

## ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE HEADQUARTERS

Ottawa, 20th June, 1934.

SECRET

No. 711

WEEKLY SUMMARYREPORT ON REVOLUTIONARY ORGANIZATIONSAND AGITATORS IN CANADAReport

All the employees of the Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting Company are out on strike. Harvey Murphy, the organizer for the Mine Workers' Union of Canada, is expected to be at Flin Flon by now. The relief situation in Alberta is by no means settled. There is a spirit of unrest among the unemployed. There is little prospect of the strike at Noranda, affecting 300 employees, being settled just yet. A press despatch reports the arrest of 25 pickets for assaulting miners going to work on 17th June.

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[deletion: blank] for the company declines to  
grant them

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1,200 workers are affected

The W.U.L. &amp; the M.W.U.C.

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25 strikers reported under arrest

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APPENDIX NO. I: GENERAL1. The Strike at Flin Flon

[§<deletion: blank] On 8th June [§<deletion: blank] representing the Mine Workers' Union of Canada, called on [§<deletion: blank] of the Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting Company at Flin Flon and presented the following demands:-

- (1) Recognition of the newly formed Mine Workers' Union of Canada.
- (2) No discrimination against members either by the company or by any other agency.
- (3) No discrimination against employed or unemployed mine workers having labor affiliations.
- (4) Reinstatement of men discharged during the past few days.
- (5) Pay cheque deductions of eighteen per cent for single employees, the fifteen per cent deductions for married employees, and the one per cent for each child clause, to cease at once.
- (6) That the number of these employed be not decreased by lay-offs.
- (7) That nothing be tampered with after an accident until investigation by the department of the Mine Workers' Union of Canada.
- (8) That pay-day be twice a month instead of once a month.
- (9) That not more than seven to nine days' pay be kept back each pay-day.
- (10) That the eight-hour day go in force with time and one-half for over-time, up to 16 hours, and double time after that.

The delegation under [§<deletion: blank] presented nothing to show that they were authorized to represent the employees of the mining company. The manager replied that the Mine Workers' Union would not be recognized and the demands presented by [§<deletion: blank] would not be met.

The next day 1,200 employees came out on strike. This strike is being conducted by the Mine Workers' Union of Canada, which is affiliated with the Workers' Unity League.

A report from Winnipeg says that [§<deletion: blank] who was active in the revolutionary movement in Winnipeg in the

[5]

summer and fall of 1931, has returned there to take charge of the activities of the Workers' Unity League. [§<deletion: blank] was required as a material witness in the case of [§<deletion: blank] against [§<deletion: blank] and the Ukrainian Labour Farmer Temple Association. Before the

summons could be served [deletion: blank] left Winnipeg for Eastern Canada. It is reported that he took an active part in the strike among the woollen workers at Hespeler recently. He is considered to be a man of considerable influence and knows the prominent revolutionaries in Winnipeg.

A report from Saskatoon says that Harvey Murphy, who is the national organizer of the Mine Workers' Union of Canada, accompanied by a man named [deletion: blank] left Saskatoon for Flin Flon on 13th June. So far there has been no disorder and apparently no prospect of a settlement.

In Communist circles in Winnipeg it is said that it is really a minority of the miners who have forced this strike on the pretext of asking for an increase in pay. The Communists hoped to extend this strike in other mines as well. The strike is really being conducted by the Workers' Unity League through its subsidiary the Mine Workers' Union of Canada.

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[#] There is an editorial in The Worker dated 16th June headed "Hold Firm Metal Miners!" The beginning of the article is devoted to abuse to the Governments of Ontario and Manitoba for sending police reinforcements to Noranda and Flin Flon to what the worker puts it "to protect the profits for the Capitalists". The article continues:-

"Given certain conditions, victory is certain for the men of Flin Flon and Noranda. Firstly, every effort must be made to extend the strike to other metal mining towns, Sudbury, Timmins, Kirkland Lake. Secondly, the strike committees must be as broad as possible. Most of the striking miners are in a union or in a strike for the first time. They must be brought into the daily work of the strike, made to feel that its leadership and all the decisions made are part and

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parcel of themselves. Thirdly, the mass picket line must be kept up in spite of all to maintain the morale of the strike and to defeat strikebreaking.

"Lastly, help must be sent in from the outside. It must be remembered that these two towns, and particularly Flin Flon, are on the outskirts of civilization, that all the means of transporting food are monopolized by the Capitalists, that the strikers are isolated.

"It is of paramount importance that help be sent in, in the form of money, and that the call of the Workers' International Relief does not fall upon deaf ears!

"Given these conditions, and militant tactics based upon struggle, unheeding the blandishments of the anxious mine bosses, the metal miners can not only win their demands, but will set into motion a series of strike actions which will embrace the nickel miners, the miners of British Columbia, slaves of the giant Consolidated Mining and Smelting Company, and a host of sweated laborers.

"Workers in the trade unions! Labor organizations of all kinds! Translate your sympathy for the gold miners of the North country into practical help by sending cash to carry on the fight!

"Metal miners of Sudbury, Kirkland Lake, Timmins! Stand with the Noranda and Flin Flon men on the picket line! Strike in sympathy with your fellow-workers!

"Noranda and Flin Flon men! Stand firm!"

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## 2. The Strike at Noranda

On 12th June about 300 miners went on strike at the Noranda mines in Quebec. There was no disorder and it was reported in the press on 16th June that the strike was all over. A press despatch from Noranda dated 17th June says that stones were hurled at employees who were going to work on 17th instant and 25 strikers were arrested. Strike sympathizers on picket duty gathered in large groups and are said to have been responsible for the stone throwing episode. No immediate settlement of the dispute is likely.

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[7]

## 3. A Communist Funeral

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Joseph Polka was accidentally killed by a Canadian Pacific Railway freight train on 27th May near Indian Head, Sask., whilst en route to Winnipeg. He was the general secretary of the Polish Labour Farmer Temple Association and was largely responsible for the organization of Glos Pracy, its official organ. The National Executive Committee of the association had the body exhumed and forwarded to Winnipeg where a Bolshevik funeral was held on the afternoon of 9th June. A crowd of at least 2,000 filling the inter- section of Pritchard avenue and Prince street attended the funeral. The entire funeral ceremony was performed outside in front of the Polish Labour Temple. The casket was not opened and only

a portrait of the dead man was displayed on top. Sixty-three automobiles took part in the procession to the Brookside cemetery making it a very impressive occasion which was utilized to the fullest extent for propaganda purposes. Thirty Young Pioneers boys and girls dressed in white blouses and red scarves with two red banners bearing the hammer and sickle and numerous wreaths of roses formed the most conspicuous part of the funeral. The ceremonial program consisted of funeral marches played by the Ukrainian Labour Farmer Temple Association band, reading of telegrams and letters expressing deep condolences and regrets from distant organizations, and addresses delivered by delegates representing local organizations. These included Alderman Jacob Penner, from the Communist Party of Canada; Davie, from Transcona; Markowsky, from the Russian Workers' Club; T. Kobzey, representing all Ukrainian organizations; Oscar Morgan, from the Young Communist League; C. Hitchins, representing the Anti-Fascist League; Mabel Marlowe, from the Canadian Labour Defence League; and W. Dutkiewich, from the Polish Labour Temple. The addresses were of propaganda text expressing deep sorrow, and urging the workers to join and

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fill in a thousand fold the vacancy left by the comrade whom cruel fate had torn out of the ranks of the revolutionary movement. Comrade Polka, they said, died as a true soldier at his post. Dutkiewich, the last speaker, traced the biography of the dead man, and generally eulogized the deceased's accomplishments in the revolutionary movement.

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## APPENDIX NO. II: REPORTS BY PROVINCES

### I. BRITISH COLUMBIA

#### 4. William Bennett Addresses C.L.D.L.

William Bennett addressed a meeting held under the auspices of the Canadian Labour Defence League in the Market Square, Victoria, B.C., on 7th June. Leonard Norman Toning acted as chairman and the attendance numbered approximately 50 people.

The primary object of the meeting was to solicit support for W. B. White and P. D. Wilson who had been charged in the Saanich Police Court with "obstructing police officers".

William Bennett urged the audience to join the Canadian Labour Defence league and stand united for the rights of the working class. He also

protested bitterly against evictions of unemployed families which, he contended, were made possible under Capitalism. A great deal of his time was devoted to conditions in Germany. He maintained that the police of Germany are being slowly permeated with Communism to the extent that the Capitalists could no longer be sure of loyalty from the militia and police.

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The strike among the miners at Michel and Natal, B.C., has been settled for the time being.

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## II. ALBERTA

### 5. The Relief Situation in Alberta

The relief situation in Alberta has not been settled yet. The Provincial Government appointed an Advisory Board to set a rate for relief which shall apply all over the province. This board recommended that the amount to be allowed for food for two adults for a two-week period be set at \$6.05, with a proportionate increase where there are dependents.

[10]

The chief trouble is that the relief rate paid in Calgary is now \$9.00 where the Advisory Board recommends \$6.00 be paid. In Edmonton the rate paid for food for two persons for two weeks was \$6.00, but this was increased just recently to \$7.50.

The Advisory Board based their allowances on the Sherman Standard which sets the amount of calory values required to keep a normal person in good health.

Relief is paid in equal proportions, one-third each by the Dominion, Provincial and Civic authorities. It seems reasonably certain that the Dominion and the Province will base their contributions on the recommendations made by the Advisory Board. Any amount paid in excess of the rate set by this board will have to be paid by the cities themselves. It is also fairly certain that the city of Calgary cannot continue the present scale of relief payments much longer.

All those on relief know the rates paid in Calgary and fix their demands accordingly.

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[3<#] The Communist Party leaders in Edmonton are now concentrating their efforts with a view to calling a Province-wide relief strike. To this end they



are intensifying their activities in the organization of the unemployed relief recipients.

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[§<#] The relief strike situation in the Drumheller Valley is becoming more acute with the Communist element dominating the activities of the strikers. At a meeting held in Drumheller on 7th June resolutions were passed calling for a 24-hours' Provincial-wide strike in sympathy with Drumheller; also to call a mass meeting and parade coinciding with the date of this sympathetic strike.

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[11]

The unemployed of Lethbridge went on strike on Monday, 11th June. On 6th June they served a strike ultimatum on the City Council demanding [§<#] the Calgary scale of relief plus twenty-five per cent additional. The City Council turned down the proposal. Alderman Smeaton, M.L.A., labour Alderman being the only Councillor in favour of granting the increase. Mayor Barrowman replied that acquiescence to the demand would probably lead to a strike of the tax payers who are already carrying an unbearable burden.

At a meeting held on 8th June by the Unemployed Married Men's Association the speakers all warned the audience if a strike was called there was to be no violence. There was some talk about obstructionist tactics only.

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[§<#] The Local Delegate Council of the Edmonton branch of the Canadian Labour Defence League held a meeting on 7th June. [§<deletion: blank] acted as chairman, and the meeting, in addition to the local delegates, was also attended by [§<deletion: blank], secretary of the District Central Council at Calgary, and [§<deletion: blank] of Calgary, who is prominently connected with the Unemployed Single Men's Association and the relief camp workers in Calgary. [§<deletion: blank] announced that [§<deletion: blank] had been elected as members of the District Central Council of the league at its last annual conference held in Calgary on 27th and 28th May. At this meeting it was decided to reorganize all local branches of the league and to call a regular meeting of the Delegate Council once a month.

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[X#] The Unemployed Married Men's Association of Edmonton held a regular weekly meeting at the Albion hall, on 9th June, there being approximately 150 members present. O. C. Doolan, who acted as chairman, announced that the Unemployed Central branch of the Youth section has been organized with an initial membership of 50, and that J. Feeley and B. Eizen-

[12]

braune, the leaders of the Youth section, will become members of the Executive Committee of the Unemployed Married Men's Association.

R. C. Mason, representing the Calder branch; W. Doskoch of North Edmonton; J. H. Macpherson, representing the South side; and Mrs. Thibault, representing the Women's Auxiliary, gave reports regarding the activities in their respective areas.

O. C. Doolan, W. Jamieson and J. Matheson were elected as delegates to the next City Council meeting to demand that the charges against the arrested strikers in Edmonton be withdrawn.

The meeting also decided to forward a telegram to the Calgary Provincial Unemployed Council urging a Province-wide strike.

J. Cochrane and A. Davis, leaders of the Loyal Citizens of Edmonton Association, and who severed their connection with the Unemployed Married Men's Association some time ago, have been reinstated as members of the latter association.

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[X#]

Dissent within the ranks of the Communist organizations in Calgary continues. [Xdeletion: 1/2 line] prominent leaders of the main branch of the Canadian Labour Defence League, have been transferred to Edmonton. The recent vote taken among the unemployed relief workers showed that the majority were in favour of a strike and that they were willing to follow the leadership of the radicals.

[Xdeletion: blank] is leaving Calgary in the near future and will spend some time at Sylvan Lake and other small towns in the interests of the radical movement.

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[13]

[X#] A meeting of the unemployed was held at the Trianon hall, Lethbridge, Alta., on 6th June, with approximately 100 persons in attendance. William H. Sliegtholm presided, and the speakers were George Anderson, Annie

Armour, Donald Guise, J. Richardson and Steve Corey. They all criticized the relief system in the city and attacked the Mayor and Mr. Smeaton, M.L.A., for the way they had treated the delegations from the unemployed.

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### III. SASKATCHEWAN

#### 6. The Farmers' Unity League

[deletion: 1/2 line] has been assisting [deletion: blank] in the Rabbit Lake, Spiritwood and Meeting Lake (Sask.) districts agitating on behalf of the Farmers' Unity League. These two agitators held numerous meetings throughout these districts during the past two months and have been the cause of considerable unrest especially among the Hungarian settlers.

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### IV. MANITOBA

#### 7. The C.L.D.L. in Winnipeg

A mass protest meeting sponsored by the Canadian Labour Defence League of Winnipeg in the Market Square on 15th June was attended by approximately 300 people. The speakers were Oscar Morgan, Saul Simkin and Mabel Marlowe. Oscar Morgan dwelt on the arrest and conviction of the eight Communist Party leaders maintaining that they were prosecuted in order to smash the Communist Party of Canada. He also referred to the strike at Flin Flon and remarked that the youth will now learn the valuable lesson in the class struggle, a lesson that the bourgeoisie school could never teach.

S. Simkin dealt with the rise of Fascism in Canada

[14]

which, he contended, should be stamped out in its primary stage. He also spoke of the conditions in Germany making special reference to Thaelmann, German Communist Party leader who is facing trial on a charge of "high treason". He also referred to the recent fracas on the Market Square between the Communists and Fascists denouncing the authorities for permitting what he termed "Fascist hooliganism".

Mabel Marlowe, in her speech, dealt with the Flin Flon strike situation. She condemned the Municipal Council for refusing to deal with the workers and for their attitude towards the Mine Workers' Union in general. She also condemned the Provincial authorities for sending a police detachment to Flin Flon. She also made reference to the Communist leaders at Kingston, urging the workers to rally for their support. A resolution demanding the

release of the Kingston prisoners and the repeal of Section 98 was read and unanimously adopted.

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- [✂#] A meeting of the Brandon, Man., unemployed sponsored by the Canadian Labour Defence League held in the City Council Chambers on 8th June voted in favour of a strike.

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## V. ONTARIO

### 8. F.S.U. Planning a Visit to Russia

The National Executive Committee of the Friends of the Soviet Union has decided to organize a delegation to visit the Soviet Union for 7th November of this year. In the process of organizing this delegation it is expected to build up the Friends of the Soviet Union in Canada. Conferences are to be held throughout the country at which branches of the organization are to be organized and at which nomination

[15]

of members of the delegation are to take place. William Sidney, national secretary of the Friends of the Soviet Union, will tour the country in the near future as part of this campaign.

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- [✂#] The Progressive Arts Club at Toronto are now rehearsing a new play entitled "The Bearded King of England" with the intention of staging it in the near future. The play includes a modified version of an obscene song known as "The Bastard King of England".

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- [✂#] A conference of the Hunger March Committee was held at the Labour Temple, 167 Church street, Toronto, on the afternoon of 9th June. There were 32 delegates present representing 16 organizations. The conference failed in its objective which was to enlarge the conference held on 19th May and which was attended by about 52 delegates. The small representation at this last conference would indicate that less interest is being manifest in the "hunger march" proposition.

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- [✂#] A well attended picnic was held by the Finnish Organization of Toronto on 10th June. The arrangements were in the hands of an International

Committee and the affair was staged for the purpose of raising funds for the Communist election campaign in Ontario.

Charles Sims, national secretary of the Workers' Unity League, and Bill Kashton were the principal speakers, both of whom emphasized the necessity of building and strengthening the Communist Party at the present time.

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[16]

[§<#] A conference of delegates representing the various sports associations in the Central Ontario district met in Sudbury on 10th June. It was reported that several branches had been formed and that the association in general has become more active throughout the district. Considerable time was devoted to a discussion of the Provincial elections and the delegates were urged to render the Cummunists candidates all the support possible. The conference also elected a representative to the Anti-War and Anti-Fascist Sport Rally which will be held in Paris, France, this summer.

A resolution was also passed protesting against the imprisonment of the German Communist Party leader, Ernst Thaelmann, and all class war prisoners in Germany, demanding their release. A resolution demanding the repeal of Section 98 of the Criminal Code and the release of all workers convicted under Section 98 and who are now serving time. A resolution was also passed expressing greetings to the Farmers' Unity League Conference which will be held in Regina during the early part of July.

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[§<#] At an executive meeting of the Canadian Labour Defence League at Ottawa, held on 9th June, [§<deletion: blank] reported that Canadian Labour Defence League branch No. 2 of the Local Delegate Council, advisory body of the Canadian Labour Defence League, do not function any more. The committee decided to concentrate on the campaign for the repeal of Section 98 between now and 15th June.

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[§<#] The Organizational Committee of the Ukrainian mass organizations at Ottawa at its meeting held on 9th June agreed to form and conduct classes during the summer months. It was stated that 17 men and women are willing to attend the classes. [§<deletion: 2/3 line] were elected to constitute the Educational Committee.

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[17]

[X#] [Xdeletion: 13 lines]

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[X#] [Xdeletion: 6 lines]

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[X#] The Communist organizations in Windsor have been devoting their entire attention to the election campaign. Numerous meetings have been held.

A campaign meeting held in the Lanspeary park on Saturday, 9th June, was attended by approximately 2,000 people. The speakers were Georgina Ketcheson, Mary Pollock, Tom Raycraft, William Sharman, Fred Collins and A. E. Smith.

[Xdeletion: 4 lines]

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[18]

[Xdeletion: 1/2 page]

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[X#] The Worker for 16th June, in its "Towards a Daily" column, gives the following table showing the present standing of the campaign by provinces:-

Districts	Amt. rec'd in new sub- scriptions	Amt. rec'd in donations	Total	Tot. Quota (sub's. & donations)	Percentage reached
	%	%	%	%	%
North Ontario	138.25	627.84	766.09	1,000.00	76
South "	136.90	964.19	1,101.09	1,825.00	60
Central "	20.42	193.76	214.18	375.00	56
Alberta	93.40	433.15	526.55	980.00	53
Quebec	44.75	210.02	254.77	500.00	51
British Columbia	1,125.00	385.51	510.51	1,140.00	44
Western Ontario	70.75	121.79	192.54	480.00	40
Manitoba	25.00	294.27	319.27	925.00	34
Saskatchewan	29.25	38.35	67.60	625.00	10

Maritimes	5.00	5.00	10.00	150.00	6
TOTALS	688.72	3,273.88	3,961.60	8,000.00	49

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[X#] The final results of the subscription campaign conducted on behalf of Vapaus was given in its issue of 9th June. A total of 1,799 subscriptions have been obtained, this being 699 subscriptions in excess of the objective.

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[19]

## VI. QUEBEC

### 9. [Xdeletion: blank] in Montreal

[X#] [Xdeletion: blank] in a recent discussion at Montreal, stated that the Furniture Workers' Union in Montreal is growing and within another month he hopes to have 500 furniture workers in the Workers' Unity League. He is already planning a general strike in the Montreal furniture trades to take place some time in August next. [Xdeletion: blank] also stated that the Industrial Union of Needle Trades Workers at Montreal is commencing an organizational drive with the object of gaining 1,500 new members. Also that a general strike in the needle trades is planned for the end of July or beginning of August. [Xdeletion: blank] also made the assertion that during the past year more than 4,500 new members joined the Workers' Unity League but that few of these are paying dues and as a result the Workers' Unity League is facing a financial crisis.

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[X#] [Xdeletion: 7 1/3 lines]

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[X#] The Montreal North relief strike which took place last March cost the local Canadian Labour Defence League \$97.50 for registration of bail bonds. Eleven of the arrested strikers appeared in court on 12th June, and much to the disgust of the Communist Party and Canadian Labour Defence League leaders, 10 of them pleaded 'guilty' and were given suspended sentences. The only one to plead 'not guilty' was [Xdeletion: blank]

[20]

[&deletion: blank] His case is still before the courts. This man also faces another charge together with [&deletion: 1/2 line] of resisting police officers.

The case of Saul Feigelman (Hidden Book Store), who is charged under Section 98, has been postponed once more and set over until 10th September next.

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## VII. THE MARITIME PROVINCES

### [&#] 10. Another New Publication

Leaflets announcing the appearance of the Amalgamated Steel Worker are to be distributed shortly by the Amalgamated Steel Workers' Union of Nova Scotia. The first issue of the paper is to be ready for distribution during the latter part of June, 1934. The paper will be printed in Glace Bay, and its editor will be M. A. McKenzie of Sydney, N.S. The Press Committee, consisting of Forman Waye, Dan McKay, Harry Martinello, John Johnston, Palmer Robson, George McEachern, Steve Fulet, D. J. Steele and Joe Hawrylak, are now devising ways and means of popularizing the paper.

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[&#] The Canadian Labour Defence League at Halifax held a business meeting on 10th June. The chairman, [&deletion: blank] announced that [&deletion: blank] and another comrade had to forfeit the sum of \$223 to the City Police Court. This money was put up in the form of a bond to secure the release of A. E. Smith following his arrest during his last visit to Halifax. It was decided to hold a number of entertainments and a Tag Day in order to raise the money which [&deletion: blank] and the other comrade extended.

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