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THURSDAY MORNING MAY 29 1919

VOL. XXXIX.—No. 14,078 TWO CENTS

NO HYDRO STRIKE---CANAL WORKERS ACCEPT BECK'S OFFER

Germany's Counter-Proposals Ready and Will Be Presented to Allies Today

SIR ADAM GRANTS SCHEDULE DEMANDED BY HYDRO WORKERS

Forty-Four Hour Week, Time and a Half for Overtime, Arbitration as to Wages, Prevent Strike Threatened by Canal Employes, Affecting 130 Municipalities.

Special to The World.

Niagara Falls, Ont., May 28. — There will be no strike of electrical workers.

Toronto and all the municipalities served by the Hydro-Electric will still get their light and power as usual. This was the result of the decision come to late last night by a mass meeting of all the employes of the Hydro-Electric at Niagara, and on the Chippawa and Welland Canal, who will get their eight-hour day, or, rather, 44 hours per week, increased pay and a commission to enquire into the other grievances.

Before Sir Adam Beck left for Niagara yesterday afternoon odds of three to one were laid that the men would strike this morning despite any offer he would make them. Whichever side may now claim the victory there can be no denying the fact that Sir Adam has saved Ontario from a state of affairs that, had they materialized, would have meant consequences that could not be foreseen. When, to provide for peace, he raised his offer from time and a quarter to time and a half and a 44-hour week, he saw victory in his path and the men's decision not to strike was almost unanimous.

Facing an assemblage at the Arena rink tonight, of over two thousand members of the Niagara District Trades Federation, Sir Adam Beck made to the men of the Hydro power canal an offer of an eight-hour day, double time for Sundays and legal holidays, and time and a quarter for all other overtime. Sir Adam added that men on the Welland ship canal would get that scale too. His announcement was received with cheering by assembled workers but the complexion was changed when the president of the Machinists' Union jumped up and announced that for fifteen years machinists all over Canada had been paid time and a half for all overtime with double for Sundays and holidays, and consequently machinists on the canal were not prepared to accept his offer. This started a lot of discussion and the Laborers' Union representatives pointed out that whereas they now got four dollars a day for ten hours' work, they were liable to lose eighty cents a day on the deal by the new agreement if they only worked eight hours. This was something they could not live on.

The Wage Schedules.

Sir Adam read the schedule of wages paid to the different trades on the Hydro canal. They were as follows: Ironworkers, 70c an hour; riggers, 45c to 55c; heavy fire blacksmiths, 85c; general fire blacksmiths, 65c; helpers, 45c; carpenters, 65c; carpenters' helpers, 45c to 50c; electricians, 55c to 65c; electricians' helpers, 45c; machinists, 65c; machinists' helpers, 42 1-2c; locomotive firemen, 45c; pumpmen, 50c; linemen, 55c; steam and general fitters, 60c and 65c; steam and general helpers, 42 1-2c; pit men, 42 1-2c; laborers, 40c; painters, 53c to 65c; locomotive train operators, 75c; clam shell, 65c; orange peel operators, 65c; hoist operators, 65c; steam locomotive operators, 60c; electric locomotive operators, 60c; compressor operators up to three machines, 60c; compressor operators over three machines, 65c.

Tom Moore, president of the Trades Congress of Canada, said Sir Adam's offer was not a fair one, and he was loudly cheered for the announcement.

After a lengthy discussion, Sir Adam agreed to give the men time and a half instead of time and a quarter. The men accepted the offer by an almost unanimous vote about midnight. The men by the new arrangement get an eight-hour day, double time for Sunday and holidays, time and a half for other overtime, 44-hour week and all disputes as to wages are to be arranged later between the men and the commissioners.

DELEGATES OF ALL PARTIES CONCERNED TRAVEL TO OTTAWA

Labor, Capital, City Seek Borden's Help in Strike.

CANNOT LEGISLATE?

Premier's Powers Limited in Enforcing Hours, Say Experts.

Twenty-eight men, representatives of labor, the city council, the harbor commission, the trades council, the Metal Trades Council, and the metal trades section of the Employers' Association, traveled last night to Ottawa, and are expected to confer with Premier Borden and the cabinet upon the demand of the Metal Trades Council for a 44-hour week and an eight-hour day, as well as the principle of collective bargaining so far as trades federations are concerned. These representatives of the various bodies are: Mayor Church, Controllers Cameron and McBride, for the city council; R. C. Brown, James Higgins, W. Harper, J. Poole, A. Saunderson (blacksmiths), W. Kempffler (molders), F. J. Peel and General Organizer Lucas of the molders for the Metal Trades Council; W. C. Coulter, C. E. Stricker, Fred Bawden, William Inglis, Melville P. White, Thomas Atkinson, Thomas Findlay, T. A. Russell and James G. Merrick for the employers; General John Gunn for the repatriation committee, and Arthur O'Leary, president of the Trades and Labor Council.

Opinions Differ.

Opinions differ both as to the powers Premier Borden will have in settling the difficulty and his desire to do so. Some legal experts claim that the premier has the right to legislate an order-in-council granting the 44-hour week under the peace, order and good government clause of the act. Hon. A. K. Maclean is quoted as saying that a 44-hour week cannot be legislated. But the all-powerful question is: Will Premier Borden use the power he may have?

Touching upon the alleged reds who had arrived in Toronto from Winnipeg, Paul Charbonneau, chairman of the metal polishers' strike committee, stated yesterday afternoon that the term "reds," as applied to the two delegates from Winnipeg, was entirely incorrect, and that in their addresses to the metal polishers at the Labor Temple they had advocated the most peaceable administration of the general strike should it ensue.

Joseph Gibbons, business manager for the Street Railwaymen's Union, stated that the union itself was practically a trades federation, but that it did not take in every class of labor. The machinist, for instance, would come under a separate head from the street railwayman, because, for one thing, he would be highly skilled if a bona fide machinist, and for this reason the grades of pay for machinists would be on an entirely different scale from those of the ordinary street railway employe. As to the merits of the fight of the Metal Trades Federation for the principle of collective bargaining, Mr. Gibbons would not commit himself for the press.

Returning Soldiers

Two trains bringing troops from the Cedric will arrive at the Exhibition Camp this afternoon. The first carries the 4th Engineers, and the party on the second train will be composed of the 23rd Battery and the 2nd Divisional Signallers' Company. The exact hour of arrival of the trains could not be ascertained up till late last night, but can be procured by phoning the Military Information Bureau, Parkdale 7480 and 7485.

Canada's Affairs First!

Canadians are getting tired of being told that the time and duty of the prime minister of our country has been devoted to the war and to the settlement of the war problems of Europe; that he is and was the chief assistant of Lloyd George, the prime minister of Britain; that the little Welshman was constantly calling for Borden; that he is the second man in the empire; that he must get back to Europe at the earliest possible moment to put the final touch of his thought on the European settlement; that ninety-nine per cent. of the force, the energy, the directing mind of Canada's part in the war and in reconstruction came from our prime minister, and by inference the remaining one per cent. from all the other public men, journals, citizens, soldiers, and women and children of Canada generally. Even Mayor Church is forgotten. Sir Robert, if he believed a fraction of this stuff, might be led to think that he had his mandate from the world at large, Great Britain in particular, and from Canada on the side! That if he was the second man in the empire Canada must have the second place in his duty! The prime minister of Canada's main concern must be Canada.

What makes this incense burning tiresome is that a good deal seems to come from some ministers at Ottawa who are in control of or are able to influence the papers that load their columns with it. Not that Sir Robert Borden hasn't done a lot; he has. But there are many pressing things to do that are absolutely Canadian. And it doesn't help to get them done by this constant swinging of the censer before one man, distasteful as we think it must be to him and those who respect him.

Telling us this day after day doesn't help to settle our labor troubles; our railway problems; will not get us a real national railway, express, telegraph and parcel post service; will not find the reasonable adjustment of the tariff burdens so as to provide revenue without overtaxing a portion of the taxpayers; will not get us a banking and currency law based on some better standard of value than a metal one; will not devise for us a plan that equitably spreads on each citizen his fair share of the cost of the war and the burdens of government. Most of all will it not deal with the high cost of living, of the necessities of life, regulate undue profiteering.

Sir Robert Borden will make no mistake if he hands over the war settlement, as far as Canada is concerned, to a commission of a couple of Canadians, one posted in law and treaties, another posted as to our trade interests.

Sir Robert will have all he can do right here at home from now on without giving his main attention to Europe, to the empire, to the problems of internal Russia!

What hours are to make a legal day's work, so that the worker can have a fair living as well? Is collective bargaining to be a common right of the worker in his dealings with his employer?

Is the sympathetic strike to be allowed to public servants in public services?

What about revenue, debt, banking, reconstruction, re-settlement of men back from the war, of pensions, of a hundred questions now pressing at our doors?

These need from now on all the time of the prime minister of Canada and the best cabinet and officials that he can get about him. And if he can devote some thought to improving his cabinet he will not waste the time. He wants more ministers like White and Crerar, and in regard to transportation at least a few members who have a real belief in public railways and the distribution of electrical energy as a public service. Some of his ministers apologize for having to take over the railways, and some think Adam Beck a public enemy!

Canada's affairs first from now on. Let parliament and government take up the real pressing needs.

DECLINE TO PLACE INLAND SHIPS UNDER CONTROL OF BOARD

Curious Division in House of Commons on Armstrong Amendment.

UNIONISTS SPLIT

Cabinet and Liberals Vote Down a Majority of Government Members.

Special to The Toronto World.

Ottawa, May 28.—There was a curious division in the house of commons tonight when the Armstrong amendment to the railway act, placing vessels engaged in coastwise trade and inland navigation under the control of the Dominion railway commission was defeated by a majority of 25. The amendment was opposed by the government and all the cabinet ministers voted against it. On the other hand it was supported by a majority of the Unionist members. The curious spectacle was, therefore, presented of the cabinet and the members of the opposition voting down a majority of the government supporters. The vote

Judge D. D. McKenzie, the Liberal leader, Mr. Sinclair of Queens, P.E.I., and W. D. Euler of Waterloo, voted for the Armstrong amendment, but all the other Liberals voted against it.

The Toronto and Niagara Power clause will come up next Wednesday, and it would not be surprising if many Unionist members again took issue with the government.

Cold Storage Profits.

Profits of cold storage companies were before the house at question time. Mr. Archambault asked how much the government had collected from the cold storage companies under the order-in-council limiting their profits to 11 per cent.

Sir Thomas White: "Persons, firms and incorporated companies engaged in the slaughtering of live stock for the manufacture of products there-

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 1.)

MINISTER GOES EAST TO OPEN CONFERENCE ON WINNIPEG STRIKE

Reassuring News From Ottawa

Government Announces in the House That Reports From the West Are More Hopeful.

Ottawa, May 28.—Mr. Frank Cahill inquired if the government had any information as to the labor situation in the west.

Hon. A. K. Maclean replied that information had been received by the government to the effect that news of a reassuring nature was to hand. The railway mail clerks of Winnipeg were out on strike. A sympathetic strike had been called in Edmonton and Brandon. The postal service with Calgary had gone out in sympathy, but the postal service at Edmonton was still doing service. In Vancouver a general strike vote was being taken.

Mr. D. D. McKenzie suggested to the government the advisability of calling a general conference of men influential in the strike, with the object of arriving at a solution of the difficulty.

Sir Robert Borden promised to give careful consideration to this suggestion. He thought that if such a conference was called it would be advisable to have the minister of labor, now in Winnipeg, present.

Mr. Ernest LaPointe said that the premier, when speaking yesterday, had stated that there were different kinds of collective bargaining. He wished to know if there was any kind which the government favored.

The prime minister replied that he preferred to make no statement on this matter until the report of the commission on industrial relations was received.

Mr. Frank Cahill asked whether it would not be possible to hurry up this report. He understood that it was not expected before the middle of June. The situation in the country was serious.

Sir Robert replied that he did not know whether the report could be prepared earlier.

The house then went into committee on a resolution on which the bill providing for the re-classification of the civil service will be based.

Hon. Arthur Meighen to Present Report to Cabinet --- Canadian Railway Brotherhood Offers to Arbitrate Big Dispute.

Winnipeg, May 28.—Despite the fact that officials of every branch of government affecting Winnipeg have characterized the general strike of local labor unions, as a move engineered by a few men for the purpose of causing a national revolution, the strikers outwardly maintained a firm attitude today.

While serious moves were made to smash the control which executives of the Winnipeg Trades and Labor Council have on the local unions, the strike leaders were active in outward movements to intensify the movement of unrest. "Spread the strike," has been one of the front page slogans of The Western Labor News.

It is expected that the federal parliament at Ottawa will soon take some action on the sympathetic strike problem, judging from developments today. The Winnipeg city council this afternoon voted to recommend to Premier Norris that he urge legislation to "make sympathetic strikes illegal in Manitoba."

Minister to Report.

Hon. Arthur Meighen, minister of interior, who was here several days, will probably arrive in Ottawa tomorrow to confer with Premier Robert Borden regarding the local situation and its tremendous effect on Dominion tranquility. Meighen recently denounced the methods of the strike leaders and, like minister of labor Gideon Robertson, who is still in Winnipeg, he said he believes the underlying scheme of the strike was an attempt to turn public opinion against the government, to defy federal efforts to maintain law and order and then, during the tumult, to attempt to overthrow Dominion and provincial authorities.

The only move towards conciliation today was an offer by members of the Canadian railway brotherhoods to arbitrate dispute. No action was taken on the suggestion.

Business Opens Up.

This is a different Winnipeg than it was immediately after the opening of the general strike, on May 15. For nearly three days the central strike committee continued its mobilization plans without serious outward opposition from the federal, provincial and municipal governments or the military; not until an effort was made to control the city food supply did aggressive opposition begin. Since then all public utilities and services, except the street cars, have been entirely or partially restored. Business is going on in all commercial lines, altho under the handicap of partly normal facilities of communication and transportation. All local newspapers here resumed publication. From the standpoint of municipal service a dent of considerable size has been pounded into the striking front but the disturbance which began as a Winnipeg strike has ceased to be of local proportions. It is understood, however, from authoritative remarks that government officers regard the strikes in cities west from here as engineered by persons connected with the Winnipeg movement.

"We will fight this thing out in Winnipeg," is one remark credited to Minister Robertson.

Postoffice Working.

The postal situation is receiving considerable of Mr. Robertson's attention. Postal employes numbering more than 75 have been hired to replace striking employes who have been discharged for refusing to obey Robertson's command to return to work. Nearly all of the new employes fought for Canada in the war. Similar action has been promised by the labor minister if the Winnipeg railway clerks who struck last night fail to report for duty "within a short time." Mr. Robertson intimated today that similar action may be necessary in other parts of the Dominion.

The city council met today to hear a report from the transportation committee upon the question of immediately resuming street car operation. The committee was not ready to report. It may be heard from tomorrow.

Recent statements made in the city council chambers by labor aldermen and other labor leaders, that members of the Winnipeg citizens' committee would not "soil their hands" to help the city maintain its public services, received an interesting response this afternoon. A communication was received at the council meeting, stating that one hundred or more members of the citizens' committee would personally join with other volunteers tomorrow in collecting and transporting garbage, and in otherwise cleaning up the city.

Cars Not Yet Running

The city council at the special meeting today did not take action upon the question of resuming street car service tomorrow. The matter will again be considered tomorrow. The council stands on record in favor of legislation to make sympathetic strikes illegal in Manitoba and will formally

WILL OFFER TODAY COUNTER-PROPOSALS

Germany Will Disarm Battleships if Part of Mercantile Fleet is Restored.

Paris, May 28. — Only one or two copies of the German counter proposals to the peace terms, printed in German, will be handed to the allied and associated representatives at Versailles tomorrow. It is probable the document has been translated into French and English, but the translations have not yet been printed. When ready, 300 copies will be furnished the allied delegation.

The document will comprise 108 pages.

GERMANY'S PROPOSALS

Berlin, May 28. — Germany's counter-proposals to the terms of the peace treaty presented to her plenipotentiaries at Versailles, including the following points, according to an unofficial summary:

Germany offers to disarm all of her battleships on condition that a part of her mercantile fleet be restored to her.

She proposes that there be no territorial changes without consultation of the populations affected.

The cession of Upper Silesia and the claims to East Prussia, West Prussia and Memel are emphatically rejected.

It is stipulated that Danzig shall become a free port and the River Vistula neutralized.

Occupied territory is to be evacuated within six months.

If the league of nations is established with Germany as a member, Germany shall continue to administer her colonies in accordance with the principles of the league as its mandatory.

Germany offers to pay 20,000,000,000 marks in gold by the year 1926 as indemnity and to make annual payments from 1927 onward to a total not in excess of 100,000,000,000 marks in gold.

German Colonies.

The proposal regarding Germany's colonies points out that an absolutely impartial settlement of all colonial claims was promised in number five of the fourteen points mentioned in President Wilson's message to congress, January 8, 1918. The proposal is made to refer colonial questions to a special committee formed of mandatories and experts of both parties.

The proposal argues the demand that Germany renounce her overseas possessions cannot be reconciled with the armistice terms, and holds the view that Germany's claims to the restoration of her colonies is just.

Objection is expressed to the demand that the Germans be surrendered for trial in enemy courts, the reply contending that an impartial authority ought to be instituted to establish all violations of international law by whoever committed.

PAPAL DELEGATE WILL GO TO BERLIN

Berlin, May 28.—Herr von Bergen, former counsellor of the legation, has been appointed minister to the Holy See for the German empire, succeeding the Prussian representative. Von Bergen is a Protestant centralist. It is expected that a papal delegate will be sent to Berlin, thus departing from diplomatic tradition.

STRIKERS STANDING FIRM IN OTHER WESTERN CITIES

More Trades Out in Calgary---Saskatoon Favors Strike---Port Arthur Men Pledge Moral Support for Winnipeg.

Calgary, Alta., May 28—Calgary strikers, on the third day of their general walkout, were joined by three more unions—the plumbers, steamfitters and teamsters. Many unions affiliated with the Trades and Labor Council have not yet taken a strike vote. The freight handlers today followed the lead of the brotherhood of railway clerks and voted against the strike. Coal miners, now on strike, say that they were preparing for a three-months' walkout. Business was not noticeably dislocated today by the general strike. Street cars were operating and lighting plants, theatres and hotels were conducted as normally. Volunteers are at work in the postoffice and more will be added, it was announced. About 200 of the former governmental employes are on strike. Citizens formed a committee to aid the government during the strike and adopted a resolution condemning the sympathetic strike as not only morally but economically unsound and opposed to the principles of democracy. Enough citizens have volunteered for postal work to enable Postmaster J. B. Corley to handle some mail, it was said. The postal workers' union issued a statement declaring that Corley had informed the union that all postal employes were dismissed from the government service.

General Strike Threatened.

Saskatoon, May 28.—The Prince Albert boilermakers and machinists went on strike in sympathy with Moose Jaw and Regina. It is expected that within the next few days the strike will be general. A meeting of the Trades and Labor Council will be called first to a general meeting before that decision is made.

At a meeting which was held on Sunday last, a vote was taken, and it is understood that the majority favored strike. The employes of the C. N. R. held a meeting Monday and decided to form a committee to deal with matters in connection with the strike. It is understood that representatives of every labor union in the city will be called to confer with the Trades and Labor Council regarding the strike.

Port Arthur Supporting.

Port Arthur, Ont., May 28.—A mass meeting of Port Arthur union men passed a resolution to pledge their full moral support to their brothers in Winnipeg. This may develop into a general sympathetic strike about Monday next.

Street Cars Stopped.

Edmonton, May 28.—Conditions here are reported as more serious. The street cars have stopped, restaurants and hotels are closed or badly crippled and the electric lighting system shut down. Police and firemen are said to be at work under orders from the strike committee.

ADVANCE FROM SMYRNA BY GREEK TROOPS

Paris, May 28.—Information has been received in French circles that Greek troops are advancing from Smyrna toward Magnesia (in the eastern part of Thessaly) and Aiden (80 miles to the southeast), the Turks retiring before them.

The statement is made by the Greeks that their purpose in advancing is to restore order and take a census.

British Units Reach Archangel To Relieve the Fighting Forces

Archangel, May 28.—The American cruiser Des Moines arrived here yesterday, simultaneously with transports bringing new British volunteer army units to relieve the troops who have been fighting since last August.

Cabinet Discusses Feasibility Of Passing Eight-Hour Law

Ottawa, May 28.—Word was received by the government tonight that the postal employes at Saskatoon have gone out, the western strike extending to that city this afternoon. Officials of the postoffice department state that mail conditions at Winnipeg are steadily improving, as the new staff becomes accustomed to the postoffice work.

A great deal of interest centres in the interview that will take place tomorrow between the government and the Toronto deputation, which is on its way to Ottawa tonight to urge upon the government the desirability of passing legislation establishing an eight-hour day in Canada. It is realized that a great deal depends upon the answer given by the government to the request of the Toronto delegation. Differences of opinion exist even in cabinet circles, it is stated, as to the power of the government to pass an eight-hour law applicable to work other than that performed under government contract. In anticipation of the request of the deputation tomorrow the question is being thoroly looked into by the members of the administration.

Undercurrent of Optimism.

Hon. Arthur Meighen, minister of justice, who proceeded to Winnipeg on Monday last with Hon. Gideon Robertson, to deal with the strike situation more particularly as it affects the government employes involved, is expected to arrive in the capital from the west tomorrow morning. He will make a full report to his colleagues of the cabinet on the situation.

Despite the apparent spread of the sympathetic strike in the west, there is an undercurrent of optimistic feeling here, and it is believed that some solution of the difficulty that will restore normal conditions in western Canada will be arrived at shortly.

GERMANY'S COUNTER-CLAIM FOR DECREASE IN BIRTHS

Also for Deaths Due to Blockade Amounts to 12,850,000,000 Marks---Allies Are Prepared to Reply Effectively.

Versailles, May 28.—The German peace delegation here, it was learned today, will present a counter-claim of 12,850,000,000 marks for damage from the allied blockade, as an offset to the reparation demands of the allied. The counter-claim is based largely on the alleged effects of the blockade upon the life and health of the civilian population. It is argued that, roundly, a million births were prevented as a direct result of the food blockade upon the vitality of the women! The same cause, it is contended, increased the deaths approximately 800,000. The lack of milk for young children, the absence of rubber and cotton for hospital use and the interruption of supplies of quinine, camphor and other medicaments were further factors in the losses, according to the German argument.

Should the Germans open this field of inquiry the allies are prepared to reply effectively by reference to the far greater decrease of births and increase of deaths in France, Belgium, Poland, Rumania and Serbia, as a direct result of the German war measures.

The allies possess the German official figures showing that the milk production in Germany during the war was never below forty-five per cent. of normal production, which would have been sufficient to have maintained the children, had they received it.

The failure of German cities to receive more than ten or fifteen per cent. of the normal milk supplies was thru no fault of the blockade, it was pointed out, but was due to the German system of distribution. The lack of rubber and cotton for hospitals, likewise, represented the active choice of the German authorities, who devoted to military and other purposes imports of rubber and cotton considerably in excess of the hospital requirements.

The same argumentation will be applied to the scarcity of synthetic drugs, due to the conversion of German chemical plants to war purposes.

LENINE NAMES MOSCOW AS BOLSHEVIST CENTRE

London, May 28.—"Budapest cannot become the centre of the world revolution; Moscow remains the only centre of the social revolution, and all other centres must obey Moscow. The Hungarian revolution has deeply disappointed Russia, for which Bela Kun is most of all to blame."

This statement was made by Nikolai Lenine, the Russian Bolshevik premier, according to a Russian government wireless despatch received here today.