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RAILWAYMEN AND TRANSPORT WORKERS CALL OFF STRIKE; MINERS REFUSE TO MEET MINE OWNERS IN CONFERENCE

LAST HOUR CHANGE AVERTS TERRIBLE INDUSTRIAL CRISIS

Lloyd George Says Miners Want Concession of Wage Board and National Pool Before They Will Meet. Split in Triple Alliance Indicated.

London, April 15—An unexpected and sensational split in the ranks of the powerful triple alliance of labor this afternoon completely changed the complexion of the blackest industrial crisis Great Britain has ever faced and averted the projected strike of the railwaymen and transport workers in sympathy with the striking miners, set for ten o'clock tonight.

Events developed with such sudden and startling changes as to leave the public in a maze. Simultaneously with an announcement in the House of Commons by Premier Lloyd George that the miners had declined to accept his invitation to reopen negotiations with the mine owners on the terms advanced last evening by Frank Hodges, the miners' secretary, came the announcement that the railroad men and the transport workers had cancelled the strike call for tonight.

London, April 15—The reports that Frank Hodges had resigned as general secretary of the Miners' Federation were reiterated in reliable quarters late this afternoon. The resignation, it was added, had been accepted.

London, April 15—Mr. Lloyd George, the premier, announced in the House of Commons this morning that the miners had refused to re-open negotiations for a settlement of their claims on the basis that had been suggested. The prime minister read a letter from the miners' federation stating that the only conditions on which a temporary settlement could be reached was one which must follow concession of the two principles of a national wage board and a national pool.

The premier said that the question of a national settlement of wages the government already had expressed a favorable opinion, but on the question of a national pool, it regarded such a pool as injurious to the whole country because it involved the re-establishment of control. The government declined to accept it, he said.

RAILWAYMEN AND TRANSPORT WORKERS CHANGE STRIKE

Announcement that the railwaymen's strike set for ten o'clock tonight had been cancelled, was made shortly before four o'clock this afternoon, by J. H. Thomas, general secretary of the railwaymen's union.

No explanation was immediately available of the railroad men's action, but it was thought in some quarters that it might indicate a split in the triple alliance.

The transport workers strike also has been called off, Mr. Thomas announced. "As far as the railwaymen and transport workers are concerned, the strike is cancelled," he added.

London, April 15—British mine owners and representatives of the National Federation of Miners, have accepted the invitation extended by Premier Lloyd George to re-open negotiations for a settlement of the miners' strike, which began April 1.

The acceptance of the miners, however, was subject to the sanction of the other unions, making up the triple alliance. The miners' executive, after conferring among themselves and with representatives of the other members of the triple alliance, adjourned about two o'clock, until three o'clock, without a decision being reached whether the invitation to re-open the negotiations should be accepted.

Denies Hodges' Resignation

Wm. Straker, a member of the miners executive, categorically denied the report that had been in circulation that Frank Hodges, secretary of the miners union, had resigned.

London, April 15—It was rumored this afternoon that Frank Hodges, secretary of the Miners' Union, had resigned, because of opposition to his statement before members of the house of commons last night in which he favored a temporary adjustment of wages.

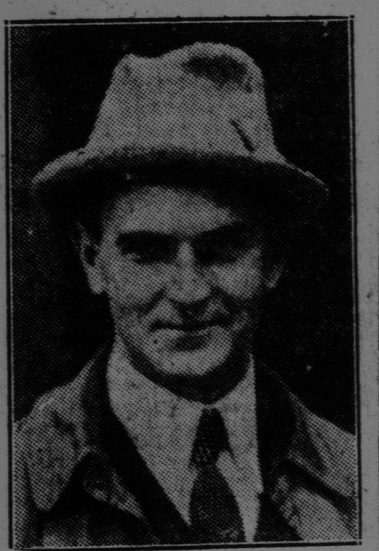
London, April 15—A letter was sent by Premier Lloyd George today to the local authorities throughout the country for their guidance if the strike, set for tonight, should be brought about.

"The country," he wrote, "is faced with a situation which threatens not only its security, but also the very existence of ordered government in our land. The maintenance of the essential services, without which the people cannot live, is the first duty of the government, and of the municipal authorities of the country.

Such services can only be maintained by the voluntary and energetic efforts of the country as a whole. To make this effort cannot be regarded as taking sides in an industrial struggle. It is a primary duty which every citizen owes to himself, to his family and to his country."

New York, April 15.—(10.30.)—Announcement overnight of the abrogation of national agreements by the railroad labor board came as a complete surprise to Wall street and infused a strong tone to the stock market at the opening of today's session. Within the first few minutes gains of one to four points were made by all classes of transportation shares, especially the more popular Pacifics, Grangers and Coals.

The rebound extended to oils and industrials, with Mexican Petroleum, Royal Dutch, General Asphalt, Atlantic Gulf, Republic Iron and Steel, and the outstanding features.



FRANK HODGES, Miners' secretary, an outstanding figure of the movement in the strike situation in Great Britain.

BOTTLE IN A WALL CLOSET

Evidence in Liqueur Case—Widow Says Husband Must Have Left It There.

A new explanation as to why there was liquor found in her residence was given in the police court this morning by Mrs. Ross Zebberman, who conducts a boarding house at St. Long wharf, when she said that her husband had built a closet in the wall in her bedroom to keep liquor and that the bottle of gin found by the inspectors must have been put there by him two years ago before he died. She pleaded not guilty to having liquor unlawfully.

Inspector Journey said he found two bottles of gin, one of which had been obtained by prescription while the other had no marks on it.

Inspector Henderson told of noticing a nail in the wall behind a bureau and on taking hold of it found that it moved. He said he took out the sheathing and found a bottle of gin in a corner of the closet.

The accused said the liquor she had had said on prescription was for her own use, but as to the other bottle she said her husband must have put it there before he died. She said he built the closet in the wall so that the children would not know there was any in the house, as he was in the habit of taking liquor.

Her son, Frank, corroborated his mother's evidence, and added that he had seen one of the boards under the influence of liquor. The case was postponed until Monday afternoon. W. M. Ryan conducted the prosecution and E. S. Ritchie the defence.

Haen Brown pleaded not guilty to assaulting his wife. The letter and Mrs. Fisher, 30 Spar Cove road, the accused's mother-in-law gave evidence. The man denied striking his wife and also his mother-in-law on this occasion, but he said that he had struck his wife on other occasions. He was fined \$20 or two months in jail without a fine for striking his wife. Frances Kerr conducted the prosecution.

The case against Fred Martin and Joseph Cullinan, on suspicion of the theft of fowl from various places, was resumed.

Patrick Kilhorn, North street, told of missing twelve hens. Amos Phinney, Eastmount, said he had lost thirteen fowl. John Ritchie, superintendent of St. Patrick's Industrial Home, said there had been twenty-two hens stolen from the hen-house.

Policeman Lewis gave evidence and James McCarthy identified the accused as the persons from whom he had bought twelve fowl, for about \$10.

A case against the lads arrested at Little Lepreaux recently, charged with theft of a horse and carriage, was resumed and James McCarthy testified.

As Hiram Sees It

"Ain't you scared," said Mr. Hiram Hornbeam to the Times reporter, "I've been on hollerin' about raisin' that there noo railroad bridge?"

"Why should I be scared?" asked the reporter. "It ain't according to Hiram's way of thinkin'."

"No St. John man has any business to stand up fer St. John. He orto stand up fer the government, or the C. P. R., or anybody that might start the grass on King street."

"I want you to know," Hiram said, "if there's any air-quit an' volcanoes an' the river makes a noo course down to Duck Cove instead o'comin' through the falls you can't say I didn't mention it. I know that's what the people's afraid of—one feller said so. He said if you didn't jist take what was handed to you an' the hall geography of Candy had be changed an' St. John wouldn't be on the map at all. I ain't sayin' it's so, but it'd be too bad to see Inliss' damplin' again."

"Well," Hiram, "if there's any air-quit an' volcanoes an' the river makes a noo course down to Duck Cove instead o'comin' through the falls you can't say I didn't mention it. I know that's what the people's afraid of—one feller said so. He said if you didn't jist take what was handed to you an' the hall geography of Candy had be changed an' St. John wouldn't be on the map at all. I ain't sayin' it's so, but it'd be too bad to see Inliss' damplin' again."

"Hiram," said the reporter, "if you will go out and drag in the man who talked like that to you, I'll pause to attend to his case. I think he needs it most. He is worse than the government, the C. P. R.—or an earthquake. Break him!"

"The's too many of him," said Hiram.

THE "BLACK SOX"

This is Name Adopted by Discharged Members of Chicago White Sox—Late Sport News.

Chicago, April 15.—Members of the Chicago baseball team were called to meet in an emergency session today to take action against a team said to have booked a game with the "Black Sox," as the barnstorming team formed from discharged members of the Chicago White Sox have termed themselves.

Joe Jackson, Claude Williams, Happy Felsch, Swede Risberg and Fred Mulren are the former White Sox players forming the Black Sox.

Detroit, Mich., April 15.—Strangler Lewis, champion heavyweight wrestler, is to meet Bob Managoff of Chicago here tonight. Managoff has announced he has perfected a defence for the headlock. The hold will not be barred here.

WOMAN HURT IN TRAIN WRECK

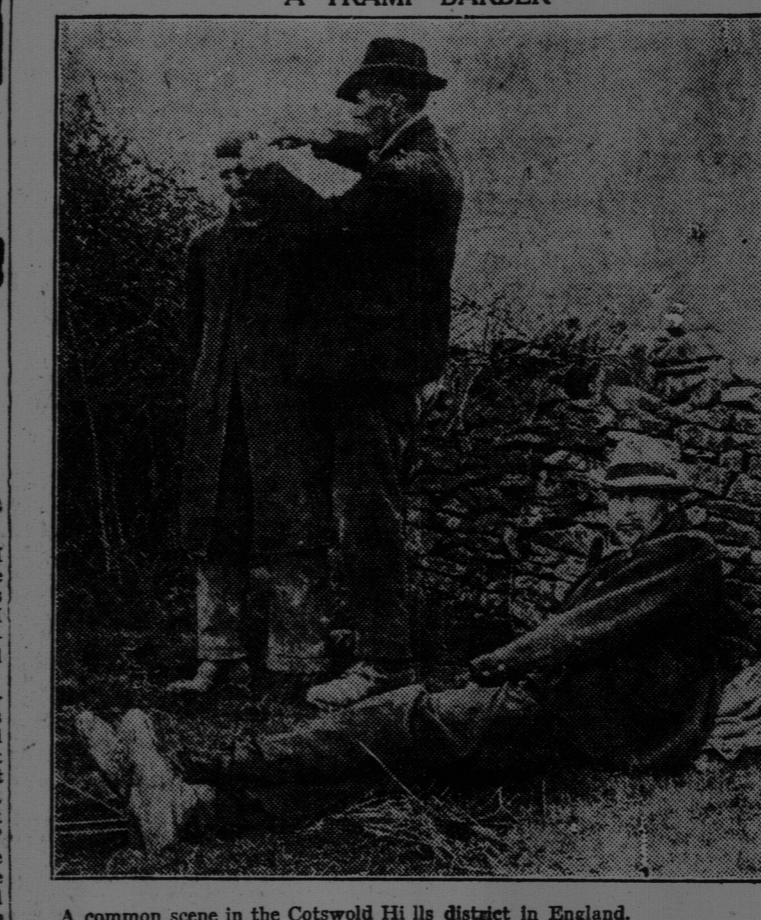
Three Rivers, Que., April 15.—Seven coaches, five passenger and two express cars on the C. P. R. train No. 351, leaving here at 11.50 a. m. for Montreal, left the tracks yesterday afternoon between Louisville and Yamachiche. The engine alone remained on the track.

The rails and ties were torn and splintered for a distance of 500 feet. A woman was hurt, suffering from a broken arm.

WEATHER REPORT

Synopsis — An area of low pressure which was in southern Illinois yesterday has moved to eastern Ontario, while a pronounced high area has developed over northwestern Ontario and Manitoba. Rain has fallen in Ontario and western Quebec.

Rain Tonight. Maritime—Strong southeast and south winds; rain tonight. Saturday, west to northwest winds, mostly cloudy. Gulf and North Shore—Easterly winds, with rain. Saturday, strong northwest winds, mostly cloudy.



A common scene in the Cotswold Hills district in England.

RECOGNIZE OPEN SHOP PRINCIPLE

Master Plumbers and National and Catholic Union Sign Contract—Prohibition of Sympathetic Strikes and Lockouts.

Montreal, April 15.—At a special meeting of the Master Plumbers' Association, last night, it was reported that the contract between the association and the plumbers' section of the national and Catholic Union had been signed by both parties and will come into effect May 1.

Both parties recognize the principle of the "open shop," no discrimination between union and non-union employees, absolute prohibition by both sides of sympathetic strikes and lockouts, and for less experienced and efficient men seventy and sixty cents an hour.

Wages will be paid on production, and what constitutes a day's work will be clearly understood and the men graded accordingly. Wages provide for seventy-five cents an hour for first-class mechanics, and for less experienced and efficient men seventy and sixty cents an hour.

GRAVE DISORDER IN NORTH ITALY

Rome, April 15.—Grave incidents are reported from northern central Italy, where the extreme Nationalists and the Socialists have clashed in a number of cities and towns. Several lives have been lost and great property damage has been done during these disorders, which are a result of the bitter feeling arising from the electoral campaign.

INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

Ratification of Statutes Asked at Meeting of Inter-Parliamentary Council.

Geneva, April 15.—The inter-parliamentary council met here yesterday under the presidency of Lord Wardsdale of Great Britain. Ten nations were represented. The five countries, including the United States and France, sent regrets at their inability to be represented.

TWENTY HURT IN EXPLOSION

SHOT BY HER SON WHILE SHOPPING

Abithi, Que., April 15.—Mrs. Aime Bilodeau of Dupuy was shot dead by her nine-year-old son, while shopping. The youth picked up a revolver, thinking it was not loaded, pointed it at his mother, saying: "Look mother," and the shot went off with fatal result.

BONUS FOR THE MEMBERS OF ONTARIO HOUSE

Supplementary Estimates of \$4,177,717 Passed—Million and Half for Education.

Toronto, April 15—Members of the Ontario legislature are each to receive a bonus of \$600. Early this morning, just before the house adjourned the premier tabled the further supplementary estimates providing for expenditure of \$4,177,717. In the estimates \$1,675,941 is set aside for education including \$200,000 for maintenance for the Western University, at London; \$210,000 for maintenance, and \$125,000 for improving heating facilities at Queens University; \$18,029 grant to the Royal College of Dental Surgeons; special grant to the University of Toronto of \$880,000, and another grant of \$87,815 to the University of Toronto to provide in the Ontario College of education for the training of high school assistants. It will also add the graduate courses. More than \$600,000 is included to provide for colonization, roads and bridges.

GERMANY PAYS

France Imposes Fifty Per Cent. Tax on Imports—Two Billion Francs From Alsace Property Sales.

Paris, April 15.—The Chamber of Deputies adopted yesterday the bill providing for a fifty per cent tax on German imports as a penalty on Germany because of non-fulfillment of her reparations obligations.

Paris, April 15.—The reparations commission, after hearing statements of the German delegates concerning the dates on which various countries entered into a state of war with Germany and interpretation of article 232 of the peace treaty of Versailles, with regard to reparations has decided on the following official dates:

Italy, May 27, 1915; Portugal, March 4, 1916; Greece, June 27, 1917; and Czechoslovakia, October 29, 1918.

It was ruled by the reparations commission that the damages suffered by Czechoslovakia during the Bohemian-Magyar invasion of 1919 cannot be charged to Germany.

Paris, April 15.—The proceeds from the sale of German property in Alsace Lorraine is expected to exceed two billion francs, according to La Liberté.

AGAINST BONUS TO INDUSTRIES

Union of Municipalities Take No Action on Mayor Mayor Schofield's Letter—Burial of Soldiers.

Ottawa, April 15.—The executive of the Union of Canadian Municipalities yesterday passed a resolution asking the Dominion government to see that all returned soldiers were given honorable burial.

Mayor E. A. Schofield of St. John wrote regarding housing industries. The union of the large amount of traffic to the port, he thought the government should bear part of the cost of the upkeep. Ex-Mayor Fisher, Arthur Roberts, K. C. Montrose, president of the Mayor Campbell were appointed to frame a suitable resolution to be forwarded to the government.

DEATH OF MRS. HOLLY

Widespread regret was voiced about the city today when it was learned that Mrs. Hannah Holly, 181 Douglas avenue, widow of Sir Charles Holly, had died this morning. Mrs. Holly was possessed of a kindly and loving disposition and was dearly loved by all who knew her. Many were proud to call her a friend, and her passing will cause heartfelt regret in a large circle. She was taken ill on Monday and yesterday lapsed into unconsciousness, passing peacefully away this morning. She was eighty-eight years of age and leaves to mourn one son, J. Walter Holly, and two daughters, Mrs. A. C. P. Sorrell and Miss Marion Holly, all of this city. The funeral will be held on Sunday afternoon at 2.30 from her late residence.

A TRAMP BARBER



A common scene in the Cotswold Hills district in England.

THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING BILL

Permission to Erect Municipal Building Here Receives Committee Consent—Agricultural Matters.

Fredericton, N. B., April 15.—The Committee on Municipalities met this morning and approved of several bills. On the request of representatives of the town of Woodstock, the bill by which that town intended to tax banks, express companies and insurance concerns, was withdrawn. It was pointed out that the bill introduced by the attorney general makes the Woodstock proposed act ineffective.

The bill giving St. John the privilege of erecting municipal buildings passed the committee.

A Campbell bill authorizing a bond issue was also approved.

The committee on agriculture held its last meeting of the session this morning. Resolutions passed by the Farmers and Dairymen's Association in convention were approved by the committee. The question of oleomargarine was discussed and it was decided that the public should be informed as to the food value of this product. Closer controls of its sale was also advised.

The matter of dressing poultry for the market was considered.

Hon. Mr. Messerieu, Minister of Agriculture, thought the time for legislation limiting the marketing of poultry to undrawn varieties was not opportune. He believed that the demand in New Brunswick was for drawn poultry and until such a time as the people were educated to the advantages of buying undrawn birds he believed matters should remain as they are.

I. T. Floyd, Provincial A. P. I., gave a short address on the bee-keeping industry. The average for the province for last year was sixty-eight pounds per hive and the sum of \$78,000 had been secured by bee-keepers of the province for their products. He believed there was no better money making side line than bees. New Brunswick honey had proved equal to that produced in any other province. There were three great problems for the keepers, swarming, disease and wintering. He told how to overcome these problems and urged that more attention be given to this valuable industry.

The meeting adjourned after the Chairman, O. W. Wetmore, had thanked the members for their keen interest in the subjects discussed.

SWISS REPORT DENIED

MARY McCALLUM

Berne, April 15.—The Swiss government, it is declared on reliable authority, will issue at an early date an official denial of the report that it has offered to act as intermediary between Germany and the Allies.