



same. The North Dakota legislature, which had supported the project unanimously year after year, most recently voted 28 per cent against it.

In May, 1981, the National Audubon Society sued successfully to halt construction on the project but the injunction was overturned in Appeals Court in January of 1982. A group of South Dakota farmers, worried about the possibilities of flooding and water pollution of the James River, won a preliminary injunction in May, which was lifted in June.

Meanwhile, the project moves slowly ahead, despite assurances from the U.S. government that no portion directly affecting Canada will be built until its objections are resolved.

Tenders have been let for construction of the Oakes pumping plant. In August bids on the construction of a section of the New Rockford Canal were opened.

The federal and provincial governments fear that as such components are built, pressure will increase to complete the project since they can never be fully used unless other portions, which would have a serious impact on Manitoba's watershed, are also built.

The General Strike

The most traumatic event in Winnipeg's history was the General Strike of 1919. It involved 35,000 workers and lasted six weeks. It collapsed after its leaders were arrested and sent to the penitentiary.

H.C. Pentland, in his *Canadian Dimension*, says:

"The victory was a Pyrrhic one for Winnipeg's commercial aristocracy; the city over which it presided, after 1919, was a city in decline."

The strike grew out of a basic division in the city's population. Most of the immigrants who came to Winnipeg in the 1860s were from Ontario and Great Britain, and they established a dominance that would last a long time.

By 1913 Winnipeg had a population of 150,000 and the number of people not of British origin had increased enormously, but the civic leaders and prominent businessmen were all Anglo-Saxon and Protestant.