

# EXAMINATION BROUGHT TO AN ABRUPT CLOSE

## Trial of Blumenberg Is Thrown into Tangle of Legal Controversy

### BAIL REFUSED

## Continual Clashes Take Place Be- tween Counsel for Prosecution and Defence

WINNIPEG, July 15.—Absolute refusal, upon the advice of counsel, to answer any questions except those pertaining to his entry into Canada, brought the examination of Sam Blumenberg to an abrupt close, before the special board of inquiry being held at the immigration hall today.

An attempt by A. J. Andrews, K.C., special crown prosecutor, to link up the socialistic and bolshevist meetings held in the Walker and Majestic theatres last winter with the subsequent riots in January and the strike riots last month, threw the trial of Blumenberg into a tangle of legal controversy.

### Barrage of Objections.

Throughout the sessions today, counsel for the defence kept up a barrage of objections and impromptu arguments which, coupled with the constant refusal of Blumenberg to answer any questions, prevented the hearing from getting anywhere beyond a labyrinth of legal confusion.

The real development of the morning was refusal by Magistrate R. M. Noble, chairman of the board, to allow bail to any of the four men—Blumenberg, Charitinoff, Almazoff, and Schroppirel—still held on immigration charges, on the ground that the inquiries were already under way and that they would be carried on as rapidly as possible.

At the very outset of the hearing, E. J. McMurray, one of the counsel for the defence, entered a formal objection to the nature of the board and made a protest against the proceedings being carried beyond an effort to prove that Blumenberg had, by word or act, attempted to create a riot or public disorder. He argued that the portion of the immigration act barring from Canada members of societies with revolutionary aims did not come within the scope of the charges.

From that time on it was one series of objections and arguments. As soon as Blumenberg had finished with his preliminary statements as to name, age and birth, Mr. McMurray stopped further answers by advising the defendant to refuse to answer.

His move practically blocked Mr. Andrews in his examination and he finally said he did not see any use of going further and the Chairman Noble, who formally asked each question after Mr. Andrews had made it, only to receive the same answer from Blumenberg, said he did not see any use of going on with the witness, either.

### Objection Sustained.

Counsel for the defence then attempted to cross-examine Blumenberg, to which Dr. Andrews objected so long as the witness was in contempt. Chairman Noble sustained the objection with the result that Blumenberg was called off the stand without having testified to much more than his name and age. He admitted, however, while on the stand that he had told immigration officials that he was an American citizen, and also that he had voted in the United States. He explained that he believed that he held citizenship in the United States because his father had taken out his first naturalization papers in New York, but had died before he had completed his naturalization. He said he explained this to the immigration officials. When he came to Canada in March, he said, he told the immigration officials that he was a Roumanian citizen. Blumenberg said he was 33 years of age, of Jewish origin. He came to Canada first from Roumania, later from Minneapolis. He was still a Roumanian. He resided in the United States for 13 years. He was in Canada about a year before going to the United States, and returned to Canada from Minneapolis about seven years ago.

### Repeated Clashes.

The features of the proceedings today were repeated clashes between A. J. Andrews, K. C., special crown prosecutor, and T. J. Murray, Marcus Hyman and E. J. McMurray, counsel for the defense.

Application was again made for bail by Mr. Hyman on behalf of his client, late this afternoon, but it was not considered by the board.

Sergeant-Major J. Longdale, of headquarters staff, testified that the meeting held in the Walker theatre was under the auspices of the trades and labor council. He also gave testimony as to the alleged seditious speech Blumenberg was accused of having made at this meeting. He read extracts from Blumenberg's speech that were of a radical nature. He quoted Blumenberg as saying that Bolshevism was the only thing that would emancipate the working class and with saying that he wore a "red flag necktie so there would be no doubt where he stood"

The sitting of the board was adjourned at 5.45 p.m., till 10.30 tomorrow morning.