

NO. 1

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE HEADQUARTERS

Ottawa, 25th November, 1936.

SECRETNO. 834WEEKLY SUMMARYREPORT ON REVOLUTIONARY ORGANIZATIONSAND AGITATION IN CANADAReport

Responding to a cable from the World Committee Against War and Fascism urging international support for the Madrid Government, the National Council of the Canadian League Against War and Fascism on 20th November dispatched the following cable of greetings to General Miaja, Commander of the Madrid Forces:—

“The Canadian people send their solidarity and their greetings to the heroic people of Spain, and the defenders of Madrid”.

Coinciding with these expressions of solidarity, the Committee to Aid Spanish Democracy at Toronto, Ont., recently cabled over \$5,000 to Dr. Norman Bethune, a member of the Communist Party of Canada who is in charge of the Canadian Medical Mission of Madrid.

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APPENDIX NO. J: GENERAL

1. Communists Concentrate on Munition Plants

The Communist Party of Canada has instructed its organizers to advise unemployed Communists, particularly those of Anglo-Saxon origin to apply for work in factories which may be selected to manufacture munitions for the British Government.

The Daily Clarion, central organ of the Communist Party for 14th November, an edition largely devoted to the steel industry and of which 4,000 extra copies had been printed for distribution among the steel workers in Hamilton and other steel centres in Southern Ontario, contains an editorial captioned "organize the munition plants". It asks "Is Canada to be turned into a munition plant for the next war, producing high explosives to blast inoffensive people of other countries off the earth?" and continues to say that the most effective way of combating this is to organize the steel and metal industry so as to place the workers in the munitions industry in a position where they can exercise power over the manufacturers. "They (the manufacturers) must be dictated by the workers in the plants", the editorial says, and then calls on the Trades and Labour Councils of Toronto and Hamilton to take effective measures and to organize the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers in the steel industries.

2. Head of International Publishers Visits Toronto, Ont.

Alexander Trachtenburg, head of the International Publishers, New York, [~~deletion: 1 line~~] recently arrived in Toronto and attended a meeting of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of Canada on Saturday, 14th November, to discuss the problem of publishing Marxian-Leninist literature for distribution in Canada. It is said that as a result of the meeting literature for distribution in Canada will henceforth be printed by the Francis White Publishing Company, 298 Avenue Road, Toronto.

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3. Communists Defeated in Edmonton (Alta.) Municipal Election

The Communist inspired United People's League at Edmonton, Alta., fared badly in the Civic election held on 12th November. Its official candidate for Mayor, H. D. Ainley, received only 3,403 votes out of a total of 29,050 votes cast. Alderman James East seeking re-election under the U.P.L banner received 5,850 votes while the two other Aldermanic candidates, J. W. Findlay and H. J. Pallot, the former a Co-operative Commonwealth Federation man and the latter a member of the Communist Party, received 5,134 and 3,011 votes respectively. The U.P.L. candidates for School Board, A. Richardson and Hugh Critchlow, polled 4,706 and 2,858 votes respectively. It is interesting to note that in 1934 James East, as a candidate of the Canadian Labour Party, received 10,654 votes.

The Daily Clarion, central organ of the Communist Party for 17th November, analyzing the results of the Edmonton City election, asked the question "What is wrong with Edmonton?" It points to the fact that last year Margaret Crang, even though officially opposed by the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation Committee topped the poll in a spectacular victory on a United Front Platform. "There can be no excuse for this year's showing, there is a reason", the editorial states. It then goes on to attribute the failure to make a better showing to a deep-rooted sectarianism "which is playing right into the hands of the reactionaries". "The United Front is no magic formula; it is the basic question of the unity of the working class in the struggle against capitalism. This means that it must present and actively work for a practical programme reflecting the situation in the country and the needs of the workers in the given stage of the struggle", the editorial concludes.

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5. Port of Vancouver Remains Unaffected by Maritime Strike in U.S.A.

The situation on Vancouver's waterfront remains unchanged with the general sentiment of the active longshoremen in favour of working while they are able to get work.

At a conference called by the Seafarers Industrial Union on 8th November proposals were submitted on the question of diverted cargo. These proposals, however, were referred back to the various locals for their consideration. Apart from passing a general resolution in support of the Maritime strikers across the International Boundary, no definite action was taken. It is generally realized by the leaders of the Coastwise Freight Handlers and the New Westminster Group, both chartered International Longshoremen's organizations and those of the Seafarers Industrial Union that their organizations are not in a position to do anything but pass pious resolutions in support of the strikers in the U.S.A.

6. A. E. Smith in Western Canada

(A) At Regina, Sask.

A. E. Smith, now touring Western Canada in an endeavour to reorganize the Canadian Labour Defence League at the various places, was the principal speaker at a meeting held under the auspices of the Communist Party of Canada in the Labour Temple, Osler Street, at Regina in commemoration of the nineteenth anniversary of the Russian Revolution. Smith, after recounting at considerable length his recent experiences in

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Bulgaria which country he visited as a member of an international delegation looking into the conditions of political prisoners there, dealt with the "nineteen years of progress in the Soviet Union". He stated that following his visit to Bulgaria he proceeded to Moscow and submitted a report to the general secretary of the Executive Committee of the Communist International, George Dimitroff. He informed his audience that he was told in Moscow that the Soviet Union has an army at Kiev (capital of Ukraine) strong enough to withstand an attack from the combined forces of Europe, and in the far East, near the Manchoukuan Border, it has an army of 300,000 men. Referring to the Spanish situation, Smith said that Canada must learn a lesson from the Spanish conflict. Smith felt quite confident that the Spanish proletariat would win in the end due to the strong position of the army of the Soviet Union.

(B) At Weyburn, Sask.

On the evening of 7th November A. E. Smith addressed a public meeting under the auspices of the Communist Party of Canada in Clelland's Hall at Weyburn, Sask. He was accompanied by H. Nutall, [deletion: 1/2 line] of

the Communist Party, who also addressed the meeting. Glen Thompson, a local man, acted as chairman. Smith delivered the usual tirade against Capitalism claiming that it is in its final stage of decay, and recounted his recent visit to Europe as a member of a special committee appointed by the International Red Aid. He depicted the Soviet Union as a land of plenty where everything was supplied free to the working class and urged the people to organize against war and Fascism.

(C) At Saskatoon, Sask.

A. E. Smith addressed a public meeting in the Regent Hall at Saskatoon, Sask., on 10th November. Approximately 275 people attended and the subject of his address was "The Streets of Moscow". A silver collection taken amounted to \$47; Smith's address was enthusiastically received.

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(D) At Edmonton, Alta.

[~~deletion:2 1/2 lines~~] O. J. Skode gave a brief report on the general situation in the local Canadian Labour Defence League branches and affiliated bodies and suggested that a Provincial District Committee be organized with jurisdiction in Northern Alberta. A. E. Smith gave a report on the national and international role of the Canadian Labour Defence League. He said, "Events which are taking place in Spain and in other Capitalist countries are being closely watched in the Soviet Union". Speaking of his visit to Moscow he said: "We met with Comrade Dimitroff of the Executive Committee of the Comintern three times while we were in Moscow; the Spanish situation is well in hand and in a few months we expect other trouble in Europe similar or worse than in Spain. Preparations are being made, however, to meet the situation; war is inevitable and an attack on the Soviet Union will end in the country of the aggressor; Spain will become the grave of world Fascism and we must adjust our activities along this line." Smith urged the immediate organization of a Provisional District Committee of the Canadian Labour Defence League with a broad representation and the calling of a Northern District Conference as soon as possible for the purpose of consolidating the organization throughout the district and to elect a permanent District Central Committee for Northern Alberta.

7. Spanish Envoys Conclude Canadian Tour

The Spanish delegates are reported to have departed for Seattle, Wash., U.S.A., immediately following their appearance at Vancouver, B. C., on the evening of 9th November.

Information has been received from a reliable source regarding the status of the delegates in the Revolutionary Movement.

Marcelino Domingo, born in 1885, was first a school master then a Town Councillor and finally a deputy of Tortosa. He always held socialist views, and was involved in the Spanish Revolutionary Movement of August, 1917, in which he achieved great popularity. In 1920 he joined the Communist Party and in 1928 he achieved some notoriety as a prominent

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member of the Sindicato Unioc, an organization responsible for murder and lawlessness in Cataluna. In the following year he organized an Anarchist plot to capture the barracks in several towns. In 1931 he was a member of the Provisional Government and in the present Madrid Government has been Minister for Education. He recently accompanied the well known Communist, Dolores Irriburi (La Pasionaria), on a European tour on behalf of the workers' cause in Spain and has been appointed to the International Bureau of the World Committee Against War and Fascism in Paris.

Isabel Oyarzabai de Palencia, aged 55, a labour inspector, has for some time been correspondent in Spain for the Daily Herald. Her friendship with Largo Caballero has enabled her, since his rise to power, to obtain a large house and many unaccustomed luxuries. In October, travelling on a diplomatic passport, she visited the British Isles and attended the Labor Party Congress in Edinburgh as a "fraternal delegate" from the Spanish Workers Union.

Little is known about Father Luis Sarasola, the third member of the delegation, except that he was a member of the Spanish delegation to a conference on the Spanish situation which was organized by the World Committee Against War and Fascism in September. Domingo and Dolores Irriburi were also members of this delegation.

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APPENDIX NO. II: REPORTS BY PROVINCES

I. BRITISH COLUMBIA

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On 15th November the Single Unemployed Men's Protective Association held a mass meeting in the Star Theatre. Richard M. Molland, one of the men charged with rioting at the Hamilton Hall, was chairman and the speakers included McCulloch of the Canadian Labour Defence League, Jack Phillips representing the Single Unemployed Men's Protective Association, and E. Cumber. The subject of their speeches centered around the status of the single unemployed. An appeal was made to the audience to support the single unemployed in their struggle for the liberation of the nine men charged with rioting whose cases are now before the Assize Court. Many banners were in evidence bearing various slogans including "Free Grange, Molland and Patterson", "Demand Immediate Release of 140 Single Unemployed Languishing in Jail".

On the following day approximately 130 single unemployed held a demonstration in front of the Vancouver Court House displaying a number of banners bearing slogans such as "Work and Wages, Not Oakalla's Cages"; "Free the Nine Men Charged with Rioting"; "Decent Living for all

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Unemployed"; "Farm Work, Yes, But at Reasonable Wages", etc. Jack Phillips, secretary of the Publicity Committee of the Single Unemployed Men's Protective Association of Vancouver, addressed the gathering appealing to the citizens of Vancouver to support the Single Unemployed Men's Protective Association and the single unemployed in general. He asked the audience if they wanted work and wages at the rate of pay advocated by the Government. The answer was a unanimous "No". He then asked if they wanted work and wages. The crowd roared in the affirmative. The demonstration dispersed quietly with the singing of "Hold The Fort".

The Ukrainian Labour Farmer Temple Association at Vancouver has decided to open a school shortly to be known as the Educational School for leaders of the Ukrainian people in British Columbia. [deletion:3-4 words] the latter a graduate of the Higher Educational Course concluded at Winnipeg recently, will be the instructors. The classes will be held every Sunday from 10.00 A.M. to noon.

II. ALBERTA9. Single Unemployed Demonstrate in Calgary

The Single Unemployed Association at Calgary are holding meetings daily in their hall in an endeavour to organize the single unemployed in the city. On 12th November instructions were issued to all the single unemployed to proceed to the Dominion Cafe on 8th Avenue, the headquarters of the unemployed ex-service men. From there, headed by ex-service men, and carrying banners pronouncing that \$12 a month was insufficient for their needs, the unemployed marched to the Provincial Relief Office where a delegation interviewed the Provincial Relief Official demanding \$20 a month for all single unemployed. After the interview the parade marched to the recreation hall where addresses were given by Kyle, Bailey and Nutt. No disturbance occurred.

On 14th November approximately 300 single unemployed men paraded from their headquarters at 434-9th Avenue, East, at Calgary, to the Wales Hotel and from there to the Provincial Relief Office in support of a delegation that was sent to interview the Provincial Relief

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Officer. From the Relief Office the demonstrators marched to the "Red Triangle" where a meeting was held and from there returned to their hall on 9th Avenue, East.

On the morning of the 16th approximately 250 men paraded in front of the City Police Building where the trial of three single unemployed leaders, J. Cameron, Robert Patterson and Sidney Thompson, on charges of being in possession of counterfeit money was in progress. The demonstrators staged a so-called snake walk stopping all vehicle traffic for over an hour.

Among the single unemployed now congregated at Calgary there appear to be a number of single men who played a prominent part in the on-to-Ottawa trek of 1935. The attitude displayed by the men is becoming more aggressive.

At a meeting of [~~deletion: 1/2 line~~] the Calgary and District Unemployed Association held on 14th November it was reported that only approximately \$200 of the money collected as a result of the Tag Day held on 31st October, remains in the Treasury of the Single Men's Unemployed Association. It has been reliably reported that some of the Tag Day money has found its way to the Communist Party headquarters at Toronto, to the Canadian Labour Defence League and some of it was used in the Civic election campaign in

Calgary. It is the intention to hold another Tag Day when this money is completely exhausted.

J. A. McPherson, [deletion:1/2 line] leader of the Unemployed Married Men's Association at Edmonton, Alta., was convicted and sentenced in Police Court on 5th November to three months' hard labour at Fort Saskatchewan on a vagrancy charge. The charge was laid when McPherson refused to work on a Provincial road project. He has been released on bail pending an appeal to a higher court. His case was the centre of considerable agitation sponsored by the Communist Party and the various organizations it controls with a view to having the conviction quashed. A Committee of Action has been formed for that purpose which is trying to rally the whole of the Labour Movement behind

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the issue. Among the organizations that have come out in support of the case is the Edmonton Trades and Labour Council whose president, Carl Berg, at a meeting of the council on 16th November, pledged the support of the council remarking that the Edmonton Trades and Labour Council is absolutely opposed to and "will fight to the last ditch" any compulsory work scheme. J. A. McPherson's case is looked upon as a test case. It has been intimated that the Canadian Labour Defence League will hold a Tag Day prior to the appeal. It is also contemplated to hold a series of mass meetings to air the whole issue.

III. MANITOBA

10. L. St. George Stubbs Addresses Polish Communists in Winnipeg

L. St. George Stubbs was the guest speaker at a concert-meeting held by the Polish Labour Farmer Temple Association at Winnipeg recently. He spoke on the European situation stressing the struggle between Fascism and the working class. He lamented the dissension that exists in the organized Labour Movement and maintained that labour must unite and present a united front against its common enemy. "Lenin was right when he said that the working class in every Capitalist country must fight for their freedom; Capitalism will not yield without a struggle", he said. He commented very favourably on the success achieved in the U.S.S.R., "the only country which has succeeded in establishing Socialism". He said he did not fully agree with the tactics of the Communists but "since it is true what Lenin said, I cannot be against Commu-

nism, sooner or later we have to join hands and fight our common enemy", he said.

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Approximately 600 people attended a Civic election campaign meeting in the Ukrainian Labour Temple, corner Pritchard and McGregor Sts., Winnipeg, on 15th November. M. J. Forkin, Bill Ross and M. Shatulski were the speakers endeavouring to link up local conditions with the class struggle and the international situation generally.

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IV. ONTARIO

11. Communists at Toronto Use Radio in Municipal Election Campaign

In order to popularize their municipal election campaign, the Communists at Toronto have engaged Radio Station "CKCL" at Toronto to deliver radio talks totalling 145 minutes split into eleven broadcasts with Tim Buck as the feature speaker. The broadcast schedule announced by the Communist Party follows:—

- Wednesday, 18th November, 6.45-7.00 — Tim Buck, Board of Control
- Saturday, 21st November, 7.30-7.45 — Tim Buck, J. B. Salsberg, Aldermanic candidate for Ward 4, John Weir, Board of Education, Ward 4.
- Wednesday, 25th November, 6.50-7.00 — Tim Buck, Leith MacMurray, B. A. Alderman for Ward 7.
- Thursday, 26th November, 6.30-6.40 — Tim Buck and Harry Bell, Alderman for Ward 1.
- Friday, 27th November, 8.00-8.15 — Tim Buck, Stewart Smith, Alderman, Ward 5, Annie S. Buller, Board of Education, Ward 5.
- Saturday, 28th November, 7.30-7.45 — Tim Buck, Harry Stephenson, Alderman, Ward 6, Alice Buck, Board of Education, Ward 6.
- Monday, 30th November, 8.00-8.15 — Tim Buck, Fred Collins, Alderman, Ward 8, Robert Thompson, Board of Education, Ward 8.
- Tuesday, 1st December, 6.20-6.30 — Tim Buck, Richard Steele, Board of Education, Ward 2.

Wednesday, 2nd December, 6.45-6.55 — Tim Buck, Stewart Smith, Alderman, Ward 5.

Friday, 4th December, 8.00-8.15 — Tim Buck, J. B. Salsberg, Alderman, Ward 4.

Saturday, 5th December, 8.00-8.15 (final broadcast of campaign) — Tim Buck.

V. QUEBEC

[~~deletion:2-3 words~~] in Montreal Prepare for Membership Drive

[~~deletion:1 1/2 lines~~] A letter from the acting general secretary of the Communist Party at Toronto, Ont., relative to the proposed membership drive furnished part of the principal item

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on the agenda. After some discussion, quotas were set for the various fractions and units that compose the section. Regarding the Daily Clarion drive it was resolved that all units are to turn in their collections immediately as the campaign is to officially terminate on 18th November. It was reported that the Party has made special arrangements with the publishers of "Theory and Practice of Socialism", by John Strachey, which is selling ordinarily at \$3.50 a copy, whereby copies can be obtained for \$1.50 each. The arrangement, it was pointed out, was for Party members and close sympathizers only and is not to be known to the public.
