

THE BRITISH WORKER

OFFICIAL STRIKE NEWS BULLETIN

Published by The General Council of the Trades Union Congress

No. 2.

THURSDAY EVENING, MAY 6, 1926.

PRICE ONE PENNY

WORKERS CALM AND STEADY

Firmer and Firmer Every
Day of Strike

BLACKLEGS FAIL

The third day of the General Strike sees the situation unchanged. The working class is holding quietly and tenaciously to the position it has taken up.

The easy assurance of anti-Labour people that it would be "over in a couple of days," that "they would soon be sick of it," that "anyway the Government will get heaps of volunteers to run the trains and things" has vanished entirely. It has given place to a growing anxiety.

For "it" is not over. The workers are growing more determined as the days pass. They are not "drifting back to work." On the contrary,

the trouble everywhere is to keep those men at work who have not yet been ordered to strike.

And as to getting the "trains and things" running with "volunteers," the first day's boasts have quite failed to materialise. The train service remains a skeleton—and an even bonier skeleton than yesterday.

A few London buses are being run by "volunteer" drivers, each guarded by a policeman. Here and there in the provinces the same thing. But what does it all amount to? In all Manchester, for example, three tram drivers!

A few buses, a few passenger trains. But the mines are still, the goods traffic has ceased, the docks are closed, the factories are closing.

Not all the O.M.S. in the world can get them going again. Only the organised workers can do that.

And the organised workers, solid, disciplined, calm, are refusing to do it until justice is done to their fellows.

The third day. And still everywhere complete calm, complete order.

Anti-strike propagandists set rumours going of a riot here and a

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WEATHER

Wind northerly, moderate or fresh; strong at times locally; variable sky, some showers of rain or hail; perhaps local thunder; rather cold.

LABOUR'S REPLY TO THE PREMIER

General Council's Conditions for
Reopening Discussions

"UNFETTERED ATMOSPHERE"

The following is the reply of the General Council of the Trades Union Congress to the Prime Minister's statement as to possible terms of peace:—

Mr. Baldwin, in the House of Commons on Wednesday, said:—

"No Government in any circumstances could ever yield to a general strike. The moment it was called off unconditionally the Government were prepared to resume negotiations."

The General Council is ready, at any moment, to resume negotiations for an honourable settlement. It enforces no conditions for resuming preliminary discussion with the Government on any aspects of the case.

It is obvious, however, that at this stage, with no knowledge of the subsequent line of policy that the Government intends to pursue, the General Council cannot comply with

the Prime Minister's request for an unconditional withdrawal of the strike notices.

The General Council, it must be remembered, was not responsible for the breakdown of negotiations. The strike was due to the Government's refusal to secure a withdrawal of the lock-out notices in the mining industry, and to its action in provocatively taking the side of the coalowners and in breaking off negotiations at a time when the General Council was sincerely seeking a peaceful settlement.

The conditions that govern the reopening of discussions should be different from the conditions governing the withdrawal of the notices for the general strike; and inasmuch as the Government was responsible for the breaking-off of negotiations, any preliminary parleys with a view

Contd. at foot of Col. Two, Page Eight

HOW THE "B.W." CAME OUT

A Sudden Police Raid—
and After

AMAZING SCENES

Eight o'clock last night. A hundred difficulties had to be overcome. But they had been overcome. And the BRITISH WORKER was all ready for printing.

The last line of copy had been sub-edited and set. The last stereo plate had been made and fastened in place on the presses. All was ready.

Swarm of Police

The big crowd of members of the Distributive Section of the Paper Workers' Union, who had been waiting with their cars and cycles outside, very patiently, for three hours and more, raised a cheer.

Then—from the half-finished new Daily Mail building across the street emerged a policeman—two policemen—five—ten—twenty—fifty or more. Round the corner came a dozen mounted men.

They pushed the waiting workers away from the front of the office, and held them by a cordon 50 yards away. Then a number of plain-clothes men, headed by a detective inspector, entered the building and ordered that the machines should not be started.

Warrant from "Jix"

Mr. Robert Williams saw the inspector, who explained that they had a warrant from the Home Secretary to search for and seize all copies of the DAILY HERALD of May 4, all material used in producing it, or which might be used in producing any document calculated to impede measures taken for the maintenance of essential services.

It was quickly made clear that what really interested them was less the DAILY HERALD of May 4 than the BRITISH WORKER of May 5.

The inspector requested that a dozen copies of the paper should be run off for submission to the City Commissioner. If the Commissioner approved, we could go ahead. If not—he was sorry, but—

He went off with his copies, leaving some of his men in charge. Continued on Page Eight, Col. Four

OUR REPLY TO "JIX"

The General Council urges the men and women of Great Britain not to be stampeded into panic by the provocative utterances of the Home Secretary.

The inference contained in his broadcast appeal for special constables on Wednesday evening, to the effect that the Trade Union Movement was violating law and order, is quite unjustifiable.

Only on that same afternoon, in fact, the General Council of the Trades Union Congress had officially urged every member taking part in the dispute to be exemplary in his conduct and not to give any opportunity for police disturbances.

The General Council had also asked pickets to avoid obstruction and to confine themselves strictly to their legitimate duties.

There is no need for the panic which the Home Secretary seems intent on provoking. The strikers are standing firm, and they mean to conduct themselves in a disciplined, quiet and orderly manner.

The unnecessary and unwise action of the Home Secretary is more likely to imperil good order than to preserve it.

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How The Cabinet Wrecked Peace

GERMAN MINERS' FULL SUPPORT

"Your Struggle is Also Our Struggle"

NO COAL EXPORT

German workers' support for their British comrades is solid.

The Government's *British Gazette* stated yesterday that the miners belonging to the Christian (Catholic) Trade Unions have decided not to help the English strikers.

This is not true.

To-day the Executives of all the miners' unions, including the *Christian Unions*, issued a joint proclamation to the Ruhr miners, urging them to help their British comrades.

No coal must be sent to England, no overtime must be worked.

"The British miners' struggle is our struggle," the proclamation concludes. "The owners' victory would result in a catastrophe for working conditions everywhere."

Resolutions of sympathy are being passed by Labour organisations, irrespective of whether they are "Right" or "Left," "Socialist" or "Communist," or "Christian."

"We are resolved to carry out the Brussels decisions" is the terse but emphatic summary of the German miners' attitude expressed this morning by Herr Husemann, the President of the Mineworkers' Federation.

THE DECISIONS

The Brussels decisions are that "The International Committee affirms its entire solidarity with the British miners in their fight against longer hours, lower wages, and breaches of national agreements, and it is ready, if necessary, to take all the necessary measures to prevent the export of coal to Britain."

"If an international strike is decided upon, after the situation has been examined by the competent national bodies, the International Committee undertake that the national bodies shall not call off the strike until a satisfactory basis of settlement has been reached in all the countries involved in the struggle. In the event of such an international strike, the committee will act as a strike committee, whose orders will be binding in all countries."

VERY FEW BLACKLEGS

Only One Out of Six Hundred Help to Starve Miners

At its Press conference on Wednesday evening the Government boasted that it had secured the services of 4,000 volunteers in the five counties of Notts, Lincs, Rutland, Northants and Derbyshire.

As the population in this area is about 2,500,000 it will be seen that only about one out of every 600 of the population has chosen to assist the mineowners in their attempts to starve the miners and their families into submission.

STRIKE PAY IN DERBYSHIRE

Derbyshire miners will receive their first strike pay on May 14. The funds, it is expected, will last a month.

NEGOTIATIONS: STORY IN THE HOUSE

A Formula Considered: Discussed With the Miners: The Locked Door

How industrial peace was wrecked by members of the Cabinet in the early hours of Monday morning was exposed in the House of Commons on Wednesday by Mr. J. H. Thomas and Mr. Ramsay MacDonald.

Mr. THOMAS told a hushed and crowded assembly that at 11 o'clock on Sunday night the T.U.C. Negotiating Committee had received a form of settlement "written in the Prime Minister's own words and in his own handwriting."

"While we were with the miners, there came the *Daily Mail* incident, and negotiations were broken off."

Then, without a trace of bitterness in his voice, speaking rather in the tone of a man broken-hearted, Mr. MACDONALD took up the story.

"The Door Was Locked"

The negotiators and the miners were together in a room at Downing-street, he explained.

"We were discussing it with the miners," he went on. "Right in the middle of this discussion came a letter from the Prime Minister saying all was over."

"We decided to send a deputation to the Government representatives to ask them what it was all about. When the deputation arrived the door was locked and the whole place was in darkness."

The Prime Minister's explanation of the eleventh hour tragedy was that the stoppage of the *Daily Mail* was regarded as the first "overt act." "We felt in the circumstances that the whole situation was completely changed."

Later, Mr. Baldwin said the negotiations were broken off because of the actual beginning of the general strike with the *Daily Mail* incident.

"We said there could be no negotiations till the general strike was called off," he added. "The work of the peacemakers had been killed by the action of the hotheads."

Replying to Mr. Thomas, Mr. Baldwin admitted it was likely that the negotiators themselves knew nothing about the "*Daily Mail*" incident. They could not control it.

Reason—Not Force

Mr. HENDERSON pointed out that the T.U.C. had already offered the assistance that the Home Secretary was now asking for. Mr. Henderson, on behalf of the Negotiating Committee, disclaimed any responsibility for the breakdown of negotiations, adding that even now the House should bend its energies to see if they could get back to where they were at one o'clock on Monday night.

If the paper that had been interfered with had been the "*Daily*

Herald," he declared, they would have heard nothing about it. (Labour cheers.)

He made a strong plea for settlement by reason and not by force.

After Mr. LLOYD GEORGE had deplored the precipitancy in breaking off the negotiations, Mr. JOHN BROMLEY, a member of the negotiating Committee, described the general strike attitude of the unions as a

"gesture of which every Britisher ought to be proud."

As to the breakdown, the Premier, he thought, had been moved by a sinister hand.

Next came from Mr. T. O'CONNOR with a stirring plea to get back from the battlefield to the council chamber.

Then Mr. CLYNES pointed out that the striking millions were not millions of Communists, but a mixture of Labour, Liberal, and Conservative voters, most of them ex-Service men who, having fought for their country, felt they were now entitled to fight for the miners.

It was at this stage that the story of the breakdown of the negotiations, as told above, was revealed.

The Subsidy

It was followed by a strong speech from Mr. GEORGE WARNER, the miners' leader, who commented on the greatness of the tragedy when everyone wanted peace.

There were too many fears and misunderstandings, he said. On the one side was the fear of a general attack on wages, and on the other side the fear of "Russian methods."

"Climb down a little on both sides," he pleaded, adding the suggestion that the subsidy should be continued.

Mr. HARTSHORN said the possibility of a settlement had been blocked all along by a decision taken by the mineowners nine months ago.

This decision was to devote the subsidy to propaganda with the object of causing civil war.

Labour amendments to the Emergency Powers Regulations were defeated.

The subject of the breaking-off of negotiations came up again at a late hour, when fuller statements were made by the Prime Minister and Mr. Thomas.

Mr. BALDWIN stated that on Sunday night they found that the utmost point to which the T.U.C. representatives could go was that contained in a formula which was written down, not by himself, but by Lord Birkenhead. It was as follows:—

"We would urge the miners to authorise us to enter into discussion with the understanding that they and we accept the report as the basis of a settlement, and we approach it with the knowledge that it may involve some reduction of wages."

"When we separated," the Premier continued at foot of next column

HANDS ACROSS THE SEA

I.F.T.U. Calls on the Nations to Aid the Strikers

OSTEND MEETINGS

The Council of the International Federation of Trade Unions meets at Amsterdam on Monday.

All National Trade Union centres affiliated to the International Federation have been invited to send financial assistance to the British movement.

Two important international conferences are to be held on Saturday at Ostend to consider ways and means of rendering effective aid in the British struggle.

One is the meeting of the Executive of the Miners' International, the other a conference of representatives of dockers', railwaymen's, and seamen's unions summoned by the International Transport Workers' Federation.

PIT PONIES SEE DAYLIGHT

More pit ponies were brought up from the pits in the Sheffield district yesterday.

Continued from previous column
miser continued, "the T.U.C. representatives were taking that formula to discuss it with the miners. I don't know—no one can know now—what chance it had of being accepted by them."

"But when we knew that the General Strike had already begun by an attack on the liberty of the Press, we saw that we had reached a point when it was impossible for the Government to make any further effort."

The Premier's Letter

Mr. THOMAS then gave the House his narrative of events, inviting Mr. Baldwin and Sir A. Steel-Maitland to correct him if his memory was in fault at any point.

He told how the T.U.C. negotiators were discussing with the miners' leaders the formula quoted above when a message came that the Prime Minister wished to see them. He also told how they went down and saw Mr. Baldwin and Sir A. Steel-Maitland, the former handing them a letter.

They read the letter after they had gone back upstairs.

"It asked," he continued, "for a repudiation of something we knew nothing about (i.e., the affair at the *Daily Mail*), and immediately we did repudiate it."

"We actually went to the length of instructing a deputation to go down and convey it to the Prime Minister, and when we got down from one room to the other we were told by an attendant that everybody had gone to bed, and the place was in darkness and we could see nobody."

"Bitterly as I am disappointed," concluded Mr. Thomas, "and keenly as I feel it, I am not going to allow passion or temper, or even the wonderful response of our people, to cause me to bang the door to the peace that I hope will speedily come."

Reports From The Trade Unions

BIG PORT HIGH AND DRY

One Hundred Thousand Out at Liverpool

FINE DISCIPLINE

Liverpool, the second port of the Empire, is high and dry, strike-bound. Even the Trades Council itself is amazed at the response.

Close on 100,000 men, perhaps more, have shouldered arms to carry the miners' cause to success.

The general paralysis of industry is complete, though essential public services, such as food supplies, are as usual. Although the streets are thronged with people, strikers and

Right is with Labour! Stick to the right side, and the others will be left.

also pedestrians going to and from work, everything is perfectly quiet, which is evidence of the fine discipline of the strikers.

So far as Liverpool is concerned this dispute has made history, and will go down to posterity. The public is thirsting for news, and newsboys with their strike bulletins are besieged. Their modest and scantily-filled quarts are snapped up at two-pence a time.

JOURNALISTS OUT

Won't Work with "Blacks" in the Black Country

Because the Midland News Association attempted to provide a substitute paper, local officials of the National Union of Journalists have called out journalists in Wolverhampton and the Black Country.

The Executive of the N.U.J., as reported in our issue yesterday, has instructed members that they are not to abandon normal duties, but are not to do their work if blackleg labour is introduced to produce newspapers or substitutes.

TRANSPORT AND GENERAL WORKERS' UNION.

Message from the General Executive Council to all Members.

To-day's reports from every area in the country state that the members are standing loyally together and are quite confident that by being steadfast and determined they can, in association with their fellow trade unionists, secure justice for all mine workers.

The Executive Council and Officers send their hearty greetings and congratulations to all our members.

**E. BEVIN.
HARRY GOSLING.**

UNIONS AFFECTED BY STRIKE ORDERS

Numbers Steadily Increased by Stoppages in Allied Industries

The following unions have either been wholly or partially affected by the strike orders issued by the General Council of the Trades Union Congress.

It should be borne in mind that the list undergoes extension from hour to hour.

GROUP 1.—MINING AND QUARRYING

Scottish Colliery Engine and Boilermakers' Association.

Colliery Enginemakers, Boilermakers and Brakesmen's Federation, Lancashire, Cheshire and North Wales.

Colliery Under-Managers' Association of Scotland.

Cumberland Colliery Enginemakers, Boilermakers and Electrical Workers.

Firemen's Examiners and Deputies' Associations of Great Britain (General Federation of).

Miners' Federation of Great Britain.

North Wales Quarrymen's Union.

Anal. Nat. Union of Quarry Workers and Sott Makers.

Shale Miners and Oil Workers (Nat. Union of).

GROUP 2.—RAILWAYS

Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen.

Railway Clerks' Association.

National Union of Railwaymen.

GROUP 3.—TRANSPORT (other than railways)

Carters and Motormen's Union, Liverpool and District.

Coal Trimmers' Union, Cardiff, Penarth and Barry.

Transport and General Workers' Union.

Transport Workers' Association of England, United Road.

Transport and General Workers' Union, North of England Commercial Section.

Watermen's Association, Weaver.

GROUP 4.—SHIPBUILDING

Barge Builders' Trade Union.

Associated Blacksmiths' and Ironworkers' Society.

Boilermakers and Iron and Steel Shipbuilders.

GROUP 5.—ENGINEERING, FOUNDRY, AND VEHICLE BUILDING

Amal. Society of Brassworkers.

Nat. Society of Brass and Metal Mechanics.

Brassturners, Fitters, Finishers and Instrument Makers' Association, West of Scotland.

Coppersmiths, Braziers and Metal Workers, National Society of.

Electrical Trades Union.

Amalgamated Engineering Union.

Engineers' and Firemen's Amalgamation, North of England.

Enginemakers, Firemen, Mechanics and Electrical Workers (Amal. Soc. of).

Amalgamated Society of Farriers and Blacksmiths.

Foremen's Association (Engineering and Allied Trades) National.

National Union of Foundry Workers.

National Union of Operatives Heating and Domestic Engineers.

General Iron Fitters' Association.

Central Iron Moulders' Association.

Amalgamated Machine, Engine and Iron Grinders' and Glaziers' Society.

Military Musical Instrument Makers' Society.

Amalgamated Moulders' and Kindred Industries' Trades Union.

United Patternmakers' Association.

Amalgamated Society of Railway Vehicle Builders, Wheelwrights, etc.

United Operative Spindle and Flyer Makers.

Nat. Union of Stove Grate and General Metal Workers.

National Union of Vehicle Builders.

GROUP 6.—IRON AND STEEL AND MINOR METAL TRADES

Bedstead Workers' Association.

Blastfurnacemen, Ore Miners, Coke Workers and Kindred Trades (Nat. Union of).

Iron and Steel Trades Confederation.

Nat. Union of Sheet Metal Workers and Braziers.

Spring Trapmakers' Society.

Birmingham Operative Tin Plate, Sheet Metal Workers and Braziers Society.

United Association of Welsh Artisans.

Amalgamated Wire Drawers Society of Great Britain.

Metal Wire and Tube Workers.

GROUP 7.—BUILDING, WOODWORKING AND FURNISHING

"Altogether" Builders, Labourers and Constructional Workers' Society.

National Builders' Labourers and Constructional Workers' Society.

Amalgamated Union of Building Trade Workers.

National Amalgamated Furnishing Trades Association.

National Amalgamated Society of Operative House and Ship Painters and Decorators.

Scottish Painters' Society.

National Association of Plasterers, Granolithic and Cement Workers.

GROUP 8.—PRINTING AND PAPER

London Society of Compositors.

Correctors of the Press, Association.

Nat. Society of Electrotypes and Stereotypers.

Lithographic Artists, Designers, Engravers and Process Workers' Society.

Nat. Society of Operative Printers and Assistants.

Printing Machine Managers' Trade Society.

Amal. Association Pressmen.

Press Telegraphists.

Printing, Bookbinding, Machine Binding and Paper Workers, Nat. Union of.

Typographical Association.

Typographical Association, Scottish.

Amal. Lithographic Printers of G.B. and I.

Members of unions that have not been called out should understand,

before taking any strike action,

that they must await instructions from their own Executives, which will act under General Council authority.

GROUP 13.—DISTRIBUTION, ETC.

N.U.D.A.W.

Shop Assistants.

GROUP 15.—PUBLIC EMPLOYEES

Corporation Workers' General Union.

GROUP 17.—GENERAL LABOURERS

United Order of General Labourers.

General and Municipal Workers' Union.

The Workers' Union.

Plumbers and Domestic Engineers' Association of Great Britain and Ireland, United Operative.

Steel Masons, Paviers and Road Makers' Society, Nat. Amal. Op.

Amal. Union of Upholsterers.

Amal. Society of Woodworkers.

Amal. Society of Wood Cutting Machinists.

United French Polishers.

WEST COUNTRY'S SPIRIT

"Firm as a Rock"—the Men of Reading

KEEN TO COME OUT

Telephone Message from the Special Commissioner of the "British Worker"

READING, Thursday. — "The trade unionists of Reading are firm as a rock," said Mr. Lockwood, secretary of the local Strike Committee.

"Our trouble is to keep at work men who have not yet received the permission of the General Council of the T.U.C. to come out."

The Strike Committee is organising football matches between various sections of the strikers, and a match is to be played this afternoon—"Steam v. Juice."

The Strike Committees of the West of England have organised a system for the exchange of news and greetings. Posted outside the Labour Club is the following bulletin:—

Swindon states magnificent solidarity.

Bristol: All solid here.

Gloucester: Morale magnificent.

Exeter: The railway authorities have asked the Central Strike Committee for men to run meat and milk trains.

A huge crowd of strikers is waiting eagerly outside the Club for the arrival of the BRITISH WORKER.

SOLID AT WORCESTER

Determination and Good Order the Spirit of Strikers

Wonderful solidarity is the report by Worcester Trades Council. The strike is being conducted in a most orderly manner.

All transport workers are out and only three trains were run, these being worked by inspectors.

Clerks responded nobly to the call. Building trade workers have decided to stop to-night.

The bus service between Worcester and district and Birmingham is entirely suspended, and through lack of transport Williamson's tin manufactory has closed down till Monday.

The Health Department staff at Keighley (Yorks), numbering 70, have struck work.

Keep Touch!

IN every district persons appointed by strike committees to send and receive messages should telegraph their names and addresses to "Tradunic," Churton, London.

Head offices of Unions are requested to take steps to send progress reports and information to Strike Organisation Committee, 33, Eccleston-square each morning by 10 a.m. and afternoon not later than 3 p.m.

No Attack On The Constitution!

CONFUSING THE ONE SLICE OR TWO?

ISSUE

Those who support Mr. Baldwin and his Cabinet in their deration of war upon Organised labour are making great efforts to confuse the issue and to prevent the Nation from understanding what is at stake. They talk and write wildly out an attempt to upset the institution, to usurp the authority of Ministers, to set up a rival to the House of Commons. Mr. Baldwin, who urged everyone to "keep steady," has entirely lost his balance that declared in yesterday's issue the newspaper which he is issuing from the "Morning Post" office:—

"The General Strike is a challenge to Parliament. . . . Constitutional Government is being attacked." That is untrue. No one should know that it is untrue better than Mr. Baldwin, who has followed from the beginning the dispute between Miners and Mineowners, and who is aware at it has been an industrial dispute throughout. No political issue has ever been mentioned or thought of in connection with it.

It began over Wages and conditions of working; it has never been concerned with anything else.

When the Mineowners, backed by Mr. Baldwin, expected the Miners to go on negotiating under threat of losing their livelihood, the other Trade Unions were moved to intervene.

They were compelled to intervene. Menacing workers with a lock-out during negotiations cuts at the root of the methods which Trade Unions have built up for settling disputes in a reasonable, peaceful way.

Only when the very proper request for the withdrawal of the notices had been refused did the Trade Unions decide upon a General Strike.

At the special Trade Union Congress it was perfectly clear that nothing was in anybody's mind save the Industrial issue. Had any speaker mentioned Revolution, he would have been impatiently told to shut up.

The General Strike is not a "menace to Parliament." No attack is being made on Constitutional Government. We beg Mr. Baldwin to believe that.

A STARTLING DISCLOSURE

The exposure in the House of Commons of the reason why negotiations were abruptly broken off on Sunday night shows a fresh and very disturbing light on the mind of the Cabinet. At a moment when the Trade Union Committee were considering a basis for continuing the discussion of Coal Terms, they were suddenly told "All is off," and were presented with an ultimatum. The reason for this, Mr. Baldwin alleges, was the refusal of the Daily Mail printers to produce a paper containing what they believed to be a misstatement of the workers' case. This, the Prime Minister suggests, made the Cabinet believe that a general strike had begun.

Can it be credited that without any investigation, without an hour's delay for discovering what had happened, the Cabinet acted at such a critical moment upon the conclusion to which they had jumped without any evidence at all?

We find this hard to swallow. Yet the choice lies between accepting that explanation and being driven to conclude that the Cabinet, or some members of it, seized on the printers' action as a pretext for a break. This also we are loth to believe.

But, either way, it shows that Labour is as free from responsibility for the conflict now unhappily in progress as it was for the strike of Daily Mail printers. That has now been made clear by the Prime Minister himself.

How the Coal Struggle Looks to a Miner's Wife

At this great crisis every woman must turn her thoughts to the life of her sister in the coalfields. In this article her very difficult problem is sympathetically discussed.

NO section of the community is carrying a heavier burden than the miner's wife.

At the best of times her toil is hard. She has not only all the work of other housewives; the conditions of the mining industry and the housing in colliery villages make her task specially heavy.

Nowhere is housing worse. Sometimes she has little better than a one-room hovel without any of the ordinary comforts of life, and not even a scrap of garden round it.

Water supply is bad, sanitary conveniences intolerable, and the dirt of the pit is constantly carried into her home. Every man comes back from his shift covered with coal dust and with wet clothes, which have to be dried and mended.

All day long she is occupied with her children and with caring for the men going out or coming in. In addition to all her toil she has constant anxiety while her men folk are away at their dangerous task underground.

In recent years her work and anxiety has been increased by low wages and unemployment.

She is faced each week with the terrible business of making a starvation wage cover the family's needs, and a man who works

underground must be well fed and well cared for. Hungry children must have their meals even if boots and clothes are lacking.

Every woman will know that in such conditions the mother's needs come last. The miner's wife says: "Wage-earners and children first." She is well satisfied if she can give them enough. What is left over is her share.

The possibility of lower wages in the Mining Industry is sheer tragedy for the women of the coalfields.

When there is talk of equal sacrifices by employers and employed the human needs of the miner's family are forgotten. Any reduction in the level of wages for them would mean falling below the hunger line.

It would not be a case of going without luxuries, of taking bread instead of cake; it would mean giving a hungry child one slice of bread instead of two, and water when it needs milk.

Nor could a more prosperous time in the future make up for the privation of the present. To reduce the children's food to-day means so to stunt their growth as to leave ill-effects for the rest of their lives.

Therefore, this struggle is for the women of the coalfields one of desperate need, and they turn confidently to their sisters in other industries, asking them to stand beside them now and so save their children for the future.

THE GREAT, GREAT TREK

[In the Broadcasting of the News, the walking of the people to their work is referred to as "The Great Trek."]

It's the great, great Trek
Through the thronged city streets,
It's the trek to the shops
And the tall office-seats;
The roads are thick with people
Cheek by jowl, neck and neck,
As the Walkers through the city
Make the great, great Trek.

It's the great, great Trek
On the road that is unseen
To the goal of the future—
And the obstacles between
Will seek to daunt the hearts
And hold the march in check
Of the Workers who are following
The great, great Trek.

Oh, the way is hard to go,
And the end is far to see,
And the progress may be slow,
And the body weary be,
Yet something in men's spirits
(What it is who shall reckon?)
Keeps them dogged as they plod
On the great, great Trek.

There's a hope men must reach for,
And a wrong men must break,
In the teeth of all hardships
For their child's child's sake,
When the new hope is planted
On the old wrong's wreck,
Their child's child shall thank them
For the Great, Great Trek.

TOMFOOL.

"Do's" for Difficult Days

In reply to a column of "Strike Don'ts" in an anti-Labour news-sheet

Do all you can to keep everybody smiling: the way to do that is to smile yourself.

Do your best to discountenance any ideas of violent and disorderly conduct.

Do the thing that's nearest: this will occupy you and will steady your nerves, if they get shaky.

Do any odd jobs that want doing about the house.

Do a little to interest and amuse the kiddies now you have the chance.

Do what you can to improve your health: a good walk every day will keep you fit.

Do something. Hanging about and swapping rumours is bad every way.

Flooding the Country With Truth

LEADERS TAKING PART IN GREAT CAMPAIGN

Programme of Public Meetings to be Held Throughout the Land

A great series of public meetings is being arranged from headquarters at Eccleston-square, to be held throughout the country, the services of many Labour M.P.s being enlisted as speakers.

Meetings already planned for the north-western area are:

Stockport.—Saturday, Mr. J. Compton, M.P.

Manchester.—Sunday afternoon, Messrs. Rhys Davies and J. Compton, M.P.s.

Oldham.—Sunday evening, Mr. Compton, M.P.

Other meetings decided upon, the dates to be announced later, are:

Preston and Carlisle.—Mr. T. Kennedy, M.P.

Blackburn, Burnley and Colne.—Messrs. T. Shaw, and H. Dunnico, F.P.s.

Chester.—Messrs. J. H. Hayes, Gibbin, and J. Sexton, M.P.s.

Meetings are also to be held at Rugby, Birmingham, Wolverhampton, Stoke, Crewe, Warrington, Vigan, Widnes and St. Helens.

UP TO THE NORTH

In the Eastern counties meetings are being arranged as follows:—

Norwich.—Mr. Mardy Jones, F.P.

Colchester and Ipswich.—Major Atlee and Mr. F. A. Broad, M.P.s. Ranging up to the north-east, the following meetings are planned:—

York.—Saturday, Mr. W. Paling, F.P.

Hull.—Saturday, Mr. Tom Williams, M.P.

Doncaster.—Sunday, Mr. W. Paling, M.P.

Mr. R. C. Wallhead, M.P., is to speak at Peterborough, Mr. A. Shepherd, M.P., at Darlington, Mr. C. Trevelyan, M.P., at Newcastle, and Mr. R. Dennison, M.P., at Stockton and Middlesbrough.

A party of M.P.s will spread along the Midland route. Dates already fixed are:—

Derby and Ilkeston.—Messrs. R. Taylor, M.P., and G. H. Oliver,

M.P., on Friday evening, Saturday and Sunday.

At Wolverton and Northampton Mr. C. G. Ammon, M.P., is to speak. Mr. W. Mackinder, M.P., goes to Leicester, Mr. Pethick Lawrence, M.P., to Nottingham, and Mr. J. J. Lawson, M.P., to Sheffield.

For Leeds, Bradford, Shipley and district the speakers are Mr. Ben Turner and Messrs. A. Connolly, B. Riley, M.P., and W. Hurst, M.P.

LONDON MEETINGS

A preliminary list of London meetings has been drawn up as follows:—

Stratford.—Mr. J. Bromley, M.P.

Nine Elms.—Mr. J. Bromley, M.P.

New Cross.—Mr. A. B. Swales and Mr. H. C. Charleton, M.F.

Holloway.—Mr. C. T. Cramp.

Clapham Junction.—Mr. C. T. Cramp.

Kentish Town.—Mr. J. H. Thomas, M.P.

Acton.—Mr. J. H. Thomas, M.P.

Canal Town.—Mr. Herbert Smith.

Rotherhithe.—Mr. Herbert Smith.

Meetings are proposed for Southwark, Camberwell, Leyton, Shepherd's Bush, and Walthamstow, with Mr. Ernest Bevin as one of the speakers.

Messrs. A. Pugh and A. G. Walkden will speak in North and North-West London, possibly at the Regent Theatre, the Bedford Music Hall, and at Willesden.

For the South Wales area, meetings are to be addressed by Mr. G. H. Hall, M.P., at **Newport, Cardiff, Swansea, and Merthyr.**

A meeting is also to be held at Llanelli.

Do make everyone understand that this is an industrial, not a political, dispute. It concerns Wages, Decent Conditions of Life, Fair Methods of Negotiation; not the Constitution, nor the Government, nor the House of Commons.

MESSAGE TO ALL WORKERS.

The General Council of the Trades Union Congress wishes to emphasise the fact that this is an industrial dispute. It expects every member taking part to be exemplary in his conduct and not to give any opportunity for police interference. The outbreak of any disturbances would be very damaging to the prospects of a successful termination to the dispute.

The Council asks pickets especially to avoid obstruction and to confine themselves strictly to their legitimate duties.

RAILWAY MEN SOLID

Summary of Reports from N.U.R. Branches

UNIONS CO-OPERATE

A magnificent response to the strike order is revealed in reports received at Unity House, the headquarters of the National Union of Railwaymen, from more than 300 branches.

Mr. C. T. Cramp, secretary of the N.U.R., states that he has not received a single adverse report.

"100 per cent. solid" is the text of practically every telegram received.

One of the most satisfactory features of the situation is the high degree of co-operation between the Railway and Transport Unions in the various centres.

ALL JOINING IN

Manchester's Force of Strikers Growing Hourly

In addition to stoppage of the traffic, grades work has ceased at the railway shops in Manchester and district, including Newton Heath and Dukinfield.

The Amalgamated Engineering Union reports that its men had struck at works where members of other unions had been called out, including the railway shops, newspaper offices, and tramway sheds.

The Electrical Trades Union reports that all its members are out, with the exception of those employed on building schemes at hospitals.

The tramway stoppage in Manchester is complete, only the three oldest drivers in the employ of the tramways department having reported for duty. All is quiet in the city, and no disturbances have taken place.

The general strike spread to the motor-coach building trade at Leighton Buzzard to-day. The men went to work this morning, but left the works after hearing a communication read from the Coachbuilders' Union.

REFUSAL TO BLACKLEG

Unemployed Stand by Strikers at Stockton-on-Tees

The strike is being conducted on sober lines at Stockton-on-Tees, where fully 9,000 men have been withdrawn from work by the respective unions.

The BRITISH WORKER representative found the Labour headquarters a hive of lively activity. Councillor A. J. Thatcher, who is in charge, said: "There is great enthusiasm among the strikers, who are firmly convinced of the justice of the miners' cause."

The strike committee is delighted that the unemployed have refused to work as blacklegs. Permits have been issued in accordance with T.U.O. instructions for food transport. Picketing is intensive and splendidly organised, the large bands of workers being kept in touch with neighbouring headquarters by means of motor dispatch riders.

FEW BUSES—FARES UP

A very few L.G.O.C. omnibuses were running on Tuesday, and they were displaying the notice "Minimum fare 3d." As a rule the minimum fare is 4d.

TRANSPORT MEN UNITED

Discipline and Morale Excellent

JOINT COMMITTEES

Excellent reports have been received at the headquarters of the Transport and General Workers' Union from branches in every part of the country.

Joint Committees have been set up in every district in Scotland and in Northern England, while elsewhere active co-operation with the local Trades and Labour Councils is being maintained.

The discipline and morale of the men are everywhere excellent.

TUBE & IRONWORKS STOP

Fuel Shortage Throws 6,500 Workers on the Streets

Lack of fuel has caused the closing of Messrs. Stewarts and Lloyd's tube works, Oldhill, Staffs, and Messrs. Hingely and Sons' ironworks. Over 6,500 workers have been thrown out of employment.

Other large factories are closing.

WORLD-WIDE SUPPORT

Messages of Encouragement to British Workers

Messages of support from all over the world continue to reach the T.U.C. General Council.

Among those received last night and this morning are the following:—

CANADA

Canadian Labour Party, Toronto, Central Council, pledges unhesitating support, and admires the courageous efforts to mobilise the workers of England against Capitalism.

Edmonton (Alberta) Convention of Workers, of the Canadian Labour Party, "congratulates the British workers on the solidarity shown in their common fight against lowering the living standard of the workers." Farmers' Union of Canada: "Earnestly wish you success in your fight for economic justice."

London (Ontario) Trades and Labour Council pledges moral and financial support to the British mineworkers.

UNITED STATES

International Ladies Garment Workers' Union of America fully realise the world-wide significance of the British workers' fight, and fervently hope for a "speedy victory that will put a permanent check on the union-smashing and labour-hating tactics and policies of organized capital."

CANNOT GET AMATEURS

There is no change in the position in Birmingham, where the workers' solidarity is completely maintained.

The tramways manager has appealed to drivers and conductors to return, as he is unable, he states, to get amateur drivers, and even if he could there is no one to train them.

It would, he adds, be dangerous to employ unskilled drivers.

The Lock-Out Committee of the Building Industry in Oslo "hopes that this struggle will prove a victory for the unity of the international working class."

Set Your Teeth And Wait

FROM JOHN O' GROATS TO LAND'S END

Stirring Messages from the Areas: Rail Clerks' "Baptism"

Reports from the trade unions make stirring reading and reveal the wonderful loyalty of our comrades to their leaders' orders.

Railway Clerks' Association

The Executive of the R.C.A. say, "We are very happy to be able to report that although the present experience represents our members' first real baptism in a general withdrawal of labour, the immediate response to the call to cease work was highly gratifying and showed a measure of unanimity amongst our grades that was most encouraging."

"The spirit and morale of the members is splendid, and we have received many advices of non-members joining up and taking their places alongside their colleagues. . . . A good deal is being made of the reports of a few supervisors continuing at work, but according to authentic information the latter are a negligible quantity compared with the situation as a whole."

"These supervisors are often isolated positions, and are influenced by the view that they occupy posts involving 'safety' and considerations of that sort."

"THE BROAD OUTSTANDING FACT IS THAT OUR OVERWHELMING MAJORITY OF THE CLERICAL AND ALLIED GRADES OF THE SERVICE ARE STANDING FOUR-SQUARE WITH THE OTHER WORKERS IN THE STRUGGLE, AND THIS STATE OF AFFAIRS EXTENDS FROM JOHN O' GROATS TO LAND'S END."

V.A.T.S.O.P.A.

This morning the National Society of Operative Printers and Assistants stated that practically every branch which had so far reported its position at headquarters was 100 per cent. solid.

Transport and General Workers' Union

All members and officers must note that the instruction in respect of the issue of permits to move traffic of any and every description is as follows:—

No permits are to be issued by this union, or any other union, or by any officers.

No Trades Council may issue permits

The only competent authority to deal with permits is the Joint Transport Committee composed of representatives elected by the Transport Unions, including the N.U.R., A.S.L.E. and F., and the R.C.A.

If such a Committee is not set up already in your district please get in touch with the other Unions concerned and set one up.

All existing permits must be reviewed by the Transport Committee at once.

Please make this as widely known as possible.

ERNEST BEVIN.

Trans. & Gen. Workers' Union

LONDON AND HOME COUNTIES AREA: At their own request, cab-drivers are ceasing work. The position with regard to all sections in the area is well maintained. Waterways are exceptionally solid, and the Woolwich Free Ferry has been stopped for the first time in history. Effective steps are being taken to counter the attempts of the L.C.C. to institute a passenger service by the aid of volunteers.

MIDLANDS AREA: Reports from all districts most satisfactory. Attempts to run bus service failed.

NORTH-WEST COAST AREA: Attempts to run a Manchester tramway service abandoned. Local Joint Committees working splendidly.

SCOTTISH AREA: Scotland remains absolutely solid. The members of the street passenger service have stood as one man.

NORTH OF ENGLAND AREA: All sections absolutely solid. Attempts to run passenger services have been frustrated.

NORTH MIDLANDS AND YORKSHIRE AREA: Whole area still solid. Tramways at a standstill. Steps are being taken to deal with "unrecognised" bus services.

SOUTH OF ENGLAND AREA: With the exception of tramwaymen in Southampton (20 per cent. working) and Portsmouth (125 men working), all sections remain solid. Response of the road transport commercial men is remarkable.

WEST OF ENGLAND AREA: All sections remain solid. The spirit at present displayed is beyond anything witnessed in past years.

SOUTH WALES AREA: Position solid throughout the area. Attempts to circulate false rumours amongst men in outlying districts have been successfully scotched. The statements broadcast yesterday to the effect that

WRONG AGAIN

The statement circulated yesterday to the effect that Mr. Herbert Smith and Mr. A. J. Cook have been in consultation with Mr. Ramsay MacDonald with a view to making peace overtures is without foundation. No statements concerning negotiations should be believed unless they have the authority of the General Council.

Control of negotiations is entirely in the hands of the General Council. No individuals are authorised to discuss terms of peace.

Cardiff Docks are working were found to be absolutely untrue.

EAST COAST AREA: Reports from all parts of the area are gratifying. No cargo is being handled in the docks throughout the area. The number of strikers considerably increased yesterday, due to many employers endeavouring to introduce blackleg labour.

Reports from the branches show that in practically every case every member has responded to the call.

WORKERS CALM AND STEADY

No Disorder—Only Determination to Stand Fast Till We Win

Continued from Page One

riot there. These are wild exaggerations intended to jangle nerves and to shake confidence.

In fact, the only incidents that have occurred have been the most insignificant brawls, a loss of temper and a blow or two, incidents of the kind that happen any day when nobody is even dreaming of a general strike.

To-day rumour swiftly turns them into riots. But rumour—and Government propaganda—must not be trusted.

WHATEVER WILD STORIES RUN THE FACT IS THAT THERE HAS BEEN NO SERIOUS DISORDER ANYWHERE IN THE WHOLE OF GREAT BRITAIN.

The East End of London—the greatest working-class district in the whole world—is calm with the calm of a Sunday afternoon. Police and strikers are on the best of terms. The Trade Unions are providing the escorts for the food and hospital supplies. There are thousands upon thousands of strikers there.

But there is no disturbance whatever.

And there will be none unless the Government is foolish enough to provoke it.

As in the East End, so all through England, all through Scotland, all through Wales.

Discipline, order, solidarity, confi-

dence. Just the calm of it is fraying the nerves of our opponents. If there were riots and police charges and an excuse for machine-guns, they would understand.

But this tremendous pressure of a power they cannot see, but which they can feel more and more intensely every hour, is unnerving. They cannot see what to do. There is nothing they can do.

We have only to set our teeth and wait.

UNEMPLOYEDS' OFFER

"Not One Organised Member Has Tried to Blackleg"

Mr. J. W. Holt, secretary of the National Unemployed Workers' Committee Movement, states:—

"The organised unemployed throughout the country have offered their assistance to the Trades Councils and local Strike Committees, and this has been accepted in all cases."

"Not one member of the organised unemployed has attempted to blackleg."

"It is the intention of the National Unemployed Workers' Committee Movement to maintain this attitude even if the strike lasts for months."

At Barrow-in-Furness all remains quiet, and the latest report is that the Trades Council has issued the first number of a strike bulletin. There is no local newspaper published.

FOOD SUPPLIES

All questions of policy dealing with the release of all classes of foodstuffs are now placed in the hands of a National Committee, consisting of representatives of all the Transport Unions, with Mr. J. Marchbanks, Unity House, London, as Secretary.

Telegraphic Address: "BEWARE, EUSROAD"

Telephone Number: Museum 9101 (4 lines)

to whom all communications must be sent.

This Committee is authorised and is the sole Committee to issue all advice, procedure, instructions and permits nationally, and directions with regard to local permits for the removal of any footstuffs.

This applies to all other forms of transport.

FINALLY—all permits are at present under review.

(Signed)

TRADES UNION GENERAL COUNCIL

The Fight In London

SOLIDARITY EVERYWHERE

T.U.C. Appeal for Order
Loyally Observed

QUIET, BUT FIRM

Messages received by the General Council show that the workers in every part of the country are responding loyally in defence of the locked-out miners. The following are a few typical examples of the reports which have been received:—

GUILDFORD TRADES COUNCIL says that all Trade Unionists in the area have loyally responded to the cause.

LEAMINGTON SPA TRADES COUNCIL says: "Practically all men are out and they are quiet and orderly."

ASHFORD (KENT) STRIKE COMMITTEE states that all the Unions affected are out solid, and are keeping firm.

IN LIVERPOOL all seamen members of the National Sailors and Firemen's Union are out on strike.

DEPTFORD AND GREENWICH TRADES COUNCIL reports that for the first time in history all the workers in the Government Royal Victoria Yard have come out on strike.

SUPPORTS THE MINERS

Mrs. Snowden Repudiates Report
That She Sided with Govt.

Mrs. Philip Snowden has issued a vigorous repudiation of the report, in Monday's Press, which represented her as having urged, during her recent speech at a meeting of the Shaftesbury Foundation, that everyone should support the Government in the present crisis.

"I am surprised," she said, "to hear that my statement, correctly reported in the Times, has been distorted to create the impression that I am a supporter of the Government in the present controversy."

"My sympathies are entirely with the miners. Nothing could have exceeded the tactlessness with which the Government have handled the situation."

"My remarks were simply an echo of the appeal of the Trades Union Congress to the workers to maintain order and discourage all acts of violence."

Mrs. Snowden was at the Headquarters of the Trades Union Congress this morning to offer her services for any voluntary duties she might be required to do.

STRANDED IN FRANCE

The Paris newspaper *Matin* states that the Nord and State railways have decided to cease running a number of passenger trains connecting with the cross-Channel boats.

At Calais the hotels are crowded with passengers held up by the strike, while the goods traffic has been completely suspended.

MORE PRINTERS OUT

The commercial and Press printers in the Ashton-under-Lyme and Hyde districts have left work. Three local weekly newspapers will not be published on Friday evening.

GREAT SILENT CITY OF DOCKLAND

Peep at East London: Strikers' Fine Discipline

EASY TIME FOR POLICE

(By Our Special Commissioner.)

The whole East End of London is a great silent city, even quieter and more peaceful than on a Sunday.

Not a workshop, factory, or commercial concern of any kind is doing business.

At all the district strike headquarters that I have visited, the instructions that are prominently displayed are being rigidly observed.

KEEP CALM. KEEP COOL.
DON'T CONGREGATE.

On vacant plots of land I saw many games of football, and a few cricket pitches were in use. Passing through the vast network of the residential quarters one found

by the pickets and told that they would be strike-breaking, they left quietly, and not one case of black-legging is reported throughout the whole of the area.

The police are having a very easy time—no traffic whatever to attend to, no crowds to move on. I saw many of them chatting with the strikers, the best of friends, and with the best of good humour.

SUPPLIES FOR THE SICK

The hospitals and infirmaries are receiving their supplies, and the escorts are not police, or O.M.S., but trade unionists carrying out their instructions with loyalty and precision.

Only small shops and provision stores are open. The public houses are doing but a moderate trade, and the houses are peaceful and orderly.

Returning to the West End through the City of London, one finds more traffic, but at the Bank and Mansion House crossing—the busiest in the world at normal times—one solitary policeman was on traffic duty.

Banks and insurance offices are working with skeleton staffs, and many are closed altogether.

In other city offices, the black-coated workers are, like their manual worker comrades, having a holiday, and only one office in ten is showing any pretence of doing business. All wholesale houses are completely closed.

My tour of many miles was to me a gigantic demonstration of the power of peaceful resistance.

MUSIC AND ACROBATICS

Mr. Rutland Boughton's Help At Croydon

From reports which come from all quarters that from Croydon is as cheery as any. Ruskin House, the local Labour Party's headquarters, is the scene of great activity. Trade unions are regularly reporting there, and everybody is in splendid fettle. An amusements committee is hard at work. Already concerts have been held, and the quality of the talent has been remarkably high. A cricket team is being formed, and among other items being given on the lawn to-day are acrobatic performances.

Mr. Rutland Boughton, the famous Labour musical conductor, came in from Tatsfield especially to offer his help and advice, so that the Croydon folk can look forward to a good time on the musical and dramatic side.

Owing to the fact that only a few copies of the *BRITISH WORKER* reached Ruskin House, relays of readers mounted a form this morning and read the whole paper through to a chering and enthusiastic crowd.

Five hundred aircraftmen who are trade unionists have ceased work at Farnborough.

RECREATION FOR STRIKERS

Plans Maturing for Games and Amusements

WHAT MAY BE DONE

With the warm approval of the General Council arrangements are being made for the provision of amusements and recreational facilities for the strikers and their families.

It has been suggested that the following organisations might interest themselves in this matter:—

Women's Co-operative Guild.

Women's Sections of the Labour Party.

Women's International League. Organisations affiliated to National Peace Society.

Local Peace Councils for the Prevention of War. Adult Schools.

The Meetings of the Society of Friends.

Local Branches of the various teachers' organisations.

Free Church Councils and the local organisations of other religious bodies.

The various Youth Movements.

The Fellowship of Reconciliation.

The Local Workers' Educational Associations.

The Local Education Authorities if possible.

The No More War Movement.

Amongst the activities suggested are the following:—

Educational lectures and study circles.

Concerts, dances and social gatherings.

Play centres and organised games in public parks.

Cinema shows to women and children—say, once a week.

It has also been suggested that relief work might be undertaken for women and children who are suffering from privation.

TRAIN'S NARROW ESCAPE

Within Two Feet of Disaster:

Blacklegs on Footplate

An attempt to run a train by a military driver and a naval stoker nearly resulted in a disaster at Cheltenham.

Shortly after leaving Cheltenham station the train, which was bound from Bristol to Birmingham, nearly collided with level-crossing gates which were closed against it, and only came to a standstill within two feet of the gates.

Incidentally, the train had not reached Birmingham by the following morning.

CHEAP STRAWBERRIES!

Among the greatest consumers of early strawberries, cherries, etc., from France, are the British wealthy classes. The strike has stopped the import of these luxuries, and the consequence is a heavy fall in prices in France.

At some of the breweries in Nottingham and Derby beer traffic is held up by the transport strike. Licensees are motoring to the breweries to obtain supplies.

THE NATIONAL UNION OF RAILWAYMEN

Unity House,
Euston Road, London, N.W.1

6th May, 1926

MINERS' CRISIS.

I desire to repeat on behalf of the N.U.R. what I said in yesterday's issue of the "British Worker."

Members of our Union MUST HANDLE NO TRAFFIC OF ANY KIND food stuffs or otherwise. Stand all together for the achievement of victory.

C. T. CRAMP,

National Union of Railwaymen.

father and the family were having a quiet day at home. "The first rest I have had for years," one of the strikers told me.

ROTHERHITHE BONFIRE

The organisation and control of the strike are perfect. At the picket depots, district offices, local strike centres, trades councils and clubs an atmosphere of cheery determination prevails.

The *BRITISH WORKER* has been well distributed, and is the only news that is being accepted. The *British Gazette* has been seen by but few, nor is it wanted. Actually a bonfire was made of it in Rotherhithe.

A number of O.M.S. recruits were brought into the warehouse district of Tooley-street. When approached

Men Of The North Stand True

THE DOPE THEY GIVE US!

By C. L. EVERARD
("Gadfly," of the "Daily Herald.")

In the sacred cause of the Freedom of the Press to Distill any darned Dope it Likes (as Mr. Baldwin would not put it), I beg to submit a few news items. I am unable to guarantee their truth, but then, judging from the capitalist sheets which are struggling out after much travail, no such guarantee is needed. I may add that I am not reserving any rights in same, in order to give the editors of the said sheets the opportunity to reprint the items free of charge, if they feel so disposed—which I rather doubt, seeing that they appear to be able to do it equally well themselves, if not more so.

The Worshipful Company of Dividend Drawers held their annual banquet at the Gutz Hotel last evening, with Sir Banke Ballance in the chair. Speaking in a voice which was thick with emotion, he said, "Thush is a strike against the communihic." (Hear, hear.) The Prime Minister had told them something or other which, he regretted to say, he had forgotten at the moment, and they were determined to stand four square against the ravaging paralysis of What-name. "As to our immediate plans," he concluded, batting his neighbour playfully over the bean with a magnum, "Mumm's the word!" (Hear, hear and a hic or two.)

Our Pall Mall Perambulator writes: Clubland remains normal, despite the action of the miners, which is generally condemned by retired generals. The West-end clubs, in short, are carrying on as usual. I need hardly add that the members of the said clubs are also carrying on—as usual!

All work on the new Home for Depressed Company Promoters is at a standstill, the building workers contending that this is not so much a matter of housing as of warehousing.

It is reported that no fewer than 50,000 Knights Bachelor, each Kt. wearing the Badge of his Order, have volunteered to feed.

Sir Isaiah Pryce, K.B.E., president of the Institute of Profiteers, in an interview, said, "This is a strike against the community. The community must inevitably suffer, and I can assure the community, on behalf of my fellow members, that we are prepared to see to it that, to the best of our ability, the community does suffer."

We are unable, at the time of going to press, to confirm the report that a Fund is to be opened to relieve the Distressed Coalowners, many of whom, owing to the strike, have been reduced to eating their share certificates.

And that, Henry, ought to be enough Dope for to-day, don't you think?

ALL SERENE ON THE NORTHERN FRONT

Splendid Morale and High Spirits Prevailing Everywhere

Morale is excellent and spirits are high in the industrial centres of Scotland and the North of England, as the following messages from our correspondents show.

"Solid to a man. Engineering, shipbuilding and other exempted trades workers would like to join the strikers if they were allowed to do so. It is indeed difficult to keep these men at work."

This is the inspiring message that comes from Glasgow, where the position is entirely satisfactory and the strike organisation working smoothly.

Journalists employed by the *Daily Record* have refused to work on an emergency paper with blackleg mechanics. All the editorial staff is affected. The *Glasgow Herald* and *Evening Times* staffs also refused to write copy. The emergency paper was got out by foremen, managers, and copyholders. Some newsagents refuse to handle this paper, and newspaper van drivers refuse to deliver it.

Scottish Typographical Association and Natsopa report 100 per cent. members on strike

"NO TAKERS"

The dockers are all out, the harbour is quiet, and discipline is maintained. Employers issued an appeal for blacklegs at 16s. a shift, but there were "No Takers."

A warship has come up the Clyde and is anchored in the dock adjacent to Govan-road. Food cargoes are being removed under permits.

River traffic is practically paralysed.

The dockers held open-air meetings to-day within hail of the warship, and unanimously agreed to continue on strike. Mr. Joe Houghton, organiser, said it was the most enthusiastic meeting in his experience.

About 100 students were employed as tramcar conductors to-day. They were conveyed to tramway depots in Black Marias to avoid pickets.

The manager is holding back the payment of wages of ordinary employees, who should have been paid on Tuesday or Wednesday, and the Transport Workers' Union is taking action to compel payment.

A skeleton tram service is run mainly in business and middle-class routes, inspectors acting as drivers.

The subway, local tube, and suburban railways are completely closed, and the bus services between Glasgow and Lanarkshire suspended entirely.

All forms of transport in Lanarkshire, except private motors, are entirely.

General Instruction Regarding Electrical Undertakings from the General Council of the T.U.C.

Local strike organisations are authorised to offer to meet employers immediately, and offer to supply light and power for such services as house, street, and shop lighting, social services, power for food, bakeries, laundries, and domestic purposes.

Will you, therefore, approach local undertakings and report their replies immediately?

The mining, iron and steel districts are solid for the strike.

Scottish members of the National Union of Vehicle Builders are out. Ninety-five per cent. of the employers in this industry have repudiated the recent agreement because the men did not give notice.

MAILS TWO DAYS LATE

Letters posted in London on May 3 reached Glasgow to-day—two days late.

An Ayrshire message states that bus transport in many areas is suspended in that area.

The Hull General Strike Committee reports that all sections remain solid. Very few trains, manned by non-unionists, are moving, and, in addition to the complete hold-up of the tramway service, private busmen are stopping. No typographical men have returned.

Five miles of docks are at complete standstill, and all other sections affected remain firm.

The conduct of all the strikers is excellent, the moral high, and spirits strong.

Hull Tramways Committee excluded Labour members from the meeting held to try and arrange a skeleton tramway service.

HOW THE "B.W." CAME OUT

Dramatic Message: "You Can Go Ahead"

EXULTANT CROWD

Continued from Page One

They were very courteous, the whole staff in very good humour, and the crowd beyond the police cordon magnificent in its quiet orderliness.

Time passed, and we waited. Meanwhile, a member of the staff had gone down to Ecclestone-square. The General Council—which is, of course, in permanent session—at once considered the situation. Mr. Ben Turner, Mr. Bowen, and Mr. Citrine came up to represent the Council on the "scene of action." Mr. Pugh and Mr. Poulton hurried off to the House to inform the Leader of the Labour Party.

Then Triumph

After a short consultation with Mr. MacDonald and Mr. Henderson, the latter got at once into touch with the Government. While these conversations were going on word came that the ban was lifted. The same message came to Carmelite-street. "You can go ahead," said the officer in charge with a smile.

The machines were started. Word was passed to the waiting crowd, who greeted it with cheer after cheer. And the police moved off while staff and crowd sang The Red Flag.

The crowd organised its own "police," who made an avenue for the cars to roll up, load, and drive away amid echoing cheers.

That was the final scene. It was the climax of a strenuous two days.

320,000 Papers

On Tuesday the news that the Government was going to produce a strike-breaking sheet with "volunteer" labour at the *Morning Post* office decided the General Council to issue its own strike bulletin.

Representatives of the printing unions came to Ecclestone-square and agreed.

On Wednesday morning we got to work. A staff was mobilised. The work went forward as swiftly as possible. A difficulty here, a difficulty there, and then a difficulty somewhere else caused delay. But bit by bit we got through the troubles. And then—enter our friends the police.

But in spite of it all we printed and distributed 320,000 copies. To-day we hope to do better still.

LEVY FOR MINERS?

A mass meeting of Northampton Boot and Shoe Operatives on Friday will decide the question of a levy in support of the miners of 1s. on men workers and 6d. on women.

LABOUR'S REPLY

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to discovering a basis upon which the negotiations might be renewed and the withdrawal of the general strike notices subsequently considered can only be undertaken in a free and unfettered atmosphere.

The General Council of the T.U.C., while ready at any moment to resume negotiations for an honourable settlement, gives an unqualified "No!" to the Premier's request for an unconditional withdrawal of the strike notices.

The Government, it points out, was responsible for breaking off the negotiations, and any further discussions can only be undertaken in a "free and unfettered atmosphere."