

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE HEADQUARTERS

Ottawa, 19th August, 1920.

SECRET

NO. 37

NOTES OF THE WORK OF THE C. I. B. DIVISION
FOR THE WEEK ENDING 19TH AUGUST

N.B. In most cases these notes are founded upon reports received by mail. The dates of incidents and reports consequently are stated when this is necessary.

1. General Characteristics of the Period

During the week we have had reported a considerable number of "Hands off Russia" meetings, resolutions, etc. In Eastern Canada these have been trivial affairs, an open-air meeting in Toronto on Saturday afternoon, 14th August, being a mere fizzle when the size of the city is considered. In Western Canada they have been more considerable, a meeting in Winnipeg having been attended by 1,500 persons.

Indications exist that co-operation between the extremists in Western Canada and those in Great Britain. This may prove the real consequence of the visit of Messrs. Kavanaugh and Gage. Robertson, the Glasgow agitator who is sojourning rather quietly in Eastern Canada, may attempt some liaison work.

The issues of the rival Labour papers in Winnipeg, The Western Labour News and the O. B. U. Bulletin suggest that both sides thought that the O. B. U. champions had won the victory. The former paper makes no editorial comment whatever, and confines itself to a long report of the speeches; the O. B. U. Bulletin not only prints a report, but triumphs noisily through a couple of columns.

Side by side with proofs of the weakness of the appeal of the O. B. U. to the general public of Montreal there multiply indications of [2] Bolshevik attempts to prosecute missionary work there. We now hear that the rather bare-brained labour college is financed by the Soviet Bureau in New York. It may be conjectured that a Labour College under such auspices is much less to be dreaded than one inspired from the one in Glasgow, in which Robertson was "a student", and of which he may be an emissary.

The likelihood of a strike in the autumn or winter in Fernie if not elsewhere in the Alberta Coal fields is increasing.

1. BRITISH COLUMBIA

2. Strength of the O. B. U.

The Officer Commanding Vancouver in his confidential monthly report for July says of the O. B. U.:-

"According to O. B. U. officials, the total membership within

this Police Division has reached to over 22,000, whilst the number of units is 29.

"From investigations by Staff Sergeant Mundy now ensuing, it would seem that both the total membership as well as the number of units is much inflated. As has already been pointed out by S/Sgt. Mundy in his reports on the O. B. U., the stronghold of the O.B.U.—the L. W. I. U. is the largest unit by far, and the workers now in this organization previously were not organized at all. Take away the L. W. I. U. unit from the total membership of the O. B. U., and the balance of the O. B. U. membership would not exceed 2,000, if that. The A. F. of L. would be in the lead by many thousands of members.

"There have been 19 strikes called by the O. B. U. during the month. Few have been settled".

3. Conditions in Southern British Columbia

The Officer Commanding Vancouver in the same report quotes an appreciation of the O. B. U. situation in Southern inland British Columbia by the Officer Commanding Grand Forks, as follows:-

"Labour conditions at Trail and Rossland, where 1,700 men are employed, are quiet. The O. B. U. does not appear to be successful there.

"The strike in the Slocan district (Sandon and Silverton," B. C. and [3] locality) is in about the same condition; that is to say that all the mines in that district are on strike, except the 'Silversmith', which is run by an American firm, which recognizes the O. B. U. and grants their demands. The other mines are some of them employing a few men, but seem to be having difficulty in getting the number of men they want, in spite of an agreement with the International Union to supply men on terms agreed upon. This strike has spread eastward to the mines on the extent that the men at one mine, the 'Blue Bell' at Riondel. The mine operators seem to be determined to fight the O. B. U. and the strike may be a prolonged one. The O. B. U. are very efficiently and effectively picketing the district; one method being to get employment on the Provincial Government road gangs in the district. The area affected by the strike is between the Arrow and Kootenay Lakes and nearer to the Arrow Lake; there is no complete railroad communication with the district; the district can only be got at by Lake steamboat; so with the Government Road gangs picketing for the O. B. U. and with pickets on the boat landings, any men seeking employment at the mines cannot get through without passing many very effective pickets.

"The strike at the Meadows Lumber Camp is still on, except that they are employing a few men; the firm seems determined to fight the O. B. U. to a finish and may gradually succeed in getting enough

men to operate with.

"On the whole the O. B. U. seems to be rather in the ascendancy in the Slocan District; there are no reports of sabotage or violence of any kind; the strikes there are much in the nature of a "show down" between the O. B. U. and mine owners, and it is difficult to prophesy the result. Besides the picketing situation described above another thing which affects the situation is the fact that a lot of the firms are American firms and much of the labour employed is from the U. S. A. A very strong policy should be adopted in regard to the immigration into this district over the American railroad the Great Northern Railway, from the U. S. A. into Canada in this district (the G.N.R. from Spokane, Wash. via Marcus and Northport, Wash. to Nelson, B.C.)".

4. O. B. U. Claims Analyzed

The allegation by Winch that the L.W.I.U. in British Columbia number 20,000 is energetically disputed by the N. C. O. in charge of C. I. B. in Vancouver, who sticks to the view that their figure of about 13,350 is a liberal estimate. It is pointed out that Winch's report is couched in vague and misleading terms, and in particular that, whereas a firm of chartered accountants is retained by the Unit, no report from it was submitted. The memorandum by S. Sgt. Mundy says:-[4]

"The Committee, or Winch (whichever it is) first says the membership cannot be arrived at; then gives a reason which is inadequate; and then submits statistical figures as to membership in which there are unexplained blanks, but total of which works out to a little over 16,000 and that for the whole Dominion, not for the Province of British Columbia only, wherein he told me he had a membership of 20,000".

The memorandum remarks that "it is an organization of 'rough-necks' and 'grafters' who either do not know how to keep records, or don't want to, for purposes of their own".

The memorandum analyzes the O. B. U. in British Columbia outside of the L. W. I. U., and arrives at the following estimate, which is based on separate reports from the localities mentioned:-

General Workers' Unit Prince George Practically extinct
 Metal Miners' Unit Sandon 175
 Metal Miners' Unit Silverton 50
 General Workers' Unit Kamloops 75
 General Workers' Unit Princeton 50
 Hedley Workers' Unit Hedley 120
 470

5. The O. B. U. Convention Called

Midgley has issued a call for the second annual convention of the O. B. U. on 20th September at Port Arthur. In his call he declares that despite

“the tactics used by some International fakirs, the incarceration of three O. B. U. leaders and the kidnapping of its organizers” the organization has doubled its numbers since the last convention.

6. British Columbia Detachment Reports

Prince George, 31st July:-

“The labour situation is very quiet. All labour required is available. No agitation in the district”.

Nanaimo, 31st July:-

“Everything is quiet and orderly in this district, as far as the O. B. U. is concerned and the strike at Granby Mine is settled and the men now employed at that mine have a committee of their own, to settle their own disputes and troubles with the mine management and have deserted Andrew Dean and Albert Lane, O. B. U. organizers and agitators for that organization.

Port Alberni, 31st July:-

“The district is quiet and orderly, with mills and camps working steadily, with the exception of the Alberni Pacific, which is “still [5] closed down”.

“Work on the E. and N. extension continue satisfactorily and their camps have been free from labour troubles so far”.

7th August:-

“District quiet generally, camps and mills working steadily, with no signs of trouble.”

Nelson, 31st July:-

“The mining industry shows signs of improvement at Ymir, which at one time was a flourishing camp. The demand for men to work in mines is very strong, but very few offering”.

7. Conditions at Allenby

An investigation of Allenby, near Merritt, shows that the International is uppermost there. The industry there is a mining plant. In April 1919 an attempt to establish the O. B. U. was defeated by a vote of 110 to 16; and in June 1919 a local of the International Mining, Mill and Smelter men was established; it now has a membership of 45 and seems to be composed of men of moderate views. While the plant is “openshop” the relations between the company and the local are good, and the latter is growing in strength.

At Copper Mountain, near Allenby, there exists another local of the same union, with 30 members, and with the same good relations between company and union. The men employed at the mine are expected to increase to 300. Those at Allenby number from 130 to 150. It is believed that there are few O. B. U. men in either place.

It will be recalled that the recent report of the O. B. U. admitted a failure at Copper Mountain.

8. O. B. U. Notes

There still is talk of agitation against Winch, on the ground that his post should be filled by a practical logger.

Joseph Naylor of Cumberland recently concluded his two months' organizing tour among the fishermen. In conversation he said that he had been successful, and had got 30 per cent of the fishermen of the [6] Fraser River District into the O. B. U.

The Sandon strike continues, with perhaps some sign of weakening among the men. Fresh evidence has been obtained of picketing by a gang of men employed by the Provincial Government on a road leading to one of the mines concerned.

9. Miscellaneous Notes

Unrest is reported as once more rife among the Vancouver longshoremen. Talk is heard of a general strike of longshoremen along the whole Pacific coast, to begin on 1st October.

The "Waterfront Freight Handlers' Association" at Vancouver are negotiating for increased wages. The C.P.R. offered to pay men of 3 years' service at the rate of \$115.00 a month. The Association refused this and demanded a "flat salary" of \$150 a month.

The indications are that the champions of the Russian deportees in Vancouver, encouraged by the recent postponement, will resort to every possible means to prevent their ejection from the country.

Frank Cassidy spoke at the meeting of the S. P. of C., Vancouver Local No. 1., on 8th August. The meeting was fairly well attended. Cassidy remarked that these Sunday meetings had been going on for ten years, and exulted in the change from conditions during the war, when they were mobbed. He boasted of the successes of the Bolsheviks, and concluded with an attack upon religion.

Tom Richardson, formerly a Labour M. P. in England, addressed a meeting in Prince Rupert on 30th July. The attendance was 40 or 50. Richardson's speech, which dealt largely with Prohibition, was moderate.[7]

II. ALBERTA

10. The Temper at Fernie

On 6th August a stoppage of work took place in Fernie. The members of the O. B. U. had yielded, and were signing the "check off" which makes them compulsory members of the U. M. W. of A. William Sherman, the local president of the O. B. U., was refused employment, and the men stopped work and showed great anger. Our correspondent says, under date of 6th August:-

"The men are in ugly frame of mind and are looking for the most trivial thing to make it an excuse of starting a strike. It is true that with the possible exception of three or four the whole of the 800 employes have signed up with the U. M. W. of A., but there are scarcely 50 men who are really U. M. W. of A. at heart and in the

event of a strike I do not think sufficient men would stay at work to keep the mines running. The men have openly stated that they will have a strike this winter and they believe that the Coal company is trying to force their hand at the present time so that they will cease work now and therefore not be in a position to strike this winter. However, a large number have stated that if this is the case then they will leave Fernie altogether but it will not prevent them from striking if they take it in their heads to do so. The various leaders are taking good care that the men are kept in this frame of mind and they will utilize them whenever they are ready.

"Owing to existing conditions it is impossible, it seems to me, to avert trouble much longer".

The trouble at Fernie was settled on 9th August by the O. B. U. leader (Sherman) being taken on and given another trial by the management. Our informant adds:-

"However, it is common talk among the miners that they are going to call a strike and the time given is from the middle to the end of October. From little things gathered here and there, I feel certain that they will go on strike this fall or winter".

He goes to give an estimate of Sherman's character, the gist of which is that he possesses great influence with one particular set of rather young men, that he is a young man who cherishes the ambition of becoming an O. B. U. organizer; and that he consequently is doing his utmost to commend himself to that body.[8] The Officer Commanding East Kootenay (in which Fernie is situated) and the Officer Commanding Southern Alberta agree that the miners fully intend to strike in the autumn or winter.

11. Situation Elsewhere in the Coalfields

Trouble is threatened in Drumheller. The management of the N. A. C. mine does not belong to the western Coal Operators' Association, and has not enforced the "check-off"; as a result, the mine is an O. B. U. stronghold, and now the O. B. U. threaten a strike to get the same pay etc. as the U. M. W. of A. do. Christophers and Henry Beard were reported to be repairing to the scene, about 7th August.

The O. B. U. in Calgary early in August were expecting (i.e. hoping for) trouble at the mines at Kipp, Drumheller, Natal, Michel and Coalhurst.

The president of an U. M. W. of A. local at Lethbridge made an interesting statement in conversation on 10th August. All the miners, he said, are O. B. U. at heart; but for two months none have paid dues to the O. B. U., as they had to become members of the U. M. W. of A. to get work, and as no organizer of the O. B. U. was in town to urge them to pay to it as well.

Reports from Coalhurst dated 12th and 13th August are to the effect

that the men still were out. Half the strikers were harvesting and the town was denuded of men.

Following is a report from Michel:-

"On August the 10th the United Mine Workers called a meeting to be held in the Michel Hall at 6.30 p.m. At the time the meeting should have been held about three hundred men gathered outside the Hall but none of them went, and the meeting and the result was that only the President and Secretary of the Local and two organizers from Calgary were present so that the meeting had to be called off.

"I mingled amongst the men when they were standing around the street and the common conversation was that if they forced them to sign the check-off they could not force them to attend or recognize the U. M. W. of A.[9]

"I also heard Joe Mangles say that the O. B. U. was not dead yet and that he was prepared to do all he could to knock the U. M. W. of A. and that he would show them what was later in the Fall".

12. The Russo-Polish War

Agitators throughout Canada are canvassing the possibility of a renewal of war over Poland and are opposing Canadian participation. An example is afforded by a report describing an incident in the Ogden shops in Calgary. The date is 9th August:-

"During the meal hour today, Stewart (an O.B.U. man) took advantage of half-an-hour to determine the feeling of the men with regard to the trouble with Russia and Poland. He asked the men what they would do if England were to declare war on Russia. Some of the men said they would not fight again, while others kept silent. Stewart was asked what he would do. 'Well', he said, 'I consider the ultimatum, if there was one sent, a huge joke. Surely England has more sense than to send an ultimatum to Russia, organized as they are, with practically all the working class in the whole country in sympathy with the Soviet Government.

"Stewart said he would go to prison first, but, in the meantime, will do all in his power to make the men see the right and best way for the workers".

13. International Bible Students

The International Bible Students held a convention in Edmonton on 30th July and 1st and 2nd August. The attendance was 150. J. B. Williams presided. It was claimed that the organization had increased rapidly in spite of government opposition. They were the usual confident predictions of the destruction of organized Government and society. Our report says:-

"J. B. Williams in all his speeches referred to Bolshevism, and said, it was only natural that it should come about out of the present existing conditions. The speakers spoke strongly against

war, saying that neither them nor their children would ever fight, or take part in any war, no matter what the circumstance might be, they would refuse to fight, or take part in war. The national life of the State meant nothing to them, there is no such thing as patriotism or loyalty to the State in their religion. It would matter nothing to them who ruled this country Internationalism is to them as it is to the Socialist".[10]

14. Miscellaneous Notes

Transportation Unit No. 1. O. B. U. Calgary otherwise the O. B. U. of the Ogden shops have elected shop stewards, and are preparing to fight for recognition.

Christophers spoke at the C. N. R. shops in Edmonton on 2nd August. Some Internationals tried unsuccessfully to break up the meeting, the leader being one Findley. Christophers also held an open air meeting on Tuesday evening 3rd August. He laid stress on the non-Canadian character of the U. M. W. of A.

The "Park Committee" at Edmonton held an open-air meeting on Sunday 8th August, W. R. Ball of the United Farmers of Alberta speaking on the "High Cost of Living".

Joseph R. Knight addressed open-air meetings in Edmonton on 8th and 10th August. His speeches were of the usual sort. The second one was a failure, the attendance not exceeding 100, and few outside of the regular set of Socialists showing any interest.

A meeting of the S. P. of C. in Edmonton on 1st August heard some violent pro-Bolshevist and anti-governmental speeches by Maguire and a man named Findlay.

The Postal officials in July informed P. F. Lawson that if the Searchlight was not issued with greater regularity its mailing privileges would be withdrawn. This would extinguish the paper.

During his stay in the Edmonton district Dr. Sushko, the Ukrainian Bolshevist of Winnipeg, collected about \$1,000, and borrowed \$2,000 more from two men in Vegreville.

III. SASKATCHEWAN

15. The Bienfait Incident

A correspondent in the Bienfait district reports some circumstances which have a bearing upon recent events there. An [11] O. B. U. movement had been stirring before Christophers went there. Last autumn a man named Dan Diaczun, who had been active in the Winnipeg strike, obtained work at Taylorton, the chief seat of trouble in the Bienfait region, and set up as leader among the foreigners, an agitator for the O. B. U., and a troublemaker. Their intention had been to get organized and to strike and cripple the mines in the autumn; part of their anger is at having been anticipated.

Organization of the O. B. U. is proceeding actively, and an ugly temper

prevails. Some at least of the foreigners, including some who do not belong to the O. B. U., except an O. B. U. transportation strike in the autumn which will tie up the country.

The company at Taylorton seems about to proceed with its plan of evicting the miners from houses which they built on its land.

16. An Excited Rhetorician

A new Ukrainian agitator has appeared in Saskatoon, named Peter Nestor, alias Nestoriuk; he is a student of the Peter Mehyla Institute. On 8th August he spoke at the Ukrainian National Home under the auspices of the Zapomne Towarstwo, his address being a wild anti-Christian revolutionary harangue. Sample sentences are:-

"The capitalists have forbidden us to read or educate ourselves, as by keeping us in darkness, they make it possible for themselves to own the luxuries, which we produce with our hands".

"But who is this God they teach in the Churches, on which they have wasted millions of dollars? They tell you it is for your souls but what should you care for your souls, you have got to feed your bodies before you have a soul. But now the time has come when we know their tricks and we have men of ideals to tell us of scientific system in which we can all live in peace and plenty".

17. O. B. U. Notes

An L. W. I. U. delegate named Austin Stanley appeared in Regina on 5th August and stayed for a few days. He enrolled a few members in the O. B. U. Incidentally he is the possessor of a Ford car,[12] in which he tours the country.

At a meeting of the O. B. U. held in Regina on 6th August a resolution was submitted "denouncing the fetching of harvesters from Eastern Canada on the ground that "there is nearly sufficient farm help right at the present time here in this Province". It was modified to a protest that too many harvesters had been sent to Saskatchewan in the past.

A report has been received that the O. B. U. has been making headway at the Pas (whither Tether has recently moved) and now claims a membership of 250.

IV. MANITOBA

18. "Hands off Russia" Meeting

Organized by the Dominion Labour Party, a meeting was held in Winnipeg on Sunday 18th August to protest against any interference with the Soviet conquest of Poland. It was attended by about 1,500 people. It was entirely in the hands of the extremists, the Trades and Labour Council (i.e. Internationals) declining to take part. The speakers were:- Ald. A. A. Heaps, S. J. Farmer, Thomas Dunn, John Houston, Charles Stuart and C. A. Tanner, all active revolutionists. Four resolutions were passed:- (1) Protesting against any intervention by the Imperial or Canadian Govern-

ment in Russia; (2) Congratulating British labour "on their deliberate opposition to attempted intervention in Russia", and endorsing the means employed to prevent it, (3) Assuring the people of Russia of the entire opposition of "the Winnipeg Workers" to "intervention of the Imperialist power"; (4) Congratulating Soviet Russia on its success" in meeting the aggression of the Poles and the intrigues of the Allies".

Some violent language was used. S. J. Farmer called Mr. Lloyd George "the most artistic liar Great Britain has ever had". Thomas Dunn exulted in the decay of patriotism; "we see aloofness written on the faces of the men in Winnipeg who once were patriotic".[13]

19. Sympathy with Soviet Russia

A report from Winnipeg states that there is great sympathy with Soviet Russia in all the labour parties and organizations outside the A. F. of L. Those include the O. B. U. the Dominion Labour Party, the Socialist Party, the Ex-Soldiers' and Sailors' Labour Party and the Social Democratic Party; the feeling is said to be strongest among the O. B. U. and the S. P. of C. and the feeling has grown with the difficulties between Great Britain and Russia. Kavanaugh has been active since his return to Winnipeg in stirring up feeling and in assuring his hearers that Labour in England will prevent any hostilities.

About 300 people attended an open-air meeting in Victoria Park, Winnipeg, held on Sunday 8th August, to hear Messrs. Kavanaugh, Gage and Heaps on their visit to England. The speeches did not differ from those already noted. It may be that their exposition of the revolutionary sentiment prevailing in Great Britain will have an effect.

20. The O. B. U. International Debate

Confidential reports upon the debate in Winnipeg on 6th August between the Internationals and the O. B. U. show that it was a even more tumultuous affair than was indicated by the press reports, and that the impression of most of our observers was that the O. B. U. champions had won. The O. B. U. had packed the meeting and in particular occupied the front of the hall and the galleries; Hoop, who read his speech from a typed MSS, could not be heard 20 or 30 feet away, so loud and constant were the interruptions; McCutcheon has a powerful voice, but only a few of his phrases could be heard. Yet a reading of the full reports of the several speeches conveys the impression that Hoop and McCutcheon had much the best of the argument, and one of our correspondents (who is well acquainted with labour conditions) expresses the opinion that a reading of the text of the speeches will cause a change of feeling.[14]

21. Clemency asked for Sava Zura

An attempt is being made to secure the release of Sava Zura, the Fort William revolutionist who in October 1919 was sentenced to two years' imprisonment for being in possession of prohibited literature. A copy of "The Workers' Defence Bulletin" has been issued, from which it appears

that the defence of this man, of Ollikkala and of some other Finns has cost \$5,542.28. The Fort William City Council has asked for clemency. The "Bulletin" described Mrs. Zura as being in very straitened circumstances; our private information contradicts this.

22. Miscellaneous Notes

The Winnipeg Defence Committee on 9th August once more discussed whether it should demobilize, or constitute itself a standing body. Gage and Kavanaugh, who were present, advocated the latter course.

Farnell, the recently paroled strike leader, is understood to have made the remark "I am through with the O. B. U. bunch for life".

It is reported that J. S. Woodsworth is about to quit Winnipeg for Vancouver.

A man signing himself "W. Gordon" recently addressed from Winnipeg a pro-Bolshevik letter to the Toronto Saturday Night. According to a report from Winnipeg, he is "a traveller from Washington" who at once has been commissioned by the Polish authorities to sell Polish bonds and to act as Polish agent, and works for the Russian Soviets. This seems an impossible combination; in addition, his letter to the paper is couched in such good, and almost scholarly English, as to make it unlikely that he has had any but an English education, and a good one at that.

V. ONTARIO

23. Quiet in Eastern Ontario

The confidential monthly report of the Officer Commanding [15] Eastern Ontario for July reveals a satisfactory state of affairs. No unusual activities by radical associations have been observed, and the labour situation in Ottawa is good.

24. J. R. Knight and Robertson on Future Policy

J. R. Knight's fortnightly report for the period ending 13th July deals largely with his conversations with Robertson, the Glasgow radical who has been active in Eastern Canada. An extract from this part of his report is:-

"I had a few conversations with Robertson with respect to the Shop Stewards' movement, and learned much from him about the reactionary officialdom of the large organizations commonly referred to as the Triple Alliance. These three amalgamations approach as near the ideal Industrial Union as is possible, yet they exhibit precisely the same reactionary tendencies as the craft organizations. That is their form of organization has tended to develop what might be termed 'an industrial union patriotism' at the expense of the 'working class' organization..... Comrade Robertson was much interested in the constitution and structure of the O. B. U. and stated that it was the form of organization the shop stewards movement of Great Britain was trying to achieve. He thought that

in this country with such an organization as the A. F. of L. it was foolish to attempt boring from within and more would be accomplished by definitely organizing in opposition to it. He considered too that, the workers of the American Continent had a great advantage over the workers of Great Britain in that their organizations could profit from the experience of the British. In Great Britain today it was a tremendous task to penetrate the habits of thought resulting from long association with organizations so deeply entrenched as those of the Triple Alliance, and it was not possible for the Shop Stewards' movement to launch a new organization, they must do all their work within the old. There is much that has been said re the affiliation of the Shop Stewards' movement with the I. W. W. but Robertson says it is all nonsense. I will deal with this whole matter in a separate report, but I hope before Robertson leaves that a corresponding arrangement between the two movements can be established.

It is not clear from the text whether the Shop Stewards are to be brought into touch with the I. W. W. or the O. B. U.; it may be conjectured that Knight means the latter.

Knight alludes very summarily to his operations during the fortnight in question.

25. Miscellaneous Notes

A "Hands off Russia" meeting was held in High Park, Toronto, [16] on 14th August; about 300 persons attended. The speakers were "Jimmy" Simpson, Max Armstrong, Berg and McDonald. Simpson predicted a Soviet Government in North America. All the speakers urged activity to elect M. P's.

Information continues to be received as to the movements of Wilson, the newcomer and possible revolutionary leader in Hamilton. Apparently he is not a salaried agitator, as he intends to obtain employment and to do his agitating in his spare time. He has in Detroit a supply of I. W. W. pamphlets, perhaps in foreign languages, though this point is not clear, which he wishes to fetch to and distribute in Hamilton.

It is understood that an O. B. U. local exists in Buffalo, Flatman being one of the active members. Flatman is an elusive person, difficult to meet; he moves about a good deal in the district between Buffalo and Hamilton, having visited the latter city lately. He is believed now to be employed in one of the plants in Buffalo, and so can hardly be a salaried agitator.

The O. B. U. lodge at Windsor now numbers 129 members.

K. K. Kakola, the organizer and speaker of the Finnish Socialist organization has been acting for some months as an O. B. U. delegate in the Sault Ste Marie district. He now has been appointed O. B. U. organizer, and apparently will begin work in British Columbia.

A Russian Jew named Morris Spektor has attracted attention as a

Communist in Toronto. He is a student at the University.

The Jewish Socialist Revolutionist Party in Toronto calls itself Polian Sion in Hebrew (or Yiddish). They are affiliated with the Third International. They propose to issue a paper to be called The [17] Sait, or Times; it is to be printed in New York, and to be edited by New York Radicals.

VI. QUEBEC

26. A Soviet College in Montreal

At the O. B. U. meeting in Montreal on 12th August Miss Buller reported that the Labour College was "progressing splendidly". Its finances "were coming fast enough", and all it lacked was "the workers to take an interest in this institution". Concerning this organization our informant, who is an exceptionally competent observer, gives it as his opinion that this Labour College is supported by the Soviet Bureau of New York. "I am positive", he says "that the O. B. U. has nothing to do with it". He continues:-

"The object in view, in establishing this College, is to get a group of workers, who already are in possession of a certain amount of knowledge along economic lines to get themselves posted in economics, so that some day, they will be able to take in their hands the distribution of food and clothing, take care of all industries under the Soviet form of Government, which in the mind of most of these radicals, it seems that a revolution is now inevitable and a Soviet Government will be established in Canada. If a revolution ever happens, these men or women, who are educated in this school will be in a position to enter any Manufacturers' offices and run that industry, whereas, if they lack that education, they will find themselves handicapped.

"According to local radicals, it is evident that the world over is looking forward to a revolution and that they are preparing themselves".

27. A Protest Meeting

On 11th August a meeting was held in the Labour Temple, Montreal, under the auspices of the "Quebec Independent Socialist Party", to protest against any war with Russia. Several hundreds attended. F. W. Garrish presided, and speeches were delivered by L. J. N. Page, Miss B. Hall, U. Binette, Hyman Edelstein and Revd. J. B. Pike. Page sneered at the idea of aiding the Poles, Miss Hall attacked the [18] Poles and said that Capitalist Nations did not wish a Socialist nation to succeed, and Binette called Canada "the nation of sheep par excellence". The chairman read a telegram from the Russian Soviet Bureau in New York, regretting that one Ohsol, a "Soviet delegate who recently visited Canada" could not attend. A resolution of protest was passed.

28. A Seditious Parson

A person described as the "Revd. J. B. Pike" spoke at this meeting. Our informant thus reports his speech:-

"Pike stated 'There was no such thing in existence as a British Empire; an emperor is a Kaiser. That's what Emperor means in German and as King George is the Emperor of India, he is therefore a Kaiser'. Remember' Pike continued 'There will be wars as long as we let a 'Kaiser' remain in existence. An Emperor always wants to rule the world. I also want to point out to you that the King of England keeps a "Spy" in Canada at Ottawa in the person of the Governor General, we Canadians pay this "Spy" \$50,000 a year plus \$20,000 for his expenses. If the king wants to keep a spy in this country, let him pay him and his expenses out of his own pocket.

"I spoke here three years ago, against "Conscription" and it gives me great pleasure to speak to you tonight in support of the resolution which is now before you for consideration.

"We Canadians have not as yet a flag. The Union Jack is not a Canadian flag; personally I would like to see an "Internationale" flag' (at this remark H. Edelstein suggested a "red" flag, which remark was received with prolonged applause from the balance of the audience).

"There should be no King of the British Empire because it is made up of different nationalities and religions and the Canadian "Oath of Allegiance" is not to protect Canada but to protect King George of England".

"In Pronouncing the words 'King George' Pike's voice possessed a sneering manner, which he evidently used to emphasize his point of view.

29. Miscellaneous Notes

The General Workers' Unit O. B. U. Montreal on 12th August had \$21.45 in the treasury, and owed more than \$40.00. Only seven members attended the meeting on that date.

A lecturer on the staff of the Soviet Bureau of New York named Issac (?Isaac) McBride is touring the United States, and may be sent to Montreal to speak. The letter from New York in which this is mentioned [19] states that a number of lecturers are going about, preparing the populace for the revolution which it is hoped soon will come.

VII. THE MARITIME PROVINCES

30. Miscellaneous Notes

A report dated 11th August states that the Halifax Shipyard strike is "officially settled" on the company's terms. The Plumbers, pipe-fitters and coppersmiths on 9th August voted to abandon the strike, and returned to work on the 11th. There is some reason to believe that the Labourers' Unit is about broken up, and that the Marine Trades Federation is likely to dissolve. The unions concerned in the shipyards lost two fifths of their

strength, and the cause of unionism in Halifax seems to have suffered a severe reverse.

J. B. McLachlan seems to have dropped his inclination to join the O. B. U. He is however, endeavouring to stir up a general strike of miners in Nova Scotia. The Royal Commission still is sitting; he has stated that if it grants the miners all they have been asking new demands will be made, to bring the wages up to the level which prevails in the United States and in Western Canada.