

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE HEADQUARTERS

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SECRET

NO. 781

WEEKLY SUMMARYREPORT ON REVOLUTIONARY ORGANIZATIONSAND AGITATION IN CANADAReport

The Third National Convention of the Workers Unity League opened at Toronto, Ont., on 9th November with over 100 delegates in attendance.

James Coleman, alias James Houston, prominent Organizer of the Workers Unity League and imprisoned leader of the 1934 Flin Flon strike, has been deported to Scotland.

East York (Ont.) relief recipients led by the East York Workers Association, came out on strike on 5th November in protest against cuts in relief grants. The strikers held several large demonstrations supported by school children who have been withdrawn from school attendance.

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APPENDIX NO. I: GENERAL1. Situation on Vancouver's Waterfront

The Vancouver (B.C.) waterfront strike situation continues to remain [deletion: #] unchanged. Pickets still patrol the avenues leading to the main piers and despatching of longshoremen still continues to be done from Federation Hall by means of automobile transport. It is considered still to be too risky to despatch the men freely, and on foot, as heavy pickets cluster near the hall.

The newly formed "Canadian Waterfront Workers' Association", which now works under agreement with the Shipping Federation, held its first annual meeting recently and elected an executive consisting of: F. W. Holland, A. S. Hogg, C. Gallagher, C. Gardner, R. Carter, E. Adrian, G. A.

Hunt, G. A. Adams, C. E. Bailey, G. E. Wilson, S. E. Brown, from which officers will be chosen. A large picket of strikers and sympathisers gathered outside the Federation Hall when the meeting was held. Some automobiles owned by the working longshoremen suffered damage from stones and bricks, it is said.

The finding of Justice Davis, following his very careful and detailed inquiry into the longshore troubles, is considered by observers a distinct triumph for the Shipping Federation. The report proved to be a very sharp disappointment to the strikers, but they have subsequently held meetings and indicated they intend to stand out yet and continue the strike. Such decision is reported to have been made by the New Westminster Longshoremen, the Vancouver and District Waterfront Workers' Association, the Seafarers' Industrial Union, the Log Workers, the Grain Liners and the Coastwise Freight Handlers, all affiliates of the Longshore and Water Transport Workers and all on sympathetic strike for the Vancouver and District Waterfront Workers Association.

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The V. & D.W.W.A. has notified the Federation that now the Davis report has been received the door to resumption of negotiations toward a settlement remains open, but the Shipping Federation is reported taking no immediate steps in that regard.

Reports that the S.S. "Niagara" has been manned in Australia with a volunteer crew when the union crew refused to man her also dampened the hopes of the strikers. It is believed the volunteer crew will remain with the ship and take her back.

The passenger ship "Aorangi", of the same line, and also delayed in sailing on account of protests of the unions based on the Vancouver situation, is reported to have sailed a day or two late. No details as to whether she has union or volunteer crew are available.

The steamer "Monowai", which sailed from Vancouver recently, after her crew had threatened to tie her up at this port, has arrived at New Zealand ports and made her cargo landing without protest, the New Zealand longshoremen working the cargo without question. They also raised no objection to discharging M.S. "Innaren", a Swedish ship that was chartered to load a full cargo originally destined for the New Zealand steamer "Wairuna". The "Wairuna" crew refused to sail their ship if British Columbia cargo was placed on board, so the freight was put on the "Innaren", and has caused no trouble in landing.

2. "Lemko Association" in Canada

[§<#] The Canadian Section of "Lemko Association of the U.S.A. and Canada", [§<deletion: 2 lines] held its first convention at Toronto from 19th to 21st September last.

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The total strength of this organization in Canada and the U.S.A. is slightly over 2,000 members, 382 of whom belong to the Canadian Section; the latter is divided into eight branches as follows:--

<u>Branch</u>	<u>Members</u>
Toronto, Ont.	[§<deletion: blank]
Montreal, Que.	[§<deletion: blank]
Fort William, Ont.	[§<deletion: blank]
Hamilton, Ont.	[§<deletion: blank]
Windsor, Ont.	[§<deletion: blank]
Edmonton, Alta.	[§<deletion: blank]
Winnipeg, Man.	[§<deletion: blank]
Edson, Alta.	[§<deletion: blank]
Total	382

The Central Committee of the Canadian Section elected at its first convention at Toronto consists of:--

<u>Office</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Place</u>
Chairman	[§<deletion: 2 words]	Toronto
Recording Secretary	[§<deletion: 2 words]	"
Canadian National Organizer	[§<deletion: 2 words]	"
Canadian Reporter	[§<deletion: 2 words]	"
Financial Secretary	[§<deletion: 2 words]	"
Western Organizer	[§<deletion: 2 words]	Edmonton

The organization aims to recruit and radicalize Carpatho-Russians in Canada and the U.S.A. It is claimed by the association that there are approximately 20,000 Carpatho-Russians in Canada. Its official organ is Lemko, a weekly in the Carpatho-Russian language, published at Cleveland, Ohio.

3. Stewart Smith Reports on VIIth Congress of Comintern

[§<#] On 3rd November approximately 3,200 people, filling Massey Hall to capacity, heard Stewart Smith speak on the proceedings of the Seventh World Congress of the Communist International which he attended as

Chairman of the Canadian delegation. This is said to have been the first public mass meeting held officially by the C.P. of Canada in Toronto since 1931 when the Party was declared an unlawful association by

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the Supreme Court of Ontario. Hundreds are said to have been turned away as the doors closed about 30 minutes after they first opened.

Norman Freed called the meeting to order in the name of the Toronto District Committee of the Party which, he said, had arranged it. He then handed the Chairmanship over to Tim Buck who, he announced, had been unanimously elected at the Seventh World Congress to the Executive Committee of the Comintern.

Earl Browder, General Secretary of the C.P. of the U.S.A., presented greetings from his Party and the "hundred of thousands of its followers". He told that in the U.S.A. also great crowds are turning out to the meetings where he and other delegates are reporting on the decisions of the VIIth World Congress of the Comintern.

Stewart Smith spoke for two hours, giving a concise report on the decisions of the Seventh Congress of the Comintern, stressing particularly the resolution adopted by the congress on the question of the United Front, and its application to the Canadian situation. The VIIth Congress calls for working class unity in every country and on a world scale, he said.

Smith maintained that a great change has taken place since the time of the VIth Congress of the Communist International held in 1928 and that today the masses of the workers who follow the social democratic parties throughout the world are moving to the "left" and towards the United Front. "They are resolved not to follow the road of the German Labour Movement", he contended. "As a result a new era has risen in the world; an era in which we can heal the split in the world Labour Movement", he added.

"The C.P. of Canada", he said, "is prepared to affiliate to the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation in the interest of unity and in order to build up a United Front against the rising wave of Fascism and the danger of war". He maintained

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that this invitation to the C.C.F. is based upon the decisions of the VIIth World Congress of the Comintern. The C.P. of Canada, he said, extends this invitation in an effort to transform the C.C.F. into a real fighting force. "We Communists are prepared to unite with anyone who will fight for the real needs of the working class", he shouted.

In analysing the recent Federal elections Smith stated amidst applause, "This overwhelming vote for those parties, which, for one reason or

another, opposed Section 98, was a mandate for the legality of the C.P. of Canada. Section 98 must be repealed right away in spite of the reactionary Senate before the Regina trek leaders come up for trial".

The meeting was a very enthusiastic one but orderly. No action was taken by the local authorities against those sponsoring it. A short talk was also given by Sam Carr.

4. [deletion: 2 words] in Crow's Nest Pass

[#] [deletion: 2 words] arrived in Blairmore from Calgary recently to co-operate with [deletion: 2 words] and other Communist organizers in an attempt to consolidate the Communist Movement throughout the Crow's Nest Pass District. On 24th October [deletion: 1 word] accompanied by [deletion: 2 words] proceeded to Michel and Corbin where he addressed well attended meetings on war and Fascism, relief camp conditions and unity of action. He urged the audiences to support the Relief Camp Workers Union and the Mine Workers Union of Canada.

Recent reports from this area would indicate that the Communists in the Crow's Nest Pass are concentrating at this time on the question of organizing the miners and relief camp workers.

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APPENDIX NO. II: REPORTS BY PROVINCES

I. BRITISH COLUMBIA

5. Vancouver League Against War and Fascism Conference

[#] The League Against War and Fascism at Vancouver held a conference on 3rd November with 38 delegates in attendance. [deletion: 1/2 line] acted as Chairman. A noticeable feature of the conference was the absence of delegates from the American Federation of Labor unions and Clergymen. Plans were laid for the setting up of groups in the various churches to carry the propaganda of the league. It was also decided to issue a monthly bulletin containing material for speakers.

[#] [deletion: 2 words] on his return to Vancouver recently from an organization trip around the camps and canneries, reported the collection of over \$700 for the defence of the relief camp strike leaders facing trial at

Regina. His tour was sponsored by the Lumber Workers Industrial Union and the Joint Defence Committee.

II. ALBERTA

6. C.P. Activities in Edmonton

[X#] On 26th October the organizers of the various sections of the C.P. at Edmonton met at 9810 Jasper Avenue to discuss future work. [Xdeletion: 1 word] reported that the Central Branch of the Canadian Labour Defence League has been reorganized and had appealed to the C.P. for organizers and co-operation. It was agreed that every C.P. unit elect one member to supervise Canadian Labour Defence League work. The meeting decided to hold a mass meeting on 10th November at the Empire or Rialto Theatre to celebrate the 18th anniversary

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of the October Revolution; it further resolved to make every effort to make the 11th November mass meeting, sponsored by the League Against War and Fascism, a success. Plans were also laid for a conference of local active C.P. members to be held on 16th November. The Communist Party Election Committee is to make contact with the Executive Committee of the Canadian Labour Party with a view to forming a United Front in the forthcoming Civic election.

On 2nd November these Organizers met again and resolved that the anti-war nickle campaign, sponsored officially by the League Against War and Fascism, be intensified through Communist Party channels; that all Party forces to be organized and put to work on this campaign, together with all newly recruited members; further that the Edmonton Sub-District Buro make arrangements for the 10th and 11th November mass meetings in the Empire or Rialto Theatre. It was further agreed that the C.P. Sub-District Buro get in touch with the local Ex-Service Men's organizations, through ex-service C.P. members and sympathizers, in an effort to obtain their support to the Armistice Day, 11th November, anti-war demonstration, which is being organized and led, under the direction of the C.P., by the local Council Against War and Fascism.

A permit to hold a parade on 11th November has been refused the Edmonton Council Against War and Fascism by the Civic authorities. The following persons are being approached to act as speakers at the 10th November meeting: [Xdeletion: 3 lines]

The Communist Party in Calgary, Alta., has nominated two candidates for the coming Civic election, Murdock Clarke for Alderman and Mrs. K. Rankin for the School Board.

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Mathiew Popovich was the principal speaker at a meeting held in the Ukrainian Labour Temple in Lethbridge, Alta., on 26th October. He spoke [9<#] on the impending Imperialist war, devoting considerable time to the Italian-Ethiopian question. The attendance was very poor.

On 27th October he addressed a mass meeting in the I.O.O.F. Hall at Coalhurst, Alta., which was attended by approximately 100 persons. The subject of his address on this occasion was similar to the one given at Lethbridge on the previous night.

III. SASKATCHEWAN

[9<#]

7. John Cosgrove Speaks at Prince Albert

John Cosgrove, one of the on-to-Ottawa trek leaders facing trial at Regina, Sask., spoke before a small audience in St. Andrews Hall, Prince Albert, on 25th October. On the platform with Cosgrove was Joseph Young and George Bonshor, the latter acting as Chairman of the meeting.

Cosgrove recounted the history of the B.C. relief camp workers' strike, their march on to Ottawa and subsequent happenings at Regina and generally placed the strikers' view-point before the audience.

An appeal for funds to carry on the relief camp strikers' fight for "justice" was made to the small gathering by Joseph Young, of Saskatoon, who accompanies Cosgrove on his tour.

[9<#] Jack Wedin, facing trial at Regina as a result of his participation in the Dominion Day riots, addressed a meeting in Dark Hall at Biggar, Sask., on 28th October. There were 20 persons present and Jack Weston of Biggar acted as Chairman.

Wedin related the history of the B.C. relief camp workers' strike and their march on to Ottawa.

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At the close of the meeting a committee was formed with a view to carrying on the defense work in Biggar on behalf of the strike leaders facing trial at Regina.

A lengthy declaration was read and approved by the meeting, pledging support to the relief camp strikers.

IV. MANITOBA

[3<#] 8. Aubrey Brock, Communist Candidate in Winnipeg Election

Aubrey Bock has been nominated by the Communists in Winnipeg, Man., as School Trustee candidate in Ward 2. Orton Wade has been appointed Municipal Election Campaign Manager.

[3<#] Approximately 300 people attended a lecture given by P. Lysets, Assistant Editor of Ukrainian Labour News, at the Ukrainian Labour Temple, Winnipeg, on 5th November on the Russian October Revolution. He reviewed the circumstances leading up to the October Revolution in 1917, the establishment of the dictatorship of the proletariat in Russia and the annihilation of the forces of the counter revolution. He described how at least the U.S.S.R. had won world recognition and the part it plays as the "defender of peace".

V. ONTARIO

9. C.P. Active Among Steel Workers

[3<#] At a recent meeting of the Steel Industries Unit of the C.P. operative among the employees of the General Steel Wares Plant at Toronto, Ont., it was reported that an increase of twenty-seven and a half per cent in wages is to be demanded by the Metal Workers Union in this plant. This

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demand, being one of the grievances drawn up by the C.P., is to serve to rouse the employees and members of the union with a view to eventually bringing them out on strike.

[3<#] An educational programme for branches has been arranged for this winter by the Toronto (Ont.) District Committee of the Canadian Labour

Defence League. East York Branch is reported to have obtained the use of a school for educational meetings at which various speakers and leaders of the Militant Labor Movement will speak on the different phases of the working class movement.

VI. QUEBEC

10. Council of C.L.D.L. Meet in Montreal

[✂#] The District Central Council of the Canadian Labour Defence League at Montreal met on 2nd November with eight members in attendance. [✂deletion: 2 words] acted as Secretary and [✂deletion: 2 words] as Chairman. One of the items discussed was the [✂deletion: 1 word] protest mass meeting held at the Carmen Sylva Hall on the evening of 1st November. It was reported that this mass meeting was a complete failure, both organizationally and financially. Only approximately 60 people were in attendance, and the collection netted \$8.

[✂deletion: 2 words] was severely criticized by the Council for failing to notify all C.L.D.L. branches about the meeting. He was also criticized for the type of leaflets issued advertising the meeting.

The discussion on C.L.D.L. finances revealed that the organization is in debt to the extent of \$750. [✂deletion: 3/4 line] could advance no constructive suggestion as to how funds could be raised in order to liquidate this debt. A heated argument took place between [✂deletion: 1/2 line] in the course of which the latter

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was accused of being "a good for nothing and a cheap politician".

[✂#] [✂deletion: 1/4 page]

[✂#] J. S. Wallace is said to have addressed a group of 90 students at the McDonald College in Ste. Anne De Bellevue, Que., recently, on the subject of "Fascism and the Ethiopian Question." His exposition of the subject is said to have been well received by the meeting.

[✂#] [✂deletion: 2 words] prominently connected with the Revolutionary Movement in Rouyn and Noranda, Que., visited Montreal recently and addressed a series of meetings of the various language mass organizations. She spoke on the Noranda strike and her object in visiting Montreal was to raise funds for relief purposes.

The meetings were poorly attended, and only slightly over \$20 was collected.
