

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE HEADQUARTERS

Ottawa, 18th December, 1935.

SECRETNO. 786WEEKLY SUMMARYREPORT ON REVOLUTIONARY ORGANIZATIONSAND AGITATION IN CANADAReport

Tim Buck addressed an open meeting of the University of Toronto Communist Club at the Women's Union Building on the campus on 11th December. About 50 students are said to have attended.

On 12th December a number of inmates at Dundurn (Sask.) relief camp forcibly resisted the efforts of the Camp Police to eject two men who had been discharged for "cause"; on the following day only about one-third of the inmates turned out to work; the remainder, approximately 1,000 men, struck in protest against the attempted eviction of the two men.

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APPENDIX NO. I: GENERAL

1. Waterfront Strike in Vancouver Called Off

[~~#~~] On 9th December the Vancouver and District Waterfront Workers Association, together with its affiliated units and other longshore and ships’ workers, officially notified the employers and the Shipping Federation of British Columbia that it has called the strike on the waterfront off. Thus the longshoremen’s strike, with its attendant sympathetic strikes of sailors,

firemen, log-boomers, ships' liners and affiliated longshore unions of New Westminster, Chemainus, Victoria and Powell River has come to an end and with it the control exercised by the Longshoremen and Water Transport Workers of Canada on the waterfront in Vancouver and other British Columbia ports. The V. & D. W. W. A. notified the American unions that had been supporting the strike accordingly, thus permitting the return of American shipping to Vancouver Harbour.

The decision to call off the strike was only arrived at after much acrimonious discussion in the Strike Committee and, according to one of the leaders, by a "very close vote".

It is the announced policy of the longshoremen to retain the identity of their union and as soon as possible, when a few of the men have been re-engaged, to apply as a working organization for affiliation with the International Longshoremen's Association. This policy has been dictated by the Communist Party of Canada and its fraction operating within the organization. It is reported that Bridges, of the Pacific-Maritime Federation of San Francisco, has advised the Vancouver longshoremen to go back to work and then identify themselves with the I. L. A.

Two hundred and fifty old longshoremen, original strikers, have been working for weeks and in some cases for months at their old jobs. Over 100 have individually made application at the Federation for reinstatement without making any stipulations as to union or anything else. This leaves

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approximately 600 who will ask for reinstatement.

Pickets have been withdrawn from the ports of Vancouver, Victoria, Chemainus and New Westminster and the waterfront is being looked upon as an "open shop".

2. Communists in Civic Elections

(A) Brandon, Man.

[✕#] Gavin Broadhurst, well known Communist running as candidate of the "Workers' Civic Election Conference" in the recent Brandon Municipal election, received 1,482 votes, being 100 votes short of being elected.

(B) Lethbridge, Alta.

[✕#] For the first time in the history of the City of Lethbridge the Communist Party has nominated a candidate for the City Council. Joseph Bowker,

active among the unemployed, has been chosen as standard bearer of the C. P. in this year's Municipal election.

(C) Ericksdale, Man.

[3<#] John Lindell, farmer of Ericksdale, Man. , was elected Reeve of that rural municipality on 22nd November. He received a majority of 56 votes.

3. "Lobayism" Spreads Among Ukrainian Communists

Having refused to sign the official statement of the Central Executive Committee of the Ukrainian Labour Farmer Temple Association against Lobay and "Lobayism", W. N. Kolisnyk, T. Kobzey and Chwaliboga have been temporarily suspended from the said Central Committee. Considerable space in the Ukrainian

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Communist press is being monopolized by the leaders headed by John Navizowski and Shatulsky in an endeavour to offset the influence of Lobay and his supporters within the organization. It appears that since Lobay has issued his pamphlet Kobzey, Kolisnyk, Chwaliboga, M. Kaschak and several others have rallied to his defence and have attacked the official leadership of the Ukrainian Section of the C. P. and its subsidiary mass organizations. The matter will finally be settled at the coming convention of the association. In the mean time supporters of the official leadership are touring the country in an endeavour to curb the spread of "Lobayism" and to make sure that no "disloyal" delegates are sent to the convention.

4. Split in Jewish Anti-Nazi Conference
at Toronto

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The Anti-Nazi Conference, formed by the Jewish element in Toronto some time ago, has been split into two sections, occasioned by a resolution introduced by the Poale-Zion which charges that the Communist Party of Palestine has circulated a resolution of an extremely violent type against Zionists and the British Government. The Communist leaders representing the Jewish Bureau of the C. P. of Canada and the revolutionary trade unions object to the resolution, claiming that it is an act of sabotage on the part of

the Poale-Zion aiming to frustrate the United Front of the workers in Toronto.

Now each wing claims to be the real conference and each faction intends to carry on independently. It is interesting to note that the Conservative element of Jewish labour has lined up with the "Right" Wing and is violently attacking the Communists for having issued the said proclamation in Palestine. The Communists of Canada repudiate this proclamation, saying that it is another "Zinoviev letter" forgery.

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5. "The Worker" Campaign Progressive Favourably
in B. C.

[3<#] The campaign for The Worker is said to be progressing very favourably in the British Columbia District. Many Communist Party Units have already surpassed their quota of collections. A door-to-door canvass is being conducted and copies of The Worker and the B. C. Workers News are being sold at the price of 1 cent per copy in an endeavour to popularise these publications in the homes and offices. Numerous concerts, dances, raffles and lectures are scheduled to take place during the next two weeks as part of the campaign.

6. East York Strike of Relief Workers Enters
a New Stage

[3<#] The unemployed of Long Branch (Ont.) are reported to have come out on strike in support of the strike of the relief recipients in East York which has been in progress since 5th November.

Changing their previous stand that every effort must be made to make it appear that the strike has no connection with the revolutionary movement, the East York Strike Committee recently addressed a letter to the District Committee of the Communist Party of Canada at Toronto appealing for assistance and co-operation. As a result the C. P. has now openly assumed the leadership of the strike; the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation forces are said to be co-operating.

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APPENDIX NO. II: REPORTS BY PROVINCESI. BRITISH COLUMBIA7. B. C. Section of L. A. W. & F. to Issue Pamphlet on
"Hitlerism in Canada"

[X#] [Xdeletion: 1/2 line] of the British Columbia Section of the League Against War and Fascism, is at present engaged upon a pamphlet entitled "Hitlerism in Canada". He had submitted it to the Executive Committee but it was criticized so harshly that he undertook to rewrite it. The pamphlet, which is to be turned out on the Communist Party 'Gestetner' with a line-cut "jacket" in orange and black, will sell for 5 cents a copy.

[X#] [Xdeletion: 3 1/2 lines]

[X#] On 9th December the Communist Party Fraction of the Lumber Workers Industrial Union in Vancouver decided that [Xdeletion: 2 words] should be sent to Seattle to confer with members of the Communist Party of the U. S. A. operating in the American Federation of Labor for the purpose of securing their support when applications is made to affiliate with the A. F. of L. in Vancouver.

The decision to turn over the L. W. I. U. to the A. F. of L. is in conformity with the new policy of the Communist Party.

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II. ALBERTA

[Xdeletion: 1 word]

[X#] [Xdeletion: 1/3 page]

[X#] Jack Cosgrove, one of the on-to-Ottawa trek leaders awaiting trial at Regina, addressed a meeting in the Al Azhar Temple, Calgary, on 6th December. C. K. Vernon acted as Chairman and the attendance numbered approximately 100 people.

The Chairman briefly outlined the purpose of the meeting and expressed disappointment at the small attendance. He stated that after studying the situation in Capitalist countries and having regard to the treatment accorded

the on-to-Ottawa trekkers he had come to the conclusion that the Communist system was the only way out of the crisis.

Jack Cosgrove recounted the history of the trek on-to-Ottawa stressing particularly the assistance given to the strikers by the citizens at the various points. He generally denounced the Government and the police claiming that the latter were responsible for the 1st July riot at Regina.

[3<#] The Edmonton Unemployed Married Men's Association held a business meeting at the New Haddon Hall on 7th December. Approximately 60 people attended with P. McKinnon acting as Chairman. The meeting decided that a demand for a Christmas

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allowance for the unemployed be made to the City Council of \$5 cash or negotiable voucher per man and wife and \$1 per child.

J. A. MacPherson and M. Rosen were appointed to attend the next meeting of the City Council to present these demands together with a request that allowances be granted the unemployed for bedding and kitchen utensils.

The matter of the Christmas allowance for the unemployed was submitted to the City Council in the form of a motion by Alderman Miss Margaret Crang; the Council decided to give all families consisting of from two to five persons \$2, and families of over five persons \$3.

[3<#] [3<deletion: 2 1/2 lines] presented a brief lecture on the women's right in Canada, citing the need for establishing committees of women for the purpose of investigating relief conditions throughout the Dominion. It is the intention of this organization to commence agitation with a view to preventing the Provincial Government from sending single unemployed men to relief camps and farms. The movement is to synchronize with a similar campaign instituted by the Edmonton Unemployed Single Men's Protective Association.

[3<#] Approximately 200 people attended a business meeting of the Unemployed Single Men's Protective Association of Edmonton on 8th December. H. Johnson, J. Corrigan, E. Rogers and J. Hollopeter addressed the gathering urging the audience to struggle for the aims and objects of the unemployed. E. Rogers spoke on behalf of the Canadian Labour Defence League outlining briefly its aims and objects and appealing for

volunteers who would collect money for his, A. Coste's and William Ewanchuk's defence.

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[~~3~~#] [~~deletion: 3 1/4 lines~~] that he had succeeded, through the Mothers Council, to send a letter to the Provincial Government and the local press demanding a recreation hall for the unemployed. He also reported that a meeting held by the U. S. M. P. A. on 4th December was attended by 200 at which it was decided to organize all single unemployed men for the "struggle" and for immediate improvement of their conditions.

[~~3~~#] It is the intention of the Communist Party in Alberta to organize the inmates of the relief camps in Alberta in preparation for a general walk-out during the early part of 1936. To this end the Communists have instructed a number of the leading organizers of the Unemployed Single Men's Association to be in readiness to accept jobs in relief camps.

III. MANITOBA

9. Winnipeg Single Unemployed Active

[~~3~~#] At a meeting of the Unemployed Single Men's Association of Winnipeg, held in the Trades and Labour Temple on 5th December, a resolution was passed that the following demands be put forward to the Provincial Government:-

- (1) That all single men who are treated as transients be given the same consideration as those at the Princess Dining Hall.
- (2) That single men who refuse to go to work on a farm be given relief.
- (3) Abolishment of all relief camps.

The above demands were submitted to the authorities at the Parliament Buildings on 6th December by a delegation led by [~~3~~deletion: 3/4 line]

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[~~3~~deletion: 1 word] has been appointed organizer, [~~3~~deletion: 2 words] assistant organizer, [~~3~~deletion: 2 words], secretary-treasurer. An effort is to be made to penetrate the relief camps in Manitoba with a view to organize same. For this purpose a house-to-house canvass is to be instituted in order to obtain the necessary funds.

[§<#] The Executive Committee of the Unemployed Single Men's Association at Winnipeg met at the Workers Unity League Headquarters in the Chambers of Commerce Building on 9th December. [§<deletion: 2 words] presided over the meeting. It was agreed that any member of the association leaving for a camp should report to the committee before leaving the city to receive proper instructions. It was further agreed to concentrate on Shilo Camp, one of the largest relief projects in Manitoba. The instructions that will be given to the agitators leaving for the camps are to the effect that they must work quietly in the camps. [§<deletion: 2 words] one of the members of the Executive Committee, has been instructed to keep in close touch with the Labour Bureau in an endeavour to ascertain what men are going out to the camps.

[§<#] Charles Rosen is reported to have been released from his duties as General Manager of Der Kampf at Toronto for the purpose of taking charge of the Communist Movement among the Jews in Winnipeg. Rosen is being described as one of the outstanding figures in the Jewish Revolutionary Movement in Canada.

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IV. QUEBEC

10. Anti-Communist Exhibition in Montreal

The Anti-Communist Exhibition staged by the L'Ecole Sociale Populaire at the Palestre Nationale at Montreal is causing considerable [§<#] comment in Communist Party circles. The exhibition features a number of Canadian and foreign Communist publications, leaflets, etc. Prominence is given to the local French Communist organ Clarte.

[§<#] The financial statement covering the month of November submitted to the District Central Council of the Canadian Labour Defence League at Montreal at its meeting on 7th December showed a deficit of \$840. The Council agreed that, in order to stimulate collections among the branches, the branches be given twenty per cent of all money collected.

Only seven members attended this meeting including [§<deletion: 1 line] Among the various items discussed was the question of the local Christmas campaign for the release of prisoners during the Christmas holidays. In this connection [§<deletion: 2 words] reported that two Mini-

sters had agreed to speak on the C. L. D. L. platform. It has been noted that of late there has been a decided decrease in the attendance at meetings of the Council.

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