

SECRET

**INTELLIGENCE
BULLETIN**

**ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE
HEADQUARTERS, OTTAWA**

**WEEKLY SUMMARY
APRIL 15, 1940**

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**War Series
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EDITORIAL

The "New Significance" of Strikes

"The strike movement acquires a great new significance", asserts the Central Political Bureau of the Communist Party of Canada. Better wages and working conditions—the old grounds for agitation—are now seen only as a "legitimate" excuse for enlisting mass demonstrations calculated to retard our war efforts, stir up general unrest and destroy confidence in the democratic system of government.

An "honest" strike is both a legal and a popular weapon in the eyes of the public and therefore provides a magnificent "front" for dishonest ends.

Does the public know that there has been a marked increase of strikes since the second month of the war (as compared with the same 1938-39 period) and that many of these have been traced directly or indirectly to Communist instigation? This "many" includes, for instance, the Estevan Coal Strike, the Lockport Fishermen's Strike, General Steel Wares

(Toronto) Strike, Verdun Unemployed Strike, and Malleable Iron Works (Oshawa) Strike; while at present Communist agitators have brought the workers of Dominion Steel and Coal (Sydney) of Algoma Steel and of the Great Lakes Shipping Companies to the verge of striking.

Last November we reported that the Communist Party were making every effort to increase their strength in trade unions in order to further industrial strikes, and quoted [deletion: 2 lines] as saying "We as Communists understand that to tie up industry at the present time is the best way for the workers to get their demands. The war machine needs what we produce."

While the majority of workers only want "their demands" it becomes increasingly obvious that the Communist leaders want far more than this: refusal of demands, strikes and eventually open revolution.

This is the "new significance".[1]

COMMUNISM

EXPPELLING COMMUNISTS FROM LABOUR RANKS

(Vancouver, Montreal and Toronto)

The Vancouver and New Westminster District Trades and Labour Council have decided by a vote of 29 locals to 19 in favour of expulsion of Communists from its ranks. This action, taken on instructions received from the American Federation of Labour headquarters following the annual conference of the latter organization, caused perhaps the stormiest meeting in the history of the Council.

The total count on this issue in Vancouver was 2861 in favour and 1628 against, but it should not be assumed that the latter number are all supporters of the Communist cult. There are those who feel that it is better to let them "blow off their steam" and quietly lobby against them while preserving the traditions of British fair-play, and others who look upon the Council's meetings as hilarious entertainment which would be very flat without the Communists.

Identification of the Communists is left in the hands of the President, E. A. Jameison [deletion: 2 lines] are gleefully looking forward to examination of the "proofs" to be tendered against all faction leaders, hoping for loud publicity for the Party through the press reports and articles on their "discrimination and persecution".

Concurrent with the Vancouver and New Westminster District expulsion a similar decision was made by the Montreal Trades and Labour Council, where a special committee was selected to investigate whether any delegates were Communists. Should any be found they will be asked to withdraw from the Council.

[deletion: 1 paragraph: 3 lines][2]

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In the same vein the Toronto District Trades and Labour Council

recently decided by a vote of 76 locals to 47 that all C.I.O. locals within the Council be expelled. This move affects approximately 35 delegates representing about 5,000 members and includes all ladies' auxiliaries.

STRONG-ARM SQUADS TO BACK STRIKERS (Montreal)

Indicating that the Canadian Seamen's Union are not expecting success in their negotiations with the Great Lakes Shipping Companies for better working conditions, before a strike is called, (as reported in last week's Bulletin) it has been learned that the Union headquarters in Montreal are preparing to send truckloads of men, comprising the so-called "strong-arm" squad, from Montreal to Prescott, Ont. on the morning of April 13. Another truckload setting out from Toronto is to meet them at Prescott where an attempt will be made to prevent crews from boarding the ships at present tied up there. "Strong-arm" action is scheduled for the following Monday morning.

It will be remembered that in previous cases of intimidation, the general mode of procedure was for the "strong-arm" squads to intimidate the seamen whilst Pat Sullivan, President of the Union, or one of his executives, while exhorting the men not to use violence at the same time do nothing to prevent it.[3][Page 4 is missing.]

PUBLIC DISAPPROVAL OF STRIKE AGITATION (Halifax)

Continuous strike agitation by Communists instigated not for the improvement of working conditions but for the specific purpose of retarding our war efforts, is having its inevitable effects on public patience. The following editorial in the "Halifax Herald" of April 4 reflects the public's attitude:

Public Losing Sympathy

The public generally is sympathetic to unionism and is invariably ready to register that sympathy when working men seek better conditions, better hours and better wages. But arrogance in unionism is as distasteful as arrogance in the individual, and nothing will sever the sympathetic bond more quickly between labour and the public than arrogance as indicated by a disregard for public welfare.

A case in point is the numerous strikes or tie-ups resorted to by U.M.W. members who, without regard for the serious consequences involved, quit work for reasons that are often ridiculous and without justification.

A man doesn't get the shovel he wants, so fifty men refuse to go into the mine. Or someone disagrees with a decision of the mine superintendent, so a colliery is tied up.

Tactics of this sort are not worthy of the men involved who, more often than not, are the victims of vicious leaders whose only con-

cern is their own personal advancement and who proceed on the theory that the best way for them to keep themselves in office is to keep trouble stirred up.

U.M.W. leaders would be wise to remember that there is a war in progress and that the vast majority of people are inclined to regard as traitorous anything that interferes with the efficient operation of industry. There must be no interruption with the war effort of this country, and men who take upon themselves either directly or indirectly the responsibility of causing trouble or permitting it to continue, have a lot to answer for.[5]

CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION SEEKS SUPPORT (Montreal)

An interesting meeting took place recently in Montreal at which a few selected members of the French Committee of the Canadian Civil Liberties Union were present. The president, Hubert Desaulniers, outlined the course of action which the Union will adopt now that the "Government has been returned to power for another five years, charged with the specific mandate of continuing the war". Commenting on this point Desaulniers stated that:

"Our society has condemned the War Regulations, because it finds them unfit for a democratic country; furthermore, we see the danger of the War Regulations being enforced as never before. Therefore the society finds it urgent that propaganda be spread without delay among Canadian citizens. Our part as French-Canadians is to undertake this work in the Province of Quebec, and it is precisely for this reason that you have been invited here this afternoon to study the best way of doing this particular work.

"Our main task will be to start with the French booklet, just received and entitled 'Les Libertes Civiles en Temps de Guerre', of which 3,000 copies are available at the moment."

It was decided at the meeting that provincial government officials, as well as French-speaking members of Parliament, municipal officials, clergy, executive members of labour unions and labour groups, heads of universities and members of the Communist Party be given copies of this booklet for distribution and study purposes. These people will also receive other propaganda and a special letter urging them to co-operate with the society in its efforts to have the law in question repealed.

Similar methods of propaganda will be adopted by the English-speaking section of the Canadian Civil Liberties Union.[6]

FORMING AN ANTI-CONSCRIPTION LEAGUE (Montreal)

Fear of conscription among the French-Canadian element in the Province of Quebec is to be capitalized by the Communist Party in the forma-

tion of an "Anti-Conscription League."

Henry Gagnon [~~2 lines~~] Several outside organizations have been approached and have promised their full support. All Nationalist, Separatist, Fascist and such groups are to be welded into one united effort against the application of conscription.

An effort will be made to open Locals in almost every Ward in Montreal, from which the League will gradually expand its activities throughout the Province.

"A round table conference" is scheduled to take place soon. Each of the above organizations will be represented by at least two of its members. The Communist Party is determined to have at least ten members present who are not known as Communists. Only Henry Gagnon [~~2 lines~~] The others will be representing outside organizations and will pretend not to know each other. In this manner the Communists hope to have members of their Party elected to all important committees and executive positions.

Should the attempt to weld these organizations into one group be successful it will create quite a formidable mass movement.

STRIKE FOR COLLECTIVE BARGAINING RIGHTS

(Oshawa)

Communist Party leaders consider the strike at the Ontario Malleable Iron Works at Oshawa of the greatest importance as a preparatory step to developing wide strike actions based on the demands for higher wages to meet the rising costs of living and for collective bargaining rights.[7]

In case the strike continues for any great length of time, collections and sympathy actions (resolutions to support) will be encouraged in other labour centres and circles in Ontario.

Communists attach particular importance to this strike as the first decisive walkout of steel workers affiliated with the C.I.O. in Ontario.

REVERSAL OF SEAWAY AND HIGHWAY POLICY

Communist Party leaders throughout the Dominion have been given notice of a complete reversal of policy adopted by the Central Bureau of their Party in regard to the St. Lawrence Seaway and the B.C.-Alaska Highway projects. Strongly advocating these projects before the war, the Party now looks upon the former as one through which "the predatory imperialists are preparing to seize the natural resources of the Canadian people in order to strengthen their war machinery and plans, and aided and abetted by the Kings, Hepburns and Duplessis, etc., each championing the demands of one or another of the Hydro-Electrical Power interests". The B.C.-Alaska Highway is opposed as an important avenue for an attack upon the Soviet Far East and a threat to involve Canada in the war policies of "American Imperialism on the Pacific."

Central Bureau directives assert:

"In particular the movement should take measures to arouse the railway units, seamen, longshoremen, etc, as well as the trade unions of the Maritimes, Quebec and Ontario and British Columbia against these projects."

On both of these issues district leaders are told to avoid the appearance of a mechanical reorientation.

"In the pre-war period our movement presented strong economic and defensive arguments well understood by the masses, as to why these projects should have been developed. It is not sufficient now just to say we are against them. We must and we can find equally as strong arguments, which the masses will understand with equal clarity, as to why these projects of the most powerful imperialist groups of monopoly capital must be blocked." [8]

"DER VEG" CALLS FOR "WORKERS' REVOLUTION"
(Toronto)

An article signed by J.B. Salsberg, [deletion: 2 lines] appearing in a recent issue of the Toronto Yiddish language newspaper "Der Veg" (successor to "Der Kampf") incites to a "struggle for freedom".

In Struggle You Shall Conquer Your Freedom, was an old though ever fresh slogan in the ranks of the oppressed. But, without a set goal, without militant knowledge, without theoretical knowledge could not be won the struggle for freedom.

So, our newspaper is not only a militant periodical in which are reflected all the phases of the struggle for the conquest of freedom but it also illuminates the road of the struggle and points the path that leads to the conquest of freedom.

Other articles are of a similar nature. A. Rivkinson praises Marxist-Leninist methods as "The Way Out":

The Zionist utopias are bankrupt. So is assimilation with other nationalities. The bourgeoisie is no more progressive than of yore, it has become aged and utterly reactionary. It is putrified through and through, broken and falling to pieces. The world lies in the hands of the degenerate petty bourgeoisie.

World problems must be approached with the Marxist-Leninist method. The victory of the working class in a sixth part of the globe gave a new approach to the national question. It shows the fundamental difference between freedom acquired in the former bourgeois revolutions and in the proletarian October revolution.

In contrast to any bourgeois revolution the workers' revolution sets forth as its task the attainment of not only political but universal emancipation. The workers' revolution sweeps away the medieval conditions in which subject races live. [9] [Page 10 is missing.] [blank]

ENEMY ALIENS "ARE WELL TREATED"

(New Orleans, La.)

That all Germans are not blinded by hate and the desire to malign everything British is sometimes shown from unexpected quarters. An intercepted letter, addressed by a German woman in New Orleans to her friend in Leipzig, Germany contains the following references to Canada's internment camps:

Mrs. Schulz wrote that the men have now been sent to another camp at Petawawa. Address, Internment Camp, Petawawa, Ontario. 46 men were freed, including: Reuter first, Kroll, Wannmann, Bratsch, Cibulka, Hausknacht, Pfalzer, Grassl, Gundermann. The Royal Mounted Police take care that the women in their need are not exploited as regards payment of rent and other claims which they may not now be able to pay. It is easier for the men than for the women, they are well treated and have enough to eat, which is not so easy for many women with children.[11]