

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE HEADQUARTERS

Ottawa,

20th March, 1935.

SECRETNO. 749WEEKLY SUMMARYREPORT ON REVOLUTIONARY ORGANIZATIONSAND AGITATORS IN CANADAReport

During his stay in Winnipeg Tim Buck was kept exceedingly busy. His meetings were all well attended. He has now gone to Calgary, where he was also warmly welcomed.

There is little probability of a strike in the immediate future at the plant of the Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting Company at Flin Flon. The outlook in the Crow's Nest Pass is not very favourable. Harvey Murphy is reported to be going back to this district.

Peter Mikkelson is becoming quite active in Saskatchewan. He has addressed meetings at a number of places in the province under the auspices of the Saskatchewan Union of Unemployed.

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APPENDIX NO. I: GENERAL

I. Tim Buck's Activities in Winnipeg

(A) Address to Women's Labour League

Tim Buck was the guest speaker at a meeting arranged by the Women's Labour League at Winnipeg, Man., on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the International Women's Day on 8th March at Room 205, Plymouth Building. Between 300 and 400 people were present, chiefly women of mixed nationalities. Mrs. Johnson acted as Chairman and, in her opening [deletion: #] address, explained to the audience the purpose of the meeting and how International Women's Day was founded by Clara Zetkin, the famous German Communist leader. In the course of her speech she contended that Fascism was now creeping into Canada. She condemned Fascism because it takes the rights away from the women and puts them back into the houses to be "breeding" machines.

Mrs. H. Scott also addressed the meeting, giving an outline of what a recent delegation of women had found in the soup kitchens of Winnipeg. She also spoke on conditions prevailing in the girls' hostels, describing same as "terrible".

In introducing Buck the Chairman remarked that she felt sure the Communists could not find a more competent leader anywhere. Tim Buck gave an outline of the history of the women and suffragette movement, paying a glowing tribute to some of the leaders. He recounted in detail some of the actions of the Women's Labour Leagues in Eastern Canada in order to make themselves heard. He related how in Hamilton, Ont., the widows on relief were compelled to work for it by mending old clothes. The Women's Labour League decided that this was "terrible" and should be stopped so they sent a delegation to all the women's organizations in the city asking for delegates to go and see the Mayor. Buck explained that they did not parade down the streets with banners but converged on the City Hall in all directions like an army in an attack; that they went through the Council Room, into the Mayor's office and sat down on the chairs and

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desk to wait for him. There they remained until their requests were granted. This, and other instances of a similar nature, Buck cited as an example as to what militant women could do in the struggle of the working class.

Speaking about Fascism, Buck named as one of the potential leaders of Fascism in Canada Mayor C. Houde of Montreal.

He closed with an appeal to the working women to come out and organize and work for a better country.

(B) Meeting in Polish Labour Temple

[3<#] The Communist Party held an election campaign meeting in the Polish Labour Temple at Winnipeg, Man., on 11th March. The meeting was arranged by the Polish Labour Temple Association, and the people in attendance were chiefly people living in the vicinity of the hall. The hall was crowded to capacity and some 12 or 14 representatives of various organizations were prominently seated on the stage and expressed greetings and good wishes to Tim Buck. In addition to greeting Tim Buck they also made financial contributions ranging from \$1 to \$10, making a total of \$56.

W. Dutkiewicz, Editor of Glos Pracy, presided over the meeting and gave Tim Buck a most eloquent introduction calling him the real savior of the working class.

Tim Buck accepted the expression of confidence in the name of the working class of Canada. He marked that he now realizes more than ever the reason why the eight Communist leaders were released from Kingston penitentiary.

In speaking of Fascism which formed the main theme of his address, he said that Fascism was not a matter of coloured shirts -- brown or black or any other colour -- that it was a matter of policy for the Capitalists to fool the workers in their attempt to further exploit them. He said that it was the last attempt to mislead the people. He appealed to the Polish War

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Veterans and pointed out that what they had been fighting for was the lot of the starving workers and not the promised democracy. He urged the workers to get together and organize and promised that if elected to Parliament he will utilize his position to further the interests of the working class and the Revolutionary Movement in general.

Z. Majtczak, a young man, recently arrived from the East, and General Secretary of the Polish Labour Farmer Temple Association, also addressed the meeting in Polish, urging the people to become organized and expel

from their midst all "misleaders" who are in the employ of the Polish bourgeoisie.

This was one of the largest gatherings ever held in this hall. It was a very enthusiastic meeting and a silver collection netted \$11.74.

(C) Speaks to C.L.D.L. Mass Meeting

[3<#] The Canadian Labour Defence League in Winnipeg, Man., held a well attended mass meeting in the Regent Theatre on 10th March. R. Cunningham acted as Chairman and the speakers were Miss Molly Brown, A. E. Smith and Tim Buck.

Molly Brown, a young Jewess and a member of the District Central Committee of the Canadian Labour Defence League, who has taken over much of the work of Mabel Marlowe during the time of the latter's incarceration, briefly outlined the history of the organization and the important part it plays in the Revolutionary struggle.

Tim Buck devoted the whole of his time to what he termed the "strike terror" at the Noranda mine. He described the conditions which prevailed in the mine before the strike, claiming that it was dangerous to work in this mine. He charged that the mine owners during the short period the mine has been in operation have taken huge profits out of the mine at the expense of the men that toil therein. He also charged that the State had given every assistance possible to the owners and that

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it helped to segregate the foreign-born miners from the Anglo-Saxon, tried them and committed them to long imprisonment and some to deportation. He was very severe in his criticism regarding the courts and the Government of Quebec describing same as most despicable and a disgrace to present-day civilization. Buck also alleged that the principal object of the mine owners was to prevent the workers from organizing. Hence they were compelled to organize in secret in groups of tens. He also alleged that the mine operators have organized a very extensive system of espionage and that discrimination is rampant.

A. E. Smith described at great length the different interviews he had with the Minister of Immigration, the Minister of Justice and the Prime Minister at Ottawa from the time the eight Communist leaders were sent to Kingston Penitentiary. He alleged that the recent change in the attitude of Mr. Bennett towards the revolutionary leaders was not due to a change of heart but that it was brought about by the mass pressure exerted by the working class from all corners of Canada. J. S. Woodsworth, he claimed, was trying to

becloud the issue; that he has no clear policy to offer to the working class. He also told of a recent interview which he had with Mr. H. H. Stevens after which the latter had promised to look carefully into the case of the convicted Noranda strikers. Smith informed the audience that at this interview with Mr. Stevens he branded the authorities, both Dominion and Provincial, as most outrageous and despicable to which Mr. Stevens said nothing but merely shrugged his shoulders.

Smith also urged the audience to work hard in this election campaign in order to have Tim Buck elected.

A nominal admission charge of 25 cents was made at this meeting and in addition Buck made a special appeal for donations. It is estimated that the proceeds from this meeting amounted to over \$200.

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2. Communist Nominations

At a Communist Election Conference held on 8th March at Toronto, Ont., Stewart Smith and J. B. Salsberg were nominated as candidates in two of the Toronto Constituencies. The keynote of the conference was the proposal that a United Front be established in the election between the [✂#] Co-Operative Commonwealth Federation and the Communist Party on the basis of the main issues confronting the Revolutionary Movement. The fight against war and Fascism was cited as the most important issue before the conference.

The conference elected a Constituency Committee to lead the campaign in each of the two Ridings. Meyer Kligg was elected to the post of City Campaign Manager.

[✂#] A Communist Election Conference held at Timmins, Ont., recently, nominated Tom Ewen, National Secretary of the Workers' Unity League, as Communist standard bearer in the Constituency of North Temiskaming in the coming Federal elections.

In accepting the nomination Tom Ewen outlined the problems facing the Communist Party and its tasks in the coming general elections.

3. The W.U.L. and Trade Union Unity

[9<#] In their effort to create a United Front the Communists in the name of the National Executive Board of the Workers' Unity League of Canada have now issued an open letter to all trade unions and workers appealing for trade union unity and proposing the amalgamation of all trade unions into one powerful Dominion-wide federation on the basis of the following points:--

- (1) Resistance to all wage-reductions and worsening of working conditions; united struggle to gain higher wages, better working conditions and a shorter working day and working week with no reduction in earnings; Non-Contributory Social and Unemployment Insurance to provide security to all unemployed and

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employed workers and employees; united action to maintain and improve the democratic rights of labor to organize, strike and picket.

- (2) Co-operation by all Labor Unions to inaugurate a nation-wide crusade for 100 per cent unionism to build up all existing unions and to bring the thousands of unorganized workers of the big open-shop industries into the trade unions.
- (3) The unifying of the trade unions, their building up and the creation of a strong all-inclusive federation of Canadian Labor can take place upon the basis of the united struggles in the factories, mines, mills and camps around the issues contained in clauses 1 and 2, and upon the basis of full trade union democracy, i.e., all members of the trade unions would have the democratic right to express their opinions freely upon all questions that are of vital concern to the working people; all members would be eligible to run for all elective positions in the unions, and no member would be discriminated against because of his or

her political opinions.

The letter calls upon all trade union executives, councils, locals and members to discuss these proposals and the possibilities of organizationally uniting the entire trade union movement.

The letter remarks:--

"The Workers' Unity League always stood for a united trade union movement based upon the struggle for the genuine interests of all the workers. In the past few years the workers of almost all industries have come to realize the truth of the old saying: 'UNITED WE STAND, DIVIDED WE FALL'. Hundreds of strike struggles, thousand of struggles in the factories and places of work have proved to all that the workers are uniting in action to gain their just rights. The Stratford strike showed that such unity of A.F. of L., A.C.C.L., W.U.L., and unorganized workers could defeat tanks, troops and bayonets".

In conclusion the letter says:--

"Co-operation with the employers has been proven to be the road to disaster and defeat! Co-operation of all the forces of Labor against the attacks of Capital is the urgent need of the day, brothers and sisters!"

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APPENDIX NO. II: REPORTS BY PROVINCES

I. BRITISH COLUMBIA

4. Malcolm Bruce Speaks at L.W.I.U. Meeting

Approximately 500 people attended a meeting of the Lumber Workers' Industrial Union held in the Orange Hall at Vancouver, B.C., on 3rd March. Glen Lamont acted as Chairman, and Malcolm Bruce and Fred Grange were the speakers.

☞# Bruce chose as his subject "Industrial Action and Political Action". The first part of his speech consisted of a lecture on the fundamental teachings of Karl Marx. He then explained to the audience how the new social order had been established in Russia and the progress made in that country since that date. He also devoted a considerable portion of his time to, what he termed, "the Bennett fake unemployment insurance scheme". He alleged that the Government proposes to make the workers pay for the scheme. He also claimed that Mr. Bennett stole the Co-Operative Commonwealth Federation programme.

Fred Grange, of the Provincial Workers' Council, gave a short outline on the work performed by his organization and the part it played in the struggle for unemployment insurance.

[✂#] The revolutionaries in Vancouver, B.C., are making considerable progress among local Chinese in their efforts to build up a United Front.

The Chinese Workers' Protective Association held a mass meeting in the Royal Theatre, Vancouver, on 10th March. Pete Low, a Chinese, announced that a delegation had been to interview Mayor McGeer, Mr. McVety, of the Provincial Relief Department, and also the Chinese Consul in connection with the question of improving conditions among the local Chinese. He announced that several of his countrymen would speak in their own language to their compatriots in the hall. Several Chinese then took the platform charging that conditions prevailing in the Chinese soup kitchen at 143½ Pender Street were miserable and

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demanded that all Chinese in the city be placed on direct relief on the same basis as the white workers.

Fred Grange, of the Provincial Workers' Council, told the audience of the result of the interview with the Mayor on 18th February.

George Drayton, representing the Communist Party of Canada, also condemned conditions at the Chinese Mission and charged the Anglican Church with the responsibility for same. He told the Chinese present that their only way out of the difficulty would be by mass action and suggested that the Chinese parade to one of the big churches some Sunday morning and show the people of this city just how many of them were on relief. The speeches of Drayton and Grange were translated into Chinese by a selected interpreter.

The attendance was approximately 1,100 people, and the collection netted \$11.15.

[✂#] Approximately 250 people were present at a meeting of the Workers Ex-Service Men's League at 122A West Hastings St., Vancouver, B.C., on 6th March. The meeting was originally staged for the purpose of discussing the arrival of the German Cruiser "Karlsruhe".

Breffet, of the Friends of the Soviet Union, the first speaker, intimated that he had not come prepared to speak on the matter of the "Karlsruhe" but instead would lecture on "War and Fascism". He dealt at great length with what he termed the armament race of the various countries, and dealt particularly with the Imperialist expansion of Japan. He claimed that the German Empire under Hitler wanted additional territory and this the Nazi planned to take in the Ukraine. But, he said, the Red Army of Soviet Russia

would have something to say about that. He concluded his speech by eulogizing the Red Army and the police system of the U.S.S.R.

O'Neill, of the Ex-Service Men's League, delivered a bitter attack against Fascism in British Columbia and urged those

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present to organize and to fight it. Fascism, he claimed, was already rampant in the province. He hoped that everybody would turn out to "welcome" the "Karlsruhe". Asked from the floor if they should greet the "Karlsruhe" with rocks, O'Neill said there would be a big conference later on and a plan of action would be promulgated.

- [3<#] Al. Parkin, Editor of the B.C. Lumber Worker, has been selected to attend a Lumber Workers' Conference on 10th March at Seattle, Washington, U.S.A., as a one man delegation from the Lumber Workers' Industrial Union of Canada.

II. ALBERTA

5. McPherson Reports on Ottawa Conference

- [3<#] J. A. MacPherson, who was a delegate to the Ottawa Congress on Unemployment, addressed a meeting held under the auspices of the Unemployed Married Men's Association in the Empire Theatre at Edmonton, Alta., on the afternoon of 3rd March. Approximately 250 persons attended with S. Bowcott in the chair.

Bowcott, in his opening remarks, outlined the reason why J. A. MacPherson had been sent to Ottawa to attend the Unemployed Congress. He urged the audience to support non-contributory unemployment insurance and then scored some of the leaders of the Edmonton Trade Unions who had condemned his action in the Labour Movement.

J. A. MacPherson, in submitting his report on the proceedings of the Ottawa Congress, stated that there were 160 delegates present representing 250,000 workers in Canada. He explained the difference between contributory and non-contributory unemployment insurance, and stated that the latter had received the unanimous endorsement by the congress. He urged the working class to unite and struggle for unemployment security

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by way of non-contributory unemployment insurance. He also lauded the activities of Tim Buck, and scored Prime Minister Bennett's attitude

towards non-contributory unemployment insurance. He also urged free medical service for unemployed men and women and that wage cuts and cuts in relief grants be combatted.

J. Lakeman also addressed the meeting abusing the Edmonton Trades and Labour Council for their action in withholding its support to the Unemployed Movement for non-contributory unemployment insurance. He urged the workers belonging to trade unions to see that next year a new President and Secretary are elected in the Edmonton Trades and Labour Council.

III. SASKATCHEWAN

6. Peter Mikkelson, Saskatchewan of Unemployed Union

[9<#] Peter Mikkelson, President of the Saskatchewan Union of Unemployed, addressed a meeting of unemployed in the Co-Operative Commonwealth Federation Hall in Prince Albert, Sask., on 4th March. The meeting was poorly attended but listened to with enthusiasm by a small gathering of unemployed.

The subject of Mikkelson's address was "Workers Interview Bennett". He gave an account of the Ottawa Congress on Unemployment Insurance which he attended as a delegate from Saskatchewan. He contended that both the Provincial and Federal Governments had no real interest in the real needs of the unemployed and urged organization and unity as the only possible way for the unemployed to better their position. He made it very clear that the City of Prince Albert was not living up to its relief agreements with the Government; that the relief administration in this city has become a racket. He pointed out the methods of relief administrations that had been secured by Melville, Yorkton, Moose Jaw, Weyburn, Swift Current and Regina

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where the Relief Boards had members of the unemployed organization on the Board. He further claimed that in the City of Regina a thirty-five per cent increase had been brought about by organization.

As the result of Mikkelson's visit to Prince Albert the foundation was laid for a branch of the Saskatchewan Union of Unemployed.

[9<#] The North West Regina (Sask.) Union of Unemployed held a meeting in the Scott Collegiate Institute, Regina, Sask., on 8th March. Pete Mikkelson

son, President and Chief Organizer of the Saskatchewan Union of Unemployed, was the speaker. He reported on the recent Ottawa Congress on Unemployment, discussing in particular the non-contributory unemployment insurance scheme.

The meeting decided to affiliate with the Saskatchewan Union of Unemployed and elected the following officers: President, Pete Mikkelson; Vice-President, Fred Boor; Secretary Treasurer, L. Bates.

[3<#] On 5th March Peter Mikkelson addressed a gathering of approximately 60 relief recipients in the Town Hall at Melfort, Sask. The meeting was held under the auspices of the newly-formed Melfort Married Men's Unemployed Association on the platform with Mikkelson were the President and the Secretary of this organization.

Mikkelson spoke for some two hours giving a report on the Ottawa Congress on Unemployment Insurance. He also outlined the results of the interview the Saskatchewan Conference delegation had with the Provincial Legislature some time ago. He urged that all unemployed unite throughout the province in order that sufficient pressure may be brought to bear to back up their demands. He stated that the union was opposed to working for relief which he termed "forced labour".

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The Melville (Sask.) Branch of the Saskatchewan Unemployed Association held a mass meeting in the Town Hall on 26th February. It was attended by about 400 people, most of whom were unemployed and who came out on strike against the offer made by the Town authorities on 18th February.

[3<#] Frank Bowers, President of the local branch, occupied the chair, and the speakers were P. Mikkelson and T. J. McManus of Regina. Mikkelson, the first speaker, reported on his visit to Ottawa as a delegate to the Congress on Unemployment Insurance. He reported that the non-contributory unemployment insurance scheme sponsored by the Ottawa Congress was turned down by the Prime Minister. He contended that the unemployment insurance scheme sponsored by the Canadian Government would institute a form of Fascism in Canada.

T. J. McManus admitted he was a Communist and urged upon the railway and other workers to support the unemployed in their struggle for a higher standard of living. He asserted that Premier Bennett was trying to divide the working class.

IV. MANITOBA

7. A. E. Smith at Fort William

[3<#] A. E. Smith was one of the main speakers at a meeting held by the Fort William Branch of the Canadian Labour Defence League at Fort William, Ont., on 8th March. He said that since the workers of Port Arthur had selected him to run as candidate in that Constituency in the coming Federal election everyone in the audience should become an active agitator on his behalf and make every effort to get him elected. He promised in case of election to press for a repeal of Section 98, the release of all political prisoners, the right to strike and picket and the abolition of Sections 40, 41 and 42 of the Immigration Act. He emphasized the right to use the strike as a weapon to fight for better conditions. He also lauded the line pursued by the Communist Party of Canada saying that it was the correct one which

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will eventually lead the workers to final victory.

There were approximately 300 people in attendance, and a short speech was also given by C. Stewart who urged the audience to come out and demonstrate on 12th March which marks the opening of the trials of those who were arrested in Port Arthur some time ago.

[3<#] Members of the Industrial Union of Needle Trades Workers of Canada staged a mass picket in front of the Standard Clothing Company's shop at Winnipeg, Man., on the afternoon of 14th March. About 150 workers that gathered there were addressed by Isidore Minster and L. Vassil in connection with the strike of employees which has been in progress in this plant now for three weeks.

Minster directed his address mostly to the Police of whom a strong force stood by in case of any trouble. Minster reminded the Police of the event of 1919 asking them how they liked the "scabs" then and told them that there was no use watching the shop as the workers would gather there in thousands just like they did in the Auditorium recently until the strike is won. Minster also remarked that a delegation would be sent to interview Mayor Queen in connection with this strike.

Although this strike has been in progress for some time this is the first attempt to do any mass picketing.

[#] An article appearing in the 5th February issue of Kanadai Magyar Munkas by R. A. Schaeffer summarizes the result of the subscription campaign conducted on behalf of this paper. The account shows that 1,379 new subscribers were secured and \$1,655.44 were contributed towards the press fund.

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A vote taken at Flin Flon recently showed a large majority in favour of deferring the strike. The majority are not in favour of striking at all unless financial support is forthcoming from outside sources. There is little likelihood of a strike in the near future.

There was some talk of calling a strike later on to include the San Antonio Mine as well as the Hudson Bay Mining Company and the occupants of the relief camps. Plans for this scheme are very indefinite at present. The comrades in Winnipeg have been very much occupied with arrangements for the Dominion election.

V. ONTARIO

8. The League Against War and Fascism

[#] The League Against War and Fascism at Toronto, Ont., has called a city-wide conference for 23rd and 24th March. Among the speakers who are to address the conference are J. B. Matthews, from the U.S.A., Professor G. M. A. Grube, Professor F. H. Underhill, Professor E. A. Havelock, Stewart Smith, Mrs. Margaret MacKenzie, Kenneth Woodsworth, Roy Davis, Marjorie Trotter, Mrs. I. H. Segel, Mrs. E. Morton, Dr. Rose Henderson, the Reverend John Line, Mrs. Anna N. Sissons, J. W. Buckley, Tom Ewen, Major Fred Fish, Sam Lawrence, M.L.A., and Professor Felix Walters.

[#] The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Canada has addressed an urgent appeal to the National Council of the Co-Operative Commonwealth Federation for a joint protest movement to save the lives of the Spanish revolutionists who are under death sentences.

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VI. QUEBEC

9. Stewart Smith in Montreal

Stewart Smith made one of his rare public appearances in Montreal, Que., on 2nd March when he addressed the Saturday Night Club. Mr.

[X#] Kennedy, Secretary of the Anti-War and Anti-Fascist League, occupied the chair.

Smith spoke chiefly about Mr. Bennett's "New Deal". He described unemployment insurance, marketing, the Central Bank of Canada and other reforms as being the means to increase the power of the Capitalists, instead of being changes to ease the position of the working class. He finished by saying:--

"We Communists, the working class, should unite together for the right of free speech, the right to strike, and the right of free press in order to combat Capitalism".

[X#] G. W. Hincks, was the speaker at a meeting of the Rosemount Tenants League, Montreal, Que., on 7th March. His talk was a general attack on Capitalism, paying particular attention to England, America and Canada. He was very outspoken in his opinion regarding Mr. Bennett. He asserted that the Right Honourable R. B. Bennett had made seven million dollars last year "out of sweated labour in the Eddy Factories in Hull" and went into details explaining what seven million dollars meant. He also criticized the expenditure of the Canadian Army and Navy and the Air Force.

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[X#] [Xdeletion: 3/4 page]

[X#] The Rosemount Branch of the Canadian Labour Defence League at Montreal, Que., held a meeting on 8th March for the purpose of reorganizing the organization. About 35 people attended, all of whom pledged their support, morally and financially. A new Executive was elected as follows:--

Chairman	[Xdeletion: 2 words]
Financial	[Xdeletion: 2 words]
Secretary	[Xdeletion: 2 words]
Secretary	[Xdeletion: 2 words]
Committee	[Xdeletion: 2 words]