

# Trustees Tell of Events Prior to School Strike; Probe Drawing to Close

## School Board Chairman Denies Miss Ida Cook, Former Principal of Polson School, Prevented From Presenting Her Side of Controversy

End of the East Kildonan school strike inquiry is in sight. The majority of the school trustees have still to testify, but C. K. Guild, K.C., at a session Monday night, urged counsel to confine their examination of them to new points of evidence. Though there are five members of the school board to take the stand, it is believed that all will be dealt with either Tuesday or Wednesday, when there will be a recess to enable counsel to prepare for making their presentations to the board of reference.

Called in succession to A. E. Ford, chairman of the education committee of the trustees, Robert Gibson, chairman of the school board, was on the witness stand for about three hours Monday night. He detailed the circumstances under which Miss Ida Cook, principal of Polson school, was transferred to Salisbury school as a result of letters and complaints by the teaching staff.

He claimed that at a certain meeting of the board, Miss Cook and the teachers, in presence of Inspector Gordon, had been given a fair opportunity to present their case.

### Denies Evidence Cut Off

C. K. Guild, chairman of the board of reference, pressed for information regarding Miss Cook's statement that the board cut her off.

"The board tried to be very fair," Mr. Gibson replied. "After the inspector and the teachers had gone, however, Miss Cook came back and wanted the board to hear her again. I had to speak to her very firmly then. She was not cut off, except when she came back and wanted to rehearse the whole matter."

Replying to cross-examination by C. L. Drewry, Mr. Gibson said that at any time he had visited Polson school it appeared to be getting along all right, and the children came into school in orderly fashion.

"Did the children seem happy?" Mr. Drewry asked.

"That's a peculiar question to ask me, for I was not particularly happy myself sometimes when I was a boy at school."

This reply caused a burst of laughter, and there was another roar when Mr. Drewry suggested: "Maybe you were a bad boy, Mr. Gibson."

# Rotarians Are Urged To Be Kings

A stirring appeal to every Rotarian to make the coronation of King George VI a personal matter, as it is intended to be, and a time for rededication to the pledges of Rotary, was made by Ven. Archdeacon Swanson, Calgary, when he addressed the fourth district conference, Tuesday, at the Royal Alexandra hotel.

Everyone of us is called to be a king in his own right, none more than Rotarians, stated Dr. Swanson, emphasizing that the world needs Rotary's spirit and work, today especially. Rotary will achieve to the extent that each member pledges service, as will the King, during the symbolic coronation service at Westminster, he said.

Dr. Swanson sketched a colorful review of the coronation service, explaining the symbolism of each age-old rite.

The centre of the coronation is not the crowning but anointing, and the prayer is, "Let the King not come alone to his hallowing." Dr. Swanson noted.

### \$90,000 Subscribed

Rotary International foundation fund, established nine years ago, has been subscribed to by members to the amount of \$90,000, Fred Lough, Winnipeg, reported to the conference. He named his address:

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