

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE HEADQUARTERS

Ottawa, 28th August, 1935.

SECRET

NO. 770

WEEKLY SUMMARYREPORT ON REVOLUTIONARY ORGANIZATIONSAND AGITATORS IN CANADAReport

Having failed to obtain free transportation home, the On-to-Ottawa trekkers, discouraged and disappointed, folded their tents and departed from Ottawa on the morning of the 22nd August. About 300 strong, and escorted by Provincial Police, they followed the same route that brought them to the Capital. About 150 deserted before reaching Brockville. There the trek was abandoned, the marchers deciding to get to Toronto the best way they could.

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APPENDIX NO. I: GENERAL

Paragraph No.

- [S#deletion: 3 lines]
- “ ” 2. The situation in Vancouver.
Strike situation on Waterfront unchanged.
Representative of Pacific Maritime Federation
in Vancouver investigating possibilities of
retreat.
Pacific Maritime Federation vote in favour of
embargo on B.C. cargoes.
International Longshoremens' Association voting
on question.
- “ ” 3. Friends of Soviet Union seek diplomatic relations
between Canada and U.S.S.R.
- “ ” 4. Leo Gallagher to defend leaders of "On-to-Ottawa"
marchers.

“”5. Communist vote in Alberta Election.
Communists receive 6270 votes.

APPENDIX NO. II: REPORTS BY PROVINCES.

- “ ” 6. BRITISH COLUMBIA:
Fishermen in Alert Bay plan another strike.
[✂deletion: 1 word] active among fishermen.
[✂deletion: 2 words] returns to Vancouver, reports
good organizational progress.
- “ ” 7. ALBERTA:
Communist Election meeting in Edmonton.
Speakers include member of C.C.F.
Rev. Sam East speaks in Calgary. Appeals to
people to support defence of Regina rioters.
- “ ” 8. SASKATCHEWAN:
Citizens' Defence Committee meeting.
Jack King, C.C.Y.M., addresses meeting.
- “ ” 9. MANITOBA:
Dissention in ranks of Industrial Union of
Needle Trade workers at Winnipeg.
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Mabel Marlowe lectures on “Class Struggle”; says
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means.
S. Iwaszczyszyn, member of International Dele-
gation to Poland, reports on prison conditions in
Poland.
- “ ” 10. ONTARIO:
Canadian Ex-Servicemen's League in Toronto affil-
iates with League against War and Fascism.
Youth Section organized.
- “ ” 11. QUEBEC
C.L.D.L. in Montreal to hold conference Sept. 8th.
House to house collection in Verdun a failure.
[✂deletion: 3 words] in Rosemount meet.
Headlight not issued on account of lack of funds.

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[✂deletion: missing]

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2. THE SITUATION IN VANCOUVER, B.C.

The situation on Vancouver's Waterfront remains unchanged. A Mr. Jackson of San Francisco is reported to be in Vancouver at present, under directions of the Executive of the Pacific Maritime Federation, to explore possibilities of a retreat which would hold the organization of the strikers -- Vancouver and District Waterfront Workers' Association -- intact. He intimated that the Pacific Maritime Federation was not as strong as the figures would lead the local men to believe and expressed the opinion that if the Pacific Maritime Federation enters into another struggle with the ship owners, the organization will be completely smashed.

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The ballot taken by the Pacific Maritime Federation on the question of lifting the embargo on British Columbia cargoes showed 18,488 against and 961 in favour of handling the cargoes. Another ballot is now being taken on the same question by the right wing organization, the International Longshoremens' Association in the U.S.A., which is considered of more consequence. In the meantime the Vancouver strikers have adopted an attitude of watchful waiting.

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3. FRIENDS OF SOVIET UNION SEEK DIPLOMATIC
RELATIONS BETWEEN CANADA AND
U.S.S.R.

Plans were laid by the National Committee of the Friends of the Soviet Union at its meeting held at Toronto on the 21st of August to utilize the present Federal Election campaign in an endeavour to bring about trade and diplomatic relations between Canada and the Soviet Union. Every Federal Candidate, no matter under what party banner he or she may be running, is to be circularized on this question.

[X<#] 4. LEO GALLAGHER TO DEFEND LEADERS OF ON-TO-OTTAWA MARCHERS.

Efforts are being made by the Canadian Labour Defence League to secure Leo Gallagher of San Francisco, well known International Labour Defence lawyer, to defend the leaders of the Relief Camp Workers' Union now awaiting trial at Regina, Sask. It is reported that their cases, which were scheduled for the next sitting of the King's Bench at Regina, commencing on the 10th of September, have been set over until January next.

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5. COMMUNIST VOTE IN ALBERTA ELECTION.

Incomplete returns of the Alberta General Election of 22nd August show that the Communist Candidates polled a total of 6270 votes. Harvey Murphy and Jan Lakeman received over 1000 votes each. Only 5092 votes were cast for labor.

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APPENDIX NO. II: REPORTS BY PROVINCES

I. BRITISH COLUMBIA.

6. FISHERMEN IN ALERT BAY PLAN ANOTHER STRIKE.

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Information has been received to the effect that another strike situation is slowly developing among the fishermen in the Alert Bay area on the Pacific Coast. [X<deletion: 3 lines] among the fishermen. [X<deletion: 1 word] is now engaged in whipping up discontent among the fishers at the prices offered by the canners.

[X<#] [X<deletion: 2 words] returned recently to Vancouver from an extended visit of the Vancouver Island, and reported good results in organizational work. He reported that at Port Alberni considerable progress has been made since [X<deletion: 2 words] has been engaged to work among the lumber workers of that district. He is supposed to have succeeded in organizing Womens' Auxiliaries who work in close co-operation with the Lumber Workers' Industrial Union.

II: ALBERTA

7. COMMUNIST ELECTION MEETING IN EDMONTON.

[✂#] Approximately 600 people attended a concert meeting in the Rialto Theatre held by the Communist Party Election Committee of Edmonton on the 11th of August. B. Jensen acted as chairman and the speakers included J. Egger who spoke on behalf of the C.C.F., O.C. Doolan, Communist Party Candidate in the Federal Election, W. Mentz who spoke on behalf of the Labour Party, and J. Lakeman, Communist Party Candidate in the Provincial Election. The Ukrainian Labour Farmer Temple Association orchestra rendered musical selections between speeches.

J. Egger criticized the Social Credit system, claiming

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it was unworkable, that it formed the Third Capitalist Party leading to open Fascism.

O.C. Doolan outlined the history and policy of the Conservative and Liberal Parties, and spoke briefly on Social Credit branding it as a Capitalist venture to protect the interests of the financiers of Canada.

The speeches of W. Mentz and J. Lakeman were similar to the ones given by the other speakers.

[✂#] On the 14th of August the Rev. Sam East of Regina addressed an audience of approximately 1,000 at the Victoria Pavilion, Calgary, giving his version of the Regina Riots and explaining the object underlying the B.C. Relief Camp Workers' trek on to Ottawa. The meeting was held under the auspices of the newly formed Citizens' Committee, with C.K. Vernon acting as chairman. His speech was similar to the one he gave at Edmonton.

Speaking of the killing of Detective Miller of the Regina City Police he reasserted that they (Defence) have three witnesses who state that Miller was killed by an R.C.M.P. Constable and not by a civilian. He appealed to the Calgary people to come to the aid of the rioters and leaders now awaiting trial at Regina. He likened these men to Christ as having been convicted for standing up for their rights, those of their fellowmen, and against depression. At the conclusion of his speech East asked if there were any Communists on the platform. Pat Lenihan, who occupied a chair on the platform, got up, and taking him by the hand East asked him if he was willing to fight against oppression. Lenihan replied that he was a Communist, following which three cheers were given for the Communist Party, followed by three cheers for Mr. East.

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III: SASKATCHEWAN.8. CITIZENS' DEFENCE COMMITTEE MEETING.

[3<#] On the 17th of August Unity Centre at Regina was the scene of a meeting staged by the Citizens' Defence Committee, which came into being after the 1st of July Riots at Regina. Jack King, organizer of the Cooperative Commonwealth Youth Movement was the speaker. He reported on his tour of Alberta, and made reference to an incident in Calgary when the Rev. Sam East took a Communist on the platform with him and told the Communist that he, East, represented a United Church of Canada, and was out to form a united front of that Church with the Communist Party of Canada.

Mrs. Alec Theodore also spoke, urging the women to join the Mothers' Committee, and appealed for cigarettes, tobacco, fruit and cake, etc, for the imprisoned leaders of the "On-to-Ottawa" march. A collection was taken up, yielding only \$3.75.

IV: MANITOBA9. DISSENTION IN RANKS OF INDUSTRIAL UNION OF NEEDLE TRADE WORKERS AT WINNIPEG.

[3<#] A general meeting of the Industrial Union of Needle Trade Workers of Winnipeg held in the Liberty Temple on the 21st of August turned out to be a very noisy and quarrelsome affair. Joseph Gershman, National Organizer of the Industrial Union of Needle Trade Workers was the principal speaker. Numerous complaints were registered against the leadership of the strike of last summer at the firm of Jacob & Crowley. As a result of this strike the aforementioned firm signed an agreement with a Mr. Herbst of the International Lady Garment Workers' Union, which is the only union recognized in that particular shop at the present time. The Industrial Union is striving desperately, but in vain, to retain its existence in the City of Winnipeg.

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[3<#] Mabel Marlowe gave a lecture on the "class struggle" at a meeting of the Manitoba Unemployed Association at Winnipeg on the 20th of August.

She very ably described the "class struggle", and drew a pathetic picture of the life of the working class, comparing it with the luxury enjoyed by the master class. She severely criticized the Constitution of the Country declaring that it was a bourgeoisie constitution behind which the bourgeoisie class was hiding in the struggle against the working class. Following her address some Socialist Party members in the audience took part in the discussion, arguing that the change of the Social system should come about through education; further that it was a waste of energy to wage a revolution. To this Mabel Marlowe replied that education without its practical application would take too long to bring about the change. She pointed out that it would be impossible to change the system by constitutional means. Mabel Marlowe won the approval of the majority of the audience, and it was generally acknowledged that she made a splendid exposition of her case. She is becoming quite popular in Winnipeg as a debater, and seems to be in constant demand as such.

[9<#] S. Iwaszczyszyn, of the Polish Labour-Farmer Temple Association at Winnipeg, who served on the International delegation which proceeded to Poland last Spring to investigate Prison conditions there, recently returned to Winnipeg and reported to a meeting held at the Workers' Theatre on the 18th of August. He stated that the delegation on which he served had a distinct International complexion; that it was composed of professors, lawyers, writers and workers. He said that the delegation was refused permission to visit prisoners and workers in jails and factories while in Poland. Only in one place, Lemberg, were they allowed to see a prisoner who told them whatever he was allowed to say in the presence of the guard, and that most of what the prisoner had said was refuted by the guard afterwards. Iwaszczyszyn charged that the workers and

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peasants in Poland were being treated in a most inhuman and cruel way, that they are being jailed, beaten and kept in dark dungeons. He also said that the delegation had made a brief visit to the U.S.S.R. but there did not see any oppression. He remarked that although some people are not as well off as others there is plenty to eat for those who work in the Soviet Union.

Following Iwaszczyszyn's report, Fred Doner welcomed the delegate back to Winnipeg on behalf of the League against War and Fascism. In the course of his brief remarks he said that the League has over 500,000 members in Canada, and is much stronger in the U.S.A.

Y: ONTARIO10. CANADIAN EX-SERVICEMENS' LEAGUE IN TORONTO
AFFILIATES WITH LEAGUE AGAINST WAR
AND FASCISM.

[3<#] The newly formed branch of the Canadian Ex-Servicemens' League at Toronto, at its second meeting held at the Y.M.C.A. on the 20th of August, decided to affiliate with the Canadian League against War and Fascism. The meeting was attended by 75 veterans and the chief feature of the meeting was the adoption of a constitution in which the fight against War and Fascism is set forth as one of the most important tasks of the organization. Permanent officers were also elected as follows: President, T. Shaw-Keith, 1st vice-president, H. Cavanaugh; 2nd vice-president, H. Hambleton; recording secretary, A.G. Jones; treasurer, A.D. Schatz; executive members, E. Herridge, H. Bell and H. Hetherington. Plans were also made for the forming of a youth organization to be made up of the sons and daughters of veterans and to be known as the "1914 Club". The purpose of organizing the "1914 Club" is to organize the youth to fight against imperialist war and fascism, it was stated.

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VI: QUEBEC11. C.L.D.L. IN MONTREAL TO HOLD CONFERENCE
SEPTEMBER 8TH.

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The District Central Council of the C.L.D.L. at Montreal met on the 17th of August with eleven members in attendance. [3<deletion: 1 line] The first item discussed was the hunger march campaign. In this connection it was reported that the house to house collection officially sanctioned by the Mayor of Verdun netted \$17.00.

A discussion on organizational matters revealed the fact that the English branch has reached a very low ebb and needed help from the District leadership. It was decided that the District Central Committee pay more attention to this particular branch of the League, and to attempt to find a new hall for it in the West end of the City.

Another item discussed was the forthcoming local League Convention which is to convene in Montreal on the 8th of September. It was decided to ask [3<deletion: 1 line] to address the delegates during the evening session.

[X#] [Xdeletion: 1/2 line] the Communist Party in Montreal held a meeting on the evening of the 19th of August. It was reported that it would be impossible to issue the shop paper Headlight this month on account of lack of material. [Xdeletion: 1 word] severely criticized the members of the unit for not obtaining proper information on conditions in the rural shops. It was finally decided that the next issue of Headlight will appear during the first week in September.

[Xdeletion: 1 word] gave a detailed account of the system that will be used in connection with the Federal Election campaign in the Rosemount area. He explained that committees are being set up on each

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street and that these committees will look after their respective areas. It was estimated that it will take \$1200.00 to finance the Federal campaign in the Rosemount-Maisonneuve Division in which Poirier is running as a United Front candidate.
