

FRENCH STRIKE: PUBLIC SERVICES DEFY GOVERNMENT

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The French Post Office, where the ~~general strike~~ ^{great labour revolt} began, was still the strike-centre. Volunteers and army postal workers did what they could, but chaos was mounting and this alone seemed likely to bring commerce to a full stop. The garbage problem ~~is~~ ^{is} becoming serious enough to menace public health.

Paris Underground shut its gates in the face of the public; bus-stations had nothing to offer. Visitors of all kinds began to learn the geography of Paris, the hard way, on foot. Army lorries helped as much as they could. The temper of the people remained surprisingly good. France is a sick country. The only people to seem unaware of it are the French themselves.

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Premier Laniel offered cold comfort in his broadcast to the nation: His negotiations with the trade unions had been broken off.