1300 RUGBY PRESS 11th MAY. BRITISH WIRELESS PRESS.

Detailed reports from districts in London and all provincial areas are principally notable for absence of exitement. Population generally has adapted itself to conditions with patience and good temper and steady improvement in transport facilities has considerably eased inconvenience experienced in first few days. Number of volunteers and Special Constables which has responded to Govts, appeal exceeds supply that can be used and former in many districts are being assisted in trains, tramways, buses and lorries by strikers who are returning to work. Althoug number of such men is small compared with those on strike and although there is no sign of any collapse of strike services of these men are of considerable value in technical tasks of steam and electric train driving and railway signalling. Outbreaks of rowdyism continue rare and of small proportions when they do occur. No such case has occurred which civil Police has not been able to handle alone and no firearms have had to be employed in any disturbance. Many Foreign correspondents in Britain have paid tribute to tactful and good humoured behaviour of Police Force. In fairness to strikers it musy also be said that provocation has been extremely rare and Trade Union Leaders have constantly and successfully urged maintenance of good order upon their followers. Activities Few extremists have generally been confined to spreading false rumours and several of these have been disseminated abroad. They include statement of unrest among troops and Police, that Post Office Savings Bank is about to suspend payment and that Premier is ill. All these stories are fantastic inventions. London Newspapers are still much restricted in size and some of them continue to appear in improvised form but in Provinces many of leafing Newspapers have assumed their normal appearance. Fact that at 9 p-clock this morning Yorkshire and South Wales newspapers containing all their usual features were on sale in London streets gives some indication not only of extent to which those engaged in printing trade industry have returned to work but of immense improvement in transport arrangements that has occurred. Chancellor of the Exchequer Churchill stated in House of Commons that arrangements for circulating Official newspaper "BRITISH GAZETTE" are progressively improving. First edition of this paper a week ago numbered about quarter of a million. On Sunday night from Newcastle to South of England one million, one hundred thousand copies were distributed. Despite their diminutive size London newspapers have been widelt circulated. It is impossible to arrive at accurate estimate of total number of persons on strile at end of first week of stoppage Unions affected by order to cease work have membership of rather more than Two millions, Of this number Miners represent over Eight Hundred Thousand and Railwaymen over Four hundred and fifty thousand. One fifth of Railwaymen are, however, now at work and of Unions called out in sympathy with Miners namely Transports, Iron and Steel Trades . Building and Furnishing, Printing and Paper some have resumed but extent of this movement cannot at present be determined. Steadily growing number of 'Buses to be seen on London streets and in Country districts is due in some measure to return of strikers to their duties and in many of large Provincial Centres tramway services have been restored and are being run by staffs which include considerably number of men who were on strike last week. Ocean Liner sailings are unaffected. At Liverpool and Southampton ships are arriving and departing according to schedule and same applies to other main Ports. Volunteer labour is ample for all purposes and cargoes are being discharged and conveyed to their destination smoothly and promptly Sir John Simons statement on legal position of those other than miners. who are engaged in strike was again raised in House of Commons last

night when Sir Henry Sleaser who was Solicitor General in Labour administration traversed Simons view and declared that under section 3 of Trades Dispute Act expressed immunity was conferred on anybody who procured breach of contract in comtemplation and furtherance of trades disputes. Sir Douglas Hogg Attorney General said Simons speech was signal contribution to knowledge of Public and by it great Public service had been done. He said Sleaser appeared to misunderstand whole basis on which Simons opinion proceeded. This was that General Strike which was not and could not be regarded as Industrial weapon but was conspiracy against State stood wholly outside protection of Trade Dispute Act and that therefore action to which Sleaser referred could have no application to what was in Simons view wholly illegal act.

Times Parliamentary correspondent states today that it may be necessary if General Strike continues to introduce Emergency Legislation. Government have no intention whatever of putting forward any proposal which would interfere with rights of Trades Unions to conduct legitimate Industrial policy for betterment of position of their members. Only questions which Government are considering are those specifically raised by present general Strike which in their view

conflicts with whole principal of collective bargaining.

BRITISH WIRELESS SERVICE.