

THREE DAYS TO FIRE ALIENS

Returned Soldiers Give Winnipeg Employers a Chance to Meet Demands

SOME PLACES SMASHED

Mayor Gray and Brig.-Gen. Ketchen Save Swift Establishment by Pleas

(Canadian Press Despatch.)

Winnipeg, Jan. 27.—Winnipeg's returned soldiers have agreed to give employers a chance to hear and answer their demands. The biggest crowd of soldiers which has so far assembled visited the packing plant of Swift & Company here this afternoon and demanded that all enemy foreigners be removed from the plant. Mayor Gray and Brigadier-General Ketchen, O.C. this military district, were there before them. The latter appeared at the gates of the plant accompanied by W. R. Ingram, Manager for Swift's. Mr. Ingram told the soldiers that foreigners would be forced from the plant to make room for returned soldiers if necessary. General Ketchen pleaded with the men to listen to reason. "Give the employers a chance to adjust themselves to changed conditions," he said.

The soldiers agreed to give Swift & Company three days to remove from their pay roll the workers objected to by the veterans. Then the crowd turned toward the city again.

The packing house of Swift & Company is in Elmwood, a suburb several miles east of the centre of the town.

With a large crowd of returned men and sympathizers clamoring at the gates of the establishment, Mayor Gray mounted an improvised platform and, with General Ketchen, succeeded in getting the men to at least refrain from raiding the plant and ejecting the alien employees bodily, a course which was pursued by the soldiers at several places which they later visited.

General Urges Moderation.

This action by the Mayor and General Ketchen was taken at the outset of the afternoon's program of the men. They had gone to the packing plant to demand that all aliens be replaced by white labor. Just when things looked at their worst the Mayor and General Ketchen appeared on the scene. The latter spoke first, urging the men not to hamper the work being carried out in their behalf by wiser counsels, and to go back to the city and give the Manager of the plant a chance to dismiss the aliens.

Mayor Pleads For Fair Play.

The crowd waited until the General had spoken and then hurled epithets at the Manager, W. R. Ingram, who tried to address them. Mayor Gray then mounted the railings and in almost dramatic terms appealed for British fair play.

"I am an Englishman, and I want you men to give British fair play. We want to get the aliens out, and I am with you in that, but let us do it constitutionally," he urged. "Go back to the city and show them that you will give them a chance to get rid of the aliens, and if they don't do it, then is the time for reckoning. Send a letter to every employer of alien labor in town and ask for the foreigners to be replaced. Give them three days to do it."