

## ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE HEADQUARTERS

Ottawa, 17th July, 1935.

SECRET

NO. 764

WEEKLY SUMMARYREPORT ON REVOLUTIONARY ORGANIZATIONSAND AGITATORS IN CANADAReport

Three hundred and fifty men in relief camps near Hope, B.C., have refused to work.

Six hundred longshoremen at Vancouver voted to continue the strike.

Victoria (B.C.) longshoremen, by a vote of 38 to 33, declared Vancouver and Powell River cargoes to be "unfair" and have refused to handle same.

Latest reports from Winnipeg indicate that men are leaving the ranks of the Winnipeg strikers in disgust, therefore, unless financial assistance is immediately forthcoming to enable the marchers to proceed east by automobile the march east will fail.

Local agitators have endeavoured to arouse enthusiasm in the eastern on-to-Ottawa march and the first contingent is expected to leave Toronto immediately. The success of the march depends, largely, on the amount of assistance given to the participants by municipalities en route. The weather may also be a deciding factor.

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APPENDIX NO. I: GENERAL1. On-to-Ottawa March. Relief Camp Workers -- Ontario  
Kenora

[3<#] Evans, leader of the six strikers from Winnipeg, Man., received a set-back from the Chief of Police and the Mayor of Kenora when informed the Town of Kenora was not going to feed them or the Winnipeg strikers when they passed through. This information, coupled with information the party received regarding the condition of the road from Kenora to Fort William, served to dampen their enthusiasm for the march to Ottawa.

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2. Relief Camp Strikers at Toronto

[3<#] In Toronto, Ont., meetings and parades have been held continually during the past week. Registration booths have been placed at convenient points in the city to encourage those who wish to join up. Three hundred marchers from Hamilton, 100 from Windsor and 200 from Niagara Falls are expected to arrive in the city Saturday or Sunday. The transportation of supplies is worrying the strikers, as so far they have not obtained sufficient trucks for the purpose.

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3. Relief Camp Strikers at Kingston

[3<#] The movement at Camp 42 at Kingston, Ont., has developed considerably, 100 men having already signified their intention to join the marchers when called, while a number of other relief workers at Kingston are in sympathy with the movement.

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4. Relief Camp Strikers at Chalk River

[3<#] At Chalk River on 10th July Rod Gillies and James Williams held a meeting calling on the workers to organize the camps and to have delegates from all camps attend meetings to be held in Pembroke, Ont., on Saturday 13th July, for the purpose of completing plans for a general strike at the camps and starting of the trek on 15th July. From the general attitude

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in these camps, it is thought, very few will answer this call.

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5. Relief Camp Strikers at Pembroke

An office has been opened at Pembroke, Ont., by Roderick Gillies and James Williams of Sudbury with the avowed intention of connecting with the three relief projects at Petawawa to have the men register their names and take part in the on-to-Ottawa trek.

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6. Relief Camp Strikers at Winnipeg, Man.

A Tag Day was held in Winnipeg, Man., on 13th July by the strikers for the purpose of obtaining boots and clothing, but it is doubtful whether all the money will go to this cause. The Headquarters of the Tag Committee is the Scandinavian Workers' Club. Two taxi cabs left Winnipeg for the Ontario border with six strikers aboard, leaving the men at Kenora, Ont., the taxi cabs returning to Winnipeg.

There appears to be some grounds for the opinion that the strikers are having some difficulty in holding the men. On 9th and 10th July 66 strikers returned to their homes with the assistance of the Provincial Government: 27 accepted employment on farms and 31 were sent to other camps. A small number are leaving camp daily on their own, and a few coming to the camp at the Exhibition Grounds daily. There are roughly 500 men at the camp. The situation at the Lakehead remains practically unchanged. Attempts by agitators were made to foster discontent in the airport camp at Nakina but on the authorities taking action, the situation at present is quiet.

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7. Relief Camp Strikers at Montreal, Que.

From Montreal it is reported that four firms are supplying the marchers with goods, such as bread, cash, tobacco and medical supplies.

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A meeting of the Ways and Means Committee of the hunger march was held in Montreal on 6th July. A very unfavourable report was given on the situation in Valcartier Camp. It was reported that the camp strikers are unwilling to link themselves up with any Communist glory and that they refuse any "outside assistance, neither are the strikers in favour of marching to Ottawa at the present time".

It was decided to print a special leaflet, 2,000 of which will be distributed in Valcartier: the leaflet will explain that the Unemployed Councils are not

a Communist organization and will urge the camp strikers to form a "United Front" with the Quebec Unemployed Councils.

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### 8. Longshoremen, Vancouver, B.C.

[X<#] The longshoremen's strike at Vancouver remains unchanged, the red agitators on the waterfront having suffered a defeat when the British Columbia trekkers decided to return to the camps. It was thought by the agitators that these men could be used on the picket lines, and for support by the strikers.

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### [X<#] 9. Lumber Workers Strike -- Thunder Bay, Ont.

The Lumber Workers' Industrial Union have worked very hard during the latter part of the month to solidify the strike in all bush camps in the district of Thunder Bay, Ont. There were some 2,200 men employed in these camps and by the end of the month it is estimated that about 1,800 men were on strike. The strike is alleged to be for an increase in pay per cord and betterment of camp conditions. The leaders have openly stated, however, that the strike is to give moral support to the Ottawa trekkers. There is a great deal of discontent among the strikers and indications are that some of the strikers will soon start back to camp.

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### 10. Lumber Workers Strike at Port Arthur, Ont.

Enquiries made at the offices of different bush contractors in Port Arthur district disclose that the number of strikers is given as 1,200. Slight [X<#] overtures have been made by the Lumber Workers' Industrial Union to open negotiations with the contractors, but the contractors as a body have refused to meet the L.W.I.U. delegates. There have been a few skirmishes between the strikers' pickets and workers attempting to reach the station depot to go to the camps. On 7th July about 100 pickets went to the camp of Thomas Falls at Ozone, Ont., and forced some 30 workers to leave the camp.

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APPENDIX NO. II: REPORTS BY PROVINCESI. BRITISH COLUMBIA11. Communists Uneasy at Vancouver

[X#] Following the visit paid to 19 Hastings St., Vancouver, B.C., and to the [Xdeletion: 3 words] on 1st July by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, the Communist Party at this point are sending circulars out to all members warning them to have no revolutionary documents, etc., in their possession in case of a visit by the Police.

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[X#] [Xdeletion: 2 words] one of the rioters in Vancouver was, in the Vancouver Police Court on 4th July, committed for trial.

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II. ALBERTA12. C.P. -- Calgary

[X#] The local Party in Calgary claim the C.P. are making use of the Regina affair throughout the country to raise the people against the Government and Police. Meetings are being called twice daily in all parts of the city and they are getting different women's organizations, labour and political parties very interested in the matter. Plans for sending in demands by all organizations are being made, demanding the release of all men arrested in Regina and a full investigation into the trouble.

The Party are playing the matter up to the full extent and are using it to further their influences with the people. At present, after having presented their view of the matter, they are receiving a great deal of support and intend using it to their utmost length.

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[X#] Plans are being made for calling a strike of unemployed in Calgary, Alta. The Unemployed Ex-Service Men's League and the Married Men's Protective Association have rejoined the Central Council. Their demands will be for a thirty-five increase in relief.

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[8]

A general meeting of the Canadian Labour Defence League was held at Calgary, Alta., on 27th June at which [Xdeletion: 3/4 line] was present.

[3<#] This meeting was called to consider the reorganizing of the C.L.D.L. and expulsion of some of the members, and broke up in general disorder, with some members receiving black eyes, one woman being knocked out with a chair.

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[3<#] A 24-hour strike of relief recipients was called on 3rd July to protest against the treatment given the on-to-Ottawa marchers at Regina. Plans are under way by the Central Council to bring about a permanent strike of relief workers. The relief camps at Drumheller, No's. 51 and 55, did not go on strike.

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[3<#] The Communist Party at Myram, Alta., are busy with the elections, not by mass meetings, but by personal contact, claiming they are getting more sympathizers, also that this system can be carried on in a quiet manner.

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### III. MANITOBA

#### 13. League Against War & Fascism, Winnipeg

[3<#] On 7th July a meeting was held by the League Against War and Fascism in Winnipeg, Man. The speakers were Jacob Penner and George Nicols alias I. Levi.

Penner spoke on Fascism, describing the Fascist form of Government and outlined the process by which all other so-called democratic, popular Governments undergo the process of Fascistization and gradually become real Fascist under the cover of democracy. He said:--

“The most perfect example of this we have here is what happened on the night of 1st July in Regina and how the Government deals with the whole question. This, too, is a glaring example of Fascist tactics adopted in this country by the Bennett Government. The working class must realize this once and forever, that as long as the means of wealth and production remain in

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the hands of financial interests, so long as Capitalism exists, no matter which party is in power, even when the Labour Government is elected, it is utterly impossible to solve the problem of unemployment under the Capitalist system. It is absolutely impossible to solve the question between the exploiters and the exploited. *Profiteering* requires ever increasing profits. Without this Capitalism cannot exist. This is the chief

and only source of trouble, better for one side and worse for the other. Capitalism will and must protect its interests and the only means are by crushing the working class. We have come to the point where the roads divide. The direction is becoming not only divergent but totally opposite”.

Nicols, in his speech, spoke on war, profits, exploitation, Fascism, the National Recovery Act of the U.S.A., unemployment, relief camps, militarization of youths and single men, and education of the youths and children in the schools, ending by the remark:--

“They do not want thinkers, they want believers -- good citizens, as they call them”.

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[X#] A meeting was held on the Market Square in Winnipeg, Man., on 7th July, at which Alderman Penner was the speaker. He did not deal with the Regina riot, except to urge the workers to remain solid and things would eventually have to change.

The meeting on the whole, which was quiet and orderly, was not of a very enthusiastic nature, and there did not appear to be many of the camp strikers present.

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[X#] It is noted from Winnipeg, Man., that the bail of \$1,000 has been raised by the Canadian Labour Defence League for the release of James Coleman, held for deportation, but so far bail has been refused.

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[X#] [Xdeletion: 1 line] arrived in Ottawa, Ont., on Wednesday, 10th July, from Winnipeg, Man., leaving for Toronto soon after. It is thought his business while in Ottawa was with the Charter of the organization, as it is known he visited a Government office.

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#### IV. ONTARIO

##### 14. Rockcliffe Relief Camp -- Ottawa

[X#] With the ejection of the ringleaders at the Rockcliffe (Ont.) Relief Camp, the camp is back to normal with the men working.

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Approximately 200 persons gathered at the Southminster United Church in Ottawa, Ont., on 8th July, to hear the Reverend S. B. East, of Regina, give a resume of the trek of the Vancouver strikers from the Coast to Regina. His address lasted approximately two hours.

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[§<#] A report from Windsor, Ont., states that 150 marchers already are registered with [§<deletion: 2 words] of East Windsor, for the trek to Ottawa.

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[§<#] An open air meeting was held at Nipigon, Ont., on 7th July at which the speakers were Stewart and Macinson, both of Port Arthur. The speakers were mild in their speeches, and warned the men not to interfere in any way with the police, or to give, make or cause any trouble, but asked them to strengthen their picket lines, and to donate to the best of their ability to the strike fund.

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[§<deletion: 1 word] who is in charge of the picket line, speaking at a meeting of the Lumber Workers' Industrial Union at Port Arthur, Ont., on 2nd July, said that no one seems to be very anxious to work on the picket line. When any one does turn up they are usually late and there are not enough of them to cover all the main points.

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[§<#] A citizens' mass protest meeting was held in Toronto, Ont., on 5th June protesting against the treatment of the B.C.

[11]

trekkers. The speakers were Reverend S. B. East, Regina Minister, and Matt Shaw, Vancouver striker. Both speakers dealt on the Regina affair.

The collection taken at the meeting amounted to \$1,214, in which were quite a few \$5 and \$10 bills. The attendance at the meeting was barely 3,000.

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[§<#] Frank Haslem and William Douglas, convicted leaders of the Crowland relief strike, have filed a notice of appeal of their convictions, which will come before the Court of Appeals in Osgoode Hall in Toronto, Ont., no date being set.

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The Borba, published in Toronto, Ont., in the Croatian language, in conducting a drive for the purpose of securing funds to enable the publisher to increase the size of the publication and to provide for the issuing of a tri-weekly instead of a bi-weekly, is meeting with considerable success. The issue of 5th June mentions that \$1,700 has been contributed from 21 districts. Vancouver heads the list with a contribution of \$251. Second place goes to Schumacher, Ont., with \$196.

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## V. QUEBEC

### 15. [~~deletion: 1 word~~] Regina Striker, at Montreal

[~~#~~] [~~deletion: 1 word~~] one of the Regina (Sask.) rioters, speaking in Montreal, Que., on 10th July, urged the workers to follow in the footsteps of the Western strikers. He said:--

“Do not attempt to fight against the main body of the opposite forces, but if you are fifty jump one or two of them and give them the works”.

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[~~#~~] A meeting of the Association Humanitaire was held in Montreal on 10th July. The main speaker was [~~deletion: 1 word~~] who said:--

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“If the workers knew their strength as the bourgeoisie and the Capitalists know theirs, there would soon be a workers’ government”. He also claimed that Russia was the only country with any ideal system.

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## VI. THE MARITIME PROVINCES

### 16. I.U. of S., Sydney, N.S.

[~~#~~] A new union recently appeared in Sydney, N.S., called “The Industrial Union of Steelworkers” organized by [~~deletion: 3 words~~] local radical. About 75 steelworkers have joined the new union, So far only two meetings of the union have been held in which the chief topics discussed were the eight-hour day and a raise in wages.

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