THE BRITISH WORKER

OFFICIAL STRIKE NEWS BULLETIN
Published by The General Council of the Trades Union Congress

THURSDAY EVENING, MAY 6, 1926.

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 andtenaciously 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 hoons of volunteers to run the trains and things” has vanished entirely. There 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 these 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 materialize. 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, there are no tram drivers!

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

Not all of 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 up a storm 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 discussions with the Government on any aspects of the case.

It is obvious, however, that at this stage, with no indication of the Government’s intentions, the General Council can take no action without receiving formal notice from the Government that it is prepared to discuss the issues involved.

The conditions that govern the reopening of discussions should be different from the conditions governing the withdrawal of the notice for the general strike; and inasmuch as the Government was responsible for the breaking-off of negotiations, any preliminary parleys with a view to a settlement should not be started.

OUR REPLY TO “JIX”

The General Council urges the men and women of Great Britain not to be stampeded into panic by the provacative 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 Raid—and After

AMAZING SCENES

Eight o’clock last night.

A hundred arrests to be overcome. But they had been overcame. And the Barricaded Workmen 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 crash.

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 strikers—cloggles 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—we were sorry, but—

He went off with his copies, leaving some of his men in charge.

Continued on Page Eight, Col. Four
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 states that the miners belonging to the Christian (Catholic) Trade Unions have decided not to help the English strikers. This is not true.

Today 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 miners’ struggle is our struggle,” the proclamation concludes. “The owners’ victory would result in a catastrophic working conditions everywhere.”

Resolutions of sympathy are being passed by the unions, irrespective of whether they are “Right” or “Left,” “Socialist,” “Communist,” or “Christian.”

“We are resolved to carry out the Brussels decisions,” the letter reads, “to take all the necessary measures to prevent the export of coal to Britain.”

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, as well as its wish to take all the necessary measures to prevent the export of coal to Britain.”

The Decision is made, and the situation has been examined by the competent national and international committee. The International Committee undertakes 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.

PERIODICALS

Only One Out of Six Hundred Help to Starve Miners

At the Free Trade Hall conference on Wednesday evening the Government boasted that it had secured the services of 4,000 volunteers in the five counties of Notia, Lincs, Rutland, Northants and Derby.

As the population in this area is about 400,000, it can be seen that only about one out of every 600 of the population has chosen to assist the Government 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 Daily Mail Commons on Wednesday by Mr. J. H. Thomas and Mr. Ramsay MacDonald.

Mr. Thomas told a husked 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 spirit of the Minster’s own words and in his own handwriting.”

“While we were with the miners, there came the Daily Mail incident, and negotiations broke down.”

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.

“They were discussing it with the Government representatives to ask them what it was all about. When the delegation arrived the door was locked and the whole place was in darkness.”

The Prime Minister’s explanation of the general strike was that the stipage of the Daily Mail was regarded as the first “overthrow of the workers’ movement.”

“We felt in the presence of these 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 until the general strike was called off,” he added. “The work of the peacemakers had been killed by the action of the hodenheds.”

Mr. Baldwin admitted it was likely that the negotiators themselves knew nothing about the “Daily Mail” incident. They could not control it.

The Prime Minister said that in the early hours of Monday morning the T.U.C. representatives could go on the strike, contained in a formula which was written down, not by himself, but by Mr. Thomas, of Rochdale.

He went on to say:

“We would urge the miners to see that it is their responsibility to assure us to enter into negotiations with the understanding that they and we accept the report as the basis of a settlement, and we would negotiate with them knowing that it may involve some reduction of wages.”

“The negotiations are now completed,” he added. “We are separated,” the President continued at foot of next column.

HANDS ACROSS THE SEA

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

OSTENSIVE MEETINGS

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

All National Trade Union centres of the Federation have been invited to send financial assistance to the British miners.

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.

A meeting of the Executive of the Miners’ International, the other conference of representatives of dockers’, railwaymen’s, and miners’ unions, is to be held by the International Transport Workers’ Federation.

PIT FONIES SEE DAYLIGHT

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

Continued from previous column, miner continued, “The T.U.C. representatives were told 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 a declaration of war on the liberty of the Press, we saw that we had reached a point where 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 it, but it was not until 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 and show the letter and convey it to the Prime Minister, and when we got down from one room to the other we were told by an undertaking that everybody had gone to bed, and the place was in darkness and we could not see anything.”

“Eternally as I am disappointed,” concluded Mr. Thomas, “and keenly as I feel it, I am not going to allow your wonderful response of our people, to cause me to hang the door to the peace that I hope will speedily come.”
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 are right with Labour! Stick to the right side, and the others will be left to do it-alone.

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 with complete normality, this is the reason. For the workers are striking for newsboys, and newsboys with their strike bulletins are being vigorously answered by munition makers and science-fitted quarriers are snapped up at twice a penny a time.

JOURNALISTS OUT

Won'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 a boycott on all publications in the Black Country. The Executive of the N.U.J., as reported in our issue yesterday, has instructed members that they are not to work with the new paper, but are not to do their work if black labour is introduced to produce newspapers or publications.

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 bestial and determined they can, in association with their fellow trade unionists, ensure justice for all mine workers.

The Executive Council and their 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 directly notified or affected by the strike orders issued by the General Council of the Trade Unions Congress:

1. Miners and Quarrymen. As the last agreement between the new system is to be played this afternoon.


5. Metal Workers. South Midlands, South Wales, and North Eastern.


7. Amalgamated Society of Railway Telephone Operators.

8. Amalgamated Society of Railway Telephone Engineers.


10. Amalgamated Society of Railway Telephone Technicians.

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WEST COUNTRY'S SPIRIT

"Firm as a Rock"—the Men of Reading

KEEN TO COME OUT

Telephones Message from the Spouton, Comradic and 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 organizing football matches between various sections of the strikers, and a match is to be played this afternoon.

The Strike Committee of the West of England has organized a system for the exchange of messages and greetings. Posts outside the Labour Club is the following bulletin.

Swindon states magnificent solidarity.

Bristol: All solid here.

Gloucester: Morale magnificent.

Birmingham 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 hansom carriages.

SOLID AT WCSTER

Determination and Good Order

The Spirit of Strikers

Wonderful solidarity is the report by Worcester trade union. The strikes are being conducted in a most orderly manner.

All transport workers are cut and only three trains were run, these were worked by clerks. Clerks responded nobly to the call. The trade workers have decided to step to-night.

The bus service between Worcester and district and Shrewsbury is entirely suspended, and through lack of transport Williams's linen factory has closed down till Monday.

The Health department staff at Wallasey (Yorkshire), 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 "Trade Union," Churtion, London.

Head officers 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.
THE BRITISH WORKER

No Attack On The Constitution!

CONFUSING THE 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 out of an attempt to upset the institution, to usurp the authority of Ministries, to set up a rival to the House of Commons.

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

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

That is untrue. No one should doubt that it is untrue better in Mr. Baldwin, who has allowed from the beginning a dispute between Ministers and the miners, and who is aware that it has been an industrial dispute throughout.

No political issue has ever been minded or thought of in connection with it. It began over Wages and conditions of working; it has never been concerned with anything else.

When the Mineworkers, 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 at the root of the methods which Trade Unions have built up for settling disputes in a reasonable, peaceful way.

Only when the 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 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 reasons why resolutions were abruptly taken off on Sunday night owing a fresh and very disturbing light on the miners' dispute.

At a moment when the Trade Union Committee were considering a basis for continuing the dissolution 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 3,000 Daily Mail printers to produce a paper containing what they believe to be a misstatement of workers' case.

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

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.

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

Water supply is bad, sanitary conditions 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 this, she has constant anxiety while her men folk are away at their dangerous task underground.

During these years of work and anxiety has been increased by low wages and unemployment.

She is faced each week with the terrible task 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: "Wages-carriers and children first." She is very happy 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. All reduction in the level of wages for them would mean falling below the hunger line.

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

This will come at a prosperous time in the future but make up for the privation of the present. To reduce the children's food-to-day means to stunt their growth to leave ill effects for the rest of their lives.

Therefore, this struggle 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 save their children for the future.

THE GREAT, GREAT TREK

[In the Broadcasting of the men's work is referred to as "The Trek."]

It's the great, great Trek

Through the thronged city streets

It's the trek to the shops

And the tail office-earls;

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 to hold the march in check

Of the Workers who are following

The great, great Trek.

"Do's" for Difficult Days

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

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

Do your best to discourage 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 extra housework 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.

Do nothing. Hanging about and swapping rumours is bad every way.

N THE GREAT, GREAT TREK

[The 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 is it shall we seek?)

Keeps them dogged as they plod

On the great, great Trek.

There's a hope must reach for,

And a wrong man must break,

In the teeth of all hardships.

For their child's sake, when

When the new hope is planted

On the old wrong's wreck,

When their child shall thank them

For the Great, Great Trek.

TOMPFOOL.
**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 head-quarters to arrange for the movement's progress throughout the country, the services of many Labour M.P.s being enlisted as speakers.

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

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

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

Other speakers have been decided upon, and dates to be announced later.

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

Blackburn, Burnley and Colne.—Messrs. S. Shaw, H. Dunnicliff, I.P.s.

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

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

UP TO THE NORTH

In the Eastern counties meetings are being arranged as follows:

Norwich.—Mr. Mardy Jones, I.P.

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

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

York.—Tuesday, Mr. W. Palting, I.P.

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

Dorchester.—Sunday, Mr. W. Sillitoe, M.P.

Mr. R. Wallhead, M.P., is to speak at Peterborough, Mr. A. Sheppard, M.P., at Darlington, Mr. C. Trevelyan, M.P., at Newcastle, 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. Liddell, 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. W. Lawson, M.P., to Sheffield.

For Leeds, Bradford, Shipley and district the speakers are Messrs. B. 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. Charleior, M.F.

Holborn.—Mr. C. T. Cramp, Clapham Junction.—Mr. C. T. Cramp.

Kensington Town.—Mr. J. H. Thomas, M.P.

Acton.—Mr. J. H. Thomas, M.P.

Camden Town.—Mr. Herbert Smith.

Rotherhithe.—Mr. Herbert Smith.

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

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

For the South-West area, meetings are to be addressed by Mr. G. Hall, M.P., at Newport, Cardiff, Swansea, and Hastings.

A meeting is also to be held at Llanelli.

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.

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**RAILWAY MEN SOLID**

Summary of Reports from N.U.R. Branches

**UNIONS CO-OPERATE**

A magnificient response to the strike order is revealed in reports received at Unity House, the headquarters of the National Union of Railwaymen, from more than 500 branches.

**300% NO WORK**

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 in the various centres.

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.

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**ALL JOINING IN**

Manchester's Force of Strikers Growing Hourly

In addition to stoppages of the traffic, grass works have 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 more than two of the local unions.

The Engineering Tramway Union reports that all its members are out, with the exception of those employed on building Frohman at hospitals.

The tramway stoppages in Manchester is complete, only the three oldest roads still in the employ of the tramway department having reported for duty.

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**UNEMPLOYED STAND BY STRIKERS AT STOCKTON-ON-TEES**

The strike is being conducted on other lines at Stockton-on-Tees, where fully 1,000 men have been withdrawn from work by the respective unions.

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**PEW BUSES—FARES UP**

A very few L.G.O.C. omnibuses were running on Tuesday, and they were displaying the notice "Minimum fare 6d." As a result the minimum fare is now 9d.

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**CABRIOLETS—RENTAL**

Carriage and Wagon Company has provided a few carriages for hire.

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**TUBE & IRONWORKS STOP**

Tubular Shortage Stops 6,500 Workers on the Streets

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**JOINT COMMITTEES**

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A magnificient response to the strike order is revealed in reports received at Unity House, the headquarters of the National Union of Railwaymen, from more than 500 branches.

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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 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 grade that was most encouraging..."

The spirit and unity of the members is splendid, and we have received many advices of non-members and their families desiring to place their names 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 facing the R.C.A.

"These supervisors are often isolated, and are being influenced by view that they support anti-voting "safety" and considerations of their families..."

"THE BROAD OUTSTANDING FACT THAT OUR OVERWHELMING MAJORITY OF THE CLERICAL AND ALLIED GRDE IN THE SERVICE IS STANDING FOUR-SQUARE WITH THE OTHER WORKERS IN STRUGGLE..."

V.A.T.S.O.P.A.
This morning the National Society of Operative Printers and Assistants issued a general strike call to every branch, which has so far reported its position, 90 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 to be strictly observed.

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

Up Trades Council may issue permits.

The only competent authority to deal with permits is the Joint Transport Committee composed of representatives of the Transport Unions, including the R.U.R., A.S.I.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 relating permits must be reviewed by the Transport Committee at once.

Please make this as widely known as possible.

ERNEST BEVIN.

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 not founded on truth.

No negotiations concerning the态度 be believed unless they have the authority of the General Council."

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

Cardiff Docks are working 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 strikes considerably increased yesterday, due to many employers endeavouring to introduce blanketing labour.

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

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 representative of all the Transport Unions, with Mr. J. Marchbanks, Unity House, London, as Secretary.

Telephone Address: "BEWARE, EUROAD"

Telegraphic Address: "BEWARE, EUROAD"

"Not One Organised Member Has Tried to Block"

Mr. J. W. Halt, secretary of the National Unemployed Workers' Committee of Movement, states—"The organised unemployed throughout the country have offered their assistance to the Trades Councils and Local Strike Committees, and this assistance is now being occupied in all areas. Not one member of the organised unemployed has attempted to block, and it is the intention of the National Unemployed Workers' Committee of Movement to maintain this attitude even if the strike lasts for months."

At Bowrow-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.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

No Disorder—Only Determination to Stand Fast Till We Win

THREE MAIN AREAS: Reports from all districts most satisfactory. Attempts to run bus services have been frustrated.

NORTH-WEST COAST AREA: Attempts to run a Manchester tramway service abandoned. Local Joint Committees have not been approached.

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

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

NORTH MIDLANDS AND YORKSHIRE AREA: Whole area still solid. Attempts to run passenger services have been taken to deal with "unrecognised" bus services.

SOUTH OF ENGLAND AREA: With the exception of tramwaymen in Islington (200 per cent.), working Portlambour (755 men) working, all sections remain solid. Response of the road transport commercial men is remarkable.

WEST MIDLANDS AREA: All sections remain solid. The spirit of the service is beyond anything witnessed in past years.

SOUTH WALES AREA: Position maintained throughout the area. Attempts to circulate false rumours amongst men in striking districts have been successfully repelled. The atmosphere broadcast yesterday to the effect that riot there. These are wild exaggerations intended to jangle nervess and shake confidence.

In fact, the only incidents that have occurred have been of the most insignificant nature, a lass 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 into facts. 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 workers with 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, confidence. Just the calm of it is fraying the nerves of our opponents. If there were riots and police charges and the machine-gun, 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 Block"

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SOLIDARITY EVERYWHERE

T.U.C. Appeal for Order Loyally Observed

QUICK, BUT FIRM

Messages received by the General Council show that the workers in every part of the country are responding loyalty in defence of the London strike. The following are a few typical examples of the reports which have been received—

GUILDFORD TRADES COUNCIL says that all Trade Unions in the area have loyalty responded to the T.U.C. appeal.

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.

DEPSTED AND GREENWICH TRADES COUNCIL reports that for the first time in history all the Unions 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 Sheffield Trades Union Congress, that all the Government support the Government in the present crisis.

"I am surprised," she said, "to hear that my statement, correctly reported in the national Press, should suggest that I am supporting 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, offering services for any voluntary duties she might be required to do.

STRANDED IN FRANCE

The Paris newspaper L'Evenement states that the Nord and Sud railways have decided to suspend the traffic of all passenger trains connecting with the cross-Channel boats. At Calais the trains are crowded with passengers held up by the strike, while at Dover, the traffic has been completely suspended.

MORE PRINTERS OUT

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

THE NATIONAL UNION OF RAILWAYMEN

Un'y 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.

EASY TIME FOR POLICE

(By Our Special Commissioner.)

The whole East End of London is a giant 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 instructors that are prominently displayed are being rigidly observed.

KEEP CALM. KEEP COOL.

On vacant plots of land I saw many games of football, and a few cricket places were Article. Passing through the vast network of the residential quarters one found by the pickets and told that they would be strike-breaking, they kept quietly, and not one case of black-legging was 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 chairing with the strikers, the best of friends, and with the best of good humour.

SUPPLIES FOR THE SICK

The hospitals and infirmaries are being supplied with their requirements, but trade unionists 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 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 white-coated worker comrades, on strike, one office in ten is showing any pretence of doing business.

All wholesale houses are completely closed.

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

MUSIC AND AEROBATICS

Mr. Rutland Boughton's Help At Croydon

From reports which come from all quarters that from Croydon is as chummy as any. Runkin House, the headquarters of the Musicians' trade union in the scene of great activity. Trade unionists regularly report that the trade unionists are chummy and everybody is in splendid fettle.

An amusements committee is hard at work. A concert has been held, and the quality of the talent has been so exceptionally high that the concert team is being formed, and among other items being given on the lawn are an acrobatic performance.

Mr. Rutland Boughton, the famous composer, is making musical contributions from Tooting special to offer his help and advice, so that the Croydon concert may be kept for a good time on the musical and dramatic side.

Owing to the fact that only a few copies of the latest Warwick reached Runkin House, relays of reporters have been sent to Warwick to claim the whole paper through to a chering and enthusiastic crowd.

Five hundred airman moderate work at Croydon.

Father and the family were having a quiet day at home. The "first has had for years," one of the strikers told me.

ROtherHith Bonfire

The organisation and control of the Rotherhithe bonfire is perfect. At the picket depots, district offices, local strike centres, trade councils and clubs an atmosphere of cheerful 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 there was such a thing as it Rotherhithe.

A number of O.M.S. recruits were brought into the warehouse district of Tooley-street. When approached by the pickets and told that they would be strike-breaking, they kept quietly, and not one case of black-legging was 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 chairing with the strikers, the best of friends, and with the best of good humour.

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THE BRITISH WORKER

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 organizations might interest themselves in this matter:

Women's Co-operative Guild.

Women's Sections of the Labour Party.

Women's International League of Action for Peace.

Local Peace Councils for the Prevention of War.

Adult Schools.

The Meetings of the Society of Friends.

Local Branches of the various teachers' organizations.

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 on strike.

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 Footpath

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

On Sunday last, at the 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 strawberries—charlies, etc., from France, are the British wealthy classes. The strike has stopped the import of its luxuries, and the consequence is a heavy fall in prices in France.

At some of the breweries in Notte and Darby beer traffic is held up by the transport strike. Licenses are maturing to the breweries to obtain supplies.
Men Of The North Stand True

THE DOPE THEY GIVE US!

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

In the sacred cause of the Free
The Free, of the Free, of the Free!
Till all Dope is Lice (as Mr. Bad-
lin wouldn't put it), I beg to sub-
mit to the Editor, as I am unable to
guarantee their truth, but then, judging from the captious spokes-
which are struggling out after much travall, no such guarantee is needed.
I may add that I am not reserving any rights in name, in order to give
the editors of the said sheets the op-
portunity to reprint the items free of charge in the free posts, so dispossessing
which I rather doubt, seeing that they appear to be able to do it equally well themselves, not so more.

The Worshipful Company of
Divines against the Bondmen.

The annual balnat at the Gutz Hotel last evening, with Sir Banke Ballance in the chair, was, as a whole, which was thick with emotion, he said, "Thas is a strike against the communistic Father (Hear, hear.)
The Prime Minister had told them something or other which, he re-
greeted to say, he had forgotten at the moment, and they were deter-
mined to stand four square against the ravaging parasites of What-
name. As to our immediate plans," he concluded, batting his neighbour playfully on the head with a magazine "Hum's the word!" (Hear, hear, and a hie or two.)

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

All work on the new Home for Depressed Company Promoters is still in abeyance, the building workers contending that this is not so much a matter of housing as of ware-
housing.

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

Sir Isaac Pyce, R.B.E., presi-
dent of the Institute of Prophets, in an interview, said, "This is a strike against the Bondmen. The community must inevitably suffer, and I can assure the community, on behalf of my fellow members, that we are prepared to see it to that, to the best of our ability, the commu-
ity does suffer.

We are unable, at the time of going to press, to confirm the report that the Free Intelligence Committee to re-
claim the Distressed Conlaws, many of whom, owing to the strike, have found it necessary to eat their share certificates.

And that, Henry, ought to be a mough 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 Northern England, according to the latest reports from our correspondents.

Solid to a man, Engineering, ship building 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 strikes in the 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 copy boys. Some managers refuse to handle this paper, and newspaper van drivers refuse to deliver.

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

One TAKERS.

The dockers are all out, the har-
bour is quiet, and discipline is main-
tained. Employers issued an appeal for blacklegs at 11s. a shift, but there were "No Takers."
A warship has come up the Clyde and is anchored in the dock adja-
cent to Govan-road. Food cargoes are being removed under permits.

River traffic is practically para-
nalyzed.

The dockers held open-air meet-
ings to-day within half a mile of the water.

About 100 students were employed as milkmen and milkwomen.

In Blackfriars, a depot was(striped)

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 con-
sidered 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, "No No! to the Premier's request for an unconditional with-
drawal of the strike notice.

The Government, it is pointed out, was responsible for breaking off the negotiations, and any further dis-

_county is being undertaken in a "free and unfettered atmosphere."

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 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 ses-

tion— at once considered the situation.

Mr. Ben Hill and Mr. Bowen, and Mr. Clrine came up to represent the Council on the spot. The S.C.L.C. and the local Mr. Poulton hurried off to the House to inform the Leader of the Labour Party.

Then Triumph

After a short consultation with Mr. Hill and Mr. Hender-
son, the latter got at once into touch with the Government.

While these consultations were going on, it only came to the or-

The machines were started.

The crowd organised its own "police," and saw to the safe for the cars to roll up, load, and drive away amid solemn cheers.

The news of the agreement, which came at 10.30, 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 "volun-
tee" labour at the Morning Post office decided the General Council to issue its own strike bulletin.

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

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

But in spite of it all we printed and distributed 320,000 copies.

Today we hope to do better still.

LEVY FOR MINERS?

A mass meeting of Northampton: Dons and Suffragettes on Friday will decide the question of a levy in support of the miners of Ll. on men workers and 6d. on women.

Published For The General Council of the Trades Union Congress, and printed by the Victoria Home Printing Co., Ltd., Tudor Street, Whitechapel, E.1.