

## ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE HEADQUARTERS

Ottawa, 15th May, 1935.

SECRETNO. 755WEEKLY SUMMARYREPORT ON REVOLUTIONARY ORGANIZATIONSAND AGITATORS IN CANADAReport

To provide a means of expressing, organizing and extending a "feeling of friendship" with the U.S.S.R., the Canadian Section of the Friends of the Soviet Union have decided to call a National Conference to be convened in Toronto on 29th June. The call has been addressed to all trade unions; labour, Socialist and C.C.F. Parties; Pacifist, cultural, fraternal, farmer and mass organizations. The conference is to discuss the "peace policy" of the Soviet Union and the need for full diplomatic and trading relations between Canada and the Soviet Union.

Tim Buck is reported to be touring Nova Scotia. He received a very enthusiastic welcome at Sydney on his arrival.

Members of the Vancouver and District waterfront Workers Association are considering calling a strike in sympathy with the relief camp strikers.

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**APPENDIX NO. I: GENERAL****I. May Day, 1935****(A) In Vancouver, B.C.**

[\*#] This year's May Day demonstration in Vancouver, B.C., was one of the largest labour demonstrations in the history of that city. Approximately 10,000 people assembled on Cambie Street Grounds and from there paraded to Stanley Park where a mass meeting was held. The demonstration was organized and developed with the support of the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation as a straight Communist celebration. The following organizations were represented in the parade:--

- Workers Ex-Service Men's League
- Communist Party of Canada
- Relief Camp Workers' Union
- Canadian Labour Defence League
- Vancouver & District Waterfront Workers' Association

Seafarers' Industrial Union  
 Food Workers' Industrial Union  
 Carpenters' & Joiners' Union  
 Boilermakers' Union  
 Fishermen & Cannery Workers' Union  
 Mine Workers' Union of Canada  
 Lumber Workers' Industrial Union  
 Farmers' Unity League  
 Women's Labour League  
 Friends of the Soviet Union  
 Young Communist League  
 Young Pioneers  
 Students' League of Canada  
 The Finnish, Scandinavian, Chinese,  
     Japanese, German, Ukrainian and  
     Italian Language Mass Associations  
 Workers' Sports Association

Two features of the parade were a relief camp model mounted on the back of a truck and a replica of the Victoria Square Cenotaph mounted on wheels, on the steps of which stood one of the relief camp men dressed and masked as Mayor G. G. McGeer reading the Riot Act. All groups carried banners bearing revolutionary slogans. Included in the parade were approximately 900 public school and high school pupils who had come out on strike in sympathy with the relief camp strikers. Members of the Workers' Sports Association, arrayed in white duck trousers, white singlets, red sashes and crests bearing the hammer and sickle, formed a conspicuous part of the parade. The Young Pioneers wearing their uniform led the children's section of the

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parade with a Fife and Drum Band.

On reaching Stanley Park the parade passed in front of the Malkin Memorial Shell and was greeted and cheered by those already gathered in the bowl. Jack Taylor, District Organizer of the Communist Party, acted as cheer leader, calling for cheers for the Red Army, Soviet Russia and various revolutionary organizations.

The crowd at the park meeting was variously estimated from 15,000 to 30,000. Sam Shearer was given the chair. After the singing of the "International" the Chairman ordered a two-minutes silence for the victims of the May Day celebration of 1934. During the observance of this silence a Jugo Slav Orchestra played the "Soviet Funeral March".

Arthur Evans was the first speaker. He spoke as the Chairman of the Action Committee of the relief camp strikers pleading their cause and calling for continued support.

Pete Munro, although not speaking in an official capacity on behalf of the Street Railway Men's Union, intimated that this union had under consideration a 24-hour strike in support of the relief camp strikers.

Oscar Salonen, in his speech, extended the support of the longshoremen to the relief camp strikers and pointed to the fact that over 500 longshoremen took part in the parade.

Malcolm Bruce was the official spokesman of the Communist Party of Canada. He spoke of May Day as the workers' day of struggle and urged all workers to support the United Front in its struggle for the abolition of Capitalism and the establishment of a Soviet Canada.

A. M. Stevens, a school teacher speaking in the name of the Socialist Party of Canada, proudly announced that a large number of students had come out on strike that afternoon and had joined the parade. He urged that a strong protest be sent to a particular teacher in one of the schools who, he alleged, had threatened the children with disciplinary action should they take part in the protest strike.

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Numerous other speakers including Nelson of the Canadian Labour Defence League, Flatt of the Industrial Workers of the World, Revel of the Young Socialist League, Mrs. Wilson of the B.C. League Against War and Fascism, J. D. Taylor of the Socialist Party of Canada, Pete Low of the Chinese Workers' Protective Association, Lealess of the P.W.C., Reiss of the High School Students' League, Ravenor of the Negro Workers' Association and Elspeth Munro of the Young Pioneers extended greetings on behalf of their respective organizations.

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### (B) At Toronto

Two distinct demonstrations marked this year's May Day in Toronto; one was staged by the Communists under the auspices of the "United May Day Conference", and the other by the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation in conjunction with the Workers' Party of Canada (Trotskyites) and the Jewish element of the American Federation of Labor.

The demonstration of the Communists consisted of two parades, one starting from Stanley Park in the west end and the other from Riverdale Park in the east end, an open-air meeting at Queen's Park and a mass rally

in the Maple Leaf Gardens in the evening. The participants numbered approximately 9,000.

Truck loads of children, floats and many automobiles featured the parade. A conspicuous section of it was formed by the 20 trade unions affiliated with the Workers' Unity League. An unusual quantity of banners and placards bearing Communist and militant slogans was another feature of the parade. The parades converged on Queen's Park where addresses were given by J. B. Salsberg, Workers' Unity League, S. J. Berry, North Bay, Joseph Gershman, J. Andrews, W. C. Croft, Charles Marriott and Norman Freed. Tim Buck, wearing a red sash, was present but reserved his speech for the evening meeting.

Richard Steele, in opening the meeting, commented on the size of the gathering, saying that it was the answer to the

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"parasites sitting in the Parliament Building".

A mass rally in the Maple Leaf Gardens marked the culmination of the Communist celebration. The attendance numbered approximately 9,000 and the main speakers were Tim Buck, T. C. Sims, Mrs. E. Morton, Bill Kashton, Sam Carr and Clarence Hathaway, Editor-in-Chief of the New York Daily Worker, F. Norman presided over the gathering.

Tim Buck denounced the Mayor of Vancouver for reading the Riot Act, asserting that the Mayor was right when he said that demonstrations of the unemployed constitute a prelude to a revolution. He declared that everything the Communist Party does should be looked upon as a prelude to revolution. Speaking of Fascism and the danger of war Tim Buck contended that the workers of today look upon the question of war in a different light than the workers of 1914. "When the war breaks out the workers will know what to do, instead of killing their fellow workers it will be easier for them to turn the guns against their own oppressors", he said. Speaking of the Soviet Red Army he maintained that it was the army of the workers of the entire world. Buck attacked Premier Mitchell Hepburn for interfering with the Crowland relief strike and strongly denounced Canon Cody for what he (Buck) termed "his pro-Fascist and pro-war pronouncements".

Clarence Hathaway dwelt mostly on the conditions in the United States denouncing Mr. Roosevelt, the President, as an apostle of Fascism. He praised Tim Buck characterizing him as a great leader of the Canadian working class. He said that it was very necessary to have co-operation between the Communist Party of Canada and that of the U.S.A. in order to carry on the revolutionary struggle more effectively.

Sam Carr made a strong appeal for funds to cover the expenses of the meeting and the celebration in general. He succeeded in raising approximately \$600.

The addresses delivered by the other speakers were very brief. Mrs. E. Morton spoke for a few minutes on the question of the status of women in the revolutionary movement urging the

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women to become organized and to take their places in the class struggle.

The parade staged by the Opposition Group started from Clarence Square, Wellington Street and Spadina Avenue and proceeded to Willowdale Park where a mass meeting took place. The marchers included 1,000 girl members of the Ladies' Garment Workers Union (A.F.L.).

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#### (C) At Winnipeg

[S<#] The May Day parade in the City of Winnipeg, Man., was somewhat larger than usual. It may be classed as one of the best conducted with over 5,000 men, women and children taking part in it. The demonstrators assembled in the Market Square early in the evening and from there, headed by Alderman Penner and School Trustee Bilecki, moved off proceeding south on Main Street. Banners and placards with revolutionary slogans were numerous. The parade was orderly throughout and hundreds lined the sidewalks watching it. On their return to the Market Square the demonstrators lined up to hear a battery of speakers including Alderman Penner, a newcomer to the Movement named Attwood, Norman Penner, I. Minster, Harry Binder, Mrs. Bartko and C. Hitchin. Their speeches were of the usual agitational type but were poorly heard due to the milling of the crowd.

One feature of the parade was some 50 baby carriages in a section by themselves.

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#### (D) In Montreal

[S<#] In the City of Montreal, Que., May Day was marked by a mass meeting held in the evening at the Mount Royal Arena. About 5,000 people attended, thirty-five per cent of whom were French-Canadians. It was considered on the best attended meetings ever held on May Day in the City of Montreal. J. S. Wallace

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presided and the speakers were 'Fred Rose, Charles Ouimet and Stewart Smith.

Fred Rose greeted the gathering on behalf of the Communist Party and devoted most of his time to the question of war and Fascism. He predicted that a war would break out between now and May Day 1936, and made a strong appeal to fight Fascism as the only means at the disposal of the working class to prevent a war.

Charles Ouimet endorsed some of the views expressed by Fred Rose. He appealed to the French-Canadians to become organized and urged them to join the working class movement.

The main speaker of the evening was Stewart Smith, Editor of The Worker. His speech was a general attack on the Capitalist system. He asserted that the collapse of Capitalism was near, that its downfall will be hastened by the Communist Movement. He compared the economic conditions prevailing in the Capitalist countries with those of the U.S.S.R. which, he declared were improving daily. He condemned the "new deal" of President Roosevelt and claimed that the depression can be abolished only through the establishment of an order in which production for use will replace production for profit. He urged the workers to form a United Front and to defend the Soviet Union.

No attempts were made to hold a demonstration or parade.

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#### (E) In Calgary

[3<#] Approximately 700 persons paraded in Calgary, Alta., on 1st May despite the inclement weather and the snow which had fallen a day or so before. At the Victoria Park Pavilion, where many more joined the parade, they were addressed by pat Lenihan, Tom Betteridge and Alderman Robert Parkyn. A resolution was passed calling for the unity of all the unemployed organizations in Calgary.

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#### (F) In Edmonton & District

A heavy snowfall of over six inches prevented the holding of a parade on 1st May. May Day, however, was celebrated on the 4th, marked by a successful parade and a meeting in the Market Square. About 2,000 marched behind a banner hailing the Communist International while thousands lined the streets.

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[3<#] Despite a heavy snowfall which continued over two days, over 500 farmers and workers of the Mynam (Alta.) District attended a May Day demonstration in Mynam on 5th May. The meeting was held in the open in front of the gaily decorated Ukrainian Labour Temple.

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[3<#] A mass meeting featured the May Day celebration at Nordegg, Alta. The meeting was addressed by Murdock Clark, who spoke on the necessity for unity.

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#### (G) In Blairmore

[3<#] A heavy fall of snow overnight and intermittent rain and snow flurries during the day marred the May Day festivities at Blairmore, Alta. The committee in charge of the celebration was forced to cancel its plans resulting in the cancellation of practically all outdoor events. A parade was held during the afternoon and meetings, both in halls and on the streets, were addressed by the local leaders. No attempt was made to organize a march on to Corbin, B.C. Approximately 1,300 visitors arrived by special train and in automobiles from the neighbouring towns of Michel, Hillcrest and Bellevue. There was no disorder of any kind and the visitors departed on schedule.

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#### (H) In Regina

May Day passed without any untoward activities in Regina, Sask. A meeting scheduled to take place in the Market Square was held in Unity

[3<#] Centre owing to the inclement weather. About 300 people were in attendance and the speakers were E. V. Mills, Octavia Kay, J. M. Tothill, J. Freed, Peter Mikkelsen and William Stokes. The meeting was preluded by revolutionary cheers and songs from the Young Pioneers. Unity of the working class was the theme of the speakers.

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[3<#] May Day was also observed in the farming community of Wood Mountain, Sask., where a May Day meeting was held at the home of Nick Kliem, well-known local agitator, which was attended by approximately 75 persons.

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[§<#] Approximately 150 people attended a May Day meeting at Sturgis, Sask., on 5th May. W. W. Gagnong, a prominent radical farmer of the Sturgis District, acted as Chairman, and the speakers were Annie Anaka and J. Bepalko.

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(I) In Fort William & Port Arthur

[§<#] Approximately 600 people, including many women and children, staged a parade at Fort William, Ont., on 1st May. After parading through the city a meeting was held on the corner of Simpson and Dease Streets where speeches were given by D. Ryback, J. Quinn and C. J. Martin. In the evening another mass meeting was held in the Prince of Wales Arena.

At Port Arthur some 900 people assembled on a vacant lot on Cumberland Street and from there paraded through the city carrying a number of banners bearing revolutionary slogans. On returning to the point of assembly the demonstrators were addressed by M. J. Fenwick, P. Siren and Alderman M. J. Forkin, of Winnipeg.

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The speakers appealed for solidarity and urged the audience to continue in their fight for the abolition of the Capitalist system.

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(J) In Kirkland Lake

[§<#] A parade and a meeting featured the May Day celebration at Kirkland Lake, Ont. After assembling at the high school grounds the demonstrators paraded through the town and on returning to the point of assembly again were addressed by Dorothy Mokosky, a 13-year old school girl, J. Brady, [§<deletion: 3/4 line] Mrs. Anna Evoniuk, also [§<deletion: 3/4 line] and Alex Saunders. About 250 persons attended, the vast majority of whom were foreigners.

In the evening a concert was held in the Ukrainian Hall under the auspices of the Ukrainian Labour Farmer Temple Association.

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(K) In Windsor & Other Points In Ontario

[§<#] Led by a Fife and Drum Band over 1,000 workers paraded at Windsor, Ont., on May Day. The demonstrators marched from the City Hall to Lanspeary Park where they were addressed by several speakers including Councillor W. Emery of the [§<deletion: 5 words] Mrs. G. Ketchison of

the [deletion: 2 words] J. Less of the [deletion: 4 words] C. Newbury of Tenants' Protective Committee, and Arthur Seale of the Canadian Labour Defence League.

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At Kitchener, Ont., the Communist Party and its subsidiary organizations, together with the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation, united on May Day and staged a demonstration. It is reported that approximately 800 marched in a parade and that a greater number attended the evening meeting in the Market Hall.

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The meeting was addressed by A. Campbell, Toronto District Organizer of the Canadian Labour Defence League, Mary Cozmanoff of Gary, Indiana, a member of the United States Trade Unionist Delegation to the Soviet Union last November, and two C.C.F. representatives.

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[deletion: #] At Niagara Falls, Ont., approximately 400 persons, including a number of women and children, staged a parade carrying a number of banners bearing the inscriptions "Workers Of The World Unite", "Defend The Soviet Union", "Money For Tear Gas Bombs, None For Food", etc. At the Market Square a meeting was held which was addressed by Peter Hare, D. Van Gorter, William White, Peter Gordon and A. E. Smith of Toronto, the latter being the chief speaker.

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[deletion: #] Approximately 250 persons staged a May Day parade in Welland, Ont., on the evening of 1st May. The parade was arranged by the Canadian Labour Defence Leagues of Welland and Crowland. The demonstrators were addressed at the Market Square by Tom Martin, a leader of the recent local relief strike.

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[deletion: #] At Sudbury, Ont., about 1,500 workers participated in a May Day mass meeting at the tourist camp and 800 of them, carrying numerous banners, paraded through the Main Street. A. T. Hill, prominent Communist, was the main speaker.

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At London, Ont., about 600 people marched in a May Day parade, one of the largest labour demonstrations ever held in that city. Following the parade approximately 1,000 attended a mass meeting at the Market Square.

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At Timmins, Ont., some 300 people paraded through the streets on 1st May to the Ball Grounds where speeches were given by William Lethinen [3<#] and William Rogers. A concert in the Finnish Hall and one in the Ukrainian Hall concluded the May Day festivities.

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[3<#] At St. Catharines, Ont., May Day was observed by a meeting in Riordon Park. There were approximately 200 in attendance and the speakers dwelt mostly on the unemployed situation.

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[3<#] At Sault Ste. Marie, Ont., about 250 attended an indoor meeting on May Day. For the first time in this city a French-Canadian speaker addressed a meeting of this kind.

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[3<#] An open-air meeting attended by over 100 people featured the May Day demonstration at Chatham, Ont. Speakers addressed the crowd in English, Hungarian and Ukrainian.

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[3<#] A United Front meeting featured the May Day celebration in Oshawa, Ont. Tom King, of the Workers' Unity League, Toronto, was the main speaker.

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[3<#] Approximately 150 workers paraded in Guelph, Ont., on May Day.

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(L) In Victoria, B.C.

[3<#] May Day passed quietly in Victoria, B.C. Approximately 300 people including 50 Chinese, paraded to Central Park where they were addressed by George Seymour and T. Guy Sheppard.

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(M) In Glace Bay, N.S.

[3<#] At Glace Bay, N.S., where for many years May Day had been an outstanding event featured by large parades and mass meetings, only approximately 50 people attended a mass meeting in Rukasin's Hall this year. The speakers were J. B. McLachlan, Stewart and Ross.

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2. The Corbin Strike

[3&lt;#]

The strike situation in Corbin, B.C., remains quiet. A heavy snowfall prevented the concentration of miners at Blairmore on 1st May and the proposed march on to Corbin. The proposed march of unemployed from the City of Calgary to assist the striking miners in Corbin was a failure. Only about 300 answered the call and marched as far as the outskirts of Calgary. By this time the number had dwindled down to about 150. On the advice of Harvey Murphy, who was largely responsible for this venture, they disbanded and returned to Calgary.

Harvey Murphy, Jim Sloan, John Stokaluk and other important [3<deletion: 3 words] addressed a number of meetings in mining camps and cities in Southern Alberta with the object in view of rallying the unemployed to the support of the Corbin strikers.

On 2nd May a delegation consisting of V.W.R. Braithwaite, Vancouver, Jack Price, M.L.A., Vancouver, Sam English, Cumberland, Mrs. Helen R. Guthridge, Vancouver, and Jack Stevenson, longshoreman, Burnaby, accompanied by Tom Uphill, M.L.A. of Fernie, arrived at Corbin for the purpose of investigating the strike situation.

From reliable information it would appear that there is not any likelihood of the Blairmore miners attempting another march "on to Corbin".

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The trials of those arrested in connection with the riot on 17th April are proceeding at Corbin and are expected to be completed shortly.

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3. Relief Camp Strike in B.C.

[3&lt;#]

The relief camp strike situation in Vancouver remains unchanged. The strikers seem determined not to return to the camps.

On the afternoon of 26th April a delegation of relief camp strikers, led by Arthur H. Evans, called on Mayor G. G. McGeer at the Vancouver City Hall and laid before him four new demands, i.e.,

- (1) Transportation of a delegation to Ottawa.
- (2) Care of the strikers in Vancouver pending their return.
- (3) Release of arrested men.
- (4) Return of all property of campers confiscated by the police.

The Mayor refused to consider these demands considering that the proposals had been deliberately framed in such a way that it was impossible for him to agree.

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[§&#] The Executive of the Street Railway Men's Union issued a statement on the night of the 26th to the effect that it regarded the situation as one calling for drastic action on the part of organized labour. Further, that a meeting had been called to discuss the extent to which the Street Railway Men will support the proposed general strike for one hour on 29th April. It subsequently developed that the Street Railway Men's Union declined to come out on strike but to contribute two hours' pay to the strike fund.

On the night of 26th April the local Seamen's Union voted to undertake a one-hour strike on the 29th.

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On 29th April, during the afternoon, approximately 2,000 attended a mass meeting of the Relief Camp Workers' Union on Cambie Street Grounds. The gathering was addressed by O'Neill, of the Workers Ex-Service Men's League, Fred Grange, of the Provincial Workers' Council,

[§&#] Turner, of the [§&#deletion: 4 words] H. Cowels, for the newly-formed Vancouver Relief Workers' Association, Kerr, of the Workers' Unity League, Jack Taylor, [§&#deletion: 6 words] and Grant McNeill, of the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation. They all expressed words of encouragement and pledged the support of their respective organizations.

On the same day, in the course of the evening, over 3,000 persons assembled on Cambie Street Grounds and from there staged a parade through the city to the Vancouver Arena where a mass meeting was held attended by approximately 16,000 people. The parade and mass meeting were organized and conducted by the C.C.F.

The speakers at the Arena meeting were Harold Winch, M.L.A., Matt Shaw, Dr. Lyle Telford, Mrs. Colley, Pete Munro, Ivan Emery, Tom Uphill and Arnold Webster.

Harold Winch made an impassionate appeal for the continuance of support for the strikers. He stated that since the Government had chosen the "mailed fist" to force the boys back to the camps it was up to the people of Vancouver to see to it that they did not go back and that the "slave compounds" be abolished.

Dr. Lyle Telford held forth in a lengthy discourse on the "last stand of Capitalism".

Pete Munro, speaking on behalf of the Street Railwaymen's Union, made a comparison of the relief camps with the "slave compounds" in Germany and pledged the support of the Street Railway Men.

Tom Uphill recounted the clash with the police in Corbin on 17th April.

Arnold Webster, who intimated that he was not representing the Teachers Federation of British Columbia, briefly urged

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that the youth organize against war and Fascism and "police brutality".

The collection taken at this meeting amounted to \$1,537.

To express approval of the stand taken by Vancouver longshoremen who ceased work for one hour on the 29th in sympathy with the relief camp strikers, the latter marched from Cambie Street Grounds to the Longshoremen's Union headquarters. Approximately 4,000 took part in this demonstration.

The most unique and certainly the most successful event of its kind ever staged in Vancouver took place on 27th April when hundreds of women, led by the C.C.F. Women's Group, held a Tag Day in aid of the strikers.

Another event of unusual interest was the "Save The Youth Week" sponsored by the C.C.F. Action Committee, the object of which was to arrest public attention and to collect funds for the strikers. This campaign concluded with a mass meeting in Hastings Park on 5th May. This meeting was attended by 8,000 people who listened to a battery of speakers condemning the relief camp system. One of the speakers, Mildred Lust, announced that the Women's Section of the C.C.F. would stage another Tag Day on 11th May.

On 1st May the striking relief camp workers took an active part in the May Day demonstration arranged by the Communist Party and its subsidiary organizations.

A continuous picket line is being kept in all railroad yards as well as bus lines for the purpose of restraining any of the strikers from returning to camp. The strikers, encouraged by the support they are receiving, have

rejected all proposals for a settlement including that of the General Vancouver Ministerial Association.

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#### 4. Relief Recipients Strike in Edmonton

[3<#]

The strike of relief recipients in the City of Edmonton, Alta., continues. A meeting of the Central Strike Committee held

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on 30th April attended by 53 delegates and 11 visitors decided to maintain unity at all costs. The delegates representing the various organizations gave assurance that they would not come to any separate agreement with the City Council unless it was sanctioned by the Central Strike Committee and a rank and file meeting.

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#### 5. Crowland Relief Strike Ended

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At a meeting held on 11th May the striking unemployed of Crowland (Ont.) Township passed a resolution calling on all relief workers to go back to work on the 13th. The resolution was passed without a single dissenting voice. This marks the termination of the six weeks' old strike.

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The Ukrainian Labour Temple at Crowland, Ont., strike centre of unemployed workers, was razed early on 7th may in a fire of mysterious origin.

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#### 6. Steel Workers' Strike in Hamilton

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Encouraged by the recent victory of the Guelph Malleable Iron Workers, the employees of the Steel Company of Canada plant in Hamilton, Ont., decided to strike on 4th May. The strike is scheduled to start on the 6th.

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#### 7. Yorkton (Sask.) Relief Strike Settled

[3<#]

The strike of relief workers at Yorkton, Sask., has been settled, with the strikers accepting the increase offered by the city. There is, however, a

movement on foot again, led by T. G. MacManus of Regina, to call another strike shortly and to ask for additional increases.

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### 8. John Boychuk Visits The Pas

John Boychuk arrived at The Pas, Man., on 27th April and was met at the railway station by approximately 50 people who cheered loudly as he [20#] stepped off the train. On the following day Boychuk is alleged to have held a meeting with the leaders of the local revolutionary movement and on the same evening addressed a reception given in his honour in the Ukrainian Labour Temple.

Oscar Brooks, who had been prominently connected with the Flin Flon strike of last year, made a short speech in English wishing Boychuk every success in the revolutionary movement. Boychuk spoke in Ukrainian denouncing the Capitalist system.

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[21]

## APPENDIX NO. II: REPORTS BY PROVINCES

### I. BRITISH COLUMBIA

#### 9. Joint Meeting of C.P. & C.C.F.

The Communist Party of Canada and the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation at Vancouver, B.C., held a joint meeting at the Moose Hall, Burrard Street, on the evening of 26th April.

[20#] The Chairman, a man named Bray, announced that the purpose of the meeting was to discuss ways and means of sending a Commission to Corbin to investigate the strike situation there.

Tom Uphill was the main speaker, giving a lengthy account of the strike trouble and the negotiations with the company officials at Corbin. Uphill, who was a member of the delegation that had been sent to Victoria by the Corbin strikers, announced that no satisfaction was obtained from the Provincial Government.

The second speaker, Dornan, Secretary of the Miners Local and leader of the picket line in Corbin, dealt chiefly with the "police terror" in Corbin.

Harvey Murphy, another speaker, in his tirade against the police, asserted that no trouble would have ensued in Corbin had the police not provoked.

A man named Morrison spoke briefly announcing that the Native Sons of Canada were attempting to organize a "Tag Day" on behalf of the relief camp strikers and that they were one hundred per cent behind these men.

Dr. Lyle Telford, in a brief speech, criticized Mayor McGeer's proposals and his actions with regard to the relief strike.

Malcolm Bruce spoke on behalf of the Communist Party of Canada. He was pleased with the unity shown by the various organizations on behalf of the relief camp strikers and the Corbin miners. He contended that it is always the police that provoke disorders.

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It was suggested that the Commission which is to proceed to Corbin include Jake Price, Jack Stevenson, Braithwaite, Mrs. Steeves, a miner from Nanaimo, and a Minister of one of the churches. The purpose of this Commission was outlined by Jack Price, M.L.A., who stated that its task will be to compile a full and authentic report on the Corbin affair.

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[§<#] The relief camp strikers in the City of Victoria, B.C., held several nuisance parades through the larger stores recently. The parades have been very orderly, however. The 40 odd relief camp strikers are being led and supported by the local agitators who swelled their numbers to about 200.

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## II. ALBERTA

### 10. [§<deletion: 5 words] Hold a Conference

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[§<deletion: 1 line] held a conference of local unit and fraction leaders on 16th April. There were 85 persons present including a few delegates from the Farmers' Unity League. J. Lakeman presided and most of the time was devoted to Tim Buck outlining recent developments within the Communist Party of Canada.

He stated that the Communist Party membership in Canada was growing very rapidly. In Montreal and a few other cities the membership increased by 100 members per month. He said that the Communist Party today has a membership of approximately 8,000. A notable feature, he remarked, was the growth of the Communist Party membership within the mass organizations and in some of the basic industrial organizations. The Communist Party today, he declared, was ready to defy what he termed "the Capitalist-Bennett policy" and was prepared to go underground at any time. He also

said that the Communist Party was the only political party in Canada which has a future to offer to the working class;

[23]

that it was going forward building the Workers' Army and preparing to defend the Soviet Union and the working class interests the world over. He concluded by appealing for co-operation in the coming election and to face the coming struggle as the workers did in the Soviet Union when the armies of 14 Capitalist States were defeated.

It is reported that while in Edmonton Tim Buck succeeded in speaking to the University of Alberta professors and students. Also that he had a conference with a group of railroaders on 16th April at J. Plante's house.

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[3<#] At a meeting of Executive Committees of the various unemployed organizations in the City of Calgary, Alta., on 3rd May, it was resolved to amalgamate into one large unemployed organization. The Workers Ex-Service Men's League and the Ex-Service men's Association did not vote but it is understood that the rank and file members of the Workers Ex-Service Men's League have agreed to join the new organization.

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[3<#] The Canadian League Against War and Fascism at Edmonton, Alta., held a meeting at the Masonic Temple on 29th April, with 52 delegates representing 39 local organizations in attendance. S. Bowcott acted as Chairman.

O. C. Doolan, in his report on organizational work, stated that arrangements for a Tag Day had been made with the City Council for some time in June next. Several other reports were presented, some of which disclosed that various young men's clubs are becoming more interested in this movement, and that a number of contacts in young people's organizations had been made.

The meeting decided to take part in the May Day demonstration and that banners representing the league be carried in the parade. The meeting further decided to protest against the presence of police at the Edmonton Relief Kitchen and at the city stables. It was announced that A. McLeod, of the National

[24]

Bureau of the league, would be in Edmonton on or about 28th May.

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As a result of recent agitation among the miners employed at the Mohawk Mine at Maple Leaf, Alta., 89 miners have withdrawn from the [3<#] United Mine Workers of America and joined what is known as the Maple Leaf Home Local which, in reality, is a subsidiary of the Mine Workers' Union of Canada. The Mohawk Mine Local of the United Mine Workers of America had a total membership of 110.

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[3<#] The Communist Party in Calgary, Alta., held a mass meeting in the Grand Theatre on 28th April. The speakers were George Palmer, Pat Lenihan and Harvey Murphy. The first two speakers denounced the social credit system claiming that it was sponsored by the big interests to delude the working class.

Harvey Murphy spoke on the Corbin strike situation explaining how 600 miners from Blairmore marched down to Corbin and forced Inspector MacDonald of the B.C. Provincial Police to allow a delegation of 10 men to enter Corbin. He also gave an account of the interview which the delegation from Corbin had with the Provincial Government at Victoria. Murphy claimed that the miners in Corbin would not abandon their fight and that they would show the Premier and the Attorney General of British Columbia that they could not interfere with the miners in Corbin.

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### III. SASKATCHEWAN

#### 11. Unemployed at Bienfait Organize

[3<#]

The unemployed of Bienfait (Sask.) and District held an open-air meeting at Bienfait on 25th April and resolved to form a branch of the Saskatchewan Union of Unemployed. The attendance numbered approximately 35 people, and the speakers were James McLean, Estevan, and Allan Carrol, Bienfait, both of whom urged

[25]

the formation of a branch of this organization. The officers elected were John Robinson, President, Harry Hesketh, Vice-President, and Allan Carrol, Secretary.

Allan Carrol announced that a May Day meeting of the unemployed would be held at Estevan on 1st May with A. F. Theodore of Regina as the chief speaker.

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IV. MANITOBA12. Communist Party in Winnipeg Organized 98 Federal Election Poll Committees

- [3<#] The Communist Party Election Committee, which has charge of the Federal election campaign in Winnipeg, Man., has organized 98 Poll Committees varying in strength from five to 10 members whose duty it is to visit every home in the north end and as far as possible to interview every voter with the object of persuading him to vote for Tim Buck. They are to carry with them copies of the Communist Party Election Manifesto and other Communist Party literature.

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V. ONTARIO13. Unemployed Plan Hunger March

- [3<#] A Provincial Conference of Unemployed held in the City of Toronto, Ont., on 6th May decided to stage a hunger march on 17th, 18th and 19th June, on the first anniversary of the Hepburn Government coming into office.

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- [3<#] Bert Kenny of Montreal addressed a meeting of the League Against War and Fascism in the Public Library, Ottawa, Ont., on 2nd May.

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[26]

VI. QUEBEC14. Workers Ex-Service Men's League Meeting

- Approximately 50 members attended a meeting of the Montreal (Que.) Branch of the Workers Ex-Service Men's League held at 1207 University Street on 26th April. The Organizer and leader, George W. Hincks, was [3<#] absent. Mrs. Hincks, who was in attendance, reported that on 26th April her husband had been sentenced in the Recorder's Court to three days in jail for being drunk and disorderly in the Red Cross Hostel. She contended that her husband was not drunk and the general consensus of opinion of those present was to the effect that Hincks had been framed.

The meeting, which was called for the purpose of listening to the reports of the delegation that had been to Ottawa recently to interview the Minister of Pensions and National Health, was addressed by Coles, Cote, Bedard

and T. Woods. The first three named gave a very mild report stating that they had been received very nicely by the Honourable Mr. Sutherland and that he had promised that their demands would be looked into.

T. Woods, however, was very cynical in his opinion of the Honourable Mr. Sutherland. He stated that the reason the delegation had got such a good reception was because the Honourable Mr. Sutherland had been told that if the demand of the delegation were not given immediate attention the veterans would march on to Ottawa the same as the veterans marched on Washington, D.C. Woods severely criticized the Canadian Legion and the Army and Navy Veterans for the lack of interest these organizations take in the welfare of the veterans. He also attacked the Montreal City Police Department for sending members of the Red Squad to meetings and urged that a resolution be passed protesting against this procedure. The resolution was passed unanimously.

Woods is a member of the Rosemount Branch of the Canadian Legion. He has been charged with the task of spreading propoganda among the members of that branch but has met with little success so far.

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[27]

Two hundred people representing "Left" Wing organizations attended a banquet in honour of Fred Rose, Communist Party candidate in the Carmen Sylva Hall on Sunday evening, 5th May. It marked the official opening of the election campaign of the Communist Party in the Cartier [X#] constituency. The spirit and enthusiasm manifest at this banquet was exceptionally good. A collection taken at this gathering netted the sum of \$400. In addition the sum of \$3,500 was pledged towards the election campaign by the various representatives present.

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[X#] [Xdeletion: 1/4 page]

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[X#] On 30th April the Quebec Provincial Police arrested seven men at Montreal for sending strongly worded letters of protest to Premier Taschereau in connection with the sentences imposed in the cases of the Noranda mine strikers. With the exception of [Xdeletion: 1 1/2 page] those arrested are not known to be connected with the Communist Party or the Canadian Labour Defence League. The arrested men are being held on charges of "sedition".

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