

## ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE HEADQUARTERS

OTTAWA, March 24th, 1938.

SECRETNO. 887WEEKLY SUMMARYREPORT ON COMMUNIST AND FASCIST ORGANIZATIONSAND AGITATION IN CANADAREPORT

Tim Buck, General Secretary of the Communist Party of Canada and member of the Executive of the Communist International, is expected back in Canada shortly after a prolonged stay in Europe. He left Canada early in December, attended the Party Congress of the Communist Party of France which opened in Arles on December 25th and then, following a short stay at Paris, he proceeded to Moscow to attend a meeting of the E.C.C.I. which is said to have been convened to discuss world problems arising out of the so-called Fascist offensive. While there he also covered the recent trials of alleged spies and wrote a series of articles on it for the Communist Party press in Canada.

The Communist Party of Canada is planning a large public meeting for him to address upon his return.

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APPENDIX NO. I. GENERAL

## A. Communism.

1. The Struggle for Unity.

Through the United Front the Comintern is seeking to coordinate and dominate the working classes in their characteristic organizations; Trade Unions, Co-operatives and Welfare organizations. Through the People's Front, on the other hand, it is seeking to build up on a much broader basis a combination of "all progressive Peoples for the defence of society against Fascism and War." It may be useful to set down some recent applications of these tactics. For the United Front there are pacts relative to Spain, China and Italy to record, together with developments in National and International Trade Union movements, and for the anti-Fascist Peoples Front the struggle of the Communist International to establish unity with the Labor and Socialist

International, on the basis of defending Spain and China from the Fascist attacks.

(i) In Spain the struggle for political unity under Comintern domination has been greatly facilitated by the practical support furnished by Soviet Russia. The National Co-ordinating Committee of the Socialist Party and the Communist Party established in Spain on 17.8.37 gave formal expression to a situation already very generally recognized. In May the discontent and opposition of the Anarchists and the Partido Obrero de Unificación Marxista at Communist domination led to riots in Barcelona, and in June the leaders were arrested. There followed a curious reflection of the Russian situation in the form of Trotskyist "purges." Even the popular Socialist Prime Minister, Largo CABALLERO, who opposed the Communist policy of a unitary military command, was forced to resign. In his place the Communist Party of Spain offered its support to Juan NEGRIN. Though more moderate in his political beliefs than CABALLERO he was considered a more suitable symbol for the People's Front idea. As they had already achieved so much in the creation of the United Front and the conquest of real power, the Communists could well afford this gesture to liberal opinion.

(ii) In China the creation of a United Front has proved a more difficult task. The Communist Party of China has shown itself ready to make more considerable concessions in the case of an anti-Japanese

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Front than any other National Communist Party. To this end they appealed to the Plenum of the Central Executive of the Kuomintang in February, 1937. The initial negotiations were not successful and even now only a precarious unity exists between the Chinese Red forces and the forces of the Kuomintang — seriously handicapped by disagreement over the existence of independent military units and commanders. Nevertheless, the Communists are already congratulating themselves on the foundation of a "powerful all-national anti-Japanese front, for the rebirth of China."

(iii) In August, 1937, the Communist Party and the Socialist Party of the Italian emigrants concluded a United Front agreement of a more far-reaching kind than their previous tentative contract of 1934. Clause one of their new charter contains the statement that both parties "consider the existence of a truly United Front between the Socialist Party and the Communist Party as one of the most important pre-conditions for the unification of all anti-Fascist forces and for the establishment of a people's front movement in Italy." In addition the two parties pledge themselves "to effect the amalgamation of the two Trade Union federations which exist in the emigration."

(iv) Negotiations for political unity have been matched by negotiations for Trade Union unity. The principal event in this connection has been the meeting in Moscow in November, 1937, between representatives of the International Federation of Trade Unions (JOUHAUX, SHEVENELS and STOLZ) and representatives of the Russian Trade Unions. Terms for a possible agreement have been considered and will be referred to a general Conference of the International Federation of Trade Unions probably at Oslo in May, 1938. Meanwhile they are being kept a secret, though from various statements of JOUHAUX, it is clear that no question of unity between the International Federation of Trade Unions and the Red International of Labour Unions is contemplated. The probable terms comprise the liquidation of the Red International of Labour Unions in exchange for the affiliation of the Soviet Trade Unions. The important issue will then be whether such affiliation is to be unconditional. Owing to their large membership — about forty million — the Soviet

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Trade Unions would obtain some thirty seats on the Council. This would presumably mean that the Unity bloc, already comprising the French, Spanish, Mexican and Norwegian delegates, would thereby gain a considerable measure of control over the concerns of the International Federation of Trade Unions, with the possibility of swinging that organization in the direction of a Comintern objective in a time of crisis.

(v) In democratic countries the Comintern policy of penetrating the Trade Unions has been intensively pursued. In France and America considerable progress has been made in gaining key positions in the Trade Union movement. There is reason to fear that the Communist caucus in the French Confederation Generale du Travail is sufficiently strong to dominate on certain issues. The militant Trade Unions of America affiliated to the Committee for Industrial Organization have attracted intense Comintern interest.

[~~deletion:4-5 lines~~]

(vi) Turning from phases in the Comintern struggle for the United Proletarian Front to the work of building up the anti-Fascist People's Front, there is less progress to record. On the issue of Aid for Spain the Comintern has attempted to establish unity between the Second International and the Third International. The history of these negotiations indicates the extreme suspicion with which all such overtures are received by the veteran leaders of the Labour and Socialist International. On 14.10.36 THOREZ and CACHIN, representing the Comintern, met, with DE BROUCKERE and ADLER of the Labour and Socialist International, to propose an International Conference of all workers'

organizations to study methods of assisting Spain. This proposal was rejected. Undismayed, the two Comintern delegates reiterated their offer to the Bureau

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of Labour and Socialist International and the International Federation of Trade Unions at its meeting in Paris on October 25th, again in November 7th and December 28th, 1936, and at the London meeting of the International Federation of Trade Unions in March, 1937. On June 1st the Spanish workers parties addressed an appeal and simultaneously to the International Federation of Trade Unions, and the Labour and Socialist International and the Communist International. On June 3rd DIMITROV replied for the Communist International that he entirely sympathized with this appeal and regarded concerted action as imperative. To this end he proposed the creation of a special "Contact Committee." On June 4th DE BROUCKERE published his answer to DIMITROV: "Our International will do its duty fully under its own responsibility. As you know neither Chairman nor Secretary has the necessary powers to participate on its behalf in the Committee which you propose." On June 9th DE BROUCKERE capitulated to the extent of agreeing to attend a meeting of representatives of both Internationals. This developed into the much advertised meeting at Annemasse on June 21st, which produced a three-point agreement:

- a. Both Internationals have essentially the same demands to make with regard to Spain.
- b. Wherever possible joint action to be taken.
- c. New Conferences to take place according to necessity but no contact committee to be set up.

Such unscrupulous use did the Comintern make of these concessions to united action that DE BROUCKERE felt himself called upon to resign. On June 24th his resignation was tendered to a Conference of the Labour and Socialist International and the International Federation of Trade Unions and refused. As no mention was made at this Conference of Annemasse a considerable rebuff was recorded against the Comintern. Nevertheless, DIMITROV returned to the attack on June 26th with new proposals for joint action. To these DE BROUCKERE replied that the Labour and Socialist International was "ready to continue the work of Annemasse but on the basis of Annemasse." On July 9th, therefore, a new meeting of representatives took place in Paris, of which the results were negligible. A lull ensued and it was not until November 20th that THOREZ and CACHIN once more appealed for co-ordinated action in

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aid of Spain. They received the answer that there could be no more joint meetings.

(vii) An important contributory cause to this final rebuttal of Comintern overtures was DIMITROV's anniversary address to the World Proletariat on November 13th. This address widely published in the Communist Press under the title of "The Soviet Union and the Working Class of Capitalist Countries" contained the following charge: "Comrade Stalin was a thousand times right when he wrote ten years ago that — 'It is impossible to put an end to capitalism without having put an end to social-democratism in the working-class movement.'" The effects of this attack were almost immediately observable. The breaking off of negotiations between the Second and Third Internationals on November 20th was followed by the breaking off of unity negotiations between the Socialist and the Communist Parties of France on November 24th. The full effects of this return to the bitter recrimination of pre-Seventh World Congress days remain to be seen, but that the cause of the People's Front has already been seriously retarded is hardly in doubt.

(viii) In conclusion a word must be said about the situation in France. In the eyes of the Comintern France occupies a special position in the tactics of the People's Front. It is regarded as the leader and therefore the barometer of its fortunes. This point was repeatedly emphasised by speakers at the last Party Congress of the C.P. of France which opened at Arles on December 25th last. "Side by side with the Soviet Union democratic France must lead the peoples towards progress, freedom and peace," said Maurice THOREZ. But at the present moment, according to the views of the Comintern, France is experiencing a temporary reaction. The C.P. of France has not refused to co-operate with M. CHAUTEUPS and M. BONNET. "The Party does not wish to discredit the Government as the reactionary Press maintains." Nevertheless, the Party is restive under a policy of "submission" to the great financial interests and "wishes to bring about more vigorous activity within the People's Front." In such a situation mass action may be encouraged as a means of ringing pressure to bear on the Parliamentary power. This may be the true significance of the serious strike of the Transport workers in Paris on December 28th, 1937.

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## 2. Independent Mutual Benefit Federation membership grows.

The [deletion:3-4 words] Independent Mutual Benefit Federation, a fraternal order patterned after the Workers' (Ukrainian) Benevolent Association, is reported to have acquired 1,000 new members and 10 new branches since January 1st, 1938.

Originally organized in 1927 and incorporated under the Ontario Insurance Act as the Canadian Hungarian Mutual Benefit Federation [~~3/4 line~~], and in January 1934 its name was changed to that under which it is known today. This change was made in order to attract people other than those of Hungarian nationality. [~~1 line~~] To co-ordinate the work of the branches, the Federation is now planning to launch a monthly publication. A convention is to be held during 1938 at which the financial status of the Federation will be announced.

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### B. Fascism.

#### 3. The Fusion of the Three Main Fascist Bodies in Canada.

In the previous issue of this Summary reference was made to the recent fusion of the three major fascist bodies in Canada. The agreement, negotiated and signed by Adrian Arcand for the National Social Christian Party, [~~2-3 words~~] for the Canadian Nationalist Party and [~~2-3 words~~] on behalf of the Canadian Nationalist Party in Ontario as published in the March edition of Le Fasciste Canadien reads:

"All the three having been duly authorized, the following understanding has been concluded as of March 3rd, 1938, on which date it shall be considered to come into force and binding on the three above-named organizations:

1. In view of urgent reasons for the progress and national well-being, the three afore-said organizations shall be fused in unity of common and identic principles, ideals, program and regulations.
2. Each of the three organizations shall be regarded as kindred branch of the same movement and all the three linked in unity of purpose, action, determination and intention for the public weal and advancement.
3. In order to preserve their efficiency and for reasons of

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expediency the three organizations shall retain their structure and hierarchy until a national convention of duly accredited leaders is assembled to negotiate, resolve and decide otherwise.

4. In order to simplify the structure and directions of the movement, the three groups will be allowed to transfer at pleasure any member or members from one group to another where they may be deemed to co-operate best, also to exchange propaganda and to mutually assist each other in the most

possible way and by the means that each of the organizations will find opportune, expedient and possible.

5. The three afore-said negotiators, being responsible to their respective organizations, hereby declare to be in full accord of thought, principles, ideal and doctrine, as well as on the conception and aim of the national policy.

6. The three organizations undertake to extend this understanding on the same conditions to other groups of similar creed and political ideals, in order to accomplish in the earliest and best possible way the national unity. The afore-named organizations shall constitute a national political party aiming to obtain the political power in the Dominion of Canada by regular and legal means through a legal electoral expression of the people of Canada, and undertake to oppose and refuse recognition under any circumstances of any political power, usurped by force and violence, contrary to the will of the people and without the approbation of an electoral majority and also aim at the following:

a) Establishment by lawful and legal means of a Canadian Corporate State with a Corporate Parliament in which the representatives of parties will be replaced by representatives of trades and professions, elected only by the associations of such trades and professions, organized only to deal with matters of interest to their respective trades and professions and only to which they will be responsible; abolition of political parties whereby the nation becomes its own party and all Canadians obliged to be in it, with and for the Canadian state, none being permitted to stay outside or against it; syndicalism and association to be obligatory for all classes of work, whether in trades and professions or for employers and employees; discussion and opposition will only be permitted within the fold of competent corporations on questions of their concern.

b) Proclamation and practical application of the Christian moral in all activities of the Canadian Corporate State; immediate eradication of all public manifestations of atheism, subversion, immorality, anti-national menace, Judeo-Communism and similar dangers.

c) Proclamation of a Canadian citizenship to enjoy and fulfill the civic rights of vote, eligibility and holding of public office; this citizenship to be conferred only upon Aryans, commonly called "The White Race" and upon native emancipated Indians, whereby all others could be nothing but "subjects;" a closer co-operation with other nations of the British Commonwealth in order to attain the plenitude of advantages from the 'partnership' on a basis of equal partners.

d) Remittance of all national control in the hand of



Canadian nationals; swift elimination of all means of international or foreign control of the organic Canadian national life; liberation of the toilers, of money of interior production, interior trade activities from all foreign authority and establishment of their complete autonomy.

e) Immediate elimination of the class struggle which is to be replaced by co-operation of the classes by means of the sovereign corporations of the syndicates and associations of the employees and employers.

f) Immediate and radical elimination of all means of 'making money' without earning it, a ruthless crushing of all dishonest speculation, a rise in cost of living, monopolization, etc. for the purpose of purging capitalism speedily and completely of all possible abuses; decentralization of finance and of industrial and commercial associated enterprises which could be operated individually; multiplication of enterprises and distribution of wealth by distribution of initiative; social obligation to work for all persons in a position to perform work and recognition of the right of everyone to earn a living by work which is to be accomplished under the responsibility of the competent corporations.

g) Immediate and definite dislocation of the system of skimming the milk in government administration which will be made possible by the disappearance of political parties; the right to vote shall entail the obligation for all to fulfill duties; popular decisions shall be taken upon precise questions of national importance rather than on the colours of political factions.

h) The Canadian Corporate State shall have and exercise in full an undivided and strong authority in order to regulate the rhythm of all national activities without interfering with their respective autonomies, in order to assure a harmonious balance of all, like the regulator of a clock assures the precise co-operation of all the component parts whereby each of them retains its own place, velocity and respective movement.

i) To achieve economic, financial and social reforms of several kinds, such as outlined and defined in the detailed programs of the three unified organizations wherein the agricultural and working classes will have in the Corporate State a pre-eminence transcending all the activities of others.

(sgd) Adrien Arcand.

(sgd) [~~deletion:name~~]

(sgd) [~~deletion:name~~]

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#### 4. The National Social Christian Party.

Addressing about 500 men and women at Dante Hall, Montreal, on March 20th, Adrien Arcand, leader of the party, boasted that "it wont be so very long before we come into power and when we do, political systems will be made

to serve the people." He declared that "the democrats in Canada haven't time to save Canada; they are too busy saving democracy." He added that his party would hasten the disappearance

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of democracy within the next three years. "Then," he said, "the Canadian citizens will be master of Canada." The greater part of his speech was devoted to recent events in Austria, to world Jewry and communism. "What the world needs," he declared, "is the international elimination of the Jew ..... it is high time for us to awaken and cut off all the tentacles of this awful monster, this Jewish conspiracy." He concluded his speech amidst clamorous applause: "Let us all therefore don the blue shirt, the uniform of the worker, and tackle this job with the utmost courage and energy."

The meeting was also addressed by four others whose names were not announced. One hundred uniformed men acted as ushers and guards during the assembly while six women in party uniform took up a collection during an intermission.

A similar meeting took place at the Salle du Dafe Lithuanian, 2161 St. Catherine St. E. on the 16th March which was attended by approximately 400 people. Another meeting held on the 14th March at 1896 Orleans St. was attended by over 600 people.

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#### 5. Whittaker addresses Canadian Veterans Bonus League at Winnipeg.

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Addressing a meeting of the Canadian Veterans Bonus League in the Free Press Board Room at Winnipeg on march 15th, William Whittaker, leader of the Nationalist Party of Canada, denied that he was a Fascist. "We believe in the accomplishments of Mussolini and Hitler but we are not Fascists and it is our desire to set up a national government by the peaceful means of the ballot," he declared. As for the swastika, the emblem of his party, he claimed the badge was a national emblem introduced into some countries long before Mussolini and Hitler came into power. Under a nationalist government, he maintained, Canada would not be infected by international influences and it would be the duty of the government to see that all who lived in the country were real Canadians. Whittaker also declared that he would disfranchise the Jews and make them get out of the country.

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APPENDIX NO II: REPORTS BY PROVINCES.I. British Columbia.6. Canadian League for Peace and Democracy hold anti-Padlock Law meeting in Vancouver.

A capacity crowd turned out to hear R.L. Calder, K.C., and Malcolm M. Ross speak on the Padlock Law in Quebec under the auspices of the Canadian League for Peace and Democracy at the Moose Hall, Vancouver, on March 11th. Calder predicted that if the courts upheld this "iniquitous" act, it would be in British Columbia within a month. He declared that under this act the circulation of the Bible was forbidden in Quebec City and that Charles Dicken's "Oliver Twist" was confiscated as Communist propaganda. The speech given by M.M. Ross, who is accompanying Calder on his tour, and that of a local speaker, were along similar lines. A.M. Stephens, President of the local C.P.P. and D., acted as Chairman.

II. Alberta.7. Leslie Morris speaks at Calgary.

Addressing approximately 400 people in the Variety Theatre at Calgary under the auspices of the C.P. of C. on March 13th, Leslie Morris, member of the National Executive Committee of the C.P. of C. charged that every step taken by Adolf Hitler was approved beforehand by the British Prime Minister and the British Capitalists. The wealth of Threadneedle Street has been placed at the disposal of Hitler, Mussolini and Japan ... Not a Chinese woman or child would have been killed if it had not been for British capital and the product of Canadian mines," he declared. He pointed out that it was necessary in Canada to start a mass movement to force the Dominion Government to change its foreign policy and adopt a policy that would aim at collective unity against Fascism.

The meeting, held in memory of the late John O. Sullivan, local C.P. leader, was also addressed by S. Chorbin, who spoke on behalf of the Ukrainian Mass organizations, J. Digman, of Drumheller, Enoch Williams, Mayor of Blairmore, J. Boker of Lethbridge and Pat Lennihan.

## III. Quebec.

8. Montreal Communists discuss A.F.L. - C.I.O. issue.

[~~deletion: 1 1/2 lines~~] reported that David Dubinsky, International President of the International Ladies Garment Workers' Union, during his recent stay in Montreal, held a conference with leading members of the Montreal Trades and Labour Council and the leadership of the local I.L.G.W.U., at which he (Dubinsky) charged that the Fur Workers' International Union and the Amalgamated Clothing Workers' Union are Communist organizations with purely C.P. leadership. Sarkin further alleged that although Dubinsky failed to accomplish his ends, his actions proved that the I.L.G.W.U. "is playing a traitorous role in the labour movement, and, although linked up with the C.I.O. is working against it behind the scenes."

Pat Sullivan reported that he had been informed that William Green, President of the American Federation of Labour, is soon to visit Toronto to raise the issue of expelling the C.I.O. unions from the American Federation of Labour and from the Toronto District Trades and Labour Council. Pat Sullivan further stated that he had discussed this matter with Bob Tallon of the Canadian Trades and Labour Congress and that the latter had stated he would not allow any split to take place in the Canadian Labour Movement. After some discussion the Commission agreed that the Amalgamated Clothing Worker' Union issue a call for a joint conference of all needle trades unions on the question of Bills 19 and 20, now before the Quebec Provincial Legislature.

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Quebec Provincial Police in their warfare against Communism, recently raided six additional homes and shops in the City of Montreal for Communist literature and propaganda. A quantity of newspapers was seized but no arrests were made nor any of the places padlocked.

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