

"HANDS OFF TEA BREAK"

Another protest march; this time to protect that almost sacred institution the Tea Break. More than 2,000 building workers went on strike, headed for Hyde Park to let off steam-making West End traffic still more chaotic. They're objecting to an agreement between employers and unions, which proposes to abolish paid tea-breaks, and substitute a tea trolley service, while the work goes on. The men were hot-up about it, but kept their sense of humour.

It's one more proof that these days the sure way to cause a bit of industrial schemozzle is to attack the tea-break. It's practically part of the British Constitution. So is Speakers' Corner, the bit of Hyde Park where grievances can be aired by anybody who can get an audience. The men argue that as they work out of doors, often in bad weather, they ought to have a tea-break, without losing pay for it. One man spoke for the coloured workers.

A builder who forgot this meeting had a break of his own - tea or no tea.