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THE BRITISH WORKER

OFFICIAL STRIKE NEWS BULLETIN

Published by The General Council of the Trades Union Congress

No. 1.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, MAY 5, 1926.

PRICE ONE PENNY

IN LONDON AND THE SOUTH

Splendid Loyalty of
Transport Workers

EVERY DOCKER OUT

"London dock workers are absolutely splendid," said an official of the Transport and General Workers' Union.

"So far as they are concerned, it is a 100 per cent. strike. There is no trouble and everything is going smoothly."

POLICE HELP REFUSED

At Swindon the railwaymen are obeying Mr. Cramp's injunction to remain steady and to preserve order. The Great Western works are, of course, closed, and no trains are running.

It was stated at a mass meeting of the N.U.R. that Mr. Collett (the

The General Council suggests that in all districts where large numbers of workers are idle sports should be organised and entertainments arranged.

This will both keep a number of people busy and provide amusement for many more.

chief mechanical engineer) had declined the offer of the police and the military to guard the railway works, saying he could rely on the strikers to preserve law and order.

Railway workshops at Wolverton, Crewe, and elsewhere are closed.

CHANNEL SERVICES

At Dover the whole of the tramways staff are out. The cross-Channel boat service is greatly curtailed, and a large number of passengers are awaiting the opportunity to cross.

NOT ENOUGH!

From 2½ to 3 million workers have ceased work.

The Government announced by yesterday's wireless that 30,000 volunteers had registered, expressing willingness to take the strikers' places. It doesn't seem enough!

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WONDERFUL RESPONSE TO THE CALL

General Council's Message: Stand Firm and Keep Order

The workers' response has exceeded all expectations. The first day of the great General Strike is over. They have manifested their determination and unity to the whole world. They have resolved that the attempt of the mineowners to starve three million men, women and children into submission shall not succeed.

All the essential industries and all the transport services have been brought to a standstill. The only exception is that the distribution of milk and food has been permitted to continue. The Trades Union General Council is not making war on the people. It is anxious that the ordinary members of the public shall not be penalised for the unpatriotic conduct of the mineowners and the Government.

Never have the workers responded with greater enthusiasm to the call of their leaders. The only difficulty that the General Council is experiencing, in fact, is in persuading those workers in the second line of defence to continue at work until the withdrawal of their labour may be needed.

WORKERS' QUIET DIGNITY

The conduct of the trade unionists, too, constitutes a credit to the whole movement. Despite the presence of armed police and the military, the workers have preserved a quiet orderliness and dignity, which the General Council urges them to maintain, even in the face of the temptation and provocation which the Government is placing in their path.

To the unemployed, also, the General Council would address an earnest appeal. In the present fight there are two sides only—the workers on the one hand and those who are against them on the other.

Every unemployed man or woman who "blacklegs" on any job offered by employers or the authorities is merely helping to bring down the standard of living for the workers as a whole, and to create a resultant situation in which the number of unemployed must be greater than ever.

The General Council is confident that the unemployed will realise how closely their interests are involved in a successful issue to the greatest battle ever fought by the workers of the country in the defence of the right to live by work.

MESSAGE TO ALL WORKERS.

The General Council of the Trades Union Congress wishes to emphasise the fact that this is an industrial dispute. It expects every member taking part to be exemplary in his conduct and not to give any opportunity for police interference. The outbreak of any disturbances would be very damaging to the prospects of a successful termination to the dispute.

The Council asks pickets especially to avoid obstruction and to confine themselves strictly to their legitimate duties.

SOUTH WALES IS SOLID!

Not a Wheel Turning in
Allied Industries

'MEN ARE SPLENDID!'

Throughout South Wales the stoppage is complete, and everywhere the men are loyally observing the orders of the T.U.C. to refrain from any conduct likely to lead to disturbance.

So unanimous has been the response to the call of the leaders, that not a wheel is turning in the industries affiliated to the T.U.C.

MONMOUTHSHIRE

Complete standstill of industries in the eastern valleys. Absolute unanimity prevails among the rank and file of the affiliated unions, and not a single wheel is turning in the allied industries.

Monmouth Education Authority—which has a majority of Labour representatives—has arranged to feed the school-children where required,

ABERDARE VALLEY

All railway and bus services are at a standstill. The miners' attitude indicates that they are absolutely loyal to the advice of their leaders to refrain from anything in the nature of riotous behaviour.

NEATH

The workers have unanimously responded to the call in support of the miners, and the stoppage is complete.

With one exception, safety men are remaining at their posts.

The behaviour of the men is splendid.

AMMAN VALLEY

Every industry and almost the entire transport services are at a standstill at Ammanford and throughout the populous Amman Valley.

GLAMORGANSHIRE

The men are obeying implicitly the instructions of their leaders not to create any disturbance. Crowded meetings of miners have registered their unanimous intention to stand by the T.U.C.

ABERTRIDWR

At the Windsor Colliery, Abertridwr, a deputation of the men and the management met and agreed to safety men being allowed to work.

A Trades Council, composed solely of branches affiliated to the T.U.C., has been formed to act as a Lock-out Committee for Abertridwr and Senghenydd.

PORT TALBOT

Perfect order is being maintained at Port Talbot, where all the industries are shut down.

NEW EMERGENCY REGULATIONS

Forces to Maintain Vital Services

"JIX'S" FOUR ORDERS

Speaking in the House of Commons yesterday, when moving the regulations under the Emergency Powers Act, Sir W. Joynson-Hicks said that Regulation 24 gave to the Home Secretary power to direct that in services of vital necessities the forces of the Crown might be called in to assist in carrying on those services.

He had accordingly made four orders, directing that the supply of electricity, the maintenance of electrical and mechanical plant and machinery of the Port of London, transport and motor spirit, and the continuance of the railway service were "vital necessities."

The Home Secretary said he did not desire to minimise the fact that the country was in a very serious position.

In regard to the regulations prohibiting public meetings, the Home Secretary said it would be enforced if there was reason to believe that disorder would arise from the holding of the meetings.

RUGBY'S FINE RESPONSE

Far Beyond Highest Expectations Says Strike Chairman

Rugby's response to the strike call was magnificent—far beyond the highest expectations, says Mr. Taylor, chairman of the Rugby Strike Committee.

The railwaymen are all out, and 80 per cent. of the railway clerks have left work. All the wagon-builders came out at once, including 12 non-union men.

The building trades are 100 per cent. out, and the printing trades 95 per cent. The boilermakers came out in sympathy, and it is with difficulty that the engineering trades are kept at work.

ALL OUT FOR ORDER

Unions and Authorities in Co-operation

The early stages of the trouble in Nottingham were marked by complete understanding between the authorities and the union representatives, as a result of the latter approaching the Mayor and the Chief Constable.

Accordingly, there is to be co-operation in the distribution of food and coal. Further, the Government district representative will co-operate with the Transport Workers' Organisation, the secretary of which, Councillor Barsby, stated that there is complete stoppage.

"On all fronts we have decided," said Councillor Barsby, "to act with the authorities for the preservation of order. The Chief Constable welcomed us, for he appreciates that the irresponsible element is to blame for any disorder that has occurred."

ALL STANDING STILL

Throughout Monmouthshire Eastern Valleys all industries are standing still. No train services are running. Miners' mass meetings, at which the situation is discussed are being held privately in various centres.

BLACKBURN FIRM

In Blackburn the railwaymen are still solid. A few trams are being run by inspectors.

"MACHINE IS WORKING EFFICIENTLY"

—T.U.C. OFFICIAL

"Expectations Exceeded": Assuring Messages From Abroad

"AN INDUSTRIAL DISPUTE"

"All reports we have had to-day go to show that there is the same solidarity and unanimity as on the first day of the strike."

This report was officially given on behalf of the General Council of the T.U.C.

Mr. Pulton, who made the statement added: "The machine is working in a manner that has exceeded our expectations, despite any statements that may be made to the contrary by other parties."

"The Council has increased a number of sub-committees to deal with the general organisation, and it is satisfied, from the evidence to hand, that the machine it has had to set up very rapidly is operating efficiently, and that the men and women who are in the fighting line are standing solidly together."

"We have had a report that the Government has only been able to produce less than half the number of copies of the official newspaper that was originally arranged for."

"As showing the feeling in the country, a resolution has been passed by the Primitive Methodist Hull District Synod appealing to the Government to take temporary control of the working of the coal mines and to proceed to reorganise the coal industry on the lines recommended by the Royal Commission pending a resumption of the negotiations on the basis of such reorganisation."

"The resolution also protests strongly against any proposal to abolish the seven-hour day without the consent of the miners, and affirms the principle of a national minimum wage."

"We have had resolutions from the French Confederation, from the Dutch Federation, the American Federation of Labour, the Canadian Federation and the Irish Labour Movement, and also the International Transport Workers, expressing not only good wishes but offering to do all they can to bring the matter to a successful issue."

"The Transport Workers abroad have called upon the unions not to shift any coal to England nor to coal vessels which normally would take coal to England. We have had messages from Germany, particularly the mining districts, assuring us that the German workers are behind us."

"The General Council wish to emphasise the fact that in all the instructions they have sent out to the unions on questions of organisation, discipline and finance, it is made clear that this is essentially an industrial dispute."

"The Council have issued very explicit instructions to all trade union members taking part that they must be exemplary in their conduct and give no opportunity for any police interference. They have also issued instructions to the pickets that they must avoid obstruction and confine themselves strictly to their duties and act in a constitutional manner."

WHOLESALE COMPLIANCE

Replying to questions, Mr. Pulton said there was no official information at present that any new negotiations or conversations were taking place between the T.U.C. and the Government.

So far as the Council were concerned, they had not applied for any

credit to the Co-operative Wholesale Society, but local unions might have entered into arrangement.

Nothing had yet been decided as to an extension of the strike or the calling out of the "Second line of defence." This meant the unions not included in the First schedule. The matter was at present under consideration.

So far as the electricity supply was concerned, there were difficulties, especially in regard to distribution, and the unions concerned had been asked to formulate a policy in relation to power and light. They had not yet officially arrived at a well-defined policy.

The question of extending the stoppage to the Post Office telegraphs and mails had not yet been officially before the Council. There had never been anything like such a general closing down of the railways as at present existed. There had been wholesale compliance with the Council's order by the three railway unions, and resolutions were pouring into the offices from all quarters giving enthusiastic support to the policy of the Council.

CAMOUFLAGE

Some of the statements issued by the railway companies were, he declared, mere camouflage.

With regard to any new negotiations, Mr. Pulton said the Government ended the discussions, and the last statement of the General Council was that the door was still open so far as they were concerned.

NEWS FROM WEARSIDE

All Reported Quiet in Colliery Districts

All is quiet in the colliery districts round Sunderland, where the printers have joined in.

Only three or four trains ran from Sunderland yesterday, and they carried very few passengers.

Several private buses were induced to stop on their journeys, and in some cases the passengers were obliged to finish their journey on foot.

BANNED TRAMS SCENE

An unsuccessful attempt was made shortly after four o'clock on Wednesday afternoon to run L.C.C. trams from the Camberwell depot.

Earlier in the day two lorries with higher officials of the Tramways Department and O.M.S. recruits, arrived at the depot, where a strong force of police had been posted.

A large crowd, including tramwaymen, their wives and sympathisers, collected, and when the first car came out of the depot gates in Camberwell Green there was a hostile demonstration.

Some arrests were made. Following this incident the cars were driven back to the depot to the accompaniment of loud cheers.

PRIVATE WHEELS STOP

On the representation of the unions, private bus owners running between Coalville and Leicester have decided to cease running after Wednesday night.

SOLID IN LANCS

Bolton reports that workers in Lancashire and Cheshire are absolutely solid.

STRIKE HITS THE COMMONS

Sitting Lasts for Less Than Three Hours

KIRKWOOD THERE

The House of Commons sat for little over 2½ hours on Tuesday. Although road transport had been arranged for members, none seemed inclined to stay in the Chamber a moment longer than was necessary.

After the exciting hours of the previous sitting, the legislators got on with the business as quietly and as rapidly as Parliamentary machinery would permit.

Even Mr. Kirkwood, whose interjections are a feature at question time (and whose presence on the Labour benches gave the lie to a persistent rumour that he had been arrested) sat silent with his arms folded.

HANSARD HARD HIT

Owing to the printing hold-up only a few members had Order Papers. Hansard, too, had been badly hit, and only about 20 printed copies were in the House.

The Speaker suggested that members should abstain during the next few days from putting down questions other than those of extreme urgency, which could be dealt with by private notice.

The Prime Minister announced that private members' time on Wednesdays, May 5, 12, and 19, and Fridays, May 7, 14, and 21 would have to be sacrificed, as Government business must take precedence.

E. P. DEBATE

The Budget resolutions were then voted on without debate.

Mr. Churchill intimated that there would still be an opportunity to debate the issues involved at a later stage of the Budget's progress through Parliament.

When the House wearied of dividing, resolutions were decided on the voices. But the last item, dealing with the raid on the Road Fund, was challenged by a lusty "No!" from the Labour benches.

And so the final division followed, the Government, of course, carrying the day by a large majority.

CRISIS WOULD RECUR

The mineowners proposed drastic reductions in wages and an increase of working hours.

That is no solution of the problem. Their action would be followed by similar action on the part of employers in other coal-producing countries. The effect of the proposed sacrifices would thus be neutralised, and the present crisis would recur within a very short period. In the meantime, the roots of the problem would remain untouched. . . .

To talk of reorganisation and stabilisation side by side with the owners' proposals is a consummate farce.

—Miners' Federation statement to the Conference of Trade Unions last week.

O.M.S. PRESSURE ON STUDENTS

Story of Promise That Made Them Enrol

QUESTION IN HOUSE

The following statement by a student of University College, London, was made yesterday to a representative of the "British Worker":—

"I should like you to give publicity to what has happened at the College, and to expose the mean methods employed to induce the students to enrol in the O.M.S. and fight the workers.

Arriving at college on Monday, I was surprised to find O.M.S. activities in full swing, and the reason became evident when a meeting of all students was called by the Provost, Sir Gregory Foster, and the college secretary, Dr. W. Seton, who is also one of the founders of the O.M.S.

"Both these men enjoy an immense popularity with the students, and did not hesitate to take advantage of it. The meeting began with a declaration of its non-political nature, but they made an appeal to the students to support the Government, and finally insisted on the necessity of everyone immediately joining the O.M.S.

"As a bait to loyal students, their services would be remembered and taken into consideration during examinations. This promise drew many recruits, a great many of whom feared victimisation by university authorities if they failed to enrol in support of the Government."

A question will be asked about this in the House of Commons.

TEACHERS' SUPPORT

A telegram has been sent by the International Federation of Officials and Elementary School Teachers, meeting in Geneva, expressing sympathy with the British miners.

U.S. LABOUR SUPPORT

The American Federation of Labour, through its President, William Green, declares its belief in the justice of the British miners' claim to a decent living wage.

THE NATIONAL UNION OF RAILWAYMEN

Unity House,
Euston Road, London, N.W.1

5th May, 1926

MINERS' CRISIS.

"Heartly congratulations to our members on their splendid response to the call for action. We are proud to be in the very front line of the workers' battle. You must handle no traffic of any kind, food stuffs or otherwise. Stand all together for the achievement of victory."

C. T. CRAMP,
National Union of Railwaymen.

MINERS STAND FIRM FOR VICTORY

Message From Lock-Out Areas: Fight Against Wage Reductions

From all the mining areas the report is: "We stand solid for victory." The Executive of the Miners' Federation remains in session in London.

The dramatic developments since the lock-out began and the fine response to the strike order by other unions have been received with enthusiasm by the million miners about whose wages and conditions the crisis has arisen.

And it is those wages, and conditions which will have to be decided as the central issue in the struggle when the Government and the mineowners are prepared to reason. Let us recall the facts of the position.

WHAT THE OWNERS DEMAND

A crisis arose last July because the mineowners demanded wage reductions and an increase of working hours.

Then, as now the Trade Union Movement stood behind the miners, and the crisis was staved off by the Government granting a subsidy for nine months. Wages and hours were maintained as before, and a Royal Commission was appointed to report on the measures necessary to deal with the position in this basic industry.

The Commission's report was published on March 10. It contained proposals for the State ownership of minerals, proposals for reform, and suggestions for the negotiation of wages.

The Government undertook to carry out the provisions requiring State action, provided the other parties accepted the report.

The mineowners on April 1 stated their attitude, which was a vague acceptance of some proposals, and, contrary to the recommendations, proposed district negotiations on wages and indicated that they required heavy reductions.

The miners presented their reply on April 13, but at once a deadlock occurred over the owners' attitude on wages.

Next day the owners took steps to post lock-out notices, with particulars of drastic wage reductions and proposals for longer hours.

METHODISTS' SUPPORT

The Primitive Methodists of the Hull District Synod, meeting at Driffield, passed a resolution appealing to the Government to take temporary control of coal mines and to reorganise the industry on the lines recommended by the Royal Commission of 1925, pending the resumption of negotiations on the basis of such organisation. The resolution also supported the seven-hour day for miners and the principle of a national minimum wage.

IRELAND'S OFFER

Offers of support for the British workers in their struggle are being received from their comrades across the Irish Channel. Tom Johnson, secretary of the Irish Trades Union Congress, sends the following wire: "If Irish trade unionists can render any assistance, please communicate Johnson."

CALL TO SAILORS

It is reported from Liverpool that the Sailors and Firemen's Union has called men off all the ships.

The Prime Minister intervened without effect. The miners were acting in concert with the Trades Union Congress General Council and in close consultation with that body.

The essential position remained unchanged until the afternoon of April 30, when the Prime Minister conveyed to the miners new terms, which were:—

A reduction in the minimum percentage to 20 per cent. above 1914, instead of the existing 33 1-3 per cent., on condition that the working hours should be extended from seven to eight per day for at least three and a half years.

By this time the lock-out for many thousands of miners had actually begun. The miners' delegates unanimously rejected the proposals, and their representatives and the T.U.C. General Council urged the Premier to have the lock-out notices withdrawn in order that negotiations might be continued.

Subsequent events left the mining dispute unchanged, and the position is that, on the basis of the present working hours, the owners' demands are exactly what they were when the deadlock first arose.

The Miners' Federation has prepared a table showing what the demands would mean for representative classes of mineworkers, and these are set out on Page Six.

JAPAN SAYS, "FIGHT ON!"

The Japanese Trade Union Movement has cabled an exhortation to British trade unionists, urging them to "fight to the last." The leading Labour bodies in Japan are considering the question of giving active support to the British workers.

"EMERGENCY" SENTENCE

The first prosecution at Manchester under the Emergency Regulations, 1926, was that of William Richard Stoker, aged 40 years, of Ringway, who was sent to prison for two months in the second division for attempting to do "an act calculated to cause disaffection among the forces." The police stated his car was ready to take "seditious" literature to Glasgow.

LABOUR BOYCOTT

The Labour Party on the London County Council has refused to nominate representatives on the Council's Emergency Committee for the maintenance of London public services.

REAL EXAMPLE IN SELF-DENIAL

Workers' Sacrifice to Aid Their Comrades

5/- WEEKLY LEVY

The news of a fine example of self-denial comes from the Union of Operative Heating and Domestic Engineers.

The members within the scope of the strike corps have given a pledge to withdraw their labour without delay, while their comrades who remain at work have decided to levy themselves 5s. per member per week so long as the dispute continues.

The members of the Poor Law Officers' Union have also offered to levy themselves in support of the strikers.

ITEMS FROM WALES

A joint Strike Committee is in continuous session at Newport, where only the electric and gas services remain unaffected at present.

All work at the factories and docks is suspended, as are tramways and buses. One train arrives each day with food supplies.

There is no question about the solidarity of the workers and with their determination to continue the struggle.

Nowhere could the strike call have been more heartily responded to than in the Tredegar area and throughout the Sirhowy Valley, where normally 20,000 miners are at work.

On the railway, even the station-masters, who had never before been involved in a strike, left their offices.

Milk supplies have to be brought by motor from agricultural areas as far, in some cases, as 50 miles away.

Huge gatherings of men have been addressed by George Davies, the miners' agent, who has impressed on them the necessity of preserving perfect order.

The workers are determined and are facing the situation in excellent spirit.

INDIA WISHES SUCCESS

The All-India Trades Union Congress has cabled to the British Trades Union Congress expressing the Indian workers' sympathy and wishes for the success of the strike, and offering co-operation in this "great fight for the maintenance of the standard of life."

RAILWAY CLERKS' ASSOCIATION

The President and General Secretary send greetings and congratulations to all Members.

The request of the Executive Committee has evoked a magnificent display of solidarity.

Reports from all districts show that R.C.A. men of all grades are standing four square with their fellow-workers in the present epic struggle to prevent the imposition of degrading conditions upon the Miners and their wives and children, and the weakening of the whole Trade Union Movement.

This morning's messages are in splendid spirit.

Members are enjoined to continue contact with the Local Joint Committees of Railway and Transport Unions, and to maintain unimpaired the fine position they have established.

Stand Firm and True.

R.C.A. Head Office, Euston Road, London,
5th May, 1926.

An Explanation of Our Existence

WHAT WE STAND FOR

The **British Worker** is being produced by the supreme authority on the Industrial side of the British Labour Movement. The General Council of the Trades Union Congress consider it imperative that they should have an organ for the spread of information about the Strike and to keep the public aware of all that is happening.

The Cabinet have brought out a newspaper which is crudely biased and unfair to the Workers. Of that the General Council do not complain. But they feel that they would be doing less than their duty if they did not at once reply to this move by issuing a bulletin which will give the Labour Movement and the rest of the Nation a true record of events, as they occur from day to day, and a true account of the causes, as well as the progress, of the General Strike.

The **British Worker** is produced by Union labour throughout. All those engaged in its production are detailed for their

duties by the General Council. In this it has the advantage over the Cabinet newspaper, which is brought out by strike-breaking labour in every department.

It is the duty of everyone belonging to the Labour Movement, or wishing it well, to help the General Council to give **The British Worker** the widest possible circulation.

All into whose hands it comes should pass it on as soon as they have read it, or, better still, post it up for others to read.

Thus the Workers will be correctly informed as to the progress of the greatest industrial effort which has ever been made in this or any other country. So far as the latest news indicates, the call to leave work has everywhere been responded to with marvellous solidarity. **The British Worker**, if all do their part in helping to circulate it, will be of the greatest value in keeping up that solidarity and securing the objects for which it is being so magnificently demonstrated.

WE HAVE NOT CHOSEN LIGHTLY

By "TOMFOOL," of the "Daily Herald"

We have not chosen lightly. Let none think

It is for any man an easy thing To lead his women to starvation's brink

Or face for his own children suffering.

We have not chosen lightly. We have homes

We strive to keep together full of fear.

No rich man who through his great portal comes

And goes securely, holds his home more dear.

We have not chosen lightly. We have hearts,

And love our own in words we cannot tell;

But no rich man in whom quick feeling starts

At his child's coming, loves his own more well.

We have not chosen lightly. Let the ranks

Who from their birth wore fortune's diadem

Look on their homes and loved ones, and give thanks

That Life has never forced this choice on them.

DEPTFORD'S ALL OUT

Deptford's latest report is.—All tram and bus men are out solid; all dock workers are out solid; engineers are all out solid. The Deptford and Greenwich Trades Council says it is extremely pleased with the position.

HUDDERSFIELD OUT

"Stoppage of workers of all unions implicated practically complete" is the message from Huddersfield. The tramway and bus services are at a standstill, and transport pickets have induced a number of non-unionists in private buses to stop work. Textile mills are open as usual, but are expected to go on three days a week.

DERBY BRIGHTS

There are 25,000 out at Derby, the number having been swelled by members of the Engineering and Foundry Workers' Union. Not the slightest disorder has occurred.

H. SMITH AND A. J. COOK

Mr. Herbert Smith, president of the Miners' Federation, and Mr. A. J. Cook, secretary of the Federation, were present during the debate at the House of Commons yesterday.

LEYLAND STRIKE

All the men of the English Electric Company, Preston, and also the Leyland motors men have struck work.

BUILDING STOPS

Building operatives struck work at Eastbourne because the use of the Town Hall was refused to strikers for meetings.

TWO TRAINS

At Northampton 20 railway clerks are on strike. Two trains left—one for London and one for Birmingham.

WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

The national conference of Labour women, fixed for May 12 and 13, at Huddersfield, has been postponed.

CANADA'S FULL SUPPORT

Financial Assistance If It is Needed

"GENEROUS SPIRIT"

A cable has been sent to the British Trades Union Congress by Tom Moore, president of the Canadian Trades and Labour Congress, saying: "The Trades and Labour Congress of Canada extends the full moral support of the Canadian workers in your present struggle to maintain the already meagre standards of living of the British workers."

The Canadian Congress is acting in co-operation with the International Federation of Trade Unions, so that, if the British T.U.C. appeals for financial assistance, the appeal can be immediately brought before the Canadian membership.

"The close," ties," says Tom Moore, "which bind so many members of the Canadian Trade Union Movement and the British workers is an assurance that such an appeal, if found necessary, will be met in a generous spirit."

S. AFRICA MEETING

The National Executive Council of the South African Trades Union Congress has called a meeting for Thursday, to give its reply to the International Federation of Trade Unions' appeal for support for the strike.

STRIKERS AT PRAYER

Great congregations of strikers are gathering each morning in Plymouth Parish Church for special services.

WOULD YOU BELIEVE IT?

By C. L. EVERARD, "Gadfly," of the "Daily Herald"

To the making of Dope there is no end. With a view to qualifying for a Government job for the duration, I hasten to dot down a few news items. True? Well, I wouldn't say that, seeing that I've warned you what I'm trying to qualify for. But at least as true as some of the "news" which is being fed to a hungry populace at the moment by certain Boss publicity merchants. Which, as you remark, isn't saying much. Having made myself quite clear, I hope, as to the utter unreliability of anything which may follow, we will proceed to give Imagination her head, good and hearty. How's this for Item Number One?

* * *

The Mayfair battalion of the Order of Mugs and Saps (hereinafter referred to as the O.M.S.) paraded yesterday morning in full regalia, toppers and spats. The assembled warriors, after being reviewed by Brigadier-General Sir Aloysius Bludger, K.B.E., volunteered to a man for service in the coal mines on the terms offered by the coalowners to the miners. They then entrained in their Rolls-Royces amid the cheers and tears of a number of ladies of gentle birth. Proceeded by a ukulele band playing "Land of Hope and Glory," and "Mary, Call the Cattle Home," they drove to Paddington, their ultimate destina-

KEIR HARDIE ON WORKERS' POWER

Great Leader's Vision of To-day's Event

THE WAY TO WIN

Mrs. M. Travers Symons, who was for ten years Keir Hardie's private secretary, sends us a passage from a manuscript left by the great Labour leader, which bears vividly upon the present situation.

This is what he wrote some 20 years ago:—

"The methods by which Labour will seek to obtain control of the affairs of the world will be, in the main, constitutional.

"The ballot box and the general strike will both be used as occasion may require.

"In the almost immediate future a new movement for the object aimed at in the revolutionary upheaval which convulsed the Continent of Europe in 1848 may be expected.

"In 1848, as before and since, the revolutionary proletariat had no thought but the street barricade as a method of fighting; now it is seen that industry may be paralysed, order turned into chaos, and the most ferocious of War Ministers rendered impotent if only the workers as a nation will lie abed when the hour strikes for going to work. Gatling guns are quite powerless in such a revolution."

CABINET'S OWN NEWSPAPER

Copies of It Very Hard to Find!

UNIONS ATTACKED

So far as London was concerned, the attempt of the Government to circulate a newspaper yesterday morning was a failure.

The *British Gazette* came out, but it got into very few hands. No copies were on sale in the streets or at the newsagents' shops. Only after a great many efforts did the *British Worker* succeed in finding a copy of its rival.

Printed at the *Morning Post* Office, it has the appearance of that journal. In contents also it is akin to the Duke of Northumberland's organ.

Prominence was given yesterday to an attack upon the Trade Unions in the well-known *Morning Post* style, making the absurd charge that Trade Unionists are all "Left Wing-ers" and supporters of "extreme political opinions."

Trade Union Funds

The object of the article is to suggest that the 1913 Act, which permitted trade unions to use their funds for political or any other purposes which seemed good to them, should be repealed. That, in a newspaper published by the Cabinet, has a very significant look.

Then, after bitterly attacking the workers who are defending the miners in their valiant fight for a living wage, the *British Gazette* gives the following news item, under the heading, "Latest Wills":—

"Alderman William Edwin Pease, ex-M.P. for Darlington, left £295,213, with net personalty £271,796."

It only needs to be added that Alderman Pease was one of the biggest coalowners in the North Country.

A few other news sheets and cards have made their appearance during the last two days.

The *Times* issued a single small page, thirteen inches by eight. Several enterprising individuals manifolded typewritten sheets and hawked them in the streets. All that these contained in most cases was the B.B.C. Wireless Bulletin.

Late on Tuesday afternoon copies of newspapers which had appeared that morning were selling briskly at 2d. each. The purchasers imagined they were getting something fresh!

ALL DAMPED DOWN

Blast furnaces and coke ovens in the Cleveland district have all been damped down. All iron and steel works have been closed down, and iron and stone mines are following. Forty thousand men in Teesside and Cleveland are affected.

FASCISTS ADVISE FORCE

The Italian Fascist Press contains many eulogies of the British Government for having entered into a conflict with trade unions, and advises that the Fascist method of dealing with trade unions—namely, suppression—should be adopted in Britain.

DERBY SWELLS CHORUS

More than 20,000 members of the Engineering Sheet Metal and Foundry Workers' Union at Derby have been called out and are now on strike.

COMPLETE STOPPAGE OVER WHOLE COUNTRY

Immediate, Unanimous & Enthusiastic Response to Strike Order

"The stoppage is complete" is the curt but graphic official summary of the situation.

Throughout the country the response to the call of the General Council of the Trades Union Congress was immediate, unanimous and enthusiastic.

From every centre in the country the reports are the same.

The men are out solidly. Complete order prevails.

The Government is busy enrolling "volunteers" to do the work of strikers. But their efforts are not affecting the situation to any appreciable extent.

PERFECT ORDER EVERYWHERE

The response to the call of the General Council of the Trades Union Congress on Monday night was the most immediate, the most enthusiastic and the most unanimous in the history of the British Movement.

The miners were already locked out. It was to the railwaymen, the transport workers, the printing workers, the iron and steel workers, the metal and heavy chemical groups (including all workers engaged in installing alternative plant to take the place of coal), the building workers (other than those on housing and hospital work) that the strike order was given.

They have obeyed it, almost to a man, all over the country.

The effect of the strike order was instantaneous. Every one of these trades has shut down all over the country.

"The stoppage is complete," the General Council was able to announce on Wednesday night, after receiving reports from every important centre.

That summarises the situation.

"Shut Down"

Food supplies, in accordance with the orders of the T.U.C., are being carried. Food trains are being allowed to run.

But, with the exception of the food trains, and of, perhaps, a dozen trains run by officials or by engineering students, the railways of England, Scotland and Wales were deserted.

Through the great junction of Crewe, for example—one of the busiest traffic centres of the country—only two trains passed during the whole of yesterday. They both carried milk.

Road transport, like rail transport, has ceased in nearly every town. Portsmouth and Lincoln were the only places where it was reported that the trams were running yesterday. And even there they were expected to close down.

The big omnibus services have stopped. Only small companies and individual busses ran.

With the exception of a few local provincial sheets, not a newspaper was published yesterday.

Building operations—except on housing and hospitals, as the General Council had ordered—ceased work everywhere.

Iron and steel works closed. Everything worked to plan.

Everywhere the most perfect order was maintained.

The only "incidents" have been of the most trivial character.

A couple of lorries were overturned yesterday evening in Poplar. A bus was overturned in Nottingham. There were two or three rows between pickets and volunteers in Glasgow.

And that is all. Everywhere else perfect discipline, perfect order.

Yet the Government is losing no opportunity to draft troops into the working-class areas.

Already, last Thursday, while the coal negotiations were going on, before there was any talk of a general strike, preparations were being made and billets arranged.

On Saturday the troops moved into the mining areas.

Yesterday the Government tried to persuade the management of the Great Western Railway Works at Swindon to have a military guard. The suggestion was declined.

The London Traffic

The London streets yesterday were an extraordinary sight. The workers who were not on strike came in to their work on foot or on bicycles, or, some of them, on carts and lorries.

But from all the middle-class suburbs came an incessant stream of cars. Big cars, small cars, tricars, sidecars, thronged the streets, jostled each other, jammed each other, created the biggest traffic problem London has ever seen.

The result was that many car-owners took longer over the journeys than the workers who plodded on foot beside them.

Through the jostle of small cars a few buses belonging to small owners tried rather helplessly to nose their way.

The "Volunteers"

The first day, the complete tie-up. To-day the attempts to run substitute services by the aid of volunteers begin.

In all the big towns committees under the orders of the "Civil Commissioners" are at work, appealing for and enrolling "volunteers."

They claim that the response has been a big one. But how many of the "volunteers" will be of any use remains to be seen.

On the railways the most that the Government seems to hope for is the running of a few main-line trains with non-union drivers, and the working of some of the electric local lines with "volunteers."

They have issued their "British Bulletin" from the office of the "Morning Post."

They hope to put a number of buses, driven by amateur drivers, on the streets to increase the congestion caused by the small cars in the rush hours.

But they cannot open the coalmines; they cannot work the blastfurnaces; they cannot run the railways; they cannot send volunteers to the docks.

The stoppage is complete, and remains complete.

HELP FROM THE CONTINENT

German Miners to Stop Blackleg Coal

READY TO STRIKE

The most enthusiastic support for the British workers is being shown by the German workers. The German miners have been officially informed of the strike and have replied with measures for operating the International's decision not to allow the export of coal to the detriment of the Britishminers.

In addition, they say that they are only waiting until the British leaders ask them to come out, when they will immediately do so.

Great meetings at which the British workers' position is explained are being held in many towns, and the enthusiasm is immense.

A meeting at Dortmund, a mining centre, has telegraphed to A. J. Cook, expressing support of action by the German miners and transport workers, in conjunction with the International Federation of Trade Unions, to prevent the export of German coal.

FRENCH UNIONS TO ACT

Railmen, Dockers, Seamen and Miners Declare Solidarity

A message from Leon Jouhaux, secretary of the General Confederation of Labour, states that the bureau of that body has brought together the representatives of the Miners', Railwaymen's, Dockers', and Seamen's Federations, who have respectively made known the measures contemplated by their organisations in view of the general strike of the English workers.

The message goes on to express the solidarity of the French workers with their British comrades, and to assure them that every effort will be made to contribute to the success of their movement.

Two thousand workers in a motor factory at St. Ouen, near Paris, have struck work as a demonstration of sympathy with their British comrades.

MINERS' INTERNATIONAL

The International Miners' Federation Executive has been called to meet in Brussels on Monday or Tuesday.

TRANSPORT AND GENERAL WORKERS' UNION.

Message from the General Executive Council to all Members.

Reports have been received from every area in the country under our control that the members have responded solidly to the call of the General Council. The discipline is excellent. Keep quiet and stand firm so that the Council and the Officers may carry on their work, knowing they have your wholehearted support.

(Signed) HARRY GOSLING
ERNEST BEVIN

How The Fight Goes In The Country

SHOULDER TO SHOULDER LATEST NEWS FROM THE DISTRICTS

Magnificent Response to T.U.C.'s Call: Fine Discipline Maintained

Solidarity of the workers throughout the whole of Scotland is assured. From all parts come reports that the response to the strike call has been magnificent.

Glasgow and Dundee may be taken as representative of the rest of Scotland, where the T.U.C.'s instructions are being implicitly obeyed and good order maintained.

SCENES ON THE CLYDE

Glasgow's response to the strike call was magnificent.

The Railway Union organisation worked splendidly, and traffic is entirely suspended.

Harbour men and dockers are also solid, and river traffic is at a standstill.

Over 900 tramcars are not working, only a very few moving with non-union labour.

The printing industry is at a standstill, and on Tuesday no evening paper appeared.

The iron and steel industries are "out" to a man.

Good discipline is being maintained, and union officials are perfectly satisfied and confident of complete solidarity being maintained.

The Scottish T.U.C. General Council is fully satisfied with the position. The only difficulty experienced is in keeping men at work in trades not yet affected.

DUNDEE

Further north, in the Dundee area, the arrangements worked with military-like precision.

Railmen, trammen and general transport workers ceased work on the stroke of midnight.

Quietness reigns throughout the city, and there is not the slightest indication of restiveness on the part of the men.

In a half-jocular way, the tramway manager attempted to drive one car in the morning, but a crowd of workers surrounded the vehicle, and it was quickly driven back to the depot.

One passenger train, in charge of students, arrived from Edinburgh.

ON THE CLYDE

On the Clyde, the populace is calm. Open-air meetings are being held throughout Glasgow to impart information concerning the progress of the strike. It was stated on Wednesday afternoon that local railway offices had been instructed from London to refuse wages to strikers who applied for them, on the plea they have broken their agreement by stopping work without notice.

Railway stations are closed, and suburban trains are practically cancelled.

The S.C.W.S. branch of the National Union of Distributive and Allied Workers has offered its branch funds to help the T.U.C.

Mining Valleys Send Encouraging Reports to Headquarters

In the Aberdare Valley the behaviour of the workers is all that could be desired, and they are following developments in the crisis with calmness. They are unflinching in their attitude as to the maintenance of wages and hours as advised by their leaders.

Traffic in the Rhymney and Aber Valley, South Wales, is completely at a standstill, and so keen is the sympathy among classes of workers outside the instructions of the T.U.C. that great difficulty is being experienced in keeping these men at work.

The clerk said he doubted the validity of the action of the Council, and the names were recorded.

The Senghenydd and Abertridwr Trades Council (South Wales) have agreed that stokers are to work at the local collieries.

Complaints have been received at Cardiff strike headquarters that in many cases supplies of tea, sugar,

bacon and dairy produce have been sold out and that placards have been exhibited refusing credit.

Cardiff tramwaymen have refused to return to work although threatened with dismissal.

In the Spen Valley all is quiet. It appears that the calling out of the moulders in the district was a mistake, as the result of a telegram, and the men have now returned to their employment. There have been some attempts to persuade other men to return, but so far the men's loyalty to their unions has been unshakable.

At Ilkeston there is no fresh development in the situation. Arrangements are being made by the Town Council for the distribution of food, and fuel committees are being formed. Additional centres are to be opened for the feeding of necessitous school children if the necessity arises.

Everything remains quiet and orderly in Mid-Glamorgan district. The omnibus services to Bridgend Valley have been curtailed. Representations have been made by the miners' officials to omnibus proprietors, and they have all complied with requests to stop running their buses.

MINERS SOLID

Everything at a Standstill in Llanelly District

In Llanelly, where the manufacture of tinplates is the staple industry, all the works are at a standstill, while there are no means of transport apart, of course, from privately-owned cars and lorries used for the distribution of provisions.

This means that about 12,000 persons are idle in the town. Taking the surrounding districts, which embrace the Amman and Gwendraeth Valleys, where collieries are situated, there are about 17,000 miners on strike.

There was a service of buses running between Llanelly and the Gwendraeth Valley, but representations having been made to the driver-owners by some strikers, it was suspended. Everything is quite peaceful and orderly. The local railwaymen have booked a school for the duration of the struggle, where it is proposed to hold meetings daily for the purpose of receiving reports.

On Tuesday night about 200 railwaymen marched in from the school to the Town Hall-square. Here speeches were delivered by local Labour men.

SHIP STRIKE STOPPED

Forty-six members of the engine-room staff of the White Star liner Arabic attempted to leave the ship as she was on the point of sailing from New York. They were prevented by the officers.

TRAMLESS—BUSLESS

No trains have reached Castleford (Yorks) since Monday, and no attempt has been made to start a motor-bus service. The work of drawing the pit ponies has been practically completed in all the local collieries. All is quiet.

POINT FOR DECISION

Durham miners are to seek a decision on the point whether those now out of work are entitled to unemployment allowance. Their contention is they are locked out by the action of employers.

WIGAN'S RESPONSE

T.U.C. Orders Faithfully Followed

In the Wigan coalfield, where an immediate and unanimous response was given to the T.U.C. call, the strikers are strictly obeying orders to avoid any breach of the peace.

Local newspapers were unable to publish their usual mid-week issues, owing to the printing employees withdrawing their services.

The Corporation library was filled with workmen in their clogs, inspecting treasures or reading books and magazines.

FRENCH COAL EMBARGO

Nothing to be Loaded for British Ports

The French unions have issued orders that no coal is to be loaded on any ship whatever its destination, and that no cargoes whatever are to be loaded for British ports.

Only one boat train left Paris for Channel ports, and no goods for transmission to Great Britain are being accepted by the railway companies.

DERRY RATIONED

Work is at a standstill at the Derry quays. Coal stocks are being rationed, and a long queue waited all day for permits. Several shirt factories have paid off their hands, while others have given a week's notice.

PRIVATE BUSES STOP

Whole Service Practically at a Standstill

The Lanarkshire to Glasgow private bus service is almost at a standstill. About 300 buses are affected.

The miners on the various routes sent a deputation to the owners asking for their withdrawal. This procedure was effective.

A few buses are operating between Glasgow and non-mining areas.

OWNERS' DRASTIC PROPOSALS

The Miners' Federation has prepared a table showing a comparison of wages payable to certain representative classes of day-wage workers before the lock-out and the wages that would be paid under the terms of the owners' demands posted at the pit-heads.

The following figures are taken from the statement. Similar reductions are demanded in other districts.

On the basis of a 5½ day week the reductions range from 3s. 9d. to 17s. 2d. a week.

	Present wages.	Owners' terms.	Reduction per day.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Scotland—			
Coal hewers	9 4	7 6	1 10
Labourers	6 8½	6 0	8½
Northumberland—			
Hewers	10 4	7 7	2 9
Labourers	7 7½	4 9	3 1½
Durham—			
Hewers	9 8	6 10	2 10
Labourers	7 6½	4 11½	2 6½
South Wales and Monmouthshire ...			
Hewers	9 9½	7 2½	2 6½
Labourers (day)	8 0½	6 8	*1 4½
South Yorks			
Hewers	10 7½	9 6½	1 0½
Labourers	8 8½	7 6½	1 2
Lancashire			
Hewers	9 6½	8 1½	1 5
Labourers	8 8½	6 3	2 5½
North Wales			
Hewers	9 4½	7 8	1 8½
Labourers	6 5	5 0	1 5
Derbyshire			
Hewers	11 8½	10 6½	1 2
Labourers (surface)	8 8½	7 6½	1 2
Notts—			
Hewers	12 1½	10 10½	1 2½
Labourers (surface)	8 5½	7 3½	1 1½

* If married. For single men the rate would be 5s. 9d. a day, a reduction of 2s. 3½d. a day.

Workers Solid In The North

ALL GOES WELL IN MIDLANDS

Trouble to Keep Men In Who Are Not Involved

WORKERS STAND FIRM

The news from the Midlands is that the workers are standing "four-square," and quietly determined to see this thing through to a successful issue.

BIRMINGHAM

The stoppage in Birmingham and district is complete. Not a man in the unions involved is working on railways, trams or other transport services.

No disorder of any kind has taken place, and the pickets' job is eased by the wonderful solidarity displayed. The biggest trouble is to keep men in who are not involved.

COVENTRY.

The stoppage at Coventry is complete, and trade unionists have whole-heartedly responded to the call.

Members of unions which are not yet affected are standing by in readiness to join their comrades if called upon.

There are neither trams nor buses on the various routes of the town, which remains quiet.

LEICESTER

Seven thousand men in 20 unions are out in Leicester, and no railway or transport worker is on duty.

Everything is quiet, and Mr. T. R. Hill, secretary of the Trades Council Emergency Committee, says the most remarkable feature of the strike is the magnificent response of the men, and the peaceful way in which the strike is being carried on.

The Gas Department is lighting only a few street lamps, and the power supplied to factories has been cut down by one-half.

DERBYSHIRE

There has been an almost total suspension of rail, bus and tramway services at Ilkeston. Private bus proprietors attempted to run the usual service to Nottingham, but were stopped there and returned empty, passengers having to walk back.

Stanton Ironworks have closed down.

NOTTINGHAM

The strikers have firmly declined to permit the bus services to continue. Throughout the city the members of the unions involved are behaving splendidly.

LINCOLNSHIRE

Scunthorpe is like a town of the dead from the industrial point of view. All the iron and steel works are closed down.

JOURNALISTS' ORDER

The Executive of the National Union of Journalists has issued the following instruction to its members: "Union members are not on strike and are not called upon to abandon normal duties. Executive instructs members not to do work of other departments, nor their own work if non-union labour is introduced in other departments for producing newspapers or substitutes."

PARALYSIS AT GREAT RAIL CENTRE

Industrial Towns and Ports Where All Industry Has Ceased

The strike early laid its paralysing hand on the great railway station at Carlisle, where seven important lines converge, forming a railway hub second in importance to none in the country.

Within a few hours the usually animated platforms were deserted and desolate. Passengers arriving early in the morning could get no farther by train, but some were able to proceed in hired motor-cars to Glasgow or Edinburgh, paying as much as £25 a time.

GOOD ORDER EVERYWHERE

Everywhere the railwaymen's response was complete. What happened at Carlisle was happening throughout the country.

STEEL MEN STOP

Middlesbrough is now a "dead" town. Thirty thousand iron and steel workers, obeying the order of the Trades Union Congress, are out; tram and bus services have ceased. The railway station is closed.

On the opposite side of England, the coalfield of Cumberland is equally at a standstill. Miners to the number of 4,000 are out; and they have been joined by 3,000 iron ore miners.

HULL HELD UP

The stoppage at Hull is complete, and carried out according to instructions. Roughly, 30,000 workers are on strike in the city. The tramway and Corporation omnibus services are at a complete standstill.

No trains are running, and the Humber ferry services from Hull and North Lincolnshire are held up. The strikers include 500 railway clerks.

Railwaymen marched to a mass meeting with bands playing.

Ships' boilermakers have come out without waiting for instructions.

H.M.S. Enterprise is anchored in the Humber, but everything is quiet in the port. Fish supplies are being sent away by road transport.

NEWCASTLE QUIET

At Newcastle the stoppage is complete. Reports to the headquarters of the Northumberland miners from

WORSE THAN PRE-WAR

The results of the mine-owners' proposals would inevitably be that large numbers of our people would be in receipt of less money wages than those received in pre-war days.

That is to say, a mine-worker who was in receipt of, say, 35s. a week in pre-war days would receive about 30s. at the present time.

A settlement with the mineowners on these lines is impossible.

—Miners' Federation statement to the Conference of Trade Unions last week.

the districts show in every lodge a staunch determination to stand fast. Good order prevails everywhere.

DOCKS IDLE

At Sunderland the stoppage of railways, trams, bus services, and at the docks is complete. Only one passenger train left the station—a train which a Newcastle driver was working back from York to Newcastle. The tramwaymen's decision to stop was unanimous.

FIRM AT HALIFAX

Halifax workers involved in the crisis are solid to a man, and great mass meetings have expressed a determination to fight the miners' battle as if it were their own.

Mr. Robert Morley, the veteran union leader in the town, says that never in 35 years' experience has he seen such a spirit of unanimity.

At Barrow-in-Furness, the railways are at a standstill, while steelworks have been stopped and blast furnaces are damped down.

MUSICAL INTERLUDES

There is a complete stoppage of railways, trams, newspapers, and coal mines at Bradford. The men are urged by their union leaders to observe order and keep off the streets. Transport workers possessing musical instruments are asked to provide concerts at branch rooms.

FOOD PLANS

On the whole, Newcastle is very quiet. There have been demonstrations against buses plying for hire, and in some cases drivers turned the buses round and left without picking up passengers.

Sir Kingsley Wood, Commissioner for the North, called upon Mr. William Weir and Mr. Ebby Edwards, president and financial secretary of the Northumberland miners, and there were mutual assurances that nothing would be done to interfere with the agreed methods of distribution of milk and foodstuffs.

SCHOOLS STAY OPEN

All London County Council schools are to remain open. Complete discretion is being left to heads of schools to carry on in the way best calculated to meet any difficulties which may arise.

COUNCIL AND E.P.

Deptford Council, which has a Labour majority, decided to take no action when a letter was read at the council meeting from the Ministry of Health and the Mines Department, asking the council to appoint committees to carry out the requirements of the Emergency Powers Order.

Several London theatres have been compelled to close down. Among them are the Adelphi, the Apollo, His Majesty's, the Winter Garden, and the Shaftesbury.

BUSINESS IN A CLEFT STICK

Paralysing Effect of Strike at Manchester

MEN FIRM AS A ROCK

The effectiveness of the strike is apparent everywhere in Manchester, where the stoppage is probably as complete as anywhere in the country. "Business in a cleft stick" sums up the situation.

Reports from headquarters of the various unions show the utmost solidarity. The tram men are standing firm as a rock, and are determined to do so even if the strike lasts for months. Salford men are equally determined, so are the members of the E.T.U.

IDLE SHIP CANAL

All work at the docks and Ship Canal is at a standstill.

The unions' arrangements are developing with a smoothness that is astonishing everybody, and none more so than the different employers' organisations, who predicted that they would be chaotic and unworkable.

Perfect order obtains in the city. Attempts were made to set up regular charabanc services, but pickets' intervention made this impossible.

A workers' meeting was about to be held near the Town Hall, Manchester, but the Lord Mayor disallowed speeches, and the crowds marched away in orderly fashion.

POTTERIES SHUT

Chesterfield Blacklegs on the Buses

The strike is spreading in the Chesterfield area, a number of potteries closing down. Some of the men came out in sympathy, while others were stopped because of the shortage of coal and the lack of transport facilities.

The Corporation tramway service has been reduced to the running of one car, manned by inspectors. Bus services have been increased, and this led the strikers to issue notices, "Please do not ride on buses. Blackleg labour. Thank you."

The conduct of those on strike continues to be exemplary.

THANKS!

The Palestine Federation of Labour has cabled a donation of £100 in support of the British miners.

MINERS' FEDERATION OF GREAT BRITAIN.

Mine workers are to be congratulated on their firm struggle against the dictation of the mineowners. Stand by your trade unions as other unions are standing loyally and steadfastly by you.

HERBERT SMITH, *President.*
A. J. COOK, *Secretary.*

Miners' Message To Their Allies

TRANSPORT WORKERS IN DETERMINED SPIRIT

Excellent Response: Reports from Every District

Reports to the headquarters of the Transport and General Workers' Union show a firm response and a splendid spirit among the members.

District by district, the following is a summary of the messages:—

AREA No. 1 (London and Home Counties): General position splendid. Docks, waterways, passenger and commercial members all solid. Morale of members exceptionally good.

AREA No. 2 (South of England, including Channel Isles): Reports received indicate position is very satisfactory. All docker members solid. Attempting to run skeleton tramway service in Southampton. Steps being taken locally to deal effectively with position.

AREA No. 3 (West of England): All sections readily responded to call. Reports indicate position being maintained splendidly. Active co-operation with local Trades and Labour Councils.

AREA No. 4 (SOUTH WALES): Position in all districts admirable. Stoppage complete and effective throughout area. Strike Committees and Joint Union Committees working with precision. Discipline and morale excellent.

AREA No. 5 (MIDLANDS): All sections responded magnificently. Re-

ports indicate the position is a strong one and being well maintained.

AREA No. 6 (N.W. COAST, LANCA-SHIRE AND PORTIONS OF CHESHIRE): Position continues satisfactory, all sections having responded to a man. Morale splendid. North Western Committee of Union has been set up involving all towns. Local Joint Committees set up, which are working under the direction of the Central Committee.

AREA No. 7 (SCOTLAND): Reports indicate that the general position is solid and the morale of the members exceptional. Joint Committees are in being in all districts.

AREA No. 8 (North of England, including Northumberland): Position splendid. Complete stoppage. Joint Committees representing unions concerned in operation in all districts, and doing effective work.

AREA No. 9 (North Midlands and Yorkshire): Response to call was magnificent.

AREA No. 10 (East Coast): Reports from all districts indicate the position in this area is very good. The response in Hull can be regarded as magnificent.

AREA No. 12 (Liverpool and District): Liverpool, Birkenhead, Garston, Fleetwood and Preston all solid.

ALL WORKERS AFFECTED BY THE ATTACK

Government Alone to Blame for the Fight: Long Preparations

"JUSTICE IS ON OUR SIDE"

The Miners' Federation issues a manifesto to its allies in the fight. The manifesto declares that every worker is affected by the attack on the miners, that the Government is alone responsible for the crisis, and that with the support of their allies the miners are confident of victory for the workers' cause.

Comrades,—The struggle has begun. Menaced with an onslaught on their standard of life by the mineowners and the Government, the Miners' Federation of Great Britain submitted their case to the judgment of their fellow-trade unionists.

The General Council and Conference of Trade Union Executives considered it with a full sense of their grave responsibilities and pronounced it just beyond all possibility of question.

To-day the whole body of British workers stands united as one man in their unconquerable determination to resist demands which were a calculated and deliberate attack, not only upon the miners, but on every worker in the country and upon the very existence of the Trade Union Movement itself.

MAGNIFICENT LOYALTY

On behalf of the Miners' Federation we express our heartfelt thanks for the magnificent loyalty with which you, our fellow-workers, have responded to our appeal for aid.

We have laboured for a peaceful settlement, but the Government, not only by its words, but by its actions, has shown only too plainly that peace is not what it desires.

In insisting that the miners should

pledge themselves to accept a reduction in wages before even entering negotiations, it advanced an unheard-of demand which no body of trade unionists could accept.

SUNDAY NIGHT'S BREAK

In suddenly breaking off negotiations with the General Council and the Miners' Federation on Sunday night, it revealed its determination to force upon the Trade Union Movement a struggle for which the Government had long prepared.

It is on the Government, and the Government alone, that the responsibility for the present situation rests.

There is no need for us to call for your assistance, for you have already given it. With you we shall stand firm to the end in defending the rights of the organised workers. With you, we know that justice is on our side. With you, we are confident that the resolute action of a united Movement will bring victory to the cause of the workers.

THE £ FALLS

Latest reports: Dollar rate is down to 4.85½, it was 4.86½ last Friday. French francs fell sensationally to 154. This is attributable to the selling of francs by British banks to bolster up Sterling Securities—latest prices: Conversion Three and a Half, 73½; War Loan Fives, 99½; Funding Loan, 85.

UNDER THE GOLDEN HEEL

Workers' Fighting Crushing Methods of Capitalism

"Either the capitalists are going to crush us, or we are going to ensure for the miners a decent standard of living. With our backs to the wall we shall show that we can fight as Englishmen. If we are defeated in this struggle it will be the turn of the railwaymen next."

This was the purport of a rousing speech delivered to strikers of the Swindon area yesterday, when enthusiastic mass meetings passed resolutions pledging continued and whole-hearted support for the miners.

From the surrounding districts reports show that the stoppage is in complete operation.

HOUSING GOES ON

While bringing out operative builders, Merthyr Tydvil branch of the Building Trades Confederation has agreed with the Corporation to continue on housing work.

£1 A WEEK

From May 14 Leicestershire Miners' Association will give union pay of £1 weekly to members, with 2s. each for child under 14.

COUNCILLORS' STAND

Councillors Edgar and Tweedle (Labour) have declined to serve on a Municipal Emergency Committee at Birkenhead.

BARRY DOCKS IDLE

All work at Barry Docks is completely at a standstill, and over a thousand workers are out.

AN EXAMPLE TO FOLLOW

City Council's Appeal to Cabinet

Newcastle City Council yesterday passed unanimously a resolution urging the Government to resume negotiations with the contending parties on the conditions that a general strike order be withdrawn, and that the coal-owners reopen all mines at existing wages and conditions for a time long enough to arrive at a settlement, with a continuance of the Government subsidy over that period.

TO PROTECT STANDARDS

A.E.U. President on Purpose of the Strike

Mr. J. T. Brownlie, president of the Amalgamated Engineering Union, at the meeting of the National Committee of the Union, which is being held at Manchester this week, said the general strike policy, it would be admitted by all parties, was an avowed declaration against any attempt to lower the standard of life or increase the hours of labour.

"In view of the urgency of the situation we must rid ourselves," he said, "of all prejudices and approach the question with an open mind, realising that in the exceptional circumstances exceptional methods may have to be employed."

C.W.S. BANK

Rumours are current that the C.W.S. bank payments are suspended. There is not the least vestige of truth in this statement.

STOP PRESS

THE BRITISH WORKER

OFFICIAL STRIKE NEWS BULLETIN

Published by The General Council of the Trades Union Congress

No. 2.

THURSDAY EVENING, MAY 6, 1926.

PRICE ONE PENNY

WORKERS CALM AND STEADY

Firmer and Firmer Every
Day of Strike

BLACKLEGS FAIL

The third day of the General Strike sees the situation unchanged. The working class is holding quietly and tenaciously to the position it has taken up.

The easy assurance of anti-Labour people that it would be "over in a couple of days," that "they would soon be sick of it," that "anyway the Government will get heaps of volunteers to run the trains and things" has vanished entirely. It has given place to a growing anxiety.

For "it" is not over. The workers are growing more determined as the days pass. They are not "drifting back to work." On the contrary,

the trouble everywhere is to keep those men at work who have not yet been ordered to strike.

And as to getting the "trains and things" running with "volunteers," the first day's boasts have quite failed to materialise. The train service remains a skeleton—and an even bonier skeleton than yesterday.

A few London buses are being run by "volunteer" drivers, each guarded by a policeman. Here and there in the provinces the same thing. But what does it all amount to? In all Manchester, for example, three tram drivers!

A few buses, a few passenger trains. But the mines are still, the goods traffic has ceased, the docks are closed, the factories are closing.

Not all the O.M.S. in the world can get them going again. Only the organised workers can do that.

And the organised workers, solid, disciplined, calm, are refusing to do it until justice is done to their fellows.

The third day. And still everywhere complete calm, complete order.

Anti-strike propagandists set rumours going of a riot here and a
Continued on Page Six, Column Three

WEATHER

Wind northerly, moderate or fresh; strong at times locally; variable sky, some showers of rain or hail; perhaps local thunder; rather cold.

LABOUR'S REPLY TO THE PREMIER

General Council's Conditions for
Reopening Discussions

"UNFETTERED ATMOSPHERE"

The following is the reply of the General Council of the Trades Union Congress to the Prime Minister's statement as to possible terms of peace:—

Mr. Baldwin, in the House of Commons on Wednesday, said:—

"No Government in any circumstances could ever yield to a general strike. The moment it was called off unconditionally the Government were prepared to resume negotiations."

The General Council is ready, at any moment, to resume negotiations for an honourable settlement. It enforces no conditions for resuming preliminary discussion with the Government on any aspects of the case.

It is obvious, however, that at this stage, with no knowledge of the subsequent line of policy that the Government intends to pursue, the General Council cannot comply with

the Prime Minister's request for an unconditional withdrawal of the strike notices.

The General Council, it must be remembered, was not responsible for the breakdown of negotiations. The strike was due to the Government's refusal to secure a withdrawal of the lock-out notices in the mining industry, and to its action in provocatively taking the side of the coalowners and in breaking off negotiations at a time when the General Council was sincerely seeking a peaceful settlement.

The conditions that govern the reopening of discussions should be different from the conditions governing the withdrawal of the notices for the general strike; and inasmuch as the Government was responsible for the breaking-off of negotiations, any preliminary parleys with a view
Contd. at foot of Col. Two, Page Eight

OUR REPLY TO "JIX"

The General Council urges the men and women of Great Britain not to be stampeded into panic by the provocative utterances of the Home Secretary.

The inference contained in his broadcast appeal for special constables on Wednesday evening, to the effect that the Trade Union Movement was violating law and order, is quite unjustifiable.

Only on that same afternoon, in fact, the General Council of the Trades Union Congress had officially urged every member taking part in the dispute to be exemplary in his conduct and not to give any opportunity for police disturbances.

The General Council had also asked pickets to avoid obstruction and to confine themselves strictly to their legitimate duties.

There is no need for the panic which the Home Secretary seems intent on provoking. The strikers are standing firm, and they mean to conduct themselves in a disciplined, quiet and orderly manner.

The unnecessary and unwise action of the Home Secretary is more likely to imperil good order than to preserve it.

HOW THE "B.W." CAME OUT

A Sudden Police Faid—
and After

AMAZING SCENES

Eight o'clock last night.

A hundred difficulties had to be overcome. But they had been overcome. And the BRITISH WORKER was all ready for printing.

The last line of copy had been sub-edited and set. The last stereo plate had been made and fastened in place on the presses. All was ready.

Swarm of Police

The big crowd of members of the Distributive Section of the Paper Workers' Union, who had been waiting with their cars and cycles outside, very patiently, for three hours and more, raised a cheer.

Then—from the half-finished new Daily Mail building across the street emerged a policeman—two policemen—five—ten—twenty—fifty or more. Round the corner came a dozen mounted men.

They pushed the waiting workers away from the front of the office, and held them by a cordon 50 yards away. Then a number of plain-clothes men, headed by a detective inspector, entered the building and ordered that the machines should not be started.

Warrant from "Jix"

Mr. Robert Williams saw the inspector, who explained that they had a warrant from the Home Secretary to search for and seize all copies of the DAILY HERALD of May 4, all material used in producing it, or which might be used in producing any document calculated to impede measures taken for the maintenance of essential services.

It was quickly made clear that what really interested them was less the DAILY HERALD of May 4 than the BRITISH WORKER of May 5.

The inspector requested that a dozen copies of the paper should be run off for submission to the City Commissioner. If the Commissioner approved, we could go ahead. If not—he was sorry, but—

He went off with his copies, leaving some of his men in charge.
Continued on Page Eight, Col. Four

Published for the General Council of the Trades Union Congress by Victoria House Printing Company, 2, Carmelite-street, London, E.C.4. Telephone (8 lines): 8210 City.

How The Cabinet Wrecked Peace

GERMAN MINERS' FULL SUPPORT

"Your Struggle is Also Our Struggle"

NO COAL EXPORT

German workers' support for their British comrades is solid.

The Government's *British Gazette* stated yesterday that the miners belonging to the Christian (Catholic) Trade Unions have decided not to help the English strikers.

This is not true.

To-day the Executives of all the miners' unions, including the *Christian Unions*, issued a joint proclamation to the Ruhr miners, urging them to help their British comrades.

No coal must be sent to England, no overtime must be worked.

"The British miners' struggle is our struggle," the proclamation concludes. "The owners' victory would result in a catastrophe for working conditions everywhere."

Resolutions of sympathy are being passed by Labour organisations, irrespective of whether they are "Right" or "Left," "Socialist" or "Communist," or "Christian."

"We are resolved to carry out the Brussels decisions" is the terse but emphatic summary of the German miners' attitude expressed this morning by Herr Husemann, the President of the Mineworkers' Federation.

THE DECISIONS

The Brussels decisions are that "The International Committee affirms its entire solidarity with the British miners in their fight against longer hours, lower wages, and breaches of national agreements, and it is ready, if necessary, to take all the necessary measures to prevent the export of coal to Britain."

"If an international strike is decided upon, after the situation has been examined by the competent national bodies, the International Committee undertake that the national bodies shall not call off the strike until a satisfactory basis of settlement has been reached in all the countries involved in the struggle. In the event of such an international strike, the committee will act as a strike committee, whose orders will be binding in all countries."

VERY FEW BLACKLEGS

Only One Out of Six Hundred Help to Starve Miners

At its Press conference on Wednesday evening the Government boasted that it had secured the services of 4,000 volunteers in the five counties of Notts, Lincs, Rutland, Northants and Derbyshire.

As the population in this area is about 2,500,000 it will be seen that only about one out of every 600 of the population has chosen to assist the mineowners in their attempts to starve the miners and their families into submission.

STRIKE PAY IN DERBYSHIRE

Derbyshire miners will receive their first strike pay on May 14. The funds, it is expected, will last a month.

NEGOTIATIONS: STORY IN THE HOUSE

A Formula Considered: Discussed With the Miners: The Locked Door

How industrial peace was wrecked by members of the Cabinet in the early hours of Monday morning was exposed in the House of Commons on Wednesday by Mr. J. H. Thomas and Mr. Ramsay MacDonald.

Mr. THOMAS told a hushed and crowded assembly that at 11 o'clock on Sunday night the T.U.C. Negotiating Committee had received a form of settlement "written in the Prime Minister's own words and in his own handwriting."

"While we were with the miners, there came the *Daily Mail* incident, and negotiations were broken off."

Then, without a trace of bitterness in his voice, speaking rather in the tone of a man broken-hearted, Mr. MACDONALD took up the story.

"The Door Was Locked"

The negotiators and the miners were together in a room at Downing-street, he explained.

"We were discussing it with the miners," he went on. "Right in the middle of this discussion came a letter from the Prime Minister saying all was over."

"We decided to send a deputation to the Government representatives to ask them what it was all about. When the deputation arrived the door was locked and the whole place was in darkness."

The Prime Minister's explanation of the eleventh hour tragedy was that the stoppage of the *Daily Mail* was regarded as the first "overt act." "We felt in the circumstances that the whole situation was completely changed."

Later, Mr. Baldwin said the negotiations were broken off because of the actual beginning of the general strike with the *Daily Mail* incident.

"We said there could be no negotiations till the general strike was called off," he added. "The work of the peacemakers had been killed by the action of the hotheads."

Replying to Mr. Thomas, Mr. Baldwin admitted it was likely that the negotiators themselves knew nothing about the "*Daily Mail*" incident. They could not control it.

Reason—Not Force

Mr. HENDERSON pointed out that the T.U.C. had already offered the assistance that the Home Secretary was now asking for. Mr. Henderson, on behalf of the Negotiating Committee, disclaimed any responsibility for the breakdown of negotiations, adding that even now the House should bend its energies to see if they could get back to where they were at one o'clock on Monday night.

If the paper that had been interfered with had been the "*Daily*

Herald," he declared, they would have heard nothing about it. (Labour cheers.)

He made a strong plea for settlement by reason and not by force.

After Mr. LLOYD GEORGE had deplored the precipitancy in breaking off the negotiations, Mr. JOHN BROMLEY, a member of the negotiating Committee, described the general strike attitude of the unions as a

"gesture of which every Britisher ought to be proud."

As to the breakdown, the Premier, he thought, had been moved by a sinister hand.

Next came from Mr. T. O'CONNOR with a stirring plea to get back from the battlefield to the council chamber.

Then Mr. CLYNES pointed out that the striking millions were not millions of Communists, but a mixture of Labour, Liberal, and Conservative voters, most of them ex-Service men who, having fought for their country, felt they were now entitled to fight for the miners.

It was at this stage that the story of the breakdown of the negotiations, as told above, was revealed.

The Subsidy

It was followed by a strong speech from Mr. GEORGE WARNE, the miners' leader, who commented on the greatness of the tragedy when everyone wanted peace.

There were too many fears and misunderstandings, he said. On the one side was the fear of a general attack on wages, and on the other side the fear of "Russian methods."

"Climb down a little on both sides," he pleaded, adding the suggestion that the subsidy should be continued.

Mr. HARTSHORN said the possibility of a settlement had been blocked all along by a decision taken by the mineowners nine months ago.

This decision was to devote the subsidy to propaganda with the object of causing civil war.

Labour amendments to the Emergency Powers Regulations were defeated.

The subject of the breaking-off of negotiations came up again at a late hour, when fuller statements were made by the Prime Minister and Mr. Thomas.

Mr. BALDWIN stated that on Sunday night they found that the utmost point to which the T.U.C. representatives could go was that contained in a formula which was written down, not by himself, but by Lord Birkenhead. It was as follows:—

"We would urge the miners to authorise us to enter into discussion with the understanding that they and we accept the report as the basis of a settlement, and we approach it with the knowledge that it may involve some reduction of wages."

"When we separated," the Premier

HANDS ACROSS THE SEA

I.F.T.U. Calls on the Nations to Aid the Strikers

OSTEND MEETINGS

The Council of the International Federation of Trade Unions meets at Amsterdam on Monday.

All National Trade Union centres affiliated to the International Federation have been invited to send financial assistance to the British movement.

Two important international conferences are to be held on Saturday at Ostend to consider ways and means of rendering effective aid in the British struggle.

One is the meeting of the Executive of the Miners' International, the other a conference of representatives of dockers', railwaymen's, and seamen's unions summoned by the International Transport Workers' Federation.

PIT PONIES SEE DAYLIGHT

More pit ponies were brought up from the pits in the Sheffield district yesterday.

Continued from previous column
miser continued, "the T.U.C. representatives were taking that formula to discuss it with the miners. I don't know—no one can know now—what chance it had of being accepted by them."

"But when we knew that the General Strike had already begun by an attack on the liberty of the Press, we saw that we had reached a point when it was impossible for the Government to make any further effort."

The Premier's Letter

Mr. THOMAS then gave the House his narrative of events, inviting Mr. Baldwin and Sir A. Steel-Maitland to correct him if his memory was in fault at any point.

He told how the T.U.C. negotiators were discussing with the miners' leaders the formula quoted above when a message came that the Prime Minister wished to see them. He also told how they went down and saw Mr. Baldwin and Sir A. Steel-Maitland, the former handing them a letter.

They read the letter after they had gone back upstairs.

"It asked," he continued, "for a repudiation of something we knew nothing about (i.e., the affair at the *Daily Mail*), and immediately we did repudiate it."

"We actually went to the length of instructing a deputation to go down and convey it to the Prime Minister, and when we got down from one room to the other we were told by an attendant that everybody had gone to bed, and the place was in darkness and we could see nobody."

"Bitterly as I am disappointed," concluded Mr. Thomas, "and keenly as I feel it, I am not going to allow passion or temper, or even wonderful response of our people, to cause me to bang the door of peace that I hope will come."

Continued at foot of next column

Reports From The Trade Unions

BIG PORT HIGH AND DRY

One Hundred Thousand Out at Liverpool

FINE DISCIPLINE

Liverpool, the second port of the Empire, is high and dry, strike-bound. Even the Trades Council itself is amazed at the response.

Close on 100,000 men, perhaps more, have shouldered arms to carry the miners' cause to success.

The general paralysis of industry is complete, though essential public services, such as food supplies, are as usual. Although the streets are thronged with people, strikers and

Right is with Labour! Stick to the right side, and the others will be left.

also pedestrians going to and from work, everything is perfectly quiet, which is evidence of the fine discipline of the strikers.

So far as Liverpool is concerned this dispute has made history, and will go down to posterity. The public is thirsting for news, and newsboys with their strike bulletins are besieged. Their modest and scantily-filled quarts are snapped up at two-pence a time.

JOURNALISTS OUT

Don't Work with "Blacks" in the Black Country

Because the Midland News Association attempted to provide a substitute paper, local officials of the National Union of Journalists have called out journalists in Wolverhampton and the Black Country.

The Executive of the N.U.J., as reported in our issue yesterday, has instructed members that they are not to do their work if blackleg labour is introduced to produce newspapers or substitutes.

TRANSPORT AND GENERAL WORKERS' UNION.

Message from the General Executive Council to all Members.

To-day's reports from every area in the country state that the members are standing loyally together and are quite confident that by being steadfast and determined they can, in association with their fellow trade unionists, secure justice for all mine workers.

The Executive Council and Officers send their hearty greetings and congratulations to all our members.

E. BEVIN.
HARRY GOSLING.

UNIONS AFFECTED BY STRIKE ORDERS

Numbers Steadily Increased by Stoppages in Allied Industries

The following unions have either been wholly or partially affected by the strike orders issued by the General Council of the Trades Union Congress.

It should be borne in mind that the list undergoes extension from hour to hour,

GROUP 1.—MINING AND QUARRYING

Scottish Colliery Engine and Boilermen's Association.

Colliery Enginemens', Boilermen's and Brakesmen's Federation, Lancashire, Cheshire and North Wales.

Colliery Under-Managers' Association of Scotland.

Cumberland Colliery Enginemens, Boilermen and Electrical Workers.

Firemen's Examiners and Deputies' Associations of Great Britain (General Federation of).

Miners' Federation of Great Britain.

North Wales Quarrymen's Union.

Amal. Nat. Union of Quarry Workers and Sett Makers.

Shale Miners and Oil Workers (Nat. Union of).

GROUP 2.—RAILWAYS

Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen.

Railway Clerks' Association.

National Union of Railwaymen.

GROUP 3.—TRANSPORT (other than railways)

Carters and Motormen's Union, Liverpool and District.

Coal Trimmers' Union, Cardiff, Penarth and Barry.

Transport and General Workers' Union.

Transport Workers' Association of England, United Road.

Transport and General Workers' Union, North of England Commercial Section.

Watermen's Association, Weaver.

GROUP 4.—SHIPBUILDING

Barge Builders' Trade Union.

Associated Blacksmiths' and Ironworkers' Society.

Boilermakers and Iron and Steel Shipbuilders.

GROUP 5.—ENGINEERING, FOUNDING, and VEHICLE BUILDING

Amal. Society of Brassworkers.

Nat. Society of Brass and Metal Mechanics.

Brassturners, Fitters, Finishers and Instrument Makers' Association, West of Scotland.

Coppersmiths, Braziers and Metal Workers, National Society of.

Electrical Trades Union.

Amalgamated Engineering Union.

Engineers' and Firemen's Amalgamation, North of England.

Enginemens, Firemen, Mechanics and Electrical Workers (Amal. Soc. of).

Amalgamated Society of Farriers and Blacksmiths.

Foremen's Association (Engineering and Allied Trades) National.

National Union of Foundry Workers.

National Union of Operatives Heating and Domestic Engineers.

General Iron Fitters' Association.

Central Iron Moulders' Association.

Amalgamated Machine, Engine and Iron Grinders' and Glaziers' Society.

Military Musical Instrument Makers' Society.

Amalgamated Moulders' and Kindred Industries' Trades Union.

United Patternmakers' Association.

Amalgamated Society of Railway Vehicle Builders, Wheelwrights, etc.

United Operative Spindle and Flyer Makers.

Nat. Union of Stove Grate and General Metal Workers.

National Union of Vehicle Builders.

GROUP 6.—IRON AND STEEL AND MINOR METAL TRADES

Bedstead Workers' Association.

Blastfurnacemen, Ore Miners, Coke Workers and Kindred Trades (Nat. Union of).

Iron and Steel Trades Confederation.

Nat. Union of Sheet Metal Workers and Braziers.

Spring Trapmakers' Society.

Birmingham Operative Tin Plate, Sheet Metal Workers and Braziers Society.

United Association of Welsh Artisans.

Amalgamated Wire Drawers Society of Great Britain.

Metal Wire and Tube Workers.

GROUP 7.—BUILDING, WOODWORKING AND FURNISHING

"Altogether" Builders, Labourers and Constructional Workers' Society.

National Builders' Labourers and Constructional Workers' Society.

Amalgamated Union of Building Trade Workers.

National Amalgamated Furnishing Trades Association.

National Amalgamated Society of Operative House and Ship Painters and Decorators.

Scottish Painters' Society.

National Association of Plasterers, Granolithic and Cement Workers.

GROUP 8.—PRINTING AND PAPER

London Society of Compositors.

Correctors of the Press, Association.

Nat. Society of Electrotypers and Stereotypers.

Lithographic Artists, Designers, Engravers and Process Workers' Society.

Nat. Society of Operative Printers and Assistants.

Printing Machine Managers' Trade Society.

Amal. Association Pressmen.

Press Telegraphists.

Printing, Bookbinding, Machine Ruling and Paper Workers, Nat. Union of.

Typographical Association.

Typographical Association, Scottish.

Amal. Lithographic Printers of G.B. and I.

Members of unions that have not been called out should understand, before taking any strike action, that they must await instructions from their own Executives, which will act under General Council authority.

GROUP 13.—DISTRIBUTION, ETC.

N.U.D.A.W.

Shop Assistants.

GROUP 15.—PUBLIC EMPLOYEES

Corporation Workers' General Union.

GROUP 17.—GENERAL LABOURERS

United Order of General Labourers, General and Municipal Workers' Union.

The Workers' Union.

Plumbers and Domestic Engineers' Association of Great Britain and Ireland, United Operative.

Steel Masons, Paviers and Road Makers' Society, Nat. Amal. Op.

Amal. Union of Upholsterers.

Amal. Society of Woodworkers.

Amal. Society of Wood Cutting Machinists.

United French Polishers.

WEST COUNTRY'S SPIRIT

"Firm as a Rock"—the Men of Reading

KEEN TO COME OUT

Telephone Message from the Special Commissioner of the "British Worker"

READING, Thursday. — "The trade unionists of Reading are firm as a rock," said Mr. Lockwood, secretary of the local Strike Committee.

"Our trouble is to keep at work men who have not yet received the permission of the General Council of the T.U.C. to come out."

The Strike Committee is organising football matches between various sections of the strikers, and a match is to be played this afternoon—"Steam v. Juice."

The Strike Committees of the West of England have organised a system for the exchange of news and greetings. Posted outside the Labour Club is the following bulletin:—

Swindon states magnificent solidarity.

Bristol: All solid here.

Gloucester: Morale magnificent.

Exeter: The railway authorities have asked the Central Strike Committee for men to run meat and milk trains.

A huge crowd of strikers is waiting eagerly outside the Club for the arrival of the BRITISH WORKER.

SOLID AT WORCESTER

Determination and Good Order the Spirit of Strikers

Wonderful solidarity is the report by Worcester Trades Council. The strike is being conducted in a most orderly manner.

All transport workers are out and only three trains were run, these being worked by inspectors.

Clerks responded nobly to the call. Building trade workers have decided to stop to-night.

The bus service between Worcester and district and Birmingham is entirely suspended, and through lack of transport Williamson's tin manufactory has closed down till Monday.

The Health Department staff at Keighley (Yorks), numbering 70, have struck work.

Keep Touch!

In every district persons appointed by strike committees to send and receive messages should telegraph their names and addresses to "Tradunic," Churton, London.

Head offices of Unions are requested to take steps to send progress reports and information to Strike Organisation Committee, 33, Eccleston-square each morning by 10 a.m. and afternoon not later than 3 p.m.

No Attack On The Constitution!

CONFUSING THE ONE SLICE OR TWO? ISSUE

Those who support Mr. Baldwin and his Cabinet in their declaration of war upon Organised Labour are making great efforts to confuse the issue and to prevent the Nation from understanding what is at stake.

They talk and write wildly about an attempt to upset the Constitution, to usurp the authority of Ministers, to set up a rival to the House of Commons.

Mr. Baldwin, who urged everyone to "keep steady," has so entirely lost his balance that he declared in yesterday's issue of the newspaper which he is issuing from the "Morning Post" office:—

"The General Strike is a challenge to Parliament. . . . Constitutional Government is being attacked."

That is untrue. No one should know that it is untrue better than Mr. Baldwin, who has felled from the beginning the dispute between Miners and Mineowners, and who is aware that it has been an industrial dispute throughout.

No political issue has ever been mentioned or thought of in con-

nection with it. It began over Wages and conditions of working; it has never been concerned with anything else.

When the Mineowners, backed by Mr. Baldwin, expected the Miners to go on negotiating under threat of losing their livelihood, the other Trade Unions were moved to intervene.

They were compelled to intervene. Menacing workers with a lock-out during negotiations cuts at the root of the methods which Trade Unions have built up for settling disputes in a reasonable, peaceful way.

Only when the very proper request for the withdrawal of the notices had been refused did the Trade Unions decide upon a General Strike.

At the special Trade Union Congress it was perfectly clear that nothing was in anybody's mind save the Industrial issue. Had any speaker mentioned Revolution, he would have been impatiently told to shut up.

The General Strike is not a "menace to Parliament." No attack is being made on Constitutional Government. We beg Mr. Baldwin to believe that.

A STARTLING DISCLOSURE

The exposure in the House of Commons of the reason why negotiations were abruptly broken off on Sunday night throws a fresh and very disturbing light on the mind of the Cabinet.

At a moment when the Trade Union Committee were considering a basis for continuing the discussion of Coal Terms, they were suddenly told "All is off," and were presented with an ultimatum.

The reason for this, Mr. Baldwin alleges, was the refusal of *Daily Mail* printers to produce a paper containing what they believed to be a misstatement of the workers' case.

This, the Prime Minister suggests, made the Cabinet believe that a general strike had begun.

Can it be credited that without any investigation, without an hour's delay for discovering what had happened, the Cabinet acted at such a critical moment upon the conclusion to which they had jumped without any evidence at all?

We find this hard to swallow. Yet the choice lies between accepting that explanation and being driven to conclude that the Cabinet, or some members of it, seized on the printers' action as a pretext for a break. This also we are loth to believe.

But, either way, it shows that Labour is as free from responsibility for the conflict now unhappily in progress as it was for the strike of *Daily Mail* printers. That has now been made clear by the Prime Minister himself.

How the Coal Struggle Looks to a Miner's Wife

At this great crisis every woman must turn her thoughts to the life of her sister in the coalfields. In this article her very difficult problem is sympathetically discussed.

NO section of the community is carrying a heavier burden than the miner's wife.

At the best of times her toil is hard. She has not only all the work of other housewives; the conditions of the mining industry and the housing in colliery villages make her task specially heavy.

Nowhere is housing worse. Sometimes she has little better than a one-room hovel without any of the ordinary comforts of life, and not even a scrap of garden round it.

Water supply is bad, sanitary conveniences intolerable, and the dirt of the pit is constantly carried into her home. Every man comes back from his shift covered with coal dust and with wet clothes, which have to be dried and mended.

All day long she is occupied with her children and with caring for the men going out or coming in. In addition to all her toil she has constant anxiety while her men folk are away at their dangerous task underground.

In recent years her work and anxiety has been increased by low wages and unemployment.

She is faced each week with the terrible business of making a starvation wage cover the family's needs, and a man who works

underground must be well fed and well cared for. Hungry children must have their meals even if boots and clothes are lacking.

Every woman will know that in such conditions the mother's needs come last. The miner's wife says: "Wage-earners and children first." She is well satisfied if she can give them enough. What is left over is her share.

The possibility of lower wages in the Mining Industry is sheer tragedy for the women of the coalfields.

When there is talk of equal sacrifices by employers and employed the human needs of the miner's family are forgotten. Any reduction in the level of wages for them would mean falling below the hunger line.

It would not be a case of going without luxuries, of taking bread instead of cake; it would mean giving a hungry child one slice of bread instead of two, and water when it needs milk.

Nor could a more prosperous time in the future make up for the privation of the present. To reduce the children's food to-day means so to stunt their growth as to leave ill-effects for the rest of their lives.

Therefore, this struggle is for the women of the coalfields one of desperate need, and they turn confidently to their sisters in other industries, asking them to stand beside them now and so save their children for the future.

THE GREAT, GREAT TREK

[In the Broadcasting of the their work is referred to as "The

News, the walking of the people to Great Trek."]

It's the great, great Trek
Through the thronged city streets,
It's the trek to the shops
And the tall office-seats;
The roads are thick with people
Cheek by jowl, neck and neck,
As the Walkers through the city
Make the great, great Trek.

It's the great, great Trek
On the road that is unseen
To the goal of the future—
And the obstacles between
Will seek to daunt the hearts
And hold the march in check
Of the Workers who are following
The great, great Trek.

Oh, the way is hard to go,
And the end is far to see,
And the progress may be slow,
And the body weary be,
Yet something in men's spirits
(What it is who shall reckon?)
Keeps them dogged as they plod
On the great, great Trek.

There's a hope men must reach for,
And a wrong men must break,
In the teeth of all hardships
For their child's child's sake.
When the new hope is planted
On the old wrong's wreck,
Their child's child shall thank them
For the Great, Great Trek.
TOMFOOL.

"Do's" for Difficult Days

In reply to a column of "Strike Don'ts" in an anti-Labour news-sheet

Do all you can to keep everybody smiling: the way to do that is to smile yourself.

Do your best to discountenance any ideas of violent and disorderly conduct.

Do the thing that's nearest: this will occupy you and will steady your nerves, if they get shaky.

Do any odd jobs that want doing about the house.

Do a little to interest and amuse the kiddies now you have the chance.

Do what you can to improve your health: a good walk every day will keep you fit.

Do something. Hanging about and swapping rumours is bad every way.

Flooding the Country With Truth

LEADERS TAKING PART IN GREAT CAMPAIGN

Programme of Public Meetings to be Held Throughout the Land

A great series of public meetings is being arranged from headquarters at Eccleston-square, to be held throughout the country, the services of many Labour M.P.s being enlisted as speakers.

Meetings already planned for the north-western area are:

Stockport.—Saturday, Mr. J. Compton, M.P.

Manchester.—Sunday afternoon, Messrs. Rhys Davies and J. Compton, M.P.s.

Oldham.—Sunday evening, Mr. J. Compton, M.P.

Other meetings decided upon, the dates to be announced later, are:—

Preston and Carlisle.—Mr. T. Kennedy, M.P.

Blackburn, Burnley and Colne.—Messrs. T. Shaw, and H. Dunnico, M.P.s.

Chester.—Messrs. J. H. Hayes, J. Gibbin, and J. Sexton, M.P.s.

Meetings are also to be held at Rugby, Birmingham, Wolverhampton, Stoke, Crewe, Warrington, Wigan, Widnes and St. Helens.

UP TO THE NORTH

In the Eastern counties meetings are being arranged as follows:—

Norwich.—Mr. Mardy Jones, M.P.

Colchester and Ipswich.—Major Attlee and Mr. F. A. Broad, M.P.s.

Ranging up to the north-east, the following meetings are planned:—

York.—Saturday, Mr. W. Paling, M.P.

Hull.—Saturday, Mr. Tom Williams, M.P.

Doncaster.—Sunday, Mr. W. Paling, M.P.

Mr. R. C. Wallhead, M.P., is to speak at Peterborough, Mr. A. Shepherd, M.P., at Darlington, Mr. C. P. Trevelyan, M.P., at Newcastle, and Mr. R. Dennison, M.P., at Stockton and Middlesbrough.

A party of M.P.s will spread along the Midland route. Dates already fixed are:—

Derby and Ilkeston.—Messrs. R. Taylor, M.P., and G. H. Oliver,

M.P., on Friday evening, Saturday and Sunday.

At Wolverton and Northampton Mr. C. G. Ammon, M.P., is to speak. Mr. W. Mackinder, M.P., goes to Leicester, Mr. Pethick Lawrence, M.P., to Nottingham, and Mr. J. J. Lawson, M.P., to Sheffield.

For Leeds, Bradford, Shipley and district the speakers are Mr. Ben Turner and Messrs. A. Connolly, B. Riley, M.P., and W. Hurst, M.P.

LONDON MEETINGS

A preliminary list of London meetings has been drawn up as follows:—

Stratford.—Mr. J. Bromley, M.P.

Nine Elms.—Mr. J. Bromley, M.P.

New Cross.—Mr. A. B. Swales and Mr. H. C. Charleton, M.F.

Holloway.—Mr. C. T. Cramp.

Clapham Junction.—Mr. C. T. Cramp.

Kentish Town.—Mr. J. H. Thomas, M.P.

Acton.—Mr. J. H. Thomas, M.P.

Canning Town.—Mr. Herbert Smith.

Rotherhithe.—Mr. Herbert Smith.

Meetings are proposed for Southwark, Camberwell, Leyton, Shepherd's Bush, and Walthamstow, with Mr. Ernest Bevin as one of the speakers.

Messrs. A. Pugh and A. G. Walkden will speak in North and North-West London, possibly at the Regent Theatre, the Bedford Music Hall, and at Willesden.

For the South Wales area, meetings are to be addressed by Mr. G. H. Hall, M.P., at **Newport, Cardiff, Swansea, and Merthyr.**

A meeting is also to be held at Llanelly.

Do make everyone understand that this is an industrial, not a political, dispute. It concerns Wages, Decent Conditions of Life, Fair Methods of Negotiation; not the Constitution, nor the Government, nor the House of Commons.

MESSAGE TO ALL WORKERS.

The General Council of the Trades Union Congress wishes to emphasise the fact that this is an industrial dispute. It expects every member taking part to be exemplary in his conduct and not to give any opportunity for police interference. The outbreak of any disturbances would be very damaging to the prospects of a successful termination to the dispute.

The Council asks pickets especially to avoid obstruction and to confine themselves strictly to their legitimate duties.

RAILWAY MEN SOLID

Summary of Reports from
N.U.R. Branches

UNIONS CO-OPERATE

A magnificent response to the strike order is revealed in reports received at Unity House, the headquarters of the National Union of Railwaymen, from more than 300 branches.

Mr. C. T. Cramp, secretary of the N.U.R., states that he has not received a single adverse report.

"100 per cent. solid" is the text of practically every telegram received.

One of the most satisfactory features of the situation is the high degree of co-operation between the Railway and Transport Unions in the various centres.

ALL JOINING IN

Manchester's Force of Strikers Growing Hourly

In addition to stoppage of the traffic, grades work has ceased at the railway shops in Manchester and district, including Newton Heath and Dukinfield.

The Amalgamated Engineering Union reports that its men had struck at works where members of other unions had been called out, including the railway shops, newspaper offices, and tramway sheds.

The Electrical Trades Union reports that all its members are out, with the exception of those employed on building schemes at hospitals.

The tramway stoppage in Manchester is complete, only the three oldest drivers in the employ of the tramways department having reported for duty.

All is quiet in the city, and no disturbances have taken place.

The general strike spread to the motor-coach building trade at Leighton Buzzard to-day. The men went to work this morning, but left the works after hearing a communication read from the Coachbuilders' Union.

REFUSAL TO BLACKLEG

Unemployed Stand by Strikers at Stockton-on-Tees

The strike is being conducted on sober lines at Stockton-on-Tees, where fully 9,000 men have been withdrawn from work by the respective unions.

The BRITISH WORKER representative found the Labour headquarters a hive of lively activity. Councillor A. J. Thatcher, who is in charge, said: "There is great enthusiasm among the strikers, who are firmly convinced of the justice of the miners' cause."

The strike committee is delighted that the unemployed have refused to work as blacklegs. Permits have been issued in accordance with T.U.C. instructions for food transport. Picketing is intensive and splendidly organised, the large bands of workers being kept in touch with neighbouring headquarters by means of motor dispatch riders.

FEW BUSES—FARES UP

A very few L.G.O.C. omnibuses were running on Tuesday, and they were displaying the notice "Minimum fare 3d." As a rule the minimum fare is one penny.

TRANSPORT MEN UNITED

Discipline and Morale
Excellent

JOINT COMMITTEES

Excellent reports have been received at the headquarters of the Transport and General Workers' Union from branches in every part of the country.

Joint Committees have been set up in every district in Scotland and in Northern England, while elsewhere active co-operation with the local Trades and Labour Councils is being maintained.

The discipline and morale of the men are everywhere excellent.

TUBE & IRONWORKS STOP

Fuel Shortage Throws 6,500 Workers on the Streets

Lack of fuel has caused the closing of Messrs. Stewarts and Lloyd's tube works, Oldhill, Staffs, and Messrs. Hingely and Sons' ironworks. Over 6,500 workers have been thrown out of employment.

Other large factories are closing.

WORLD-WIDE SUPPORT

Messages of Encouragement to British Workers

Messages of support from all over the world continue to reach the T.U.C. General Council.

Among those received last night and this morning are the following:—

CANADA

Canadian Labour Party, Toronto, Central Council, pledges unhesitating support, and admires the courageous efforts to mobilise the workers of England against Capitalism.

Edmonton (Alberta) Convention of Workers, of the Canadian Labour Party, "congratulates the British workers on the solidarity shown in their common fight against lowering the living standard of the workers."

Farmers' Union of Canada: "Earnestly wish you success in your fight for economic justice."

London (Ontario) Trades and Labour Council pledges moral and financial support to the British mineworkers.

UNITED STATES

International Ladies Garment Workers' Union of America fully realise the world-wide significance of the British workers' fight, and fervently hope for a "speedy victory that will put a permanent check on the union-smashing and labour-hating tactics and policies of organised capital."

CANNOT GET AMATEURS

There is no change in the position in Birmingham, where the workers' solidarity is completely maintained.

The tramways manager has appealed to drivers and conductors to return, as he is unable, he states, to get amateur drivers, and even if he could there is no one to train them.

It would, he adds, be dangerous to employ unskilled drivers.

The Lock-Out Committee of the Building Industry in Oslo "hopes that this struggle will prove a victory for the unity of the international working class."

Set Your Teeth And Wait

FROM JOHN O' GROATS TO LAND'S END

Stirring Messages from the Areas: Rail Clerks' "Baptism"

Reports from the trade unions make stirring reading and reveal the wonderful loyalty of our comrades to their leaders' orders.

Railway Clerks' Association

The Executive of the R.C.A. say, "We are very happy to be able to report that although the present experience represents our members' first real baptism in a general withdrawal of labour, the immediate response to the call to cease work was highly gratifying and showed a measure of unanimity amongst our grades that was most encouraging."

"The spirit and morale of the members is splendid, and we have received many advices of non-members joining up and taking their places alongside their colleagues. . . . A good deal is being made of the reports of a few supervisors continuing at work, but according to authentic information the latter are a negligible quantity compared with the situation as a whole."

"These supervisors are often isolated positions, and are influenced by the view that they occupy posts involving 'safety' and considerations of that sort."

"THE BROAD OUTSTANDING FACT IS THAT OUR OVERWHELMING MAJORITY OF THE CLERICAL AND ALLIED GRADES OF THE SERVICE ARE STANDING FOUR-SQUARE WITH THE OTHER WORKERS IN THE STRUGGLE, AND THIS STATE OF AFFAIRS EXTENDS FROM JOHN O'GROATS TO LAND'S END."

N.A.T.S.O.P.A.

This morning the National Society of Operative Printers and Assistants stated that practically every branch which had so far reported its position to headquarters was 100 per cent. solid.

Transport and General Workers' Union

All members and officers must note that the instruction in respect of the issue of permits to move traffic of any and every description is as follows:—

No permits are to be issued by this union, or any other union, or by any officers.

No Trades Council may issue permits

The only competent authority to deal with permits is the Joint Transport Committee composed of representatives elected by the Transport Unions, including the N.U.R., A.S.L.E. and F., and the R.C.A.

If such a Committee is not set up already in your district please get in touch with the other Unions concerned and set one up.

All existing permits must be reviewed by the Transport Committee at once.

Please make this as widely known as possible.

ERNEST BEVIN.

Trans. & Gen. Workers' Union

LONDON AND HOME COUNTIES AREA: At their own request, cab-drivers are ceasing work. The position with regard to all sections in the area is well maintained. Waterways are exceptionally solid, and the Woolwich Free Ferry has been stopped for the first time in history. Effective steps are being taken to counter the attempts of the L.C.C. to institute a passenger service by the aid of volunteers.

MIDLANDS AREA: Reports from all districts most satisfactory. Attempts to run bus service failed.

NORTH-WEST COAST AREA: Attempts to run a Manchester tramway service abandoned. Local Joint Committees working splendidly.

SCOTTISH AREA: Scotland remains absolutely solid. The members of the street passenger service have stood as one man.

NORTH OF ENGLAND AREA: All sections absolutely solid. Attempts to run passenger services have been frustrated.

NORTH MIDLANDS AND YORKSHIRE AREA: Whole area still solid. Tramways at a standstill. Steps are being taken to deal with "unrecognised" bus services.

SOUTH OF ENGLAND AREA: With the exception of tramwaymen in Southampton (20 per cent. working) and Portsmouth (125 men working), all sections remain solid. Response of the road transport commercial men is remarkable.

WEST OF ENGLAND AREA: All sections remain solid. The spirit at present displayed is beyond anything witnessed in past years.

SOUTH WALES AREA: Position solid throughout the area. Attempts to circulate false rumours amongst men in outlying districts have been successfully scotched. The statements broadcast yesterday to the effect that

WRONG AGAIN

The statement circulated yesterday to the effect that Mr. Herbert Smith and Mr. A. J. Cook have been in consultation with Mr. Ramsay MacDonald with a view to making peace overtures is without foundation. No statements concerning negotiations should be believed unless they have the authority of the General Council.

Control of negotiations is entirely in the hands of the General Council. No individuals are authorised to discuss terms of peace.

Cardiff Docks are working were found to be absolutely untrue.

EAST COAST AREA: Reports from all parts of the area are gratifying. No cargo is being handled in the docks throughout the area. The number of strikers considerably increased yesterday, due to many employers endeavouring to introduce blackleg labour.

Reports from the branches show that in practically every case every member has responded to the call.

WORKERS CALM AND STEADY

No Disorder—Only Determination to Stand Fast Till We Win

Continued from Page One

riot there. These are wild exaggerations intended to jangle nerves and to shake confidence.

In fact, the only incidents that have occurred have been the most insignificant brawls, a loss of temper and a blow or two, incidents of the kind that happen any day when nobody is even dreaming of a general strike.

To-day rumour swiftly turns them into riots. But rumour—and Government propaganda—must not be trusted.

WHATEVER WILD STORIES RUN THE FACT IS THAT THERE HAS BEEN NO SERIOUS DISORDER ANYWHERE IN THE WHOLE OF GREAT BRITAIN.

The East End of London—the greatest working-class district in the whole world—is calm with the calm of a Sunday afternoon. Police and strikers are on the best of terms. The Trade Unions are providing the escorts for the food and hospital supplies. There are thousands upon thousands of strikers there.

But there is no disturbance whatever.

And there will be none unless the Government is foolish enough to provoke it.

As in the East End, so all through England, all through Scotland, all through Wales.

Discipline, order, solidarity, confi-

dence. Just the calm of it is fraying the nerves of our opponents. If there were riots and police charges and an excuse for machine-guns, they would understand.

But this tremendous pressure of a power they cannot see, but which they can feel more and more intensely every hour, is unnerving. They cannot see what to do. There is nothing they can do.

We have only to set our teeth and wait.

UNEMPLOYEDS' OFFER

"Not One Organised Member Has Tried to Blackleg"

Mr. J. W. Holt, secretary of the National Unemployed Workers' Committee Movement, states:—

"The organised unemployed throughout the country have offered their assistance to the Trades Councils and local Strike Committees, and this has been accepted in all cases."

"Not one member of the organised unemployed has attempted to blackleg. It is the intention of the National Unemployed Workers' Committee Movement to maintain this attitude even if the strike lasts for months."

At Barrow-in-Furness all remains quiet, and the latest report is that the Trades Council has issued the first number of a strike bulletin. There is no local newspaper published.

FOOD SUPPLIES

All questions of policy dealing with the release of all classes of foodstuffs are now placed in the hands of a National Committee, consisting of representatives of all the Transport Unions, with Mr. J. Marchbanks, Unity House, London, as Secretary.

Telegraphic Address: "BEWARE, EUSROAD"
Telephone Number: Museum 9101 (4 lines)

to whom all communications must be sent.

This Committee is authorised and is the sole Committee to issue all advice, procedure, instructions and permits nationally, and directions with regard to local permits for the removal of any foodstuffs.

This applies to all other forms of transport.

FINALLY—all permits are at present under review.

(Signed)

TRADES UNION GENERAL COUNCIL

The Fight In London

SOLIDARITY EVERYWHERE

T.U.C. Appeal for Order Loyal Observed

QUIET, BUT FIRM

Messages received by the General Council show that the workers in every part of the country are responding loyally in defence of the locked-out miners. The following are a few typical examples of the reports which have been received:—

GUILDFORD TRADES COUNCIL says that all Trade Unionists in the area have loyally responded to the cause.

LEAMINGTON SPA TRADES COUNCIL says: "Practically all men are out and they are quiet and orderly."

ASHFORD (KENT) STRIKE COMMITTEE states that all the Unions affected are out solid, and are keeping firm.

IN LIVERPOOL all seamen members of the National Sailors and Firemen's Union are out on strike.

DEPTFORD AND GREENWICH TRADES COUNCIL reports that for the first time in history all the workers in the Government Royal Victoria Yard have come out on strike.

SUPPORTS THE MINERS

Mrs. Snowden Repudiates Report That She Sided with Govt.

Mrs. Philip Snowden has issued a vigorous repudiation of the report, in Monday's Press, which represented her as having urged, during her recent speech at a meeting of the Shaftesbury Foundation, that everyone should support the Government in the present crisis.

"I am surprised," she said, "to hear that my statement, correctly reported in the Times, has been distorted to create the impression that I am a supporter of the Government in the present controversy."

"My sympathies are entirely with the miners. Nothing could have exceeded the tactlessness with which the Government have handled the situation."

"My remarks were simply an echo of the appeal of the Trades Union Congress to the workers to maintain order and discourage all acts of violence."

Mrs. Snowden was at the Headquarters of the Trades Union Congress this morning to offer her services for any voluntary duties she might be required to do.

STRANDED IN FRANCE

The Paris newspaper *Matin* states that the Nord and State railways have decided to cease running a number of passenger trains connecting with the cross-Channel boats.

At Calais the hotels are crowded with passengers held up by the strike, while the goods traffic has been completely suspended.

MORE PRINTERS OUT

The commercial and Press printers in the Ashton-under-Lyme and Hyde districts have left work. Three local weekly newspapers will not be published on Friday evening.

GREAT SILENT CITY OF DOCKLAND

Peep at East London: Strikers' Fine Discipline

EASY TIME FOR POLICE

(By Our Special Commissioner.)

The whole East End of London is a great silent city, even quieter and more peaceful than on a Sunday.

Not a workshop, factory, or commercial concern of any kind is doing business.

At all the district strike headquarters that I have visited, the instructions that are prominently displayed are being rigidly observed.

KEEP CALM. KEEP COOL.
DON'T CONGREGATE.

On vacant plots of land I saw many games of football, and a few cricket pitches were in use. Passing through the vast network of the residential quarters one found

by the pickets and told that they would be strike-breaking, they left quietly, and not one case of blacklegging is reported throughout the whole of the area.

The police are having a very easy time—no traffic whatever to attend to, no crowds to move on. I saw many of them chatting with the strikers, the best of friends, and with the best of good humour.

SUPPLIES FOR THE SICK

The hospitals and infirmaries are receiving their supplies, and the escorts are not police, or O.M.S., but trade unionists carrying out their instructions with loyalty and precision.

Only small shops and provision stores are open. The public houses are doing but a moderate trade, and the houses are peaceful and orderly.

Returning to the West End through the City of London, one finds more traffic, but at the Bank and Mansion House crossing—the busiest in the world at normal times—one solitary policeman was on traffic duty.

Banks and insurance offices are working with skeleton staffs, and many are closed altogether.

In other city offices, the black-coated workers are, like their manual worker comrades, having a holiday, and only one office in ten is showing any pretence of doing business. All wholesale houses are completely closed.

My tour of many miles was to me a gigantic demonstration of the power of peaceful resistance.

MUSIC AND ACROBATICS

Mr. Rutland Boughton's Help At Croydon

From reports which come from all quarters that from Croydon is as cheery as any. Ruskin House, the local Labour Party's headquarters, is the scene of great activity. Trade unions are regularly reporting there, and everybody is in splendid fettle.

An amusements committee is hard at work. Already concerts have been held, and the quality of the talent has been remarkably high. A cricket team is being formed, and among other items being given on the lawn to-day are acrobatic performances.

Mr. Rutland Boughton, the famous Labour musical conductor, came in from Tatsfield especially to offer his help and advice, so that the Croydon folk can look forward to a good time on the musical and dramatic side.

Owing to the fact that only a few copies of the *BRITISH WORKER* reached Ruskin House, relays of readers mounted a form this morning and read the whole paper through to a cheering and enthusiastic crowd.

Five hundred aircraftmen who are trade unionists have ceased work at Farnborough.

RECREATION FOR STRIKERS

Plans Maturing for Games and Amusements

WHAT MAY BE DONE

With the warm approval of the General Council arrangements are being made for the provision of amusements and recreational facilities for the strikers and their families.

It has been suggested that the following organisations might interest themselves in this matter:—

Women's Co-operative Guild.
Women's Sections of the Labour Party.

Women's International League.
Organisations affiliated to National Peace Society.

Local Peace Councils for the Prevention of War.
Adult Schools.

The Meetings of the Society of Friends.

Local Branches of the various teachers' organisations.

Free Church Councils and the local organisations of other religious bodies.

The various Youth Movements.
The Fellowship of Reconciliation.

The Local Workers' Educational Associations.

The Local Education Authorities if possible.

The No More War Movement.

Amongst the activities suggested are the following:—

Educational lectures and study circles.

Concerts, dances and social gatherings.

Play centres and organised games in public parks.

Cinema shows to women and children—say, once a week.

It has also been suggested that relief work might be undertaken for women and children who are suffering from privation.

TRAIN'S NARROW ESCAPE

Within Two Feet of Disaster: Blacklegs on Footplate

An attempt to run a train by a military driver and a naval stoker nearly resulted in a disaster at Cheltenham.

Shortly after leaving Cheltenham station the train, which was bound from Bristol to Birmingham, nearly collided with level-crossing gates which were closed against it, and only came to a standstill within two feet of the gates.

Incidentally, the train had not reached Birmingham by the following morning.

CHEAP STRAWBERRIES!

Among the greatest consumers of early strawberries, cherries, etc., from France, are the British wealthy classes. The strike has stopped the import of these luxuries, and the consequence is a heavy fall in prices in France.

At some of the breweries in Notts and Derby beer traffic is held up by the transport strike. Licensees are motoring to the breweries to obtain supplies.

THE NATIONAL UNION OF RAILWAYMEN

Unity House,
Euston Road, London, N.W.1

6th May, 1926

MINERS' CRISIS.

I desire to repeat on behalf of the N.U.R. what I said in yesterday's issue of the "British Worker."

Members of our Union MUST HANDLE NO TRAFFIC OF ANY KIND

food stuffs or otherwise. Stand all together for the achievement of victory.

C. T. CRAMP,

National Union of Railwaymen.

father and the family were having a quiet day at home. "The first rest I have had for years," one of the strikers told me.

ROTHERHITHE BONFIRE

The organisation and control of the strike are perfect. At the picket depots, district offices, local strike centres, trades councils and clubs an atmosphere of cheery determination prevails.

The *BRITISH WORKER* has been well distributed, and is the only news that is being accepted. The *British Gazette* has been seen by but few, nor is it wanted. Actually a bonfire was made of it in Rotherhithe.

A number of O.M.S. recruits were brought into the warehouse district of Tooley-street. When approached

Men Of The North Stand True

THE DOPE THEY GIVE US!

By C. L. EVERARD
(*"Gadfly," of the "Daily Herald."*)

In the sacred cause of the Freedom of the Press to Distil any darned Dope it Likes (as Mr. Baldwin would not put it), I beg to submit a few news items. I am unable to guarantee their truth, but then, judging from the capitalist sheets which are struggling out after much travail, no such guarantee is needed. I may add that I am not reserving any rights in same, in order to give the editors of the said sheets the opportunity to reprint the items free of charge, if they feel so disposed—which I rather doubt, seeing that they appear to be able to do it equally well themselves, if not more so.

The Worshipful Company of Dividend Drawers held their annual banquet at the Gutz Hotel last evening, with Sir Banke Ballance in the chair. Speaking in a voice which was thick with emotion, he said, "Thish is a strike against the communihic." (Hear, hear.) The Prime Minister had told them something or other which, he regretted to say, he had forgotten at the moment, and they were determined to stand four square against the ravening paralysis of What-name. "As to our immediate plans," he concluded, batting his neighbour playfully over the bean with a magnum. "Mumm's the word!" (Hear, hear and a hic or twq.)

Our Pall Mall Perambulator writes: Clubland remains normal, despite the action of the miners, which is generally condemned by retired generals. The West-end clubs, in short, are carrying on as usual. I need hardly add that the members of the said clubs are also carrying on—as usual!

All work on the new Home for Depressed Company Promoters is at a standstill, the building workers contending that this is not so much a matter of housing as of warehousing.

It is reported that no fewer than 50,000 Knights Bachelor, each Kt. wearing the Badge of his Order, have volunteered to feed.

Sir Isaiah Pryce, K.B.E., president of the Institute of Profiteers, in an interview, said, "This is a strike against the community. The community must inevitably suffer, and I can assure the community, on behalf of my fellow members, that we are prepared to see to it that, to the best of our ability, the community does suffer."

We are unable, at the time of going to press, to confirm the report that a Fund is to be opened to relieve the Distressed Coalowners, many of whom, owing to the strike, have been reduced to eating their share certificates.

And that, Henry, ought to be enough Dope for to-day, don't you think?

ALL SERENE ON THE NORTHERN FRONT

Splendid Morale and High Spirits Prevailing Everywhere

Morale is excellent and spirits are high in the industrial centres of Scotland and the North of England, as the following messages from our correspondents show.

"Solid to a man. Engineering, shipbuilding and other exempted trades workers would like to join the strikers if they were allowed to do so. It is indeed difficult to keep these men at work."

This is the inspiring message that comes from Glasgow, where the position is entirely satisfactory and the strike organisation working smoothly.

Journalists employed by the *Daily Record* have refused to work on an emergency paper with blackleg mechanics. All the editorial staff is affected. The *Glasgow Herald* and *Evening Times* staffs also refused to write copy. The emergency paper was got out by foremen, managers, and copyholders. Some newsagents refuse to handle this paper, and newspaper van drivers refuse to deliver it.

Scottish Typographical Association and Natsopa report 100 per cent. members on strike

"NO TAKERS"

The dockers are all out, the harbour is quiet, and discipline is maintained. Employers issued an appeal for blacklegs at 15s. a shift, but there were "No Takers."

A warship has come up the Clyde and is anchored in the dock adjacent to Govan-road. Food cargoes are being removed under permits.

River traffic is practically paralysed.

The dockers held open-air meetings to-day within hail of the warship, and unanimously agreed to continue on strike. Mr. Joe Houghton, organiser, said it was the most enthusiastic meeting in his experience.

About 100 students were employed as tramcar conductors to-day. They were conveyed to tramway depots in Black Marias to avoid pickets.

The manager is holding back the payment of wages of ordinary em-

LABOUR'S REPLY

Continued from Page One

to discovering a basis upon which the negotiations might be renewed and the withdrawal of the general strike notices subsequently considered can only be undertaken in a free and unfettered atmosphere.

The General Council of the T.U.C., while ready at any moment to resume negotiations for an honourable settlement, gives an unqualified "No!" to the Premier's request for an unconditional withdrawal of the strike notices.

The Government, it points out, was responsible for breaking off the negotiations, and any further discussions can only be undertaken in a "free and unfettered atmosphere."

ployees, who should have been paid on Tuesday or Wednesday, and the Transport Workers' Union is taking action to compel payment.

A skeleton tram service is run mainly in business and middle-class routes, inspectors acting as drivers.

The subway, local tube, and suburban railways are completely closed, and the bus services between Glasgow and Lanarkshire suspended entirely.

All forms of transport in Lanarkshire, except private motors, are

General Instruction Regarding Electrical Undertakings from the General Council of the T.U.C.

Local strike organisations are authorised to offer to meet employers immediately, and offer to supply light and power for such services as house, street, and shop lighting, social services, power for food, bakeries, laundries, and domestic purposes.

Will you, therefore, approach local undertakings and report their replies immediately?

le. The mining, iron and steel districts are solid for the strike.

Scottish members of the National Union of Vehicle Builders are out. Ninety-five per cent. of the employers in this industry have repudiated the recent agreement because the men did not give notice.

MAILS TWO DAYS LATE

Letters posted in London on May 3 reached Glasgow to-day—two days late.

An Ayrshire message states that bus transport in many areas is suspended in that area.

The Hull General Strike Committee reports that all sections remain solid. Very few trains, manned by non-unionists, are moving, and, in addition to the complete hold-up of the tramway service, private busmen are stopping. No typographical men have returned.

Five miles of docks are at complete standstill, and all other sections affected remain firm.

The conduct of all the strikers is excellent, the moral high, and spirits strong.

Hull Tramways Committee excluded Labour members from the meeting held to try and arrange a skeleton tramway service.

HOW THE "B.W." CAME OUT

Dramatic Message: "You Can Go Ahead"

EXULTANT CROWD

Continued from Page One

They were very courteous, the whole staff in very good humour, and the crowd beyond the police cordon magnificent in its quiet orderliness.

Time passed, and we waited. Meanwhile, a member of the staff had gone down to Ecclestone-square. The General Council—which is, of course, in permanent session—at once considered the situation. Mr. Ben Turner, Mr. Bowen, and Mr. Citrine came up to represent the Council on the "scene of action." Mr. Pugh and Mr. Poulton hurried off to the House to inform the Leader of the Labour Party.

Then Triumph

After a short consultation with Mr. MacDonald and Mr. Henderson, the latter got at once into touch with the Government. While these conversations were going on word came that the ban was lifted.

The same message came to Carmelite-street. "You can go ahead," said the officer in charge with a smile.

The machines were started. Word was passed to the waiting crowd, who greeted it with cheer after cheer. And the police moved off while staff and crowd sang The Red Flag.

The crowd organised its own "police," who made an avenue for the cars to roll up, load, and drive away amid echoing cheers.

That was the final scene. It was the climax of a strenuous two days.

320,000 Papers

On Tuesday the news that the Government was going to produce a strike-breaking sheet with "volunteer" labour at the *Morning Post* office decided the General Council to issue its own strike bulletin.

Representatives of the printing unions came to Ecclestone-square and agreed.

On Wednesday morning we got to work. A staff was mobilised. The work went forward as swiftly as possible. A difficulty here, a difficulty there, and then a difficulty somewhere else caused delay. But bit by bit we got through the troubles. And then—enter our friends the police.

But in spite of it all we printed and distributed 320,000 copies. To-day we hope to do better still.

LEVY FOR MINERS?

A mass meeting of Northampton Boot and Shoe Operatives on Friday will decide the question of a levy in support of the miners of 1s. on men workers and 6d. on women.

THE BRITISH WORKER

OFFICIAL STRIKE NEWS BULLETIN

Published by The General Council of the Trades Union Congress

No. 3.

FRIDAY EVENING, MAY 7, 1926.

PRICE ONE PENNY

TO OUR READERS

You will at once ask when you get this issue: Why is it only half the size it was before? The reason is that the Cabinet has stopped our supply of paper.

At the docks and in a mill there are supplies belonging to us. The Cabinet refuses to let us have them.

We are, therefore, compelled to cut down our size to-day. To-morrow, if Mr. Baldwin still declines to allow the Workers' cause to be defended by the General Council's newspaper, we may not be able to appear at all in our present form.

The Prime Minister, by attempting to stifle the voice of Labour, runs the very grave risk of undoing all the good that has been done by the General Council's daily appeal to strikers to behave in an orderly manner.

His action is provocative. It is bound to be angrily resented. We hope that the indignation aroused by it will be controlled, but no one can doubt that Mr. Baldwin thus adds another alarming responsibility to those which already weigh upon him.

When the workers have no assurance that they are being told the truth they will certainly not believe the Cabinet organ any more than they will believe the Capitalist sheets, dangerous rumours will have free play.

Already these are inflaming many minds. Instead of being suppressed by anti-Labour journalists, who must know how perilous they are, they are reproduced day by day.

Thus the miniature Daily Telegraph yesterday, under the heading "Reckless Rumours," was so reckless itself as to print reports of policemen being murdered and a Cabinet Minister injured.

It is by that kind of lying tittle-tattle that evil passions are stirred. We show to-day how few and trifling have been the acts of disorder committed. To drop into the public ear suggestions that violence is increasing and ruffianism loose should be made a crime.

If the BRITISH WORKER is suppressed, that will be a crime of the same character, for it will equally create a dangerous disturbance in the minds of very large numbers of people.

WEATHER

Wind S.W. to variable, finally northerly, fresh at times; dull, some rain; improving later, with showers and fair intervals; cold.

The General Council does not challenge the Constitution. It is not seeking to substitute unconstitutional government. Nor is it desirous of undermining our Parliamentary institutions. The sole aim of the Council is to secure for the miners a decent standard of life. The Council is engaged in an Industrial dispute. There is no Constitutional crisis.

WHERE WE STAND

It is being persistently stated that Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, Mr. Herbert Smith, Mr. Arthur Cook, and other Trade Union leaders have been engaged in an attempt to reopen negotiations with a view to ending the General Stoppage.

The General Council wish it to be clearly understood that there is no truth in this assertion.

No official or unofficial overtures have been made to the Government by any individual or group of individuals, either with or without the sanction of the General Council. Complete control of all negotiations is vested in the General Council, who have had no direct or indirect communication with the Government since they sent their emphatic letter of protest against the Cabinet's wanton action in wrecking the peace discussions that were proceeding.

The position of the General Council may be stated in simple and unequivocal terms. They are ready at any moment to enter into preliminary discussions regarding the withdrawal of the lock-out notices and the ending of the General Stoppage and the resumption of negotiations for an honourable settlement of the Mining Dispute. These preliminary discussions must be free from any condition.

The Government must remember, and the public are asked to remember, that the General Stoppage took place as a result of the action of the Cabinet in breaking off peace discussions and issuing their ultimatum, using as their excuse the unauthorised action of the printing staff of a London newspaper. The responsibility for the present grave situation rests entirely upon the Cabinet. Even the newspaper concerned admits it to be true "that when the negotiations broke down the trade union representatives knew nothing of the stopping of 'The Daily Mail.'"

It is therefore merely fantastic for the Prime Minister to pretend that the Trade Unions are engaged in an attack upon the Constitution of the Country. Every instruction issued by the General

(CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO)

FAILURE OF THE O.M.S.

Truth About Situation at
Newcastle-on-Tyne

"The Organisation for Maintaining Supplies at Newcastle-on-Tyne has broken down completely, and the authorities have appealed for the aid of the unions," announced Mr. Connolly, one of the Tyneside Labour M.P.s, in the House of Commons on Thursday night. An hour later a Government representative told the House he had telephoned to Newcastle, and received a denial of the statement.

The BRITISH WORKER is able to publish the following account of the Tyneside situation, as given by the Worker's Chronicle, published by the Newcastle Trades Council.

"With reference to the Government denial in the House of Commons," says the Worker's Chronicle, "that Sir Kingsley Wood had a conference with the Strike Committee, the fact that these conferences were held was known to all the leading trade unionists of Newcastle.

"The conferences were unofficial; they were initiated by Sir Kingsley Wood, who made an offer to withdraw the O.M.S., and who suggested a system of dual control.

"The Strike Committee decided that it could not agree to these proposals, and this decision was confirmed by the T.U.C.

"The Strike Committee further decided, in view of the facts before it, to withdraw immediately all permits whatsoever."

On another page the Worker's Chronicle states:—"The nine months' preparation by the Government has failed owing to the magnificent response of the workers. If proof is needed for this statement we get it from Sir Kingsley Wood. Yesterday he appealed to the Trades Council for help. He admitted that he had lost control of the situation, and asked the transport unions to co-operate in maintaining supplies.

"His position was so desperate that, provided the unions would come to his help, he was prepared to ask the Government to withdraw the troops and marines. This the unions refused."

LEVY YOURSELVES IF AT WORK!

The General Council requires that all workers who are still in service or employment shall contribute 5 per cent. of their wages to the Strike Fund.

This levy should be remitted to the General Council through the Headquarters of the Unions concerned.

In other cases contributions should be sent to X2, Trades Union Congress, 32, Ecclestone-square, London, S.W.1.

Grim Determination To Win

CAPITAL AT A STANDSTILL

Edinburgh now a Strong Link in T.U. Chain

ENGINEERS RESTIVE

Until the development of the present dispute Edinburgh has been regarded as a weak spot in trade union organisation. The response to the call of the Trades Union Congress effectively disposes of that belief.

The chief difficulty of the Central Strike Committee has been to confine the conflict to the limits of the Council's instructions.

The printing trade is entirely closed down, except for two blackleg papers printed by a single non-union firm.

Save for a few trams and buses manned by blackleg students, who have been promised immunity from examinations, transport has entirely ceased.

OUT EN MASSE

The railwaymen are solid—not a wheel is turning, and the busmen employed by the Scottish Motor Traction Company, which has a virtual monopoly in the district, are out en masse. No effort has been made to organise a blackleg service.

The 14 N.U.R. branches in the district, along with the Railway Clerks' Association and the Locomotive Engineers and Firemen, have formed a joint strike committee.

Building trades workers are chaffing at the limitations imposed upon them. As there are no direct labour schemes proceeding a complete stoppage in this industry is likely ere this appears in print.

The docks at Leith are at an absolute standstill, and the Mid and East Lothian miners are out to a man.

GLASGOW

In the Glasgow area, the District Committee of the N.U.R. reports that only seven uniform men are working on the L.M.S. section between Glasgow and Ayr.

The tramway manager has introduced a uniform minimum fare of twopence on routes within the city. Cars are not being run in the East End, which is proof against blacklegs.

START AFRESH

County Council's Suggestion to the Government

Let all notices be withdrawn so that negotiations can be reopened, is the suggestion to the Government by Carnarvonshire County Council.

Yesterday the Council passed the following resolution:—

"That this Council, whilst expressing no views on the merits of the present dispute, appeals to the Government in the interests of the welfare of the country to reopen negotiations on the basis of the general strike being called off, the miners' lock-out notices being withdrawn, the miners to resume work on the conditions prevailing previous to May 1, and the Government to make all the financial arrangements necessary to tide over the period of negotiations."

FEEDING THE KIDDIES

Wigan Education Authority has completed arrangements for providing necessitous school children with meals during the stoppage.

SOLIDARITY IN THE NORTH

Stoppage Complete Everywhere: All Calm and Orderly

Never before has there been such solidarity is the report from the northern counties.

Everywhere the stoppage is complete and the strikers are observing the injunction of the T.U.C. General Council to keep calm and orderly.

NEWCASTLE: Electrical workers have joined the strike and attempts are being made to carry on by volunteer labour. All trams and buses have stopped.

CARLISLE: Bus workers joined the strike to-day. One or two trams were run by railway pensioners.

WORKINGTON: Co-operation has been established between Joint Trades Union Council and local authority to secure the fair distribution of food and fuel. No transport of any kind except by Trades Council permits.

SPEN VALLEY: Big meeting last night reaffirmed determination to stand firm. A Publicity department at the Trades Hall is issuing bulletins of progress periodically during the day.

MANCHESTER: The position is splendid. Lancashire and Cheshire areas report that workers are wholeheartedly in the strike, and everywhere the feeling among members of the various unions is excellent. Other

branches of the industrial world are getting restive in their desire to join in.

BEVERLEY, Driffield and Bridlington: Dispatch riders who have toured the district for the strike committee report everything satisfactory. No disorder.

SUNDERLAND: Complete stoppage at docks, transport is also at a standstill.

DURHAM: Non-union drivers employed by the Northern Transport Co. have thrown in their lot with the strikers. Horses are being fed by the strikers.

ILKESTON: Stoppage is proceeding in most orderly fashion with determination to stand fast until victory is won for the miners.

HULL: Eighty per cent. of railway supervisory grades are out, and their number is increasing hourly. Tramwaymen have refused to comply with an order to return to work or return their uniforms.

SEAHAM HARBOUR: All quiet. No trains running on branch lines between Sunderland and West Hartlepool. No motor-buses in the district.

SHEFFIELD: Response remarkable. Instructions of Council acted upon without question.

T.U.C. CAMPAIGN

In connection with the T.U.C. campaign, the following meetings have been arranged for Sunday (May 9):—

AFTERNOON.—3 p.m., Poplar Town Hall. 2.30 p.m., Shepherd's Bush, Blues Hall. 3 p.m., Lambeth, etc., Brockwell Park.

EVENING.—7.0 p.m., Stratford Town Hall; Canning Town Public Hall, Barking-road; New Cross Empire; Holloway (to be fixed); Kentish Town, Bedford Music Hall; Acton, Kinema, Horn-road; Rotherhithe Town Hall; Bermondsey Town Hall; Camberwell Winter Gardens, Peckham; Walthamstow, Palace Theatre; Willesden, Empire Kinema, Church-road.

SPEAKERS: Mr. A. Pugh, Rt. Hon. J. H. Thomas, M.P., Mr. E. Bevin, Mr. George Hicks, Mr. J. Bromley, M.P., and other members of General Council, Trades Union Congress. Mr. Herbert Smith, President, Mr. P. Rochardson, Treasurer, Mr. J. A. Parkinson, M.P., and other members of Executive Committee, Miners' Federation of Great Britain. Miss Susan Lawrence, M.P., Dr. Marion Phillips, Miss Mary Carlin, and other women speakers. Mr. W. Thorn, M.P., Mr. A. Barnes, M.P., Dr. H. Dalton, M.P., Mr. O. G. Ammon, M.P., and all London Labour M.P.s.

ELECTRICITY SUPPLY

The Electricity Committee of the Trades Union Congress General Council announces that it interviewed all the municipal electricity undertakings yesterday, offering to make arrangements for supplying light and power for such services as house, street and shop lighting, social services, power for food, bakeries, laundries and domestic purposes. A number have accepted the offer.

Other municipalities are considering this offer in different parts of the country.

PARIS PRINTERS MOVE

Counter-Move to British Newspaper Owners

Steps are being taken by the French printing trade unions to prevent the printing of British newspapers in Paris, for transport by air to London.

Posters issued by the unions declare that the circulation of these papers is prejudicial to the British workers, and add, "We intend to use every possible means to prevent this."

WHERE WE STAND

(Continued from Page One)

Council is evidence of their determination to maintain the struggle strictly on the basis of an industrial dispute. They have ordered every member taking part to be exemplary in his conduct and not to give any cause for police interference.

The General Council struggled hard for peace. They are anxious that an honourable peace shall be secured as soon as possible.

They are not attacking the Constitution. They are not fighting the community. They are defending the mine workers against the mine owners.

NO FOREIGN COAL

International Call for a Ban on Exports

SHIPS HELD UP

The International Transport Workers' Federation has asked the Transport Unions of France, Belgium, Holland and Germany to prevent the export of coal to Great Britain.

They are also asked to prevent the bunkering of British ships in Continental harbours and will prevent non-British seamen from signing on on British ships.

Immediate action has been taken as a result of this request.

The necessary orders have been given by the Executives concerned.

Already in Antwerp and Hamburg the dockers are refusing to handle coal for Britain, or to bunker British vessels. Seamen are refusing to join British ships.

Hamburg port is congested owing to the inability of British and British-bound ships to load or leave port.

The transport organisations of Norway, Sweden, Denmark, and Finland have also telegraphed to Amsterdam their willingness to carry out the Federation's recommendations.

ISSUING OF PERMITS

The National Transport Committee asks all local Transport Committees to review all permits which have been issued.

The National Transport Committee is compelled to adopt this course in view of:—

(1) The Government's refusal to accept co-operation of the Trade Union Movement in connection with the conveying and distribution of food.

(2) The gross abuse of permits which have been issued by committees.

(3) The attitude adopted by certain police authorities in declaring that the permits already issued are illegal.

N.U.R. UNANIMOUS

Reports Which Give the Lie to Foolish Stories

Splendid reports from branches continue to be received in hundreds at Unity House, the headquarters of the National Union of Railwaymen.

"All 100 per cent. solidarity," "position stronger than ever," are the kind of phrases used in message after message.

The vague allegations made in certain quarters with regard to the return of strikers to work are proved to be not merely mendacious but ridiculous in the light of these reports.

The excellent moral and discipline of the men is plainly indicated by the steadiness of the stand they are making everywhere.

In some areas games and concerts are being successfully organised by the strikers.

STAND FIRM AND ORDERLY

Stand firm and maintain order was the advice of Mr. Ben Tillet at a mass meeting of strikers at Reading last night.

Production At A Standstill

ONE-SIDED PRESS "FREEDOM"

Commons and the Raid on
'Daily Herald' Premises

LABOUR PROTESTS

Labour back benchers had a field day in the Commons yesterday, when they crossed swords with the Attorney-General over the Emergency Powers Regulations.

Following the introduction of Miss Susan Lawrence, the Labour victor of East Ham, Tory representatives of mining constituencies were challenged by Mr. BATEY to resign their seats in order to test the feelings of the people.

A motion by Mr. LANSBURY to leave out the section dealing with "acts likely to cause sedition," evoked a stirring speech from Mr. KIRKWOOD, who twitted the Government on its abortive attempt to crush liberty.

The section was carried, however, and Mr. MARCH moved to leave out the section dealing with the right

IMPORTANT NOTICE

All desiring to secure parcels of "British Worker" to be transported by motor should be accompanied by a member of the Paper Workers' Union carrying a union card.

to prohibit public meetings and processions, declaring that special constables were of the type to cause disturbance.

The Government, of course, won the issue, and then followed a big fight on the freedom of the Press.

Mr. TOM JOHNSTON told the House the full story of the raid on the *Daily Herald* premises where, on a plea of looking for something that appeared in that paper's last pre-strike issue, the police held up the first issue of the *BRITISH WORKER*.

The cheers from the Tory benches when Mr. Johnston told the Government that it was doing the very thing it pretended to be angry about—interfering with the Press—drew the retort: "Oh! I see, you only believe in the freedom of one side of the Press."

WHAT THEY DIDN'T LIKE

The Attorney-General said that there were two or three things in the *Daily Herald* for May 4 which appeared to be contrary to the regulations. One, he indicated, was the story headed, "Beware of Wireless; the Government Controls It," and another, a report that the Government feared oscillation in connection with its broadcast announcements.

He refused to read it out because, he said, it would be contrary to public interest, and the Tories howled when Mr. JOHNSTON tried to read it. The Speaker, however, supported Mr. Johnston.

Further Labour motions against the regulations followed, and were lost, and then Sir JOHN SIMON complained of the illegality of the general strike because the men had not given notice.

His speech was denounced as unreasonable by Mr. DUNCAN GRAHAM, who delivered a fervent appeal on behalf of the miners.

It was after midnight when the House rose.

In the Forest of Dean, where everybody is out, Mr. A. A. Purcell, M.P., and Mr. A. J. Cook will be speaking on Sunday.

"THE USUAL TENACITY" OF THE BRITISH!

Doggedness as of War Days: That Silent Economic Pressure

"The British," said a German communiqué during the struggle for Amiens in 1918, "displayed their usual tenacity."

That same British working class, now out of uniform, now engaged in a different and more peaceful struggle, is still showing its "usual tenacity."

Quietly, but very grimly, they are digging their toes in and preparing to hold on for as long as may be needed to secure justice for their fellows.

Day after day, from every centre, comes the same news. The strike is solid. The line holds firm. Discipline is perfect.

Empty Boasts

Day after day the pressure tightens on the industries of the country: the power of the workers makes itself more and more effectively felt.

The boasts of the Government are themselves an indication of the success of the strike.

They boast, in big headlines in their official organ, that "the vital services are improving."

What are these "vital services"? Read on. "The vital services of food, milk, light and power are being successfully maintained by his Majesty's Government."

By his Majesty's Government! Why, these are precisely the services

in which the General Council of the Trades Union Congress offered assistance to the Government, an offer which was never acknowledged.

They boast that there are eighty out of the London General Omnibus Company's 5,000 buses running: that a few tubes are more or less open; that a few main lines are running.

That is all that they can claim. These things are insignificant. It does not matter much whether or not people can get themselves carried about the West End of London.

What matters is that the great productive industries on which the whole national economy is based are shut down or shutting down.

Grip of Iron

There are a few passenger trains on the railways. But there are no goods trains. London's tube stations may be more or less busy. But its docks are silent. Day by day in the great industrial districts more and more factories close.

Not all their vaunted volunteers can do anything to check that silent economic pressure.

The grip of the workers is a grip of iron. And at whatever cost they will hold on with their "usual tenacity" until they are assured of justice.

PARALYSIS BUT PEACE IN MIDLANDS

Birmingham and Other Big Centres Stand Firm

In the great industrial centres of the Midlands, as well as in the less populous areas in that important centre of England, the enthusiasm of the strikers is still unswerving.

At Birmingham union officials are finding it more and more difficult to keep men in who are not yet called out. Several of the largest works are closed down and others are expected to follow suit almost immediately.

The local strike committee reports "unprecedented solidarity" throughout the city. When the Corporation issued notices that tram depots would be open for volunteers not a man responded.

Divisional Labour Parties are organising concerts and other entertainments for the strikers, and are also holding public meetings in all parts of the city to give the general public the truth about the strike.

WEST BROMWICH

According to the local Trades Council, the position at West Bromwich is regarded as eminently satisfactory.

"The response to the call to cease work has been complete," stated Councillor Guest, the agent. "Our main difficulty has been to keep men

and women in who want to strike in sympathy."

The opening of the new Labour headquarters has proved a great advantage to the local strike committee.

LEICESTERSHIRE

In Leicestershire the strikers are responding admirably to the appeal of their leaders to keep calm. Over 40 district strike centres have been organised.

In Leicester the authorities are making no show of force whatever, and so far not even a single special constable has been warned for duty, and a strike distress fund has been opened under the auspices of the Emergency Committee to deal with special cases of distress.

WOLVERTON

At Wolverton Carriage Works nearly 5,000 men have struck work.

NORTHAMPTON

Northampton is exceedingly quiet. Bus services have closed down. Members of the typographical Association are out.

NUNEATON

Things are quiet in the Nuneaton district, and strikers are behaving splendidly.

UNANIMOUS

A wonderful spirit prevails among strikers and unemployed boot operatives at Wellingboro. The unanimous feeling is that if the standard of living of miners is lowered it would ultimately affect all grades of workers. The *BRITISH WORKER* is looked for eagerly.

LINER DELAYED

The crew of the liner *Melita* refused to sail from Antwerp until they had cabled their union headquarters for instructions. The ship was delayed 12 hours in consequence.

Imports of Continental fruit and vegetables have been held up at Hull.

APPEALS FAIL TO GET BLACKLEGS

No Applicants for Jobs on
Railway

VALLEYS CALM

From the Special Commissioner of
the *BRITISH WORKER*.

SOUTH WALES, Friday.—From all the valleys of this coalfield comes the same report—the workers are calm and steady. The efforts to organise blackleg services are a miserable failure.

For instance, an appeal was issued for "intelligent and suitable men" for railway work. The wage offered was £2 6s. a week. There was no response to the appeal. Then the offer was increased to £3 a week. But again there was not a single applicant.

The Amman Valley, in the centre of the anthracite coalfield, is provid-

GENERAL COUNCIL AND ELECTRICITY UNDERTAKINGS

The Trades Union Congress
General Council makes the following announcement:—

"Local strike organisations are authorised to offer to meet employers immediately and offer to supply light and power for such services as house, street and shop lighting, social services, power for food, bakeries, laundries and domestic purposes.

"Will you therefore approach local undertakings and report their reply immediately?"

ing a wonderful example of solidarity and order. The official police report from this district says that the behaviour of the miners could not be better.

Sports programmes are in full swing at Swansea and in other large towns. Arthur Jenkins, the Eastern Monmouth miners' agent, speaking at a mass meeting yesterday, said that if the military were sent into the industrial area the workers would play friendly football matches with them.

STEVEDORES' STAND

We regret that we omitted to include in the list of unions affected by the strike orders the Amalgamated Union of Stevedores, Lightermen and Dockers, which is giving loyal co-operation.

Transport and General Workers' Union

(From the General Executive
Council to all
Members.)

To-day's reports state that the members are continuing to maintain their splendid solidarity.

The G.E.C. and officers sincerely appreciate this demonstration of loyalty and discipline on the part of the members.

Maintain this spirit and determination that right may win.

HARRY GOSLING
ERNEST BEVIN

Strike Scenes And Incidents

NOW WOULD YOU BELIEVE IT?

By C. L. EVERARD
("Gadfly," of the "Daily Herald.")

Dame Priscilla Peaseblossom has issued an urgent appeal to all her sister Dames of the British Empire and Primrose League to do their Damedest to contend with whatever Mr. Baldwin says he is contending with.

* * *

It is suggested that a medal should be awarded to O'Messers for the heroic if somewhat flat-footed way in which they have rallied to the cause of Cash. The gong in question would bear on the obverse a mailed fist rampant and grasping a dividend warrant, whilst the reverse would bear the motto, "For Bunk and Boodle."

* * *

There appears to be no truth in the rumour that the Brational Fascisti have been ordered to wear black eyes as well as black shirts. The collection of the former is still optional.

* * *

A message received from Birches-ter states that "the strikers here are trooping back."

A later wire, however, from the same source announces: "Previous message should read—'Strikers here are trooping back to their homes owing heavy downpour rain.'"

MUST NOT BLACKLEG

Derbyshire Miners' Warning About Safety Men

Mr. John Spencer, an official of the Derbyshire Miners' Association, reported to-day that safety men in several pits were being required to do work other than their official duties, and the infringement is being taken up strongly with the owners.

"NONS" JOIN UNIONS

At Slough, the Amalgamated Engineering Union has enrolled 100 new members from the non-unionists, and the position there is now sound. Only a few clerical workers remain to be persuaded.

CABINET MEETING

The Cabinet will meet to-morrow morning.

NATIONAL TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

It should be noted that the above National Committee, with Headquarters at Unity House, Euston-road, is only responsible for directing the activities of the local Transport Committees; It does not handle applications for permits other than those of a national character.

All applications for permits must, therefore, be directed to the respective local Transport Committee, who will deal with same.

To avoid confusion in London, it should also be noted that the London Transport Committee's office, where all applications should be directed, is situated at

Headland House,

308, Gray's Inn-road.

BY ORDER OF THE TRADES UNION CONGRESS GENERAL COUNCIL.

LOYAL OBEDIENCE TO T.U.C. ORDERS

Home Office Reports "No Serious Trouble": Good-Humoured Crowds

The General Council's appeal to all trade unionists taking part in the strike not to give any opportunity for police interference has been most loyally observed.

The Home Office reported that in London and the Home Counties no serious trouble occurred yesterday, and the only incidents reported from the Provinces were of minor importance.

There was the daily crop of alarming rumours, which were invariably followed by complete denials.

In every case reported the whole influence of the strike leaders in the local areas has been thrown heavily on the side of the most peaceful conduct of the dispute.

The number of incidents is extraordinarily small, and the police courts would appear to be clearer of cases than in times of industrial peace.

"OBEY POLICE ORDERS!"

The union leaders in Norfolk have issued emphatic orders that the Chief Constable is not to be in any way embarrassed, that police orders shall be obeyed, and all disorder avoided.

A STRIKING EXAMPLE

At Lewes the police and the strikers have organised a public billiard match, whilst the Forest of Dean police have received a letter from the local trade union organisation saying that union members are open to assist the police in maintaining order in any way which the police think fit.

WHY THEY WERE THERE

The good humour of the strikers is fairly instanced by the following incident:—

"What's all this crowd for?" asked an old woman, looking wonderingly at a vast and orderly crowd in Hammersmith Broadway. "I can't see anything."

"Oh," explained a striker, with a merry twinkle in his eye. "Can't you see? There's two rooms to let."

"NO VIOLENCE" ORDER

When a man was at Yarmouth fined £2 for throwing a stone through a window of a Corporation bus, defending solicitor, instructed by the Trans-

port and General Workers' Union, stated that, as was already well known, this organisation dissociated itself absolutely from all acts of violence.

BEER HELD UP

Peaceful appeals are being made by the pickets at Blackburn, where there have been one or two minor incidents, resulting in two men being arrested but liberated shortly afterwards. There was a lively scene at a brewery, where 20 policemen had a brief struggle with a crowd trying to prevent a lorry laden with beer from leaving.

DETENTION SEQUEL

A man was detained at Middlesbrough following an alleged attempt to stop a train at a level crossing near the station, and a baton charge by the police.

A crowd gathered outside the municipal building where the man was detained, but on the Mayor and a local Labour leader appealing for calmness and patience, they quietly dispersed.

POLICE AND PEOPLE

Buses were suspended at Hull, following a peaceful demonstration by a crowd of some thousands. There was no violence. Mounted police are now patrolling the streets.

SEQUEL TO PICKETING

That the police drew their batons and attacked the crowd during a disturbance which was a sequel to picketing at the tramcar depot at Bridgeton, Glasgow, at 2 a.m., was alleged when eight miners from Cambuslang were remanded at Glasgow Eastern Court.

"THE SURREY FOWL"

The driver of a privately-owned bus appeared on the London street to-day encased in wire netting, which extended over the engine-bonnet. He was humorously hailed in the Strand as the "Surrey Fowl."

MINER'S WIFE JAILED

A Hunslet miner's wife has been sent to prison for two months for breaking the window of a tramcar at Leeds. Two other persons were fined.

MEETING FOR WIVES

Wimbledon strike committee reports that the men are as solid as they were on Tuesday morning. A special meeting of strikers' wives is among the notable events. A football match has been arranged between the N.U.R. and the Railway Clerks.

FOR INVALIDS ONLY

The decision of taxi-men to line up with their comrades proved a staggering blow to the authorities. Of the very few taxi-cabs remaining on the streets the majority are engaged in special tasks of necessity, such as conveying invalids to hospital.

FOOD SUPPLIES

All questions of policy dealing with the release of all classes of foodstuffs are now placed in the hands of a National Committee, consisting of representatives of all the Transport Unions, with Mr. J. Marchbanks, Unity House, London, as Secretary.

Telegraphic Address: "BEWARE, EUSROAD"

Telephone Number: Museum 9101 (4 lines)

to whom all communications must be sent.

This Committee is authorised and is the sole Committee to issue all advice, procedure, instructions and permits nationally, and directions with regard to local permits for the removal of any foodstuffs.

This applies to all other forms of transport.

FINALLY—all permits are at present under review.

(Signed) TRADES UNION GENERAL COUNCIL

STRIKERS WEAR WAR MEDALS

How O.M.S.-ers "Assisted" the Railway Co.s

AT LONDON DEPOTS

By Our Special Commissioner

A tour of the great London railway stations, goods depots, and the strike committees shows how strong and tight is the grip of the strike on the railways.

The O.M.S. has rendered "assistance" to the companies. At King's Cross two of the O.M.S.-ers took charge of a train. They failed to open the drain-cocks before starting the locomotive and the cylinder heads blew out.

As a result of this, the pickets told me, other volunteers for this work are not being sought for!

At Ealing the pickets told me that when the officials attempted to get a train out of the Common Depot, they managed to get it off the road, and blocked the whole line. A similar "accident" occurred at Euston, where a volunteer-manned train was run into the catch points near Camden.

On the line to Windsor from Waterloo, two steam and two electric trains have been run for the last two days. The normal service is nearly 150 trains per day.

WOMEN ON STRIKE

Marylebone and Liverpool Street stations are absolutely deserted, and at King's Cross, even the women cleaners have joined the strike.

Farrington-street goods depot, that normally handles several thousand tons

IRON GRIP ON IRON RAIL

It is significant that in the course of the official interview given by the Government to Press correspondents yesterday, a representative of the Government admitted that railway passenger service in the North Eastern division was almost at a standstill.

of meat and merchandise, has not had a train, truck or engine moved since the strike started on Monday night. A similar story comes from all other London goods depots.

At every station and depot the clerical staffs have responded to the General Council's call with unanimity.

The Central Strike Committee for London railways reports every branch as—

"ALL STRONG, HEALTHY AND CHEERFUL, SOLID AS A ROCK, AND THE STRIKE AS TIGHT AS A DRUM."

Arrangements have been made for the payment of strike pay. As a reply to the perverted patriotism of Government supporters many of the striking transport and railway workers are wearing their war medals.

JOINING THE UNIONS

In the Paddington district over 500 new members of the Transport and General Workers' Union have been enrolled since the strike started.

Pickets discovered a lorry in the Harrow-road, marked "Food Supplies," to contain barbed wire.

A big increase is reported in the number of ships idle in the docks waiting to be unloaded.

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THE BRITISH WORKER

OFFICIAL STRIKE NEWS BULLETIN

Published by The General Council of the Trades Union Congress

No. 4.

SATURDAY EVENING, MAY 8, 1926.

PRICE ONE PENNY

PEACE CALL SILENCED

Plan of Churches Not
Broadcast

IS IT FAIR?

The Churches, under a sense of moral responsibility, have offered some leadership in this national crisis, and have put forward their view as to the basis of a possible concordat; but their voice has been officially silenced by the B.B.C., which is thus shown once more to be the instrument of the Government.

The General Council, without necessarily endorsing the terms of the Concordat, calls the attention of the public to the grave significance of the Government's attitude to such peace efforts.

This morning Mr. E. L. Poulton, the chairman of the Publicity Committee of the General Council, received a letter from the Rev. Henry Carter, general secretary, Wesleyan Social Welfare Department, and the Rev. P. T. R. Kirk, Vicar of Christ Church, Westminster, and director of Industrial Christian Fellowship, referring to an important pronouncement by the Archbishops of Canterbury and York asking for a resumption of negotiations with a view to the early settlement of the present crisis.

"The terms of this pronouncement," the letter says, "were settled after full conference between the Archbishop and leaders of the Christian Churches of the country."

"The Archbishop of Canterbury sent the message to the British Broadcasting Company on Friday night to be broadcast from 2LO.

Definite Refusal

"The British Broadcasting Company officially and definitely refused to broadcast the appeal.

"In view of this refusal, the Archbishop sent the message to 'The Times' and the news agencies. As far as we are aware it has been published in 'The Times' only.

"We are anxious to secure the widest publicity for the message at this juncture."

Accordingly we print the message in full:

"Representatives of the Christian Churches in England are convinced that a real settlement will only be achieved in a spirit of fellowship and co-operation for the

Continued on Page Four, Col. Three

WEATHER

Northerly winds, moderate or fresh; local showers of rain or hail cold.

MISLEADING THE NATION

Our Reply to Sir John Simon's Innuendos and Charges

In his speech in the House of Commons on Thursday Sir John Simon made much play with the statement that in ceasing to work on Monday night certain workers had broken their contracts with their employers. He went on to argue that this proved that a general stoppage differed essentially from a stoppage in a single industry. He concluded by saying that "the attack on the community" had "deprived the miners of a great deal of the sympathy they thoroughly deserved." The same speech was broadcast this morning.

There is, as far as the Trade Union Movement is concerned, no "attack on the community." There is no "attempt to set up a rival Government." There is no "challenge to the Constitution." The workers have exercised their legal and long-established right of withholding their labour, in order to protect the miners against a degradation of their standard of life, which is a menace to the whole world of labour.

If, in the exercise of that right, contracts have, in certain instances, been broken, that incident, as Sir John Simon must be well aware, cannot, with any show of reason, be used to give to the present struggle the sinister character which he has chosen to ascribe to it.

On the contrary, as has repeatedly been explained by the General Council, its origin and its object are both purely industrial.

It began because the Government first refused to secure the suspension of the mineowners' notices, in order that discussions might continue free from the threat of a lock-out, and then abruptly broke off negotiations on the pretext of an incident of which the Trade Union representatives had no knowledge. It will continue until the Government is willing to resume negotiations for an honourable termination of the Mining Dispute.

Sir John Simon spoke of the "sympathy" which the miners "thoroughly deserved." His sympathy would have been appreciated better if it had been given at a somewhat earlier date, and if it were not confined to words.

Had the Trade Union Movement not responded to their appeal for assistance, the miners would have been condemned to struggle unaided against the monstrous terms imposed by the mineowners. The sympathy which counts has found expression in the spontaneous movement of generous indignation which has rallied the workers to their defence throughout the length and breadth of the country.

SILENT ARSENAL AT WOOLWICH

"Not One Case of Black-
legging Reported"

50,000 OUT

From Our Special Correspondent

The silent strike holds sway in Woolwich. The great Arsenal and Dockyard are like an industrial mausoleum. No sound of a hammer breaks the stillness throughout the hundreds of shops and not a wheel is turning.

The eight to ten thousand workers who in normal times inhabit during working hours this vast hive of metal working are either at home, attending to their picket duties, playing cards or billiards at one of the many Labour clubs in the district, or chatting in the street with comrades.

I was told stories of naval ratings and troops, as guards within the Arsenal and dockyards, but force is futile!

LEVY YOURSELVES IF AT WORK!

The General Council requires that all workers who are still in service or employment shall contribute 5 per cent. of their wages to the Strike Fund.

This levy should be remitted to the General Council through the Headquarters of the Unions concerned.

Other contributions should be sent to X2, Trades Union Congress, 32, Eccleston-square, London, S.W.1.

to make the wheels go round. The O.M.S. has not been able to provide the skilled and technical workers that can work metal with accuracy and precision, nor do the heavy manual tasks normally performed within the great establishment.

Outside, not a tram, bus, or other public conveyance is to be seen. The dock gates all the way to London are closed. Loyalty to the call of the General Council is complete, and order and good humour prevail.

Workers at one big glass works gave a percentage of their last week's wages towards the strike funds, 410 joined the union, formed a new branch and threw in their lot with the strike, refusing the offer of the management of 2s. per hour and a three months' bonus.

Not one case of blacklegging has been discovered; the local Committee has the situation in complete and orderly control.

Published for the General Council of the Trades Union Congress by Victoria House Printing Company, 2, Carmelite-street, London, E.C.4. Telephone (8 lines): 8210 City.

Railwaymen's Fine Discipline

WEST AND SOUTH REMAIN FIRM

Heartening Reports from
All Quarters

STRIKE BULLETINS

Heartening messages of quiet determination loyally to follow the instructions of the leaders come from every part of the west and south.

BRISTOL: Bristol is solid, apart from the non-union tram workers, and the fact of the appearance of attenuated local newspapers—which read as though they were set by apprentices. These “dope sheets” are more than counterbalanced by the Strike Bulletins of the Central Committee, which are printed and distributed by voluntary workers.

PORT TALBOT: A concert and football match is being arranged to interest strikers. No buses are running, and Cwmavon Strike Committee's Bulletin reports that the workers have decided to prohibit Capitalist papers in workers' institutions. Workers are urged not to buy capitalist news sheets.

CARDIFF: Everything is quiet, and the men are standing fast. Essential services at South Wales Docks are being maintained. Men at Cardiff power station are coming out as a protest against the running of trams by volunteers.

WREXHAM: The new Miners' Institute, established at a cost of £15,000, is a hive of industry. Workers are meeting constantly to consider their line of action. All builders, except those on housing and hospital work, are idle, and many at the brick works have been stopped through the coal shortage. The motor-buses have also stopped.

SWINDON: Conditions unchanged. Fourteen thousand workers at the G.W.R. works are on strike, and the works are closed, as also is Wills' tobacco factory and the mat factory at Highworth, six miles from Swindon. Mr. Ben Tillet addressed a mass meeting in Swindon Park.

OXFORD: The Oxford Union Society passed a resolution against the Government, and a movement is being started, with the support of the Bishop of Oxford, the late Bishop of Liverpool, the Masters of Balliol and University Colleges, together with the leading clergy of every Church and denomination, to call upon the Government to reopen negotiations.

SOUTHAMPTON: The O.M.S. is offering 16s. a day plus all food for labour at the docks. Everywhere the instructions of the Trades Union Congress are loyally being carried out. Miss Margaret Bondfield, at a meeting, declared it was a wonderful inspiration to find such solidarity and discipline.

PLYMOUTH: Teams representing the local police and strikers are to play a game of football to-morrow. The Chief Constable will kick off. “Plymouth is playing its part admirably in the great national dispute thrust upon us by the Conservative Government,” was the message from the Trades Council.

FISH HELD UP

Fish dock workers at Hull ceased work this morning. No trawlers are being discharged.

The London Hospital having consented to reopen the out-patients' department on Monday, the Stepney Trades Council has agreed that the Hospital shall have a full supply of electricity.

LOCO. UNION MEMBERS “AS USUAL”

N.U.R. Message: “Stoppage 100 p.c.
Efficient: Maintain Position”

CLERKS' GOOD REPORT

Quiet confidence prevails among the members of the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen, which, as most people know, is one of the three great unions catering exclusively for railway workers.

Mr. J. Bromley, general secretary of the A.S.L.E. and F., reports that his union in this strike is “as usual”—that is, practically out to a man, and prepared to stand to the end.

Reports from the Society branches throughout the whole of Great Britain are unanimous as to the solidity of the stoppage of A.S.L.E. and F. men, even the Isle of Wight being closed.

Mr. Bromley says that any few trains that may be running are being worked by subordinate officers of the company in the loco. department, and possibly one or two non-union black-legs, but they will have not the slightest effect.

He adds: It is easy, as the Government tries to do, to show a large number of trains as running, because one engine may make a number of short trips, each of which is called and booked as a train, but all railwaymen know how little it means.

Mr. Cramp's Message

The excellent reports already given from the branches of the National Union of Railwaymen are repeated in the latest bulletins.

This morning the following telegram was dispatched by Mr. C. T. Cramp to the branches of the N.U.R.:

STOPPAGE 100 PER CENT. EFFICIENT.
BE SURE AND MAINTAIN OUR POSITION.
YOU CANNOT IMPROVE IT.

In a letter to the branches Mr. Cramp says that there is absolutely no weakening in the position, and *British Gazette* reports to the contrary are all humbug.

On hearing that suggestions have been made for running a service from Holyhead to Dublin and vice versa, Mr. C. T. Cramp, Industrial General Secretary of the N.U.R., has ordered the Irish members of the union to see

that the ships are neither loaded nor unloaded at Dublin.

Messages received at the headquarters of the Railway Clerks' Association, the third of the railway unions referred to, show that the position is being thoroughly maintained, and even further improved.

Scotland is practically solid, and from Durham, Newcastle, Darlington, Tynedock, Hartlepool and Middlesbrough wires have been received showing that the position is very strong, and that solidarity and enthusiasm are intensified.

The same kind of story comes from York and Doncaster, whilst at Hull, the centre about which the “other side” has made so much talk, the union has enrolled 100 new members, and now has about 1,000 clerks and other salaried grades on strike in that area.

New R.C.A. Men

The Railway Clerks' Association is also enrolling hundreds of new members in London, and many also at Birmingham, Southampton, Aberdeen, Watford, Wigan, and in other important centres.

London stands firm, and the enthusiasm of the R.C.A. members is unprecedented.

An illustration of the fine spirit of all sections of the organised workers is provided by the Union of Railway Signalmen.

This young union, though not affiliated to the Trades Union Congress, takes its stand with the others, and its President and General Secretary report that their members are out 100 per cent.

A few signal boxes are being worked by inspectors, but nearly all the signal boxes on the English, Scottish, and Welsh railways are closed.

The officers of the union point out to the public that the danger caused by the employment of inexperienced men in important signal boxes is a very grave one from the point of view of railway passengers.

LOYALTY IN MIDLANDS

Miners Keeping True to
Federation

EAST SOLID

Loyalty to their federation is the paramount consideration of the strikers in the Midlands and Eastern Counties.

NOTTINGHAM: Railwaymen, tramwaymen and miners are out to a man. The Notts and Derby cinema exhibitors are distributing free tickets daily among the strikers; and the education authorities have arranged for meals for three times the number of children at present requiring feeding. Work has ceased on all houses being built for speculation and profit. No newspapers are being published.

NORTHAMPTON: The Boot and Shoe Operatives have decided to make a levy of 1s. and 6d. per week on all male and female workers respectively to aid the strikers.

NORWICH: Each day the number of those on strike or stopped is increasing. At present they number about 5,000. Complete solidarity in the outlying districts, which include Cromer, Lynn, Norwich, and Southwold, is reported.

WORCESTER: Building trade operatives, with the exception of those on housing, have now joined the strikers. An attempt to run a volunteer bus service failed.

IPSWICH: The response to the request for a stoppage has been complete. Yesterday the corporation workers came out, and no newspapers have appeared since Tuesday.

NUNEATON: All is quiet on the Warwickshire coalfields, where the conduct of the strikers is exemplary.

LINCOLN: In the face of a notice threatening dismissal to all corporation workers on strike, the latter have intimated they will not return to work. The notice has now been withdrawn.

RUGBY: The strikers are firm but cheerful. They are pleasantly occupied with sports and meetings.

COVENTRY: Mr. Walter Givens, secretary of the A.E.U. at Coventry, estimates that 95 per cent. of the Coventry membership of the union is now on strike. All pattern makers left work to-day. The town remains quiet.

NORTHAMPTON: A mass meeting of boot and shoe operatives has decided to institute a levy of all workers, men women and youths, in support of the miners.

EXEMPLARY CREW

Peaceful Conditions at Great
Railway Centre

Eleven thousand railwaymen are out at Crewe, where the position is entirely satisfactory, and the behaviour of the strikers exemplary.

The Chief Constable of the county, Major Malcolm, states that if this state of things continues no extra police will be imported.

The non-payment of wages to works employees, which the railway company say was due to the strike of the clerical staff who usually make up pay-sheets, has been the subject of strong protest by the Central Strike Committee, but it is hoped that this difficulty will be surmounted.

The committee is organising a strike fund, and an emergency committee has been appointed to deal with food and coal supplies.

At Bradford work is curtailed for lack of coal, and the whole organised transport workers are out.

OVERSEA UNIONS

Export of Coal to England
Forbidden

The Executive of the French General Confederation of Labour has approved the measures taken by the mining, railway and transport unions to prevent exports of coal to England.

The Polish, Checko-Slovak and Mexican trade unions have forbidden the export of coal to England or the bunkering of British ships at Danzig or in Mexican ports.

A RUSSIAN T.U. OFFER

The report in the foreign press yesterday that an offer of assistance had been made by Russian trade unions was confirmed this morning by a definite contribution being offered to the General Council. The Council has informed the Russian Trade Unions, in a courteous communication, that they are unable to accept the offer, and the cheque has been returned.

Vanmen to the number of about 1,000 have struck at Messrs. J. Lyons and Co., Cadby Hall, Kensington.

CIVIL SERVANTS HELP

Unions to Give Miners
Financial Aid

The Union of Post Office Workers is receiving strong support from its branches in backing up the General Council. Subscriptions are flowing in.

The annual conference of the Civil Service Clerical Association, after hearing a full account of the negotiations between the General Council and the Government on the mining dispute, decided by 258 votes to 215 to confirm the action of the Executive in offering financial assistance to the miners.

In addition, the Civil Service Clerical Association has decided to institute among its members a voluntary fund to aid the wives and children of the miners.

WORLD SYMPATHY

Messages of support and sympathy have been sent to the T.U.C. by the South African Trades Union Congress, by the New Zealand Alliance of Labour, by the Australian Railwaymen, and by a number of Trades and Labour Councils throughout the Empire.

£2 For A Full Week's Work!

TRANSPORT MEN STAND STILL

O.M.S. Blacklegs Cause Brewers to Stop

LOYAL TAXI-MEN

Daily reports are being received at the headquarters of the Transport and General Workers' Union from all parts of the country, and they reveal a splendid spirit among all the many classes of workers embraced by this union.

London and Home Counties: All sections in all parts of the area remain solid. A wonderful spirit of determination exists. Taxi-cab drivers have responded loyally to the call made upon them.

South of England: Bournemouth and Weymouth are still solid. The position at Southampton Docks is better than ever. The local secretary is perfectly satisfied with the position in other parts of the area.

West of England: Solid throughout the area. Bristol brewery workers have withdrawn their labour in consequence of the activities of the O.M.S. on the transport side.

South Wales: All the ports and districts are solid. One or two tramway-men returned to work in Cardiff, and endeavours are being made to run a skeleton service, but effective steps are being taken to stop it.

Midlands: All solid. On the passenger side endeavours to run skeleton services were frustrated. The E.T.U., the A.E.U. and the Domestic Engineers employed at Dunlops withdrew their labour. The firm introduced blacklegs, and as a consequence the unskilled trade union members withdrew their labour as well.

Lancashire and Cheshire: All sections remaining solid.

Scotland: All sections remaining solid.

North of England: The utmost solidarity, and enthusiasm prevails.

Yorkshire: All sections solid.

East Coast: All sections remaining firm. There is a general desire developing that seamen should be officially participating in the struggle.

North Wales: All sections solid. All members of the National Amalgamated Stevedores, Lightermen, Watermen and Dockers (London) are out and are picketing the water front.

TRANSPORT AND GENERAL WORKERS' UNION.

FELLOW-MEMBERS,
Greetings again from the General Executive Council and Officers.

The greatest confidence prevails. All's well along the line.

The following are typical of the reports:—

"All sections solid to a man. Morale splendid."

"Position throughout the area splendid."

"Men determined to stand to the end."

Good order throughout. Right is unconquerable.

(Signed)

HARRY BOSLING.
ERNEST BEVIN.

What Miners Really Earn AND HOW THE MINEOWNERS PROPOSE TO CUT WAGES

The real issue in the struggle is Wages—miners' wages. It is important, therefore, to make everyone understand what those wages are and what the proposed reductions would mean. In this article the matter is fully explained.

In the first issue of the BRITISH WORKER a table was printed showing the present wages for miners in the different districts and the reduction demanded by the owners. I want now to show, writes a well-informed correspondent, what the figures mean in weekly income.

We will take South Wales as an example.

The average wage for the whole of this coalfield in the month of February was 10s. 6.41d. a day. That covers all grades below the under-managers. Based on a 5½-day week, it means an average of 58s. a week.

Cut of 16s. 11d. a Week

The daily average under the owners' proposals would be 7s. 5.72d., or for a 5½-day week 41s. 1d., a reduction of 16s. 11d. a week.

But let us take the various grades of labour separately. We often hear tales of the huge money made by the coal hewers.

It is difficult to get an average figure for hewers who are on piece rates.

What they earn depends on the nature of the coal and the supply of trams. And a man in "a good place" may suddenly find himself up against a "fault"—a cleavage in the strata—and may have to work many days boring through the disturbed strata for the continuation of the coal seam.

The only definite figure is that whereas he received 62.41 per cent. added to the basic rates set out in

the colliery price list, the owners propose that the addition should be 10.16 per cent., which is 32 per cent. reduction of the present earnings.

A guide to the colliers' wages is, however, provided by the rate fixed for those who are on a wage of so much a day.

The rate is 9s. 9½d. a day. Assuming that the man worked full time that means £2 13s. 9d. a week. The owners proposed to reduce this to 7s. 2½d. a day, equal to £1 19s. 8d. a week, a cut of 14s. 1d.

Less than £2 for a full week's work at a hard and dangerous job!

There are deductions for explosives, tools, etc., which make a hole even in that low figure.

And remember, the miners are often idle through circumstances over which they have no control, so that the average over a year would be far less than £2 a week.

Less Than £1 a Week

Take three other classes—labourers, shacklers (handling the trams at the pit bottom), and the assistant timbermen.

The rate for these men was 8s. 0½d. a day, equal for a full week's work to 44s. 3d. The mineowners want to reduce them to 6s. 8d. for married men and 5s. 9d. for single men, equally to 36s. 8d. a week for married men, and 31s. 7½d. for single men.

When comfortable opponents of the miners talk about big wages they are either misinformed or lying.

Quote these authentic figures against them, and remember that they are from the district in which the opponents pretend that fortunes are being made.

The fortunes have been made by the mineowners (I know them, and have handled the bank-books of some of them) and by the sharks who live on the coal trade at the docks.

SOLID AND ORDERLY

Northern Workers Mean to Win

MORE IDLE

From all parts of the north come assuring reports that the stoppage is complete and is being carried on in a peaceful manner.

HULL: Enthusiastic and orderly demonstrations daily. Strike Committee reports the position absolutely solid. Owing to abuse the committee has discontinued for the time being permits for transport.

CREWE: Thousands of men assembled last night in proximity to the railway company's general offices to demonstrate against non-payment of wages. Tension was high, but Councillor White, chairman of the Strike Committee, appealed to the crowd to assist the police in securing order, and this had the desired effect.

ILKESTON: Local authorities are rationing food and coal supplies. Attempts to profiteer are to be reported to the authority. All workers solid.

HALIFAX: Accompanied by 2,000 strikers, 600 tramwaymen marched to the tram depot and handed in uniforms in accordance with instructions.

BRADFORD: No goods trains have left or arrived since the strike began. Only seven passenger trains against a normal daily service of 344. Works gradually closing for want of coal or transport.

WIGAN: Stoppage complete and proceeding peacefully. There are fewer police-court cases than in normal times.

From all parts of the North come **STOCKTON-ON-TEES:** Pickets have been successful in persuading non-union bus drivers to cease work.

SPLENDID A.E. UNITY

Coventry Men Commended for Joining Strikers

It is estimated that 90 per cent. of the members of the A.E.U. ceased work at Coventry yesterday morning, and their action was warmly commended at a big meeting held on Pool Meadow.

A considerable number of non-unionists have also come out, and, of these, 330 have signed on at the A.E.U. offices.

There has not, so far, been a single instance of disorder. Neither trams nor buses are running, and no newspapers are published locally.

FLOUR MILLS STOP

Mersey Supplies Held Up By Stoppage at Birkenhead

The Mersey flour-milling industry is virtually at a standstill owing to about 1,000 men in the Birkenhead mills of Messrs. Vernon Bros., Joseph Rank, Ltd., and Paul Bros. joining the strike.

For two or three days the men have not been loading flour from any of the mills.

MISERABLE CAVERNS

"If the miners have to starve, it is better to starve in God's pure air than in the miserable caverns in which the miners have to work."—Mr. Richardson, Labour member for Houghton-le-Spring, in the Commons yesterday.

Miners at Claycross have located an outcrop seam, and all sorts of vehicles, including an ice cream barrow, convey the coal to the miners' homes.

NEARLY 100% OUT

Good Report of Men Who Cast Newspaper Plates

"Not more than a dozen of our members, in England, Scotland and Wales together, have neglected to obey the strike order," says the National Society of Electrotypers and Stereotypers, the work of whose members is to cast the metal plates from which newspapers are printed.

The only members at work with the approval of the Society are, in fact, those helping to produce the BRITISH WORKER, the General Council's own official strike bulletin.

LEVY FOR THE MINERS

Boot and Shoe Workers' Plan for Financial Help

Unions whose members have not been called out are watching the struggle with no less keenness and sympathy than those already involved.

The National Union of Boot and Shoe Operatives has determined to assist the miners by imposing a levy of 1s. a week on full members and 6d. a week on half members.

The union is paying out of work benefit to all its members who are idle as a result of the strike.

Works of all kinds in the West Riding of Yorkshire are rapidly closing down owing to the absence of transport.

GLOUCESTER SOLID

Mayor and Prominent Citizens at Enthusiastic Meeting

The following inspiring message was telephoned yesterday from Gloucester by Mr. A. A. Purcell, M.P., chairman of the Strike Organisation Committee, who has been at Gloucester in connection with the strike campaign:—

"Everything going splendidly. The workers here are solid, and resolute to go on to victory. The threats of the Government have merely stiffened the resistance of the men."

Mr. Purcell's statement of the case for the General Council and his account of the conditions under which they would be willing to negotiate, made at a mass meeting at which the Mayor of Gloucester and many leading citizens were present, was received with marked approval by the gathering.

WANT TO JOIN

A report from Barking Trades Council says that the only difficulty being experienced in that district is that all the efforts of the Strike Committee are required to keep the electrical workers at their duties until the General Council informs them that they may join the strike.

ULSTER'S "EMERGENCY"

The Governor of Northern Ireland has issued a proclamation announcing a state of emergency. The first English mail since Monday was received in Ulster yesterday, via Scotland.

An Industrial Issue Only!

THE BARON TO THE RESCUE

His Rolls-Royce Runs as Usual

By C. L. EVERARD

("Gadfly," of the "Daily Herald.")
Interviewed by a representative of the *Daily Dope*, His Excellency, Baron Munchausen said that this was a strike against whatever Mr. Baldwin said it was against at the moment, and that it must therefore fail.

His Excellency went on to say that he had perfected an invention which, given a sufficiently strong Tory majority in the House of Commons, would render the use of coal unnecessary. This invention he was submitting to the Cabinet, and from the opinion he had formed of their intelligence he was confident that they would accept it.

Pressed for details, Baron Munchausen said it would not be in the public interest to disclose these. He could say, however, that his invention solved beyond question the problem of harnessing the immense volume of hot air given off by Tory members—particularly during industrial disputes—and distributing it in thermal units up and down the country.

Pressed for his views regarding the situation in general, His Excellency said that, so far as he could see, the essential services were being maintained. His Rolls-Royce was still running splendidly, and he had not missed his rum-and-milk on any one morning since the strike started. That showed that the milch cows had decided to ignore the strike order. "And rum supplies?" asked the *Daily Dope* representative. "Ah!" said the Baron, "if the rum supply was cut off that would be rather rum, wouldn't it?"

Whereupon the *Dope* representative took leave of His Excellency, having first beaten him to pulp.

WITH THE PRINTERS

Natsopa's Magnificent Response to the Call: All Out

The National Society of Operative Printers and Assistants (Natsopa) reports that all its branches are solid and enthusiastic. From Aberdeen to Plymouth they all responded to the call. Not one Natsopa in any town is assisting in the production of the so-called newspapers now being put on the streets.

The general secretary, Mr. George Isaacs, states that the arrangements for dealing with strike matters and payment of dispute benefit are working with complete smoothness. Every member of the Society should have received his strike pay on Saturday afternoon.

The Committee appointed by the Executive Council remains in session day and night dealing with the conduct of the dispute.

Natsopa members will do their best to maintain for the miners a reasonable standard of living.

DEATH PREFERRED

"Grass will grow over the miners' graves before they will accept the wages offered," declared Mr. Tom Nally, of the Notts miners to a Lincoln meeting. The cheering lasted several minutes. The difficulty in Lincoln (wires the *British Worker* correspondent) is not to get the affected men out, but to keep the unaffected men in.

SUNDAY PROCESSION

The *Croydon Worker* announces that a strike procession will start from Ruskin House tomorrow at 6 p.m. and march to Duppas Hill.

The General Council does NOT challenge the Constitution. It is not seeking to substitute unconstitutional government.

Nor is it desirous of undermining our Parliamentary institutions.

The sole aim of the Council is to secure for the miners a decent standard of life.

The Council is engaged in an Industrial dispute.

In any settlement, the only issue to be decided will be an industrial issue, not political, not constitutional.

There is no Constitutional crisis.

STUDYING WORKERS

Builders Show Strike Is Not "Against the Community"

The care taken by the Strike Organisation to avoid wherever possible undue interference with the convenience of the community is well illustrated in the following circular issued by the National Federation of Building Trade Operatives to all affiliated societies, over the signatures of Mr. Thomas Barron and Mr.

STAND BY!

"Stand by me!" said the Government

Twelve years since, in 'Fourteen,
"The Country's in a fix, lads,
And needs you on the scene.
Stand by the Country's Standard
And see the trouble through—
And when the War is over
Count on Us to stand by you!"

"Stand by us!" says the Government

In Nineteen-Twenty-six,
"There's trouble in the air, lads,
And the State is in a fix."
"Stand by us!" says the Government,

"And see the trouble through—
And when the Strike is over
Count on us to stand by you!"

Oh hark! the twelve-years' Echo:
"Count on Us to stand by You. . ."

TOMFOOL.

Richard Coppock, president and secretary of the Federation.

"The exemption from the withdrawal of labour applies to all houses for the working class built under subsidy, either through the municipalities or by local builders, who may be building under the Chamberlain, 1923, Act. Further, all repairs to working-class property and repairs to sanitary arrangements for all classes of houses are exempt from the withdrawal of labour."

BRAVO, NEWSAGENTS!

Following representations made by the miners, the newsagents of Houghton-le-Spring, Durham, have cancelled their orders for daily and weekly newspapers printed by non-union labour.

PEACE CALL SILENCED

What the Message from the Churches Proposed

Continued from Page One

common good, and not as a result of war.

"Realising that the longer the present struggle persists the greater will be the suffering and loss, they earnestly request that all the parties concerned in this dispute will agree to resume negotiations undeterred by obstacles which have been created by the events of the last few days.

Back to Friday

"If it should seem to be incumbent on us to suggest a definite line of approach, we would submit, as the basis of a possible Concordat, a return to the status quo of Friday last. We cannot but believe in the possibility of a successful issue. Our proposal should be interpreted as involving simultaneously and concurrently—

(1) The cancellation on the part of the T.U.C. of the General Strike;

(2) Renewal by the Government of its offer of assistance to the Coal Industry for a short definite period;

(3) The withdrawal on the part of the mineowners of the new wages scales recently issued."

The Executive Committee of the Society of Friends (the Quakers) have also appealed to the Government and to all the parties concerned "to allow nothing to stand in the way of an immediate resumption of negotiations."

They believe that "there is a widespread demand for a radically Christian treatment of the present disastrous situation."

FREE CHURCHES

We are able to state, on the authority of the Rev. Thomas Nightingale, secretary of the National Council of Free Churches, that the statement broadcast that the National Free Church Council had placed its whole organization at the disposal of the Government is not in accordance with the facts. Such a decision could only be taken by the Executive of the Council, and we are assured that the matter has not even been considered by this committee.

Victoria Park, E., is closed to the public, and is now occupied by the military. Regent's Park is also closed.

MINERS' GREAT SOLIDARITY

"Tide of Public Sympathy is With Us"

BEWARE OF RUMOURS

Quiet confidence prevails throughout the coalfields.

"From every part of the country," said the Miners' Federation yesterday, "we receive reports of the magnificent solidarity both of our members and of the workers as a whole in the struggle for justice."

The following message was given to the *BRITISH WORKER* from the Federation Executive to all the members:—

"The tide of public sympathy is with us, and our cause grows daily stronger, as the unjustifiable action of the Government in breaking off negotiations is better understood.

"Do not be misled by false rumours, which are circulated by our opponents in the hope of sowing suspicion and dissension. Your Executive is fighting, and will continue to fight, to protect your interests.

"We stand by the declaration of the General Council that 'in our view the wages and working conditions of mine-workers are already so depressed as to render it imperative to seek for remedies other than a further degradation in their standards of life or the abrogation of the present standard hours."

"Be calm and confident and victory will be ours.

"Signed on behalf of the Executive,
HERBERT SMITH, President.

A. J. COOK, Secretary.

W. P. RICHARDSON, Treasurer."

MESSAGES FROM WOMEN

Supplementing this message, Mr. A. J. Cook said that all was quiet in the mining districts.

The pit ponies were being cared for, and the miners were co-operating with all other workers in maintaining order.

"The miners' wives," Mr. Cook added, "are sending telegrams from all over the coalfields expressing their thanks to the T.U.C., and their determination to secure a living wage in this great struggle."

SCOTS STAND FIRM

No Goods Trains: Area Committee to Preserve Order

From Scotland the news is that the men are firm in their demands. In districts the strength is 100 per cent. Area committees have been constituted to preserve order, on the initiative of the Central Strike Committee.

No goods trains have come into GLASGOW since the stoppage, and only two or three ordinary trains gone out. All lorry-men employed in transporting goods from the dock and railway sheds struck yesterday, also the employees at Queen's Park locomotive shop.

The General Council of the Scottish Trades Union Congress reports more men leaving work, otherwise no change in the national Scottish position.

At Seaham and Dawdon a transport committee has been formed. Persons wishing to travel on urgent business are being invited to apply for permits.

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THE BRITISH WORKER

OFFICIAL STRIKE NEWS BULLETIN

Published by The General Council of the Trades Union Congress

No. 5.

SUNDAY EVENING, MAY 9, 1926.

PRICE ONE PENNY

CREATING PANIC

Why the Financial Secretary to the Treasury, Mr. Ronald McNeill, imagines that "the country is nearer to actual civil war than it has been for centuries" he does not explain in the letter making this statement which he has sent to his constituents at Canterbury.

Either he is in a foolish, inexcusable state of panic himself, or he is deliberately attempting to create panic in other people. There is no justification whatever for his alarmist and very reprehensible phrase. There is not, there never has been, any thought of civil war in Trade Unionists' minds. Mr. McNeill should be prosecuted for spreading false news and unwarrantably disturbing the public mind.

* * *

Here is another example of the desire to spread the belief that "the country is in danger." A convoy of 140 flour and other food lorries was taken yesterday from the London docks to Hyde Park.

For no reason whatever except to delude the public mind, the Cabinet gave these lorries an "escort" of sixteen armoured cars, cavalry and mounted police. There was no risk of attack whatever. The lorries were as safe as ordinary traffic is at ordinary times.

The object of making this ridiculous, unnecessary demonstration was clear. It was to make people afraid, by making them believe that strike has violent revolutionary aims.

* * *

A London magistrate referred on Saturday to the right of every Briton to work when and how he will so long as he observes the law. This, he said, the great bulk of the people are determined to maintain.

Obviously this carries with it the right to stop working "when and how we will, so long as we observe the law." That is the right which Trade Unionists have exercised. The magistrate didn't mean to give us a testimonial. We thank him for it all the same.

EIGHT OPTIMISTS

The Newhaven boat train on Saturday morning contained only eight passengers.

WEATHER

Wind N. to N.W., light or moderate; mainly fair, but local showers; somewhat less cold by day.

Our Reply to Mr. Baldwin's Broadcast

The workers must not be misled by Mr. Baldwin's renewed attempt last night to represent the present strike as a political issue. The trade unions are fighting for one thing, and one thing only—to protect the miners' standard of life.

The General Council never broke off negotiations. This was done by the Cabinet upon an isolated and unauthorised incident at a most promising stage of the discussion.

The General Council is prepared at any moment to resume those negotiations where they have left off. It has been urged to do so by the united churches of the country, led by the Archbishop of Canterbury. But this appeal was withheld from the nation by the Broadcasting Company. Why?

The Prime Minister pleads for justice. He can get justice by going back to the Friday before the mineowners' lock-out notices took effect and recreating the atmosphere of hope which then prevailed.

He complains of the economic loss to the country caused by the strike. Resumption of negotiations would end that loss which, by now, must reach far larger proportions than were involved in meeting the miners' demand that they be informed what reorganisation of the industry meant BEFORE they considered revision of wages.

The General Council has never closed any door that might be kept open for negotiation. It has done nothing to imperil the food supplies; on the contrary, its members were instructed to co-operate with the Government in maintaining them. No notice has been taken of this offer.

The Prime Minister pleads for peace, but insists that the General Council is challenging the Constitution. That is untrue.

The General Council does not challenge one rule, law, or custom of the Constitution; it asks only that the miners be safeguarded. In the words of the Report itself, no revision of wages should be made until there is

"acceptance by all parties of such measures of reorganisation as will secure to the industry a new lease of prosperity leading to higher wages."

And again:

"Before any sacrifices are asked from those engaged in the industry, it shall be definitely agreed between them that all practicable means for improving its (the mining industry) organisation and increasing its efficiency should be adopted, as speedily as the circumstances in each case allow."

The Prime Minister knows this, since every trade union leader who has taken part in the negotiations has insisted upon it. If Mr. Baldwin wants to prove, as he says he does, his zeal for the community, let him, instead of talking about fights to a finish, get back to the one path by which, in his own words, we can "secure even justice between man and man."

STRIKERS AT ABBEY

On the invitation of the Dean of St. Albans, and with the cordial sympathy of the Bishop, the whole of the organised workers on strike at St. Albans marched in procession to the Abbey, where they attended divine service.

BALDWIN TO BLAME

Both the *Spectator* (Conservative) and the *New Statesman* (Ind.), blame Mr. Baldwin for breaking off negotiations and presenting the Trade Union Movement with an ultimatum, thus causing the strike.

GENERAL PUBLIC BACKS STRIKE

Revelations on a Road Tour to the West

CHEERS FOR MINERS

By Our Special Representative

I have just returned to London after a road tour to the West and back. In between the towns along the familiar Bath Road there was little to suggest that the wheels of British industry had slowed down and were almost stopped.

If anything, the private motor traffic on the road was more than usual; but the rural population seemed to be little affected. Yet the results of the stoppage were in and near even the smallest of the towns.

Along the Kennett Valley, where railway and road run parallel for miles, I missed the frequent roar and smoke of passing trains; on the outskirts of Bath and Reading I missed the tram-

LEVY YOURSELVES IF AT WORK!

The General Council requires that all workers who are still in service or employment shall contribute 5 per cent. of their wages to the Strike Fund.

This levy should be remitted to the General Council through the Headquarters of the Unions concerned.

Other contributions should be sent to X2, Trades Union Congress, 32, Eccleston-square, London, S.W.1.

cars; along the downs, between Marlborough and Calne, I looked in vain for the local buses that serve Avebury—once a metropolis, now a hamlet.

In nearly all of the little towns was at least one bank on which building work was at a standstill. It is surprising how many corner sites in these towns are being acquired for bank premises.

Reading was my first stop. The response of the workers to the strike call had been magnificent; but what struck me most was the method and order that prevailed at the Strike Committee's headquarters. Next I called at Newbury, a pleasant Berkshire town. Continued on Page Four, column Four

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PASS THIS ON OR POST IT UP

Public Admires Strike Discipline

SPORTS FOR THE MASSES

Strikers Beat Police at Football

MUSIC AND DRAMA

In many parts of the country excellent amusement and recreation facilities have been provided for the strikers and their families.

Special football and cricket matches and a variety of other sports took place yesterday, while there were plenty of indoor attractions, such as concerts, dramatic entertainments, and whist drives.

The keen desire of the strikers to keep on good terms with the authorities is exemplified by a novel event at Plymouth, where, in the presence of several thousand people, a strikers' team defeated a Police team at football by 2 goals to 1. The wife of the Chief Constable kicked off.

Railwaymen at Play

A strike football match between members of the National Union of Railwaymen and of the Railway Clerks' Association at Wimbledon was won by the latter by four goals to two. In the evening, under the auspices of the Strike Committee, an open-air dramatic entertainment, held in the rear of the Labour Hall, attracted a tremendous crowd. "The united workers of Wimbledon," said a member of the Strike Committee, "spent one of the happiest days of their lives."

Football Ground Lent

Organised sports have been arranged in the Workington area for trade unionists by the Trades Council, which has secured the free use of the Association Football Ground.

"FATAL BLUNDERING"

Famous Publicist on Premier's Handling of Situation

"There is no excitement, no passion, no flicker of revolutionary feeling."

That is what Mr. J. M. Keynes, the famous Liberal publicist, author of "The Economic Consequences of the Peace," says in a statement on the General Strike, made by him to the *Chicago Daily News* correspondent in London.

He blames the Government for allowing discussion of terms to cease.

Negotiations should never have been broken off (even though it cost a short prolongation of the subsidy) until the men

- (1) Had had put before them a concrete proposal in conformity with the Royal Commission's Report.
- (2) Until they had had time to consider and discuss it.
- (3) Until they had deliberately refused it.

No such proposal was made.

"Fatal blundering" is the expression Mr. Keynes applies to Mr. Baldwin's handling of the situation.

"Above all, he will have lost what was perhaps his chief asset, namely, the reputation of being a safe man under whose honest, quiet, beneficent rule nothing serious would ever happen."

ONE TRAIN, ONE PASSENGER

Only one passenger travelled in a train which left Maryport for Carlisle on Saturday afternoon. It was the first train to leave the Cumberland coast since Monday night, and was worked by civilian volunteers.

STRIKE BREVITIES

Interesting Items of the Great Struggle From All Parts

Evidence that the workers of the nation are united in their determination to see, at whatever hardship and suffering to themselves, that the miners get justice from the Government and the coalowners, pours in from every quarter.

Some of the brief little stories printed below contain a strong human appeal.

Fish supplies were short in Nun-eaton market on Saturday.

All employees of the Anglo-American Oil Company at Avonmouth are out.

The Education Authorities at Wigan and Barnsley are providing necessitous children with meals during the strike.

An attempt by the authorities to re-start trams in Reading district had to be abandoned.

It was admitted by the Government on Saturday that no trams or buses are running in Birmingham.

Birkenhead is absolutely solid, and the ship repairing yards are all closing down.

Meals for Children

St. Helens Town Council, which has a Labour majority, has voted £7,000 to provide three free meals a day for children.

As the coal shortage becomes more aggravated at South Shields, the trawlers are laying up in tiers as they come into port from the fishing grounds.

At Newcastle, because permits issued for the conveyance of building materials to housing estates had been abused, the joint committee has withdrawn the permits.

The executive committee of the Warwickshire Miners' Association appeals to its members not to work "outcrop coal," and to see that no such coal is used.

Ninety-nine per cent. of members of the National Cigar Makers and Tobacco Workers' Union in London area are on strike.

"MAGNIFICENT LEAD"

Congratulations to Miners and the T.U.C.

Thousands of people assembled at a mass meeting in West Bromwich to hear addresses by Mr. Morgan Jones, M.P., Mrs. Adamson, and Mr. Agar, Birmingham A.E.U.

A resolution was passed congratulating the miners on their determined resistance to a reduced standard of living, and congratulating the T.U.C. on its magnificent lead.

CARRYING ON

If anybody wants to be sure whether the General Strike is or is not a strike against the constitution, let him look at Parliament.

The House of Commons is carrying on, and the Parliamentary Labour Party, as part and parcel of the House, is taking part in the proceedings as usual.

It is complying with the Standing Orders, obeying the rulings of the Speaker, and assisting in legislation.

Thus, men whose hearts and souls are in the Industrial Strike are, by their daily actions, loyally upholding the Constitution.

At Dagenham employees of the non-union firms are out, and are rapidly joining appropriate unions. So far there have been 500 recruits. Traders who increase prices are being boycotted.

Transport workers, many of them wearing their war ribbons, attended service at St. Luke's, West Norwood, and the clergy of that church are opening the men's branch meetings with prayer.

Welders and joiners of Glasgow tramway lines have decided to join the strike. The tram service is being maintained on the central business routes at about 15 to 20 per cent. of the normal service. The working class is boycotting the cars.

Victoria Crosses, D.C.M.'s and other war decorations were worn in a procession at Eastbourne, where banners were carried bearing the legends, "Miners were comrades in 1914, they are comrades to-day." "We say no more reduction in miners' wages."

No Food in House

When two Ashby-de-la-Zouch married colliers and a pipe-yard worker were remanded, charged with stealing five fowls worth £2, the police said they found no food in the house and the children were wanting a meal. The police made a collection among themselves, and the chairman added a subscription to procure food.

At Preston, Lancs, a brewery is closed because the lorry drivers are out. No beer is allowed to enter the town. The removal of petrol from the great storage tanks on the docks was begun, but ceased when the dock safety men threatened to come out.

FURNACES CLOSED DOWN

Iron and Steel Workers Line Up in Fine Order

The iron and steel making industry is practically idle from one end of the country to another, says Mr. Arthur Pugh, the general secretary of the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation, reporting an excellent response to the strike call by his union.

Mr. Pugh adds that the members of the Confederation are fully participating in the work of organisation that is required in connection with the stoppage.

GLAD TO BE ALIVE

Veteran Leader Cheered by Splendid Solidarity

"I am pleased I did not die last year," says Mr. Harry Gosling, M.P., in a letter to members of the Transport and General Workers' Union.

"Even if I do not live to see the end of this struggle, my life would have been worth while."

"I am glad I have lived to see this splendid demonstration of solidarity that is the first of its kind in the world's history."

We are able to deny authoritatively the rumours that trams and buses are working at Plymouth.

"RESUME THE NEGOTIATIONS"

Cambridge Dons Join in Appeal to Cabinet

CLERGY'S PROPOSALS

In many quarters appeals are being addressed to the Cabinet to renew negotiations.

We printed yesterday that which is signed by the leaders of all religious bodies, headed by the Archbishops of Canterbury and York.

This is the one which the Cabinet refused to allow the B.B.C. to broadcast. It treated the dispute as one that is purely industrial, and disregarded Mr. Baldwin's attempt to represent it as political and revolutionary.

Another appeal has been sent to Mr. Baldwin by a number of Cambridge dons, headed by Dr. Parry, of Trinity College. This calls for the negotiations to be picked up at the point where they broke off last Sunday night.

A meeting of 150 clergymen, including the Bishop of Birmingham and Bishop Hamilton Baynes, at Birmingham yesterday, passed a resolution calling on the Government to resume negotiations for a settlement on conditions that the general strike is called off, the lock-out notices at the mines cancelled, and a subsidy from public funds promised for a longer or shorter period as required.

A MYSTERY PARCEL

Mr. George Lansbury, M.P., vouches for the truth of the following story: A trade unionist, well-known for his Labour activities in the East End, was returning from Central London to his Poplar home on Saturday evening with a parcel under his arm. Near Bow he met a fellow striker, with whom he engaged in a brief street-corner conversation.

A detective from Scotland Yard, suspicious, and in plain clothes, reveals his identity, and insists on seeing the contents of the parcel. Very slowly, very reluctantly, very sullenly the trade unionist undoes the cords and reveals—3½lb. topside of beef.

Collapse of the Scotland Yard man.

Transport and General Workers' Union

(From the General Executive Council to all Members.)

Unfounded rumours and false news are put into circulation. Take no notice. Your officials have authentic news.

Every district throughout the country remains solid. A few skeleton services here and a few volunteers introduced there cannot touch the general position.

Keep cool and steadfast. Do not be provoked to disorder.

The spirit of our membership is invincible. Greetings from the G.E.C. and officers.

(Signed)

HARRY GOSLING
ERNEST BEVIN

Less Pay For A Miner Than For A "Special"

"REFUSE TO BE PROVOKED"

Strike Committee's Advice To Cardiff Workers

WEEK-END MEETINGS

By Our Special Representative

Cardiff is at a standstill. The docks are idle except that two boats are being discharged by O.M.S. men.

The response of the unions has easily exceeded expectations.

One or two minor street disturbances have been prevented from developing into a serious collision by the tact of Chief Constable Wilson.

The Central Strike Committee has issued appeals to all trade unionists to keep the peace. "Keep smiling," runs the appeal. "Refuse to be provoked. Get into your garden. Look after the wife and kiddies. If you have not got a garden get into the country, the parks and playgrounds. Do not hang about the centre of city. Get into the country, there is no more healthful occupation than walking."

Eight public institutions in the City have been opened for the free entertainment of strikers. Troops of the Cheshire Regiment are here under canvas and are marched through main streets for exercise. Good feeling prevails between them and the strikers.

Mass meetings, addressed by Labour M.P.s, are being held all over the coal-fields during the week-end.

The General Council has been informed that a military cordon has been drawn round the London Docks area.

The General Council urges all our people to keep out of this area and thus avoid any possibility of conflict with the military authorities.

CLERKS AT THE DOCKS

Wonderful Reply to First Big Call to Action

The staff of the Port of London Authority and certain of the big wharves on the Thames have responded to the strike call magnificently.

Reports to the Transport and General Workers' Union from Tilbury, Surrey Docks, India and Millwall, and Victoria, Albert and King George V Docks indicate a wonderful solidarity in support of the miners and the General Council.

This is the first great venture in general strike action by the clerical and supervisory staffs. They rejoice that they can make this contribution in the present great movement.

The ships' clerks and foremen throughout the port have also taken their stand with 100 per cent. loyalty.

It is a great testimony to the justice of the miners' cause when clerks and administrative workers are prepared to throw in their weight in a struggle of the kind.

POLICE TRIBUTE

"Everything is orderly, and I am receiving the hearty co-operation of the local Labour leaders in maintaining good order," said the Chief Constable of Norwich yesterday.

TOPSY-TURVY WAGES

Welsh Pit Labourer Offered 31s. 7½d. : Constable's 46s. 3d., Plus Housing

Which do you think is of more value to the community—a special constable or a labourer in the coal mine?

You are wrong: the Government thinks more of the special constable. At any rate, that is what is indicated by the wages offered.

The miners are locked out because they refused wages which mean, for instance, 5s. 9d. a day for a single man working as a labourer in a South Wales pit (less in some other areas). That means 31s. 7½d. for a 5½-day week.

SPECIALS TO HAVE MORE

Now turn to the official appeal for full-time special constables.

These are to wear plain clothes but will be supplied with armlets, steel helmets and truncheons.

The pay will be at the following daily rates: Commander 10s., inspector 7s. 6d., sergeant 6s., constable 5s.

In addition 5s. a week will be given to cover clothing, washing and incidentals. Free accommodation will be provided and 2s. 6d. a day for food.

Let us work this out. A steel-helmeted special constable of the lowest

grade will get, supposing he works a 5½-day week, 27s. 6d. for wages, 5s. for clothing, 12s. 9d. for food—total, 46s. 3d., plus free housing.

For the mine labourer 31s. 7½d., for the cheapest special 46s. 3d., plus free housing.

A topsy turvy business, is it not?

BRIBES FOR BLACKLEGS

The same with blacklegs. Rates are being offered to men that the employers would not think of paying to the skilled ordinary workers, who are now on strike in support of the locked-out miners.

We reported yesterday the offer of a glass works firm to pay its men 2s. an hour—16s. a day—and a three months' bonus

if they would stay at work and smother their sympathy with men, multitudes of whom are offered less than 1s. an hour.

The people who are "attacking the community" are the people who are trying to break down the resistance to low wages for honest, useful work. Thanks to the fine spirit of the trade union movement this attack on the community will not succeed.

STRIKE GRIPS INDUSTRY

American Journalist's Impressions of the Stoppage

The following is taken from Saturday's Paris edition of the *New York Herald*, and is from the pen of that journal's London correspondent:—

The strike's throttling grip on industry began to be felt quite definitely with the continued closing down of industrial works whose employees were not ordered to strike, but which were unable to carry on without fuel and raw materials, for which transport was lacking.

The beginning of an increase in food and other prices became noticeable, and those thousands of Londoners who rely on automobiles as their only means of transport found their petrol costing more.

In general there is a distinct slowing down of the pulse of the nation's normal life. Traffic in the streets now has dwindled to a mere semblance of the great flood which normally surges through the main arteries.

The big retail shops report a drastic decrease in their sales. Provision stores have mostly ceased delivering goods, and housewives are forced to frudge to and from the shops or take a chance on the fairly frequent although always crowded buses.

MAILS UNLOADED

Members of the N.U.R. and the Railway Clerks' Association refused yesterday to volunteer for removal of British mails brought to Kingstown from Holyhead by the L.M.S. steamer *Hibernia*, and the mails remained undischarged. "Every step is being taken to keep Ireland clear of the strike," said the Chief Organiser in Ireland of the N.U.R.

ANOTHER UNION OUT

To the list of trade unions whose members are on strike, published in the *BRITISH WORKER* of Thursday, should be added the Amalgamated Type Founders' Trade Society. All the members of the union are out, and the Executive Committee is placing itself unreservedly under the direction of the General Council.

TELL THE CHILDREN

And Help Miners: Advice to the Teachers

The Teachers' Labour League issues a statement urging all teachers to stand by their fellow-workers in the present industrial crisis, and calling upon them to give all possible moral and financial support to the Trades Union Council and local trade unions in the fight to protect the miners from the attack made upon them.

Teachers should refuse to render any aid to strike-breaking organisations.

The miners' interests, it is pointed out, are the interests of teachers and other workers. If the miners are forced to accept reduced wages and increased hours of work teachers, as a consequence, will be faced with the same economic struggle.

ATTACKING WORKERS

Misguided Activities of the O.M.S. and Other Bodies

Cogent advice to members of the National Federation of Professional Workers is given in the quarterly report, which says, with regard to activities of the O.M.S. and similar bodies:—

"Needless to say, the National Federation is of opinion that the efforts of such organisations are not necessary.

"The action of such bodies is, in the opinion of the Federation, rather calculated to increase the difficulties than to diminish them, and their work may be considered to be directed to defeat the legitimate aspirations of sections of workers endeavouring to maintain adequate standards and conditions of work."

FEEDING THE CHILDREN

In Aberdeenshire Valley the Education authorities are taking steps for the feeding of school children similar to those taken during the last big strike.

The National Conference of Labour Women, to be held in Huddersfield, has been postponed until July. Definite dates will be announced later.

TRUTH ON RAIL TRANSPORT

Survey of Position at London Termini

TRAFFIC PARALYSED

The Government is trying to give the impression that transport facilities are improving. But the provision being made for the transport of passengers by rail is an insignificant fraction of the normal provision, and the transport of goods by rail has almost ceased.

Such goods as are coming into London are being brought by road under strong military protection.

An inspection carried out at the London termini at the week-end revealed the following state of affairs:

VICTORIA STATION.—On the South-Eastern and Continental lines there was a boat-train about 7 p.m. on Friday. No other trains there. On the Brighton section there was a suburban train expected in, and it was to go out to Clapham Junction and Balham. No trains to Brighton, but it was stated that one train ran daily to certain South-Coast resorts. Electric trains to Streatham and Norbury were run at 2.30 p.m., 6.55 p.m., and 8.15 p.m. (usually a 10-minute service).

VICTORIA UNDERGROUND.—Company claims a 16-minute service. This is actually a 40-minute service to Acton and Putney, one train going to Acton, the next to Putney.

ENGINES CRIPPLED

KING'S CROSS.—Friday morning.—One train in during a period of two hours. One signalman, one guard and one porter have remained on duty. A number of clerks who were pressed to do blackleg work have come out. A heavy engine has fallen into the pit of the turntable, and other damage to engines has occurred owing to the incompetence of the people working them. It is obvious that the amount of effective work being done is negligible.

ST. PANCRAS.—Nottingham is the farthest point to which any train is scheduled, and only one at that. Four trains in during Saturday morning. Apart from food, no goods at all. For all practical purposes the station might as well be closed.

DESOLATE EUSTON

EUSTON.—This station is even more desolate, although a 40-minute service to Watford is announced. On Saturday morning up to noon there were two trains in and one out.

PADDINGTON.—From 5 a.m. to 9 on Saturday not more than seven vans of milk left the station, and seven motor lorries entered the station, but left empty again. One van of meat left the station. No goods of any other description between five and nine can be traced as having been moved. Only four union men (safety men) are at work at Paddington with the consent of the N.U.R.

WATERLOO.—Between 12.30 and 1.30 p.m. on Saturday three electric trains and one steam train to Chertsey left Waterloo-station. Two electric trains arrived during the hour from Hampton Court or Teddington.

CHARING CROSS.—At 12.25 on Saturday one train of four carriages arrived. One train left for Addiscombe with about 230 passengers. A short train of three coaches, from Chislehurst and Orpington, arrived at 12.30.

RAIL CLERKS OUT

Railwaymen at Liverpool are not expecting their wages for last week's work to be paid this week, owing to the fact that 95 per cent of the railway clerks have come out.

All Out, All Solid, in the North

THE GENERAL'S MARTINIS

By C. L. EVERARD
("Gadfly," of the "Daily Herald.")

He was a very aged general. He could remember the Indian Mutiny, for instance, and to look at him he might have remembered the Mutiny at the Nore also. To listen to him he might have been a brigade-commander at the Battle of Hastings. And you had to listen to him.

When he voiced his opinion on any subject, his fellow-clubmen would listen to him with deference, or else creep silently away, for the general was not only the oldest member of the club, but still possessed the loudest voice. That voice, alas! which had been known to rattle the windows in Pall Mall, is now stilled for ever—or as one of his fellow-members put it, significantly, "for good."

Although sufficiently broad-minded to tolerate look-outs, the general had an intense hatred of strikes. Last Monday his temper and his temperance rose rapidly. By the time Tuesday arrived he was hitting on every cylinder. He made it quite clear to everybody that he disapproved of the general strike, which he attributed to the machinations of "these damned Chartists."

The club bore having managed to get a word in, asked the general how he would handle the situation. "Handle it, sir!" boomed the warrior. "Handle it, sir! Why, shoot 'em down, of course! A whiff of grapeshot, sir, is what they need."

"A few machine guns," said the club bore. "Machine guns!" boomed the general. "Bah! I shouldn't ask for machine guns. The old Martini-Henry rifle was good enough in my day, and it would be good enough today. Yes, sir, I should go round to Horse Guards and tell them, 'Give me a platoon and Give Me Martinis. I DEMAND MARTINIS!'"

He finished that sentence on a note sufficiently loud to pierce the cotton-wool with which the aged waiter was wont to plug his ears whenever the general showed signs of holding forth. He forthwith ambled to the buffet and returned with a tray on which he bore two cocktails. These he placed before the excited warrior.

"Your Martinis, sir!" said the aged waiter. The general looked as though he were going to explode, but evidently changed his mind at the last moment, and passed away instead. Heart failure, they say.

HORSES WERE FED

What Lord Banbury Said and What G.W.R. Says

"The horses have not missed a single meal since the strike began." This statement was made on behalf of the Great Western Railway to a news agency.

In the *British Gazette* on Saturday Lord Banbury was reported to have said in the House of Lords that he was informed that the horses of the G.W.R. had neither been fed nor watered for 24 hours.

NOT TO RESTART

Trainwaymen at Norwich, invited by the manager to restart on Monday, replied that they would continue the strike. The Norwich Strike Committee reports "100 per cent. out." "Everybody is well balanced, including those who do not agree with the Government," remarked the Lord Mayor to a *BRITISH WORKER* representative.

GENERAL COUNCIL'S CALL OBEYED EVERYWHERE

Only Two Trains Seen in Course of Three Days' Trip

By Our Special Representative
I have just returned from a 900-miles journey, from London to Glasgow and back, and everywhere the message runs: "All out, all solid." All along the line, at every big centre, Strike Committees are in session at all hours of the day and night. Not only are there enthusiasm and unanimity; but also a practical application of the policy of the General Council.

Pickets everywhere, and not a lorry on the road except by virtue of a trade union permit. I heard many complaints of the abuse of these permits, but these cases are receiving attention. At every town I heard rumours of serious trouble ahead at the next town, but always I found things peaceful and quiet, and the work of the strike running smoothly and according to plan.

The only complaint of the men was from those who have not been called out, and it became unnecessary to ask whether all were out that should be.

Nearly every town, large and small, is publishing its own little strike bulletin, either by multigraphed typed sheets.

At Preston I heard sceptical criticism of the broadcast news, especially concerning train services, as only one train has been seen since the strike started, and Prestonians know this is not the "normal service."

I did see in one or two towns a bus service being run by non-unionists, but the first tram on the hundreds of miles of tramlines I passed was at Glasgow, where plus-foured drivers and conductors were operating a "service." The speed of these trams can be judged by the fact that a policeman was walking in front of each tram I saw.

In the whole three days' trip I saw the smoke of only two trains. There was no need for me to slow down at level crossings.

Through busy belts of factory towns there was a strange hush, the familiar buzz of industry could not be heard, and only faint wisps of smoke came from the tall chimneys that were passed. The air was clear and clean.

No power of force or bayonets can break the wonderful spirit of non-resistance that was calmly manifested everywhere along the line.

GENERAL PUBLIC BACKS STRIKE

What Villagers Think of the Fight

THE TRUTH SPREAD

Continued from Page One

shire market town, where the convergence of five railways gives rise to the existence of a considerable number of railwaymen. These were in the best of spirits, N.U.R. men and A.S.L.E. and F. men alike.

And so I rode, to the music of my engine's rhythmic purr, through glorious Savernake Forest—the wonderful beeches are at their best at this time of the year—along Marlborough's wide High-street, through Calne to Bath, where I learned that, at a mass meeting of 3,000 people, with the mayor in the chair, Fred Swift, the Radstock miners' agent, had explained the miners' case, with the result that at the end the mayor had called for three cheers for the miners.

In Mining Villages

Next I rode through the Somerset mining villages, where it was good to see how the colliers had been inspired with the knowledge that their fellows of the working class had rallied solidly to their aid. At Bridgwater and again at Taunton I found all solid, and business almost at a standstill; and so I came to Exeter where, for a large proportion of the workers, a strike was quite a new experience.

Two things struck me most about my tour. The first was that nowhere did I encounter any hostility towards the strike on the part of those members of the public who are not themselves out. I found that the shopkeepers, innkeepers, policemen and postmen with whom I conversed held unanimously the view that the miners' cause was just, and that the strike was an unparalleled demonstration of unselfishness on the part of the other workers.

The second thing that struck me was the eagerness with which the little groups of railwaymen and builders on strike in the small, isolated towns listened to the message I had to deliver about the progress of the strike in other centres. In some of these places it was clear that attempts had been made to spread false news; and the joy with which the men and their wives heard the trade union version was surpassed only by the burning faith which had inspired them to disbelieve the previous stories of weakening in the trade union ranks.

On the "L. of C."

In one town, which shall be nameless, is the nerve centre of an elaborate and highly efficient system of communications devised by and operated by members of the railwaymen's unions. This system assures that, over a wide area of the west and south of England, continuous contact is maintained among all the railwaymen's branches; and, in addition, Labour headquarters also are kept in touch with the situation.

One noteworthy feature in the small towns on the West Road is the way the printers have come out. From a brother motor-cyclist who returned to London from Norwich at the same time that I returned from Exeter, I learned that the East Anglian printers were equally solid.

Published for the General Council of the Trades Union Congress and printed by the Victoria House Printing Co., Ltd., Tudor-street, Whitefriars, E.C.4.

The General Council does NOT challenge the Constitution. It is not seeking to substitute unconstitutional government. Nor is it desirous of undermining our Parliamentary institutions. The sole aim of the Council is to secure for the miners a decent standard of life. The Council is engaged in an industrial dispute. In any settlement, the only issue to be decided will be an industrial issue, not political, not constitutional. There is no Constitutional crisis.

WEAR YOUR MEDALS!

How Ex-Service Men May Make Their Position Clear

It is being said that ex-Service men are not solid with the workers in this fight.

The *Willesden Strike Bulletin* therefore appeals to ex-Service strikers to wear their badges and decorations at all demonstrations and processions, thus showing the public that the men the Government is fighting to-day are the same men who fought for that Government yesterday.

OUT TO A WOMAN

Women carriage cleaners at the Wimbledon Park railway depot are all out.

Women pickets are working at Reading with enthusiasm

A STREETS CONTRAST

"Situation in Manchester, as a Whole, Splendid"

"The situation in Manchester, as a whole, is splendid," writes a correspondent.

"The contrast of the streets with their ordinarily crowded condition is remarkable. It is like a deserted city."

"Usually the streets are thronged with lorries and the procession of trams is continuous. Now there is not a tram and the lorries are very rare. I walked three miles this morning and saw three!"

"There are a few private buses—during the day I have seen two."

A message from the Swindon Strike Committee says that the Co-operative movement there has "fixed the strikers up splendidly."

THE BRITISH WORKER

OFFICIAL STRIKE NEWS BULLETIN

Published by The General Council of the Trades Union Congress

No. 6.

MONDAY EVENING, MAY 10, 1926.

PRICE ONE PENNY

Meditations of a Trade Unionist on Reading Mr. Baldwin's Latest Guarantees to Strike-Breakers.

*So you will "guarantee" that all I'd lose
In Union benefits should be made up,
And you MIGHT keep your promise, though the woes
Of them that gave up everything to fight
And now are starving with their wives and kids
Make me a bit suspicious;
Still, you MIGHT!*

*Also you've promised you'd protect my skin
And save my bones and make it safe for me
To walk about and work and earn my keep.
I'm not afraid for that. I know my mates;
They're decent, quiet chaps, not hooligans.
They wouldn't try to murder me, Not they!*

*But could you make them treat me as a pal,
Or shield me from their cold, contemptuous eyes?
Could you restore the pride of comradeship?
Could you call back my ruined self-respect,
Give me protection from my bitter shame,
From self contempt that drives out happiness?*

*Such guarantees are not in mortal power.
I'm sickening to my mates:
That's my reply.*

ELECTRICITY SUPPLY

The Electrical Trades Union has decided that in future all permits for electricity must be issued through the General Council of the T.U.C.

All applications must be made to The Advisory Committee, 12, Archer-street, London, W.C.
Signed, W. M. Citrine, Acting Secretary, T.U.C.

ALL'S WELL!

The General Council's Message to Trade Union Members

We are entering upon the second week of the general stoppage in support of the mine workers against the attack upon their standard of life by the coalowners.

Nothing could be more wonderful than the magnificent response of millions of workers to the call of their leaders.

From every town and city in the country reports are pouring into the General Council headquarters stating that all ranks are solid, that the working men and women are resolute in their determination to resist the unjust attack upon the mining community.

The General Council desire to express their keen appreciation of the loyalty of the Trade Union members to whom the call was issued and by whom such a splendid response has been made.

They are especially desirous of commending the workers on their strict obedience to the instruction to avoid all conflict and to conduct themselves in an orderly manner. Their behaviour during the first week of the stoppage is a great example to the whole world.

The General Council's message at the opening of the second week is "Stand firm. Be loyal to instructions and Trust Your Leaders."

LORD BALFOUR ANSWERED

Day by day in the Cabinet's newspaper, Mr. Churchill, acting as its super-editor, publishes articles by prominent public men. These are suspiciously like one another.

This morning's contribution is signed "Balfour," but the hand almost all through is the hand of Churchill, who is trying, still, to create panic by representing an industrial dispute about wages as an attempted revolution.

Lord Balfour must know perfectly well that the Trade Unions have no revolutionary, no political aims. They are simply doing their utmost, in the only way open to them, to prevent the wages of an important body of workers from being driven down to a point which the mineowners themselves have admitted to be "miserable."

The reference to the Strike being directed by a "relatively small body of extremists" again betrays Mr. Churchill's hand. It is mere violent, headlong, foolish propaganda—foolish because no sensible person will believe it. It is impossible that Lord Balfour can suppose Mr. Pugh, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Bevin, and other members of the General Council, who have always been moderate, reasonable men, to have been suddenly transformed into "extremists" as rash and reckless as Mr. Churchill himself.

Such argument as Lord Balfour's article contains is very easily disposed of. The charge that the Strike aims at depriving people of food

(a) Suppresses the well-known offer of the General Council to prevent this, an offer which was rebuffed;

(b) Is completely disproved by the fact that food supplies are practically as usual.

The complaint that "the conveniences of civilised life are

Continued on Page Four, Col. Three.

CHURCHILL'S STUNT

Talk of "Revolution" His Bright Idea

TRICK THAT FAILED

From Our Political Correspondent

It is possible now to explain pretty fully the surprising and very risky tactics which the Cabinet has adopted during the past week. This explanation will make clear also Mr. Baldwin's Saturday night broadcast, which puzzled so many who heard it by its tone of apology and defence.

The idea of representing a strike which arose entirely out of industrial conditions and had entirely industrial aims as a revolutionary movement was mainly Mr. Churchill's. It is a melodramatic "stunt" on Sydney-street lines. No one believes in it—least of all Mr. Baldwin. Mr. Churchill jumped in with it as soon as the break came, made himself super-editor of the *British Gazette*, and ran it there for all it was worth.

It has turned out to be worth very little. All the efforts to make the nation's flesh creep have failed.

The big employers are angry. They say: "We have to work with Trade Unionists afterwards. A fight to a finish such as Churchill talks about is all nonsense."

The financial interests are very uneasy. They look with growing distrust upon Mr. Churchill's activities.

The leaders of all the Churches have told Mr. Baldwin as plainly as possible that the talk about revolution is rubbish, and that the dispute concerns miners' wages.

It was significant that Mr. Baldwin dropped the revolution stunt in his broadcast on Saturday. It is significant also that Lord Grey, broadcasting last night, left it an open question whether the strike was "revolutionary" or whether "its sole object was to get the best terms for the miners."

Thus all the display of steel-helmeted troops, all the tearing about of motor-cars filled with special constables, all the hints of the Home Secretary that the regular police are wanted "for perhaps sterner work," all the clatter about the country being in danger of civil war, have failed of their object.

The nation has kept its head in spite of the alarming tricks played upon it. Mr. Churchill has failed again, and everyone knows it.

PASS THIS ON OR POST IT UP

Watching The Trains—Stay In

NATION BEHIND THE T.U.C.

What a London Park Meeting Revealed

£55 COLLECTION

The quiet determination of the men on strike has impressed the outside public. The strikers' confidence and enthusiasm are contagious. They have spread to other sections of the nation.

"They don't look a bit like unemployed," remarked a young woman onlooker, who stood on the step of a West Norwood villa while a procession of transport strikers, be-medalled and in Sunday attire, marched in fours to Brockwell Park.

The immense crowd in the park gave a clear indication of where the sympathies of the British nation lie in this dispute. Many of the crowd were trade unionists, including strikers and their families, but at least a third of them were of the class which the Press loves to call "the general public"—bank and insurance clerks, small shopkeepers, holders of season-tickets, dwellers in suburban villas.

£55 Collection

It was they who contributed a large proportion of the £55 collection which resulted from Sunday's meetings in Brockwell Park. Probably it was one of that class who threw a golden half-sovereign on to one of the platforms; it may have been one of that class who later bought the half-sovereign for 17s. 6d.

Elsewhere in this issue the BRITISH WORKER prints reports of meetings at which the enthusiasm and confidence of the strikers were manifested in no unmistakable fashion. Every day the BRITISH WORKER receives evidence that the same confidence and the same enthusiasm are permeating all sections of the working class.

One incident, indicative of this, has arisen out of the efforts of the London Underground Company to introduce blacklegs into the railway workshops.

Foremen Out

The shift foremen, who belong to the National Foremen's Association, were told that from to-day they would have to carry out instructions from the chief mechanical engineer—to supervise any men brought to the premises by the company. If they refused they would receive a week's wages in lieu of notice.

The men held a meeting, and 22 out of the 27 present decided to withdraw their labour. Three were given exemption on account of advanced age, leaving only two others at work.

On Saturday morning an aged jobbing gardener called on one of our Surrey readers and handed him an envelope to be forwarded to the T.U.C. headquarters. It contained the man's donation to the General Strike Fund—£5 in neatly folded Treasury notes.

The strike is bound to succeed because the strike has the sympathy and support of the nation at large.

AT LONDON TERMINI AND IN DOCKLAND

To-and-Fro Engines: Armed Convoy in Silent Thames-side

By Our Special Representative

A new pastime has been adopted by the people who live near Euston-road, N.W. Behind King's Cross railway station I found a crowd peering through cracks and holes in a long wooden wall at the back of the station.

What came they out for to see? They were watching the "movement" of trains, for it had been announced that several would leave this station.

I found a hole, and, looking through, saw eight locomotives. They appeared to have steam up. Now and then one of the engines would move up the track, preceded by two or three civilians waving their arms. Then it would move back again.

On the platform a dozen or more people were standing, most of them holding pieces of paper in their hands.

A consultation between the paper holders and an engine would crawl up the track—and back again.

In a two-hours wait, no engine stirred with carriages behind it, and no train went out.

I mounted my motor-cycle and looked in at Euston and St. Pancras. But locomotives were even more scarce here than at King's Cross.

Perhaps Liverpool Street would show some activity. But again I was disappointed.

Silent Dockland

I pushed on through Hackney, Dalston, into Poplar and Canning Town. All along the route I passed thousands of strikers with hands in their pockets, many wearing picket badges; but no work was in progress anywhere.

In the dock area were policemen in twos and threes. They were more

numerous than in the other districts I had come through.

At the Iron Bridge, at Canning Town, I met a half company of soldiers, tin-hatted, and with rifles and packs, marching into the docks.

I circled round past several of the big dock gates. All were closed and guarded by policemen and pickets. At one there was a guard of half-a-dozen cheery-looking soldiers, smoking cigarettes and cursing the weather, for a fine drizzle of rain had begun to fall.

Inside the docks not a man was visible. Cranes, derricks and gantries stood pointing heavenward, still and silent. No rattle of winch or hauling-gear broke the silence.

I returned back through the Iron Bridge. A big crowd had gathered, mounted police lined the road, foot police there were in plenty, with a half-dozen platoons of soldiers on either side of the road at 200-yard intervals.

The Convoy Passes

"What's happening?" I asked one of the spectators.

"The convoy is coming," was the reply, and just then up came an armoured car, lorries of meat, lorries of soldiers, more lorries, more soldiers; and an armoured car brought up the rear.

I learnt from one of the dockers' pickets that about 150 tons of meat had been taken overnight from one of the ships, and was now being moved by this unnecessary display of force.

The men, whose normal work is to handle thousands of tons of such cargo each day, lined the streets with arms folded, smiling and chatting, some waving a greeting to the soldiers.

And that is all the work I saw in progress in some of the busiest parts of London this morning from eight to one o'clock.

WELSH MINERS' WIVES

Songs and Processions in the Coalfields

In the Welsh coalfields great meetings for miners' wives are being held in many places.

Five hundred women were present at Gelli and about 2,000 women at Tonypany—both in Rhondda West. At the second meeting the women were anxious to demonstrate out of doors.

The organisers arranged that they should be led by their officers and Mrs. Will John, the wife of the M.P., and a quiet and orderly procession four abreast, with no songs or banners, marched out to de Winton fields and then quietly dispersed.

MAYOR'S TRIBUTE

The Mayor of Northampton has issued a message congratulating the town upon its behaviour. No special constables have yet been sworn in.

"BE OF GOOD CHEER"

"The Fight Will Be Won," Say Printing and Paper Workers

The National Union of Printing, Bookbinding, Machine Ruling and Paper Workers has issued the following statement to its members:—

"The response to the call on behalf of the miners' fight has been magnificent, all branches having answered the summons, and we stand unitedly foursquare.

"Be of good cheer, comrades! The fight to maintain the workers' standard of living will be won by the united forces of organised labour. Watch the BRITISH WORKER for news, which is the medium of the General Council of the T.U.C.

T. G. NEWLAND, General Secretary; GEO. HARRAWAY, General President; E. W. SPACKMAN, Organising Secretary.

DESIRE FOR A SETTLEMENT

'Whole-hearted & General,' Says Archbishop

STANDARD OF LIVING

"There is a whole-hearted and general desire, not only for a reasonable but for a generous settlement of whatever presses hardly upon the poorest section of wage-earners," said the Archbishop of Canterbury, preaching at St. Martin-in-the-Fields Church last evening to a large congregation.

"Practically everyone, so far as I can judge," he went on, "earnestly desires to see the standard of living raised, not lowered; the problem is how we are to make the raising compatible with the carrying on of a great industry."

He made a bare allusion to the non-denominational document that he and other Church leaders signed last week, pressing the Government to continue the subsidy while the coal negotiations were resumed, the general strike and the mining lock-out to be called off meanwhile.

The British Broadcasting Company refused to put out the letter when it was issued last week, and the Government's anti-strike propaganda organ, the *British Gazette*; this morning, ignores the Archbishop's sermon altogether.

The BRITISH WORKER reported the letter in full in Saturday's issue.

CITY TEMPLE VIEW

"No Attack on the Constitution"

"There is no attack on the Constitution. It is impossible to witness the remarkable order on both sides and believe that we are in the grip of reckless revolutionaries. The conviction behind the strike may be mistaken, but it is honest and sincere."

This is an extract from a statement read at the City Temple morning and evening services yesterday by the minister, the Rev. Dr. F. W. Norwood.

Both sides admitted the need of very great reforms in the coal industry, regretted the conference was broken off, and professed to be willing to confer. Both knew that they must confer in the end.

"OPEN THE DOOR!"

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of England, Liverpool, had adopted unanimously resolutions which were read from the pulpit on Sunday.

The Assembly called on the Government to open the door for further negotiation without conditions on either side, or, alternatively, by requiring the withdrawal of both lock-out and strike notices.

BOSSING THE SHOW!

When the enrolment forms of V. lington and Carshalton O.M.S. volunteers were examined, it was found that most of them wanted to do some sort of "supervisory" work!

London's Splendid Loyalty

NO CONTINENTAL COAL

Transport International's Decision

TO LEVY MEMBERS

The International Transport Federation held a conference at Ostend yesterday.

Delegates attended representing their various Executives to discuss the miners' position and the General Strike of their British comrades. Unanimous expression is forthcoming in support and sympathy for the British workers in their struggle against a reduction of wages.

Resolutions were passed undertaking to prevent the shipment of coal to Britain, refusing to bunker British ships and to render financial assistance. Already sums of money have been placed at the disposal of the T.U.C., and, whilst the dispute is in process, the Unions have agreed to levy the members a weekly sum.

MINERS' MEASURES

The International Miners' Federation also met, and afterwards a joint meeting took place between the representatives of both Federations.

The International Miners' Federation passed resolutions to co-operate in preventing the export of coal and the bunkering of British ships.

In addition, they decided to make arrangements in their countries to give financial support and to levy their members.

Not a British ship left Antwerp on Saturday, and an attempt to bunker two British ships on Sunday failed, the Antwerp dockers refusing work.

Denmark workers have given notice to their employers of their decision to help the British Movement.

UNIFORM DECISION

Nottingham Workers and Threat Made by Council

Despite statements to the contrary, not a municipal bus or tram is running in Nottingham.

The tramways committee has issued a circular to employees, saying a motor-bus service will be commenced, and men can re-engage up to Tuesday, failing which they are to bring in their uniforms.

The men, at a meeting, decided not to return.

Slaughtermen at Birkenhead have struck.

TO ALL WORKERS

The General Council wishes again to impress upon all Trade Unionists that it is essential for them to be exemplary in conduct and to give no opportunity for police interference.

Pickets especially are asked to avoid obstruction and to confine themselves strictly to their legitimate duties.

GREAT ENTHUSIASM FOR LEADERS

Memorable Scenes in All Parts of the Metropolis

By Our Special Commissioner

Throughout London yesterday, going from West to East, I witnessed memorable scenes.

Magnificent gatherings of strong, determined men had assembled to hear their leaders put the workers' case before them in its latest, resolute phase.

At the Blue Hall, Hammersmith, where Mr. J. H. Thomas, M.P., a member of the General Council, spoke in the afternoon, I noted the splendid loyalty of the thousands inside and outside the meeting place. They were a fine type of worker, typical of millions of others throughout the country, who, in Mr. Thomas's words, "are showing the most wonderful demonstration of solidarity that the world has ever seen."

"I have never been," declared Mr. Thomas, "in favour of a general strike," but he went on to show how, in spite of the efforts of himself and his colleagues in begging and pleading for peace, the struggle was forced upon them at the last minute by the Government.

There was another great cheer when Mr. Thomas asserted that while the workers had no right to say to an employer, "You must negotiate under the threat of a strike," it was equally right and just that the workers should not be asked to negotiate under the threat of a lock-out.

Government's Trick

"It is not only dangerous, it is absolutely wrong to raise, as the Government has done, the Constitutional issue in this dispute," declared Mr. Thomas.

"The only way we can replace this Government is by the exercise of our rights at the ballot-box."

From the West I made my way East, where the dockers were assembling in their thousands to hear Mr. John Bromley, M.P., Mr. Will Thorne, M.P., both members of the General Council, deal with the situation. Both meeting-rooms in Canning Town Public Hall were packed, and there was the same cool determination here as in the West.

"You have folded your arms," said Will Thorne. "Keep them folded and you will win."

"Sit Tight—Keep Cool"

"We ask you not to come into conflict with the forces the Government have sent down here, because we believe the cause we are fighting is so just and so honourable that it must triumph, if we sit tight and keep cool."

Dealing with the situation, Mr. Bromley said: "We have always been willing to continue negotiations and are now. The Cabinet broke them off in defiance of the best interests of the country."

"Let's have no necessity for police or soldiers to interfere," said Mr. Herbert Smith, president of the Miners' Federa-

tion, addressing a full-to-overflow meeting in Rotherhithe Town Hall.

"Keep quiet, watch the Movement; our cause is a just one," he added.

The audience, the like of which had never before been seen in Rotherhithe, cheered him to the echo.

Mr. Herbert Smith held to running bursts of sympathy the story of the miners' patient struggle to retain a subsistence wage.

"Apart from the question of pay, remember that every five hours a man or boy is killed in the mine; every day 850 are maimed—some for life.

"They had looked," he told the gathering, "for big possibilities in the report of the Coal Commission; but the biggest possibility that emerged from it was the Duke of Northumberland, who was getting £13 10s. an hour and paid for holidays."

The Public Voice

Mr. T. Kennedy, M.P., said that in this purely industrial dispute they could claim as much right to speak for the community as the Government.

His answer to Sir John Simon was that if a strike could be considered illegal, so assuredly could a lock out.

Miss Mary Carlin, who had a great reception, said the strike had been forced upon them. They had no alternative.

Thousands of people were unable to gain admission to the Alexandra Theatre, Stoke Newington, when a vast and enthusiastic audience expressed its complete accord with the Trades Union Congress General Council.

Mr. C. T. Cramp, industrial secretary of the National Union of Railwaymen, and Mr. C. G. Ammon, M.P., were among the speakers, who were given a rousing reception.

In a speech punctuated with round after round of applause Mr. Cramp indicted the Cabinet in scathing terms.

"Sinister Voices"

The Government, he said, had plunged the country into this crisis, giving as its excuse the action of a small number of printers. ("Shame!")

"There were sinister forces behind the Prime Minister," declared Mr. Cramp, "and when the time comes to clear this matter up we should demand to know who those people were who slammed the door on negotiations."

"We went into the fight to win." "We are going to win," was the spontaneous retort of the audience.

"You may ask me," said Mr. A. J. Cook, the miners' secretary, in his speech at New Cross Empire, S.E., on Sunday night, "Is peace possible?" "Yes, yes," I repeat. We are not fighting the Constitution. This is a fight for bread.

"What are the terms of peace? A living wage. We are not asking the impossible. We are not chasing the moon."

WAGES BELOW £2 A WEEK

More About Mineowners' Demands

RATES IN THE NORTH

The real issue in the struggle is wages—miners' wages.

In Saturday's issue of the BRITISH WORKER we gave details of the low wages of South Wales miners.

Let us turn to-day to another of the big coalfields, Northumberland.

The coal hewer in that county received, until the lock-out, a wage of 10s. 4d. a shift. Assuming a 5½-day week, that means a weekly wage of 56s. 10d.

The mineowners demand that the rate should be reduced to 7s. 7d. a shift—41s. 8d. for a full week's work.

There are deductions to be made for tools, explosives, etc.,

and, as in South Wales, the net wage of this highly-skilled class of Northumbrian craftsmen, working in a terribly dangerous occupation, would be less than £2 a week on an average.

If we turn to the underground labourers, we find the old wage was 7s. 7d., and the wage proposed by the owners would, subject to any subsistence wage, be 4s. 9d.

For a 5½-day week, these figures mean 42s. (old rate) and 26s. 1½d. (proposed rate).

In the adjoining county of Durham the present rate for coal hewers is 9s. 8d. a day, equal to 53s. 2d. for a full week. The mineowners want that rate reduced to 6s. 10d. a day, or 37s. 7d. for a full week!

For labourers in that county, the rate is 7s. 6½d. (41s. 6d. a week), and the owners propose a cut (subject to any subsistence wage that might be arranged) to 4s. 11½d. a day, or 27s. 4d. for a full week.

The point that must astonish the non-miner is that the miners are not seeking to increase the present wage: they have made no demands.

The whole issue is that the owners want to cut them down still further, and the Government, by its attitude, is supporting the mineowners.

That is the reason why the Trade Union Movement stands with the miners, and why the sympathy of all other decent people is with the miners and their allies.

Transport and General Workers' Union

Message from the Executive Council and Officers.

We enter upon the second week of the strike. Last week we took our stand for fair dealing with the miners. It required courage. It involved sacrifices.

To-day we stand as firm and strong as ever. We must, if necessary, make even greater sacrifices. The miners must not be crushed.

No disorder. Stand true and still. Don't flinch.

(Signed)

ERNEST BEVIN
HARRY GOSLING

Second Week Starts Magnificently

WORSE THAN 230 YEARS AGO

Government's Contempt for the Public

ABSURD STATEMENTS

"The Gazette," wrote Macaulay in his "History of England," about the official newspaper published by King William III's Ministers in 1695, "contained nothing but what the Secretary of State wished the nation to know."

That description might well be applied to the *British Gazette*, which is being published by Mr. Baldwin's Cabinet.

But in 1695 Ministers had not such a contempt for the public as Mr. Churchill and his colleagues have today. They did not put out utterly absurd statements and expect them to be

PERMITS

The General Council desires to draw the attention of all concerned to the fact that the sole authority to deal with permits on their behalf is the local Transport Committee on instruction from the National Transport Committee, Unity House.—Walter Citrine, acting secretary.

believed. And they did not at the same time prove the statements to be absurd! Yesterday, on the front page of the *British Gazette*, there was a prominent headline: "Chief Trades Almost Normal."

Yet this is what we find in the reports which follow that heading:—

Boot and hosiery trades working half-time; lace firms mainly closed; Hull industries completely closed down; Mansfield works on half-time; large works closed at Derby, others to close; paralysis at Sheffield.

And remember these reports apply mainly to trades not called out by the General Council.

The *British Gazette* is unwittingly proving that the response in the trades that have been called out has been so splendid that the effect on other trades has been even greater than was expected.

FOOD SUPPLIES

Why Permits Have Been Withdrawn

The General Council offered to assist in the distribution of food supplies in a letter sent to the Prime Minister before the strike was declared, but this offer was ignored, not even an acknowledgment being sent to the Council.

But several local bodies made arrangements with local Strike Committees, and permits were issued by the latter.

It has now to be reported that the Government has ordered such permits to be withdrawn in many places.

In order to avoid any conflict between the authorities and men on strike the Council has felt it necessary to withdraw its permits in these cases.

BRIEF—AND BRACING

"Scotland at a Standstill": News Bulletins from All Quarters

More coming out, none going back—this seems to sum up the general situation throughout the country at the opening of the second week of the fight, which continues to be waged by the workers with calm determination and an enthusiastic will to win.

Glasgow, on the whole, remains quiet, and the East End has become more settled. Food services are regular, and the city has a nine days' supply of domestic fuel.

In the Clyde area the railwaymen are still rock-like in their steadiness, and all rail clerks, save 300, are out.

N.U.R. meetings in Pollokshaws were banned by the police on Saturday night, these being the first union gatherings vetoed here.

Neither trains nor tubes are running in Glasgow, and the few buses on the road are protected by wire netting.

"Everything satisfactory—no weakening in the ranks," is the report of the Scottish T.U.C. General Council.

Reports from Lanarkshire, Fifeshire, and other coalfields show that all ranks are united and calm.

EXPRESS!

A train from King's Cross to Edinburgh took 37½ hours for the journey on Friday.

Peaceful picketing is being interfered with by the police at Edinburgh. In several cases agents-provocateur are at work representing themselves as speakers sent by the Central Strike Committee.

"The position in Scotland is that we have almost a complete standstill" we have an almost complete standstill" is the analysis of the situation by the Scottish Trades Union Congress General Council.

"Altogether the response has been very much better than anything we had hoped for. During the last two days, the unorganised workers on road transport and buses have been throwing in their lot with the strikers in large numbers."

Manchester strike headquarters reports everything satisfactory.

Leicester reports an unfaltering determination of all strikers to stand firm. All is quiet.

"All firm" is Rugby's report. Record crowds attended enormous week-end meetings.

COTTON MILLS CLOSING

Several cotton mills have shut down at Bolton owing to transport difficulties. There have been no untoward incidents.

Everything is quiet at Coventry, where the position has been further consolidated by the engineers ceasing work.

"All solid," reports Sunderland, where all is quiet, the Joint Strike Committee having a firm grip of the situation.

Woodworkers and machinists came out to-day at Lowestoft, determined to join their fellow-workers in their stand by the miners.

A vast meeting at West Bromwich carried with great enthusiasm a resolution asking the T.U.C. to call out all remaining trades.

Huge orderly meetings, addressed by the local Labour M.P.s, were held in the Newcastle district, where the strikers remain absolutely four-square.

The Mayor of Newport (Monmouth) has commended the strikers for their splendid behaviour. Wonderfully enthusiastic meetings marked the week-end.

At Swindon, where good order and the utmost optimism prevails, meetings are being held daily in the parks. The local Free Church Council has thrown open its schools for rest and recreation.

Southampton's Strike Committee reports that the position is getting stronger every day. Last night's demonstration was the largest ever held in the town, and remarkable enthusiasm was displayed.

GOING TO THE GUARDIANS

Huge crowds attended the week-end meetings at Llanelly, where the Guardians' decision to relieve only families of destitute strikers has been provisionally rescinded. Until the Board meets again relief is being granted to the strikers.

Many men continue to join the strikers in North Wales. No trams, motor-buses, or taxicabs are running at Wrexham. Workmen are out at Ruabon Brickworks owing to the stoppage, and more than a thousand are idle at Brymbo Steel Works.

"Start the new week with the full determination to see that victory is not only sure, but for all time." This was the message read to great meetings at Worcester, addressed by Miss Ellen Wilkinson, M.P. The whole district is "loyal to the core."

All remains calm in mid-Glamorgan mining district, where complete confidence prevails. Mass meetings were held over the week-end, and had a splendid effect. In all parts of the district ministers of religion pleaded for justice for the workers' cause.

REPLY TO BALFOUR

Continued from Page One

diminished" ignores what more and more people are saying every day—that the blame for this lies on Mr. Baldwin. Also, it forces one to ask if Lord Balfour has ever seen for himself how vast numbers of miners and other workers are almost totally deprived of those civilised conveniences which are necessary to his comfort, and by which he sets so much store.

A very important admission is made by Lord Balfour about miners' wages. He says that they cannot, "under existing conditions," be kept even at their present pitifully low level. This makes it essential that the reorganisation of the mines should be gone into thoroughly now. We are glad to find Lord Balfour in agreement with us on that point.

But we are sorry a public man of his reputation and long experience should so far forget what he owes to the nation as to sign nonsensical stuff about that "revolution" which exists nowhere save in Mr. Churchill's heated and disorderly imagination.

THOSE EXTRA SPECIALS

By C. L. EVERARD
"Gadfly," of the "Daily Herald."

Despite the fact that the Government's appeal for Extra Special constables was fairly explicit, there seems to be some doubt in what passes for the minds of certain stout fellows who are willing to perform a job of work in defence of the Baldwinstitution as to what they are letting themselves in for. The answer seems to be, a pretty soft number compared with that of, say, the perspiring citizens who have enrolled in the O.M.S.

After all, five bob a day and the doings sounds juicy, does it not?

On the other hand, it must also be admitted that standing for hours at a street corner in the faint hope that

LEVY YOURSELVES IF AT WORK!

The General Council requires that all workers who are still in service or employment shall contribute 5 per cent. of their wages to the Strike Fund.

This levy should be remitted to the General Council through the Headquarters of the Unions concerned.

Other contributions should be sent to X2, Trades Union Congress, 32, Eccleston-square, London, S.W.1.

one may be mistaken for a real police-constable, instead of an Extra Special, lacks that joyous variety which the strikers were permitted to enjoy whilst in Flanders and environs.

Now for my correspondence.

EGBERT (Balham).—No, Egbert. The idea that you will be asked to wear a Household Cavalry helmet is erroneous, since this necessitates the donning of a cuirass or tin weskit. The matter may have to be considered later on, but at present the special idea is to issue the regulation steel helmet common to all arms on active service. You may have seen pictures of these. They may not look very posh, but were found very serviceable by thousands of the men now withholding their labour when they were engaged elsewhere, 1914-1918.

CLARENCE (Sarbiton).—So far as I can gather, there is no definite instruction against Extra Specials wearing two spats whilst on duty, providing they also wear one armlet. As spats, however, may tend to confuse you with the O.M.S.-ers, it might be advisable to forgo them.

ALOYSIUS (Balls Pond).—No, Aloysius. It would not be correct for you to give the Fascist salute—otherwise the Mussolini Motion—whilst on duty. It is liable to be misunderstood by drivers of vehicles, if any, and to cause unnecessary congestion.

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THE BRITISH WORKER

OFFICIAL STRIKE NEWS BULLETIN

Published by The General Council of the Trades Union Congress

No. 7.

TUESDAY EVENING, MAY 11, 1926.

PRICE ONE PENNY

ENGINEERS TO STOP TO-DAY

Shipyards Also: Orders Welcomed

STRIKE SPREADS

So far from "dabbling back," as Mr. Churchill pretends, the men on strike are standing like a rock, and more are coming out.

To-morrow another section of the Movement will be called into action, the order having gone forth that the engineering shops and shipyards are to stop to-night.

The order applies to all unions in the engineering and shipbuilding trades affiliated to the Trades Union Congress.

It does not apply to men engaged at the Government dockyards, Admiralty establishments, or Government engineering works.

The men have awaited the instructions impatiently, and all over the country they received their marching orders with enthusiasm and a sense of relief.

In addition to the men obeying this call to reinforce the gallant "first line," others are out, either because of

MORE UNIONS OUT

The Amalgamated Moulders, Shipyard workers, and members of the Amalgamated Engineering Unions as well as General Engineering Unions will not start work to-morrow.

refusal to work with blacklegs, or because the pressure of the strike is closing down the factories.

Some of the very small percentage of N.U.R. members who hesitated at first have now joined up.

"Not a single area has weakened," is Mr. Cramp's report.

At Bradford 7,000 operative dyers ceased work yesterday because of the introduction of blacklegs at night.

Twenty-five thousand strikers are now out in Lancashire and shire.

The general position in Preston is unchanged, the men remaining confident of winning the fight.

NO SLACKENING

Cabinet's New Tactics Defeated by Indisputable Facts

The Cabinet and its supporters have dropped Mr. Churchill's "Revolution" stunt.

The "Times" says to-day in a leading article: "No one suggests for a moment that any considerable number of men on strike are animated by revolutionary motives."

That marks the end of Mr. Churchill's foolish and dangerous gamble. Now the Cabinet's tactics are changed. Now the official gramophones are grinding out the statement that strikers are going back to work.

This is as much a fabrication as the other. The number of strikers has not diminished; it is increasing. There are more workers out to-day than there have been at any moment since the strike began.

They will stay out until they are instructed by Headquarters to return to work.

THE REAL TRUTH OF THE COAL NEGOTIATIONS

Chairman of General Council Replies to Sir Douglas Hogg

In the Government publication, the *British Gazette*, of this morning, appears an article by the Attorney-General, Sir Douglas Hogg, which purports to state the truth of the coal negotiations. As one who has been directly associated with those negotiations, I claim the right to speak with a degree of authority on this matter which neither the Attorney-General nor anyone else with second-hand information can possibly possess.

The initial cause of the deadlock was the mineowners' arbitrary attitude in refusing to conduct national negotiations as recommended in the Commission's Report, and their action in giving notices to enforce a general reduction in wages.

From the moment the mineowners issued lock-out notices to their workpeople, the question at issue, so far as the General Council was concerned, was the withdrawal of those notices as a condition preliminary to the conduct of negotiations. From that we have never receded.

The Government representatives insisted that the mineworkers must first declare themselves definitely as willing to accept a reduction in wages.

In these circumstances, and in view of the inevitability that there would be a stoppage throughout the coalfields on May 1 if the notices and demands of the mineowners were pressed, the General Council decided to call a conference of the responsible Executives of the unions

CONTINUED ON PAGE FOUR

FIVE RAILWAY CRASHES

Sequel to Blackleg and "Voluntary" Labour

FOUR DEAD

The attempt to work the intricate mechanism of the British railway system by "volunteer" and blackleg labour has already had a tragic sequel.

No fewer than five serious passenger train accidents occurred yesterday and this morning—two of them resulting in loss of life.

The worst occurred yesterday afternoon on the L.N.E.R. at St. Margaret's, Edinburgh.

While a number of wagons were being shifted from the up to the down main line a passenger train from Berwick, manned by a volunteer crew, crashed into them.

Three people were killed, 16 injured. About the same time the "express" train from Edinburgh to King's Cross jumped the line between Annitsford and Crumlington. The engine and five coaches overturned and caught fire. No one was killed.

At Bishop's Stortford a goods train from Cambridge crashed into a passenger train standing in the station. The goods engine and two passenger coaches were derailed and the station partially wrecked. One body has been recovered from the wreckage.

This morning an electric train from Selhurst, running into Victoria Station, failed to stop in time and collided with a stationary coach.

At Hull on Monday night a "volunteer" ran his engine into some stationary wagons. He himself was severely injured.

These accidents—all within the space of 24 hours—are a grim commentary on the claim of the companies and the Government that something like a "normal" train service is being restored.

"Accidental death" was the verdict returned to-day at the inquest on C. A. Moon, a young engineer's draughtsman, living at Guildford. He volunteered to act as a passenger guard on an electric railway, stepped on a live rail, and was instantly killed.

Published for the General Council of the Trades Union Congress by Victoria House Printing, 2, Carmelite-street, E.C.4. Telephone (8 lines) 5111.

PASS THIS ON OR POST IT UP

No Breach In Our United Front

WINSTON, THE SUPPRESSOR

Commons and Appeal to the Churches

PAPER FOR "B.W."?

The Government's official newspaper came in for criticism at Monday's sitting of the House of Commons. Why, members asked, had the British Broadcasting Company and the *British Gazette* suppressed the appeal made by the Archbishop of Canterbury and other leaders of

LOCAL TRANSPORT COMMITTEES

The General Council asks all local Transport Committees that have been set up, to forward the name and address of their secretary, and place of meeting to the National Transport Committee, Unity House, Euston-road, London, N.W.

the Churches after the Lambeth meeting last Friday? Mr. LLOYD GEORGE especially pressed for an answer to this question.

Mr. CHURCHILL, as editor, said it was not to be expected that the *British Gazette* could be conducted under present conditions without many mistakes. The paper had to be set up slowly by amateurs. He disclaimed responsibility for the B.B.C.

The "British Worker"

Would newsprint be rationed impartially? M.P.s asked. Would the publication of the *BRITISH WORKER* be permitted?

The publication of the *BRITISH WORKER*, Mr. Churchill replied, was a matter for the Home Office. As for newsprint, the embargo had fallen on the *BRITISH WORKER* as on other papers. When supplies were better, the *BRITISH WORKER* might have some consideration.

The wages paid to special constables were the subject of a breezy interchange, Government supporters asking why miners could not join the "specials," and Labour supporters retorting that the others should go and work in mines.

N.U.R. SOLIDARITY

"Reports from every centre indicate strength fully maintained: no signs of weakening," is the official summary, based on messages from hundreds of branches, of the position with regard to the National Union of Railwaymen.

Reports that men have returned to work at different centres have proved to be entirely without foundation.

MORE DISASTROUS

Disastrous as the General Strike may be, it is the symptom of something more disastrous—the unequal distribution of wealth.—Dr. Gregg, the Protestant Archbishop of Dublin, in a sermon yesterday.

STRIKING SNAPSHOTS

Little Views and Reviews of Position All Along the Line

A remarkable revelation of the cheerful determination of the rank and file to hold on for victory is afforded by the latest of the daily reports received at the headquarters of the various unions, and by reports from our own correspondents, which are summarised below.

Consolidation expresses the position at Southampton. Every sector on this united front is being firmly held and strengthened.

Nowhere is there the slightest sign of weakness, and the strikers are enlisting public sympathy in an ever-increasing degree.

Not a single liner has been moved in the docks.

Oxford University Labour Club has collected over £60 for strike relief.

Wimbledon Strikers' wives will hold a mass meeting in St. Andrew's Hall, on Thursday, at 2.30.

All is peaceful in the Aberdare Valley, where not a single case of disorder is reported by the police.

At Abertidwr and Senghenydd (South Wales), where all is quiet, concerts of a high standard are being given daily and largely attended by the miners.

Northampton boot trade is beginning to feel the effect of the stoppage. One factory closed on Monday, and others are expected to cease work during the week.

An open-air meeting in the middle-class area of the Queen's Park, Glasgow—where there is not even one trade union branch—resulted in a collection of £15 for the miners.

All the men arrested in connection with disturbances at Preston on Saturday proved to be non-strikers. The local Strike Committee is printing a daily sheet, and the *BRITISH WORKER* is being eagerly read.

Transport workers throughout the whole country are a united army, and from the various areas wonderful enthusiasm prevails. Out of 40,000 passenger workers in the metropolitan area not one has returned to work.

Boilermakers and coppersmiths have joined the stoppage at Southampton.

The Co-operative Society at Crewe is making arrangements to benefit the strikers.

A large number of non-unionists at Sheffield have enrolled in their appropriate union and joined the strikers.

The proprietor of the Abbey Picture Palace, Merton, has placed that hall at the strikers' disposal for daily meetings free of charge.

"We are digging in deeper than ever" says the secretary of King's Lynn Local Trades Council, where concerts, dances and football matches are in full swing.

A motor-cyclist who travelled 400 miles, from Hull to London and back, for copies of the *BRITISH WORKER*, reports "everything satisfactory all along the line."

Merthyr Tydfil Borough Council, which has a Labour majority, is going to deal with the feeding of school children. Communal kitchens have been set up.

The B.B.C. statement that tramway-men at Bradford had gone back to work is denied by the Trades Council, the secretary of which body says that the situation is as "sound as a bell."

The position at Lincoln could not be better. Special constables recruited from the Labour Movement are on duty, and concerts and cricket matches are held daily. At Sleaford unmarried men have given their strike pay to married men with large families.

The wives of strikers at Swindon are holding social gatherings and assisting in various ways. Football, cricket and various other forms of recreation are arranged for the men who are out. Wills' tobacco factory and other firms have had to close down.

The General Council does NOT challenge the Constitution.

It is not seeking to substitute unconstitutional government.

Nor is it desirous of undermining our Parliamentary institutions.

The sole aim of the Council is to secure for the miners a decent standard of life.

The Council is engaged in an Industrial dispute.

In any settlement, the only issue to be decided will be an industrial issue, not political, not Constitutional.

There is no Constitutional crisis.

MOVING FINGER WRITES

Local Election Poll Gives Victory for Workers

CHISWICK'S CHOICE

An indication of the remarkable swing of public opinion in favour of the strikers is forthcoming from Chiswick, where, in a by-election on Monday for the Urban District Council, Mr. A. R. Brown, the Labour candidate, won, by 1,041 votes against 377 for a Government

CARS WANTED

Although those members of the Movement who have motor-cars have responded wonderfully to the appeal which was made at the beginning of the dispute, still more vehicles are required if the work of the General Council is not to be hampered. Offers of assistance should be made to the Transport Department, at T.U.C. Headquarters, 33, Eccleston-square, London, S.W.1.

supporter. The vacancy was caused by the death of Mr. T. A. King, who was also a supporter of the Government. A third candidate polled 133 votes.

The late Mr. King, when he won the seat, polled 994 against a Labour candidate's 522.

Monday's result, therefore, reveals a substantial movement of public opinion away from the Government and in favour of the workers.

The result is all the more significant in view of the fact that this area is not wholly, or even predominantly, of a working-class character.

FIGHT AGAINST SLAVERY

Mr. Vernon Hartshorn on Nature of Strike

Several meetings were addressed in the mining districts of Glamorgan yesterday by Mr. Vernon Hartshorn, who declared that there was not an atom of truth in the suggestion that the strike was revolutionary. It was a grand protest against the attempt to impose slavery on the miners.

BUILDING TRADES AND THE STRIKE

For the purpose of dealing expeditiously with matters as they arise, the General Council have asked the Executive of the Building Trades Federation to advise on the issuing of orders, dealing with interpretations and any other questions in connection with the Building Trade. This Advisory Committee will report daily to the General Council.

All queries should be addressed to them at Federal House, Cedars-road, Clapham, S.W.4. Telegrams: "Enefbete Clapcom," London. Phones: Latchmere 5991/2.

A Triumph of Organisation

MISTAKE WOULD MEAN DEATH

Man Who Winds Miners Into the Pit

OFFERED 46/- A WEEK!

One of the most responsible jobs at a coal mine is that of the winding enginemaster who works the giant machinery that moves the cages of men and coal up and down the pit.

He must not make a mistake. The lives of men are at his mercy as the cages hang suspended in the pit. An error may mean swift death to 60 men. No wonder that "the winder" is usually a grave-faced man, slow of speech and deliberate of action.

And his wage? In Durham, for example, his present rate is 11s. 6d. a day. For a full week's work that means 63s. 3d. Not exactly a Cabinet Minister's salary!

The mineowners want to pay him 8s. 5d. a day, equal to 46s. 3½d. a week, a reduction of 17s. a week.

33s. 9d. FOR JOINERS

What of other skilled craftsmen who work at the pit top? Here are some Durham figures showing the present wage of the owners' terms for a full week:—

	Present Owners' Wage.		Terms.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
Loco. Drivers	49	0	35	9
Loco. Firemen	42	2	30	8
Blacksmiths, Joiners, Plumbers, Masons, etc.	46	2	33	9
Platelayers	42	4	30	11

The Coal Commission gave the wages of craftsmen in the building industry as 73s. 5d. to 73s. 10d. a week. No one can regard these figures as high, but they help to show the depths to which similar workers at the mines would be plunged if the mineowners had their way.

"SPIRIT WONDERFUL"

Transport Workers' Branches Cheer Reports

"All solid—spirit wonderful—conduct of the men leaves nothing to be desired," is the purport of messages which continue to pour into the headquarters of the Transport and General Workers' Union from branches throughout the country.

The reports afford remarkable instances of the underhand means which are being adopted by the authorities in the hope of defeating the strike.

Pickets in the South of England report that many lorries labelled "Food-stuffs" have been found to contain blacklegs or material other than food, while at Hull the introduction of blackleg labour has led to safety men coming out on strike.

The Secretary of the Liverpool Trades Council says that the position in that city is splendid.

WEATHER

Cold and showery generally. Moderate south-westerly winds. Thunder locally. Bright intervals.

BUSY SCENES AT STRIKE HEADQUARTERS

How the Day's Work is Dealt With Rapidly and Efficiently

One of the most wonderful features of the strike has been the rapid development of the central organisation.

Eccleston-square, where the offices of the T.U.C. are situated, has been transferred from a sleepy residential square into one of the busiest spots in the country.

Every few minutes despatch riders are arriving or departing, bringing and taking news, instructions and information to the different areas. Cars with deputations, officials, members of committees and volunteers, are also going to and fro in continual procession.

Everything is quiet and orderly, everyone doing his or her job without confusion or complaint.

Calm and Collected

All this organisation has been developed since the first actual day of the strike. Volunteers have poured in, offering their services, their cars, cycles, and motor-cycles.

Within the building the General Council, the supreme body of the control of all phases of the strike, conducts its business with the same methodical precision and coolness.

For convenience and administration, the General Council has been organised into various committees. Most important of these from the point of view of the strike is what is known as the "Strike Organisation Committee." Mr. Ernest Bevin and Mr. A. A. Purcell, M.P., are in charge of this committee, and they deal with all questions from the areas and with strike conduct policy.

The reports that are continually arriving from all parts of the country are first handled by an intelligence de-

partment, which prepares from them a bird's-eye view of the whole situation for the information of the full General Council.

Closely linked with Intelligence is the Publicity Department, which prepares from the reports summaries or the frequent "Bulletins" that are issued; also matter for use in the BRITISH WORKER, and for reference and propaganda purposes.

The transport section works in close conjunction with these two sections, and, in addition to handling the incoming and outgoing despatches and communications, is responsible for the transport of staff, officials, and others on strike business.

The hundreds of people who are continually arriving for advice, assistance and instruction, are sorted out by an Interviewing Committee. Often this committee is able to deal with the questions raised; if not, the visitors are sent to the appropriate committee or official.

Smooth Working

Last, but perhaps the most important, is the Negotiating Committee, presided over by the Chairman of the Council, Mr. Arthur Pugh. This committee deals with the questions of high policy that arise; its work is carried on in consultation with the Miners' Federation Executive and the full body of the General Council.

The complete and smooth running organisation is a wonderful tribute to the ability of members of the General Council, especially when it is remembered that they were organised for peace and not for war.

Strikers throughout the country may be confident that their affairs are in safe, sane, and capable hands.

700 MILES TRIP: "ALL QUIET"

American Correspondents' Impressions

TRIBUTES TO MEN

An American correspondent has sent to one of the leading newspapers in Chicago an account of a 700 miles trip he took at the weekend through England's chief industrial districts. He found all quiet.

Many owners of factories frankly admitted to the correspondent that they never believed the men would obey their unions to the extent they did.

"When the strike was ordered," stated the manager of the Wolseley Motor-car Factory, "all the men downed tools and walked out. Many who have been employed by us ever since we started had tears in their eyes. They shook hands, saying they hoped for the sake of everybody that the strike would soon be over, but they felt it was their duty to obey orders from headquarters and to help the miners to win their fight."

"We refused the offer of the police to guard our factory," stated the manager of the Randall shoe plant, "because we know our own men will see that no harm is done."

"Church attendance," says the correspondent, "in all industrial towns was greater than usual. The attitude of the Church of England is undoubtedly encouraging for the strikers."

Another American correspondent wrote:—"The pleasant winding roads of England are lined with attractive country houses and beautiful ancient manor houses in well-kept large gardens, which indicate the presence of gardeners, assistant gardeners, valets, grooms and butlers."

"Between these beautiful estates there are industrial towns with gloomy, poor, dirty-looking two-storey stone or brick houses sheltering thousands of poor but not unhappy looking workmen."

"They have all abandoned work and they seem determined to carry on. So far as I can gather from what I have seen up to now English industrial life is at a standstill."

BOOT-MAKERS' RALLY

Great Leicester Meeting on Thursday

A great rally will be held in Leicester on Thursday of all boot and shoe operatives.

A procession headed by brass bands will leave the centre of the city at 6 p.m., and march with banners to the De Montfort Hall.

The meeting will be addressed by Mr. T. F. Richards, general president of the union; Mr. J. H. Baum, and Mr. D. McCarthy (union organisers).

GET TO GRIPS

Congratulating the Trade Union Movement on its firm stand, the Cambridge University Labour Club urges that the Government should advance actively negotiations between the parties.

RIGHT TO STRIKE

K.C. Cannot Understand Sir John Simon's Reasoning

"The right to strike is now recognised by lawyers as part of our common, as well as statute, law, and is firmly embedded in our constitution."

In these words Mr. Craigie Aitchison, K.C., replies to Sir John Simon in the Edinburgh strike bulletin.

Declaring that this is a right irrespective of the number of strikers, Mr. Aitchison says he cannot follow the reasoning of Sir John Simon.

FOR THE MINERS

A collection of £32 was realised for the miners' fund at a Clapham Common demonstration

SPREADING THE NEWS

An Inspiring Motor Tour in the West Midlands

During a four days' motor tour over a large area of the West Midlands (writes a correspondent), I found everywhere an intense hunger for news. The spirit of the trade unionists was wonderful, their solidarity unbelievable; but they simply ached to know how things were going elsewhere.

I was one of a pair of speakers travelling from town to town to spread the news of the strike. No evangelist ever had warmer receptions.

Perhaps the most extraordinary incident was at Crewe, where we were met by a mile-long procession with bands and banners and the streets were lined with people six or eight deep. An immense audience filled the football ground completely.

A FULL NEST

Thousands of people took part in a demonstration on Norwich football ground. Mr. W. Smith, one of the speakers, jocularly referred to the gathering as a record for "The Nest," the nickname of the ground.

Real Truth Of Coal Negotiations

SKELETON SERVICE

The Body of Labour, of live flesh and blood,
Was driven too hard, and fell flat with a thud;
And when the State lacked the full power of its hand,
A Skeleton Service appeared in the land.
There was Skeleton Service of tramway and train,
A Skeleton Bus-Service rattled again;
The Bones of a system were seen here and there,
But the sinews and strength of the Body were where?
The body of men, for the Body of Man,
Stood firm while the Skeleton Services ran—
For the Body of Labour was asked to engage
Its sinews and strength at a Skeleton Wage.
And who that has fathomed the lean shifts which lurk
In the struggle to rear a man's body to work,
Can blame him for blunting the Capital Knife
That would pare him to Skeleton Service for life?

TOMFOOL.

WIRELESS AGAIN!

N.U.R. Branch Contradicts Food Ships Story

It was stated on the wireless on Sunday that six food ships had been discharged at Immingham Docks and that 14 others were waiting in the river to be discharged.

In contradiction of this rumour the local branch of the N.U.R. has wired to Unity House:—

"No ships are in dock and none are in the river. The only ships that have entered the dock since Monday are the s.s. Lab, with a cargo of iron ore, the s.s. Whitwood, which is waiting for coal at No. 3 hoist, and one vessel that has been at Immingham for two weeks awaiting repairs."

Transport and General Workers' Union

(Message from the Executive Council and Officers to Our Members.)

The might of Governments cannot defeat men who are in the right.

Remain calm and undaunted. Do not be provoked to disorder. Our passive resistance is invincible.

We shall continue steadfast in our stand for justice and right.

Hold fast. We must see the miners through.

(Signed)

HARRY GOSLING
ERNEST BEVIN

MR. A. PUGH'S STATEMENT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

affiliated to Congress to take their decision upon the course to be adopted in supporting the miners to resist the demands made upon them.

The decision of the Conference held on Thursday, April 29, was one of supporting the miners and instructing the General Council to proceed with negotiations with a view to an amicable settlement, but subject to the condition that the threat of a lock-out must be removed so that negotiations could be carried on under proper conditions. It was under these instructions that the Negotiating Committee of the Council proceeded with its efforts on the Thursday evening, and continued during the following day.

It is significant, in view of the statement of Sir Douglas Hogg as to the Government's excuse for breaking off final negotiations, that the General Council Committee persisted in its efforts until nearly midnight on Friday, April 30, despite the fact that, while this was proceeding, scores of thousands of men throughout the coalfield had already been locked out. The Committee failed to induce the Government to get the notices withdrawn, or to depart from their attitude of demanding, as a preliminary condition to negotiations, that the miners must definitely agree to a wages reduction.

Despite the request that had been made by the miners in their earliest discussions with the Mineowners' Association that they should be informed of what was proposed in the form of reductions, it was not until the afternoon of Friday, April 30, when the lock-out was actually operating, that proposals were received through the Prime Minister, which involved a substantial all-round reduction of wages and an increase of hours to eight per shift.

REFUSAL TO WITHDRAW NOTICES

Our Conference of Trade Union Executives was kept waiting hour after hour during the whole of Friday. At midnight we had to report that, notwithstanding all our efforts, it had been found impossible to give effect to their resolution to get the lock-out notices withdrawn. Negotiations had completely broken down, and as the majority of the men had already been locked out, nothing remained but to give the fullest support to the miners in resisting the atrocious demands which had been made upon them under the pressure of the lock-out. The Conference on the following day decided on a course of definite action in support of the miners. At the same time the General Council intimated to the Prime Minister that, even at that stage, they were ready to make a further effort at negotiations.

The result was a meeting of our Committee with representatives of the Government on Saturday night, and in the early hours of Sunday morning the Government representatives submitted the following formula for our consideration.

"The Prime Minister has satisfied himself as a result of the conversations he has had with the representatives of the Trades Union Congress that, if negotiations are continued (it being understood that the notices cease to be operative), the representatives of the Trades Union Congress are confident that a settlement can be reached on the lines of the Report within a fortnight."

The Trade Union representatives agreed to arrange to discuss the situation with their full body as well as with the Miners' Executive. Owing to the latter having left London to be present in their districts to advise their members in consequence of the lock-out having come into operation, not expecting anything to transpire that would require their presence during the Sunday, our Committee found that the Miners' Executive were not available, but immediately telegraphed to them to return to London.

SUNDAY NIGHT'S ULTIMATUM

Meanwhile, the discussions with the Government representatives were reported to the General Council, and consideration given to the formula referred to. This having been done, an intimation was sent to the Government that our Committee desired a further meeting to discuss the situation. The meeting took place on Sunday evening, and we intimated that while we could accept the formula in principle, there were certain of its terms which our General Council required should be further considered.

Arising from this many exchanges of opinion took place as to a suitable formula. As the miners' representatives were now present in the building we left the Government representatives so that we could consult the miners, and were actually making an arrangement when, without warning, we received the ultimatum of the Government that in consequence of what had transpired with the *Daily Mail* newspaper, and that, as certain of the Unions had advised their members with regard to a strike, negotiations were broken off.

I desire to make special reference to the statement by Sir Douglas Hogg, which reads as follows:—

"In the course of a two hours' discussion, the Trade Union leaders dictated what they stated to be the utmost they were prepared to submit to the miners. It was in these words:—

"We will urge the miners to authorise us to enter on a discussion with the understanding that they and we accept the Report as a basis of settlement, and we approach it with the knowledge that it may involve some reduction of wages." With this resolution in their pockets the Congress representatives went off to consult with the miners, who by this

CONTINUED IN NEXT COLUMN

PRINTERS STAND FIRM

What Natsopa Says About It

Members of the National Society of Operative Printers and Assistants (Natsopa) are remaining steadfast all over the country (writes Mr. George A. Isaacs, general secretary). Frantic efforts are being made to get some of them to return to work. Higher wages and a job for life are some of the inducements held out. Government protection is eagerly offered to them, but without avail.

One member only in London has rattled and gone to work.

Stories are circulated that our Clerical Section members are returning to work in large numbers. It is not true. Our Clerical Section is as loyal and determined as all other sections. Although the last organised they are in the fight with the same spirit as the rest.

Carry on, comrades! Wear your Natsopa Badge and be proud of it.

Continued from previous column

time had got back to town, and the Ministers on their side returned to report to the Cabinet."

The foregoing statement, I have no hesitation in saying, is a gross misrepresentation of the facts. While, as I have indicated, the matter was explored by the meeting, no such formula was ever dictated by the Trade Union representatives, nor assented to by them or in their possession.

The only formula was that written by the Government representatives, quoted above and handed to us in the early hours of Sunday morning. It was this which we proceeded to discuss with the miners, and upon which we were making progress towards an arrangement when the Government's ultimatum put a stop to the proceedings.

I repeat, and I defy contradiction, (1) that the breakdown of the negotiations was, in the first instance, due to the failure of the Government to obtain a withdrawal of the lock-out notices, and its insistence upon a prior agreement by the miners to accept a reduction in wages as a preliminary to giving effect to the terms of the Commission's Report by negotiations; (2) that the second attempt on the part of the General Council to get negotiations on foot was defeated by the action of the Government in closing the door to negotiations while we were actually discussing arrangements with the Miners' Executive—and this because of the action taken by the printers in regard to the *Daily Mail*, an action which was quite unknown to our representatives while we were in the Government building, and which was promptly repudiated as soon as the facts were brought to our notice.

I leave it to the public to decide whether, in the statement which appears in the Government publication, Sir Douglas Hogg has justified the title to his article—"The Truth of the Coal Negotiations." **ARTHUR PUGH.**

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THE BRITISH WORKER

OFFICIAL STRIKE NEWS BULLETIN

Published by The General Council of the Trades Union Congress

No. 8.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, MAY 12, 1926.

PRICE ONE PENNY

GREAT STRIKE TERMINATED

Trades Union Congress General Council Satisfied That Miners Will
Now Get a Fair Deal

HOW PEACE CAME

Telegrams Already Sent to All Unions Concerned to Instruct
Their Branches at Once: Miners Call Delegate Conference

The General Strike is over.

The General Council of the Trades Union Congress proclaimed this to-day, having reached the conclusion, as a result of a number of conversations with Sir Herbert Samuel, that a satisfactory basis of settlement in the mining industry can now be formulated. The official announcement was issued by Mr. Arthur Pugh, after the General Council had been received this morning by Mr. Baldwin and a number of his Cabinet colleagues.

Telegrams of instruction have already been sent to all affiliated bodies.

The Miners' Federation Executive will report fully to a conference to be convened on Friday.

The negotiations which led to the termination of the general strike were facilitated by the intervention of Sir Herbert Samuel, the Chairman of the Coal Commission.

Sir Herbert returned specially from Italy, where he was

T.U.C. ORDER

In order to resume negotiations, the General Council decided to terminate the General Strike to-day.

Telegrams of instructions were sent to the Executive Committees of affiliated unions, who will communicate with the branches of their organisations, in accordance with their usual practice. Members before acting must wait definite instructions from their own Executive Councils.

taking a short vacation, to ascertain whether his services could be utilised towards resolving the differences between the parties.

A number of informal conversations took place between him and representatives of the General Council, as a result of which the General Council reached the conclusion that a satisfactory basis of settlement could be formulated.

The Memorandum and the correspondence which is published in this issue indicates; in the view of the General Council, the lines along which negotiations can proceed to effect a solution to the many problems which the situation in the Coal Mining Industry has given rise.

The proposals, if approached and operated in a spirit of

whole-hearted co-operation between all parties concerned, should result in a more equitable and durable relationship than has hitherto existed in the Coal Mining Industry.

The Movement came out in order to ensure a fair deal for the Miners. They are satisfied that that can now be achieved.

THE SUGGESTED SETTLEMENT

Sir Herbert Samuel's Memorandum suggests that coal negotiations should be resumed, and the subsidy renewed for a reasonable period as may be required for that purpose.

To decide wages and other disputes henceforth, a National Wages Board should be set up, on which there should be representatives of two parties, with a neutral element and an independent chairman.

There is to be no revision of previous wage rates until it is clear that reorganisation of the industry, as proposed by the Coal Commission, will be effectively adopted.

A joint committee, or the National Wages Board, is to co-operate with the Government in preparing the legislative and administrative measures required.

After these points have been agreed and the Mines National Wages Board has considered every practical means of meeting such immediate financial difficulties as exist, it may, if that course is found to be absolutely necessary, proceed to the preparation of a wage agreement.

CONTINUED ON PAGE FOUR

"First Line" Reinforcements

NO LAW TO MAKE PEOPLE WORK

Sir John Simon Replied to in Commons

STRIKE IS RIGHT

In reporting Tuesday's Parliamentary proceedings, the *British Gazette* this morning devotes more than a column to a new speech by Sir John Simon on "unlawful" strikes.

But the *British Gazette* suppresses the Labour reply to the Liberal lawyer. It was Mr. Tom Shaw who effectively cleared away the choking smoke Sir John Simon had left behind him.

"It is not illegal in this country," declared Mr. Shaw, "for a body of people to cease work if they wish to. I am not aware of any law which prevents any working man who desires to leave work, so to do (Labour cheers.)"

"Between breach of contract and the illegality of the strike," he proceeded, "there is all the difference in the world. But if our people feel that by leaving work they can prevent an injustice being done to the bravest and most loyal workers in the country, God speed to their efforts." (Loud Labour cheers.)

Not Afraid or Ashamed

Blame, he went on, had been apportioned to Trade Unionism. No blame had been uttered in respect of those who tried to drive below the subsistence level the men who worked in the mines. The notices posted by the mine-owners Mr. Shaw described as "sav- age reductions."

"We are not ashamed; we are not afraid," Mr. Shaw went on. "We do not admit the miners are wrong; we do not admit the trade unions are wrong. It is regrettable that the lock-out notices were ever posted. That was the beginning. The general strike was no surprise. It was well known in the country that if the miners were attacked the workers would act."

Sir John Simon had given notice earlier in the debate that he and his friends would put on the order paper at an early date a resolution seeking a settlement on terms similar to those contained in the appeal of the Christian churches. Referring to this, Mr. Shaw pointed out that the miners had already been twice deceived after commissions had issued their reports. It was the duty of brother working-men therefore to help the miners.

BULK LITERATURE

Bulk supplies of literature prepared for circulation in quantities are now available at headquarters. Organisations that cannot produce sufficient quantities for wide distribution in their area can obtain supplies on application to Mr. Lawler, 32, Eccleston-square. If possible, local organisations should arrange direct transport for bulk parcels of literature.

JOHN HODGE'S MESSAGE

"I can say for myself and Arthur Pugh, that our men have rallied to the strike in a most enthusiastic manner. Calmness, courage, and trade union discipline will give us a splendid victory. Stand firm everyone!"—Message from Mr. John Hodge, president of the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation.

ENGINEERS CEASE WORK THROUGHOUT COUNTRY

Men Enthusiastically Obey Call to Join Ranks of Strikers

The call to all unions in the engineering and shipbuilding trades affiliated to the Trades Union Congress to reinforce the gallant "first line" met with a magnificent response yesterday, and from north, south, east and west messages poured into the office of the *BRITISH WORKER*, showing that the signal to stop work was keenly awaited and loyally obeyed.

The response to the call to workers in the engineering shops and shipyards on the Clyde to come out yesterday was magnificent.

Mr. Harry Hopkins, the A.E.U. organiser, states that in his 30 years' experience he has never known the men so eager or enthusiastic as in this fight for a decent standard of existence. The withdrawal of labour from the marine shops and shipyards was, in his opinion, complete.

Barrow.—Withdrawal of the engineers and shipyard workers has added probably 4,000 to those already called out. Most of the large works in the town are stopped.

Blackburn.—Three thousand engineers on strike, affecting 20 foundries and engineering shops.

Bolton.—Textile and general engineers have joined the strike.

Carlisle.—Engineers and fitters at the large factories have stopped work.

Coventry.—All E.T.U. and Workers' Union members at the municipal electricity works are out.

Edinburgh.—Engineers ceased work last night. Complete deadlock rapidly developing.

Grantham.—A.E.U. men at Ruston and Hornsby's ceased work last night.

Huddersfield.—Engineers, accompanied by many non-unionists, ceased work to-day.

Bradford.—All engineers are out.

Hull.—Five thousand more men, including engineers and boilermakers, struck work to-day.

Ilkeston.—Stanton ironworks employees obeyed the call, and have lined up with the strikers.

Lincoln.—All engineering workers ceased work last night, and the greatest enthusiasm prevails.

Lowestoft.—Local branch of the A.E.U. called its members out to-day, only two being left at work.

Manchester.—A large section of the works of the Metropolitan Vickers Electrical Company at Trafford Park have come to a standstill. About 4,000 men are affected.

Newcastle.—Reports show that 90 per cent. of the engineers on the Tyne came out this morning, and that their ranks will be added to considerably to-night. At Jarrow, the engineers, without holding a meeting, obeyed instructions to cease work. Altogether, the response has been magnificent.

Newport (Mon.).—Local engineers have loyally obeyed the call to strike.

Rugby.—With only one exception all members of the engineering unions, numbering 600, answered the strike call.

Sunderland.—All foundrymen and many engineers have joined the strikers' ranks.

West Bromwich.—The latest call to the engineers has been responded to fully.

IRRESPONSIBLE JOURNALISM

Mr. Churchill's Apology for "British Gazette"

HEADLINES AND—

Mr. Churchill, in his apology for the shortcomings of the *British Gazette*, in the House of Commons, said that it was produced by "a handful of loyal technicians and a few amateurs," since it could not get the services of the experts usually employed in the production of a newspaper.

This has been quite evident to those who have read the paper all along. It is put together in a reckless, "yellow" fashion, utterly foreign to the traditions of decent British journalism.

Here is an example, not alone of misrepresentation, but of incompetence.

Large headlines yesterday, displayed across two columns, were: "Breaking the Strike; Large Numbers of Men Return to Their Posts."

In the matter appearing under those headlines there was nothing whatever to justify them.

The attempt to do so was not merely half-hearted, it was utterly feeble.

Under "London and Home Counties" appeared this illuminating statement:—

"A first list of strikers who have returned to work shows more than 1,000 men, among them 350 engineers and 200 builders."

A thousand men out of—how many millions? Even if it were true it would be no more than a drop in an ocean. And the wording showed that it was obviously based on nothing more than—a guess!

CARDINAL REBUKED

Catholic M.P.s on "Strike Is a Sin" Statement

Five Labour M.P.s—Messrs. John Scurr, H. Murnin, J. Tinker, M. Connolly, and J. Sullivan—who are members of the Catholic Church, have sent a letter to Cardinal Bourne saying that they are "seriously perturbed by a report to the effect that you have stated that 'the general strike is a sin against Almighty God.'"

The writers of the letter say that as members of the working class it is their duty to stand by the miners, and that the right to withhold labour is acknowledged by the law of the land.

"We have striven for peace and peace has been denied us by the Government. . . We therefore hold that our fellow-workers are doing what is right, and with all respect, yet with emphasis, we protest against a high dignity of Holy Church making a statement which neither the morality nor the theology of our faith justifies."

"GOLDEN CHARACTERS"

"The unblemished record of the Leicestershire miners in the last strike is written in golden characters in my memory," said the Chief Constable of Leicestershire, addressing a meeting of workers in the Coalville mining district yesterday.

LONDON AND RELIEF

Advice of the Area Joint Strike Committee

Representatives of unions in the London and Greater London area affected by the general strike have formed a Joint Strike Committee, with the approval of the General Council, to co-ordinate the activities of the local trades councils and Strike Committee. Mr. Duncan Carmichael, secretary of the London Trades Council, is secretary to the committee.

The committee requests all local councils to set up special relief committees, and if possible to co-operate with the local Labour Guardians for the purpose of advising workers how best to apply for relief, and also to secure the feeding and maintenance of school children.

The address of the committee is Headland House, Gray's Inn-road, London, W.C.1.

AT CHATHAM

Great enthusiasm marked a demonstration of strikers at Chatham, addressed by Mr. T. Richardson, Mr. Frank Markham, and Sir Richard Rees, prospective Labour candidate for Chatham and Gillingham.

RAILWAY CLERKS' 90-100%

Those at Work Asked to do Other Things

Reports received at the headquarters of the Railway Clerks' Association from nearly a hundred branches reveal a highly satisfactory state of affairs, the proportion of men out on strike ranging from 90 per cent. to 100 per cent. in the great majority of instances.

Mr. A. G. Walkden, J.P., general secretary of the Railway Clerks' Association, has received reports of cases in which members who failed to join the strike have been called upon by the companies to perform tasks other than those belonging to the railway clerks, under pain of dismissal.

WE ARE WINNING

Mr. David Kirkwood, who, with other Labour M.P.s, is motoring from London to Glasgow, addressed a crowded meeting of strikers at Carlisle to-day. He declared the country was absolutely solid, adding: "We are winning."

Transport workers of the Ilkeston and Nuneaton Co-operative Societies have come out. Only bread and milk are being delivered.

Starvation Pay of Miners

INTERNATIONAL MEASURES

I.F.T.U. Secretaries to Visit London

FULL SUPPORT

In joint session at Amsterdam the Executives of the International Federation of Trade Unions and of the Labour and Socialist International considered the British situation.

It was decided that as the dispute was purely industrial all necessary measures for aiding the British strikers must be taken by the I.F.T.U.

The measures already taken were approved.

It was decided that Mr. Oudegeest and Mr. J. W. Brown, of the I.F.T.U., should go to London at once to discuss the situation with the leaders of the British Movement.

It was also decided that the Labour World Migration Conference, which was to have been held in London next week, should be postponed until June 22.

NO NEWSPAPERS

District Council's Free Library Decision

Aberdare District Council has refused to function the Coal Emergency Order. The decision was come to on the motion of the Labour members, who out-voted their opponents by 15 to 4.

Another resolution adopted was that no newspapers or publications be permitted in the Free Library rooms. This decision has been adversely criticised by ratepayers, and it is stated that a public meeting of protest is to be called.

PRINTERS REFUSE

Paris "Daily Mail": Efforts to Increase Output Fail

Efforts to increase the output of the Paris edition of the *Daily Mail* by printing extra copies in the offices of French newspapers, have been thwarted by the action of French trade unionists.

In the *Matin* office the machine men, and in the *Comodia* office the compositors, refused to touch the *Daily Mail* job.

A section of the Parisian printers, having recently obtained an increase in wages, has unanimously decided to subscribe the amount of the increase to a fund for the assistance of the British workers.

The Danish Federation of Trade Unions has decided to send immediately the sum of £2,200, and a further contribution of the same amount each week so long as the fight lasts.

Mr. William Green, president of the American Federation of Labour, has wired to the Trades Union Congress General Council that he will afford all possible assistance in the struggle for a "decent wage."

Four cotton mills at Blackburn have stopped owing to lack of fuel and transport.

PUBLIC STAGGERED BY FIGURES

Owners Want to Reduce Rate in Lancashire to Less Than £2 a Week

One of the outstanding features of the public meetings and discussions since the strike began is the eagerness of the public to learn the facts about miners' wages.

People knew in a general way that the wages were low and that the mine-owners had locked out the men to make them still lower. They had seen figures, but the crisis brought home to them the vital importance of those figures, and they are eager for every detail that can be given.

The *BRITISH WORKER* has each day sought to cater for that desire, and it has been a common sight in London to see crowds carefully studying the figures where enterprising newsagents and others had posted copies on their windows.

We have given details from South Wales, Northumberland and Durham. Let us to-day go to Lancashire, another of the Great British coalfields.

32s. 6d. a Week

The wage of the coal-getter, the highest-paid miner, is in Lancashire 9s. 6d. a day. The owners want to reduce that to 8s. 1½d. At the best that could only mean a wage of 44s. 8d. a week. Deductions amount to more than 3s. a week, so that the net wage would be barely over £2, even for a full week.

As a matter of fact, the miners have for a long time been allowed to work only three or four days a week, so that on the owners' terms the wage would be 24s. 4½d. to 32s. 6d. a week, less deductions!

The surface labourers' wage was 7s. 6d. The owners demand that it should be 5s. 2½d.—for a full week 28s. 7½d.

Is there any wonder, when such figures are known, that public opinion is strongly against the mine-owners and against the Government which supports them?

It will be recalled that when the negotiations were finally broken off by the Government, a proposal was put before the miners for a modified reduction, on condition that longer hours were worked.

The reduction would still have been substantial, and would come off wages that everyone agrees should bear no reduction.

No Extra Hours

But even the Coal Commission was emphatically against any increase of hours, pointing out that

"it would make the working day of every British miner longer by half an hour to an hour than that of miners in any European coalfield of importance except Upper Silesia."

That is not all. The nominal working day of seven hours means a daily average underground of 7½ hours. But in many mines the time is much longer.

In one colliery in the Pemberton district of Wigan, the miners were working nine hours and 20 minutes bank to bank, and in most collieries in the district the miners are working more than eight hours a day bank to bank.

EXTRA POLICE ARRIVE

Town Whose Major Broadcast Tribute to Orderliness

In expectation that some time tomorrow Swindon tram service will be restarted by volunteer labour, a large number of extra police have been drafted into the town.

No town can have been more orderly during the strike than Swindon, and the Mayor has broadcast a message expressing his appreciation of the conduct of the people.

Among the railwaymen and tramwaymen, who form the majority of workers concerned in the strike, there is no sign of weakening.

LL. G. ON CHURCHILL

"Doing your duty to the State in an emergency," says Mr. Lloyd George, in a message issued yesterday, "does not consist merely in donning a special constable's armet to encounter rioters in the street. It surely also includes the obligation of standing up to wreckers in your own party who seem resolved to overturn the country's omnibus."

Great activity prevails at strike headquarters at West Bromwich, where all sections remain loyal. A spirit of cheery determination is reported from all surrounding districts.

ELECTRIC TRAIN CRASH

Seven People Injured at London Station

A steam train ran into an electric train near Brixton Station at four o'clock yesterday afternoon. Seven injured persons were removed by ambulances to hospital, but, so far as can be ascertained, none are dead. The drivers were, of course, "volunteers."

In regard to the Cramlington train smash, an official statement issued from the Civil Commissioners states that the police are satisfied from the evidence already available that the act was deliberate and malicious.

WORLD SYMPATHY

Messages of sympathy continue to pour in at T.U.C. headquarters from all parts of the world. A great variety of United States unions have sent such messages, as have also organised workers of Argentine, Japan, South Africa, Georgia, Cuba, Mexico, Scandinavia, etc.

WILL BE REFUNDED

By an agreement between the unions in the Cockerthorpe (Cumberland) district and the local Board of Guardians, any poor law relief given to strikers is to be refunded if unemployment benefit should be granted to the men.

HELP FROM THE "MIDDLE CLASS"

Striking Expressions of Sympathy with Strike

LIBERAL GIFTS

One of the most surprising and gratifying aspects of the Strike has been the friendliness and generosity of so many who are unconnected with it and who in previous labour struggles have almost solidly taken the other side. Here are some illustrations of this:—

In such typical "middle-class" suburbs as Lewisham and West Norwood, large open air meetings have been addressed nightly by trade union speakers. The attendances at these have consisted chiefly of City workers, not connected with the Trade Union Movement; they have shown their sympathy, not only by applauding the speakers, but also by contributing liberally to the collections.

At a meeting on Sunday, at Parliament Hill, Hampstead, another suburb of the same character, clerks and typists eagerly gave their sixpences and shilling to the collection, which amounted to £25.

When Mr. Thomas spoke on the same day, at the Bedford Palace, a crowd of people who had been unable to get in thronged the street outside. Someone suggested a collection to help the strike.

"Collect £2-10s. and I'll buy it for £5," said a well-dressed man, apparently a flourishing business man. The transaction was quickly made possible.

A negro came forward and handed up a pound note. "Helps strike," said he, in broken English.

Weekly subscriptions for the strike funds are being collected at Welwyn Garden City, which has a mainly "middle-class" population. An M.P. living there states that the subscription list for the first week showed a total of £70.

"I'm an Australian, just arrived on a visit to the old country, and I want to help the miners. Where shall I send my cheque?" This was a telephone call received at the offices of the *BRITISH WORKER* yesterday. It is typical of many messages from overseas sympathisers.

"Middle-class" women everywhere, mothers of boys who fell in the war, have been greatly impressed by the numbers of strikers who are wearing war medals. You hear them say, "This is not a strike against the country."

At Preston a gift of £50 has been made to the Strike Fund, clearly not by a proletarian!

RUMOURS DENIED

The committee of the *Daily Express* House Chapel, representing more than 600 employees of that paper, wish to deny rumours current to the effect that they are applying to return to work. "We are still, and will remain, solid behind the miners until an honourable settlement has been arrived at," writes the committee.

At a municipal by-election on Tuesday, the trade union candidate was returned for the Humber Ward of Grimsby for the first time on record.

Scheme for Mines Settlement

It is proposed that any new agreement should, if practicable, be simpler in form, and that

it should fix reasonable figures, below which the wage of no class of labour for a normal customary week's work should be reduced in any circumstances;

if any new adjustments should be made, provision should be made for such adjustments by the Wages Board from time to time.

So long as unemployed miners are available, there should be no recruitment of other labour over 18 years of age.

Measures should be provided to deal with workers displaced as the result of the closing of uneconomic collieries.

The following letters have been exchanged between Sir Herbert Samuel and the General Council of the Trades Union Congress:—

May 12th, 1926.

Dear Mr. Pugh,

As the outcome of the conversations which I have had with your Committee, I attach a memorandum embodying the conclusions that have been reached.

I have made it clear to your Committee from the outset that I have been acting entirely on my own initiative, have received no authority from the Government, and can give no assurances on their behalf.

I am of opinion that the proposals embodied in the Memorandum are suitable for adoption, and are likely to promote a settlement of the differences in the Coal Industry.

I shall strongly recommend their acceptance by the Government when the negotiations are renewed.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) HERBERT SAMUEL.

Sir Herbert Samuel,
London.

May 12th, 1926.

Dear Sir,—

The General Council having carefully considered your letter of to-day and the memorandum attached to it, concurred in your opinion that it offers a basis on which the negotiations upon the conditions in the Coal Industry can be renewed.

They are taking the necessary measures to terminate the General Strike, relying upon the public assurances of the Prime Minister as to the steps that would follow. They assume that during the resumed negotiations the subsidy will be renewed and that the lock-out notices to the Miners will be immediately withdrawn.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) ARTHUR PUGH, Chairman.

WALTER M. CITRINE, Acting Secretary.

THE MEMORANDUM

The following is the memorandum referred to in Sir Herbert Samuel's letter:—

1. The negotiations upon the conditions of the coal industry should be resumed, the subsidy being renewed for such reasonable period as may be required for that purpose.
2. Any negotiations are unlikely to be successful unless they provide for means of settling disputes in the industry other than conferences between the mineowners and the miners alone. A National Wages Board should, therefore, be established, which would include representatives of those two parties, with a neutral element and an independent chairman. The proposals in this direction tentatively made in the Report of the Royal Commission should be pressed and the powers of the proposed Board enlarged.
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tives of the men should be included, whose duty it should be to co-operate with the Government in the preparation of the legislative and administrative measures that are required. The same Committee, or, alternatively, the National Wages Board, should assure itself that the necessary steps, so far as they relate to matters within the industry, are not being neglected or unduly postponed.

5. After these points have been agreed and the Mines National Wages Board has considered every practicable means of meeting such immediate financial difficulties as exist, it may, if that course is found to be absolutely necessary, proceed to the preparation of a wage agreement.

6. Any such agreement should

- (i) if practicable, be on simpler lines than those hitherto followed.
- (ii) Not adversely affect in any way the wages of the lowest-paid men.
- (iii) Fix reasonable figures below which the wage of no class of labour, for a normal customary week's work, should be reduced in any circumstances.
- (iv) In the event of any new adjustments being made, should provide for the revision of such adjustments by the Wages Board from time to time if the facts warrant that course.

7. Measures should be adopted to prevent the recruitment of new workers, over the age of 18 years, into the industry if unemployed miners are available.

8. Workers who are displaced as a consequence of the closing of uneconomic collieries should be provided for by

- (a) The transfer of such men as may be mobile, with the Government assistance that may be required, as recommended in the Report of the Royal Commission.
- (b) The maintenance, for such period as may be fixed, of those who cannot be so transferred, and for whom alternative employment cannot be found; this maintenance to comprise an addition to the existing rate of unemployment pay under the Unemployment Insurance Act, of such amount as may be agreed. A contribution should be made by the Treasury to cover the additional sums so disbursed.
- (c) The rapid construction of new houses to accommodate transferred workers. The Trades Union Congress will facilitate this by consultation and co-operation with all those who are concerned.

ORDER EVERYWHERE

General Council Congratulates Strikers on Their Conduct

Every observer of the situation, both British and foreign, is impressed by the good order everywhere maintained. It constitutes a record for a dispute of this kind.

It shows how thoroughly the workers accept the insistence of the General Council that this is a purely industrial dispute.

The General Council congratulates trade unionists on their magnificent response to its appeal for discipline. See that the record is kept up.

CANNIBALISM ?

One of the sights of London yesterday was an exquisite limousine labelled "For food," and bearing a cargo of substantial men and women.

MEN OF U.S. HELP US

American crews have refused to handle any of the pumps on four American oil ships arriving at Tilbury.

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THE BRITISH WORKER

OFFICIAL STRIKE NEWS BULLETIN

Published by The General Council of the Trades Union Congress

No. 8.

THURSDAY, MAY 13, 1926.

PRICE ONE PENNY

GREAT STRIKE TERMINATED

Trades Union Congress General Council Satisfied That Miners Will
Now Get a Fair Deal

HOW PEACE CAME

Telegrams Already Sent to All Unions Concerned to Instruct
Their Branches at Once: Miners Call Delegate Conference

The General Strike is over.

The General Council of the Trades Union Congress proclaimed this yesterday, having reached the conclusion, as a result of a number of conversations with Sir Herbert Samuel, that a satisfactory basis of settlement in the mining industry can now be formulated. The official announcement was issued by Mr. Arthur Pugh, after the General Council had been received by Mr. Baldwin and a number of his Cabinet colleagues.

The Miners' Federation Executive will report fully to a conference to be convened to-morrow.

The negotiations which led to the termination of the general strike were facilitated by the intervention of Sir Herbert Samuel, the Chairman of the Coal Commission.

Sir Herbert returned specially from Italy, where he was

T.U.C. ORDERS

The following notice was posted outside the T.U.C. headquarters yesterday afternoon:—

" May 12.—The general strike is being terminated to-day. Members on strike are, however, asked to await instructions from their own head offices. The T.U.C. is telegraphing to all head offices asking them to give the necessary instructions to their members. No exact time for the termination of the general strike can yet be fixed, in view of the varying circumstances of the different trades concerned, but head offices will instruct on this point. (Signed) A. PUGH, Chairman.

W. M. CITRINE, Acting General Secretary."

taking a short vacation, to ascertain whether his services could be utilised towards resolving the differences between the parties.

A number of informal conversations took place between him and representatives of the General Council, as a result of which the General Council reached the conclusion that a satisfactory basis of settlement could be formulated.

The Memorandum and the correspondence which is published in this issue indicates, in the view of the General Council, the lines along which negotiations can proceed to effect a solu-

tion to the many problems which the situation in the Coal Mining Industry has given rise.

The proposals, if approached and operated in a spirit of whole-hearted co-operation between all parties concerned, should result in a more equitable and durable relationship than has hitherto existed in the Coal Mining Industry.

The Movement came out in order to ensure a fair deal for the Miners. They are satisfied that that can now be achieved.

THE SUGGESTED SETTLEMENT

Sir Herbert Samuel's Memorandum suggests that coal negotiations should be resumed, and the subsidy renewed for a reasonable period as may be required for that purpose.

To decide wages and other disputes henceforth, a National Wages Board should be set up, on which there should be representatives of the two parties, with a neutral element and an independent chairman.

There is to be no revision of previous wage rates until it is clear that reorganisation of the industry, as proposed by the Coal Commission, will be effectively adopted.

A joint committee, or the National Wages Board, is to co-operate with the Government in preparing the legislative and administrative measures required.

After these points have been agreed and the Mines National Wages Board has considered every practical means of meeting such immediate financial difficulties as exist, it may, if that course is found to be absolutely necessary, proceed to the preparation of a wage agreement.

CONTINUED ON PAGE FOUR

"Free and Unfettered Negotiation"

ENGINEERS STOP EVERYWHERE

Call Enthusiastically Obeyed

SHIPYARDS OUT

The call to all unions in the engineering and shipbuilding trades affiliated to the Trades Union Congress to reinforce the gallant "first line" had already been magnificently answered before the news came of the calling-off of the strike.

The response to the call to workers in the engineering shops and shipyards on the Clyde to come out yesterday was magnificent.

Mr. Harry Hopkins, the A.E.U. organiser, states that in his 30 years' experience he has never known the men so eager or enthusiastic as in this fight for a decent standard of existence. The withdrawal of labour from the marine shops and shipyards was, in his opinion, complete.

Barrow.—Withdrawal of the engineers and shipyard workers has added probably 4,000 to those already called out. Most of the large works in the town are stopped.

Blackburn.—Three thousand engineers on strike, affecting 20 foundries and engineering shops.

Bolton.—Textile and general engineers have joined the strike.

Carlisle.—Engineers and fitters at the large factories have stopped work.

Coventry.—All E.T.U. and Workers' Union members at the municipal electricity works are out.

Edinburgh.—Engineers ceased work last night. Complete deadlock rapidly developing.

Grantham.—A.E.U. men at Ruston and Hornsby's ceased work last night.

Huddersfield.—Engineers, accompanied by many non-unionists, ceased work to-day.

Bradford.—All engineers are out.

Hull.—Five thousand more men, including engineers and boilermakers, struck work to-day.

Ilkeston.—Stanton ironworks employees obeyed the call, and have lined up with the strikers.

Lincoln.—All engineering workers ceased work last night, and the greatest enthusiasm prevails.

Lowestoft.—Local branch of the A.E.U. called its members out to-day, only two being left at work.

Manchester.—A large section of the works of the Metropolitan Vickers Electrical Company at Trafford Park have come to a standstill. About 4,000 men are affected.

Newcastle.—Reports show that 90 per cent. of the engineers on the Tyne came out this morning, and that their ranks will be added to considerably to-night. At Jarrow, the engineers, without holding a meeting, obeyed instructions to cease work. Altogether, the response has been magnificent.

Newport (Mon.).—Local engineers have loyally obeyed the call to strike.

Rugby.—With only one exception all members of the engineering unions, numbering 600, answered the strike call.

Sunderland.—All foundrymen and many engineers have joined the strikers' ranks.

GENERAL COUNCIL'S MANIFESTO

Praise for Loyalty and Discipline of Whole Movement

After the announcement of their decision yesterday, the General Council met at Eccleston-square, and issued the following statement to Affiliated Societies, Trades Councils, and Strike Committees:—

The General Council, through the magnificent support and solidarity of the Trade Union Movement, has obtained assurances that a settlement of the Mining problem can be secured which justifies them in bringing the general stoppage to an end.

Conversations have been proceeding between the General Council representatives and Sir Herbert Samuel, chairman of the Coal Commission, who returned from Italy for the express purpose of offering his services to try to effect a settlement of the differences in the Coal Mining Industry.

The Government had declared that under no circumstances could negotiations take place until the general strike had been terminated, but the General Council feels, as a result of the conversations with Sir Herbert Samuel and the proposals which are embodied in the correspondence and documents which are enclosed, that sufficient assurances had been obtained as to the lines upon which a settlement could be reached to justify them in terminating the General Strike.

The General Council accordingly decided at their meeting to-day to terminate the general stoppage, in order that negotiations could be resumed to secure a settlement in the coal mining industry, free and unfettered from either strike or lock-out.

The General Council considered the practicability of securing a resumption of work by the members in dispute at a uniform time and date, but it was felt, having regard to the varied circumstances and practices in each industry, that it would be better for each Executive Council itself to make arrangements for the resumption of work of its own members. The following telegram was dispatched to you to-day:—

"General Council T.U.C. have to-day declared General Strike terminated. Please instruct your members as to resuming work as soon as arrangements can be made. Letter follows.

"PUGH. CITRINE."

Throughout the negotiations and during the whole of the stoppage, the General Council have declared that they have been fighting to protect the Miners against an intolerable degradation of their standard of life and working conditions. It was with this object, and with this object alone, that the General Council assumed the grave responsibility of calling upon its affiliated organisations to unite in strike action to enforce the cancellation of the lock-out notices, and the withdrawal of the new wages scale posted in the mining districts.

No attack was at any time contemplated upon the established political institutions of the country, and it is a testimony to the loyalty and discipline of the Movement that disorders have been practically unknown.

The Unions that have maintained so resolutely and unitedly their generous and ungrudging support of the Miners can be satisfied that an honourable understanding has been reached.

The General Council accept the consequences of their decision with a full sense of their responsibility, not only to their own membership, but to the Nation at large. They have endeavoured throughout the crisis to conduct their case as industrial disputes have always been conducted by the British Trade Unions, without violence or aggression. The General Council feel, in taking the last steps to bring the crisis to an end, that the Trade Union Movement has given a demonstration to the World of discipline, unity and loyalty without parallel in the history of industrial disputes.

Yours fraternally,

ARTHUR PUGH, Chairman.

WALTER M. CITRINE, Acting Secretary.

JOHN HODGE'S MESSAGE

"I can say for myself and Arthur Pugh, that our men have rallied to the strike in a most enthusiastic manner. Calmness, courage, and trade union discipline will give us a splendid victory. Stand firm everyone!"—Message from Mr. John Hodge.

"GOLDEN CHARACTERS"

"The unblemished record of the Leicestershire miners in the last strike is written in golden characters in my memory," said the Chief Constable of Leicestershire, addressing a meeting of workers in the Coalville mining district yesterday.

HOW "B.W." WON THROUGH

Paper Trouble and Way it Was Overcome

MR. BALDWIN MOVES

A great many inquiries have been made the last few days about our paper supplies and how we have managed to appear every evening in spite of the Cabinet attempt to suppress us.

We were able to secure paper to carry on with when all we had was exhausted.

It was not quite the right size, but clever, resourceful management altered the machines to take it, and we went on with the assurance of having enough to last up to and including Thursday.

At the same time we made every sort

713,000

The circulation of yesterday's "British Worker" amounted to 713,000 copies—514,000 were printed in

London, and the rest at:

Manchester ... 100,000

Cardiff 37,000

Glasgow 30,000

Sunderland ... 20,000

Leeds 12,000

To-day, we expect to have a larger circulation still.

of effort to induce Mr. Baldwin to override the instructions given and to release the paper belonging to us at the docks and in a paper-mill.

These efforts were successful yesterday morning. Long before the news came of the strike being over, we received a message that we could have a number of reels.

At the beginning a police raid. Then the attempt to starve us of paper. But we came through both troubles successfully.

So all's well that ends well, and we thank our numberless friends for their kind anxiety on our behalf.

PRINTING TRADES.

The "British Worker" is asked to state that there will be meetings at 4 p.m. to-day (Thursday) of the representatives of the following organisations, all sections:—

Paper Workers, N.S.O.P.A.

Machine Managers, Stereotypers,

No resumption of work by members of the foregoing organisations until the meetings have decided when work shall be restarted.

All officials of the chapels of the above-mentioned unions are advised to attend; they will be informed of the respective places of meeting.

Miners' Thanks To Their Allies

PREMIER'S PLEA IN COMMONS

"Look Forward, Not
Backward"

NO MALICE

When word went round that the strike was to be ended there was great excitement in the House of Commons, and the floor and galleries were crowded in expectation of a statement by the Prime Minister.

Replying to Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, Mr. Baldwin said that the T.U.C. Council came to see him in the morning, and said that it had decided to call off the general strike forthwith.

"I said," continued the Prime Minister, "that it would be the immediate effort of myself and my colleagues of bringing about a resumption of negotiations between the parties in the mining dispute with a view to securing the earliest possible settlement.

"The only thing I would add at this moment is that the peace that I believe has been won, the victory that has been won, is a victory of common sense, not of any part of the country, but the common sense of the best part of the whole of the United Kingdom. (Cheers.)

"And it is of the utmost importance at a moment like this that the whole British people should not look backwards, but forwards. (Cheers.)

"We should resume our work in the spirit of co-operation, putting behind us all malice and all vindictiveness." (Cheers.)

DEBATE AT EARLY DATE

Mr. MacDonald said it must be obvious to the House that certain consequences of the statement of the Prime Minister were likely to happen at once—the application, for instance of the large spirit that had been indicated in what the Prime Minister had said, and he took it that it was in the interest of the House that it should be kept in close touch with the developments and subsequent events.

He asked the Prime Minister if he had considered the best time for a sort of survey of the situation, and for a fuller statement than he had been able to make.

The Prime Minister replied that he recognised a fuller statement would be necessary at as early a date as possible, but Mr. MacDonald would be aware that there was a great deal to be done, and many things to be thought out. He asked Mr. MacDonald to keep in touch with him. It would be impossible in the course of the day to state anything.

Mr. MacDonald: "I shall be glad to fall in with that suggestion, but much depends on how this position is represented. (Labour cheers.) I appeal to him to make arrangements, so that the House is kept in the closest touch with everything that is being done, and that this discussion should take place at the earliest wise moment."

Messages of sympathy continue to pour in at T.U.C. headquarters from all parts of the world. A great variety of United States unions have sent such messages, as have also organised workers of Argentine, Japan, South Africa, Georgia, Cuba, Mexico, Scandinavia, etc.

DELEGATE CONFERENCE TO-MORROW

Pits to Remain Idle Pending Delegates' Decisions

The Miners have expressed to the T.U.C. their "profound admiration of the wonderful demonstration of loyalty as displayed by all workers who promptly withdrew their labour in support of the Miners' standards."

Mr. A. J. Cook, the miners' secretary, sent the following telegram to all districts yesterday:—

"Miners must not resume work pending the decision of the national conference convened for Friday next at the Kingsway Hall, London, 10 a.m. Please send delegates."

PUBLIC STAGGERED BY FIGURES

How Owners' Demands Would Have Hit Lancashire

One of the outstanding features of the public meetings and discussions since the strike began is the eagerness of the public to learn the facts about miners' wages.

People knew in a general way that the wages were low and that the mine-owners had locked out the men to make them still lower. They had seen figures, but the crisis brought home to them the vital importance of those figures, and they are eager for every detail that can be given.

The BRITISH WORKER has each day sought to cater for that desire, and it has been a common sight in London to see crowds carefully studying the figures where enterprising newsagents and others had posted copies on their windows.

We have given details from South Wales, Northumberland and Durham. Let us to-day go to Lancashire, another of the Great British coalfields.

32s. 6d. a Week

The wage of the coal-getter, the highest-paid miner, is in Lancashire 9s. 6d. a day. The owners want to reduce that to 8s. 1½d. At the best that could only mean a wage of 44s. 8d. a week. Deductions amount to more than 3s. a week, so that the net wage would be barely over £2, even for a full week.

As a matter of fact, the miners have for a long time been allowed to work only three or four days a week, so that on the owners' terms the wage would be 24s. 4½d. to 32s. 6d. a week, less deductions!

The surface labourers' wage was 7s. 6½d. The owners demand that it should be 5s. 2½d.—for a full week 28s. 7½d.

Is there any wonder, when such figures are known, that public opinion is strongly against the mineowners and against the Government which supports them?

It will be recalled that when the negotiations were finally broken off by the Government, a proposal was put before the miners for a modified reduction, on condition that longer hours were worked.

The reduction would still have been substantial, and would come off wages that everyone agrees should bear no reduction.

No Extra Hours

But even the Coal Commission was emphatically against any increase of hours, pointing out that

"it would make the working day of every British miner longer by half an hour to an hour than that of miners in any European coalfield of importance except Upper Silesia."

That is not all. The nominal working day of seven hours means a daily average underground of 7½ hours. But in many mines the time is much longer.

In one colliery in the Pemberton district of Wigan, the miners were working nine hours and 20 minutes bank to bank, and in most collieries in the district the miners are working more than eight hours a day bank to bank.

HELP FROM THE "MIDDLE CLASS"

Striking Expressions of
Sympathy with Strike

LIBERAL GIFTS

One of the most surprising and gratifying aspects of the Strike has been the friendliness and generosity of so many who are unconnected with it and who in previous labour struggles have almost solidly taken the other side. Here are some illustrations of this:—

In such typical "middle-class" suburbs as Lewisham and West Norwood, large open air meetings have been addressed nightly by trade union speakers. The attendances at these have consisted chiefly of City workers, not connected with the Trades Union Movement; they have shown their sympathy, not only by applauding the speakers, but also by contributing liberally to the collections.

At a meeting on Sunday, at Parliament Hill, Hampstead, another suburb of the same character, clerks and typists eagerly gave their sixpences and shillings to the collection, which amounted to £25.

When Mr. Thomas spoke on the same day, at the Bedford Palace, a crowd of people who had been unable to get in thronged the street outside. Someone suggested a collection to help the strike.

"Collect £2 10s. and I'll buy it for £5," said a well-dressed man, apparently a flourishing business man. The transaction was quickly made possible.

A negro came forward and handed up a pound note. "Helps strike" said he, in broken English.

Weekly subscriptions for the strike funds are being collected at Welwyn Garden City, which has a mainly "middle-class" population. An M.P. living there states that the subscription list for the first week showed a total of £70.

"I'm an Australian, just arrived on a visit to the old country, and I want to help the miners. Where shall I send my cheque?" This was a telephone call received at the offices of the BRITISH WORKER yesterday. It is typical of many messages from overseas sympathisers.

"Middle-class" women everywhere, mothers of boys who fell in the war, have been greatly impressed by the numbers of strikers who are wearing war medals. You hear them say, "This is not a strike against the country."

At Preston a gift of £50 has been made to the Strike Fund, clearly not by a proletarian!

RUMOURS DENIED

The committee of the *Daily Express* House Chapel, representing more than 600 employees of that paper, wish to deny rumours current to the effect that they were applying to return to work. "We remain solid behind the miners until an honourable settlement has been arrived at," writes the committee.

At a municipal by-election on Tuesday, the trade union candidate was returned for the Humber Ward of Grimsby for the first time on record.

PRINTERS REFUSE

Paris "Daily Mail": Efforts to
Increase Output Fail

Efforts to increase the output of the Paris edition of the *Daily Mail* by printing extra copies in the offices of French newspapers, have been thwarted by the action of French trade unionists.

In the *Matin* office the machine men, and in the *Comodia* office the compositors, refused to touch the *Daily Mail* job.

NO NEWSPAPERS

District Council's Free Library
Decision

Aberdare District Council has refused to function the Coal Emergency Order. The decision was come to on the motion of the Labour members, who cut-voted their opponents by 15 to 4.

Another resolution adopted was that no newspapers or publications be permitted in the Free Library rooms. This decision has been adversely criticised by ratepayers, and it is stated that a public protest meeting is to be called.

Scheme for Mines Settlement

Sir Herbert Samuel,
London.

May 12th, 1926.

Dear Sir,—

The General Council having carefully considered your letter of to-day and the memorandum attached to it, concurred in your opinion that it offers a basis on which the negotiations upon the conditions in the Coal Industry can be renewed.

They are taking the necessary measures to terminate the General Strike, relying upon the public assurances of the Prime Minister as to the steps that would follow. They assume that during the resumed negotiations the subsidy will be renewed and that the lock-out notices to the Miners will be immediately withdrawn.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) ARTHUR PUGH, Chairman.
WALTER M. CITRINE, Acting Secretary.

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3. The parties to the Board should be entitled to raise before it any points they consider relevant to the issue under discussion, and the Board should be required to take such points into consideration.
4. There should be no revision of the previous wage rates, unless there are sufficient assurances that the measures of reorganisation proposed by the Commission will be effectively adopted. A Committee should be established as proposed by the Prime Minister, on which representa-

tives of the men should be included, whose duty it should be to co-operate with the Government in the preparation of the legislative and administrative measures that are required. The same Committee, or, alternatively, the National Wages Board, should assure itself that the necessary steps, so far as they relate to matters within the industry, are not being neglected or unduly postponed.

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 - (i) if practicable, be on simpler lines than those hitherto followed.
 - (ii) Not adversely affect in any way the wages of the lowest-paid men.
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 - (iv) In the event of any new adjustments being made, should provide for the revision of such adjustments by the Wages Board from time to time if the facts warrant that course.

7. Measures should be adopted to prevent the recruitment of new workers, over the age of 18 years, into the industry if unemployed miners are available.

8. Workers who are displaced as a consequence of the closing of uneconomic collieries should be provided for by

- (a) The transfer of such men as may be mobile, with the Government assistance that may be required, as recommended in the Report of the Royal Commission.
- (b) The maintenance, for such period as may be fixed, of those who cannot be so transferred, and for whom alternative employment cannot be found; this maintenance to comprise an addition to the existing rate of unemployment pay under the Unemployment Insurance Act, of such amount as may be agreed. A contribution should be made by the Treasury to cover the additional sums so disbursed.
- (c) The rapid construction of new houses to accommodate transferred workers. The Trades Union Congress will facilitate this by consultation and co-operation with all those who are concerned.

KEEP THE PEACE!

But There May, Says Captain,
Be a Little Scrapping

In a letter addressed to secretaries of Athletic Clubs, Birkbeck College, London, Capt. C. W. Hume, commanding No. 12 Centre, Civil Constabulary Reserve, asks ex-service men to join this force, and adds:—

"I should be most grateful if you would help me to get together a crowd of bons camarades animated by a desire to keep the King's Peace, but not averse from a little rough-housing if this should unfortunately be forced upon them."

CANNIBALISM?

One of the sights of London yesterday was an exquisite limousine labelled "For Food," and bearing a cargo of substantial men and women.

MEN OF U.S. HELP US

American crews have refused to handle any of the pumps on four American oil ships arriving at Tilbury.

ORDER EVERYWHERE

General Council Congratulates
Strikers on Their Conduct

Every observer of the situation, both British and foreign, is impressed by the good order everywhere maintained.

It constitutes a record for a dispute of this kind.

It shows how thoroughly the workers accept the insistence of the General Council that this is a purely industrial dispute.

The General Council congratulates trade unionists on their magnificent response to its appeal for discipline.

See that the record is kept up.

BRIGADE TO RESCUE

Two railway engines at Wood-street, Walthamstow, had to be quenched by the local fire brigade, the blackleg drivers having failed to "draw" the fires when they left them.

The industrial area between Woolwich and Dartford is at a complete standstill. Factories remain closed. All watermen are out and the river is absolutely deserted.

NO CALL FOR SPECIALS

Northampton Shows That They
Are Not Needed

Northampton provides an example which might with advantage be followed by other towns.

No special constables have yet been sworn in, and the result is that there has been no provocation to the strikers, and consequently not the slightest disorder.

The Mayor has issued a public message congratulating the town on its behaviour.

CO-OPS HELP STRIKERS

At Ipswich the Strike Committee has got in touch with the Co-operative Society and has obtained credit to the extent of £5 per member, allocated as to 15s. per week for groceries only. At Guildford the local Co-operative Society is issuing vouchers, and in every way is rendering all possible aid in the provision of supplies to the strikers.

More mills have closed at Preston for want of fuel. Non-unionists are joining up.

THE

DAILY HERALD

will immediately

RESUME PUBLICATION

and will continue its loyal support of

TRADE UNIONISM AND LABOUR

equally with

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THE BRITISH WORKER

OFFICIAL STRIKE NEWS BULLETIN

Published by The General Council of the Trades Union Congress

No. 9.

FRIDAY, MAY 14, 1926.

PRICE ONE PENNY

NO VICTIMISATION!

Those employers who imagine that the calling off of the General Strike means the collapse of the Trade Union Movement are making the mistake of their lives.

Many are trying to impose vindictive terms on the workers; they are trying to compel men to sign humiliating documents; they are trying to beat down wages.

If they persist they will find out how mistaken they are. They will find that the spirit of the British worker is not only unbroken, but unbreakable.

Further, these employers, in addition to making a mistake, are breaking an obligation of honour.

The General Council, by calling off the General Strike, made the way clear for an honourable peace. It did so on the understanding that the spirit of its action would be reciprocated by the other side. It did so in reliance on the public assurances of the Prime Minister that he would foster the spirit of peace.

The calling off of the strike was not evidence of weakness. It was evidence of the genuine belief that peace could be obtained on terms honourable and beneficial to the whole Movement and the whole nation.

The General Council responded to the Prime Minister's appeal. Much depends upon how far he is prepared to back up that speech by action. If he will use all his influence to see that no employer tries to victimise and humiliate the workers, then the peace may be saved. If not . . .

Let there be no mistake. The Trade Union Movement is not suing for mercy. It is not beaten. It is not broken. Its strength is unimpaired and even reinforced by the solidarity which the response to the General Strike revealed. If one class of employers, misinterpreting the calling off of the strike, thinks it can seize the opportunity to disrupt and degrade the Trade Union Movement, the situation is grave indeed. To that the Movement cannot and will not submit.

The alternative—the only alternative—to that grave situation is peace: peace honourably made and, on both sides, honourably kept.

WEATHER

Wind W. to N.W., fresh and squally, moderating later. Occasional thundery showers. Rather cold; improving later.

WHY WORK DID NOT BEGIN

Employers Make Fresh Attack Upon Trade Unionism & Workers' Standard of Life

MILLIONS STILL OUT

There was a general expectation on Wednesday, when the great Strike terminated, that work would be resumed forthwith. To the great disappointment of the nation this did not happen.

Many men who went to work were told they must accept fresh conditions and lower wages. Upon instructions from their Unions they refused to do this, and were thereupon told their employers did not want them.

The situation is thus a very difficult one still—and made more so by the fact that while, during the strike all those out were in a good humour, large numbers are now indignant at this new attack on Trade Unionism.

STAND TOGETHER

Fellow Trade Unionists,

The General Strike has ended. It has not failed. It has made possible the resumption of negotiations in the coal industry, and the continuance, during negotiations, of the financial assistance given by the Government.

You came out together, in accordance with the instructions of the Executives of your Unions. Return together on their instructions, as and when they are given.

Some employers will approach you as individuals, with the

The General Council is remaining in permanent session and in close touch with the affiliated unions:

It is reviewing the whole situation of Trade Union standards and the whole question of the preservation and is giving attention to the peaceful resumption of work.

demand that you should accept conditions different from those obtaining before the stoppage began.

Sign no individual agreement. Consult your Union officials, and stand by their instructions. Your Union will protect you, and will insist that all agreements previously in force shall be maintained intact.

The Trade Union Movement has demonstrated its unity. That unity remains unimpaired. Stick to your Unions.

GENERAL COUNCIL,
TRADES UNION CONGRESS.

PEACE ONLY WITH HONOUR

Prime Minister's Good Faith Involved

The General Council called off the General Strike in confidence that the Prime Minister meant what he said when he asked for resumption of negotiations towards an honourable peace. Peace depends upon employers abstaining from attempts at victimisation. It depends upon their declining to follow the example some are setting of using this position to attack the position of Trade Unionism.

Their effect will be that the unions, for self-protection, will be compelled to offer the most stubborn resistance.

The whole purpose expressed by the Prime Minister will be null and void if this occurs.

The Government, if it means what the Prime Minister said, must stop this attack on Trade Unionism. It must demand that

Continued on Page Four

Assurance of Justice

WHY THE STRIKE WAS CALLED OFF

Memorandum Which Gave Assurance of Fair Treatment To Workers in Mines

The "British Worker" reprints to-day the full text of the letter sent by Sir Herbert Samuel to Mr. Pugh, and the reply dispatched by the latter and Mr. Citrine.

In addition we reprint the full text of the memorandum on the basis of which the General Council decided to call off the general strike.

Dear Mr. Pugh,

May 12th, 1926.

As the outcome of the conversations which I have had with your Committee, I attach a memorandum embodying the conclusions that have been reached.

I have made it clear to your Committee from the outset that I have been acting entirely on my own initiative, have received no authority from the Government, and can give no assurances on their behalf.

I am of opinion that the proposals embodied in the Memorandum are suitable for adoption, and are likely to promote a settlement of the differences in the Coal Industry.

I shall strongly recommend their acceptance by the Government when the negotiations are renewed.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) HERBERT SAMUEL.

Sir Herbert Samuel.

London. May 12th, 1926.

Dear Sir,—

The General Council having carefully considered your letter of to-day and the memorandum attached to it, concurred in your opinion that it offers a basis on which the negotiations upon the conditions in the Coal Industry can be renewed.

They are taking the necessary measures to terminate the General Strike, relying upon the public assurances of the Prime Minister as to the steps that would follow. They assume that during the resumed negotiations the subsidy will be renewed and that the lock-out notices to the Miners will be immediately withdrawn.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) ARTHUR PUGH, Chairman.

WALTER M. CITRINE, Acting Secretary.

THE MEMORANDUM

The following is the memorandum referred to in Sir Herbert Samuel's letter:—

1. The negotiations upon the conditions of the coal industry should be resumed, the subsidy being renewed for such reasonable period as may be required for that purpose.
2. Any negotiations are unlikely to be successful unless they provide for means of settling disputes in the industry other than conferences between the mineowners and the miners alone. A National Wages Board should, therefore, be established, which would include representatives of those two parties, with a neutral element and an independent chairman. The proposals in this direction tentatively made in the Report of the Royal Commission should be pressed and the powers of the proposed Board enlarged.

3. The parties to the Board should be entitled to raise before it any points they consider relevant to the issue under discussion, and the Board should be required to take such points into consideration.

4. There should be no revision of the previous wage rates, unless there are sufficient assurances that the measures of reorganisation proposed by the Commission will be effectively adopted. A Committee should be established as proposed by the Prime Minister, on which representatives of the men should be included, whose duty it should be to co-operate with the Government in the preparation of the legislative and administrative measures that are required. The same Committee, or, alternatively, the National Wages Board, should assure itself that the necessary steps, so far as they relate to matters within the industry, are not being neglected or unduly postponed.

5. After these points have been agreed and the Mines National Wages Board has considered every practicable means of meeting such immediate financial difficulties as exist, it may, if that course is found to be absolutely necessary, proceed to the preparation of a wage agreement.

6. Any such agreement should

- (i) if practicable, be on simpler lines than those hitherto followed.

- (ii) Not adversely affect in any way the wages of the lowest-paid men.

- (iii) Fix reasonable figures below which the wage of no class of labour, for a normal customary week's work, should be reduced in any circumstances.

- (iv) In the event of any new adjustments being made, should provide for the revision of such adjustments by the Wages Board from time to time if the facts warrant that course.

7. Measures should be adopted to prevent the recruitment of new workers, over the age of 18 years, into the industry if unemployed miners are available.

8. Workers who are displaced as a consequence of the closing of uneconomic collieries should be provided for by

- (a) The transfer of such men as may be mobile, with the Government assistance that may be required, as recommended in the Report of the Royal Commission.

- (b) The maintenance, for such period as may be fixed, of those who cannot be so transferred, and for whom alternative employment cannot be found; this maintenance to comprise an addition to the existing rate of unemployment pay under the Unemployment Insurance Act, of such amount as may be agreed. A contribution should be made by the Treasury to cover the additional sums so disbursed.

- (c) The rapid construction of new houses to accommodate transferred workers. The Trades Union Congress will facilitate this by consultation and co-operation with all those who are concerned.

ARCHBISHOP'S APPEAL

The Archbishop of Canterbury has issued an appeal urging that a spirit of brotherhood and good temper should be displayed in attaining a reasonable and permanent solution of the problems facing the country.

LONDON TRADES COUNCIL

The London Trades Council will be held as usual at the City School Hall, Clerkenwell-road (adjoining Holborn Hall), on Thursday evening, at seven o'clock.

TRAMMEN DISMISSED

The Glasgow Tramways Committee have dismissed 100 strikers, mainly prominent as union leaders, and suspended many others until they make a statement in writing. The subway municipal tubes employees have been largely reinstated, and a full service is running. A number of N.U.R. local strike leaders are threatened with suspension.

Following the derailment of a railway engine yesterday several miles from Hull, passengers travelled by motor-bus to Hull.

TRAMS COLLIDE

Two tramcars, driven by "volunteers," came in collision on the single track in High-street, Acton, on Thursday morning, and a lorry was also involved. The vehicles were damaged and two persons were detained at the local hospital.

EXTRA SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

In recognition of the way "the schools had been carried on during the strike" the London County Council resolved to grant an additional three days' holiday to the staff at Whitsuntide.

CALL FOR INQUIRY

An inquiry has been asked for by Glasgow Trades and Labour Council into the police conduct in the east end of the town, when, it is alleged, police molested unoffending citizens, some of whom were batoned and injured.

POLICE RECALLED

Orders have been issued recalling the members of the West Riding Police Force who left Hull two days ago.

The Lord Mayor of Sheffield—an avowed Tory—has complimented the strikers on their splendid behaviour.

Railwaymen To Stay On Strike

INSTRUCTION TO "COMPS"

Return on Same Terms as Before Strike

NO NEW DEMANDS

The London Society of Compositors has instructed its members to return to work on the same terms as applied before the stoppage.

"The union has not been confronted with any demands for a new agreement," Mr. Davies, assistant secretary of the society, told the **BRITISH WORKER** on Thursday, "but if any move is made in this direction our men will not return."

The L.S.C. does not, however, anticipate any such action, and in the circumstances the various chapels have been instructed to return to work in a body.

MAYOR IN BATON CHARGE

More Than 20 Women and Men Injured at Poplar

The Mayor of Poplar, Councillor J. Hammond, and the Rev. Cyril Mayne, of All Saints' Rectory, Poplar, were among those injured in a baton charge in Newby-place, in which the Town Hall is situate, on Wednesday night.

The Mayor is a railway union official, and he had been to a meeting of his committee when the trouble arose.

A crowd outside the Town Hall had been addressed by various speakers, when the police began to clear the streets.

Giving evidence at the Thames Police Court on Thursday, when a man was charged with kicking two police officers at Montagu-place, Poplar, Mr. Sam March, M.P. for Poplar, said that in his opinion a baton charge by the police was unnecessary.

ENGAGED BY THE DAY

Pending the decision of the Master Printers' Federation employees of the Aldershot newspaper and printing offices are being engaged by the day only.

BRAVO!

In spite of the unemployment, £60 has already been collected for the Miners' Fund by the members of the Tailors and Garment Workers' Trade Union (London).

OBSTACLES RAISED BY THE COMPANIES

Unions' Joint Order to Members Not to Resume Work

The railwaymen are to continue on strike until their unions order to the contrary.

This is a consequence of the action of the railway companies in insisting that all their employees must, before resuming work, sign the following:—

"You are hereby re-engaged. Your re-engagement is on the understanding that the company reserves any rights it possesses in consequence of your having broken your contract of service."

The Executives of the three railway unions—the National Union of Railwaymen, the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen, and the Railway Clerks' Association—met to consider the whole question of reinstatement, and as a result the following telegram was dispatched to the branches:—

"In view of difficulties surrounding reinstatement, Joint Executives call upon all railwaymen to continue strike until we secure satisfactory assurances.—BROMLEY, CRAMP, WALKDEN."

The unions had on Wednesday

directed the men, in accordance with the decision of the T.U.C. Council, to report for duty. But when the men obeyed they were faced with the demand to sign the form quoted.

In addition, many men reported that they had been told that they would have to suffer wage reductions. Later the companies disclaimed any such intention.

The difficulties created by the companies have made resumption impossible until those difficulties have been removed.

The railway leaders, in their statement intimated that they were in favour of an early meeting between the conflicting parties in order that a satisfactory settlement might be effected.

Stating that the railway company is taking advantage of the situation, 5,000 members of the A.E.U. refused to return to work at Horwich locomotive works.

A mass meeting of Birmingham railway workers resolved to return to work only on the original terms and agreements.

MINE DELEGATES IN LONDON

What Workers Pressed for on April 30

DEADLOCK RECALLED

Delegates from the coalfields will assemble in London on Friday to discuss the terms which enabled the T.U.C. General Council to decide to call off the general strike.

In considering these terms it is important to recall the position as it was when negotiations with the Government broke down on April 30.

The Government was seeking to secure an unqualified undertaking that the miners would accept reductions of wages.

The T.U.C. General Council put forward proposals which required that the problem of reorganising the industry should first be tackled, and the miners, replying to a question by the Premier, sent him this statement:—

In reply to the Government's Memorandum, the miners state that they are not prepared to accept a reduction in wages as a preliminary to the reorganisation of the industry, but they reiterate that they will be prepared to give full consideration to all the difficulties connected with the industry when the schemes for such reorganisation will have been initiated by the Government."

Reference to the terms of the Memorandum, which are reprinted on Page Two, will show that definite arrangements are laid down to ensure the application of the Coal Commissioner's reorganisation proposals.

A National Wages Board is to be set up, and is to consider every practical means of meeting such immediate financial difficulties as exist.

Only after both these provisions have been observed, will the question of reducing wages arise.

PONIES NOT STARVING

Job of Safety Men to Look After Animals in Pits

The General Council of the T.U.C. has received a report from the National Federation of Colliery Enginemens, Boilermens, and Mechanics, which states that "the mines in Scotland are being kept safe by our safety workers."

"An agreement was come to with the Scottish coalowners," adds the report, "that nothing else would be done by our men but merely the essential work for the safety of the collieries. This is principally with regard to the pumping and the ponies, and not a single one of our members is employed who is not doing such work."

"Any question of the mines being destroyed is entirely without foundation, as we have reports from all parts of the British coalfields to that effect."

"BRITISH GAZETTE"

The Chancellor of the Exchequer is to be asked by Commander Kenworthy on Tuesday whether he can yet state the cost of publishing the Government newspaper, known as the *British Gazette*, what amounts have been received from sales and advertisements, and what compensation is to be paid to the *Morning Post* newspaper.

ORDERS TO E.T.U. MEN

Unconditional Reinstatement to be Required

The London District Committee of the Electrical Trades Union announces an instruction to all strike committees that members may only resume work on the following terms:—

Where individual undertakings or firms are prepared to agree for all men who struck work to return to work unconditionally, and in accordance with existing agreements.

Strike centres are asked to report at once any undertakings or firms where the men do not return owing to conditions being imposed upon them by the employers.

ORDERS TO BUILDERS

No Difficulties Reported Other Than Transport

Mr. R. Coppock, general secretary of the National Federation of Building Trades Operatives, reports that all affiliated unions have sent the following telegram to branches:— "Dispute ended. Return to work."

No difficulties with regard to wages or conditions have been reported, but some delays had arisen owing to lack of transport.

The Amalgamated Union of Building Trade Workers has also notified members to return to work forthwith.

EMPLOYERS DISREGARD THE KING'S APPEAL

"LET US FORGET WHATEVER ELEMENTS OF BITTERNESS THE EVENTS OF THE PAST FEW DAYS MAY HAVE CREATED AND FORTHWITH ADDRESS OURSELVES TO THE TASK OF BRINGING INTO BEING A PEACE THAT WILL BE LASTING BECAUSE, FORGETTING THE PAST, IT LOOKS ONLY TO THE FUTURE" (From the King's appeal to the people issued after the withdrawal of the General Strike.)

Those employers who are refusing to reinstate their workers unless wage reductions are accepted are deliberately and maliciously defying His Majesty's appeal for peace.

THE DAILY HERALD

will immediately

RESUME PUBLICATION

and will continue its loyal support of

TRADE UNIONISM AND LABOUR

equally with

THE BRITISH WORKER

Mr. Baldwin and the Employers

TO TRANSPORT WORKERS

Message From the Executive Council

AWAIT ORDERS

The following instructions to the Transport Workers have been issued by the Executive Council:

Transport and General Workers' Union.

Message from Executive Council and Officers to the members:

The Transport and General Workers' Union have announced that it has been decided to respond to the appeal of the Prime Minister, and that the officers have been authorised to meet employers to make satisfactory arrangements to secure a speedy resumption of work in the public services and industries where members of the union are employed.

The Executive Council are actively seeking to secure contact with employers and employers' associations in order to make satisfactory arrangements governing a resumption of work. Where arrangements have not yet been entered into the members are requested to await the instructions of their responsible officer before work is resumed.

The Executive Council must be given an opportunity of securing that our members are able to resume work under satisfactory terms and conditions. To this end, members are instructed to stand out together and carry out only Executive instructions.

HARRY GOSLING (President).

ERNEST REVIN (General Secretary).

THE LEGAL ASPECT

The *Solicitors' Journal*, a legal weekly of established reputation, expresses its total disagreement with Sir John Simon's statement in the House of Commons that

"every trade union leader who has advised and prompted breaches of contract by strikers is liable in damages to the uttermost farthing of his personal possessions."

"The learned K.C.," comments the *Solicitors' Journal*, "gives no reasoning or authority for this sweeping declaration, and with due respect we suggest that none exists."

PEACE WITH HONOUR

Continued from Page One
the employers abstain from victimisation.

Unless this obligation is fulfilled the trade unions will have no alternative but to resist to the uttermost.

Their resistive capacity is unimpaired. They cannot tolerate the imposition of conditions which attempt their destruction.

The good faith of the Prime Minister is involved. A peace without vindictiveness is impossible unless this attack ceases. A vindictive peace only means a new struggle. We need acts and not words if work is to be resumed. The workers will not surrender their hard-won gains of many years. The Government has said it does not desire this. Let it act firmly and quickly to that end.

REDUCED WAGES OR INCREASED HOURS NOT COUNTENANCED BY THE PREMIER

The question of the attempt by the employers to attack trade unionism and reduce the workers' standard of living was raised in the House last night.

The Premier's three main points affecting the immediate issue were:

(i) He had given only one pledge, and that to those who helped the Government that they should not suffer. That pledge he would keep.

(ii) He would countenance no attempt on the part of any employer to use the present occasion for trying in any way to get a reduction of wages or increase of hours.

(iii) He had no power to coerce or order, but the whole of the Government's influence would be cast on the side of tolerance.

STRIKERS' ONE AIM

Mr. MACDONALD emphasised that the strike was purely an industrial strike, and was started with the one idea of supporting the miners to resist the threatened reduction in wages.

When peace came and a light was over the first thing the combatants on both sides did was to shake hands.

"That has not happened to-day!" declared Mr. MacDonald, amid Labour cheers. It had not happened in the newspapers nor in the streets, nor in regard to the conditions imposed upon the men who had presented themselves for work. (Labour cheers.)

More men were out on Thursday than on the previous day, because they believed that the conditions attempted to be imposed on those who went back would make it impossible to continue industry under peaceful conditions.

If, he went on, there was any at-

tempt to smash Trade Unionism, if any section of the country or any foolish person in the country thought after the events of last week and yesterday that he could scrape the face of Trade Unionism in the dust, he was very much mistaken.

"We are not going to crawl back," said Mr. MacDonald, "and we are not going to be treated as human beings with the yoke of absolute subordination riveted upon our neck. If it is crush, let us know."

PREMIER'S SPEECH

Mr. BALDWIN said the supreme and obvious interest of the country required that the largest body of men possible should be brought back to work at the earliest moment.

The occasion called neither for malice, nor for recrimination, nor for triumph.

Whatever the intentions of those who brought the men out last week, in effect had the efforts been wholly successful, it would have meant the complete cessation of the Press and of transport.

Had the Government not been prepared, there would have been a condition approaching anarchy. Could any Government have declined to take upon itself the duties of providing for vital services? Those services were provided partly by men who stayed at work and partly by volunteers.

"I have given only one pledge, and that was that those who helped the Government should not suffer for having done so.

"If I went back on that pledge who would ever trust me again?"

Referring to last week's propaganda, Mr. Baldwin complained that the men on the railways were told that there

Continued in next Column

AGREEMENTS TO BE KEPT

Instructions to General Workers

The National Union of General and Municipal Workers, on learning that obstacles had been raised to resumption of work, wired instructions to its branches signed by Mr. W. Thorne, general secretary, and Mr. J. R. Clynes, president.

The branches are told that, in consequence of "concerted action by employers" there shall not be any general resumption of work by members until trade union agreements have been fully recognised.

The Workers' Union has sent messages to its branches as follows:—

"Where employers meet in spirit of reconciliation, men to return to work at once; but members not to resume work in any firm where there is any attempt on the part of employers to insist on new agreements or to victimise members. Act with other unions in so far as this policy is observed."

Continued from previous column

was an attack on their wages to come. A Labour Member: It has come.

"So far as I know," said Mr. Baldwin, "there was not a word of truth in that."

"I will countenance no attempt on the part of any employer to use this present occasion for trying in any way to get a reduction of wages on those in force before the strike, or increase of hours." (Loud cheers.)

Following his broadcast, urging employers and trade unions to meet immediately, a meeting had been arranged with one group of employers.

There could not be a hold-up of the business of the country without dislocating and deranging the trade of the country. Foreign contracts had been cancelled, and there would be an entire cessation of, or great timidity in placing fresh orders.

"NO POWER TO ORDER"

"We have no power," said the Premier, "to coerce or order, but the whole of our influence has been exercised, and will be exercised in the letter and spirit of what I have stated by broadcast or otherwise in the last ten days."

Mr. Baldwin concluded by urging employers and unions to get together and that no one should hinder them, and especially asked for reticence in the House.

Mr. J. H. THOMAS, who said that when the T.U.C. saw the Premier he promised to help, but the official organ of the Government came out the next morning with "Total Surrender," and so on, and that went to 2,000,000 men who had refused to surrender to the Germans. They could imagine the bitterness that followed.

The Admiralty and the War Office had issued statements about the strikers which could not be squared with the Premier's speech.

He instanced amongst the firms which were attempting to alter the conditions. Tillings and Carter Patersons, and said there were many others throughout the country who were adopting the same policy.

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Mr. Baldwin's Sacred Promise

"Our whole duty at the moment is to forget all recrimination. Let employers act with generosity and workers put their whole hearts loyally into their work.

"It is of the utmost importance that the whole British people should not look backward but forward, and resume their work in a spirit of co-operation and goodwill, putting behind them all malice and vindictiveness."—(Mr. Baldwin's speech following the withdrawal of the General Strike.)

Railwaymen, Transport Workers, and many other grades of Trade Unionists are now being told by their employers that they may only resume work upon accepting reduced rates of wages.

Mr. Baldwin must fulfil his pledge, and make it clear to the employers that they, as well as the workers, "must look forward and not backward and put behind them all malice and all vindictiveness."