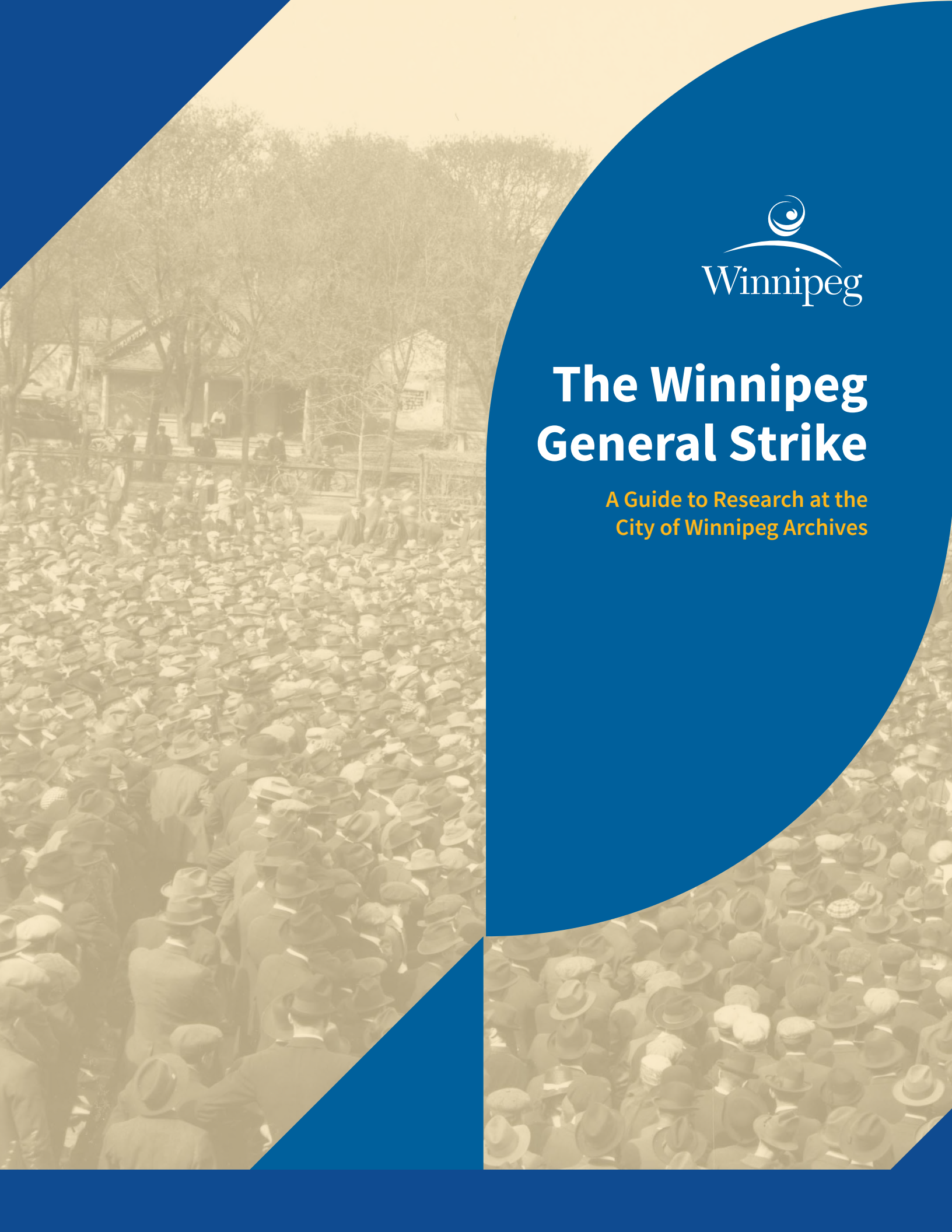




# The Winnipeg General Strike

A Guide to Research at the  
City of Winnipeg Archives



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**City Clerk's  
Greffier**

## Introduction

This research guide was created to mark the centennial of the Winnipeg General Strike, May 15 to June 26, 1919. It seeks to explore the significance of the General Strike as a pivotal moment in Winnipeg's history and assist research in this area by identifying records with information related to six topics: the General Strike in context, City of Winnipeg employees and volunteers, City of Winnipeg politicians, the conduct of City business, the importance of place and geography, and those left out of General Strike narratives.

The records held by the City of Winnipeg Archives are a rich source of information. The City's activities during the strike and its immediate aftermath produced records that document decision making and help to convey a complex picture of a divided city. These records can be found in various collections, not all of which are obvious. Suggestions are provided based on internal research done by Archives staff, but researchers should not limit themselves to what has been provided. It is important to think creatively when conducting research.

Many of these records can be found online at the City of Winnipeg Archives' Winnipeg in Focus website. To access these records, visit <https://winnipeginfofocus.winnipeg.ca/>.

"The subject for my M.A. thesis is 'The Winnipeg General Strike of 1919'... I am sure that you could assist me greatly in gathering material for the thesis."

*Student at Columbia University to Mayor Charles Gray, 1920*

"Will you kindly send to me...a statement of the conditions under which the Winnipeg Policemen went out during the 1919 strike. I am having some controversy here in regard to policemen belonging to a labor union"

*Calgary Mayor Fred Osborne to Winnipeg Mayor Daniel McLean, 1929*

"Your request...to be supplied with copies of the 'Winnipeg Citizen' duly received."

*Mayor Charles Gray to University of California Berkeley Librarian, 1919*

Research interest in the strike was immediately high. These requests for information were often forwarded on to the Citizens' Committee of One Thousand, the group of lawyers and businessmen who were most active in breaking the strike.

*Mayor's Office (File 1441)*

**We look forward to hearing from you.**

City of Winnipeg Archives

204-986-5325 | [archives@winnipeg.ca](mailto:archives@winnipeg.ca)

[winnipeg.ca/clerks/toc/archives.stm](https://winnipeg.ca/clerks/toc/archives.stm)

50 Myrtle St. Winnipeg, MB R3E 2R2

## The Strike in Context

The General Strike did not just happen – it was the result of numerous socioeconomic factors – some long term, some short term. The economic disparity between rich and poor was considerable, as was the disparity of power between employer and employee. Central and Eastern European immigrants were looked on with suspicion by many of those of British descent. The First World War exacerbated both of these issues: a post-war depression set in, making it harder for working class families to get by, and immigrants – “enemy aliens” – from the former German, Austro-Hungarian, and Russian Empires were assumed by many to have subversive or seditious intents. As well, returning soldiers often found their previous jobs filled or otherwise dissolved and struggled to adapt to civilian life as it had become. All of this together created a tense atmosphere in the City, an atmosphere that did not dissipate after the strike ended.

General economic and demographic information can be found in several record sets, such as those listed below, which can be used to measure the wellbeing of Winnipeg’s population before and after the strike, the War’s effect on Winnipeg’s people, and the ways in which the City addressed such issues. This can help contextualize the events of the General Strike and its aftermath.

### Records with information on this subject include:

**Council Records** (1874-present). Consist of minutes, by-laws, and communications that document civic administration and municipal decision making.

**Committee Records** (1874-present). Consist of minutes and communications that document the activities of standing, special, and community committees. Some examples useful for this topic include the *Committee on Finance*, the *Committee on Health and Welfare*, the *Special Committee to Enquire into the Employment of Married Women*, the *Special Committee on Housing*, and the *Special Pension Committee*.

**Department of Public Welfare Records** (1926-1965). Consist of records created, accumulated, and used by the Department of Public Welfare (and the previously existing Unemployment Relief Department) to administer various social services and relief. Access to personal information is regulated under FIPPA. Restrictions may apply.



May Day, 1936. The end of the General Strike was not the end of the labour movement in Winnipeg.  
*City of Winnipeg Archives Photograph Collection (OP5 File 24)*

## City Employees and Volunteers

City employees led a large-scale strike in 1918 and played a significant role in the 1919 General Strike. As such, their lives and careers were greatly affected by it. Though some stayed in their positions, most City employees went out on strike. The police remained at their posts, but they were sympathetic to the strikers. They were dismissed en masse and replaced by Special Constables when they refused to sign a loyalty pledge, often referred to as the “Slave Pact”. Employees of the City of St. Boniface and the RM of Assiniboia also went on strike and had to sign similar loyalty pledges.

The records identified here can be used to track the lives and careers of civic employees through the tumultuous years before, during, and after the strike. Records related to their employment, general financial records, and statements made by them directly can be used to paint a picture of working class employees prior to the strike, while records of their continued (or terminated) employment can illuminate how the strike and its aftermath affected them. As well, information can be found regarding the Slave Pact, which, in addition to practical implications, had symbolic power, as exemplified by the name it was known by.

### Records with information on this subject include:

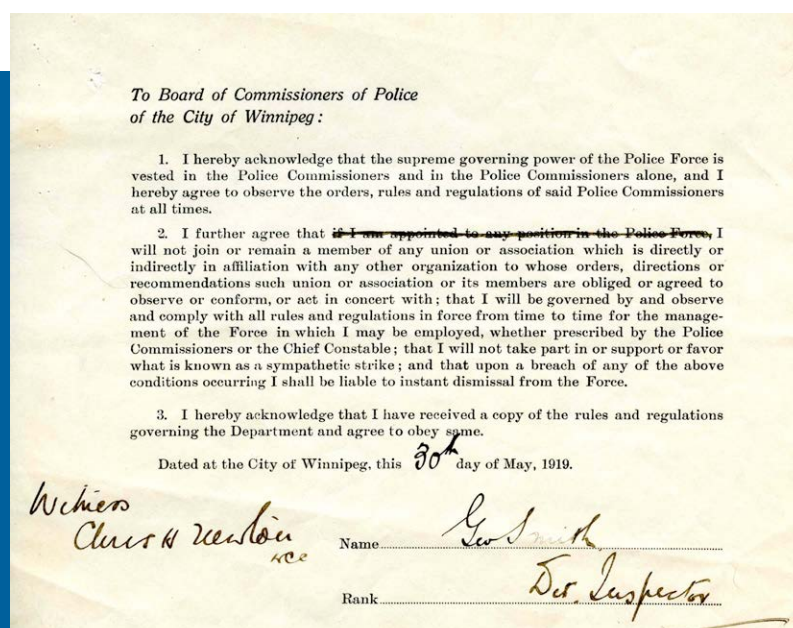
**Council Records** (1874-1971). Consist of minutes, by-laws, and communications that document civic administration and municipal decision making. Also useful are Council minutes for the City of St. Boniface and the RM of Assiniboia.

**Committee Records** (1874-1971). Consist of minutes and communications that document the activities of standing, special, and community committees. Some examples useful for this topic include the *Committee on Finance*, the *Committee on Public Health and Welfare*, the *Special Food Committee*, and the *Special Committee on Investigation of the Fire Department*.

**Mayor’s Office Records** (1912-1971). Consist of correspondence files related to administration and mayoral duties.

**Department Staffing Records** (1874-1971). Consist of job applications, employment histories, and other staffing records of civic departments. Access to personal information is regulated under FIPPA. Restrictions may apply.

**Board of Police Commissioners Records** (1919). Consist of correspondence files related to staffing of the police department.



### The Slave Pact

The term “Slave Pact” refers to a loyalty pledge Council devised on May 26 (658) that all civic employees had to sign, stating that they would not engage in sympathetic strike action or belong to any large-scale union. The term was coined by the *Western Labor News* – the official newspaper of the Strike Committee - and continues to be used to this day. Signing the pledge continued to be a requirement for City employees until it was rescinded by Council in 1930 (1155).

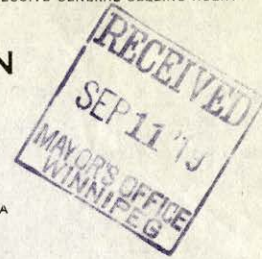
Winnipeg Police Museum

## IRVING R. ALLEN'S WORKING PLAN

COMPRISING  
"THE TEN BASIC LAWS OF SUCCESS"

FRANK R. MORRIS

SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR CANADA, WASHINGTON, OREGON AND CALIFORNIA

410 MANNING CHAMBERS  
72 QUEEN ST. WEST  
TORONTO

Sept 9th, 1919

HHH

His Worship

The Mayor,

Dear Sir:

In a letter of recent date from Mr. Brown of the City Clerks office he said, "The settlement for the volunteer firemen had been turned over to Mr. C.D. Shepard to conclude."

We'll take it from me if the boys have to wait till Shepard wakes up we will get a settlement about seven weeks after DOOMSDAY.

I think a little action on this particular subject would be greatly appreciated by a great many of the volunteers.

WHY THE DELAY?

Yours very truly,

W

*Frank R. Morris*

During the strike, volunteers were integral to the continued operation of the City. The Citizens' Committee of One Thousand was heavily involved in this process, making it somewhat unclear as to whether the City was legally or financially responsible for the volunteers.

Mayor's Office (File 1441)

## City Politicians

Municipal politicians were integral parts of the strike, both for and against it. Aldermen A.A. Heaps and John Queen, for example, were among the leaders of the strike, and were arrested on June 17. Despite this, both went on to have successful careers in politics, Queen as an MLA and Mayor, and Heaps as an MP. As well, though not a strike leader herself, Jessie Kirk was a notable labour activist who, in 1921, became the first woman to hold a seat on City Council. On the other side, Mayor Gray and Aldermen such as F.O. Fowler and J.K. Sparling had direct ties to the Citizens' Committee of One Thousand and were some of the strike's most ardent critics. It was the "Fowler Amendment" that nearly caused a general strike in 1918, and it was Sparling who issued the Slave Pact and dismissed the police officers who refused to sign. Many of the Citizens themselves had either previously served in the municipal government or pursued positions therein after the strike had ended.

A.J. Andrews was Mayor 1898-99; Ed Parnell became mayor in 1921; and Traverse Sweatman was narrowly defeated in the 1937 mayoral election by none other than John Queen.

The records identified here can be used to follow the actions and careers of municipal politicians, before, during, and after the strike in order to examine motive, ideology, allegiances, or other ways in which their actions and personalities affected or were affected by the strike.

Anti-strike		Pro-strike	
Alderman	Ward	Alderman	Ward
I. Cockburn	1	E. Robinson	4
J.K. Sparling	1	J. Queen	5
F.O. Fowler	2	A.A. Heaps	5
A.H. Pulford	2	W.B. Simpson	6
H. Gray	3	J.L. Wiginton	7
Geo. Fisher	3		
A.L. MacLean	4		
R.H. Hamlin	6		
Alex McLennan	7		

During the strike, Aldermen tended to vote in unofficial party blocs that were either pro-strike or anti-strike. This wasn't always the case, but it usually resulted in a 9 to 5 victory for the latter.

### Records with information on this subject include:

**Council Records** (1874-1971). Consist of minutes, by-laws, and communications that document civic administration and municipal decision making.

**Committee Records** (1874-1971). Consist of minutes and communications that document the activities of standing, special, and community committees.

**Election Records** (1874-1971). Consist of records created, accumulated, or used by the City Clerk's department to operate and administer elections processes.

**City of Winnipeg Photograph Collection** (1871- 1997). Consists of photographs of various provenances. Includes photos of Mayors and City Councillors.

**City of Winnipeg Archives Art Collection** (1872-2011). Consists of artwork created or acquired by City of Winnipeg employees or politicians. Includes photographs of Mayors and City Councillors.

**Mayoral Portraits** (1874-present). Consist of official portraits of the mayors of Winnipeg.



Clockwise from top left: A.A. Heaps, John Queen, F.O. Fowler, and J.K. Sparling. Photos from 1921.

*City of Winnipeg Archives Art Collection (AW01068)*



## City Business

While most City employees went on strike, the main concern of City department managers was keeping their departments operational despite having far fewer staff than needed. To accomplish this, they often relied on volunteers or overtime work by those who stayed, but ultimately faced difficulties. In addition to services the City had always performed – providing electricity and water, garbage disposal, fire suppression, cadaver interment, etc. – the City took on new responsibilities it felt necessary. One such responsibility was the organization of a Special Food Committee to ensure food and milk were available to those whose food delivery services had been interrupted, and to ensure that the food was of acceptable quality. The Citizens' Committee of One Thousand assisted these efforts by organizing and providing volunteers to take the place of those workers who had gone out on strike.

The records identified here are useful in determining the way City departments reacted to the strike and the difficulties it presented them. Correspondences with and reports to Council and its committees created during or after the strike record how departments managed.

### Records with information on this subject include:

**Council Records** (1874-1971). Consist of minutes, by-laws, and communications that document civic administration and municipal decision making.

**Committee Records** (1874-1971). Consist of minutes and communications that document the activities of standing, special, and community committees. Some examples useful for this topic include the *Special Food Committee*, the *Committee on Public Health and Welfare*, and the *Committee on Finance*.

**Mayor's Office Records** (1912-1971). Consist of correspondence files related to administration and mayoral duties.

**Board of Police Commissioners Records** (1919). Consist of correspondence files related to staffing of the police department.

**Board of Parks and Recreation Records** (1892-1971). Consist of minutes and communications that document the operations and governance of Winnipeg's parks.



Crescent Creamery was one of two companies that supplied milk to the Special Food Committee. Pictured here is the Creamery's dairy plant at 542 Sherburn Street in 1920. *Committee on Public Health and Welfare (A587 File 2133(1))*

# CITY OF WINNIPEG

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# MILK

Can be obtained at this School  
between **4 p.m.** and **7.30 p.m.**

————— REGULAR PRICES —————

**Quarts 13 cts.    Pints 7 cts.**

---

---

Empty bottles must be brought to exchange  
for full ones.

BY ORDER

Distribution centres where milk and ice could be  
purchased were set up at schools across Winnipeg.

*Special Food Committee (A1249 File 9)*

**FOOD COMMITTEE**

## Geography

During the strike, specific places took on meanings as either pro or anti-strike. The James Street Labor Temple, Victoria Park, and Market Square, for example, were all associated with strikers, while the Industrial Trade Bureau (also known as the Board of Trade Building) and the Manitoba Club became associated with the Citizens' Committee and business interests. More generally speaking, there was a literal spatial divide between rich and poor. While the former gravitated towards the more affluent and wealthy areas near the Assiniboine River, particularly Crescentwood and Armstrong's Point, the latter was most often confined to areas near railway yards and industry, such as the North End and Weston.

Individual places can be seen in photographs and maps, which can help to better conceptualize the events of the General Strike as well as the different experiences of those who lived through it. The latter can be further elucidated by studying the built environment in order to showcase the disparities of wealth and living conditions between those living in different parts of the City.

### Records with information on this subject include:

***City of Winnipeg Photograph Collection*** (1871- 1997). Consists of photographs of various provenances. Includes photos of buildings, gathering places, and housing.

***Parks and Recreation Photograph Collection*** (1893-1990). Consists of photographs collected by the Parks and Recreation Department that showcase City parks and leisure.

***Fire Insurance Maps*** (1895-1955). Include maps that document Winnipeg's built environment such as street configurations and building layouts.

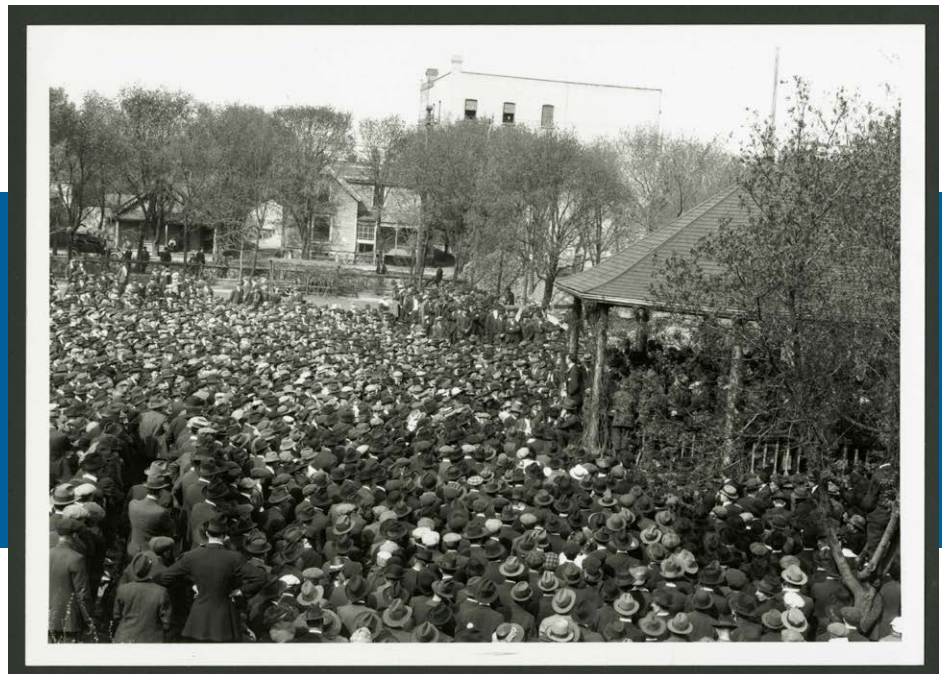
***Martin Berman Postcard Collection*** (1900-1974). Consists of thousands of postcards that feature scenes in Winnipeg and across Manitoba.

***Various Property History Records*** (1874-1971). Include volumes documenting the assessment and taxation of properties and building permits for selected years.

***Board of Parks and Recreation Records*** (1892-1971). Consist of minutes and communications that document the operations and governance of Winnipeg's parks.

Pro-strike rallies, sermons, and events were held in Victoria Park almost daily and drew significant crowds.

*Parks and Recreation Photograph Collection (A67 File 15)*



*Martin Berman Postcard Collection (Volume 4D)*



The spacious lots and large brick houses on Wellington Crescent (above, ca. 1910) stood in stark contrast to the cramped and often makeshift buildings in the North End (below, 1904).

*Martin Berman Postcard Collection  
(Volume 4C)*



## Silences

The narratives of the General Strike often overlook the stories of women and people of colour, as do many of the records held at the City of Winnipeg Archives, but they are important stories to tell. Women played a significant role in the strike. Most famous among them was Helen Armstrong, who on more than one occasion encouraged employees at retail stores such as Eaton's to walk off the job. She also operated the Labor Café, which distributed food to strikers. While she did not have as much direct involvement in the strike, Jessie Kirk's involvement in labour politics and subsequent appointment to City Council is indicative of the role women played in the labour movement. On the other side, many women filled jobs men walked out on or continued to work despite the strike. Two women who continued working during the strike were Mary Dunn and J.I. Andrews, the first two Policewomen in Winnipeg. People of colour also played a role in the strike, as they made up part of the workforce. There was, for example, a sizeable population of black sleeping car porters in Winnipeg who organized to form the Order of Sleeping Car Porters, which voted overwhelmingly to join the strikers.

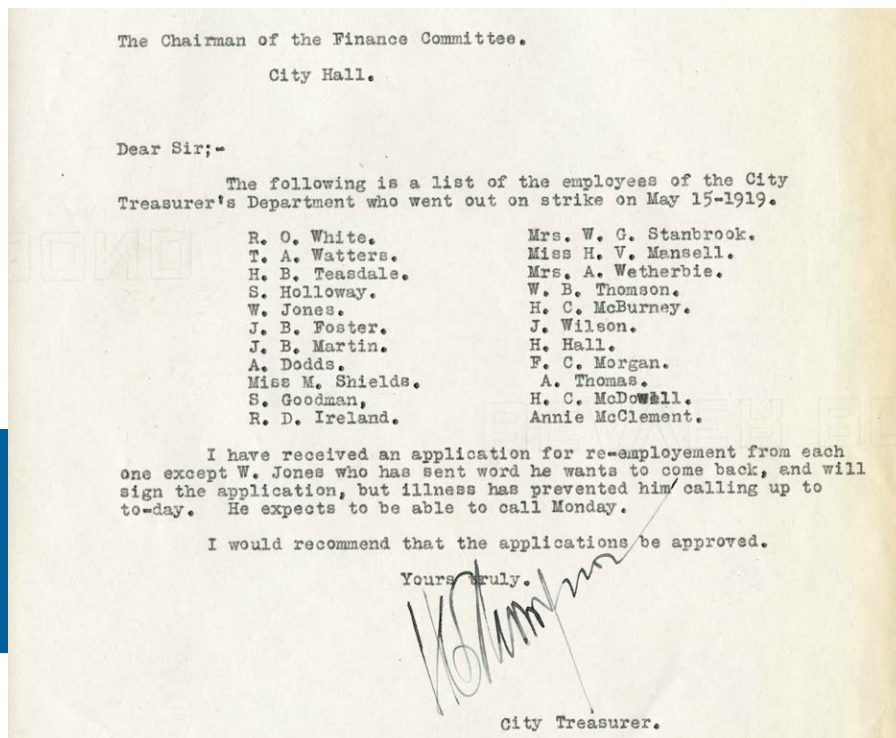
One method for researching this topic is to follow specific people who were either employed by, volunteered for, or were arrested by the City. However, researchers are encouraged to think creatively about the ways marginalized groups interacted with the municipal government and what kinds of records such interaction would produce.

### Records with information on this subject include:

**Committee Records** (1874-1971). Consist of minutes and communications that document the activities of standing, special, and community committees. Some examples useful for this topic include the *Special Food Committee*, the *Committee on Public Health and Welfare*, the *Special Committee to Enquire into the Employment of Married Women*, and the *Committee on Finance*.

**Mayor's Office Records** (1912-1971). Consist of correspondence files related to administration and mayoral duties.

**Board of Police Commissioners Records** (1919). Consist of correspondence files related to staffing of the police department.



As can be seen in this report from May 31, many of the City employees who went out on strike were women.

*Committee on Finance (File F206)*

# Researcher Services

## Research at the Archives

Those interested in researching the topics identified in this guide should contact the City of Winnipeg Archives. Drop-in visitors are welcome, but it is helpful to speak with an archivist prior to visiting. Archives staff can advise whether records of interest need to be ordered from offsite storage, can assist researchers looking to access restricted material in the archives, and can answer questions about the content, background, and use of the archival collection.

More information on researcher services is available at:

City of Winnipeg Archives | 50 Myrtle St. Winnipeg, MB R3E 2R2  
204-986-5325 | [archives@winnipeg.ca](mailto:archives@winnipeg.ca) | [winnipeg.ca/clerks/toc/archives.stm](http://winnipeg.ca/clerks/toc/archives.stm)

## Out of Scope

This guide primarily looks at records that are part of the City's archival collection. It does not take into account records held by other departments and branches within City government. Those seeking access to other material should consult the resources listed on page 20.

## Restrictions

In accordance with Provincial Legislation, records that contain health or personal information may have access restrictions. Researchers are responsible for observing Canadian copyright regulations.

## Ongoing Discovery

Discovery and interpretation of records in the archives is never complete. The topics and sources identified in this guide represent our findings to date. As new materials are processed and explored, this guide will be updated. We acknowledge that there are more records to discover and make available.



*City of Winnipeg  
Archives  
Photograph  
Collection  
(P44 File 16)*

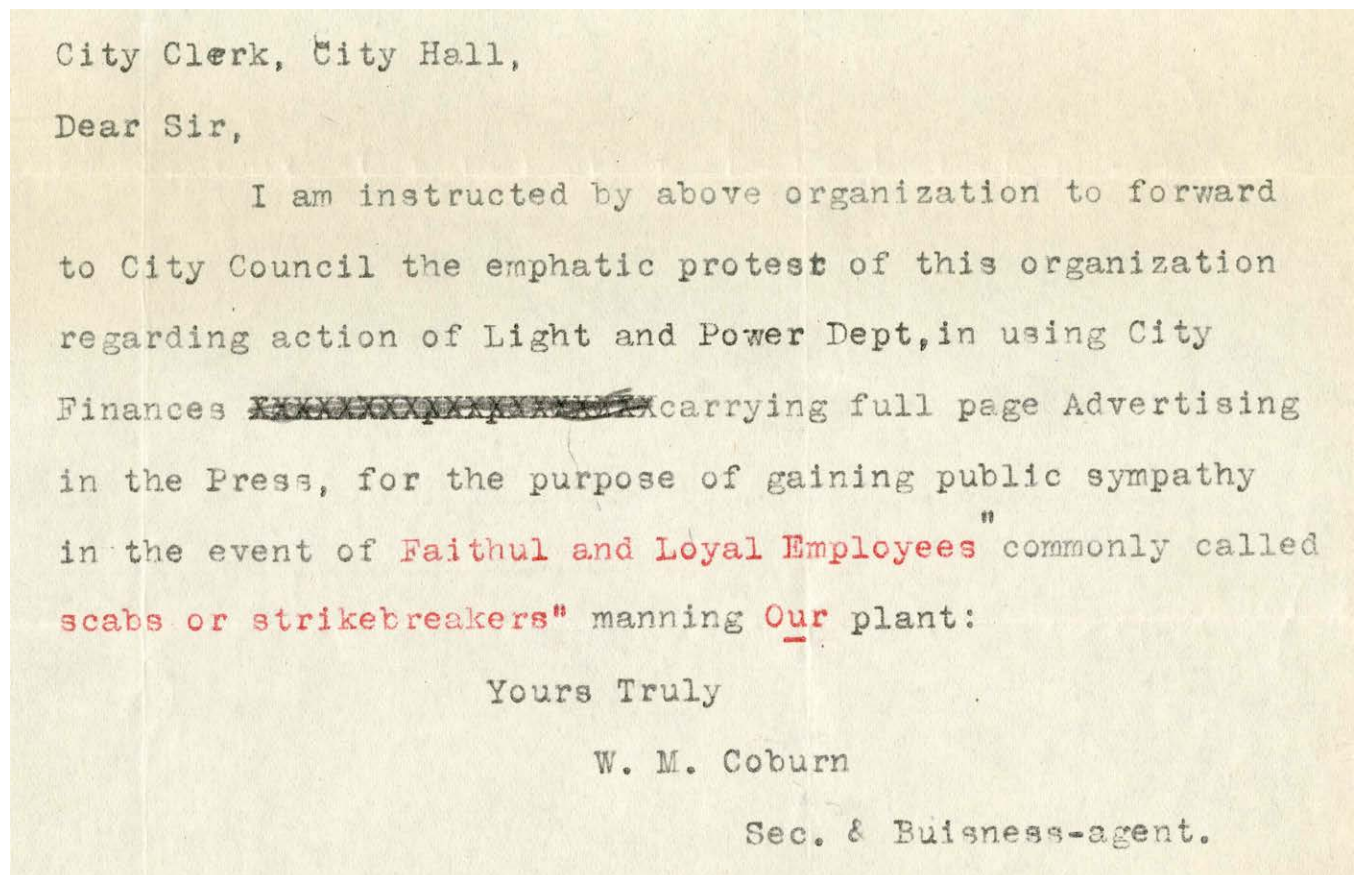
## Appendix 1

### Narrative

The 1919 General Strike was a pivotal moment in Winnipeg's history. What began as a disagreement between building and metal workers and their employers snowballed to become one of the largest strikes in North American history. At 11:00 am on May 15, somewhere between 25,000 and 35,000 workers walked off the job, which essentially paralyzed the City's operations. A committee of labour leaders – the Strike Committee – organized the walk-out in an attempt to stand as a united front against employers.

Opposing this was a conglomerate of lawyers, business owners, and employers who called themselves the "Citizens' Committee of One Thousand", and who worked actively with all levels of government to break the strike.

This was hardly the first strike Winnipeg had seen. A street railway strike in 1906 turned violent and resulted in soldiers patrolling the streets with bayonets. A municipal employee strike in 1918 nearly led to a general strike when City Council narrowly passed a motion put forward by Alderman F.O. Fowler that removed the rights of City employees to strike or unionize. The City capitulated on this point and an agreement was made, but there was a lasting tension, as can be seen in this May 4 letter from the International Union of Steam and Operating Engineers Local 498. This tension helped bring about the strike in 1919.



City Clerk, City Hall,  
Dear Sir,

I am instructed by above organization to forward to City Council the emphatic protest of this organization regarding action of Light and Power Dept, in using City Finances ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ carrying full page Advertising in the Press, for the purpose of gaining public sympathy in the event of **Faithful and Loyal Employees** commonly called **scabs or strikebreakers** manning **Our** plant:

Yours Truly

W. M. Coburn

Sec. & Buisness-agent.

*Council Communications (File 11507)*

The Citizens' Committee organized volunteers to replace the workers. Demonstrations for and against the strike became commonplace, especially when the veterans who had returned from the First World War began to take sides. Council began to demand that all City employees sign a loyalty pledge, essentially abolishing their right to unionize and strike, or be dismissed (658, May 26, 1919). This "Slave Pact", as it became known, was put forward as an ultimatum to City police, who were generally sympathetic to the strikers. The ultimatum was largely ignored, and in response, almost the entire police force was dismissed. They were replaced with Special Constables, "Specials", who took to the streets on June 10, upon which a skirmish broke out between them and the strikers.

As the strike escalated, the Citizens' Committee convinced all levels of government to have several of the strike leaders arrested, including two Aldermen on City Council. In response, and against Mayor Charles Gray's explicit orders, a demonstration was planned by returned soldiers on June 21. What began as a silent march turned violent. A street car was set ablaze and the crowd was charged and fired on by the Royal Northwest Mounted Police (RNWMP), killing one and injuring several others (one of the injured later died from his wounds). The crowd scattered, some into an alley between James and Market Avenues where they were hemmed in on both sides by Specials armed with wagon spokes and chair legs. The Specials attacked those trapped in the alley, which became known as Hell's Alley, and the day as a whole became known as "Bloody Saturday". The violence essentially ended the strike, which was called off on June 25 and officially ended the next day. Seven of the arrested strike leaders were convicted, serving between 6 months and 2 years in prison. Despite this, most of them went on to have successful careers in politics, where they became advocates for workers' rights.



Special Constables armed with makeshift clubs march down Portage Avenue on June 10.

*City of Winnipeg Archives Photograph Collection (P1 File 22)*



## Appendix 2

### Timeline

#### 1906

##### **March 29 – April 7**

Street Railway workers go on strike, demanding better wages and conditions.

Violence breaks out when the Winnipeg Electric Railway Company's private security forces begin to attack strikers and onlookers alike, including the Mayor.

#### 1918

##### **May 2**

City Electrical employees go out on strike over disagreements on a pay increase.

The City threatens to dismiss the workers and sympathy strikes begin.

##### **May 9**

Council organizes a Special Committee to negotiate a settlement with the strikers.

##### **May 13**

Having reached a tentative deal with the strikers, the Special Committee presents its report to Council.

Alderman F.O. Fowler convinces a slim majority of Council to amend the agreement to forbid City employees from unionizing or striking in the future.

##### **May 14**

In response to the amendment, fire fighters walk off the job and the ongoing strike intensifies.

A general strike is threatened.

##### **May 16**

A group of business owners, lawyers, and employers meet to discuss the strike and organize the "Citizens' Committee of One Hundred" to help negotiate between the City and the strikers.

##### **May 24**

A settlement is reached, abolishing the ban on strike action.

In exchange, fire fighters agree that they will give 60 days' notice prior to any strike action, that they will only strike over grievances deemed serious, and that officers will not be eligible to be part of the union.

#### 1919

##### **May 1-2**

After negotiations break down with the Winnipeg Builders' Exchange, members of the Building Trades Council go out on strike.

Members of the Metal Trades Council go on strike the following day.

##### **May 6**

The Winnipeg Trades and Labor Council polls Winnipeg unions regarding a general strike.

##### **May 13**

Unions vote in favour of a general strike.

A 300 member Strike Committee is created, made up of three delegates from each union.

##### **May 15**

At 7:00 am, female telephone operators, "Hello Girls", do not show up for their shifts.

At 11:00 am, the General Strike officially begins.

##### **May 20**

A special session of Council is called in an attempt to negotiate – minutes are not recorded in the official ledgers.

##### **May 23**

Another informal Council meeting is held to negotiate, without success – minutes are not recorded in the official ledger.

##### **May 26**

An official Council meeting takes place in which it is determined that all civic employees must sign an anti-union loyalty oath, the "Slave Pact", or be dismissed.

##### **May 29**

Police are given an ultimatum by the Board of Police Commissioners to sign the Slave Pact or be dismissed.

##### **June 4**

The Special Food Committee is established to deliver bread, ice, and milk in the absence of workers who went out on strike.

##### **June 9**

Nearly the entire police force is dismissed by the Police Commission.

##### **June 17**

Several strike leaders are arrested by the RNWMP and jailed, including Aldermen A.A. Heaps and John Queen.

**June 21**

Bloody Saturday takes place.

One man dies and several more are wounded when RNWMP fire into the crowd.

Special Constables trap fleeing crowd in “Hell’s Alley” and a skirmish ensues.

**June 23**

One of the men injured on Bloody Saturday dies from his wounds in hospital.

**June 26**

The strike officially ends.

**July 3**

Preliminary hearing of arrested strike leaders begins.

1920

**January**

Trials of seven of the arrested strike leaders, including Aldermen John Queen and A.A. Heaps begin.

**March 27**

Alderman A.A. Heaps is acquitted.

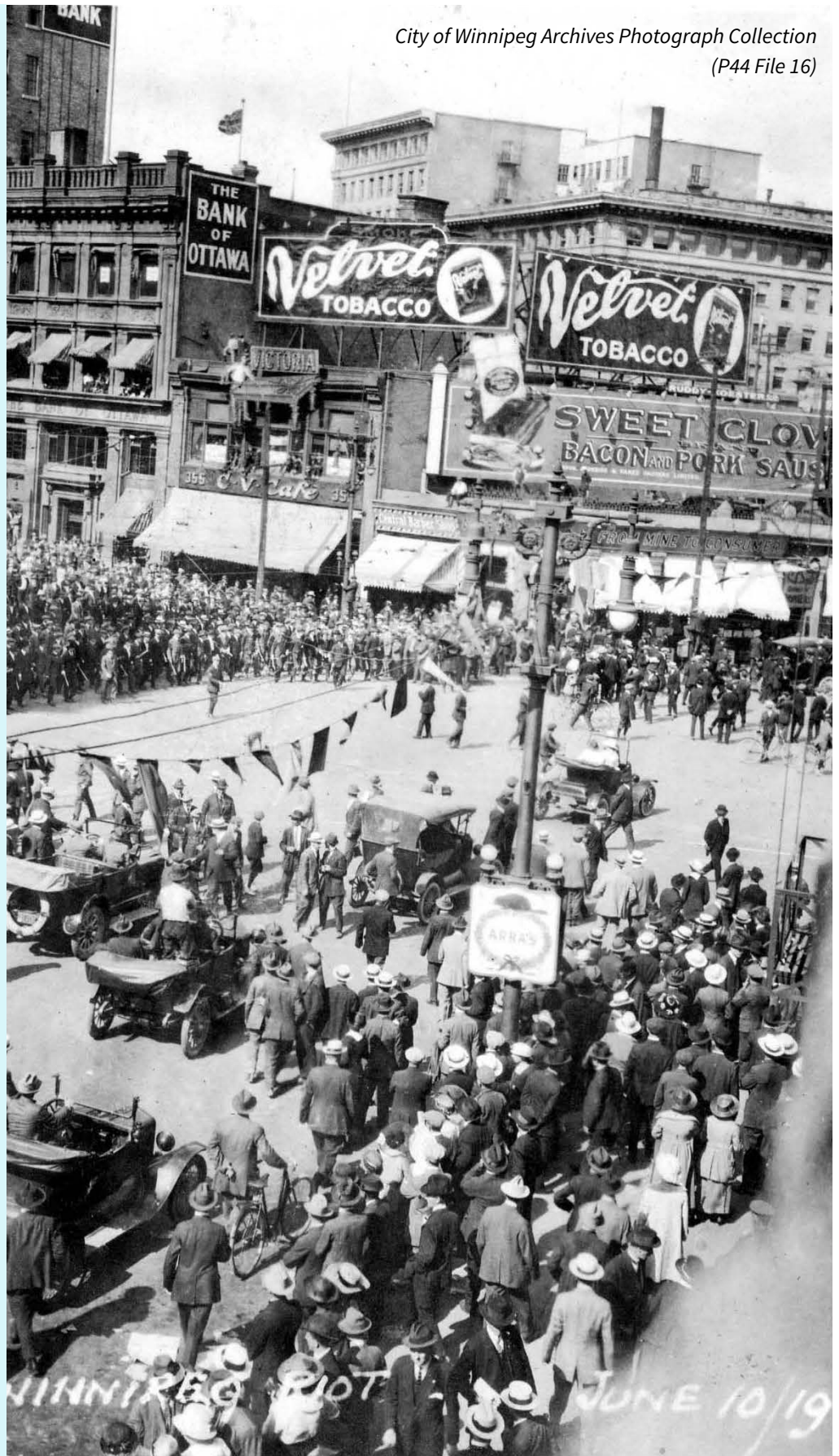
**April 7**

Alderman John Queen is found guilty and sentenced to one year in jail.

1930

**September 2**

Slave Pact is rescinded.



## Appendix 3

### Summary of Findings

In preparation for the General Strike's centennial, the City of Winnipeg Archives conducted an extensive search for relevant content within its holdings. The following list represents the findings of that search. This does not represent the entirety of the relevant content within the Archives' holdings, but only what has been described to date. Researchers are encouraged to explore beyond this list.

File Title	File #	Date
<b>COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS</b>		
Civic Strike of 1918	11507	3 May 3 – 11 Jun. 1918
Resolutions of the Citizens' Committee of One Thousand	11893	23-24 May 1919
City Clerk to Mayor and Council regarding filling positions left vacant by strike	11908	9 Jun. 1919
Resolution of Stonewall (Man.) regarding anti-strike legislation	11912	12 Jun. 1919
Request by Union of Canadian Municipalities that Mayor Gray attend their conference	11914	7 Jun. 1919
House of Commons Committee to Mayor Gray regarding the prices of food, clothing, and fuel	11918	5 Jun. 1919
C.H. Burgess to Mayor and Council about who was to blame for the strike	11928	26 Jun. 1919
Petition by residents of Ward 5 to release Aldermen John Queen and A.A. Heaps	11983	30 Aug. 1919
Replacing Alderman A.A. Heaps on the Social Welfare Commission	12305	2 Jun. 1920
<b>COMMITTEE ON FINANCE COMMUNICATIONS</b>		
Supply of Special Constable badges [not the Special Police]	F189	1919-1934
Payment of overtime to men on monthly salary working during the strike	F198	16-26 May 1919
Applications for the appointment of staff	F206	1919
Payment of overtime to employees operating utilities during the Strike	F224	20-24 Jun. 1919
Re-engaging men to remove garbage during strike	F230	24 Jun. 1919
Employees whose holidays overlapped with the strike	F239	3-24 Jul. 1919
List of volunteer helpers during strike	F253	26 Jun. - 30 Sep. 1919
Gratuities for employees of the Health Department for distribution of milk and ice	F268	24 Jul. - 6 Aug. 1919
Payment of wages to R. Murdock, absent on account of injuries received during strike	F273	16 Jul. - 5 Aug. 1919

File Title	File #	Date
Food stuffs destroyed from May 15 to July 31, 1919	F288	6-18 Aug. 1919
Offer to sell to City motion pictures of the 1919 Strike	F291	7-9 Aug. 1919
Request from the One Big Union that a band be provided for a Labour Day event	F301	26-27 Aug. 1919
Pension scheme for civic employees	F375	23 Oct. - 12 Nov. 1919
Payment to Winnipeg Public School Board for services rendered during General Strike	F402	20 Nov. - 9 Dec. 1919
Civic employees pension fund [contains some restricted material]	F466(14)	22 Aug. 1922
Pension dispute with former Police Chief Donald MacPherson	F810	21 Oct. - 18 Nov. 1920
<b>BY-LAWS</b>		
By-law regarding pension fund for City employees (and those who went on strike)	10589	31 Jul. 1922
<b>CITY SURVEYOR</b>		
Employees' agreement regarding employment (Slave Pact)	330(3)	1919-1924, 1930
<b>COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE COMMUNICATIONS</b>		
Scavenging and Crematory report for May, 1919	A0585-1887	18 Jun. 1919
Applications for positions	A585-1894	18-20 Jun. 1919
Report of the Division of Communicable Diseases for June, 1919	A585-1899	8 Jul. 1919
Report on Dairy Inspection for June, 1919	A-585-1901	9 Jul. 1919
Health Inspector's commendations for those who worked during the strike	A585-1919	17-18 Jul. 1919
<b>MAYOR'S OFFICE</b>		
General Strike, 1919	1441	1918-1929, predominant 1919
Mayoral Portraits	n/a	1874-present
<b>BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION COMMUNICATIONS</b>		
Letter Book	A1239-1	1918-1920
<b>SPECIAL FOOD COMMITTEE</b>		
Records of the Special Food Committee	A1249-9	4 Jun. - 17 Jul. 1919

File Title	File #	Date
<b>SPECIAL PUBLICITY COMMITTEE</b>		
Correspondence related to the City's image after the General Strike	A1249-10	19 Jun. – 18 Oct. 1919
<b>SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATION OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT</b>		
Statements of fire fighters who were let go during the General Strike	A560-30	5 Mar. 1920
<b>COUNCIL MINUTES</b>		
City of Winnipeg Council Minutes	n/a	14 May – 5 Aug., 14 Oct., 8 Dec., 1919
City of St. Boniface Council Minutes	n/a	30 May – 9 Jun. 1919
RM of Assiniboia Council Minutes	n/a	17 May – 22 Jul. 1919
City of Transcona Council Minutes	n/a	Jul. 1919
<b>POLICE MUSEUM COLLECTION</b>		
Correspondences related to police staffing and loyalty during General Strike	PM1 – PM12	20 May – 8 Jul. 1919
Excerpts from minutes of the Board of Police Commissioners during the General Strike	PM13	23 May – 26 Jun. 1919
Excerpts from Sargent's Arrest Log during the General Strike	PM14	1-26 Jun. 1919
<b>CITY OF WINNIPEG ARCHIVES ART COLLECTION</b>		
Winnipeg City Council in 1921 (includes Aldermen Heaps, Queen, Sparling, Fowler, Simpson, and Fisher, and Mayor Parnell)	AW01068	1921
<b>PARKS AND RECREATION PHOTOGRAPH COLLECTION</b>		
Strikers gathered at Victoria Park	A67-15-1	[Jun.?] 1919
<b>CITY OF WINNIPEG ARCHIVES PHOTOGRAPH COLLECTION</b>		
Winnipeg riot – June 10	P53-27/ P27-1/ P27-2/ P1-24/ P1-22/ P44-16	10 Jun. 1919
Winnipeg riot – June 21	P1-25 / P1- 26 / P44-16	21 Jun. 1919
Alfred J. Andrews	P1-42	[between 1898 & 1911]

## Other Resources

- **Winnipeg in Focus** – Winnipeg in Focus is the City of Winnipeg Archives' online resource that provides access to thousands of archival records, including many relating to the General Strike.  
<https://winnipeginfofocus.winnipeg.ca/>
- **Unbreakable: The Spirit of the Strike** – an online resource created by the University of Manitoba Libraries, the City of Winnipeg Archives, the University of Winnipeg Archives and Records Centre, and the University of Calgary Libraries that contextualizes the strike and provides guided access to strike related primary sources from various archival institutions.  
<http://1919strike.lib.umanitoba.ca/>
- **Winnipeg Police Museum** holds records and artifacts related to police officers, Special Police, and the Board of Police Commissioners.
- **Winnipeg Fire Fighters Museum** holds records and artifacts related to the history of the Winnipeg Fire Department.
- **Archives of Manitoba** holds a large collection of strike related materials including the photographs of L.B. Foote, court records of the strike leaders' trials, the records of strike leaders such as William Ivens, R.B. Russell, and Helen Armstrong, the records of the One Big Union, and the records of the Canadian Brotherhood of Railway Employees, which absorbed the Order of Sleeping Car Porters.
- **Library and Archives Canada** holds several collections related to the strike and the Federal Government's interaction with it. In particular, the Andrews-Meighen correspondence is an invaluable source of information about the relationship between the Federal Government and the Citizens Committee of One Thousand. In addition, LAC has the papers of politicians such as A.A. Heaps and Gideon Robertson.
- **University of Manitoba Libraries** has several strike related newspapers available online through UM Digital Collections, including the *Winnipeg Citizen*, the *Western Labor News*, and the *Winnipeg Evening Tribune*. In addition to this, Archives and Special Collections holds several relevant collections, including the records of Citizens' Committee member Isaac Pitblado and a radio interview in the Peter Warren fonds of a man who witnessed Bloody Saturday.
- **University of Calgary Libraries** holds the Gray family fonds, which includes the records of Mayor Gray. The physical copies are held by Archives and Special Collections and digitized copies of some can be found on the libraries' website.  
<http://contentdm.ucalgary.ca/digital/collection/p22007coll14>

- **The Western Canada Pictorial Index** is an index of thousands of reproductions of photographs of Western Canada, gathered from various repositories and housed at the University of Winnipeg Archives and Records Centre. They are organized by institution of origin, as well as subject. <https://www.photoindex.ca/>
- **The Winnipeg Public Library** has, in addition to access to secondary sources, online copies of the Winnipeg Free Press and other newspapers available, as well as digitized postcards and copies of the Henderson Directories. <https://guides.wpl.winnipeg.ca/c.php?g=524622&p=3586977>
- **Gerry E. Berkowski and Nolan Reilly**, *1919, The Winnipeg General Strike: a Driving and Walking Tour* (Winnipeg: Historical Resources Branch, Manitoba Culture, Heritage, and Recreation, 1986).
- **Murphy Berzish**, “Suppressing the Winnipeg General Strike: Paranoia or Preserving the Peace?” in Manitoba Historical Society, *Manitoba History*, number 64 (Fall 2010).
- **J.M. Bumsted**, *The Winnipeg General Strike of 1919, an Illustrated History* (Winnipeg: Watson and Dwyer, 1994).
- **The Graphic History Collective and David Lester**, *1919: A Graphic History of the Winnipeg Strike* (Toronto: Between the Lines, 2019).
- **Mary Horodyski**, “Women and the Winnipeg General Strike of 1919” in Manitoba Historical Society, *Manitoba History*, number 11 (Spring 1986).
- **Uduak Idiong**, “The Third Force: Returned Soldiers in the Winnipeg General Strike of 1919” in Manitoba Historical Society, *Manitoba History*, number 34 (Autumn 1997).
- **Albert Ernest Johnson**, *The Strikes in Winnipeg in May 1918: the Prelude to 1919?*, Master’s Thesis (Winnipeg: University of Manitoba, 1978).
- **Reinhold Kramer and Tom Mitchell**, *When the State Trembled: How A.J. Andrews and the Citizens’ Committee Broke the Winnipeg General Strike* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2010).
- **Dennis Lewycky**, *Magnificent Fight: The Winnipeg General Strike* (Fernwood Publishing, 2019).
- **Donald C. Masters**, *The Winnipeg General Strike* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1973).
- **Tom Mitchell**, “A.J. Andrews to Arthur Meighen: Winnipeg General Strike Correspondence” in Manitoba Historical Society, *Manitoba History*, number 24 (Autumn 1992).
- **Anna Penner**, “Politics in the Park: Winnipeg’s Victoria Park During the General Strike” in Manitoba Historical Society, *Manitoba History*, number 40 (Winter 2000-2001).
- **Norman Penner**, ed., *Winnipeg 1919: The Strikers’ Own History of the Winnipeg General Strike*, 2nd ed, (Toronto: James Lorimer and Company, 1975).



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