

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE HEADQUARTERS

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SECRETNO. 727WEEKLY SUMMARYREPORT ON REVOLUTIONARY ORGANIZATIONSAND AGITATORS IN CANADAReport

Tom Ewen, National Secretary of the Workers' Unity League, was released from Kingston Penitentiary on 19th September and was given a rousing reception upon his return to Toronto.

Martin Palmgren of Vancouver has been appointed Editor of the semi-monthly Scandinavian paper Erihet published in Winnipeg.

The Jewish Communist Party organ, Der Kampf, is to appear as a semi-weekly shortly.

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APPENDIX NO. I: GENERAL1. Tom Ewen Released From Kingston

[3 #] Tom Ewen, the National Secretary of the Workers' Unity League and member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of Canada, was released from the Kingston Penitentiary on 19th September. On his arrival in Toronto, Ont., at the Union Station he was welcomed by an enthusiastic crowd of approximately 1,500. In their enthusiasm the workers hoisted Ewen on their shoulders and carried him out of the depot to a waiting motor car which conveyed him and his wife, Beckie Buhay Ewen, to the Convention Hall where the Plenum of the National Executive of the Canadian Labour Defence League was in progress. His release was quite unexpected. Considerable excitement was manifest during the afternoon session, on 19th September, of the Plenum of the Canadian Labour Defence League when a telegram was received by A. E. Smith signed "Ewen" stating that he would be with them later on that day.

2. Malcolm Bruce on Tour(A) In Moose Jaw, Sask.

[3 #] Malcolm Bruce addressed a public meeting under the auspices of the Canadian Labour Defence League at the Central Collegiate at Moose Jaw, Sask., on 20th September. About 150 people were in attendance and George Ford, a member of the local Executive of the league, occupied the chair. Bruce's speech was a repetition of the addresses delivered by him in Regina, Winnipeg and other places dealing principally with the rise of Fascism and the Kingston riots.

(B) In Calgary

[3 #] Malcolm Bruce arrived in Calgary, Alta., at 10.00 P.M. on 22nd September and was met by a fairly large crowd

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and then escorted to the corner of Eighth Avenue and Third Street, East, where he spoke for a few minutes extending greetings from Tim Buck and Tom Ewen.

On the evening of 23rd September he addressed a crowd of over 1,000 in the Victoria Pavilion. Thomas Betteridge acted as Chairman and among the people seated on the platform were John O'Sullivan, of the Communist

Party; George Palmer, representing the Anti-War and Anti-Fascist Conference and the Friends of the Soviet Union; George Hull, of the Canadian Labour Defence League; Harry Kizema, of the Ukrainian Labour Farmer Temple Association; Mrs. Young, of the Ukrainian Labour Farmer Temple Association (Women's Section); Ike Peterson, Ex-Service Men's Association; Bill Shaw, Workers Ex-Service Men's League; Pat Lenihan, Unemployed Married Men's Association; and one named Williams, representing the Mine Workers' Union of Canmore. It is estimated that seventy-five to eighty per cent of the people in attendance were foreigners.

The meeting opened with each of the representatives publicly welcoming Bruce to Calgary and calling on the crowd to join the Canadian Labour Defence League.

Malcolm Bruce divided his talk, which lasted nearly two hours, into two parts: (a) The trial of the eight Communist Party leaders in Toronto in the fall of 1931, and the work of the Canadian Labour Defence League; (b) Conditions in the Kingston Penitentiary, with particular reference to the riots and the attempted killing of Tim Buck. During the latter part of his speech a collection was taken up netting the sum of \$72.

3. Sam Carr Visits Windsor

[☞ #] A rousing reception was accorded to Sam Carr, one of the Communist leaders out on parole, on his arrival at East Windsor, Ont., on 22nd September. When stepping off the train the crowd cheered him and sang "The International".

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Cheers were also given for the Communist Party of Canada. From the station the mob carried Carr to a vacant lot near the City Hall where a brief meeting was held and at which he was officially welcomed to the Border Cities.

Carr, in a brief speech, recounted his experience whilst an inmate in Kingston Penitentiary. He urged the audience to continue the fight for the release of Tim Buck and Tom Ewen and for the establishment of a Soviet system in Canada.

[☞ #] On 23rd September Sam Carr was the guest speaker at a meeting in the Empire Theatre, Windsor, Ont., held under the auspices of the Canadian Labour Defence League. His speech was similar to the ones delivered on

previous occasions centering around the arrests of the eight Communists, their convictions, and the riots in Kingston Penitentiary.

4. Martin Palmgren, Editor of "Frihet"

[3< #] Martin Palmgren is leaving Vancouver, B.C., to take up the duties as Editor as Frihet, the official organ of the Scandinavian Workers' League published in Winnipeg, Man. He will replace [3< deletion: 1/4 line] who has been selected for organizational work in Vancouver among the Scandinavians.

5. "Kanadsky Gudok" Campaign

[3< #] The campaign conducted by the Russian Workers' Club on behalf of Kanadsky Gudok for the purchase of a complete printing press has netted thus far the total sum of \$834.65.

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6. "Der Kampf" to be Published Semi-Weekly

[3< #] It has been decided by the Jewish Bureau of the Communist Party of Canada to have its organ -- Der Kampf -- appear as a semi-weekly. A campaign for the realization of this objective is now under way and all available forces are busy collecting funds in a true Communist competitive fashion. So far the results obtained have been most gratifying. Toronto, for instance, has already raised the sum of \$621.85. It is anticipated that the quotas will be filled in most instances.

[3< #] 7. "Kanader Ikor"

The Executive Committee of the Canadian IKOR is now publishing a magazine called "Kanader Ikor" (The Canadian Ikor), similar in contents to the official organ of the Friends of the Soviet Union -- "Soviet Russia To-Day."

[✂ #]

8. C.L.D.L. Repudiates Canada's Claim at Geneva

After reading press reports of Professor O.D. Skelton's speech at Geneva in which he claimed that National Minorities in Canada were safeguarded and that foreigners were never subjected to sudden removal without their own consent, the Montreal local Canadian Labour Defence League despatched the following cable to the League of Nations, Geneva:-
 "REPUDIATE CANADIAN CLAIMS MINORITIES PROTECTED.
 SECTION FORTY ONE AND FORTY TWO IMMIGRATION ACT
 DESTROY THEIR SAFEGUARDS

Canadian Labour Defence League - Montreal".

In addition to sending this cable the local organization is organizing its membership to write letters to the press, and send similar resolutions to the Department of External Affairs, Ottawa.

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9. The Yugo Slavian Clubs

[✂ #]

The recent national Convention of the Yugo Slavian Clubs recorded the formation of five new branches during the past year, i.e., Edmonton, Schumacher, Prince George, Prince Rupert and Sarnia, thus raising the total number of branches throughout Canada to 24 with a combined membership of 726. The convention also recorded the formation of new Women's Sections in Port Arthur, Princeton, Montreal, Sudbury, Toronto and Rouyn-Noranda. New children's sections were also organized in the following places: Rouyn-Noranda, Schumacher, Sudbury, Montreal, Nelson and Port Arthur. The convention further recorded a notable increase in the activities of the members in the Canadian Labour Defence League and the Workers' Unity League. In this connection it was stated that in many instances members of the clubs were instrumental in organizing branches of the two organizations. It was claimed that there are now between 1,000 and 1,200 Yugo Slavian workers in the revolutionary trade unions, the majority of whom are also members of the clubs.

The convention found it expedient to divide the organization into five districts, to be known as:

District 1 - Comprising	Toronto, Hamilton, Welland, Port Colborne & Montreal, with District Headquarters at Hamilton.
" 2 - "	Windsor, Chatham & Sarnia, with District Headquarters

			at Windsor.
"	3 -	"	Kirkland Lake, Rouyn-Noranda, Timmins & Schumacher, with District Headquarters at Kirkland Lake.
"	4 -	"	Sudbury, Sault Ste. Marie, Port Arthur, Winnipeg & Flin Flon, with District Headquarters at Sudbury.
"	5 -	"	Vancouver, Princeton, Nelson, Prince George, Prince Rupert, Edmonton & Calgary, with District Headquarters at Vancouver.

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The convention also appointed a paid Organizer for each district who will devote all of their time to the building up of the organization and the revolutionary movement in general.

10. F.S.U. Delegates to U.S.S.R.

(A) Raymond Ratchford, Sydney Mines, N.S.

[✂ #]

It has been reported that Raymond Ratchford of Sydney Mines, N.S., has been selected as one of the delegates to visit the U.S.S.R. under the auspices of the Friends of the Soviet Union.

(B) Louis Krakover, Toronto

[✂ #] Louis Krakover, prominent member of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, Local 83 (A.F.L.) of Toronto, Ont., was elected as one of the delegates to be sent to the U.S.S.R. by the Friends of the Soviet Union to take part in the November celebration in Moscow.

(C) Nadeau, Montreal

N. Nadeau, a radical Socialist with strong leanings towards Communism and a prominent member of St. Martin's Club, has been selected as one of the delegates from Montreal.

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APPENDIX NO. II: REPORTS BY PROVINCESI. BRITISH COLUMBIA11. Trevor Maguire Resigns

[3< #] Trevor Maguire has resigned as District Organizer of the B.C. League Against War and Fascism. He, however, retained his position on the Executive Committee and will take the rostrum on occasions. He has been examined by a doctor and has been told that there is no doubt that he has "angina pectoris" and in consequence must take things easy.

II. ALBERTA12. Anti-War and Anti-Fascist Conferencein Edmonton

[3< #]

The local "Anti-War and Anti-Fascist Committee" of the Canadian Labour Defence League in Edmonton, Alta., held a conference at the Young Men's Christian Association Hall on the evening of 25th September. F. Newman outlined the aims and objects of the anti-war and anti-Fascist movement. J. Corrigan was elected Chairman and Mrs. R. C. Mason Secretary.

L. Hartman, on behalf of the Credentials Committee, announced that 45 delegates representing 26 local organizations were present.

The Reverend A. E. Black, of the Central United Church at Edmonton, stated that the United Church in Canada is heartily supporting the anti-war and anti-fascist movement. He urged that every effort be made by the group in Edmonton to expand the work until the movement has developed internationally.

Mrs. I. Ringwood, an Executive member of the Canadian Civil Liberties Protective Association, spoke briefly on war, afterwards calling for the uniting of all

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women's organizations in the fight for peace.

J. Hager, of the Riverdale Community League of Edmonton, urged the Anti-War and Anti-Fascist Organization to endeavour to enlarge its scope by affiliating with all groups in the city interested in the movement.

Mrs. W. A. McConkey urged that all organizations co-operate to prevent war.

A short address was given by J. Lakeman who outlined the history of the local anti-war and anti-Fascist movement and the necessity for enlarging its activities.

Sidney Bowcott, a member of the Edmonton School Board and of the Trades and Labour Council, was designated as official delegate to the National Conference Against War and Fascism which is to be held in Toronto, Ont., on 5th and 6th October. Later it was ascertained that he will not be able to attend so that S. A. G. Barnes, a member of the Edmonton Public School Board, will go instead.

[#] The Single Men's Section of the Unemployed Married Men's Association at Calgary, Alta., is reported to have now a membership of over 500. The Communist Party has advised the men not to return to the camps but to stay in the city and fight for their rights. It is expected that soup kitchens will be operated by the Workers' International Relief until such time as they intend to force the city and the Government to provide for the single and married unemployed men. Bob Squires has been given the task of collecting food for the kitchen.

The branch operates in close co-operation with the married section. Prominent among the leaders of the single men are J. Valjean, J. Holopeter, Marton and a man named Davis.

On 26th September about 540 single unemployed men paraded to the Provincial Relief Office at Calgary, Alta.,

[11]

demanding meal and bed tickets. It was arranged that they receive two meal tickets a day and a bed ticket until 1st October.

On the evening of 28th September an open-air meeting was held on the corner of Eighth Avenue and Third Street, East, attended by approximately 800. Jacob Nest presided and urged the single men not to go to the relief camps at any time.

George Palmer spoke on organization, and how to deal with anyone who they thought was trying to disrupt their organization. He said that the

Communist Party would support the workers in their efforts to win their demands. He stated that he was proud of the Communist Party and what it had done in Soviet Russia.

J. Holopeter also spoke on organization and the necessity of solidarity. He advised them to come back to Calgary after threshing was finished and demand \$1 a day in cash relief.

The Communists are taking advantage of the presence of such a large number of single unemployed men in Calgary to strengthen the position of the unemployed married men so that greater resistance can be made to the Calgary City Council's proposed relief cut measures.

[X #] At a business meeting of the Unemployed Married Men's Association of Edmonton, Alta., on 22nd September it was resolved to reorganize the association on the basis of the plan proposed by J. Lakeman. The organization will be divided into many small branches throughout the whole area of Edmonton. The importance of this form of organization, it was stated, lies in the fact that in the event of a relief strike taking place each branch would be able to take charge of its own area, and thus conduct the strike more effectively. It was also pointed out that recruiting could be carried out more systematically.

[12]

Communist organizations in Calgary, Alta., have been very busy recently raising money for The Worker. Thus far the sum of \$207 has been

[X #] collected and forwarded to Toronto, Ont.

[X #] [X deletion: 1/4 line] has been selected to represent the Calgary (Alta.) Communists at the forthcoming Anti-War and Anti-Fascist Congress which is to be held in Toronto, Ont., commencing on 6th October.

[X #] [X deletion: 3/4 line] of Blairmore addressed a meeting of miners at Coalhurst, Alta., on the afternoon of 25th September. [X deletion: blank] advocated the organization of a Women's Auxiliary of the Mine Workers' Union at Coalhurst. He also spoke on "War and Fascism" condemning the Capitalist system in general.

[X deletion: 1/4 line] outlined what she termed the improved conditions at Blairmore after the election of a workers' Mayor and Town Council. She

urged the workers of Coalhurst to do likewise and laid special stress upon the formation of a Women's Auxiliary as part of the Mine Workers' Union of Canada.

As a result of this meeting a house-to-house canvass is to be made through the village in an endeavour to establish a Women's Auxiliary.

III. MANITOBA

13. W.U.L. Active in San Antonio Mine

[✂ #] The Workers' Unity League at Winnipeg, Man., is now endeavouring to penetrate the San Antonio mine and smelters for the purpose of establishing therein a unit of the Mine Workers' Union of Canada. The Rice Lake Unemployment Relief Camp, which is near the San Antonio mine,

[13]

is being used as a base. [✂ deletion: 1/2 line] well known Communist agitators of Winnipeg, are in charge of the operations.

[✂ #] Mabel Marlowe and Bill Ross, who are now touring Manitoba in an endeavour to raise funds for the defence of themselves and 13 others who are facing charges arising out of their activities during the Flin Flon (Man.) strike, addressed a public meeting in Lac Du Bonnet on 26th September. The meeting was opened and presided over by A. R. Salter, Reeve for the municipality of Lac Du Bonnet, there being only 50 people present, most of whom were members of the local Farmers' Unity League.

[✂ #] On the evening of 1st October the Winnipeg (Man.) Canadian Labour Defence League held a public meeting in the Market Square as part of the campaign for the release of Tim Buck and Tom Ewen. Only about 200 men and women attended.

Mabel Marlowe, the only speaker, in her opening remarks announced that inasmuch as Tom Ewen had been released the campaign will concern itself with the release of Tim Buck and other political prisoners. She spoke for approximately 45 minutes and then introduced a resolution demanding the release of Tim Buck which was passed and sent to the Minister of Justice at Ottawa.

The meeting was a failure. In view of the preparations made a far larger attendance was anticipated.

[✂ #] A report appearing in the 28th September issue of Der Kampf covering a conference of the Winnipeg (Man.) Branch of IKOR held in the Liberty Temple on 9th September says that the IKOR Organization in this city has been successful

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in obtaining the co-operation of petty bourgeois organizations and that the question of sending an IKOR delegate to the Soviet Union is being considered.

IV. ONTARIO

14. Lumber Workers' Strike Spreading

[✂ #] The strike of lumber and pulp workers in Northern Ontario is growing and it seems that a general strike in all Abitibi lumber camps is now unavoidable. The Honourable Peter Heenan, Minister of Lands and Forests for Ontario, failed in his attempt to negotiate a settlement between the strikers and the operators. The French-Canadians are the back-bone of this strike which is being held by the Lumber Workers' Industrial Union and it is anticipated that the strike will involve over 2,500 men shortly. Pickets have been placed at all strategic points to prevent the importation of "strike-breakers". The strikers have organized bands of "Camp Sweepers" numbering from 80 to 100 men whose duty it is to clear all camps of "scabs", if necessary to eject them forcibly. Instances of forcible ejection by these "Sweepers", who are armed with various weapons, have occurred in several camps. The strikers demand the rates of wages decided at a recent District Conference of the union, drying rooms for clothes, plain marking of culled wood, sales slips for goods purchased in the van and a written account of wood scaled and money earned.

[✂ #] [✂ deletion: 6 lines]

[15]

what chances there are for the setting up of a Lumber Workers' Industrial Union branch in that district.

[✂ deletion: remainder of page]

[16]

The Finnish organ, Vapaus, for 24th September reports the formation of a branch of the Workers Ex-Service Men's League at North Bay, Ont., [X #]with an initial membership of 12.

[X #] Sam Sula, recently returned from the Red Sports Rally in Paris, France, is now touring Northern Ontario addressing meetings of the Finnish Organization in the interests of the anti-war and anti-FAscist movement.

[X #] Der Kampf for 28th September announces the formation of a branch of IKOR in Ottawa, Ont. It is alleged that the branch was organized by [X deletion: blank] and that its members are now actively engaged in raising funds for Der Kampf.

V. QUEBEC

15. Tom Hill Speaks in Montreal

[X #] Tom Hill was the principal speaker at a mass meeting held under the auspices of the Canadian Labour Defence League in the Prince Arthur Hall, Montreal, Que., on 22nd October; there being about 900 people present, and Miss Beatrice Fernyhough occupied the chair. In addition to Tom Hill's speech, brief addresses were also delivered by Bob Wright, Workers' Unity League Organizer; a French-Canadian named Poissan; J. Munro; and Isidore Minster.

Tom Hill, after presenting a survey of international conditions, spoke on conditions in Canada. He was very severe in his remarks regarding the Canadian Government characterizing its policy as the "iron heel of Mr. Bennett". He made a strong plea for the release of Tim Buck, the repeal of Section 98, and the legalizing of the Communist Party of Canada.

[17]

Bob Wright dealt with the activities of the Workers' Unity League particularly with the recent window cleaners' strike which, he asserted, had been a complete victory for the workers.

Poissan stressed the role and importance of the Canadian Labour Defence League. He claimed that the French Section of this organization was growing rapidly, that in the past three months four branches had been organized in the City of Montreal.

J. Munro and I. Minster spoke very briefly on the value of Canadian Labour Defence League work, and made an appeal for funds.

The meeting passed the usual resolutions demanding the release of Tim Buck.

- [✂ #] On the evening of 27th September the Workers' Unity League at Montreal, Que., held a mass meeting in the Prince Arthur Hall. It was attended by about 350 people, mostly furniture workers now out on strike, and the speakers were J. B. McLachlan, Isidore Minster and Paul Delisle.

VI. THE MARITIME PROVINCES

16. Miners' Strike at Glace Bay Called Off

- [✂ #] The strike of miners at Glace Bay, N.S., terminated on the morning of 9th September with all the miners returning to work.

- [✂ #] Approximately 300 unemployed demonstrated in the streets of North Sydney, N.S., on 30th September causing considerable disturbance. For a while it looked as if bedlam had broken loose and considerable fighting occurred as the police attempted to quell the miniature riot. The demonstration was staged as a protest against the impending cut in relief grants.

[18]

J. B. McLachlan, in the course of a recent interview in Montreal, Que., stated that a general strike of miners may be expected in Nova Scotia

- [✂ #] at the expiration of the present wage agreement. He asserted that sixty per cent of the miners of Nova Scotia are controlled by the Workers' Unity League.
