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M.I.5 CALLED ON TO INVESTIGATE DOCK DISPUTE

30 food ships and 70 other vessels lie idle in London Docks. The Canadian ship "Beverbrae," which dockers refuse to unload due to a wage dispute between its Canadian crew and the owners, is cause of the trouble that now involves more than 8,000 men. Condemning the men's claim that the stoppage is a lock-out engineered by the employers, Cabinet Ministers brand the strike as a Communist manoeuvre. Dockland M.Ps, investigating the source of London's biggest hold-up for years, are convinced that it has been engineered for political motives. At meetings in Victoria Park, Union officials backed by M.Ps are unable to persuade the men to go back. The finding resulting from their investigations have been submitted to M.I.5, and the Home Secretary has been asked to hold a searching enquiry.

Vital exports are held up, while the dockers (in the words of one Minister) hold the country to ransom. The cost of the dispute now nears half a million pounds.