

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE HEADQUARTERS

Ottawa, 10th March, 1937.

SECRETNO. 847WEEKLY SUMMARYREPORT ON REVOLUTIONARY ORGANIZATIONS
AND AGITATION IN CANADAReport

Serious rioting occurred in Point Edward near Sarnia, Ont., on 3rd March when some 300 men forced their way through barricades into the Holmes Foundry to eject forcibly 70 sit-down strikers —members of the newly organized Amalgamated Association of Iron, Tin and Steel Workers — who struck on 1st March. Many were injured, two seriously, in the hand-to-hand fighting which ensued. The majority of the strikers were arrested after the riot.

Eleven hundred furniture workers throughout Ontario, who came out on strike on 1st March, returned to their jobs on 8th March.

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2. "Daily Clarion" to Appear in Six-Page Form Beginning 1st April

The Editorial Board of the Daily Clarion has announced that beginning 1st April the Clarion will be published in six pages every day to satisfy "the need for additional space for news from Montreal and cities and towns". For this purpose a new sustaining fund drive will be carried on during the month of April with a national objective of \$14,000.

3. Canadian Croatian Communist Paper Banned by Yugoslavian Government

Slobodna Misao, formerly Borba, Communist organ published in the Croatian language at Toronto, Ont., trice weekly, is said to have been banned in Yugoslavia because of its Communist make-up.

4. Polish Communists Extend Their Organization

Glos Pracy (Voice of Labour), Polish Communist organ now published at Toronto, Ont., for 27th February contains an article which gives the results of the membership drive conducted by the Polish People's Association. It is stated that the following new branches have been organized: —

- (1) Montreal, Que. (St. Charles District — 7 members
- (2) Spruce Valley, Alta. — 16 members
- (3) Cadomin, Alta. — 9 members

The article further states that the Toronto branch has increased its membership from 30 a year ago to 89, and that in Sydney, N.S., six new members have been recruited.

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APPENDIX NO. II: REPORTS BY PROVINCESI. BRITISH COLUMBIA5. Prominent C.C.F. Leader Joins C. P. of C.

Reverend E. H. Baker, Co-operative Commonwealth Federation Council member for Fraser Valley and C.C.F. candidate in New Westminster in the last Federal election, has announced his resignation from the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation and has joined the Communist Party of Canada. In a letter to the C.C.F. Provincial Council, Reverend E. H. Baker states: "I have come to the conclusion my place is in the ranks of those who are in the vanguard of the movement for unity and have, accordingly, joined the Communist Party". Having been a prominent member of the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation, his resignation from the C.C.F. has been given due publicity in the Communist press.

Sixty-two men are reported to have left Project 901 at Pender Harbour, B.C., on 24th February over the dismissal of one of the inmates and are now in Vancouver where they have been denied relief by the authorities.

II. ALBERTA6. Calgary Unemployed Hold Conference

The Calgary and District Unemployed Association held a conference at Calgary on 24th February with 51 delegates in attendance representing 28 organizations. George Poole gave a report on behalf of the Provincial Unemployed Association describing the present method of relief as a "method of slow starvation". He contended that this system could be changed if the Government would endorse and adopt a work for wage plan. Delegate Henderson from the Single Unemployed Association dealt with the arrest of 15 single unemployed men on 23rd February. He alleged that they were brutally treated by the City Police.

Tom Betteridge spoke on the single unemployed ex-service men and complained that the men are only receiving \$12 per month for board and room.

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Following a general discussion in which a number of the delegates took part the following demands were endorsed and will be sent to the Civic, Provincial and Dominion Governments: —

1. That the Calgary Police Commission and two private

- citizens act as a Board of Inquiry looking into the arrest of the 15 single unemployed men on 23rd February with a view to having the charges against them dropped.
2. That a work for wage programme be instituted covering all single and married unemployed men.
 3. Abolition of the six-month marriage clause embodied in the Relief Act.
 4. That adequate hospitalization, dental and optical treatment be supplied to relief recipients.
 5. Enlarging existing hospitals or building new ones.
 6. All single unemployed men and women to receive \$5.25 per week for board and room.
 7. No discrimination against foreign-born workers.

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III. MANITOBA

7. Interest Lacking in Winnipeg Youth Council

The Greater Winnipeg Youth Council held a meeting on the evening of 26th February in Theatre "B" of the university buildings attended by only 40 delegates, most of whom were from Left Wing youth organizations. A. Stewart acted as chairman and the guest speaker was Kenneth Woodsworth of Toronto representing the Continuations Committee of the Canadian Youth Congress. Woodsworth stated that his mission

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was twofold — to attract attention to the next Youth Congress scheduled to be held in Montreal and cement a closer relationship between the Toronto office and other important centres. He indicated that the Toronto office, during the past few months, had been somewhat isolated from the rest of the Council Movement, hence his present visit to the West. Referring to the forthcoming congress in Montreal, he stated that the chief reason why it is being held there is to combat the ever-growing nationalistic spirit of the French Canadians in the Province of Quebec. He remarked that there was a strong separatist movement developing in the Province of Quebec and that they hoped by holding the congress in Montreal that all the more liberal element would attend and thus help to stem the tide of this National Movement. At the close of his speech a number of questions were answered by Woodsworth. A discussion

arose over the apparent decline in the interest displayed by the youth in the Youth Council of Winnipeg. It was pointed out that when the council was first formed there were 400 and more who would attend every meeting, whereas the meeting under review only attracted 40 delegates. The meeting, generally speaking, lacked enthusiasm.

IV. ONTARIO

8. Alderman Reginald Morris Unseated at Windsor

Reginald Morris, only Communist Alderman in the Windsor (Ont.) City Council, has recently been unseated by Judge G. T. Mahone; he, having been three months in arrears in his rent payments at the time of the Civic election on 7th December, was considered not qualified to run for the City Council.

Bruce Magnusson, [~~1/2 line~~] president of the Fort Frances Local, No. 2560, of the Lumber and Sawmill workers Union (formerly the Lumber Workers Industrial Union), speaking at a meeting held in Port Arthur on 22nd February stated that out of a total of 2,800 lumber workers employed in the various camps in the Fort Frances district, 2,000 are members of the Lumber and Sawmill Workers Union. He further remarked that the "sit-down" strike of the 2,400

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lumber workers during the month of January has helped considerably to organize the lumber workers of that district. [~~2 3/4 lines~~]

Harry Hunter, [~~1/2 line~~] of the Committee for Industrial Organization at Hamilton, announced recently that the membership of the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers Union in Hamilton has increased to 2,000 members divided into four branches. He further stated that new branches are in the process of formation.

V. QUEBEC

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Unemployed members of the Communist Party in Montreal held a so-called "fraction" meeting on 27th February to discuss the possibilities of reorganizing the unemployed of Montreal into an unemployed federation similar to the one organized in the summer of 1936. It was decided to organize them around a demand for a twenty-five to fifty

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per cent increase in relief and the use of the market halls for mass meetings.

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