

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE HEADQUARTERS

OTTAWA, Ont.,
October 21st 1938.SECRETNO. 903WEEKLY SUMMARYREPORT ON COMMUNIST AND FASCIST ORGANIZATIONSAND AGITATION IN CANADA

The Communist Party has decided to withdraw the candidature of Fred Rose from the Federal by-election in Montreal — Cartier riding. Neither will run a candidate for the St. Louis seat in the Provincial by-election but will throw all its forces behind Raoul Trepanier, President of the Montreal Trades and Labour Council, who is running in opposition to Louis Fitch, K.C., who has the endorsement of Premier Duplessis

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APPENDIX NO. I. GENERALA. Communism.1. The Houston A.F. of L. Convention and the C.I.O.

The Fifty-eighth Annual Convention of the American Federation of Labour held at Houston, Texas, resolved to continue the warfare against the Committee for Industrial Organization despite the desire for mediation expressed in certain quarters. It appears that the three year old conflict between these two labour organizations has now been definitely extended to Canada, Central America and even to the European labour movement under the banner of the Amsterdam Federation of Trade Unions.

The convention, on October 10th, approved a resolution attacking John L. Lewis, chairman of the C.I.O., and calling for "no peace terms with dictatorship or communist leaders, but ready to receive a genuine peace appeal." John L. Lewis was attacked as a "Caesar who had constituted himself as a dictator of the C.I.O." The latter offered to resign if William Green would resign as president of the A.F. of L. President Green characterized the proposal as a "grandstand play," pointing out that Lewis would still remain dictator of the United Mine Workers — the dominating organization in the C.I.O.

In thanking William G. Russell, fraternal delegate of the Canadian Trades and Labour Congress, for addressing the convention, William Green demanded that the Canadian representative inform the executive of his organization that they must rid themselves of all C.I.O. elements. "Either the C.I.O. unions must go out or we will get out," Mr. Green warned. Pointing out that all the state federations and central bodies throughout the United States of America had purged themselves of C.I.O. affiliates, he informed the Canadian representative that he "expected the Canadian organization to act likewise." "The Canadian Trades and Labour Congress," he declared, "must be placed upon a sound and enduring A.F. of L. basis, if it is to continue its affiliation with the A.F. of L."

Stringent control of charters already issued, and about to be issued by the C.T. and L.C., was demanded by the convention after speakers had alleged that the Dominion organization had become infiltrated with the C.I.O. and with communists. Reporting on the resolut-

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ions dealing with the Canadian labour situation, the secretary of the Resolutions Committee stated that the committee had discovered "a most regrettable condition" in the Canadian Trades and Labour Congress due to the infiltration of the Communist Party. He said that "the Canadian body had issued national charters to groups of Workers in Canada in conflict with existing jurisdiction

of the A.F. of L.” and that it had also issued charters to central labour bodies “without the consultation, advice or approval of the A.F. of L.”

The report of the Resolutions Committee was adopted on October 11th. It instructs the executive council of the A.F. of L. to notify all central labour bodies in Canada that they must obtain charters from the A.F. of L. in addition to charters issued by the Canadian Trades and Labour Congress. Under the terms of this report the executive council of the A.F. of L. is required to approve or reject all applications of the Canadian Congress for charters. Hereafter, the Canadian Congress may not issue charters to local unions unless applications have first received the approval of the A.F. of L. Council.

The firm stand taken by the A.F. of L. Convention at Houston is a severe blow to the C.P. of C. and its leaders are very much afraid that the Executive Council of the Canadian Trades Congress will fall in line with the decisions of the convention.

The communist press, in many leading articles and editorials, commenting upon the decision of the Houston Convention, urges the Canadian trade unions to fight for the present status quo of organized labour in Canada. The Daily Clarion, for October 11th, in a lengthy editorial, says in part:

Canadian labour, and the Canadian people as a whole, re-echo the words uttered by W.G. Russell, the fraternal delegate at the Trades Congress at the Houston Convention. Russell said, ‘it was in no spirit of defiance of the A.F. of L. or its leadership that we in Canada passed that resolution (on unity), but due to our proximity to the basic problems of industry, and it must be remembered that the majority of the delegates at the convention in Canada are workers in the mills, mines and factories and in the final analysis, it is they, the workers in a given industry, who will decide what form of organization is best adopted to their particular needs.’ The news from the Houston Convention of the A.F. of L. plainly proves that William Green, Matthew Woll and John P. Frey, who opposed trade union unity, are hopelessly out of tune with the great majority of the workers and democratic people of the

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United States and Canada.....

Every Canadian is vitally affected by this great issue. Only the plutocracy of St. James and Bay Streets will gain if the trades congress is defeated and disrupted.

It is the bounden duty of every trades and labour council, every craft and industrial union in the Dominion to jump into the battle to preserve trades congress unity.

Telegrams, postcards and letters calling for unity should descend like a torrent upon the table at which Russell, Canada's delegate, sits, down in Houston..... This means to carry out the resolutions of the Niagara Falls Convention. This is the way to get more power into the great crusade that is needed from coast to coast to build up the trade union movement."

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**2. Communist chieftains call for World Unity of Labour
to halt Fascist aggression.**

Tim Buck, General Secretary of the Communist Party of Canada, who, it will be remembered suddenly left for Europe recently, is reported to have attended a meeting at Paris, France, of representatives of the Communist Parties of Western Europe and North America at which the situation created by the Munich agreement was discussed. The meeting issued a manifesto over the signatures of the following Communist leaders:

"Maurice Thorez, France; Harry Pollitt, Britain; Jose Diaz and La Pasionaria, Spain; Klement Gottwald, Czechoslovakia; Earl Browder, United States; Wilhelm Pieck, Germany; M. Ercoli, Italy; Xavier Relecom, Belgium; Jules Humbert-Droz, Switzerland; Sven Linderot, Sweden; Tim Buck, Canada."

The manifesto, calling upon all working class forces to unite in support of Loyalist Spain, was widely published in the Communist Press of Canada. It reads in part:

"A crime against world peace was committed September 30 at Munich when Chamberlain and Daladier sacrificed the independence of Czechoslovakia and the cause of the security of the people to international fascism.

The Munich crime must be added to a long list of capitulations before the international fascist warmakers.

The monstrous dictate which sanctified the dismemberment of Czechoslovakia continues the policy of complicity which helped Mussolini in the conquest of Ethiopia.

It continues the policy of complaisance which allowed Hitler to occupy the demilitarized Rhineland Zone in defiance of international agreements.

It continues the abominable policy adopted by the French and British governments towards republican Spain, the armed invasion of which by the Italian and German

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fascists had been tolerated and cloaked under the pretext of non-intervention.

It continues the policy of capitulation followed by the French and British governments when Hitler annexed Austria, whose independence they had guaranteed.

It continues the abominable weakening of the League of Nations, which the peoples had hoped would safeguard peace and whose importance today had dwindled as a result of the violation of international agreements by the governments of Britain and France.....

Chamberlain's great betrayal was directed not only against Czechoslovakia, which was delivered up to Hitler, but against France, which international fascism wants to isolate in order to destroy.

It is directed against the Spanish Republic, which they want to share the fate of Czechoslovakia.

It is directed against democracy and social conquests which they want to destroy in Britain, France and elsewhere.

It is directed against the Soviet Union, in which the workers of all lands and the small states whose existence is threatened see the bulwark of the peace of the world.....

The Munich betrayal could have been avoided if the numerous and pressing appeals by the Communist International for united action had not been rejected by the Labor and Socialist International.

The Munich betrayal could have been prevented if all the international workers' organizations had been rallied into a single front of struggle, if the affiliation of the Soviet trade unions had not been rejected by the reactionary leaders of the International Federation of Trade Unions.

The Munich betrayal could have been prevented if the resolutions of the Labor and Socialist International and the International Federation of Trade Unions, which despite everything took a stand against fascism, had been applied in practice, if there were not a constant contradiction between their declarations and their deeds.

The Munich betrayal, which will remain the shame of all who approved it, shows the desire of big business to start an offensive against the workers in all lands to destroy their social conquests, to destroy democratic liberties and to impose a policy of slavery and war.

Proletarians of all lands, whose means of existence are threatened by fascism, as are your liberties and your lives, unite, because your victorious resistance depends on your unity!

Workers, Communists, Socialists, struggle together against your common enemy!

Despite the Munich betrayal, the cause of peace is not lost.

Already, in every land, the anger of the people is mounting against this betrayal. Everywhere the peace-loving forces, who as President Roosevelt

said, constitute the great majority of mankind, see in the Soviet Union, which is always faithful to its engagements, the great hope of civilization and peace.

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What needs to be done now is to organize these immense forces, which if they stay united, are unconquerable, both from the moral and material standpoint.....

At the first attempt of the men of Munich to do to Spain what has already been done to Czechoslovakia, popular protest must raise its voice everywhere, powerful resolute, ready to stop at nothing to halt this new crime against peace.

Struggle against this betrayal of Munich, for peace, dignity and the independence of the peoples, for defense of democracy and social progress, for the interests of the peoples.

With all your forces impose upon the leaders of the Labor and Socialist International and the International Federation of Trade Unions the calling of an international conference to organize the struggle against fascism, against war, for the defense of Czechoslovakia, to save Spain and peace.

Let the peace forces be organized from the smallest village to the biggest city!

Let the defense of heroic Spain be organized everywhere! Let the growing solidarity with Spain every day be affirmed by giving bread, clothing and other necessities.

No, fascism will not pass!

The war forces will not triumph over the peace forces. The people of France, Britain and the United States, supporting the Soviet Union, constitute a force for peace which can draw in the little states and give confidence to sacrificed Czechoslovakia and the martyred peoples of Germany and Italy.

3. Russian Communists hold annual Convention at Winnipeg.

The Russian Workers' and Farmers' Clubs, [~~deletion:1 line~~] held its Eighth National Convention at Winnipeg from October 1st to 6th with forty-four delegates, representing fifty-four branches, and two delegates from the Progressive Doukhobors Association, in attendance. In addition to the official delegates there were several fraternal delegates and guest speakers present, including Mayor John Queen, ex-Judge Stubbs, Dorothy Cox, from the League for Peace and Democracy, P. Lysetts, representing the Ukrainian Labour Farmer Temple Association, Mrs. Kretaherowsky, from the Women's Section

of the U.L.F.T.A. and M. Korol, from the Canadian Ukrainian Youth Federation.

P. Yutsyk opened the convention and in his address made special mention of the seventy members of the organization who went to Spain to fight in the ranks of the Loyalist Army. He presented a list of those killed in action.

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M. Yasny presented the main report in which he discussed the present economic — political situation and the political task of the Russian Workers' and Farmers' Clubs. T. Kurban presented the report on behalf of the Central Executive. His report disclosed that since the last convention the organization had gained 610 new members; further that it operates twenty-two schools throughout the country for both children and adults. He also reported that the organization had collected over \$16,000 for Spain, purchased one ambulance and recruited seventy volunteers for the Loyalists, eight of whom fell on the battlefield.

The report and discussion on Kanadsky Gudok, the official organ of the organization, revealed that 50% of the subscriptions came from outside the organization. Complaints were made that not all of the members subscribed to the paper and it was strongly recommended that Kanadsky Gudok become a live issue in every branch of the organization throughout Canada. It was further recommended that the circulation of this paper among the Doukhobors be increased and with that and in view a special effort should be made in the next campaign set aside for that purpose. It was suggested that the next campaign should have for its objective a total of 6,000 readers or subscribers.

Greetings to the convention were presented by several of the fraternal delegates in attendance, including Mrs. K. Stefanicka, Dorothy Cox, P. Lysetts and Korol. The latter urged the convention to organize the youth, particularly among the Doukhobors. Ex-Judge Stubbs, who addressed the convention on October 4th, had much praise for the Russian Workers' and Farmers' Clubs and their brothers in the U.S.S.R. He, as a British subject, was ashamed of the policy of the British Government. Mayor Queen addressed the gathering on October 6th, and in a short speech appealed to the Russian workers and farmers to "defend Canadian democracy and to help make Canada a better country to live in."

The concluding session held on October 7th, witnessed that election of a new executive, consisting of: [deletion:2 1/4 line]

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During this session, the convention, [~~deletion:1 1/4 line~~] changed the name from Russian Workers' and Farmers' Clubs to "Russian Canadian Clubs." The executive Committee was given power to reduce membership fees in the case of members who are unemployed or receive low wages. The convention pledged itself to work more energetically with a view to acquainting Russians in Canada with the socialistic achievements in the U.S.S.R. and the role played by that country in the fight for "peace, progress and democracy." The convention further resolved to organize the Russian youth in Canada and for that purpose the Executive Committee was instructed to form a youth committee and later called a youth conference at which definite steps are to be taken respecting the formation of the proposed youth organization. The usual C.P. stock resolutions were passed, such as protesting the Quebec Padlock Law, the Chamberlain policy, etc.

The convention revealed that the organization is slowly but steadily growing, having now a membership of over 2,000 members, which represents one-fifth of the total Russian population in Canada, exclusive of the Doukhobor sect. Considerable gains were also recorded among the Doukhobors.

4. Agitation against the Munich Agreement continues.

The National Office of the [~~deletion:2 words~~] Canadian League for Peace and Democracy at Toronto has distributed thousands of copies of a resolution addressed to the Prime Minister of Canada, criticizing the Canadian Government for endorsing the "betrayal of the principles of the League of Nations." The intention is to have same passed by the various groups or branches of the League throughout the country, as well as labour unions and other organizations sympathetically inclined. The resolutions reads:

"TO THE PRIME MINISTER OF CANADA

The Right Honourable W.L. MacKenzie King, P.C., M.P.

House of Commons,

Ottawa, Ont.

While sharing the relief occasioned by the removal

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of the immediate danger of war, nevertheless we feel that:

WHEREAS:

The means that have been taken to avert war have:

1 - Sacrificed the honor and threatened the integrity of Britain and France, who as members of the League of Nations, and signatories to the Kellogg-Briand Pact, and other pacts of mutual assistance, were pledged

to respect the independence of Czechoslovakia. And that this was done with no mandate from the peoples of those countries.

2 - That it has tremendously weakened the principles of the League of Nations by the present substitution of a Four Power Pact in which Russia and the smaller democracies are to have no voice;

AND WHEREAS:

We believe that the guarantees that peace can be maintained for any length of time on the basis of pledges made at Munich by Germany and Italy are not to be relied upon, because of the past record of broken pledges by these powers — the conquest of Ethiopia, the re-arming of the Rhineland — the refutable evidence of German and Italian intervention in Spain — the disregard of the promises for the independence of Austria, etc.

AND WHEREAS:

We greatly regret the silence of the Canadian Government in not giving leadership to the Canadian people during the crisis and its acceptance of the betrayal of the principles of the League of Nations;

WE THEREFORE urge that, as Prime Minister, you use your influence to see that Canada takes a firm stand now on the side of Peace and Democracy by exerting every effort to see that the present international anarchy is replaced by the rule of international law, made permanent and effective through the League of Nations."

5. Strikes and Unrest Throughout Canada.

(i) Demonstration against New Relief Regulations at Winnipeg.

Approximately 850 men and women paraded at Winnipeg on October 8th in protest against the new Relief Regulations commonly referred to as the "Yellow Dog Contract." A mass meeting on the Parliament Building Grounds, attended by about 1,000 persons, terminated the demonstration held under the official auspices of the Manitoba Conference of Unemployed with the support of some of the labour unions, including the Winnipeg Musicians Union who supplied a band for the occasion.

The mass meeting on the Parliament Building Grounds, held under the chairmanship of J. Rawlinson, vice-president of the Trades and Labour Council, was addressed by R. McCutcheon, secretary of the Greater Winnipeg Trades and Labour Council, who emphasized the fact

that his organization had always been ready to help the unemployed in their struggle for better living conditions; C. Foster, one of the executive members of the Manitoba Conference of Unemployed; Mrs. Rose Harker, [deletion:3-4 words] officially representing the Women's Federation; L.St. G. Stubbs; James Oliver, representing the Canadian Brotherhood of Railway Employees; Vic. Anderson; Jock McNeil of the C.P.; Sam Sykes, representing the Canadian Disability Pension's Association and J.H. Unwin of the Social Credit Party.

L.St. G. Stubbs advanced the slogan "Agitate, Educate and Organize," and concluded his remarks with the famous motto coined by Karl Marx: "Workers of the World Unite, you have nothing to lose but your chains." Disappointment was voiced by some of the leaders at the small attendance as the parade had been extensively advertised.

(ii) Many transients arrested in Vancouver for mass
begging on streets.

Over one hundred single unemployed — transients — have been arrested in Vancouver since October 17th for mass begging in the down-town area of the city.

On October 17th, following a meeting of single unemployed, approximately 100 men in small groups invaded various restaurants where they ordered meals for which they refused to pay. Thirty-five of these men were arrested by the City Police on charges of obtaining meals under false pretences and later sentenced to imprisonment.

On the day following, after an impromptu meeting at 60 Cordova Street, about 100 men appeared on the streets bearing placards and soliciting funds with tin cans, and impeded the passage of pedestrians on the sidewalks. Forty-four of these men were arrested and were arraigned at a special court.

It is said that all of the single unemployed — members of the Single Unemployed Men's Association — who are not in receipt of relief, are now in custody, serving sentences ranging from four to six months.

(iii) Unemployed transients at Toronto ask for mass
arrest should City refuse to provide for them.

Approximately 100 single unemployed men who are housed in

the Ukrainian Hall on Berkeley Street challenged the Police to arrest them when they were informed the Sheriff of Toronto would evict them from the building which has been condemned as being unfit for the purpose of sheltering such a large body of men.

It is rumoured that a delegation from the S.U.M.A. is to proceed to Ottawa shortly to place their case before the Federal Government.

The membership of the S.U.M.A. in Toronto at the present is approximately one hundred and seventy, but under the direction, and with the assistance of, the Communist Party, the leaders are energetically recruiting and strengthening the organization.

(iv) Strike at Nacmine, Alta., Settled.

The strike of 130 men employed by the Red Deer Valley Coal Company at Nacmine, Drumheller Valley, which has been in progress since September 24th, has been settled, the men returning to work on the 17th of October.

(v) United Mine Workers (C.I.O.) call off strike
in Estevan-Bienfait lignite field

Pending establishment of a board of conciliation, the U.M.W.A. at a mass meeting held at Bienfait on October 20th, decided to call off the strike and proceed to work on October 21st. The action ended a four-day strike which involved over 500 men, and tied-up operations in the large mines in the Estevan-Bienfait field. Fifteen small mines, owners of which signed an agreement with the U.M.W.A. and the Truax-Traer Coal Company mine, one of the larger producers, were not affected.

(vi) Freight Handlers at Port McNicholl stage strike.

Two hundred freight handlers at the Canadian Pacific Railway shed at Port McNicholl, Ontario, returned to work on October 8th, pending settlement of the demands for wage increases and a new contract. The men had been out on strike for two days which tied up three Lake freighters.

B. Fascism.

6. The National Unity Party.

Le Combat National, official organ of the National Unity Party for October, contains an item captioned "The Congress of 20 Nations Greets Adrien Arcand," in which it is alleged that the Fourth anti-Jewish and anti-Communist Congress held at Erfurt, Germany, at the beginning of September, passed a resolution extending greetings to Adrien Arcand. The text of the greeting is given as follows:

"To Adrien Arcand, the young and valiant leader who fights for the good of his beautiful country, Canada, and the salvation of mankind, and whose activities find an enthusiastic echo over the whole world, the 20 Nations convened in Congress at Erfurt, send to the audacious pioneer in Montreal their pan-Arian greetings and their wishes for the triumph of the cause he represents, a cause based on the highest national and social ideals which aims at the realization of the unity of the peoples crushed by the Jews."

Le Combat National proudly proclaims that the National Unity Party feels greatly honoured by such a eulogy of its leader.

The recently formed "Iron Guard" to act as a body guard for the leader — Adrien Arcand — numbers eighteen members, all of whom are five feet ten inches and over in height. These men are being trained periodically under the direction of [deletion: 1 word].

[deletion: 1 word] who had been charged with the task of organizing the Italian Group, has been replaced by [deletion: 2 words] The latter, known as "Inspector of the Italian Members", in a discussion with [deletion: 2 words] recently, suggested the formation of an Italian Group for the purpose of performing occasional acts of sabotage. [deletion: 1 word] vetoed this, explaining that one single act of sabotage, no matter how small, might ruin the party and all the effort spent in building it up.

APPENDIX NO. II: REPORTS BY PROVINCES.1. Manitoba.7. Ukrainian Labour Farmer Temple Association at Winnipeg
starts construction of additional Temple.

The Ukrainian Labour Farmer Temple Association, in conformity with the decision reached at a mass meeting held on August 28th, has started work on a new building for the Point Douglas Branch, near Euclid Avenue and Main Street, Winnipeg. The laying of the cornerstone took place on October 9th, witnessed by over 2,000 people. The ceremony commenced at 2.30 p.m. and concluded at 5.30 p.m., after several speakers, including John Naviziwski (Navis) and John Boychuk, had exhorted the crowd to display a greater interest in the affairs of the association. Special appeals for financial contributions were made and donations ranging from \$50 to 25¢, totalling \$1,100, were received. Many who had no money to offer pledged from two to five days free labour towards the construction of the building. The ceremony of placing the corner-stone was performed by John Tymochek with the band in attendance playing the "International". A novelty or feature of the affair was the placing of a special scroll, bearing the names of approximately 900 contributors, under the corner-stone.

The building, which is to cost \$20,000, will be an important addition to the chain of buildings — temples — incorporated in the name of the Ukrainian Labour Farmer Temple Association throughout Canada. At the present time there are seventy-eight such buildings owned by the association throughout Canada, the total value of which is in the neighborhood of \$1,000,000.

A small but very verile branch of the Industrial Workers of the World is active in Winnipeg. Formed a short time ago, the organization is led by [deletion:1 word] who is acting as General Organizer for the City of Winnipeg. According to certain statements made by this individual it is the intention of this group to organize the single unemployed upon their return from the harvest fields.
