

# Picket no. 23

Wednesday 20th August

**MURDOCH IS**

**BAD NEWS**



**THE Sun**

**NEWS OF THE WORLD**

THE ~~ABC~~ TIMES

THE SUNDAY TIMES

Fifteen local authorities from London to Bradford have banned the stocking of Murdoch's titles in the libraries ... Meanwhile amongst Chapels in Fleet St. Murdoch's titles continue to be handled in one form or another. In some cases they are distributed by our members; our members cut and file the titles for reference in libraries; journalists refer to and quote News International copy which is then set and printed by our members; and from News Agencies copy is relayed to Fortress Wapping ... now is the time for you all to act to eliminate this.  
(from Clerical chapel leaflet)

## Saturday night, 9th August, Wapping

The residents led off first. A very brave march of 75 was held starting at Glamis Rd and going west to Garnet, then south to come back up north along Wapping Lane, a well-known scab-terror route. At Pennington St the march attempted to continue east through a police line being reinforced up to thirty or forty. Only scabs/police have freedom of the Highway in Wapping and police waded into the pickets, arresting two or three, punching and pushing anything in their way, particularly incensing the pickets by molesting a young child in a pram. The march was driven up to The Highway where it continued its way westward being pushed about by ever greater numbers of bullies in uniform. What motivates this lot is to get paid to vent their hatred of workers - with impunity - and brass buttons thrown in.

The march continued westward and passed thru - to cheers - a large demonstration in the area just past the top of Virginia St where the residents would attempt to hand in a petition. On being told only a small delegation could approach the gates the petition was set alight in style.

From Tower Hill a large procession of several thousand had marched slowly to just past the Virginia St entrance to the scab plant. Speeches were made here in The Highway. Pickets left by the thousand.

But several hundred had made it out to Glamis, through police road blocks, there to greet a determined returning residents march about 11 or 11.30pm. A march began north on Glamis. Just as it got up 75 feet north on Glamis some scab lorries were making their run past on The Highway. The march went up to Commercial Rd and then west past Leman St to the roundabout at Aldgate and then went round the roundabout past Commercial St where most scab traffic passes through all the time.

The march continued round and then east along Commercial Rd. No lorries were sighted. They had been re-routed up Burdette Rd. At Sutton St a line of police strikebreakers in the road forced the march south and it returned via Cable St to Wellclose about 1.30am.

## Wednesday night, 13th August, Wapping

About 700 marched from Tower Hill. Arrived just before Virginia St where police were prepared to marshall it off Highway. Instead reversed immediately and marched up Dock/Leman St past police station and up to roundabout at Aldgate, around and past Commercial St, the major scab route, then round to Commercial Rd where one scab juggernaut rushed past at speed on its way into the plant. The march moved forward but police strikebreakers kept a way clear for the scabs. The march continued with one empty scab coach passing by to jeers. When the march reached Sutton St a line of police were in the road ordering it to go onto the pavement. Instead it very swiftly moved into Sutton St and reassembled there, back through side streets where some local supporters joined in the march. Then back to Commercial Rd and then to Wellclose via Back Church Lane.

Thursday afternoon, 14th August

About 2000 marched from opposite the Mirror building. Just prior 50 Sogat Casual Machine had marched from Blackfriars to join up, on the way scabbing off Fleet House as sirens screeched up. Also present was a contingent from the Purnells strike in Bristol. The products the Purnells workers printed were Readers Digest, Womans Realm, Woman, Radio Times, Thomsons Catalogues etc. Scab work is being done at Carlisle Web Offset, Carlisle; Petties, Leeds; Cromer Works, Nottingham and Sun/Odhams, Watford. Strikers are bitter. Strikers blame Dubbins for the strikebreaking at Maxwell's plants.

Activists on the march were also mindful of the role of the Mirror building in smashing the recent strike at the People. So far Maxwell has repeatedly succeeded in playing one section of print union members off against another. There were shouts of you're next as the scheduled shutting of the Mirror building soon will mean another massive loss of jobs.

The march went down to Fleet St then out to Wapping. On the way a new chant could be heard, "Call the generals out on strike". The march paused several times to jeer someone reading a copy of the scab Sun in an office building or construction site until it was torn up.

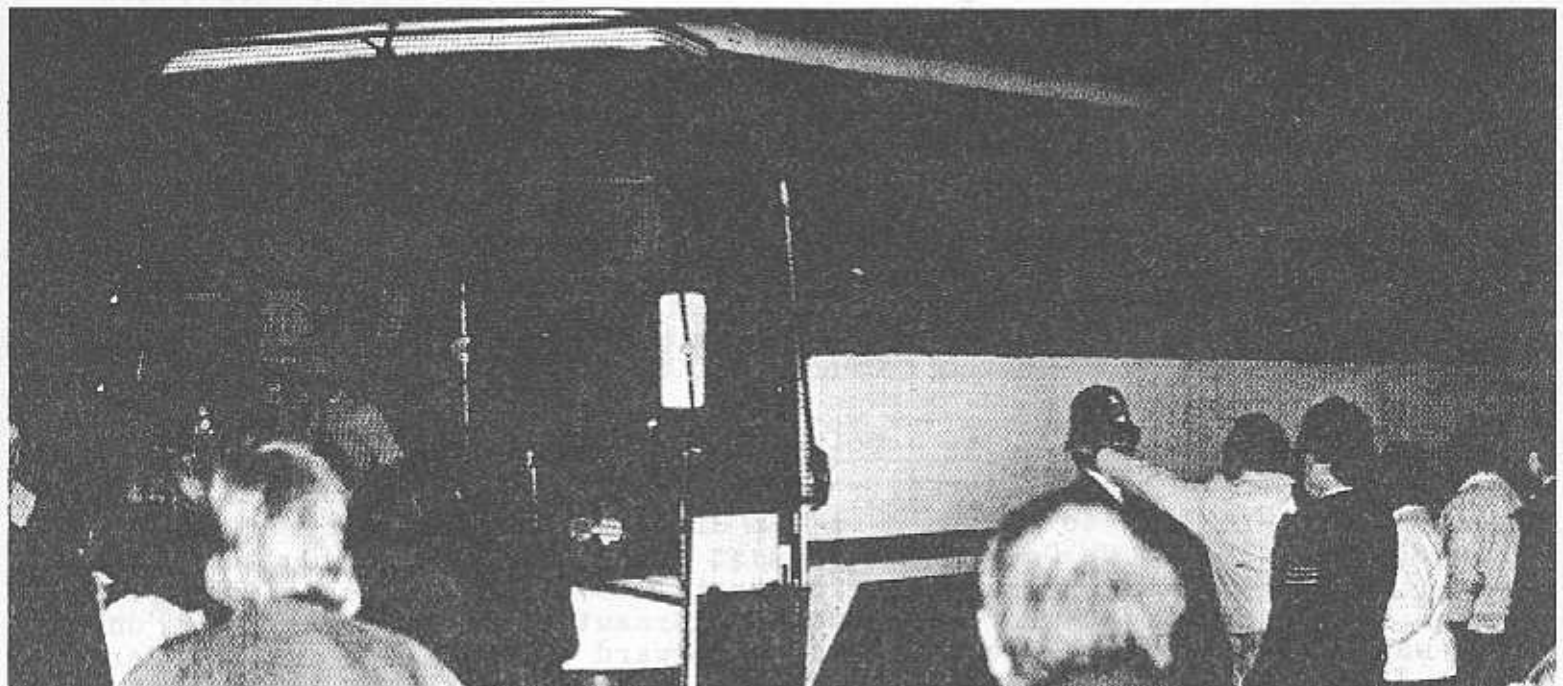


Picture: STEVE McTAGGART

Saturday night, 16th August, Wapping

2000 marched from Tower Hill. New song to the tune of I'd rather be a picket, "We want 40,000 coppers on the dole X4, We'll see how they like it on the dole X4." Police again moved their roadblock up this time, to just past Virginia. The Highway was cleared early.

Later in the night several small marches converged into Commercial St near Sutton. To the west an armoured scab coach was bricked. To the east another scab coach was caught, unable to reverse. Pickets ran forward rapidly. Moving faster than anyone else was one young picket. Uniformed



strikebreakers tried to push her away but she wasn't having any of it and continued her way. Pickets were all over, in the road, both sides, foot paths, thinking, acting as one. The coach was trapped for a while until it got away. Several hundred pickets began a march west on Commercial Rd but large police reinforcements pushed it off the road, arresting six.



Monday, 18th August, Gray's Inn Rd

Five hundred pickets rallied at the old Times building. Not only is the printers' strike the best show, it is the only show.

Pickets shouted scab at the strikebreakers for an hour or two then assembled en masse in the road for a march. This assembly was the best part. The march went down to Fleet St and out to Wapping, chanting and singing, spirits good despite the rain. The march took three to three and a half hours, as strikers continue to defy everything thrown against them.

- Scab has moved: Brian Smith, News of the World Machine Room Manager  
old address: Ferndale Crescent, Canvey Island, Essex  
new address: 10 Hadleigh View, Canvey Island, Essex
- Not a scab as stated in Picket no. 22: Tony Atkinson, Thornhill
- Journalists scabs: Bill Anslow, subeditor, 0449 740226  
Nick Pitt, sports correspondent, 01 8744046  
Bob Smith, artwork department head, 0322 20819  
Bob Spivey, was deputy FOC, 07073 32810
- Scab journalist Sue Cook (letters lady) engaged to Mr. Rudy, owner of Gloriette Patisserie in Fleet St acquired country cottage in Whatlington, near Battle, Sussex
- Bouverie St scab: Harry House, 67 Trent Rd, New Southgate N14 449 6174
- Lee Rodwell, freelance journalist regularly scabs in Wapping, 28 Holden Rd, North Finchley, London N12, 445 4648
- Coliseum coach scab drivers, Morry Rayner or Martin Wilkinson
- Parks of Hamilton, Scotland is the company supplying armoured-wire coaches, serviced at Wahl Coaches Ltd. at yard in 145 Coldharbour Lane, Camberwell, London SE5, .733 1124.

#### OTHER KNOWN SOUTHAMPTON SCABS

K. Clayton, A. Anderson, W. Chandler, D. McInnes, B. King, T. Jenkins, D. Blaker, M. Enright, R. James, J. Campbell (Fareham), A. Firman, R. Gillman, J. Dunnings, T. Foreman, G. Lloyd (Portsmouth), M. Downey, S. Mottram, P. Ricketts, P. Dowell, B. Linnington, P. King (Eastleigh British Rail AUEW member), T. House, G. Child, J. Thompson, J. Hewitt, A. Tracey, R. Veal, R. Emm, J. Gibson, K. Bowers & Mrs. Bowers, I. Bushel, D. Cooper, J.D. Fry, I. Hardman, G. Highmore, A. Kennedy, A. Marshall, S. Mott, G. Osborne, A. Fry, E. Hale, N. Kingston, A. Marchant, R. Robinson, M. Shone, J.B. Williams, K. Addis, D. Boreham, S. Brown, M. Robinson, R. Smith, I.H. Thomas, R. Whitfield, M. Cummins, P. Elday, P. Jones, G. McNie, M. Coultas, S. Cross, K. Felix, R. Thompson, G. Pingree, M. Etherington, D. Sanger, J. Gosden, M. Stuart, H.G. Bishop, M. Folland, F. Reading, A. Brown, N. Connolly, D. Janaway, S. Johnson, M. Beckett, P. Mintram, D. Jones, W. Murray, P. Barnard, M. Thomas, S. & A. Bevis, G. Gale, P. Clayton, A.W. Perdue, G. Rayner, T. Gebbett, P. Betteridge, G. Brown, S. Durman, Sandra Gooding\*, A. Kochanowski, A. Durman, G. Hedgeman, P. Thomas, P. Newton, D. Smith, P. Noyce, M. Sparshott, A. Price, J. Waugh, R. Cooper, R. Avery, S. Carroll, A. Edwards, P. Witt, D. Hollins, A.G. Lacy, Clare Ostler, Tanya Seaman, G. Sanders, S. Shaw, M. Revie, M. Gallup, Mr. & Mrs. M. Frecknall, G. Beresford.

(\*dark-room manageress)

- TUC will support Brenda Dean. It doesn't matter what the empty resolution says, the TUC will support the bosses. Anything else is a lie.
- Congratulations to the "Thetford Brigade" on a job well done. The majority of the Exec are advocating no picketing, peacefully this and peacefully that, but Ghandi is dead and he did not get his settlement through his peaceful actions alone. It was the violence that he tried to stop that brought about his settlement, but in all honesty who will give a damn if all that is done is stand somewhere peacefully, causing no disruption to production, hindering nothing. The only time anyone of the bourgeois media has given this dispute a mention is through force either by the police or by the pickets.
- Experience: Picketing printers came into the strike largely without real picketing experience. During the miners' strike most activists were sucked into the fund-raising circuit. This robbed activists of essential picketing experience. Not so with the bosses and their hirelings. They come into this strike with all the experience of fighting picketing and a whole lifetime of rule. Experience in the strike has shown that it is only the most hardened and determined pickets who can be trusted to command.



### The Printer

He made a good living.  
 Above all the rest  
 And through strength in numbers  
 His job was the best,  
 The rest of the work force.  
 Who should have been glad  
 But they envied the good things  
 The bold Printers Had.  
 They led by example, by threat  
 and by might  
 To get a standard of living  
 That is ours by right.  
 But the rest of the work force  
 They all just stood still  
 And watched as this standard  
 Went quickly down Hill.  
 The bosses connived and schemed  
 of a way  
 To get rid of the Printers  
 or lessen their Pay  
 But the bold Printer fights them,  
 And fights all the way.  
 But the rest of the Work force  
 They still stop away  
 Oh wake up you dreamers  
 Come down Wapping way  
 And fight with the Printers  
 For a much better day  
 For if they are defeated,  
 They won't be the last  
 The bosses will get you  
 The Die will be cast.



Income: £1 printer; £2 picket; £2 cabbie; 50p Sun publishing; £10 Sogat Machine Casual Chapel; £1 Sogat machine; £3, 50p, £5 NGA machine; £20 print anonymous; £2, 20p misc.; £1 Times Day machine; £1.50 Workers Press; £1 inky; £2 policeman's son.

Concise written reports necessary

Publ. by picketing print union members  
 c/o Housmans, 5 Caledonian Rd, N1 9DX