

## ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE HEADQUARTERS

Ottawa, 18th July, 1934.

SECRETNO. 715WEEKLY SUMMARYREPORT ON REVOLUTIONARY ORGANIZATIONSAND AGITATORS IN CANADAReport

The Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting Company has not had any trouble since the plant was reopened for work. Mr. Bracken promised that all those who resumed work would receive the full protection of the law.

Plans are being made for a "hunger march" in Ontario at the end of July. The civic authorities in Toronto have refused the prospective marchers permission to parade in the city. The new Premier for Ontario has promised to receive a delegation of the marchers. There the matter stands for the moment.

Three more of the Communists who were in Kingston, Malcolm Bruce, John Boychuk and Tom Hill, have been liberated.

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APPENDIX NO. I: GENERAL1. The Recent Miners' Strikes(a) Flin Flon

[§#] As a result of the investigation of complaints 23 more arrests have been made at Flin Flon, Man., and the accused have been charged with "assault", "unlawful assembly" or "intimidation". The Crown Prosecutor strongly opposed bail but the majority were allowed out on bail after being given a very plain warning by the presiding Judge about their conduct while awaiting trial. They will be defended by [§deletion: blank] who is a partner of [§deletion: blank] of Winnipeg.

Mr. Bracken, Premier of Manitoba, arrived at Flin Flon on 7th July. He interviewed various people during the day and in the afternoon received a delegation of the Strike Committee. When the interview was over Mr. Bracken issued a statement to the effect that the majority of the workers were apparently willing to return to work on the strength of [§deletion: blank] statement made on 23rd June, 1934. (In this statement [§deletion: blank] on behalf of the company, said that his firm would not recognize the Mine Workers' Union of Canada but would consider any other complaints their employees had to make after they had returned to work.) Mr. Bracken also said that he was satisfied that the Mine Workers' Union of Canada is affiliated with the Communists, and that [§deletion: blank] was going to open the Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting Company's plant on the morning of 9th July. All those who desired to return to work would be protected to the full extent of the law.

At a meeting held by the strikers that same evening [§deletion: blank] who has taken a prominent part in this strike, said that the Government of Manitoba through the Premier is opposed to the strike in general. He [§deletion: blank]

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considers that the Government is intimidating the strikers. Referring to the committee's interview with Mr. Bracken Barclay remarked that the committee did not get and do not expect to receive justice from a Premier.

The latest advices from Winnipeg say that over 800 men have now returned to work and that no trouble has been encountered to date.

Jacob Penner left Winnipeg on 9th July for Flin Flon and Mitchi Sago was expected to follow on the 11th.

(b) At Noranda

Conditions at Noranda mines are quite normal again. Eighteen who were arrested for indictable offences during the recent trouble are due to come up for trial at Amos on 24th July. They will be defended by M. Garber of Montreal.

2. The Waterfront Workers in Vancouver

[D945-1-J-5]

The Conciliation Board, which considered the differences between the Vancouver longshoremen and the British Columbia Shipping Federation, has submitted its findings. Two of its members, Mr. Justice H. B. Robertson, Chairman, and Mr. J. E. Hall, nominee of the British Columbia Shipping Federation, reached the following decisions:-

1. Employment and regulation of all waterfront labor including despatching and distribution of work should be controlled by the Shipping Federation.
2. There is no justification of an increase in wages at the present time.
3. Any changes in compensation rates should be done through an amendment to the Workmen's Compensation Act.
4. Higher rates of pay for ships' gangs is justified. (There is a difference of four cents between ship and dock rates.)
5. Hours of labor. Then consecutive hours, with time off for meals, should be the maximum, except in cases of emergency. The extreme limit should be 12 hours.

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6. Recommendation that the Longshoremen's Association admit no new members without written consent of the Shipping Federation, such consent not to be unreasonably withheld.

The third member, C. M. Stewart, nominated to the board by the Vancouver and District Waterfront Workers' Association, submitted a minority report in which he contends that "if the federation refuses to concede the demand that despatching be under control of the union, he could see no alternative than that Vancouver longshoremen will be forced to adopt some course similar to that of their comrades to the south".

Stewart also recommended a wage increase of five cents an hour. His recommendation, it would appear, was submitted in the nature of a threat, meaning that if the federation refuses to concede to the demand that the despatching be under the control of the union, the Vancouver longshoremen will have to come out on strike.

### 3. "The Link-Up"

[3<#]

The Link-Up, official organ of the Communication Workers' League of Vancouver, B.C., which is affiliated with the Workers' Unity League, continues to spread much radical propaganda among the postal workers, telegraphists and others employed in these industries. The June issue of this paper contains an article on "Policy" from which it would appear that the circulation of this journal is growing and that its financial standing permits the free circulation of some 200 copies. The article says in part:-

"It is at least some satisfaction to us to learn that the Link-Up has not been greeted with indifference .....

"The workers are asking each other, 'Who publishes the Link-Up? Who is sending me the Link-Up? How does the Link-Up get its facts? Where is the leak? The Link-Up has dealt steadily and consistently with problems in each service, and furnished a medium by which workers may give voice to their grievances .....

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"Hitherto the workers in the communication services have attended their union meetings, in company and American Federation of Labour unions, where everything discussed reaches the boss the next morning, and most of the time is spent in fighting the officials. Now, those who can trust each other are forming into groups, for searching and practical discussion of problems.

"Hitherto, really open discussion was impossible, the man who kicked was in danger of losing his job. No one could afford to be guilty of blasphemy against the boss class. Now, more and more workers are realizing that, given proper organization, much can be done and much should be done.

"Now however the time has come to make a bid for more support. The money received from the paid-up subscription list of the 'Link-Up' permits us to send out some 200 free copies. As this subscription list increases, the number of free copies will be increased in the same ratio.

"There are two reasons for this. The first is organization: The second is a tactical reason. With intimidation and espionage so rife, it would be a bold man today who would admit having anything to do with the Communication Workers' League of the Link-up. But due to the fact that unpaid copies are sent out, no one need fear to mention the Link-Up and discuss articles appearing in it. 'Somebody sends it to me through the mails' .....

“What is our policy? Ultimately, strong organization to protect the interests of the workers. In the meantime, organization in such a way that no militant worker will be victimized .....

“The Communication Workers’ League offers a broader basis of organization, a link-up between already existing unions on a basis of their progressive elements, and at the same time direct organization of isolated groups of workers not within the scope of existing craft unions. Active members of a union may join the Communication Workers’ League, paying no dues except 10 a month to cover Workers’ Unity League affiliation”.

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[8]

## APPENDIX NO. II: REPORTS BY PROVINCES

### I. BRITISH COLUMBIA

#### 4. William Mahoney Speaks to C.L.D.L. in Vancouver

[✂#] A protest meeting on behalf of the longshoremen of San Francisco was held in Vancouver on 8th July under the auspices of the Canadian Labour Defence League.

[✂deletion: blank] occupied the chair and the first speaker was [✂deletion: blank] The speaker pleaded for support for their comrades across the line and condemned the Mayor of Seattle for using police and endeavouring to obtain the assistance of the National Guards to protect the strikebreakers. He hoped to see a general strike from coast to coast and it would have the whole hearted support of the Canadian Labour Defence League. He then dealt with conditions in Germany and Holland, the strike at Flin Flon, and the “mass pressure” exercised by the Canadian Labour Defence League which resulted in the liberation of some of the comrades from Kingston Penitentiary. He announced that the day of reckoning is at hand when Capitalism will be thrown over and the dictatorship of the proletariat established.

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[✂#] [✂deletion: blank] was the principal speaker at a membership meeting of the Workers Ex-Service men’s League of Vancouver, B.C., held on 8th July, his subject being “Hunger, War and Fascism”. The Prime Minister, the Right Honourable R. B. Bennett, came in for considerable criticism by the speaker. [✂deletion: blank] accused him of endeavouring to popularize war in Canada. He went on to show how a welcome was extended to the ship of the Japanese Navy in the Port of Vancouver some little time ago.

He also drew attention to the profits that are being made out of the sale of nickel and steel and to the shipping of these commodities to Japan.

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In conclusion, he called upon all the members of the Workers Ex-Service Men's League to talk to the youth of today and show them how little the average ex-service man got out of the last war.

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## II. ALBERTA

### 5. The Civil Liberties Protective Association

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[3<deletion: 1 2/3 lines], attended a meeting of the Civil Liberties Protective Association, held on 5th July. She was introduced as a speaker by [3<deletion: 1/3 line] Secretary of the association, and [3<deletion: blank] and spoke on the danger of war and Fascism. [3<deletion: blank] appealed to the association asking their co-operation in connection with organizing an Anti-War and Anti-Fascist league. It has been reported that her appeal has been accepted by the association who will support the anti-Fascist movement. It is also reported that [3<deletion: blank] will approach various other local organizations and societies for the purpose of gaining widespread support to the anti-Fascist movement in the City of Edmonton.

The Canadian Civil Liberties Protective Association was organized in Edmonton during the spring of 1933 by [3<deletion: 2/3 line] two supporters and sympathizers of the Canadian Labour Defence League and the Communist Party of Canada. It is believed that it was formed under the direction of the Communist Party leaders as a result of the arrests made during the unlawful assembly in December, 1932, and in order to obtain the support of the business people of the city to the campaign for the repeal of Section 98 of the Criminal Code. The Communist Party and the Canadian Labour Defence League do not take any active part in the Civil Liberties Protective Association

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and the connection between the former and [3<deletion: blank] is kept quiet for obvious reasons.

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[☞#] The following demands were presented to the City Council on 9th July by a delegation of the Unemployed Married Men's Association of Edmonton, Alta.:-

1. Immediate cessation of the city's practice of deducting from relief food slips any amount for light and water in excess of 95 per month each.
2. Free admission to the exhibition for all unemployed on one day.
3. Free transportation to and from the "youth summer camp" at Pigeon Lake.
4. Formal endorsement of collection sheets to raise money for this camp.
5. Admission to meetings of the Provincial Advisory Committee on Relief.

As to demand No. 1 the Unemployed Married Men's Association threatened to take a strike vote within two weeks if the city did not change its policy.

Regarding the request for free transportation to the unemployed "youth summer camp" at Pigeon Lake the City Council agreed to refer same to the commissioners for "sympathetic consideration". The council, however, refused to endorse any collection sheets.

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[☞#] The Women's Auxiliary of the Unemployed Married Men's Association of Edmonton, Alta., met at the Albion Hall on 28th June. At this meeting it was decided to commence a campaign for the purpose of organizing a Youth Section of the Unemployed Married Men's Association and an Anti-War and Anti-Fascist Council.

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[☞#] A District Conference of the Finnish Organization in the Province of Alberta took place at Sylvan Lake, on 24th June. There were altogether 18 delegates present, 14 of whom

[11]

represented five branches of the Finnish Organization and four other organizations. A delegate brought greetings from the Edmonton Conference of the Farmers' Unity League. Various reports submitted would indicate that the membership has dropped during the last year. To remedy this it was resolved that all branches in the district must launch membership campaigns. Particular stress was laid on the activities of the Pioneers.

Resolutions demanding the release of the workers arrested in Edmonton, the release of John Karikka in Drumheller, and those incarcerated in

Kingston Penitentiary, were passed. A resolution demanding the release of Thaelmann was also passed and forwarded to the German Consul in Montreal.

Elspeth will remain the seat of the District Committee and the former Secretary was re-elected for the ensuing term.

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[3<#] A general membership meeting of the Mine Workers' Union of Canada, Blairmore (Alta.) Local, was held on 29th June, with 130 members present; the principal order of business being the election of officers for the ensuing six months. Julian Reners and Joe Krykosky, Jr., were re-elected President and Secretary, respectively, Arthur Morris being elected Assistant Secretary and Earnest Huse replaced Sam Patterson as Vice President. Norman Packer, who is in charge of the reorganized branch of the Young Communist League at Blairmore, attended this meeting and reported that he had ordered the library for which the Town Council of Blairmore had donated \$25 recently. He said that the books which had been ordered should be in Blairmore within 10 days.

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### III. MANITOBA

#### 6. Protest Meeting in Winnipeg

[3<#] Some 200 men and women staged a demonstration in front of the Legislative Building in Winnipeg, Man., during the afternoon of 10th July protesting against the interference by the authorities in the Flin Flon (Man.) miners' strike, and demanding the withdrawal of police from the strike area.

Four speakers addressed the gathering squatted on the steps of the building and the whole affair lasted one hour and 10 minutes. C. Watson, who also acted as Chairman, reminded the audience of a few instances of the recent strike at the Western Packing plant pointing out the interference of the authorities under the pretext of maintaining law and order.

A. Campbell, from the Canadian Labour Defence League, gave a Communistic definition of law and order, asserting that law is being administered in the interests of the employers.

L. Vassil, from the Needle Trades Workers' Industrial Union, urged the audience to support the strikers in both Winnipeg and Flin Flon.

M. Sago endeavoured to describe the methods and the role the Government plays on an occasion like this, claiming that it gives full support to the bosses in whose interests it operates.

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[§#] The District Central Council of the Canadian Labour Defence League at Winnipeg, Man., met on the afternoon of 7th July to discuss the Flin Flon (Man.) strike situation. The council had before them numerous telegrams received from Flin Flon and The Pas appealing for assistance. A request was made to send Mr. [§deletion: blank] to defend those arrested but after careful consideration it was deemed advisable not

[13]

to send him for, as one of the members of the council remarked, "all he could do would be to talk of British traditions and procedure and law, that he was only a fakir and was only fooling around to get what he could". It was reported that [§deletion: blank] would be out of town until 20th July and it was decided to send his assistant to defend the arrested strikers in Flin Flon. The opinion was freely expressed that in as much as all miners and the revolutionary movement in general have their eyes on Flin Flon it would be a terrible blow to the movement should the Flin Flon strike be lost.

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[§#] The Winnipeg (Man.) Local Youth Congress Against War and Fascism held a session in the Free Press Board Room on 27th June. There were 20 organizations represented by 27 delegates, all of whom are extensions or ramifications of the Communist Party.

[§deletion: 1 line] was the guest speaker. He gave an interesting talk on churches and their work against war.

The second speaker was [§deletion: blank] who was a delegate from the Canadian Labour Defence League, and also a member of the Initiative Committee of the Local Conference Against War and Fascism. He reported that on 22nd June a Conference Against War and Fascism was held at the North End attended by delegates representing 13 organizations. He also stated that he has received a communication from Toronto which states that the City of Montreal is sending 100 delegates to the Canadian Congress Against War and Fascism to be held in the City of Toronto on 4th August. He also said that to date 27 churches in the City of Winnipeg were notified of this second session but have failed to send representatives.

[14]

Twenty-second and 23rd July were the dates fixed for the District Conference at which it is anticipated that delegates will be in attendance from all parts of Manitoba.

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[§<#] On Saturday, 7th July, in the afternoon, a demonstration of the striking cloak workers was arranged by the Strike Committee. Approximately 200 strikers and sympathizers took part in the demonstration. Orton Wade and M. Sago were leading the parade, and cardboards bearing various slogans were carried by the demonstrators. The demonstration was quite orderly and no trouble occurred. Mr. A. MacNamara, Assistant Deputy Minister of Public Works, is reported to be about to conduct an inquiry regarding the wages paid in the needle trades in Winnipeg.

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[§<#] The cloakmakers' strike in Winnipeg, Man., is receiving considerable attention by the local Canadian Labour Defence League. A special Defence Committee has been organized consisting of five from the cloakmakers and five from the Canadian Labour Defence League. It is expected that numerous arrests will take place as a number of strikers have threatened to go back to work. Every effort will be made to win the strike and prevent the workers from going back to work. [§<deletion: 2/3 line] of the Needle Trades Workers' Industrial Union, seems far from being satisfied with the present conditions affecting the strike. He seems afraid of a split in the ranks of the strikers.

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[§<#] The Thunder Bay (Ont.) District of the Workers' Sports Association held a conference in Port Arthur, Ont., on 25th June. Only four branches were represented. A new District Council of nine was appointed and a new District

[15]

Secretary elected, (no name was mentioned). It was decided to send the newly elected secretary to the Anti-War and Anti-Fascist Sports Rally which is to take place in Paris, France, during August next.

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#### IV. ONTARIO

##### 7. The Proposed "Hunger March"

[§<#] The Toronto (Ont.) division of the Provincial Hunger March Committee met on the afternoon of 9th July at 269 College Street. [§<deletion: 1/3 line] acted as Chairman. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss as to what steps should be taken to force the authorities to issue a permit for an outdoor meeting and the parade which is being contemplated. After a lengthy discussion it was decided that the Provincial Committee of the "hunger march" take whatever steps necessary and that the Toronto Committee would render every assistance.

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[§<#] The Ontario Hunger March Committee has received a report from the Windsor (Ont.) Hunger March Committee to the effect that arrangements have been made to begin the "hunger march" from the Border Cities on 16th July, that a contingent consisting mostly of youth will leave there and march approximately 20 miles a day until it reaches Toronto. While passing through different municipalities they will be augmented by the contingents from the other municipalities until they reach Hamilton where the main march will proceed to Toronto. The Windsor Committee also reports that a Tag Day took place on 7th July to raise finances for the "hunger march".

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[§<#] Reports have been received that the City of North Bay (Ont.) has recently passed a resolution to the effect

[16]

that they will feed and shelter the hunger marchers who will pass through that city.

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[§<#] George Ashbrook, [§<deletion: blank] will be in charge of the Eastern section of the "hunger march" which will start from Oshawa, Ont., on 27th July. Ashbrook is at present touring Southern Ontario addressing meetings for the purpose of popularizing and preparing the "hunger march".

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[§<#] A Hunger March Conference was held in the City of Brantford, Ont., on 8th July, with 20 delegates in attendance. A Brantford Hunger March Division was elected consisting of 14 members, who selected a committee of seven to interview the City Council demanding the endorsement of the

“hunger march” and that they provide food and shelter for the hunger marchers.

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[§&#] A Hunger March Committee has been set up in the City of Guelph, Ont., and is making preparations in that locality for the “hunger march”.

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[§&#] Approximately 50,000 “Ontario Hunger March Manifestoes” will be ready for distribution shortly. The various branches are being asked to buy same in bundle form at \$1.25 per thousand, the money to be used to pay for the printing of the manifestoes.

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The Police Commission will not allow the hunger marchers to parade in Toronto, Ont., if they attempt to do so. This decision has been confirmed by Mayor Stewart. Mr. Hepburn, on the other hand, has consented to receive representatives of the marchers, and has instructed the Provincial

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Police, vide the Press, to accord the marchers every courtesy on the Ontario Highways.

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[§&#] Mrs. E. Morton, [§&deletion: blank] labour woman in Toronto, Ont., has been selected by the Toronto Women’s Committee for Struggle Against War and Fascism, to attend the World Congress of Women Against War and Fascism which takes place in Paris, France, on 4th, 5th and 6th August. This committee is headed by such [§&deletion: blank] as Mrs. Tim (Alice) Buck, Beckie Buhay Ewen, Julia Collins (Mrs. Sam Carr), Minnie Shelley, etc.

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[§&#] The Ukrainian revolutionary organizations of Ottawa, Ont., held a picnic in King’s Park, Tetreauville (Val Tetreau), Que., on 8th July.

[§&deletion: blank] in a 15-minute speech, dealt with the war danger and appealed to the youth to organize against war and Fascism. The profit from the picnic amounted to \$12.20.

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[§&#] [§&deletion: blank] and a [§&deletion: blank] who arrived in Ottawa, Ont., from Montreal, Que., some short time ago, and who was sent by the

Montreal Conference Against War and Fascism to organize in Ottawa an Initiative Youth Committee, were successful in forming the said committee which had its first meeting on 9th July at 523 Arlington Avenue. There were 11 members present, three young girls and eight boys.

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[§<#] At a rather well attended general membership meeting at 523 Arlington Avenue the Ottawa Branch of the Todowymazu selected [§<deletion: blank] as delegates to the Todowymazu Conference, which will be held in Toronto, Ont., on 14th and 15th July.

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[18]

The Vapaus, in its 4th July issue, announces that the Finnish Organization of Canada has decided to finance the trip of a Finnish youth representative to the Youth Anti-War and Anti-Fascist Congress which will be held in Paris, France, on 11th to 15th August. For this purpose a circular [§<#] has been sent to all branches requesting them to appoint candidates. The selection of a delegate has been left in the hands of the Central Executive Committee of the Finnish Organisation of Canada.

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## V. QUEBEC

### 8. Louis Kon Addresses French Branch of F.S.U.

[§<#] Approximately 250 people attended a French mass meeting held on 5th July under the auspices of the French Branch of the Friends of the Soviet Union in the Lavoie Hall, Montreal, Que. Fortin, the Organizer of the French Branch, acted as Chairman, and the speaker was Louis Kon, who spoke on "The Danger of War Against the Soviet Union". He informed the audience that a delegation of the Friends of the Soviet Union (Canada) is to visit Soviet Russia this fall and expressed hope that it would include three French Canadians. He also claimed that all their expenses within Soviet Russia would be met by the Soviet Union. He indulged in the usual glorification of existing conditions in Soviet Russia, claiming that the workers there only worked from six to eight hours per day and predicted that before long their hours would be cut down to four a day. He contended that the Capitalist countries were afraid of Russia's prosperity and that they were planning war on her. He asserted that Russia did not want war but if

her territory was invaded she was prepared to fight against the combined Capitalist countries of the world.

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[19]

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[#] Approximately 1,000 people were grouped around the Bandstand in the Lafontaine Park, Montreal, Que., on 13th July, in response to a call issued by the Youth Conference Against War and Fascism. The meeting proved a failure. The City Police informed the committee in charge of the meeting that no meeting could be held but Beatrice Ferneyhough and George Hincks were given permission to address the crowd in French and English informing them of the police order. Beatrice Ferneyhough mounted the platform and apparently said more than was necessary. She was restrained by the police and taken from the platform.

Then George Hincks commenced to speak, stating that he was going to begin where Miss Ferneyhough had left off. He informed the people that the meeting had been called as a protest against war and Fascism and then shouted, "We don't want no bloody Hitler here". This remark drew tremendous

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applause from the crowd but Hincks was taken from the Bandstand by the police.

Several people voiced a protest against the action of the police in removing the speakers whereupon Mounted Constables of the Montreal City Police charged into the crowd and dispersed the gathering. Many spectators were injured and one had to be taken to the Notre Dame Hospital.

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## VI. THE MARITIME PROVINCES

### 9. Having Difficulty in Getting to Russia

[#] The Canadian Labour Defence League in Halifax, N.S., held a business meeting at 804 Barrington Street, on 8th July. [deletion: blank] acted as Chairman, and [deletion: blank] as Recording Secretary. A letter was read which was received from [deletion: blank] in which he stated that the Communist Party of Great Britain would not help him to get to the U.S.S.R. owing to the fact that he had no credentials from the Canadian



party. It was decided to write to [✂deletion: 1/2 line] with a view to obtaining credentials for [✂deletion: blank]

[✂deletion: blank] was severely reprimanded for not sending a letter to the city authorities in connection with a Tag Day proposition.

It was decided to hold a picnic at McNabs Island on 22nd July in order to raise funds.

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