

**SECRET**

**INTELLIGENCE  
BULLETIN**

**ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE  
HEADQUARTERS, OTTAWA**

**WEEKLY SUMMARY  
NOVEMBER 27, 1939**

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**COMMUNISM**

**"CLARION'S" REACTIONS TO SUPPRESSIVE MEASURES**

Notwithstanding their apparent failure to disturb Canadians over the wholesale distribution of their recent manifesto, the Communist Party are congratulating themselves over the fact that very few individuals have been apprehended by the authorities and, with the exception of Douglas Stewart, manager of "The Clarion," all the leaders are still at large. In this connection the November 18 issue of "The Clarion" states:

"So well was the distribution organized that only 24 arrests were made by the police—4 persons were arrested in Toronto, 9 in Montreal, 3 in Winnipeg, 5 in Vancouver, 2 in Regina and 1 in Calgary."

According to an article in this paper, 10,000 persons participated in the distribution across Canada of 175,000 anti-war manifestos, 25,000 of

which were printed in French. It denounces the capitalist press for their assuming certain facts relative to the originality of the Party manifesto, "The People Want Peace":

"Replying to blasts in the capitalist press that the Canadian Communist manifesto was issued on the basis of the recently-issued manifesto of the Communist International, a leading official of the Communist Party of Canada told The Clarion that the statement distributed last week had been prepared and ratified for distribution in the second week of October, whereas the C.I. manifesto appeared in the second week of November, a month later."

It is rather interesting to note certain references made by "The Clarion" to the publication of the manifesto. On several occasions this document is referred to as coming from an outside source and the paper disclaims all knowledge of its publication. One statement reads:

"The leaflet was signed 'Dominion Executive Committee, Communist Party of Canada, Tim Buck, General Secretary,' and purported to be printed by the Contemporary Publishing Association, Montreal, Que. Police state they have been unable to locate any such company." [2]

Referring to the arrest of Douglas Stewart, "The Clarion," under the headlines "Freedom of Press Dealt First Blow by Hepburn Stooges;" "Stand by the Clarion! Protect Labor's Rights!" declared that its warnings regarding attacks on Labour "rights" had been vindicated by the seizure of papers and arrest of personnel. It accused the Ontario Government of being the most reactionary of provincial administration in its suppression of free speech and free press and, under cover of the war, of attempting to destroy the very democracy we are supposed to be fighting for.

Hepburn, says "The Clarion," is trying to take away the municipal franchise! He is trying to stifle Canada's oldest and most authoritative labor paper! He is, along with Ottawa, trying to stop men and women telling the truth about this war, and he with the federal government, under the fascist provisions of the War Measures Act, is marching towards the establishment here of a totalitarian state replete with political prisoners, concentration camps, a terrorized population and the unbridled rule of the big capitalists who shout for joy at the thought of making millions out of this war."

According to this weekly, every attack upon communism today is an attack upon every labour organization tomorrow. It exhorts workers to rally around the Canadian Labour Defence League.

(On November 21 the publication of "The Clarion" was prohibited, under Regulation 15 of the Defence of Canada Regulations.) [3] [blank]

LEAGUE FOR PEACE AND DEMOCRACY  
(MONTREAL)

A recent report from Montreal states that the League for Peace and

Democracy, an affiliate of the Communist Party of Canada, will close its various offices throughout the country. This is due, apparently, to the control exercised under the War Measures Act which precludes the possibility of this organization disseminating agitation and propaganda. Party leaders realize that because of the composition of its membership,[4] part of which is not communist, the league cannot carry on its agitation for peace in the face of the present stand of the U.S.S.R. and that of the Communist Party without confessing its communist control and leadership. [5][<blank>][Page 6 is missing.][<blank>]

#### COMMUNIST PARTY CLOSES NATIONAL OFFICES

The Communist Party at Toronto have decided to close immediately both the district and national offices. The reasons given are lack of funds, and the offices are not longer essential since the Party has gone "underground." [7]

#### STRIKES IN CANADA INCREASING

Elated over the success of their efforts in the labour field, the Communist Party headlines a recent issue of "The Clarion" "Strikes on Rapid Increase in Canada," to advertise the effect of their endeavour to "help the working class." An article devoted to labour conditions stresses the importance of the great number of strikes (25) which occurred during October of this year. Undoubtedly, many of these were due to Party agitation for "better working conditions," and, comparing the number with other monthly totals, it would seem that the Party have some cause for jubilation. At the same time unfavourable working conditions, in many instances, played into the agitators' hands.

(Such activities as the above serve to emphasize the pressing need for legislation to outlaw as illegal such an organization as the Communist Party of Canada and its affiliates.)

#### "DER VEG" BITTERLY HOSTILE

"Der Veg," communist weekly published at Toronto in the Yiddish language, has recently, in conformity with other publications controlled by the Communist Party of Canada, scathingly denounced the leadership given by the British and Canadian Governments to the people, and has declared its opposition to this stand in no uncertain terms. It expresses satisfaction over the policy enunciated by the Soviet Union concerning the international situation, recent speeches of prominent Soviet leaders quotes and stresses the necessity of workers having implicit faith in the Soviet Union and the "mobilization of the masses for the struggle against the war which is now on."

"The working class today has the mission of conducting a decisive struggle against the regime of relentless terror, oppression and plundering of the populations which have been introduced. The task of the working class today is not to allow the ruling class to lay

the burden of the war on the backs of the labouring people. Today the working class must set as its immediate task the abolishment of Capitalistic slavery, this task becoming more urgent as the crisis deepens in consequence of the war.....”

“The Communist Parties in the Capitalistic countries will get enthused with the heroic example of the Russian Bolsheviks, the example of Lenin’s party, of Stalin’s party, which in the years 1914-1918 showed the way to the workers, and the way out, then assured the victory of Socialism. The Communists shall fulfil their historic mission.”

As the trend of the various articles is extremely anti-British the continued publication of “Der Veg” might arouse serious disaffection.[8]

### GENERAL

#### “DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS MOVEMENT” LAUNCHED

Purported to be sponsored by the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation, the Democratic Rights Movement, (Victoria) recently came into being at Victoria, B.C. This organization, upon its inception, endeavoured to obtain the co-operation of the two major political parties in Canada and other patriotic organizations. A perusal of the aims of this movement resulted in these bodies refusing to lend their support, on the ground that the aims of the movement “were likely to prejudice the war efforts of the British Empire.” These aims are:

- (1) That true democracy in Canada is threatened by the state of war which now exists and suggesting a tentative programme of action.
- (2) A far-reaching campaign demanding the maintenance of peace time democratic rights during the war.
- (3) Freedom of conscience. This involves opposition to conscription of man-power for war purposes.
- (4) Freedom of assembly and maintenance of the right to organize.
- (5) Freedom of expression.
- (6) Recognition by the Canadian Government of the right of individuals to have actual information placed before them through the press and radio. The elimination of distorted news accounts.
- (7) A public demand that the Canadian Government state its war aims clearly.
- (8) Elimination of war profiteering. As an immediate step effective regulation of commodity prices to the consumer at pre-war levels must be affected. A further essential is that there be consumer representation on price control boards.
- (9) A campaign to minimise hatred of the German peoples and do all that can be done to work towards a fairer peace treaty than the Treaty of Versailles. This to include education of the public to resist misleading propaganda and discounting obviously exaggerated

atrocities stories.

- (10) The investigation of the possibilities of service of a strictly impartial nature for the relief of suffering.[9]

This organization's purpose appears to be the repeal of the majority of censorship regulations, which are alleged to be an infringement of the people's rights. With this end in view, a recent meeting of the association severely criticized certain censorship regulations with the intention of having certain sections deleted. The movement will carry out an intensive campaign throughout Vancouver Island to organize the people in the fight for "their rights," as Canadians.

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#### FIRST SESSION OF TORONTO YOUTH PARLIAMENT

Convened at 8.30 p.m. of November 9, the Toronto Youth Parliament opened its session with the "Government" presenting the following National Emergency Act to be passed by the house:

1. The mobilization for effective aid to the Allies of Canada's entire industrial agricultural and other economic resources shall be the primary contribution of this Country in the struggle.
2. For the prosecution of these ends committees with the following functions shall be appointed:
  - (a) To survey Canada's resources and industries for the purpose of mobilizing them for wartime needs.
  - (b) To nationalize for the duration of the war all armament manufacture and allied heavy industries.
  - (c) To prevent hoarding of necessities and undue rise in the price of consumer's goods or profiteering in government contracts and to publish its findings from time to time.
  - (d) To ensure the maintenance of the present Dominion-Provincial Youth Training Programmes for the improvement of technical standards in industry. These shall be planned with a view to the future restoration of peace-time conditions.
3. Insofar as overseas military service may be necessary at the present time, enlistment is to be free from legal or economic coercion.[10]

There were about 18 delegates from the Young Communist League present, [><deletion: 1 line] This body confined its discussion to the demand for aid to unemployed youth as the first responsibility of the Government. War aims and opposition to the war itself were not injected because of the overwhelming majority of patriotically minded youth. The first session ended in a defeat of the amendments sponsored by the C.C.F. and Y.C.L.

### ENEMY ALIENS REGISTERED AND INTERNED

Registrations to November 15, 1939, (returns incomplete).....	12,734
Total internments .....	387
Less releases .....	16
Total interned (November 25).....	371

(Of the above internments, the Commissioner as Registrar General has ordered the internment of 36.)[11]