Press Association Scabbing

In the heart of Fleet St there is scabbing going on at the Press Association.



Monday, 1st September, Brighton

Handfuls arrived outside Trades Union Congress at 8am to find we were allocated only 20 seats in the gallery. By 9am 3-500 outside hall as delegates start arriving. In all several hundred printers plus Silentnight strikers and others picketed and asked for support. Kept separate from delegates by a wall of crash barriers. While they are queuing to get in are met with a wall of sound from the pickets. The song which seemed to make most impact on the delegates in the morning was "Rupert Murdoch - Stick your money up your arse". Also favourite was "Eric Hammond - He's hiding behind the TUC." Usual songs but seeming a lot louder when sung in the confined space of the covered entrance. The weather is cold. Few delegates approached us. Some pickets allowed to approach the delegate queue. An EETPU delegate who went in about 9.30 was met not only with a volley verbally but also with eggs and handfuls of spoof Murdoch money. He literally ran in with police shielding him. Brenda Dean was jeered but managed to say a few words. Print Union fringe meeting hall only seated 250 so few pickets could get in. As Hammond had not appeared by 10.30 most of the pickets went to find somewhere for a breakfast, and it was at this time that the TNT truck came along the front and was shouted at, and then went around the corner where it had things thrown at it. The driver swerving about all over the place. Pickets who were able to get inside the building pursued Hammond whenever he appeared. The memorable sight was one picket pursuing Hammond with a rolled-up newspaper. During the day pickets went round town handing out leaflets, dispersing spoof money and putting up stickers. During the previous night hundreds had glued shut shopkeepers locks. Back at lunchtime to lobby delegates as they came out. As were told that there were not many people in gallery some of us tried to get in but were refused entrance even with Union cards. Back later at end of session to receive delegates as they exit.

Wednesday, 3rd September

In the afternoon, a few hundred pickets rallied at Gray's Inn Road. This was the 224th day of the strike. An excellent picket was held for hours. Hooted and yelled at scabs, "thieves, Judas, low life" and "scab" in unison which can be heard for quite a distance. As the temperature dipped pickets worked out their inventory of winter clothing.

In the evening seven hundred made the regular march to Wapping. Police strikebreakers blocked all exit roads from The Highway, including St. Katherine's Way. On the march the fog horn was very good. Later police cleared the road under the orders to "gently move them off the road". When the boss says kill they do that, "gently" they have trouble with. Whatever the roasons for this sudden change (probably to do with the secret talks) the hostility of strikers to the police strikebreakers remains. As one said, "If I saw one of you lot dying in the gutter, I wouldn't lift a finger."

Saturday night, 6th September

2000 in march to Wapping. Not enough police in Mansell St to stop march if had moved there. Groups of pickets gathered out along The Highway. One arrest. Picketing has been undercut. Five arrests later when police cleared road at Wollclose. Five lorries bricked in the area. Several vans done too.

Guess who was carrying the national NUJ banner? Andrew Drummond who went in to Wapping took his £2000 blood money and continued scabbing while his girl friend was a loyal Sogat striker. Later sacked anyways.

Sunday night/Monday morning, Wapping, 7th September

Three hundred pickets assembled at 2am. The move to the gate has not worked out but it is a successful picket. Later a scab lorry is seen driving west on Commercial Rd with a one foot wide hole in the front screen.

Wednesday night, 10th September

Regular march from Tower Hill. One hundred supporters from London trades councils swelled ranks to 700 on this the 84th march to Wapping. Scab lorries leave area unescorted. It's about time to start some marches from the Aldgate stations.

Friday morning

Scab buses pelted with eggs at pick up point.

Friday, 12th September

It always rains in Wapping, or so I do hear tell, but on the scabs boat outing it rained like merry hell. It showered old tomatoes and drizzled ink bombs toc. then missiles miscellaneous came pouring from the blue. The eggs came flying downward, phlegmatic comment too, so eat your heart out Murdoch, pickets rain dance too! .

Saturday night, 13th September

1500 marched from Tower Hill in the rain. Later several lorries bricked.

Selections from "A Year Of Cur Lives" about Hatfield Main Colliery, Dunscroft, near Doncaster.

A Bridge Too Far.

When it became obvious to all that the British Steel Corporation was still producing steel and not simply safe-guarding their furnaces and coke overs, as they had agreed in return for a dispensation to be supplied with coal and coke; the supply from our pile working visionarilly to keep our side of the bargoin was halted BSC, who had used the first months of our stitle to consolidate their position, then followed by running scal-lorries to carry imported coal and Orgreave coke to the Scunthorpe plant.

With only three roads into the area it was possible for the police to adopt a policy of unring hack to Yurkhire, any miners found trying to picket the wharfs, (incidentally, ordinance survey maps of the area with minor routes, etc. were withdrawn from all Scunthorpe and surrounding district shops). The forries were allowed a fairly free run, soon the residents along the route to the steel work; were to complain of the coal dust on the grant verges and of their children being blackered on their way to school.

Watching the convoys of forries was a depressing eight for any minor, particularly one who lived in Scunthorpe. But there was a glimmer of hope, the one other thing that the steel plant required in hall was iron ore, and this was moved by rail from the port of lumingham. If this could be stopped, so could the production of steel. It seemed as though the corporation had more than enough coal to safe-guard against damage to the furnaces and coke overs. Another benefit for us was that the iron ure was of too high a density to be carried by the smaller ships travelling up the Treat.

ation had more than amough only to safe-guard against damage to the furnaces and coles overs. Another benefit for or was that the iron our was of too high a density to be carried by the amular chips travelling up the Trinit.

Hemembering the solidarity given by sections of Railwarkers at Coalville and St. Pancras and Kings Cross, we decided on a phone call to the area secretary of the railworkers at Instinglam.

When asked what sort of feeding there was for the miners at his branch, the answer was Sympathetia.'

A few days later it was arranged for other Helfield men to meet in Scunthorpe, we were going to picket the one trains!

After trying to locate the most strategic bridges over which to drop our specially prepared 'picket' banners, we decided it would be easier for a train driver to respect our picket line if he had not already travelled the twenty odd miles to Southorpe. With this is mad we took off for Innatingham. This was new ground for us, and at first we were going to picket the ore terminal itself and actually made a sortic around the dock fronts, but seving that it was on dock land, which was private and patroiled by police, we had to look elsewhere. This was how we came to be on the railway bridge at Eastfield Roed (what became known to the pickets as 'A Bridge Too Far'). A banner was hung over the bridge to show that there was an NUM picket. Again a phone call was made to the home of Joe Paget, the area secretary, to inform him that we had mounted a picket line. They said that this was one of 13 trains a day that carried ore to Scunthorpe. An engine was brought up, and the train was guilled back to the terminal to the accompanionent of loud cheen. The unity people on the bridge had morning not knowing what to do, were the police. They wanted in mour us on, but having no reason in the sit proper on the bridge were reported from the press, raids and T.V.

There was tremendous solidarity, only two trains were to leave the terminal in the next eight months, with only four pickets on at a time [24 ho

The railworkers, with all this pressure, should firm on the basic Trade Union principle:-YOU DO NOT CROSS PICKET LINES.

The Way I Saw It.

Not being a man of words I find it hard to do an article, but I feel nevertheless that it is something I must do. To put over my side, point of view and feelings, so others may see. We had been on strike for a good few weeks and I had not done anything to forward the strike. I had done the garden, done the garden, and done the garden. So I decided (with a pash from my wife): "Up off your area boy and get out, do your bit. The last out there are getting knocked from pillow to post."

The TV and the papers were telling us one thing, and the lads were telling us the other. So I rang up the Welfare and found out what I had to do.

For a long time I had not got up that early, but up I got, off I went onto the line. It was a stronge and frightening slay that storied an education that will stay with me for a

We went round parts of the country that I did not know was there, back roads, lates and tracks. All this to get pass the police who were doing their best to stop us letting the soubs know how we felt about not giving us support that was rightfully sure. The way we were estimated and opposised I will never forgive, or forget EVER. But we must never forget the

"Behemoth: A mythical creature of aversome and terrible power, unstoppable in pursuit of

THE AUGUST INVASIONS.

In August the Coal Board, in joint organisation with the police, decided to take the offensive. They had successfully [more or less] blocked the picket advance into Nottingham and the southern coalfields. The daily skirmishes were costly in injury and mangower, so someone decided to counter attack. This was to take the form of a scale at every oolliery. If they could put a scale in every pit, the propaganda teams they had employed on the TV and Radio and in the Press could crow that every pit in Britain was working! Finding a scale, especially in Doncaster was to be difficult, but the objectives nonetheless, apart from the propaganda one, would also have the advantage of tying down the pickets to their own back yards, and it would give an excuse for outright occupation of the militan theoriands by niot police.

When the day dawned we were taken somewhat by surprise, we were waiting to go off fiving to some other pit in Doncaster when the news came, that two had gone into Hatfield.

When the day dawned we were taken somewhat by surprise, we were waiting so go ore flying to some other pit in Doncaster when the news came, that two had gone into Hatfield, The news spread like wildline, and so did the fury.

A small crowd of police were in the pit yard, about an equal number of pickets. The branch delegate and the chairman went down to see the management to ask to speak to the people who had gone in labo of course to identify them). The tools refused. The pickets felt we ought to charge the police then and there and strike while the iron was hot,

Chris Babcock, 5 Bosville Ave, Bosville Rd, Sevenoaks, Kent. Brian Forbes, 50 Potters Lane, New Barnet, Herts, 01-449-5205, journalist. Ben Grossman, Times night publishing for about 30 years, now owns a newsagency at Hayes News, 3 Station Building, Station Approach, Hayes, Kent, 01-462-5106, now sells all Murdoch titles and scabs on ex-workmates. Nick Harling, Wimbledon, 947-4294, Times sports journalist. Mike Rowbottom, Herts, 0279-503927, Times sports journalist. Clerical Scabs: Tony McLean, telephone reporter, 191 Lordship La, Dulwich. Fred Allen 0934-210464, "Ingle Nook", 99 Highfields, Caldecote, Cambs. Alan Alltimes, corres. mangr., 506 Footscray Rd, New Eltham, SE9 3VA. D Asirvathan, 138 Bulstrode Ave, Hounslow Ctl, Middlesex. Pat Ashton, 4 Colean Ct, Madeira Ave, Bromley, Kent, S Avty, 59a Matilda St, London Nl. Chris Bamping, 92 Greenhayes, Ave, Banstead, Surrey, 647-1794. Martin Barber, 47 Douglas Dr. Stevenage, Herts, 61177. Frank Barrow, 220a Croydon Rd. Priory Clse, Berkenham, Kent, 658-1467 Linda Bartlett, 20 Blenheim Ct, Main Rd, Sidoup, Kent. Chris Bedford, 76 Nelson Rd, New Malden. Surrey. Peter Bourhill, 26 Roberts Ct, Maple Rd, Penge Selo, 659-8067. Leisa Brace, 20 Welfside, Sandwich, Kent. Alan Bunting, 55 Boundry Rd, Eastwood, Leigh-On-Sea. Essex, 0702-522938. Alan Butcher, 12 Beech Hse, Manor Rd, Sidcup, Kent, 302-9140. D Carr, 59 Blanmere Rd, London SE9, 859-3580. Scab of the week: the Spartacist League (publishes Workers Hammer) for printing a picture from the Sunday Times -with credit - and you can be sure they didn't steal the paper. Article claims that what we have at Wapping "are not picket lines" making a slanderous allusion to "real" pickets, the miners. Print pickets are second to none. The reason this lot doesn't know it is they have scarcely been out to Wapping and NEVER on the front lines. Famous scabs: Ian Botham, Alex Higgins, Eric Bristow and Jim Callaghan.

With numbers so exently belanced, the truncuous were already out, it was obvious it would be a very blandy confrontation. The officials were against a charge at that time. Before much else could be done police reinforcements started to arrive from Manchester, and they set about pushing, kicking and justing the pickets out of the pit lane, in the style of the National Guard in Harlem, they shouted 'Go home' to men who had been berd and born in the style of the control of the pickets of the style of the National Guard in Harlem, they shouted 'Go home' to men who had been berd and born in

National Guard in Harlem, they shouted 'Go home' to men who had been herd and born in that village. It was obvious that the community had to be aroused, and loudspeaker vans toured Dunseroft, Stainforth, Thorne and Moorends, urging every available person, men and wamen, every fit person to head for the pit gates to defend the stake against the publics and seabs, Within minutes people were strening from every direction toward the pit, women with their children, a man of young BMX riders from Thorne, the busses were fold, and people hitherto uninvolved left the club and made for the pit. In this meantime, initial fights had broken our herween the riot police and the small picket. The pickets made a valuational dargae galaxis massive numbers, and, advantage of weight aside, the Manchester police force had reacted with heavy brutality, there was a number of injuries. Their was confusion and disagreement between the branch officials, one set pulling the men back in the Welfare and talking about meeting the quiffer, the others still flouring the villages and urging all to descend upon the pit. While the latter was proceeding, massive numbers of riot vans started pouring into the village, school kids stood and jeered, wamen shouted as the police poured by, the palice shouted obscenities and stock two fingers up at the kids. The sessie was set.

ACCOUNT OF INVASION.

At the village folk examiled in their hundreds, the women from the support groups led them in the singing of solidarity tongs, an old women walked straight up to the not sineld and said; "There's nen of ye, would come from ahind there and fight our lade one to one like men. Any of wor men could fight ye lot, in fact ah! light ye mesell!"

An old chap taking her side, proudly displaying his NUM basings, waving his walking stick in the air and denouncing them all so cowards and "bosses lacking!"

The Union increasity, Peter Curran was escurted through the police ranks to talk to the personnell manager and then successfully to one of the scalot. He agreed he had caused all of them slift mates of his to have been heaten, he had made a mistake, he would rejoin the strike if there was no further action taken against him. This was only half way through the shift.

them out mates of his to have been heaten, he had made a mistake, he would right in strike if there was no further action taken against him. This was only half way through the shift.

The branch officials advessed the men from a marrhy wall, there was some disagreement, but generally it was accepted that this man walking out to rejoin the strike was a propaganda victory for us. We would not above him, we would instead part and form two ranks and turn our back on him as he emerged. So it was, flanked by the scemeary and the personnel manager he walked through the falmost) silent crowd. As he remerged from the ranks of men, the women had no such restreint and ran after him calling him every form of above they could lay their tongues to:

The rest of the day while the folk walked for the other scab to come out there was running skirmishes here and there, particularly meand the tip. The young minute, assumpanied by the BMX Brigade and scores of young calldren would swarm up the day, closer and closer to the rear of the colliery. Each time they drew too close the door of the for van down in the sollery, car park would open and, shelds glinting in the sun, these abvest, the robustion ranks would much up toward the tound of the pering pit youth. Sometimes the rowd would be the folk of and the ranks would stop, sweating in the sun, molitorless, then recvent. An hour later the surge of youth would spread quickly towards the washer and suddenly riot vans, lights flashing, sirens sounding, would busing out from cover and charge the crowd, a hall of stones and rocks, the police vehicles awere and hump, the crowd close in whooping, and the landrovers retreat chased by an army of small children, then a ruis from below, and a determined sorty of riot police mak must to cut off the youth, a brief stone throwing defensive action, then a mixture of pance and mad comedy as the crowd roles in the windows and attreas a hundreds of young people run across the lines in frunt of the trian, and round the sides, while screaming police d

convoy of police vehicles, dog vans, horse boxes, and jeeps is passing along the road. To the cope in the convoy it looks like an ambush as hundred; of voungsters suddenly appear and left fly with a mastive camonate of bricks and scrap metal. The delign is such that the lead vehicles awerve and mount the pavement, some collide, the back horse of the last two vans awing open and the police prepare to days into the around, the open doors however, are the best thing that's happened all day and an accurate stream of half bricks belt into the backs of the vehicles. Doors are grabbed shut as young heres and heroines rush at the doors, home are sounding, shoutling and hurried departure as the convoy, bealing out a drum roll of bouncing bricks flies down the pil lace. Then mouved and more terious panic as it is suddenly realisted that in the joy of taking the convoy by surprise the snatch squad and thield carriers are down the tip and almost upon us. There is mad flight over walls, into houses where people have come to watch us at rhelr doors, small bands dash up the side streets and down the back tames as commonly visited in earlier games of clinare, out ento the main street to try and mingle with the crowds. Meantume small squads of sweating police patrol the street, pointing truncheous at people in their gardens, grabbing youths string on walls and purshing them around. They ARE an occupation force, they jump over walls, reager up to front doors........they are an armed mass in an unarmed field of resentment. As they swagger out of the side structs, some wave their truncheous over their heads in a 'come and get it' fashoun, uthers smack the stick into the palm of their hand in a gesture of a club hitting a head. Fear now in the belty of some kilds 'younger ones haws' home, there is going to be trouble.' Some children, mixed no provide the challent, income and accordance of the side.' Some children, mixed now in the palm of them, there was a runtour decreased and the day drew on, activity started to but up down the p

were.

As they pairolled the streets, swinging the truncheous, women folk shood in the gardens and mocked the cops, cheeked them up, while in return the police issued streams of foul

abuse.

The pickets had used a big frame tent as a shelter at the top of the pit lane. With that ground now held by the police, the tent mysarionally took fire, the first of three notacks upon picket shelters, the last one with a wooden but on site, came as police threw rocks at the but, this being admitted by the investigating sources.

• Came into the strike with peacetime generals. You won't go wrong if you follow the ordinary pickets who always know what is to be done.

Mass picket of Syston TNT, Leicestershire, Saturday, 20th September.

Oxford regular picket, meet 10pm, Saturdays, Gloucester Green Bus Station, pick-up point for the TNT depot.

Wapping scab in charge of machines, Wally Edmunds.

· Catering manager scab, John Stew.

ext 5310 Wapping 481-4100, Rupert Murdoch Bruce Matthews ext 5309 ext 5640 Andrew Neil Tudor Hopkins ext 5640

(Personnel Bernie Clifford ext 5026 Personnel)

ex-Sogat clerical, Frank Barrow ext 4284 AAD Group Head, Display Paul Clatworthy ext 4287 AAD Display Ads) ext 4288 Terry Hobert AAD Co-Ordinator) Yvonne Kingdom AAD Co-Ordinator) ext 4274/5

Ron Pike ext 5953 Court/Social) Les Tanner ext 4282 Asst Manager Display)

Shirly Margolis ext 5345 (Ads Manager)

from a Kent newspaper

HATE mail, threats and thefts have forced B. . . . Hill newsagents to keep early morning vigits on deliveries of The Sun and The Times.

The shopkeepers are suffering pross the road, from a backlash of local feeling provoked by the News International dispute at Rupert Mardoch's controversial Wapping plant.

The manager of Lavells, Main, Road, Biggin Hill, now gets up at 3. am to gather in the bandles of papers as they are dilivered. Since January be los been combatting dawn raids ch have left his copies scattered

Posters

Posters stuck on his shop window agency, Recelult Road, have increased in their sinister tene - the latest daubed on the back:

coming to get you and your family. Lusted Ball Lane, Biggor Hill, New Your Scient.

Lin Good, manageress at Findlays, has had her bundles stolen on three occasions, The Times and The Sunwere littered across nearby Summing-vale. Vs. mic and dimiped in distlans.

The same problem was reported by British Duality of Rosefull News-

Lour close circuit cance is costing CLASS have been designed to Navem "We know where you live and we are Karim, a partneral trusted Stores in anational dispute.

Security

"We have taken the most stringent security incasures. If anyone else wants us to help them with this problem, we would be happy to give there some advice." added Mr

to made the investment when delivery drivers were threatened on the first day of the News Inter-

 6am to 7am approximately every morning there are about 8 scab vans in cafe beside rail bridge in Wandsworth Rd, vans left unattended.

• TNT larries have been seen unloading and transferring papers to "white mice" in Alexandra Park, N22 at 5am. Haringey ouncil own park.

· Bad apple department: A picket relates the story of one copper new to Wapping who had not realised his job was to get the lorries out.

· Rupert Murdoch's daughter lives in Fentiman Rd, London SW9 and can be seen in the butchers shop at the Oval opposite St Marks Church in SW8.

 Greetings from Rottingdean. The south coast is recovering after the visit of printworkers kids who were in the rest home for a holiday. Rottingdean and the surrounding area's are now fully aware of what's going on down at Wapping. Stickers, posters and leaflets adourn the area. A few incidents occurred as when a lorry driver who kept flashing the Sun to the kids had rubbish tipped in his cab. Also most newsagents had other tabloid dailies placed on top of the Sun. Also the row in the local swimming baths between local kids and parents and printers kids and their parents with which printers were called Eastend scum. The spirit of the children was an inspiration to us all and if this was as strong in us adults it would be welcomed. The children would also like to say a thank you to all who organised, donated and put up with them for their two weeks stay at Rottingdean Home. letter: The Picket is always read. The ones that are accounts are better than those with boring political generalisations.

Income: £43.52 NoW Publishing chapel collection; £7.40 Southampton; £4 NGA strikers; £6, £6 S. Mirror waredhouse; £2 cop's son: £1 Sogat member: £1 halfwit; £4.67 bookshop sales; 50p a body; £2 working member; £5 NGA minder.

Part 3 of the book available, send £1 in stamps to address below

Picket c/o Housmans, 5 Caledonian Rd, Ldn Nl Publ. by picketing print union members 2pm March from Temple tube to Wapping 19th September



MARCHES SEGIN AT 8 30" AT TOWER HILL