

## ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE HEADQUARTERS

Ottawa, 9th December, 1936.

SECRETNO. 836WEEKLY SUMMARYREPORT ON REVOLUTIONARY ORGANIZATIONSAND AGITATION IN CANADAReport

The Communist Party of Canada registered notable advances in the recent Municipal elections throughout Canada, particularly in Toronto and its adjacent townships. In Toronto with 101,124 voters at the polls, Tim Buck, Communist Party candidate for the Board of Control, received 31,342 votes, or almost one out of every three votes cast. The campaign of the Communist Party based on its "United Front" programme was highly efficient. The results obtained would indicate that the Communist Party is slowly but surely forging ahead.

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APPENDIX NO. I: GENERALI. Communists in Municipal Elections(A) At Toronto, Ont.

Communists are jubilant over the result of this year's Municipal election in Toronto, Ont. Though Tim Buck, who ran for the Board of Control, was beaten the Communists have the satisfaction of having elected Stewart Smith at the head of the Aldermanic poll in Ward 5 and John Weir, editor of the weekly edition of the Clarion, to the Board of Education in Ward 4. J. B. Salsberg, Aldermanic candidate in Ward 4, was only 250 votes short of being elected. Tim Buck received a total of 31,342 votes as compared with 20,975 polled by him in the previous election.

Commenting on the results obtained, Norman Freed, Communist Party election campaign manager, said:—

"I express sincere thanks on behalf of the election committee and our candidates to the thousands of voters and workers who took part in the campaign. Thirty-four thousand men and women marched to the polls for the programme and standard bearers of the Communist Party.

"It is a great victory. Toronto the Tory is cracking up and is becoming Toronto the Progressive. The great lesson in the campaign is the need of uniting labour and all progressive forces, trade unions and the C.C.F. They can and must unite to build a Toronto Labour-Progressive Party so they can place a united labour slate next year.

"The City Council will have in its ranks Stewart Smith, and the Board of Education John Weir .....

"Their work will further prove how Communists can carry out their duties in the city government. We appeal to our C.C.F. comrades and friends that it is time that we all join forces.

"The people in Toronto have united at the polls, let us unite in every day struggle. We are marching to victory".

The showing made by the Communist Party candidates this year compared with the figures of last year and the year before is as follows:—

BOARD OF CONTROL

	<u>1937</u>	<u>1936</u>	<u>1935</u>
Tim Buck.....	31,342	20,975	9,935

(Gain over previous year ... 10,367)

ALDERMEN

	<u>1937</u>	<u>1936</u>	<u>1935</u>
<u>Ward 1</u>			
Harry Bell.....	1,161	2,830	856
<u>Ward 2</u>			
W. G. Harris.....	808	412	465
<u>Ward 3</u>			
Jean Laing.....	692	—	—
<u>Ward 4</u>			
J. B. Salsberg.....	3,683	2,343	1,068
<u>Ward 5</u>			
Stewart Smith.....	3,590	1,967	1,871
<u>Ward 6</u>			
Harry Stephenson....	1,518	1,661	1,576
<u>Ward 7</u>			
Leith McMurray.....	895	—	—
<u>Ward 8</u>			
Fred Collins.....	1,390	—	445

(Gain over previous year, all Wards ..... 4,524)

BOARD OF EDUCATION

<u>Ward 1</u>			
Alice Cook.....	1,112	1,030	1,056
<u>Ward 2</u>			
Richard Steele ....	905	1,546	1,235
<u>Ward 3</u>			
Margaret MacKenzie..	1,466	—	—
<u>Ward 4</u>			
John Weir .....	3,251	2,347	1,106
<u>Ward 5</u>			
Annie Buller .....	3,773	2,225	—
<u>Ward 6</u>			
Alice Buck .....	4,185	3,911	—
<u>Ward 8</u>			
Robert Thompson ....	2,137	—	—

(Gain over last year, all Wards ..... 5,720)

(B) East York Township (Ont.)

The candidates of the [§deletion:2-3 words] "Workers' Association" in East York Township were all defeated except Ray Law who headed four other candidates with a vote of 2,373 for Hydro Commissioner. Reeve Arthur Williams, [§deletion:2-3 words] was defeated by Ex-Reeve John Warren by a 2,160 majority. The Reeveship vote was: Warren, 5,472, Williams, 3,312, George Sellars — Workers' Association candidate for Deputy Reeve — received 2,237 votes, while Robertson, J. Stewart and Tonner, candidates for the Board of Education received 1,578, 1,674 and 1,200 votes respectively.

(C) York Township, Ont.

In the York Township, Ewart Humphreys, [§deletion:2-3 words] defeated the veteran Deputy Reeve, W. J. Noble, in Ward 2; Humphreys received 3,577 votes, giving him a majority of 1,737 over Deputy Reeve Noble. The Communist supported candidate for Deputy Reeve in Ward 1 — William Broadhurst — received only 970 votes. The election of Ewart Humphreys is a distinct gain for the Communists.

(D) Mimico, Ont.

Mimico witnessed one of the biggest upsets in its history. Three "progressive-labour" candidates, supported by the Communist Party, were elected: Robert Ainsworth for Reeve; Walter Buchanan for Deputy Reeve and Reginald Barclay for Councillor.

(E) Scarboro, Ont.

At Scarboro "Jimmy" Wilson, [§deletion:1-2 words] leader of the township unemployed, candidate for the Council, led the polls in Ward 2 with 1,454 votes. Charles Benson, another Communist-supported candidate, was given 1,116 votes, while T. Harwood received 689. Mrs. Jimmy Wilson, wife of the new Councillor, was elected a School Trustee in S. S. 12.

(F) Regina, Sask.

[~~deletion:1/2 line~~] "Civic Labour League" at Regina, Sask., suffered a setback and defeat of its official candidate for Mayor in the Municipal election held on 23rd November. Only two of its Aldermanic candidates were elected, namely, Alderman S. B. East in Ward 3 and A. M. Derby in Ward 1. Dr. Denis Sweeney, official candidate for Mayor was defeated by Mayor A. C. Ellison who ran as an Independent and in defiance of the radical element in the Civic Labour League. Alderman Olson, C.L.L. candidate in Ward 4, missed election by about 150 votes. The candidates of the Civic Labour League for the Public School and Collegiate Boards were all elected, however.

The election results left the Civic Labour League with only four of its representative in Aldermanic seats: Fines, Derby, East and Toothill.

The election resulted in the repeal of the ward system of voting which is causing some concern to the Communist Party.

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(G) Brandon, Man.

The Communist Party of Canada at Brandon, Man., gained its first victory in Municipal politics with the election of G. Broadhurst and W. Forsyth to the Board of Education and City Council, respectively. G. Broadhurst was running on a straight Communist Party ticket while Forsyth, for tactical reasons, ran as a candidate of the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation. S. Forkin, another Communist Party candidate for the City School Board, received 713 votes.

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(H) Winnipeg, Man.

The Communists in Winnipeg, Man., succeeded in re-electing M. J. Forkin to the City Council for Ward 3 and electing W. C. Ross (Cecil Zukin, [~~deletion:1-2 words~~] of the Young Communist League) to the School Board from Ward 3, the former receiving 4,943 votes while the latter polled 5,521 votes. This gives the Communists two Aldermen (Jacob Penner and M. J. Forkin) in the City Council and two members

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(Bilecki and Ross) on the School Board. Previously they had only one representative on the School Board. J. McNeil, Communist Aldermanic candidate running in Ward 2, received 1,652 votes, while Aubrey Brock, Communist candidate for the School Board in Ward 2, received 2,047 votes. The election of W. C. Ross constitutes a Communist gain largely at the expense of

the Independent Labour Party. The 1937 Council will be controlled by a non-Labour group; the Labour representation numbering seven (including two Communists) as against twelve non-Labour, including the new Mayor, Wariner, who defeated ex-Mayor John Queen.

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(1) Calgary, Alta.

J. O'Sullivan [~~deletion:1-2 words~~] of the Communist Party, and Mrs. Champion running for Alderman and for the School Board, respectively, in the recent Calgary (Alta.) Municipal election on a straight Communist Party ticket, received 1,011 and 1,024 first choice votes, respectively. These were the only two candidates running on a straight Communist Party ticket. In addition the Communist Party also supported several "Progressive-Labour" candidates.

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2. "Glos Pracy" Moved to Toronto, Ont.

A large banquet held on the night of 28th November in the Polish Labour Temple at Winnipeg, Man., marked the official termination of the recent press campaign conducted by the Polish Communists for their paper Glos Pracy. W. Dutkiewicz, editor of Glos Pracy, and ex-Judge L. St. G. Stubbs were the speakers. The latter expressed his regrets at being unable to understand what was said in Polish but assured his listeners that he almost understood the various remarks for "the spirit of the workers is one, no matter in what language it may be expressed". "Our objective" he continued, "is to achieve the establishment of the Socialist State". "Lenin was right", he argued, "when he said that, regardless of what democratic rights there may be in the Capitalist countries, the working class will have to fight;

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all must pass through a revolution". "The ruling class", he said, "will not surrender without resistance; it is, therefore, most detrimental for the working class to be divided, and without a united front it will be utterly impossible to win the battle; the democratic battle of ballots will have to conclude with the battle of bullets". "There is a splendid example in Spain and the same will take place everywhere else, even in Canada", he said.

It was announced that Glos Pracy and the printing outfit would be moved to Toronto in the very near future, that the issue for 16th December would be printed at its new quarters situated at 544 King St. W., Toronto. The equipment

is being installed there now; the offices will occupy the whole of the top floor in the Home and Scott Building.

### 3. "Darbininku Zodis" Changes Name

The name of the Lithuanian Communist weekly Darbininku Zodis (Workers' Word) published at Toronto, Ont., has been changed to Liaudies Balsas (The People's Voice). The publishing association —Darbininku Zodis Publishing Association — has also been renamed and will be known in future as the "Lithuanian Press Association". It is believed that these changes were made as a result of a libel suit pending against the former publishing association instituted by one M. Uzemeckis. The first issue of the renamed paper appeared on 26th November, marked Volume 5, No. 147, which would indicate that it is a mere continuation of the former paper. To insure the existence of the paper a press drive will be instituted commencing on 15th December with a view to raising 300 new subscribers and a sustaining fund of \$1,450. The quotas allotted for the various districts are as follows:—

<u>District</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>New Sub- scribers</u>	<u>Sustain- ing Fund</u>
#1	Montreal, Que.	100	\$400
#2	Toronto, and Eastern Ontario	100	\$600
#3	Winnipeg, Man., Sask., Western Ontario	55	\$250
#4	Edmonton, Alta., and British Columbia	45	\$200

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### 4. Situation on Vancouver's Waterfront

The waterfront situation in Vancouver, B.C., remains unchanged. A number of mass meetings have been held at which I.L.A. organizers urged the longshoremen to support the strike and to join the international union.

The Communist Party Bureau, for the past week, has been concerned principally with the waterfront situation but reliable information would tend to show that their attempt to sign up the active longshoremen into the International Longshoremen's Association has met with little success. Strike bulletins issued by the striking organization claim that many contacts have been made on the waterfront with members of the active unions. [deletion:name] in confidence, however, stated that no actual contacts had been

made and that the claim put forth was merely propaganda, for the consumption of the workers at large.

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The Canadian Labour Defence League in Vancouver held a mass meeting in the Moose Hall on 27th November attended by approximately 700 people. C. J. McKendrick acted as chairman and the speakers were Robert Brodie, secretary of the Single Unemployed Protective Association, and A. E. Smith, national secretary of the league. The former speaker made a very urgent appeal for protest letters to be sent demanding the immediate release of Fred Grange and Molland as well as the 140 men incarcerated in Oakalla. A. E. Smith also appealed along similar lines and proceeded to outline at great length the situation in Bulgaria as he found it upon his arrival there as a member of the international delegation visiting the said country. He also spoke of Fascism in Germany on the life in the Soviet Union and the Spanish Civil War.

At the close of the meeting a special appeal was made by the speaker for support of the Spanish Government. Approximately \$28 in bills was donated but the silver collection was not announced.

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The Victoria Branch of the Canadian Labour Defence League held a mass meeting in the Victoria Chamber of Commerce Auditorium on the evening of 29th November. L. N. Tanning, leader of the local branch, acted as chairman and the speakers were J. Brodie, secretary of the Single Unemployed Men's Protective Association of Vancouver and A. E. Smith of Toronto. J. Brodie spoke of the "atrocities" which, he alleged, were committed by the Vancouver City Police in breaking up the demonstration at Hamilton Hall a few weeks ago. At the conclusion of his speech the chairman presented a resolution demanding that "all political prisoners at present languishing in Oakalla Prison Farm be released unconditionally forthwith". A. E. Smith dealt at some length with the "white terror" in Europe and generally eulogized the Soviet Union. At the conclusion of his speech he called for donations in aid of the Spanish Government. Approximately 500 people attended, but it was quite apparent that not all sympathized with the views expressed by the speakers.

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## II. ALBERTA

### 6. Provincial Committee of C. P. Transferred to Edmonton

The Provincial or District Committee of the Communist Party of Canada for Alberta has recently been transferred from Calgary to Edmonton. To celebrate the occasion the Edmonton Sub-District Committee held a mass meeting in the Scandinavian Hall on 27th November, with approximately 250 members in attendance. F.C. Wingfield, the chairman, in opening the meeting asked the audience to observe one minute's silence in honour of the fallen comrades in Spain following which the Ukrainian Labour Farmer Temple Association Orchestra rendered a few musical selections. The speakers were J. Lakeman, who conveyed greetings to the Provincial Committee; H. Gerry, who spoke on behalf of the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation also conveyed greetings and appealing for unity and solidarity against the common enemy; D. Powers, defeated Social Credit Aldermanic candidate in the last Edmonton Civic election, also conveyed greetings to the Provincial Committee of the Communist Party and urging solidarity in the interests of unity; Alderman Miss Margaret Crang, who praised the leadership of the Communist party in Edmonton, in Canada and Abroad; B. Swankey, who spoke on behalf of the Young Communist League; and A. Hogarth, who replied on behalf of the Provincial Committee to the greetings presented by the various speakers. Andy Hogarth and his wife, formerly of Calgary, have been transferred with the Provincial Committee.

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At a meeting of the United Unemployed Married Men's Association at Edmonton held in the New Haddon Hall on 28th November it was decided that the name of the organization be changed to "Unemployed Married Men's Association". It was also decided that a special appeal through the medium of leaflets be made to the unemployed asking them to join the association and fight for better conditions.

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Later in the evening the Edmonton Council of the Canadian League Against War and Fascism met in conference in the Masonic Temple with 85 delegates in attendance. H. Gerry acted as chairman and A. A. McLeod presented a brief report on the World Anti-War Congress held at Brussels, Belgium, recently which he attended as the head of the Canadian delegation to that congress.

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### III. MANITOBA

#### 7. Activities of Winnipeg Single Unemployed on Decline

Though determined to keep up agitation among the single unemployed at Winnipeg, Man., through the Single Men's Unemployed Association, the Communists are finding it increasingly difficult to persuade the single unemployed to come to their meetings. The meetings

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held by the Single Men's Unemployed Association recently have been attended by not more than 50 persons.

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### IV. ONTARIO

#### 8. Jewish Labour League at Toronto Celebrates Tenth Anniversary

A concert and mass meeting at Massey Hall, Toronto, on 29th November marked the tenth anniversary of the formation of the Communist controlled Jewish Labour League in that city. Max Bedacht, general secretary of the International Workers Order, was the feature speaker. Short speeches were also given by Tim Buck, who greeted the Labour League on behalf of the Communist Party of Canada, and J.B. Salsberg, who spoke in the Jewish language, pointing out that the Jewish Labour League is not a Communist Party as charged by the anti-Labour Jewry; that while the Jewish Labour League follows the general lines of the Communist International, it was not necessary for the Labour League to be a member of the Comintern. Tim Buck pointed out that he personally helped to organize the Jewish Labour League in 1926 and that the Labour League has set an example which should be followed by every language organization in Canada.

Max Bedacht dealt at great length with the aims and objects of the organization which he represents. The International Workers Order, he said, now numbers approximately 110,000 members. He urged the Jewish Labour League in Canada to keep up its good work.

Approximately 1,800 persons attended and the Jewish Cultural Chorus of 100 voices, the Young Pioneers' Chorus, together with the Band of the Labour League, contributed to the programme which was fairly well presented.

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