

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE HEADQUARTERS

Ottawa, 2nd October, 1935.

SECRETNO. 775WEEKLY SUMMARYREPORT ON REVOLUTIONARY ORGANIZATIONS
AND AGITATORS IN CANADAReport

As a result of the activities of W. G. Harris, Toronto, Ont., one of the leaders of the Ontario on-to-Ottawa marchers among the relief recipients in Oshawa, 40 of them came out on strike on 23rd September in protest against a cut of ten per cent in cash grants. The strike lasted until the following morning when the 40 men returned to work. Efforts are being made with a view to calling another strike in the near future.

[2]

APPENDICESTable of ContentsAPPENDIX NO. I: GENERAL

- Paragraph No. 1. The Soviet Union, Stronghold of World Revolution
Report of Comrade Manuilsky to Seventh Congress
of C.I.
Resolution Adopted by Congress Endorses His Report
- “ ” 2. Situation on Vancouver's Waterfront
Commission Enquiry Continues; Strike Unsettled
Rank and File Resent Communist Domination
- “ ” 3. C.P. Candidates in Federal Election
Party Runs 13 Candidates
Pat Lenihan Withdrawn
- “ ” 4. Arthur Evans on Tour
(A) In Kenora, Ont.
(B) “ Fort William, Ont.

APPENDIX NO. II: REPORTS BY PROVINCES

- “ ” 5. BRITISH COLUMBIA

- Malcolm Bruce Opens Election Campaign
 Vancouver Local Delegate Council of C.L.D.L. Meet
 [Xdeletion: 2 words] Withdrawn from Bridge River Mining
 Area
 [Xdeletion: 2 words] Secretary of Joint Action Committee
 of C.L.D.L.
- “ ” 6. ALBERTA
 [Xdeletion: 2 words] Withdrawn from Mining Field
- “ ” 7. SASKATCHEWAN
 Matt Shaw Touring Province
 Speaks at Assiniboia, Shaunavon & Gull Lake
 Receives Little Response
 John Cosgrove Addresses Meeting in Regina
- “ ” 8. MANITOBA
 Mabel Marlowe in Virden
- “ ” 9. ONTARIO
 Steel Strike in Crowland
 300 Strike at Page Hersey Tube Ltd. Plant
- “ ” 10. QUEBEC
 Communist Radio Broadcast in Montreal
 Stanley Ryerson Speaks
 Letter from Napierville Signed by Eight People
 Including the Mayor
 Requests Organizer Be Sent There

[3]

APPENDIX NO. I: GENERAL1. The Soviet Union, Stronghold of World Revolution

The report of Comrade Manuilsky on “the result of Socialist Construction in the Soviet Union” formed one of the main features of the Seventh [X#] World Congress of the Communist International recently concluded in Moscow. The report is interesting and instructive.

Manuilsky stressed that the victory of Socialism in the Soviet Union is a victory of the Communist International, of its policies and tactics. Manuilsky said:--

“The victory of socialism in the Soviet Union gives the Communist Parties a powerful weapon for influencing the broad masses and those categories of toilers who have hitherto vacillated between Capitalism and Socialism. Therefore, our old methods of propaganda for the Soviet

Union are inadequate today. We must appeal to broader strata of the toiling population and show them by the practical example of the Soviet Union what will happen to them under socialism. We must make the defence of the Soviet Union the starting point of a broad peoples' front, ----- we must attack the enemies of the Soviet Union by calling them before the tribunal of the broad masses”.

Regarding the importance of the Soviet Union as the stronghold or spearhead of the proletarian world revolution, Manuilsky stated:--

“Our strength and our achievements belong not only to the people of the Soviet Union; they are the common property of the working class of all countries. They are the common property of the toiling population of Chapei, the Negroes of Liberia, the Chinese and the Malays; the common property of the toiling masses of the whole world, irrespective of nationality and race, language or colour. Millions are gathering round the Soviet Union, the fatherland of the toiling masses of all countries, and are recognising ever more clearly that their interest coincides with the consolidation of the Soviet Union, both in peace and war. Those who want the victory of socialism all over the world must be on the side of the Soviet Union. The protection of the Soviet Union, and the promotion of its victory over all its enemies, must determine the actions of every revolutionary organization, of every communist We must advance -- Stalin declared -- in such a manner that the working class of the whole world can look to us and say: There it is, my vanguard; there it is, my shock brigade, my workers power, my fatherland. They are working for a cause which is also our cause -- good, let us aid them against the capitalists, let us arouse the world revolution”.

[4]

The concluding part of the report exalted “proletarian internationalism”. Unfailing fidelity to proletarian internationalism in the spirit of Stalin was and is the mainspring of all actions and all struggles of the Comintern. Manuilsky said:--

“To be unreservedly faithful to the cause of proletarian internationalism, the cause of the fraternal alliance of the proletariat -- this is what our party teaches, what Stalin teaches. Under the leadership of Stalin our party has served, and continues to serve whole heartedly, the cause of proletarian internationalism, by setting itself the task of building up socialism in one country under the conditions imposed by a hostile environment. Today the victory is a fact. The party serves proletarian internationalism when it strengthens and extends the defensive powers of the Soviet country; that the toiling masses of all countries do not stand disarmed before the class enemy today, that they are able

to lean on a powerful support of peace and freedom in their struggle for emancipation, is the magnificent achievement of the Stalinist policy, of the unreserved faithfulness to the cause of proletarian internationalism”.

Manuilsky's report was followed by a lengthy discussion which lasted for several days. The resolution on his report which was passed by the congress on 20th August reads, in part, as follows:--

[3<#] “The victory of socialism in the U.S.S.R. is a victory of world importance gained with the support of the international proletariat, by the workers and collective farmers of the U.S.S.R. under the leadership of the best companion-in-arms of the great Lenin, the wise leader of the toilers of the whole world, Comrade Stalin. The victory of socialism in the U.S.S.R. is causing a profound change in the minds of the toilers of the whole world: it is convincing the broad masses of social democratic workers and workers of other trends of the necessity of waging a common struggle for socialism, and is a decisive factor in the realisation of proletarian fighting unity; it is destroying ideas and conceptions, embedded for centuries, of the capitalist order being eternal and unshakable, is revealing the bankruptcy of bourgeois theories and the schemes to ‘rejuvenate’ capitalist society, is having a revolutionising effect on the toiling masses, instilling into them confidence in their own strength and a conviction of the necessity and practical possibility of the overthrow of capitalism and the construction of socialism. The road of salvation, the road to socialism already trodden by the living example of the U.S.S.R. is shining brightly before the eyes of millions of toilers in the capitalist and colonial countries, of all the exploited and oppressed”.

[5]

“With the victory of socialism the U.S.S.R. has become a great political, economic and cultural force which influences world policy. It has become the centre of attraction and the rallying point for all people, countries and even governments which are interested in the preservation of international peace. It has become the stronghold of the toilers of all countries against the menace of war. It has become a mighty weapon for consolidating the toilers of the whole world against world reaction.

“The victory of socialism, having transformed the U.S.S.R. into a force which sets in motion broad strata of the population, classes, nations, peoples and states, marks a new great change in the relationship of class forces on a world scale in favour of socialism, to the detriment of capitalism; it marks the beginning of a new stage in the development of the world proletarian revolution.

"From the historic balance of achievements secured since the Sixth Congress of the Communist International with which the world proletarian movement is approaching the second round of wars and revolutions and which determines the basic tasks of the world proletarian revolution, follows the primary duty of the working class and the toilers of the world and of all sections of the Communist International.

"To help with all their might and by all means to strengthen the U.S.S.R. and to fight against the enemies of the U.S.S.R. Both under peace conditions and in the circumstances of war directed against the U.S.S.R. the interests of strengthening the U.S.S.R. of in increasing its power, of ensuring its victory in all spheres and in every sector of the struggle, coincide fully and inseparately with the interests of the toilers of the whole world in their struggle against the exploiters, with the interests of the colonial and oppressed people fighting against imperialism; they are the conditions for, and they contribute to, the triumph of the world proletarian revolution, the victory of socialism throughout the world. Assistance to the U.S.S.R., its defence, and co-operation in bringing about its victory over all its enemies must therefore determine the actions of every revolutionary organisation of the proletariat, of every genuine revolutionary, of every socialist, communist, non-party worker, toiling peasant, of every honest intellectual and democrat, of each and every one who desires the overthrow of exploitation, fascism and imperialist oppression, deliverance from imperialist war, who desires that there should exist brotherhood and peace among nations, that socialism should triumph throughout the world".

[6]

2. Situation on Vancouver's Waterfront

The waterfront strike inquiry at Vancouver, B.C., under the Commissionship of Justice H. H. Davis, continues. The strike situation remains unchanged.

[✂#] It is reported that about 20 members of the Vancouver and District Waterfront Workers Association, who are also members of the Communist Party, have ceased to take an active part in the longshore strike on account of the domineering methods adopted in meetings by the Communists. Communist Party control appears to be absolute. Any suggestion coming from non-C.P. members, no matter how sensible or feasible, is promptly vetoed.

Pat Driscoll returned to Vancouver from Oakalla Gaol where he served a three months' sentence. He is to resume activities among the seamen, leading the C.P. fraction work with [deletion: 1/4 line]

3. C.P. Candidates in Federal Election

[#] The following is the official list of Communist candidates who will contest various constituencies in the Federal election:--

J. B. McLachlan	Cape Breton, South, N.S.
Fred Rose	Cartier, Montreal, Que.
Sam Scarlett	Rosedale, Toronto, Ont.
J. B. Salsberg	Spadina, Toronto, Ont.
Norman Freed	Trinity, Toronto, Ont.
Tom Ewen	Cochrane, Ont.
A. T. Hill	Nipissing, Ont.
A. E. Smith	Port Arthur-Thunder Bay, Ont.
Tim Buck	Winnipeg, North, Man.
John Navizowski	Selkirk, Man.
Matthew Popovich	Vegreville, Alta.
O. C. Doolan	East Edmonton, Alta.
Malcolm Bruce	Vancouver East, B.C.

Apart from this list there are a number of United Front and Co-operative Commonwealth Federation candidates who are being supported by the C.P. and who have accepted either minimum or maximum election platforms put forward by the Communists.

[7]

Pat Lenihan, Communist candidate in East Calgary, Alta., has been withdrawn, in an effort to form a United Front with labour and the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation. In this constituency the Communists will support the Labour-C.C.F. candidate.

4. Arthur Evans on Tour

[#] (A) At Kenora, Ont.

Arthur Evans addressed a meeting in Kenora, Ont., on 17th September. He dealt briefly with the history of the on-to-Ottawa march and appealed to the audience to join in the demand for a commission to investigate the Regina riots.

A resolution demanding withdrawing of charges against the leaders of the relief camp strikers, the repeal of Section 98, Criminal Code of Canada, and Sections 41 and 42 of the Immigration Act was adopted.

The meeting was held under the auspices of the Canadian Labour Defence League.

(B) In Fort William

[3<#] Approximately 300 people attended a meeting under the auspices of the Canadian Labour Defence League in the Ukrainian Labour Farmer Temple Association Hall at Fort William, Ont., on the night of 18th September. N. Law acted as Chairman and the main speaker was Arthur Evans. Short speeches were also given by A. E. Smith and a man named Batters.

Arthur Evans related the on-to-Ottawa march and occurrences at Regina prior to and after the Dominion Day riot. He held the police responsible for the riot and again

[8]

asserted that there were witnesses who saw the Royal Canadian Mounted Police club Detective Millar in the Market Square of Regina. He also stated that the R.C.M.P. fired shots at the strikers injuring 13 of them. He declared that the strikers were compelled to defend themselves with sticks and stones.

[9]

APPENDIX NO. II: REPORTS BY PROVINCES

I. BRITISH COLUMBIA

5. Malcolm Bruce Opens Election Campaign

[3<#] Malcolm Bruce officially opened his election campaign at Norquay Community Hall on Kingsway, Vancouver, on 24th September. The 250 people listened to him with great attention.

Bert Sampson of New Westminster and George Kassian have been called in to assist in the campaign.

[3<#] Malcolm Bruce, being wholly occupied with his political campaign in Vancouver, has been relieved of his duties as Editor of the B.C. Workers News. George Drayton has been appointed Editor for the time being with Purvis as his assistant.

[3<#] The Vancouver Local Delegate Council of the Canadian Labour Defence League met on 15th September with 15 delegates in attendance,

representing 10 branches and the District Executive Committee. [deletion: 1 word] gave a general report on the situation. He stated that 12 organizers had been sent out by the Joint Defence Committee to various parts of the province. He also reported that the District Executive Committee has sent \$100 to Toronto to assist the financing of Labor Defender. He cited the Norquay Branch as one of the best in the district with nearly one hundred per cent of its members in good standing. The financial statement submitted to this meeting, covering the month of August, showed a total income of \$595.90. Against this a total expenditure of \$569.39 was shown, leaving a cash balance on hand of \$26.51.

[10]

[deletion: 1/4 line] has been withdraw from the Bridge River District by the Communist Party Bureau in Vancouver and sent to Cumberland to work with [deletion: 1 word] among the miners. His place is to be taken [deletion: 1 word] by one [deletion: 1/4 line]

[deletion: 1/4 line] has been appointed as Secretary of the Joint Action Committee of the Canadian Labour Defence League in Vancouver and district for the defence of [deletion: 1/2 line] office in the Workers Ex-Service Men's League Hall, 150 Hastings Street, West.

II. ALBERTA

6. [deletion: 2 words] Transferred

[deletion: 1 word] Having lost prestige with the miners, [deletion: 2 words] is said to have been taken out of the Mine Workers Union of Canada and put to work in the Federal election campaign at Winnipeg, beginning 1st October. [deletion: 2 lines]

III. SASKATCHEWAN

7. Matt Shaw Touring Province

[deletion: 1 word] Matt Shaw, accompanied by William Hammel, arrived at Assiniboia on 13th September and in the course of the evening addressed a public meeting on a vacant lot. Attempts to rent a hall in Assiniboia failed. A school teacher from Rock Glen whose name could not be ascertained acted as Chairman and short speeches were also given by H. Ehdahl, a farmer of the Congress District, and W. Hammel.

Matt Shaw related the on-to-Ottawa march staged by the B.C. relief camp workers, stressing particularly the Dominion Day riot at Regina. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police

[11]

and the Federal Government were subjected to considerable verbal abuse and it was intimated by the speaker that Detective Millar of the Regina City Police was deliberately killed by the police.

The attendance numbered approximately 200, but the collection netted only \$5.

On 19th September Shaw gave a similar address at a meeting in the Labour Temple at Shaunavon. August Hilland, a farmer, presided over the meeting, and the money donated by the 50 people in attendance amounted to \$9.

On 21st September Matt Shaw and William Hammel addressed a small gathering near the Bandstand at Gull Lake, Sask. Shaw's speech met with very little response from the gathering which at no time during the evening exceeded 50 people. Although the sum of \$7.88 was collected Shaw appeared to have very few sympathizers and the meeting, from a propagan-da point of view, was considered a failure. It is interesting to note in connection with this meeting that a resolution sponsored by the chair demanding an immediate inquiry into the 1st July riots, unconditional release of all strikers held under Section 98 of the Criminal Code and the immediate repeal of Sections 41 and 42 of the Immigration Act was supported by only three people in the audience.

[✂#] John Cosgrove, one of the relief camp strike leaders facing trial at Regina under Section 98 of the Criminal Code, was the principal speaker at a meeting held under the auspices of the Canadian Labour Defence League in the Scott Collegiate at Regina, Sask., on 25th September. Jack King, National Secretary of the Co-operative Commonwealth Youth Movement, also addressed the audience and E. V. Mills presided over the meeting.

John Cosgrove denied that the Communists were behind the on-to-Ottawa trek. He did admit, however, that five days

[12]

prior to the commencement of the march from Vancouver the C.L.D.L. there had held a convention at which the trek was discussed and sanctioned. The convention realized, he stated, that irrespective of the outcome of the move the strikers would have to face the forces of the State. Cosgrove also

described the riot at the Hudson's Bay Company store in Vancouver. He said, "If the police had not interfered with us there, there would have been no trouble". He gave a description of the trek from the time it started in Vancouver to the time it was broken up in Regina. In this connection he remarked that at various points the police had rendered considerable assistance to the trekkers.

IV. MANITOBA

8. Mabel Marlowe in Virden

[3<#] Mabel Marlowe addressed a small gathering in the Court Room at Virden, Man., on 23rd September. One named Robertson, acting as Chairman, briefly outlined the aims and objects of the Canadian Labour Defence League. Mabel Marlowe dwelt principally on the Flin Flon strike, contending that the strike was brought about by the conditions under which the miners had to work. She bitterly condemned Section 41 of the Immigration Act, saying that it was a menace to all those who dared to criticize the Government. She appealed to the audience to support the C.L.D.L. in its effort to have same abolished.

V. ONTARIO

9. Steel Strike in Crowland

[3<#] On 26th September approximately 300 men out of a total of 600 employed at the Page Hersey Tube Limited plant at Crowland, Ont., came out on strike. The strikers demand a 40-hour week and an increase of twenty-five per cent in wages.

[13]

The management offered the strikers a 45-hour week and a five per cent increase in wages. The unemployed association is reported to have expressed its willingness to aid the steel workers in any way within its power.

VI. QUEBEC

10. Communist Radio Broadcast in Montreal

Stanley Ryerson, alias Roger, representing the Communist Election Committee, gave a 15-minute talk over Radio Station C.F.C.F., Montreal,

on 26th September. It was the first Communist radio broadcast staged in the Province of Quebec.

He scored conditions in the Province of Quebec, stating that they were worse than in any other province in Canada. The Communist election program enunciated by him included the following:--

- (1) Non-contributory unemployment insurance.
- (2) A program of building construction for the abolition of slums instead of the Bennett's policy of building air bases, barracks, etc.
- (3) Payment of veteran pensions by taxing the rich.
- (4) Repeal of Section 98 and liberty of free speech and press.
- (5) Defense of peace and abrogation of the military alliance with England. Cancellation of war debts.
- (6) To protect the small merchant and workers against inflation, sweat shops and small wages, etc.

In conclusion he urged the voters to support the following candidates. Fred Rose, Communist; C. E. Perry, Labour; F. X. Poirier, Labour; J. Perron, C.C.F.; and Menary, Labour.
