

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE HEADQUARTERS

Ottawa, 1st May, 1935.

SECRETNO. 754WEEKLY SUMMARYREPORT ON REVOLUTIONARY ORGANIZATIONSAND AGITATORS IN CANADAReport

Every effort is being made by the Communists throughout Canada to make this year's May Day a success. Demonstrations are anticipated in a number of the larger cities and industrial centres. In the Crow's Nest Pass it is planned to mass the miners at Blairmore and from there "march on Corbin" where the miners have been on strike since early in January.

The relief camp strikers in Vancouver are receiving strong support from the C.C.F. as well as many other organizations including the Provincial Parent-Teacher Federation. The longshoremen's and seamen's unions held a one-hour strike on 29th April in support of the relief camp workers.

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APPENDIX NO. I: GENERAL

I. Tim Buck

(A) In Moose Jaw

Tim Buck arrived in Moose Jaw, Sask., from Calgary, Alta., on the evening of 9th April and was received by a crowd of approximately 200 at the C.P.R. station. He was taken by taxi to the Harwood Hotel where a dinner had been arranged for him. After dinner he addressed a public meeting in the Technical School attended by approximately 350 persons. [~~deletion: #~~] Revolutionary greetings were extended to him by A. Alexander of Regina, Muriel Spencer, I. Birchard and T. G. MacManus. The Young Pioneers presented him with a bouquet of red carnations. In accepting the flowers he remarked that they were the colour of the Communist Party and that that colour reminded him of all the blood which had been shed for the Party. His speech was in the main a repetition of what he had said at previous meetings.

On the following day, 10th April, Buck attended a conference called by the Communist Party to consider the question of selecting a candidate for

the Moose Jaw Constituency to run in the coming Federal election. J. W. Bingley, prominent in the local Unemployed Council, acted as Chairman and the conference was attended by approximately 150 people including several prominent members of the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation. Quite a heated discussion arose over the question of the selection of a candidate. The Co-operative Commonwealth Federation representatives contended that it was a joint conference and that they should be given sufficient time to consult their council in the matter. A motion to adjourn the conference was defeated by the Communists in attendance.

Tim Buck took quite an active part in the discussion and accused some of the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation representatives of dishonesty whereupon most of the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation delegates left the conference. Tim Buck,

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in the course of his speech, outlined the programme of the Communist Party which included:--

- (1) Non-contributory unemployment insurance.
- (2) Fight against wage cuts.
- (3) Adequate relief work for working farmers.
- (4) Defence of free speech and abolition of Section 98.
- (5) Amalgamation of all working class parties against war and Fascism.

After considerable discussion T. G. McManus was selected as the standard bearer of the Communist Party in this constituency. A Campaign Committee was elected consisting of prominent Communist Party members and "Left" Wingers of the district. Tim Buck left for Regina on the evening of 10th April.

(B) In Saskatoon

☞# Tim Buck arrived in Saskatoon, Sask., at 3.20 P.M. on 11th April from the south; approximately 300 people were at the station to meet him. He was presented with a signet ring embossed with a sickle and hammer by members of the Saskatoon Branch of the Young Communist League and then gave a short address thanking them for his welcome and the present.

At 9.00 P.M. he addressed a mass meeting in the Saskatoon Stadium which was attended by approximately 1,800 people. George King, prominent Communist, acted as Chairman and short speeches extending greetings to Tim Buck were given by George Ordman, Canadian Labour Defence League, George Taylor, Young Communist League, Mary Cripko,

also of the Young Communist League, William Taylor, Communist Party of Canada, and J. Lind, of the Saskatoon Union of Unemployed. A brief case was presented to Buck on behalf of these organizations in the hope that he would carry it to the First Congress of the Canadian Soviet.

Buck, in a two-hours' speech, recounted his experiences in Kingston Penitentiary and dealt with what he termed "Bennett's New Deal". He claimed that the new policy of the Canadian Government very closely resembles that of Mussolini, Hitler and Mosley.

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The meeting was quite orderly and marked by considerable enthusiasm.

In the course of the following forenoon he addressed a meeting of the Communist Party of Canada in the Ukrainian Labour Temple which was attended by about 150 persons.

This meeting was also addressed by William Taylor who urged the members of the Communist Party attending this meeting to secure new members.

(C) In Edmonton

[2<#] Approximately 1,200 people gathered at the C.P.R. Depot at Edmonton, Alta., on 13th April to welcome Tim Buck to that city. He thanked the Communist Party and the workers of Edmonton for their welcome which, he stated, had been the finest reception he had yet received considering the cold weather. A parade consisting of approximately 800 persons, headed by Tim Buck and the leaders of the Communist Party and extending over four city blocks, proceeded through the city and came to a stop outside the old Canadian National Railway station where Buck presented a short speech in which he urged the working class of Edmonton to get behind the Communist Party in an effort to bring about a United Front against the present system of Government, war and Fascism. At this meeting he was asked if the Communist Party believed in using force to gain political power. His reply was, "We will make almost any sacrifice to avoid bloodshed at any time because the workers are always the first to suffer". To another question regarding financial assistance from the Soviet Union Buck said, "No, we don't receive any money from Moscow. The Soviet workers have their hands full financing their own social needs".

J. A. MacPherson and J. Lakeman also addressed the crowd and extended greetings to Tim Buck.

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On 15th April a banquet was given in Buck's honour by the Edmonton [3<#] (Alta.) Section of the Communist Party in the Albion Hall with approximately 150 [3<deletion: 3/4 line] in attendance. Among those present were Dr. F. Crang, Miss Margaret Crang, member of the City Council, S. A. G. Barnes and S. S. Bowcott, the latter two members of the Edmonton Public School Board. The Russian Workers' Club Choir presented the "International" upon his arrival.

Tim Buck gave a short outline of the political and economic situation as viewed by the Communists. He also touched upon his incarceration in Kingston penitentiary and told of how he succeeded in organizing the prisoners and even the Penitentiary Guards in that penal institution. He alleged that the most reliable element in what he termed the "Prisoners' Organization" consisted of those who were serving time for major crimes such as murder, manslaughter and armed robbery. Buck took credit for the formation of this Prisoners' Organization. he stated that the way he started this organization was by becoming acquainted with one of the inmates serving a life sentence. Later, he said, he developed the organization through the spreading of leaflets among the prisoners. In the circulation of these leaflets he was assisted by the inmates of the neighbouring cells and a prisoner whose name he gave as Caso of Gaso. Buck claimed to have been instrumental in bringing about an eight-hour day by organizing the Penitentiary Guards. He also boasted that he succeeded in recruiting a number of Guards into the Revolutionary Movement.

[3<#] On the evening of 15th April Tim Buck gave a 15-minute talk over Radio Station CJCA at Edmonton, Alta., on the danger of the impending war. he spoke on behalf of the Young Communist League pleading for unity and organization against war and Fascism. This radio talk also served the purpose of advertising his meeting in the Arena on the night of the 16th.

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On 16th April Tim Buck was the principal speaker at a mass rally staged by the Communist Party in the Edmonton (Alta.) Arena. Approximately 4,500 persons were in attendance, the Arena being packed to its capacity. [3<#] In the centre of the Arena were seated O. C. Doolan, Chairman of the meeting, J. Lakeman, J. O'Sullivan, H. Swanson, R. Koyich, J. A. Mac-

Pherson, F. C. Wingfield, Mrs. R. C. Mason, Ben Swankey, J. Frinsky, B. Sphihun, J. Eizenbraune, Miss Annie Eizenbraune, H. Slupsky, E. Rogers and Max Rosen. These represented the various radical organizations in the City of Edmonton. The Ukrainian Orchestra under the direction of Holowich, also seated on the same platform, rendered several revolutionary musical selections.

J. O'Sullivan introduced O. C. Doolan as Chairman of the meeting who then gave a brief outline of the life history of Tim Buck. Following Doolan's speech Tim Buck arrived in the Arena led by members of the Young Pioneers, Young Communist League and leading members of the Communist Party.

J. Lakeman was charged with the task of conducting the collection. During the period the collection boxes were taken around by members of the Young Communist League quite a number of the crowd grew impatient calling for Tim Buck to speak. This impatience became more pronounced as the time went on and about 500 left the Arena.

Tim Buck commenced his address at approximately 9.40 P.M. He repeated what he had said on former occasions and urged the Edmonton workers to come to the support of the Communist Party in its fight against war and Fascism and for a Soviet Canada.

After the meeting several of the leaders expressed disappointment and some even considered the meeting a failure in view of the fact that Tim Buck was not put on to speak immediately upon his arrival at the Arena. This delay, they contended, caused the audience to become restless and in consequence many left before the meeting concluded.

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2. M. Popovich Speaks at Winnipeg

Matthew Popovich addressed a well attended concert meeting held by the Communist Party in the Workers' Theatre at Winnipeg, Man., on 18th [9<#] April. The concert was held as part of the campaign for The Worker. Popovich is reported to have delivered a brilliant address urging the audience to come to the support of The Worker, the central organ of the Communist Party of Canada. He said that it was very essential to develop a stronger movement among the English speaking workers without which the movement among the foreign speaking workers could not continue.

The meeting resolved to protest against the "Spanish terror".

3. L.W.I.U. Holds District Conference

[✂#] The Lumber Workers' Industrial Union of Canada in the Port Arthur (Ont.) District held a Wage Scale Conference at Port Arthur recently. It is reported to have been one of the most representative conferences ever held attended by over 200 lumber workers including fraternal delegates from the American Federation of Labor unions. The conference formulated a new wage scale covering daily as well as monthly rates which will be popularized in every camp in the district. Resolutions on political prisoners and greetings to the British Columbia relief camp strikers were unanimously endorsed and forwarded.

4. The Workers' Co-operative of New Ontario

[✂#] [✂deletion: 1/4 line] Workers' Co-operative of New Ontario Limited held its annual meeting at Timmins, Ont., on 17th March. The report for the year disclosed a total turnover of \$469,813.43, an increase of \$68,502.11 over the previous year. Among the resolutions passed by this meeting were the usual

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revolutionary resolutions such as demanding the release of Thaelmann, Antikainen and other political prisoners. The meeting also voted \$100.00 to campaign fund of the Workers' Unity League.

5. W.U.L. Endorses Benefit Federation

[✂#] Unity, the official organ of the Workers' Unity League, in its May issue announces that at a recent meeting of the Executive Board of the Workers' Unity League it was decided to endorse the Independent Mutual Benefit Federation and elect Frank Dumsitz to the post of Insurance Director. This step, it is claimed, has been taken as a result of many requests from members of the Workers' Unity League to organize some form of sick and death benefit insurance that would be easily available to the workers. The Independent Mutual Benefit Federation was formerly the Canadian Hungarian Mutual Benefit Federation which received a charter under the Insurance Act (Ontario) in 1927 and was granted a supplementary Letters patent changing the name of the organization to the I.M.B.F. on 24th January, 1934. The Workers' Unity League now urges all members and sympathizers to take advantage of this insurance scheme.

6. W.U.L. Penetrates Metal Industry

[3<#] In September, 1934, the National Executive Board of the Workers' Unity League appointed an Organiser for the metal industry and issued a call to the metal workers for organization. The results of this arrangement are now being felt. It is reported that the Workers' Unity League has been successful in establishing groups in a number of metal workers in Hamilton, Welland, Sault Ste. Marie, Guelph, Galt, etc. In Guelph, Ont., a functioning branch of the Steel and Metal Workers' Industrial Union, an affiliate of the Workers' Unity League, has been established. James Beattie, who is awaiting trial on charges

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arising out of a strike of the Victoria Cap and Jacket Company at Hamilton, has been largely responsible for the formation of this union.

On 9th April this union called a strike involving approximately 150 employees of the International Malleable iron Company at Guelph and presented a series of demands. The strike was settled on 10th April with the company agreeing to most of the demands made by the strikers. It was a complete victory for this newly organized affiliate of the Workers' Unity League.

On 17th April the Guelph Local of the Steel and Metal Workers' Union held a mass meeting in the Guelph City Hall attended by approximately 300 persons. The principal speaker was A. Spero who spoke of the success of the strike claiming that it was due to the splendid unity existing between the Anglo-Saxons and the foreign element. The people in attendance were mostly employees of the International Malleable Iron Company and the Northern Rubber Company.

7. The Corbin (B.C.) Strike

[3<#] The coal miners' strike at Corbin, B.C., which has been in progress since 20th January was marked by violence and disorder on 17th April when a mob of 250 miners attacked a gang of men en route by truck to the "Big Showing" property where the company plans to open mining operation shortly. As a detachment of Police approached, the pickets armed with clubs, hammers and stones attacked, the Police fighting back with batons. Many were injured including women, wives of the miners, who joined in the fight.

On 18th April British Columbia Provincial Police, assisted by a detachment of Royal Canadian Mounted Police, barred the way to several hundreds of members of the Mine Workers' Union of Canada, Blairmore

Local, including the Communist Town Council and Mayor Knight, who began a march to the aid of the embattled

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Corbin strikers. They were stopped at the Provincial border. The British Columbia authorities, however, permitted Harvey Murphy and a delegation of nine to proceed to Corbin. The basic cause underlying the strike is the demand for recognition of the Mine Workers' Union of Canada.

The "Big Showing", referred to above, is a vernacular term for an enormous hill of coal which would require only the use of steam shovels and motor lorries to mine. It is understood that the strikers intend to stop anyone from going to work on this project.

Tom Uphill, M.L.A. for Fernie, gave a 15-minute speech over Station C.J.O.R., Vancouver, on 22nd April in which he defended the Corbin strikers. He claimed that the Police provoked the battle and exercised an undue amount of brutality in dispersing the assembled strikers.

He announced that a delegation of four headed by Harvey Murphy and himself would make representatives to the Government at Victoria.

8. Relief Strike at Crowland, Ont.

Relief recipients in the Crowland (Ont.) Township, numbering about 200, who have been on strike since 3rd April, have caused several disturbances recently. The demonstrations staged by them were of a militant character and resulted in clashes with the Police.

On 23rd April the strikers, with their children and sympathizers, marched to the Welland-Port Colborne Highway, formed a line across the road and stopped every auto, asking for donations. The money thus raised was used to finance the transportation of two truck loads of children to Toronto on the 24th where the children had been demonstrating at Queens Park near the legislative buildings for several days.

An agreement to return to work was reached on the 27th pending action on the men's demands for increased food vouchers

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and other stipulations.

As a result of the disturbances and clashes with Provincial Police several strikers have been arrested and charged with "assault" and "unlawful assembly".

9. Relief Camp Strike in B.C.

The strike of relief camp workers in British Columbia, which has been in effect since 7th April, continues. Additional men walked out from Point Grey and MacCauley Point Camps, bringing the total of single men strikers now in Vancouver to over 1,800. The strikers are being backed by a considerable section of the organized and unorganized workers in Vancouver. Encouraged by this support the attitude displayed by the strikers is distinctly militant.

[3<#] The B.C. Relief Camp Workers' Union held a mass meeting on Cambie Street Grounds, Vancouver, on 14th April, Comrade Shaw opened the meeting with a short address which he concluded with the remark, "Citizens of Vancouver, watch our development in the future".

E. Cumber, Secretary of the Relief Camp Workers' Union, announced that the Tag Day held in the City of Vancouver on 13th April had netted the strikers' treasury over \$5,000. He extended thanks on behalf of the strikers to the citizens of Vancouver for their support. He enumerated several concessions won by the strikers since their arrival in the city including a parade to the City Hall, a Tag Day and the forcing of the Provincial and Civic Governments to demand action of the Dominion Government on their behalf. In closing he proposed that the strikers march to Stanley Park in a body to show the public their appreciation of the support rendered.

Jack Taylor (Morris Erlick), District Organizer of the Communist Party, assured the strikers that the Communist Party stood solidly behind the camp workers in their struggle. He made a request to the All-Canadian Congress of Labour and the American

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Federation of Labor unions to render their support to the striking relief camp workers.

At the conclusion of the meeting a parade was staged to Stanley Park in which approximately 1,500 who attended the meeting took part.

[3<#] On the evening of 19th April the striking relief camp workers gathered on Cambie Street Grounds, Vancouver, B.C., and in an orderly fashion marched to the Vancouver Arena where some 4,500 listened to speakers from most of the labour organizations of Vancouver. The meeting was called by the Action Committee of the relief camp strikers and was under the Chairmanship of Ivan Emery of the Vancouver and District Waterfront

Workers' Association. All speakers condemned the camp system and assured the strikers of the support of the organizations they represented.

The first speaker was Colin McDonald representing the American Federation of Labor. Kelly, of the Relief Camp Workers' Union, followed and after him Arthur Evans fulminated against the Royal Commission for 10 minutes. McNeill promised the moral and financial support of all the unions affiliated with the All-Canadian Congress of Labour. Peggy Harrison spoke on behalf of the Women's Labour League, Mrs. Collins for the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation, Women's Section, Grant McNeill for the Unemployed Section, C.C.F., and Malcolm Bruce of the Communist Party made a neat little speech calculated to win many of the rank and filers of the Socialist Party of Canada and the C.C.F. by his United Front appeal. O'Neill, speaking on behalf of the Workers Ex-Service Men's League, intimated that a show of a United Front on the platform was very favourable but what was required was the support out on the street.

The collection amounted to approximately \$150, which was almost \$200 short of the rent of the Arena.

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In the course of the afternoon of 23rd April a group of relief camp strikers, numbering approximately 1,400, paraded in the vicinity of Water and Carrall Sts., Vancouver, B.C. Attempts were made to enter some of the wholesale produce establishments along Water Street. These attempts were [S<#] frustrated by the Police whereupon the marchers proceeded towards the upper part of the city. After circling the Hotel Vancouver Block the strikers managed to force their way into the Hudson's Bay Company. On entering the Hudson's Bay store an attempt was made to "snake walk" through the halls but this was prevented by a group of Vancouver City Policemen who halted the parade. At this stage, however, the main space of the store on the ground floor was already filled with strikers.

McLeod, raised on the shoulders of a few men, addressed the citizens stating the strikers would use peaceful means to obtain their demands but in the event of being unable to realize them by peaceful measures they would use more strenuous methods. He ordered the marchers to stay right where they were until the authorities saw fit to consider their case.

Police reinforcements arrived on the scene and an attempt was made to remove the demonstrators from the store. This met with resistance; counters were smashed and upset, crockery and other articles were hurled through the air; goods were swept from the display cases to the floor and trampled under the feet of the rioters running from one department to another. In the

conflict a number of rioters and six Policemen were injured by flying missiles and fists.

Upon eviction from the store the strikers marched to Victory Square where Jack Stevenson, Kelly, Evans, Shaw, Harold Winch, M.L.A., Pete Lowe and R. Binney mounted an improvised rostrum and urged the strikers to carry on in their struggle for the abolition of the camp system. A delegation was then appointed to interview the Mayor and to plead their case. The interview with the Mayor produced no results. Upon leaving the Mayor's office the delegation was met by a group of Vancouver City Police

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who placed them in the police patrol car informing them that they would be charged with "vagrancy". Mathew Shaw, one of the delegates, was released and returned to Victory Square where he announced the arrest of the delegation. The suggestion was then made by the assembly that a delegation comprised of citizens of Vancouver proceed to the Mayor's office and demand the release of the arrested delegation. Upon arrival at the City Hall they were met by the Mayor himself who stepped into his car and drove to Victory Square where he read the Riot Act from the steps of the Cenotaph.

Shortly after 10.00 P.M. on the same evening the City Police, assisted by the Provincial Force, raided the headquarters of the strikers and confiscated a large quantity of literature and banners.

At 11.00 o'clock the strikers gathered en masse at the corner of Hastings and Carrall Streets creating a disturbance there. The City and Provincial Police proceeded to disperse the demonstrators and a wild melee ensued. Large plate glass windows were smashed and two men were arrested and charged with "assaulting" a Constable.

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APPENDIX NO. II: REPORTS BY PROVINCES

I. BRITISH COLUMBIA

10. Workers Ex-Service Men's League of Vancouver

[3<#] The Workers Ex-Service Men's League and the Canadian Labour Defence League held a joint meeting at 122A Hastings St. West, Vancouver, B.C., on 13th April. Approximately 200 persons attended and the main object of the meeting was to discuss May Day preparations. It was announced that a permit for a parade from Keefer Street to Stanley Park and return on 1st May had been granted by the city authorities.

R. Binny gave a lengthy talk on the origin and purpose of May Day.

Gatewood, a representative of the Friends of the Soviet Union, spoke briefly comparing the school system in the U.S.S.R. to that in vogue in this country.

Short speeches were also given by a man named Valentine and a member of the Canadian Labour Defence League named Page who appealed for unity and support in the proposed May Day celebration.

[✂#] The Young Communist League, in conjunction with the Canadian Commonwealth Youth and the Young Socialist League, presented a concert at the Royal Theatre, Vancouver, B.C., on 14th April in aid of the striking relief camp workers. P. Lowe acted as Chairman and the speakers were McLeod, of the Relief Camp Workers' Union, and Newman of the Canadian Commonwealth Youth. In addition to the speeches vocal and musical selections were rendered. The collection amounted to only \$25, \$15 of which was required to cover the expenses of this concert. The attendance numbered approximately 1,000.

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II. ALBERTA

11. Calgary Unemployed Plan Strike

The City Council of Calgary, Alta., at a meeting held on 15th April decided that all unemployed organizations must send in a list of their

[✂#] members and also the names of their Grievance Officers. Further, that all members of unemployed organizations must contribute their full share of work and that those who had not done their January's work would be penalized.

As a result of this decision the Unemployed Married Men's Association are now planning to call a strike.

[✂#] The United Workers' Council at Calgary, Alta., held a conference in the Union Milk Auditorium on 5th and 6th April for the purpose to inquire into the position of single men in the Department of National Defence relief camps. Harvey Murphy introduced three relief camp workers who explained the conditions prevailing in the camps. W. Knight, Mayor of Blairmore, addressed the meeting stating he would press for an investigation into the death of a worker in a relief camp near Blairmore. In this

connection he charged that witnesses had been kept away from the inquest on this man and that the results of the pathological examination were withheld.

Fred Peat, Chairman of the conference, attacked the Honourable Grote Stirling for certain statements made by him in the House of Commons in Ottawa.

The conference appointed a number of delegates who will go to Edmonton to present certain resolutions and demands to the Provincial Government. On their return a further conference is to be held at which the matter is to receive further consideration.

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III. SASKATCHEWAN

12. Saskatchewan Union of Unemployed Meets Government

[§#] Threats of a hunger march to the Legislative Building at Regina, Sask., if their demand for standardization of relief was not met were made by a delegation of 50 representing the Saskatchewan Union of Unemployed on 15th April. In answer to their demands Mr. Gardiner, Premier of Saskatchewan, stated that the Government was in favour of the principle that those receiving relief should be treated alike under similar circumstances. The chief spokesmen of the delegation were T. G. MacManus and P. Mikkelson.

MacManus accused the Government of breaking faith and tossed the term "double-cross" at the Premier. He said Premier Gardiner had broken faith by not keeping the promise made to a previous delegation of unemployed in January when a standardization of relief services was demanded. The scale of relief demanded by the delegation included \$5 a week for each family of two and \$1 extra for each child under 10, also a generous clothing allowance to be paid in cash, free hospital, medical, dental and optical treatment.

[§#] As a result of [§deletion: 2 words] activities a branch of the Saskatchewan Association of Unemployed has been formed in Prince Albert, recently, with a membership of approximately 250. The executive is made up of [§deletion: 2 words] President, [§deletion: 2 words] Vice-President, [§deletion: 2 words] Secretary, and [§deletion: 1 line] members of the committee. The members of the local unit are a mixture of various

political factions and the present agitation is for an increase in the relief rate from 35 cents to 40 cents an hour payable in cash.

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IV. MANITOBA

13. C.L.D.L. Meeting in Winnipeg Market Square Protest Persecution of Revolutionaries in Spain

[§<#] Between 300 and 400 persons attended a mass meeting in the Winnipeg (Man.) Market Square on the evening of 21st April protesting against the persecution of the Spanish revolutionary workers. The meeting was held under the auspices of the Canadian Labour Defence League and the speakers were A. Brock and C. Hitchin. Both speakers drew a very pathetic picture of the conditions under which the Spanish workers and peasants have to exist.

A resolution "demanding the immediate cessation of the terroristic persecution and execution of militant Spanish workers" was adopted and ordered forwarded to the Spanish Consul in Montreal.

[§<#] John Navizowsky presented an illustrated lecture in the Ukrainian Labour Temple at Winnipeg, Man., on 16th April. The lecture depicted the industrial progress made in the U.S.S.R. and stressed the leadership of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. It included a eulogy of Lenin, Stalin, Vorishiloff and several others of the Communist leaders. The strength of the Red Army was also featured which met with considerable applause on the part of the audience.

[§<#] [§<deletion: 1 3/4 lines] On 15th April he addressed a gathering of young workers in the Youth Centre urging them to organize in opposition to war and Fascism. He contended that the situation was getting worse every day and suggested that the youth prepare before it is too late. Many of the youths present were not connected with any organizations or the radical movement.

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V. ONTARIO14. Bill Kashton Gives Radio Talk

[3<#] Bill Kashton, National Secretary of the Young Communist League, gave a radio talk over Station CKCL at Toronto, Ont., on 19th April. He spoke from 6.45 to 7.00 P.M. on the significance of May Day. After explaining the origin of May Day and its importance to the working class he dealt with the danger of Imperialist war. He charged that the Canadian Government had spent Forty Million Dollars in the last five years on war materials. Moreover, he said that the youth now in the relief camps throughout Canada are receiving military training and are being prepared for war. He urged the youth, no matter of what political affiliation, to join in the May Day demonstration and form a United Front. In conclusion he gave an outline of the programme which has been adopted in the City of Toronto for the occasion of the May Day celebration.

[3<#] A small delegation of the Canadian Labour Defence League, headed by A. E. Smith and supported by a crowd of about 200, visited the Finnish Consul at Toronto, Ont., on 24th April and demanded the release of Toivo Antikainen, prominent Communist of Finland who is awaiting trial on a charge of murder. The demonstration was quiet and orderly.

[3<#] The Canadian Labour Defence League in Toronto, Ont., staged a public meeting in Queens Park on 13th April in protest against the "Spanish terror". The speakers were A. E. Smith, A. E. Beder, Charles Marriott and F. Norman. The speakers charged that 70,000 workers were in jails in Spain, that the churches were converted into jails, and that thousands of the rebels have been killed.

Resolutions demanding the release of all the rebels who had been sentenced to death and pledging the support of the

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Canadian workers were passed and ordered to be sent to the Government of Spain.

The meeting was attended by only approximately 150 sympathizers.

[3<#] Ewart G. Humphreys, Secretary of the National Council of Unemployed, addressed a meeting of the Unemployed Protective Association in the City Hall Auditorium at Fort William, on 10th April. He criticized

the Unemployment Insurance Bill of the Dominion Government and urged his audience to come to the support of the Bill which is being sponsored by the National Council of Unemployed.

A. Batters, the Chairman of the meeting, also spoke briefly.

On 11th April Humphreys addressed a meeting in Port Arthur on the same subject. Both meetings were rather well attended.

[#] The committee in charge of the campaign for The Worker in the City of Toronto, Ont., held a mass meeting at 450 Spadina Avenue on 19th April. William Sydney occupied the chair and the attendance numbered approximately 700 persons, each of whom paid 15 cents admission.

Stewart Smith spoke on the subject of the revolutionary Press and the role and importance it plays in the struggle of the working class. The major portion of his speech was devoted to the international revolutionary situation, the growth of Fascism and its effects on the Revolutionary Movement in Germany, Italy and Austria. He concluded with an appeal for donations. A collection was taken up but the result was not announced.

[23]

VI. QUEBEC

15. Communist Party Meeting in Montreal

[#] On 12th April Stewart Smith addressed about 1,200 people in the Prince Arthur Hall under the auspices of the Communist Party of Canada. His speech was an exposition of the Federal election programme of the Communist Party. He said that it was intended to elect as many of the Communist Party candidates as possible in the forthcoming Federal election which, he remarked, will be the most important one ever held as it is being staged at a time of hunger and growing Fascism. He stated that the present Government of Canada is showing the same political symptoms as those of Austria and Germany before the establishment of the Fascist regime. He charged that the Liberal party was more cruel to the struggling masses of Canada than any other political party. In support of his argument he quoted certain labour legislations enacted by British Columbia, Ontario and Quebec. He contended that the Communist Party was the only political force in Canada capable of bringing about a change for the better.

A short address was also given by Fred Rose, Communist Party candidate, in the Cartier Constituency in the coming Federal elections. The collection taken at this meeting netted \$55.

[X#] [Xdeletion: 3 1/4 lines]

Stewart Smith stated that the present situation in Germany has done much to help build the United Front in Canada, further that during the past three years big changes have occurred in Canada which favour the Communist Party. Many of the old Liberal and Conservative members have broken away from their parties and have joined either the Co-operative Commonwealth

[24]

Federation or the revolutionary organization, he said. It was the task of the Communist Party today to organize the struggle under the slogan of "Against Hunger, War and Fascism". This, he said, can only be done by organizing the United Front. The United Front, he said, must be based upon the immediate economic needs, a policy which has been used successfully in organizing the unemployed. The Communist Party, he asserted, can record many successes but there are still weaknesses in evidence which have to be overcome. The work in language and nationalistic organizations as well as church organizations must be improved and intensified, Smith pointed out. Speaking of the C.C.F. he said that there are now some real "Left" factions in existence led by leaders such as Sam Lawrence of Hamilton, Walters in Kitchener and Winch in British Columbia. Regarding the improvement evidenced in the City of Toronto he asserted that the Communist Party there has now 900 members.

[X#] Stewart Smith of Toronto gave a lecture on "Trade Unionism" at the Co-operative Restaurant, 9 Mount Royal West, Montreal, Que., on 7th April. He spoke in place of T. C. Sims who had been detained in the Maritime Provinces.

[Xdeletion: 1/4 page]

[25]

[X#] [Xdeletion: 1/2 page]

Another item discussed was the forthcoming May Day celebration in the City of Montreal. [Xdeletion: 1 word] reported that the city authorities had refused to issue a permit for a May Day parade and for an open-air mass meeting on Fletchers Field. He also reported that Tom Ewen may be the chief speaker at the May Day mass meeting.

[deletion: 1/4 page]

[26]

VII. MARITIME PROVINCES

16. T. C. Sims in Halifax, N.S.

T. C. Sims visited Halifax recently and attended a meeting of the Communist Party at 147 Granville Street on 9th April. He severely criticized the drinking of liquor in the hall and urged members to set an example by abstaining from the use of alcohol. He informed the meeting that the District Committee has seen fit to transfer W. L. Ross to Cape Breton as it was felt that he could do better work there. To replace Ross a man will be sent to Halifax from the Cape Breton area. About 60 members attended this meeting.
