

## BRITAIN'S BACK TO THE WALL

Like the pack-ice of the Polar regions was the sea at Whitstable at the height of the great frost. It was as though the Arctic had spread to the shores of Britain, *It*  
*seemed* *2* ~~to~~ epitomise the severest winter for fifty-two years.

*youngsters*  
(next) When the ~~children~~ of this generation have grown *regale*  
old they will ~~narrate~~ their grandchildren with tales of this icy winter. Many of the grandparents of today have suffered in uncomplaining silence. They are among the most pathetic victims of the frost and the cruel shortage of coal....

*vainly*  
In all the towns hundreds/queued up for paraffin.

Even of potatoes there was near famine. At many greengrocers only regular customers got any, and they only two pounds. One enterprising farmer used pneumatic ~~shovels~~ *spades* to dig up parsnips.

~~(box)~~ Almost as frozen as the land was industry. *And* on the dole, *F* all the crisis passed, were some of the millions unemployed; ironically, when the country wants every man and woman fully at work. Londoners temporarily idle saw ~~hundreds of~~ skaters enjoying the rare pleasure of winter sport in St. James's Park. *J*

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A rare sight, too, were Kent orchards in winter's grip. Main lines in the north and east were cleared by jet aero-engines.

Coal trains ran as soon as the lines were cleared. In the ranks of the unsung heroes of the frost were firemen and drivers whose redoubled efforts carried the ~~fuel to the big towns. By sea big supplies reached London~~ ~~to~~

fuel to the big towns. Motor-tugs broke the ice on canals near London, and the traffic kept moving; slowly, but still moving. ~~Some~~ <sup>More</sup> ~~using~~ heroes of the crisis were the bargees, ~~doing one of the coldest jobs of all.~~ And on the canals, there were heroines too, ~~the bargees' wives,~~ doing their ~~trick~~ at the tiller in the intervals ~~between spells~~ of housework below deck. [The big coal grabs at Battersea Power Station kept pace with the incoming ~~ships~~ <sup>ships</sup> ~~boats~~. All over the country it was a story of ordinary men and women putting their back into a big job.

So, early on Monday morning after a three-week shutdown, the Midlands clocked in ~~was~~ again. Smoke, belched <sup>by</sup> ~~them~~ hundreds of tall stacks, was the visible sign that the wheels of Industrial Britain were beginning to turn. From the coal mines in that week came four-million tons, more than enough, if the pace ~~was~~ <sup>is</sup> kept up, to hit the <sup>year's</sup> coal target set in the White Paper. The men at the coal-face, each hewing an extra ton-and-a-half that week, deserved their pat on the back.

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For the household grate we were grateful for the crumbs that fell from the industrial table. The factories had to come first. And anyhow there's nothing like a crisis to make a family man realise his responsibilities.

DUNLOPS 70 1/2 FALL 1/8  
 WOOLWORTHS 33 1/2 FALL 3/4  
 HARRODS 82 1/2 FALL 1/2  
 ENGLISH ELECTRIC 20 1/2 FALL 1/2  
 KEMSEY PRESS 48 1/2 FALL 1/2  
 G.P. ASSOCIATION 14 1/2 FALL 1/2  
 BRAZIL TRACTION 30 1/2 UNCHANGED  
 NYNEX NICKELS 24 1/2 RISE 1/8  
 DE BEERS BEER 30 1/2 RISE 1/8  
 GOLDENBELLS 3 1/2 UNCHANGED  
 WEST WITS 7 1/2 UNCHANGED  
 BURMAN OIL 2 1/2 FALL 1/8  
 SHELL A 2 1/2 FALL 1/8

3.30 P.M. CLOSING STOCK MARKET REPORT

STOCK MARKETS TODAY GENERALLY PRESENTED A PICTURE OF CONTINUING DEPRESSION LITTLE RELIEF BEING ACCORDED TO MARKETS BY THE SPEECHES OF MR ATTLEE AND MR SHIMWELL.

INDUSTRIALS STEADILY BECAME AS SELLING ORDERS CAME IN THOUGH THERE WAS NO GREAT PRESSURE TO SELL AND LEADERSHIP OR GILT EDGED SECURITIES CAUSED FURTHER LOSSES TO BE