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WEEKLY SUMMARYREPORT ON REVOLUTIONARY ORGANIZATIONSAND AGITATORS IN CANADAReport

The Worker announces that the Dominion election in the North Winnipeg Constituency will be fought out between Mr. Heaps, the present member representing Labour, and Tim Buck, the Communist candidate. There will be no other contestants for this seat.

The League Against War and Fascism is assuming more importance all the time. [deletion: 3/4 line] who endeavour to use it as a cover for their activities.

The latest information from Flin Flon indicates that the proposed strike there is not likely to take place just yet. Some organizing with a view to a strike is proceeding.

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APPENDIX NO. I: GENERAL

1. The Student Peace Movement

A conference was held under the auspices of the Student Peace Movement in Toronto, Ont., on 2nd and 3rd March, 1935. About 45 delegates representing five universities, two high schools and various political and educational organizations and clubs were present. Among the organizations represented were the Canadian League of Youth and the Communist Student Group of the University of Toronto. A report was read on the Student World Congress which was attended by Ken Woodsworth and Marjorie Drummond from Toronto and M. Laxer of McGill University.

At the conference in Toronto were two Communist speakers. Tom Ewen, the Secretary of the Workers Unity League, spoke about "Marxist Approach to War". He explained that wars are caused by economic contradictions in the Capitalist system and are instigated by manufacturers of munitions for profit. In order to root out war it is absolutely necessary to do away with the Capitalist system, he contended. "No Communists will co-operate with any organization to prevent war. Communists are not Pacifists and if war breaks out we will turn the Imperialist war into the Civil war in order to abolish the Capitalist system and thus remove war causes for ever". He denounced the League of Nations for its failure to solve the trouble between China and Japan, urged the students to join up with the working class organizations and asserted that the Soviet Union is the only country which is aiming to promote universal peace.

A. A. McLeod, another Communist sympathizer, and National Chairman of the Canadian League Against War and Fascism, reviewed the progress of the conference and made a number of suggestions one of which was that the delegates should study Tom Ewen's speech and that the Student Peace Movement should link itself up with the working class movement.

This conference was very closely watched by Bill Kashton, the General Secretary of the Young Communist League,

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as well as by A. A. McLeod. [deletion: 3 1/2 lines]

2. Communists Propose United Front to C.C.F.

[deletion: #] The Toronto (Ont.) and District Committee of the Communist Party has addressed an open letter to all members of the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation and to the Toronto organizations of the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation calling for a united May Day based on immediate demands.

The Communist Party, it is reported, had previously sent a letter and a delegation to the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation Council proposing a conference called jointly by both Parties or one called by the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation with an invitation to the Communist Party to take part. The Communist Party proposed the following as a basis for the joint conference:--

- (1) Joint actions against sweat shop conditions; for a living wage; against wage cuts; for the right to strike and picket as the most effective weapon in the hands of labor.
- (2) For non-contributory unemployment insurance; for an immediate increase in relief of fifty per cent above the Campbell report; against evictions; for a minimum \$15 monthly rent payment to all unemployed families; for exemption from taxation for all unemployed home owners; for a public building program to abolish the slum areas in Toronto and provide work at trade union rates of wages for the building trades workers.
- (3) Against war and fascism.

The Regional Council of the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation in reply to this letter said that "no good purpose be served" by agreeing to the proposal of the Communist Party.

In the open letter the Communist Party states:--

"Can the Regional Committee of the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation honestly and straightforwardly state that it will be of 'no

good purpose' for the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation, Communists and other workers to unite in a

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joint mass meeting and demonstration for non-contributory unemployment insurance, against sweat shop conditions, for higher relief, for a slum clearance and against evictions, against war and Fascism".

Appealing to the rank and file members of the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation the open letter of the Communist Party says:--

"Fellow workers, you are in opposition to capitalism. You are in favor of a new social order. In order to bring about a new social order, we must commonly fight for it, we must unite now in defense of the daily interests and needs of the Canadian working people. This is the road to a new social order. Those really opposed to capitalism, those who really have the interests of the working people at heart must unite their forces to realize non-contributory unemployment insurance, a plank adopted only recently by the national council of the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation".

The open letter concludes:--

"Let your voices be heard in the demand for a united May Day. Just think what a forceful weapon Toronto labor will present, a mighty demonstration and parade..... We cannot afford to let any obstacle stand in the way of achieving unity. Forward to a united May Day!"

The Toronto May Day Committee, an instrument of the Workers Unity League, has issued a call to all labour organizations for a May Day Conference on Friday, 15th March, at the Labour Temple.

The Communists have expressed a determination to make this coming May Day one of the biggest May Day celebrations in the history of the Canadian Revolutionary Movement.

3. Tim Buck's Recent Speeches

(a) To the Communist Party in Winnipeg

[✂#] The Communist Party at Winnipeg, Man., held an election meeting in the Olympic Rink on 3rd March. The speakers were Aldermen Joe Forkin and Jacob Penner, John Navizowsky and Tim Buck.

Tim Buck, in his address, intimated that this would be the last time a Communist candidate would be allowed to run for Parliament, that the present democratic Government would be

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replaced by a Fascist dictatorship. He felt quite confident that he would be elected by the workers in the Winnipeg North Constituency and explained that he would put a motion before the House of Commons urging the repeal of Sections 40, 41 and 42 of the Immigration Act and Section 98 of the Criminal Code.

The meeting, which it was expected would draw a capacity audience, was only attended by approximately 800 people.

(b) To the Progressive Arts club

[3<#] On 7th March Tim Buck addressed about 250 people who attended a concert of the Progressive Arts Club in the Workers' Theatre at Winnipeg, Man. He pointed out the important role which the Workers' Theatre plays in building up and strengthening the workers' organizations. He praised the efforts made by the Progressive Arts Club in counteracting the influence of the bourgeois theatres. He maintained that the Revolutionary Movement needs a proper portrayal of life of the working class, and urged the workers to come to the support of the Progressive Arts Club. Commenting on the suppression of the play "Eight Men Speak" he said that the action of the authorities in that regard strengthened the defence movement considerably and helped to advertise the play. "We are far stronger than we ever thought or could expect to be, we are confident of mass support which is a real encouragement for the leaders who will lead the workers into a much more intensive battle", he said.

Mass recitations based on the case of the nine Negro boys, two of whose cases are now before the Supreme Court of the U.S.A., together with musical selections rendered by the Russian Club String Orchestra and assisted by a male voice quartette made up the program of this concert.

(c) To the Russian Workers' Club

[3<#] Tim Buck addressed a meeting of the Russian Workers' Club in Winnipeg, Man., on 4th March; there being about 250

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people present including a few Ukrainians, Jews and Hungarians.

Yasny, the Editor of Kanadsky Gudok, opened the meeting and told the audience about Tim Buck running in North Winnipeg in the coming Federal elections.

Buck told of the heroic struggles of the Russian workers which resulted in the overthrow of the Czarist regime and the establishment of the workers'

dictatorship. He spoke of Lenin's work and the position he held in the International Labour Movement before the Great War. He told of how Lenin fought the reactionaries and how eventually he succeeded in forming the Communist International. Buck also briefly reviewed the Revolutionary Movement in Canada giving the Russian group considerable credit for the contributions made by them towards it. Buck said the Capitalists in Canada are afraid of the Revolutionary Movement, that they fear the strength of the working class. It was due to this, he maintained, that the Communists who were incarcerated in Kingston were released. "To Hell with Section 98", Buck said, "the Communist Party will organize the workers and fight to a finish to overthrow the Capitalist state and to establish a Soviet Canada".

4. Communist Candidates, Dominion Election

[✂#] A recent Nomination Convention of the Communist Party in Vancouver, B.C., nominated Malcolm Bruce as their standard bearer in the forthcoming Federal elections for the Vancouver East Constituency.

[✂#] A. E. Smith, General Secretary of the Canadian Labour Defence League, has been nominated as Communist Party candidate for the Port Arthur (Ont.) Constituency in the coming Federal elections.

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Harvey Murphy is to be transferred from the Montreal (Que.) District. He is scheduled to leave for Toronto, Ont., on 7th March and thence to Blairmore, Alta., where he is to be nominated as the Communist Party candidate in the coming Federal elections.

[✂#] It is reported in the revolutionary press that Sam Carr has been appointed Organizer of the Communist Federal Election Campaign Committee.

5. Some Prominent Communists

[✂#] Jack Cowan, who led the delegation sent by the Friends of the Soviet Union to the U.S.S.R. recently, has been appointed National Secretary of the Friends of the Soviet Union in Canada.

William Sydney has been released from his duties as Secretary of this organization and has become a member of The Worker staff.

Fred Hodgson has been appointed Editor of the journal Soviet Russia Today. He is also in charge of the Associated Labour Press, a news agency in Toronto.

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APPENDIX NO. II: REPORTS BY PROVINCES

I. ALBERTA

6. Mike Nowakowsky, Candidate for Provincial Election

Mike Nowakowsky, a prominent member of the Communist Party who played a prominent part in the grain delivery strike at Myrna m, Vegreville and Mundare, Alta., was named to contest the Whitford Constituency in the next Provincial elections.

II. SASKATCHEWAN

7. T. G. McManus and Pete Mikkelson

[2<#] T. G. McManus and Pete Mikkelson addressed a meeting held under the auspices of the Saskatchewan Association of Unemployed in the Little Victoria School at Yorkton, Sask., on 25th February. Jim Stevenson, President of the local branch, presided over the meeting.

Mikkelson reported on the Congress on Unemployment Insurance held in Ottawa recently. He informed the audience that the delegation which was appointed by the Ottawa Congress when visiting the Prime Minister informed him of the fate of the Czar of Russia although the delegation did not propose doing the same to Mr. Bennett.

T. G. McManus recounted the interview which the Saskatchewan Unemployed Conference delegates had with Premier Gardiner and his Government. He advised the local organization to approach the Mayor and Town Council of Yorkton immediately and make their demands. He urged better co-operation throughout the province. Their aim should be to become stronger than the Police and Militia in order that the workers may be able to show the Government who was in power. "If sufficiently organized bullets can't stop us", he said. He also suggested that the unemployed go to Regina in thousands and demand their needs as they would never get them by any other means. He also intimated that a number of delegates would leave Regina shortly for the

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various relief camps in an endeavour to arouse and organize the inmates of those camps.

McManus received considerable applause by the 300 people who attended the meeting.

[3<#] Gordon Green, one of the delegates who attended the Provincial Conference on Unemployment at Regina recently, and who was one of the spokesmen of the delegation interviewing the Saskatchewan Legislature, was the main speaker at a meeting held under the auspices of the Saskatchewan Association of Unemployed in the Town Hall at Herbert, Sask., on 26th February. Anthony Haughian, a Justice of the Peace, acted as Chairman and in addition to Green's address short speeches were also given by Dyck and Robertson, both of Swift Current.

Gordon Green spoke for about an hour outlining relief conditions in Swift Current, comparing them with relief conditions of three or four years ago and giving the Saskatchewan Association of Unemployed credit for all improvements which have been made. He closed his address with a short summary on the Provincial Conference held at Regina, stressing the necessity of forming a union in Herbert.

As a result of this meeting an active branch of the Saskatchewan Association of Unemployed came into being at Herbert.

[3<#] Mike Pesklivets was the principal speaker at a conference held under the auspices of the Farmers Unity League at Lisieux, Sask., on 28th February; the subject of his address being "The Farm Emergency Bill" which is being sponsored by the Farmers Unity League in the Province of Saskatchewan. At the close of Pesklivets' speech the meeting was thrown open for discussion. Prominent among those taking part in the discussion were Edward Hayes, of Glentworth; F. Bliss, of Scout Lake; Kerr, of Borderland; Keubler, of Scout Lake; Julius Borgenson, of Rockglen; W. Ching, of St. Victor; J. Mayhew, of Lisieux;

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and a farmer from Glentworth whose name could not be ascertained.

Edward Hayes of Glentworth was chosen to represent this conference at a conference to be held at Assiniboia on about 28th March.

A. Grievance Committee was also selected composed of John Mayhew, J. Borgenson, F. Bliss, Sikori, F. Chevallier and W. Ching.

At the close of the meeting Pesklivets asked that this conference endorse a request for the immediate release of the Alberta grain strike prisoners which was granted.

A collection was also taken up to help defraying the expenses.

[3<#] Considerable activity has been displayed by the Communists in the Bienfait (Sask.) District recently. Secret meetings have been held in the houses of the Communists and a considerable amount of Communist literature has been distributed among the miners employed in various mines in the district. It is reported that \$132 have been collected recently for the Communist Press Fund.

III. MANITOBA

8. C.L.D.L. Finances

[3<#] The District Central Council of the Canadian Labour Defence League at Winnipeg, Man., met on 2nd March. Various matters of a routine nature were discussed, chief among them being finances, organization and the election campaign. The financial situation was reported to be in a critical state. The income is falling off with the expenses and debts steadily mounting. It was decided to institute a campaign with a view to increasing the membership and to better organizing the Canadian Labour Defence League in order that it will be in a better position to take an active part in the forthcoming general election.

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The Flin Flon situation was not discussed at this meeting. it is learned, however, that the Canadian Labour Defence League in Winnipeg will not make any move in the near future in this regard. it is felt that the miners at Flin Flon will have to rely upon their own resources and institute a campaign of their own, for if outside organizers and agitators are sent to Flin Flon this would create a handicap to the strikers and would be used against them, thus giving them less chance of having their demands met. It has been reported that the mine workers or at least a certain section of them at Flin Flon are not satisfied with conditions and intend to strike some time during the present session of the Manitoba Legislature. Hoping that the Flin Flon workers will obtain the support of the Labour members in the Legislature the Canadian Labour Defence League and the Communist Party will refrain from taking definite action at Flin Flon as long as the Legislature is in session.

[✂#] Tony Sender, former member of the German Reichstag, now living in exile in Belgium, addressed a mass meeting under the auspices of the Winnipeg Conference Against War and Fascism at the Palace Theatre, Winnipeg, Man., on the afternoon of 3rd March. There were only about 500 people present, with A. W. Atwater, President of the league, in the chair.

Miss Sender spoke on "Hitler's Germany". She described the ruthlessness of the Nazis' rule under Hitler and claimed that the regime has not the support of the masses of Germany. She said that many workers have been put behind the walls of the Concentration Camps and many of them never will see their homes again. She further charged that the position of the women in Germany was desperate. The women, she contended, were barred from all the rights of higher education and almost any kind of gainful occupation. Speaking of the militarization of Germany she said that every man must be a soldier and is being prepared for war. Germany, she alleged, is preparing for a more deadly war than the last World War. She said that 1,000 planes

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are being built in Germany per week and that an army of seven million may be put up in a short time if necessary.

[✂#] A Youth Section of the Polish Workers Farmers Organization has been established recently in Winnipeg, Man. Twenty-six members joined the section at a meeting held on 24th February. Zygmund Majtchak, a new comer from the East, has been largely responsible for the formation of this Youth Movement.

IV. ONTARIO

9. N.E.C. of C.L.D.L. Meets in Toronto

[✂#] The National Executive Committee of the Canadian Labour Defence League held an enlarged meeting on 24th February at Toronto, Ont., with members present from Montreal, Windsor, Hamilton and Sudbury. The report on organization revealed that the Canadian Labour Defence League now has a total membership of 14,327 organized into 328 branches. It was pointed out that while this marks a decline in membership since the

highpoint recorded in 1932, nevertheless it registered an increase since the Canadian Labour Defence League Plenum of September last.

The main points under consideration centered around the Noranda Defence Campaign and steps to strengthen same; methods of most profitably celebrating the present 10th year of the existence of the Canadian Labour Defence League; the improvement of international solidarity campaigns; the improvement and stabilization of the Labor Defender.

[✂#] At a recent meeting of the Toronto (Ont.) District Council of the Workers Unity League a Campaign Committee was formed with Paul Phillips as Chairman. The plans of this committee call for the raising of a large sum for a fund to organize heavy industry. Quotas have been set for each union. Stamps have been distributed to the various bodies affiliated

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for sale in the shops and at meetings. A special March campaign meeting will be held at every local union and mass organization. Special affairs are also to be arranged throughout the city with a view to raising money. It is planned to conclude the campaign with a mass meeting and concert in one of the largest halls in Toronto.

[✂#] With the 2nd March issue The Worker now appears three times a week. This marks the 13th anniversary of the founding of this paper.

V. QUEBEC

10. Noranda Protest Meeting in Montreal

[✂#] The Noranda protest meeting sponsored by the Canadian Labour Defence League in the Prince Arthur Hall, Montreal, Que., on 1st March was attended by approximately 300 people, most of whom were foreigners. There were practically no French-Canadians present. George Hincks acted as Chairman, and the speakers were Armstrong, of the Labour Party and the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation; Harvey Murphy, local Organizer of the Workers Unity League; Rubenstein, Co-operative Commonwealth Federation candidate in the St. Louis Division of Montreal; and J. S. Wallace. The speeches were all made in English.

The first speaker, Armstrong, contended that there is very much discrimination against the foreign-born workers not only by the employers but by the Canadian workers as well. This, he said, was due to the education

that the Canadian workers received. Canadian workers, he said, are taught to feel superior to foreign workers and in many cases during strikes Canadian workers "scab" on the foreigners. In the case of the Noranda strikers only the foreign-born workers were sent to jail, he maintained. He said that the conditions in the Noranda mine were bad and it did not require much imagination to see why the

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Noranda miners went on strike. He further claimed that the sentences meted out to the strikers constituted a direct attack on the right to strike and to free speech and assembly. To combat this attack, he pleaded, the working class must forget its political opinions and unite.

Harvey Murphy thanked the Labour Party and the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation for forming a United Front on this Noranda issue. He observed that the authorities are now beginning to feel the force of mass pressure. He also described the conditions in the mines, stating that they were bad. He asserted that the miners are continuing to organize and that the activities displayed by the Canadian Labour Defence League has given new life to the struggling miners.

Rubenstein also alleged that conditions of the working class are growing continually worse. He maintained that the only way the workers can win better conditions was by organizing and striking for their demands. Though conditions are bad throughout Canada, he said, the Province of Quebec has the reputation of being the worst of the lot and unless the workers unite against the attacks that are being made upon them they stand to lose everything they have gained in the years of their struggle.

The speaker promised to do all in his power in order to get the Noranda strikers free.

J. S. Wallace also thanked the Labour Party and the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation for joining in this campaign and further urged the two organizations to help the Noranda Defence Committee in their campaign to have the arrested strikers released from jail.

Although the attendance at this meeting was very small considerable importance has been attached to it because of the United Front achieved between the Labour Party, the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation and the Canadian Labour Defence League. Alex Gauld has been credited with this achievement.

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VI. THE MARITIME PROVINCES11. Wage Agreement Reached at New Glasgow
and Stellarton

The United Mine Workers at New Glasgow and Stellarton, N. S., voted [3<#] on the new agreement which calls for a five per cent increase in wages over those paid during the past year. Three hundred and fifty votes were recorded in favour of accepting the new terms while 241 voted against doing so. The new scale will now come into force for the next six months. The result of this vote also affects the Allan Shaft and Albion Mine at Stellarton and the Acadia Mine at Thorburne. Only members of the United Mine Workers of America took part in this vote as the Acadia Company does not recognize the Amalgamated Mine Workers of Nova Scotia.
