

- WALES: Some firms report picketing eased. Total lay-offs between 13,000 and 14,000.
- BIRMINGHAM/
WEST
MIDLANDS: No change in lay-offs. Rover has laid off 1500. Goodyear called some back. Total lay-offs 22-24,000. Exports of forty nine West Midland firms showed that they had £50 million worth of exports held up.
- LONDON: Royal Docks - pickets gone. Tilbury, picketing easing, but in both cases, traffic is not back to normal yet. Willesden and Stratford freightliner terminals - returning to normality with NUR drivers going through. Estimated 4,000 tons of cargo in the docks at week end. Individual companies report situation easing. Cash flow a problem. One non-member firm, with difficulties of this kind, faced a big bill from Inland Revenue and asked if it could defer payments accordingly. Inland Revenue said no.
- SCOTLAND: Goods are now moving in and out of freightliner terminals fairly freely. Picketing is still in evidence, particularly at the ports but a certain amount of goods are being moved. There is an emergency meeting today of Road Haulage employers, and a meeting today of TG officials. Also of Joint Industry Council tomorrow.
- NEWCASTLE/
NORTHERN: No significant change. TG says strike should soon be over. Talks taking place this week. Main problem for industry is likely to be substantial loss of exports. Docks remain picketed and there is no sign of a dramatic return to work.
- CAMBRIDGE/
EASTERN: Ports are now open. Goods flowing freely through Felixtowe and Harwich. Vauxhall still have 5,000 laid off. More could be laid off on Wednesday. This is because of a shortage of heavy fuel oil. Overall picture in the region is much brighter.
- MANCHESTER/
NORTH WEST: 34,000 lay offs so far. RHA and TG involved in negotiations this morning. Generally the situation has not eased.
- EAST
MIDLANDS
(NOTTINGHAM): Companies are waiting for a settlement. There is undoubtedly a general easing, and the only companies being picketed are RHA members. No reports of secondary picketing.
- YORKSHIRE/
HUMBERSIDE
(LEEDS) General situation is easing since Hull drivers reached their agreement yesterday (Monday). It will take considerable time for the situation to get back to normal. Most vehicles are not taxed in January, so it will be beginning of February before some get back on the roads. Own account vehicles moving easily, sporadic picketing is aimed at stopping hire and reward operators. Reckitt and Colman, running 700 lay-offs, have now recalled 180, hope to recall the rest within the next few days. Batchelor Foods in Sheffield, report a slight improvement, but await a settlement in that area. At their Worksop plant, once running lay-offs of 350, full work force has now been recalled. BSC still closed, definite shortage of specialist steels in Sheffield area. Lay-offs of 35-40,000 should now be seen as the peak, the figure should begin to decrease as the week continues. Region hopes this week will bring a return to normality.

BELFAST:

Forty per cent of the provinces transport working normally. Haulage employers are meeting this morning to discuss the of announced yesterday. Belfast is only dock where there is strong picketing. Animal feedstuffs getting through at other docks. Layoffs less than 10,000 at present which is less than during the petrol drivers strike.

BRISTOL:

Pickets at docks have gone. Traffic moving without hindrance. Layoffs now about 3,000. From Monday this week 300 laid-off at Fisons and 2,000 at British Cellophane. Swallowfield Aerosols are on a four day week.

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