

## ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE HEADQUARTERS

OTTAWA, May 13th, 1938.

SECRETNO. 891WEEKLY SUMMARYREPORT ON COMMUNIST AND FASCIST ORGANIZATIONS  
AND AGITATION IN CANADA

This year's "Higher Educational Course," now a permanent institution, conducted by the Ukrainian Labour Farmer Temple Association at Winnipeg commenced on May 2nd with 29 students, including nine young women, enrolled. The opening ceremony took place at Parkdale with leading members of all groups and sections of the Ukrainian Communist movement in attendance. The C.P. was represented by James Litterick, M.L.A., who gave an inspiring talk to the class. Other speakers were J. Navizowski (Navis), M. Shatulski, Bilecki, Lysets, Prokopchak and Mrs. Stefanicki. The students were told to make the best of the time at their disposal and equip themselves with the necessary knowledge which will enable them to go forth from the school to preach the gospel of communism.

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APPENDIX NO. I: GENERAL.

A. Communism.

1. The Anti-Fascist People's Front and the United Front Government as a Transition Stage to the Proletarian Revolution.

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*In view of the recent reports contained in the press respecting the alleged importation of firearms from the United States for the use of Fascist organizations in Quebec, to bring the matter into proper perspective, it would appear desirable at the present time to refer back to the decisions of the last (Seventh) Congress of the Communist International held at Moscow from July 25th to August 20th, 1935.*

One of the main resolutions adopted by the VIIth Congress dealt with the question of the united front of the working class against Fascism; it reads in part as follows:—

“In face of the towering menace of fascism to the working class and all the gains it has made, to all toilers and their elementary rights, to the peace

and liberty of the peoples, the Seventh Congress of the Communist International declares that **AT THE PRESENT HISTORICAL STAGE IT IS THE MAIN AND IMMEDIATE TASK OF THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR MOVEMENT TO ESTABLISH THE UNITED FIGHTING FRONT OF THE WORKING CLASS.** For a successful struggle against the offensive of capital, against the reactionary measures of the bourgeoisie, against fascism, the bitterest enemy of all the toilers who, without distinction of political views, have been deprived of all rights and liberties, it is imperative that unity of action be established between all sections of the working class, irrespective of what organization they belong to, even before the majority of the working class unites on a common fighting platform for the overthrow of capitalism and the victory of the proletarian revolution. But it is precisely for this very reason that this task makes it the duty of the Communist Parties to take into consideration the changed circumstances and to apply the united front tactics **IN A NEW MANNER**, by seeking to reach agreements with the organizations of the toilers of various political trends for joint action on a factory, local, district, national and international scale....."

This unity, in the course of time, under certain circumstances, is to lead to the United Front Government.

Dimitroff, in addressing the Congress on the subject of the anti-Fascist United Front Government, stated:

"Comrades, we have taken a bold and determined course towards the united front of the working class, and are ready to carry it out with full consistency.

"If we Communists are asked whether we advocate the united front **ONLY** in the struggle for partial demands, or whether we are prepared to share the responsibility even when it will be a question of forming a **GOVERNMENT** on the basis of the united front, then we say with a full sense of

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our responsibility: Yes, we recognize that a situation may arise in which the formation of a **GOVERNMENT OF THE PROLETARIAN UNITED FRONT**, or of the **ANTI-FASCIST PEOPLE'S FRONT**, will become not only possible but necessary in the interests of the proletariat. And in that case we shall declare for the formation of such a government without the slightest hesitation.

"I am not speaking of a government which may be formed **AFTER** the victory of the proletarian revolution. It is not impossible, of course, that in some country, immediately after the revolutionary overthrow of the bour-

geoisie, there may be formed a Soviet government on the basis of a government BLOC of the Communist Party with a definite party (or its Left Wing) participating in the revolution. After the October Revolution the victorious Party of the Russian Bolsheviks, as we know, included representatives of the Left Socialist-Revolutionaries in the Soviet government. This was a specific feature of the first Soviet government after the victory of the October Revolution.

"I am not speaking of such a case, but of the possible formation of a united front government on the eve of and before the victory of the Soviet revolution.

"What kind of government is this? And in what situation could there be any question of such a government?

"It is primarily a GOVERNMENT OF STRUGGLE AGAINST FASCISM AND REACTION. It must be a government arising as the result of the united front movement and in no way restricting activity of the Communist Party and the mass organizations of the working class, but on the contrary, taking determined measures against the counter-revolutionary financial magnates and their fascist agents.

"At a suitable moment, relying on the growing united front movement, the Communist Party of a given country will declare for the formation of such a government on the basis of a definite anti-fascist platform.

"Under what objective conditions will it be possible to form such a government? In the most general terms, our reply to this question will be as follows: Under conditions of POLITICAL CRISIS, when the ruling classes are no longer in a condition to cope with the mighty upsurge of the mass anti-fascist movement. But this is only a general perspective, without which it is scarcely possible in practice to form a united front government. Only the existence of definite and SPECIFIC PREREQUISITES can put on the order of the day the question of forming such a government as a politically NECESSARY task. It seems to me that the following prerequisites deserve the greatest attention in this connection.

"First, the state apparatus of the bourgeoisie must already be sufficiently DISORGANIZED and PARALYZED, so that the bourgeoisie cannot prevent the formation of a government of struggle against reaction and fascism;

"Second, the broadest masses of toilers, particularly the mass trade unions, must be in a violent state of revolt AGAINST FASCISM AND REACTION, THOUGH NOT READY to rise in insurrection, to FIGHT UNDER COMMUNIST PARTY LEADERSHIP FOR the ACHIEVEMENT OF SOVIET POWER;

“Third, the differentiation and Leftward movement in the ranks of Social-Democracy and other parties participating in the united front must already have reached the point where a considerable proportion of them demand RUTHLESS MEASURES

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AGAINST THE FASCISTS AND THE OTHER REACTIONARIES, struggle together with the Communists against fascism, and openly come out against that reactionary section of their own party which is hostile to Communism.

“When and in what countries a situation will actually arise in which these prerequisites will be present in a sufficient degree, it is impossible to state in advance. But inasmuch as such a possibility IS NOT PRECLUDED IN ANY OF THE CAPITALIST COUNTRIES we must reckon with it, and not only orientate and prepare ourselves but orientate also the working class accordingly.....”

As an illustration that the United Front Government is a mere “stop-gap in the Comintern programme, Dimitroff declared:

“Insofar as such a government will really prosecute the struggle against the enemies of the people, and give a free hand to the working class and the Communist Party, we Communists shall accord it our unstinted support, and as soldiers of the revolution shall take our place in the FIRST LINE OF FIRE. But we state frankly to the masses:

“FINAL SALVATION this government CANNOT bring. It is not in a position to overthrow the class rule of the exploiters, and for this reason cannot finally eliminate the danger of fascist counter-revolution. Consequently it is necessary TO PREPARE FOR THE SOCIALIST REVOLUTION! Soviet power and ONLY Soviet power can bring such salvation!

“In estimating the present development of the world situation, we see that a POLITICAL CRISIS is maturing in quite a number of countries. This determines the great urgency and importance of a firm decision by our Congress on the question of a united front government.

“If our Parties are able to utilize in a Bolshevik fashion the opportunity of forming a united front government, of waging the struggle for its formation and the existence in power of such a government FOR THE REVOLUTIONARY TRAINING OF THE MASSES, this will be THE BEST POLITICAL JUSTIFICATION of our policy of the formation of united front governments.....”

He also said:—

“Some comrades are quite needlessly racking their brains over the problem of WHAT TO BEGIN WITH — THE UNITED PROLETARIAN FRONT OR THE ANTI-FASCIST PEOPLE’S FRONT.

“SOME say that we cannot start forming the anti-fascist people’s front until we have organized a solid united front of the proletariat.

“Others argue that, since the establishment of the united proletarian front meets with the resistance of Social-Democracy in a number of countries, it is better to start at once with building up the people’s front, and then develop the united working class front on this basis.

“Evidently both groups fail to understand that the united proletarian front and the anti-fascist people’s front are inter-connected and interwoven, the one passing into the other in the process of the practical struggle against fascism as a consequence of the LIVING DIALECTICS

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OF THE STRUGGLE, and that there is certainly no Chinese wall to keep them apart.

“For it cannot be seriously supposed that it is possible to establish a genuine anti-fascist people’s front without securing the unity of action of the working class itself, the GUIDING FORCE of this anti-fascist people’s front. At the same time, the further development of the united proletarian front depends, to a considerable degree, upon its transformation into a people’s front against fascism....”

Reports to the effect that arms were being smuggled into Canada for the use of the Fascist National Social Christian Party organization are known to have originated from [§deletion:1 word], member of the Control Commission of the Communist Party in this country, and on investigation were found to be entirely unjustified. The wide publicity given to such matters on a Dominion-wide scale in the press undoubtedly served (and serves) the purpose of the Communist Party to a satisfactory degree from the propaganda standpoint — as was the intention — as a step towards consolidation of the anti-fascist people’s front in Canada and the ensuing stages of the Communist programme towards the goal of proletarian revolution. One further utterance of Dimitroff at the Seventh Congress is of interest in this connection:-

“I think that enough was said in my report about the character of the united front government and the anti-fascist people’s front government, as well as the conditions of their formation, to provide general tactical direction. To expect us over and above this to indicate all possible forms and all conditions under which such governments may be formed would mean but to invite futile conjecture.

"I would like to utter a note of warning against over simplification or the application of any hard-and-fast rules in this question. Life is more complex than any scheme. For example, it would be wrong to imagine that the united front government is an **INDISPENSABLE STAGE** on the road to the establishment of the proletarian dictatorship. That is just as wrong as the former assertion that there will be no **INTERMEDIARY STAGES** in the fascist countries and that fascist dictatorship is **CERTAIN TO BE IMMEDIATELY** superseded by proletarian dictatorship.

"The whole question boils down to this: Will the proletariat itself be prepared at the decisive moment for the direct overthrow of the bourgeoisie and the establishment of its own power, and will it be able in that event to secure the support of its allies? Or, will the movement of the united proletarian front and the anti-fascist people's front at the particular stage be in a position only to suppress or overthrow fascism, without directly proceeding to abolish the dictatorship of the bourgeoisie? In the latter case it would be an intolerable piece of political shortsightedness, and not serious revolutionary politics, to use this alone as a ground for refusing to create and support a united front or a people's front government...."

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Broadly speaking, therefore, the question as to whether or not the United Front Government is essential to the revolutionary programme depends upon the strength of the Communist movement in any given country "at the decisive moment for the overthrow of the bourgeoisie and the establishment of the power of the proletariat." It should be remembered that propaganda of a type similar to the recent and continuing efforts of the Communists in their attempt to consolidate the united front of the proletariat and the anti-fascist People's Front will show no signs of abatement in the future.

(NOTE:— All words appearing in capitals are in italics in original text.)

## 2. May Day in Canada.

The May Day demonstrations held throughout the Dominion were generally of an orderly nature and, with the exception of minor disturbances at Montreal and Toronto, no trouble ensued.

### (i) Toronto, Ont.

With approximately 11,000 persons in the ranks, the May Day parade in Toronto, held on April 30th, made an impressive showing. In all, 116 organizations took part and, with the exception of 11, every one of them was Communistic in character. There were several floats and innumerable placards

and banners were carried by the paraders. Following the parade, a mass meeting was held in Queen's Park, but it did not have the same attraction as the parade and hundreds of the marchers wandered away as soon as the speeches began.

Stewart Smith was the main speaker and the keynote of his speech was an attack on Fascism in Canada. The allegation that arms were being smuggled into Quebec by the Fascist organization was repeatedly stressed by him. Following the lead of Tim Buck in his speech at Massey Hall on April 19th, Smith emphasized the need for haste and action if democracy is to be saved.

Three minor disturbances occurred during the day, caused, it appears, by the interference of boisterous students; but they were of no importance and the proceedings of the day may be said to have been of an orderly nature.

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On Sunday evening, an audience of 6,000 persons gathered in the Mutual Street Arena to hold a mass meeting in celebration of May Day. There was no admission charge but a collection was taken which yielded, it was announced, the sum of \$447. Among others on the platform were: Rev. Salem Bland, Tim Buck, Dr. Yen Tao, George Watson, William Dennison, Jean Laing and Harvey Murphy.

Military training in schools, the Padlock Law, Japanese aggression in China, Fascist aggression in Spain and Premier Hepburn's attack on the Lakeview unemployed, formed the major background of the speeches.

George Watson, President of the Toronto District Trades and Labour Council, said "When the showdown comes we will have to use force if force is used against us."

Tim Buck was last to speak and before he addressed the audience, which gave him a tremendous ovation, Ben Spence rose and, standing beside the Communist leader in front of the microphone, shook hands with him saying "the secretary of the C.C.F. shakes hands with the general secretary of the Communist Party of Canada."

The theme of Buck's speech was the imminent danger that threatened Canadian democracy through the rapid growth of Fascism in this country; he was confident that Fascism would be defeated, but, he said, "we have not all the time to do it." The militant note was particularly discernible: "the growing strength of our May Days is the guarantee of our ultimate victory;" "We too will, if necessary, fight to defend Canadian democracy." Referring to the parade of the previous day, Buck said that it probably did not give the impression of power to the Fascists and to those who owned Canada, for it lacked any display of arms or military precision, but, he said, it should be remembered that it was people who composed just such a parade who marched



on "Bloody Sunday" and later drove the aristocrats out of Russia and "what they have done we can do."

The meeting closed with the singing of the "Internationale" followed by "God Save the King" as the audience file out.

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(ii) Montreal, P.Q.

Their proposed parades banned and the use of public halls denied them, members of the Communist Party in Montreal were unable to celebrate May Day in the accustomed manner. On Friday, April 29th, twenty-five thousand May Day leaflets were distributed throughout the City and at noon on Saturday an attempt was made to stage a protest meeting at Phillips Square. It was successfully broken up by City Police and four arrests were made. In each case the arrested person was released on bail of \$25. A lecture given in the Windsor Hotel on Sunday evening constituted the only May Day meeting in the City.

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(iii) Timmins, Ont.

No parade was held at Timmins but at an open-air meeting, Alderman Joseph Salsberg, of Toronto, and local speakers addressed a crowd of about 1,000 persons. Speeches, similar in substance to those given throughout Canada on May Day, and the airing of local grievances, occupied the meeting for a short time before it dispersed in an orderly and uneventful manner. A concert, held during the evening at the Empire Theatre, attracted only about 400 people.

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(iv) Sudbury, Ont.

The City Council having forbidden any demonstration on Sunday, May Day in Sudbury was celebrated by the Communist Party on Saturday. There was no parade and a "mass meeting" in the Athletic Park drew an audience of only 60 persons. G.W. Anderson, International Organizer for the International Mine, Mill and Smelters Union, and Andrew Hogarth, spoke to the crowd for about one hour in support of Trade Unionism and denunciation of the "dictatorship" of the International Nickel Company.

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(v) Fort William and Port Arthur

Supporters of the Communist Party in these Lakehead cities joined forces in celebration of May Day to form a parade of approximately 1,600 marchers. Almost without exception, the marchers were of Central European or Finnish extraction and all the marching songs were sung in foreign languages. The march through the streets ended in the grounds of the Central School where speeches were made by Alderman

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Alan Gray, Alderman Alfred Batters, George Cotter and Bruce Magnusson, There was no official representation of the Fort William Trades and Labour Council at the celebrations and the Secretary of that body sent a letter to the Fort William Times-Journal to correct an impression, previously given by that paper, that the Council intended to participate. The Secretary pointed out that the first Monday in September is the only Labour Day recognized by the Fort William Trades and Labour Council.

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(iv) Winnipeg, Man.

A Union Jack, immediately followed by the Red Banner "Workers of the World Unite," headed a procession of 4,500 people, who, to the music of two bands, paraded through the streets of Winnipeg to celebrate the Communist May Day. With the members of the local Communist Party in strength, the parade was made up to a large extent of foreign-born workers or those of foreign origin. Many of them were in national costume. Little support to the demonstration was given by the Labour Unions and only the Furriers, Garment Workers and some of the Meat Packers participated.

This year the parade was better organized and was of a milder and more orderly form than had been the case in previous years; no drastically extreme slogans had to be confiscated and there were no ridiculing caricatures of an objectionable nature.

It was noted that although large crowds watched the procession from the sidewalks they did so almost in silence and no encouragement or greetings were received by the demonstrators during their march. Marching in the lead were the officials of the May Day Conference together with representatives of the Trades and Labour Council: Grant McLeod, G.B. Graham and R.C. McCutcheon; representative of the I.L.P.: V.B. Anderson; Manitoba Conference of Unemployed: C.W. Foster; both Communist Aldermen: Forkin and Penner and James Litterick of the Communist Party. Leaders of other groups headed their respective organizations; the Y.C.L. and the Communist Youth Centre being headed by Bill Ross.

The parade ended at the Market Square where a truck,

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equipped with a microphone and amplifiers, served as a platform for the speakers.

Alderman Jacob Penner, as Chairman, opened the meeting with a few May Day greetings to the crowd, a warning against the spreading menace of the dark, reactionary forces of Fascism and the presentation of a resolution demanding that the Canadian Government lift the embargo on the shipping of supplies to the Spanish Government and outlaw the Padlock Act in the Province of Quebec.

C.W. Foster, speaking with great vehemence, railed against radio station CJRC for refusing to allow an uncensored broadcast of an address which was to have been given by V. Anderson the previous Wednesday night. "This is the freedom we have in our democratic Canada, as granted by the millionaire owners of the broadcasting stations."

V. Anderson, speaking on the need for Unity said "This unity is essential for the working class to take over the means of production, finances and to see that justice is done to everyone, to ensure peace, progress and security."

Other speakers spoke on the same topics which were the subjects of speeches given in other cities on May Day and with the singing of the "Internationale" the meeting dispersed in an orderly fashion at 5.30 P.M.

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(vii) Regina, Sask.

Because of rain, a parade and an open-air meeting were cancelled and instead a meeting took place in the City Hall Auditorium. About 700 people attended and in the predominantly Communistic group on the platform were Jack Chambers, Alex Cochrane, Rev. S.B. East, T.G. McManus and Matt Shaw.

Little attention was paid by the speakers to the subject of May Day and the meeting proved to be in support of the election campaign of East and McManus, the two Progressive Labour candidates in the forthcoming Provincial Election. A collection was taken in aid of the two candidates and the sum of \$24.87 obtained.

Two resolutions were presented to and adopted by the meeting; the first asked the C.C.F. to refrain from putting a candidate in the

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field and to give its support to the Progressive Labour candidates. The second resolution was a request to Mayor A.C. Ellison to withdraw from the Provincial Election in favour of East and McManus. Mayor Ellison, in coming

forward as an Independent Labour candidate, has caused considerable anger and anxiety to the Communist Party at Regina and, if he persists, it is the intention of the Party to do "everything in its power, to break him politically in Regina and the Province of Saskatchewan.

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(viii) Calgary, Alta.

An added stimulus was given to the May Day celebrations in Calgary by the Relief Strike which is taking place there at this time. Led by seventeen men and one woman who are on Bail following charges in connection with strike demonstrations, a procession of approximately 3,400 persons marched through the streets and held meetings at Victoria Park and Red Square. All the Communist organizations were represented; Communist banners and slogans were displayed in profusion and 200 children who represented the Young Communist League sang the "Internationale" even more lustily than their elders.

Resolutions protesting the cut in relief allowances to married unemployed of Calgary were read to the gathering by E.C. Hopper, president of the Central Council of Unemployed and it was voted that they should be sent to Rt. Hon. MacKenzie King, Prime Minister of Canada; Premier Aberhart of Alberta and Mayor Andrew Davison of Calgary. Speeches covering the current Communist topics and concerning the origin and meaning of May Day were made, while particular attention was paid, of course, to the local strike situation.

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(ix) Edmonton, Alta.

Approximately 3,000 people attended the May Day mass meeting at Edmonton on Saturday, April 30th, and about 1,400 later paraded through the streets of the City.

Chairman of the meeting was H.D. Ainley; J. Hollopeter acted as parade marshal, while J. Lakeman, F.C. Wingfield and J.A. McPherson were prominent as members of the May Day Committee.

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Sponsored by the Communist Party, Canadian Labour Party, C.C.F. and two trade unions, the celebrations attracted the support of all the Communist affiliated associations and most of the foreign language societies. The Clarion, Canadian League for Peace and Democracy and Friends of the MacKenzie-Papineau Battalion had representative floats and a band assisted in the singing of the "Internationale", the "Red Flag" and "O Canada."

The speakers, aided by loud speakers, harangued the gathering in the Market Square on the menace of Fascism and the necessity of action and unity in defence of Canadian Democracy.

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(x) Cadomin, Alta.

May Day celebration in this coal-mining town was the largest ever witnessed. Representatives of unions from other mining towns joined the parade and participated in the meeting at the Athletic Park which was addressed by Lawrence Anderson, Provincial Secretary of the Communist Party of Canada.

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(xi) Vancouver, B.C.

Forming the largest demonstration ever held in Vancouver, between 5,000 and 6,000 persons paraded through the streets of the City to Stanley Park on May Day and there were joined by an equal number, who did not march, making a total of between 10,000 and 12,000 gathered in Stanley Park.

Participating were units representing all the ramifications of the Communist Party, Foreign Language groups, C.C.F., many of the Trade Unions and the Unemployed. The largest unit was that of the Single Unemployed, which numbered approximately 2,500 marchers. The parade, headed by the Union Jack, featured many floats, banners and national flags, with the Hammer and Sickle of the U.S.S.R. prominently displayed.

At the Lumberman's Arch in Stanley Park, the Parade joined those who had not marched and following the singing of "O Canada" Bill Stewart, as chairman, made a few opening remarks and then introduced the speakers.

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Senor Ojier Preticeille, Secretary of the Spanish Union of Workers, brought greetings from Spain and appealed for aid.

Leslie Morris, Communist Party of Canada, tendered the greetings of the Central Committee of the C.P. of C. He said: "The echoes of this wonderful demonstration will be heard in Ottawa." He appealed for a united front so that "We might eventually have a peace and freedom here like they have in Russia."

Alfred Hurry, C.C.F., ex-Alderman of Vancouver, welcomed Preticeille and gave a short speech.

Other speakers were San Shearer, Jack Lawson, recently returned, wounded, from Spain; John Matts, ex-secretary of the now defunct Project

Workers Union; and A.M. Stephen, president of the Canadian League for Peace and Democracy.

During the evening a meeting was held in the Orpheum Theatre under the auspices of the C.L.P.D. with Preticeille as main speaker. About 1,500 persons were present and in addition to the sale of tickets about \$300.00 was collected.

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### 3. Tim Buck speaks at meeting of enlarged National Language Bureau of Communist Party.

Tim Buck, General Secretary of the Communist Party of Canada, shortly after his return to Toronto from his extended visit to Moscow, addressed a meeting of the enlarged National Language Bureau of the C.P. attended by representatives of every Party fraction in control of the various language mass organizations. After dealing at some length with the menace of Fascism and war, Buck dwelt upon the work of the various language mass organizations over which the C.P. exercises control. He maintained that the activities, propoganda and agitation of these organizations are too narrow and sectarian; that they have not succeeded in winning the foreign born people under their influence because of what he described as the "narrow approach with its treatment and sentiment of these language groupings." He cited the Germans and Ukrainians as examples and emphasized that while the U.L.F.T.A. has accomplished considerable work it has not as yet reached the wide masses of the Ukrainians who are to be found in the religious and nationalistic organizations throughout Canada.

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The Communist International, he stated, attaches particular importance to work among German, Italian and Ukrainian nationalists in Canada and urged that the scope of these communist controlled language mass organizations be extended. He suggested that the communist controlled language organizations should become the foremost proponents and champions for the culture and rights of these various nationals in Canada. Buck discerned some improvement through the establishment of the National Language Bureau of the Party which is headed by [deletion:2 words] but said that the Party must free these language organizations from sectarian tendencies and take the necessary step towards better co-operation with a view to assimilating greater members of these people.

Following some discussion it was agreed that the language bureau would meet with Buck and the heads of all C.P. language fractions individually to discuss the particular problems relating to each language mass organization.

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#### 4. Strikes and Unrest throughout Canada.

##### (i) Proposed March to Ottawa.

Recent reports would indicate that the idea of staging a trek "On to Ottawa" is definitely being entertained by certain leaders of the unemployed at Vancouver, particularly Matts, Cumber and Campbell, all of whom played an active part in the 1935 Ottawa trek. It is rumoured that after May 15th, the single unemployed of Vancouver, numbering some 3,000, may be instructed to leave the Province in small groups so as to avoid notice and concentrate at a point on the Prairie. This agitation, centering around the proposal, however, is not being carried on openly but is confined to a certain circle of the single unemployed and it is very doubtful whether the Communist Party officially has sanctioned the plan.

In conversation with an intimate recently, Campbell, referred to above, is reported to have said: "We are preparing for a hell of a fight in a week or two." He, however, did not amplify his remarks; it is felt that he referred to demonstrations in Vancouver as soon as the relief vouchers are expended. While the whole matter of the proposed

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march "On to Ottawa" appears to be in its talkative stage, it is known that over 100 single men have arrived at Calgary recently, via the freight train route. About one hundred of these men, most of whom gave their home addresses in Alberta and Saskatchewan, had called at the relief office at Calgary, applying for a meal and overnight lodging. Upon being questioned most of these men stated that they were found for their homes or in quest of jobs on farms. On the basis of the information at hand it would appear that these men are not connected with the "On to Ottawa" trek movement and are in fact seeking employment in the Prairie Provinces. They have been formerly employed in the British Columbia Government Camps which were closed recently.

Information, as yet unconfirmed, has come to hand from a source in Vancouver, indicating that certain leaders of the single unemployed movement have started to organize the single unemployed on the platoon system, similar to the manner in which they organized for the 1935 "On to Ottawa" trek. It is also reported that the single unemployed in Vancouver are planning to stage a series of demonstrations in that city. This, however, will depend on whether or not the proposal for the trek to Ottawa will be put into execution.

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##### (ii) Strike of Relief recipients at Calgary.

The strike of Calgary's relief recipients, in progress since April 6th, continues.

On April 28th the Unemployed ex-Service Men's Association, an organization of radical ex-service men under communist influence, voted to take part in the strike and to support the Calgary Unemployed Union, official sponsor of the strike, and to provide strike pickets.

On May 1st the strikers turned out en masse for the May Day demonstration. At Victoria Park a mass meeting, attended by about 3,400 people, adopted a resolution protesting the cut in the relief allowances to married unemployed of the city. Following the meeting at Victoria Park the demonstrators, led by 17 men and one woman, who had been arrested previously, formed into line and marched through the principal streets of the city to Red Square where another meeting was held.

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On May 3rd ten additional men and one woman were arrested on charges of unlawful assembly when city police dispersed a strike picket of 220 persons near Reilly Park. These included William Griffin and his wife, Esther, I.H. Mathews and others prominent in the Communist Party of Canada. The arrest of these men and women brought the total number of persons arrested to 31, since the strike started.

On the following day, after a mass meeting on Calgary's Red Square, about 375 men and women, after having been granted a permit by city police, paraded through the down-town district, carrying several banners. A group of unemployed veterans carried a banner bearing the inscription "1914 — Promised Everything — 1938 — Starvation."

The 31 men and women arrested since the strike began on various charges, appeared in city police court on May 6th. Twenty-nine of them were remanded until May 9th while the three others were committed for trial at the next sitting of the Criminal Assize Court on charges of assault and intimidation.

On May 9th, strike penalties — reductions of \$3. a week for relief recipients who failed to work on civic projects during April — were put into force. It was reported that only 465 of the nineteen hundred heads of families on relief worked out their hours during the month. It is reliably reported that the strike committee have decided to persecute all those who have returned to work. For this purpose a committee of seven has been appointed, known as "The Phantoms" who are to visit the houses of those at work and assault them without disclosing their identity. This method is calculated to frighten the men from work. "The Phantoms" include [~~deletion: 1 line~~].

The continuous arrival of men from other points, particularly Vancouver, B.C., has not improved conditions, and in view of the nature of the serious



situation, instructions have been issued to the Officer Commanding at Calgary to place our force at the disposal of the city, should assistance be required.

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## B. Fascism.

### 5. The National Social Christian Party.

The National Social Christian Party held a general meeting of officers and functionaries in the St. Thomas d'Aquin Hall, Montreal, on May 5th with over 350 officers — 90% of them in uniform — in attendance. About fifty of those present were women, representing the Womens' Section, and on the platform were seated the high officials of the party including Chief Arcand, the directors of the various committees and Jos. C. Farr of Toronto. The group of directors included:

[~~9~~deletion:2-3 lines]

The general secretary opened the assembly with a short address, thanking the officers for their good work and asking them to continue giving their fullest co-operation in the future. He then asked the secretaries of the various groups represented to say a few words about the work of their respective groups.

The secretary of the St. Henri group, described as a street-car conductor, recounted a conversation which he had with a Jew in the course of which the latter had asked him if he had heard the news that the Fascists were smuggling arms into Canada. He told the Jew that the Communists were doing it and are accusing the fascists of it; further that he (the Jew) had better get ready to leave the country because the time for him and his kind to leave Canada was not far off. This brought a burst of laughter from the audience.

The secretary of the Verdun branch, a doctor, spoke of the difficulties in his branch. He said that a number of English speaking people had asked him to form an English section in Verdun.

Mrs. Adrian Arcand, secretary of the womens' section reported that the section had now reached a membership of a few hundred and that the dues are being paid regularly.

The secretary of the Sorel branch reported good work in his locality, saying that the membership had increased ten fold in the

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last six months.

The secretary of the Valleyfield section complained about the lack of harmony among the officers of his branch. He drew attention to the fact that twenty-five had come to attend this meeting.

The secretary of St. Hyacinthe Bagot spoke of the difficulties which his group had to undergo. The members are subject to much ridicule and some of them who are in business were being boycotted; the work was progressing nevertheless, he declared.

Then spoke the secretaries of the various district zones and wards of the city of Montreal in the following order: Montreal North; Montreal East; Montreal 1; Montreal 2; Montreal North West; Montreal Centre; St. Denis; Hochelaga; Maisonneuve; Rosemount. Their reports dealt chiefly with the question of discipline and the various duties of the members.

Jos. Farr brought greetings from the Ontario Fascists. He stated that the membership there would surpass the 25,000 mark. He thought the Padlock Law was of great advantage to the Fascists in Quebec, while in Ontario the Communists could carry on their work with much more freedom and thus are able to cause considerable trouble for the Fascists. Weekly public meetings are now being held in Toronto, he said. The first of these was attended by 242 people while at the second more than 400 were present. Farr also spoke of the National Conference which is to be held in Kingston, Ont., on June 30th and at which the National Committee and leaders of the party would be elected.

Major Scott spoke of the Legion, stating that only five or six per cent of the total membership belonged to it. He wanted fifty or sixty per cent and said that a good group of officers had been trained capable of handling any number of recruits.

Dr. Lambert spoke of his work of contact with the officers of the party throughout the province. He asked for better and closer co-operations.

Mr. Gatien complained of the lack of capable orators. He stated that one class was being held and asked for more members.

Mr. Leboeuf dealt with the party's organ — Fasciste Canadien —

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saying that the price has been raised to three cents per copy; while Mr. Leroux dealt with the question of meetings in Montreal, declaring that less meetings would be held during the next three months in order to give the chief and other orators an opportunity to visit English speaking districts.

Adrian Arcand was the last speaker. He accused the democrats and "Juivocrats" of spreading false information regarding the Fascists and charged that forged documents and letters were being published in the press. Dealing with the matter of smuggling arms into Canada, as reported in the press, he stated that the Right Hon. the Minister of Justice could put any fascist guilty

of such an act in prison and emphatically declared that the fascists were not guilty of importing "a single pea-shooter." Speaking of "Jewish Domination" he asserted that at a closed meeting of Jews high in the business world, held in one of the largest synagogues of America, they had come to the conclusion that Canada and Australia are the two ideal places for the Jewish element. The Fascists were the only obstacle, he said, and every effort is being made to crush the Fascist movement. The meeting closed at 1 A.M. The Legionaries were reminded to be present at a public meeting scheduled for the 8th May at 2207 Mr. Royal E.

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