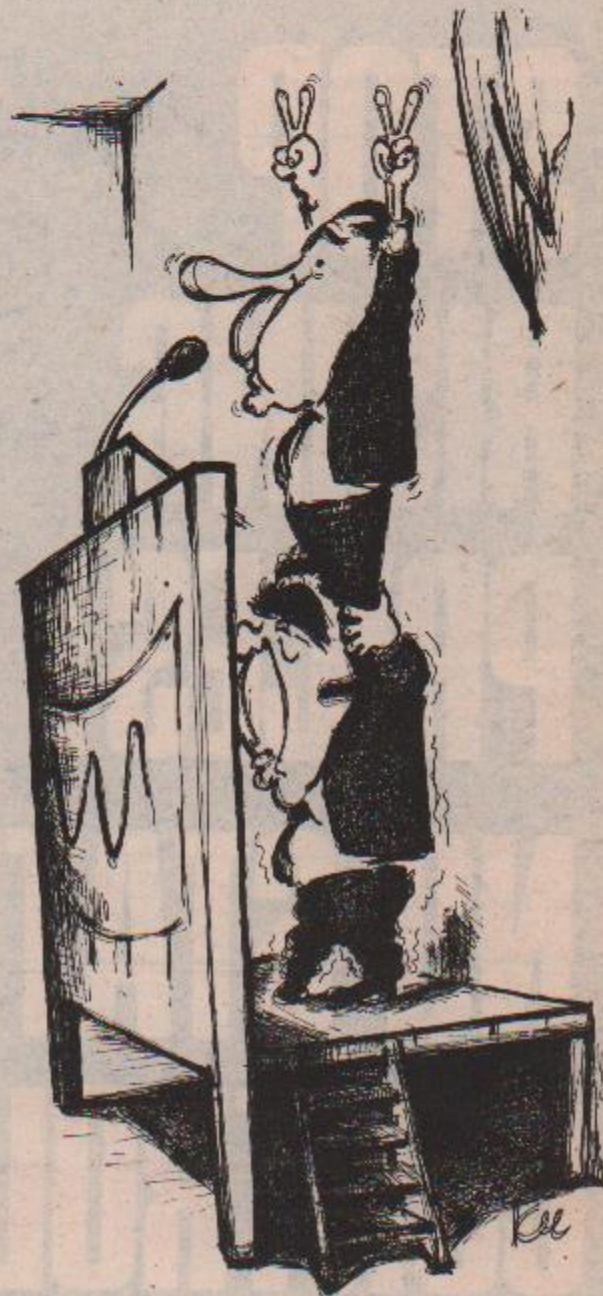
The so-called peace which was 'at hand', has proved to be an election trick. Both sides in Vietnam are now building up forces in preparation for more battles.

In S.E. Asia, the nature of Nixon's 'peace' was revealed when on November 10, US planes flew more than 700 strikes over Vietnam and three other neighbouring countries in one day alone. Over North Vietnam this represented a 50 per cent escalation over the average number of raids.

Nixon increased defence spending by 10 per cent over the past year bringing the total amount that has been spent on the war since he took office to \$100,000m.

Nixon's talks in Moscow and Peking were not motivated by the thought of peaceful co-existence in Vietnam or with any of the workers' states.

When he sends a telegram to the Russian government on the 55th Anniversary celebration day of the October Revolution he does so because he has much to thank the Moscow leadership for. They



helped build up the illusion that Nixon was really going to end the war in Vietnam, that he had the best of intentions towards the working class.

Student arrests in Peru

THE Peruvian police have surrounded universities and schools in Lima, Huancayo, Piura and Trujillo after demonstrations against United States policy towards 200 nautical miles of territorial waters claimed by Peru.

Already more than 100 students have been arrested and many more injured after tear-gas attacks from dictator Velasco's riot squads.

These police actions show up as a complete fraud the 'anti-imperialism' of Velasco's government, which has received so much praise from Fidel Castro.

However, these latest student demonstrations also show that Peruvian students face real dangers from their Maoist and leftist leadership which combines support for Velasco's university reforms and violent protest against US imperialism.

This twin-policy is designed to separate students from the struggle of the Peruvian working-class whose organizations Velasco is trying to destroy.

This has already led to the crushing of students in the Agrarian University of San Marcos which is still under military occupation.

NEWSBRIEF

THE RHODESIAN parliament resumed last week for a three-week session during which it is expected to bring in new racist laws.

Under these measures the government will have the power to evict Asians and mixed-blood 'infiltrators' from white areas.

☆

HENRY FORD and Ford company directors have held high-level talks with members of the Spanish government to discuss plans for a car factory in Spain. The plans are only a small part of a huge rush to invest in the country, ruled by Franco's dictatorship which allows no trade union or political rights for the working class.

MORE THAN half the world population lives in cholera-infested areas, and few countries have rid themselves of the disease.

A senior World Health Organization official told a seminar in Malaya last week that only a small number of governments had taken precautions regarding sanitation and health education.

☆

JAMAICA has banned a wide range of imports and tightened controls on bank credit in a bid to curb the outflow of foreign exchange.

Announcing the government's move Prime Minister Michael Manley said the country's balance of payments situation was deteriorating. Unemployment, he said, had jumped from an estimated 13 per cent in 1960 to 25 per cent last April.

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RIGHT-TO-WORK FILM RALLIES

Scotland

A LARGE meeting of youth and trade unionists cheered and clapped after a showing of the new Right-to-Work film in Glasgow last weekend.

The youth, some of whom had taken part in the national marches in February-March this year, applauded the film—a record of 'the biggest campaign the YS has carried out against the Tory government'.

Coachloads of YS members, supporters and trade unionists came from all parts of Glasgow—Renfrew, Clydebank, Renton, Castlemilk—and from Edinburgh.

John Barrie, YS National chairman and leader of the Glasgow-London march said the Young Socialists had planned another Right-to-Work march to start early next year.

The fight for the right to work, he said was at the centre of every major struggle against the Tory government.

'The Tories have not only taken away the right to work, they have tried to smash the right to strike and now the very right to a decent standard of living.

'The so-called anti-inflation measures of the government allows employers to bring criminal court action against any organizations or individuals who fight for better wages.'

David Barclay, one of the Glasgow-London marchers, said experiences during the Right-to-Work campaign had underlined the need for a revolutionary leadership.

'We have learnt that if we don't defeat the treacherous right wing leaders in the trade union movement then they will help the Tories to defeat us.'

He called on YS members and all youth to help establish large branches of the Young Socialists throughout Scotland.

Gordon Bailey, secretary of the apprentices committee at Babcock and Wilcox, told the meeting that the situation had

placed great historical responsibilities on the working class.

Speaking in a personal capacity, he said the Right-to-Work film had showed that youth wanted to fight.

'But only with a clear determined leadership that will not falter or give in when the going gets rough will the working class be prepared to take power.

'In January British employers under Toryism will join hands with their European capitalist counterparts in the Common Market in a combined effort to smash the working class.

'A smashed and leaderless working class are part of the terms for entry into the EEC.

'The trade unions must fight now for the unity of workers and unemployed to bring down the Tories'.

A phased pay offer won by apprentices at Babcock and Wilcox has been effectively 'frozen' as a result of the government action.

Gary Gurmeet, Keep Left editor, said the Tory wage freeze had brought about an unprecedented change in the relations between employers and the trade unions.

The anti-inflation Bill was not just a freeze but control by decree over the lives of millions of people. It was intimately linked up with the Industrial Relations Act.

'It is no accident that the trade union leaders who viciously opposed our Right-to-Work march are now silent on this issue.

'These same trade union leaders allowed the opposition to the Industrial Relations Act to be drowned in harmless protest. Now the Tories have gone one step further and brought in state control of wages.'

The Young Socialists, he said, had emerged greatly strengthened as a result of the Right-to-Work marches. Not only did it have many new branches but it was also able to launch a weekly paper which was expanding and improving all the time.

Yorkshire



By Keep Left reporters

'THE right-to-work campaign was a great step forward for the Young Socialists. It showed the Labour traitors that the working class was prepared to fight,' Chris Gill, a young worker from Pontefract told a 250-strong meeting in Leeds last weekend.

He was speaking at a rally organized by Yorkshire Young Socialists. The film of the national marches was given a tremendous reception from the audience.

After opening speeches by National Committee members Ray Jaxson and Sarah Hanigan the discussion provoked a number of new members to raise some important questions.

A number of youth who had taken part in the marches pointed out that the campaign had been a fight for principles all the way.

Ron Dixon from Grime-thorpe said the film was artistically well made and would help to get youth interested.



Over 250 youth attended the rally in Leeds.

YS National Committee plans prices campaign

A NATION-WIDE campaign against rising prices has been planned by the Young Socialists for the next few months.

The campaign will include rallies, public meetings and demonstrations during the Christmas period.

At a meeting of the YS National Committee last weekend, National Secretary John Simmance said the YS intended to be in the forefront of the fight against attacks on workers' standards of living.

'Entry into the Common Market is going to increase food prices by 10 per cent. This taken in line with a series of other increases recently will mean a steep rise in the cost of living,' he said.

'Our campaign will mobilize

thousands of youth, trade unionists and housewives against the Tory government.'

The National Committee made plans to hold these demonstrations in all regions to coincide with the Christmas shopping period.

Other activities planned last week are right-to-work rallies with special showings of the new film about the national marches.

Plans are also going ahead for the right-to-work march next year. A route is being drawn up and the march will finish with a pageant of working class history at Empire Pool, Wembley on March 12, 1973.

The National Committee also discussed expansion of the

Young Socialists Students Societies which hold their first conference in London this weekend.

A drive to make the annual general meeting of Keep Left the biggest ever will start soon. The meeting to be held in London on January 6 will be the first since Keep Left became a weekly paper.



John Simmance.



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

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The Tory government sets out to solve inflation by taking away the right to live.



Taking it out on the

A special Keep Left survey on the High Street by Sarah Hannigan

LAST week Keep Left organized a survey among shoppers in Brixton, South London. We asked everyone the same question—what did they think of the present trend in price increases? The answer was unanimous—far too high.

In addition the majority of people placed little or no faith in the Tory government's law to hold down prices. The only thing that definitely would not rise, they said, is wages.

They are quite right. The Tories' so-called 'freeze' in prices opened with the most massive round of increases this country has ever seen in the two weeks before the new law was announced. Up to 5,000 prices went up!

But more important all basic foodstuffs—meat, fish, fruit and vegetables—are exempted from the controls. And yet experts have predicted that all these items will register sharp increases.

Liberty

As long as importers can prove their costs of importing have increased then they are at liberty to put prices up—over 45 per cent of food and the vast majority of industrial raw materials come into Britain from abroad.

Butchers Frank Perryman and Denis Loader told Keep Left:

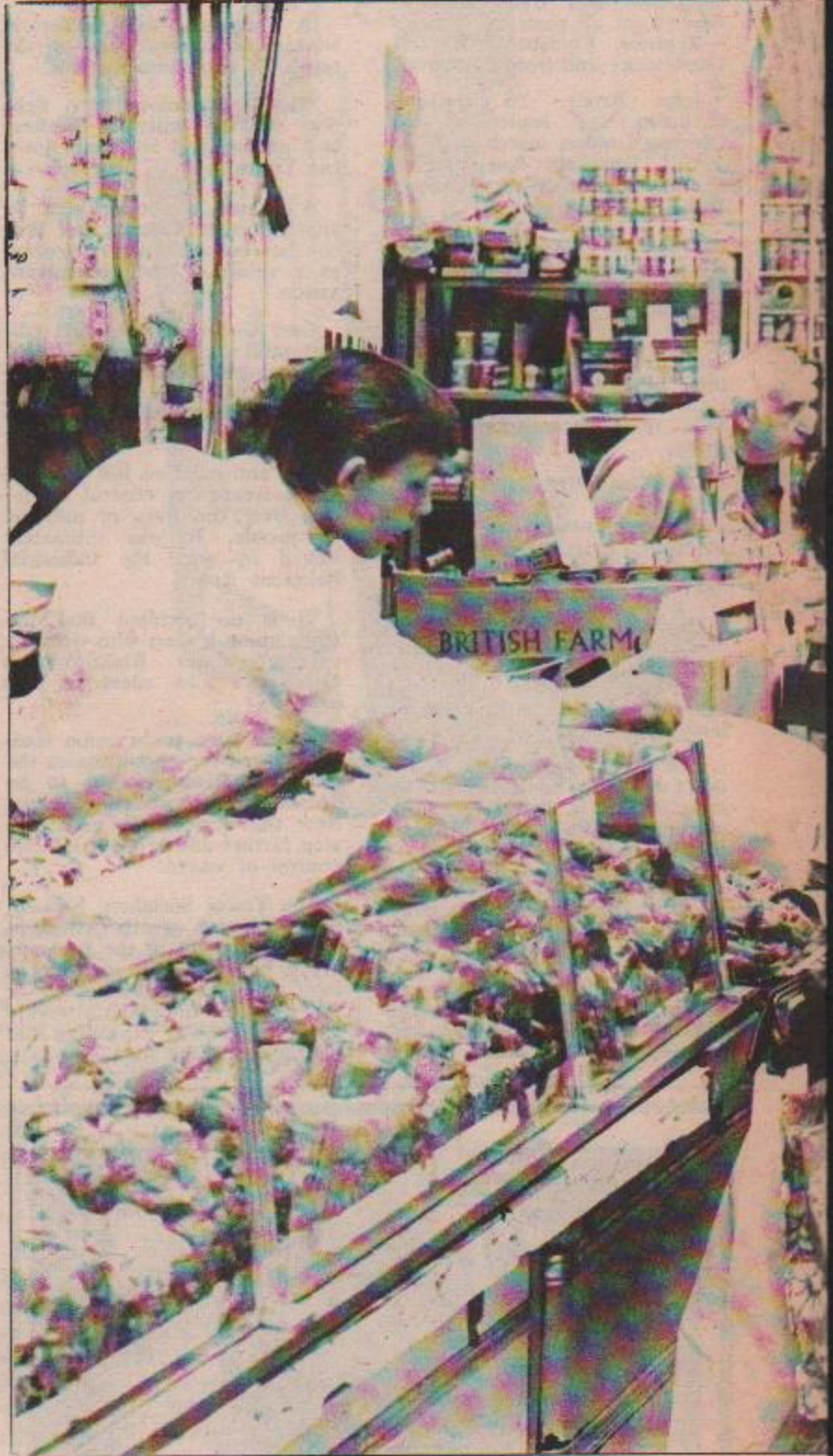
'Everything is too dear. The meat has all gone up again in the last week and it's going to go up more.

'It could even go up next week again.

Afford

'People will only be able to afford one joint a week—not three or four times a week like they used to. And that's going to put more butchers out of work as well.'

Denis and Frank work at one of the butchers' shops in Brixton market where competition is keen and housewives 'shop around' because they cannot afford to do anything else. Unemployment in the area is the highest in South London.



Above: Butchers Denis and Frank told Keep Left that all meat prices had gone up and they would probably go up again.

Below: Mr and Mrs Woods are homeless. Now Leonard Woods has had to give up his job—they can't afford the present prices.



And they warned: 'It's going to get worse once we go in the Common Market. We're going to have to keep up with their prices and that will be terrible.'

Mr John Stewart has been out of work for six months. His last job was in an engineering factory in the Brixton area. Since then he has been unable to find a job that will pay him decent wages.

He said: 'I think the prices are stupid. How can you live? The answer is—you can't. I get the dole today [Thursday] and it's all gone by Monday. I get

£16.55 to keep me, my wife and two kids. My wife doesn't work either.

'By the time I've paid my rent there's nothing left—I have to pay £7 a week. With the rest you've got to buy clothes and everything.'

New town

John is now trying to get a job in a new town in the hope that he may find some permanent employment to be able to feed his wife and family.

He added: 'I think the whole policies of the Tories



the shopper's pocket



Three weeks ago he had to give up his job because he could no longer cope with the frequent trips to the Social Security offices and the time off work these visits required.

Leonard told us: 'I think it's terrible today. These people have given me, my wife and two children £11 a week to live on.

'We spend about £2 a day on food because our situation is somewhat different from most families. We stay at a hotel most of which is paid for by the Social Security—we pay 75p a night or £5.25 a week for bed and breakfast.

Allowed

'But we are not allowed to have any other meals there—we're not allowed any visitors either. That means we have to eat out all the time. If we want a cup of tea there at night it costs 10p and a sandwich is 12p so before you know where you are you've spent another 50p.'

Shirley said: 'It's just ridiculous—you can't buy anything at a normal price. Eating out is very expensive—we spend about £13 or £14 a week that way.

Mrs Noreen Howard lives with her husband and three young children in a council estate near Brixton. She told us: 'The price of food is disgusting. You can't buy a decent dinner today. With my three children I find it very difficult to manage.

Solution

'I don't see a solution with this government. Ever since these Conservatives have got in the prices have gone up all the time.

'All this about holding wages down is ridiculous, especially when all they're going to do is put up the price of food.'

Patricia works in a gifts store in Brixton market.

'I think prices generally are terrible', she said. 'They're going up all the time. I suppose the right thing to do would be to get rid of Mr Heath somehow.'

are stupid. They should be chucked out.'

Veta, 21, was window gazing outside one of Brixton's numerous shoe shops.

Manage

'I think prices are very high,' she said. 'I find it very difficult to manage these days. My wages went up this year because of a birthday rise—but it didn't amount to very much—only about £4 a month or about £1 a week.

'The prices of train and bus fares and everything

else have gone up a lot more.'

Pointing at the shoes and boots, Veta said: 'These prices are terrible. They're not really much to look at but the prices!'

Mr Leonard Woods, his wife Shirley, and their two children, two-year-old son Mark and baby, are homeless.

Since they got married over two years ago, Mr and Mrs Woods have never had a home of their own. And yet Leonard has been working as a painter for the Greater London Council for years.

A Programme for Controlling Inflation: The First Stage DRAFT BILL

SECTION ONE:

(1) 'Subject to the provisions of this Act, section 2 of this Act shall cease to have effect at the expiration of a period of ninety days beginning with the date on which this Act is passed.'

(2) 'Her Majesty may by Order in Council made not later than thirty days before the date on which the said section 2 would otherwise cease to have effect substitute for the ninety days mentioned in subsection (1) above such longer period, not exceeding one hundred and fifty days, as may be specified in the Order.'

SECTION TWO:

(1) 'Prices or charges to which this section applies, and which are for transactions effected by a person at a time when this section applies to the prices or charges, shall not exceed the prices or charges for transactions of the same description effected by the same person in the course of business before November 6 1972.'

(2) 'An employer shall not pay remuneration to which this section applies for work for any period during which this section applies to the remuneration at a rate which exceeds the rate of remuneration paid by him for the same kind of work before November 6 1972.'

SECTION FIVE:

(2) 'If an organization of workers or organization of employers or any other organization or person, takes, or threatens to take, any action with a view to compel, induce or influence a person to contravene any of the provisions of section 2 of this Act, he shall be liable—

(a) on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £400, and

(b) on conviction on indictment to a fine.'

● spotlight on students

Leon Trotsky on students and intellectuals

We reprint below an interview with Leon Trotsky which first appeared in the Danish 'Studenten blad' in December 1932. It was published in March 1937 in 'Fjerde Internationale' (Fourth International). The English translation appeared in 'Intercontinental Press' on November 13, 1972.

AND so Trotsky arrived. Anyone expecting to be faced with an old, brutal, fearful figure would be disappointed. Quite the opposite. There was something friendly, highly cultivated, pleasant, and likeable about him. After greeting each of his visitors, he sat down in the empty armchair and waited for our questions.

TROTSKY ON STUDENTS

Where does the revolutionary outlook of students come from—when in fact they are revolutionary?

At the addition of this last qualification, a very revealing and mischievous smile came over the familiar features of his face.

'There you put your finger on it!'

Do they owe this to their social and economic position, or do we have to turn to psychology, perhaps even to psychoanalysis, to explain it?

Once again a mischievous smile.

'First and foremost, you have to understand that students do not constitute a distinct and unified group in society.

'They fall into various groups, and their political attitude closely corresponds to the one prevailing in these various groups in society. Some students are radical-oriented; but of these, only a tiny number can be won over to the revolutionary party.

WHEN ONE REACHES THIRTY

'The fact is that very often radicalism is a sickness of youth among what are actually petty-bourgeois students. There is a French saying: "Avant trente ans révolutionnaire, après canaille"—Under thirty a revolutionist, thereafter a scoundrel. This

expression is not heard only in France. It was also known and used in connection with the Russian students in the pre-war period. Between 1907 and 1917 I was living in exile, and I travelled around a lot, giving speeches to the various colonies of Russian students abroad. All these students were revolutionary in those days. During the October revolution in 1917, 99 per cent of them fought on the side of the barricades.

CAREERISM

'You find this radicalism among youth in every country. The young person always feels dissatisfied with the society he lives in—he always thinks he can do things better than his elders did. So the youth always feel they are progressive—but what they understand by progress varies quite a bit. In France, for example, there is both a radical and a royalist opposition. Naturally this radicalism includes a certain number of healthy oppositionist forces, but for the most part it amounts to what can only be called careerism.

'Here we have the real psychological motor force. The young feel shut out; the old take up all the space, and the young can't find any outlet for their abilities. They are dissatisfied quite simply because they themselves are not sitting in the driver's seat. But as soon as they are sitting there, it's all over with their radicalism.

'It's like this: Gradually these young people move into the available posts. They become lawyers, office heads, teachers. And so they come to look upon their earlier radicalism as a sin of their youth, as a simultaneously repulsive and charming error. As a result of this memory of his own youth, the academician comes to lead a double life throughout his entire life. What

it is, is that he himself believes that he still possesses a kind of revolutionary idealism, and in reality he retains a certain liberal veneer. But this veneer is only a coating for what he really is—a narrow-minded, petty-bourgeois social climber, whose real interests boil down to his career.'

Trotsky shifted in his chair a bit and looked around with a kind, apologetic smile.

ROLE IN REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENT

Can students be of any importance to a revolutionary movement?

'The revolutionary student can only make a contribution if, in the first place, he goes through a rigorous and consistent process of revolutionary self-education, and, in the second place, if he joins the revolutionary workers' movement while he is still a student. At the same time, let me make clear that when I talk about theoretical self-education, I mean the study of unfalsified Marxism.'

STEP DOWN FROM THE PODIUM

What should be the relationship between the academician and the workers' movement?

A stern and determined expression comes into Trotsky's eyes.

'He must realize that he is coming into the workers' movement as a learner and not as a teacher. He must learn to subordinate himself and do the work that is demanded of him, and not what he wants to do. The workers' movement for its part must regard him with the greatest scepticism. A young academician must first "toe the line" for three, four, or five years, and do quite simple and ordinary party work. Then, when the workers have confidence in him and are completely certain that



he is not a careerist, then he can be allowed to move up—but slowly, very slowly. When he has worked with the workers' movement in this way, then the fact that he was an academician is forgotten, the social differences disappear.'

ROLE OF THE INTELLECTUAL

What, then, is the role of the intellectual in the revolutionary movement?

'His role is to draw general conclusions on the basis of concrete facts. If this process of drawing generalizations out of current conflicting material is not constantly going on, the movement becomes banalized.'

WHEN MARXISM IS FALSIFIED

Earlier you said that by a theoretical self-education you meant the study of unfalsified Marxism. What do you mean by unfalsified Marxism?

'Criticism of Marxism is not so dangerous. Falsification is a different matter. What I mean by it is theories that go by the name of Marxism, but that have actually abandoned the essence of Marx's teachings. The revisionist Bernstein, for example, made the movement itself the main thing in his theory and pushed the ultimate goal into the background. What resulted from this 'Marxism'? In England, a MacDonald—or a Lord Snowden. You can find other examples yourselves. Such falsification only uses the name of Marxism in order to deceive the workers.'

MARX AND MARXISM

Well, but, as Lis Toersleff wrote, the world hasn't stood still since Marx's time, has it?

'Of course not. I'm no fetishist—Marxism did not come to a halt when Marx died. Marx could also be wrong—mainly in

his predictions of when events would occur, and then he erred only in his assessment of the timing. Lenin integrated newly emerged historical factors into Marxism and thus adapted it to our time.'

DEMOCRACY AND DICTATORSHIP

Trotsky then took up the question of democracy and dictatorship: 'We communists do not deny—as, for example, the anarchists do—the importance of democracy. But we recognize its importance only up to a very definite point. That point is reached as soon as the class contradictions become so great that the tension causes a short circuit to occur. At that point, democracy can no longer function, and the only alternatives are either a proletarian or a bourgeois dictatorship. Look at the evolution of the Social Democratic republic in Germany from 1918 to the present. In the early days, the Social Democrats had power, but now it is reactionary generals who are sitting at the wheel.

'Democracy can no longer even play its own game because of the class contradictions. Look, for example, at how the democratic right to asylum—the right of an exiled person to residency—is observed these days.'

TWO PIECES OF EVIDENCE

With the mention of the right to asylum, you could see that Trotsky was again coming back to Dalgas Boulevard. With a broad smile, he continued:

'I am not a stubborn Marxist. You can still get me to believe in democracy. But first you'll have to comply with two wishes: First bring about socialism in Germany through democratic means, and second get me a residence permit in Denmark.'

Writings of Leon Trotsky

1933-1934	£1.43
1934-1935	£1.43
1935-1936	£1.25
1937-1938	£1.25
1938-1939	£1.25
1939-1940	£1.05

These extremely vital writings by Leon Trotsky between the years 1929 and 1940—his third and final exile from the Soviet Union—are now available in Britain from the Paperbacks Centre, 28 Charlotte Street, London, W1.

YOUNG SOCIALISTS STUDENTS CONFERENCE
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BOOKS ● PERIODICALS ● NEWSPAPERS

A Liberal's eye view

'The Battle of Bogside'
Clive Limpkin
Published by
Penguin Books
Price: £1.00



CLIVE Limpkin's 'The Battle of Bogside' is a pictorial record of his various spells of duty in Northern Ireland, first as a staff photographer for the 'Daily Sketch' in 1969 and subsequently for the 'Sun'.

Limpkin in his introduction says he attempted to give an impression of the impasse reached in the conflict in the North—as seen in Derry.

But the attempt at objectivity falls flat on its face—the selection of photographs is a liberal's eye view of the devastation and horror created by the situation and in the end combines to strengthen the idea that the army is dealing as best it can with 'lawlessness' and must be

allowed to get on with it.

Significantly the book—which covers the period from August 1969 just prior to the arrival of the army for the first time until May 1972—only records in passing the most brutal act by the army in that period. That was the murder of 13 civilians on Sunday January 30 this year—never to be forgotten as 'Bloody Sunday'.

August 1969—the troops arrive, Photo 1 (right). The reaction of youth to the sound of live ammunition fire, Photo 2 (above). Children coming from school often had to brave a thick wall of CS gas and choking, crying and gasping make their way through it, Photo 3.



FILM

'THE CANDIDATE'
Produced by
Walter Coblenz
Directed by
Michael Ritchie

The election of a candidate

BILL MCKAY—lots of charm and not a twitch of conviction from Robert Redford—is as Californian and wholesome as pumpkin pie.

He shines with honesty and liberal virtue and the desperate Democrats, looking for new blood, pluck him out of his legal aid community centre and persuade him (without too much difficulty) to run for the Senate.

His running opponent is the archetypal Republican right winger, Crocker Jarman, an old and efficient hand at the game—so efficient he comes close to wiping McKay off the screen several times.

Soon McKay is shaking hands with labourers, wooing the girls in traditional Kennedy/Trudeau style and being indoctrinated with the right (in both senses) ideas by his smooth campaign operators (who here are basically good guys).

Warner Bros 'The Candidate' is intended to show us something that's eluded many of us so far—the amusing side of political campaigning in the US. It certainly shows the rather dim entertainment of McKay/Redford being upset at the sight of his liberal ideas chewed up by the various cameras, at having to rush on and off planes, missing lunches, trying to reach the 'poor' and the 'Blacks' with limp speeches they don't want to hear. But it is a spiritless piece with

an indeterminate script and only Melvyn Douglas, Kenneth Tobey, glimpsed as a cynical union chief, and the television debate scene between the two opponents give even the remotest sense of the corruption, the brutal cynicism and cut-throat ethics prevalent in Democratic campaigning today.

With revelations like Watergate (which is of course being presented for investigation in the US after the election) and all its many precedents; with the 46 per cent abstention rate in the recent voting, it is clear that the procedures of the democratic election, the procedures of democracy itself have literally broken down before our eyes.

But the trivial portrait given by this film of a bankrupt system can only leave audiences in further inertia and disillusionment at a time when they need all their wits about them.

Even more apparent is that under the pretty package, the hand-held camera work and the glossy locations, there is the implication that at the end of the liberal road, where we now stand, there is an alternative—fascism.

The Crocker Jarman may be flawed, suggests the film, but they know what they're about—they have a solid viewpoint and even—policies!

The toothy smiles and sleek techniques of the whole piece suggest nothing so much as a commercial and in fact this is what it is—a crude commercial for capitalism and a system that in fact has nothing left to sell.

POST BAG

A laid-off apprentice

AT the Young Socialists weekend school in Margate there was a lot of discussion on the economic crisis and how this drove the Tories to take away all our rights.

I left college in June. Since then I have been laid off from a job as apprentice electrician.

Many young people in Hemel Hempstead cannot get jobs anymore. The factories which used to take on about 30 apprentices at one time do not employ them anymore.

Under this system I have no future at all, nor is there anything for all youth. But leaders of the working class do not want to challenge the Tory government's right to rule.

So a leadership has to be built in the working class which will fight to take state power. That means we must build the Young Socialists because only they have fought and stood on principles to take the working class forward.

Steve
Hemel Hempstead

Put agreement into practice

THERE IS a tendency among many youth to think that they are exempted from the class struggle. There is also the belief that all one needs to do is to sit back, read a few books on Marxism and intervene when the time comes.

Both these ideas are mistaken. At all time individuals represent changes within the balance of class forces.

Those who are actively fighting for the YS represent the future of the working class and mankind. But those who often say that they agree with YS policies but then fail to put this agreement into practice by building Keep Left and YS represent the interests of capitalism.

The capitalist class has declared war on the working class all over the world.

In Great Britain the Tory government has introduced the Industrial Relations Act, increased unemployment and entered the Common Market.

They want to smash the working class. In a war if one doesn't fight the enemy but stands back then he is preparing for the defeat of his own side.



People who won't fight the Tories although they understand what the Tories are doing are in effect accepting defeat.

Individuals who agree with the YS must realize that they are part of the class struggle and can contribute to the success of the working class.

Oliver Chamberlain
Feltham YS

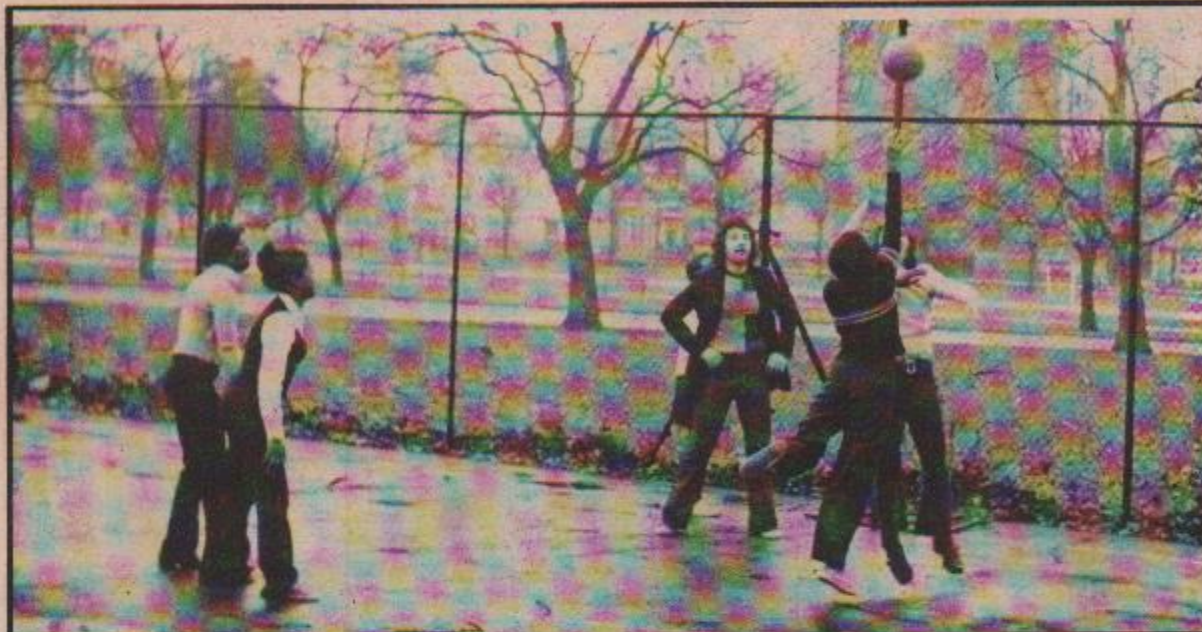
IN England's fair green hills, peace did once reside. Until the serfs did find, they were being taken for a ride.

THEY took away their king and cut off his head. And then they had a Parliament and put it there instead. AND now the peoples prospered, it was the end of a dreadful foe.

But from this great system, a capitalist class did grow. NOW we all know what happened in those fateful years, as emerged the ugly creature, of working class fears. THEY grind you down, they hold you back, they make you work for them.

They're just a bunch of parasites, Heath and all his men. AND NOW we are saying smash them. I mean smash them in the head. Because if you just sit there they'll smash you instead.

John Webster
Dagenham



Middlesex YS to organize netball tournament

KEEN COMPETITION at the first netball match organized by the Young Socialists this Winter gave Southall an 8-2 victory over North London.

The match, played at Finsbury Park last weekend, was the first of a series planned by all YS branches in Middlesex.

In spite of rain last Sunday the netball was a huge success. Southall girls proved to be quicker right from the start and Debora scored the first goal in just five minutes. The score at the end of

the first half was 6-2. Southall goals came after superb team work from the seven-girl team.

The game became tough during the second half with North London reorganizing their team which included better goal defence.

Goals were few and far between but Southall scored another two to make it 8-2.

YS members in Middlesex are now planning a regional tournament in Willesden when they hope to attract at least ten teams.

Ann Frederick

FOOTBALL: Clapham moves into top position

LONDON FOOTBALL LEAGUE					
	Pld	W	D	L	PTS
SOUTH WEST					
Clapham	3	2	0	1	4
Blackheath	3	2	0	1	4
New Addington	2	2	0	0	4
Thornton Heath	3	1	0	2	2
Tooting	3	0	0	3	0
NORTH WEST					
Holloway	1	1	0	0	2
West London	2	1	0	1	2
Dagenham	1	0	1	0	1
Poplar	1	0	1	0	1
Tottenham	1	0	0	1	0
OUTER LONDON					
Feltham	1	1	0	0	2
Hayes	1	1	0	0	2
Kingston	2	1	0	1	2
Fulham	1	0	0	1	0
Southall	1	0	0	1	0

Hayes 4, Fulham 2

A GAME conducted with little interference from the referee. Fulham showed great skill in attack but their determination was not rewarded with goals as the Hayes defence played their best game of the season.

Acton in many ways deserved a better result as they played some very exciting football. Their centre forward who was carried off the field in the second half was one of the best individuals in the team.

Young and very skilful Ray Sybly played very well for Hayes and held the attack together when in possession of the ball.



Kingston 3, Feltham 9

THE match played in bad weather conditions was never really in doubt after Feltham scored their first two goals. Neither side dominated the game and Feltham scored most of their goals from break-aways.

The difference between the two sides was mainly in teamwork. Feltham combined well but Kingston's moves often broke down.

Excellent goalkeeping on the Kingston side helped keep the scores down.

John Cassidy

WHAT'S ON WHERE

CLAPHAM YS
Youth Club
Every Thursday
Coronation Hall
Springfield Estate
Union Road, SW8
8 pm adm. 10p
Sports, records, discussion groups

BRIXTON YS DISCOS
Wednesday November 29
St John's Church Hall
Angel Road, Brixton
Admission: 10p YS members
15p non-members

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

WINSFORD YS
Discotheque
Every Sunday
Wheatsheaf Hotel
8 p.m. adm 10p

SWANSEA YS
Discotheque
every Wednesday
St Phillips Church Hall
7.30 p.m.

BIRMINGHAM YS
Xmas party
Thursday December 21
Beachcomber Room
Farcroft Hotel
Handsworth

COVENTRY YS
Xmas party
Monday December 18
White Lion
Walsgrave Road
Gosford, Coventry

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

AVENHAM YS
Youth Club
every Monday
7.30-10.00 p.m.
Foxton Youth Centre
Adm: 5p Records

E OXFORD YS
Meets every Tuesday 8 p.m.
at Cape of Good Hope

WESTERN REGION YS
Weekend School
December 9 and 10
Streathley Youth Hostel
Hill House
Reading Road
Streathley

READING YS
Meets every Wednesday
'Happy Prospect', Southcote
8.00 p.m.
Bernius Hall
Calcot, Reading
8.00 p.m.
Discotheque
Thursday November 23
Southcote Hotel
Southcote, Reading
8.00 p.m.

WALES REGION
Sunday November 26
Swansea University
Haydn Jones
(YS National Committee)
John Simmance
(YS National Secretary)

WEST MIDLANDS
Sunday December 3
Erdington YMCA
Reservoir Road
Erdington, Birmingham
3 pm

EAST MIDLANDS
Sunday December 10
Colman's Dancing Academy
Clumber Street
Nottingham 3 pm

Special showings of the Right-to-Work film

NORTH WEST
Sunday December 10
Wesley Methodist Church
Hume, Manchester 3 pm
Speakers:
Alan Peers
(YS National Committee)
Gary Gurmeet
(Keep Left Editor)

NORTH WEST
Sunday December 17
The Catholic Chaplaincy
Mount Pleasant
Liverpool 3 3 pm

NORTH EAST REGION
Sunday November 26
Dunstan Community
Centre
Dunstan, Gateshead
3 p.m.
Speakers:
David Jones
(YS National Committee)

Tom Gimpson
(Apprentice boilermaker)
Gary Gurmeet
(Editor Keep Left)

RALLY AND POP CONCERT

SUNDAY DECEMBER 17

Acton Town Hall, High Street, Acton, W3. 7 p.m.

Featuring:
MCGUINNESS FLINT **FUMBLE**
RAM JOHN HOLDER **NEIL INNES**
PAUL JONES **and SPIKE MILLIGAN**

adm. 50p



TWO YOUNG SOCIALISTS BAZAARS THIS CHRISTMAS!

Gifts for all the family
Boutique, records, books, food,
jumble, toys, stalls, sideshows,
refreshments

LEEDS
Saturday December 9
Corn Exchange
Leeds
Doors open 12 noon

LONDON
Saturday November 25
East India Hall
East India Dock Rd, E14
Doors open at 12 noon