

# Carl Berg's Letters Read at Sedition Trial in Winnipeg

Winnipeg, Aug. 1.—Carl Berg, of Edmonton, figured prominently in the evidence presented Monday in the trial of Russell, Johns and six other labor leaders for seditious conspiracy.

Berg's letters dealt with the O. B. U. convention held at Calgary, and were addressed to other persons who attended the convention. They were seized by the R. N. W. M. P.

One, addressed to Victor McRae, Peace River, Alta., dated May 17, says in part:—

"The One Big Union is now on strike, and the time will not be far off that we will be able to dictate to the masters under what terms we shall have to sell our labor power, and also when we shall be able to take over the industries and run them for the benefit of the producers."

Another letter from Berg, addressed to William Keiling, Brule, Alta., dated June 15th, says in part:—

"One of my friends stated there

was no use to do this (referring to amendments to the One Big Union charter), as the present system would not last over two months, and all we needed was a universal card and all things would right themselves."

How some members of the One Big Union faction intended to work is shown in a letter from T. S. Cassidy of North Bay, Ont., to J. Kavanaugh an official of the One Big Union, on April 28th, read to the court. It says in part:—

"I have been getting after Russell of Winnipeg, to help line up the West now, to, if possible, capture the next Trades and Labor congress. It is capture or kill. It may even be necessary to 'buy' some credentials for those necessary to the attack. We must get busy quick on the matter."

Other letters read which had passed between the accused and other agitators, and between agitators not on trial, but connected with the ac-

cused through the Calgary convention and correspondence, appeared to show that the One Big Union is considered by them not as a basis of labor organization, but as a mere step toward organization which will lead to seizure of industries.

A letter from Johns, written at Hamilton, April 30th, says in part:—

"Well, the meeting opened with playing 'God Save the King.' They were forced to do that to obtain the hall. So the bunch in the audience stood, and Louis Moore and I sat down on the platform and got away with it."

A letter from Gordon Carscadden, a Windsor, Ont., labor writer, to the British Columbia Federationist, a Labor publication, was read. It said:

"Enclosed find two stories which you may care to use. Keep up the good fight. You are doing excellent work. Yours for the Bolsheviki."

In answer to another letter sent from Carscadden to William Ivens, one of the accused, and then editor of the Western Labor News, Ivens says:—

"My dear Carscadden,—More power to your punch. Your letter and clipping received. Will see what little I can do. Yours for success. W. Ivens."