

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE HEADQUARTERS

Ottawa, 25th September, 1935.

SECRET

NO. 774

WEEKLY SUMMARY

REPORT ON REVOLUTIONARY ORGANIZATIONS

AND AGITATORS IN CANADA

Report

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APPENDIX NO. I: GENERAL**1. Situation in Vancouver's Waterfront**

The situation on Vancouver's waterfront remains unchanged. The moderate element of the strikers look with hope to the Investigation Commission while the radical group are skeptical on the outcome of the proceedings.

The Ship and Dock, official organ of the Longshore and Water Transport Workers of Canada, is now being published daily while the investigation is being held. It has taken the place of the Waterfront Strike Bulletin. The cost of printing the Ship and Dock in its present form as a single small folio will be in the neighbourhood of \$20 per day.

2. Canadian Delegation to Visit Poland

On or about 1st October a delegation will leave Canada for Poland to conduct a probe into Poland's prison regime and to inspect conditions in that country as they affect the workers and people of the national minorities who, allegedly, suffer under the "brutal heel of Polish Fascism".

The delegation is being sponsored by the Canadian Labour Defence League and will include representatives of the Ukrainian, Polish, Russian, Carpathian and Jewish workers in Canada. An Anglo Saxon elected by the C.L.D.L. will be in charge of the delegation.

The delegation will particularly strive to inspect the prison camp at Kartuzka Beruza.

3. "Kanadai Magyar Munkas" Campaign

Kanadai Magyar Munkas, in its 24th August issue, gives the results of the recent campaign conducted on behalf of this paper. The statement given shows that a total of \$3,158.37 was collected in contributions and that a total of 328 new

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subscribers were secured. Units of the Hungarian Workers Club which distinguished themselves in this campaign were St. Catharines, Delhi, Ont., and New Waterford, N.S. Special mention is made of the following individuals who were active in this drive: J. Sipos, Port Colborne; J. Czako,

Montreal; Joe Nemeth, Winnipeg; Elek Szotko, Toronto; and Mariska Szokolcai, Delhi.

4. Activities of Canadian ICOR To Be Revived

[3<#] Der Kampf of 20th September devotes considerable space to the problems of the Canadian "Icor". The activities of this organization are to be revived and to this end Harry Guralnick, Chairman of the Canadian "Icor", is to make a tour of Western Canada which will take him to Winnipeg, Moose Jaw, Calgary, Vancouver, Edmonton, Saskatoon and Edenbridge. Der Kampf also reports that the first copy of the official organ of "Icor" will be off the press shortly. Circular letters were sent out to the various branches advertising Harry Guralnick's tour.

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6. Sam Carr in Alberta

(A) In Calgary

The Victoria Pavilion at Calgary, on 5th September, was the scene of a mass meeting held by the Communist Party of Canada. Pat Lenihan acted [3<#] as Chairman and the speakers included Mrs. Rankin, [3<deletion: 2 words], Harvey Murphy and Sam Carr, the latter being the chief speaker.

Harvey Murphy, in the course of a 10-minute talk, stressed the need for united action on the part of the working class. He also made an appeal for funds, asking for \$70. The collection, however, netted only \$43.85.

Sam Carr devoted part of his speech to criticizing the Social Credit System, contending that it will not help the poor farmer, the middle class and the workers. He severely condemned the Right Honourable R. B. Bennett, the Minister of Justice and the Capitalist class and said that they were looking forward to applying force and violence as witnessed at Regina on 1st July. He related how the C.P. of Canada was declared illegal by the courts of Ontario in 1931 and remarked that in spite of this action it grew from a force of 3,000 members in 1931 to a party of 10,000 in 1935. In conclusion he urged those present to do all in their power to force the leaders of the Social Credit Government of Alberta to carry out their promises which they made during the election campaign.

(B) In Edmonton

[9<#] Sam Carr was the chief speaker at a meeting held by the Women's Section of the Communist Party at Edmonton during the afternoon of 8th September. There were approximately 30 women present together with a few men. Mrs. R. C. Mason acted as Chairman and in addition to Sam Carr, J. Lakeman also spoke briefly outlining the result of the recent Provincial election.

Sam Carr explained the aims and objects of the C.P. and the role and importance of women and youth in its ranks. The

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women, he remarked, were the most determined fighters, especially when it came to a struggle against war and Fascism. He urged the women to do all in their power to strengthen the Women's Section of the C.P. of Canada.

In the course of the evening he addressed a mass meeting under the auspices of the Edmonton Election Committee of the C.P. in the Rialto Theatre. J. Lakeman acted as Chairman and other speakers included O. C. Doolan and M. Popovich. About 350 persons attended.

Sam Carr spoke on the growing menace of Fascism in Canada alleging that war preparations were being made at Ottawa. He stated that orders had been sent to ex-army officers to be ready to take over command of an army unit at a moment's notice. He urged the working class and the farmers to combat war and Fascism and to assist in the building of a Socialist Canada.

O. C. Doolan briefly outlined the result of the recent Provincial election and stressed the necessity of united action in the Federal election.

M. Popovich severely criticized the present form of Government and urged the workers and farmers to elect Communist candidates to the House of Commons.

7. Arthur Evans in Edmonton

[9<#] Arthur Evans addressed approximately 350 people in the Emery Hall, 9636 Jasper Ave., Edmonton, on the evening of 6th September. The meeting was held under the auspices of the newly formed "Citizens Committee" and H. Gerry, Mayor of Beverly, acted as Chairman.

Gerry briefly outlined the march of the B.C. camp strikers to Regina and submitted a resolution demanding that a commission be set up to investigate the Regina riot before the trials of the arrested rioters take place; also that all charges be withdrawn and the accused immediately released. It was resolved to have this resolution forwarded to the Right

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Honourable R. B. Bennett and the Minister of Justice at Ottawa.

Arthur Evans related the history of the strike of the B.C. relief camp workers and their march on-to-Ottawa. His speech was a repetition of what he had stated on previous occasions, particularly his reference to the Regina Dominion Day riot. In justification of the action of the relief camp workers on the evening of 1st July at Regina he said that the people were driven to desperation and fought back to protect themselves. The whole thing was a frame-up, he declared, instigated by the Dominion Government. Regarding the forthcoming trial of the strike leaders he said "until a commission is set up to investigate the riot we do not intend to stand our trial, we have the people behind us".

8. S. Lifshitz of 'Der Kampf' Visits Montreal

[S#] S. Lifshitz of Toronto visited Montreal recently and addressed 35 Jewish members of the Communist Party on 14th September at the Canadian Workmen's Circle Hall. He gave a general report on the Jewish situation throughout Canada, complaining that for the past two years little progress has been made. He remarked that only a small section of the Jewish working class is sympathetic to the C.P. of Canada and that although lately some organizational gains had been made at Toronto, Winnipeg and Montreal were lagging behind. With a view to strengthening the Jewish Section of the C.P. the National Jewish Bureau of the C.P. in Toronto has made the following recommendations:--

- (a) To attempt to build united front committees against Fascism in Germany.
- (b) To support the boycott against merchandise of German manufacture.
- (c) To increase the circulation of Der Kampf

Lifshitz also stressed the need for increasing the circulation of Der Kampf. He stated that the paper is now in a very bad financial position and that the National C.P. Bureau

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had agreed to allow the Kampf to initiate a campaign for funds. The amount set is \$3,000.

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APPENDIX NO. II: REPORTS BY PROVINCESI. BRITISH COLUMBIA9. Single Unemployed Demonstration in Vancouver

[9<#] At 2.00 p.m. on 18th September a group of approximately 300 persons gathered at Hamilton Hall, Provincial Relief Offices, Vancouver, in support of a delegation interviewing the Relief Officer on behalf of the single unemployed blacklisted and unfit men.

The delegation remained with the Relief Officer for approximately one hour. The Relief Officer communicated by telephone with the Provincial Government authorities at Victoria, forwarding the demands of the delegation to that quarter.

Upon dismissal by the Relief Officer, Fred Grange, who headed the delegation, made a short report to the demonstrators from the steps of Hamilton Hall. He reported that no satisfactory results were obtained from the interview, and appealed to them all to return to their respective organizations, and with greater vigour support a stronger, broader campaign in order to bring sufficient pressure to bear on the authorities so that the demands of the single unemployed be granted.

Following the report made by Grange, the demonstrators quietly dispersed. No disorder took place at any stage of this event.

III. SASKATCHEWAN10. Matt Shaw in Estevan & Weyburn

[9<#] On 6th September Matt Shaw addressed a public meeting in the Town Hall at Estevan, Sask., attended by approximately 80 persons. John Elchyson of Bienfait acted as Chairman and short speeches were also given by Robert B. Gillis of Bienfait and James McLean of Estevan.

Shaw related the riot at Regina on 1st July and the events leading up to it. He also criticized the actions of the

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coal mine operators in the Estevan district and also touched upon the Estevan riot of 1931. He blamed the mine operators for the small attendance at this meeting charging that they had intimidated their employees in order to prevent them from attending.

A resolution protesting against the arrest of the rioters and demanding the release of those facing trial at Regina was passed by the meeting; approximately fifty per cent of the audience voting for it.

On 7th September Matt Shaw and W. Hammill addressed a public meeting in the Oddfellows Hall at Weyburn which was attended by approximately 90 people. A local resident by the name of W. C. Woollard presided over the meeting. Both speakers dealt with the strike of the B.C. relief camp workers and their subsequent march on-to-Ottawa. Speaking of the Regina Dominion Day riot the speakers intimated that Detective Millar of the Regina City Police was killed by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. Making a plea for funds to be used in the defence of those facing trial at Regina Matt Shaw announced that within a few days a subscription list would be circulated among the people of Weyburn and requested that they all donate as liberally as possible.

III. MANITOBA

11. C.P. Banquet in Winnipeg

Approximately 200 people attended a banquet staged by the Election Committee of the Communist Party in the Workers Sports Association Hall, 2601/2 Dufferin Ave., Winnipeg, Man., on the evening of 14th September. Among those present were Tim Buck, Sam Carr, Joe Forkin, J. Penner, Arthur Evans, Pat Forkin and James Litterick.

J. Litterick, Chairman, in his opening remarks stated that this election banquet was a welcome to Winnipeg for Sam Carr who is to take over the functions of Tim Buck's campaign manager.

Speeches were given by A. Evans, T. Buck & S. Carr.

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[deletion: 2 words] of Winnipeg spoke at a meeting of the Brandon Branch of the Canadian Labour Defence League at the [deletion: 3 words] on 8th September. He urged the local branch to place in the [deletion: 1 word] foreground of their activities the campaign on behalf of [deletion: 1 word] and the other strike leaders facing trial at Regina under Section 98 of the Criminal Code. He also urged the local Communists to support and build up the Young Communist League.

[deletion: 1/4 line] who attended the meeting, stated that a branch of the C.L.D.L. had been formed at Souris consisting of 10 members. It was stated that [deletion: 2 words] would stop at Brandon on his return from the east to address another public meeting.

[§<#] The League Against War and Fascism at Winnipeg, Man., held a public meeting in the Peretz Hall on 15th September. There were 200 people present and the meeting was addressed by A. W. Atwater and Fred Doner. The action of Mayor John Queen and other Independent Labour Party leaders relative to the extending official greeting to "Fascist" organizations; failure to grant ten per cent increase to relief recipients, and their refusal to assist the movement to fight war and Fascism formed the topic of the speeches. The contention of the I.L.P. leaders, especially in the north end of the city, that the League Against War and Fascism was a Communist-controlled organization was bitterly contested by Fred Doner. Doner, however, did not blame the rank and file membership of that organization.

Atwater urged the rank and file members of the I.L.P. to demand of their leaders "to come down from their elevated positions and discuss with them the issues confronting the working class". Atwater also described the on-to-Ottawa march staged by the British Columbia relief camp workers and claimed that Mayor Queen of Winnipeg was not any more considerate than Mr. Bennett or the Premier of Manitoba.

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Making a tour of Manitoba in aid of the [§<deletion: 2 words] defence campaign [§<deletion: 3 words] of the Canadian Labour Defence League [§<#] for Winnipeg, arrived in The Pas on 12th September and addressed a meeting at the Ukrainian Labour Temple in the course of the afternoon of the 15th.

IV. ONTARIO

12. Communist Election Campaign in Toronto

Street corner meetings are a feature of the election campaign conducted by the Communist Party in Toronto. During noon hour meetings are also being held at corners in the heart of the industrial section. J. B. Salsberg, Communist candidate in the Spadina Riding, is to deliver a series of broadcasts over radio station C.K.N.C.

[§<#] A debate between Sam Scarlett, Communist, and Major E. M. Watts, of the Reconstruction Party, both candidates in the Rosedale constituency, which was scheduled for 13th September at the Hygeia Hall did not materialize. Major Watts failed to put in an appearance. Sam Scarlett, however, in a rather lengthy speech severely criticized and condemned the

Reconstruction Party which, he declared, is based upon the principles of Fascism.

Approximately 350 people attended, and the collection netted a sum of \$47.52.

[§<#] [§<deletion: 2 1/2 lines], has recently been discharged from the General Steel Wares Limited for his organizational activities in that plant. In consequence, the Communists are now fomenting a strike in that plant with a view to forcing the company to [§<deletion: 2 words] Should the strike materialize it would involve approximately 800 employees.

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V. QUEBEC

13. Communist Mass Meeting in Montreal

The Communist Election Committee in Montreal held an anti-war mass meeting in the Mount Royal Arena on the night of 11th September.

[§<#] There were only between 1,500 and 1,800 present, and the speakers included Joe Gershman, Mike Buhay, F. X. Poirier, Lea Roback, J. B. Salsberg, Fred Rose and Stewart Smith.

Joe Gershman, who also acted as Chairman, dealt principally with the candidature of Fred Rose.

Mike Buhay criticized the Prime Minister and declared that he would not keep Canada out of the war in the event of Great Britain declaring war on Italy. He made a strong appeal to the audience to fight war and the danger of Fascism.

F. X. Poirier, candidate in the Rosemount-Maisoneuve Federal Division, spoke in French. He charged that the Capitalist candidates were buying their votes; that Mr. Jacobs, M.P., had received \$40,000 from the Bronfman brothers to finance his election campaign.

Lea Roback spoke on behalf of the League Against War and Fascism. She appealed to the women to unite in this struggle against war and to help elect Fred Rose. She informed the audience that the League Against War and Fascism heartily endorsed his candidature. She also mentioned that she had recently returned from Europe and the United States where she had found that the Anti-War and Anti-Fascist Movement had made tremendous progress.

J. B. Salsberg of Toronto was introduced as a well-known member of the revolutionary Trade Union Movement in this country and a leader of

revolutionary Jewish organizations. He spoke in English and in Yiddish but his remarks were limited to criticizing Mr. Jacobs, M.P., Fred Rose's opponent. He said that Mr. Jacobs did nothing for the Jewish people during the time he had been in Parliament, that during the 18 years he had only made eight speeches in Parliament. He also asserted that Mr. Jacobs was responsible for the Bronfman case being thrown out of

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the Montreal Court.

Fred Rose attacked Great Britain for the part she is playing in the dispute between Italy and Etheopia. He asserted that England was not interested in protecting Etheopia or in maintaining peace, but only in the question of stopping Italy from gaining colonies in Africa. He also attacked Mr. Jacobs, stating that the Election Committee had direct proof linking him up with the underworld of Montreal. He also charged that Mr. Jacobs was a tool of the Bronfmans.

Stewart Smith, the final speaker, spoke on the economic causes of war. His speech was highly academic and beyond the grasp of the average individual in the audience. Speaking on Fascism he cited the Regina Dominion Day riots as an example of its growth in Canada.

The meeting was considered a failure, especially in view of the elaborate preparations made for it.

[✂#] The Bureau of the League Against War and Fascism in Montreal met at [✂deletion: 1/2 line] on 15th September. Seven members were present, also [✂deletion: 2 words] of the National Bureau at Toronto.

[✂deletion: 2 words] gave a general report on the local situation stating that the various branches of the league had held no meetings during the summer months and, consequently, very little had been accomplished. He further reported that although it was decided to commence a campaign against the persecution of Catholics in Germany no prominent local Catholic has yet been found in the City of Montreal who is willing to participate in the campaign. [✂deletion: 1 word] remarked that until the support of some prominent Catholics is secured it would be useless to commence the campaign. He further stated that the local Bureau of the league is very weak and that the best elements are now engaged in other spheres of Communist activities.

[✂deletion: 2 words] speaking on behalf of the National Bureau, gave a short report on the activities of the league

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throughout Canada. He said that the league has a membership of approximately 300,000, the strongest section of the league being in Vancouver, B.C. [deletion: 1 word] informed the local Bureau that the National Office is to commence a campaign against war under the slogan of "Keep Canada Out Of The War", and that during this campaign the anti-Fascist campaign is to be put in the background for tactical reasons. He made the following suggestions for the Montreal District:--

- (a) That a city-wide conference be called within three weeks. This is to be strictly an anti-war conference.
- (b) That an attempt be made to get the support of the Clergy and trade unions for the conference.
- (c) That an anti-war meeting be called as soon as possible.

[#] A mass meeting on behalf of F. X. Poirier held on the evening of 16th September at 4606 St. Catherine St. East, Montreal, was attended by only approximately 85 people. W. Story spoke on non-contributory unemployment insurance; Poirier, the candidate, indulged in a general attack upon Capitalism; Bob Wright, Workers Unity League Organiser, enunciated the C.P. slogan "Make The Rich Pay"; and C. E. Perry, Labour candidate in the St. Denis Division, announced a mass meeting in the De Lamenaish School for 19th September.

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At approximately 11.00 p.m. on 13th September an auto drove up in front of the Communist Election Headquarters, 202 St. Catherine St. E., Montreal, and its occupants threw bricks at the large windows. Both windows were completely demolished.
