

BIG STRIKE IN OTTAWA.

UNDERPAID WORKMEN DEMAND MORE WAGES.

The Bayonet Brought Into Requisition to Subdue Them.

Two thousand workmen, mostly French-Canadians, employed in the sawmills at Ottawa, struck on Monday morning for a reduction in the hours of work of one hour and a half per day and an increase in wages of 50 cents per week. Their demands are considered just, but the lumbermen say they will not yield. The men have been receiving from \$6 to \$8 per week, and working eleven and a half hours per day, with three quarters of an hour for dinner.

The trouble began at 6 o'clock at Perley & Pattee's mill, when the men employed on the platforms struck work. They induced their fellow-workmen to follow their example and a noisy crowd shut down the mill and moved towards all the other mills. At Bronson's mill they forcibly compelled the men to stop work and shut off the water supplying the mills. The police were soon on hand but the strikers offered no violence.

The strikers held a meeting at Hull, when some 1,500 were present, and addresses were delivered by Mr. Faleux, president, and Mark Moore, of Sherbrooke. Afterwards a meeting attended by some 3,000 was held opposite Booth's mill, and addresses were given by the same men. Both meetings were quiet and orderly. The speakers urged quiet and steady work and that the men be firm in their demand for the ten hours a day and the raise of 50 cents a week.

OTTAWA, Sept. 15.—Acting on a requisition signed by Mayor E. B. Eddy, of Hull, and Magistrates C. B. Wright and F. B. Vieu, Lieut.-Col. Anderson, the officer in command of the active militia in Ottawa, ordered two companies of the Governor-General's Foot-Guards and two companies of the 43rd battalion to parade for the purpose of proceeding to the Chaudiere and Hull to protect the mills there. The remainder of the Ottawa garrison were notified to hold themselves in readiness for duty if called upon. So far there does not seem any likelihood of a settlement being arrived at between the strikers and the mill owners.

This morning a large crowd of strikers made their way to Mr. Eddy's mill, where a gang of laborers was at work on the foundations of a new paper mill. Here they were met by Mr. Eddy, his manager, Mr. Rawley, and Mr. George Millan, the superintendent. The strikers were informed that the laborers did not want to quit work, but a rush was made, and Messrs. Eddy, Rawley and Millan were roughly jostled. Fifty of the laborers then ceased work and joined the crowd. The mob espied Mr. Eddy's horse, which was hitched up outside the mill, and a rush was made to unhitch it. Mr. Eddy on seizing hold of the bridle received a violent kick in the stomach from one of the strikers but held on firmly to the reins. At the same time Superintendent Millan was struck on the head with a heavy sledge, nearly felling him to the ground.

Chief Genest and a number of Hull police then arrived on the scene and the strikers withdrew. A large crowd next proceeded to the factory of Mr. E. B. Eddy, where the hands were still at work. The proprietor stood in the doorway and warned off the crowd, but was struck on the hand with a stone, inflicting a severe wound. Two rounds of blank cartridges discharged inside the factory had no effect on the mob and finally the employees were obliged to quit work.

At Mason's mill this morning a crowd of 500 mill hands commenced to unhitch a number of teams which were engaged in shipping operations. Mr. Mason and his two sons interfered and were assaulted, while one of the teamsters was thrown on to a pile of stones and badly injured.

Ex-Ald. Farrell and Mr. W. Patterson accompanied a party of the Chaudiere strikers to the Parliament Buildings, their object being to persuade the Minister of Justice to cause the withdrawal of the militia ordered out. They met Mr. Ingram, M.P., who interviewed Sir John Thompson on their behalf. The Minister assured Mr. Ingram and the deputations that the Government had nothing whatever to do with the calling out of the militia. The requisition was signed by two justices of the peace and the municipality would be compelled to bear the expense. The Government has nothing whatever to do with the matter, and cannot interfere, even if it so desired.

OTTAWA, Sept. 16.—Last night a mass meeting was held in front of Booth's mill, which was attended by a large number of people besides the strikers. Messrs. Fautoux and J. W. Patterson, president of the Ottawa Trades and Labor Council, were the speakers. Mr. Patterson counselled them to remain firm but to keep quiet and not to interfere with the

militia. Their cause was a just one and they had the sympathy of all the working classes. The committee who had waited on the mill owners would do so again, and they hoped to end the strike to the satisfaction of all concerned. In conclusion he advised them to go to their homes and stay there. After three cheers for the Queen the men dispersed. A large number of city police were present at the meeting but their services were not required as the meeting was a very orderly one.

Mr. Rawley, manager for the E. B. Eddy Company, said that their men were not on strike and that none of the firm had anything to do with it. Their men were satisfied, and in 39½ years Mr. Eddy had never had a strike. They had induced the men to stay in and promised them protection, and that was the reason they had had the militia called out. The men were forced out, but the members of the firm had and would protect their horses and property and their men when at work.

The militia reached the mills at six o'clock. They were armed with Snider rifles and each man was served with ten rounds of ball cartridge. No demonstration was made by the strikers on the arrival of the militia and no disturbance whatever is anticipated.

OTTAWA, Sept. 17.—The strike of the Hull mill hands still continues although the number of strikers is rapidly diminishing. The millowners have not as yet indicated their intention of complying with the demands of the men and there does not seem any probability that they will do so. This afternoon, No. 6 company of the 43rd battalion, the only militia left on duty, were withdrawn, no further disturbance being anticipated. A number of the rioters appeared before Recorder Champagne, of Hull, this morning, on charges of assault. Calixte Jeannette was found guilty of assaulting Manager Rawley and Superintendent Millan, of the E. B. Eddy Manufacturing Company, and was sent to prison for two months. On the charge of rioting he was committed for trial at the Aylmer Assizes. William Pain, for inciting the mob to commit violence at C. B. Wright's quarries, was also committed for trial. Richard, another rioter, was remanded until to-morrow. Warrants are out for three others, L. Carrier, J. Laurin and A. Lanzon.

Mr. Robert M. Cox, senior member of the firm of Robert Cox & Co., of Liverpool, states that he is losing \$3,000 by the strike. He has chartered steamers of the Dominion line and was to have made four or five shipments from Montreal this week, but the strike has stopped his doing this.

Who Gets the Profits?

The Berlin correspondent of the New York German paper (Volks Zeitung) writes recently follows:—"This is one of so many ways capital gains and labor loses. A steam engine and button-hole machine from America has been imported by a large firm of ladies' garment manufacturers. This machine is able to do 4,000 button holes a day, whereas the best female hand would only do on the average 250. The success of this machine will, of course, mean more to follow. What the consequence is can easily be seen; as each machine will put sixteen button-hole makers out of work and from earning a living. The female which attends to this machine gets the wage of seven marks per week, without board and lodging (seven marks equal to seven shillings English)."

Is the Moon Peopled?

Up to the present time we have remarked nothing on the moon's face which leads us to suspect the existence of a thinking humanity in that small celestial island. Nevertheless, those astronomers who specially observe our satellite, and who study all its singular aspects with attention and perseverance, are generally of opinion that the planet is not so dead as it looks. We must not forget that in the present condition of optics it is difficult practically to apply to the study of the moon a magnifier superior two or three times. To see this world two thousand times nearer than it is in the sky is only to bring it within 48 leagues. It is certain that enigmatical variations are going on on the surface of the moon, especially in the area of the circle of Plato. It is also certain that the lunar globe, 41 times smaller than the globe, and 81 times less heavy, exercises upon its surface a weight only one-eighth as great as that which exists on the surface of our own planet in such a way that an atmosphere analogous to that which we breathe would be six times nearer and difficult to perceive from here. There is, therefore, nothing surprising in the fact that this neighbor should differ so greatly from ours. If you look at the earth from a balloon which is four or five thousand feet high, our planet appears deserted, uninhabited, silent as an immense cemetery, and anyone returning from the moon in a balloon might reasonably wonder, even that small height, whether there were still people in England, and what had become of that roar of London.

The Trades and Labor Council of Sydney has assisted the barmaids and waitresses in that city in forming a labor organization.

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