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The Toronto World

FRIDAY MORNING MAY 30 1919

VOL. XXXIX.—No. 14,079 TWO CENTS

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GENERAL STRIKE IS CALLED IN TORONTO

STRIKE TAKES STEPS TO END BIG STRIKE OF CIVIC WORKERS

Many Winnipeg Police and Firemen Going Back to Work—Iron Masters Agree to Accept Railway Brotherhood Mediation—Citizens to Clean Up Streets.

Winnipeg, Man., May 29.—The city government of Winnipeg today took aggressive steps to end sympathetic strikes of public utility and service employees, when the police commission announced that every man wishing to remain in the employ of the city must sign an oath agreeing not to join any sympathetic strike movement in the future. Officials announced that a large number of the regular police force had signed, and that many applicants, including a number of discharged soldiers, would be added to the force.

Officials of three large iron works notified Mayor Chas. F. Gray and Premier Norris that they would accept mediation of the Canadian railway brotherhoods as mediators in a discussion of labor problems with their employees. This far, leaders of the central strike committee indicated their willingness to consider any conciliation conference between the iron works executives and their employees. No announcement has been made by union leaders on the new plan.

To Clean Up City

There were today several developments in progress, which to unprecedented persons indicated the control of a few leaders was being slowly but steadily crushed. City employees who were involved in the sympathetic strike movement were being ordered to appear at their work places in municipal departments.

Members of the citizens' committee were planning today for a general cleanup of the city tomorrow. Business men announced they would aid in the actual work of cleaning all streets and alleys of garbage and refuse and that they were ready to begin cars whenever the city decides to start operations.

Cars on Saturday

Mayor Gray today said that city officials expect to have cars in operation by Saturday and that possibly a few would run tomorrow.

Word was received today from Ottawa announcing that the new civil service bill will include substantial increases for some branches and that there will be no reductions in salaries of federal employees. This is expected to result in many striking government employees applying for their old positions.

Mayor Gray and members of the citizens' committee discussed the advisability of sending a delegation to Ottawa to discuss the strike and collective bargaining problems.

Mail Clerks Go Back

Later today a majority of the railway mail clerks of the Winnipeg division who joined the strike, appeared before Senator Robertson, federal minister of labor, and asked permission to resume their work. They were allowed to return to their old positions. Having made application before the 24-hour ultimatum of the government had expired. Commercial telegraphers, who are on strike, will meet late today at the city hall to walk out issue. Some of the operators have openly announced that they are in favor of returning to work.

It was announced at the city hall this afternoon that more than fifty city firemen have agreed to return to work, despite pressure to the contrary from the union leaders, and that the city police have also agreed to sign a new agreement with the city, in which they will agree not to participate in sympathetic strikes.

Street Commission

Street Commissioner A. W. F. Tallman reported to the city council that nearly all of the employees of his department are anxious to return to their work, but that the "fear of intimidation" had been holding them back.

ROBERTSON BLAMES THE ONE BIG UNION

In Message to Premier, Outlines the Situation in Winnipeg.

Ottawa, May 29.—This morning Sir Robert Borden sent a telegram to Senator Robertson asking for a copy of a telegram received by Senator Robertson from the mayor of Calgary and the reply thereto. This evening the prime minister received in reply the following message from Senator Robertson: "Winnipeg, Man., May 29.—Sir Robert Borden, prime minister, Ottawa: Your telegram received. Following is copy of wire received from mayor of Calgary, together with copy of my reply, which, in my judgment, correctly states situation.

"Calgary, May 26.—Several unions ceased work this morning in sympathy with Winnipeg men. From information received here the situation is somewhat obscure. It is claimed on behalf of the men, that the dispute in Winnipeg is with regard to the recognition of the union and the right to bargain collectively while press despatches indicate it is a question of the power of a central committee. If you can enlighten us on this matter it will be appreciated.

"Sgd. R. C. Marshall, Mayor."

"My reply, dated May 26, begins: 'Have been here since Thursday last. Very carefully investigated cause of existing general strike, which the strike committee claimed was called for the purpose of forcing upon certain employers the recognition of workmen's rights to collective bargaining. The employers affected proved conclusively that they have no objection to their employees organizing, and have dealt with committees of their employees elected as representatives of the various craft unions concerned in their industry. Have furthermore expressed perfect willingness to meet with executive officers of these various organizations if desired, but refused to deal with a body known as the metal trades council, which is elected by employees in other industries outside their own. Twenty-four hours before the sympathetic strike was called the premier of Manitoba urged an adjustment of the matters in dispute by arbitration, and in a final attempt to prevent the general strike asked the committee if they would cancel it provided the employers would agree to recognize the metal trades council, to which question a negative reply was given.

"Subsequent events proved conclusively that the motive behind the general strike effort was for the purpose of assuming control and direction of commercial and industrial affairs, also municipal, provincial, and federal activities, so far as they were being carried on in this city, and with the avowed intention of extending that control to a wider field. I have no hesitation in stating that the 'one big union' movement is the underlying cause of the whole trouble, and that the Winnipeg general strike derives no sympathy or support from labor organizations outside.

"Situation quite improved."

The above telegram to Mayor Marshall prevented the general walkout that was expected. The striking railway mail clerks here returned to work today before the 24-hour notice expired, which was given to them yesterday and more applications for positions in the postoffice have been received than can be accommodated.

(Signed) "G. D. Robertson."

ARBITRATION IS FLATLY REFUSED TO TORONTO'S BIG STRIKE BEGINS TODAY

UNIONS ORDERED OUT

The following unions are liable to be called out this morning. The list is only approximate.

Garment Workers	3,400
Painters	400
Teamsters	1,000
Stationary Engineers	400
Total	4,700

To this number the street railwaymen may be added by night-fall, increasing the total to 7,000. Besides these are many machinists with whom agreements had been made under a provisional clause. Counting the metal trades and those added to their number, the total number on strike today will be approximately 15,000, with additions every day. A number of other unions which would have participated have been requested to refrain in the public interest. The bookbinders and the members of the Typographical Union are understood to have decided not to go out.

Strike Committee Reject Employers' Offer to Submit 44-Hour Week Demand to Third Party—Request All Locals With Named Exceptions to Cease Work, 10 a. m.

Despite endeavors of the employers to arbitrate the demands of the metal trades for a 44-hour week and the principle of collective bargaining, the general strike committee of fifteen last night officially called the general strike for ten o'clock this morning. The committee was understood to have taken the ground that an offer to arbitrate upon a specific demand was evading that issue, and acted accordingly. The statement handed out to the press reads as follows:

"The general strike committee has received official notification from the metal trades executive at Ottawa that all negotiations have failed to receive from Premier Borden assurance of the 44-hour week and collective bargaining demanded.

Blame Employers.

"In view of this failure, the general strike committee requests all workers in Toronto to cease work on Friday morning, May 30, at 10 a. m., with the exception of the following (then follows a list of workers permitted to continue, as given below). The statement goes on to point out that this list is subject to revision at any time, and also to point out that those named in this list are requested to remain at their posts in order that the general public may be spared as much inconvenience as possible. "This strike," it says, "was caused thru the failure of employers and of the government to grant to the workers what they feel to be their birthright. The committee requests all delegates to the trades convention to attend at the Labor Temple on Saturday, May 31, at 8 p. m."

Will Remain Out.

The civic employees decided last night to remain out of the strike until the waterworks men and employees of other public utilities come out. This was the information given out by W. Williams, president of the union, at ten o'clock. The letter carriers may take a referendum vote upon the strike, and the street railway employees, according to information received, may go out tonight or early tomorrow morning. The electrical workers have nothing to report, and are so reticent that possibilities may be that they will also, go out. The policemen, the fire-fighters and the telegraphers, according to reliable information, will not be among the strikers.

OFFER TO ARBITRATE FOLLOWED HARD FIGHT

Conference Lasted All Day and Premier Borden Firmly Demanded Some Kind of Compromise.

Special to The Toronto World.

Ottawa, May 29.—After many hours of strenuous argument and patient negotiation the metal employers offered to submit to arbitration the demand for a 44-hour week. The offer is in writing and has been transmitted to the strike committee at Toronto. It is in effect that the employers will arbitrate provided the men return to work and call off the threatened general strike. The men will work under the old conditions until the report of the arbitrators, but said report is to be retroactive and be considered as coming into effect on June 1.

The definite offer is couched in these words:

"The metal trades employers, in order to avoid the consequences to the public of a general strike, offer to submit to arbitration the question of hours constituting a week's work, provided that the general strike now threatened is definitely called off and that the men return to work under the conditions obtaining in the factories previous to the strike. The results of the award to be made retroactive to June 1.

(Signed) "J. G. Merrick," "Secretary Toronto Employers' Association."

Representatives of the employees took the stand that they had no mandate either to accept or reject the offer of arbitration. They communicated with the Toronto strike committee.

Borden Persisted

This result was due in no small measure to the patient persistence of the prime minister. To the demand

of the labor representatives for legislation establishing the 44-hour week and defining "collective bargaining" he replied that the subjects affected "property and civil rights," exclusive jurisdiction over which is vested in the provincial legislatures. He therefore urged employers and employees alike to arbitrate their differences. This for a long time both sides refused until Mayor Church hotly exclaimed that one side or the other must have a rotten case or they would not be so unwilling to submit to arbitration.

It will be observed that the proposed arbitration does not touch the subject of collective bargaining, but it is understood that the employers have practically conceded this point by taking part in today's conference.

Started Work Early.

The representatives of the employers and the workers, together with Mayor Church and the other members of the delegation from Toronto, were on hand at the prime minister's office in the east block at 10 o'clock this morning. The conference continued until 1 p. m., at which time it seemed that no agreement could possibly be reached. During the afternoon the employers and the workers conferred among themselves and with each other, and at 5 o'clock the delegation was again in the closet with the prime minister and several of his colleagues, including Sir Thomas White, Hon. N. W. Rowell, Hon. T. A. Crerar, General S. C. McBurn, and Sir Edward Kemp. The newspaper men were lined up in the

ORLANDO ACCEPTS ADRIATIC SOLUTION

Fiume to Be Independent State Under the League of Nations.

Paris, May 29.—The Temps says today that an agreement has virtually been reached on the Adriatic question and that President Wilson, who saw the Jugoslav delegates today, has given his consent to the arrangement, which Premier Orlando of Italy has accepted.

According to The Temps the essential points in the agreement are:

1. Fiume, not including the suburb of Suchak forms, with the region to the west, an independent state under the league of nations. This state will be bounded by Italian territory and contain the railroad from Fiume to Ljubach.
2. Zara (capital of Dalmatia) and Sebenico (70 miles southeast of Trieste, on the Adriatic) will be placed under the sovereignty of Italy, which renounces any other part of the Dalmatian coast and hinterland.
3. Italy will exercise sovereignty over islands called strategic, namely, Cresco (12 miles southwest of Fiume, belonging to Istria), Lussino (southwest of Cherso and also Istria) and Lissa (63 miles southwest of Spalato in the Adriatic) and islands to Dalmatia) with the outlying islands.

Furthermore, says The Temps, the league of nations grants Italy the mandate over Albania, where the treaty of London secured Italy preponderating influence.

PRISONERS MAY STAY.

There is about town a well defined rumor to the effect that the prisoners at the jail are considerably annoyed at the manner in which their institution has lately been brought into public notice by the carelessness of its officials. The latest Vera de Lavelle incident has proved the last straw, and it is possible that a mass meeting of the prisoners may declare for a general "walk-out" if some steps which are taken to prevent a repetition of such events. At a late hour last night, however, it was rumored that the Labor Temple that the strike committee of Fiume had sent a message to the jail requesting them, as a special favor, to remain at their posts.

VERA DE LAVELLE LEFT JAIL BY LADDER EXIT

Washington, May 29.—Altho the navy department had received no despatches up to a late hour tonight from Lisbon, where Lieut. Commander A. C. Ross and crew of the scout plane NC-4 are awaiting the start to Plymouth, England, on the last leg of the American navy's trans-Atlantic flight, officials were of the opinion that the NC-4 would "hop off" tomorrow.

The splendid performance of the NC-4 on the other legs of the trans-Atlantic flight caused navy officers to anticipate no difficulty in the Lisbon-Plymouth dash, a distance of nearly 800 nautical miles, most of which, however, will be in sight of land.

ALSO ABOVE REPROACH:

The provincial officers responsible for the escape of Miss Lavelle from Toronto jail have every reason to expect that in any investigation into their conduct they will receive at least as careful consideration as the O.T.A. men got. Indiscretions are bound to happen in any well regulated family.

ENGLISH STRAW HATS

The English makers of straw hats have conquered the world of fashion as far as straw hats for men are concerned; in the United States this demand is just as great, and the purchaser of an English straw hat there pays one-third more than you would in Canada.

The Dineen Co., Ltd., are showing the very newest designs by Henry Heath, Christy Company and other makers. The English straw is worn exclusively by royalty, and the Dineen Company are sole Canadian agents. A splendid lot of Panama and Yongs are shown by Dineen, 140 George street.

McCullough's Sweetheart and a Companion Leave Premises Without Difficulty or Hats—Ruth Masten Captured—Vera Still at Large.



VERA DE LAVELLE Highly successful in keeping up public interest in the McCullough Case.

"Miss Vera de Lavelle begs permission to decline the kind invitation of His Majesty the King to extend her visit to the Don Castle, as she has pressing engagements elsewhere."

If Vera de Lavelle possesses any sense of humor she must have been keenly disappointed at not being in a position to have some such note as the above when she, with a fellow-girl prisoner, Ruby Masten, made an escape from the Don prison yesterday morning. The two girls by getting over the 15 foot wall of the prison between 1.30 and 2 o'clock made a clean getaway and were not missed by those who were responsible for their custody for fully thirty minutes after the escape. The girl, Ruby Masten, made direct for the city and to parts where she was known. Shortly before 4 o'clock prison guards picked her up on Wilton avenue and conveyed her to the city hall police station. Vera de Lavelle has, however, submerged herself as completely as a submarine boat. It remains to be seen if the authorities possess a deep sea bomb of sufficient strength to bring her to the surface.

Very little is actually known of Vera's getaway and how it came about that "opportunity" was offered her to go out visiting without chaperon. Some of the prison authorities are of the decided opinion that Vera had help outside the prison, both to provide the "opportunity" and to assist her once she was outside the confining barrier.

sometimes called a wall, but which, if past experiences go for anything, is neither a barrier nor a wall, but a myth.

Hanging Out Wash.

Until Vera de Lavelle tells her own story of the escape and how it was engineered, any details are unreliable, but, as the French detective says, "It is possible to reconstruct the crime"—in this case, however, only in a prison breakaway. Vera was not

(Concluded on Page 7, Column 3).

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POLICE REFUSE TO GIVE UP CHARTER

Committee Will Approach Government for Interpretation of Finding.

Toronto police claim that altho they are in favor of carrying out the mandates of the royal commission which called upon them to renounce their charter, yet they feel that the report is biased and does not give any evidence in the finding to show that the holding of the charter or affiliation is detrimental to the force as a whole. This was the statement made by one of the officials of the police union late last night after the police had held three meetings in the Sons of England Hall to discuss the findings.

It was also stated that the union will appoint a committee of five to interview the provincial government early next week, for a clearer interpretation of the findings of the report with reference to the charter. In the meantime, the men are holding on to the charter, and it was stated last night that every man was now a "Charterist" no matter what he may have been before the appointment of the commission.

The men on the other hand are pleased with the minority report made by James T. Gunn, their representative on the board. This report, they claim, gives real reasons for the retention of the charter, as opposed to the finding of the majority of the commissioners which in no way indicates any evils which might arise from its being retained.

Ex-Kaiser Is Less Visible Since Learning Peace Terms

Only Part Which Seems To Interest Him Is That Relating To Himself—Empress Is Fearful.

Amerongen, May 29.—Since the former German emperor has been acquainted with the peace terms, he has become even more invisible to the outer world. The only possibility of catching a glimpse of his former majesty is when he crosses the draw-bridge twice daily, going to and returning from his log sawing in the garden of the castle, and then he is only within sight for about 4 seconds.

Replying to a repeated request for a declaration, the former emperor sent the following words:

"Tell the Associated Press that my attitude is unchanged."

The messenger, Gen. Von Estorff, gave the correspondent to hope that anything was likely to be given out

GERMANS MAY SIGN JUNE TWENTIETH

Fifteenth of Month is Earliest Possible Date, But Later Date Probable.

Paris, May 29.—June 15 is the earliest possible date on which the German treaty can be signed if no objections are encountered, but June 20 is the more probable date for its signature, according to a member of the peace delegation who discussed the situation with the correspondent today.

The German counter-proposals have been received with the greatest interest by the members of the peace conference, especially the claims for immediate membership in the league of nations, for a plebiscite to decide the disposition of Galicia and for the fixing of a definite sum for reparations.

The German delegation presented only three copies of the counter-proposals to the secretariat of the peace conference. Twenty interpreters were busy today translating the document from German into English and French.

There was, however, uncertainty as to the locals which would be called