

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE HEADQUARTERS

Ottawa, 17th March, 1937.

SECRETNO. 848WEEKLY SUMMARYREPORT ON REVOLUTIONARY ORGANIZATIONS
AND AGITATION IN CANADAReport

Fifteen hundred enthusiastic Communist Party followers turned out to give Tim Buck a rousing reception on his arrival in the Canadian Pacific Railway Station at Winnipeg, Man., on the morning of 12th March. Addressing the crowd from a bench in the main rotunda, he remarked: "If the boss class is looking for a fight, we will give them all they want".

In the course of the evening he addressed a well attended Communist Party mass meeting in the Civic Auditorium.

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APPENDIX NO. I: GENERAL

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2. John O'Sullivan. Prominent Communist. Deceased

John O'Sullivan, veteran Communist and a member of the Alberta Provincial Committee of the Communist Party of Canada, died at Calgary on 6th March in the Holy Cross Hospital while under operation. A foundation member of the Communist Party, John O'Sullivan contributed much to the building of the Revolutionary Movement in Alberta.

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4. Dr. Bethune Cables Thanks to Canadian People Through
C.P. of C.

Dr. Norman Bethune of Montreal, Que., in charge of the Canadian Medical Unit in Spain on 9th March despatched the following cable to the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Canada at Toronto: —

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“The comrades of the Hispano-Canadian Institute for the transfusion of blood greets your committee and transmits to the Canadian people the gratitude of the Spanish people”.

It is significant to note that the cable was addressed to the Communist Party of Canada and not to the Committee in Aid of Spanish Democracy which, nominally, is in charge of the activities in aid of the Loyalists in Spain, and that the Canadian people are being greeted through the Communist Party of Canada.

5. New Westminster Declared Open Port by I.L.A.

Following a meeting in Seattle, Wash., of representatives of Maritime Unions, New Westminster, B.C., has been declared an open port. The action apparently has been taken in response to a request from Local 38-127, International Longshoremen's Association, New Westminster, which now claims to have within its ranks the majority of longshoremen working in that port. Assurance has been given to all shippers and ship owners that ships will not be held up in New Westminster.

The waterfront situation in Vancouver remains unsettled.

6. Annie Buller Transferred to Winnipeg,
Man.

Annie Buller has arrived in Winnipeg, Man., recently to take up duties as Communist Party women's organizer for the Province of Manitoba. She is to work through the women's groups with the assistance [~~deletion:2 lines~~]

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APPENDIX NO. II: REPORTS BY PROVINCES

I. BRITISH COLUMBIA

7. Changing Name of "B.C. Workers News" Under Consideration

A special committee of the Communist Party in Vancouver [~~deletion:1/2 line~~] has now under consideration the question of changing the name of the Communist Party organ, B.C. Workers News. The editor has been directed to broaden the views expressed in the editorials and the Party Bureau, collectively, hopes to replace The Federationist (Co-operative Commonwealth Federation organ) within six months. The bureau bases its hope of eliminating The Federationist on the grounds that the Trotsky group, [~~deletion:3/4 line~~] is really working deliberately to wreck the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation.

A mass meeting in the Moose Hall held on 8th March marked this year's [~~deletion:2 words~~] International Women's Day celebration in the City of Vancouver. The meeting was attended by about 300 including less than 100 women. The chair was taken by Mrs. A. G. Delmage, secretary of the League of Nations Society, who introduced Mrs. Stuart Jamieson who spoke only a little over five minutes on the question of how the women had used the franchise since they got it.

Dorothy Steeves, M.L.A., followed with the C.C.F. line of condemnation on the National Defence estimates.

Dorothy Livesay read from the poetic works of three English-men who were killed in the Great War, and then the Reverend A. G. Cooke, of St. John's United Church, took the platform preaching a 15-minute sermon on the text of "Thou Shall Not Kill". Other speakers included Mrs. E. Kerr, delegate elected to go to the Soviet Union this spring, Dr. Evelyn V. Baxter, M.A., of Seattle, and Peggy Harrison, the latter recently returned from the Soviet Union. Peggy Harrison held the floor for 40 minutes quoting a mass of figures on

Germany's mobilization methods, transport of troops by rail, by air and on motors.

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II. ALBERTA

8. U.M.M.A. at Edmonton Submits Ultimatum to City Council

The Unemployed Married Men's Association at Edmonton held a regular meeting in the New Haddon Hall on 6th March with approximately 250 people in attendance. It was decided that a manifesto be issued and circulated among the citizens of Edmonton which will explain the situation confronting the unemployed. The meeting also appointed a delegation to interview the City Council and present the following demands: —

- (a) Fifteen per cent increase in food allowances.
- (b) Changes to be made in the relief affidavit form as proposed by the U.M.M.A.
- (c) Abolition of the relief clothing depot.
- (d) Clothing allowance of \$2 per month for each adult and \$1 for each child.
- (e) Rent allowance of \$10, \$12 and \$15 according to size of family.
- (f) \$1 extra per week in cash for men required to work for the city.
- (g) Relief for large families to be given without a maximum of \$80 set.
- (h) Garden seeds and vegetables to be issued to relief recipients without deduction in relief.

Should the above demands be ignored by the City Council a strike vote is to be taken supervised by a committee of 21 which the meeting appointed.

The Alberta Committee in Aid of Spanish Democracy held a concert meeting in the Rialto Theatre at Edmonton on 28th February. The management donated the use of the theatre for the occasion. Jack McCarthy acted as chairman and a Pipe Band, under the direction of Pipe Major Robertson, opened the meeting with a Scottish National Dance selection. Pupils of Helen Shirlaw's and Mrs. Spankies' School of Dancing contributed various dance numbers.

H. Gerry spoke briefly on the history of the Spanish Civil War and the "struggle for democracy". Carl Berg also spoke, thanking the people and the artists for their support. A collection was taken at the entrance.

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IV. MANITOBA

10. A. E. Smith of Toronto in Brandon, Man.

A. E. Smith was the main speaker at a meeting held under the auspices of the Canadian Labour Defence League in the Council Chambers, City Hall, at Brandon on the evening of 7th March. Approximately 200 were present with S. Forkin in the chair. A. E. Smith spoke on "Streets of Moscow" being largely a recount of the main episodes

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described by the late John Reed in his book "Ten Days That Shook the World". Smith also made much of the new constitution of the U.S.S.R. describing it as an historic constitution of higher ethical importance than anything ever drafted before; greater than any religion, defining for the first time the rights of man as a human being. He contended that Canada was very backward and that Brandon and the whole of Manitoba would be much better off under a Soviet rule.

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At a local conference of the Communist Party of Canada at Kirkland Lake, Ont., held recently it was revealed that the membership of the Party had

increased twenty-five per cent during the last three months; further, the Party's influence has increased correspondingly. William Rogers, [§deletion:2 words] presented the report. The meeting was attended by Jack Gillbanks [§deletion:1/2 line]

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VI. QUEBEC

12. Communists Distribute 20,000 Leaflets in Two Main Cities

The Communist Party [§deletion:3-4 words] in the Province of Quebec has been instrumental in distributing 20,000 leaflets in French and English in the cities of Quebec and Montreal recently. The leaflet captioned "War or Peace, You Must Decide" and signed "Canadian League Against War and Fascism, Montreal", is an appeal to the people to protest against the National Defence estimates

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approved by the House of Commons at Ottawa recently and to demand the repeal of the Militia Act. It concludes with the slogan "Protest The Purchase of Arms Today, Keep Our Sons Alive Tomorrow".

Two individuals named Antonio Auguste Parent and Hormidus Lapierre, the former an ex-Civil Servant (Quebec Province), were arrested by members of the City Police in Quebec City on 8th March for distributing copies of the leaflet in the city of Quebec and charged under Municipal By-Law No. 184, which forbids the distribution in the streets of the city of any book, pamphlet, circular, etc., whatever without having previously obtained the written permission of the Chief of Police.

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