SECRET

INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE HEADQUARTERS, OTTAWA

WEEKLY SUMMARY MARCH 18, 1940

CONTENTS

Editorial: Munitions of Lies Communism: Verdun Unemployed Strike for Relief Increase News from the Montreal Front News from the Toronto Front C.I.O. Loses Sailors' Union Organizing the Married Unemployed [≻deletion: 1 line] Instructing Ukrainian Voters [≻deletion: 1 line]

War Series No. 22.

EDITORIAL

Munitions of Lies

While Canadian Communists are courageous in their preaching of red revolution and the coming "dictatorship of the proletariat" they are cowardly when it comes to putting their dogmas into effect. The time is not ripe, they say, to turn words into bullets and manifestoes into murders, and in the meantime they can pursue the caution that is the better part of valour, while descending to every imaginable deceit and petty knavery in order to bedevil the population and their well-established ways.

Anything that smacks of decency or fair-play enrages your "honest" Communist. Any social or monetary reform fills him with despair. On the other hand, injustice, unemployment, profiteering, war are hailed with malicious glee as the culture on which his termites grow fat and kick. If there is no legitimate excuse for an industrial strike, he creates it. If employees still refuse to walk out he bullies and even kidnaps them. He infiltrates into responsible labour unions to destroy them. He fans racial and religious differences into suspicion and enmity. In short, there is no weak spot in our social structure that he won't exploit for his own nefarious ends. He even sought to turn the recent misunderstanding at St. Thomas into an anti-war strike. The "Sunday Worker", Communist daily of New York, carried the following news item:

Canada to Probe 'Peace Strike' of Air Force Men

St. Thomas, Ont., March 9—Ontario authorities will begin an inquiry into the "peace walkout" of 300 men at the Royal Canadian Air Force Technical Training Center a month ago, Premier Hepburn announced today.

The Air Force men walked out of the Training Center in a spontaneous action, parading through the streets of St. Thomas in a demonstration against the war.[1]

At present full advantage is being taken of federal election activities to "educate" the voters. The latest trick is to steal voters' lists and use these for sending out the Manifesto "Withdraw Canada from the War" in envelopes stamped "Liberal Committee Rooms". Over 1000 pieces of such mail were seized between March 8-12 in the Toronto post office alone.

"The New Advance"

Acting under authority of a search warrant, Toronto city Detectives, under Detective Sergeant Mann, and assisted by a constable of this Force, searched the premises occupied by the "New Advance", situated at 21 Washington Street, for evidence in connection with the printing of the socalled "Election Manifesto" of the Communist Party of Canada. A number of documents, together with notes relating to the March edition of the "New Advance", were seized; these, after having been examined, were promptly returned to the premises from which they were removed.

This action brought forth a storm of protest from the Communist Camp. Mr. Kenneth Woodsworth, [≻deletion: 2 lines] saw fit to direct a letter of protest to the Prime Minister, the Minister of Justice and other Cabinet Ministers, in which he alleged that the "New Advance" is a publication designed to interest young people in the affairs of the nation; that it is nonpartisan and non-sectarian; that its editorial board and advisory committee contain a number of outstanding youth leaders, young and old; that its circulation reaches young people in all types of organizations, churches, "Ys, students, trade unions, etc.

Whether Mr. Woodsworth acted in concert with the national executive of the Canadian Youth Congress, it is not known. It is important to note, however, that the Canadian Youth Congress came promptly to the assistance of the Communist cause—for it cannot be denied that the "New Advance" is the organ of the Young Communist League of Canada. The prompt action of Mr. Woodsworth again demonstrates the power wielded by the Communists in the Canadian Youth Congress, local youth councils and other youth organizations.[2]

COMMUNISM

Verdun Unemployed Strike for Relief Increase

Commencing on March 4, the Verdun Workers Union sponsored a strike of the Relief Workers at Verdun, P.Q., over the question of a general increase of relief allowances by 35%, 10% to be immediate. The City Council of Verdun unanimously voted in favour of the granting of the request and sent a delegation to Quebec to solicit permission to borrow in order to pay the 10% increase. Provincial authorities advised waiting until the end of March, when the agreement for relief is due for renewal between the Provincial and Federal Governments.

[\succ deletion: 1 line] include Jim Gauld, Bob Haddow, John Alexander and others. However, at the commencement of the strike, Party leaders requested the strikers to refrain from violence.

Napoleon St. Andre, [>deletion: 1 line] and president of the United Workers of Montreal, Cremazie Ward Section, which organization is closely affiliated with the Verdun Workers Union, is reputed to have made the following remarks in conversation with a friend:

"Our weekly meeting was cancelled last night, March 6th, due to the fact that our presence was required in Verdun, where the strikers marched on the City Hall during the evening. While this strike was not entirely organized by the party, we saw the possibility of taking full control of the situation, which was done with the help of our 150 comrades (20 from Cremazie) coming from all parts of the city. Strikes of this kind give us an excellent opportunity to create dissatisfaction in the ranks of the working class, and such a chance cannot be overlooked. A local of our association will shortly open in Verdun, and the best of results are a sure thing for us."[3]

[≻deletion: 1 paragraph: 7 lines]

Present plans of the Communist Party call for a distribution of 10,000 appeals for public support, including the clergy and candidates in the forthcoming Federal Elections.

A sympathy strike of Plumbers and Steel Fitters in the employ of the City of Verdun is already effective. This was made possible through the efforts of Alex Gauld, [\approx deletion: 1 line] of the Local 144 of the United Association of Plumbers and Steam Fitters.

One leader of the strike, Peter Allen, president of the Verdun Workers Union, is a member of the delegation which proceeded to Quebec to confer with the Hon. T.D. Bouchard.

It is interesting to note that all the literature issued in relation to the strike was printed in the office of the Civil Liberties Union by several members of the Communist Party.

THE COMMUNIST ELECTION MANIFESTO

"The Federal election Manifesto", according to the Communist Party,

"concretizes our line and tactics for the immediate period. It carries forward and elaborates our C.P. statement on the war, clearly analyzing the policies and tactics of the bourgeoisie, explains the differences in the warcamp and outlines the platform of our Party, the Party of the workers, farmers and people of Canada." Further, "The [4][*blank]

Financing Dube

Booklets containing stamps valued at five, ten, twenty-five and fifty cents have been issued by the Communist Party of Montreal in order [5] to finance the election campaign of Evariste Dube in St. Mary's Ward. It is reported that there are 350 of these booklets in circulation, each booklet having a revenue of \$6.75.

Illegal Votes for Dube

In order to impress Canadians in general by the number of votes on polling day, the chiefs of the Communist Party have arranged that all members as well as willing sympathizers of the Party of St. Mary's give the name of another member, non-resident, so that his name may be included on the list, therefore permitting him to cast a vote for the Party's candidate. Evariste Dube estimates that well over 300 names have been registered in this manner. He further states that "We must use the tactics employed by our foes, or be sunk."

Conventions Postponed

The Communist Party Leadership at Montreal state that due to the probable steps of the Government to declare the Party illegal, the various C.P. conventions will not take place this spring but will be postponed until a later date.[6]

NEWS FROM THE TORONTO FRONT

Subverting Youth Through its Congress

A Toronto and District Youth Congress is to be held on Sunday, March 17, in Carleton Street United Church at which delegates from youth organizations in Toronto and suburbs will be present. Questions to be dealt with at the congress will include Conscription, Civil Liberties, Work and Wages and Congress Organization.

The Young Communist League are attaching great importance to this congress as they intend to use it as a testing grounds for the National Youth Congress schedule for Montreal in July. Efforts will be made to condemn conscription and encourage the congress to sponsor action of youth against conscription; condemnation of the application of the War Measures Act except where military secrets are concerned; suppression of profiteering, and a demand for aid to unemployed youth.

The Young Communist League will endeavour to shelve discussion and action on the Finnish war, feeling that such an issue might isolate Communist and pro-Communist elements in the various youth groups.

Using the Unemployed

[≻deletion: 1 paragraph: 7 lines] [≻deletion: 1 paragraph: 4 lines][7]

"Out of the Mouths of Babes"

The Ukrainian Labour Farmer Temple Association are spreading their anti-war propaganda (which challenges the Defence of Canada Regulations) through the medium of Childrens' recitations from their concert stages.

The following is a translation of such a Ukrainian recitation, entitled "When Peace Will Be":

"Capitalist reaction promises peace to the masses with the shedding of the workers' warm blood. Therefore, this is no peace but a simple lie and the murder of the masses. But the workers are glad and happy of the fact that the time is not far when a Day a great Day of Joy and Fear is approaching when the Workers are to make Peace for the world. In this way overthrowing reaction with its greedy system and false peace. The Day is approaching!"

Recitations of this nature are frequently given from the U.L.F.T.A. platforms.

Strike Unsatisfactory

The recently settled Coal Drivers', Helpers' and Truckmen's strike at Toronto has not completely satisfied the Communist Party, who were anxious to gain recognition of the Coal Handlers' Union as the sole bargaining agency with Toronto dealers. It is evident that Communist Party connections with the Union are confined mainly to foreign born workers who were unable to give the effective leadership the Communist Party desired.[8]

C.I.O. LOSES SAILORS' UNION (Vancouver)

"The Sailors' Union of the Pacific", Vancouver, until recently a unit of the Maritime Federation of the Pacific, which was dominated by Harry Bridges and the C.I.O., is now asserting itself for affiliation with the A.F. of L.

A strange situation exists in the Vancouver and New Westminster District Trades & Labour Council in that the Inland Boatmen's Union which is the C.I.O. local, is also an affiliate. This brings locals of both the C.I.O. and the A.F. of L. under the same parent body. Expulsion of the I.B.U. could be effected by simply registering a formal protest on the Council chamber floor against dual memberships in the A.F. of L. However, the S.U.P. are reluctant to do this as they feel that the I.B.U. is losing out to their own organization and they hope eventually to absorb it. Thus they are determined not to introduce bitterness into the affair.

ORGANIZING THE MARRIED UNEMPLOYED (Vancouver)

The Relief Project Workers' Union at Vancouver is arranging a mass meeting of all single unemployed as well as married unemployed in that city. Most of the single unemployed already belong to the ranks of the R.P.W.U. while the married unemployed have no organization of their own. It is believed that out of this mass meeting there will grow a more powerful organization, combining both forces.

It is the intention of the Organization Committee to draft a resolution for revision of the Municipal Assistance Act, and also to urge projects such as forest conservation, road surfacing and highway construction, to provide employment for both married and single individuals presently unemployed.

Included in this resolution will be an appeal for a better relief allowance for unemployed single and married men who, because of physical disability, cannot meet the rapidly rising living costs.[9][Kolank]

INSTRUCTING UKRAINIAN VOTERS

The Canadian Ukrainian Youth Federation branches throughout the Dominion are receiving directives from their Central Office of the Ukrainian Labour Farmer Temple Association regarding the stand to be taken in the forthcoming federal elections. The following immediate tasks are enumerated therein:-

- (1) Circularization of a questionnaire dealing with youth problems must be made to all candidates in the locality where the branch is organized.[10]
- (2) The C.U.Y.F. branches must organize open forums where nominate candidates in that locality are invited to speak, outlining their stand on the youth problems.
- (3) The C.U.Y.F. must establish first voter organizations, the aim and object of which would be to encourage the youth to exercise their franchise for those candidates who are prepared to resist war and conscription. In this connection, the phrase "those candidates" will mean Communist Party candidates.[Stank][1]