

5 ALIENS, BROUGHT FROM PRISON, ARE
ARRAIGNED BEFORE INQUIRY BOARD

Prisoners Are Brought From Stony Mountain For Investigation

The five men of foreign birth held at Stony Mountain penitentiary on charges of seditious conspiracy since June 17, will be brought to Winnipeg today and held in jail pending deportation proceedings, according to Marcus Hyman, their lawyer.

A board of inquiry, headed by Thomas Gelley, acting commissioner of immigration, was scheduled to hold a hearing on the charges lodged against the men under the Immigration act in Immigration hall this afternoon.

A. J. Andrews, K.C., special crown prosecutor, announced, however, that the hearing would be adjourned without action. The date for the final hearing when the men will actually appear before the board has not yet been settled, he said.

In case of conviction before the board, the men may be deported as undesirables without a trial in the criminal courts.

The five men are:

Matthew Charitonoff.
Moses Almazoff.
B. Devyatkin.
Sam Blumenberg.
J. Berenczuk.

According to Mr. Hyman, the charges against Berenczuk are to be withdrawn. No hint as to what might be the fate of the other four men was obtainable from any source.

According to announcements by

Mr. Andrews, made at the time of their arrest, the men, if convicted, may be sent to their native countries at once and their families sent after them as soon as possible. That was said to be the strict interpretation of the provisions of the Immigration act under which the men will be tried.

The procedure of such a board of inquiry has been stated to be almost the same as that of a court, evidence being admitted in something of the same manner.

Six other labor leaders—R. B. Russell, William Ivens, George Armstrong, R. B. Bray, Alderman A. A. Heaps and Alderman John Queen—who were arrested at the same time, are at liberty under bonds. They are to be tried in court before any deportation proceedings are attempted in their cases, according to the announced policy of Mr. Andrews. They were to be arraigned this afternoon and again remanded.

Searches Seized Papers

Mr. Andrews today began an investigation of the radical literature seized by Royal North West Mounted Police in the raids of Dominion Day.

His desk was piled high with letters, papers, pamphlets, circulars, booklets, diagrams and other material, much of it showing plans of the I.W.W. and other 'red' organizations to turn present social and industrial conditions upside down.

Mr. Andrews refused, however, to give out any definite extracts from the evidence obtained in the raids or to tell whom the evidence might affect.

"I cannot say whether there will be any more arrests until I have gone through all this stuff," he said, indicating the mass of literature.

Mounted police and agents of the department of justice are still busy sorting from the ton of literature seized in the raids that which may be of use to the prosecution.

Among the documents in possession of the special prosecutor is a diagram showing the I.W.W. plan of organizing all workers into four big departments that would control industry.

Another interesting bit was a card case showing on one side the insignia of the I.W.W., on the other a gilt picture of a man in jail with the words:

"We're in here for you. You're out there for us."

Mr. Andrews would not say where that or any of the other material came from.

Plans for the trial of the six men who are out on bail remain unchanged, he said.

Mr. Andrews based his refusal to make public any of the definite evidence against the so-called radicals on the grounds that it should not be published until it came out in court.

"I would not have consented to the publication of the Russell letters," he said, "if it had not been for the extraordinary conditions. In that case, however, I think the end justified the means."

The "Russell letters" were made public by Senator Gideon D. Robertson, minister of labor, in an attempt to head off the silent parade of soldier-strikers that resulted in the riots of a week ago Saturday.

DEMANDS IMMEDIATE HEARING FOR LEADERS.

Immediate hearing of the charges of sedition preferred by the Dominion government against the six strike leaders arrested June 17 was demanded in police court this afternoon by T. J. Murray, counsel for the men.

Mr. Murray told Magistrate Macdonald that the men were being treated unfairly by the prosecution. Three remands had already been granted the government to prepare its case. He wanted the charges dismissed.

A. J. Andrews, K.C., prosecutor for the government asked for a further remand for one week.

He said that the remand was essential to allow him to review the evidence and prepare the case for the prosecution.

In reply to Mr. Murray he said that the government was not abusing the privilege of the courts in asking for the remand.

"They will have a fair trial. But we must have time to prepare our case in order to treat them fairly," he said.

The discussion in court followed a two-hour conference in the office of Mr. Andrews in which the question of a remand was debated by counsel. Marcus Hyman, Mr. Murray, Mr. Andrews and E. J. McMurray attended.

The strike leaders arraigned are: W. Ivens, George Armstrong, R. E. Bray, Ald. John Queen, Ald. A. A. Heaps and R. B. Russell.