

### Eastleigh, 5th July

Arrived at TNT depot. As one man set about quickly and methodically, wind-screen after windscreen, side windows, lights, depot windows, brake pipes. Not one vehicle is spared. Plenty blocking the entrance and the view of the police. Scab drivers sat in a little darkened corner as private cars and vans are done, not daring to show their faces. Police reinforcements eventually arrived. One says, "Good evening gentlemen, turned out nice again hasn't it". How true. Work done, leave. Whole thing took fifteen minutes and all it cost was a nights sleep. Most effective were the ladies.

### Saturday, 12th July, Wapping

Thousands of printers and supporters rallied Saturday night. The fifty-fifth march to Wapping began from Tower Hill and stopped at Jellclose opposite the scab plant.

Meanwhile westward at Glamis Rd, over 100 residents from Wapping and other parts of Tower Hamlets gathered to protest against police roadblocks and the conduct of police drafted into the area to help Murdoch. Residents in the area are subjected to a continual terror campaign by police strike-breakers to accompany their scab lorries, vans and armoured coaches moving about the area. This march proceeded south on Glamis, north on Garnet, east on Cable St where more joined in, south on Cannon St Rd past a double line of police ready at the attack, to arrive at Virginia St to the cheers



of other pickets. The march continued to Leman St police station to deliver a protest then returned via The Highway out to Glamis where it dispersed. Next march of residents 9th August.

Shortly after lam police moved at Virginia St to box in the several hundred pickets and clear The Highway. Pickets were in no hurry to move. Then a small march from the east arrived behind scab lines. They didn't like this and broke up their pushing to encircle the rest of the pickets too. It took them quite a while to clear the road.

If there is any leadership in this strike it is certainly from the pickets, all others have shown themselves unwilling or unable to force the strike ahead. Not only is it necessary to force the flying pickets ahead but also the campaign to black all of Murdoch's scabby products and those who work for him. The organisation of these activities has fallen to groups of people without leaders or constitutions and if these are strengthened then the strike is in so much more of a position to resist the next sell out. If the pickets do what they think is right then this dispute can be won but if the leaders are listened to it is clear what will happen.

Saturday, 12th July, Sogat trip to Cardiff rally

One almost full coach left London on Saturday morning for the Welsh rally in Cardiff. The few in number soon made their presence felt at the first motorway stop to holidaymakers en-route for Devon and Cornwall enjoying their breakfasts. The usual stickers appeared in every conceivable place, and leaflets were placed on the diners' tables. Several opinions were voiced, ie about the £700 a week printers. These were soon shot down in flames. A member with a "Ghetto Blaster" made himself heard walking around the area playing his Wapping Tape, and was told to get off the premises by an irate manager. Back on the road we arrived at Cardiff 11.20 and assembled for the march. We were joined by coaches from other London Branches. The march through Cardiff was taken in good spirits by the locals, a very friendly lot. In Sophia Gardens we assembled to hear the speakers. Brenda Deal gave no feeling urgency in our fight. A great thank you should be given to our Welsh supporters. The coach arrived back just after 7.00 well in time to carry on the fight down Wapping, and supporting the local Wapping residents.

Wapping, 14th July.

Hundreds of loyal pickets came together Monday morning at Wellclose. A march round the streets was held. On the 172nd day of the strike the determination to fight continues despite all the forces of hell being thrown against the pickets. It is a crime that the activists are isolated and set up like this, pitted against scabs, the scourge of mass unemployment. Resentment is channelled not against the inert mass of the working class (the favourite trick of officials) but against the total insufficiency of the cripple alliance to put an end to capitalism.

Tuesday morning, law courts

Hundreds rallied at the law courts on the Strand, where Sogat is in court. Then a march was held to Wapping, through Fleet St and along the Embankment. The march was very quiet until about half way when a scab paper lorry was about to drive past. Marchers filled the street to block its path. The scabs best friends thought better of trying to run through and diverted the lorry. The pickets, more confident now, arrived at Wapping a bit out in the hot weather but very ready to continue the strike for all printers and all workers. Join the picket army.



25th June



Casuals Strike Committee  
of Sogat Central Branch  
March from Clerkenwell Green  
Wednesday 30th July  
1.00pm to Wapping

Wednesday, 10th July, Wapping

Five hundred organised for the evening march to Welliclose. Police cleared one lane for traffic early on. Speeches were made. Scabs exited through Pennington St.

Thursday, 17th July

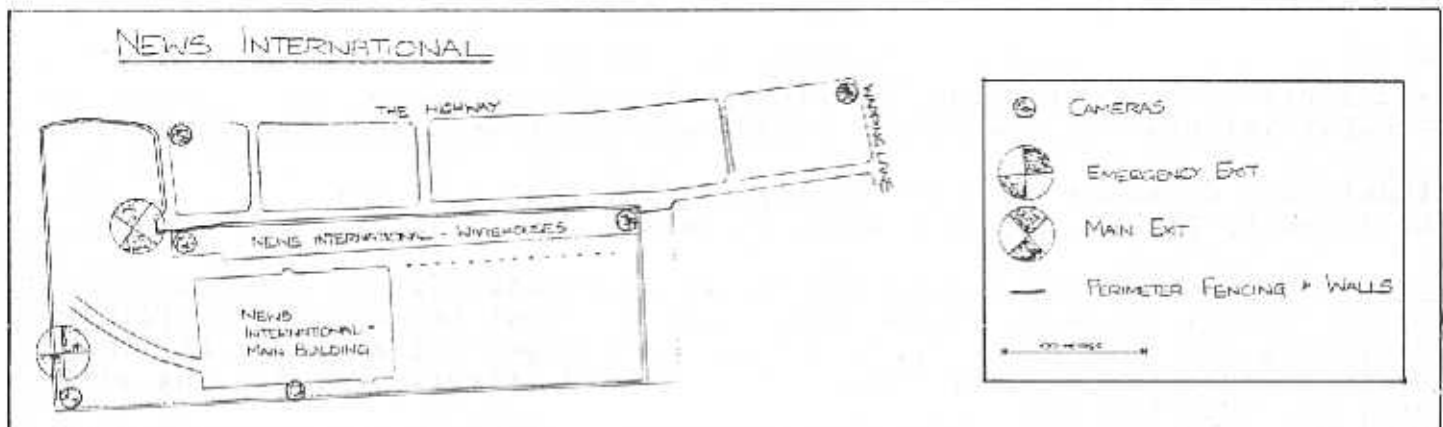
Several hundred pickets pulled together in the evening to see an advertised T&G march to Wapping. The march turned out to be a hoax, and pickets hung about hurling verbal at the scabs entering and leaving via Pennington St. The biggest non-event was the unusual appearance of Brenda Dean who was met at first by stony silence, then some of the ladies present told Dean to get lost -- gone. Pickets continued to demonstrate their opposition to strike-breaking.

Letter from Glasgow unemployed

If this can go on in the biggest city in the U.K. then it just goes to show how confident they are. Obviously traditional trade unionism is not anywhere near adequate to deal with Murdoch etc., and a totally different set up is needed. For me this is the only good point to all that is happening at the moment, because it shows up sharply where we stand and shows the trade unions hierarchy in their true colours.

Letter from a brother

My congratulations once again to the day time demo's. They are knocking the life out of the scabs. They get publicity because of the traffic jams. The strikebreakers don't like them because it is daylight, and no criminal likes working by day, too many eyes about. It hurts Murdoch these pickets. More much more of the same. Perhaps now we are getting organised. Two in one day or a day followed by a night one, or two days running etc.





## Notes:

- The London Machine Branch Casual Chapel voted at its meeting last Thursday to black all pre-print reels from the firm of Bemrose. These reels are used on the Daily Express, Mail and FT. The chapel called on all print workers to join them and refuse to work on these products until Bemrose's is cleansed of printing supplements for Murdoch's scabby papers.
- The coaches with wire windows pick up and unload NUJ scabs at Moorgate tube (NatWest) at 1.30 probably three times a week.
- At Liverpool St Station by Red Star Delivery Building scabs pick up between 5.15 to 5.30
- Ten to fifteen Murdoch white vans park at the Green Man pub 7am on a Sunday morning. The drivers mill about. The pub is at the top of Leytonstone (Woodford end).
- Scabby firm; Vanguard movers.
- Thames court a few weeks ago. Fat copper giving evidence. Brief, you say my client took a fifty pence piece from his pocket, turned his back on the coach and scratched it. PC, "Yes, your worship". Brief, "But you were on your own admission over a hundred yards away." Picket in gallery "was it heads or tail." Beak, reluctantly, "case dismissed".
- Recently when a scab lorry was bricked in the Tower Hamlets area the driver mounted the pavement trying to kill, unsuccessfully.
- On being arrested by a Pratt (that's his name) he asked me where I lived, "London" I said, "OK, fanny" he said "what part?" "Lambeth" I said, "where is that" he said. "London" I said. It was a really sort of stimulating conversation, the sort that makes you say fucking hell, arrow or eaten.
- Inspector, "It is illegal for you to cross the zebra crossing. You might throw stones at lorries when you get to the other side." This inspector was guarding a zebra crossing with fourteen officers at the time. Four pickets wanted cross the road. There was not another picket in sight. You know we're tough.
- On seeing a picket arrested the other day I asked the Sergeant why. He told me to "fuck off" or I would be arrested. I asked him why he had to swear. He told me to fuck off or I would be arrested. I asked him why he was trying to break the man's fingers. He told me to fuck off or I would be arrested. I asked him how he could arrest me when he was already trying to arrest one man. He said something that sounded like fuck off. As he fell over my foot the picket and I walked into the crowd. Well he did keep saying fuck off.
- Anyone who has had the misfortune of being arrested at Wapping, must have surely seen the attendant at Thames Magistrates. This pathetic little scot with his size 10 boots donated by some strikebreaker you'd think by the size of them. He hassles and bullies every person that enters his court. His view of the printers attending his court, is that they should get a job and not keep making a nuisance of themselves. This semi-illiterate scruff is probably the first thing you will encounter at Thames, but don't worry it gets worse in court. How can a man plead not guilty then be denied the right to face his accuser because his accuser has not turned up at court. And to add insult to injury be tempted by the magistrate with an eye on the clock, and his own solicitor to accept a bind over, bearing in mind he has just pleaded not guilty. This then is the justice they are dishing out at Thames. At least the South Africans know they are bastards, they don't try to hide behind the words of justice and equality.

--Full set of Picket: £1.50 (in stamps) to address below

--individual numbers available, send stamped self-addressed envelope

Picket, c/o Housmans Books, 5 Caledonian Rd, London N1 9DX  
Published by picketing print union members

Income: £43.20 No.1 Publishing Chapel; £5 Manchester Direct Action; £5 Southampton friend; £3 south London supporter; £5 Sogat London Branch officer; £2 Central Branch casual; £1, 5p ST Natsopa; 50p civil servant; £1 Times Sogat machine; £10 minder; £5 Evening Standard driver; 50p, 50p NGA strikers; £1, 50p pickets.