

FRENCH STRIKE% PITY POOR TOURISTS

25 The Gare du Nord was deserted. The 24 hour<sup>s</sup> strike  
called by communists and other parties brought half  
the country to a standstill. The postal services are  
still out as we receive these pictures, but ~~the~~ <sup>many</sup> travellers  
are no longer stranded, as they were when these films were  
made. Fortunately Frenchmen's inability to agree ~~with~~ <sup>among</sup>  
themselves kept many coach services running, so there wasn't  
40 the complete paralysis the strikers expected. Hardest  
hit were thousands of English people, on the way home,  
50 broke and bewildered. <sup>om</sup> ~~Thousands~~ vowed they's never go  
abroad again, but that's a feeling that wears off, at any  
60 rate in a wet, cold summer. As the strikers included the  
dustmen, the Paris market wasn't a bit like <sup>eau</sup> ~~expensive eau~~  
de Cologne. <sup>well,</sup>  
70 ~~perfect~~. It was a blowfly's bank holiday. French politics  
are <sup>quite</sup> beyond understanding, especially by French people.

For the travellers there was nothing <sup>for it</sup> ~~taxi~~ but to wait,  
and hope that the strikers <sup>would</sup> ~~would~~ keep their 24-hour  
promise and start again next day. If you know any in  
this crowd don't ask, 'Did you have a nice holiday.'

For the travellers there was nothing for it but to wait;  
Latest reports are that <sup>many</sup> ~~they're~~ still waiting. If they ever  
do get home, don't ask, Did you have a nice holiday?