

YOUNG GUARD

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FOR
SOCIALISM
& FREEDOM

NOVEMBER, 1963 No. 22

SACK THE TORIES!



Merseyside unemployed crowd around job notices

HELP VERWOERD = T.U. LEADER

ALL socialists will be disgusted at the press reports of the article written by J. Matthews, the recently retired member of Labour's national executive committee, in "Perspective" a magazine sponsored by South African business interests. In it Matthews opposes the call for an arms and economic embargo on South Africa and instead pleads for increased financial backing for the South African regime.

The scurrilous defence of the South African system is all the more nauseating when Matthews goes on to say that the Sharpe-

ville massacre was "not as bad as the suppression of the Hungarian revolution".

Such hypocrisy from a man who has rarely lifted a finger to help workers anywhere, Hungarian, South African and British is the last straw. Let Labour's national executive disown this traitor, and reaffirm their intention to ban all arms to Verwoerd. Then let them press ahead with the total economic boycott of South African fascism, now being called for by the persecuted people of that country.

NOVEMBER is the first month of winter. For some it is a month of fireworks and fur wraps but for many workers with last winter stark in their minds, it is the month of fear. The question for them is whether this winter will mean the return of the million strong dole queues.

Last winter the Tories explained that the bad weather caused the phenomenal rise in unemployment, then with their customary hypocrisy they tried to take the credit when the figures fell.

CRAZY SOCIETY

What they have not explained to the unemployed is why their numbers have increased relentlessly. They cannot explain away so easily the facts which show that 68,934 young people under 18 are unemployed in Tory Britain; many of them have been jobless since they left school.

With the fight for markets sharpening the bosses are replacing men by machines as fast as profits will allow. This means that to compete the bosses must squeeze as much as possible from their workers. Then when they have the money they need, in come the machines and out go the workers. This means the workers income slumps drastically when he falls back on his miserable dole money. Therefore he spends much less, and since you can't sell clothes and food to a machine it also means that somebody else is out of a job. It's a vicious circle but then it's a vicious society. **It's the same society that is encrusted with slums while building workers in the North are idle. That slashes railways while roads are clogged to near immobility. That fights against a shorter working week while unemployment soars. This crazy society is called Capitalism.**

ALTERNATIVE SOCIALISM

It can never solve the problems of the working class. The United States gives a sombre warning of the dangers of science in the hands of Big Business. Production in the States is at an all time high, there is so much food that farmers are paid not

to grow crops—yet more than half the world is starving and the U.S. jobless number nearly 5 million with another 2½ million on short time.

There is only one alternative to this evil system and that is Socialism. Socialism means that the wealth of the country is owned by the people who create it—the working class, and that wealth is shared among the people and not creamed off by the Tories and the shareholders. A society where no man lives off another man's labour.

To achieve Socialism we must have a strong, fighting Labour Movement and this means that we need those thousands of unemployed youth in our ranks, conscious that the only solution to their problems is a new society.

The demand of every unemployed worker should be work or full pay. Training schools must be set up where the youth from the dole queues can learn the skills so necessary in an industrial society and get the same wages as those who have a regular job.

UNITED WORKING CLASS

The Tories will not grant these basic demands for a decent life and they must be exposed and smashed.

A united working class can quickly bring down the Tory racketeers but this unity will only be fully achieved if the organised workers in the Trade Unions campaign on behalf of their unemployed comrades by banning overtime and demanding a shorter working week and longer holidays without loss of pay.

A Labour Government can do much to solve the problems of unemployment and bad housing and the sooner we get one the better. But to ensure that they do not flinch in the assault upon the centres of Tory power in private industry there must be a militant rank and file behind them. **It is the job of all Young Socialists to recruit not only the youth on the dole to the Labour Party but every young person who believes that a society based on exploitation and H-bombs must be destroyed.**

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Facts about the N.A.B. (p. 5)

THIS MONTH

3 men and a brick (p. 7)

YS NEWS and VIEWS

scinding a resolution depicting "factional activity" on the Federation E.C. This, however, did not prevent three resignations from the E.C.

Tottenham Y.S. passed a resolution depicting the fact that the Regional Committee had put back the date of the proposed West London Rally to January, because it coincided with a job-by-of-parliament by a North-ern-organised Unemployment campaign. The branch felt that events, youth coming to London should be involved in the West London Rally, and therefore, also involved in the Young Socialists.

John Finn
Tottenham YS

EAST SURREY FED.

As a member of the East Surrey Federation of Young Socialists I attended the Tottenham Young Socialist dance at the Mitcham Town Hall at their invitation fully expecting a Jazz, Folk, or Rock evening. However, when I arrived I stood at the doorway in sheer amazement. It was ballroom dancing with the senior local party officials. Determined to make the best of the situation, I walked in thinking that it was bound to improve. However, the climax had yet to come, after the floor had been cleared there was a role of drums and the prospect-ive socialist candidate for Mitchell, Roger Mackay stepped forward to receive the Hon. Presidency of the Branch. This is all very upsetting when one considers that this is not an isolated incident. Mitcham Young Socialists seem more concerned with raising funds and having political life of the local Young Socialist federation and region.

Peter Walker
SHEFFIELD

SCOTLAND

SPRINGBURN Y.S., are working hard knocking into shape the new large hall which was obtained by the adult party in Springburn, a gift from the N.U.R. We hope to utilise this hall in a recruiting drive, as we will be able to offer more social activity which was impossible before we had this hall.

Woodside Y.S. have now bought a van which seats 12 people. One of its first uses will be to visit such branches as Dunfermline, Dumfries, Ayr, Perth, Dundee etc., to coordinate YS activity in Scotland.

Good news from Denny and Dunipace, our two young industrial militants there, George Skelton and John Ferguson tell us that there is a chance in the near future of a Y.S. branch being established due to the fact that there is quite a nucleus of young C.N.D. sympathisers which they hope to interest.

The Glasgow Federation has been transformed from the most militant, conscious, hard working federation in Britain to the most disorganised, disillusioned organisation anyone could imagine. The full blame for this appalling transformation lies undoubtably with the Federation's leadership, who are all of a tendency which has a long history of similar achievements, the most outstanding of which was the time they managed to have their own paper proscribed.

A meeting of young workers held on Sunday the 6th October, with delegates from all sections of the Labour Young movement, set up a committee which will be known as The Clydeide Young Workers Committee.

The object of this committee will be to organise demonstrations against youth unemployment, with a lobby of parliament in view next month. The Young Guard comrades effectively argued for a long term policy of building up a militant lasting committee which would interest itself in such things as campaigns against dead-end jobs, trying to organise and help young workers who are being exploited and used as scab labour, a fair deal for apprentices and assisting young workers on strike. Brian Stafford, Renfrew Y.S. was appointed chairman of this organisation.

Gerry Lavery
Springburn YS

OUR AIMS

'Young Guard' is an open and democratic paper produced and financed entirely by Young Socialists. Its editorial policy is generally representative of the Young Socialist movement and its pages open to young people of all opinions.

It is run by its readers, who hold regular readers' meetings where ever there is support and elect representatives to an editorial board which meets quarterly. This editorial board elects the editor and assistant editors necessary to produce the paper.

'Young Guard' is financed by its supporters who contribute up to 2/6 monthly towards the printing costs.

Our basic points of editorial policy are enumerated below. These can be changed at any time that the readers decide.

YOUNG GUARD

The return of a Labour Government, nationalisation under workers' control of the banks, insurance companies, land and major industries;

Unilateral renunciation of all nuclear weapons and the withdrawal from NATO and all existing military alliances;

The self-determination of the colonial peoples and the withdrawal of all British troops from overseas;

An internationalist policy based on co-operation with genuine labour movements throughout the world;

Votes and full legal rights at 18;

Three - year apprenticeships, full trade union rights and the ending of blind-alley employment; free access to the highest educational facilities for all and the replacement of the tripartite system of education by comprehensive schooling;

The building of a democratic Young Socialist movement within the Labour Party pledged to achieve the above programme working in conjunction with young socialists from other countries.

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NORTH-EAST MIDDLESEX

PLANS for a "Young Socialist Fortnight" have been made by the E.C. of the North-East Middlesex Federation. Included in the activities are:—Day School and Social at Enfield (Oct. 27), Halloween Party at Finchley (Nov. 1st), Demonstration and Public meeting in semi-rural Potters Bar (Nov. 2nd), Poster Parade and leafletting in Hendon, and on November 9, a dance in Tottenham. Wood Green Y.S. have now rejoined the Federation, after re-

At this conference a policy will be decided upon to help local youth. By presenting this policy to the local employers we hope to force them to try to alleviate the position.

I think it is important, to explain how we have organised this. Firstly the idea came from the AEU Junior Workers Committee. The next stage was to contact the Young Socialists to help with organising. We immediately formed an Unemployment Committee which contact-ed the Trades Council and all Trade Union branches asking for

Please supply me with 1 copy of YG for month (6d. per issue 5/- per year)
Please supply me with copies per month (4d. per copy sale or return)
YG for month (6d. per issue 5/- per year)

Pat Fissell
ive reasonably left-wing group.

WE can say from the start of this report on Sheffield Young Socialists that we are growing. Within the next month we will have another branch in a new estate which will mean six branches altogether. This old Tory seat which has been in the hands of the same family of Tories for years.

On October 26th we are holding a demonstration and conference on Youth Unemployment. At this conference a policy will be decided upon to help local youth. By presenting this policy to the local employers we hope to force them to try to alleviate the position.

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MEETINGS of Hord YS

have been suspended for 2 weeks, owing to trouble with a rebel group which refused to pay subscriptions because it objected to 6d per month going to the Labour Party. The disagreement was given front and back page publicity in the local paper (Hord Recorder, 19th Sept.) under the headline "Rebels Split the Young Socialists," together with a photograph of a bearded rebel.

The trouble started when the YS tried to get this group numbering about 7 people, to either pay their subscriptions or get out. After several clashes at meetings a LP official was called in, who insisted that all members of the YS should join the LP independently and hold LP membership cards. (This had not previously been the practice).

Then at a LP meeting on Thursday 26th, attended by the regional youth officer, Doug Gar-nell, it was decided to suspend the YS for 2 weeks "to clear the air" as was the explanation given by our YS representative who voted in favour of the decision.

The position now is not clear. A break-away group is being formed, of people who are refusing to join the LP. Very few of the original YS members will be left at YS meetings, if they do start again—and these mainly right-wing, straight LP policy types. Others will probably be lost to the movement altogether, not wishing on the one hand to come under the thumb of the LP and on the other to join a group opposed to it (and incidentally to every other political party).

Stewart Hastings
Brightside YS

The response from the unions is excellent and will do much to make the demonstrations a success.

shop stewards meetings asking for money and representation at this moment going round to demonstrations etc. We are at money. It is hoped to raise £100

Stewart Hastings
Brightside YS

more news and views...

CARSHALTON

THE branch continues to expand, with average attendances of 25 to 30. Of our committee, one is a ward secretary, one a ward chairman, and one the Federation treasurer. A full programme of meetings (half political, half social) has been arranged for the rest of the year. Finances are in a good state, and a second branch in the area is to be inaugurated shortly.

The branch has a good record for activity in local affairs, and is very active in local elections. Press publicity is quite reasonable, and we got a good coverage of our attempts to take part in the local Carnival last June. The Carnival Committee refused us entry on the grounds that we were political—apparently the Civil Defence is not. When CND applied they were told that the Committee did not approve of their methods! The Branch decided to press on with the plan to take part, at which the Chairman of the Carnival Committee threatened to call in the police. On the day, members exercised their democratic rights by walking along the pavement in step with the procession, giving out leaflets.

The Branch has also been busy in other fields. A year and a half ago a daughter of party member in Huddersfield was seriously ill in a hospital in our area. The branch after several arguments with the Ward sister, managed to organise regular visits throughout the girl's stay. A letter of appreciation has been received from the girl's mother by Transport House.

David Markan

HANTS. AND BERKS

ANDOVER YS are still trying hard to build up their branch. The star attraction of the winter programme is John Eber of the Movement for Colonial Freedom and other branches are being invited to the meeting.

Much of our time is spent maintaining the revival of a grateful local Party and our forceful contribution to what must be the weakest constituency G.M.C. in the South is much appreciated.

NEWBURY Young Socialists, having lost its Chairman Ray Wright to London School of Economics and the overpopulated hordes of the London young socialists branches, is facing a difficult time. Its new chairman Roger Spiller—Berkshire representative on the Southern Region committee—has had an influx of very young members and the question mark hanging over the branch is, can their interest be maintained?

I believe **West Wokingham and Tilehurst Young Socialists** are still active and it has been advertised that a **Reading Young Socialists** has started.

The **Berkshire Federation**—never very strong—is faced with

virtual collapse for lack of officers. If it dies it will join the Hampshire Federation which has been in its grave for the past 6 months. It may be, that nearer Conference time we shall hear of a revival of these Federations with protestations of good intentions from the members of "paper" branches come to cast their annual vote!!

This will not alter the fact that the Federations are corpses and that the blame is as much on the young socialist members and representatives as it is on the Regional Organiser, who, if our own constituency is anything to go by, must be up to his eyes in essential pre-election work.

Eric Parsloe

Andover YS

NORTHAMPTON YS

AFTER a rather inactive period during the Summer months the branch has had a hectic time during the recent weeks. At last we have reaffiliated to the **Northants Federation** after an exile of nearly two years, but unfortunately not without creating a good deal of ill feeling among certain members of the local party.

Our campaign on rent racketeering and housing got off to a flying start with street corner meetings and canvassing in the slum areas of the town. The campaign is now progressing and after a further public meeting a Tenants Association was formed. The highlight of the last few weeks has been our Young Socialist recruiting week, which started with an open meeting at which the press were present to publicise the week. Following this we went out canvassing and leafletting the area all leading up to the climax on the Saturday, when we organised a march through the streets followed by a public meeting which was well supported by members from branches in the East Midlands. This was followed up by a dance in the evening to round off the week.

Dave Holt

HACKNEY YS

YS week in Hackney got off to a good start. On the first day, some comrades took copies of the branch magazine **Protest** to Ridley road market and proceeded to sell to the people in the street. Everyone was very happy about this apart from the two lone YCLer's who were trying to bolster up their mass **Challenge** sale. All during the week, **Protest** was sold around the houses and flats of the constituency and, people were willing to buy it. On the Friday evening (branch night), we had singer **Wally Whyton**, who used to be the leader of the **Vipers**, and now sings with **Pussy Cat Willum** on ITV, talking on 'an artists role in a Socialist Society'. On the Saturday, we had a grand social in the party rooms where, to the strains of Bilk, Brubeck and the Beatles, comrades ate, drank and talked

themselves silly. The last day of YS week was taken up by the showing of a Polish film—**"A Generation"**. At the time of writing it is difficult to assess how many new members we have made but however many there are, it can't be enough.

Barry Burke

REIGATE & REDHILL

THE Reigate and Redhill Young Socialists, in conjunction with the East Surrey Federation, have organised an interesting recruiting campaign in the Borough of Reigate.

This has been spread over a four week period, starting on Saturday, 21st September. Despite poor support from Federation members, leafletting in conjunction with a loudspeaker van took place all day in the Centre of Redhill and the Merstham LCC estate. On Saturday, 28 September with better support from the Federation, leafletting with the loudspeaker van took place in the centres of Redhill and Reigate. In the evening a Folk Song evening was held in the Greyhound Inn, and surprisingly showed a profit of £1. This shows that leafletting and fly-posting in Redhill can have some effect. On Saturday, 5th October a Jumble Sale was held in Redhill. The takings were £19.18.10½. I should like to say here that we were very grateful for help received from members of the local party, and Miss Terry Hayes, the Secretary-Agent, for the tremendous amount of help they gave with the jumble sale. We are holding another folk song evening on 12th October to round off the first stage of this recruiting campaign.

I think if we had more help from the Federation we could have made even more impact on the borough of Reigate than we did. Even so, with the extensive leafletting and flyposting done, people know that there are a militant group of young socialists, who are active in this Tory stronghold.

Mike Rainger

CROYDON

A JOINT effort by all three Young Socialist branches in Croydon has managed to stab the Tories yet again.

The Young Conservatives' 7 week recruiting drive, to coincide with their 'life-saving' conference, began when they 'took' our bookstall pitch in the High Street, on the first Saturday of their campaign. The following week at 9 am three Young Socialist bookstalls, a YCND bookstall and a speaker's stand were spread over the entire pitch. When the YC's arrived pulling their elaborate stall on a trailer behind a white sports car, their faces fell and they retreated to the back of the site, well away from the main stream of shoppers.

However, the challenge to the Young Socialists is to keep this 9 hour vigil up every Saturday for the next 5 weeks!

Rosemary Walker

THE "silly season" in British politics is drawing to a close with the end of the Tory conference and the start of the long-pre-election campaign of activity. It is a period in which all Young Socialists will have to work as they have never worked before—for socialism and for Labour.

The demand for action is already being expressed by the YS rank and file and it is hoped that our national committee will show greater signs of responding to it than they have so far. All regions of the YS should demand a report from their national representative on what plans the NC has for increasing membership, tackling youth unemployment, housing, and all the other burning issues, discussed at our annual conference.

We also hear strange reports that the British YS were very nearly not represented at the International Union of Socialist Youth because the delegates chosen by the National Committee backed down because they "discovered a large amount of unemployment in their regions for which the money to send delegates to IUSY should have been spent." This is a facile and dishonest argument that might equally well be used, and in some quarters probably is being used, to cut the expenditure on the YS national organisation.

FROM WHERE
I STAND

FIANNA

While on unemployment it is imperative, of course, that all YS branches and federations give full support to the various demonstrations protesting at the vast numbers of youth on the dole, that are due to take place this month.

Readers will see the disgusting views of ex NEC member J Matthews on South Africa reported elsewhere. This best report to this kind of traitor is for Young Socialists to redouble their support for Anti-Apartheid, in particular by supporting the "A/A week" this month and by pressing for a total economic embargo on South Africa.

Which way for CND after Labour's victory is again a question on the lips of many CND Labour supporters. Well to me the answer is quite simple. Multiply your efforts ten fold to bring home the arguments against the bomb and the class system which is responsible for it. In particular watch for confirmation of the wide-spread reports that the end of the "British" deterrent far from meaning a drop in the total arms budget will mean an increase in it.

Much of the future argument and debate is going to centre round NATO. Already some people fear that Labour's admittedly mild reforms are endangered by the fact that NATO will demand even more of the wealth we create than it does now. If this is the case then we can say farewell to effectively tackling the housing, school and hospital shortages.

NORTH-EAST NEEDS LABOUR ACTION

— NOT TORY PROMISES

Jim Hutchieson
Longbenton YS

WITH the expectation of there being at least 70,000 people out of work in the North East this winter, already various sections of the Labour Movement are organising committees to combat this creeping menace.

The problems peculiar to the region are related to the decline in the basic industries e.g. ship-building, mining and agriculture, which although representing 7% of employment in the whole of British industry, represents 18% in the North East. Their solution means the provision of 12,000 new jobs a year for at least the next ten years. Since all of these industries can never hope to employ anywhere near the same number of workers as before, the industries coming to the area must be mainly of the new type which show potential for expansion.

Present prospects are bleak of the 640,000 new jobs created between mid-1955 and mid-1960, 620,000 were in the Midlands and Southern England, and only 20,000 were in the remaining areas of Britain.

It would seem therefore that the degree of control over the capitalist economy required to reverse this trend, will mean that the solution of the problem of regional unemployment will be difficult even under a Labour Government.

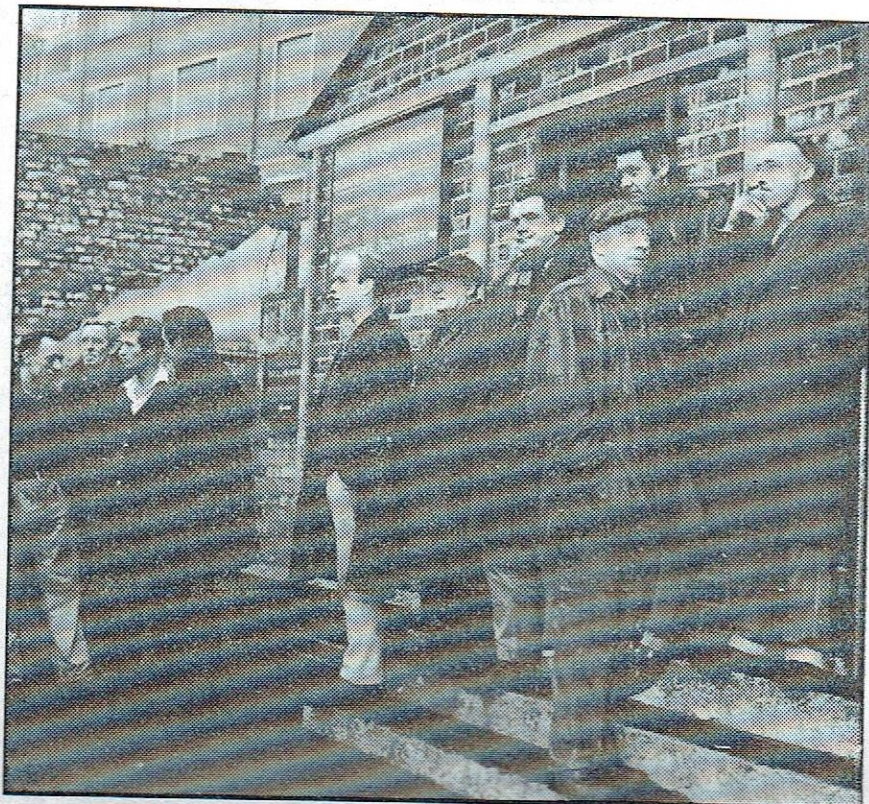
Hailsham's report on the North East and his recommendations will be published soon. His proposals will include the same old remedies, financial grants and tax inducements to persuade industrialist to move North. Financial inducements have been tried before and fail-

ed. Must we watch a repetition of this farce?

Putting one's faith in organizations like the North Eastern Development Council, which hopes to attract industry to the North East by playing down the militancy of the region's workers, and pleading with the Tories to give higher incentives to big business moving, may have earned the well-paid Director of the Council praise from the capitalist press but it does nothing to make workers conscious that the only way to rid ourselves of the scourge of unemployment for good is through Socialism, the democratic control and planning of industry by the workers themselves.

It has been reported that up to April the Council had 50 enquiries from firms wishing to expand in the North East, but they received 170 enquires from firms in the area feeling the pinch of recession.

Young Socialists should, under present conditions, support short-term reforms which will ease the unemployment situation—whilst at the same time helping to make workers and especially young workers, aware that the only real solution to unemployment is through the abolition of the system of production for profit. This should be done by forming local unemployment committees through your YS federations or branches, which must be solidly bound to the Labour Party and trade unions



in your area. Where two or more committees exist, mergers should be attempted. For instance on Clydeside there is now only one committee against unemployment. The Clydeside Young Workers Committee which embraces representatives of a number of working class youth organizations pledged to fight unemployment.

The sectarianism which has led to separate committees being formed in Newcastle by the

local Y.C.L. and a Young Socialist branch can only do harm. Unity in the fight against youth unemployment is necessary if we are to succeed but not unity on the terms of any one organization. The needs of the unemployed must be put before those of any separate 'party'.

The Young Socialists should learn from the past and act now in helping to show working-class youth that socialism is the only hope for mankind.

INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISM Autumn issue

China—Tony Cliff
Trotskyism—Jim Higgins
Victor Serge — P. Sedgwick
Algeria—Reviews

2/6 47 Fitzroy Rd, NW1

HOUSING CAMPAIGN
'Labour must build 500,000 houses a year.'
Petitions and details from
Half a Million Campaign
21 Drayton Gdns,
London, S.W.10.

**LONDON YOUNG GUARD
READERS MEETING**
10 Nov. 7pm.
Lucas Arms,
Grays Inn Rd., W.2.
(100 yds Kings X.)

We want to hear what is happening in your YS branch or region.

Send your reports to:—
Rosemary Walker

268 Norbury Ave., London,
S.W.16.

before the 12th of the month.

RUSSIAN DIAMOND DEAL SAVES S. AFRICA



THE strangest community of interests in the world, the South African-Russian diamond trade, is doing well. That's clear from the recently published business reports of De Beers Consolidated Mines Ltd.

De Beers and the sales organization connected with it, the Diamond Corporation (London) belong to the Oppenheimer Group, which also controls gold mines and has other industrial interests in South Africa. In persistent years-long wrestling for unbounded world dominion in this field, Sir Ernest Oppenheimer built up the best constructed sales cartel in the world, which has consistently controlled over 90% of the world production of raw diamonds.

Year for year, the cartel took up the total production of the individual mine companies, at the same time putting only so many diamonds on the market that a continual scarcity resulted, with prices remaining high. The rest was hoarded.

Through such a policy of consistent decade-long bar covering of the market, the Diamond Corp. was able to build up a position absolutely unassailable from the outside.

Then a few years ago, something unexpected occurred: The Soviet Union became an important producer of raw diamonds and threatened to make serious competition for the Diamond Corp.

Finally, the Oppenheimer people decided to do exactly what they had always done when threatened with uncomfortable competition, namely, make an offer of close collaboration. Here the Soviets had a real opportunity to literally smash the monopoly capitalism they hated so, and with it wipe out the "half fascist" regime in South Africa. On the contrary they willingly let themselves be con-

vinced by the Oppenheimer people that close collaboration lay in both their interests.

At the end of January 1960 in the main office of the Diamond Corp. in London, a secret pact was negotiated behind closed doors in which the Russians obligated themselves to lead their entire world diamond export through the cited sales cartel.

Well, the deal has worked out admirably. As Harry Oppenheimer, head of the concern, pronounced in the crisp words of his report, "Our pact for the purchase of diamonds from Russia has been extended, and we buy in ever greater amounts from this source."

At the same time, Mr. Oppenheimer could give his stockholders the encouraging news that the market found itself in a more stable position than "has been the case for sometime."

What is more. The cartel agreement with Russia has had the expected effect. Prices could not only be held, but even screwed up a few notches.

By Ian Birchall (Oxford YS)
Translated from Die Zeit 19. 7. 63

NIL BASTARDI CARBORUNDUM

DON'T LET THE NAB GRIND YOU UNDER

which
freely
translated means

WITH rising unemployment and the miserable unemployment benefits more and more workers are forced to go to the National Assistance Board to get enough for the bare necessities of life. For their benefit here are a few facts about the NAB for they will get little help from that body of 'public servants'.

It has been estimated that of all those who have their retirement pensions supplemented by the NAB about half as many again should be entitled to assistance. Inadequate publicity leaves many people unaware of their rights. The function of the NAB is to help those over the age of sixteen who are 'in need'. You will be disqualified if you are not a British citizen, if you are a full time student, in full-time employment, or involved in an industrial dispute (strike or lockout).

To qualify for assistance if you are unemployed you must sign on regularly at the employment exchange, where you must obtain and complete form B1. Any other person applying for assistance should fill in the form O1, obtainable from any Post Office. Assistance is payable from the date your form is received at the NAB.

If you are homeless, the NAB must either send you to a re-

ception centre (doss-house) or give you money to rent a room depending on whether or not you appear a "good type".

Shortly after your application you will be visited in your home. Apart from a "needs" (formally known as "means") test, other details will be noted and later written up in a report in your "case Paper". These details include such relevancies as race, colour, personal appearance, character and the standard of cleanliness of your home.

How does the Board's Officer assess your need? There are fixed scale rates—104/6 per week for a married couple, 63/6d for a householder, from 40/- to 55/- depending on age for a non-householder. Added to this your rent is met 'so far as is reasonable' (to quote the officer's code-book). Rent is just one of the many things which are left to the Board's discretion.

On top of your assistance allowance the Board's officer is empowered to make what is called "discretionary additions". These consist of additions for winter fuel, extra nourishment, laundry and window cleaning. He can also give lump sum grants for "exceptional needs" which can cover almost any item of necessity, e.g. Clothing, bed linen etc.

However, all these delights will be withheld from you unless the officer considers you "a deserving case" and he will certainly not recommend them in cases of unemployment. Most applicants do not know that these additions exist. Because of the wide discretionary powers arbitrary decisions can be made about you on the basis of moral judgements, and so a state entitlement is made to smack of charity.

If you are unemployed and your N.A. plus any other benefits total more than your normal wage, the N.A.B. will operate a 'wage-stop'. That is assistance will be cut down so that your total income when unemployed is lower than your normal wage. It does not matter that your family will have to live below the breadline, so long as your incentive to work is maintained.

If you are involved in a trade dispute, your family are entitled to receive N.A. but you are disqualified. The Board's Officer is instructed to investigate meticulously any possible sources of money to the family, for example from strike funds etc. Circulars are sent round Board Offices informing them of any grants made to strikers from any organisations. Such income will then be deducted from the family's

assistance allowance.

Unmarried mothers are visited regularly to make sure their are no signs of them "Co-habiting" with anyone, and to encourage them to put the baby in a nursery and get a job. It is with these cases that the prejudices and moralising of the Boards officers is given full reign. Miss C. A. was refused any assistance because she would not divulge the father's name. If she had known that she had the right to appeal against the decision, the Board would have been forced to grant assistance for herself. Nothing is allowed for the child unless the identity of the father is revealed.

There is an ignorant and vicious colour prejudice amongst most Board officers which influences all their dealings with coloured applicants. When restriction of a rent allowance is under consideration the first question is always "Is it a coloured house?"

The most important thing to know about the N.A.B. is your right of appeal against any decision of the Board. Quite often merely asking for an appeal form at the Board Office will result in the decision being altered before the form ever reaches the Appeal Tribunal.

EDITORIAL

DURING November many unemployed will demonstrate outside Parliament demanding work.

It is tragic that the Young Socialists are not working nationally to help them. We must continue to demand that the National Committee of the Young Socialists hold demonstrations to mobilise the unemployed against the Tories, and the National Executive Committee of the Labour Party must stop obstructing the youth movements efforts.

Young Guard pledges itself to help in every way in this campaign and all our readers should act to show the unity of socialist youth with the struggle of less fortunate sections of the working class. We must not repeat the mistakes of the Thirties when many sections of the Labour Party stood aloof and refused to help organise the jobless. Leaving the initiating of campaigns and hunger marches to the Communist Party.

We repeat, where possible YS Federations and regions should organise demonstrations. The initiative should not be left to those who, for factional reasons form 'front' committees to manipulate the unemployed for their own ends. Astonishing reports have reached us from the N. East about Young Socialists refusing to give details to their comrades in the movement, of where the unemployment committees meet.

Are they afraid that publicity might expose the reality of a few

sectarians, without any real base among unemployed youth, sitting around writing to union branches for cash? It is one thing to get a coachload of youth for a free trip to London it is another to do the hard ground work necessary to show unemployed the tie-up between unemployment and capitalism. We are not competing in bus filling with other regions to move up a few places in the League table, we are trying to make Socialists.

Another aspect of the twisted mentality of many of the Keep Lefters is their boycott of demonstrations which they do not control. The recent unemployment demonstration organised by the East Surrey YS Federation in Croydon was a glaring example of this attitude. It is up to the other Young Socialists to support the class struggle everywhere, and so expose the activities of those who seek to use the unemployed for their own sectarian ends.

If we are trying to show the unemployed how their plight ties in with the tenants struggle and the fight against racism then surely there are more important places to demonstrate than outside Parliament.

The London Regional Committee's decision to cancel the YS Rally of Nov. 30 because of the Nov. 19th unemployment demonstration is surely wrong.

It would have been better to have brought the youth from the North to demonstrate with the YS through the streets of West London. In this way the link-up of capitalism's evils would have been brought home more effectively.

EDITORS NOTES

The Tories are now marching off to political oblivion behind their new leader Lord Home.

What an educational fight for power it was. How clearly it contrasted Tory methods to those of Labour the Labour isn't a model of democracy. After all the backstabbing and intrigue they pick a reactionary peer with a past darkened by his hatred of socialism, his accommodating attitude to Hitler and Franco, and his support of imperialism in its rape of the Congo.

But what an excellent choice he is. Who better than this effete aristocrat to draw a clear dividing line between the crumbling ruling class and the Labour Party. The bye-election at Kinross provides us with a chance to hand out the greatest humiliation in British political history.

Every Socialist in Scotland should take part in the election and bring the Tory majority tumbling down.

More reports were received this month than ever before but lack of space meant we could not print them all. Keep them coming Comrades, the more we have the better the choice.

Our supporters in the printing game have new article headings etc., lined up, but apparently the boss didn't turn his back for long enough this month. We should have them by the next issue.

To put a red heading on the paper costs us £4, but more important it adds three days to production time since it has to be done at another printers. This month we wanted the issue on the 1st Nov. so that we could cover the demonstrations that weekend, which meant we had no time for the usual red heading.

Apologies to Roger Page for misrepresenting his views last issue. We reported that he favoured the disbandment of Regional and Federation organisation and the replacement of annual conference by the YS rally. The comrade informs us that he only suggested that the YS April conference should be postponed until after the next election.

MERSEY BEAT

THE BEATLES
GERRY AND THE PACE-
MAKERS
AND
4000 Unemployed school
leavers
all come from . . .
LIVERPOOL
(Hackney Protest, Oct) . . .

LETTERS

IMPOLITE

Comrades,

At Scarborough for the Party conference, I met two comrades from the Russian Embassy who were staying at the same hotel. On one occasion, while they were relating their experiences as lecturers to various organisations, one of them said: "Young Conservatives are more representative of British youth than any others." Then I found out why. "Young Conservatives", he said, "are gentlemanly, polite, and ask polite questions. Young Socialists," he added, "are not polite and they ask very many nasty questions." Perhaps he's heard that Khrushchev has said that if he were British, he would join the Young Conservatives—or something like that.

J. Finn

Tottenham YS

COMRADE BESSIE

Comrades,

Comrade Bessie Braddock made an interesting observation when speaking at the Skegness rally. She complained that not enough use was being made of the "comrades and friends" introduction to speeches.



For once I find myself in agreement with Bessie. There is nothing more off putting than to receive Transport House correspondence addressed 'Dear Colleague', or to receive "Dear Mr"—"Yours Sincerely" letters from a Labour M.P.

This approach is like the candidate's handshake or the "how are you these days" greetings from the politician you are meeting for the first time.

Bessie said the word comrade meant something to the Labour Movement. I am proud to be called comrade and prefer 'fraternal greetings' to false sincerity.

John Horsfield

Wallington YS

PALMER'S FAILINGS

Comrades,

I am forced to protest against the theoretical failings of Comrade Palmer. It was bad enough when he wrote, in the October "Labour Worker", that "we should demand that Labour bring these industries into public ownership under workers' control." But I now read in "Young Guard" ... "The basic issue is really quite clear. Should Labour try to run the existing system of things, capitalism, when it comes to power, or instead should it attempt to build a new society, socialism?" Surely it should not be necessary to say again that socialism can only be created as the conscious act of the mass of the working class; and surely it is clear that the mass of the

working class has not yet reached the level of socialist consciousness which revolutionary action requires.

Given these objective factors, it is pointless to condemn the Labour Party for its adherence to bourgeois reformist measures. But if Comrade Palmer is to condemn, it would help, for instance, if he were to understand such basic points as the difference between wage restraint—which restricts the rate, at which wages rise, to the rate of increase in the National Income—and a wage freeze—which stops them rising at all. An examination of the figures would show Comrade Palmer that since the war—and without wage restraint—wages have, on the average, only risen at the same rate as the National Income as a whole. So an attempt to restrain the rate of growth, in money terms, of all incomes in order to allow faster economic growth without inflation, is in any case unlikely to harm the working class. We know that a bourgeois Incomes Policy will be of little use in an attempt to remedy the contradictions inherent in capitalism. But to urge us, as Comrade Palmer does, to "fight against wage restraint" when this is part of the inevitable development of capit-

alism, is not a revolutionary but a reactionary demand. No, Comrades, let us recognise without self-deception that the social changes that Labour will bring cannot be more than bourgeois reforms. Much work must be done before it is possible to talk of creating socialism.

Richard Hyman

Oxford YS

WOOD'S FAILINGS

Comrades,

As a member of the SPGB (and also a reader of *Young Guard*) may I draw your readers' attention to the complete inaccuracy of the part of your report from Middlesborough YS (October 1963) which refers to the SPGB.

The Chairman of the Unemployed Workers' Committee in West Hartlepool, a Mr. W. Aves, is in no way connected with the SPGB. The facts are that Mr. Aves announced his intention to stand at the next General Election as an unofficial Labourite against the official Labour Party candidate. He has since changed his mind. Mr. Aves also tried to get adopted as Liberal candidate—but they wouldn't have him. If Vic Wood can confuse this gentleman with

the SPGB then it can only be assumed that he is unaware of the SPGB position. Despite this he feels competent to direct two sneers at the SPGB.

First, he suggests that our members are the type who climb to prominence on the backs of unemployed workers after the fashion of ILP and CP labour bleeders in the 1930's. As a matter of fact the SPGB regards such activity as reformism.

Second, he refers to the SPGB as "two ends of nothing". This is a very ungenerous way to refer to the group which pioneered the view that Russia is a form of State capitalism; which has since its foundation rejected the idea of "leadership" declaring that the workers must emancipate themselves; which has always exposed the fraud of nationalisation and which, finally, has always emphasised the democratic nature of Socialism. I say ungenerous because today all these ideas are circulating amongst sections of the YS and particularly amongst *Young Guard* supporters.

I trust that Vic Wood will have the decency to apologise and withdraw his inaccurate statements.

Adam Buick

Newport (Mon) SPGB

"YOUNG GUARD IS MISGUIDED"

By Vic Vanni

Ex-Sec. of Woodside C.L.P.

THE purpose of this article is to show readers why the Socialist Party of Gt. Britain considers 'Young Guard' as just another well meaning but misguided group who aim, whether they realise it or not, to make the running of capitalism more efficient, or supporting various reforms which they misname socialism.

In contrast the SPGB holds that the present social system, capitalism, is the cause of working class poverty and will only be abolished when the majority of the international working class understands and wants socialism.

First must be explained what we mean by the two terms.

Capitalism is a system of buying and selling, where wealth is produced for sale on the market with the idea of producing a profit for those who own and control the means of production and distribution. Socialism on the other hand, is a system where wealth is produced for use, with the means of production and distribution being commonly owned and democratically controlled by the whole society.

Anything short of this—no matter how desirable it may seem—is not Socialism. For instance there will be no money in the socialist society, therefore no need of banks and insurance companies: no armed forces, for in society there will exist for the first time a harmony of interests: where the watchword will be—**from each according to his ability, to each according to his need.**

We say that all reformists—whether so-called leftists or rightists—who tell the workers that their administration of

capitalism is Socialism are directly retarding workers realising that Socialism is their interests. Thanks to the antics of Labour Parties the world over, Socialism is now equated with shortages, controls, high rates and taxes, nationalisation and so on.

Young Socialists and *Young Guard* in particular are perpetuating these myths by supporting the party which, during its last term of office, initiated the production of nuclear weapons in Britain, used troops to break strikes, imposed a wage freeze on trade unionists (and intends to do so again with your help no doubt) became the first party to impose conscription in peace time and started the germ warfare establishment at Porton although your contributor 'Fian-na', seems to think this was a devilish Tory creation (see Y. G. Aug.).

No doubt *Young Guardites* hold the absurd view that they can help convert the Labour Party to Socialism, though they might just as well try doing this with the Catholic Church, but even if this were possible who are they to play the educators?

Take a look at the 'aims' of YG (which can be changed anytime!) to see what we mean. For example, **nationalisation** has nothing to do with Socialism and we challenge YG or anyone else to give just one example of nationalisation having benefited workers anywhere.

Again **worker's control** is a meaningless term as the abolition of capitalism means the abolition of all classes, so where do these workers come in? Workers control is merely another method of running capitalism which even Mr. Khrushchev is now looking upon with favour. Indeed Mark Frankland, writing in the *Ob-*

server (Sept. 1st) hit the nail on the head when he pointed out that Mr K's recent speech to Yugoslav workers, on which he extolled the virtues of workers control, was a waste of breath as they—"Know quite well that their wages depend on profits from their factories."

We also know that *Young Guardites* envisage profits under Socialism. Where will these come from? Will workers extract surplus-value from themselves?

To sum up; *Young Guardites* have as much idea of Socialism as any other reformist group. **What they call 'Socialism' is merely a Utopian rag-bag of ideas none of which, if implemented, would fundamentally alter the wage slavery of the working class.** The interests of that class lie in the abolition of capitalism and this, we repeat, they will do when and only when they understand and want Socialism.

"Fair enough" you may say, "But how will they get this understanding?" Our reply is that they certainly will not get it by being told that Labour administration of capitalism is Socialism. This simply draws the antagonism of the workers for the failures of that Party onto Socialism and produces a working class which, by its many disappointments at the hands of Labour, is disillusioned and more confused than ever as to what Socialism is, let alone how to achieve it.

The only way is for Socialists to preach Socialism and nothing else, at all times. The more the workers hear expounded a revolutionary alternative to the present set up, the quicker will they demonstrate that they are just as capable of latching-on as anyone else.

FIGHT FOR FREEDOM

By Pat Fortune

S. Croydon YS

IN the last few years of Tory Government the myth of 'British justice and freedom' has been dispelled. Compared with other countries our civil liberties are large, but a constant erosion of personal freedom is taking place. Significantly this is occurring at a time when liberals would maintain that there is increasing liberty for the individual. As in the early 1900's and the 1930's this repression falls on those who challenge the capitalist system outside its legal, constitutional paths. **The police and courts have extremely wide powers which are rarely exercised, but recent demonstrations have shown the extent to which our freedom depends on State permission.** The bourgeois sees an independent, impartial judicial system, accessible to everyone, which protects society—some amorphous body which represents the interests of all classes—against the criminal and insane.

The class nature of the judiciary is shown by a recent survey of High Court judges. It was found that 18 were sons, or closely related to peers or baronets, a further 17 were educated at top public schools and their fathers were either knights, army officers above the rank of major-generals, or listed in 'Burkes Landed Gentry'. Of the rest 39 were educated at good public schools, 24 came from middle-class professional families and two were of 'humbler origin'. **It is not surprising that a study has shown that convictions are highest when the defendant's social and economic status are low.** Judges and local magistrates are appointed by the Lord Chancellor—a political appointment. Court records show far heavier sentences in country areas than in towns; for minor offences such as fighting and drunkenness, where 'high Tory' magistrates predominate.

WHAT THE PAPERS SAY

The facts are that the Danes, Finns, Swiss, West Germans, Austrians, Japanese and probably more countries all have higher suicide rates than the Swedes. (New Statesman 11 Oct. 63)

A Home Office pamphlet advises drivers "to park off the road if possible". A Whitehall official points out, however, that cars should only be abandoned at a site approved under section 2 of the Offi-street Parking (nuclear) Regulations 1963.

A full list of approvable sites will be obtainable from the Ministry of Transport immediately following the four minute warning. (Please enclose a 3d stamp)

(Sunday Mirror)

'All this is useful enough to know, but it does not answer the vital question Who is Harold Wilson?

What kind of a man is he? Is he the kind of man Monty would go into the jungle with? or would he feel safer in the jungle without him.'

(Sunday Express 29 Sep. 63)

The ritual and procedure of the courts has always been shrouded in wigs and gowns. The decision in a case can depend on a judgement 100 years ago, barristers and solicitors fees are beyond the normal wage and laws introduced under feudalism are still enforced. The Legal Aid system is claimed to have removed the price barrier to justice but it is administered haphazardly and cannot be obtained in many civil cases against an opponent

paying his own legal fees. Police and prison—officers quite deliberately ignore acquainting offenders with their right to appeal and legal aid.

Even with the weight of the present system to protect their interests the ruling classes have introduced the two most repressive laws since the last war. With the enactment of the Immigration Act the Tories introduced a piece of openly racist legislation. This Act was introduced

under the smokescreen of improving the housing and unemployment situations, it was claimed were aggravated by immigration. Colour prejudice was made the scapegoat for failures in the capitalist system. Lord Milverton made the Tory attitude clear:—'... one of the main causes for the desire to emigrate was the reckless increase in population due to promiscuous procreation.' Threat of deportation is used by the police to intimidate immigrants and convicted persons are kept in custody indefinitely while waiting for the Home Secretary's confirmation of the deportation order. There is the notorious case of Carmen Bryan, recommended for deportation for shoplifting £25.7 worth of goods. **She was kept in custody for five weeks before friends got an MP to raise the case in Parliament.**

The reasons for introducing the Public Order Act were made quite clear by Henry Brooke—'The public are sick and tired of Fascists, Communists, the self-styled Committee of 100 and all other extremists'. Despite claims that the Act was passed to combat Fascism (after all Fenner Brockway has been trying to introduce a bill outlawing racial incitement for eight years)—it will be used, as the similar Law in 1936 was, to attack anti-government demonstrations. This is perhaps the most open attack on militant socialists by the Tories and there is little opposition from Labour MPs.

As cracks appear in the present capitalist system the facade of parliamentary democracy is crumbling and the Socialist Movement is coming into open conflict with the state machinery. Confronted by a hostile working class movement the Tories are desperately sealing the gaps of public protest. One hears the plaintive cry of the magistrate sentencing George Clarke on a framed charge concerning the Greek demonstrations ... 'if you wish to protest you must do so through the ballot-box.'



"FRAME — UP", SAY ACCUSED

By Pat McCready

E. Islington YS

ONE Thursday evening last July, John Apostolou and I (both E. Islington YS members) went to Trafalgar Square to join in demonstrations against the Greek Royal visit. Later we went to Brook Street with many other demonstrators who got there despite police cordons.

We were about 160 yards from the Greek Royal Family, when I heard a policeman shout "pick off a few". John Apostolou and two youths, aged 14 and 16, were dragged away by plain-clothes detectives to West End Central Police Station. Later I was shocked to learn that all three were charged with possessing "portions of bricks." (Donald Room, Peace News cartoonist, had been arrested the same night on the same charge.)

John Apostolou and the two youths claim that at the police station, their possessions were placed in three piles and a police officer added a bit of brick to each. All three were then asked to sign for their possessions.

One youth did and John Apostolou signed, giving a false name and address.

At Marlborough St. Magistrates Court, John Apostolou was found guilty. (£10 fine and 10 guineas costs), Donald Room has been acquitted. The police said there was no evidence offered against the other two youths at Chelsea Juvenile Court because Det-Sgt. Challoner, chief prosecution witness, is ill. (In "The People", Challoner is quoted as saying that he's under-

going psychiatric treatment for overwork.) The cases were dismissed without costs being awarded to the defendants. (On one case, costs were over £100.) It is expected that no evidence will be offered against John Apostolou at his appeal.

Some people have inferred that there was a police frame-up. This may be a harsh slander by a bunch of anti-police reds, but a forensic expert found no brick-dust in the clothing of those accused and that three bits of brick alleged by the police to have been found on three of the accused fit together like a jigsaw puzzle.

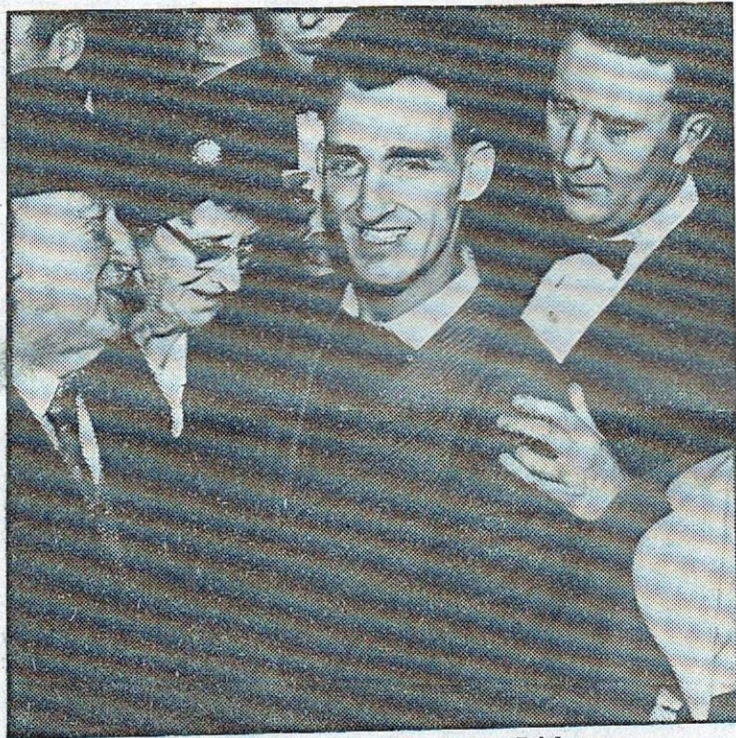
There were long intervals between the times the people were arrested, and they claim they never met before their arrest. How Strange!

FOLK Bill Thomson

WE are now, we are told everyday, in the middle of the Great Folk Boom. All over the country, and especially in London, groups, soloists and clubs spring up every day. This bewildering profusion of talent(?) however poses one obvious question. Where to go?

In this column I will give my highly prejudiced opinion on where and indeed where not, to go.

The first club which springs to mind is the **Singers Club**, where for a dollar, you can hear **Ewan McColl, Peggy Seeger and most of the other leading names of the hierarchy**. Via songs and tales of yester-century songs of deeds, of death and derring-do we can be transported to that ethnic Ambrosia land so beloved by this dedicated band of arch-



Dominic Behan—professional Irishman

ivists. In the most stifling atmosphere for miles around you can listen to songs of two hundred years ago in an audience awed into a complete and reverent silence. This is what they call a folk song club. It may even be what they call fun, who knows?

The other clubs have less character of their own so it is probably best to deal in personalities:

The most outstanding is certainly **Alex Campbell**. An exuberant corn-peddler who still seems to get a tremendous kick out of the songs and jokes which you suspect he's been using for the past ten years. Still he's always funny and a pleasant change from the doomies. **Enoch Kent** a Glaswegian, like many more on the scene, sings and plays many of his own songs and frequents the Singers Club (he can easily be spotted among the others, he's the one that smiles.)

It would be boring and beyond my descriptive powers to go through every singer on the card, I haven't heard them all

anyway. So a look at a show currently running in the West End (early Oct.) will give a fair cross section of the folk world. The show **'Behan Bein Behan'** would, for a middle aged English Methodist probably be shocking. For we satire satiated proles however, it is mild and slightly dated. Some of the material I recognise from the Golden Era in Glasgow of a couple of years ago. But perhaps I'm being unfair. Much of the stuff, predictably Denning, Keeler and Beeching, is, I suppose, original Dominic Behan. But the show is definitely good value for money. The cast includes **Nadia Cattouse**, a West Indian piece of gear. Very sexy, but I wish she'd learn some guitar and **'The Haverim'**—an East End Jewish duo who have a good line in Cockney songs, but in Yiddish "me no dig". Another performer, **Nigel Denver** whom I remember in Glasgow having to borrow a

guitar to do a stint, now has "clothes supplied by Vince's mans' shop" no less. **Alex Campbell**, and the compere **Dominic Behan** once described as a professional Irishman, accompanied by **Ian McCann**, make up the rest of the cast. Behan is funny, jokes about his brother, royalty and the coloureds. Sample: coloured whore to drunk Irishman "like to come home with me dearies?"

Drunk Irishman "Now what in Jesus' would I be doing in Africa at this time of the night." But he's less biting than you might expect. Maybe he's said it all to often before.

That is, as I warned my own heavily biased view of a tiny part of the scene. It may be too cynical or perhaps too frivolous, but I hope you don't take it seriously, else you'll end up in the unfortunate position I'm in. That there are only two singers I would travel any distance to hear, **Jeannie Robertson of Aberdeen** and myself. So Good folkling luck to you.

'MIDDEN' Folk Song

Maynard Arms,

Park Rd., Crouch End Bdy.

N 8

THURS. 7, 21 Nov. 8p.m.

Guest: Martin Carthy

Residents: Bill Thomson,

Helen Kennedy,

Joe O'Brien,

Ken McPherson

3/-

JAZZ Chris Torrance

IT is difficult, I think, for any critic familiar with modern jazz in general, and **Charlie Parker's** work in particular, to be completely objective when reviewing his records. However, listening to his music, its hard not to conclude once again that Parker was a musical genius.

The latest reissues of the **Savoy Memorial Albums on REALM (Vols. 4 & 5)** seem to provide all the conclusive evidence we need. On the many takes of such numbers as **'Perhaps'**, **'Constellation'**, or the stark **'Parker's Mood'** his solos have a radically different approach on each take. At the same time he continually demonstrates his completely effortless, "throwaway" technique, his incredibly rich tone, and a manner of phrasing and feeling that can only leave the serious listener in a "knocked out" condition.

In a way it is unfortunate that so much of the work of the then 21 year old **Miles Davis** should have been heard in such close proximity to Parker's blazing spirit. Although Miles' solos are startlingly original for a young man, and full of that intense feeling which has always characterised his work, his ideas throughout are bugged by a faulty technique and a somewhat dogged exposition. It has been said that the strain of working with such giants as **Parker** and **Roach** could have been responsible for this, and its certainly not hard to imagine what an emotional strain it must have been.

The records are undoubtedly the best buy on the market today, especially as they can be bought for only 22/6 each. We have had some excellent jazz from the cheaper labels recently, and this is a welcome trend which I hope will be continued.

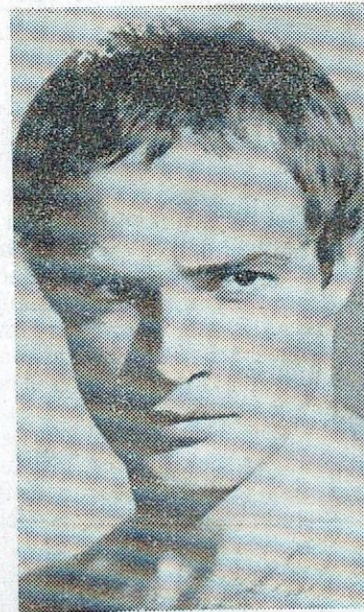
FILMS Gerry Lynch

AS most of the press told us this film was very poor and redeemed only by **Brando's** magnificent performance, I took the line that it must be a left-wing film.

However, **McBride** (Brando) first appears in front of a congressional sub-committee, which is questioning him as to his suitability for the post of American Ambassador to some mythical South-East Asian State where the **Prime Ministers sister is chief of the secret police (point taken)**. Happily for **McBrando**, and disappointingly for those who thought it was a left-wing film, he gets through. Arrived in S.E. Asia, he blows a clean breath of the pioneering spirit of no-nonsense pragmatism through the whole personal set-up. (Hands up all those who still think its a left-wing film). At this point the story-line (and a criticism of the film as a film is that it is too much an animated story with a moral) rapidly deteriorates as **McBrando** is brought to realise the folly of his ways.

One of the principal difficulties of left-wing writers, film-

makers etc is to provide credible capitalists to be chopped down. The answer is not to restrict yourself to goodies and baddies, nor to see the conflict in terms of characters alone. Suffice it to say **McBrando** fails, and delivers the message at the end, at a press conference called to mark his failure as ambassador.



Mac Brando

Here the moral is loud and clear, but the film as a film has failed to put life into its moral. Yet this review couldn't end without an expression of gratitude. How many people in the U.S. today could make a film condemning the American policies in S.E. Asia, and demanding an end to the American people's indifferences towards the aspirations of the Asian countries? Very few, and Brando is one of them.

BIGGER
BETTER
BRIGHTER

THE new **Tribune** will be bigger, better and brighter. It will carry a complete survey of the weeks news both at home and abroad. All the Socialist answers to current problems will be presented in an attractive and easily readable form.

Bigger? Yes, it will be one-third again as large as the present paper. And these four extra pages will be used to supply our readers with most up-to-date information and comment. **Tribune will be an essential part of weekly reading for every member of the Labour Movement.**

Better? Extra staff will be employed to bring you more news and more detailed comment. The new printing process will enable us to cover a far wider area of news than we have ever done before—and we will be able to comment on events which take place later in the week.

Brighter? The new offset-litho process will mean that **Tribune** will be far more attractive to the eye. The reproduction value of the photographs will be excellent and there will be the use of colour in editorial and advertising matter. The extra pages will enable us to utilise new techniques for sales appeal.

Dick Clements
Ed. Tribune