

FRENCH FARMERS REBEL

Breton peasant farmers converged by tractors upon the small town of Quimper, demanding the release of two arrested Union leaders and protesting against the recent alarming fall of farm-produce prices. "Haven't peasants the right to live?" read one of their banners, as they proceeded to block all ways to the town centres.

A contingent of Bordeaux wine growers arrived in support. The trouble was brought to a head when the farmer's potato-price fell six francs a kilo, though the vegetables were being sold in Paris for ten times the amount obtained by the peasants. They said the middle-men were the villains of the piece. Hastily announced was a government plan to buy up farm surpluses and try to peg prices. The farmers just jeered and again demanded the release of the two Union leaders. It seems that not everybody is prosperous, even under the blessings of the Common Market.