

THE BRITISH WORKER

OFFICIAL STRIKE NEWS BULLETIN

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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 2 I.O."

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.

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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 Tillett 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 blacklegs, 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. O. 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 Colchester, Ipswich 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 works 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.

LINGOLN: 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 on 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 Crews, 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 256 votes to 2 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 tramwaymen 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 Stove-dress, 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 GOSLING.

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.

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 strikers.

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, and Scotland stopped

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.

MULL: 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 34. 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 80 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, conveyed the coal to the miners' homes.

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 benten 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 to-morrow at 5 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 organisation 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 Sealam 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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