

# SEDITION TRIAL IN PROGRESS AT WINNIPEG

## Men Are Charged With Seditious Conspiracy — Joe Knight Among Those Present

Winnipeg, July 21—R. B. Russell, William Ivens, W. A. Pritchard, R. J. Johns, Alderman John Queen and Alderman A. A. Heaps, George Armstrong and R. E. Bray, appeared before Magistrate R. M. Noble at the law courts this afternoon, facing charges of seditious conspiracy. Other informations have been laid, it was announced, against the other strike leaders who did not appear on this charge.

The amended information is now a charge of "seditious conspiracy" where before it was "seditious activity." Further, according to a statement by A. J. Andrews K.C., crown counsel, in addressing the court, "As far as these proceedings are concerned, the amendment practically amounts to a withdrawal against the other men previously mentioned, but in all probability there will be other informations laid."

F. G. Perry, of Fernie, B.C. court reporter, who had acted as reporter at the Western Labor convention, held in Calgary last March, was the first witness called on behalf of the prosecution. He recognized and identified Pritchard, Johns, Russell and Armstrong as men he had seen at the Calgary convention. A verbatim report of the whole proceedings, taken in shorthand by himself, and the transcript, were put in as exhibit 1 by Mr. Andrews. Recalled after cross-examination, the witness stated that Joseph Knight, of Edmonton, and Mrs. George Armstrong, then in the court room, were also present at the Calgary convention. On the request of the magistrate they stood up.

Sergt. Major Langdale, of the intelligence department, told of a meeting he attended under instructions, where the accused were present. He produced a report which he had made of the meeting.

William Ivens, said this witness, had stated that: "They say the alien enemy must be interned. I say it is no longer necessary since the armistice. The Germans are our friends and here mention was made of German socialists, whom, according to the witness, Ivens had described as "true patriots." The whole meeting was described by Sergt. Major Langdale as "very radical and revolutionary in its tone."

On conclusion of the cross-examination of Sergt. Major Langdale, the court adjourned till 2.30 p.m. tomorrow.