SECRET

INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE HEADQUARTERS, OTTAWA

WEEKLY SUMMARY NOVEMBER 6, 1939

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War Series No. 3

LABOUR UNREST

POLICE SENT TO BIENFAIT AREA (ESTEVAN)

Throughout the past week picketing has continued over the Western Dominion Coal Co.'s Strip Mine at Bienfait, and efforts of the mine management to send sufficient workers through the picket lines have not met with any success. The injunction restraining the local union of the United Mine Workers of America from interfering until November 14 with the continued operations in the mine has failed to disperse the strikers, who maintain that they are justified in "peacefully" picketing the property. No trouble occurred during last week's activities. The local union of U.M.W. of A. intend to carry the injunction into Court.

On October 27, Mr. Lind, K.C., counsel for the mine management, had warrants sworn out for the arrest of a number of pickets who obstructed strike-breakers, but the execution of these were withheld pending the out-

come of a conference between Premier of Saskatchewan, Major Mac-Pherson, K.C., counsel for the United Mine Workers of America, and Mr. Stokaluk, U.M.W. of A. organizer for District 18. The conference proving fruitless, the acting attorney general for Saskatchewan requested the officer commanding the Royal Canadian Mounted Police at Regina to send in sufficient police to ensure peace and order as the company intended to continue operations. Later a "full force" was requested.

On October 30, 150 members of the R.C.M.P. and 16 horses were dispatched to Bienfait, and it is hoped that this show of strength will have the effect of averting a clash between the various factions. Arrival of police brought no signs of hostility and mine traffic remains unimpeded. The mines started work on October 31, without interference or trouble.

Present indications suggest that the strike may be a long-drawn out affair because of the inability of the mine operators to compromise and recognize an all-embracing union in the field.

The management of Western Dominion Coal Company have stated that they do not intend to import labour.[1]

LEADER, TRANSIENT WORKERS UNION, ARRESTED (VANCOUVER)

The first act of the new Canadian Transient Workers Union of Vancouver (see Bulletin 1) was to forward a letter to the Minister of Labour requesting that "Civic assistance be given to between 3,000 and 4,000 men in desperate straits." Failing to elicit Government aid (inasmuch as the majority of the signatories to the letter represented the Cultus Lake strikers who were repatriated to their home provinces last year, but have returned to Vancouver), these men under the leadership of Steve Brodie marched on October 17 to the Provincial Relief Office and demanded aid. In view of their past activities and their grossly exaggerated claims, relief was refused. They attempted a "sit-down" strike, but were dispersed after Mayor Telford of Vancouver interceded and spoke to the men. Their exit resulted in several arrests, amongst whom was Brodie, who was later sentenced in police court to "three months I.H.L."

The Relief Project Workers Union are taking this opportunity of Brodie's absence to gain their former prestige amongst the unemployed in Vancouver.

AGGRESSIVE ACTIONS OF NEW UNION (KIRKLAND LAKE)

[≻deletion: 1 paragraph: 7 lines]

The first issue in this union's campaign will be a demand for an increase of 15 cents per hour in wages, to meet the rise in the cost of living. It was decided to draw up a petition to be presented to the Federal Labour Minister asking that a Conciliation Board be set up to act in this grievance between the company and the employees. The petition will read somewhat along the following lines:

"We, the undersigned workers, do appoint the International Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers Union, Local No. 240, to represent us in this petition."[2]

[≻deletion: 1 paragraph: 3 lines]

B.C. LABOUR DESIRES WAR AIMS (VANCOUVER)

The Vancouver and New Westminster District Trades and Labour Council recently gave approval to a resolution adopted at the last annual convention of the Trades and Labour Congress held at London, Ontario, stating "that labour gives whole-hearted support to the Allied war effort," but contended that it must demand a definite statement of British and Canadian war aims.

[≻deletion: 1 paragraph: 7 lines][3]

COMMUNISM

COMMUNISTS' PART IN QUEBEC ELECTIONS

Running as an independent Communist but with the full support of the Communist Part in Montreal, Evariste Dube, candidate in the St. James Riding in the recent Quebec Provincial elections, polled only 193 votes out of a total 7073 cast in the riding. This defeat reflects the failure of the French-Canadians in that district to support the Communist "ticket," and to some extent is attributed to the operations of the so-called Padlock Law.

The campaign leading up to the election was devoted, in the main, to the issuing of leaflets indicating Communist Party policy, taking full advantage of this opportunity to criticize the Government and its "imperialist war policy" clearly manifesting the views of the Communist Party on conscription and participation of Canada in this war.

In this campaign the defeat of Duplessis was the primary object of the Communists. Though disagreeing with past policies of the Action Liberale Nationale of Mr. Gouin, they were ready to give him full support in his denunciation of the actions of the two major parties and anti-participation sentiments of a large number of his adherents are fundamentally progressive."

The C.P.'s attitude towards the major political bodies in the field and the situation in general was outlined by Dube in an address on October 23 as follows:

"Measures were adopted by the Government with a view to centralizing the powers at Ottawa and in such a way as to endanger the rights of provincial autonomy and to threaten the freedom of speech of French-Canada on conscription and participation......

"The Communist Party is firmly convinced that the Quebec people cannot have faith in L'Union Nationale of Duplessis and in the imperialists supported by St. James Street, King, Lapointe and Godbout. Neither a Duplessis nor a Liberal victory would serve the cause of the popular struggle against conscription and the trusts.....

"The position of the party (Communist) on the imperialist war is well known. We have always fought for the maintenance of peace and against those who have sabotaged collective security in the period just gone by......[4]

"These war aims have the full support of Canadian 'big business' because it hopes to reap another mass of profits in the blood of tens of thousands of young Canadians fallen in the prosecution of a futile and criminal war......

"Under the false pretext of War against Hitlerism, Canadian 'big business' has worked hand and hand with English imperialists and capitalists in bringing our country into an European conflict, the result of which can only bring suffering and misery to our Canadian people....

"Resolutely opposed to conscription and devoted to the cause of liberty and peace, the people of Quebec know today that the present war is a war for imperialist profits, a war which will not serve the cause for liberty but will bring instead only destruction and suffering to the working class.....

"Be prepared for liberty and the speedy conclusion of a just and democratic peace......

"Let us end the imperialist war, and call for a conference of the belligerent and neutral nations, including the Soviet Union."

"WE ARE STRONGER THAN YOU THINK" (TORONTO)

[≻deletion: 1 line] discussing the international situation declared:

"Stalin will help Hitler to defeat Britain and France by sending the Red Army to the Western Front, then when France is defeated, the Russian Army returning home will stop in Germany long enough to establish Communism there, also part of the Red Army will remain in France for the same purpose. By making friends with the small Baltic countries, Russia hopes to be able to hit at Britain. In Canada and the U.S.A., Communists are advocating democracy, and are telling the Canadian people that they are more than willing to help and support the Canadian Government in crushing Hitlerism, but this is only to cover up Communist activities among the workers, as it is very hard to convince Canadian workers that Communism is the best thing for them......"

When asked if he thought the Communist Party in Canada and the United States was strong enough to put up a fight against the Governments of those countries, [\approx deletion: 1 line] stated:[5]

"We are stronger than you think. Our Party can take this country over in 24 hours, but this is not the time yet. The time will come when all these Canadians and other patriots have gone overseas and are getting killed as fast as they get there, and the country is weak. That is the time to act, because that is the time when women will be all against capitalism and its wars. We have good leaders. Our leaders are not sleeping. They are watching every move made by the Government, and will know when the time is ripe." [Seblank][6]

NAZISM

REGISTRATION OF ENEMY ALIENS (As Reported Up To October 16)

| Province | No. of registrars appointed | No. of reg- istrars who have reported | No. of alien enemies registered | Estimated no. of aliens to be registered |
|------------------|-----------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|--|
| British Columbia | a 31 | 15 | 554 | 1405 |
| Alberta | 96 | 57 | 837 | 1809 |
| Saskatchewan | 101 | 77 | 647 | 1719 |
| Manitoba | 56 | 46 | 584 | 677 |
| Ontario | 164 | 103 | 1794 | 2835 |
| Quebec | 30 | 18 | 51 | 1098 |
| New Brunswick | 32 | 12 | 30 | 44 |
| Nova Scotia | 16 | 12 | 66 | 116 |
| Prince Edward Is | sland 7 | 1 | | 10 |
| North West Terri | itories 12 | | | |
| Yukon Territorie | s 7 | — | — | — |
| | 552 | 341 | 4563 | 9713 |

Internments to date, under Defence of Canada Regulations: B.C., 54; Alta., 35; Sask., 65; Man., 19; Ont., 72; Que., 99; N.B., 7; N.S., 16; P.E.I., 1. Total, 368.

NATIONAL UNITY PARTY REMAINS INACTIVE (MONTREAL)

[≻deletion: 1 paragraph: 7 lines][10]