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## ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

Ottawa, March 1, 1943.

MONTHLY INTELLIGENCE REPORTContents

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The following are a few extracts from the main Communist organs published in English on or about May Day, 1941:

May Day 1941 Manifesto-Communist Party of Canada

"For it is a lie that this is a war against Fascism, it is a lie that the defeat of Germany by Britain and the Dominions will benefit the people -- the fight lies in Canada."

Slogans

"Show Your Strength in Defiance of the War Dictatorship."

"Withdraw Canada from the Imperialist War."

"No Conscription! Bring our Boys Back from Overseas."

The Daily Worker. Official Organ of C.P. of U.S.A. , May 1, 1941.

“This imperialist war, with relentless inevitability is tearing away the veils of hypocrisy behind which the monopoly capitalists were hiding their ruthless dictatorship.....the working class is preparing to take the decisions out of their (bourgeoisie) palsied hands.”

Communist Party and Young Communist League Slogans.

“Get Out and Stay Out of Imperialist War.”

Daily Worker, May 3rd, 1941.

“But the conquered nations and colonial people, groaning under the lash of British and Axis imperialism, may decide that neither master has the right to rule them, they will strike out, in collaboration with the peoples of the large powers for liberation from all capitalist rule for a peoples’ peace based on a struggle against the war makers on both sides.”

World News and Views, Comintern Organ Published in London, England, May 3rd, 1941.

In an article under the title “The International working class on May Day 1941”, it was stated that the May Day Manifestos published in various countries took into account the specific situation in each country, their general context being in part:

“Against the imperialist war and capitalist clique.”

“Against the enslavement of the masses by the war machine.”

“Against the imposition of an imperialist peace.”

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World News and Views, May 10th, 1941.

“Through the horrors of the imperialist war.....and the coalition with Churchill...; forward to a people’s government....forward to a peoples’ peace.”

World News and Views, May 17th, 1941.

An article contained in this issue under the title “May Day in Many Lands”, contained references to Sweden, France, Chile, Uruguay, United States, Argentina, Cuba, Denmark and Hungary. The following slogans were mentioned:

“Struggle Against Imperialist War.”

“Struggle for Peace.”

“This war of the Imperialist Bourgeoisie.”

“Capitalism was trying to transform the whole world into a graveyard.”

The Communist, Comintern Organ, June, 1941

"We join with all these masses of fighters against the imperialist war....the imperialists themselves know there is another way out for the masses, an entirely different way than a victory for either Hitler or Roosevelt or Churchill...the imperialists of both camps fear nothing so much as precisely this different way out which is the victory of the masses over all imperialists."

"The struggle between the imperialists of Germany and the United States is waged in each country by the same class, by the ruling imperialist bourgeoisie which is waging war not only against its imperialist rival but against its own people...the anti-war movement...must systematically be infused with the idea and slogans of struggle for a peoples' peace."

"Get Out and Stay Out of the War."

II. Ukrainian Communist on Soviet Russia, Fascism and Capitalism.

[~~deletion: blank~~] prominent Ukrainian Communist, addressing an educational meeting held jointly by the Ukrainian-Canadian Association, the Federation of Russian-Canadians, the Association to Aid Poland and the Allies and other Slav organizations, at Toronto on January 31st last, maintained that the Aid to Russia fund should not be considered as a favour to Russia or as a gift of charity. "We are just paying a simple duty to the Country and to the Allied War effort because the Red Army is doing us in Canada a great favour by defending our liberty and the liberty of the whole world," he said.

[~~deletion: blank~~] made it clear that "it was not a question of love for the Soviet Union and its leaders that the capitalist powers are now side by side, but because they must crush the common enemy, fascism." He went on to say that the capitalists consider fascism a more dangerous enemy at present than the Soviet [4] Union and a worse threat to their social set-up; that is why they came into partnership with the Soviet Union. He pointed out that the political and economic conditions are basically the same, as the capitalists have not changed with this war and, therefore, cannot be trusted or believed by the organized workers of the world. He pointed out that "it is a known fact that neither Churchill nor President Roosevelt is a friend of the Soviet Union or of socialism, but they both consider German fascism more dangerous to the social system they represent than the Soviet Union, at the present time".

Referring to the recent Casablanca conference, [~~deletion: blank~~] remarked that Premier Stalin was not there. The absence of Stalin, he said, was being utilized by the pro-fascists in an endeavour to show that there was disunity in the Allied ranks. "There is no disquiet between the Allies insofar as Army strategy is concerned, but there is disquiet existing as to a

second front strategy," he said, and added that it is to be taken for granted by the workers of the world that the Western capitalist powers are fearing that when the Red Army defeats the Nazis, it will continue to sweep right through Germany and right through Europe. "Therefore," he said, "a second front in Europe is now considered as an immediate reality. The British and American forces will probably invade Europe in order to hold part of the Continent."

In conclusion, he made the following statement:

"We, the organized workers of the world and the Soviet Union, concede that it is better for us to have the aid of Britain and America on our side than on the opposite side with the Fascists and, therefore, for the time being, we are supporting the war efforts of the United Nations as do the writers and poets of the Soviet Ukraine."

### III. British Labour Party again Rejects Alliance with Communists.

The British Labour Party once more has delivered an emphatic "no" to the Communist Party's request for affiliation.

In a 1,500 word pamphlet issued on February 20th last, along with a five-page reproduction of the Constitution and Rules of the Communist International, the Labour Party said the Communist International, the Labour Party said the Communists could not work with the labour movement because they owed "primary loyalty" to the Communist International.

The National Executive Council of the Labour Party states:

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"The Labour party rejects the application of the Communist party because that party's complete irresponsibility in British politics and general outlook are entirely out of harmony with the philosophy and objectives of the Labour party."

It added that if the affiliation were permitted, the Labour Party would become "an organization of conflicting, warring atoms, entirely devoid of that basis of unity which is fundamental to any great political party" and pointed out that Communists "seized every opportunity for creating dissatisfaction and defeatism" when Britain was standing alone against Nazism.

The statement shows that the views of British Labour leaders have not changed since the last statement of the executive council issued on September 7th last, warning British labour against Communists.

The pamphlet said Communists have done "political somersaulting of the most contemptible kind" between the beginning of the war and the German invasion of Russia and have "seized every opportunity for creating

dissatisfaction and defeatism" when the whole world believed Britain to be down and out.

#### IV. COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN THE TRADE UNIONS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

(A Survey submitted by "E" Div., Intelligence Branch)

The recent developments among the trade unions in this district make it both interesting and instructive to review some of our earlier reports in this connection, and to refer authoritative information which was obtained from a variety of sources. The present local situation was brought to a head recently by the annual election of officers in the Boilermakers' and Iron Shipbuilders' Union by which control virtually passed into the hands of the Communist Party. The problems raised in the subsequent dispute between this Union and the Canadian Congress of Labour are of the utmost importance and the outcome may well affect the future of organized labour in Canada. Basically the dispute involves a question of central control as opposed to local autonomy. The tactics adopted so successfully by the party faction in bringing about the present situation followed a plan as old as the party itself, and indicates the ease with which a well organized minority may assume complete control of a whole organization. (Membership of the Boilermakers' Union is approximately 13,000 and officers elected were supported by only 10.75% of this membership.) This dispute has not been confined to the one union and a similar situation is apparent in more than one other. The Congress not only suspended the Boilermakers' Union, [6] but also the International Woodworkers of America with a membership of 10,000, and seriously considered similar action against still another large union. [deletion: 1 1/2 pages]

[7]

In a Trade Union report given before the 8th District Convention of the Communist Party, B.C. Section, in March 1937, by Tom EWEN, the following quotation appears: "EVERY MEMBER INTO THE UNIONS AND EVERY UNION A PARTY FORTRESS. The need of every Communist to join a trade union has been stated many times: most members have agreed.....but only a few have carried it out. The majority have found pretexts of one kind or another.....OUR PARTY IN B.C. MUST REORGANIZE, THAT IN ALL ITS WORK WITHOUT EXCEPTION, WORK IN THE TRADE UNIONS AS TRADE UNIONISTS IS THE MOST IMPORTANT FROM EVERY ANGLE AND MUST TAKE PRECEDENCE OVER ALL OTHER WORK. The trade union is a school of economic and political struggle; it is a school of democratic association

*between man and man; it is the main reservoir of economic and political strength in a period of revolutionary struggle; it is the foundation of proletarian strength, and decisive in periods of crisis."*

The same report deplors the shortcomings of the party in trade union work and plans for a more intensive programme in the future in this field with the slogan "EVERY FACTORY A FORTRESS OF COMMUNISM." It is interesting to note that in dealing with trade unions the party advocates the organising of men and women alike, the consolidation of unions under their control, the building of powerful women's auxiliaries and emphasis on all youth movements. Nor is the power of the press neglected and the judicious use of propaganda by the medium of party organs, mimeographed sheets, stickers, etc., is part and parcel of the programme. [deletion: 7 lines]

[8]

Although the Party was emphasizing the importance of organizing the trade unions in 1937, it did not meet with much success. Its policy was too aggressive and the party lacked political support. At the commencement of war, however, the Party again became particularly active, first against the "Imperialist war" and later, after the entry of Russia into the conflict, in whole hearted support. In the latter period the Party has met with much more success than has been previously recorded. [deletion: 11 lines]

There has been ample proof that the policy of the Communist Party has been to secure control of individual unions in the first place and through them control of local labour bodies, utilising them as a political lever to achieve their ultimate object on a national political scale. The Party was astute enough to visualize the possibilities of the Boilermakers' Union as a fertile field in a rapidly expanding industry. The shipyards gave every indication of being by far the most important and extensive war industry on the coast. This union, which embraced a number of allied trades requiring little or no previous skill, offered the necessary opportunity for party members to enter the trade union field. [deletion: 3 lines]

In June 1941, with Russia's entry into the war, the Party policy underwent a complete change. It was indeed fortunate that, whilst they had been opposing the 'Imperialist war', they had not reached a very high standard of organization in the shipyards. Their chance of policy, together with the rapid expansion of the shipbuilding industry at about the same time presented the opportunity for consolidating their position. [deletion: 6 lines]

[9]

[Xdeletion: 11 1/2 lines] In October 1942 the movement to break the Shipwrights' Union (ABW) away from the C.F.L. commenced and became an accomplished fact the following month. Difficulties arose, however, when one faction clamoured for affiliation with the C.I.O., whilst another held out for affiliation with the A.F.L. At the present time the union is functioning independently with no affiliation.

In June 1941 the "Shipyard and Allied Trades Co-ordinating Committee" came into being with the object of uniting all the Shipyard Unions under the one council [Xdeletion: 1 line] It was this committee which dealt almost exclusively with the Ric?????? Commission set up to enquire into the conditions in the Shipyards in British Columbia. It is noted, however, that on all important questions the committee had no power to act, and had to refer the matter to their respective unions for ratification. [Xdeletion: 2 lines]

The adoption of a seven-day week was one of the main issues before the Commission, and this the party faction supported fully, highlighting it as one of the essential points for increasing production. Their support of this programme has ever since been one of their main talking points, indicating the efforts of the Party to participate to the fullest extent in Canada's war effort.

In dealing specifically with the Boilermakers' Union, and it is here that we find the spearhead of Communistic activity, it is interesting to note the successive developments. It was with a definite organized campaign that the Party embarked on organizational work in this union. The first step was the strategic placing of Party members, principally in the position of shop stewards the constitution of the union makes no provision for such a position and shop stewards are self-elected. Union meetings were next in line for attention, and these were soon disrupted and disorganized by the old and familiar party tactics to such an extent that genuine trade unionists withdrew in disgust. [Xdeletion: 2 lines] [10] [Xdeletion: 5 1/2 lines], (Only 22% of the membership voted in the election, and those who claimed election were supported by only 10.75% of the entire membership of the Union). The ultimate object being the election of a large delegation to the C.C.L. convention and the eventual control of that body.  
[Page 11 is missing]

[12]

VII. The Ukrainian-Canadian Association -  
Agitation for the Return of U.L.F.T.A. Properties.

On June 29th, 1941, shortly after the German invasion of Russia, ex-members of the banned Ukrainian Labour Farmer Temple Association

formed an organization known as the Ukrainian Committee for the Defence of World Democracy and the Fatherland and at a meeting held at the Strand Theatre, Toronto, that evening, the Association became known as the Ukrainian Committee in Aid of the Fatherland. Early in July a conference was held in Peel County, Ontario, when it was finally decided to change the name of the organization to the Ukrainian Association to Aid the Fatherland, with Headquarters in Toronto, Ontario. On June 6th 1942 at a National Convention held in Winnipeg the name was again changed to the Ukrainian-Canadian Association, this name still being retained. [deletion: 2 lines] An important part of the U.C.A. program is the demand for the return of all confiscated properties.

Approximately 105 halls and temples throughout Canada were seized from the former organization by the Custodian of Alien Enemy Property, who has the power to dispose of same as he sees fit and proper so to do. All properties so confiscated from declared illegal organizations become the property of the Crown "in toto" and are completely outside the jurisdiction of the Courts, recourse being through Parliament and not through the Courts.

The U.C.A. now recognize this condition so that agitation for the return of these properties is being directed through prominent people to Parliamentarians and Cabinet Ministers. One particular point very consistently played upon by the U.C.A. agitators is that the Custodian, in deciding on the utilization or disposal of some of the confiscated halls, sold several of them to the Ukrainian National Organization, bitter political enemy of the U.C.A. The psychological effect upon the U.C.A. membership through loss of their halls to its opposition helps to keep alive the enthusiasm in their organization and produces a state of exuberance so necessary to back their demands to the Government.

Small demonstrations have been staged on two occasions between these rival Ukrainian Factions, one at Winnipeg on December 28th, 1941, and one at St. Catharines, Ontario, during the Victory Loan Parade in September, 1942. Intervention of the police in both instances, however, took care of the situation very easily. These demonstrations were not so much against any property held by the U.N.O. at these points, but because principles and through inherent hatred of each other's policies. A more serious demonstration, however, was staged by the U.C.A. outside the U.N.O. temple at Toronto in May, 1942 whilst a U.N.O. concert was being held. Windows were smashed, the water hose was used by the owners to disperse the U.C.A. aggressors and the Toronto City Police eventually broke up what might easily have become a serious mob fight.



Such leaders as [✂deletion: blank], [✂deletion: blank] and [✂deletion: blank] have consistently agitated the Toronto U.C.A. membership to demand their lost property. In fact, the Toronto area has been the hot-bed of this type of agitation more than any other point in the Dominion, the influence of this agitation being felt throughout Western Ontario, especially in such cities as Hamilton and St. Catharines.

In October, 1941 it is recorded that a delegation from Toronto, comprised of Drummond WREN, O. MELNYCHENKO and M. DUSHNICKI, visited Ottawa and interviewed the Minister of Justice regarding U.L.F.T.A. properties. It was after the failure of this delegation that a resolution by the U.C.A. was adopted to put the whole situation up to the public in the form of public meetings, propaganda etc., the intention being to exert public pressure upon the Dominion Government for the return of all confiscated properties. At this time, anomalously, the leaders accepted the measure taken by the Government in confiscating U.L.F.T.A. properties as being in keeping with existing war conditions, but the then controversial substance lay in the Custodian's sale of former U.L.F.T.A. property to the U.N.O. As MELNYCHENKO stated "had these halls been given to the Red Cross or for the use of the Armed Forces there would have been no objection raised".

Early in May, 1942 a fund was formed within the U.C.A. Toronto, named "The Fund for the Defending of the Properties of the U.L.F.T.A.". This fund was created for the sole purpose of attempting to regain possession of these temples etc. A pamphlet was also distributed throughout the Toronto area entitled "The Case of the Toronto Ukrainian Citizens", it being the history and case of the U.L.F.T.A., a bitter harangue against the U.N.O. and also called upon everyone possible to protest to the Dominion government and to the officials of Church and State in authority to use their influence to regain all properties. Constant agitation of this kind has been upheld ever since and on February 10th, 1943 a concert and meeting was sponsored by the Civil Liberties Association of Toronto, at which various reputable individuals spoke on the subject of restoring the properties of the U.L.F.T.A. to that organization and also to fix the responsibility in connection with the alleged destruction of a number of books in the U.L.F.T.A. Hall and to deal firmly, after the fact was established with those responsible for such conduct. One of the speakers was M. DUSHNITSKY Executive Secretary of the U.C.A., who spoke in English and Ukrainian. During the course of his address in Ukrainian he referred to the U.L.F.T.A. Halls being seized by the Dominion Government and sold to other Ukrainian Organizations and stated "our organization", known before as the Ukrainian Labour Farmer Temple Association was in existence for about twenty years before

the war started and it was especially an educational and cultural organization.

Eastern Canada (the Maritime Provinces) has been very quiet in this respect, simply because the Ukrainians held no properties there, but Western Canada has contributed to the diatribe, especially Vancouver, where [Xdeletion: blank] of the "Vancouver News-Herald" is looked upon as champion of the Ukrainians for the return of their properties. His latest editorial appeared in the "News-Herald" of February 10th, 1943 entitled "No Ukrainian Victory Here Yet" and quoted in part "Ukrainian Loyalists deserve the support of all Canadians in demanding restoration of their property. Canada can do little to help the Ukrainian Armies win [14] back their land, but Canada can give back the Canadian-Ukrainians what was stolen from them here". It will be noted that even this [Xdeletion: blank] cannot or will not, differentiate between the peoples of the Soviet Ukraine and the Ukrainian people in Canada. Alderman [Xdeletion: blank] of Vancouver, is another consistent advocator for the return of Ukrainian properties.

The situation at Winnipeg is normal at present, because the large U.L.F.T.A. Temple on Corner Pritchard and McGregor St. was returned to the W.B.A. (Workers' Benevolent Association) [Xdeletion: blank] which held a substantial mortgage on this Temple property, and Manitoba generally has been seldom heard to pass comments on this subject. The Edmonton, Alberta Branch, in fact all Branches in Alberta, have not spoken openly in this respect and very little agitation has been in evidence. Hope has been expressed on several occasions that these properties will eventually be returned to them. Saskatchewan is in a like position.

Ontario appears to contain the chief agitators. [Xdeletion: 2 lines] On January 26th, 1942 a large meeting was held in Hamilton, sponsored by the U.C.A. for the express purpose of protesting to the holding of U.L.F.T.A. property by the Government. Drummond WREN and O. MELNYCHENKO were the main speakers and spoke of their interview with the Minister of Justice at Ottawa. A demonstration was seriously considered but failed in execution for some unknown reason [Xdeletion: 2 lines]. It is the constant cry of the U.C.A. leaders in Toronto that confiscated properties be restored and various attempts to interest influential people in this subject have been made. In Welland, Ontario, subtle means have been tried to obtain the use of their old hall, some of the Welland Town Council members have aided, so far without success. The Province of Quebec has not registered objections to date although it must be borne in mind that when the National Executive of the U.C.A. demand from its branches throughout the Dominion an agitational program these branches will all obey.

It would appear that the main body of U.C.A. members are hopeful that these properties will eventually be restored to them and will do nothing to jeopardize this hope, although many of the small branches find it difficult to carry on their meetings without a hall.

Recent information shows that letters, petitions, etc., are being sent from all points in Canada to the Federal Government demanding the return of Ukrainian properties, that the U.C.A. and the Civil Liberties' Union will handle most of this work. [deletion: blank], Ottawa, has also seen several Members of Parliament for their support.

At Toronto, a nine page document was made up by the U.C.A., over their Executive signatures. This document delves at some length into U.L.F.T.A. history in Canada and is intended for public consumption to show cause why the properties should be returned to the original owners.

[15]

## VII. THE FRENCH NATIONALIST MOVEMENT

### The Order of Jacques Cartier.

The Order of Jacques Cartier, a fraternal French Canadian Catholic organization operating under a federal charter, has within its ranks leaders of nationalist organizations, key men in business and Government circles and prominent clergyman. It is perhaps the most influential factor in the nationalist movement generally. The members act on directives issued from their central committee at Ottawa.

On the 23rd of February, 1943, the organization held a secret meeting at the Meilleur School in Montreal with 250 people in attendance. Mr. BOUCHER, superintendent of Depuis Freres Departmental Store, Montreal, presided and the speakers included Rev. Father Papin ARCHAMBAULT, prominent Jesuit, Alfred CHARPENTIER president of the Catholic Syndicates and Georges-Aime GAGNON.

Father ARCHAMBAULT pointed out the need for the French Canadian workers to join the Catholic Syndicates in order to safeguard their rights, their faith and their traditions. He also urged them to fight against capitalism, Freemasonry and labour unions as a means of combatting Communism. The speaker further recommended the independence, politically and economically, of the French Canadian and added:

"Would the French element put up with German domination?

Would the English people live under the domination of Russia?

Would the Americans put up with Japanese domination?

Consequently.....why should we French Canadians remain any longer under the domination of the Englishman, of the Freemasonry, of the protestants, English and American labour unions?"

He ended by urging his listeners to spread the same ideas in their respective communities.

Alfred CHARPENTIER stated that the Catholic Syndicates had actually 45,000 members but that the membership was on the decrease as a result of the preference given to English and American unions by the federal and provincial governments. He attributed the attitude of the Government officials to the fact that the leaders of the Catholic Syndicates would not direct their membership to do more work in war time. He explained that the leaders of the Syndicates were not interested in the war and that their policy was to safeguard the national rights of the members rather than to endeavour to protect those who anticipate "our destruction," economically and nationally. He concluded by suggesting that the members must skillfully fight against the War Measures Act with a view to annihilating its effects.

[16]

The last speaker, George-Aime GAGNON, spoke against Freemasonry and high officials of the federal government who, he claimed, were determined to take away "our industries, our trade and finances." He further claimed that participation in the war has been of no concern to the French Canadian as such participation would eventually bring about their national destruction.

#### The League for the Defence of Canada.

On the first anniversary of the League for the Defence of Canada, Henri BOURASSA, former M.P. and outstanding French Canadian nationalist of long standing, delivered an address on the 10th of February last at the Plateau School, Montreal. The school hall was filled to capacity with a mixed audience composed largely of members of the League including many people who paid an admittance fee of one to two dollars.

BOURASSA's subject was entitled, "What Will our Children Be?" He intended to show that the home, which he described as a "molder of the men of tomorrow," was being broken up by various influences. He stated that all the War Measures were directed against the family; that the income tax was harder on large families than on bachelors and married couples. Conscription of men and the employment of married women in factories, he stated, contribute largely to the disorganization of the family. To speak about democracies, he said, is a great joke because democracy never existed in any large country. Speaking of Communism, he declared that it was more urgent to prepare against its propaganda which he thought would be felt more strongly after the war, than to send food to England.

Mr. BOURASSA quoted extracts from the Constitution of Ireland as an example of a Christian and national constitution.

He concluded his address by urging the people to bring up a strong youth which will strive to make Canada a truly Canadian nation after the war.

At this meeting, the League for the Defence of Canada issued a circular which reads in part as follows:

"Though the League was founded at the approach of the plebiscite on conscription in order to obtain a negative reply in it, it is nevertheless responding to the wishes of the population and it has not limited its action to that subject alone.

"Its struggles for freedom of speech (the impossible propaganda on the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, the arrest of young Paul Emile Robert, the trial of Cahloul, the correspondence with the Minister [17] of Justice with respect to Mr. Camillien Houde, internment of Marc Carriere), the support it has given to all the Members of Parliament who fought for an efficient defence of our shores, such as Messrs. Roy and Pouliot, the distribution of pamphlets, tracts and studies apt to contribute to the national education of our people, the considerable part taken by several Directors of the league in the election campaign of Outremont, form only a summary balance sheet of what the League has done during its first year of existence.

"For the coming year, the League undertakes the 'struggle of the family.' Indeed, the family is threatened by the war policy of the Government. Yet the family remains the cell at the basis of human society and of the Christian civilization. Canadians, and more directly the French Canadians, in view of the fact that their survival as an ethnical group is linked with family, cannot accept that the Government dictate its so-called emergency and temporary measures, without taking into consideration the fact that they are of pagan or Masonic inspiration.

"The lecture of Henri BOURASSA marks the beginning of a campaign of public meetings on this subject. In Montreal and in all the centers of the Province, the speakers will draw the attention of Canadians to this important problem. Furthermore, the League will very closely co-operate in the campaign launched by the Federation of the League of Sacred Heart, by the Confederation of Catholic Workers, by the J.O.C., L.O.C., 'Les Amicales Feminines,' The Catholic Union of Farmers, the St. Jean Baptiste Society and by several other associations wishing to work for the respect of the family and to protest against the propaganda which is bent upon taking out the woman and young girl from the home and placing them in the armed forces or in the factories. In this, the League is conforming with the desire which was clearly expressed in the collective letter of our Bishops."

On the evening of February 21st last, the League for the Defence of Canada, jointly with the Young Laurentians, held a public meeting at Meilleur School, Montreal, which was attended by 500 persons. The first speaker, Paul Emile ROBERT, President of the Young Laurentians, expressed the [18] full support of his Organization to the League for the Defence of Canada in its campaign against the employment of women and girls in the munition plants. He was followed by Raphael BEAUDET, the founder of the Young Laurentians who spoke along similar lines. He said, however, that he was in favour of employing girls in war industries on day shift only, providing that it did not last more than eight hours. He also remarked that we should not endeavour to save the European countries if we ruin our own.

Michel CHARTRAND of the League for the Defence of Canada stated that the Government officials, to whom he referred as "Government rats", were ruining this Country to safeguard Great Britain's interests. He criticized loans to England and Russia.

Jean CRAPEAU, Secretary to the League for the Defence of Canada, strongly opposed the employment of girls in war industries, especially during night shifts and urged his listeners to send letters of protest to Premier Godbout and the Provincial Minister of Labour. In this connection he declared that the purpose behind the policy of women working in war industries was the destruction of the large French Canadian families. He described the internment of Camillien HOUDE as political revenge and mentioned the fact that the League has been in communication with the Minister of Justice requesting the release of Camillien HOUDE and a trial. He also referred to the arrests of CARRIERE, CAHLOULT and ROBERT and stated that those responsible for them will eventually be dealt with. He also stated that during nine years prior to the outbreak of the war, there were two million people in Canada living on the expenses of the Government and that these same people were now employed in war industries at the expense of the Government, so therefore Mr. King has no reason to rejoice in stating that the national revenues were as high as ever. CHARTRAND made reference to the Versailles Treaty and requested those present to write to Ottawa for a copy of same which, he said, should be read with a view to finding out if Canada had obtained her share of benefit for what she had done during the last war.

Marc CARRIERE, who acted as Master of Ceremonies at this meeting, commented on every speech. He claimed that if the night shift in war industries were abolished, there would be a greater number of girls applying for such positions.

On Sunday evening, February 28th, the League held a joint meeting with the St. Jean Baptiste Society at the St. Vincent Ferrier Hall, Jarry Street, Montreal. Four hundred persons attended.

Another meeting was held by the League under the auspices of the Young Laurentians at Baril School, Montreal. Three hundred people were in attendance and the speakers included members of both organizations. Marc CARRIERE, [19] Assistant Secretary of the League, stated that the population had accepted the conscription of man-power but that nobody will stand for imposing conscription on women for war industries. He also referred to his detention in Bordeaux Jail under the internment order a few months ago and added:

"A mere fifty days in Bordeaux or even the concentration camp will not prevent us from making our campaign to the end against the employment of married women and young girls in war plants. Again I repeat, I do not care!"

Michel CHARTRAND, another prominent speaker for the League, made sarcastic remarks about the Government leaders. Speaking on the main subject of women working in war plants, he said, that our women should follow in the footsteps of Joan of Arc and fight for their own country instead of fighting for England. After all, he asked, was it not the very kind English who burnt Joan of Arc at the stake?

Jean DRAPEAU, official Secretary to the League, criticized leaders of the provincial government and remarked that the French Canadian people had no lesson in patriotism to take from them or anybody else, including the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. He is also reported to have said in one of his outbursts:

"Why should we Canadians go overseas to meet the enemy when the English, who are at least as threatened as we are, do not meet the enemy on any front?"

### The Social Credit Party.

The leader of the Social Credit Party (of Quebec), Louis EVEN, addressed a public meeting, attended by approximately two hundred people, on the 24th of January, last, in the basement of the College at Thetford Mines, Que.

He first remarked that he wished to give to his listeners the general idea of his organization. One of its aims, he said, is practical economy: to have wealth fulfil the needs; to have science serve humanity; to make machinery, not as instruments of death, but as tools to assist the weak.

EVEN explained that members of the Social Credit get a two or five percent discount on all articles purchased from merchants who belong to the organization. The higher discount is obtained on purchases which are

made or manufactured by Social Creditors. After the war, the Social Credit will free the people from all the rationing and war regulations imposed by the Government by organizing the voters in one organization which will serve their interests and will see that the Canadian dollar remains at home and is not spent for the purchase of bacon for England. There are actually too many political parties. Political elections are of no use because they are controlled by trusts which choose their own candidate and tell him what to do.

The speaker concluded by saying that the voters were being organized with a view to forcing the Government to grant what they ask. One of these things will be to keep our children at home and not send them to war. "Why should we shed our blood for those who shed that of our fathers'." [Pages 20, 21, 22, and 23 are missing]

[24]

#### X. THE MENNONITES.

The Mennonites are a religious sect. They keep very much to themselves and do not indulge in social intercourse with the general public and as a result are generally regarded with suspicion, particularly during these days, when their use of the German language is severely criticized. The Mennonites are deeply religious, and an integral part of their creed is an abhorrence of war and bloodshed, which makes it impossible for them to join the armed Forces. They have, however, contributed to some extent to non-combatant duties with auxiliary services and have thereby indicated that by refraining from joining combatant units, they cannot be considered as disloyal.

There are among the Mennonites a few who lean towards Nazism, but this minority is not influential as by its very tenets, the Mennonite faith condemns totalitarianism and its evil influences. However, in extenuation, it may be said that those few may be motivated by a desire to see Communism crushed and see Nazism as the only means of bringing this about. The Mennonites were suppressed by the Communists in Russia and suffered indignities which were responsible for their migration to the North American Continent, and it is not unnatural that with the Soviets now allied to the United Nations cause, these people should see Nazism in the light of a saviour.

So that their position may be more readily understood, a brief synopsis of the history of the Mennonite sect is outlined here. It will be seen that over a period of many years, these people have "moved on" as the result of persecution, rather than oppose their oppressors, and in the light of this knowledge, it is hardly likely that the Sect as a whole would support



Nazism, especially as they themselves were uprooted from their homes in the Sudetenland by that very power and forced to seek shelter in North America. Bearing this in mind the Sect cannot be suspected generally by reason of the actions of a few of their number.

[25]

The founder of this Sect was a Catholic Priest in Holland, Menno Simons (1492-1559). He left the Roman Communion in 1536 and became the minister of a body of religionists who founded the sect and named themselves mennonites.

The Mennonites are described as a body of religionists who maintain a form of Christianity which, discarding the sacerdotal idea, owns no authority outside the Bible and the enlightened conscience, limits baptism to the believer, and lays stress on those precepts which vindicate the sanctity of human life and of a man's word.

The place or origin of the views, afterwards called Mennonite was Zurich, where in 1523 a small community left the State church and adopted the tenets of believers baptism. Unlike other reformers, they denied at once the Christian character of the existing church and of the civil authorities, though, in common with the first Christians, it was their duty to obey all lawful requirements of an alien power. By Protestants as much as by Catholics, this position was not unnaturally regarded as subversive of the established foundations of society. Hence the bitter persecutions which, when the safety of toleration was not imagined, made martyrs of these humble folk, who simply wished to cultivate the religious life apart from the world.

The first colony of Mennonites in America settled in German town, Pa., in 1683 to escape severe persecution in Europe. They became pioneers in this and other sections, living hardy and useful lives, and holding to freedom of conscience, opposition to war and slavery and such common practises as insurance and interest on money lent.

Strict adherence to the languages they brought with them from Europe -- Dutch, German, Russian strictness or laxity in doctrines or discipline, including the "ban" or excommunication, caused many divisions among them so that there are a dozen or more separate bodies of Mennonites in the U.S. and Canada. Among these are the "Old" or Mennonite Church the oldest and largest division, who still use the "Pennsylvania Dutch" tongue; The General Conference Mennonite Church which seeks to heal divisions; the Old Order Amish which still uses the hymns of the old "Ausbrund" of 1571 and tunes which have never been printed; The Mennonite Brethern in Christ, also conversative. Some Mennonites have been opposed to everything modern, including Sunday schools, Missions and revivals, but

rapid changes are taking place and not a few colleges, publishing houses and missionary enterprises are supported by them. Also there has been a remarkable increase in the number of church edifices, Sunday schools and salaried ministers.

By order-in-council dated August 13, 1873, arrangements were made whereby Mennonites were admitted to Canada in Communities with the understanding that their religious rites would be respected and that they would not be subjected to compulsory military service. Although prior to this date Mennonites had emigrated to Canada and had settled in Ontario, they came as ordinary immigrants without any reservations. It was one of these immigrants, Wilhelm Hespeler, who conducted the negotiations with the Canadian Government which led to the Promulgation of the order-in-council referred to.

[26]

The first Mennonite Communities to come to Canada under this agreement arrived in 1874 and were settled in Southern Manitoba. Between the years 1874 and 1879, records indicate that a total of 6,902 Mennonite immigrants arrived in Canada.

The diligence and industry of these people can be gauged by the fact that the loan by the Canadian Government in 1874 of the sum of \$96,400.00 for the purpose of financing the purchase of cattle, implements etc. was repaid with interest, a total sum of \$130,386.00 in the comparatively short term of 17 years.

The attitude of these people towards any effort to compel them to perform military service can be readily understood when it is remembered that their immigration to this country was effected on such promises and that for hundreds of years they have been steadfast in their beliefs, and have withstood all efforts to suppress them with persecution and barbarism. It is not to be expected that in the light of past events, they will forsake such beliefs readily and their adherence to their religious ideals cannot be looked upon as disloyal and certainly they cannot be indicted as a whole for the defection of a few of their number.

There were in 1927 about 115,000 members in America 90,000 in the U.S. and about 25,000 in Canada.

## XI. The Free German Movement

The Free German Movement developed from the underground opposition in Germany, the Black Front which was established in 1930. The Black Front still exists within the Reich, while the Free German Movement serves as its counterpart and supplement abroad. The movement first gained a foothold in South America, expanding during the following decade until

early in 1942 centers had been established in many countries. Before discussing the aims and work of the Movement it may be of advantage to review briefly the personal history of its leaders.

Dr. Otto STRASSER, Montreal, President. A Bavarian who in his early political life was a socialist under the Weimar Republic; joined the N.S.D.A.P. in 1925, but broke with Hitler in 1930 when the latter swung to the right; organized the leftist Black Front opposition party but was forced to leave Germany in 1933 when Hitler came into power; carried on the opposition from Prague until 1939 when the German occupation forced him to leave for Switzerland. In the meantime his brother Gregor had been assassinated by Hitler's order. At the time of the invasion of France STRASSER was in Paris, but he managed to escape through Portugal, got to England and eventually to Canada. STRASSER is a man of tremendous energy and is a keen analyst of military and political affairs. His ambition is to become a Federal Cabinet Minister in Germany after the war.

Bruno FRICKE, Buenos Aires, First Vice President. A former German Army Officer who joined the N.S.D.A.P. and rose to become Storm Troop Leader for Danzig and West Prussia. In 1928 he was sent to South America to organize the N.S.D.A.P. on that Continent. Soon after returning to Germany he resigned as Storm Troop Leader. In 1931 he withdrew from the N.S.D.A.P., wrote an article against Hitler, was charged with high treason, but managed to flee to South [27] America where he began to undo his former work by organizing the Black Front and later on the Free German Movement.

August POKORSKI, Johannesburg, South Africa, Second Vice President. Broke with Hitler in 1927 and joined the Black Front. Between 1933-36 he was in concentration camp three times; condemned to death in 1934 but managed to escape to South Africa.

In addition to the above there are "Provincial Leaders" in South American Republics and in Central America and United States as well as isolated agents in China and elsewhere.

The political, economic and cultural goals of the Free German Movement are given as follows:

- (a) War on Nazism and the punishment of all those guilty of its horrors.
- (b) War on Communism and every dictatorship.
- (c) Economic democracy and social co-operation.
- (d) Democratic self-government and federalization of Germany.
- (e) Formation of an European Federation.
- (f) Co-operation with all the democracies in the world.
- (g) Return to God.

To implement these aims, STRASSER saw the necessity of forming a German National Council, a Free German Government in exile which

could be given recognition by the Allies. Attempts were made to enlist the so called prominent German refugees for the National Council, such as [deletion: 1 line]. This failed and the aims of the Movement were modified as follows:

- (a) Propaganda work amongst the German prisoners of war in Canada
- (b) Propaganda work amongst Germans abroad.
- (c) Encouragement and equipment of the various opposition groups fighting in the Reich itself.
- (d) Guidance of these groups to passive resistance, as well as preparation for active resistance.
- (e) The formation of a Free German Legion to fight with the Allied Forces.

Items (a) and (e) could not be put into effect as official permission was denied. Little could be done in regard to Items (c) and (d) as STRASSER was denied permission to broadcast to Germany. In regard to Item (b) however, vigorous work has been carried out until quite recently. Attempts to co-operate with the Free Austrian Movement failed, mainly due to the opposition of Archduke Otto. STRASSER's own writings form the greater part of the propaganda material used, namely monthly circulars, political letters, remarks on current history, newspaper articles, pamphlets and books. The best known pamphlets are:

"Free German Against Hitler", "Hitler's Shadow over South America", "The Gangsters around Hitler".

Some of the books are:

"Hitler and I", "Germany To-morrow" and "History in my time".

[28]

During 1941 about 100,000 pieces of literature were distributed. Two newspapers were also published, "Die Zeit" in South America and "Fanfare" in South Africa.

Recurring throughout most of the propaganda material is the central idea that the European war can be won quickly and cheaply by bringing about an internal revolution against Hitler. STRASSER maintains that only 10% of the German people are convinced Nazis, another 10% convinced anti-Nazis (Communists and Black Front) while the remaining 80% can be influenced by psychological warfare: aerial bombardment and propaganda. On the Russian question, STRASSER endeavours to distinguish between Communists and Russians in the same manner as he distinguishes between Nazis and Germans. On the Jewish question he favours assimilation or zionism, allowing a transitory period during which the Jews in Germany would be granted minority rights.

During the two years of its existence the Free German Movement achieved considerable success in South America, particularly by uncovering Nazi Agents and reporting them to the Authorities. Elsewhere little headway was made due to the absence of official, popular and financial support. In Canada very cautious support was rendered by *Der Nordwesten*, the oldest German newspaper in Canada, published in Winnipeg.

The Movement met with considerable opposition. The Communists naturally have been vociferous in their denunciations of STRASSER and from other quarters a variety of arguments were advanced. It was maintained for example that

- (a) STRASSER's anti-Communist stand is against Allied interests.
- (b) STRASSER is probably just another Nazi in disguise, despite his assurances to the contrary.
- (c) The stir created by the Movement distracts from the general war effort.
- (d) To render support now would create obligations later on.

The opposition was not confined to Allied sources. Several prominent Germans in America such as [~~deletion: blank~~] and [~~deletion: blank~~] have urged STRASSER to return to private life for the duration of the war. Friends in England have given him the same advice. The opposition gained the upper hand in December, 1942. STRASSER was forbidden to lecture or write in Canada and the Movement was suppressed abroad by destroying STRASSER's manuscripts, his incoming and outgoing mail (except purely personal letters). Since then the two Vice Presidents have resigned and organized activity has come to a standstill. There are indications that STRASSER may retire to private life on a farm in the Maritimes.

### THE MAZZINI SOCIETY

Introduced into North America late in 1940, the Mazzini Society is an organization of Italians abroad professing democratic aims and hatred of Nazi and Fascist policies. It advocates whole-hearted co-operation with the cause of the United Nations, the overthrow of the Fascist regime in Italy and the abolition of monarchy and privilege in that country.

[29]

Named after Count Camillo Mazzini, one of the three men responsible for the unification of Italy in 1870, the Society has as its President Count Carlo Sforza who was a prominent figure in Italian public life prior to the advent of Fascism. Count Sforza held many diplomatic posts, including that of Minister of Foreign Affairs 1920-21, Ambassador to France 1922, and leader of the democratic opposition until the suppression of opposition parties in 1926.

The official organ of the Society is the "United Nations", published in New York where Count Sforza makes his Headquarters. The sections of the Mazzini Society formed in Canada at Toronto, Montreal, Windsor, etc., have met with moderate success.

A general meeting of the Toronto Section of the Mazzini Society of Canada was held at the Labour Lyceum, Spadina Avenue, Toronto, on January 10th, 1943, for the purpose of electing the Board of Directors of the organization for the current year. The following officers were unanimously elected:

- [Xdeletion: blank] - President
- [Xdeletion: blank] - Vice-President
- [Xdeletion: blank] - Secretary
- [Xdeletion: blank] - Treasurer
- [Xdeletion: blank] - Member
- [Xdeletion: blank] - Member
- [Xdeletion: blank] - Member
- [Xdeletion: blank] - Member

The meeting approved the following motions:

- (1) to distribute a pamphlet published both in English and Italian containing the principles and aims of the Mazzini Society of Canada.
- (2) to hold a concert sometime in February at the Labour Lyceum for the benefit of the Toronto Section of the Mazzini Society.
- (3) To increase, during the current year, the activities of the Association and promote a campaign designed to increase its membership.

A radio broadcast mooted some months ago ran into difficulties arising from the use of the Italian language and it was decided at the current meeting, to make the broadcast in the English language. It is expected that a definite date will be set for the broadcast which will be delivered by [Xdeletion: blank] in the near future.

Count Carlo Sforza, who had been invited to come to Toronto as the guest of the University of Toronto, will not be able to accept until next summer or autumn.