

SECRET

**INTELLIGENCE
BULLETIN**

**ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE
HEADQUARTERS, OTTAWA**

**WEEKLY SUMMARY
NOVEMBER 20, 1939**

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**War Series
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COMMUNISM

PROMINENT COMMUNIST ARRESTED

Arrested on November 15 by the Toronto City Police on a charge of contravening Section 39A of the Defence of Canada Regulations, Douglas Stewart, business manager of the "Clarion," communist weekly published at Toronto, was released on bail of \$2000. Subsequently the Attorney General of Ontario instructed the Crown Attorney to raise the bond to \$5000, as it is intended to proceed against Stewart under indictment. According to the Attorney General, the Provincial Government is taking a very serious view of this case.

LABOUR DEFENCE LEAGUE TO THE RESCUE

Lying dormant for the past few years, the Canadian Labour Defence League, Communist controlled organization in defence of workers' "civil liberties," has again been resurrected. [deletion: 3 lines]

In the November 11 issue of the "Mid-West Clarion," published at Winnipeg, the full particulars relative to this organization are stated. According to this article "the labour movements stand in need of a Dominion-wide Labour Defence League at the present time." "For all signs today point to the fact that labour must stand on guard and fight hard to protect its cherished democratic rights of free speech, press and assembly." "There is no time to lose for the danger signals are flying."

Anticipating the arrest of individuals caught distributing the recent manifesto issued by the Communist Party, this league has taken on the task of advising them should they be apprehended. All arrested are ordered to immediately ask for the help of the C.L.D.L.

Carefully disguising their affiliation with the Communist Party under the role of a Labour Democratic organization, they demand the right of all democratic privileges. Part of a statement issued by [deletion: 1 line] reads as follows:[1]

"The suppression of the French-Canadian labour-progressive journal, *Clarte*, the suspension of the right of Habeas Corpus, the reactionary attacks against elected representatives of the people in Toronto, Windsor and other municipalities, the threat to the 75 pacifist ministers of the United Church who took an anti-war stand and the many prosecutions and convictions under the War Measures Act all go to prove that labour must zealously guard its long-established rights.

"The C.L.D.L. will provide that broad, non-party, non-sectarian defence movement which the labour movement of Canada needs today. I appeal to all those interested in the defence of the democratic rights of the Canadian workers, farmers and middle classes to co-operate in the building up of the C.L.D.L."

SOWING DISAFFECTION IN ARMY UNITS

Disturbing reports have recently been received relative to the activities of Communists in Canadian National Defence forces. It is a generally known fact that the intentions of the Communist Party are to develop and exploit disturbances with a view to undermining discipline and causing widespread dissension amongst the men. To this end members of the Party are filtering into the various units so that when opportunity occurs they will be ready to act.

A recent report from Toronto shows their manner of working. [deletion: 2 lines] circulated a rumour to the effect that this unit would be transformed into infantry as soon as it arrived overseas. Fortunately, this

rumour was immediately checked; otherwise it might have led to serious dissatisfaction, as a number of men are engaged on technical work who, no doubt, would not relish the thought of being assigned to infantry duty. Later this same member received a number of leaflets issued by the Communist Party for distribution to the members of this unit. Several of these however were seized by the authorities and the propaganda was dropped.

In Montreal similar methods are being used. [~~2 lines~~] He told of widespread feelings of discontent prevalent in his unit and of a disturbance which recently occurred during meal hour, presumably caused by an insufficient quantity of food given the soldiers at a charge of 35 cents per meal. He also said that verbal accounts of the riots which occurred in [2] France and in Great Britain after the Armistice in the last war are quite common topics of conversation amongst the men.

He stated "that the spirit of the troops is far different from that of the troops at the beginning of the World War, that insofar as morale and spirit are concerned the troops of today are staring where the troops of 1914-1918 left off. He contends that 99% of those who enlisted did not do so out of a feeling of duty or of patriotism but rather because they had nothing worth-while to look forward to, and further, that they had brought with them into the army a spirit of revolt with which they were animated because of the bad economic conditions under which they have lived for years."

According to [~~1 line~~] the seeds of revolt are clearly widespread and when the "big day" comes, which he thinks is not very far off, "the Communist Party will have the opportunity of fertilizing these seeds."

**"YES, WE ARE COMMUNISTS," BOASTS DUSHNICKI
(TORONTO)**

[~~1 paragraph: 4 lines~~]

"This war between Britain and France on one hand, and Germany on the other, is nothing else but a fight between Imperialist powers over profits, colonies and world domination. But it won't last long, because workers and the members of the Communist Party in Canada and the whole British Empire will not allow themselves to be used as the tools of Chamberlain's reactionary aims. We cannot be satisfied to fight for democracy under the leadership of those who betrayed Spain and Czechoslovakia and who are betraying democracy in England and France. Britain is the chief oppressor of small nations in the world today. Britain has betrayed Ethiopia, Austria, Spain and Czechoslovakia, and she will continue to betray until the workers get around to give the Bum's Rush to the Downing Street Dracula. The people of the Baltic States have now said goodbye forever to the German and British capitalists, they are now joining with the Soviet Union because warm friendship with the

Soviet Union has banished the nightmare of war. Some of our members have reported to Comrade O. Melnychenko that they have been called Communists by the members of the Ukrainian Nationalist organization. What if they are called Communists? Yes, we are Communists,[3] and we are proud of it. We are proud of being members of the Communist International of Lenin and Stalin. We are proud and happy that in all the countries of the old capitalist world hundreds of thousands of members of our International struggle, like the French Communists, against their own war-mongering Imperialists. We are proud to be members of the same International as the Communist, Dimitroff. We are proud to be members of this world party of Communists which has overthrown capitalism forever on one-sixth of the earth and established in its place a Socialist regime of prosperity and peace.”[4][3<blank][Page 5 is missing]

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DISTRICT VIGILANCE COMMITTEES

Vigilance Committees are composed of trusted members of the Communist Party who investigate the activities and complaints of communists in their respective sections. These Section Vigilance Committees are subordinated to the District Vigilance Committee which in turn comes under the Control Commissioner of the Communist Party.

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“KANADSKY GUDOK” PREACHES REVOLUTION (WINNIPEG)

Recent issues of foreign language publications in Canada sponsored by the Communist Party, have cast aside reserve and are vehemently attacking British institutions and Government action. In particular, this is true of “Kanadsky Gudok,” Communist organ in the Russian language published at Winnipeg, Man. Late issues of this paper have been running a serial entitled “The Teaching of Lenin and Stalin about Scientific Foresight.” According to this article it is possible to foresee the outcome of political events. To quote:

“The Party of Marxism, the Party of Communism, the Party of the working class, knew how to establish the rules of social develop-

ment, the rules of a state which is to be at the service of revolutionary realities. This party has not only foreseen the march of events in the future, but has also organized the fight of the working class against capitalist subjection and has achieved a victory of socialism on one sixth of the terrestrial globe.”[7]

The article is based on the teachings of Marx, Lenin and Stalin and stresses the necessity of “carrying on by means of an open political struggle the fight for a victorious Communist regime,” and quotes paragraphs devoted to the “coming revolution of the workers.” It contains teachings, not only on the science of foresight but how to organize and conduct reprisals and revolutions in the same way as the Bolshevik Party did in Russia.

Another article devotes considerable space to the position of Canada in the Soviet sphere of influence and states:

“In Canada the same as in other countries the toiling people decidedly no more believe the capitalist press..... This is particularly true since the war. The toiling masses clearly see that where nations really struggle for their independence the Soviet Union gives them the maximum assistance.”

“Kanadsky Gudok” asserts that Great Britain and France have failed in their attempt to draw the U.S.S.R. into a “war bloc.” Several articles are distinctly pro-German. One paragraph reads:

“The German submarines carry on a quiet energetic war against the enemy commercial ships, mainly against the British. In the short time from the beginning of the war the German submarines have not only given a vital blow to the British commercial fleet but also to the British Navy to a very significant degree. Germany has thus clearly proved that it represents all along an earnest threat not only to the British Merchant Marine but also to the British Navy.”

WHAT EVERY COMMUNIST SHOULD READ

In order to impress upon the Communist Party membership the full significance of their work at this time, personnel have been instructed to digest the policy of the Party as contained in its many official text books. In particular, they are to study “The History of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union.” As this publication is banned in Canada, attempts are being made to smuggle copies through the Customs, and thus augment the considerable number already on hand. To quote from a letter issued by the District Bureau at Toronto stressing the importance of education:[8]

“It is now more necessary than ever that our members carry on systematic self study and educational activity. Our groups must study and discuss, not only the rapidly changing international and domestic situation, but also the basic Marxist-Leninist works on Imperialism and Imperialist war. No clear understanding of the inter-

national situation and the war crisis can be obtained without mastery of the classics of Leninism.

"The most important textbook for reading and group study is the history of the C.P.S.U., copies are now available and can be ordered through your group. Every member should strive to buy a copy of this invaluable work and every group should begin a thorough study of its contents, particularly with the sections dealing with the imperialist war of 1914-1918....

"Two books which will make valuable supplementary reading are 'Fascism and Social Revolution' by Palme Dutte, and 'Military Strength of the Powers' by Max Werner. Cheap editions of these are available or you can get them from your public library."

COMMUNISTS SPLIT OVER POLITICS (VANCOUVER)

The Russo-German Pact continues to sow dissension in the Vancouver Party. It is becoming increasingly evident that Party discipline suffers while members openly criticize functions and policy. One side dares to question the foreign policy of the U.S.S.R. while another believes blindly that Stalin can do no wrong! Unit meetings are being held but the progress made is negligible. The leaders are finding it difficult to convince members that the expansionist policy being pursued by Stalin in the Baltic and the support given the Nazis are directed toward the emancipation of the workers of the world. Members are also critical of the "Advocate," communist publication at Vancouver, and [~~1 line~~] recently stated that it is merely "aping the C.C.F. publication," (The Federationist), and the Party is not conducting a campaign "half as hot as the C.C.F."

Discussing the distribution of leaflets, [~~3 lines~~][9]

SUPPORTING THE HOUSEWIVES LEAGUE (VANCOUVER)

Assisted and abetted by the Communist Party who are surreptitiously defining their policy, the various housewives' leagues throughout the country are organizing to "defeat war-profiteering" as it affects the consumer.

A "delegate conference" was recently called at Vancouver, to which representatives of church and service clubs were invited, in order to set up a council, the object of which will be "to act in the interests of the consumer both provincially and municipally, in conjunction with the War-time Prices and Trades Board of the Dominion Government." The league particularly condemns the rise in necessary commodities, but also undertakes to fight for the raising of wage scales, pensions and relief allowances.

While it is realized that the Communist Party will take a great interest in this work and many persons will enlist solely on "patriotic" grounds,

on the other hand the Party sees in the "good name" of the league an excellent cover for the promulgation of subversive policies.[10]

GENERAL

ALL QUIET ON THE ESTEVAN FRONT

During the past week few developments have occurred in the Estevan-Bienfait lignite area. Pickets, though reduced in number, have continued at their positions. [~~deletion: 2 lines~~], and these meetings were attended by between 500 and 600 men. It was stressed that the strikers intend to continue co-operation with the authorities in every respect and that the strike must be won "acting within the law." While the neutrality of the police is above criticism, the mine operators are bitterly assailed for using unfair tactics and being out "to drive the men back to work by fair means or foul."

A conference was called on November 8 by the Attorney General of Saskatchewan at Regina, with the result that all of the operators, except the Western Dominion management, are willing to accept an all-embracing union in the field. The United Mine Workers of America are agreeable to this.

20 members of the R.C.M.P. were withdrawn to Regina on November 11, and three days later the Attorney General authorized the withdrawal of 30 more members of the force, including the personnel and horses of the mounted section, numbering 16 men. The remainder of the force, approximately 100, will continue on duty in the field until further orders are received.

"COUNTERACT INSIDIOUS PROPAGANDA"

"This war, in a very special sense, is a war of ideas. It is accepted by our people and Allies as a crusade for great principles" and it is essential "to strive to counteract insidious propaganda against us" as well as "to keep a watchful eye on every movement inimical to our interests."

"These words—spoken recently by Lord Macmillan, Minister of Information, on being freed from British censorship control so that he could devote himself to his "real task" of propaganda—apply as fittingly to Canada and other parts of the British Commonwealth as to Great Britain.[11]

The continuous dissemination of "right" information would seem to be as vital to our present security and our ultimate success as is the suppression of "wrong" statements. Up to the present however, only the latter duty has been officially recognized.

We know that in Canada internal enemies are insidiously boring into the foundations of our social and political structure, with the expectation of eventually accomplishing its overthrow. At present we are doing little more than following a policy of watchful waiting for individuals to actually run foul of the War Measures Act and the Defence Regulations

based thereon. We are not carrying the war into the enemy's country with a counter-barrage of wholesome and convincing truths calculated to forestall and counteract the lies.

The pressing need of such a campaign is being demonstrated in the case of the Communist manifesto with its violent tirade against the war and the Allied Governments. Undoubtedly, the attack will have an injurious affect on such ignorant and wavering minds as have not been fortified with the knowledge of facts and are only too ready to believe the worst of any given situation.

The Czecho-Slovak situation is another case in point. The presence among the Czecho-Slovaks of one competent to explain the reasons for registration would have allayed suspicious and encouraged confidence in Canadian democracy.[12]