

**SECRET**

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LABOUR UNREST

BIRTH OF CANADIAN CONGRESS OF LABOUR

The merger, on Sept. 9, of two powerful Canadian labour organizations—the All-Canadian Congress of Labour and the Congress of Industrial Organizations—has a significance transcending merely the Canadian labour guild and directly affecting the social and political life of the Dominion. Whether or not this effect will prove injurious remains to be seen.

According to the presidential address of A. R. Mosher of the A.C.C., greater unity among workers means greater national efficiency and productivity during ear days and better economic conditions afterwards. On the other hand the C.I.O. has international affiliation; embraces many insurgent unions under Communist control and is covertly antagonistic to the war and democratic government.

It is obvious that the A.C.C. is confident of remaining the parent stock of this new hybrid and of absorbing or at least nullifying the injurious effects of the social irreconcilables. It is equally plain that the C.I.O. has

temporarily sunk its identity under a new front, "The Canadian Congress of Labour", in the conviction that it will eventually oust the old A.C.C. leaders and weld the new Congress into a powerful revolutionary machine.

Throughout the four days' convention (the tenth) of the All-Canadian Congress, the regular officers presided and the C.I.O. union delegates were little more than "guests", although permitted to speak and to vote on resolutions and amendments to the constitution. Consequently the meetings were controlled with dictatorial despatch and ingenuity despite loud protests from Red Zealots. The last business on the agenda, however, namely the election of officers for the new Congress gave the C.I.O. a chance to show their numerical strength by placing four members on the seven-man Executive Board. For president they nominated Nigel Morgan of British Columbia, delegate of the International Wood Workers of America (C.I.O.), but Mosher (president of the A.C.C. since its inception 13 years ago, and president of the Canadian Brotherhood of Railway Employees and Transport Workers since its inception 32 years ago) was elected with a substantial majority. Norman Dowd,[1] Ottawa, member of the Canadian Brotherhood of Railroad Engineers, was also retained in his office (secretary-treasurer)[><deletion: 2 lines], and M. M. Maclean, Ottawa, C.B.R.E., also remains on the Executive. The new members of the Executive are Patrick B. Conroy, Calgary, vice-president of District 18 of the United Mine Workers, a C.I.O. affiliate vice-president; C.H. Millard, C.I.O. regional director; Silby Barrett, U.M.W.; and Saul Spivak, Toronto, Amalgamated Clothing Workers.

A significant incident was the announcement of Charles Beattie, president of the Canadian Association of Railwaymen and vice-president of the former A.C.C. of L., that he had received instructions to withdraw members of his organization from the Congress, as "We prefer a purely national organization".

More than 60 resolutions were submitted to the convention. The first five originated from the Canadian Brotherhood of Railway Employees and Other Transport Workers and were evidently designed to stamp the proceedings from the start as eminently loyal and lawful. Resolution No. 4, condemning the forces of Naziism, Fascism and Communism and declaring the Congress "unalterably opposed to the doctrines of all groups which are subversive to our free democratic institutions and that the chartered and affiliated unions of the Congress be urged to refuse membership to any person known to be a member of or closely associated with such subversive groups", brought the first serious clash among the 224 delegates. R. F. Wright and Joe Black of Toronto and Nigel Morgan of Vancouver demanded deletion of the word "Communism", while Murray Cotterell, Joe Wall and M. M. Maclean successfully defended its inclusion. The resolution was carried with deletion of the words "or close-

ly associated with" (such subversive groups.)

Another row was precipitated when President Mosher read a telegram from the Canadian Seamens Union, urging the Congress to raise its "powerful voice" against the internment of Pat Sullivan and J. S. Chapman (president and secretary respectively of the Union) and demand their trial or immediate release. C. S. Jackson, (C.I.O.) was particularly violent in his denunciation of the Defence of Canada Regulations, of the Government's "discrimination and intimidation" of union workers and of "this Imperialist War". Nigel Morgan, Wm. Logia and several more spoke in the same vein. Joe Wall rose to say that if the members knew the true reasons why Sullivan and Chapman were interned they would not waste time in their defence. He promised to enlighten any delegates who cared to meet him in the hall afterwards. This brought angry shouts and demands for plain speaking but the President finally restored order.

Resolution 16 embodied similar sentiments regarding Sullivan and Chapman and brought about similar repercussions. It read:[2]

"Whereas in the past many of the leaders in Canadian life have openly expressed admiration for Hitler, Mussolini, and for Fascism, and have spoken favourably in support of such a system for Canada; and

[&lt;deletion: 1 paragraph: 4 lines]

"Be it therefore resolved that this Convention protest against the policy of arresting such opponents of Fascism, and allowing freedom for those people who favour and support Fascism, and who, under cover of fighting Fascism abroad, would institute Fascism in Canada."

Another distinctly subversive resolution (No. 28), submitted by the National Union of Domestic and Industrial Gas Workers, Toronto, declared that "the war emergency is being used in a manner opposed to the cause we are fighting for, by outlawing the right to strike and by interning persons fighting for labour's rights without public trial," and demanded:

1. The repeal of the Defense of Canada Regulations.
2. The release of P.J. Sullivan and other labor leaders now interned.
3. That no working class body be outlawed because their platform does not conform with the views of the present government.
4. That this Convention instruct its officers and all affiliated bodies to give the greatest publicity to this resolution and lend full support to the labor victims of these injustices.

Reviewing the convention as a whole, the four-days sessions were carried through with comparatively little friction and no serious rift as between the merging bodies. This was due largely to the President's shrewdly dominating personality and carefully laid plans, which continually crushed C.I.O. protests as "out of order" or else referred them to

a committee for "further consideration". In brief, this merger was obviously framed and railroaded through by the "higher ups" without [3] taking the rank and file into their confidence.

The future destiny of the Canadian Congress of Labour is hard to predict. It already claims a membership of over 100,000 and has instructed the incoming Executive to attempt "a complete consolidation of Canadian labour" by exploring the possibility of a merger with the Trades and Labour Congress of Canada with its 150,000 and to accept international as well as national unions into its fold. Its power for good or evil will depend upon the element that gains control. Mosher, Dowd and Maclean of the old A.C.C. are undoubtedly "on the spot", with a minority vote in the Executive and with Nigel Morgan and a group of radical leaders plotting either their overthrow or their conversion to Communism.

### "HOW TO BAG GERMAN PLANES"

(As suggested in a letter from a Vancouver Pole)

Dear Sir:

When I was young in Poland all my chums and older people wanted to go to America or Canada. They had no money for the ship ticket yet they were willing to work hard many years, even to risk their life, just for a fare to Canada. I believe German people would do anything if they could come to Canada to live.

Why not promise that any German pilot who lands his aeroplane on English soil shall get free fare to Canada, where he will be treated as a friend, get citizen papers, free land. There are lots of Czecho-Slovakians, Austrians and other nationals who will gladly land their planes in England just to run away from the war and enjoy living in Canada. I am sure Hitler cant fight this..... I believe we can bag many German planes in this way.

(Signed)

Sylvester Borushko.[4]

### COMMUNISM

MAYOR HOUDE: FRIEND OF COMMUNISTS

(Montreal)

In view of Camilien Houde's internment for opposing registration, remarks made by Mrs. Phil. Cuttler, [deletion: 2 lines], at a recent meeting of the league at her home in Montreal, are highly significant.

Mrs. Cuttler said that she was sorry for the Party and the League over the internment of Mayor Houde because when he was attending the Youth Congress "he had stated that he knew what we taught and that we knew what he was thinking. The leaders of the Congress personally asked Mayor Houde what he was thinking and he answered that he wanted to become leader of an anti-conscription and anti-registration movement. He did not say it publicly because the Congress was to be held shortly after

that.”

Mrs. Cuttler said further: “He promised a grant of \$200, but was interned before making it. He knew he would be interned so he organized a committee who will continue his work, and some leaders of the Communist Party and the Young Communist League worked with that Committee. Before his interment Mayor Houde had 200,000 circular printed against conscription and registration and King and Lapointe promises during the elections. These copies are printed but are not paid for. The league and the party will cooperate to pay the expenses. The league will obtain 25,000 copies.”

Mrs. Cuttler expressed sorrow for Houde “because he would have started the revolution and we would have continued it, and he could not have stopped it. But all is not finished; we are going to work hard. The men will join the army and work within its ranks and the women will do the hard part of it.”

### LOYALTY RALLY BY FRENCH CANADIANS

(Montreal)

At a gathering, on August 13, of over 2500 people of the St. James Market district of Montreal, the loyalty of French-Canadians to the King [5] to Canada and to the Defence of Canada Regulations was strikingly registered.

Because it had been reported that members of the Communist Party of Canada and of the National Unity Party would be present to break up the meeting and thus create the impression that there was a strong anti-loyal faction, a strong detachment of Montreal City Police were on hand to preserve order. A few of Camilien Houde’s supporters attempted to start trouble when the last speaker, Gustave Duperron, president of the Unemployed Association, addressed the audience, but this was immediately quelled, and at this stage the gathering sang “O Canada” and “God Save the King”.

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### NAZIISM

#### HITLER WOULD LIKE CANADA

Translated from “The Day”, Yiddish daily paper published at New York. Preface: Der Deutscher Bund, the German-American Bund and other Fascist organizations are Hitler’s instruments in the New World.

Hitler spoke on January 30, 1940. Said he:

“Canada is a pantry full of food. But it is a closed pantry; they let no one

come in. One can find there all sorts of treasures, but heavy locks hand on the doors."

Special envoy mentioned by Hitler, F. J. Brockhaus, well-known Nazi journalist, explorer and spy. This Brockhaus has travelled through the United States several times from shore to shore. He has also travelled through the other Americas, and lately has expressed his opinion in a book, printed in Hamburg, later translated into English under the title, "Between the United States and the North Pole."

In his book Brockhaus pokes fun at the United States, "which calls itself America. The United States are as much America as New England or North Dakota are America."

Hitler used the same language as his spy. He said:

"Parts of Latin America are nearer to Europe than the United States. The United States, however, want to hold themselves big, hence they call themselves America."

Hitler's agent, Herr Brockhaus, says in his book that the individualism in the United States begins to decay, because lately there has developed such discontent. The same, he declared, was true of Canada.

Herr Brockhaus also states that the United States, together with Canada, take up a huge stretch of land, and that Canada is rich in all raw materials, but is sparsely populated. Hitler repeated that with even more Nazi impudence:[7]

"Canada", said Hitler, "is a pantry filled with all the good things but a few million people, who just happened to come earlier, have hung heavy locks on this pantry. We, however, are waging a war of those who have nothing against those who have too much.

"Canada and also the United States are like those bad sons who will not acknowledge their own father. Not they, the privileged ones, built up the land—it was the Germans who did so—it was they who there (in America) had labored with their sweat, cultivated the land, and made it what it now is."

Brockhaus in his book develops the thought that—"It is difficult to predict how large a part of the riches of Canada and the United States would be secured by the Germans right up to the North Pole. But we can now do only one thing, keep our eyes open and remember that we now live in a period when everything is possible."

Think you this impudence enough? But not enough for Hitler. He talked on furiously.

"We now wage a war against those who have too much, and not they but the Germans are entitled to the greater part of America." And he went on:

"The world must now look with open eyes. The world must forget that which has been, and now have in mind that which is now."

"The Day" then declares, the Nazis are now armed with all the facts

and in all detail. Brockhaus went through the United States five times right up to the North Pole; he even went to Finland. He explored the land, the possibilities and riches, but also the people, and he came to the conclusion that, "The people of the United States and those of Canada are as different and far apart from one another as the British and Americans are apart in thought." He recognizes no such things as Americans, less than that, that there are such people as Canadians.

"In Canada", states Brockhaus (see Andre Siegfried's book on land and people) "there are British people who came here earlier than the others, and have hence seized the reins in their hands. But there are also Frenchmen, Canadian Frenchmen—they are not Aryans—they have, it is true, European blood. There is no such thing as pure Americans, and there will never be Canadians as such.

"The deeper one goes into the land one sees there are no Canadian people as such. There are those who cannot say a word of English or American." [8]

The Nazi spy tells his brethren, those of German blood, "They should not sit in the New World with folded hands, but should explore everything in the New World which can be of use to the Nazis."

Hitler, in his speech, indicated he has had enough exploration and espionage.

"The time has come to break the locks on the Canadian pantry, and to carry out from there all the good things which are there stored away."

Concludes the writer in "The Day":

"Hitler looks with watery eyes on the New World."

#### GERMAN FEAR STRONGER THAN LOYALTY

(Regina)

Although many of our German Canadians are antagonistic to Hitler and all that he represents, they are mesmerised with the dread of his eventual conquest of Canada and the vengeance he will wreak on those who might now oppose him.

This attitude of mind is continually coming to light when individuals suspected of being connected with subversive activities are being questioned by police officials. One officer reports as follows:

During the course of a recent conversation with a prominent German Canadian who was bemoaning the fact re. Registration and at the same time trying to demonstrate his loyalty, he was asked the question. "Have you Germans or persons such as yourself in positions of authority made any public attempt to demonstrate your loyalty to the Crown?" To this the good citizen made the following reply, "Oh no, we would be afraid to do this in case Hitler was to hear of it and then our treatment by the conqueror would be far worse than your own." [9]

## SABOTAGE

### PROTECTION AGAINST SABOTAGE

Since the outbreak of war, the policy of federal and provincial governments has been to assume responsibility for the security of all publicly owned buildings and developments and to leave the protection of privately owned property to its respective managements. Until recently this policy has proved in a large degree satisfactory to all concerned.

At the same time the R.C.M.P. assumed the somewhat onerous task of carrying out an intensive search for major weaknesses in our industrial armour and of educating and advising private owners as to the most effective means of removing those weaknesses.

In the course of such work over 1900 vital points in all provinces have been surveyed and the managements of key industries such as nickel, aluminum, lead and zinc have been advised as to the utmost necessity of maintaining adequate protection from possible sabotage of their hydro-electric power plants.

The results have been highly satisfactory as regards the arousing of industry to its deplorable state of insecurity in a world rife with fifth columnists and saboteurs. On the other hand, many owners are showing reluctance toward applying protective measures because of the expense involved, and claim that the Government should at least stand the cost of the special guards required.

Although up to the present there has not occurred any major catastrophe due to saboteurs the possibility of serious impairment of our war efforts from such a cause is always imminent, and nothing can be left to half-measures or chance.

### SPECIAL DETENTION FOR STRIKING SEAMEN

The serious threat to our shipments of war material caused by striking seamen on convoy ships, has been met by an Order in Council authorizing the interment of such strikers in special jails and camps for an indefinite [10] period or until they decide to return to their duties.

Early in the summer it was brought to the attention of Authorities in Ottawa that an increasing number of seamen of foreign nationality aboard Atlantic freighters were either deserting their ships upon arrival or else remaining on board and refusing to work. While some made low wages a pretense for their conduct, it was obvious that their real motives were fear of the enemy and indifference or disloyalty to the allied cause. By July 12, it was reported that the situation was becoming acute. Several ships laden with vital war supplies had been prevented from sailing with the convoys. As a temporary measure, the strikers were confined in the Immigration Detention Sheds, but as such accommodation was an inducement rather than a deterrent to mutiny, sterner disciplinary measures were required.



During August and early September the situation grew considerably worse, with Belgian, Polish, Greek, Norwegian and other foreign sailors sabotaging our war efforts by tying up cargo boats. Ordinary internment being considered insufficient punishment for such an offense, it was recommended, after consultation with Immigration and other departments of government and with provincial governments of Quebec and Nova Scotia, that such strikers be dealt with by a special tribunal and sent to special imprisonment camps.

On Sept. 12, Order in Council 4751 was passed authorizing the detention of any alien seaman who deserts his ship or refuses to sail on such ship or refuses to perform his regular duties on board. The Order provides for detention for the duration of the war, or "until he is ready and willing and actually proceeds to serve on a ship sailing from Canada" during which time "he may be employed on such labor" as the Minister may determine.[11]