

BRITAIN FIGHTS TO AVERT TIE-UP OF INDUSTRIES

Coal Strike 'Gravest Situation Since War,' Government Declares.

PARLIAMENT IS CALLED

LONDON, April 2.—The first flurry of violence in the great coal strike of England's 1,200,000 miners was reported this afternoon from the Dowlais Valley, where strikers, watching the removal of ponies from the pits, stoned the sheds, breaking windows.

At Gymney a crowd of striking miners marched on the Pont Llynn colliery, and forced the officials to cease manning the pumps with emergency crews.

The strike was reported to be fast spreading to the mines in Scotland. The enginemen of the Lanarkshire mines voted to abide by the orders of the miners' federation to cease work.

LONDON, April 2.—Although the United Kingdom trembles upon the brink of a tremendous industrial upheaval which is considered inevitable if the nation-wide coal strike lasts, the general public displayed remarkable calmness on this, the second day of the tie-up which saw practically all of the 1,200,000 miners of England idle.

The spirit of "muddling through" was apparent on all sides, but even in conservative quarters it was conceded that this crisis is more dangerous than any of this kind the kingdom has passed through.

The government, from King George down, is giving every indication that it is thoroughly aware of the gravity of the situation. The king has called Parliament sooner than the date originally set, because "a state of emergency exists." The government's official declaration, moreover, described the situation as the "gravest since the declaration of war in 1914," and a special cabinet committee has been appointed to deal with the crisis.

CAR CONCERTED ACTION

As in previous coal strikes the all over-awing fear of the government again that the two other parties to the "triple alliance," the railroad men and the transport workers, will join the miners. Thousands of dock workers employed inling coal have gone out.

The main concern is to get sufficient men to man the pumps to overcome the difficult problem owing to the strong picketing by strikers. Six big mines are already flooded so that they can never be put in operation again. Thirty others have applied for government help in pumping to prevent flooding.

A nation-wide call has been issued for volunteers to assist in pumping at the collieries.

COAL RATIONED FOR HOUSEHOLD USE

Meanwhile the usual stringent measures of restriction and economy have been ordered by the Government. Rationing of coal for households has been resumed and in service has been greatly reduced.

The rationing, applying to the coal used to exercise the strictest economy in the use of coal, light, transport, petrol and supplies.

All other industries being dependent upon coal are beginning to be affected by the tie-up and many of the biggest plants and factories are notifying their employees that they must shut down in a few days for the time being.

PRESS SHARPLY DIVIDED ON STRIKE

The British press is sharply divided in its discussion of the strike and its meaning. The general view, however, seems to be that it is a battle for the nationalization of the mines.

The Morning Post charges labor with a deliberate plot to bring about a revolution.

The Daily Herald, labor's official organ, on the other hand, brands it as a lockout, saying the operators' terminated the contracts with the unions. In support of this, the continuance of the wage scale which the owners want to reduce, the Herald publishes figures showing the profits made by the owners during the war.

"In the fat years of production for destruction," says the paper, "the employers drew from the industry total profits exceeding the prewar capital of the industry by 25,000,000 pounds (nearly \$125,000)."

George Lansbury, editor of the Herald, in a two-column plea for unity, expresses the hope that the government will use its powers to the fullest extent.

"Then we will have the battle line correctly drawn between those that have and those that have not," he concludes.

INT. ROBINSON FOR SECRETARY

Campaign Manager Slated Purchasing Committee.

E. Robinson, one of Governor T. McGrory's former campaign, is expected to be appointed the position of secretary of the purchasing committee of the State of Indiana.

Shelton, who Mr. Robinson had been asked by Governor T. McGrory to appoint him to the purchasing committee, has been appointed to the committee of the State of Indiana.

Shelton's resignation was not to admit the right of the government to discharge him pointing out that he had been appointed to the purchasing committee and he had been appointed to the committee of the State of Indiana.

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