

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE HEADQUARTERS

Ottawa, 12th August, 1926.

SECRET

NO. 331
WEEKLY SUMMARY
NOTES REGARDING REVOLUTIONARY ORGANIZATIONS
AND AGITATORS IN CANADA
REPORT

The Communists are trying to influence the course of the general election in several parts of the country. Reports from Toronto and London in this issue show once more how treacherous their course invariably tends to be.

Another example of the combination of thirst for power and of treachery which so characterizes the Communist is afforded by a report of a plot which is in progress to oust Gerald Dealtry, the founder of the revolutionary paper, the Furrow, and substitute formal Communist ownership. Bartholomew who in some respects is the most effective Communist agitator now at work so far as the English-speaking element is concerned is revealed in a particularly mean and odious light in this affair, as he is lending himself to betray a benefactor.

The break-down of the group organization of the Communist Party proceeds apace. Regina has been allowed formally to repeal it, and in Toronto it has reduced the membership materially.[2]

APPENDICES

Table of Contents

APPENDIX NO. I; GENERAL.

- Para. No. 1. Effect of the Communist Reorganization in Toronto.
" 2. Regina Abandons the Group Form of Organization
" 3. Communist Intrigue in Labour Party Affairs in London
" 4. Amenities between Communists and Socialists at Toronto.
" 5. Communists Plotting to Capture the Furrow.
" 6. Women's Sections Formed in the Communist Party.
" 7. Trying to Perform Revolutionary Plays in Halifax.
" 8. The Ukrainians.
Taxing U.L.F.T.A. for the Schools.
Demand for \$26,000 for Winnipeg building.
Revolutionary Schools.
" 9. A Sample of Mischief-Making by Moriarty.
" 10. Trouble with the O.B.U. in Cape Breton.

APPENDIX NO. II: REPORTS FROM DISTRICTS.

- " 11. BRITISH COLUMBIA: O.B.U. Practically Dead
" 12. ALBERTA: The Miners.

- " 13. The Ukrainians
Winnipeg Orchestra at Fernie
Worrying about Naturalization
- " 14. Notes.
Kanadian Knights of the Ku Klux Klan
Pat (Shorty) McIntyre at Waterton
Dr. Oleska Magusy
- " 15. SASKATCHEWAN: Notes
W. Purich leaves Regina
K. Krishmarowsky
Regina Communists on Reorganization
Sturgis Communists
Progressive Farmers' Educational League
Lazar leaves Saskatoon Communists
Y. Petelko
Ivan Kulyk at Kamsack [3]
- " 16. MANITOBA: Notes
Charles Lester
The I.W.W.
Antonia Sokelicz (Falken)
The Ukrainian Press
- " 17. ONTARIO: The I.W.W. in Northern Ontario
J.A. McDonald
J. Lankenin
- " 18. QUEBEC: The French Branch, Communist Party

APPENDIX NO. I: GENERAL

1. Effect of the Communist Reorganization in Toronto.

The reorganization of the Toronto Communist Party into shop and area groups took place in April last. We have received, under date of 4th August, a survey of the situation as it has been effected upon reorganization. The report is as follows:-

"It appears that the party has lost a number of members; only 50 per cent of the total dues have been paid which means at least 15 per cent of the members have not attended shop or area group meetings. According to groups reports, the chief trouble comes from the Finnish members.

"In some groups the Finnish members have not attended and they claim that they are only members of the Finnish Society, and not members of the Communist Party, therefore will not attend meetings of groups of the Communist Party.

"Another important point is the language question. In some groups they cannot understand each other. This also tends towards members becoming disgruntled.

"But although the members are becoming disinterested the power of the Communist Party is still the same in the Labour Party and Trade Unions.

"The same apathy, I am informed, exists throughout the country, so it appears that the Communist Party is not as strong numerically now as it was before reorganization."

2. Regina Abandons the Group Form of Organization.

The members of the Communist Party living in Regina held two meetings at the Ukrainian Labour Temple in that city on Sunday, 1st August, the up-shot of their deliberations being a decision to abandon the group system and form themselves into an International Street Group. The matter was principally discussed at a meeting in the afternoon, but the decision was reached at a meeting in the evening, which was attended by T. Ewen of Saskatoon, who represented the Central Executive Committee.[5]

Our report of the afternoon meeting says:-

"In the discussion on the motion it was pointed out that the group system had failed and hope was expressed that if the party would be reorganized in conformity with the motion, the party would become active again and its activities better co-ordinated. One or two Ukrainian members wanted to have the party reorganized on a language basis. The prime movers in the attempt to have the party reorganized and put on an efficient footing were the Ukrainians. The City Central Committee came in for some considerable criticism for failing to function and for failing to properly lead the groups. Members of the City Central Committee stated that the inactivity of the Committee was a reflex of the inactivity of the groups, and consequently, it was not the City Central Committee that was to blame but the groups themselves."

At this meeting nearly everyone present agreed upon the need of reorganizing the party. Dealing with the evening meeting the following is said:-

"T. Ewen, apparently had been commissioned by the Central Executive of the party to come to Regina with the object in view of reorganizing the party. The action of the Central Executive was more or less in consequence of complaints made by the Ukrainian Agit Prop Committee to the effect that the groups and the City Central Committee were inactive and could or would not function.

"The second meeting was called to order at 10.45 by T. Susiak with T. Ewen of Saskatoon present. There were 14 members present, and T. Susiak was appointed chairman for the meeting.

"After having briefly outlined to him the circumstances surrounding the party, T. Ewen addressed the meeting and stated that the meeting in the afternoon agreed upon a wise course of action

and supported the motion. The motion was then put and unani-
mously adopted."

3. Communist Intrigue in Labour Party Affairs in London.

The Communist group in London has been playing the usual game in labour party politics. The London Branch of the Labour Party decided on 16th July to hold an opening convention on 28th July to nominate a candidate for the pending elections. During the interval the Communist Party was busy, its efforts being particularly directed towards the members of the Canadian Brotherhood of Railway Employees. This union met on 26th July and L.R. Menzies, the Communist agitator, urged the members to be present at the convention. Our reports says:-[6]

"He mentioned A.C. Avery, as a man who could be trusted to look after the interests of Labour if nominated and elected. (Members of the local Communist Party know well that Avery has no chance of being elected, but want his name on the lists for propaganda purposes.)"

The convention broke up in a quarrel, the chairman insisting that only delegates should take part in it, and Menzies leading a violent demand that it be an open one. The chairman was sustained, and Menzies made sundry remarks, one being that "The London Labour Party was being run by a bunch of crooks."

At a meeting of the Executive of the London Labour Party an apology was demanded from Menzies on pain of his expulsion from the Labour Party. Our report says:-

"If Menzies is expelled from the London Labour Party it is more than likely that the Canadian Brotherhood of Railway Employees will also withdraw and if this happens it will probably mean the disintegration of the L.L.P. Menzies was urged to explain that he did not intend to charge the leaders of the L.L.P. with being dishonest and it is possible that he may modify the charge, but he says positively that he will make no apology for what he said.

"The opinion of the leaders of the Communist Party here is that they will have to break with the L.L.P. eventually and that it would be to the advantage of the Communists to do so. The policy to be followed, however, is to pretend to maintain the United Front at all costs and let the other party take the responsibility for weakening the resistance which a United Labour Party could oppose to oppressive capitalism.

"Comrade Hazelgrove is still addressing large crowds at the Market Square Saturday evening meetings. The Sunday meetings at the Federal Square were not well attended and are not being held regularly at present."

4. Amenities Between Communists and Socialists at Toronto

As stated in the public press, the Central Council of the Canadian

Labour Party at a meeting held on 6th August decided to put forward two candidates in Toronto, John MacDonald in Centre West Toronto and James Simpson in Northwest Toronto. In doing so it was resolved to "have no truck or trade with either of the Capitalists Parties". An intimation came that "if J. MacDonald ran in Centre West Toronto then the Jewish Socialists would not support him." [7]

On 7th August a special election convention was held by the Ontario section, Canadian Labour Party, to prepare the election manifesto. Our report says:-

"There were over a hundred delegates present with Communist Party delegates in the majority"

"Heated discussions took place over the question of complete self determination of sovereignty for Canada; it was moved by J. Simpson to have Self Determination struck out.

"During the argument Simpson was called a crook, a traitor and was told by James Muldowney that he hunted with the hounds and ate with the ducks. Muldowney stated that he could not possibly belong to the same party as Simpson in the future, as the latter had endeavoured to intimidate labour in this Federal election, and therefore he was resigning as Vice President, Ontario Section, C.L.P., President of Toronto Central Council, C.L.P., and member of Earls Court Branch of the Canadian Labour Party; as Simpson told him to join the Communist Party where he belonged.

"After several other insults had been thrown at Simpson he threatened to resign as secretary and leave the room, but Spector withdrew the amendment, striking out Self-determination, leaving it Complete Sovereignty for Canada, which Spector states is exactly the same because, if you have complete Sovereignty you have Self-determination.

"The other demands in the Manifesto are the usual, Old Age Pensions, Abolition of Cadet Training in Public Schools, Repeal of British North America Act, Immigration, National Health Insurance, etc."

5. Communists Plotting to Capture The "Furrow".

On 16th July a secret meeting was held in Saskatoon of Communist members who were attending the Farmers' Union Convention; the meeting was called by T. Ewen to discuss the relationship of the Furrow to the Communist Party. Ewen acted as the representative of the Central Executive Committee of the Communist Party, and read a letter which he had received from that body on the subject.

Our report proceeds:-

"Briefly speaking, in the letter, the Central Executive Committee explained that, although a party member is editing the paper, the party has no control over the paper and consequently, the paper

could not be endorsed by the party as a left wing paper. Jack MacDonald, over whose signature the letter was written, stated, however, that the Central Executive Committee could not find any [8] fault with the policy of the paper and asked the meeting to discuss the whole matter with the end in view of whether or not the paper could be brought under the control of the party and if not, if some other left wing paper could be got out. MacDonald also stated that Bartholomew started to edit the paper without consulting the National office of the party and that no permission was given to him to proceed with the publication of the said paper.

"After the letter having been read, Ewen gave a more detailed account of as to how the paper was started blaming Bartholomew for going into partnership with Gerald Dealtry, whom he characterised as a reactionary trickster. He also accused Bartholomew of having broken the discipline of the party by not consulting the National Office. He said that Bartholomew came up from Winnipeg with the intention of going into partnership with Dealtry, and that they (Saskatoon Branch) only heard of the affair after the first issue, edited by Bartholomew, appeared.

"The explanation given by Ewen brought Bartholomew to his feet, who informed the meeting that the whole matter had been discussed between him and the District Executive Committee prior to his leaving Winnipeg. He stated further that while no official permission was given to him by the members of the D.E.C. in Winnipeg, it was understood that he was to go to Saskatoon and to edit the paper. He especially referred to M. Popowich, who greatly favoured the proposition, and who promised that he would take the matter up with the National Office upon his arrival in Toronto. Bartholomew also stated that he had written to the Central Executive immediately after his arrival in Saskatoon, informing them of his intention, and that he has a copy of that letter in his office.

"Following Bartholomew's remarks, Ewen spoke and disagreed with some of the statements which he made. Bartholomew replied to what Ewen had said, maintaining that his statements were correct.

"It was at this juncture when some of the outside members interfered, some wanting to have the meeting adjourned in order to give Bartholomew time to procure the copy of the letter, and some suggested that the meeting be proceeded with in view of the fact that a meet had been called in the Bijou Theatre, commencing at 10.30p.m. at which Bartholomew was to speak. Most of the farmer members stated that they had endorsed the Furrow, and that it would be bad policy to tell the people to whom they had sold subscriptions that they should not support the paper. It was also stated that the left wing conference of the farmer delegates to the conventions had

endorsed the Furrow as the official organ of the Farmers' Progressive Educational League, and that it would react in a very unfavourable way if these arrangements would be upset.

"After some discussion it was agreed that in view of the difficulty and in view of the wide publicity that had been given to The Furrow, the question before the members was 'how to bring the paper under party control.' [9]

"It must be stated that on one occasion Bartholomew made the statement that should the meeting decide that he should cease to edit the paper, he would do so because he wanted to live up to the discipline of the party.

"After some considerable discussion, Bartholomew was asked as to what his equity in the paper was. Bartholomew explained the status of the Furrow Publishers as follows:-

"The Furrow is owned by G. Dealtry and himself, each holding a technical equity of \$500; that the putting up of these sums was only on paper in order to get the legal documents fixed up; that in reality neither Dealtry nor he has any money invested; that the paper has been financed by Dealtry; that the office furniture and fixtures is all owed by Dealtry for which he charges rent; that the paper has no assets, and that the paper owed about \$60 to the printers.

"Bartholomew also explained that in order to keep the paper going it was necessary to sell space to advertise. Advertisements thus far have practically covered the printing costs.

"When asked if Dealtry would care to sell his share in the paper, Bartholomew thought the he would not, at least as long as there were any prospects of bringing the paper on a paying basis. Bartholomew was of the opinion, however, that should the paper experience financial difficulties, Dealtry would be only too willing to take in another partner, who would be in a position to put up the share in case, namely \$500. This, he said, would mean that there would be three shareholders then, each holding \$500 shares. If the Communist Party, through some party member, would put up the \$500, in such a manner so that it would not arouse the suspicion of Dealtry, the paper could easily get in control of the paper.

"It was agreed then, after some discussion, that the plan suggested by Bartholomew be adopted, namely, that Bartholomew continue to edit the paper and when the opportunity presents itself he shall notify the party, and the party will then through some party member purchase his share in question.

"It may be pointed out that a number of party members could be called upon to advance the necessary money if needed. Two of these whose names were mentioned are Marte and Fred Ganong of Sturgis.

"The time in which the paper is liable to find itself in financial difficulties was stated to be during the early part of October or perhaps sooner than that.

"It was also suggested that in the event of the paper acquiring that share it would be a comparatively easy matter to induce or force Dealtry to hand over his share thereby bringing the paper under complete control of the party.

"In the course of the discussion it was stated by Bartholomew that about 200 subscriptions were started up during the convention week, most of which were collected from Farmers' Union delegates." [10]

The incident vividly show the constant atmosphere of intrigue and treachery which envelopes the Communist movement. Dealtry, whom Bartholomew is plotting to betray, came to his assistance when he was in great need, having apparently hardly had enough to eat.

6. Women's Sections Formed in the Communist Party.

A report from Toronto, dated 7th August, says:-

"Women's Section have been formed in the Communist Party for some time amongst the English-speaking section, although it is not a separate organization, being purely for the purposes of extending Communist influence. No membership cards are required, but members must belong to the Communist Party.

"The chief work which is done by them is in the Women's Labour League and is purely socialist in character.

"Before the last convention, the Ukrainian Section of the Communist Party did not admit women at all into their section, but now they are admitted and have organized a women's section.

"Nowhere as far as I know have they adopted any other name except 'Women's Section of the Communist Party.'

"Mrs. F. Custance is their representative on the Central Executive Committee and is in charge of the work, but is not a paid official."

7. Trying to Perform Revolutionary Plays in Halifax.

The Communist Group in Halifax is trying to set up a revolutionary drama, Hugh Pynn, the Communist, who at present is chairman of the Trades and Labour Council, having proposed that that body co-operate in this enterprise. Our report of the meeting held on 27th July, says:-

"Before closing the meeting, Pynn proposed that they should present a revolutionary stage play which would express the working class ideology; he strongly recommended for this purpose two particular plays; one 'Singing Jailbirds' by a Socialist writer named Upton Sinclair, and the other 'The Strike'. He said that the latter would be the more suitable of the two for staging, and would give a real impression of the workers' struggle. Pynn suggested that if

this play could only be staged successfully, that they might organize and establish a permanent workers' theatre in Halifax, which would specialize in revolutionary drama, and thus spread Communist ideas and make them more attractive to the workers." [11]

The Trades and Labour Council, however, rejected the idea, and it is unlikely that the scheme will prove effective.

This is another example of the clever and persistent way in which the Communists try to get other people to do their work for them.

It was decided at a meeting of the Edmonton Branch of the Ukrainian Labour Farmer Temple held on 4th August to set on foot a collection to aid the striking coalminers. In connection with this J. Stukoluk, the Vice President of District 18 of the Miners' Federation, addressed the meeting, his speech including a statement that in the week just passed he had "stopped 33 scabs from going to work."

The Edmonton Branch of the Ukrainian Labour Farmer Temple Association gave a picnic on 2nd August, for the benefit of the striking miners at Beverly. The crowd was small, only about 75 in number; there was much talk in resentment of the recent policy on the decision that the miners had no right to picket.

13. The Ukrainians

The Ukrainian Labour Farmer Temple Association Mandolin Orchestra in its performance at Fernie, on 29th July, did not disclose its full character. According to a Polish citizen who attended, the programme, both vocal and instrumental was of a fairly high order, with nothing of a revolutionary nature; the songs were nearly all old Ukrainian folk songs, some being rendered in Ukrainian and others in English. "O Canada" was rendered at the beginning of the evening, but the National Anthem was omitted at the end.

The Ukrainian Communists in Edmonton still are worried over the difficulty they experience in getting their members naturalized. Orders from headquarters for revolutionary aliens to become naturalized are imperative, and the fact that the police from time to time show that they are aware that a given applicant is identified with revolutionary [12] agitation has caused alarmed resentment. At the meeting of the Edmonton branch of the Ukrainian Labour Farmer Temple Association on 4th August, a measure of organization was set on foot, a member of the party being appointed to help revolutionary aliens who wish to be naturalized by making out papers, etc.

8. The Ukrainians

An incident at a business meeting of the Edmonton Branch of the Ukrainian Labour Farmer Temple Association held on 4th August il-

illustrates the strength of the grip which this organization is getting on its members, and the authoritative attitude it is assuming. Our report says:-

"The question of the children's schools was taken up, and it was decided that every member of the Association was to be taxed 75 cents a month to help keep the school going. Those parents who have children at the school and are not members of the association, must pay \$1 a month.

"It was decided that more shows and concerts are to be given to help provide funds for lectures and schools."

The head office of the Ukrainian Labour Farmer Temple Association at Winnipeg has issued the following appeal:-

"We are asking all sections of the Ukrainian Labour Temple to stay by the Building Committee at Winnipeg; we have started to build the new school room and press room, which will cost \$36,000; we have collected \$10,000, we must have \$26,000 more to complete the job; you have that money, let us have it and save the interest from going to the capitalist class. Every section in Canada should donate a sum of money by giving concerts, etc."

A report of the School Committee of the Edmonton branch of the Ukrainian Labour Farmer Temple Association submitted on 4th August states that 133 children were attending school three times a week and that 33 "members", i.e. adults, were attending a course school half an hour each time. Our report adds that a propaganda lecture is given to the members and children by J. Symbay, the school teacher.[13] The Regina School during July had an attendance of 44 pupils, senior and junior.

The Moose Jaw school had an attendance of 35 during July; it being the holidays for the public schools, classes were held nearly every afternoon.

9. A Sample of Mischief-Making by Moriarty.

William Moriarty addressed an open-air meeting at South Porcupine on 31st July, under the auspices of the Mine Workers' Union of Canada. He criticised local labour conditions, our report saying:-

Moriarty predicted a scarcity of miners by the fall on account of those whom are declared to be in a tuberculose stage here; either to quit or come up to the surface. Every man has to pass an examination by the Government doctor, and if he is declared to be in the first stage of consumption, second or third, he has to come out of the mine. Next fall would be the time for the men to ask for better conditions and a raise of wages if the workers were properly organized."

10. Trouble with the O.B.U. in Cape Breton

The Officer Commanding the Royal Canadian Mounted Police in the Maritime Provinces in his confidential monthly report for July, makes the

following remarks regarding conditions in Cape Breton:-

"At the end of the month, considerable local unrest is occurring in various mines where O.B.U. men have been employed by the operators. The U.M.W. called a strike and the mine stopped working but work continued two days when the O.B.U. men joined the U.M.W.

"Two collieries at Sydney Mines are out for the same reason and the president of the M.W.U. is making every effort openly to drive out the O.B.U.

"The British Empire Steel Corporation refuses to take any part in the matter and leave the responsibility to the U.M.W. It is anticipated that the U.M.W. will win out and make the mines a 'closed shop.'"

He adds that the O.B.U. are getting their forces together in Cape Breton.

The series of local strikes in Cape Breton, according to a correspondent, have issued in a victory for the United Mine Workers of America; all the working miners have been formed into that body.[14]

It may be worth while noting in this connection that the Citizen, the Halifax labour paper of somewhat extreme views, which has been assailing the Communists, has now opened fire upon the O.B.U.
