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SECRET

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

Ottawa, October 1, 1944.

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II COMMUNISTS PREPARE FOR CONVENTIONS OF
C.C. OF L. AND T. AND L.C.

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Labour Progressive Party

National Office

73 Adelaide St. W., Toronto, Ont.

Aug. 14, 1944.

Dear Friends:

We have received many communications in which we were asked for opinions on some basic issues which confront Canadian labour at this time and which will, most likely be dealt with at the forthcoming conventions of the two major trades congresses. Rather than give individual answers we have decided to prepare a number of general suggestions which may be considered by those who desire our opinion.

In doing so we wish it abundantly clear that the suggestions contained here do not constitute stereotyped resolutions nor do we suggest that they

be accepted in toto, or [3] copied. It is also evident that we have not dealt with all the issues that will arise, nor have we touched any of the specific trade, industry, local or provincial problems which will undoubtedly receive attention by the unions when adopting their resolutions for the conventions. Questions such as housing, health insurance, etc., need not be dealt with by us here since they are commonly agreed upon and will undoubtedly be considered.

The suggestions we offer may be accepted in entirety, or only in part, in resolutions written by a member of a local union or trade council in his own language and style and be discussed democratically by the membership of the given union or delegates to a council. They will be amended as the members will desire. We therefore, consider this as a general—very general—guide to those who asked for, or who may seek, our opinion.

Comradely yours,

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Suggestions for resolutions:

1. Pledging all-out support for achievement of speedy victory.
2. Expressing confidence that lasting peace can be assured on basis of continued cooperation of United Nations and in accord with the decisions arrived at the historic conferences in Moscow and Teheran between the heads of the governments of Britain, the U.S.A., and the Soviet Union. Urge Canada to adhere to those decisions and to voice its determination to fight for their realization. Urge government to follow British example and conclude 20-year pact with its powerful neighbour and ally, the U.S.S.R. (Mention speech of Premier King on foreign affairs which he delivered in the House of Commons on Aug. 4, 1944. All political parties should be urged to adopt the general principles contained in that speech.)
3. The labour movement throughout the world has a decisive role to play in winning a lasting peace. Therefore the congress convention regrets the fact that the world conference of trade unions did not take place as originally planned. The war developments make the urgency of a world trade-union conference all the more pressing. Therefore the convention endorses whole-heartedly action of leaders who had accepted invitations to attend world conference which was scheduled for May of this year. Convention urges incoming officers to get in touch immediately with British, Soviet, American, Australian, New Zealand, and South American trade-union centers and request that arrange- [4] ments be made without delay to convene a world conference of all trade-union centers so that effective trade-union machinery may be set up to unite world labour for victory, for peace and for economic progress.

4. Labour greets the federal government for adopting a number of significant social reform measures, including increased allowances and war-service grants for demobilized service-men, setting aside considerable amounts for the stimulation of house construction and other post-war work creating undertakings. But the trades congress convention is disturbed over the failure of government to take the necessary steps to meet the inevitable industrial dislocation which the cessation of hostilities will create; to provide peace-time employment for war-production workers and the demobilized men and women of the armed forces; to retain the purchasing power at home without which our whole economy will stagnate and to boldly provide machinery and leadership for the rapid expansion of our foreign trade through long-term government loans and peace-time lend-lease arrangements. This convention, therefore, urges the government to take immediate steps in the following direction:

(a) to provide supplementary unemployment insurance to workers who will lose their jobs and pay such allowances until re-absorbed in peace-time occupations;

(b) increase the demobilization allowances for our returned men and their dependents to a minimum of \$300 for all who were overseas, plus an additional one month's pay and allowance for each six months overseas, and \$150 plus the same one month's allowance for every six months' service to those who were not overseas;

(c) establish, with the cooperation of the provincial governments, an adequate national minimum wage scale to provide the purchasing power necessary for a Canadian standard of life and to broaden the home market for our greatly expanded productive capacity;

(d) to institute, with the cooperation of the provinces, a maximum 40-hour work week after the close of the war without reducing the wages of the workers;

(e) to establish at once a national authority of representatives of government, labour and industry and parallel bodies for each major industry, to handle the colossal problem of industrial re-conversion, the shifting and training of manpower and the utilization of government-owned war plants for useful production; [5]

(f) reduce age requirements for old-age pensioners to 60, and increase the pensions to \$50 a month so as to allow a large number of older workers to retire and make room for younger men and women, and for returned men and to take their place in industry.

The congress to seek an emergency conference with the government at the earliest date to discuss such a post-war program; to approach responsible bodies of employers with labour's post-war program, and

strive with all energy to gain the necessary government-labour-industry machinery to plan and execute such a program.

5. Whereas sections of the trade-union movement voiced opposition to family allowances fearing that such allowances would subsidize low-wage-paying employers, and whereas the payment of family allowances by the workers and farmer government of the Soviet Union and of the labour government of New Zealand shows that such need not necessarily be the case and this point of view is shared by social workers, all Canadian labour political parties, and reform elements, and whereas the most reactionary groups in our dominion who oppose trade unionism, decent wage standards, and most reform measures, are utilizing the element of labour opposition to family allowances as a cloak to cover up their own opposition to such a measure, be it resolved that the convention go on record as approving in principle the payment of family allowances though emphatically declaring that such allowances must not take the place of an adequate wage rate and that the trade-union movement will continue its efforts to achieve such a just wage level as a basic need for the workers and their families and as a fundamental condition for continued prosperity.

6. (The urgent need of bringing the trade-union movement forward as a compelling, non-partisan, political force be introduced into the conventions of both the Trades and Labour Congress and the Canadian Congress of labour. But the circumstances in these two centers are not identical and certain special emphasis should be made in each of the conventions. The C.C.L. has formed a Political Action Committee and it has endorsed the C.C.F. While the T.L.C. has not endorsed the C.C.F. it has called upon its affiliated bodies to form local political action committees. Neither branch of the trade-union movement has exercised the influence that it was potentially capable of though not always for the same reasons.)

Recent political developments in the country show very clearly the emergence of reactionary political forces which threaten the unity of the country. A rapid re-grouping of forces is taking place. [6] The danger of an alignment of unprogressive, backward looking and anti-labour people, groups and parties that will gain government power is quite real. The election results in Quebec and the defiant, strife-inviting challenges of Colonel Drew, the Tory premier of Ontario, are indicative of this trend. It is abundantly clear that the powerful trade-union movement of Canada with its more than 600,000 members and their families are called upon to emerge as a powerful, decisive and compelling political force in the dominion and throw its full weight and influence into the fight to prevent a victory of those elements who would drag our country into the abyss of economic ruin and who would oppose the growing world unity of nations which is our only guarantee for lasting peace and economic progress.

The trade-union movement by entering the political action arena in a non-partisan way could render a tremendous service to labour and to the entire country by helping to unite all progressive, forward-looking forces around a commonly accepted program of post-war reform, progress and world peace. The failure of the trade unions in the province of Quebec to act decisively and effectively in such a capacity has led to the victory of forces which are long hostile to labour, hostile to the war effort, hostile to national unity, hostile to the unity of the United Nations.

The C.C.L. goes on record as favouring the broadening out of our national P.A.C. and its parallel committees in the provinces and in the localities so as to include every shade of labour and progressive political opinion in our ranks. That the P.A.C. should enlist all our unions and our entire membership to carry on an intensive day-to-day political campaign for the attainment of the social and legislative program of this congress. The activities of P.A.C. be not limited to elections or restricted to the support of one party but deal with all issues which affect the life and welfare of the workers, their families, their neighborhood, their communities, provinces and the country as a whole. P.A.C. to seek to win the support of all other democratic-minded sections of the people and of all other parties and associations for a common position, a common policy on all broad questions affecting the majority of Canadians now and in the post-war period. In elections whether they be local, provincial or federal, P.A.C. and all our unions should rally majority support to those candidates who best represent our common goal and who stand the best chance of being elected and who will defeat the candidates of reaction.

Whereas the last convention of the T.L.C., recognizing the need of trade-union participation in political action, decided to call upon all affiliated unions to form Political Action Committees, and whereas experience has shown, particularly in the last provincial elections in [7] Quebec that our unions and our large body of members and their families did not exercise sufficient influence in the decisive election campaign; be it, therefore resolved that the congress set up a national Political Action Committee charged with the task of directing the non-partisan political activities of our following and to secure the cooperation of all other labour and democratic sections of the people for the achievement of our common aims for an early victory a lasting peace and post-war security at home and abroad. The national P.A.C. to create P.A.C.'s in the provinces and in the localities and to stimulate the formation of such committees in each local union.

7. P.C. 1003 is a definite step forward in the direction of improved labour-management relations, but the Act has definite weaknesses which should be eliminated and which are being utilized by anti-labour sections

of employers to hinder labour-management cooperation. The convention therefore goes on record requesting the federal government to amend 1003 so as to make it compulsory for employers to enter into contractual relations with the collective bargaining agency chosen by the majority of their employees and further that company unions be outlawed so that no company influenced organization, even if it can be proved that it has a majority of employees of a given plant, should not be eligible for certification.

8. Whereas present collective bargaining legislation does not clearly enough provide for the operation of a union shop where a majority of employees have indicated their desire for it. And whereas the principle of the union shop is universally accepted in Britain, in the U.S.A. and is legally provided for in New Zealand. And whereas certain anti-labour employers who refuse to recognize a union at all times and who conspire to weaken and destroy a union, even when they are compelled by law and overwhelming strength of union organization to recognize one. Therefore the convention decides to request the government to adopt the union-shop principle as its basic labour policy, that it apply it in all government-owned plants and services, that it enacts the necessary legislation to enforce it when requested by the majority of workers of a given plant, and that the labour department pursue such a policy in the fulfilment of its functions.

9. The government should be requested to take immediate steps to secure the approval of the provincial governments for the application of P.C. 1003 and all improvements of that Act to all industries and occupations; to reach an agreement for the extension of the Act after the war emergency will have passed and to thus embark on the essential path of uniform labour legislation for the entire country.

10. The magnitude of the problems that will face [8] Canadian labour in the coming period demands the highest degree of unity in action of the two major trade-union congresses. This convention, therefore, goes on record favouring the attainment of joint action between the two congresses on legislative, political and post-war problems. Further that the incoming executive give serious study to the possibility of achieving one trade-union center in the country in which the jurisdictional rights of all unions will be safe-guarded but which will result in the attainment of a powerful trade-union force that will play a determining role in the affairs of the nation.

11. The interests of labour and the entire country demand the achievement of full equality between French Canada and the rest of the country. The decisive step in that direction is the equalization of income. This convention, therefore, resolves to use all its resources and influence to achieve equality of earning between the workers of Quebec and the rest of Canada; to help achieve labour and social legislation in Quebec similar to that in the

rest of the country and to help organize the unorganized workers of Quebec for the achievement of these ends.

12. To seek legislation to guarantee equal pay for equal work for women and young workers.

13. The congress to seek a conference with the leaders of the Canadian Legion so as to agree and to cooperate on all matters affecting the returned men, i.e., seniority, mustering out pay, training for industry, opportunities for crippled veterans, etc.

III COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN TRADE UNIONS, VANCOUVER, B.C.

Communist activities in Vancouver are so tied up with those of trade unions and political bodies that any intelligible review must treat them as one subject. More than ever before, communist political aims are being advanced through legitimate trade unions.

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[9]

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[deletion: 1 line] At a large C.C.F. trade-union meeting in Vancouver on July 14—one of the most representative gatherings of its kind ever held in this district—the turnout was much greater than any the communists had been able to organize for a long time. Nearly all major trade unions in British Columbia were represented. The highlights of the meeting was the adoption of two resolutions: the first called for an intensive campaign to expel all L.P.P. members now holding office in a trade union, whether or not such affects the proper functioning of that union; the second called for C.C.F. support, wherever possible, by all trade unionists who should otherwise bend their best efforts along with the so-called reactionary element to expel L.P.P. members from their union. Though both resolutions were adopted by a large majority, a few old trade unionists who had worked hand-in-hand with the communists were loth to associate themselves with such a drastic action, and vainly dissented.

The L.P.P. refers to these resolutions as the “Gargrave political line”, a program of disruption in the trade-union movement, and anxiously wait for them to be sent out in the form of a directive to the trade unions and C.C.F. clubs. Some L.P.P. members like to regard this drastic program as indicating that the C.C.F. is getting desperate, but their optimism is hardly warranted by the latter’s progress in trade unions.

[10]

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There has been an abnormal growth in British Columbia trade unions and the party faction is gradually gaining control of the major ones. Outstanding are developments in the shipbuilding industry where the party objective of what may be described as "one big union" has practically been realized with the formation of the Shipyard General Workers' Federation.

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Aggravating the situation is the fact that the International Woodworkers of America and the shipwrights' unions claim jurisdiction in the same field. Both are trying to organize the employees of the Vancouver Sash and Door Co.: The I.W.A. hold that these employees are woodworkers; while the shipwrights and joiners claim they are fabricating parts of ships. The B.C. Woodworkers' Union, C.C.L., too, claims jurisdiction in this plant.

Under the existing shipbuilding program few Vancouver manufacturers do not contribute in some way to the construction of a vessel, and the shipyard General Workers' Federation, too, is endeavouring to draw into its fold the employees of all firms manufacturing material used in the shipyards.

Trade-union expansion is to be seen in the growth of the International Mine, Mill & Smelter Workers' Union whose organizers now claim jurisdiction in the Nichols Chemical Co., Vancouver. The union's claim in this respect rests solely on the ground that company employees are engaged in the production of a chemical, which is also manufactured as a by-product by Trail smelters who are under its complete jurisdiction.

[~~deletion: 2 lines~~]

[11]

C.C.L.'s adoption of the C.C.F. as its political arm has not been fully accepted by C.C.L. local union affiliated and numerous political action committees have been established—some are C.C.F., but many definitely L.P.P. At the present time the C.C.L. in Vancouver district is very short of organizers, and the C.C.F. and L.P.P. are both exerting pressure to place their own nominees in the vacancies.

IV LABOUR UNREST IN NOVA SCOTIA

During July, 1944, ten strikes developed in Nova Scotia. All were of short duration: One occurred at the Allan shaft, Stellarton, N.S., while No. 7 mine and Albion mine at this same point went out on strike in sympathy. The strike at the Allan shaft took place when the company issued an order that no miners would be brought out of the mine until the shift ended. At 11.00 p.m., July 6, 1944, this mine, as well as No. 7 mine and the Albion mine, returned to work, the Allan shaft being out two days and the others one.

Another strike developed at the Standard Coal Company mine, River Hebert, N.S., in protest because the company temporarily laid off some of the miners during a change over in mining operations. This strike lasted two days.

Miners at No. 11 colliery, Glace Bay, N.S. (Dominion Steel and Coal Corporation), went on strike for one day following a dispute between contract miners and surface men. This dispute did not concern the company.

During August seven strikes developed in this area. One of these occurred at the Allan shaft, Stellarton, when a mine "overman" instructed a miner under him to do his work in a certain way. The miner refused and was sent home. This strike lasted two days. No. 7 mine of the same company (Acadia Coal Company) went on strike for two days at the same time in sympathy. Four days later No. 7 mine again went on strike for eight hours. The miners heard a rumour to the effect that a miner who had supported the miner over whom the strike resulted at the Allan shaft had been fired for his part in the dispute. This rumour was without foundation and the men returned to work.

A strike occurred at George Pushie's machine shop, Sydney, N.S., where an affiliated union of Industrial Union of Foundry and Machine Workers was organized by the C.C.L. This strike occurred because [deletion: blank], was not enrolled in the union. Union members claimed his status was not that of a foreman according to union rules. The strike ended after a day.

A strike occurred at No. 2 colliery, Glace Bay, when the company refused to transfer a man in poor health from the coal face to healthier work above ground. This man had been advised to find other work as the company had no other work for him. No. 20 colliery also went on strike here because they used the same shaft for entering and leaving. It has since been learned that the excuse for this strike was very weak and that politics entered into this tie-up. Strike ended at 7.00 a.m., July 20, [12] 1944, at both these collieries, after lasting three days.

A strike occurred at No. 1B colliery, Glace Bay, when a fall of rock at No. 3 north and south well interrupted the 7.00 a.m. shift. This interruption lasted one hour and the company told the men that they would be paid from 8.00 a.m. on instead of 7.00 a.m. Men returned to work at 7.00 a.m. of July 21, 1944, after being out one day.

Another strike occurred at the Eastern Car Co. Ltd., Trenton, N.S., when the employees of the Steel Erection Department learned that the foreman had tendered his resignation when one of his men was transferred. Workers from other departments also quit in sympathy, through being tied up as a result of this department's action. Strike ended at 7.00 a.m. of July 21, 1944, after one day.

Another strike developed at No. 7 mine, Stellarton, when two miners left their work one hour before quitting time and went outside. The company docked them for this and the remainder of the shift went on strike with them. The next shift went to work and to date there has been no further trouble. This shift went out but returned to work next day.

Conditions at the Halifax Shipyards Ltd., which includes the Dartmouth Marine Slip and the North End Machine Shop, Dartmouth, remain serious. The matter of a "check-off" and "closed shop" was submitted to a federal conciliation board, composed of Justice Smiley, D. W. Morrison and C. B. Smith. Justice Smiley and D. W. Morrison found in favour of a "check-off" and "maintenance of membership", but the Company refused to abide by this decision, and advised the I.U.M.S.W. of Canada Locals.

Meetings have been held and the Shipyards maintain their intention not to abide by the findings of the board. The union threatened to ask that a strike vote be taken in the matter and representations were made to Labour Minister Mitchell at Ottawa by both parties. At a meeting held on the afternoon of July 23, 1944, at the labour temple, Halifax, [redacted] stated that the government must take some action in the matter or the union would call a strike.

A meeting was held between the Shipyards Ltd., and the union with Mr. Pettigrove, federal conciliation officer, in the p.m. of July 25, 1944. No settlement was reached and the union set the deadline for a strike at 8.00 a.m. of July 27, 1944, with an alleged 900 pickets to be about the Shipyards in Halifax and Dartmouth.

This strike took place as threatened by the union and 410 of a total of 2,375 went to work at the Halifax yards, 12 at the Marine Slip, Dartmouth, of a total of 600, and all 100 employees stayed out at the North End Machine Shop. Picket lines were formed about each of these yards on July 27, 1944.

The Halifax Shipyards' strike which commenced on the morning of July 27, 1944, ended at 8.00 a.m. next day. Of the 3,000 employees on strike approximately 1,327 returned to work. The Union executive announced that on Aug. 14, 1944, an attempt was to be made by non-union men to break the picket lines and return to work in the plant. No such action was attempted. This procedure was repeated on Aug. 21, 1944, with like results. On each occasion the picket lines were augmented by between 100 and 200 additional strikers. No violence occurred.

[13]

On Aug. 20, 1944, a union delegation proceeded to Ottawa and there interviewed various government labour leaders. It is reported that [redacted] and [redacted], C.C.L. Leaders, interceded at Ottawa,

over the heads of [~~deletion: blank~~] and his delegation from Halifax, and settled the matter without inviting [~~deletion: blank~~] to the meeting.

The provincial Minister of Labour in Halifax was advised of the decision to return to work and the press and radio announced the settlement. Union executives in Halifax, in particular R. Charles Murray (business agent), issued a special radio announcement to the strikers to disregard press and radio announcements of the settlement and instructed them to attend a mass meeting in the p.m. of Aug. 27, 1944. It is reported that 80 per cent of the strikers voted to return to work at this meeting. The reason given to the press by the union for the latter's failure to hold out on strike any longer was because of the lack of financial support from other unions.

An effort on the part of the C.C.L. to organize a Canadian Fishermen's Union Local at Glace Bay is taking place. Meetings have been called and it is expected that this local will be formed.

The organization of a Shotlighters Union at Glace Bay is progressing under the C.C.L. organizer here. Progress is slow as these men are independent and are anti-unionist to some extent. This can possibly be explained by the fact that they are classed as "confidential agents" and so are exempt from the U.M.W.U.

About 80 per cent of the fish handlers at Lunenburg have enrolled as members of the Canadian Fish Handlers Union. This union is evidently firmly entrenched and it is expected that the different kinds of work will be classified by the union and the fish companies will be asked to sign a contract along these lines.

The C.C.L., through the Canadian Seamen's Union here, have also signified their intention of organizing a Fish Handlers Union at Lockeport, N.S. To date nothing further has been heard in this connection.

A considerable number of Fish Handlers at North Sydney have signed applications for membership in the Canadian Fish Handlers Union. It is expected that this union will organize at North Sydney and will have a considerable membership.

The C.C.L. organizer of the Canadian Seamen's Union has organized a Canadian Fish Handlers Union in this port. General Sea Foods have refused to recognize it as yet though every effort is being made to enlist their employees. Many leaflets have been distributed at the plant but no contract has yet been offered by the union to General Sea Foods.

The union is calling attention to living conditions in the staff houses maintained by the Sea Foods Company, better working conditions for men and women, 44 hour week, over-time pay, vacations with pay, better wages, etc.

The Fisherman's Union at Lunenburg, N.S. is holding a convention on Sept. 12, next, at which time they will decide on their affiliation, obtain a charter, and arrange for union activities in the coming year.

[14]

The Canadian Seamen's Union organizers continue to be very active in organizing Fishermen's and Fishhandlers' Unions throughout the province. They have acted in direct support of the I.U.M.S.W., No. 1, at the Halifax Shipyards during the strike at that point, and [~~deletion: blank~~] of the C.S.U. accompanied the union delegates to Ottawa in their effort to settle the strike.

The C.S.U. had completed organization of the Dartmouth Ferry Commission Union and presented demands to the company. They were unable to reach an agreement and it appears that the matter will be placed in the hands of a labour conciliation officer.

A Nova Scotia Labour Relations Board has been established in Halifax. This Board will deal in matters of collective bargaining and will be a conciliation board for the Province.

A Maritime Labour Institute has been organized at Dalhousie University for the purpose of promoting the education of the worker in union matters. A two-day meeting of this institute is scheduled for Aug. 26 and 27, 1944, at Sydney. [~~deletion: blank~~], head of the Dalhousie Institute of Public Affairs, formed this labour school, which is reportedly financed by the provincial Department of Labour and the C.C.L. and the T.L.C.

No decision has been given by the Nova Scotia Regional War Labour Board as regards the application by the Sydney Steel Workers Union for a wage adjustment.

Another strike occurred at the Trenton Steel Works Ltd., Trenton, N.S., which lasted four days. The dispute arose when two men, employed in the plant, refused to join the union, despite the fact that there is an "open shop" at this industry.

The remaining strike occurred at the Axle Hammer Department of Trenton Steel Works, Trenton, N.S. (Nova Scotia Steel and Coal Corporation). This strike is still in progress and has been since the morning of Aug. 21, 1944. The employees here are paid on a piece-work basis. They were instructed to make a larger axle, which cuts the number produced and consequently reduces the men's wages.

V LABOUR PROGRESSIVE PARTY IN NOVA SCOTIA

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The L.P.P. club in Glace Bay has requested the local unions to allow [~~deletion: blank~~] to address their meetings on the advantages of a

Liberal-Labour-Farmer Coalition government. Most locals have agreed but none has accepted his platform. The reaction of the majority of the miners to the coalition policy is one of hostility.

A drive is on at New Glasgow to increase the membership but to date has not met with much success. [deletion: 1 1/2 lines].

[15]

A special drive is being made to interest all ex-Service men in this party which has prepared a resolution stating that the clothing allowance of \$65 for discharged men is inadequate and should be \$125. A copy of this resolution was sent to the Prime Minister of Canada and made public by way of the newspapers, and through the Town councils of towns in Pictou county. New memberships and the lack of finances are to the front in L.P.P. discussions.

On June 29, Charles Murray, Halifax, gave an "Acceptance Address" over CHNS between 9.00 and 9.30 p.m., following his nomination as L.P.P. candidate in the Halifax constituency for the next federal election. He outlined the party's program as being broken up into the following ten points: total employment, international cooperation, full use of the merchant marine, extension of maritime industries, future operation of the coal mines, assistance to the fishing industry, appointment of labour boards, a health scheme, a housing scheme, and improvement in educational opportunities throughout the dominion.

Fred Brodie and Tim McPherson spoke over CJC, Sydney, on July 6, and outlined the L.P.P. proposed coalition of a Liberal-Farmer-Labour government.

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VI FOURTEEN NATIONAL CONVENTION OF THE FINNISH ORGANIZATION OF CANADA

An editorial in the May 30, 1944, issue of the Finnish-language newspaper "Vapaus" entitled "The Coming Finnish Organization in Canada, National Convention", comments:

"The Finnish Organization of Canada branches will meet on June 10 next at Toronto for the organization's national convention and on the 13th of the same month the meeting of 'Vapaus's shareholders will also commence in Toronto. Many Finnish Organization of Canada branches have already elected their delegates and discussions have taken place and are still carried on regarding the matters to be brought up at the convention, and it is possible that some branches will submit new matters to the convention.

“The Finnish Organization of Canada convention will meet after an intermission of five years. During that time the organization has passed through the most difficult situation and pulled itself from all difficulties very well. The last convention was held at a time when the advent of the second world war seemed to be certain. The war broke out the next fall. The same fall the war broke out between the Soviet Union and Finland. As almost all of Western Europe had fallen under the iron-heel of German fascists, [16] Hitler turned towards the East and attacked the Soviet Union, Finland also joining this attack. In the spring of 1940 the organization was proclaimed illegal and only last fall legal status was restored to our organization.

“The national convention of the Finnish Organization of Canada, which will convene next month, is meeting in an entirely different situation than in 1939. We are now in the decisive moment of the war. The United Nations are getting prepared for the last assault on the Hitler enslaved Europe. The assistance of all really peace loving people is needed now. Not a single organization can be impartial in a such decisive moment. Impartiality is nothing else than abetting the enemy.

“One of the most important matters for the national convention of the Finnish Organization of Canada will be no doubt to determine the attitude toward the present war and the peace following it.

“As we live in an entirely different international situation than ever before at the time of any national convention, therefore the biggest task of the national convention will be to decide on an orientation in accordance with the new situation. And in this respect the Finnish Organization of Canada is confronted with a great responsibility. This is occasioned by our organization of Canadian-Finnish people. There is in Canada no other organization which would be subordinated to the leadership of some central body.

“The Finnish National Societies have always carried on their activity as separate and disunited organizations. At present there are active some war-aid societies, which are remnants from the time of Finnish-Soviet Union war. They have no common tie of any kind and they carry on their activity disunitedly. The former F.C.W.F. (Finnish Canadian Workers and Farmers) league members and those of national societies, active in these war-aid societies are reactionary and permeated by strong Finnish national idea. They have put Finland above everything. They hate the ally of Canada, the Soviet Union and also measure their loyalty in accordance with it.

“Although these organizations are organizationally very weak, just the same they still have a fairly large circle of supporters. It would be a mistake to leave this unnoted.

"In these circumstances a great task falls on the part of the Finnish Organization of Canada. As an educational and cultural organization it will have as its task to draw more than ever Finns behind the Canadian war effort, not only to support it nominally, but unconditionally in all respects. This work is not easy. It demands a strenuous and relentless activity.

"In addition to this many very important matters will have to be solved by the Finnish Organization of [17] Canada national convention, upon which the future success of our organization will depend. Such matters will be the many proposals for modification of our organization's by-laws, achieving of closer collaboration with the C.A.S.F. (Canadian Amateur Sports Federation) etc."

It will be observed that this editorial speaks officially for the Finnish Organization of Canada as "our organization". The 14th National Convention of the F.O. of C. took place in Toronto on June 11-13, 1944—the first convention since 1939. This organization, however, was declared illegal in June, 1940, and the ban was not lifted until Oct. 14, 1943.

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As soon as the organization's legal status was restored, its executive committee issued a declaration from which we quote:

"Nazi-fascism has always been, and remains further, a deadly enemy of all progressive and democratic activity. We have always fought against fascism, even when its forces were in the initial stage. Now when fascism has plunged the whole mankind into the bloodiest of wars, and threatens the independence and freedom of all nations, our task is simple and clear. We have to increase our activity for speeding up the final and total [18] destruction of fascism. We have to act strenuously and relentlessly to mobilize large masses of Canadian Finns in support of the Canadian and the United Nations' war effort in every field. All our educational, stage, social and other activity should be directed towards speeding up this task. Before mankind can progress it must be free from slavery. We must take our part in creating a new and brighter post-war Canada."

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The resolutions committee submitted to the convention the following draft of an appeal to the people of Finland for ending the criminal war against the United Nations, which was unanimously approved:

[19]

"Appeal to the People of Finland

"Brothers and Sisters:

“The delegates of the Finnish Organization of Canada, who have gathered from different parts of Canada and who represent the majority of the Finnish population in Canada, have decided to approach you, our brothers and sisters, at this most serious moment with which all of the people in the world are confronted. We have always followed with great interest your endeavours and undertakings. Your fate has always awakened a great sympathy among us. When you have achieved in your struggles something worth while we have rejoiced and when you have lost something of value we have lamented it.

“Precisely for these same reasons we now turn to you at this your most fateful moment and urge you to follow with open eyes what is now going on in the world and to appreciate and decide with clear minds on your own future. We have passed into the most decisive stage of the present peoples’ war which without the slightest doubt will end in the near future in the unconditional collapse of Hitlerite Germany and her vassals on the European continent.

“The landing of Canadian, British and American forces on the coast of France is but a beginning of the gigantic struggle of the United Nations which will grow into such a storm that it will sweep fascism forever from the face of the earth. The hope for a split among the Allies, which had been smoldering in the fascist camp, met with a disaster when President Roosevelt, Prime Minister Churchill and Marshal Stalin agreed at Teheran on uniformity of war operations, on the aims of the future peace and reconstruction of Europe. The opening of the second front in the West has finally destroyed the weak hope for negotiated peace which theretofore had been entertained by the fascists.

“Your country is confronted with the greatest misfortune than ever has threatened it. Your government has dragged your country along with Hitler into a plunder-war. The public statements made by our leaders in the beginning of the war clearly showed that they still dreamed of imperialist aims, of a Great-Finland, which would be created by slicing a big area from the Soviet Union. They dreamed of achieving these aims by joining the then victorious German fascist army in the plunder-war against the Soviet Union and the great democratic countries.

“Your leaders now speak of a defensive war, but the units of the Finnish army are to be found on Soviet-Union territory which never has belonged to Finland. Where to has your fascist minded criminal government led you and what advantage have you from continuing the war? Your government was offered armistice terms by the Soviet Union, which were reasonable in every respect. The British Government urged your Government to accept them. The Government of the United States, which always has felt great sympathy towards you, also urged your

Government to accept them and warned about calamity [20] resulting from the continuance of the war. Regardless of all this your government will continue the war against the United Nations.

"The majority of us have been born in Finland and we know that you are peace-loving and fair-minded people. The Finnish nation has created great economic and cultural values. We have, however, noticed with sorrow that the fascist-minded leaders of Finland have succeeded in poisoning your mind with blind hate of Russia and taken you that way into a fight, not only against Soviet Union, but against all the United Nations. You have, however, to remember that as a nation you are responsible for yourselves and for your fate. You have also to bear responsibility as a nation for what you have done in this war and what you still will do in the future.

"We believe, that the present war has opened your eyes. We also believe, that you wished your government to find a way to peace. You were mistaken. The war has been hard for you. In your country there probably is not a single home that would not be grieving over the loss of some relative in this war. You have orphans and invalids. Poverty prevails in your homes and want is your daily guest. Where is your independence? Notwithstanding that on the surface you have still some tatters of democracy left, Hitler and his Finnish flunkies finally decide on your affairs. Your government is a complete slave of Hitler. There are several nazi divisions in your country supervising the discipline and the gestapo-men keep watch over all more important administrative organs in your country. In the prisons of your country are languishing thousands of workers and intellectuals, who have dared to condemn the criminal war of your government against the United Nations. Your country is a full vassal of Hitlerite Germany and you have been forced to serve Hitler's war aims as slaves.

"There are before you two alternatives, either to withdraw from the war against the United Nations, or to march to destruction with the Hitlerite Germany. There is no other road at this moment. You have to choose between these two alternatives.

"We, your sisters and brothers, urge you to choose the road of peace, which leads your country into the family of great democratic nations, to peace and well being. If your government does not lead you away from the criminal war, then get rid of such government. Force the nazi forces to leave your country and liberate your land from Hitler slavery.

"Remember that delay means misfortune for you. Act rapidly and resolutely. The war in Europe will be decided in the near future. The eleventh hour is facing you. The whole of mankind is confronted by great events. The future of all nations for a long time to come will be

determined in this war. A great future is facing the United Nations. They will build up a world, in which peace, toleration, liberty and economic well being will prevail.

[21]

"We Canadian Finns, fervently wish that you would come along with the great democratic countries and that you would withdraw from the war. We are convinced, that by doing so, you would receive fair-minded treatment by the democratic nations and that a happier future would be facing you then. If you do not withdraw from the war, it will be your very greatest misfortune and your future will be hard and gloomy.

"Abandon the criminal war and come along with the democratic countries to build a world which will mean happiness and well being to you and your children.

Toronto, Canada, June 11, 1944.

Delegates of the F.O. of C. 14th Convention."

It is of interest to add that an editorial in the June 17 issue of "Vapaus" referring to this appeal mentioned that the convention delegates were assured that it would be brought to the knowledge of the people of Finland in the near future. It was not explained however how this was to be accomplished.

A "Statement of Principles", apparently read early in the convention, states in part:

"While the winning of the war is still our main task and we have to strain all our strength for speeding up the victory, there arises on the order of the day always more poignantly the question of into what will the world transform after the victory; will Canada revert to the state, which prevailed before the war, or shall we move forward to a better and happier life after the fascism will have been destroyed? The F.O. of C. joins the overwhelming majority of the Canadian people in that Canada cannot, and will not, go back to the hunger years prevailing before the war. The Atlantic declaration, the Teheran agreement and other agreements made between the United Nations during the war provide for building a new and happier world after the victory. And the people of Canada demand realization of such reforms which will assure a satisfactory well being of the people.

"Building a new and happier Canada can be achieved only with the aid of national and international unity which is also a guarantee for achieving the victory. The continuation of the alliance of the United Nations is imperative for reconstruction of the devastated world. And to guarantee the accomplishment of such changes and reforms as secure to the Canadian people a satisfactory well being, the unity of all

democratic and progressively-minded elements is necessary. On its part, the F.O. of C. will work for the realization of such common national unity. The unity of democratic and progressively-minded forces among Finnish-Canadians can be achieved by building up and extending the F.O. of C. For, excepting possibly some few cases, the leading elements of all other organizations and groups active among our countrymen have more or less officially entered the service of the reaction, and they cannot be won for the democratic front.

[22]

“Speedy and decisive victory in the war, lasting peace and better and a happier Canada after the victory. These are the objects for which F.O. of C. should work. All educational and cultural activity of our organization should be focused on furthering the achievement of these aims. And in this work the F.O. of C. is prepared to collaborate with all those organizations which are active for these objects. But F.O. of C. does not support the program of any party in particular. As a fully independent party it reserves for itself the right to comment on the programs of all parties, and to support such measures which it considers to be advantageous for its membership or for Finnish-Canadians and Canadian people in general, regardless from which direction they originate.

“This convention makes it a duty for the organization’s membership and for all organizational organs to work with all their energy for the above-mentioned aims. And we also urge all Finnish-Canadians in general, regardless of their religious or political creeds, in so far as they are only true democrats, to participate with us in this work and with the same also enroll as members into our organization. For only being organized can they effectively take part in work for these great aims.”

Of the numerous resolutions considered and adopted at the convention, the most interesting are:

“Avoid absenteeism from work during the wartime. Take part in aiding the Red Cross activity.”

“The branches and particularly the ladies’ clubs connected with the branches are urged to procure further means for purchasing parcels and sending them to Finns in military service.”

“The branches of our organization in such localities where soldiers are located in numbers are urged also to arrange special events for soldiers.”

“After the long period of illegality, which we have just passed through, the upbuilding and extending of our organization is one of our most important tasks. The situation is also propitious for its realization, if we know how to use this situation to advantage. When the ban against

the F.O. of C. was lifted, it raised a wave of popular enthusiasm, not only among our former members, but generally among all democratic Finnish-Canadians. It is true that delays occurring in connection with the restoration of halls and other properties occasioned some abatement to this enthusiasm. But it in no way eliminated the interest that democratic Finnish-Canadians have towards our organization. This is clearly evidenced by the fact that our organization already has at this time 50 active branches, which have started their activity almost without any outside assistance.

"The old inherited activity principles of our [23] organization, coupled with the fact that our organization and its activity have become better known among the native population in connection with the campaign carried on for restoration of activity rights to our organization and during the numerous drives for promoting the war effort, in which the members of our organization and its supporters have taken part in the past years, have prepared a suitable ground for upbuilding and extending of our organization. We have to use this situation to our advantage in the best possible way. This convention asserts that in order to use the situation to our advantage we have, however, to give up the sectarianism which still partially affects us. We have to learn toleration toward differently thinking people up to a certain limit. We have admitted this in principle already years ago, but in practice we have not wholly got rid of it even now.

"Urging people to enroll as members in our organization we cannot put other fitness conditions than that the person should truly and sincerely oppose fascism—in this regard we do not have the least room for bargaining. But we have to learn to respect other people's religious and other opinions and creeds. As long as a person wants honestly to fight against fascism, there should be a place for him in the ranks of our organization.

"There are around our organization also people who are interested in stage, musical and other activities, but for one reason or another are not prepared immediately to enroll as members in our organization. We have to offer them an opportunity to take part in the many fields of activity of our branches, naturally with an eye on them, too, enrolling as members in our organization later on.

"There is around us also the younger generation, born and grown up in Canada, of whom many can be won for activity and membership in our organization, only if we know how to approach them in a right way. Having grown up in different conditions than we who have come from Finland, they naturally differ in some respects from us. In order to win them we should be able to adjust our activity to correspond more with

the outlook possessed by them, in other words to Canadianize our activity. When we learn to do this it will be possible to win many of them for membership and active work in our organization. They will secure for the organization a far longer future than we, who have come from Finland, are able to give it."

"In order to make the cultural activity directed outward, among the masses, as strong as possible, it is necessary to make our own membership fully aware of all essential tasks dictated by the general situation. This demands continuous and systematic activity on part of the branches for educating the membership. To bring this about it is necessary to connect educational activity as closely as possible with all activities of our organization, including the ordinary branch membership meetings.

[24]

"The meetings should be arranged in such a way that they would become interesting for the membership..."

"...special discussion meetings should be arranged for handling more important war questions and other problems of a general nature, in which alongside with the membership all Finnish residents of the locality may participate."

"The stage activity has always played a notable part in the activity of our organization's branches and undoubtedly will continue to do so. Therefore it would be essential to take measures for procuring new plays, for our organization's dramatic library, the contents of which should correspond with the demands of the time."

"Wherever the necessary instructor staffs are obtainable and other conditions for it exist, choirs, bands, orchestras and other musical organs should be organized in connection with the branches."

"Alongside with these activity forms we should endeavour to develop also in our cultural activity new forms of mass activity. The so-called serial festivals, district festivals and other similar events offer possibilities for it. With their help masses can be brought into movement, not only to enjoy the festivals, but also to take a practical part in their preparation and to perform in them. Therefore, at least in all bigger Finnish settlements, such mass events should be arranged."

"This 14th convention of the F.O. of C. urges all organization's members, women as well as men, to support the unionist movement, by enrolling as members in unions organized by workers themselves in the industry where they work and by spreading the principles of unionist movement among still not organized workers and by all other possible means.

"With the same we condemn the "company unions" organized by employers, the only real aim of which is to split the unions organized by workers themselves and the weakening of labour forces.

"The unions form the real source of strength of the democratic movement. Thus it is absolutely necessary that they are controlled by workers themselves, and that the workers organize in them in as big numbers as possible."

"The ladies' clubs, formed in connection with the F.O. of C. branches, should be as free organizations as possible, carrying on activity independently and whose members do not have to be in the F.O. of C. membership. The F.O. of C. branches should assist [25] by all available means the activity of these ladies' clubs, by letting them use their own premises, either free of charge or at a lowest possible rental."

"This 14th convention of the F.O. of C. supports the establishment of the closest collaboration with the C.A.S.F. (Canadian Amateur Sports Federation-Central Organization of Finnish labour sports and athletic clubs in Canada-trans.) and sports clubs affiliated with it. Be it resolved that the F.O. of C. will enter into active work through its branches for forming sports and athletic clubs in localities where none exists yet. But in this respect the activity should be carried on smoothly, so that no friction will arise with the sports clubs already active. It should be borne in mind when forming sports clubs that these clubs should be able to affiliate with general Canadian sports-movements, such as ski and ball clubs, etc., so far as it is possible for them to do so, and provided that thereby they will not lose their independence."

"We also submit for the consideration of the next convention of the federation the advisability of changing the federation's name in such a way that it would harmonize more with the real fundamentals of the federation's activity."

"In such localities, where the Finnish-born youth of Canada is not interested in sports activity, aid should be given on the part of the branches for the formation of youth clubs carrying on activity with a more varied program. Above all, the branches should lend their activity premises to the young, where they can arrange and plan their activity and realize it as well."

"Now when the Finnish Canadian Democratic Federation has decided to discontinue its activity, the 14th convention of the F.O. of C. urges the F.C.D.F. clubs in all those localities where such still exist, to affiliate with the F.O. of C.

"This convention resolves that all former F.C.D.F. members, who are in good membership, are granted right to get into F.O. of C. membership

without paying the enrolment fee, and they are also not charged any membership fee for the time they paid their membership fee to F.C.D.F.”

“The overwhelming majority of Finns living in Canada realize already that they are not temporary residents in Canada, but a part of Canadian permanent population. Having protractedly discussed this matter the 14th convention of the F.O. of C. perceived the fact that a considerable number of Canadian Finns have not procured for themselves, citizenship rights, these being indispensable for us not only because of our own advantage, but for many of us particularly important because of our children, for whom Canada is the native country.

[26]

“In consideration of these facts this convention resolves to urge F.O. of C. members and all Finns to file an official application for naturalization papers at the earliest opportunity.”

“This convention urges F.O. of C. branches to order all their printing work at ‘Vapaus’ printing shop and to purchase all prerequisites, required in organizational activity, from ‘Vapaus’.”

“The ‘Vapaus’'s newspaper business is our common business, wherefore any economic support given to it will in the last instance prove to be our own advantage.”

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VII 7TH CONVENTION OF THE UKRAINIAN NATIONALIST ORGANIZATIONS

This convention of the Ukrainian National Federation, Ukrainian War Veterans Association, Organization of Ukrainian Women and the Ukrainian National Youth Federation took place in Toronto on June 30 and July 1 and 2. According to an article published in “Novy Shlyah” (New Pathway) the following resolutions were read and adopted:

1. The Ukrainian National Federation and its fraternal organizations: The Ukrainian War Veterans' Association, the Organization of Ukrainian Women and the Ukrainian National Youth Federation, have performed valuable work for Canada and the Ukrainian people, thanks to the great help of the president of N.E.C. (National Executive Committee) of U.N.O. (Ukrainian National Federation), W. Kossar, and his co-workers within the central organs. This convention therefore expresses its sincere thanks to all of them and pledges to continue the work for the good and glory of Canada and the Ukrainian people in accordance with their directives.

2. Whereas the U.N.O. and its fraternal organizations during their existence have given a proof of their [27] vitality and usefulness in every

field of public and social life, the seventh convention urges all its organizations to further this work among the broad Ukrainian masses in Canada, which thus far are not yet organized and which quite often at the instigation of alien circles act to the detriment not only of Canada but also of the Ukrainian people.

3. Whereas the press appears to be the mouth and the messenger of ideas of the organized people, this convention appeals to all members and sympathizers of U.N.O. and its fraternal organizations to give the "Novy Shlyah" their entire support and to carry on an intensified campaign for acquisition of new subscribers.

4. Whereas the Ukrainian culture and traditions are worthy of preservation and appear to be a valuable contribution to the general Canadian culture, this convention hails the great initiative of the founders of the Ukrainian Cultural and Educational Center and earnestly urges all members and sympathizers of the U.N.O., U.W.V.A., O.U.W., and U.N.Y.F., as well as all Ukrainians with good will in Canada, to extend their generous hand in aid of this noble purpose.

5. Whereas the achieving of victory over the enemy, in a military sense, is the first and foremost task of all Canadians, to which all other activities and interests must be subordinated, this convention urges the membership of U.N.O. and the brotherly organizations and other Ukrainians to continue in giving constantly all their efforts to the achieving of an early and certain victory.

6. Whereas the Ukrainians have a traditional belief in the democratic form of government, this convention once again re-asserts the hostile attitude of the U.N.O. and its fraternal organizations towards all forms of totalitarianism, whether nazism, fascism, or communism, and further pledges to expose, counteract and combat all manifestations of the above-mentioned evils within the Ukrainian community in Canada.

7. Whereas the Ukrainian people in the native land have always declared, whenever they have had an opportunity to express themselves freely, that it was their desire to be a sovereign and state nation on their ethnic territory; and whereas the Ukrainian people have no opportunity in the present moment to freely express their will and desire.

"This convention", the article concludes, "considers it the duty of the Ukrainians, who live outside their native lands and in free countries, to demand a national status for the Ukrainian people, because this will be the only guarantee for a just and lasting peace."

The above mentioned convention was attended by delegates from the U.N.O. branches in Ontario and Quebec only. It is [28] therefore more correct to call it a regional or eastern Canada convention than a national

one. That it did not pass unnoticed among communist Ukrainians is clear from a two-column article entitled "Futile Hopes" which appeared in the July 27 issue of the [~~deletion: blank~~] "Ukrainian Life". The author, Ilya Synkiw, was most disparaging and sarcastic in his appraisal of the convention's proposals. The message he apparently sought to convey in his lengthy mud-slinging tirade is contained pretty much in his concluding comments. Thus:

"Futile are the hopes and appetites of the Hlynka UNO-ites. The Ukrainian people are already deciding its national life on the fighting lines of the first, second, third and fourth Ukrainian fronts. The Ukrainian people are deciding it in such a way that never again will the German invader, nor the O.U.N. and U.N.O. policeman, his faithful dog, ever set foot on Ukrainian soil. Such is the will of the Ukrainian people."

Synkiw's main broadsides were directed against Anthony Hlynka, M.P. (New Democracy member for Vegreville, Alta.), one of the convention's speakers, mainly because of his alleged anti-Soviet policies and his advocacy of an independent Ukraine.

It is only right to state here however that each of the seven resolutions passed appears to express the true feelings of the entire U.N.O. membership on important Ukrainian, Canadian and international problems. The resolutions are not, as Synkiw would have us believe, merely high-sounding phrases devoid of sincerity. Manifestly they reflect the significant aims and aspirations of the entire organization.

Referring to resolution No. 2, for example, it is generally conceded by Canadian Ukrainians, both friendly and hostile, that the U.N.O. [~~deletion: 2 lines~~] is the best organized and the most vigorous, aggressive, resourceful and ambitious Ukrainian group in this country. Actually, the U.C.A. and U.N.O. are vying with one another for the dominant position in our Ukrainian communities. The latter has borrowed from the Ukrainian Labour Farmer Temple Association a great many of its methods, and these are much the same as those used by the former. [~~deletion: 3 lines~~]

Both the U.N.O. and the U.C.A. are striving to gain the sympathy of the tens of thousands of unorganized Ukrainians here, and it would seem that the vital U.N.O. stands a chance of winning over part of this great Ukrainian mass—especially its anti-Soviet and anti-communist element.

The cultural and educational center, which is located in Winnipeg, mentioned in resolution No. 4 is undoubtedly the most ambitious project ever undertaken by the U.N.O. According to "Novy Shlyah" the funds presently being collected in Canada will be spent on a bursa (student's boarding house), a publishing house, a museum and similar ventures.

The bursa will resemble the Peter Mohyla institute in Saskatoon which is run by the Ukrainian Self-Reliance League. It is hoped that Ukrainian

high-school and college students from all over Canada will be attracted by this opportunity to get [29] proper instructors and supervision in their Ukrainian training. Through it the U.N.O.'s chances are good of eventually gaining control and influence over hundreds of young Ukrainians—youth who tomorrow will occupy positions in Canadian life as lawyers, doctors and teachers.

The publishing house referred to already is printing a series of low-priced booklets on educational and useful subjects, and the museum aims to collect and preserve objects of Ukrainian folklore. Without doubt the whole scope and magnitude of this scheme promises to overthrow any other institution ever contemplated by the Ukrainians of Canada.

Synkiw's diatribe stated:

"Today, when the Red Army is driving towards the West the wounded Hitlerite beast in order to finish him in his own lair, the UNO-ites are attempting to muddy the water, because fish bite better in troubled waters. They are coaxing Canadian leaders and other nationalities to this muddying of water. Their appetite is by no means ordinary. They slander the Ukrainian people which has sent millions of its sons into service of the Red Army in order to drive out the invaders from the native land. For this purpose the U.N.O. is even taking advantage of the forum of the Canadian Parliament. For, it is necessary to save somehow the positions as, it is clear, the Hitlerite cause is already lost."

The U.N.O., however, is bitterly opposed to the Soviet Union and regards it as "the enslaver of the Ukrainian people". It is therefore quite natural that resolution No. 5 omits to mention, even by a single word, the Soviet Ukrainians' struggle against the German invader. Their reason becomes clear when it is realized that had they done so under present conditions their action might have been misconstrued among Canadian Ukrainians as an endorsement of Soviet rule in the Ukraine. It is understandable that the U.N.O. should conveniently ignore this point and merely stress Canada's part in the war. They prefer apparently to leave it to the [deletion: blank] followers of the U.C.A. to extol the Red Army and the Soviet homeland. Though in Canada Ukrainian nationalists, anti-Soviet and anti-communist Ukrainians usually stress a different line than their U.C.A. opponents, this must not be taken to mean that they are not proud of the fighting quality of their compatriots in the Soviet homeland.

Resolution No. 6 is noteworthy in several respects. First, it expresses hostility to all forms of totalitarianism—fascism, nazism and communism—and pledges support to the democratic form of government. Moreover it pledges to "expose, counteract and combat" the evil influences of these undemocratic movements. Like other resolutions passed by the

U.N.O. since the war began, it bespeaks a total change in U.N.O. fundamental policy. Before the war the only dictatorship to which the U.N.O. was opposed was the Soviet Union; quite often it praised the Italian and German dictatorship and was very critical of the democratic system of government.

The sentiments expressed in resolution No. 7 are typical of the views and tendencies of every Canadian Ukrainian organization within the K.U.K. (Ukrainian Canadian Committee) orbit. Ukrainian independence is being urged daily by speakers and the press of all anti-Soviet organizations.

[30]

The vast bulk of Ukrainians entered Canada just a few years previous to the great economic crisis which existed in the decade between 1929 and 1939. Unlike immigrants of other origins they had few opportunities to become entrenched in business, farming and professional vocations before the depression set in. Quite naturally therefore they were in a hapless position and susceptible to various kinds of propaganda which was dangerous both to themselves and to their adopted country.

Consequently with a view to helping their lot and to lessen the moral and physical deterioration that threatened them, some leading Ukrainian Canadians held a special conference in Saskatoon, Sask., in June, 1932, with a view to working out, if possible, a constructive program. To be effective, a constructive program, they decided, must be participated in by men, women and youth, farmers as well as workers of the middle class. To be successful, it should emphasize that it is in the interest of the people as a whole to bring about organized pressure upon the constitutional authorities to harmonize the existing social order with the existing social needs through timely social reform. Such a program should take the fullest advantage of the cultural traditions of Ukrainian Canadians, it should strengthen among Ukrainian Canadians the fundamentals of Christianity as understood and practised in a free democratic system, and it should place before its followers the principles of international fair play and justice in their proper perspectives.

To carry out these principles in a practical way the conference agreed unanimously to establish a Dominion-wide organization under the name Ukrainian National Federation of Canada. It was to have as affiliated bodies the existing branches of the Ukrainian War Veterans Association of Canada, the Organization of the Ukrainian Women of Canada and the Ukrainian National Youth Federation of Canada.

The U.N.F. of C.'s provincial executive was soon formed and branch offices were established in Edmonton and Saskatoon in 1932. It evoked an enthusiastic response among many Ukrainian Canadians throughout the country. By and by other branches began to organize. The organization of

youth and women followed and numerous technical groups began to branch off in each community. Of these groups the choral, theatrical and reading clubs were the first to appear. Later educational courses for adults and night and summer schools for children were organized, while benevolent associations, consumers' cooperatives and saving and credit unions came into being. Within each branch a library was established and in Saskatoon a national museum was founded.

Finally a radio telegraphy school in Toronto, a flying school in Oshawa, and a summer school of Ukrainian music and culture in Winnipeg, were established as educational centers for Ukrainian youth of the Dominion.

Annually U.N.F. of C. conferences were held concurrently with annual conventions of the affiliated bodies and the principles adopted by the constitutional conference in 1932 have from time to time been revised, amended and elaborated. The present program may be presented briefly as follows:

Of highest importance, in view of certain destructive forces aimed at undermining free human society, the U.N.F. of C. aims at presenting a clear picture of existing dangers and at fostering a recognition of such dangers by organized groups in Canada. Since its inception the federation has been aware [31] of the dangers implanted in our social life—dangers often camouflaged as attractive patriotic movements—and it attempts to cultivate among its members and members of its affiliated bodies a spirit of responsibility towards Canada.

The U.N.F. of C. holds that the designs of the subversive elements are primarily to create an atmosphere of mental confusion and then to exploit that confusion by turning it into dissatisfaction among the masses. With a view to counteracting such confusion the federation therefore promotes among its members the following beliefs:

1. In our duties and responsibilities;

(The U.N.F. of C. and the organizations affiliated with it co-ordinate their social responsibilities with constructive social groups and believe in safeguarding the present democratic system in Canada. The U.N.F. of C. believes that its members should take a stand with all other loyal Canadians against any attempt to endanger the political and civil liberties of individuals and institutions. Its members believe they should place their responsibilities as citizens of Canada ahead of their personal affairs in order to preserve their rights for future generations. They do not want to shift their responsibility to somebody else. They believe in themselves.)

2. In Canada;

(U.N.F. of C. members regard Canada as the country of faith and hope for their children. Their fathers and forefathers left their native

lands because of brutal oppression and ruthless exploitations. U.N.F. of C. members believe in Canada because it was here that they found the social and political freedom, the quality and opportunity for which the Ukrainian people in Europe have fought in vain for centuries. They believe in Canada because it is a new land and because the principles of British democracy and fair play are practised by the parliament by the courts and by the citizens. They believe in Canada and dedicate themselves to Canada's defence and her future security.)

3. In social progress through reforms;

(Canada's population, natural resources and industries are undergoing changes usually incidental to rapid development. This process is carried on almost entirely by private initiative, and numerous problems of maladjustment have become acute and demand immediate attention. To remove causes of international social unrest and possible strife. The U.N.F. of C. believes

(a) in limiting the concentration of capital to assure a more equitable disposition of national income and resources among Canadians;

[32]

(b) that a national insurance scheme covering life, sickness, accident, unemployment and old age should be integrated under a social security department of the government, and payment should be compulsory for every citizen capable of working and eligible for employment;

(c) this department of social security should make provision for disabled persons of every kind including war invalids;

(d) in nationalization of medical services and hospitalization;

(e) work at reasonable wages must be made available to all employable citizens;

(f) land holdings should be regulated to meet the demands of Canadian agricultural population;

(g) prices of agricultural products should be kept on a parity with the price level for industrial products to ensure a fair income to the farmer, worker and industrialist alike;

(h) in extension of the right to trade unionism for farm labour and recognition of collective bargaining as a right of workers in all occupations;

(i) in equal educational opportunities for youth;

(j) public inspection of dwelling houses should be established and a housing plan, national in scope and financed by national credit should be initiated to provide healthy homes for families of lower incomes.)

4. In cultural traditions;

(The U.N.F. of C. regards cultural traditions as embodying the living, flowing, continuing spirit of the people rather than empty remains of the past. For 11 centuries Ukrainian culture has found its expression in music, literature, art and philosophy, and the Ukrainians have fought for the preservation of this culture in many historical battles. Some of it has been destroyed but much of it is preserved— many songs, customs, living art and literature. The Ukrainian language itself is a noble and powerful embodiment of this culture. U.N.F. of C. members feel they would be disloyal to their own past and unjust to the future cultural life of Canada if they neglected to preserve this heritage of their ancestors. They want themselves and their children to be worthy, good and loyal Canadian citizens and they believe that disloyalty to and contempt for worthy cultural tradition destroys the bridge between the past and the present, and undermines a solid foundation for their future.)

[33]

5. In the moral principles of Christianity;

(The modern tendency is to undervalue religious sentiment and education. The U.N.F. of C. believes in christian religious education and in practising the principles of Christianity in social life.)

6. Freedom of all peoples;

(The U.N.F. of C. believes that each people or nation is entitled to enjoy and apply itself to the four freedoms laid down in the Atlantic Charter. Under modern geopolitical developments it believes no country is politically secure unless a new principle of national equality of all peoples is adopted and internationally guaranteed. Canada with its small population cannot hope for security if it hides behind a wall of isolation in a world where freedom is denied to other countries of equal or greater populations.)

7. In a free Ukraine;

(The U.N.F. of C. believes there can be no freedom if the great Ukrainian nation of over 45 millions of people is left under occupation and oppression by foreign states. It believes that the Ukrainian nation is entitled to build a free state on its own ethnographic territories. It believes that, within the limit of its loyalty to Canada, it should support morally and materially the efforts of the Ukrainian nation for political freedom.)

VIII COMMUNISM AND LABOUR GENERALLY

Conditions brought about by our expanded production of war material and the strain on available manpower have placed a premium on labour and

contribute directly to the expansion of organized labour since the war began. The past history of labour in Canada indicates, contrary to the generally-accepted theory, that during a period of prosperity labour is more susceptible to organizing than during a depression. Thus it is found that during the war years organizations have exploited their position to the point where parent organizations are losing their control of the locals; particularly is this true of C.I.O. industrial unions. Labour has made considerable gains both in numerical strength and in concessions from employers. In addition, their demands and representations are heard more frequently in government circles reflecting the voting power controlled by labour.

This newly-gained prominence has resulted in labour's entry into the political field, not directly as a party, but by way of supporting certain political parties. During the last Canadian Congress of Labour convention a resolution was adopted which recommended that C.C.L. locals affiliate with the C.C.F. Some locals have followed the direction of their parent body, but [34] others—and these are in the majority—have not, mainly because of opposition voiced by L.P.P. sympathizers who claim that the C.C.F. will not grant suitable per capita representation at their convention.

While some C.C.L. locals have affiliated with the C.C.F., others openly support the L.P.P. At present, the Trades and Labour Congress does not appear to support any political party, though some T.L.C. unions, such as the Canadian Seaman's Union and Lodge 712, International Association of Machinists, have openly supported L.P.P. candidates. These are, however, isolated cases.

It is doubtful if this divided support of labour is an asset to any political party. Take, for example, the case of the International Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers. During the last Ontario provincial election, [deletion: blank], an executive member of the union, was elected on a C.C.F. ticket at Sudbury. In British Columbia, however, the union is dominated by [deletion: blank], who has been nominated to run on a L.P.P. ticket in East Cootenay. The B.C. "Union News", official organ of the union in B.C., consistently reflects L.P.P. policies and has all the attributes of an L.P.P. propaganda paper. It must be borne in mind, however, that merely because the union advocates support of a certain political party and passes resolutions to this effect it does not follow that the majority of rank-and-file members are in agreement; the packing of meetings and rail-roading of resolutions is practised by all parties and the L.P.P. are past masters at this game. Their slogan seems to be that an organized minority can dictate to an unorganized majority, and this has worked in more than one union.

A particularly good example of infiltration and the eventual taking over of control is to be seen in the recent history of the C.C.L. unions in the West Coast Shipyards. About two years ago the communists moved in on the

Boilermakers and Iron Shipbuilders Union (C.C.L.)—the largest industrial shipyard union—and by agitation and disruptive tactics gradually took control [✂deletion: 1 line]

In connection with the shipyard unions it is of particular interest to note that the communists engineered the formation of the Shipyard General Workers Federation. The unions concerned relinquished their C.C.L. charters and were chartered directly by the federation, which pays a per-capita levy to the C.C.L. but is autonomous. According to a federation statement this move united 80 per cent of the shipbuilding employees and embraces approximately 20,000 workers in Vancouver, Victoria and Prince Rupert.

The federation took over the publishing of the "Main Deck", official organ of the Boilermakers Local No. 1, and now uses it as its official organ. [✂deletion: 2 1/2 lines]

The question of veterans' re-establishment in industries is causing organized labour some concern. Though a definite policy has not been laid down in Canada, the matter doubtless will be considered at the conventions of the T.L.C. and the C.C.L., both of which are to take place in October. For some time the L.P.P. has been advocating certain policies in this regard, which are reflected in some of the articles and editor- [35] ials appearing in various labour publications. A recent issue of the "Main Deck" features ten points which it felt should be included in the government's plans. An interesting side-light on this article is that it appeared originally in the "Tribune" under T.C. Sims' name.

In the United States labour's relation with the armed forces has been the subject of considerable discussion, especially the latter's reaction to strikes. The following is an extract from a report in this connection dated June 6, 1944:

"General Arnold's spirited statement to the fully-assembled press that 250 fighter planes had been criminally lost by the foreman's strike early in May, had an almost magical effect where everything else failed. Under-Secretary of War Patterson, faced by the new wave of war-strikes which followed later in the month, tried the same technique when, pressing for 'work-or-fight' legislation, he threw down a stack of battle-pictures of dead and wounded on the Military Affairs Committee's desk, with a bitter remark about 'equality of sacrifice'. Rear-Admiral Gatch of the battle-ship 'South Dakota', testifying to the same committee, also touched the labour movement's sensitive spot in declaring that fighting men are bitter at continued interruptions of war production. 'I fear the resentment of fighting-men against the men at home who are getting ten times the salary and not backing them up', he said.

"This is exactly what the CIO and the AFL are also afraid of, and when someone in the services says so, they listen attentively. A few days later, R. J. Thomas, president of the United Automobile Workers, who have caused most of the trouble, took the hint and acted sharply to stop a typically irresponsible strike which had kept 11,500 Chrysler Workers idle for a week over an absurd jurisdictional dispute involving the driver of a truck delivering Pepsi-Cola. Over the heads of local officials, he called a rank-and-file meeting and put the case to them bluntly:

'Public opinion has become inflamed against our union', he said. 'Word of these strikes is going to our millions of men in uniform. Our union cannot survive if the nation and our soldiers believe that we are obstructing the war effort. Either we set our own house in order at once, and cease all wildcat strikes, or face an attack such as no union can withstand...restrictive legislation worse than anything now on the books'.

"He concluded by telling the men to cross the picket-lines immediately. And they did. In other ways, too, labour leaders were endeavouring to bridge the gap between workers and the services. Two hundred women members of the U.A.W. spent three days with the W.A.C.S. at Fort Knox, as a party of union men had trained at Camp Atterbury a year before. The idea that labour is protecting the soldier's interests in his absence was also developed, and a cartoon in the C.I.O. "News" showed a noble figure labelled 'C.I.O.', benevolently handing a GI Bill of Rights' to a somewhat bemused Congress for signature. Finally, in the 'Sunday [36] Worker' of June 11, Bob Thompson, Vice-president and military expert of the Communist Political Association, presented a detailed programme for 'The Serviceman's Future' and for receiving him amicably into the body of labour. This seemed to have high-level authority, and will probably find its way gradually into the general C.I.O. platform."

Similar action was taken by the United Automobile Workers in Windsor when a group from the union attended a local army camp.

To appreciate fully the L.P.P. influence in organized labour one has only to peruse a few of the labour publications such as the "Main Deck", "B.C. Union News", "The Pilot", "United Automobile Workers", etc., not to mention the numerous similar publications put out for local consumption only. Invariably these papers reflect the policies of the L.P.P. and many issues contain articles that appear first in "The Canadian Tribune".

IX

THE NEW COMMUNIST CONSPIRACY

The October, 1944, issue of "Reader's Digest", commencing at page 27, carries a most interesting article relative to the insidious penetration of

communism in the United States—a penetration which is facilitated by a process of moral and psychological disarmament of our unsuspecting public. Titled, “The New Communist Conspiracy”, this article is written by Alexander Barmine—a former high official of the Soviet government. It is most revealing, and the startling facts it exposes have a striking parallel in conditions as they exist in Canada.