Contents

| | Abbreviations ix |
|----|---|
| | Acknowledgments xi |
| | Illustrations xiii |
| | Introduction: Civil Servants Demonstrate, and the OPP riots 3 |
| | PART ONE BACKGROUND |
| 1 | OPSEU Acquires the Right to Strike 17 |
| 2 | The World Changes for Ontario 29 |
| 3 | The World Changes for Civil Servants 41 |
| | PART TWO THE STRIKE EMERGES |
| 4 | Opposition to the Harris Government 53 |
| 5 | Collective Bargaining until the Strike 63 |
| 6 | OPSEU Builds for the Strike 83 |
| | PART THREE OPSEU ON STRIKE |
| 7 | OPSEU Goes on Strike 107 |
| 8 | The Politics of Picketing 117 |
| 9 | The Picket Line Community 137 |
| 10 | The Wider Community 161 |
| ΙI | Essential Services: A Limited Strike 170 |

viii CONTENTS

- 12 Legal Issues 180
- 13 Collective Bargaining during the Strike 189
- 14 The Strike Ends 201

APPENDICES

- A The Strike Vocabulary 211
- B A Week-by-Week Chronology of the Strike 213
- C OPSEU Strike: Financial Statistics 221
- D Results of the Three OPSEU Polls of the Membership 222
- E List of People Interviewed 225

Notes 231

Bibliography 241

Index 245

TABLES

- I OPS Bargaining Unit (OPSEU): Occupational and Salary Data as of February 1996 65
- 2 The Strike Vote, 15–17 February 1996: Results from the Vote on the Employer's "Best Offer" 103