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THE FRENCH STRIKE.

Thousands of holidaymakers, about 6000 of them British, are stranded in France as a result of the great Strike. Post office staff were first to stop work. Mail, telephone and telegraph services were almost paralysed immediately. Quick to follow suit were railway employees.

The Metro in Paris was next to be brought to a standstill. Now city workers make their way to business as best they can for the buses too have stopped. In all, two and a half million workers are out on strike, all protesting against the Government's proposed economic plan. Britons on holiday wait patiently outside the main line stations until the heat trains run again. Many have had to appeal to the British Embassy to supplement their dwindling allowance of francs.

Despite every appeal by M. Laniel, currently the French Prime Minister, the country is still ham-strung: for, although the unions relaxed pressure for a few days, the Communist-led General Confederation of Labour has ordered railway workers to strike again.