

# Had Army Ready to Seize 'Peg Barracks

*Detective Exposes Alleged Plot Engineered by R. E. Bray, Who Planned to Lead 4000 Men in Capture of Arms and Ammunition—Rifles Were to be Turned Against Real Soldiers*

WINNIPEG, Aug. 5.—R. E. Bray, returned soldier and Winnipeg strike leader, on trial for conspiracy, declared on June 10 last that he had a fully organized band of 3000 to 4000 men ready to take up arms at a given signal. A. A. Heaps, Labor alderman of the city of Winnipeg, who is on trial with Bray and six other labor leaders, knew of the plan.

This was the sworn evidence of Detective W. H. McLaughlan of the Northwest Mounted Police, in court here today. McLaughlan testified in part as follows:

"In the course of my conversation with Bray he stated that this affair was going to end in a fight, and when I lamented the fact that we had no guns, Bray said:

" 'Don't worry about guns. We will get them. We have got between three and four thousand ready, and instructed to be in certain places when the alarm is sounded, and they will get into the citizens' cars which are to carry the militia to Minto bar-

racks, pass themselves off as militiamen until they got inside the barracks, get possession of the rifles, turn those on the real soldiers and seize the barracks.' "

McLaughlan was a plain clothes man assigned to follow the strike, and he was in the confidence of several of the labor leaders.

In the same conversation, Mr. McLaughlan testified, Bray told that the strikers were fully informed through their agents of what was going on in the ranks of the opposition. Bray had heard that a raid was to be made on aliens in the north end of Winnipeg and said that he had got a car and a girl who could "speak their lingo" to warn the aliens. Bray was quoted as saying that "the way the bohunks ran to their homes to get something to fight with was plain evidence that the police would get what was coming to them."

Mr. McLaughlan's reports covered various meetings of the strikers and their committee and dealt exhaustively with utterances made by various leaders as the strike progressed.