

# GIVE CABINET WEEK TO ACT OR RESIGN

Mass Meeting Decides on  
Drastic Course to Compel  
Deportation of Aliens

## AIKINS DENIES CHARGE

An ultimatum to the provincial government, demanding that it take steps within seven days towards interning and deporting undesirable aliens, was enunciated Saturday afternoon at a mass meeting of returned soldiers in Market square.

If the government takes the stand that it cannot enact the requisite legislation, the veterans demand that it resign and appeal to the people for the necessary authority.

The ultimatum, which was put up in the form of two resolutions, carries the proviso that unless the government does one or the other things, the soldiers will take matters into their own hands.

### Men Calm and Determined

The soldiers' meeting was characterized by the absence of any semblance of disorder and an atmosphere of calm determination. About 2,000 veterans listened to the seven speakers and went away in an orderly manner.

One of the speakers voiced the charge that Sir James Aikins, lieutenant-governor, employed three aliens, a Chinese cook, a German gardener and an Austrian chauffeur. In reply to the statement, Sir James issued today a denial through C. M. Laing, his acting private secretary. Sir James asserts that the cook at government house is an English woman. The gardener, he declares, was born in Courland, Russia, came to Canada in 1911, was naturalized before the war, offered to enlist but was rejected on account of physical unfitness and has been a regular contributor to the Red Cross. Another man, occasionally employed as an assistant gardener, is also from

Russia, having come to Canada in 1907, homesteaded and was naturalized as a Canadian in 1911. The chauffeur, Sir James states, is an Englishman.

The purpose of the mass meeting, as explained in the advance announcements published in The Tribune, was to crystallize the opinion of veterans on the alien question and to "start something" towards ridding the country of aliens who have been classified by the Alien Investigation board as undesirable.

**When the seven speakers asked the assembled crowd what was to be done if the government ignored the resolutions, the veterans replied: "We will enforce democracy here in the same way as we did in France."**

The committee of seven, which comprises C. V. Combe, Capt. J. F. C. Wheeler, H. J. Mansfield, J. O. Newton, W. Jenkinson, J. Headley and H. R. Cook, was given powers to call a special meeting, when the seven-day "truce" has passed.

#### **Urge Closer Co-operation**

The speakers urged closer co-operation between the various veterans' associations and the Trades and Labor council. The labor men, they contended, should support the veterans on the enemy alien issue.

**"And if they will not stand by us we will know that they are against us and take steps accordingly," Mr. Cook declared.**

Capt. Wheeler charged that the government apparently had no intention of dealing with the enemy aliens. The question was one continuous circle with no end in sight, he said.

Government officials were employing aliens in their homes, he asserted. Sir James Aikins was one of them, he alleged, as he had first-hand information that Sir James employed a Chinese cook, a German gardener and one other alien.

Lieut.-Col. A. W. Woods, D.S.O., wanted the alien question settled by constitutional means.

"We have to be careful, boys, not to let the Bolsheviki triumph in Manitoba," he said. "But we are all united on the alien question. If the government does not settle it we will do it ourselves."

"Are you with me when I say that we must make an example in Winnipeg, that our demands must be heard?" H. J. Mansfield, secretary of the Alien Investigation board, challenged his hearers.

"Yes," was the shouted reply.

#### **Calls It Camouflage**

Mr. Mansfield contended that the order-in-council appointing the alien board was a bit of well-weaved camouflage.

The board was absolutely without power, he said, to force aliens to appear before it. It had no authority to intern aliens. It was just another display of legal talent by the Union government, he claimed.

Mr. Combe, Mr. Newton, who is vice-president of the Great War Veterans' association; Mr. Jenkinson and Mr. Headley were the other speakers.

Here are the resolutions adopted at the meeting:

"Whereas, the Alien Investigation board has been able to determine that a large number of those alien enemies that have already appeared before it are undesirables and likely, by being permitted to remain at liberty, to cause civic strife and disturbance, but said board has no power to compel enemy aliens to appear before it; neither can it as a board order the internment of such enemy aliens as may be shown to be undesirables. Now, therefore, be it resolved by this meeting of returned soldier-citizens and other citizens of Winnipeg, that the provincial government be requested to empower said board forthwith to cause all enemy aliens to appear before it and to intern with a view to subsequent deportation such as may be found undesirable. Further, in the event of the provincial government not having sufficient authority in this behalf, to request it to inform the Dominion government that unless sufficient authority is conferred upon said provincial government on or before the 17th inst., no responsibility will be accepted for the strife and disturbances that is likely to arise.."

"That this mass meeting of citizens assembled on the 10th of May in the Market square in the city of Winnipeg demand that the provincial government immediately enact legislation necessary to deport alien enemies or intern them; and if it finds this impossible, to resign and appeal to the electorate of the province."

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