

NO. 1

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE HEADQUARTERS

Ottawa, 28th October, 1936.

SECRET

NO. 830

WEEKLY SUMMARYREPORT ON REVOLUTIONARY ORGANIZATIONSAND AGITATION IN CANADAReport

Agitation against the Government Farm Placement Scheme in Western Canada continues. At some points, the Communists are said to be urging the transients to accept positions under the Scheme but once on the job to make a nuisance of themselves so the farmer will discharge them and thereby providing them with an excuse for returning to the cities.

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[1]

APPENDICESTable of ContentsAPPENDIX NO. I: GENERAL

- Paragraph No. 1. The Communist International and the International Peace Campaign
 A Wide Mass Movement Fundamental Object of Communist "Peace" Tactics
 Movement Meets Exigencies of Foreign Policy of Soviet Russia
 Brussels Congress Marks Beginning of International Campaign
- " 2. The Canadian Youth Congress
 Meeting of Continuations Committee at Montreal, Que.
 Proposals for "Peace Campaign" Formulated
 Industrial Sub-Committees Throughout Country Proposed
 Kenneth Woodsworth Elected Permanent Secretary of Continuations Committee
 To Agitate for Adoption by Parliament of "Youth Act"

- “ ” 3. The Campaign in Aid of the Spanish Government
 Spanish Delegation Arrives in Toronto, Ont.
 Received by Representative of City of Hamilton, Ont.
 Address Meetings in Hamilton, Toronto, Ottawa and
 McGill University, Montreal
 Public Meeting in Montreal Banned by City Authorities
 Dr. Norman Bethune Leaving for Spain with Medical
 Supplies
- “ ” 4. Unemployed Movement in Western Canada
 (A) Winnipeg, Man.
 (B) Regina, Sask.
 (C) Moose Jaw, Sask.
 (D) Edmonton, Alta.
 (E) Calgary, Alta.
 (F) Vancouver, B.C.
- “ ” 5. Strike Averted at Lakehead
- “ ” 6. Y.C.L. to Launch Membership Drive
 To Obtain 1,500 New Members by 27th January, 1937.

APPENDIX NO. II: REPORTS BY PROVINCES

- “ ” 7. BRITISH COLUMBIA
 Vancouver Spanish Defence Committee Hold Successful
 Meeting
- “ ” 8. ALBERTA
 United Front Formed at Calgary for Purpose of
 Civic Election
- “ ” 9. ONTARIO
 Southern Ontario [~~2-3 words~~] Discuss
 Spanish Campaign

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 [2]

APPENDIX NO. I: GENERAL

1. The Communist International and the International Peace
 Campaign

Behind the International Peace Campaign and its first World Congress at Brussels, Belgium, (3rd to 6th September) the Comintern has been working to create “a powerful mass movement before which governments will fear to make war”. So much has Communist influence been in evidence that the British Labour Party and the British controlled International Federation of

Trades Unions consider that the campaign is nothing but a "Communist stunt" and the congress an affair "stage-managed from Moscow".

The Comintern began to interest itself in popular peace movements soon after June, 1935, when the outstanding success of the League of Nations Union peace ballot indicated their potential power. Lord Cecil's 11,000,000 voters represented a mass movement of an altogether exceptional kind. If Communists could make common cause with such celebrities as Lord Cecil, they might, while accepting nominal British leadership, extend the movement on an international scale. With this object in view the idea of an International Peace Congress began to be discussed in Communist circles.

The fundamental object of all Communist peace tactics has been the creation of a wide mass movement. "From the Communist point of view", declared a prominent Communist writer on the eve of the Brussels Congress, "the success of the congress will depend entirely on the extent to which it is able to develop around itself a vast movement of the masses".

For this end the Communists were prepared to make big sacrifices —to refrain from discussing "political issues", to keep their own leaders out of the limelight, to tolerate every shade of pacifist opinion, even when it came from the Roman Catholic Church or the political Right Wing. If a sufficiently powerful mass movement is built up, they consider, governments will fear to make war. In its way the peace front meets the exigencies of Soviet foreign policy — bent on postponing at all costs the European war which appears to them to be ultimately inevitable. For the Comintern the peace front is essentially an emergency measure to meet a desperate situation.

[3]

With these considerations as a guide the part played by the Communists at Brussels need not cause surprise. Far from being a disrupting influence, they gave the Congress disciplined and conciliatory support. They kept themselves in the background. Out of forty speakers at the three Plenary Sessions, only two were Communists, and one of these was the Russian Trades Union secretary Schwernik. Only on one occasion did they show their strength. The appearance of the famous Spanish Communist woman deputy, Senora Irriburri ('Passionaria') on the platform inspired a show of clenched fists, indicating a far more considerable proportion of Communist sympathizers among the audience than anyone had imagined. But on this occasion it was the French Communist, Marcel Cachin, who quelled the disturbance. They must not discuss politics, he reminded them, and then went on to deliver a speech full of the most unexceptionable views on democracy, liberty and peace.

The business of the Brussels Congress was transacted in three Plenary Sessions and a series of Commissions covering in detail various special

interests: The Churches, Trades Unions, Education, Science, Letters and Art (Medicine, Press, Broadcasting, Cinema), Peasants and Agricultural Workers, Co-operatives, Parliaments, Ex-Service Men, Sport and Physical Education, Commerce, Finance and Industry, Aviation, Youth, Women's Organizations, Co-ordination. In the final plenary Session the recommendations of the various Commissions were adopted. Not many were practical, and the concrete results of the Congress can be reduced to the following:—

(1) The Congress set up permanent machinery for the continuation of its work, i.e., an executive committee.

(2) A variety of activities are to be undertaken by way of peace propaganda, e.g., a "peace day", a "peace fair", a "peace oath", a "peace penny".

(3) A variety of resolutions were carried for the nationalizing of the arms industry, for an international radio station at Geneva—which were of course more in the nature of pious hopes than practical measures.

In an article entitled "The World's Peace Congress" appearing in a recent issue of the central organ of the Communist Party of Canada, Daily Clarion, Tim Buck summarizes the proceedings of the Brussels Congress. "The conference", he says, "itself marked only the barest beginning of the mobilization of the peace movement and it would be a

[4]

mistake to attribute to it any more definite organizational role". The organizational decisions of the congress, he states, were only of a general character; no attempt was made to establish either rigid organizational forms or limits of activity. "The permanent executive committee appointed by the congress", Buck continues, "will give general direction to the international peace campaign through national committees of the various countries. These national committees in turn will work through local committees.

In Canada the organization that is to provide the leadership — as well as the organizational centre — for the Peace Movement is the Canadian League Against War and Fascism, [deletion: 1/2 line] with A. A. McLeod, who was chairman of the Canadian delegation to the Brussels Congress, at its head.

2. The Canadian Youth Congress

The Continuations Committee of the Canadian Youth Congress met at Montreal, Que., on 11th October with 20 members and four observers in attendance. Hart Devenney acted as chairman.

Kenneth Woodsworth briefly outlined the World Youth Congress held at Geneva from 31st August to 6th September last which he attended as one of the delegates of the Canadian Youth Congress. He emphasized the importance

of the Canadian delegation, its strength and unity of opinion and remarked that it was largely a result of the achievement in the Canadian Youth Congress. In summarizing the resolutions — in favour of collective security in support of the League of Nations; immediate steps towards bettering economic conditions of youth; and united activity for peace and social justice — he pointed out that the Canadian delegation had already decided on practically identical statements in their own discussions. He stressed the importance of the World Youth Congress Continuations Committee with its task of building youth bodies in every country where such did not already exist, and the drafting of Youth Acts. For the Canadian Youth Congress, he said, there is the task of carrying out the decisions of the World Youth Congress, the first major part of which is in connection with the League of Nations

[5]

Society "peace action week", and secondly the building up of a strong campaign around the Youth Act. He ended by stressing the interlocking nature of the World Youth Congress and the Canadian Youth Congress.

A number of the members present spoke briefly on the activities of the Youth Congress and the Geneva World Congress.

Considerable discussion took place on the following proposals submitted for popularizing the World Youth Congress:—

- (1) A campaign to popularize the decision of the World Youth Congress.
 - (a) Arranging meetings in cities.
 - (b) Sending out speakers — especially in Quebec, using Mr. Martin and Miss Deslauriers.
 - (c) Nation-wide showing of the movie of the World Youth Congress.
 - (d) Radio broadcasts on a local and national scale.
 - (e) Collaborate with the League of Nations Society in tours for speakers.
 - (f) Reports to all major youth organizations.
 - (g) Inviting national organization to order copies of the proceedings of the World Youth Congress.
- (2) Endorsation of the League of Nations Society Peace Action Week and rallying youth organizations behind it.
 - (a) Organization of peace rallies and other forms of activities on 11th November.
 - (b) Participation in Peace Councils in every locality.
- (3) Launch an appeal to the youth of Canada, to be publicized widely.

The proposals were accepted and it was decided that same be carried into effect. It was further decided that a national peace study programme be prepared taking into consideration the programmes prepared by the League of Nations Society.

Kenneth Woodsworth stated that there were two positions on the Continuations Committee of World Youth Congress to which the Canadian Youth Congress must appoint representatives. He said that [deletion: 1/2 line] had been temporarily nominated by the Canadian delegation to fill those positions. The meeting decided that they continue to be the representatives of Canada on the Continuations committee of the World Youth Congress. William Kashtan suggested that a thorough canvass be made of Canadian young people resident in Europe and that proxies be nominated to serve. This was agreed upon.

[6]

Kenneth Woodsworth recounted the formation of the British Commonwealth Committee by the delegates from British countries present at Geneva. The functions of this committee, he stressed, were not to form any faction within the congress but "to assist in effecting common action in the British Commonwealth of Nations in carrying out the decisions of the World Youth Congress".

William Kashton suggested that corresponding secretaries be appointed in each local Youth Council and that a general secretary be appointed by the committee either from Montreal or Ottawa. This was agreed upon and [deletion:name] was elected secretary of the British Commonwealth Committee, (the committee to be a sub-committee of the Continuations Committee). It was further decided that the committee should be located in Montreal.

[deletion:name] suggested that a committee be organized which would be responsible for organizing a campaign in Ottawa in support of the Youth Act. It was moved by [deletion:name] and seconded by William Kashtan that a Parliamentary Committee be set up with members from all Parties which shall endeavour to effect the passing of the proposed Youth Act; and that this committee include the members of the Continuations Committee. This was agreed upon, and it was further decided that the Members of Parliament should be bombarded with letters, resolutions, etc., in favour of the Youth Act.

The meeting went on record as endorsing in principle the resolutions and conclusions of the World's Youth Congress and in particular commended the attitude taken by the Canadian delegation to the said congress.

Considerable discussion revolved around the question of a name for the Youth Congress. It was moved by [deletion:name] and seconded by [deletion:name] that the name of the movement be the "Canadian Youth Federation". Upon a vote being taken the motion was lost by three to ten, some of the members abstaining from voting. Regarding the proposed Constitution (draft) of the Canadian Youth Congress the following statement, taken from

the Constitution of the Ottawa Youth Federation, was proposed and endorsed:—

[7]

“The primary aims and objects of the Canadian Youth Congress shall be to foster a greater understanding between all youth groups; to provide a means of co-operation and concerted action in matters of common concern; to stimulate a greater understanding of the problems of youth in society; and to be the medium for the authoritative expression of youth opinion. Furthermore, the movement endeavors to realize those ideals put forward in the Declaration of Rights of Canadian Youth and more specifically to effect those measures indicated in the Proposed Canadian Youth Act and in the resolutions on Canadian Youth and World Peace”.

[~~deletion:name~~] outlined some of the work of the Trade Union Sub-Committee. He made the following proposal which was endorsed unanimously:

“That the Trade Union Sub-Committee of the Continuations Committee be known as the Industrial Committee of the Canadian Youth Congress. That this committee endeavours to establish throughout the country Industrial Sub-Committees of local Youth Councils; these Sub-Committees to be under the direct leadership of the Industrial Committee”.

The functions of the Industrial Sub-Committee he outlined as follows:—

- (a) To disseminate Youth Congress activities among unemployed and Trade Union groups.
- (b) To carry on educational activity on subjects raised in the Bill of Rights and the Youth Act.
- (c) To get as many trade unions and unemployed groups as possible to endorse the Youth Act.
- (d) To form, if possible, Youth Congress Groups in trade unions and unemployed organizations. He further recommended the following unions to sit on the Industrial Committee — railway carmen, machinists, International Ladies' Garment Workers Union, painters, Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America, millinery and furriers.

[~~deletion:name~~] read the financial statement of the Continuations Committee. He pointed out that little had been done to relieve the situation; that while the net deficit was only something over \$50, the immediate debts outstanding were in the neighbourhood of \$250. Asked whether the Youth Forum might be developed so as to help the movement, he replied that this was possible. [~~deletion:name~~] outlined the manner in which the Toronto Council was planning to raise its quota of \$600 a year for the National budget by the issuance of individual sustaining cards which would bring in a determinate revenue each month. He also pointed out that the commissions and

rebates allowed local councils would enable them to raise their quota through sales on Youth Forums. He proposed that a Finance Committee of the Continuations Committee be established and that each local council should appoint a member to be responsible for aiding in financing the National Movement. The report and recommendations were accepted.

[8]

Kenneth Woodsworth was elected a permanent secretary of the Continuations Committee and the following names were proposed to be added to the Continuations Committee: [~~deletion:name~~] representing the National Council of the Y.W.C.A.; [~~deletion:name~~] representing the Winnipeg Youth Council; [~~deletion:name~~] representing the United Farmers of Ontario; and [~~deletion:3/4 line~~]

Kenneth Woodsworth presented a report on the progress of the Youth Movements since the Canadian Youth Congress held in Ottawa last May. He divided the picture into two parts: the debit side and the credit. On the former the chief consideration, he said, is the attitude of the French Canadians. They have all withdrawn from active participation in the movement although no formal intimation of that has been given. He stated that from a cordial attitude following the congress their feeling has been completely reversed in the past month and as far as can be judged it was a change beyond the control of the congress. It followed, he said, upon the attitude towards the World Youth Congress on the part of certain officials in the Catholic Church internationally. "Nevertheless, our efforts must be strongly directed towards encouraging the French Canadian young people to participate", he remarked, "and upon their participation must rest the real proof of our ability to unite all the youth of Canada". He observed one hopeful qualification, however. He stated that [~~deletion:1/2 line~~] both French Canadians who attended the World Youth Congress, have expressed themselves to be heartily in support of the Canadian Youth Congress and have promised to do whatever they can towards aiding matters. Regarding the future, Woodsworth remarked: "So far as I am aware, prior to the congress held in Ottawa last May, there were only three local councils; Toronto was established, Winnipeg and Hamilton were just beginning to get on their feet. Today we are in touch with 26 different councils covering the whole of Canada. Some of these are still in the formative stage, others are well on their way. The success in the growth of the local Youth Councils has been partly a result of and has partly resulted in considerable support from national organizations", he said. He made special mention of the support rendered by the Y.M.C.A. and the Y.W.C.A. saying that the former had sent special requests to the local branches asking

[9]

them to aid in the work of the Congress Movement. He stated that the Y.W.C.A. has just set up a National Committee to support the work of the congress and to afford closer co-operation between their organizations and the Continuations Committee. Regarding the "Declaration of Rights of Canadian Youth" and the "Youth Act" he said that thousands of copies have been distributed with the aid of the national organizations. Woodsworth also referred to the size and character of the Canadian delegation attending the World Youth Congress as a sample or indication of the strength of the Canadian Youth Congress and the Continuations Committee.

3. The Campaign in Aid of the Spanish Government

A cheering crowd numbering several hundred welcomed the Spanish envoys — Senora Isabella de Palencia, Marcelino Domingo, Senora Domingo and Father Luis Sarasola — on their arrival at Toronto, Ont., on the morning of 20th October. The visitors, accompanied by A. A. McLeod, who met them in New York, were met at the train platform by members of the Committee to Aid Spanish Democracy and after receiving a bouquet of flowers from Mrs. Elizabeth Morton the group emerged into the station concourse and proceeded through the station where the crowd cheered with hands uplifted in the recognized Communist salute.

The Spanish Government's delegation arrived in Hamilton, Ont., at 4.30 p.m. on 20th October and was greeted by a crowd at the City Hall where Controller Banks Nelson received them in the name of the City of Hamilton. The delegation then signed the register and proceeded in the Mayor's car to the Cenotaph where they placed a wreath bearing the inscription "From the People of Spain". A considerable part of the crowd followed to the Cenotaph from the City Hall. From the Cenotaph the delegation was driven for a short tour of the city with a number of cars following decorated with the Spanish Republican flag. The delegation was then taken to the Royal Connaught Hotel where a banquet in their honour had been arranged.

In the course of the evening the delegates addressed a well attended meeting in the Auditorium of the Memorial School with Sam

[10]

Lawrence, M.L.A., acting as chairman of the meeting. A. A. McLeod, national chairman of the Canadian League Against War and Fascism, who was largely instrumental in bringing the Spaniards to Canada, introduced the envoys. Senora Isabela de Palencia, Marcelino Domingo and Father Luis Sarasola

related in a passionate fashion the cause of the "Spanish people". As a result of the meeting 181 women are said to have signed a petition for the formation of a Women's Committee to aid the women and children of Spain.

Approximately 6,000 people attended a meeting held under the auspices of the Committee to Aid Spanish Democracy in the Mutual Street Arena, at Toronto, Ont., on the evening of 21st October. Presided over by A. A. McLeod, the meeting first heard local greetings to the Spanish envoys interspersed with protests against the city's failure to recognize officially the visit of the Spanish Government representatives. Greetings were presented by Dr. Salem Bland, Stewart Smith representing the Communist Party of Canada, Graham Spry of the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation, and George Watson representing the trade unionists.

Senora Isabella de Palencia received a hearty ovation from the audience. She spoke for approximately one hour explaining the Fascist uprising in Spain. "The chief interest of Germany and Italy in the Spanish Civil War is not the triumph of Fascism but the great national deposits of mercury, lead and zinc which they need to prepare themselves for war", she contended. She paid tribute to Russia "who are doing all in their power to aid the democracy of Spain".

Marcelino Domingo, speaking in Spanish with the former speaker as interpreter, declared that those who looked on while a crime was being committed were accomplices although they might not be criminals. He contended that the destiny of the world was at stake in Spain because if a dictatorship were to be established there it would strengthen those who hope to govern by dictatorship elsewhere.

Father Luis Sarasola spoke very briefly. He stated that he has been accused of being an impostor but claimed to be a Catholic priest "devoted to truth and justice".

[11]

Dr. Norman Bethune, Chief Surgeon of Sacred Heart Hospital, Montreal, was introduced by A. A. McLeod as one who, not long ago, came to Toronto offering his services to the Republican government of Spain. Dr. Bethune explained that he was leaving shortly for Spain and appealed to the audience for funds so that he could purchase medical supplies and equipment for the Madrid Government.

Before adjourning the meeting, A. A. McLeod read a telegram saying that the Rebels were on the defensive which prompted Sam Carr, of the Communist Party of Canada, to jump to the front of the platform calling on the audience

to give three cheers for the Soviet Union. The collection taken at this meeting netted approximately \$4,000; the Communist Party of Canada donating \$1,000, the Jewish Anti-Fascist Conference \$1,000, the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation \$260, and the Communist controlled foreign language mass organizations donated the bulk of the balance.

On 22nd October the Spanish delegation presented its case before a capacity audience in the St. James United Church at Ottawa, Ont. Reverend Norman Rawson, pastor of the church, presided at the meeting. A. A. McLeod also spoke recounting his recent visit to Spain. A strong appeal for funds was made by the chairman but the result of the collection taken was not announced.

The city authorities at Montreal, Que., deemed it necessary to ban the meeting arranged for the visiting Spanish delegation in the Mount Royal Arena for 23rd October. This action was taken following hostile demonstrations staged by University of Montreal students and members of La Jeunesse Patriotes. Ecclesiastical authorities in Montreal warned local Catholics against Reverend Luis Sarasola, one of the members of the delegation, repudiating him because his attitude was believed contrary to Catholicism. The Spanish delegation succeeded, however, to speak at a meeting arranged by the Social Problems Clubs in the McGill University. This meeting was open to McGill students and accredited visitors only and elaborate precautions were taken to prevent the breaking up of the meeting.

[12]

Dr. Norman Bethune, M.D., F.R.C.S., will sail for Spain on 29th October. He will take with him immediately the following supplies: surgical instruments, blood transfusion apparatus, 100,000 units of insulin, 1,000 units each of typhoid small pox, vaccines, anti-toxin tetanique concentrated, and anti-gangrene serum. Dr. Bethune, who visited the Soviet Union last year, is said to be a member of the Canadian Section of the Friends of the Soviet Union and a Communist sympathizer.

4. Unemployed Movement in Western Canada

(A) Winnipeg, Man.

The unemployed situation at Winnipeg, Man., is reported to have eased up considerably recently and single men are moving freely to the various Provincial Relief and Highway Camps. In addition over 800 single men have been sent out of Winnipeg under the Farm Placement Scheme since the beginning of October. The number of resident single men receiving meals at the Princess and Ross Relief Dining Hall is at present under 3,000, compared with 3,700 of a month ago. It is the opinion of the relief authorities that the unsuccessful attempt on the part of the Single Men's Unemployed Association to break into the Princess and Ross Dining Hall on 15th October and the arrest of some of the leaders has had a favourable effect on the single unemployed and has resulted in a large number of unemployed applying for farm jobs under the Government Scheme. As far as can be ascertained, the Single Men's Unemployed Association leaders have abandoned their destructive tactics and are now endeavouring to secure the help of prominent citizens and church leaders in an attempt to have the Farm Placement Scheme abandoned entirely.

On 22nd October a conference took place in the Trades and Labour Temple attended by representatives of 19 local organizations including the Communist Party, Co-operative Commonwealth Federation and Independent Labour Party at which it was decided to bring before the public the Government Farm Placement Scheme. Among the speakers addressing the conference were Alderman Jacob Penner, Charles Foster and D. Grainger.

Speaking at a meeting of the Single Men's Unemployed Association in the Manor hall on 23rd October, W. E. Melanson said that the

[13]

association would cease demonstrations, parades, etc., if compulsory farm work would be abolished as far as the transients are concerned so that transients may be classed as residents of the city. Speaking of the Anti-Fascist Voluntary Militia, reported to have been organized recently in Winnipeg by Communist leaders, Melanson stated he had ordered 1,000 badges and that the Honourable Ian McKenzie, Minister of Defence, has been communicated with and requested to supply militia accoutrements.

(B) Regina, Sask.

At a meeting of transients and single unemployed held in the Unity Centre at Regina, Sask., on 19th October, it was decided that transients should accept the farm jobs available but once on the farm they should make themselves a

nuisance so the farmers will discharge them and thus provide them with an excuse to return to the city again. This tactic is calculated to supply the transients with a legitimate reason for returning to the city in the hope of being placed on relief. It is further anticipated that the farmer will become dissatisfied with the Farm Placement Scheme and will blame the Government for sending him such a poor type of farm help.

Latest information from Regina shows that on 19th October 65 men accepted farm jobs and on the 20th another 65 were signed up. This leaves about 200 transient unemployed in Regina for whom work is not available. With the cessation of work on the railroads, however, at the end of this month, it is expected this number will be increased considerably. The intention of the leaders is to hold the transients together as much as possible until the influx from the extra gangs employed on the railway begins.

(C) Moose Jaw, Sask.

From Moose Jaw, Sask., it is reported that on 16th October the unemployed congregated at that point numbered approximately 80. It is intimated, however, that all the extra gangs employed in the Moose Jaw Division of the Canadian Pacific Railway were to be laid off on the

[14]

17th and that it is anticipated that as a result of this lay-off, the number of single unemployed in Moose Jaw will be increased considerably. No disturbances have occurred so far.

(D) Edmonton, Alta.

Agitation against the Government Farm Placement Scheme continues. The men cut off relief in Edmonton for refusing to go to farms were temporarily reinstated by the Provincial Government and are to be given relief until placements are available for them under the Farm Placement Scheme.

Approximately 400 attended a meeting of the Unemployed Single Men's Protective Association on 20th October at which the unemployed single men were urged to remain in the city. Commenting on a report from Mayor Davidson of Calgary, Alta., which appeared in the newspapers, J. Nicholson, one of the speakers, intimated that the Edmonton authorities anticipated trouble in Edmonton. "Why should they expect trouble from us?" Nicholson asked, "well they have a very good reason to expect plenty of it", he said. To this a large number of those present shouted, "They will get plenty of it if they

try to force us out on farms at five dollars per month". The meeting voted unanimously against the Farm Placement Scheme.

(E) Calgary, Alta.

Although meetings of unemployed single men are a daily occurrence, the situation is said to be quiet in Calgary. A recent report places the number of transients in the city at 1,900. Communist Party leaders exhort the men to remain firm in their refusal to accept jobs on farms under the Government Farm Placement Scheme.

(F) Vancouver, B.C.

The number of single unemployed arrested in Vancouver, B.C., reached 213 on 15th October when approximately 60 men were taken into custody at the noon hour for obstructing police officers.

The unemployed have adopted a new strategy to call attention to their condition. On 18th October they marched to Christ Church Cathedral

[15]

and to St. Andrew's-Wesley Church where they attended the services in an orderly fashion. They distributed pamphlets to the congregation outside the church giving their view of the case.

The city authorities are offering transportation to all transients to their homes and have virtually issued an ultimatum to the effect that if they did not apply for transportation to the cities and towns from which they came they could not expect any assistance. On 18th October 118 men are reported to have taken advantage of this offer and have left Vancouver for the Prairie and Eastern Provinces.

5. Strike Averted at Lakehead

Threat of a tie-up on the waterfront at Fort William and Port Arthur through strike action by freight handlers disappeared when on 19th October officials announced that the dispute had been settled. The freight handlers were granted a 3¢ an hour increase in wages effective on 1st October and the companies, it was stated, have undertaken to eliminate progressively night work which was one of the subjects of complaint.

6. Y.C.L. to Launch Membership Drive

The Young Communist League of Canada will launch a membership campaign with the object of recruiting 1,500 new members before 21st January, 1937, it was decided at a meeting [~~deletion:1 line~~] It is suggested that the campaign start on 1st November and in order to ensure success leading members of the league are being instructed to write articles for the press on league work, to utilize radios and mass meetings to popularize the league.

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[16]

APPENDIX NO. II: REPORTS BY PROVINCES

I. BRITISH COLUMBIA

7. Vancouver Spanish Defence Committee Hold Successful Meeting

The Spanish Defence Committee at Vancouver, B.C., held a successful meeting in support of the Spanish Popular Front in the Moose Hall on 18th October. Approximately 1,000 people attended and A.M. Stephens, of the League Against War and Fascism, presided over the meeting. J. Pratt of the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation, Fred Grange of the Single Unemployed Men's Protective Association, and Mrs. Becky Ewen were the speakers. The subject of their addresses centered around the recent developments in Spain featuring the cause of the Left Popular Front administration. The speakers urged the people to forget their political differences and form a United Front on the Spanish issue; they stressed that the fight in Spain is their fight as well.

The Spanish Defence Committee was formed recently at the instigation of the Communist Party and has within its ranks representatives of the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation, Communist Party of Canada, League Against War and Fascism, Friends of the Soviet Union and the Mothers' Council.

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II. ALBERTA

8. United Front Formed at Calgary for Purpose of Civic Election

The Communist Party of Canada, the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation and the Canadian Labour Party at Calgary are reported to have united for the coming Civic election on a common programme which calls for an

increase in relief, a system of taxation that "would ease the burden for those who are unable to pay", wage increases, better educational facilities and care of school children and youth, Civic works programme, renovation of buildings and hospital at trade union wages.

The Communists are said to have put forth J. O'Sullivan for Alderman and Mrs. Champion for the School Board.

[17]

III. ONTARIO

9. Southern Ontario [~~2-3 words~~] Discuss Spanish Campaign

[~~2 lines~~] among other things, discussed the campaign in aid of the Popular Front Government of Spain. It was reported that a large mass meeting was being organized for 21st October in the Mutual Street Arena, Toronto, and that elaborate advertising was being carried through in the form of leaflets, posters, signs on street cars, newspaper advertisements and the use of the radio for "spot" announcements. It was decided to make every endeavour to make the said meeting "the greatest in the history of Toronto". As the delegates from Spain were travelling on diplomatic passes it was felt that a civic reception from the City of Toronto should be arranged. Also that a large reception be given the delegation upon their arrival at the United Station; that following the reception the delegation should place a wreath on the Cenotaph. It was further agreed to propose to the "Committee in Aid of Spanish Democracy" that in place of forwarding funds to the International Federation of Trade Unions that the funds be forwarded to the Madrid Government direct. It was reported that the Communist Party had been successful in persuading Dr. Bethune of Montreal to head a committee of doctors to volunteer for Spain and assist in working out plans for help to the Madrid Government from Canada.

Stewart Smith complained that the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation under Graham Spry was sabotaging aid to Spain; that it has published plans and accomplishments attributed to the C.C.F. which were all plans and no accomplishments. He pointed out that the Communist Party and its subsidiary organizations thus far had raised over ninety per cent of the funds for Spain.
