

## ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE HEADQUARTERS

Ottawa,  
27th March, 1935.

**SECRET**NO. 750WEEKLY SUMMARY

## REPORT ON REVOLUTIONARY ORGANIZATIONS

AND AGITATORS IN CANADAReport

The Communists' plans to form a "United Front" with the Co-Operative Commonwealth Federation for election purposes have met with some success, notably in Regina and Hamilton. The C.C.F. Leaders disapprove of this proposed alliance and the scheme was rejected in Montreal.

When Tim Buck arrived in Blairmore, Alberta, on 25th March, the Town Council declared a Civic Holiday to mark the occasion. The Mayor presented Buck with the keys of the Town.

Two more Communist Candidates for the Dominion Election have been announced in Alberta. It is expected that O. Doolan will run in Edmonton and John Boychuk in Vegreville.

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## APPENDIX NO. I: GENERAL

### 1. National Convention Ukrainian Revolutionary Mass Organizations

[#] The 15th National Convention of the Ukrainian Revolutionary Mass Organizations opened in the Ukrainian Labour Temple at Winnipeg on the 11th March with 197 accredited delegates who were holding 265 mandates from all parts of Canada in attendance.

Comrade Timochek opened the convention with a short speech in the name of the Secretariat. Speeches and greetings marked the first general session.

Among the speakers were:--

1. John Boychuk, one of the Communist Party Leaders released from Kingston Penitentiary, who greeted the convention in the name of the Ukrainian Revolutionary Proletariat.

2. Tim Buck, secretary of the Communist Party, who extended greetings on behalf of his organization.

3. M. Popovich, who presented a stirring address based on the Revolutionary Class Struggle.

4. Walter Wiggins, who greeted the convention on behalf of the Farmers' United League.

5. A.E. Smith, general secretary of the Canadian Labour Defence League, who thanked the Ukrainian Mass Organization, particularly, Todowymazu, for the assistance they gave to the Canadian Labour Defence League.

6. Comrade Okulevitch, who spoke on behalf of the Russian Workers and Farmers Clubs.

7. Comrade Miscew, who extended greetings from the Polish Workers and Farmers Association.

8. Comrade Malchak, representing Gloc Praci, gave assurance that the Polish Workers would fight shoulder to shoulder with the Ukrainians against the bourgeoisie.

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9. Comrade Fuchs greeted the convention on behalf of the German Workers and Farmers Association and on behalf of Arbeiter Zeitung.

It was also anticipated that Sam Carr would be able to attend the convention, but was unable to do so on account of illness.

## 2. United Front between C.C.F. & C.P. of C.

[3<#] Notwithstanding the official anti-communist attitude of the national leadership of the Co-Operative Commonwealth Federation, a United Front between the Communist Party and local organizations of the Co-Operative Commonwealth Federation has been formed in several places throughout Canada.

At Regina, the Council of the Co-Operative Commonwealth Federation has ratified an agreement for a "United Front" struggle drafted by a joint committee of the Communist Party and the Co-Operative Commonwealth Federation. It is reported that of the 60 members present at the council meeting only three opposed the agreement. The agreement is based upon the following points:--

- (1) Improvement of the conditions of unemployed workers.
- (2) Against forced labour and the disfranchisement of workers whether employed or unemployed.
- (3) Non-contributory unemployment insurance.

At Hamilton, Ontario, an agreement has been arrived at between the Communist Election Conference and the Co-Operative Commonwealth Federation in Wentworth Constituency to support Dave Arnot (Communist) in the coming Federal election campaign. The next Election Conference decided not to place a candidate in the constituency of East

Hamilton where John Mitchel has been nominated as the Co-Operative Commonwealth Federation candidate.

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### 3. The Youth United Front in B.C.

[9<#] The Young Communist League, the Young Socialist League and the Co-Operative Commonwealth Youth in British Columbia have come together "in a united fight against the attacks of the Capitalist class" on a programme which included the following:-

- (1) WAR AND FASCISM. - To build up the Canadian League of Youth Against War and Fascism and to support it in its forthcoming conference.
- (2) UNEMPLOYMENT. - To help to build unemployed youth organizations for the bettering of the conditions of the working class youth.
- (3) STUDENTS. - To build and support the Student League of Canada. To organize students in High Schools.
- (4) To have a united front committee which shall sit regularly.
- (5) To form a District Council of Youth of all organizations on a non-partisan basis, to take up youth issues. The specific issues on which an immediate campaign will be launched are as follows:-
  - (a) Disenfranchisement of relief camp workers.
  - (b) The abolition of the Chinese Mission Soup Kitchen.
- (6) That this united front be carried out in the spirit expressed in Chemodonov's pamphlet -- "Unite the Youth":-

"Let us unite our forces, let us cease during the time of joint actions reciprocal attacks, so as to answer bloody fascism in a powerful manner; let us declare to all that the present generation does not wish to serve and will not serve as cannon fodder for the benefit of capitalism."

This pamphlet boldly declares:-

"The Young Communist International wishes to unite the youth in struggle for their interests, for the violent overthrow of the dictatorship of the bourgeoisie and for the setting up of the Dictatorship of the Proletariat."

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#### 4. M.W.U.C. Convention

[3<#] The Mine Workers' Union of Canada held a special District Convention in Calgary, Alta., on 25th February to consider the Trade and Industry Act of Alberta and to formulate a policy with regard to the United Mine Workers of America. It was decided that the Mine Workers' Union gave all possible support to the United Mine Workers of America and the unorganized miners of the Drumheller Valley in an attempt to have the 1932 wage scale restored. The convention went also on record in support of the fight of the Michel miners for increased wages.

It further decided to support only those candidates in the Provincial and Federal Elections who would pledge to fight Fascist Legislation and aid the miners in their fight for better conditions. This means that the Mine Workers' Union will support only those candidates who will run on a Communist or United Front ticket.

The convention also passed a resolution opposing the amendment to the Municipal Act now before the Provincial Legislature whose intention it is to limit the powers of Municipal Councils. It was pointed out that this legislation is directed especially at such councils as the "red" Municipal Council at Blairmore.

Regarding the Trade and Industry Act of Alberta, the convention decided to call for a decisive struggle against this Bill. An appeal has since been made by the Central Executive Board of the union calling upon all miners in the province to unite and fight this legislation.

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#### 5. Provincial Conference Relief Camp Workers Union

[3<#] The Provincial Conference of the Relief Camp Workers' Union, B.C. District, took place at Kamloops on the 10th March. Delegates numbering 26 attended, representing numerous camps throughout the province. There were only two visiting delegates present from Edmonton.

The Conference decided to begin immediate preparations for an organized strike of all relief camps in British Columbia and Alberta. It also adopted seven demands which will be placed before the Authorities prior to the strike being called.

The demands are:--

“50 cents per hour minimum wage for all work done.

Six-hour day and five-day week.

Adequate first aid, and compensation allowance for injuries received at work.

Abolition of military control of camps.

Abolition of the black-list and restoration of the franchise.

Recognition of Camp Committees and the right to organize.  
 Non-contributory Unemployment Insurance based on the  
 Workers Insurance Bill."

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APPENDIX NO. II: REPORTS BY PROVINCES

I. BRITISH COLUMBIA

6. Visit of German Cruiser "Karlsruhe".

[3<#] The German Cruiser "Karlsruhe" arrived in the Port of Vancouver on the morning of the 15th March and anchored in the stream outside the C.P.R. Pier A.

Lead by the Communists, a large crowd had gathered outside the Immigration Wharf but none of the crew with the exception of a few Officers left the ship until after six p.m. Later in the evening, some 150 officers and men marched from the Immigration Wharf to the Moose Hall, where a reception was being tendered them. At this time a considerable crowd had gathered in the vicinity of Moose Hall and the sailors had trouble in gaining entrance to the reception. They were subjected to much abuse from the radicals. Quite a fracas developed when City Mounted and Foot Police charged the crowd in an attempt to disperse the demonstrators. Two arrests were made and by 10 p.m. normal conditions again prevailed.

The B.C. Workers News came out with a special edition carrying head lines such as,--

"The Karlsruhe Must Get Out! Hitler Warship, Symbol of Reversion to Barbarism."

and carried special feature articles condemning Hitler and Nazi rule in Germany.

Attempts will be made by members of the Young Communist League to get leaflets aboard the "Karlsruhe" and to make contact with some of the sailors.

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[3<#] The Provincial Workers' Council at Vancouver held an open Forum Meeting at 122 Hastings Street East on the 17th March.

Fred Grange spoke on "Our Problem and Our Remedies." He maintained that under the present system of

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government, the workers could hope for nothing else other than to remain slaves of capitalism. He condemned the unemployed relief camps

throughout Canada and urged a united front in the interest of non-contributory unemployment insurance.

Alex Kinlock in a brief speech appealed to the American Federation of Labour and to all affiliated unions to be present at the Unemployed Congress which will take place in Vancouver on the 7th of April.

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[X#] Al. Parkin, who was appointed as a one-man delegation to represent the Lumber Workers' Industrial Union of Canada at a Lumber Workers' Convention in Seattle, Washington, U.S.A., was not allowed to cross the Border. Upon his return to Vancouver, B.C., he told an associate of his that the next time he tries to cross the International Boundary he will have a different name, a letter of invitation from Seattle, a return ticket and a permanent job in Vancouver.

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## II. ALBERTA

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[X#] [Xdeletion: 1/2 line] recently remarked that the Communist Party has been able to recruit many of the Canadian Pacific Railway employees living chiefly around Ogden. The matter is being kept secret for fear that some of them would lose their jobs should their connections become known to the railroad company.

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[X#] Mrs. Rankin, who was a delegate to the Ottawa Congress on Unemployment Insurance, will embark on a speaking tour throughout Southern Alberta and the Crow's Nest Pass in the near future. She is to emphasize the decisions of the Communists, particularly, the non-contributory Unemployment Insurance Bill.

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[X#] Harvey Murphy is to be nominated as Communist candidate in the Alberta Provincial election for the Rocky Mountain House District.  
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- [✂#] C.W. Springford has been nominated to contest the Provincial Constituency of Alexandria in the forthcoming Alberta elections as a Communist.

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- [✂#] The East Coulee (Alta.) Unit of the Hungarian Workers' Club has been awarded the Munkas flag for having obtained the largest number of subscriptions in the recent campaign for this paper. It is reported that they have exceeded their quota by 391%. Winnipeg has come second with Fort William in third place.

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### III. SASKATCHEWAN

#### 8. The Saskatchewan Union of Unemployed

- [✂#] A.F. Theodore, Secretary of the Saskatchewan Union of Unemployed, addressed a crowd of about 150 people in the Town Hall at Estevan, Sask., on 9th March. He gave an account of the Unemployed Movement through the provincial and urged the Estevan unemployed to become organized in order that they may be in a position to have their demands granted.

Theodore is touring the southern part of the province in a determined effort to build up the Saskatchewan Union of Unemployed which is becoming a factor of considerable importance in this province.

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- [✂#] A.F. Theodore addressed a meeting of unemployed workers in the Oddfellows Hall at Swift Current, Sask., on 15th March. His speech was the usual tirade against the Provincial and Dominion Governments. He charged that the unemployed received brutal treatment at the hands of the Government and urged the workers of Swift Current, both employed and unemployed, to come together in an effort to rectify the conditions among the unemployed. He referred to the Royal Canadian Mounted Police as "Bennett's hired gangsters and thugs and Estevan murderers".

The meeting was also addressed by Gordon Green

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of Swift Current who is quite active locally in the Unemployed Movement.

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- [✂#] The Municipal Council of Colonsay, Sask., at a recent meeting endorsed the "Farm Emergency Bill" which is being sponsored by the National

**Executive Committee of the Farmers' Unity League.** Copies of the resolution have been sent to the Prime Minister at Ottawa and to the Premier of Saskatchewan.

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#### IV. MANITOBA

##### 9. C.L.D.L. holds Paris Commune Celebration

[✂#] The Canadian Labour Defence League at Winnipeg, Man., held a "Paris Commune" celebration in the Concert Hall of the Civic Auditorium on the afternoon of 17th March. It was very poorly attended, there being only about 200 persons present. The programme consisted of musical selections rendered by the Mandolin Orchestra of the Ukrainian Labour Farmer Temple Association, mass recitations by the Progressive Arts Club and revolutionary speeches by John Boychuk, Alderman J. Forkin, and Molly Brown.

John Boychuk, speaking in the name of the Communist Party, thanked the workers of Winnipeg for the splendid support they had given to the defence movement. He said that it was because of this support that the eight Communist Party leaders were now out of Kingston Penitentiary. He asserted that the Revolutionary Movement was just beginning and, if greater results are to be expected, the workers would have unite in order to gain the freedom of the entire working class. He observed that there was a great change in the minds of the workers wherever he went after his release from the penitentiary.

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Alderman Forkin spoke for about 40 minutes, giving an outline of the history of the "Paris Commune" pointing out the mistakes which caused its downfall and which were not repeated by the Bolsheviks of Soviet Russia under the leadership of Lenin. He maintained that the Communards of Paris were not properly prepared and once they had gained control over Paris they did not attempt to win the support of the French peasantry.

The meeting was concluded by Molly Brown who gave a brief outline of the aims and objects of the Canadian Labour Defence League. She said that it was not a political organization but an integral part of a world-wide defence organization, i.e., the International Red Aid.

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[✂#] The financial report of the Winnipeg Branch of the Hungarian Workers' Clubs, covering the year 1934, shows that a total sum of \$724.26 has been

collected for Red Relief, The Hungarian Workers' Movement and the International Revolutionary Movement in general.

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## V. ONTARIO

### 10. Ottawa Branch League Against War and Fascism

[3<#] The Ottawa Branch of the League against War and Fascism held a meeting in the Carnegie Public Library on the 21st March. The audience, numbering approximately 75, was composed of young people, most of whom were members of the Jewish Community.

Stanley Ryerson of Montreal addressed the gathering, appealing for a united front against War and Fascism. He stated there was a decided trend towards the restriction of civil liberties. He charged that the recent visit to Canada of Sir Maurice Hankey has been suppressed in

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the papers and that Sir Maurice had come to Canada to hold a conference with the Chief of the General Staff and Premier Bennett in connection with future wars. Ryerson also attacked the colonization scheme of the Quebec Government. He asserted it was a scheme to prevent the workers of that province from organizing. In conclusion, he called upon all workers, war veterans, provincial men and women, farmers, intellectuals and all youths to fight War and Fascism.

The meeting passed two resolutions protesting against the showing of "Lest We Forget" and the publication of the French Canadian paper "Le Patriot".

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[3<#] Approximately 450 people attended the "Paris Commune" celebration staged by the Toronto (ont.) Branch of the Finnish Organization of Canada at the Don Hall on the night of 17th March. The programme consisted of revolutionary songs, musical selections, solo dances and several very revolutionary theatrical performances.

E. Salin delivered a short speech in which he attacked the Capitalist system and in which he urged the Finnish workers to fight for the abolition of the Capitalist system.

A member of the Youth Section named Eklund emphasized the importance of the United Front and condemned the Fascist terror in Finland. He also presented resolutions protesting against the imprisonment of Thael-

mann, the German Communist leader, Antikainen, the Finnish Communist, and the Noranda strikers.

## VI. QUEBEC

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[17]

A. Gauld addressed a social gathering held under the auspices of No. 1 Unit (Railway Shop Unit) of the Rosemount Section of the Communist Party in Montreal, Que., on 16th March at 6303 Iberville Street. About 40 people were present. A. Gauld stressed the necessity of organizing the workers in the Canadian Pacific Railway Shops and claimed that it was the principal task of the Communist Party in this district. He intimated that the paper Headlight is an organ of the Communist Party.

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[3<#] The Canadian Labour Defence League in Montreal held a Paris Commune Memorial Mass Meeting at the Prince Arthur Hall on the night of the 18th March. The meeting was presided over by George Hincks and Despatis, and the speakers were A. Dube, who spoke in French and J.S. Wallace. The audience, which numbered approximately 1000, were principally French Canadians. The meeting opened with the singing of French revolutionary songs rendered by a group of young men on the stage.

Dube spoke on the lessons of the Paris Commune and claimed that the Communards had indirectly contributed towards the establishment of Soviet Russia. It was the Communards, he said, who gave the Bolshevik leaders in Soviet Russia the inspiration. He urged the French Canadian Workers to study the Working Class Movement and to help bring about a Workers' Government in Canada by joining the Working Class Movement.

J.S. Wallace moved a one minute silence in honour of Nick Zynchuk, who was killed two years ago by a Montreal Policeman in an eviction case. Wallace drew a "Balance Sheet" of the Paris Commune. He said the French Canadians should be honoured to know that the first Workers'

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Government in the world was instituted by their ancestors. He also spoke on the "Class Justice" in Canada and maintained that the Canadian Labour Defence League has made every endeavour to defend the liberties of the working class and to prevent their deportation.

The meeting was quite orderly and concluded with the singing of the "International".

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[<#] Sponsored by the leaders of the Saturday Night Club and the Anti-Fascist and Anti-War League a "United Front" Conference of individuals was held in Montreal, Que., on 15th March for the purpose of combatting the David Bill. Many prominent men and women in the social, economic, legal and educational field such as R.L. Calder, K.C., Mrs. Taylor, Mrs. Masicotte and others were present at this conference. They all agreed to let their names be linked up with a committee which will be known as the Committee for the repeal of the David Bill. It was also reported that Dean Ritchie and Professor Scott of McGill University may also take an active part in this committee. This committee intends to raise as much protest as possible against the David Bill, even to the extent of "lobbying" in Parliament. R.L. Calder suggested that some prominent person should get himself or herself arrested in violation of the David Bill for the purpose of creating a test case.