

# The Newsletter

WEEKLY ORGAN OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE

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## THIS WEEK

Labour Party conference  
Reports on pages  
three and four

The Newsletter

Saturday, October 2, 1965

**Dockers!**  
**Organise mass**  
**marches against**  
**Devlin Report**

**2,000 Young Socialists and trade unionists demand:**

# WILSON MUST GO!



Crowds of holidaymakers watch as the demonstration begins on the Promenade, Blackpool.

## Great demonstration in Blackpool

By NEWSLETTER REPORTER

**T**HOUSANDS of holidaying workers lined Blackpool's promenade last Sunday to watch the tremendous 2,000-strong demonstration by Young Socialists and adult trade unionists demanding 'Wilson Must Go'.

It was the most politically significant demonstration held in Britain since the war.

The socialist policies for which the Young Socialists have been campaigning in the past five years were eagerly taken up by hundreds of trade unionists, pensioners and tenants from all over Britain, who marched proudly with the youth and members of the Socialist Labour League.

From Hull and Liverpool came dockers of the National Amalgamated Stevedores and Dockers ('Blue' Union), from the Tractors and Transmission factory in Birmingham came engineers, from London and Liverpool, plumbers, from Leeds and many other areas came tenants. Miners, electricians and workers from several other trades were brought to the march, encouraged and enthused by the fighting spirit of the youth and their policies.

Like the Young Socialists, they began their demonstration at Gynn Square. They were able to march halfway along the promenade and hold a meeting on the sands.

But the Young Socialists were ordered by the police to march right out of Blackpool to hold their meeting. The tide was in during the march and the police refused to allow the Young Socialists to hold their meeting anywhere in the town.

Police were ready to see that these orders were carried out. Many lined the march, and, it is believed there were several vanloads waiting in the town ready to move in at a signal from any of the police equipped

**A**T last the Communist Party has come off the fence over the Devlin Commission Report. Six weeks later than the Socialist Labour League, they have announced that they oppose it.

We are very glad that they have finally decided to take this stand, but much more will be needed if the Devlin Commission Report is to be rejected.

The employers, the Tories and the Labour government, are now preparing legislation for the next session of parliament. If this becomes law, then any struggle against the Report on the docks is in essence a political struggle.

A great fight must be waged before the Bill becomes law in order to win widespread support throughout the trade union movement to bring pressure to bear on the Labour leaders to prevent it going on the statute books. Protests by themselves won't do any good.

The Devlin Report must be seen in the same light as the proposed legislation against the trade unions. It is now up to the rank and file of the labour and trade union movement to force their leaders to retract.

The Newsletter has continuously warned the movement about the dangers ahead for the trade union movement. We will go on doing so. More than that, we will encourage all workers to actively oppose the Devlin Report and legislation. Will the Communist Party do the same?

The demonstration at Blackpool, which contained contingents of dockers from Hull and Liverpool is a big step in the right direction. Let us organise as soon as possible a mass demonstration against the Devlin Report.

## Labour Party Conference Reports from CLIFF SLAUGHTER

### STOP PRESS—

All decisions underline right-wing nature of conference

## Motion to reject law against unions lost

**T**HE Labour Party Conference by 3,635,000 to 2,540,000 defeated Clive Jenkins' emergency resolution calling upon the conference to reject legislation against the unions. This underlines the extreme right-wing nature of the conference which has now concluded.

Whilst the Trades Union Congress accepted Woodcock's proposals to set up an early warning system, the Labour Party Conference has gone much more to the right and decided to proceed with legislation.

Obviously, several right-wing trade union leaders have changed their position, even since the Trades Union Congress a few weeks ago.

The Labour Party today is the most extreme right-wing organisation which in no way reflects the mood inside the working class and the trade unions. This decision of the Party now opens up the door to a split between the trade unions and the Labour Party.

### Change

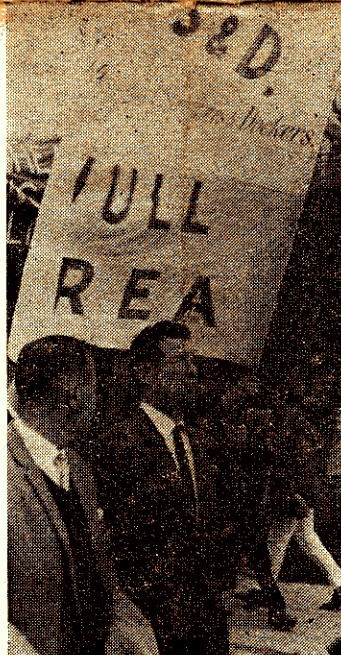
Within 12 months the political atmosphere will become completely changed. The working class will see more clearly the reactionary nature of Wilson's government.

Wilson himself makes no ex-

cuses for his right-wing turn. To maintain his position as Prime Minister, he is prepared to go all out against the working class.

Clive Jenkins, who is general secretary of the union to which Harold Wilson belongs, the Association of Supervisory Staffs, Executives and Technicians, is to be congratulated on having fought the government on this issue. Without his intervention even the fight which has taken place would not have been possible. His emergency resolution was only defeated by just over one million votes. In fact the Amalgamated Engineering Union and the Transport and General Workers' Union voted with him.

This is a great victory; although the motion was defeated it sets the tone for the coming struggles.



'Blue' Union dockers from Hull

## Withdraw troops from Aden

By MICHAEL BANDA

**O**NCE again Mr. Wilson has demonstrated to the whole world that when it comes to choosing between the profits of the oil monopolies and the very modest—yet legitimate—demands of the native Arabs, he can be relied upon to come down firmly and unequivocally on the side of the former.

In France it was Mr Wilson's fellow tribalists in the 'socialist' government of Guy Mollet who began the repression of the Algerian national movement with the help of the most hated anti-socialist, anti-democratic, and anti-working-class forces in Europe.

The analogy with France and Mollet is not as far-fetched as it may seem. In order to prosecute and continue the war against the Algerian 'rebels', Mollet, as well as his successors, resorted to the same bureaucratic and arbitrary methods as are now being used by the Wilson government to overthrow its own puppet regime in Aden.

Not only did Mollet become increasingly independent of the Socialist party and the decisions of its congresses, but, more ominous still, by virtue of his administrative decrees, he made the executive virtually independent of the legislative.

### Rubber stamp

Parliament was reduced to a rubber stamp. The logic of this process, thanks to the treachery of the Stalinists, was inexorable.

It culminated in the overthrow of the Fourth Republic—and the institution of Bonapartist rule.

Only a nuance separates Mr. Wilson from Mollet. Wilson was appraised of the deteriorating situation in South Arabia by Minister Greenwood on the eve of the Labour Party Conference.

He did what any Tory Prime Minister would have done. He authorised an Order-in-Council,

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It was also the biggest thing ever seen in the seaside town, especially in a Labour Party Conference week—the swirling red banners and enthusiastic slogan-shouting of the three-quarters-of-a-mile long procession completely drowned the colour of the 'famous' illuminations and the noisy sideshows.

### Nationalize!

Banner after banner, slogan after slogan took up the message of the leading banner: 'Wilson Betrays. Labour Must Nationalize the Docks and the Basic Industries'.

On Immigration, Vietnam, Housing, the Devlin Report, on every single issue that the Wilson government has betrayed, the demonstrators had their message: 'Kick out the class traitors'.

The impact, in sound and sight, of this demonstration was like a nuclear explosion, with the fall-out affecting all those who crowded to look during the four-mile march.

A similar march by CND later in the day, led by Labour lefts, hardly raised a murmur. It mustered a mere 830 marchers—the only contingent of youth being a group of anarchists.

section of dockers from Liverpool and Hull who joined the march.



Gerry Healy, secretary of the Socialist Labour League: 'On every election pledge we challenge Wilson.'

with most modern button-hole walkie-talkie sets.

Plain clothes men were abundant. They walked the whole distance of the march and remained at the beach meeting at the end to take notes of the names of speakers.

After walking and shouting for four miles, the youth still poured on to the small beach allotted by the police to hear Young Socialist and Socialist Labour League speakers.

Over 700 people attended a Socialist Labour League meeting later in the afternoon in the Palatine Hotel. Four hundred had to be turned away from the meeting because the Labour Party had booked all the halls of any reasonable size in the town.

### Beach meeting

**P**UBLISHER of the Young Socialist newspaper 'Keep Left', Dave Longley, welcomed each section of the march as it moved on to the beach.

He introduced Dave Ashby, national secretary of the Young Socialists, who immediately congratulated the youth on the effectiveness of the demonstration and for going out to persuade many adult trade unionists to go to Blackpool to join in the march.

The only task of the Young Socialists, he said, was to remove the present Labour leadership and to build an alternative leadership to fight for socialist policies.

He explained how the Wilson government had not carried out any one of the election pledges made before last October.

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**NO LEGISLATION AGAINST THE TRADE UNIONS!**  
**CLEAR OUT THE WILSON-MACDONALD TRAITORS!**  
**FIGHT FOR SOCIALIST POLICIES!**

PUBLIC MEETING

7.00 p.m. Sunday, October 17, 1965

**NEW AMBASSADORS HOTEL,**  
**UPPER WOBURN PLACE, W.C.1**  
(nearest Tube Station: Euston)

### SPEAKERS:

**G. Healy, National Secretary, Socialist Labour League**  
**M. Banda, Editor, Newsletter**  
**Peter Kerrigan, Liverpool portworker**

admission one shilling

### RESOLUTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY AT MEETING

This Blackpool meeting of 2,000 trade unionists and young workers, called by the National Committee of the Young Socialists and the Socialist Labour League, calls on Labour Conference delegates to fight for socialist policies.

It is time to reject Wilson, Brown, Callaghan and Gunter, who have sold out to the banks and big business. Their attacks on the trades unions and the Devlin proposals against the dockers must be beaten back immediately.

Nationalization of the docks, of the banks, the land

and all major industries is the necessary basis of any planning and improvement in the living conditions of the workers.

The immigration restrictions, which are racialist measures, must be stopped. Support for the war in Vietnam must stop. The government must be forced to withdraw the dictatorial measures against the people of Aden, who must have independence.

There is a solution to the crisis, but it needs nationalization of the banks and monopolies, and removal of the Wilson leadership.





