

SECRET

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**ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE
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EDITORIAL

Warning: Beware Communist Election Methods!

As Election Day draws near the picture of the united efforts of the Communist Party of Canada to take full advantage of the hustings and the polls to strengthen their cause by underhand and illegal methods becomes increasingly clear. Reports from Division Headquarters disclose how every political constituency throughout Canada is being examined by the Communist Party leaders for possible manipulation, if not actual representation, tationtation on polling day.

In those ridings where Red followers and sympathizers are numerous Communist candidates are openly running on the Communist Party ticket. In less favourable ridings every trick is being employed to defeat majorities by vote-splitting, spoiling ballots, rallying behind the more radical or disloyal nominees, and by propaganda calculated to destroy confidence in constitutional government.

A typical example of the working methods of these Red termites is contained in a report covering [>deletion: 2 lines]

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Similar meetings of Communist leaders are, of course, directing equally subversive campaigns in the other provinces—varying methods so as to take advantage of local problems—such as the conscription phantom in Quebec and poverty among fishermen in Nova Scotia (referred to in this issue). While the Communist Party may have few election victories to show for their efforts, the effect of their undermining of public confidence, fomenting suspicion and distrust of governments and destroying of national unity is far-reaching beyond calculation.[3]

COMMUNISM

COMMUNIST ELECTORATE RECEIVE INSTRUCTIONS

Definite election instructions have been issued by the Communist Party in conjunction with their recent nation-wide distribution of the "Manifesto" of Communist policy. Aggressive and illegal methods are boldly demanded of all Communist sympathizers.

To quote from these instructions:

The character of the election will determine the methods to be employed by the party in the election campaign. We must seek to employ to the maximum all legal possibilities offered by the election and the difficulties which will confront the Government during the campaign in suppressing our fight. At the same time, we cannot determine the CONTENT of our Campaign by the consideration of legal work, and must undertake to bring our agitation to the masses by illegal means..... Only the boldest and most militant election fight of the party will call forth the masses, forces of the workers and farmers, encouraging all anti-war forces to take up the fight, will create greater freedom of action for the party and the working class in the election campaign and following it.

Party Candidates, made known as COMMUNIST CANDIDATES, should be nominated in the constituency which offers the greatest advantages from the standpoint of developing the Party struggle....The campaign for the Communist candidates should be commenced by the above mentioned national election manifesto, and developed by local leaflets and other means of mass agitation. The candidate should not conduct his own work in such a way as to be arrested, the early stages of the propaganda for the candidate being conducted by illegal leaflets.

At each stage of the campaign, the district will have to determine on the basis of local circumstances, the legal activity, if possible, to be carried on by the candidate. If it appears that upon coming to the electoral [4] Officer for the nomination proceeding the candidate will be arrested, the general policy will be that the candidate should not appear and will therefore not be formally nominated. In such cases where the mass support has been developed strongly, it may

be decided that the candidate should appear and even be arrested in order to further raise the level of the struggle.

In the cases where we have nominated candidates but the candidate has not qualified, because he would be arrested if he appeared for nomination, we should make the most powerful exposure of the anti-democratic character of the election during the days following nomination day and should call upon the people to mark the name of our candidate on their ballots.

In the case of Communists who have been nominated or who may be nominated because of positions as leading trade unionists as labor-progressive candidates—and every such opportunity should be taken advantage of—the campaign to be conducted by such candidates should be directed at the domestic aspects of the bourgeois policy, thus indirectly fighting the war itself. They should expose the profiteering, graft, lowered living standards, annulment of democratic rights, the poverty, suffering and ruin that the war will bring to Canada for the profit of the parasitic capitalists—UNLESS THE PEOPLE FIGHT BACK.

In all other constituencies we should use our campaign to call upon the people to write on their ballots, the word "Peace". The question will be raised again and again of whether or not there isn't some preferential choice between the candidates supporting the war. We must make clear to the people that to try to make a choice between grafters, thieves and murderers is impossible—that they should register their opposition to all of them and use their ballots to oppose the imperialist war.[5]

VICIOUS ATTACK ON CANADIAN UNITY (QUEBEC)

A document entitled "Le Canada Francais et la Guerre", issued by the [deletion: 1 line] 'Stanley Ryerson', denounces Canada's and particularly Quebec's participation in the war. Every effort, it is apparent, is being made and will be made in the future to stir up dissension in that Province against the rest of Canada and Great Britain. The report declares:

"The principal problem, the only one which eliminates all the others and which the working class in Canada has to face is the following: Set an end to Canada's participation in this criminal and imperialist war. Our attitude must be a Leninist attitude: 'A revolutionary class in a reactionary war can only wish for the defeat of its own bourgeoisie.' Furthermore, declares comrade Buck:

"While insisting on the fact that the imperialist combattants do not serve the interests of the working class and that a victory for one or the other group of imperialists means a victory for the reaction, the Communist Party raises also the question of the betrayal of the vital interests of Canada.....Chamberlain's imperialist plan has not

served the vital interests of the masses of the people of Canada and, during this war, one does not fight for any vital interest in Canada.”

The report stresses that “the Canadian working class is facing new, difficult and revolutionary tasks.....” “Organize the united fight of the mass of the people in order to put an end to this imperialist war....” “In this fight, the role of the working class and of the masses of French-Canada, traditionally hostile to British imperialism, may be of decisive importance.”

The second part of this report concerns French-Canada’s attitude towards “the imperialist war”, in which efforts are made to ferment distrust of the present Government. A repetition of previous propaganda is produced in other sections of this report. Under the title “Parti et Classes Dans la Guerre”, Ryerson writes:[6]

“From the ideological viewpoint also, the nationalist groups carry the imprint of their origin by certain confusing tendencies which are also reactionary, mystic and fanatic; but all this is less important than the primordial fact that French-Canadian nationalism has really its justification in the present position of the people of Quebec: this nationalism expresses the inspiration of the French-Canadians for social and economic amelioration, for peace and independence from imperialism—all this, in the present situation, constitutes a revolutionary factor of the first importance.”

“The only one, among all the political parties in Canada, the Communist party has taken a strong opposition attitude, irreducible to the imperialist war. It is the only organized force in the country which opposes war in placing itself on the side of the workers. It is the only party which unites the revolutionary fight against war with the nationalist, anti-imperialist fight of the people of French-Canada.”

Ryerson concludes his mischievous appeal for Quebec’s support of a Communist revolution with—

“French-Canada has entered this war against its wishes and full of mistrust. Its opposition to imperialism, directed by the working class and united with efforts of the Canadian workers in general, must play a deciding role in holding back the forces of imperialism, in putting a stop to our participation in the war of the profiteers. The war itself represents a paroxysm of the imperialist crisis. In exposing the masses to the most extreme suffering, to poverty, repression and to destruction; in giving arms to millions of workers; in throwing imperialism in the most dangerous, most desperate, most hazardous conflict, the bourgeoisie itself created the elements of a revolutionary crisis which may well lead to its own end.”[7]

IN DEFENCE OF ARMY DESERTERS (MONTREAL)

Reports concerning alleged desertions from the Canadian Active Ser-

vice Forces are being received from Quebec Province. The most recent issue of "La Clarte Nouvelle" (French Communist publication and successor to "La Clarte" banned by the Secretary of State on October 5, 1939) contains an article defending such desertions which is calculated to fan dissension over the war issue in the Province. To quote in part:

"To go and become mutilated, crippled, killed on the other side of the Atlantic for the benefit of the shareholders of the International Nickel Co. They preferred to break the imperialist and profiteering discipline before being treated like human cattle. Let us compare the real patriotism so dear to these young deserters with the sweet hypocrisy, so sickening, of a Mackenzie King, puppet of Downing Street, who boasts openly in his speech of February 7 of the manner in which he had the Canadian people accept to fight for London. The manoeuvres of this old politician, the strongly servile servant of the rich, are called patriotism by those for whom patriotism is a low profiteering business in human lives; but those who revolt in the race to the slaughtering, who strike a blow for Canada and against the millionaires who betray us, those are patriots in the real and honest meaning of the word." [8]

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During a discussion between A. E. Smith [><deletion: 1 line] and members of the Regina Canadian Labour Defence League executive, the former made the statement: "Its too bad that the authorities won't take a little more concerted action against us, as we would then have something to agitate on. At the present time all we can do is keep rapping the Douglas Stewart case."

ARRESTS HAVE EFFECT

The news items in the daily press on the subject of the arrests of the Binder brothers and Saunders in Ottawa have had the effect of shaking Communist nerve. Not only some of the leaders, but many of the rank and filers, have hastily rid themselves of the federal election Manifesto. One unimportant party member at Vancouver promptly slapped his copies into the furnace as soon as he read the story in the "News Herald." [10]

ARE FISHERMEN AGAIN TO BE VICTIMIZED?

(LOCKPORT, N.S.)

As previously stated, [><deletion: 1 line] (including Pat Sullivan) are preparing fresh trouble for Lockport fishermen. This trouble has already started. The Yarmouth, Nova Scotia, "Telegram" describes the situation thus:

“Lockport, Feb. 22. With memories of the last struggle between the fish companies and executives of the Canadian Fishermen’s Union still vivid in the minds of all residents of Lockport, there comes word the first conference of the Union will open here on March 4. The date was set recently in Upper Canada where it was also decided to hold it in the town which sprang into prominence because of the seven-week struggle between the two groups.

“The conference will be attended, it is reported, by national president Pat Sullivan, national secretary-treasurer J. S. Chapman, 1st vice-president D. Ferguson, and by the editor and publicity director, D. Sinclair, all of Montreal. It is expected representatives of 13 locals set up along the coast also will attend.

“The program includes the working out of a scheme to assist lobster fishermen who “at the present time are at the mercy fo the buyer”, according to the announcement of the meeting.

“‘Searchlight’, official publication of the Union, contains an editorial blast against the two Lockport fish companies and against the Macdonald government. This has produced an unfavourable reaction among a large section of the population here, who feel they went through trouble before.”[11]