

THE BRITISH WORKER

OFFICIAL STRIKE NEWS BULLETIN

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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 sticking 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. Cltrine, 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 bands 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 wind or handling 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 Coa fields

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 floor 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 Wallington 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

CONTINENTAL COAL

Transport International's Decision

TO LEVY MEMBERS

The International Transport Federation held a conference at Ostend yesterday. Delegates attended representing various Executives to discuss miners' position and the General like of their British comrades. A 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 bunkster British ships and to render financial assistance. Ready sums of money have been used at the disposal of the T.U.C., whilst the dispute is in process. Unions have agreed to levy the members a weekly sum.

MINERS' MEASURES

The International Miners' Federation 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 bunkster British ships on Sunday failed, the Antwerp dockers refusing work.

Denmark workers have given notice their employers of their decision to join the British Movement.

UNIFORM DECISION

Nottingham Workers and Threat Made by Council

Despite statements to the contrary, that a municipal bus or train is running in Nottingham.

The tramways committee has issued 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 their uniforms.

The men, at a meeting, decided not to return.

Slaughtermen at Birkenhead have luck.

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, Hammer Smith, 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 went 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 told 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 350 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. 8½d. 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. 7½d., 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 23s. 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 3½ 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 unflinching 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 Llanelli, 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 Brynbo 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 nonsense 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, Euston-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 weskitt. 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 (Surbiton).—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 armet. 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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