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WEEKLY SUMMARY

REPORT ON REVOLUTIONARY ORGANIZATIONS
AND AGITATORS IN CANADA

Report

All efforts to secure a suitable hall in Ottawa for a Tim Buck meeting came to nothing so it was decided not to bring him here just now.

The Communists are pleased that the sentence imposed on [~~name~~] at Flin Flon has been reduced. They hope that cases against [~~name~~: 1/2 line] will be quashed.

Malcolm Bruce is expected back in Vancouver in the near future and Tim Buck may make a tour of the West.

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APPENDIX NO. I: GENERAL1. Tim Buck in Massey Hall, Toronto

[9<#] Tim Buck was the chief speaker at a Communist rally held in the Massey Hall, Toronto, Ont., on 27th January. The meeting was held under the auspices of the Toronto and District Labour Open Forum Committee.

Buck's speech, which lasted for about two and a half hours, was in the main an attack on Prime Minister R. B. Bennett, Mr. McKenzie King and J. S. Woodsworth. He classed the Prime Minister as the chief and most sincere Capitalist in Canada. He presented statistics to show that unemployment has steadily increased since 1930 when Mr. Bennett took over the affairs of the State. He characterized the Prime Minister's regime as "unscrupulous from beginning to end". He charged the Prime Minister with falsifying statistics on unemployment and told the workers to beware of any offers made by Mr. Bennett. Buck said that after the election he and his comrades would most likely be back in Portsmouth Penitentiary. In the course of his speech he expounded the Communist Party Federal election program centering around immediate demands such as higher wages, farmers' relief, exemption from taxation, abolition of Section 98, non-contributory unemployment insurance and defence of the Soviet Union.

The meeting was also briefly addressed by Sam Carr, who denounced the Canadian Radio Commission for refusing to let him speak over the Toronto Station, and Stewart Smith, who intimated that this coming Federal election might be the last election in Canada.

The meeting was attended by about 2,850 people, and the collection amounted to \$248. Resolutions were passed demanding the release of the Noranda strikers and to protest against the Canadian Radio Commission's action in not allowing Sam Carr to speak over the radio.

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2. Communist Party Meeting in Vancouver

[9<#] The Communist Party at Vancouver, B.C., held a Lenin memorial meeting in the Colonial Theatre on the evening of 20th January. Between 400 and 500 people were present, and Fred Grange acted as Chairman on this occasion. Following the opening of the meeting with the singing of "The International" speeches were delivered by William Bennett, R. Kerr and A. M. Stephen in eulogy of Lenin, Karl Liebknecht and Rosa Luxemburg. Short speeches were also presented by Elspeth Munro, of the Youth Party and a daughter of Peter C. Munro, recently returned from the Soviet

Union, Kathleen Livingstone and Peggy Harrison of the Young Communist League.

The last speaker was George Drayton who was introduced as the Editor of the B.C. Workers' News. Drayton dealt principally with this paper explaining its importance to the working class movement in British Columbia. In the course of his talk he said:--

"Our leader, Tim Buck, challenged the Prime Minister and Section 98 when he spoke recently in the Maple Leaf Gardens in Toronto as the Secretary of the Communist Party".

Referring to the literature that is being published in Vancouver he alleged that on many occasions mimeograph machines had been taken by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police in Vancouver, "but in spite of all this", he said, "the Communist Party will put out its literature even if we have to keep our machine 30 feet underground".

William Bennett was introduced to the audience as the leader of the Communist Party in Vancouver. He spoke at length on the teachings of Lenin and Marx, stressing the importance of their teachings to the revolutionary movement. He also spoke on the tasks of the Communist Party. "In spite of the fact", he said, "that the State has declared it illegal, the Communist Party is and will go on".

A. M. Stephen, representing the Socialist Party of Canada, contended that a change of system would only come by some

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plan of action and not through the ballot boxes. The major part of his address was devoted to the teaching of Lenin.

3. "Der Kamf"

[3<#] The Kamf, now appearing semi-weekly, for 25th January, contains 18 pages in celebration of its ninth anniversary. It contains feature articles dealing with the revolutionary movement in Canada and the part played by the Jewish workers therein.

Tim Buck, in an article on the front page, greets the Kamf in the name of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Canada. He says that after nine years of propaganda the Kamf's real mission now begins. This mission, he says, is to win the Jewish workers for the Canadian revolutionary movement.

Harry Guralnik, in a feature article, says that the Kamf played an important part in the process of Bolshevizing the Jewish workers in Canada, that it carried on a systematic propaganda in an endeavour to properly

interpret the instructions issued by the Communist International in respect to Bolshevising the Communist Parties. He also asserts that the Kamf has always attempted to support and properly interpret the true Leninist line.

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APPENDIX NO. II: REPORTS BY PROVINCES

I. BRITISH COLUMBIA

4. F.S.U. Meeting in Vancouver.

MacKinnon, Munro, Russell

[9<#] Mack MacKinnon, Peter Munro and Tom Russell, recently returned from the U.S.S.R., addressed a public meeting at the Chamber of Commerce in Victoria, B.C., on 21st January. The meeting was held under the auspices of the Friends of the Soviet Union and Fred Fox was in the chair. All three speakers prefaced their remarks by saying that organized labour in Canada had paid the cost of the voyage to and from Russia. They presented the usual description of conditions in the Soviet union which, they said, were far better than in Canada.

[9<#] Charles Kuntz, formerly a Professor at the Columbia University and now prominently connected with the "Icor" movement in North America, visited Vancouver, B.C., recently and delivered a lecture in the Moose Hall on 24th January, under the auspices of the local branch of the "Icor". There were approximately 500 persons present.

The Professor explained the geographical location of Biro-Bidjan and its economic possibilities. Biro-Bidjan, he said, has been set aside by the Soviet Union for the benefit of the Jewish people. Lying between the Amur River and its tributaries this territory, the Professor claimed, was noted for its rich timber and minerals. He told of the many visits to this section of the country and stated that the Hebrews there were making rapid progress towards getting the land in good shape for agricultural purposes. He also recounted the tremendous progress made during the first and second years of the Second Five-Year Plan. Biro-Bidjan, he said, is already widely known for the great quantities of honey it produces. He said that there was a shortage of houses but this difficulty was rapidly being taken care of.

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The Canadian Labour Defence League in Vancouver, B.C., held an Open Forum meeting at 122A Hastings Street, West, in the afternoon of 27th January, the principal speaker being A. M. Stephen of the Socialist [X#] Party of Canada. The subject under discussion was the "reform program" of the Prime Minister. Stephen told the audience that at one of their own Party meetings they had discredited J. S. Woodsworth and other leaders of the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation for falling in line with the Prime Minister's "reform policies". He said that he was sitting in the Socialist party to show the rank and file "that Bennett's reforms would simply lead to Fascism". He severely criticized and analyzed the "reform program" with a view to showing that these measures will not better the conditions that they are the forerunner of a Fascist regime.

Laycock, of the Workers Ex-Service Men's League, and McKendrick, of the Canadian Labour Defence League, also spoke endorsing the views expressed by the principal speaker.

The attendance was estimated at around 300 people.

[X#] The Workers Ex-Service Men's League in Vancouver, B.C., together with the Canadian Labour Defence League, held a joint meeting in the Orange Hall on 20th January. Page acted as Chairman, and the speaker was James McKendrick who chose as his subject "The Saar Plebiscite". In the course of his talk McKendrick said that the movement in the Saar had been halted temporarily now as a result of the Nazi powers having gained control. He also remarked that although the workers will have to make use of their vote when they have a chance because it gives them experience in organization the ballot boxes will never free the workers, that the workers will have to do what other countries have done before, i.e., to get behind the barricades. He presented a series of figures in an attempt to show that the Nazis under Hitler are gradually losing ground in Germany and that Communism was gaining by leaps and bounds.

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The Workers Ex-Service Men's League of Vancouver, B.C., held a meeting at 122A Hastings Street on 27th January. [Xdeletion: name] representing the North Burnaby Branch of the organization, spoke regarding [X#] the promises made to returned soldiers and what they had eventually received. He maintained that the Capitalist class looks after its own interest and does not bother about the other fellow. He said that the soldiers had nothing to expect from the present Federal Government. He also said that

similar conditions prevail in other Capitalist countries and proceeded to read articles dealing with the recent disturbances in Paris, France, where ex-soldiers had fought with the police. "The same thing might very well happen here", he warned the audience.

[deletion: name] Secretary of the Workers Ex-Service Men's League, in a short speech recalled some of the grievances which had been fought for by the Workers Ex-Service Men's League during the past year.

[deletion: name] briefly outlined the aims and objects of the Workers Ex-Service Men's League and explained why it was disliked by other organizations, such as the Canadian Legion and the Disabled Veterans.

A resolution demanding the removal of [deletion: name] of the Shaughnessy Military Hospital was adopted by the meeting. The resolution is to be sent to Victoria and Ottawa.

[#] A report from Toronto, Ont., states that Malcolm Bruce has left for Western Canada recently. He will spend several days in Regina, Sask., and then proceed to Vancouver, B.C.

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The first copy of the B.C. Workers' News appeared under date of 18th January. There is much of interest in this paper, the contents being of a [#] thoroughly Communistic type. The United Front sponsored by the Communists receives considerable attention.

II. ALBERTA

5. Calgary Relief Strike

[#]

It was announced in Calgary, Alta., on 23rd January that a majority of the relief strikers voted to accept the terms offered by the City Council and return to work.

The Communist Party claimed to have won another victory because they forced the city to increase the relief rates by fourteen per cent and also because they obtained an issue of clothing for the workers. The Communist Party was not in favour of accepting the terms but as the strikers decided to agree to the conditions they have determined to make the best of it.

[3<#] The Ukrainian Labour Farmer Temple Association in Edmonton, Alta., held a concert meeting on 20th January in commemoration of Lenin, Liebknecht and Luxemburg. Approximately 350 people attended. Musical selections were rendered by the association's orchestra, and an address was given by A. Woytyshyn who spoke on the life and work of these three revolutionary leaders.

III. SASKATCHEWAN

6. The Saskatchewan Association of Unemployed

[3<#]

The Saskatchewan Association of Unemployed held a conference in Regina, on 22nd and 23rd January, with 52 delegates in attendance. Points represented were:

Regina
Moose Jaw
Saskatoon

Yorkton
Melville

[11]

The conference, which was under the leadership of the Communists, drew up various demands and presented same to the Saskatchewan Legislature in the Legislative Assembly on 22nd January. Ten of the delegates who acted as spokesmen for the conference had been provided with seats on the floor of the Assembly Hall and the North Gallery had been reserved for the balance of the delegation. The delegates admitted to the floor of the House included Pete Middelsen, T. G. MacManus, Preston, all of Regina, George Forde and Mrs. McLellan, Moose Jaw; J.P. Grant, W. F. Stratford, Saskatoon; Gordon Green, Swift Current; John MacLean, Estevan; and Fred Bowers, Melville.

T. G. MacManus, the leader of the delegation after reviewing some of the speeches made by the other delegates, presented the demands which included abolition of "slave camps"; uniformed relief throughout the province; increased relief allowance according to the schedule presented; non-contributory unemployment insurance; to drop the intended passing of the Bill to abolish the provincial income tax; no sales tax; and other standard radical "demands", including the return of the Saskatoon lien notes. Included in the demands was one that the Provincial Government give the delegation \$400 for defraying their expenses. In replying to the demands

the Premier stated that as this was not a regular sitting of the Legislature but merely a meeting of the delegates with members of the Legislative Assembly no immediate answer to the demands could be given. He, however, assured them that the matter would be discussed by the House and that an answer would be forthcoming. Premier Gardiner was said to have complimented the delegation on its presentation of its case and to have taken the following stand on the demands made by it: Standardization of relief throughout the province would be inaugurated and that the Government would pay its share in cash; clothing and shelter conditions will be investigated; no medical assistance could be given because of the increased expenditure such would require; no action will be taken for the present on the request to cancel demand notes; forced labour will

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be abolished in any locality in which it may exist; non-contributory unemployment insurance will be given the support of the Provincial Government in a resolution to Ottawa; increases in grants to soldiers' widows and to mothers where sums now given are insufficient; single men and women to receive relief if they are permanent residents of the locality in which they apply for aid; the Government will support a resolution on the floor of the House to increase pensions to disabled veterans; the clause in the various Municipal Acts preventing relief recipients taking seats on rural and urban councils will be removed; cities will be asked to make an allowance to relief recipients for the purchase of cooking utensils.

The officers elected at the last session of the conference were as follows: P. Mikkelsen, President; Gordon Green, Swift Current, Vice-President; and A. Theodor, Regina, Secretary-Treasurer. Assisting the officers will be a committee of action composed of three Regina men, T. G. MacManus, F. Preston and Stanley Young. Their duties will be to deal with grievances and to approach the Provincial Government with demands of the organization when they arise. Pete Mikkelsen was chosen by the conference to represent Saskatchewan at the Ottawa Congress on Unemployment Insurance.

IV. MANTOBA

7. [~~deletion: name~~] Sentence Reduced

[~~deletion: name~~] The sentence of two years imposed on [~~deletion: name~~] one of the leaders in the Flin Flon strike, has been reduced by the Court of Appeal on 25th January to six months. As a result the Canadian Labour Defence League is very much encouraged and it is now hoped that the Court of

Appeal will quash the sentences imposed on [redacted: 1/4 line] It is the intention of the Canadian Labour Defence League in Winnipeg to continue agitation to force the authorities to be more lenient in the sentences handed down to revolutionary workers.

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The District Central Council of the Canadian Labour Defence League in Winnipeg, Man., held a meeting on 26th January. Among the matters discussed was the question of reorganizing the league. The meeting was attended by [redacted: name] who had been sent to Winnipeg from [redacted:] Toronto to reorganize the league and to remedy the ill-feeling existing between the various fractions of the organization.

[redacted:] The Winnipeg (Man.) local branch of the Ukrainian Labour Farmer Temple Association held its annual meeting in the Ukrainian Labour Temple on 27th January. The Financial Secretary's report showed that the income for the past year amounted to \$13,864.05. In reviewing the year's activities [redacted: name] stated that the association's membership totals 518 with 103 members in the Youth Section and 219 in the Junior Section. Further, that the branch conducts six school classes with a total attendance of 286 and also courses in English for the adults five days and three evenings weekly with an attendance of approximately 70 pupils. The officers elected for the ensuing year were as follows: -

[redacted: name] President

[redacted: name] Vice-President

[redacted: name] Secretary-Treasurer

[redacted: name] Recording Secretary

[redacted: name] Assistant Recording Secretary

[redacted: name] Board of Auditors

[redacted:] On the afternoon of 27th January the Regent Theatre in Winnipeg, Man., was the scene of a meeting held under the joint auspices of Todowymatzu and the Canadian Labour Defence League in protest against the Polish, Rumanian and Czecho-Slovakian Governments' treatment of Ukrainian minorities in their respective countries. Alderman Forkin acted as Chairman, and the speakers were I. Minster, A. Brock, P. Lysets and A. Campbell.

Brock, in the course of his speech, made the remarkable statement that the Todowymatzu, whose stated aims and objects

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centre around the liberation movement of the Western Ukraine, has attributed \$4,831 to the Canadian Labour Defence League since 1931. By this Brock desired to show that Todowymatzu is a revolutionary organization actively engaged in the revolutionary movement in Canada.

Protest resolutions were read and passed which are to be sent to the Occupant Governments of Western Ukraine and also to the Premier. A resolution demanding the unconditional release of the Noranda and Flin Flon strikers was also passed and copies forwarded to Premiers Taschereau and Bracken.

[*#] [~~name~~] addressed a meeting held under the auspices of the Brandon (Man.) Branch of the Canadian Labour Defence League in the Ukrainian Hall at Brandon on 23rd January. She described the events leading up to the Flin Flon strike and the conditions under which the miners have to work. She charged that the criminal code is being used to prosecute the workers but not for the officials of the Hudson's Bay Mining Company whom she charged with murder. She said, "They have such a thing as the Criminal Code for murder but they just use it on the working class. Take two men planning to murder. They are caught and given 10 to 12 years for planning and if a man murders another person he has to hang but the officials of the Hudson's Bay Mining Company murder all they want just because they have got lots of more workers and a worker to them is a person just looking for a bite to eat". She stated that she went to Flin Flon in an endeavour to find a way to bring the miners together and organize them into a union in order to better their conditions. She also blamed the Prime Minister for a great deal of the trouble which occurred in that mining area. She also charged that the police used brutal force on the picket line and that they were prepared to shoot the workers down in cold blood had any trouble occurred. She appealed to the audience to join the Canadian Labour Defence League and give it all the support possible.

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The meeting was also addressed by [~~1/2 line~~] the former speaking in Russian. Both outlined the aims and objects of the Canadian Labour Defence League and urged the workers to support same.

V. ONTARIO8. Tim Buck Unable to Hire Hall in Ottawa.

[§<#] [§<deletion: name] arrived in Ottawa, Ont., from Montreal, Que., on the evening of 31st January and immediately engaged Chabot Hall on Somerset Street for Sunday, 3rd February. He also secured the Avalon Theatre for that day for the Tim Buck meeting. The owner of the theatre, however, cancelled the contract with the result that Tim Buck definitely abandoned the idea of coming to Ottawa to address a meeting.

[§<#] [§<deletion: name] Ukrainian Organizer for the Montreal (Que.) District, arrived in Ottawa, Ont., on 26th January and addressed an audience at the Chabot Hall in the afternoon of the 27th. He spoke on conditions in Western Ukraine and urged his audience to join Todowymazu.

In the evening of the same date he spoke briefly at 523 Arlington Avenue.

VI. QUEBEC9. Jewish Section of C.P. of C. Meets

[§<#] The Jewish Section of the Communist Party in Montreal, Que., met on the afternoon of 26th January in the Canadian Labour Circle Hall to discuss the United Front question on the Jewish field. Fred Rose and [§<deletion: name] were the principal speakers. It was pointed out that the Jewish fraction of the Communist Party in Montreal has failed in its task to create a United Front among the Jewish working class organizations.

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Rose stressed the need for combatting any effect that the "reform policy" enunciated by the Prime Minister of Canada may have on the Jewish workers. He pointed out that a United Front between the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation and the Communist Party for united action in the City of Montreal is feasible. "In Montreal", he said, "the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation has approached the Communist Party and have promised that they would not run a candidate wherever the Communist Party would have a member in the field. In return they asked for the same consideration, that is, the Communist Party should not run a candidate in any of the Constituencies in which a member of the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation had been nominated".

[deletion: name] alleged that while the Jewish Communist Party members have remained inactive the Fascist and Zionist groups have been organizing, with the result that today the influence of the Zionist organizations on the Jewish masses is far greater than that exerted by the Communist Party. He charged that during the last few years the Jewish Communist Party has gained no new members while the Zionists, with their "Nationalist" policy, have gained thousands of converts. He urged that the Communist Party send Jewish members into the Zionist organizations in an endeavour to win over as many of the Jewish workers as possible.

[#] [deletion: 1/4 page]

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[#] [deletion: 3/4 page]

[#]

VII. THE MARITIME PROVINCES

10. Strikes at Port Hood and Springhill

[#] A strike was declared at the Port Hood coal mines, N.S., on 24th January. The miners claimed that they have received no wages since 3rd November, 1934, and that there was nearly \$3,000 owing them and they went on strike. The miners proposed to appoint a Manager and take over the running of the mine themselves as they are entitled to do. They were informed by the Deputy Minister of Mines for the Provinces of Nova Scotia

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that the Manager appointed to run the mine must be somebody approved by the lessee of the property, [deletion: 1/2 line] Pickets interfered with the maintenance men for a day or two. Then the Deputy Minister of Mines for the Province of Nova Scotia, Mr. McKenzie, arrived at Port Hood and entered into negotiations with all interested parties. It was finally arranged that mining operations would be carried on under the management of [deletion: 1/2 line] Mr. McKenzie pointed out that [deletion: 2 words] until 24th March to settle up all arrears including the men's wages. If settlement has not been made by that date the lease would automatically expire and the mine would revert to the Government. New arrangements for leasing the property will then be made. The miners agreed to carry on under the management of [deletion: name] very reluctantly. [deletion: name] is both disliked and distrusted by the miners and there seems no

chance of any permanent settlement being arrived at so long as he remains in control. It was reported that shortly after this settlement [deletion: name] wired to [deletion: 1/2 line] suggesting that after a lapse of a few days [deletion: name] cancel all operations at the mine except the maintenance men. If any such scheme is attempted it is considered that there is liable to be further trouble as the miners will very quickly understand that they have been double-crossed by [deletion: name]

[deletion: #] The strike at the Cumberland Railway and Coal Company's Mine at Springhill was brought about because the management refused to dismiss 12 of their employees who are prominent members of the Amalgamated Mine Workers of Nova Scotia. The request for their dismissal came from members of United Mine Workers of America, the union to which the majority of the Springhill miners belong.

When Amalgamated Mine Workers' men appeared for work on the morning of 23rd January they found members of the United Mine Workers guarding the mine and preventing the Amalgamated

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Mine Workers from going down the shaft. A strong body of United Mine Workers followed the Amalgamated members from the mine to the Amalgamated Mine Workers' hall and beat up members of the latter. On the following day they again proceeded to the Amalgamated Mine Workers' hall and threw bottles, rocks and other missiles through the windows injuring several members of the Amalgamated Mine Workers Union. One member of the United Mine Workers was badly hurt in the battle that followed.

There was a report that the Amalgamated Mine Workers' members would be willing to join the United Mine Workers of America provided the 12 leaders over whom the strike was called are also accepted for membership. The United Mine Workers of America rejected this proposal and the strike continues.

[deletion: #] The leaders of the Amalgamated Mine Workers of Nova Scotia are continuing in their efforts to sit in with the United Mine Workers in the wage negotiations between the miners and the Dominion Coal Company. A public meeting was held in Glace Bay at McRae's Arena on 20th January sponsored by the Amalgamated Mine Workers. The meeting was poorly attended. The speakers were Bob Stewart and T. C. Sims with J. B. McLachlan in the chair. Sims and Stewart condemned the United Mine

Workers for ignoring the United Front proposals made by the Amalgamated Mine Workers.
