

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE HEADQUARTERS

Ottawa,

5th December, 1934.

SECRETNO. 735WEEKLY SUMMARYREPORT ON REVOLUTIONARY ORGANIZATIONSAND AGITATORS IN CANADAReport

The total number of votes cast for Communist candidates in Municipal elections shows an increase over the vote recorded a year ago.

Tim Buck addressed a crowd which all the papers estimate at 17,000 in the Maple Leaf Gardens in Toronto on 2nd December. There was much enthusiasm shown and a collection of well over \$2,000 was taken up.

There has been no further trouble in Calgary with the relief workers or in the Vegreville District over the farmers' strike against the way in which elevators conduct their business.

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APPENDIX NO. I: GENERAL

I. George Palmer

George Palmer has taken an active part in the interests of the Communists in the farmers' strike which is still being carried on in the Mundare (Alta.) District. One night recently Palmer was picked up on the road and [✂ #]tarred, his legs were secured and he was left on the roadside. Later he made a complaint to the police and the matter is under investigation.

There is an article in the Edmonton Journal of 20th November and the following conversation is given as having passed between their staff reporter and Palmer:-

"Are you going to lay formal complaints?" he was asked.

"Well, I don't know. I have to get up to Wainwright and other places along there, where we want to organize more grain strikes", he answered.

"Whom do you mean by we? The Communist organizations".

"Yes. The Communist Party regards it its duty to try to relieve the difficulties of farmers and so we are doing all we can to spread the strike as far as we can".

"Through the party itself, the Canadian Labour Defence League and the Farmers Unity League you mean?"

"Yes, and all the other organizations working with us".

Palmer said all the party which seized him were masked and "they disguised their voices".

The strike in this district has spread to some extent but there has been no disorder recently.

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2[✂ deletion: 1 line]

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[X #] 3. Communism Among [X deletion: blank]

Inquiries were made recently with regard to a man by the name of [X deletion: 1/4 line] who had imported some Communist literature which was intercepted by the Customs. It has now been ascertained that a group of [X deletion: 1/4 line] assemble three nights each week in the basement of the Armenian Church in St. Catharines, Ont., where they are given elementary instruction in Communism by [X deletion: blank] He is reported to be following a system of instruction prepared in Soviet Armenia for the use of young Armenians in America. Most of the [X deletion: 1 line] and the instruction given so far is not at all advanced.

[X #] 4. Malcolm Bruce in Cranbrook

A meeting was held under the auspices of the Communist Party of Canada in the Knights of Pythias Hall, Cranbrook, B.C., on 23rd November.

Malcolm Bruce was the speaker. Bruce dealt with the futility of the Capitalist system. The only remedy he suggested was the repudiation of National Monetary Obligations. This covered the first part of his address, and a collection was then taken.

On resuming, Bruce spoke about his experiences in Kingston. He said the treatment of the convict was unusually harsh but that there had been a marked improvement of late due largely to the recent strike in that institution. He asserted

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that Buck was not responsible for the strike.

The meeting was not by any means enthusiastic.

5. W.U.L. Representative Elected Mayor
in Hanover, Ont.

According to a press dispatch the Workers Unity League in Hanover, Ont., entered the Municipal elections with the intention of ousting the 1934 Council. They succeeded in electing as Mayor their nominee, Alvin Metzger. Only three of the 1934 Council remain.

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APPENDIX NO. II: REPORTS BY PROVINCES

I. BRITISH COLUMBIA

6. Conference of Yugo Slav Workers and Farmers Clubs

- [38 #] The Yugo Slavian Workers and Farmers Clubs in British Columbia and Alberta held a conference in Vancouver, B.C., on 11th and 12th November. A presidium was elected composed of Tim Buck, Arthur Evans, Pete Zepkar and Petko Miletic. Greetings were brought to the conference from the Communist Party of Canada, the Workers Unity League, and numerous revolutionary language organizations. A six months' plan was adopted for the setting up of two new clubs, two women's sections and children's groups, and three branches of the Canadian Labour Defence League. Plans were also laid for developing the Young Communist League and increasing the circulation of Borba, The Worker, Unity and Always Ready. It was also decided to establish a fund for aiding the Communist Party of Jugo Slavia, the Jugo Slav Red Aid and the revolutionary movement in Canada.

- [38 #] The Single Unemployed Men's Protective Association at Vancouver, B.C., and the Relief Camp Workers Union held a joint meeting in the Orange hall on 25th November. The attendance was estimated at about 250. Comrade Kelly of the Relief Camp Workers Union, the first speaker, outlined conditions in the camps alleging that they were bad. He intimated that there was only one way to remedy same and that was to strike. McLeod, the second speaker, also a member of the Relief Camp Workers Union, gave a brief outline of the work that is being done by the union. He dealt at great length with the demands of the union which will be submitted to the provincial authorities in Victoria shortly. Sims, of the Single Unemployed Men's Protective Association, intimated that the sick or disabled single men in Vancouver, who number around 4,000, were much better off

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than in any other part of Canada due to the efforts made by his association. He concluded with an appeal for new members.

Miss Angus, representing the Women and Girls Club in the city, spoke briefly on conditions among women on relief, alleging poor medical treatment and insufficient relief generally.

Before closing a telegram of congratulations was sent to Tim Buck recently released from Kingston Penitentiary.

[3< #] The Lumber Workers Industrial Union in Vancouver, B.C., held a public meeting at the Royal Theatre on the evening of 25th November, there being approximately 800 people present. C. Carlson, Glen Lamont and George Drayton were the speakers.

Carlson spoke on conditions in Camp 5 of the Alberni Pacific Lumber Company at Port Alberni. He also dealt with the causes leading up to the present strike and maintained that the strike is being continued with only the odd "scab" getting through the picket line.

Glen Lamont spoke on the lumber industry in general. He attacked the "black list" system and urged the audience to put their names on a list that was being circulated protesting against this system. He attacked the Special Powers Act and the Arcand Bill, characterizing same as Fascist legislation. In conclusion, he reminded the audience that the Lumber Workers Industrial Union is affiliated with the Workers Unity League of Canada, and that out of 200 strikes the Workers Unity League had led 176 and that most of them had been successful.

George Drayton spoke on conditions among the miners at Cumberland, B.C., alleging that the miners were being robbed by the company. He stated that what the miners at Cumberland needed was a good fighting organization.

At the close of Drayton's speech a telegram containing greetings was sent to Tim Buck.

[3< #] It is reported, however, that the union is losing

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prestige as the strike continues. Sharply criticized for leaving the Alberni strike area without permission, Skinner resigned as Secretary of the union on 19th November. Arnie Johnson has been appointed in his place.

[3< #] William Bennett was the main speaker at a meeting held in the Orange Hall, Vancouver, B.C., on 25th November, under the auspices of the Canadian Labour Defence League. He chose as his subject "The Seventh Convention of the Communist Party". Bennett concluded his speech with an account of the present farmers' strike in the Vegreville (Alta.) District, and alluded to the tarring and feathering of George Palmer.

- [✂ #] A mass meeting of striking miners at Cumberland, B.C., on 21st November, resolved to accept the agreement as submitted by the company. The agreement, which is to be for two years, has been signed by the representatives of the employees.

II. ALBERTA

7. Notes

- [✂ #] Jan Lakeman, leader of the Communist Party in Edmonton, Alta., spoke over Radio Station CJCA on 12th November on the subject of "What the Communist Party Stands For". His speech was taken from the booklet entitled "What The Communist Party Stands For" but was considerably modified, having been censored by the CJCA Radio Staff.

- [✂ #] G. H. Salter, Communist Party candidate for Alderman in the recent Edmonton (Alta.) Civic election, received 2,681 votes.

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- [✂ #] [✂ deletion: 1/4 line] who arrived in Edmonton from Calgary, Alta., on 19th November, left the same evening for Mundare to assist in the strike there.

- [✂ #] [✂ deletion: 2 lines]

- [✂ #] The Central Branch of the Unemployed Married Men's Association in Edmonton, Alta., met on 17th November, with approximately 120 people in attendance. It was decided to call upon all branches in the city to hold meetings to explain and discuss the unemployed situation in the City of Edmonton. The meeting finally decided to hold a mass meeting at the Scandinavian Hall on 24th November, at which the situation would be thrown open for general discussion. O. C. Doolan remarked that a strike vote may be taken at this meeting.

[✂ #] The name of the Unemployed Single Men's Association in Edmonton, Alta., has been changed to the Unemployed Single Men's Protective Association. It is operating in close co-operation with the Unemployed Married Men's Association.

[✂ #] [✂ deletion: 2 lines]

[10]

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[✂ #] Pat Lenihan, Communist candidate for Alderman in Calgary, Alta., received a total vote of 1,188.
Murdoch Clarke, candidate for the School Board, received 1,296 votes.

[✂ #] L. Anderson and G. Beete, two representatives of the United Council of Workers of Calgary, visited Medicine Hat, Alta., recently, and on 18th November held a meeting in the Park Hall which was attended by approximately 100 unemployed and sympathizers. The purpose of their visit was to organize the unemployed in Medicine Hat in order that they would be better able to fight for their demands. The meeting, after having been addressed by the two representatives, resolved to organize along the lines suggested by the speakers and elected offices as follows:-

President	-	A. Weisbach
Vice-President	-	W. Laing
Secretary	-	D. Gillette
Treasurer	-	D. Crane
Grievance Com- mittee Chairman	-	F. Osborne
Executive	-	F. Mund, Carl Johnson, M. Schecter, E. Smith Mrs. W. Laing

The meeting also adopted the following resolution addressed to the Mayor and the City Council:-

"That we strongly condemn the action of the City Council in cutting off the gas supply of the unemployed and indigents in the city, thereby causing unnecessary suffering to those who are in the unfortunate position of not being able to pay for same".

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[~~☞~~ deletion: 1/4 line] attended the monthly meeting of the B.C. Miners Association at Michel, B.C., held on 11th November. He addressed the [~~☞~~ #]meeting briefly, saying that he was forced to leave the district owing to lack of funds, and that he was leaving for Quebec. A present of \$30 was given [~~☞~~ deletion: blank] by the association.

[~~☞~~ #] He left Blairmore, Alta., for Montreal, Que., on 18th November. In Montreal he is to fill the position of [~~☞~~ deletion: 1/2 line] Prior to his departure several social affairs were given throughout the Crow's Nest Pass in his honour. He was accompanied by his wife.

III. SASKATCHEWAN

8. Communist Candidates in Civic Elections

[~~☞~~ #]

In the recent Civic elections at Saskatoon, Sask., the Communist Aldermanic candidates made a considerable showing. Cyril Harding received 1,123 votes, and J. Taylor 726. Mrs. Taylor, Communist candidate for the School Board, received 1,911 votes, an increase of approximately 400 votes over last year's total. The highest Communist Alderman vote last year was 510.

[~~☞~~ #] T. G. McManus, Communist Aldermanic candidate in the recent Municipal elections in the City of Regina, Sask., received 2,020 votes to stand 13th in the list of 21 candidates.

[~~☞~~ #] W. Stefaniuk, Communist, has been elected as Councillor in Division 3 in the Bayne (Sask.) Municipality in the recent elections.

[~~☞~~ #] [~~☞~~ deletion: 3 1/2 lines]

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IV. MANITOBA9. Communist Candidates, Winnipeg Elections

[✂ #] M. J. Forkin, the Communist Aldermanic candidate in Ward 3 in the recent Winnipeg (Man.) Municipal elections, received 4,369 votes, an increase of 379 over the vote given to Alderman J. Penner last year. M. Sawiak, Communist School Trustee candidate in the same ward, received a total of 3,865 votes, an increase of 168 over the total votes polled by A. Bilecki last year. While the latter was elected the number of votes received by Sawiak were not sufficient to elect him.

In Ward 2 Sol Simkin, Communist Aldermanic candidate, received 839 votes, a gain of about 150 votes.

A. Brock in Ward 2, running as School Trustee candidate, polled 1,629 votes. Last year J. Baden, in the same ward, received only 883.

M. J. Forkin, who incidentally topped the polls in Ward 3, was the only Communist candidate elected.

[✂ #] Stanley Forkin, a candidate of the Communist controlled "Workers Election Conference" in the recent Brandon (Man.) Civic election, received 1,027 votes.

[✂ #] Professor Scott Nearing will deliver a series of five lectures in Winnipeg, Man., commencing on 14th December. He will be the guest speaker at a banquet arranged by the Winnipeg Conference Against War and Fascism on 17th December.

[✂ #] Cecil Zukin alias Bill Ross, recently convicted and sentenced to one year hard labour, does not wish to have his case appealed but would rather serve his term as he wants to have a stronger record in the revolutionary movement and something to talk about when he has served his sentence.

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An effort is being made by the Workers Unity League at Winnipeg to bring about a strike situation in the Federal relief camps in Manitoba. Literature is being circulated in the hope that it will agitate the men into discontent and come out on strike for more pay and better conditions in the camps.

[✂ #] At a meeting of the Relief Camp Workers Union held in the Ukrainian Labour Farmer Temple Association Hall at Fort William, Ont., on 26th November, Comrades Ryback and Skutka were appointed delegates to interview J. E. Crawford, M.L.A., and Mayor Pow with a view to laying before them the grievances of the camp workers.

On the 27th a meeting was held to receive the report of the two delegates. Skutka reported that Mr. J. Crawford was not in the city so they had been unable to see him, and that the Mayor had refused to meet them. Ryback suggested to the meeting that the camp workers demand \$4.20 per week for meals, lodging and clothing, etc., and 20 cents for tobacco and that the camps be discontinued. The meeting went on record favouring these demands.

[✂ #] On 24th November 200 unemployed gathered at the Ukrainian Labour Temple in Kenora, Ont., and headed by William Butrim, Workers Unity League Organizer, marched to the Department of National Defence office with a view to seeing Mr. Bailey, who is in charge of the hiring of men for the department, and to demand from him employment tickets which admit the holder to the camps operated by the department. As the demonstrators reached the Department of National Defence office Mr. Bailey was in the act of leaving the office in his car. An attempt was made to seize Mr. Bailey with the result that considerable damage was done to the car. Approximately 80 tickets were given out and the crowd dispersed.

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V. ONTARIO

10. [✂ deletion: 1 line]

[✂ #] [✂ deletion: 6 2/3 lines]

[✂ #] The Toronto (Ont.) Branch of the Russian Workers and Farmers Clubs held a concert and mass meeting on 25th November.

Comrade Mikoyuk spoke on the importance of a workers' press and on the role of the Kanadsky Gudok in the revolutionary movement. He pointed out that the Kanadsky Gudok has acted as a collective organizer and had helped to organize the 40 branches of the Russian Workers and Farmers Clubs throughout Canada. He pointed out how it had grown from a monthly to a weekly, to a semi-weekly and that now efforts must be made to have it appear three times a week. "After the Soviets are established in Canada

we will issue the Kanadsky Gudok three times daily", he shouted. "If war breaks out Kanadsky Gudok will be destroyed by the Government but if we prepare the workers now by building up the paper we will be better able to adjust ourselves to illegal conditions", he said. His speech was well received by the audience, numbering about 200.

[✂ #] At a recent special meeting of the Editors and Management Committee of Der Kampf it was decided that the first issue of the semi-weekly Kampf should appear on 11th January, 1935, on the occasion of the 9th anniversary of this paper.

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VI. QUEBEC

11. The Industrial Union of Needle Trades Workers

[✂ #] The Industrial Union of Needle Trades Workers in Montreal, Que., is reported to be in a very weak condition. [✂ deletion: 1/2 line], spent several days in Montreal recently with the object of rallying the membership and building up the Montreal union. He, however, met with very little success. [✂ deletion: 1/4 line] is expected in Montreal shortly and will go into the situation with a view to seeing what can be done about the reorganization of the union.

The Montreal Dresscutters' Union is showing deep resentment against the "Left" leadership blaming it for losing the general strike last summer. A delegation from this union recently visited the American Federation of Labor leaders and asked to be admitted into the American Federation of Labor as an affiliated body. A meeting of the Montreal Dresscutters' Union will be held on 28th November when the matter of affiliating with the American Federation of Labor will be put to a vote.

[✂ #] [✂ deletion: 1/4 line] one of the "Left" wingers arrested in connection with the recent Montreal (Que.) needle trades strike and whose case is now before the courts, objected to the attitude taken by the Canadian Labour Defence League and has now aligned himself with the "Right" wing element in the Dresscutters' Union. This has proved a heavy blow to the Canadian Labour Defence League for Breslow carries considerable weight in the Montreal Dresscutters' Union. It is anticipated that he may join the American Federation of Labor.

[✂ #] A recent meeting of the Canadian Labour Defence League Secretariat in Montreal, Que., decided that [✂ deletion: 2/3 line], for a week commencing

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8th December to assist organizing the league there. He is also to give four lectures during his stay.

[✂ #] [✂ deletion: 6 2/3 lines]

VII. THE MARITIME PROVINCES

12. U.M.W.A. vs A.M.W. of N.S.

[✂ #] [✂ deletion: 2/3 line] Glace Bay, has filed suit for the Amalgamated Mine Workers of Nova Scotia seeking a nullification of the referendum recently taken throughout the province which gave the United Mine Workers of America a majority of over 500 ballots. An injunction granted on 24th November by His Lordship, Mr. Justice Doull restrains the company from discontinuing the "check-off" for the members of the Amalgamated Mine Workers of Nova Scotia until the case is heard at Halifax on 30th November. The United Mine Workers of America are not taking any part in the court action for the present.

[✂ #] Tom Ewen has been working in the Stellarton, Trenton and Pictou Districts of Nova Scotia in the interests of the Amalgamated Mine Workers of Nova Scotia.

[✂ #] [✂ deletion: 6 lines]

[17]

[✂ deletion: 1/2 page]

[✂ #] Led by W. L. Ross, about 300 unemployed visited the City Council Chambers in Halifax, N.S., on 15th November, in an endeavour to force a definite answer from the city authorities regarding relief demands. Mayor Cragg informed the delegation that things were under consideration and

that he was not able to give them an answer, but promised to have one in readiness at the next meeting of the Council. Ross then addressed the crowd, urging them to stick together and be on hand for the next meeting of the City Council.
