

ACTION OF LABOR LEADERS AT 'PEG IS PROTESTED

Decision to Call General Strike Is Described by Free Press as Bolshevikism

WINNIPEG, August 16.—The Free Press Bulletin today discusses in its editorial columns the decision of the Winnipeg Trades and Labor Council that a general strike must be called in sympathy with the striking metal workers in Winnipeg. The Free Press characterizes the decision of the trades and labor leaders as "Bolshevikism, naked and unashamed" and calls upon the sane and conservative element in organized labor to combat the proposal to plunge the city into the useless discomforts of mob rule. The Free Press declares that the merits of the dispute do not touch the heart of the question.

"The labor leaders want a general strike to force the courts of this province to be governed, not by the laws of the country, but by the instructions of the labor leaders."

The Free Press concludes by declining to believe that the labor unions will support this "threat of civil war."

Company Explains

WINNIPEG, Aug. 16—While organized labor in Winnipeg is taking a strike vote in sympathy with the striking metal workers on account of an injunction issued against them by the Manitoba Bridge and Iron Works company for \$100,000, the company has issued a statement declaring that the injunction was the only weapon left to them for use against lawless interference; that it prevents the metal trade workers from ever using intimidation against employees engaged to work in the shops. The company claims that it is still prepared to enter into negotiations with the men in regard to increased wages. It says that the question now is whether the country "is in the hands of a small coterie of agitators."

E. McGrath, secretary of the Bureau of Labor, stated that he still hoped for a settlement of the dispute before a general strike takes place. The result of the strike votes will be compiled on next Wednesday.