

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE HEADQUARTERS

Ottawa, 11th July, 1934.

SECRET

NO. 714

WEEKLY SUMMARYREPORT ON REVOLUTIONARY ORGANIZATIONSAND AGITATORS IN CANADAReport

Seven hundred and fifty miners resumed work at the Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting Company's plant at Flin Flon on 9th July. No trouble has been experienced so far.

The Canadian Labour Defence League is claiming the credit for the release of Sam Carr and Matthew Popowich. This league proposes to publish a pamphlet accusing the Prime Minister and the Minister of Justice with attempting to murder Tim Buck.

Some prominent revolutionaries are gathering in Toronto. These include Jim McLachlan and [deletion: blank] from Nova Scotia, [deletion: blank] and J[deletion: blank] from Alberta; others are expected shortly.

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APPENDIX NO. I: GENERAL

I. M. Popowich & S. Carr Are Released

[deletion: #] Matthew Popowich and Sam Carr were released from Kingston Penitentiary on ticket-of-leave on 3rd June. Popowich proceeded to Montreal and it is reported that he joined his wife there and that he refused to see anyone for the time being on account of ill health.

Sam Carr went to Toronto and was given a rousing reception by a crowd numbering approximately 1,000. Upon his arrival at the depot the crowd, bearing several banners and slogans, began shouting and cheering and those who could get close to him shook his hand, embraced him and in other ways showed their delight at seeing him again. When the excitement had somewhat died down the Reception Committee placed Carr in the rear of a touring car and followed by the throng started in mass formation towards Queens Park where the city authorities had granted permission for a meeting to be held. The procession had proceeded part way to the park when it became entangled with a Toronto Fire Department Centennial Parade and in the fracas that followed many blows were struck and three of the demonstrators were arrested. The paraders then scattered and reached the park in whatever manner they could.

The meeting at the park was of short duration and the speakers, including A. E. Smith, Sam Scarlett, Harvey Murphy, J.B. McLaughlin, Glace Bay, N.S., James Southgate, Hamilton, Ont., and Mrs. E. Morgan, Toronto, Ont., occupied the platform for only a very brief time. They all dwelt mostly on the task of obtaining the release of the remaining Communists in Kingston Penitentiary. Sam Carr also spoke for a few minutes. He was extremely nervous and very few could hear what he was saying. The meeting adjourned without causing any disturbance.

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The three men arrested in the fracas with the Toronto Fire Department Parade were G. W. Harris, John Dydovich and George Gelinski all of Toronto. They appeared before Magistrate E. Coatsworth on the morning of 4th July charged with "vagrancy" and were all remanded until the 6th instant. Bail was set at \$200 each, which was supplied by the Canadian Labour Defence League.

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2. Mine Workers' Conference

A National Conference of mine workers was held in Montreal on Sunday, 1st July. [deletion: 4 lines]

Among the items discussed was the uniting of all miners in Canada into one union to be called the "Amalgamated Mine Workers' Union of Canada". It is hoped that the union will be strong enough to carry out a successful general miners' strike throughout Canada within a year. The present membership of the Mine Workers' Union of Canada was given as 11,000.

The situation in the mining district of Nova Scotia was discussed. It is said that preparations are being made by the Mine Workers' Union of Canada for a strike to take place about 8th July in Sydney, N.S.

A strong resolution was drafted condemning the Communist Party leadership in the recent so-called strike at Noranda for employing too peaceful tactics and allowing the strikers to be intimidated so easily by the Provincial Police. The conference expressed the belief that if a stout opposition had been put up against the police and the scabs had been attacked persistently the strike would have been won instead of being lost.

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The conference further agreed that Montreal is a strategic place in view of the fact that most of the ore mined in Northern Quebec is refined in Montreal. It was decided, therefore, to concentrate more on Montreal and a few contacts have already been made in the refinery in Montreal East.

3. The D.E.C. of the C.L.D.L. in Toronto Meets

[deletion: #] The Toronto Local Delegate Executive Council of the Canadian Labour Defence League met at the headquarters of Ward 2, Unemployed Association, on the night of 4th July with 122 delegates from nine branches in attendance. [deletion: blank] acted as Chairman and [deletion: blank] as Secretary. The chairman, in his opening remarks, deplored the small attendance and said that unless the delegates attend the meetings the branch that they represent would not be able to function properly. He also remarked that the Canadian Labour Defence League is very glad to inform the working class that they succeeded in getting Sam Carr and Matthew Popowich out of the "hell hole" they had been in at Kingston Penitentiary. This he attributed to mass pressure put on by the workers of Canada.

It was announced that on 12th August a convention of the Ontario District of the Canadian Labour Defence League will take place in the Don Hall, Toronto, with delegates from all over the province in attendance.

It was also announced that on the day previous the National Secretariat had held a meeting at which it was decided to call on all organizations with a view to obtaining volunteers to picket the offices of the North German Lloyd Steamship Lines for one week steady in protest against the imprisonment of Ernst Thaelmann, the leader of the Communist Party of Germany, the picketing to commence during the last week of July.

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It was also reported that the National Secretariat has decided to issue a four-leaf pamphlet in which they will accuse the Right Honourable Premier Bennett and his Government as well as the Honourable Mr. Guthrie with the attempted murder of Tim Buck.

Arrangements are being made to hold a provincial picnic of all unemployed on 14th and 15th August in the City of Toronto.

4. The C.L.D.L. in Winnipeg

[☞#]

The District Central Council of the Canadian Labour Defence League in Winnipeg held a rather lengthy session on 30th June with representatives of the various branches in attendance. The discussion was quite heated at times drawing into it the nationalistic prejudices and bitter feeling of long standing which has become rather pronounced lately among the various language sections. The discussion proved that not all is well in the leadership of the revolutionary movement in this district. It clearly indicated that the Ukrainians aspire to be "top dog", that the Jews and Russians were united against the Ukrainians, in fact are accusing them of being anything but international, and that the Germans and Hungarians appear to be enjoying the conflict. The Anglo-Saxon element remain quiet feeling that they were above being drawn into the debate with the other representatives.

Among the correspondence before the council was a very brief note from [☞deletion: blank] sent from Flin Flon which merely stated that 500 membership cards were required and that everything looked promising at Flin Flon. The brief communication caused a little ill-feeling towards her as the District Office anticipated to hear more of what was going on at Flin Flon.

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The council also considered a telegram received from A. E. Smith, the National Secretary, stating that two comrades were released from Kingston Penitentiary on ticket-of-leave and requested to send telegrams of congratulations to the Toronto Office in time to be read at the welcome demonstration arranged for at that place. The telegram also requested to arrange a demonstration to celebrate their release and to demand the release of the others in Kingston.

Another letter received from the National Office urged the Winnipeg council to maintain the "Thaelmann pressure". In this connection it was reported that the picketing of the German Consulate in Winnipeg was a failure. It was complained that those responsible for the supplying of the pickets failed in their duty.

One of the main features of this session was the resignation tendered by [deletion: 1/2 line] as Treasurer of the district. His resignation was accepted without voicing any particular regrets. Joe Forkin, who has been drawn into the Canadian Labour Defence League, and who has been appointed Director of Education, is to replace [deletion: blank]

5. Trevor Maguire Speaks in Vancouver

[deletion: #]

Trevor Maguire was the principal speaker at a meeting of the Workers' Ex-Service Men's League, Vancouver, B.C., held at 1273 Granville Street, on 24th June. The chair was occupied by [deletion: blank] and the attendance numbered approximately 70 persons.

Maguire chose as his subject "Work and Wages" which, he claimed, was the slogan of the Liberal Party in the last British Columbia Provincial election. Maguire maintained that the Liberal Party has again fooled the people,

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that Mr. Pattullo, the Premier, in a recent speech at the Vancouver Hotel, had admitted that he could not give wages, therefore, all that the workers could look for from the present Provincial Government was the proposition of working out their present relief. He appealed to all present to put up a real fight against the Liberal Government policy. "What we have to fight against is hunger, Fascism and war and these are all linked up together", he asserted. He also made brief reference to the Fascist menace in Germany and Italy. He concluded his lecture with an appeal for a big demonstration on 4th August.

A man named [deletion: blank] in the course of a short talk, asserted that there was too much fancy talking and no action in the revolutionary movement at the present time. He appealed to the Workers' Ex-Service Men's League to be a militant organization, and severely criticized the Canadian Legion characterizing it as an outfit that has never functioned in the interests of the ex-service men. He also ridiculed the recent Legion Convention in Portland, Oregon, and concluded by appealing to all ex-soldiers to demonstrate on 4th August against war.

[deletion: blank] introduced three resolutions protesting (a) against all relief cuts, (b) against all war preparations, and (c) against all pension cuts. The resolutions were carried unanimously.

A man named [deletion: blank] who stated that he was an ex-service man from Victoria, said that all ex-service men should be entitled to a pension. He also claimed that during the recent loggers' strike the permanent militia at Work Point Barracks was already with machine guns to shoot down the strikers had the government given the signal to do so.

[10]

6. F.S.U. Planning a Trip to Russia

[deletion: #] The National Committee of the Friends of the Soviet Union have recently announced their intention to organize a workers' delegation to visit the U.S.S.R. this coming fall. With this object in view W. Sidney, the National Secretary of the organization, is to tour Western Canada to organize a campaign for the selection of the delegates. His itinerary has been announced as follows:-

Winnipeg	—	30th June, 1st & 2nd July
Brandon	—	3rd July
Regina	—	4th July
Moose Jaw	—	5th July
Calgary	—	8th & 9th July
Vancouver	—	11th to 23rd July
Calgary	—	24th & 25th July
Edmonton	—	26th & 27th July
Winnipeg	—	28th & 29th July
Port Arthur	—	30th, 31st July & 1st August

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APPENDIX NO. II: REPORTS BY PROVINCES

I. BRITISH COLUMBIA

7. Longshore & Waterfront Transportation Workers
of Canada

[§&#] A new organization to be known as the "Longshore and Waterfront Transportation Workers of Canada" was formed at a convention of delegates from British Columbia and the State of Washington held at Vancouver, B.C., on 23rd June. There were 34 delegates present, two of them were from Seattle, Wash., [§&deletion: blank] was Chairman of the convention with [§&deletion: 2/3 line] prominent Communist Party members, taking an active and leading part in the proceedings.

The convention passed a resolution protesting to the United States Department of Labor at Washington against the use of armed forces or undue violence in dealing with striking Pacific Coast longshoremen.

The object of this new organization is to bring within its fold all seamen's organizations and to support the strikers in the United States in their demands.

[§&#] On 25th June the Executive Committee of the Vancouver and District Waterfront Workers' Association held a special meeting to consider the unloading of "black" cargo off the S.S. "Kingsley", which is owned by the Kingsley Navigation Company of Vancouver. This freighter had been lying idle at its wharf at the foot of Campbell Avenue for several days unable to discharge her cargo because of the union longshoremen refusing to unload any United States' cargo. In consequence, the company hired a number of non-union men and proceeded to discharge the cargo.

The Executive Committee decided to call a general emergency meeting of the membership for 27th June to lay the whole matter before the union.

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It was also decided to arrange a meeting with Mayor L. D. Taylor in order to impress upon him their belief that the situation on the waterfront may develop serious trouble.

[§&#] The mass meeting on 27th June was attended by over 600 members of the association and after a brief discussion it was unanimously agreed that the strike breakers must be taken off the S.S. "Kingsley". Immediately after

the decision was arrived at some 600 longshoremen proceeded to the Kingsley Navigation Company's dock determined to remove all workers and thus stop the unloading of the cargo. As a protection to the non-union men working the ship the Kingsley Navigation officials had placed a barricade around the dock. In order to break through this barricade the attacking longshoremen used an oil car which was standing on the railroad track that leads to the dock. The oil car was simply set in motion and sent crashing through the barricade. Having thus gained entrance the union men surrounded the non-union men employed on the ship and ordered them off the wharf. A squad of Vancouver City Police was rushed to the scene but no violence took place.

[X#] A meeting of the Lumber Workers' Industrial Union was held in the City of Vancouver, B.C., in the Royal Theatre on Sunday, 1st July, for the purpose of hearing reports from the various sub-district organizations.

[Xdeletion: blank] for the Powell River District, reported that there was still a certain amount of discrimination being shown in the camps. He spoke of the difficulties he meets and suggested an appeal to be issued for a stronger organization as a means of forcing the employers to permit Camp Committees, and to allow organizers into the camps.

[Xdeletion: 1/2 line] from the Campbell River area, told of the trouble and difficulties the organization had to overcome if they were to record steady progress in

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the building up of their union. He reported considerable improvement since the strike but maintained that there was evidence of discrimination.

[Xdeletion: blank] the third speaker, presented a summary of the recent logging strike and the lessons the Lumber Workers' Industrial Union had learned from it.

[Xdeletion: blank] of the Workers' International Relief, also spoke outlining the struggle that was taking place in the Flin Flon District, Man., and made an appeal for funds to support strikers in that area.

[Xdeletion: 1/2 line] for the union in the Alberni, B.C. District, urged additional organizational work as a means of strengthening the union. [Xdeletion: blank] spoke on the need of adequate workers' newspaper as a means of giving the working class a true account of prevailing conditions. He also suggested that radio facilities might be made more use of in disseminating propaganda.

It has been reported that the leaders of the union are at present endeavouring to strengthen the union to appoint when they will feel strong enough to make further demands.

[§#] The Vancouver, B.C. waterfront situation remains unsettled with both sides marking time pending the publication of the findings of the Board of Conciliation.

[§#] The organizational activities of the newly formed Michel local of the Mine Workers' Union of Canada are being conducted mainly from Blairmore, Alta. The refusal on the part of the British Columbia mine operators to recognize the Mine Workers' Union is to be overcome by indirect control of the Home Local at Michel, which is the recognized union. Members of the Mine Workers' Union are also members of the Home Local and are already in control of the organization. Leaders of the Mine Workers' Union

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seem well satisfied with the results obtained at Michel.

In view of the stand taken by the management of the Fernie mine, which is similar to that taken by the operators in Michel with respect to the question of recognition of the Mine Workers' Union, it has been decided by the leaders of the Mine Workers' Union to use the same tactics there as in Michel and Natal.

II. ALBERTA

8. [§deletion: blank]

[§#] [§deletion: 1/2 page]

[§#] [§deletion: 1/2 line] of the Yugo-Slav Workers' and Farmers' Clubs for the Province of Alberta, arrived in Edmonton on the night of 22nd June from an organizational and propaganda tour in the southern part of the province.

[§#] [§deletion: blank] gave a lecture on conditions in Soviet Russia at a meeting held in the Buford Hall, Buford, Alta., on the evening of 14th June. The audience, numbering

[15]

48 men and women, was predominately Scandinavian. He blamed the Churches, the Press, the Radio Commission and the Capitalists in general for the ignorance prevailing among the workers and the existing economic conditions. He asserted that ninety per cent of the wealth in Canada is held by ten per cent of the people and maintained that Socialism is the only way out of the present crisis.

[X#] The striking relief workers of Drumheller, Alta., and district voted on 24th June to return to work under protest. Practically every relief worker was at work on the 26th and conditions have once more assumed a normal character.

[X#] The strike of relief workers in Lethbridge, Alta., terminated on 21st June. After the miners of Lethbridge withdrew their support, the strikers decided to unconditionally call the strike off. The city authorities informed a delegation of the strikers that no discriminations would be made.

[X#] [Xdeletion: 1/3 page]

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[X#] [Xdeletion: 3 lines]

III. SASKATCHEWAN

9. Notes

[X#] [Xdeletion: 1/2 page]

[X#] [Xdeletion: blank] returned to Saskatoon, Sask., on 1st July and left in the P.M. for Regina, Sask., where he will attend the Framers' Unity League Convention.

[X#] [Xdeletion: blank] spent some time in Winnipeg, Man., recently and is expected to be in Regina, Sask., in time for the Farmers' Unity League Convention.

[17]

IV. MANITOBA

10. The W.I.R. in Winnipeg

[X#] James Bayden and Orton Wade addressed a meeting held under the auspices of the Workers' International Relief at Winnipeg, Man., on the Market Square on 1st July. The attendance numbered approximately 150.

Bayden stressed the need for organizing, claiming that if the workers got together in an organized body they could win everything and get their relief increased like the workers did in Alberta and British Columbia. He emphatically condemned the soup kitchen and urged the unemployed, single and married, to get together and exert a greater pressure in order to obtain results.

Orton Wade spoke for about 45 minutes dealing, in a general way, with the history, aims and objects of the Workers' International Relief. He told the audience the good it brought to the working class as far back as 1926 during the coal miners' strike in England. He claimed that had it not been for the assistance rendered by the Workers' International Relief there would have been not the slightest possibility of winning a single concession. He also informed his listeners that the organization collects millions of dollars yearly which are spent in the interests of the workers. He appealed for financial support and intimated that a general strike of needle trades workers would take place in the city in the near future, and that the assistance of the Workers' International Relief would be required.

[X#] As a result of a strike vote taken by the Needle Trades Workers' Industrial Union of Winnipeg, Man., on the evening of 4th July, 405 workers came out on strike on the following morning. The vote was 313 for and 39 against a strike. The leaders expressed disappointment at the vote not being unanimous. A Strike Committee of 35 was set up

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and [Xdeletion: blank] General Secretary of the union, appears to be in charge of the strike and is assisted by [Xdeletion: blank] the local Organizer. The Strike Committee has its headquarters at 148 Princess Street,

which is also the headquarters of the Canadian Labour Defence League and the Workers' International Relief.

[✂#] A report from Winnipeg, Man., states that the workers in 11 bakeries in the north section of the city have decided to come out on strike on 5th July.

[✂#] Glos Pracy, for 28th June, informs its readers that the total sum donated towards defraying the expense of the funeral of J. Polka, who was killed by a freight train near Indian Head, Sask., some time ago, was \$325.17.

V. ONTARIO

11. "The Worker" Jamboree

[✂#] Approximately 5,500 persons attended a "jamboree" staged by The Worker at Port Dalhousie, Ont., on 30th June. The purpose of this picnic was to secure funds for The Worker. It was part of the drive towards a daily Worker. Workers from Toronto sailed to Port Dalhousie on board the S.S. "Northumberland" which made three trips. Workers from the Niagara Peninsula travelled by radial car, while workers from Hamilton, Guelph and other points travelled mostly on trucks. The S.S. "Northumberland" was specially chartered for this purpose.

The Progressive Arts Club staged a play entitled "The Bearded King of England" on board the S.S. "Northumberland" on her return voyage after 10:30 P.M. The play was considered a failure as many of the members who had rehearsed their parts were not present and substitutes had to be selected to fill their parts.

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At the picnic grounds the usual kind of sports, including races, ball games and the selection of the Queen of the picnic, took place. A. E. Smith spoke briefly extending greetings from the Canadian Labour Defence League. He also appealed for money to which a rather generous response was made.

[✂#] [✂deletion: 1/2 page]

[§#] The Northern Ontario District of the Workers' Sports Association comprises five branches, four Finnish and one English, with a total membership of 257 distributed as follows:-

Branch "Ilo" at Timmins has 78 members, 15 of whom are in a special section known as the English Section of this branch.

Branch "Jymy" at Kirkland Lake has a membership of 88, all of whom are Finns.

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Branch "Viesti" at South Porcupine has 64 members, all Finns.

Branch "Tahti" is situated at Hearst with a membership of 22. It is purely a Finnish organization.

Branch "A. T. Hill" at Ansonville, with a membership of 20, is the only English branch in the district. Its members are mostly young Finns born in Canada.

The District Council recently elected includes the following: E. Frantsi, Chairman; O. Kuisma, Vice-Chairman; J. Saloranta, Secretary; K. Heinamaki, Treasurer; and V. Maki, member.

VI. QUEBEC

12. [§deletion: blank]

[§#]

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[§#]

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[21]

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[§#] The Needle Trades Workers' Industrial Union held a four-day convention in the City of Montreal, Que., at 1207 University Street, commencing on 29th June. There were 100 delegates in attendance, 71 of whom were from places outside of Montreal. [§deletion: 1/2 line] were amongst the out-of-town delegates.

[§deletion: blank] of New York, was the main speaker at a session held on 29th June. He only remained in Montreal for that session and returned to New York on the same evening.

[#] [deletion: blank] returned to Montreal, Que., from Toronto, Ont., recently and is expected to remain in Montreal for the time being.

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VII. THE MARITIME PROVINCE

13. A.M.W. of N.S. Is Considering a Strike

[#] While no definite statement has been issued it is understood that the Amalgamated Mine Workers' Union of Nova Scotia is considering a strike at the Glace Bay and Sydney Mines collieries for recognition of Mine Committees. While the Dominion Coal Company management has granted the union the check-off it refused to recognize or meet the Mine Committees. [deletion: 1/2 line] has been notified by the Amalgamated Mine Workers' Union that drastic action will be taken by the union if recognition is not forthcoming. At present the mines are working nearly full time. The Amalgamated Mine Workers comprise about thirty per cent of the miners and it is felt that they will be very cautious before calling a strike.

[#] Some 150 persons attended a meeting of the Halifax Branch of the Canadian Labour Defence League on the North Commons in the City of Halifax, N.S., on 29th June., W.L. Ross acted as Chairman and, following a brief opening speech, introduced Roscoe Filmore who, in the course of a 40-minute talk, condemned Capitalism in the usual way and expounded the principles of Socialism.

[#] The Sydney, N.S., Branch of the National Unemployed Council held a Tag Day recently which netted the sum of \$27. This enabled the branch to rent a hall somewhere in the Ashby District.

[#] [deletion: 4 lines]
