

PRIME MINISTER

Dock Strike

You may find it helpful to have a brief note on the situation before you see the Transport Secretary at lunch.

There is a very good summary on Page 2 of the Sunday Times which tells most of what is to be said.

Dover and Folkestone are working normally and there is no picketing.

Although Barry has voted to go back to work to unload a cargo of bananas, the strike will probably be resumed when the work is finished.

There is some grumbling among the labour force at Bristol but no real sign of determination to cross picket-lines.

Men at Hull are seeking a recall of the National Delegate Conference, but for the wrong reason: they allege a breach of the Dock Labour Scheme at Grimsby.

No real change at London. The PLA are dubious of a management ballot which they think will only harden attitudes. But you may find that Mr. Ridley disagrees with this judgement.

There is a particular problem at Aberdeen over a cargo of sheep and cattle from the islands. TGWU officials want it unloaded fearing bad publicity but the men are refusing.

CHARLES POWELL

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