

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE HEADQUARTERS

Ottawa, 4th December, 1935.

SECRETNO. 784WEEKLY SUMMARYREPORT ON REVOLUTIONARY ORGANIZATIONS
AND AGITATION IN CANADAReport

The Communist Press is indulging in an orgy of anti-war and anti-Fascist propaganda with a view to stimulating interest in the forthcoming Canadian Congress Against War and Fascism which is to open with a mass meeting in the Victoria Theatre, Toronto, Ont. , on 6th December. Delegates from many parts of Canada and representing a variety of organizations are expected to attend the congress. Among the foreign delegates expected to be present J. W. Phillips, Editor of "China Today", of New York, is mentioned.

East York (Ont.) relief strikers are reported to have taken a secret ballot on the night of 28th November, voting 1,298 for and 11 against continuing the strike.

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APPENDIX NO. I: GENERAL

1. Situation on Vancouver's Waterfront

The waterfront strike at Vancouver, B.C., remains unsettled. A number [deletion: 1 word] of longshoremen and their sympathizers who participated in the riot at Ballantyne Pier last June were convicted recently and sentenced as follows:-

Ivan A. Emery, Counselling unlawful assembly, three months.

John P. McKay, Rioting and unlawful assembly, six months.

Harold Maides; David Lyall; Einar Carlson; Charles Smith; James Nice; Alfred Bright; William Kemp; Dan McLeod; Albert Stock and Tony Morelli, Rioting, nine months each.

Charles Brown, Rioting, six months.

John Paulson; James Balderston and Ernest P. McLeod, Unlawful assembly, three months each.

James H. Brown; Eugenio Nicli and William S. Stein, Unlawful assembly, suspended sentence.

John Lawson; Richard Rothery, Wilful and malicious damage to property, suspended sentence.

Jack Hughes and Alex McLeod, Rioting and unlawful assembly, one year each.

2. U. M. W. of A., District 26. Retain "Check-Off"

[3<#] The balloting on the question of the "check-off" as provided by the Dwyer Act of Nova Scotia took place on 15th November; the result being 7,142 for the United Mine Workers of America and 5,869 for the Amalgamated Mine Workers of Nova Scotia. As a result the United Mine Workers of America retain the right to enforce the "check-off" during the ensuing year.

The Nova Scotia Miner, Communist organ, of 23rd November makes the following editorial comment:-

"If ever a clownish law was passed, Mick Dwyer's Bill 60 is that freak.

"Mick's law provides for a card count of the miners of the United Mine Workers of America and the Amalgamated Mine Workers of Nova Scotia each November 15th to ascertain which union has the larger number of members. The clown's law provides that the coal

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companies collect these cards. This last provision, to the ordinary mind, can only arouse derisive, hilarious laughter; to the clown this provision is the height of wisdom. Here is how the clown's law worked out this year: The U. M. W. of A. 'received' 7,142 votes, and the A. M. W. of N. S. 5,869 votes, or a total vote cast of 13,011. That is 706 more votes than all the men employed in and about all the coal mines in Nova Scotia,

including mine bosses of all grades who never were in the union. Then there are a number of mines which did not vote at all, including Westville with over 500 men employed. What makes this vote funny is Mick's solemn satisfaction with it.

"On page 145 of the last government mines report the total number employed in all the coal mines of Nova Scotia is given as 12,305".

3. Communists in Civic Elections

(A) Regina, Sask.

[3<#] T. G. McManus, Communist, was elected as Alderman in Ward 3 in Regina's (Sask.) Municipal election on 25th November receiving 1,102 votes. J. M. Toothill, Left Winger of the C. C. F., and strongly in sympathy with the Communists, was also elected in Ward 3, receiving 1,237 votes.

P. Mikkelson, also a Left Winger of the C. C. F. and Communist sympathizer, was elected in Ward 1.

A. C. Ellison, President of the Central Labour Council, was elected Mayor, polling 4,313 votes. Other Labour men elected were M. Fines, a teacher, in Ward 1; and G. N. Menzies, a printer, in Ward 2.

The results of the Regina Civic election is hailed by the Communists as a sweeping victory for their United Front policy. This will give Labour six out of 10 Aldermanic seats on the Council and a Labour Mayor.

(B) Toronto, Ont.

[3<#] The following slate of 10 candidates for the Civic election was nominated at a Communist nomination meeting in Toronto, Ont., on 22nd November:-

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Board of Control -- Tim Buck

Ward	1 -	Alderman - Harry Bell
"	2 -	" - Thomas James
		Board of Education - Mrs. Anne Smith
"	4 -	Alderman - J. B. Salsberg
		Board of Education - John Weir
"	5 -	Alderman - Stewart O. Smith
		Board of Education - Annie S. Buller
"	6 -	Alderman - H. Stephenson
		Board of Education - Mrs. Tim Buck

4. D. Lobay Attacks Leaders of Ukrainian Mass Organizations in Pamphlet

[2<#] D. Lobay, Former Editor of Ukrainian Labour News, who was expelled from the Communist Party and the Ukrainian revolutionary mass organizations for the stand he took at the last National Convention of the Ukrainian Labour Farmer Temple Association on the Irchan and Sembay issue, has written a pamphlet entitled "For A Real Explanation Of The Situation In Soviet Ukraine" which is causing considerable uneasiness among the leading Communists, particularly in Winnipeg.

Lobay proceeded to New York following his expulsion from the Revolutionary Movement. Before leaving he apparently succeeded in securing a copy of the mailing list of the Ukrainian Labour News which enabled him to forward a copy of his pamphlet to every one of its subscribers. As a result the rank and file of the Ukrainian mass organizations is discussing the accusations put forth by Lobay. The content of the pamphlet is entirely directed against the leaders of the Ukrainian Communist Movement, particularly Shatulsky, Popovich and Navizowsky. The Communist press is furious, while the Nationalists in their press are popularising Lobay's accusations. Obviously Lobay's pamphlet has been written with a view to undermining the leadership of the Ukrainian Revolutionary Movement in Canada. He calls the leadership reactionary and counter revolutionary.

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It has been observed that many of the rank and file are taking the matter seriously and are pressing for a thorough investigation into the affair. Some have voiced the opinion that Lobay should be invited to the forthcoming Plenum of the U. L. F. T. A. in order to have the controversy settled.

5. Preparations for Canadian Congress Against War and Fascism

(A) Fort William, Ont.

[2<#] The League Against War and Fascism held a very successful District Conference in the Y. M. C. A. Hall at Fort William, Ont., on 16th and 17th November, with over 100 delegates in attendance representing an alleged membership of 8,000 people. While the bulk of the delegates represented Communist and radical organizations, there were a number of people in

attendance representing churches, Co-operative Commonwealth Federation Clubs and trade unions.

Kenneth Cameron of Toronto, Editor of "Action", official organ of the Canadian League Against War and Fascism, guided the proceedings. Speeches against war and Fascism centering around the need for organisation, featured the proceedings. The conference is said to have been the broadest meeting ever held in this area; the main purpose of it being the election of a delegation to the National Congress at Toronto which will convene on 6th December. The delegation elected consists of Don Stewart (Chairman), A. Batters, Mrs. B. A. Dawn, W. Colston, W. Marshall, Mrs. T. Daley, Mrs. Rowe, Rose Cotters, J. P. Kidder, J. Knight, S. Kirch, W. West, T. Borman, Mrs. Howard, W. McPhee, Reverend D. McIver and Reverend E. G. D. Freeman.

Following the conference on the night of 17th November a mass meeting was held in the City Hall Auditorium addressed by Kenneth Cameron, representing the National Committee

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of the league, Joe Derry of the Young Communist League, Alderman W. Howard, and Mrs. W. Howard. The Chairman was A. Batters of the Independent Labour Party.

(B) Edmonton, Alta.

[✂#] [~~deletion: 4 lines~~]

At a meeting held subsequently by the Edmonton Council of the Canadian League Against War and Fascism the two nominees proposed by the Communists were accepted. This meeting was attended by approximately 40 delegates; it was decided to make every effort to raise the necessary funds to defray the expenses of the two said delegates.

(C) Glace Bay, N. S.

[✂#] The Nova Scotia Section of the Canadian League Against War and Fascism held a District Conference in the Y. M. C. A. Hall at Glace Bay on 21st November. Following the business meeting, which was held with D. N. Brodie in the chair, the speakers being John C. Mortimer and the Reverend W. T. Mercer of St. Lukes Church, Dominion Mine No. 6. The meeting was asked to endorse a resolution demanding the abolition of Section 98 of the Criminal Code.

At the conference proper John C. Mortimer and Reverend W. T. Mercer were elected as delegates to the National Congress at Toronto.

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APPENDIX NO. II: REPORTS BY PROVINCES

I. BRITISH COLUMBIA

6. W. U. L. Attempt to Penetrate Trollers Ass'n.

[§#] The Workers Unity League in Vancouver, B. C. , through the Fishermen's and Cannery Workers Union is reported to be making an attempt to penetrate the B. C. Trollers Association. A manifesto in the form of a resolution is to be presented to the forthcoming convention of the B. C. Trollers Ass'n. calling for the amalgamation of all fishermen's organizations into one federated body with central control. The B. C. Trollers Ass'n. has a membership of 263 and its Secretary is one [§deletion: 1 line] It is reported that the latter will fight any "red" suggestions on the floor of the convention if he recognizes them.

II. ALBERTA

7. M. Krucie in Edmonton

[§#] [§deletion: 1 word] addressing a meeting of the Yugo-Slav Workers and Farmers Club at Edmonton on 21st November, stated that he had been successful in organizing 18 "International Political Prisoners" Groups among Yugo-Slavians throughout Canada. He appealed to the Yugo-Slavs in Edmonton to assist the revolutionary workers in Yugo-Slavia who are fighting for "freedom and liberty" in that country. As a result of this meeting a group was organized consisting of [§deletion: 1 line] The chief function of this group will be to raise funds for the political prisoners in Yugo-Slavia.

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III. MANITOBA

8. W. N. Kolisnyk Discredited

At the annual meeting of the shareholders of the Workers Farmers [§#] Co-operative Creamery at Winnipeg W. N. Kolisnyk, ex-Communist Alderman, was forced to resign his position as Manager. He was accused

of having fraudulently manipulated the funds of the institution. The shareholders left the meeting in a very resentful mood. As a result of this disclosure the affairs of the Creamery and the Co-operative Woodyard, both of which are operated by the Ukrainian Labour Farmer Temple Association, will come up for investigation. Kolisnyk at this meeting was not given an opportunity to reply to some of the charges made against him and no discussion was permitted.

[✂#] On 24th November John Boychuk gave a short address at a large concert meeting at the Ukrainian Labour Temple in the course of which he urged the workers to organize and not to wait for any miracles to happen. "Miracles come from heaven for those who are well supplied by the workers with all the comforts", he said. He maintained that the workers produce all wealth and therefore should be in a position to rule the country.

[✂#] Approximately 100 people attended a meeting held under the auspices of the "Defence Supporting Committee" in Theatre "A" of the University Building, Winnipeg, on 28th November. Reverend C. W. Gordon of Winnipeg presided and the speakers were Jack King, Reverend S. B. East and Matt Shaw.

Jack King, the first speaker, gave an account of their interview with the Honourable Ernest LaPointe and Members of the Federal Cabinet, saying that the delegation had been promised some consideration with regard to the demands presented

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to the Federal Government.

Mr. East described the trek on-to-Ottawa and the whole relief camp strike as a justified and a proper expression of protest according to British laws and traditions. Speaking of the 1st July riot in Regina he asserted that the meeting in the Market Square had been attacked from four sides "with neck yokes and wheel spokes, beating, smashing, wounding mercilessly".

Matt Shaw spoke principally on the events leading up to the strike of the B. C. relief camp workers and the subsequent march on to Ottawa.

At the close of the meeting the Chairman read a resolution which called upon the youth of Canada to "organize in order to build up a better future". The Chairman proposed to close the meeting with singing "God Save The King" but received no support from the audience. Only two voices were heard, his own and that of Reverend East, the remainder of the audience

remaining totally silent. The attendance was made up principally of young people who are recognized as Communists and Communist sympathizers.

IV. ONTARIO

9. Regina Delegation to Ottawa Address Toronto Meeting

[3<#] Massey Hall at Toronto, Ont. , on 24th November was the scene of a mass meeting held under the auspices of the "Citizens Committee" of Toronto with approximately 1,200 people in attendance. The meeting was arranged in order to give the delegation appointed at Regina an opportunity to lay the case of the Regina rioters before the Toronto people before proceeding on to Ottawa.

Matt Shaw is described as the principal speaker. He requested the audience to support the delegation from Regina, pointing out that unless a strong defence is organized the "trekkers in Regina will be mistried by the Capitalist Court".

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Citing ex-Judge Mr. Stubbs as an authority he said that there are different laws in this country, a law for the rich and a law for the poor. He urged that pressure be brought to bear in order to have the investigation into the Regina riot broadened. He further suggested that special counsels be obtained to safe-guard and represent the interest of the trekkers.

Jack King and Revered S. B. East, the other members of the delegation, spoke along similar lines, the latter making a special appeal to the churches and members of the C. C. F. to unite and fight in the interests of the arrested on-to-Ottawa trek leaders. East made a special appeal for money stating that \$2,500 had been collected thus far. He said more was needed to prevent the arrested leaders from going to prison. Jack King outlined the purpose of the meeting and their mission to Ottawa to interview the Prime Minister. He intimated that he was speaking officially on behalf of the Canadian Co-operative Youth Movement, of which he is the National Secretary.

The meeting by a standing vote endorsed the demands of the delegation. The collection amounted to \$106.

V. QUEBEC

10. Section Meeting of C. P. in Montreal

[3<#]

No. 2 Section of the Communist Party in the Montreal District met on the evening of 25th November at the Workmen's Circle Hall with approximately 100 members in attendance.

Sidney Sarkin gave a report on the activities of the C. P. and Allan Herman reported on the Young Communist League.

Reviewing the United Front tactics of the C. P. Sarkin stated that many people were under the impression that the C. P. has changed its "line" and is becoming a "pink" sort of organization. "This is not so", he said. "Though the Party is prepared to go to any length to make broad concessions in

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order to win large numbers of the workers and farmers, it reserves the right to recruit members to its ranks and carry on the struggle for a Soviet Canada". He explained that a large portion of the workers are not prepared for Socialism but were definitely opposed to Fascism and war. "We must build a people's front on the issue of war and Fascism", he said, "which will raise the political level of the masses to a higher plane and which will eventually become a strong factor in the fight for Socialism". Sarkin also referred to the December campaign which is being waged on behalf of The Worker, saying that the Montreal District had been given the task of raising \$1,500 of which \$1,000 will go to the Toronto publication and \$500 to the French paper Clarte. He stressed the importance of this campaign and urged the Montreal members to bring it to a successful conclusion.

Allan Herman gave a brief report on the decisions of the National Young Communist League Plenum recently held in Toronto. He said that although the general working class movement has grown, the Y. C. L. is still a small sectarian body with very little influence over the youth. He gave the membership of the league as slightly over 3,000. The most important decision arrived at, at the Plenum, was to the effect that in future the league will largely work through mass organizations and clubs. It will be the special task of the members of the league to join various clubs and sports associations for the purpose of "boring from within". The work in the clubs is to be co-ordinated through special fractions of the Y. C. L. "The more advanced members of the Y. C. L. will be absorbed by the C. P. ", he remarked. He contended that this new method of work will result in the transformation of the Y. C. L. from a small sectarian party to a new youth movement on a broad scale.

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With a view to extending the scope of Communist propaganda in Montreal, Que. , six members of the Communist Party, including Horace Forget and one Bourget, have joined the church of Reverend Victor Rahard [S<#] on Sherbrooke Street. The fact that they are members of the Communist Party is to be kept in the dark for the time being.
