

49/36POLICE STOP COMMUNISTS MAY DAY MARCH

May Day in London, birthday of Socialism. In place of the traditional marches, demonstrators walk in groups, following the Home Secretary's ban on political processions. They converge on Nelson's Column, for a meeting of the London Trades Council. Thousands pack Trafalgar Square; neutral Sunday sightseers, Trades Unionists and veterans of the first May Day rally 59 years ago.

Then the trouble starts. Communists try to march down the Strand and into Trafalgar Square. But mounted police bar the way.

At the meeting itself all is comparatively peaceful. No eggs this time, no tomatoes and no Harry Pollitt.

Again, the Communists attempt a procession, this time towards their own meeting a few hundred yards away. Ugly scenes again disturb the peace of London. Fists are clenched, and Hammer and Sickle banners torn down. The ultimate verdict - what a waste of a lovely Spring day!