

Letter carriers start rotating mail strike

Tuesday, June 16, 1987.

Letter carriers walked off the job in Calgary and Montreal today in the first national strike action by postal workers in six years.

Their plan was to begin with rotating strikes at unannounced locations and move gradually to a full national strike if necessary to fend off contract concessions sought by Canada Post to balance its debt-ridden books.

The agency quickly reiterated its intention to keep the mail moving with strikebreakers and non-striking union workers but acknowledged service will be slower than usual.

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It's business as usual at the Owen Sound Post Office.

Acting postmaster Bruce Flett said letter carriers in Owen Sound and Hanover are out on the streets delivering mail this morning.

He said it's too soon to tell what the effects of the strikes in Calgary and Montreal will be in this area.

Where disruptions occur, said media officer David Newman,

Canada Post will try to deliver mail once a day to business customers and twice each week to homes and group boxes normally served by carriers.

"Those are minimum targets," Newman added. "Deliveries will be made more frequently where possible."

Normal delivery is twice a day for most businesses and five times a week for private customers.

The strike began when round-the-clock negotiations failed to resolve a protracted dispute and the 20,000-member Letter Carriers Union of Canada reached a legal

strike position at 12:01 a.m. today.

There were no immediate reports of violence on picket lines despite widespread forecasts a walkout would rapidly turn ugly because of Canada Post plans to use strikebreakers.

A stand-off was reported at one major postal facility in Montreal where trucks driven by replacement workers were waiting for police to escort them through a picket line. But calm was reported elsewhere, at least initially. Negotiations at the downtown Chateau Laurier Hotel in Ottawa were halted shortly after the

strike deadline passed but were scheduled to resume later today after weary bargainers had a chance to get some rest.

By 1 a.m., one hour after the Letter Carriers' Union of Canada was legally allowed to walk off the job, union truck drivers were carrying strike signs outside a post office garage and the mail-sorting depot in Montreal.

Six or seven picketers were seen early this morning tossing a baseball back and forth outside Montreal's main sorting station next to Dorval airport.

In Calgary, letter carriers set up a picket line outside the city's

mail processing plant just minutes after midnight.

A union official in Montreal said the strike in that city could last two or three days. The union says the strike won't become Canada-wide unless it is locked out, Canada Post, which says it has no plans to lock out carriers, says it will use strikebreakers to keep mail moving.

But officials declined to say early today what kind of service people can expect. "We're sorry to the people of Canada that there has to be a



Wednesday, March 4, 1987.

A Paisley rink, skipped by Audrey Trelford, claimed the Bruce Haskins Trophy in a Ladies bonspiel at the Tara Curling Club Wednesday. Other members of the rink were vice, Lynn Russell, second, Bea MacKinnon and lead, Irene Patterson. Brenda Nicholson, bonspiel convener, presented the trophy
Jim Merriam Photo

Paisley, Ont., Wednesday, March 4, 1987



Scott Cumming (on the right) was the Senior division winner in a Legion Public Speaking Contest held at the Paisley Central School last week with a speech on "Superstitions". Andrea Hagedorn took the Junior division, choosing as her topic "Eye Glasses". Keith Weeden presented each of the winners with trophies and awards.
Ev Craddock Photo

10 enter speaking contest

Ten entrants were on hand for the annual Legion Public Speaking contest held at Paisley Central School last Wednesday evening. Winners were chosen from a Junior and a Senior division. Topics were

varied and included everything from little brothers, Moms, and the harrowing experience of having to move.

In the final tally, the judges chose Scott Cum-

ming as Senior winner with his topic being "Superstitions." Andrea Hagedorn spoke on "Glasses" and was chosen the Junior division winner. Both winners advanced to the Zone C-4 speak-off which was

held in Chatsworth last Sunday. Although they both met with stronger competition at Chatsworth, they both came away with good experience for future public speaking.