

# 8000 RAILWAYMEN STRIKE AT WINNIPEG

Circulation Last Week

276,280

Daily Average, 46,047

## The Winnipeg Advertiser

LONDON, CANADA—THE HOME OF UNBROKEN PROSPERITY.

THE LONDON ADVERTISER, LONDON, CANADA. TUESDAY EVENING, MAY 21, 1918. 96 COLUMNS

HOME EDITION

PRICE TWO CENTS.

## FARMERS DEMAND MEMBERS KEEP UP EXEMPTIONS OR RESIGN SEAT

[Special to The Advertiser.]  
Ottawa, May 21.—Members of the Government side are today receiving telegrams from all parts of Ontario urging them to keep the exemptions of young men from the ages of 20 and 22 inclusive, "inasmuch as we believe that it would result in a serious diminution of the production of food upon our farms." The telegrams are being sent because the pending prorogation of parliament. In many of the constituencies petitions have already been circulated among the electors, such petitions being addressed to the sitting member.

**HELP OR RESIGN.**  
It is urged in such petitions that the further proceedings under the order of April 20 in connection with the withdrawing of men from the food production be deferred until the registration discloses the forces available for the most effective prosecution of Canada's war effort.

"Failing in this," the petitions conclude, "we request that you present your resignation, in order that we may be permitted to elect a successor who will properly represent and present our views in Parliament, and your petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray," the various local organizations have been advised "to get after your members by wire if you cannot get your petitions to Ottawa before Tuesday, May 21st."

## NO INVESTIGATION OF CHARGES UNLESS PROPERLY SIGNED

Fire Department Probe, Asks by Trades Council, Will Not Materialize, Says Ald. F. E. Harley, Unless Specific Signed Charges Are Made—Chairman Characterizes the Allegations Referred to Committee by Council as Anonymous Letter.

There will be no investigation of the charges against the fire department as they now stand.

This is the purpose of a statement made today by Ald. F. E. Harley, chairman of the finance committee, to which the charges were referred to be dealt with.

Ald. Harley's statement is based on the contention of technicality that the charges were not properly signed. He contends that the committee and council members do not know who is making the charges.

"We want something to investigate," he stated, "when asked if the application for an investigation could be granted. 'There must be proper charges. The present charges are not signed. True there was a letter attached to them, when the communication was placed before the council by the city clerk, but that letter was received early in the day.'"

This letter was from Secretary George Winkler of the trades and labor council, in which he stated that there would be a deputation present at the meeting of the council to present the charges.

According to Ald. Harley, the sheet of charges, unsigned, was presented to the city clerk during the council meeting.

"We don't know who is making the charges," he declared. "There is no one we can go to for information. It is up to those who are behind the thing to come out in the open. We cannot entertain anonymous letters. We have not got to know who is making the charges. If we have proper charges and the persons making them appear in person and offer evidence to substantiate them, then they will be given a hearing."

The charges filed with the council were handed to City Clerk Baker by R. Hessel of the trades and labor council. Later several other members of the

## YOUTHS MUST REGISTER AS SOON AS THEY ATTAIN AGE OF 19 IS THE EXPLICIT RULING UNDER M. S. A.

Continuous Registration of Newly Called Class Provided For in Special Instructions Sent to the Registrar Here.

A circular, sent out by the military council of the department of justice dated May 15, in which the military service act is made explicit with reference to the registration of 19-year-old men, was received today by Acting Deputy Registrar H. F. Beresford.

Under the proclamation issued on May 4 the point was not made clear as to when a young man must have attained the age of 19 years to be liable to service. It was at first believed that men who had attained the age of 19 on or after May 4 last would be called upon to register.

The explanatory circular received today states definitely that under the act with respect to 19-year-old men, that continuous registration is provided for. In other words, every young man who becomes 19 must register whether his birthday falls in this month, June, July or any future month. This ruling will mean that every young man who is a British subject must register ten days after his birthday if he is not already 19 years of age.

Acting Deputy Registrar Beresford calls upon all men, under the 19-year-old act, to register early, as nothing will be gained by waiting until the last day of this month.

In your name in full, your place, date, and usual postoffice address, a receipt will be sent to each registrant. All the men have to do is to wait instructions from the military council, in the advice mail letters to Deputy Registrar, mail buildings, London, Ont.

## THE WAR SITUATION

Delay in the launching of the expected German offensive, apparently is giving the Allies time to improve their positions here and there by strong local attacks. Whether the Germans are prepared to renew the heavy fighting is not yet clear, but at any rate they do not react against the Anglo-French nibbling tactics.

**Positions Improved.**  
On the Lys front between Mont Kemmel and the heights of Mont Rouge and Scherpenberg, the French have greatly improved their positions in a forward movement along a front of two miles. Not only were important gains made but more than four hundred German prisoners were captured. There, nor has he met counter-attack on the village of Villers-Sur-Ancro on the Somme front, captured in a gallant attack by the Australians Sunday.

**Rushing the Outposts.**  
Between the Somme and Arras the British are harassing the Germans by rushing their outposts, and the French are being successful in similar actions in the region of Rheims, in the Champagne. The German artillery fire is especially violent in the south of the Somme and north of Bethune, northwest of Arras. To Bethune has been especially active in the last few days. On the Italian and Macedonian fronts there have been strong patrol actions.

## 11,000 UNION MEN TO QUIT AT WINNIPEG

Will "Down Tools" Today Until Civic Strike Is Settled.

[Special to The Advertiser.]  
Winnipeg, May 21.—Eight thousand and railway workers in Winnipeg went on strike at 8 o'clock this morning, closing down shops of four railways here—Canadian Pacific, Canadian Northern, Grand Trunk Pacific and Government railway. Street railway men strike tonight.

[Special to The Advertiser.]  
Winnipeg, May 20.—Eleven thousand union men will "down tools" Tuesday afternoon, and will not return to work until the civic strike is settled. These include 8,000 railwaymen and all street railway employees. The city insists the unions promised not to strike again during the war, but the men refuse to let go their "weapon."

## HAIG IMPROVES FLANDERS POINT

Strengthens Grip Northwest of Merville and Crushes Counter-Attack.

London, May 21.—Northwest of Merville, in the Flanders salient, the British improved their positions last night, the war office announced.

A counter-attack on the new positions, launched this morning after a period of heavy shelling, was crushed by the British artillery and machine guns.

Some of the allegations made deal with matters of discipline. Judging from the foot note appended there are no charges of a disciplinary nature. The charges are referred to a committee. The chairman seemed to be totally disinterested in what allegations were being made. He added that it would be an injustice to the committee to have additional charges to prefer when the investigation is being conducted.

The chief's brother, Capt. Tom Aitken of No. 3 station, is involved in the charges, as are also members of his station. At this station there is but one union man.

Some of the allegations regard the affair as a "show down," the point of issue being whether Fire Chief Aitken is to control the department without interference from either he is to be dominated by other forces.

**The Charges.**  
The allegations as presented follow:—

Ald. most of the charges are on the ground of alleged failure to follow instructions. He got in a letter to the chief, and the chief to the assistant chief. The men and assistant chief demanded the chief to resign. The chief refused to do so for one day. Since then there has been no action whatever in the case.

Another case of laxity on the part of the chief: The captain and lieutenant No. 3 fire hall fought until one o'clock in the morning. The chief took no action whatever in the case. Also one of the men of the same hall choked the captain. The chief was enraged, and threatened to throw

## SOVIETS DECIDE NOT TO TAKE ALLIED AID

London, May 21.—The extreme right of the Moscow Soviet yesterday held the view that it was necessary for Russia to lean upon the Allies, especially Japan, in the struggle against Germany in Siberia. This wing was outvoted.

## FIGHTING FIRE OF NEW TYPE—THAT OF LABOR CRITICISMS



Advertiser Illustration.  
FIRE CHIEF JOHN AITKEN, veteran head of the city fire department, who has come under fire as result of the trades and labor council demand for an investigation into affairs of the London brigade.

## DEFYING THE HUNS' GAS



Advertiser Illustration.  
Asphyxiating gases and mustard shells have no terrors for these French artillerymen, who are 'feeding the Huns' 155mm. shells. That the position of the men is extremely hazardous is indicated by the fact that they are performing their duties while wearing gas masks.

## PENSION PROBERS SAY LABATT IS DISABLED--NO GOVT. PULL; APPROVE HIS RESIGNATION

Totally Unfit, Is Statement of Mr. Rowell in Tabled Report—Many Recommendations Made to Improve Present Pensions System.

Ottawa, May 21.—After 1 o'clock this morning, Hon. N. W. Rowell, chairman of the special committee of the House of Commons appointed to inquire into the pension system, tabled the findings of the committee. The report contains a large number of recommendations to improve the existing plan of pensions, as well as a special report dealing with the pension system of the Yukon.

Mr. Rowell stated that the pension system of the Yukon was "totally unfit," and that the pensioners were "disabled." He also stated that the pension system of the Yukon was "totally unfit," and that the pensioners were "disabled."

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## ONE MILLION U. S. BOYS WILL REGISTER JUNE 5

Washington, May 21.—Estimates today by Major-General Crowder indicate that probably three-quarters of a million men will be obtained for the army by the registration on June 5 of all youths who have attained 21 years of age since June 5 last. Fully a million youths, according to Gen. Crowder's estimate, will be registered. At least one-fourth of them, he thinks, will be exempted on various grounds.

## THE WEATHER

TOMORROW—FAIR, SHOWERS.			
Toronto, May 21—5 a.m.			
Forecasts.			
Today—North to east winds; fine and a little cooler.			
Wednesday—Fresh easterly winds; fair at first, then showers.			
Temperatures.			
The following were the highest and lowest temperatures during the 24 hours preceding 5 a.m. today.			
Stations.	High.	Low.	Weather.
Victoria	56	44	Clear
Perry Sound	68	46	Clear
Winnipeg	55	33	Cloudy
Port Arthur	54	34	Cloudy
Calgary	48	21	Clear
Port Stanley	46	36	Cloudy
Buffalo	70	49	Cloudy
Chicago	68	46	Cloudy
Kingston	68	44	Fair
Toronto	68	44	Fair
Montreal	60	40	Fair
Quebec	74	40	Fair
St. John's	44	38	Cloudy

**LOCAL TEMPERATURES.**  
A depression covers the Western States this morning, while a moderate cool wave is situated over the Great Lakes.

Showers have been experienced very recently from Ontario to the Maritime Provinces, and snow is reported from Alberta to Saskatchewan.

The official temperatures for the 12 hours previous to 5 a.m. today were: Highest, 66; lowest, 46.

## GERMAN-IRISH AGENTS IN U. S. PLATTED IRISH INSURRECTION WASHINGTON GOVT. DISCOVERS

### LAURIER TELLS BORDEN RULES MUST BE KEPT

Would Be Illegal Should Commons Sit On the Holiday.

Ottawa, May 21.—In the House this morning, Mr. Laurier asked if the Government had taken into consideration the great desirability of having the House adjourn instead of prorogue? Mr. Laurier thought members might show their enthusiasm by manifesting a desire to return.

Sir Robert Borden replied that he could not say the question had been taken into consideration at the present time. He said that the House would adjourn on Thursday and Friday, as it was a statutory holiday.

"Should Observe Law."

Sir Robert Borden—If the House cannot prorogue before that date, I think we should sit.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier remarked that the law should be observed in the House above all places.

"We have sat before on statutory holidays," replied Sir Robert, "I think under the circumstances, we might observe the day better by attending to parliamentary duties than by adjourning from Thursday until Saturday."

Mr. Nickle repeated his question of yesterday and asked if it was the intention of the minister of labor to table the milling report before the end of the session.

Mr. Crothers replied that the report would be tabled as soon as completed. He expected to table it before prorogation.

Vien of Lethbridge, who complained that military service officials were sending out notices in an indiscriminate manner, and that many farm boys, both in Ontario and Quebec, had been ordered to report as early as possible, was told that his instructions undoubtedly were to call the attention of the minister of militia to the matter.

### IRELAND QUIET, STILL STUNNED OVER ARRESTS

No Untoward Incidents as a Result of Corraling Sinn Fein Chiefs.

### CONDEMN DEPORTATIONS

Anti-Conscriptionists Object to Carrying Off of Suspects.

London, May 21.—A total absence of excitement in Dublin is reported in all the dispatches to the morning papers from the Irish capital and far as known here have been no untoward incidents in connection with the Sinn Fein arrests. The whole country is about to be thrown into its ordinary daily routine.

One of the correspondents of the Daily Mail says the country appears to be unperturbed utterly by the recent dramatic developments. He continues: "But appearances are deceptive. Dublin is not Ireland. The constitutional Nationalist is generally met here as a representative of the wild, hot-blooded who have given strength to the Sinn Fein. Moreover, the whole country is evidently staggered by the suddenness of the Government's action and the necessity of the Government to take to any operation until the evidence against those under arrest is produced."

**Irish Praise French.**  
On the other hand, some correspondents say the country is generally relieved over the arrests. A dispatch to the Daily Express from Dublin says: "The Irish people are proud of the victory on the western front, he could not have received more congratulations from the Irish than have been accorded him for the suppression of the seditious Sinn Fein. The country has recovered its normal temperature of joy and confidence against those under arrest is produced."

In the meantime, everyone in Ireland and Great Britain is awaiting production of the proof of a German plot and in many quarters it is believed there ought not to be any delay in making it public. It is reported that several sources that the Government have no present intention of publicly airing those under arrest, who will be merely interned.

**Conscription Off For the Present.**  
The question of Irish conscription has not been abandoned, but that it is held off for the present is generally believed. The Dublin correspondent of the Daily Express is being sent forward in the belief that thousands of young Irishmen are tired of their non-combatant status and are anxious to be given a thorough trial and upon its progress depends the eventual decision regarding conscription.

### CHILIAN CITY IS SHAKEN BY QUAKE

Many Buildings Destroyed by Shock at La Serena.

Santiago, Chile, May 21.—La Serena, capital of the Province of Coquimbo, was shaken severely today by an earthquake. A large number of buildings were reported to have been destroyed.

### ANTI-CONSCRIPTIONISTS CONDEMN DEPORTATIONS.

Dublin, May 21.—A resolution denouncing the Sinn Fein deportations as an attempt to discredit and disrupt the Irish united front, was passed by the anti-conscriptionists at a meeting which met at Mansion House on Monday.

### DEVONSHIRE WILL VISIT MANY ONTARIO CITIES, MUSKOKA AND NIAGARA

Montreal, May 21.—His Excellency the Governor-General will visit, during the next few weeks, many of the principal cities of Ontario. According to present plans the Duke of Devonshire and his party will leave Toronto on May 25 by the Grand Trunk. Visits will be made to Hamilton, Niagara Falls, St. Catharines, Windsor, London, Woodstock, Stratford, Kitchener, Guelph, Owen Sound, Collingwood, Barrie, Orillia and Gravenhurst.

From the Muskoka Wharf a trip will be made over the Muskoka Lakes.

The longest stay on route will be at Niagara Falls, where the Governor-General plans to spend several days. The tour will give his excellency an opportunity of inspecting many of the industrial centres of the province.

### HERTLING, KUEHLMAN STRONGLY OPPOSED TO NEW TEUTON TREATY

London, May 21.—Strong opposition to the recently arranged alliance between Germany and Austria-Hungary is voiced by Chancellor von Hertling and Foreign Secretary von Kuehlman, according to reports received in The Hague. The Chancellor and foreign secretary are reported to have said that they would wash their hands of the matter, as they objected to the methods by which the military part of the convention was devised over their heads by the German higher command. Gen. Ludendorff is said to be insisting that the agreement be passed and signed at once.

The military sections had each party to aid the other with all its forces against any and every enemy, thus compelling Austria to place all her forces at the disposal of Germany.

### BRANTFORD COUNCIL SLAMS UPPER HOUSE

Brantford, May 21.—In the dying hours of the city council last evening, the action of the Toronto City Council in favoring a referendum at the next general election for the abolition of the Senate came up for discussion. It was approved. Ald. Clement calling the Senate the "haunted home of desolate hope."

### WOMAN PRISONERS MAKE GETAWAY AT TORONTO

Toronto, May 21.—Stealing the acting matron's keys during the absence of the lady superintendent at Toronto jail on Sunday afternoon, three women prisoners, after breaking one lock and opening the door, made a successful getaway by jumping over the fifteen-foot wall of the prison. They were caught by using a ladder, two tables and a stool. One, Martha Berry, was later picked up by the police, and the other two, Frances Fletcher and Mabel Summerville, are still at large. It is alleged by other prisoners that to make their getaway secure, the Fletcher woman stole some drugs which she administered to Mrs. Desros, another prisoner, held on a charge of manslaughter.

### TWO LUCAN MEN HURT IN AUTOMOBILE UPSET

[Special to The Advertiser.]  
Lucan, May 21.—Harold Nurse, a local veterinary surgeon, who recently came from near Milverton to practice with Dr. Tennant, and Richard Atkinson of Lucan were badly hurt when their automobile ran off the edge of a culvert, turning a turtle on the edge of the road.

Both men are in a critical condition from internal injuries. Mr. Nurse having five fractured ribs and Mr. Atkinson a badly-fractured spine.

### TO BRING IN SEED CORN WITHOUT A LICENSE

Ottawa, May 21.—Owing to a very large number of applications for import licenses for seed corn covering quantities of one hundred bushels or less, the Canada Food Board have arranged with the United States food administration that shipments not exceeding the above quantity will be allowed importation without permit. Parties wishing to obtain small shipments under 100 bushels are to instruct shippers to make application to the war trade board, Washington, and export licenses will be granted freely.

### COUNTLESS AT HOLLOWAY

London, May 21.—Gore Booth, sister of Countess Markievicz, who was arrested in Dublin last week, informed the Daily Express that she saw the countess arrive in London on Sunday.

Countess Markievicz, she says, was taken to Holloway prison, where she remains. No one is permitted to visit her.

### THREE RETURNED MEN WOOD ALCOHOL VICTIMS

Winnipeg, May 21.—Sergeant W. A. Knox, P. C., Holbrook and Staff Sergeant A. V. Jenson, returned soldiers, are dead, after drinking wood alcohol as a beverage. Holbrook leaves a wife and seven children, including a son on convalescence. Jenson leaves a wife and child.