

## WILL TIE UP TROLLEYS

### A Strike in Brooklyn This Morning Considered Certain.

#### POWER HOUSES MAY BE SHUT DOWN

#### Notices Posted by the Brooklyn Heights Company Calling Attention to Laws—Cutting of Wires Threatened.

Master Workman Connelly of District Assembly No. 75 said at midnight that there would be a tie-up on all trolley lines in Brooklyn between 4 and 5 o'clock this morning, with the exception of the Jay and Smith Street line, which would be tied up at 9 A. M., if it did not come to terms.

Between 7,000 and 8,000 men will, it is believed, be affected by a tie-up. They include motormen, conductors, car cleaners, machinists, and the men employed in the power houses.

The Atlantic Avenue Railroad Company controls these lines: Adams Street, Bergen Street, Butler Street, Fifteenth Street, Greenwood, Hicks Street, Hoyt Street, Park Avenue, Seventh Avenue, and Vanderbilt Avenue, West End division.

The lines controlled by the Brooklyn Heights Railroad Company are the Bushwick, Bowery Bay, Court Street, Calvary Cemetery, Cross-Town, Cypress Hills, Cross-Town Annex, Flatbush Avenue, Flushing Avenue, Flatlands, Fort Hamilton, Fulton Street, Furman Street, Gates Avenue, Grand Street, Greenpoint, Greenpoint and Lorimer, Hamilton Avenue, Lee and Nostrand Avenues, Lutheran Cemetery, Meeker Avenue, Montague Street cable, Myrtle Avenue, Putnam Avenue, Prospect Park and Holy Cross Cemetery, Richmond Hill cable, Second Avenue, Third Avenue, Tompkins Avenue, Union Avenue, Broadway, East New-York, Ralph Avenue, Reid Avenue, and Sumner Avenue.

The Brooklyn City and Newtown Company controls the De Kalb Avenue and Franklin Avenue lines.

The Coney Island and Brooklyn Road controls the Coney Island line, Greenwood Cemetery line, Hamilton Avenue and Prospect Park line, and the Jay and Smith Street line.

The Van Brunt Street and Erie Basin control one line.

Arbitration Commissioner Feeney tried all day yesterday to bring about a reconciliation, but he was not able to do anything.

The men were making extensive preparations to strike, but the railroad officials were not the less active. General Manager Bogardus was on duty at the Montague Street office of the Brooklyn Heights Company. President Lewis, however, was at home. He said he intended to get sufficient sleep while quiet prevailed, for he did not know when he would be able to sleep again if the threatened tie-up occurred.

Three employes of the Brooklyn Heights Company visited all the stables, car houses, and transfer offices yesterday, and tacked up printed notices calling attention to the law regarding the railroads.

These notices were headed, "Criminal Law Relating to the Protection of Railroads." Then followed sections from the Penal Code, under the following sub-heads: "Injury to Railroad Property"; "Damage by Explosives"; "Injuries to Engines and Machinery"; "Attempts to Use Explosives"; "Threatening Violence to Passengers"; "Interference with Passengers"; "Obstructing Railway Tracks"; "Riots."

General Manager Bogardus sent out letters to foremen in charge of car houses, instructing them to discharge every man who refused to take out a car.

Mr. Bogardus has taken precautions to prevent, so far as possible, any interference with the running of the cars. He has heard of threats that, in case the men decide to tie up the roads, in order to make it an effectual tie-up, the trolley wires will be cut.

Mr. Bogardus said that certain men—he would not call them leaders, but they were looked up to by the men—had made these threats, and he knew who they were, but he declined to make their names known at the present time. It was, he said, to have the employes thoroughly understand the law and the penalties attached to its violation that the notices had been posted in the various car houses, so that, if they did attempt any violence, it would be after they had considered the law, and knew what to expect.

Mr. Lewis, in speaking of the troubles, said:

"Our men do not understand the situation. The position of the company has not been clearly explained to them. I have prepared a statement, but it will not be ready for distribution before to-morrow evening. If we are tied up to-morrow morning, of course these statements will not be sent out. If the men have an opportunity to consider it fully, I do not believe that they will go recklessly into the fight."

President Lewis, while almost positive that the men would tie up his roads this morning, did not think that they would offer any violence.

Superintendent Quinn of the Atlantic Avenue Company said that if the men went on strike, the likelihood was that the power houses would shut down, and that there would be no power to operate the cars. He had heard that the employes of the Brooklyn Union elevated road would tie up that road out of sympathy, and because they thought they had not been fairly dealt with during the last two years.

But the employes who were seen by a reporter for The New-York Times said that, while they had not been treated in the best way imaginable, they did not see what they could gain by going out.

The Kings County elevated men will not strike. This is the company of which Gen. James Jourdan is President. General Manager Goundie has an iron-clad agreement with all the employes that they will not strike under any circumstances, and the employes say that they are fairly dealt with, and that they know that just as soon as business will allow, their pay will be increased.

In case of a tie-up to-day, and if the power houses shut down, the Fifth and Seventh Avenue line of the Atlantic Avenue Company and the Flatbush Avenue line of the Brooklyn Heights Company will return to horses in order to carry the United States mails. If the men interfere with the mail cars the Federal Government will be called upon.

All the reserves were in the police stations last night, as were also the members of the mounted squad.

Master Workman Connelly of the Executive Committee of District Assembly No. 75, Knights of Labor, at a late hour last night, said:

"The electrical men employed by the various Brooklyn companies, about 900 in all, were informed by the Superintendents on the divisions in which they were employed that, in case of a tie-up, they would be expected to take out the cars vacated by the motormen and conductors. But the

electrical men said they would not do any such work. They were given to understand that, in case of a tie-up, they could consider themselves discharged."

Mr. Connelly also said that when a motorman took his car into the carhouse on the last trip at night he asked what run he would have the next day.

"When the men asked that question to-night at the different terminals," said Mr. Connelly, "they were told that the timetable for to-morrow had not been made out as yet, and would not be made out until to-morrow."

This Mr. Connelly said meant that the company intended to lock out the men.

Mr. Lewis, when asked about this, said it was only a temporary matter simply for last night.

The motormen said that they had been allowed to take home their electric motor levers, but that last night they had been ordered to leave all the levers or keys, as they are called, at the carhouse.

Mr. Connelly said that many of the electricians who reported for duty at 6 o'clock last night had been told that there was no work for them, and that when they asked for an explanation, they were told that there was no explanation, except that there was no work for them. This, Mr. Connelly said, was a deliberate lock-out on the part of the company, and under the circumstances, the only thing for the motormen and conductors to do, would be to strike. It would not do, he said, to allow the electricians to fight their own battles.

## ACCUSED OF FORGING CHECKS

### WILLIAM H. LEFFER ARRESTED AT BENSONHURST, L. I.

#### Got Cash for Bogus Checks of Knauth, Nachod & Kuhne at the Mechanics' National Bank.

William H. Leffer, thirty-two years old, of Eighty-second Street, near Twenty-third Avenue, Bensonhurst, was locked up at Police Headquarters in this city yesterday on a bench warrant issued by Judge Martine on a complaint of forgery.

It was understood at the Detective Bureau that the charge was made by the banking firm of Knauth, Nachod & Kühne of 13 William Street, but particulars of the crime were withheld.

Max Hessberg, a member of the firm of Knauth, Nachod & Kühne, said last night that they were only indirectly interested in the prosecution of William H. Leffer.

Of Leffer's antecedents Mr. Hessberg knew nothing. He came to the service of the firm as bookkeeper in 1881 and left a year ago. Six months ago some discrepancies in accounts resulted in an examination of Leffer's books, and it was ascertained that, by forging the name of Knauth, Nachod & Kühne, he had obtained about \$2,900 from the Mechanics' National Bank, 33 Wall Street.

The bank was notified, and it made itself a complainant against Leffer by paying Knauth, Nachod & Kühne the amount obtained by the forgeries.

Mr. Hessberg said he did not know if the bank people had negotiated with Leffer to obtain the money so refunded to his former employers, or why criminal action should have been delayed so long.

Mr. Hessberg was the only member of the firm to be found yesterday. Percival Knauth being absent in Bermuda and Percival Kühne away from his residence, no officer of the bank was found.

At Bensonhurst it was learned that Leffer occupied a commodious house in Eighty-second Street. He went there more than four years ago, and built the home which he has occupied since, with his wife and three children.

A number of persons who lived near Mr. Leffer in Bensonhurst said last evening that they were acquainted with him, but they knew little concerning his business affairs.

He had lived quietly with his family, and, so far as known, had been modest in his household expenditures. He was very fond of cultivating a garden on his premises. Mr. Leffer had attracted the attention of his neighbors by his industrious habits. He had been seen working in his garden at 3 o'clock in the morning. Those who met him regarded him as a pleasant, well-meaning man.

He was arrested at 2:40 o'clock yesterday afternoon at Bay, Sixteenth Street, and Bath Avenue by Acting Detective Mulvey of Bath Beach and Detective Sergeant Dolan of Superintendent Byrnes's staff. A decoy letter had been sent to Leffer in order to get him away from home.

Mr. Leffer engaged in business for a while at 76 Fifth Avenue, Brooklyn, as an importer and wholesale liquor dealer. He went out of that business last Fall. He has recently been acting as salesman for a bottling firm.

He was taken to the police station at Nineteenth Avenue, near Bath Avenue, after his arrest, where he was turned over to the New-York authorities by Judge Rhodes.