

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE HEADQUARTERS

Ottawa, 21st August, 1935.

SECRET

NO. 769

WEEKLY SUMMARYREPORT ON REVOLUTIONARY ORGANIZATIONSAND AGITATORS IN CANADAReport

Leaders of the On-to-Ottawa trekkers encamped at Plouffe Park, Ottawa, are now making every effort to obtain transportation home for the marchers. They claim to have accomplished their aim in that they have rallied the support of thousands behind their seven point program.

Desertions from the Camp have been numerous during the past few days, thus reducing the total strength to about three hundred. Public support has also waned considerably. It is anticipated that they will return to their homes within a day or so.

[2]

APPENDICESTable of ContentsAPPENDIX NO. I: GENERAL

- Paragraph No. 1. Situation in Vancouver, B.C.
 Waterfront strike situation unchanged.
 Maritime Federation of Pacific Coast take vote
 on question of support for Vancouver strike.
- “ ” 2. Stewart Smith and Beckie Buhay in Moscow
 attending C.I. Congress,
- “ ” 3. Canadian Sports Delegation leaves for U.S.S.R.
 Accompanied by a group of Doctors under leadership
 of Dr. Lowrie of Toronto.
- “ ” 4. Communist Candidates in Alberta Provincial Election.
 Election of Harvey Murphy conceded.
- “ ” 5. [Xdeletion: 10 lines]

APPENDIX NO. II: REPORTS BY PROVINCES.

- “ ” 6. BRITISH COLUMBIA:
 Mine operators at Cumberland declare lock-out.
 Miners voted against Contract System.
 [✂deletion: 2 words] sent to Cumberland.
- “ ” 7. ALBERTA:
 Edmonton Branch of League against War and Fascism
 and Citizens' League hold joint meeting.
 Mayor of Beverly, Harold Gerry, acted as Chairman.
 Rev. Sam East of Regina principal speaker.
 O.C. Doolan asserts C.P. not organizing for force-
 ful overthrow of System.
 Rev. Sam East defends Regina rioters and their
 action.
 Resolution demanding investigation into riots
 passed.
 [✂deletion: 8 lines]
- “ ” 8. SASKATCHEWAN
 Anti-War meeting in Kamsack.

[2a]

Paragraph No. 9. MANITOBA:

- Relief Camp strikers meet in Market Square.
 Torchlight demonstration postponed.
- “ ” 10. ONTARIO:
 A.E. Smith's election meetings poorly attended.
- “ ” 11. QUEBEC:
 C.P.C. in Montreal places candidate in
 Maisonneuve Constituency.
 French member named Poirier nominated
 C.P.C. meeting in Montreal poorly attended.
 Ouimet, Roger Poirier and Fred Rose speak.
 District Council of C.L.D.L. in Montreal add
 two French Canadians to Secretariat.
 [✂deletion: 2 words] of Verdun supports C.L.D.L.

[3]

APPENDIX NO. I: GENERAL1. SITUATION IN VANCOUVER, B.C.

[3<#]

The situation on the Vancouver Waterfront remains unchanged. No violence has been displayed with the exception of picket attacks on a few individual members of the new union working on the docks. It is reported that the San Francisco District Council of the Maritime Federation of the Pacific Coast voted to place the entire matter of support for British Columbia strike in the hands of the Executive Committee of the Federation, with a recommendation that the entire membership of the Federation vote on the question. The Council also recommended that other District Councils take similar action. The result of the balloting in the U.S. Pacific Ports is anxiously awaited by the leaders in Vancouver.

The Vancouver Relief Authorities have refused to provide for the striking Longshoremen and their families, except in cases where relief is justified.

2. STEWART SMITH AND BECKIE
BUHAY IN MOSCOW ATTENDING C.I. CONGRESS.

[3<#]

Stewart Smith, [3<deletion: 1 1/4 lines] and Editor in chief of *The Worker*, is said to have been relieved of all his duties in Canada for the time being. It is stated that he is one of the delegates attending the 7th Congress of the Communist International now being held in Moscow. It is further reported that Beckie Buhay, wife of Tom Ewen, has also departed for Moscow recently, presumably to attend the Congress.

[4]

3. CANADIAN SPORTS DELEGATION LEAVES
FOR U.S.S.R.

[3<#]

The Canadian Sports delegation to the U.S.S.R., sponsored by the Workers' Sports Association of Canada, left Canada on the S.S. "Duchess of York" from Montreal on the 13th of August. There are nine in the group, including Em Orlick of Hamilton, Coach of the delegation, Eva Dawes, Canada's Woman High Jump Champion of the last four years, Ray Ranta of Port Arthur, leader of the delegation and District Secretary of the

Workers' Sports Association for the Thunder Bay District, and Syd. Brown of Montreal, a prominent tennis player.

With the delegation are also travelling a group of doctors, who are making the trip to study medical science in the U.S.S.R. The leader of this group is Dr. H.A. Lowrie of Toronto, [deletion: 1 line]

4. COMMUNIST CANDIDATES IN ALBERTA PROVINCIAL ELECTION.

[deletion: #]

The Communist Party is running nine straight Communist Party and two United Front Candidates in the Alberta Provincial Election, as follows:

COMMUNIST CANDIDATES:

C. W. Springford,	Alexandra Constituency.
William Halina,	Vermilion “
A. E. Bolton,	Wetaskiwin “
Jan Lakeman,	Edmonton “
George Palmer,	Red Deer “
M. Novakowski,	Whitford “
Murdock Clarke,	Drumheller “
Pat Lenihan,	Calgary “
Harvey Murphy,	Rocky Mountain “

UNITED FRONT CANDIDATES:

Leslie Robbins,	Sturgeon Constituency.
Peter Kleparchuk,	Victoria “

It is expected that Harvey Murphy will be elected, and that Murdock Clarke, Jan Lakeman and Leslie Robbins will receive considerable support.

[5]

[deletion: missing]

[6]

[deletion: missing]

[7]

APPENDIX NO. II: REPORTS BY PROVINCESI. BRITISH COLUMBIA.6. MINE OPERATORS AT CUMBERLAND DECLARE LOCK-OUT.

[3<#]

On the 6th August a long distance call from Cumberland was received by the leaders of the Mine Workers' Union of Canada in Vancouver, B.C., for an Organizer to be sent there immediately. It was stated that the re-introduction of the contract system has caused considerable dissatisfaction among the miners and the leaders hoped that this situation may be utilized for a strike. On the night of the 7th [3<deletion: 1/3 line] journeyed to Cumberland with instructions to avert action on the part of the miners. The miners, however, voted against the contract system. The mine operators forestalled a strike by passing an order closing down the mine and thus forcing the miners into a lock-out.

II. ALBERTA7. EDMONTON BRANCH OF LEAGUE AGAINST WAR AND FASCISM AND CITIZENS' LEAGUE HOLD JOINT MEETING..

[3<#]

The Edmonton Branch of the Canadian League against War and Fascism and the Edmonton Citizens' League held a joint meeting in the Masonic Temple on the 12th of August. The meeting was presided over by Harold Gerry, Mayor of Beverly, who is also President of the Edmonton Citizens' League and the Edmonton Branch of the Canadian League against War and Fascism. The principal speaker was the Rev. Sam East of Regina who is taking a leading part in the defence of the Regina rioters, and the leaders of the British Columbia Relief Camp Workers' Union, now awaiting trial at Regina, Sask.

The Chairman explained that the meeting was held to protest against the arrest of those held at Regina. He maintained that they did not commit a criminal offence; they are to be commended for their action, he said.

[8]

O.C. Doolan, Communist Party Candidate in the East Edmonton Federal riding, addressed the meeting briefly, stating that this was a good time to refute the charge made against the Communist Party to the effect that they were trying to organize a revolution, and using the "boys" of the B.C. Relief Camp Workers' Union as an instrument for that purpose. He stated that the

Communist Party of Canada has led many strikes, but at no time was force resorted to gain their objective. He admitted that the Communist Party led these boys out of the Camps.

The chairman, commenting on Doolan's speech, remarked that the real criminals are not those people who are fighting for their rights, but those who are trying to stop them from gaining same.

The Rev. Sam East made a rather lengthy speech, reviewing the happenings at Regina since the arrival of the "On-to-Ottawa" marchers. Referring to the riots of the 1st of July, he charged that the R.C.M.P. went charging down the streets at thirty-five miles an hour shooting out of car windows; that there were a number of people ready to swear that they saw Constable Miller fall and later die from a blow from a Mounted Policeman's baton. He further charged that Judge Farrell had been tampered with. In conclusion he urged the audience to support the rioters now facing trial, stating that the defence of these men was of paramount importance. Following Rev. Sam East's speech, the following resolution was passed unanimously: "That the Premier of Saskatchewan be asked to institute an inquiry into the circumstances of the Regina Riot and everything in connection with the march on to Ottawa, and further that an independent investigation be held at once.

[3<#]

[9]

[3<deletion: missing]

[10]

[3<#] [3<deletion: 1/4 page]

III. SASKATCHEWAN.

ANTI-WAR MEETING IN KAMSACK.

[3<#]

On the 10th August the Anti-War and Anti-Fascist demonstration was staged at Kamsack, Sask, attended by approximately 250 people, mostly Doukhobour women and youths. The demonstration was sponsored by the local Young Communist League. The demonstration consisted of a meeting held near the Band Stand, followed by a parade down the main street. A number of banners were carried bearing the usual Young Communist League and Anti-War slogans. The meeting was addressed by Barney

Dachis and Boris Sachatoff of Yorkton and Christie of Regina. The defence of the Soviet Union was the principal feature of their speeches.

IV. MANITOBA.

9. RELIEF CAMP STRIKERS MEET IN MARKET SQUARE.

[✂#] A torchlight demonstration planned by the relief camp strikers at Winnipeg, Man., for Sunday night, 11th August, failed to materialize due to unfavourable weather. A meeting, however, was held in the Market Square which was attended by approximately 300 people with A.W. Atwater acting as Chairman. He announced that the torchlight demonstration would be staged on 18th August and expressed

[11]

the hope that the demonstrators would fill the Market Square on that occasion.

Lloyd Evans briefly appealed to the audience to support the defence of those trekkers now facing trial at Regina.

Fred Donner was the principal speaker. He told the meeting that he had covered about 5,000 miles on his tour through Northern Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta and reported on what he had seen. He ridiculed the assertion made by the relief authorities that there was plenty of farm work. He also stated that the crops have been ruined by rust in many parts of the country. He assailed the actions of the police in preventing transients from riding freight trains and generally described conditions in the rural districts as deplorable.

C. Watson, from the Workers' Unity League, spoke briefly on the local strike of bakers at the Co-operative Bakeries, claiming that the bakery was not a co-operative but a fake.

V. ONTARIO.

10. A.E. SMITH'S ELECTION MEETING POORLY ATTENDED.

[✂#] A. E. Smith, Communist Party candidate for the Port Arthur (Ontario) constituency addressed a number of meetings recently in his riding. Although every effort is being made by the local Communist Party organizations, it is said that his meetings were poorly attended.

[12]

VI. QUEBEC.11. C.P.C. IN MONTREAL PLACES CANDIDATE IN
MAISONNEUVE CONSTITUENCY.

[3<#]

The District Bureau of the Communist Party in Montreal has decided to place one French Communist Party member named Poirier as candidate in the Maisonneuve Federal constituency. He is to run as a "labour" candidate.

Fred Rose, who visited Toronto recently, on his return to Montreal stated that the proposed purchase of a printing press by the Communist Party in Montreal had been postponed until after the Federal election. The Party intends distributing 20,000 copies of the Communist election program in the City of Montreal.

[3<#] The Communist Party of Montreal held a mass meeting at the Labour Temple, 1201 St. Dominique Street, on the 15th of August. There were only between 125 and 150 people present, the majority of whom were foreigners. The speakers were Charles Ouimet, Comrade Poirier and Fred Rose.

Charles Ouimet of the Longshoremen's group of the Communist Party explained what a Communist Party candidate should be, and what he should do in case he is elected to Parliament. He remarked that the Longshoremen in Montreal are now beginning to organize. He said that Le Crochet (The Hook), a shop paper circulated by the Communist Party among the Longshoremen, is being more widely read. He also commented briefly on the aims of the League against War and Fascism, and criticized certain Provincial Legislation declaring that they were purely Fascist measures.

Roger Poirier alias Gerard Leclerc, one of the "On-to-Ottawa" marchers' delegation who attacked the Prime Minister in abusive language during the interview with the Trekkers, was the next speaker. He asserted that the "On-to-Ottawa" marchers had received public support wherever they had stopped, and that tag days

[13]

had been held without obtaining a permit from the Police Authorities. He said that the 400 Trekkers now in Ottawa represented 20,000 more who had been prevented from getting to Ottawa by the Provincial or Federal

Governments. He claimed that those now in Ottawa will remain there as long as their demands are not granted.

Fred Rose, the last speaker and the only one to speak in English, made the usual reference to the unbalanced distribution of wealth in Canada, stating that 90% of it was owned by 10% of the population; further, that 14 multi-millionaires were controlling the Industrial life of Canada. He thought that the change from Capitalism to a Soviet system could be effected very easily once the working class has become organized. He ended by saying that unemployment could not be liquidated until a Soviet Government has been established in Canada.

[X#]

The District Central Council of the C.L.D.L. in Montreal met on the 10th of August at the office of the League, with 6 members in attendance. The first item discussed was the matter of increasing the membership of the Secretariat. It was decided to add two French-Canadians to the Secretariat, [Xdeletion: 1/2 line]

The next item under consideration was the hunger march campaign; it was reported that with the exception [Xdeletion: 2 words] all marchers are now out on bail, and that there are now, altogether 11 marchers awaiting trial. As to the campaign, it was decided to send a circular letter to all local lawyers asking for their version of the arrests; the circular to be enclosed in a special black bordered envelope on which will be printed "Is Justice Dead". It was further decided to visit [Xdeletion: 1/2 line] and ask that they take part in the defence.

[14]

The discussion on the financial report revealed that [Xdeletion: 2 words] of Verdun has donated \$10.00 to the Canadian Labour Defence League, and that a written permit has been secured from him for a house to house collection in Verdun.
