

SECRET

**INTELLIGENCE
BULLETIN**

**ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE
HEADQUARTERS, OTTAWA**

**WEEKLY SUMMARY
FEBRUARY 26, 1940**

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No. 19**

EDITORIAL

"CONSCRIPTION"

So far as the major political parties are concerned Conscription is not an election issue. The enemies of democracy however have forged it into a most effective weapon for attacking Canada in the back. The war cannot be openly opposed with impunity. Weakening our will to war however by causing dissension in our ranks is a simple method of avoiding the law. Behind all this anti-conscription agitation stands the Communist Party of Canada, directed by Moscow. Many of its tools are loyal citizens who have no suspicion of the manner in which they are being used as enemies against the State. An apparently innocent questionnaire is distributed by college undergraduates and Youth Councils, inviting opinions on conscription, profiteering, free speech and implying that the liberty we are fighting for abroad is at stake at home. Fear and suspicion are engendered. Is this an imperialist war? Are French-Canadians going to be forced against their will to snatch Britain's chestnuts out of the fire? Is Fascism masquerading in the guise of Democracy? The whispering campaigns are fanned into open clamour, as professors, lawyers, college assemblies,

clergy and others rise to the attack of fancied perils.

Quebec is proving a particularly easy mark for these hidden enemies. For instance the Youth Congress has issued a circular entitled "Conscription Conspiracy" signed by Prof. A.M. Angers of University of Montreal, in which he demands "an immediate campaign to mobilize public opinion of all the country against conscription", adding "This campaign is an urgent matter if English-Canadians want French-Canadians to feel that they are better considered in Canada than the Czechs and Poles in Germany".

The implication throughout the article that partiality exists as between these two great and equal races is as unjust as it is injurious to national unity. And yet this insidious disruptive agitation is spreading unchecked throughout every class of society in the name of Defence of Liberty, Free Speech, Free Press![1]

There are many ways of preventing it. Last week the students of McGill rose in sudden wrath to forbid the Canadian Student Assembly [deletion: 1 line] in their midst from speaking in the name of the University. A few loyal students had been shown the "hidden hand"!

In short, the mildest form of counter-propaganda would quickly destroy the Red Dragon so omnipotent is Truth! [2]

COMMUNISM

COMMUNIST ELECTION SLATE CONTINUES TO GROW

The Communist Party election campaign will be waged to the slogan "Bring the Canadian Troops Home." Stickers and leaflets will be used to popularize the various planks of the Communist Party and will be printed for national distribution under the editorship of Stewart Smith.

Stanley Ryerson, Secretary [deletion: 2 lines], has announced that Evariste Dube, [deletion: 1 line], has been nominated as the candidate in the St. Mary's riding [deletion: 1 line] It will be remembered that Dube was also a candidate for the Montreal St. James constituency in the Quebec Provincial election of October 25, 1939. In this election he received 193 out of 7073 votes registered.

[deletion: 2 lines] Stewart Smith, it is reported, will run in Trinity (Toronto), Joseph Salsberg in Spadina (Toronto) and a campaign is being considered for Tim Buck in Hamilton East. While Buck will not appear and his candidacy will not be valid, a campaign for the Communist Party program will be carried out and voters will be asked to mark Tim Buck on their ballots in that constituency. Efforts are being made to have progressive candidates nominated in Hamilton industrial constituency, Toronto, Windsor, Kitchener, Sudbury, Timmins, Port Arthur and Niagara Falls.

Straight Communist tickets will be presented in Saskatchewan and Winnipeg if sufficient support is available and no C.C.F. or Social Credit opposition appears.

The campaign for W. Halina, [deletion: 1 line] who is going to run in the forthcoming election in Vegreville, Alberta, is now being carefully arranged by the Party.

Stickers demanding Canadians to organize, stop the imperialist war, defend free speech, fight Hitlerism in Canada, capitalism means war, a socialist world will assure peace, make India free and stop the war for profits and colonies are being posted on billboards, buildings and motor cars throughout Vancouver as part of Communist Party propaganda.[3]

The Party at Vancouver intend to run three candidates, probably on a Labour ticket in Vancouver Centre, Vancouver East and the Comox-Alberni constituency. A candidate will run on a C.P. ticket in Hastings East.

The leadership have stated that Fergus McKean, [deletion: 2 lines] in British Columbia, is to run in the East Kootenay Constituency. The question arises over the fact that there will be no real indication of the strength of the Party unless he runs in this constituency. If, however, they undertake this task and lose their deposit, they will be equally responsible to the Centre.

There is a possibility that Malcolm Bruce [deletion: 2 lines] He is reported to be strenuously opposing taking the field, as the position of the present member of parliament (Mr. A.W. Neill) is well nigh impregnable. He urged, however, that all efforts be concentrated on electing a representative in Hastings, East, where the numerical strength of the Party is greatest and where there would be less expense in conducting a campaign.

FALSE OATHS ARE EASY

An interesting statement was recently made by Reginald Morris, former Labour Alderman for Ward 1, Windsor, Ontario, to the effect that he was not a member of the Communist Party. This statement was made in conjunction with an oath he was obliged to take before becoming a member of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, and received prominent publication in the local press. [deletion: 4 lines][4]

PAT SULLIVAN, [deletion: 1 line] FERMENTING STRIKES

The failure of negotiations instituted by the Steel Workers Organizing Committee in January at Sydney, Nova Scotia, was the main reason behind the strike involving 308 men in the Coke Ovens Department of the Dominion Steel and Coal Corporation which commenced on February 9. Union officials are apparently in the position that they must do something to justify their existence and their efforts are concentrated on calling a general strike. On February 12 a vote was taken over general conditions as outlined in a bulletin circulated which advocated seven points, including a wage increase and shorter hours, with the result that 2,263 members of the Union voted for and 297 against a strike. The Union Executive immediately announced that this did not mean an immediate general strike

but, on the basis of this favourable vote, the company would again be approached with the demands of the workers. It was reported on February 16 that the strike had ended, pending negotiations. Should these discussions prove fruitless, a board of conciliation would be set up under the Industrial Disputes Act. The leadership of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee at Sydney are either [deletion: 1 line] or sympathetically inclined toward this organization. Norman McKenzie, President was recently elected Labour Alderman to the Sydney Municipal Council [deletion: 2 lines] Prior to the strike, McKenzie held a meeting of Union officials and, at that time, stated that the International would back the Lodge both financially and morally in the event of a general strike. Should this strike have commenced in the Steel Workers, it would undoubtedly have had serious repercussions in view of the relationship existing between the Steel Company and the Collieries in the district; tying up, as it would have done, the major industry of the whole industrial district of Cape Breton Island.

Undoubtedly the recent visit of John A. (Pat) Sullivan [deletion: 2 lines] and President of the Canadian Seamen's Union, and his henchmen to Nova Scotia is the outcome of this present disturbance. They frankly stated, that they intend to organize and agitate in the Maritimes this coming spring. Several labour organizers, prominently connected with the Communist Party in Eastern Canada, are still in Nova Scotia conducting the affairs of the Party, which has, of late, considerably increased its activities.[5]

Sullivan is presently in Ontario endeavouring to organize the Seamen on the Great Lakes, (As was reported in a recent bulletin). Undoubtedly the Communist Party would attach great importance to such a strike on the eve of the opening of navigation. Already information has been received to the effect that the C. S. U. have managed to place several agitators on board Imperial Oil Boats. Conditions under this management are, however, particularly good and C. S. U. officials anticipate considerable trouble in overcoming this fact.

An ulterior purpose must be behind the increased activity of these prominent agitators who are organizing in basic industries from Fort William, Ont., to Sydney, N.S., and who are choosing this most opportune time to commence "hostilities".

Expected back in Nova Scotia early in March, Sullivan has definitely decided to run as a Labour-Liberal Candidate in the Federal elections at Lockport, N.S. (It will be remembered that last November he arrived at this point and conducted a fishermen's and fish handler's strike). It is quite possible that Sullivan's plans to run might, of necessity, be changed to a C.C.F. Ticket, in view of strong appeals which have been made by Lockport constituents to have a candidate run under this banner. According to Sullivan, he would not appreciate this fact in view of the "strings attached"

while under the influence of C.C.F. leadership.

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[><deletion: 1 paragraph: 5 lines][6]

"MILITANT ACTION AGAINST WAR AND CONSCRIPTION"
(Quebec)

The Provincial Committee of the Communist Party of Quebec have issued a circular to their branch secretaries regarding the duties of Communists in the Federal election, which is being distributed from house to house. This material has also appeared in the last issue of "L'Eclaireur" (The Scout), publication of the Young Communist League of Quebec. The last paragraph is of particular interest:

"Our party will participate in the election in order to be able to organize in a better way the masses against war. We must lead a flaming and agitated campaign, on a vast scale, with an intensity and a vigour increased tenfold **IN ORDER TO INFORM THE PEOPLE OF THE IMMINENT DANGER OF CONSCRIPTION. TO GIVE RISE EVERYWHERE TO THE INDIGNATION AND HATRED AGAINST THOSE WHO HAVE BETRAYED US AND TOOK US INTO THE IMPERIALIST WAR, AND TO HELP ORGANIZING AS SOON AS POSSIBLE MILITANT ACTION OF THE WORKING CLASSES AGAINST WAR AND CONSCRIPTION, FOR THE CESSATION OF HOSTILITIES AND THE THROW-OVER OF THE REGIME OF THE IMPERIALISTS.**

"Forward to Steady, courageous and bolshevik work!"

This Y.C.L. Publication has a circulation of 300 copies a week. However at the present time we have been unable to ascertain where the material is being printed.

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[><deletion: 1 paragraph][7]

AFTER THE WAR — MORE COMMUNISM!
(Toronto)

An item appearing in "GLOS PRACY" (Voice of Labour) printed in the Polish language, dated Toronto, February 3, entitled "Before The Elections In Canada", reads in part as follows:

"The passing over of the Liberal and reformist elements to the banner of the war, left Communism, at least at the beginning of the war, as an exclusive and extreme opposition which thus far does not represent a competition in the Federal field. Not until the masses shall begin to feel the results of the war and ebb away from the Liberal, Conservative and Reformist parties may this camp (the Communist Party) become an influential force in the country, as it was in Russia and in Europe at the end of the last war.

"The last municipal elections in Ontario have shown that the masses will support those candidates who proclaim the slogans of opposition against the assaults on democracy and the interests of the people in war time. The number of such representatives in the new Parliament, and above all, the number of votes cast for them, shall constitute an expression of the people's tendencies at the beginning of the present war. In proportion to the pressure made upon the masses by the war burdens and sacrifices, and by the restriction of rights, the tendency will unquestionably grow in force and significance, veering gradually further to the Left."

AFFILIATING WITH THE C.I.O.

Negotiations are now proceeding between the C.I.O. and the All Canadian Congress of Labour concerning a possible affiliation of A.C.C. of L. Unions with the C.I.O. Should the A.C.C. of L. decide in favour of such affiliation it is almost certain that the Communist Party would endeavour to have all American Federation of Labour Unions in Canada under its control to sever their affiliation with the A.F. of L. so that they could link up with the C.I.O.[8]

"SAVE CANADA FROM CATASTROPHE"

(Regina)

The Communist Party leadership at Regina are reported very worried as to what the outcome will be when the pamphlet "Save Canada From Catastrophe" makes its appearance. They are quite certain that the Communist Party will be outlawed.

Insofar as Saskatchewan is concerned, 5,000 copies of this pamphlet have been mimeographed in Regina and are now ready for distribution 1,000 copies are for the McKenzie constituency; 1,000 for Maple Creek constituency; 1,000 for Regina and the remainder are to be split up through the various country branches in the Southern District.

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(Montreal)

Copies of a similar pamphlet, numbering approximately 5,000, were printed in Montreal and distributed by members of the Communist Party in various sections of the City on the evening of February 19. Whereas other Districts of the Communist Party in Canada are apparently distributing this leaflet signed by the Political Committee of the Communist Party, these French leaflets are signed by Evariste Dube, [><deletion: 1 line] in the Ste. Marie constituency and President of the Provincial Committee, and Stanley B. Ryerson, [><deletion: 2 lines][9]

BUILDING "AN ANTI-WAR FRONT FROM BELOW"

(Vancouver)

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Prominent in all Communist Party pamphlets is a vehement attack upon the War Measures Act in which efforts are made to compare these regulations with Fascism. Referring to the A.F. of L. and C.I.O. Units, a pamphlet states that the leadership of these organizations are conducting a "red baiting campaign in order to get the Communists out. Lewis, the leader of the C.I.O., is very active in this campaign. The Communist Party has had to support him, as he had prestige with the workers, but we should all realize that he is only an opportunist and had no use for any system except the kind that will give him power. The C.I.O. is a large union and Lewis and his henchmen are the dictators, but at the present time we cannot openly attack them without injuring the Party, so it is the duty of our members to stay in the Unions and advocate an anti-war policy." [10]

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BAITING TRADES AND LABOUR CONGRESS

(Regina)

At a meeting of the Trades and Labour Congress at Regina a few days ago, William Stewart, delegate of the Hotel and Restaurant Employees and a number of the Communist Party, while under the influence of liquor set out deliberately to bait and badger A.E. Jameison and Percy Bengough, President and Secretary respectively, with the result that the meeting ended in an uproar and Jameison personally taking upon himself the opportunity to expel Stewart. It is hardly likely, however, that his expulsion will be effected. In view of the Communist Party efforts at this time to wreck the Trades and Labour Council with the view of substituting in its place the British Columbia Trades Congress, the expulsion of Stewart might have the effect of bringing the thing to a head. The Communist faction believe that with the added weight of C.I.O. Units which carry stronger left wing membership that they can impose their policy and break up the Jameison, Bengough and Showler machine of the T.L.C. [11]

GENERAL

JAPANESE STRESS LOYALTY TO CANADA

(Vancouver)

Recent arguments, both pro and con, have been advanced in Western Canadian newspapers regarding the Japanese in British Columbia.

In this connection, our attention has been drawn to the efforts of the Nisei (Japanese Canadian Citizens' League) in British Columbia to stress their loyalty to the British Empire. So far it is reported the second generation Japanese in this area have donated voluntary subscriptions amount-

ing to slightly over \$2,500 to the Federal Government for purposes of national defence. These monies have been collected from various Nisei organizations throughout the Province and do not include donations which have been subscribed to the first War Loan or the National Red Cross Society.

Due to the concern felt by local Japanese in connection with the trend of American-Japanese relations, the Nisei publication "The New Canadian", published an Editorial in its February 9 issue which is quoted in toto:

Canada and U.S.-Japanese Relations

Canada, and especially British Columbia, will observe with gravest concern the trend of American-Japanese relations. Facing upon the Pacific our Province has a vital interest in these relations, which, if not becoming worse, still remain in a highly explosive state.

From the distance of its prairie capital, the Winnipeg Free Press points out a very doubtful road for Canada and the Empire to follow in urging support for American [12] interests in the Far East. While our southern neighbour may have expressed its disapproval of Japan's action in the Far East, its own policy, as Bruce Hutchinson ably points out, "is not to save Asia from Japan but to save the Asiatic interests of this nation. It is in fact standing entirely upon its own rights, but not going to the rescue of China."

For Canada and the Empire to assist the United States in the Far East at this time is a course which no thinking Canadian, especially a British Columbian, would advise.

We have our hands full in Europe. Despite the apparent calm in the war, there is no doubt of the impending disaster that we must be prepared to face. We are pledged to stand alongside the Mother Country, to follow a course in Europe to its bitter end and final victory. To that end we must devote the entire energies and resources of a united Canada. The pulling of American chestnuts out of the China Fire is the least important task we have at hand.

The amicable and common sense settlement of the Asama Maru incident, acclaimed by the press both in London and Tokyo, provides the touchstone of Anglo-Japanese relations, and concomitantly, the touchstone of Canadian-Japanese relations.[13]