

## ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE HEADQUARTERS

OTTAWA, Ont.

November 10th, 1938.

SECRETNO. 905WEEKLY SUMMARYREPORT ON COMMUNIST AND FASCIST ORGANIZATIONSAND AGITATION IN CANADA[~~deletion~~: 1/2 page]

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#### APPENDIX NO. I: GENERAL

##### A. Communism.

##### 1. Returning Volunteers from Spain meet with obstacles at French Border and in U.S.A.

Volunteers who have been fighting with the Loyalist forces in Spain, and who are now about to return to countries from which they originated, have recently met an unexpected obstacle in the action of the French Government when more than 300 members of the International Brigade were stopped at the frontier and refused transit across France. Among them are said to be more than 60 Americans and about 50 Britishers, including Canadians. According to the Daily Clarion, organ of the Communist Party of Canada, this move is a complete departure from the usual procedure since the French authorities have, until now, been granting transit visas to foreigners, particularly to Britons and Canadians.

Returning aliens have similarly met with difficulty on arrival in the United States, deportation proceedings having been entered against fifteen foreigners who attempted to re-enter the U.S. after service in the Spanish Civil War. In this connection, Immigration Commissioner James L. Houteling is stated to have informed a petitioning delegation from New York that the law excluding aliens arriving without proper visas must be applied and that the men would not be allowed to enter. He is also said to have promised, however, that an extension of time would be granted in certain cases where the individuals involved might have to return to Germany, Italy or other countries where they claim their life would be endangered due to their having enlisted in the Spanish Government forces.

Although approximately 800 volunteers who left Canada for service in Spain are reported to be returning in the near future, not more than 350 will actually arrive, in the opinion of a volunteer who returned to Canada some time ago. This individual, who describes himself as having been employed on the staff in Spain, avers that Press reports stating that 800 men will return are purposely exaggerated so as to facilitate the raising of funds by the communists through associated bodies such as the Friends of the MacKenzie-Papineau Battalion, in order to defray hospitalization, general expenses, etc; the individual referred to also stated that returning volunteers are issued with

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a small, round, white metal badge in Paris for their services; its chief design being the clenched fist, emblematical of the Communist Salute.

It is anticipated by the communists that difficulty may be experienced in regard to volunteers who left Canada under authority of passports valid for only six months and who, therefore, will be unable to meet Canadian immigration requirements.

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2. Communist Aldermen to refrain from voting on proposed  
financial expenditures in connection with Their  
Majesties' 1939 Visit to Canada.

Communist Party Aldermen in the City of Toronto will abstain from voting on proposed financial expenditures in connection with the visit of Their Majesties, King George VI and Queen Elizabeth, to that city during the summer period of 1939. In order, however, to avoid antagonizing patriotic liberal feelings, the Party will endeavour to ignore Their Majesties' tour of Canada insofar as public C.P. pronouncements are concerned.

Communist policy in regard to Their Majesties' visit will manifest itself by subtle propaganda with a view to explaining "the reason behind the visit," viz,

that the proposed tour is a tactic of the Chamberlain Government to consolidate opinion in Canada and the United States in favour of the policies of the British National Government. A letter published in the Daily Clarion of Thursday, November 3rd, under the heading "Tory Policies and the King's Visit," is of interest as being indicative of the type of propaganda initiated for the purpose referred to:—

"Editor, Daily Clarion"

"It has been decided that King George should visit Canada in 1939. We Canadians have every reason to be suspicious of his visit because it is connected with imperialistic British propaganda, just as his visit has been in France. The French visit had been arranged to persuade the French Government to betray Czechoslovakia in order to weaken the Soviet Union.

"The British ruling circles had found out that the majority of the Canadians are not satisfied with the British foreign policy, that ever since the invasion of Manchuria by Japan and Ethiopia by Mussolini and Czechoslovakia by Hitler the British Tory Government had been playing into the hands of the aggressor fascist nations. And to add to all this confusion the King is going to visit Canada. What country is to be next handed over

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to the fascists by the British aristocratic clique?"

Toronto, Ont.

S.H."

Communist Party functionaries are said to be anything but elated at the prospect of Their Majesties' Canadian visit.

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### 3. Port Arthur Trades and Labour Council inaugurates Nation-wide Campaign to maintain Autonomy of Trades and Labour Congress of Canada.

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As an aftermath of the 58th Annual Convention of the American Federation of Labour held at Houston, Texas, recently, a nation-wide campaign to maintain the autonomy of the Trades and Labour Congress of Canada has been commenced by the Port Arthur Trades and Labour Council, Secretary Bruce Magnuson (prominent C.P. member) having mailed copies of a resolution, urging the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labour to respect the independence of the Congress and its supremacy in the legislative field, to all trades councils in the Dominion.

The resolution asks the councils to urge A.F. of L. chieftains that they "respect the autonomy of the Canadian Congress as the representative body not only of Canadian members of international unions with headquarters in the United States but also of Canadian Labour bodies chartered directly by the

congress, all of whom pay per capita tax on the same basis as international union headquarters.”

The request is directed against the resolution adopted at the recent A.F. of L. convention which deprives the congress of its chartering powers.

The Houston resolution makes it obligatory for the congress to submit all applications for charters for approval to the A.F. of L. Executive Council before they can be granted, thus restricting the Canadian union centre's field of activity.

#### 4. The Communist Party embarks on ambitious series of Radio Broadcasts at Winnipeg, Man.

The Communist Party of Canada has embarked upon an ambitious series of radio broadcasts via the medium of Station C.J.R.C. at Winnipeg, Man. Listing broadcasts to be given every Friday from 8.30 p.m. to 8.45 p.m., the Radio Committee instituted for this purpose instructs

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in a directive that each organization named as sponsors for the broadcasts must obtain their own speaker, if at all possible, especially in the case of out-of-town organizations, and stipulates that the cost of sending the speaker to Winnipeg must be covered by the particular constituency involved. However, in the event of this not being possible, according to the directive there are various well known C.P. functionaries in Winnipeg who may be utilized instead. Dates of broadcasts over Station C.J.R.C., together with sponsors in each case, are given as follows by the Radio Committee:—

<u>No.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Sponsors</u>
1.	Oct. 28th	Clarion Broadcast
2.	Nov. 4th	Provincial Education Department
3.	“ 11th	Election Committee
4.	“ 18th	Election Committee
—	“ 25th	(Election Day -no broadcast)
5.	Dec. 2nd	Y.C.L. Broadcast
6.	“ 9th	The Pas Constituency
7.	“ 16th	Literature Committee
8.	“ 23rd	Women's Commission
9.	“ 30th	Portage La Prairie Branch
10.	Jan. 6th	St. Clement's Constituency Committee
11.	“ 13th	Special Branch
12.	“ 20th	Transcona Branch
13.	“ 27th	St. Boniface Branches

14.	Feb.	3rd	Assiniboia
15.	"	10th	East Kildonan Branches
16.	"	17th	Ward 3 Committee
17.	"	24th	Ward 2 Committee
18.	Mar.	3rd	City Committee (Women's Broadcast)
19.	"	10th	Ward 1 Committee
20.	"	17th	Inter-Lake District
21.	"	24th	Trade Union Commission
22.	"	31st	Ward 3 Committee
23.	Apr.	7th	Provincial Executive Committee

Among those mentioned as substitute speakers in case of necessity are such well known C.P. members as J. Litterick, Annie Buller, Florence Gunn, Bill Ross, J. Forkin, Andrew Bilecki, Mitchi Sago and others.

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5. Ukrainian Communists attack policy of British Government at Mass Meeting in Walker Theatre, Winnipeg.

The Ukrainian Labour Farmer Temple Association held a mass meeting in the Walker Theatre at Winnipeg on October 23rd against possible secession of Carpathia — Ruthenia from Czechoslovakia. The meeting was disappointing inasmuch as it only attracted less than 1,000 people, most of whom were Ukrainians. Four speakers addressed the gathering; Walter Gregorak, a Czechoslovak; John Boychuk, a

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Ukrainian; Frank Vass, a Hungarian; M. Strilich of the Lemko Association; and P. Lysetts, [~~deletion: 1/2 line~~]

Speaking in Ukrainian, John Boychuk emphatically condemned the "pro-fascist" policy of the British Government. Frank Vass, speaking on behalf of the Hungarians [~~deletion: 1 word~~] assured the Czechoslovakian Republic of their support and co-operation. M. Strilich dwelt upon the life and history of the people inhabiting that country; their oppression under Magyar rule when Hungary was a part of the old Austro-Hungary Empire. P. Lysetts spoke on the Ukrainian situation in general and bitterly condemned Poland and Rumania. He depicted Czechoslovakia as the most democratic republic in Europe.

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6. Sub-District Convention of Communist Party held in  
Hungarian Hall in Windsor, On.

The sub-District of the Communist Party of Canada, embracing the Border Cities (Windsor — Walkerville) and adjacent towns, held a convention in the Hungarian Hall at Windsor on October 2nd with forty-eight delegates present, seven of whom were from Harrow, six from Kingsville and one from Leamington. [deletion:3/4 line] gave the main reports. [deletion:1 word] in his report, emphasized that "more attention must be paid to the farmers because if we succeed in recruiting most of the farmers into our party then all our members could be placed on gainful jobs, at least during the summer months and thus help the party financially." This, he said, will also help to enlarge the Clarion circulation in the rural districts. He also proposed to re-group all branches in order to give new life to non-functioning branches. He also suggested the revitalizing of all language organizations under the control of the party. He referred to the fact that although the party has only 175 members in Windsor its candidates in the last municipal election polled thousands of votes. In view of this, he maintained it should be comparatively easy to enlarge the membership of the party in that city and place it on a mass basis. Speaking of the mass aspect of the party he is said to have remarked: "While we are still legal we have to build an enormous machine that will bring the long awaited revolution about."

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The convention passed nine resolutions, all of which dealt with organizational questions. A new city committee was elected consisting of:

Chairman	— [deletion:name]
Sub-Dist. Secretary	— [deletion:name]
Org. Secretary	— [deletion:name]
Financial Secretary	— [deletion:name]
Dues Secretary	— [deletion:name]
Literature Director	— [deletion:name]
Educational "	— [deletion:name]
Unemployed "	— [deletion:name]
Director of Women's Work	— [deletion:name]
Youth Director	— [deletion:name]
Language "	— [deletion:name]

The above mentioned members of the city committee (Windsor -Walkerville) will also serve on the sub-District Committee with the addition of three members from other points: [deletion:3/4 line], and one to be elected from the Harrow-Chatham-Sarnia Branches.

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7. Strikes and Unrest throughout Canada.

(i) Unemployed occupy Public Utilities Building at  
Port Arthur, Ontario.

Following the presentation of a petition to the Port Arthur City Council by a delegation from the newly formed Port Arthur Unemployed Association on October 24th, 400 single unemployed men occupied the Public Utilities Building, Port Arthur, on November 4th. Marching to the city's largest office building during the afternoon, the men filed into the main floor of the building and demanded an audience with the City Council. Spreading through three floors of the building the men remained for five hours, keeping the elevators busy as they moved back and forth between the floors and seriously inconveniencing individuals having business in the building.

Members of the Council met in a special session at seven o'clock in the evening and decided to grant meals to the single unemployed at the rate of 30¢ per day for two days. When the men were informed of the decision they at first decided to reject it and remain in the building all night, but on being spoken to by the Acting Mayor, accepted the offer and left the building. The unemployed, mostly lumbermen, had their numbers augmented during the following days by

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new arrivals from lumber camps, but no disorder ensued and the situation remained quiescent.

On November 7th the single unemployed accepted the proposals presented on behalf of the Council and the Provincial Government, whereby relief work will be provided for single men who are bona fide residents of the city. Out of 427 who registered following the demonstration, 88 have been accepted by the City Welfare Department as local residents and work will be provided for them. The balance of the single unemployed will receive 30¢ per day relief until they are accepted for work or rejected as not being bona fide residents of Port Arthur.

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(ii) Single Unemployed Men's Association forms  
"Hostel Section" at Toronto.

Agitation among the transient element in Toronto, against the recent decision of the Municipal authorities to institute a work programme for relief recipients, continues. At a joint meeting on November 2nd of Toronto men



and transients, at which approximately 400 persons were present, it was decided that relief recipients would refuse to work on the city project and a delegation of twenty members was elected to meet the Board of Control with a demand for work and wages and that the hostels be abolished. The Toronto Trades and Labour Council is said to be supporting this demand.

The principal speaker at the meeting was George Harris of the Single Unemployed Men's Association who, besides advocating the establishment of a work and wages programme — or, alternatively, project work in camps, — stressed the necessity of the formation of a "Hostel Section" of the association; this section to be part of the S.U.M.A. but distinct from the Transients Section. Kemp, an active member of the S.U.M.A., was nominated as Secretary of the new section and four representatives each from the Salvation Army, House of Industry, and Wellington Street Hostels were elected to act as committee men of the Toronto. S.U.M.A. (Hostel Section).

In the Transient Section of the S.U.M.A. considerable embarrassment has been caused by the disappearance of Talbot Walker, President of the association, allegedly with part of the union funds

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amounting approximately to the sum of \$90; Quinney, Treasurer of the union, is also said to have disappeared with a portion of the finances of the union. S. Brown has been appointed President of the organization in place of Walker.

It has been decided that if the work project instituted by the Toronto City Council for single unemployed is enforced, it will be picketed.

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(iii) Strike at Rosedale Colliery, Alta., terminates.

Negotiations between officials of the U.M.W.A. and the Rosedale Collieries Limited, resulted in the strike at the Rosedale and Star Mines, Rosedale, Alta., being terminated on October 29th, the labour situation throughout the Drumheller Coal Field returning to normal.

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(iv) Striking Shoeworkers at Humberstone, Ont., reach Agreement with Management.

Concluding a series of conferences between the Honourable Norman Hipel, Minister of Labour for Ontario, Louis Fine, chief conciliator of the Department of Labour and representatives of the striking employees of the Humberstone Shoe Company, an agreement was reached on October 29th, the strike being finally settled the following day at a mass meeting of the employees. With 460

employees formerly on the payroll of the company, it is expected that within two weeks approximately 250 will be back at work while the remainder will be absorbed as rapidly as business permits. Although the name of the union is not mentioned in the agreement it is stipulated that there is to be no union discrimination of any kind on the part of the Company.

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(v) Automobile Workers at Windsor conclude strike.

Negotiations conducted during the preceding weekend brought to an end on Monday, October 24th, the strikes involving the Chrysler, L.A. Young, Duplate Glass Company and the Kelsey Wheel plants. When proposed sympathetic strike action in Detroit to prevent the flow of needed parts to Windsor failed to materialize, the leaders of the U.A.W.A. at Windsor realized that no benefit would accrue from a

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continuation of their stand.

Although the objectives of the strike have not been secured, union leaders claim a victory, inasmuch as the union has received recognition and machinery has been provided by means of which controversial points may be negotiated as they arise from time to time. The strike at the Walker Metal Products plant was not included in the settlement on October 24th, but through the efforts of the Ontario Department of Labour an agreement was reached between the employees and the company on November 1st. The first of the series of five strikes which have lately beset the other industry in Windsor, the strike at the Walker plant — in progress since August 9th — was the most prolonged of them all, and was the cause of some disorder between pickets and non-strikers and of subsequent proceedings in the courts.

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(vi) Unemployment situation in Vancouver, B.C.

It has been announced by the British Columbia Government that relief camps will be opened for single unemployed individuals at a number of points on the mainland and on Vancouver Island. Accommodation for approximately 2,000 individuals is being arranged.

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(vii) Single Unemployed Protective Association, Edmonton.

Members of the Single Unemployed Protective Association who, on November 3rd, gathered in error at the Edmonton Relief Kitchen in the expecta-

tion of registering for farm work, instead of at the new Immigration building where officials of the Provincial Government were awaiting them, decided — at the instigation of their leaders — to order meals at various Edmonton restaurants and to refuse payment therefor. Upon this plan being put into operation, twelve individuals were arrested by the City Police, ten of whom were convicted and sentenced to terms of imprisonment with hard labour.

At the present juncture, registration for farm work is said to be proceeding quietly and no further trouble has been experienced.

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### B. Fascism.

#### 8. The National Unity Party.

The anticipated extension of the Section Feminine of the National Unity Party is meeting with little success, and only in Montreal is there any actual activity. Adrien Arcand's desire for a strong Women's Auxiliary which, besides performing certain duties in connection with his "army," would provide an influential means of spreading Fascist propaganda, has shown little promise of fruition to date. Meetings at which feminine members are present, are held from time to time, and are sometimes addressed by Mrs. Arcand, Mrs. Picard or one or other of the Party leaders. Such meetings, however, seldom attract an attendance of more than twenty members.

Party and public meetings continue to be held in Montreal from time to time. At the former type of meeting, the lack of attendance is causing some concern to the leaders, while at public meetings it has been observed that the audience is composed to greater part of curiosity seekers who have no actual connection with the Party.

A public meeting, held on the 2nd of November at 1896 Orleans Street, drew an attendance of approximately 300 people, the majority of whom were middle aged. Dressed in the Party uniform were about fifty men and approximately fifteen women. The meeting which was presided over by C.H. Taffett, was addressed by Lefebvre and Bourgoïn, who both gave speeches that they had learned at the classes in public speaking now a part of Party training. Speeches made were of the usual trend, viz., attacking the Jews; denunciation of the present Government of Canada; and emphasizing that the N.U.P. is not permitted similar radio broadcasting privileges to those granted to the communists.

The funeral of William Whittaker, at one time the leader of the Party in Winnipeg, took place in that city on October 29th. Approximately 200 persons attended the ceremony which was of a semi-military nature, the Last Post

being sounded by a bugler and the Fascist Salute given by members of the Party.

It is reported that negotiations are underway for the setting-up of a printing plant in Winnipeg for the purpose of printing pamphlets and propagandist literature to be used on behalf of the National Unity Party.

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APPENDIX NO. II: REPORTS BY PROVINCES.

I. Saskatchewan.

9. Communist Party to support Mayor Ellison for  
re-election at Regina.

Due to the lack of a suitable candidate to contest the Mayoralty seat in the forthcoming Regina civic elections, Communist Party support is to be directed towards the re-election of Mayor Ellison. This policy has, however, only been adopted through force of circumstances and due to the fact that Mayor Ellison, although ordinarily unsympathetic towards the Communist Party, will, at times, co-operate with the organization mentioned. The Party also intends to bring its influence to bear upon the election of Alderman S.B. East and Victor Olson.

II. Quebec.

10. Communists attempt to offset criticism of C.P.  
broadcasts given over Radio Station C.B.M.,  
Montreal, P.Q.

In order to offset the criticism directed at Radio Station C.B.M., Montreal, for the granting of broadcasting facilities on two occasions to the Communist Party under the auspices of the Communist Election Committee, District of Cartier, P.Q., each C.P. member has been instructed to write a letter as a private citizen to the authorities of the radio station referred to, thanking them for their democratic, fair, and broad-minded attitude in connection with the broadcasts and describing their appreciation of the speeches delivered by Fred Rose and Stanley Ryerson, respectively.

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