

Trade Unionists say . . .

*The following statement in support of
Delegation campaign is submitted by . . .*

MR T. R. GEBBIE, Sec. N.Z. Railway Tradesmen's Assn.

MR. C. GOUGH, Secretary, Dairyworkers' Union.

MR. W. MOLINEUX, for New Zealand Carpenters' Union.

THE opportunity for Trade Unionists to visit the U.S.S.R. is one that New Zealand Unionists should eagerly seize upon, in view of the many conflicting statements that appear in print from the pens of those who, sympathetic or otherwise, have apparently had no trouble in passing the "Iron Curtain."

If restrictions are placed on the movements of visitors to the U.S.S.R., an intelligent man would quickly be aware of them. To know the truth of conditions within that country, it seems necessary to send honest men to see for themselves.

Paid newspaper reporters are only paid to write as their employers' interests dictate; politicians only report according to political expediency, but honest, intelligent workers, elected by people who know them, should be able to give reports that, whether favourable or not, would be reliable.

New Zealand visitors could have a look at Soviet schemes for wage fixing, social insurance and workers' participation in the control of industry and on their return enable their sponsors, through their reports, to compare these with conditions in our own country.

MR. ROBERT ADAMS, Secretary of the Wellington Painters' and Decorators' Union, and chairman of the Delegation Organising Committee, puts the case this way:—

"There are many questions that cannot be sensibly answered about the Soviet Union, while there is a consistent and confusing barrage of propaganda from Press, Radio, and monopoly magnates. We cannot all go to Russia and find out for ourselves, but democratically elected delegates could represent us and report back as to just what is going on.

"If there are any logical reasons why a delegation should not visit Russia, I would like to hear them, for we are told and read so much about that country that surely in our age we are entitled to first-hand information. Such a delegation could give us just that information.

"An invitation to visit the U.S.S.R. has been issued to New Zealanders at my Committee's request by the Soviet All-Union Council of Trade Unions, so why not go?"

"... goodwill and trustworthy information."

The REVEREND LLOYD GEERING, St. James' Presbyterian Church, Newtown, gives his support to the proposed delegation, and writes as follows:—

"I am very interested in this proposal to send a delegation of New Zealand workers on a short tour of Soviet Russia. I believe it could be an important factor in the spread of goodwill and trustworthy information. At a time when there is so much distrust between Russia and the democratic nations, it is important to promote as much coming and going as possible on a personal level. The men and women chosen for such a delegation should be widely known for their sober judgment and love of truth, and it would be a good thing if different shades of opinion were represented within the delegation."

"... no hope for civilisation unless ..."

"I believe there is no hope for civilisation as we know it unless the U.S.S.R. and the West get together on a programme of building, instead of remaining apart on a programme of destruction, of which the present rearmament race is the first step," writes MR. ANTON VOGT, well-known poet and prominent figure in New Zealand educational circles.

He continues, "Such 'getting together' can no longer mean only discussion at Governmental level, because Governmental representatives necessarily echo the lack of understanding inherent in a divided world. What we do need is joint participation on fundamental problems of food, shelter, clothing, education, etc., by specialists concerned more with these things than with sovereignty or 'points scoring' in an international 'game of honour.' And before we can get such participation, we must have some information about each other and what we are doing. That is why I welcome the suggestion that disinterested observers (I believe there are such people), with no political or economic axe to grind, should move as freely as possible between East and West, pledging themselves only to report honestly on what they see.

"If New Zealand can send anyone to the U.S.S.R. to observe and report, that will make up in part for the mistake of cutting us off from the U.S.S.R. diplomatically by closing the Moscow Legation. I regard the closing of the Legation as a mistake if relations were not quite hopeless, because the primary function of a Legation should be to improve relations: and as doubly mistaken if relations were hopelessly strained, because its function then was to establish them."

"... the whole truth is not being told. . . ."

Himself having just returned from a tour of the Soviet Union with his wife, and being a member of the Delegation Organising Committee, H. WINSTON RHODES, Associate Professor of English at Canterbury University College, writes in strong support:—

"The importance of sending a New Zealand delegation to the Soviet Union cannot be over-estimated. Other countries have been well represented among the people who are continually passing backwards and forwards from West to East. In recent months, groups of trade unionists, medical men, teachers, Quakers, and many others have gone from England to the Soviet Union.

"New Zealanders, like other people, want first-hand information on conditions in that country, on attitudes to peace and war, on the society that has been built. Many of them believe that the whole truth is not being told. Therefore it is exceedingly important that delegates be democratically elected by their fellow-workers, and that they should go in a spirit of goodwill, to investigate, to understand, and to report back. I strongly support every effort that is made to send a delegation composed of trade unionists, as I believe that it will help, if only in a small way, to ease international tension which is based so much on fear and ignorance."

"... being led up the garden path? ..."

WILLIS T. G. AIREY, Associate Professor of History at Auckland University College, endorses the Delegation campaign, saying:—

"We are often told that the 'free nations' of the world are threatened with aggression and domination by the imperialism of the Soviet Union, and we are told harrowing stories of the dictatorship and slavery that are alleged to exist there. On that basis, we are urged to spend millions on warlike prepara-

tion and to link our destiny with that of the United States as a great protector. Out of this great absorption of labour and materials into unproductive work come shortages of goods, rising prices, and lowering of living standards—if nothing worse.

"Now, if it is true that the 'free nations' are threatened by a tyrannous monster, as many countries were when Hitler rose in Germany, then all this would be reasonable enough. But we find some queer customers being classed as allies of freedom—Franco, Chiang Kai-shek, Bao Dai, Turkey, Greece, Japan. Moreover, on the other side we hear an emphasis on peace, on freedom and democracy, on cultural development, and on self-determination for oppressed peoples. We know, too, that only there are prices going down and living standards rising. Are we then being led up the garden path when we are loaded with war preparations? Is the Soviet Union being made into a bogey-man to frighten us into doing something that we would not do if we knew the facts?

"It is ordinary working-people who pay the highest price for war preparations and for the wars they are apt to lead to. They should take every chance to find out the facts for themselves. That is why I think it would be an excellent thing to send a delegation to the Soviet Union. Let workers on the job select representatives that they can rely on to look at things honestly and who can come back and tell them what the Soviet Union looks like to men who work for their living.

"If they think it is a threat to the hopes of the ordinary people of the world for peace and a richer life, we can take measures accordingly. If, on the other hand, they bring back a good report, then that could help to save us from falling into a trap and being led into one of the greatest disasters of human history."

Russian Hospitality . . .

MISS BETTY ARYA, a New Zealand delegate to the 1951 Youth Festival in Berlin where she met a large number of Soviet young people, writes in support of the sending of a representative New Zealand delegation to the Soviet Union on these grounds:

"Meeting and talking to Russians interests you in their problems and thus helps to prevent war. It would be a wonderful experience for New Zealanders to go to the Soviet Union because of Soviet hospitality, and their pride in what all their people are doing."

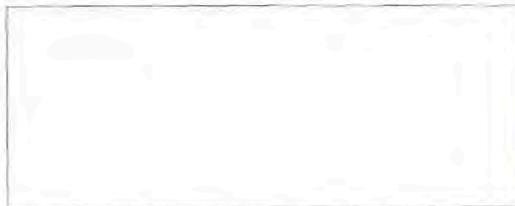
YOU Can Help the Campaign

- ATTEND, with your friends, the public meetings which will be organised by the Committee.
- KEEP UP with the latest moves by following the Committee's Press statements, and further leaflets issued by it.
- SPREAD THE NEWS about the proposed delegation among your friends and acquaintances, and seek support for it in the various organisations to which you belong.
- GIVE DONATIONS, either through the Official Donation Sheets which are being widely circulated, or by writing directly to—

The Secretary,

MR. RON DORE,

54 Pipitea Street, Wellington.



STANDARD PRESS, WELLINGTON

A Chance to See For Yourself!

THE COMBINED COMMITTEE for organising a delegation to the U.S.S.R. urges you to read this leaflet and to give it serious thought.

About the Committee . . .

● It was elected from a public meeting held in Wellington last Labour week-end, and comprises Mr. R. Adams, chairman; Mr. R. Dore, Secretary; Associate Professors Airey and Rhodes; Mr. C. Gough, Secretary Dairy Workers' Union; Mr. T. R. Gebbie, Secretary Railway Tradesmen's Association; representatives from the New Zealand Carpenters' Union; a number of other trade unionists, and two members of the National Executive of the N.Z. Society for Closer Relations with the U.S.S.R.

● The sole purpose of the committee was to seek an invitation and to assist in organising a delegation of New Zealanders to visit the Soviet Union as guests of the Soviet Trade Unions which have in reply to the Committee's request issued an invitation for six to eight New Zealand Trade Unionists and Farmers to visit Russia.

● All delegates will be elected by their own organisations, and the Committee will try in every way to help delegates on their journey.

● The following statements, in support of such a delegation speak for themselves.

(Signed) R. DORE, Hon. Secretary.

Trade Unionists say . . .

*The following statement in support of the
Delegation campaign is submitted by . . .*

MR T. R. GEBBIE, Sec. N.Z. Railway Tradesmen's Assn.

MR. C. GOUGH, Secretary, Dairyworkers' Union.

MR. W. MOLINEUX, for New Zealand Carpenters' Union.

THE opportunity for Trade Unionists to visit the U.S.S.R. is one that New Zealand Unionists should eagerly seize upon, in view of the many conflicting statements that appear in print from the pens of those who, sympathetic or otherwise, have apparently had no trouble in passing the "Iron Curtain."

If restrictions are placed on the movements of visitors to the U.S.S.R., an intelligent man would quickly be aware of them. To know the truth of conditions within that country, it seems necessary to send honest men to see for themselves.

Paid newspaper reporters are only paid to write as their employers' interests dictate; politicians only report according to political expediency, but honest, intelligent workers, elected by people who know them, should be able to give reports that, whether favourable or not, would be reliable.

New Zealand visitors could have a look at Soviet schemes for wage fixing, social insurance and workers' participation in the control of industry and on their return enable their sponsors, through their reports, to compare these with conditions in our own country.

MR. ROBERT ADAMS, Secretary of the Wellington Painters' and Decorators' Union, and chairman of the Delegation Organising Committee, puts the case this way:—

"There are many questions that cannot be sensibly answered about the Soviet Union, while there is a consistent and confusing barrage of propaganda from Press, Radio, and monopoly magnates. We cannot all go to Russia and find out for ourselves, but democratically elected delegates could represent us and report back as to just what is going on.

"If there are any logical reasons why a delegation should not visit Russia, I would like to hear them, for we are told and read so much about that country that surely in our age we are entitled to first-hand information. Such a delegation could give us just that information.

"An invitation to visit the U.S.S.R. has been issued to New Zealanders at my Committee's request by the Soviet All-Union Council of Trade Unions, so why not go?"

"... goodwill and trustworthy information."

The REVEREND LLOYD GEERING, St. James' Presbyterian Church, Newtown, gives his support to the proposed delegation, and writes as follows:—

"I am very interested in this proposal to send a delegation of New Zealand workers on a short tour of Soviet Russia. I believe it could be an important factor in the spread of goodwill and trustworthy information. At a time when there is so much distrust between Russia and the democratic nations, it is important to promote as much coming and going as possible on a personal level. The men and women chosen for such a delegation should be widely known for their sober judgment and love of truth, and it would be a good thing if different shades of opinion were represented within the delegation."

"... no hope for civilisation unless . . ."

"I believe there is no hope for civilisation as we know it unless the U.S.S.R. and the West get together on a programme of building, instead of remaining apart on a programme of destruction, of which the present rearmament race is the first step," writes MR. ANTON VOGT, well-known poet and prominent figure in New Zealand educational circles.

He continues, "Such 'getting together' can no longer mean only discussion at Governmental level, because Governmental representatives necessarily echo the lack of understanding inherent in a divided world. What we do need is joint participation on fundamental problems of food, shelter, clothing, education, etc., by specialists concerned more with these things than with sovereignty or 'points scoring' in an international 'game of honour.' And before we can get such participation, we must have some information about each other and what we are doing. That is why I welcome the suggestion that disinterested observers (I believe there are such people), with no political or economic axe to grind, should move as freely as possible between East and West, pledging themselves only to report honestly on what they see.

"If New Zealand can send anyone to the U.S.S.R. to observe and report, that will make up in part for the mistake of cutting us off from the U.S.S.R. diplomatically by closing the Moscow Legation. I regard the closing of the Legation as a mistake if relations were not quite hopeless, because the primary function of a Legation should be to improve relations: and as doubly mistaken if relations were hopelessly strained, because its function then was to establish them."

"... the whole truth is not being told. . . ."

Himself having just returned from a tour of the Soviet Union with his wife, and being a member of the Delegation Organising Committee, H. WINSTON RHODES, Associate Professor of English at Canterbury University College, writes in strong support:—

"The importance of sending a New Zealand delegation to the Soviet Union cannot be over-estimated. Other countries have been well represented among the people who are continually passing backwards and forwards from West to East. In recent months, groups of trade unionists, medical men, teachers, Quakers, and many others have gone from England to the Soviet Union.

"New Zealanders, like other people, want first-hand information on conditions in that country, on attitudes to peace and war, on the society that has been built. Many of them believe that the whole truth is not being told. Therefore it is exceedingly important that delegates be democratically elected by their fellow-workers, and that they should go in a spirit of goodwill, to investigate, to understand, and to report back. I strongly support every effort that is made to send a delegation composed of trade unionists, as I believe that it will help, if only in a small way, to ease international tension which is based so much on fear and ignorance."

"... being led up the garden path? . . ."

WILLIS T. G. AIREY, Associate Professor of History at Auckland University College, endorses the Delegation campaign, saying:—

"We are often told that the 'free nations' of the world are threatened with aggression and domination by the imperialism of the Soviet Union, and we are told harrowing stories of the dictatorship and slavery that are alleged to exist there. On that basis, we are urged to spend millions on warlike prepara-

~~SECRET~~



247
If any reply, please
quote this number:
X S. 51/531

21/2/4



POLICE DEPARTMENT,
WELLINGTON C. 1. 4th April, 1952.

MEMORANDUM for

The Hon. Minister in Charge of Police,
Parliament Buildings,
WELLINGTON.

NEW ZEALAND TRADES UNION DELEGATION TO THE U.S.S.R.

I am forwarding to you herewith for your information one of my files concerning the organisation of a New Zealand Trades Union Delegation to the U.S.S.R.

I do not think that any person other than those having reliable affiliation with the New Zealand Communist Party and ancillary organisations will be considered for selection in the Delegation.

I should be glad if you would return the file to me after perusal.

*Seen by
Minister
29/4/52*

Encl

*File
JH*

George Grey
Commissioner of Police.
JH

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

S. 51/531

246
21/2/52

NEW ZEALAND POLICE

Special Branch, C.I.B.,
WELLINGTON.

March 22, 1952.

REPORT OF: D.S. Paterson, Det. Sgt No. 3668

RELATIVE TO: TRADE UNION DELEGATION TO SOVIET UNION.

I have to report having made inquiries concerning four persons believed to have been natives of India, who attended a public meeting of the Wellington committee for a delegation from the trade unions to the U.S.S.R., at Wellington on March 11, 1952. From an interview with Mr H.C. McQueen who is at present attached to the External Affairs Department, it seems likely that the four persons were visitors to New Zealand under the Colombo Plan, and in this event it would not be expected that they were in any way supporters of the movement, but rather inquiry^{ing} visitors.

Mr McQueen has informed me that all persons who come to New Zealand under the Colombo Plan are obliged before leaving their country to declare against any participation in this country's politics. At the time in Wellington, were, - Messrs C.V. BHATT, Sochi RAUTROY, natives of India, and two railway engineers, Major MOHINDRA and Rega SOPALAN. Mr Rautroy has some reputation as a poet, and is understood prior to the meeting in question, to have been entertained at a social evening at the residence of Miss Sonia FOOKES at Karori, where he may have made the acquaintance of local aspiring poets, Louis JOHNSON and Anton VOGT, both of whom were present at the delegation meeting. So far as is known all the Indians have now departed from New Zealand.

The Inspector, (C.I.B.),
WELLINGTON.

D.B. Paterson
Detective Sergeant.

*The Supr. of Police with
enclosure, please.
D. Paterson
Chief Insp. for*

Inspector, C.I.B., 24.3.52
Wellington

*The Commissioner of Police
to Mr. G. H. G. G.
25/3/52*

*File
Jm*

~~SECRET~~

S. 51/531 245

Директор-Бухгалтер

Unions In Support Of Delegation To U.S.S.R.

Date of subscription:

the proposal to send the delegation to seek first-hand information, and as a means of developing understanding among the peoples of the world.

Mr. C. Goddard, for the national executive of the Society for Closer Relations with the U.S.S.R. said that Soviet trade unions did not issue invitations to Russia unless they were asked for. In response to a number of requests the organising committee was set up last year at a meeting convened by the society. This committee circularised all trade unions, regardless of their affiliations in the trade union movement, so that a delegation could be obtained representative of all shades of trade union opinion.

Mr. Goddard said that the organising committee comprised associate professors H. Winston Rhodes (Christchurch) and W. G. T. Airey (Auckland), Messrs. W. F. Molnueux (representing the Carpenters' Union), T. F. Gebbie, H. W. Hunter, R. E. Dore, secretary, and a number of other trade unionists, together with two representatives of the Society for Closer Relations with the U.S.S.R.

END OF 1949

Particulars of applicants ordered resident in New Zealand, whether residing with applicants or not :—

agents of balance or counterforce of legislation passed on 11/1/1911

File of J. H. [unclear]

ਪ੍ਰਗਤਿ :

3259 :

H2E1

PLATE 1

Confining condition:

Осуществлено:

γῆν τολμᾷ παρνομεῖν :

ΠΙΣΤΟΤΗΤΗ ΠΑΡΟΥΣΙΑΣ :

267

Type of pipe :

bits of paper :

Types of frogs :

20100000 :

RESULTS :

Application for Registration as an Alien.

" THE DOMINION "

TUESDAY MARCH THE 18th. 1952.

21/2/4
244

51/531

Application for Registration as an Alien

Form with fields for: Name, Date of birth, Place of birth, Present nationality, Any former nationality, Country of origin, Height, Weight, Distinctive marks (scars, etc.), Date and place of arrival in New Zealand, Name of parent or certificate of registration issued on arrival, Name of wife (husband), Particulars of applicant's children resident in New Zealand, whether residing with applicant or not.

Delegation To Russia

Sir,—I have followed with interest the original report and the subsequent remarks through this column on the proposed delegation of trade unionists to Russia. Like previous writers, I say let's have this delegation by all means, and on their return give us an honest-to-goodness report on conditions in the U.S.S.R., not one that is given with the tongue in the cheek. In this respect I believe Mr. R. Dore to be suitably qualified and competent to choose the right type of trade unionist for the delegation. Of course, it is only natural that Mr. Walsh and those who have written in his support should be anxious of the invitation extended Mr. Dore, as undoubtedly many of us would like the same opportunity to visit this much-maligned nation to see first-hand how they live. However, at this point I must strike a dismal note. Mr. Dore, for although your penetration of the Iron Curtain has been facilitated, I am afraid that when you and your delegation approach some airline or shipping company and ask for tickets to Moscow, you are going to find yourselves confronted with a curtain that is not altogether tissue paper. R.J.O.

Handwritten signature

Form with fields for: Name, Date of application, Signature of alien, Witness to signature, Place of birth, Name of police station where application is made, [If alien is unable to write, a third party or finger-print or other means of identification is to be made in the space provided in the presence of the officer of police to whom application is made, stating which print], Certificate of Registration No.

~~SECRET~~



S. 51/531

21/2/54

If any reply, please
quote this number:

243

POLICE DEPARTMENT

WELLINGTON C.1. 17th March, 1952.

MEMORANDUM for

The Superintendent of Police,
WELLINGTON.

TRADE UNION DELEGATION TO THE SOVIET UNION

I should be glad if you would have further enquiries made concerning the four persons who appear to be natives of India and who attended a meeting sponsored by the Wellington Committee for a delegation from the Trade Unions to the U.S.S.R. which was held in the Town Hall, Wellington, on the 11th March.

Detective Sergeant D.S. Paterson's report of the 13th March, 1952, refers.

*See Inquiries
Office report
to Mr. [unclear]
18/3/52*

Det/Sergt. Paterson

G. F. [unclear]
Deputy Commissioner of Police.

Chief Detective No. 2622.

19th. March 1952. *Encl. C. 1. D.*

Encl

*202
52*

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~



S. 51/531. *21/2/4*
If any reply, please
quote this number:
242

POLICE DEPARTMENT
WELLINGTON C.1. 17th March, 1952.

MEMORANDUM for

The Hon. Minister in Charge of Police,
Parliament Buildings,
WELLINGTON.

TRADE UNION DELEGATION TO THE SOVIET UNION

I am forwarding to you herewith for your perusal a report prepared by Detective Sergeant D.S. Paterson, Special Branch, Wellington, concerning a meeting held in the Wellington Town Hall on the 11th March, 1952, in connection with the movement to send delegates of New Zealand Trade Unions to the U.S.S.R.

I am having further enquiries made concerning the four persons who appear to be natives of India.

G. Paine
Deputy Commissioner of Police.
Jm

Encl

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

X51/531

21/2/4

NEW ZEALAND POLICE

238

SUBJECT:

DELEGATION TO THE SOVIET UNION.

The Superintendent of Police,
Wellington.

Respectfully forwarded.

[Signature]
Chief Detective for
Inspector (C.I.B.)
14th. March 1952.

*He Commissioner of Police
Tongeman
14/3/52
687*

~~SECRET~~

51/531

Special Branch, C.I.B.,
WELLINGTON.

13th March, 1952.

REPORT OF: D.S. Paterson, Det. Sgt No. 3668.

RELATIVE TO: DELEGATION TO THE SOVIET UNION.

I respectfully report having attended at the Concert Chamber of the Wellington Town Hall on the evening of March 11, 1952, a public meeting sponsored by "the Wellington Committee for a delegation to the U.S.S.R.", the purpose of which it was stated was to explain to interested persons the origin of and the reasons for the proposal.

There were some sixty persons present, most of whom appeared to be Communists and members of the Society for Closer Relations with the U.S.S.R. (in which body the proposed delegation had its birth), and sympathisers. The chairman was Ronald Edgar DORE, secretary of the Wellington organising committee and a waterside worker. He is also listed as a member of the Peace Council, a vice-president of the United Nations Association, and a committee member for the Australian Carnival for Peace and Friendship, and a Communist sympathiser if not a member. He was the principal speaker, but was assisted by Charles GOUGH, a Communist sympathiser, member of the S.C.R. and secretary of the Dairy Workers' Union, George GODDARD, a schoolteacher, Communist Party member, member of the national executive of the Society for Closer Relations with the U.S.S.R., and Herlof Anton Herlofsen VOGT, Communist sympathiser and lecturer at the Wellington Teachers' Training College. On the platform also were William ("Jock") HUNTER, Communist Party member and secretary of the Wellington Engineers' Union, and Mrs June BARNES, stated to represent the Progressive Youth League.

26/16/11.

Among those recognised in the audience were: Thomas Sydney HEPTINSTALL, Ronald Joseph SMITH, Gwendoline Mabel FODOSKY, Selwyn McDonald DEVEREUX, Constance Alice BIRCHFIELD, Louis JOHNSON, Margaret Lina EICHELBAUM, Nancy Wai-Lan GODDARD, Ikar LISSIENKO (accompanied by a tall, fair young woman believed of foreign birth, who accompanied him to the S.C.R. conference in October, 1951,), and Dorothy Judith STANTON. Vogt entered the hall accompanied by Johnson and a group of apparently young male students, and four well set up persons who appeared to be natives of India.

Dore first apologised for the absence (all attending other meetings), of the Rev. Lloyd G. GEERING, (St James Presbyterian Church, Newtown), Robert ADAMS, Communist, and secretary of the Wellington Painters' Union, and Walter Francis MOLINEUX, Communist, and secretary of the Wellington Carpenters' Union.

He then explained that the committee which is organising the delegation was formed independently of members of the Society for Closer Relations with the U.S.S.R. at the National Conference of this body held at Wellington last October. A representative body of trade unionists from throughout New Zealand had been called to discuss the proposition which had emanated from the Society, but because it was desired in the public interest that only the true revelations of the delegation should later be made, that an independent group should organise the delegation, and thus was the Wellington committee formed. "We want the people of New Zealand to know what is going on in Russia, and we want to have the delegation as widely

26/17/4

representative as possible with no small group such as the Federation of Labour being responsible for the selection of the delegates," he said.

The need for world peace, which was something everyone in the hall sought, and the desire for better understanding of the peoples of the world was the thought behind the scheme. Although leading emissaries of the world got together at international conferences and set up codes and charters, Dore felt that many themselves had no intention of applying their high ideals. "They don't line themselves up with their own decisions. But the people themselves can develop their own schemes, finance them and implement them themselves, and the Russian trade union delegation is one of these. Therefore we are placing our proposals entirely before the public and we want them to rally to the occasion, and we want as widespread support as we can get. In my own organisation, the United Nations Association, the wrong people are in control, and that is because the people don't give the proper support. We want the delegation to Russia to consist of people who will come back and say exactly what they saw, - not just the things they are told to say.

Trade with the U.S.S.R. and the exchange of ideas and methods were the best methods of bringing about international understanding and trust, and it was hoped that the delegation might foster these and that later a delegation from Russia might be entertained here." Dore then quoted from a pamphlet by D.N. Pritt, Q.C., of the British Communist Party, and was highly critical of varying newspaper reports concerning Russian re-armament, asking, "Are all who read them expected to be unintelligent?"

Dore concluded his address with the information that a reply had been received by the U.S.S.R. Legation in Wellington to the effect that a party of FROM SIX TO EIGHT PERSONS from New Zealand would be entertained in Russia by the All Union Council of Soviet Trade Unions. He later at question time said he considered this number might be increased to twelve.

CHARLES GOUGH said that why he believed in the sending of a delegation to the U.S.S.R. was because he considered that it could bring back agricultural information that would awaken the farmers of New Zealand. He had been trying very hard to get a delegation of farmers together, and no more sincere approach than his could have been made, but the farmers' organisations were not co-operating with him. He considered the farmers could be the first means of breaking down the trade barriers. He said, "We must come in, or we must sink utterly", and then went on to say concerning anti-Russian propaganda, "We must fight down this cancer and villification". His urge was for all good-minded citizens to come forward and support the delegation. He was not blind, he said, to the desire of the Soviet people for peace, but it was also clear to him that war and capitalism were hand in hand.

HERLOF ANTON HERLOESEN VOGT asserted that he wholeheartedly supported the movement for the delegation to the U.S.S.R. He claimed that he was speaking as the representative of no party, no organisation no committee. "I cannot represent the Communist Party as I am not, and never have been a member, nor am I connected with the Society for Closer Relations with Russia." His professed associations were with the Labour Party (20 years' membership), the United Nations Association, the P.E.N. Club, and the New Zealand Educational Institute. He said it was necessary to say these things as so much was misunderstood these days. Vogt deplored the attempts being made to control freedom of thought and action, reminding listeners of the power of public opinion, and instancing the success of public protest against the 1951 amendment to the Police Offences Act. He favoured the Russian

delegation as a means of spreading tolerance, mutual aid and the exchange of ideas. He concluded by reading what were claimed the words of the U.S. Ambassador to New Zealand, Mr R.M. Scotten, in an address on the Fulbright scheme, - that it lead to a better understanding between the peoples of the two countries, and that nations, like individuals, were interdependent.

GEORGE GODDARD addressed the meeting on behalf of the national executive of the Society for Closer Relations with the U.S.S.R. which he said was a goodwill organisation established some ten years ago, a former president of which was Mr H. Atmore, a former Independent member of Parliament, and the present secretary of which is associate Professor H. Winston Rhodes of the Canterbury University. Its objects were trade, friendship and world peace, and its membership consisted of persons of literary talent, trade union members and others of no particular interest.

What had prompted the society to originate the delegation was the fact of many inquiries from various people concerning travel in the U.S.S.R. Stories of many kinds about Russia were going about, probably instigated by anonymous persons behind office desks whose integrity could not be vouched for. After it was found that so many persons were interested in visiting Russia, also, it was necessary to see that proper invitations could be arranged and the responsible organisation to make approaches was the S.C.R. Invitations to visit the U.S.S.R. could not properly be made by the Soviet Legation here, but the New Zealand Society had access to the Legation, and accordingly on January 21, 1951, the latter contacted the All Union Council of Soviet Trade Unions and on February 14, (the speaker said the '14th of this month') a reply was received by the Russian Minister, Mr Alexandrov, inviting six to eight persons from New Zealand to visit Russia.

Strongly advocating the delegation, Goddard in his own words admitted his partisanship in the matter, which was aided by his recognition of "the mortal economic sickness of our society". He said that from the outset "we were assured of the courtesy and kindness of the Russian Minister, Mr Alexandrov". He said the society could not itself invite any persons to visit the U.S.S.R. so it was decided to announce the plan widely so as finally to have a fully representative delegation. Accordingly notification was made to the national bodies of the Federation of Labour and the Trade Union Congress, religious and other bodies. The society now awaited decisions by the various organisations and trade unions as to nominations. The nominating body would be required to finance its delegate. The society was not in a position to offer finance. They already had the burden of organising the delegation, and for this purpose were drawing on the sum of £60 which was in hand from the national conference last year.

A collection was taken at the conclusion of the addresses, but the amount contributed was not announced. The meeting concluded at 9.30p.m.

D.S. Pearson

Detective Sergeant.

The Inspector, (C.I.B.),
WELLINGTON.

TUESDAY MARCH THE 12th. 1952.

21/2/52

236

x 51/531

Application for Registration as an Alien

Public Meeting On Sending Of Union Delegation To Russia

Organisers and supporters of the plan to send a trade union delegation to Russia held a public meeting in the Wellington Town Hall concert chamber last night. The meeting adopted a resolution welcoming the proposal to send the delegation to seek first-hand information, and as a means of developing understanding among the peoples of the world.

Speakers included Messrs. R. Dore, secretary of the organising committee, who presided, C. Gough and Anton Vogt. Mr. C. Goddard spoke for the national executive of the Society for Closer Relations with the U.S.S.R.

Mr. Goddard said that Soviet trade unions did not issue invitations to Russia unless they were asked for. The Soviet Legation was not able to issue invitations even if it desired to, but in response to a number of requests the organising committee was set up last year at a meeting convened by the society. This committee circulated all trade unions, regardless of their affiliations in the trade union movement, so that a delegation could be obtained representative of all shades of trade union opinion.

Mr. Goddard said last night that the organising committee comprised associate professors H. Winston Rhodes (Christchurch) and W. G. T. Airey (Auckland), Messrs. W. F. Molineux (representing the Carpenters' Union), T. E. Gebbie, H. W. Hunter, R. E. Dore, secretary, and a number of other trade unionists, together with two representatives of the Society for Closer Relations with the U.S.S.R.

He said that the national executive of the Carpenters' Union had endorsed the sending of a delegate. The national council of the New Zealand Engineering Workers' Union had agreed to the sending of the delegation, conditional on endorsement of the delegation by the Federation of Labour.

21/2/4

Application for Registration as an Alien.

434

Publicly released under the NZSIS Declassification Policy

Particulars of applicant's children resident in New Zealand, whether residing with applicant or not :-

Name of (wife) (husband) :-

Nature of permit or certificate of registration issued on arrival :-

Date and place of arrival in New Zealand :-

Distinctive marks (scars, &c.) :-

Height :- Build :- Hair :- Eyes :-

Conjugal condition :-

Any former nationality :-

Present nationality :-

Sex :- Date of birth :- Place of birth :-

Place of abode :-

Surname :- Forename :-

Name	Birth	Place of Birth
Delegation To Russia The proposal to send a trade union delegation to Russia is favoured by the national council of the New Zealand Tramway Employees' Union, provided that the union membership is prepared to raise the necessary funds voluntarily. This was decided by the annual meeting of the council after hearing a representative of the committee organising the delegation. The council agreed to ask branches if they would raise funds and that, if that were approved, nominations be called. The council urged the president of the Wellington branch (Mr. G. N. Amos) to accept nomination.		
		

Date of application :-

Signature of alien :-

Witness to signature :-

Rank :-

Name of police station where application is made :-

[If alien is unable to write, a thumb-print or finger-print or other means of identification is to be made in the space provided in the presence of the officer of police to whom application is made, stating which print.]

Certificate of Registration No. :-

Issued at :-

on :-

by :-

"THE DOMINION"

X51/531

Certificate of Registration No.

Tuesday, March 11th, 1952.

Application is made, stating which birth

certificate is to be made in the above provided in the presence of the officer of police to whom

[If alien is unable to write, a thumb-print or finger-print or other means of identification]

Name of police station where application is made:

Union Delegation To Russia Favoured

The national council of the New Zealand Tramways Employees' Union favours the proposal to send a trade union delegation to Russia.

The annual meeting of the union's council in Wellington yesterday, after hearing an address by a representative of the committee which is organising the delegation, decided to ask branches of the union if they would be prepared to raise finances voluntarily to send a delegate. If this proposal is supported, members will be invited to submit nominations.

Date of application:

Name:

Sex:

Date of Birth:

Place of Birth:

Particulars of applicant's children resident in New Zealand, whether residing with applicant or not:—

Name of (wife) (partner):

Nature of permit or certificate of registration issued on arrival:

Date and place of arrival in New Zealand:

Distinctive marks (scars, etc.):

Height:

Build:

Hair:

Eyes:

Complexion:

Occupation:

Any former nationality:

Present nationality:

Sex:

Date of birth:

Place of birth:

Place of abode:

Surname:

Forename:

Application for Registration as an Alien.

Form 11-1

" THE DOMINION ".
MONDAY MARCH THE 10th. 1952.

51/531

Publicly released under the NZSIS Declassification Policy

Delegation To Russia

Sir,—In The Dominion of March 6 is a statement from the Federation of Labour regarding the trade union delegation to the Soviet Union, and it says, through Mr. K. McL. Baxter, that the committee set up to organise the delegation is unknown to the federation. I will also state that Mr. Baxter is unknown to the committee, also to a very large number of workers in this country. I would also like to know how the federation gets the idea that it represents such a lot of workers. The working strength of New Zealand today is 749,500, and the most that the federation can claim to represent is 200,000, which is only a minority of the workers in this country.

Mr. Baxter says that I have no official position in the workers' industrial movement, but I do not have to be an official to be a good, honest trade unionist, and perhaps one that has been in the Labour movement and Labour Party much longer than Mr. Baxter.

The invitation was sent to me direct from the Soviet Union by cable, and they know who the people are that are organising the delegation, a very good cross-section of the New Zealand working class, with only one honest objective, that the workers who go are elected by the rank and file of their union and that they come back and tell us the true story of what they have seen.

R. E. DORE, Secretary of Committee, Vice-President Wellington branch, United Nations Association

Records
Jm

THURSDAY MARCH THE 6th. 1952.

21/2/52

X51/521

232

Application for Registration as an Alien

Labour Federation Says It Does Not Know Group Organising Trip To Russia

Soviet Minister Invited To Put Scheme Through "Workers' Movement"

The Federation of Labour has written to the Minister for the Soviet Union, Mr. A. M. Alexandrov, telling him that the committee which is organising a visit by New Zealand trade unionists to Russia is unknown to the federation.

In a letter to Mr. Alexandrov, the secretary of the federation, Mr. K. McL. Baxter, said the federation had received a communication from Mr. R. Dore about the proposed visit. Mr. Dore had no official position in the workers' industrial movement, so far as the federation knew, nor had he been authorised by the federation to communicate with its members. The organising committee referred to by Mr. Dore had not been set up by the federation. To the federation the committee was anonymous.

Mr. Baxter's letter said the Federation of Labour was the recognised official organisation of the overwhelming majority of workers in New Zealand. Delegates leaving this country were by consent of the workers officially endorsed by the federation. Any other delegation was not officially recognised by the federation and could be merely unofficial.

The letter said that if the Minister desired to communicate with the federation on the proposed delegation to Russia the federation would be glad to put its communication before the annual conference. In this manner the workers' movement would officially consider any proposal and the movement, if it was agreed that a delegation should go, would then take steps to appoint the members in accord with the recognised methods followed by the movement over many

SATURDAY MARCH THE 1st. 1952.

4/2/52

Application for Registration as an Alien.

231

15/5/51

Surname: _____
 Place of abode: _____
 Sex: _____ Date of birth: _____ Place of birth: _____
 Present nationality: _____
 Any former nationality: _____
 Conjugal condition: _____
 Occupation: _____
 (Never married, married, widowed, or divorced.)
 Height: _____ Build: _____ Hair: _____ Eyes: _____
 Distinctive marks (scars, &c.): _____
 Date and place of arrival in New Zealand: _____
 Nature of permit or certificate of registration issued on arrival: _____
 Name of (wife) (husband): _____
 Particulars of applicant's children resident in New Zealand, whether residing with applicant or not: _____

Federated Farmers And Moscow Visit

The Dominion council of Federated Farmers has taken no action to respond to the invitation of a committee which is organising a visit by trade unionists and farmers to Russia.

The council received an invitation from the organising committee to elect farmers' representatives to join the visit to Moscow.

The secretary of the federation, Mr. A. P. O'Shea, said last night that the only action his council took was to receive the committee's letter and to thank the committee for the offer.

Certificate of Registration No. _____ issued at _____
 on _____ by _____
 Name of police station where application is made: _____
 Rank: _____
 Witness to signature: _____
 Signature of alien: _____
 Date of application: _____ 19____

[If alien is unable to write, a thumb-print or finger-print or other means of identification is to be made in the space provided in the presence of the officer of police to whom application is made, stating which print.]

Thumb-print, &c.

~~SECRET~~

EXTRACT/COPY

From (source): CIB Hamilton Reference: 52/78 Date: 29 February 1952
For File No. 21/2/4
Original on 21/2/6
Received on Extracted/Copied by [REDACTED] On 3.12.1962

REPORT OF : Det.Sgt. G.Tait No.3546

RELATIVE TO : Photographs of Communist Party Circulars

I respectfully report that on the 27 February 1952, I acquired some Communist Party documents and I had these photographed by Constable W.Douglas, Police Photographer, Hamilton.

I had these documents developed and I am sending them to Commissioner of Police, Wellington. Negatives of photographs are being retained by me.

Two copies of each circular forwarded herewith.

Circulars forwarded are:

Circular No 3/52 deals with Workers' Delegation to the Soviet Union.

Circular No 4/52 deals with "People's Voice", Party Bulletins and Publicity.

Circular No 5/52 deals with Fighting Fund and Organisational Targets for 1952, and a memorandum relating to Membership Cards, payment of Accounts.

G.TAIT
Det.Sgt.

~~SECRET~~

18th February, 1952.

TO ALL DISTRICTS, BRANCHES AND MEMBERS AT LARGE.

Dear Comrades,

re WORKERS' DELEGATION TO THE SOVIET UNION.

The attention of all branches and members is again drawn to the proposed workers' delegation to the Soviet Union.

The campaign has not made much progress and it is necessary that it should be taken more seriously. The campaign to organise a worker's delegation to the U.S.S.R. does not conflict in any way with the campaign for the Australian Youth Peace Carnival. Both are important steps in the struggle for peace. The delegation to the U.S.S.R. will not take place until some time after the Australian carnival. It is necessary, however, that preparations should be speeded up if the delegation is to get to the U.S.S.R. during the Russian summer period this year.

Party members should understand and explain to the workers the great importance of sending a delegation which can see for itself what is going on in the U.S.S.R. and come back and report freely to the N.Z. people. The enemies of the Soviet Union talk about an "Iron Curtain." We know that the "Iron Curtain" is one erected by the capitalist press and capitalist governments. Here is an opportunity for workers to expose the "Iron Curtain" lie and acquaint the people with the peaceful and progressive character of Soviet society.

A national delegation committee was set up in Wellington as a sequel to the S.O.R. conference last Labour Day week-end. This committee has sent out letters to national unions and to some miners' union branches. It is understood that collection sheets have been printed and some other explanatory work has been done or is in course of being done - leaflets, etc. Party branches and members, however, should not wait for action on the part of the central delegation committee but should take the initiative locally. District committees should be set up in the various areas and these should get in touch with local trade unions and jobs. It is far better to do a thing twice than not to do it at all. Steps should also be taken to bring the delegation question up on jobs and in union branches by workers on jobs and members of trade unions.

An official invitation has now been received from the Soviet Trade Unions to send a Trade Union Delegation of six or eight members. National and district unions are being circularised by the National Delegation Committee in Wellington and the T.U.C. and F.O.L. are also being informed of the invitation.

The chairman of the National Delegation Committee is Mr. K. Adams, Secretary of the Wellington Painters' Union. The secretary is Mr. R. Dore, whose address is 54 Papanui Street, Wellington. Information concerning developments in the delegation campaign should be sent to "Soviet Life" Box 562, Wellington.

The approximate cost per delegate will be £500 return fare and expenses. Bookings will be in the hands of the National Delegation Committee. Any job or industry which raises £500 will be entitled to send its own delegate. Delegates should be elected democratically and, as explained in an earlier circular, all that is required is that the delegate shall be a sincere worker who is willing and able to make the trip and come back and report the facts honestly.

It is recognised that there will not be many jobs able to raise £500. It will be necessary to raise a general fund on a district and national basis for the purpose of sending delegates who will be elected at public meetings of interested workers. It must be emphasised that we are not concerned with hard and fast forms of organisation. We must be flexible and work along the lines which we find are going to yield the desired results of a good workers' delegation.

-2-

It is not practicable at the moment to organise a general delegation comprising representatives of business people, professional people, etc. A woman, or women, should be included in the workers' delegation if possible.

At a later date it may be possible to organise a general delegation but the first priority is that of a workers' delegation which will become the guest of the Soviet Trade Unions.

Districts, branches and individual members, should take the delegation campaign very seriously and should use their initiative in organising a wide and deep campaign on the jobs, in the trade unions, amongst neighbours, at public meetings and through leaflets, bulletins, and letters to the newspapers and trade union journals.

LET US GET GOING IN EARNEST AND MAKE THIS CAMPAIGN A REAL WEAPON IN THE STRUGGLE FOR PEACE AND PROGRESS.

Yours fraternally,

National Secretariat,
N.Z.C.P.

FEB. 27, 1952 PEOPLE'S VOICE

"See For Yourself"**Soviet Trade Unions Invite
N.Z. People's Delegation**

THE SOVIET TRADE UNIONS HAVE EXTENDED AN INVITATION FOR A DELEGATION OF SIX TO EIGHT NEW ZEALANDERS INCLUDING FARMERS TO VISIT THE U.S.S.R.

The invitation has been transmitted through the Soviet Legation in Wellington, and was obtained through the initiative of the New Zealand Society for Closer Relations with the U.S.S.R. Some time ago the S.C.R. took the first steps for the sending of a New Zealand delegation, after several trade unions and unionists had proposed that one should be organised.

A pro tem committee has been set up in Wellington and several meetings have been held.

Preliminary discussions have taken place and the first step agreed upon was to lay the basis for the widest possible support. Invitations have already been sent out to all National Unions, regardless of affiliation, and also to the Federation of Labour and the Trade Union Congress, inviting them to commend the project to their affiliations.

The raising of finance will be an important aspect. New Zealand being so much more remote than other countries, transport costs will be greater than for other countries.

The cost will be about £500 for each delegate.

Later, proposals will be made as to the method of appointing the delegation. The pro tem committee is strongly in favour of having it widely representative of all kinds of political thought, and from all sections of the working people, including farmers.

THE RIGHT TO KNOW

New Zealanders have the right to know from their own first-hand observers the answers to many questions regarding the Soviet Union.

Is the Soviet Union following

a policy of peace or war?

Have there really been huge price cuts?

What about "slave camps"?

Hundreds of delegations visited the Soviet Union last year.

Two organisations alone, the Soviet trade unions and the U.S.S.R. Society for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries, were hosts for 122 delegations.

Scores of other visits were sponsored by the Anti-Fascist Committee of Soviet Youth, the U.S.S.R. Peace Committee, the Soviet Writers' Union, the U.S.S.R. Academy of Sciences the Anti-Fascist Committee of Soviet women and other bodies.

32 COUNTRIES

Taking the VOKS delegations alone: the 52 delegations came from 32 countries. Included were 55 workers, 30 peasants, 57 scientists, 76 public and government leaders, 29 authors and journalists, 29 physicians, 42 school-teachers, 23 actors, and so on.

India, Indonesia, South Africa, Brazil, Britain, U.S.A., Australia, Uruguay, Pakistan and Cuba were only some of the countries represented.

The projected New Zealand people's delegation is at this stage more necessary than ever. It must be given all sup-

Nationality

Name of (wife) (husband)

Nature of permit or certificate of registration issued on arrival

Date and place of arrival in New Zealand

Distinctive marks (scars, etc.)

Height

Build

Hair

Eyes

Complexion

Occupation

Any former nationality

Present nationality

Sex

Date of birth

Place of birth

Place of abode

Signature

Fingerprint

Application for Registration as an Alien

Form 11-1

X 51/531

21/2/4

229

The 'PRESS'
Christchurch.

N.Z. DELEGATION TO RUSSIA

INVITATION BY SOVIET TRADE UNIONS

(New Zealand Press Association)

WELLINGTON, Feb. 18.

Soviet trade unions have invited a New Zealand delegation of workers and farmers to visit the Soviet Union in May as their guests.

The combined organising committee for a New Zealand delegation to the Soviet Union to-day issued the following statement over the name of its chairman, Mr R. Adams, of Wellington:—"The Minister Plenipotentiary for the Soviet Union (Mr A. M. Alexandrov) has, in reply to a request from our committee, extended on behalf of the All-Union Council of Trades Unions of the Soviet Union an invitation for a delegation of New Zealanders to visit the Soviet Union in May of this year.

"The terms of the invitation are that six to eight New Zealand workers and farmers elected by their organisations should visit the Soviet Union for some three to four weeks following on the May Day celebrations as guests of the Soviet trade unions.

"Our committee feels that in view of the welter of reports—many of them contradictory—on conditions in the Soviet Union, this invitation provides an excellent opportunity for New Zealanders to go and see for themselves."

20-2-1952.

'THE PRESS'
Christchurch. 21-2-52.

N.Z. DELEGATION TO RUSSIA

ARRANGEMENTS FOR FINANCE

(New Zealand Press Association)

WELLINGTON, February 20.

If a New Zealand party of trade unionists and farmers' representatives accepts the Soviet trade unions' invitation to visit Russia, all its expenses will be paid within the Soviet Union.

This statement was made to-day by Mr R. Adams, of Wellington, chairman of the organising committee. Mr Adams said that, if sufficient finance was raised, the party would be flown to Russia in time for the May Day celebrations. If not it would go by boat.

He said subscriptions were being collected, and it was expected that each organisation nominating a delegate would contribute towards the cost, which was estimated at about £500, including the payment of a family man's expenses at home during his absence.

Mr Adams said that, immediately the invitation for the party to go had been received, details had been sent to all farmers' and trade union organisations. Before the invitation had been sought, unofficial opinions had been obtained from both farmers and trade unionists, including the New Zealand Dairy Board.

H/21/2

228

X 51/51

Application for Registration as an Alien.

Publicly released under the NZSIS Declassification Policy

No Invitation To
Russia Received

The Federation of Labour had not received an invitation to send a representative with the proposed party of New Zealand trade union and farmers representatives to visit Russia, said the secretary of the New Zealand Federation of Labour (Mr. K. McL. Baxter) today. The federation did not expect to receive an invitation.

"So far no invitation has been received by the Wellington Trades Council or any trade union that I am aware of," said the president of the council Mr. F. P. Walsh.

"Furthermore, if such an invitation were received, knowing the conditions that exist behind the Iron Curtain and their policy of permitting people to see only what they want them to see, I consider it would be futile and a waste of time and good money to take any part in this sham invitation allegedly made to farmers and trade unions to visit Russia."

File
JW

[If alien is unable to write, a thumb-print or finger-print or other means of identification is to be made in the space provided in the presence of the officer of police to whom application is made, stating which print.]

Temp-print and

Certificate of Registration No. _____ issued at _____

on _____ by _____

See also 1/11-2200

in applicant or not:

Place of birth.

Eyes:

Hair:

Build:

Height:

(Specify married, married, widowed, or divorced)

Occupation:

Conjugal condition:

Any former nationality:

Present nationality:

Date of birth:

Place of birth:

Place of abode:

Surname:

Forename:

Distinctive marks (scars, etc.):

Date and place of arrival in New Zealand:

Nature of permit or certificate of registration:

Name of (wife) (husband):

Particulars of applicant's children resident in N:

Name:

" THE DOMINION ".

ON

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 20th. 1952.

X 8.51/531

227

21/2/4

Office of Registration No.

Issued at

Application is made stating which birth

certificate is to be made in the space provided in the presence of the officer of police to whom

[It is to be made to write a birth-certificate or other means of identity]

[Signature of officer]

Name of police-station where application is made:

Name:

Address to authorities:

of office:

Date of application:

RUSSIA ASKS N.Z. PARTY TO VISIT SOVIET

Soviet trade unions have invited New Zealand workers and farmers to send a party of six to eight representatives to Russia for three or four weeks immediately after the May Day celebrations. They would be guests of the Soviet trade unions.

A committee under the name of the Combined Organising Committee for a New Zealand Delegation to the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, has issued the following statement over the name of its chairman, Mr. R. Adams:

"The Minister Plenipotentiary for the Soviet Union, Mr. A. M. Alexandrov, has, in reply to a request from our committee, extended on behalf of the All Union Council of Trades Unions of the Soviet Union an invitation for a delegation of New Zealanders to visit the Soviet Union in May of this year.

"The terms of the invitation are that six to eight New Zealand workers and farmers, elected by their organisations, should visit the Soviet Union for some three to four weeks following on the May Day celebrations as guests of the Soviet Trades Unions.

"Our committee feels that, in view of the welter of reports—many of them contradictory—on conditions in the Soviet Union, this invitation provides an excellent opportunity for New Zealanders to go and see for themselves."

Mr. Adams said the committee would publish more details about the delegation.

Copy on P/F.

Name:

Date of birth:

Place of birth:

Nationality of applicant's spouse:

Name of (wife) (husband):

Nature of business or occupation:

Date and place of arrival in New Zealand:

Distinctive marks (scars, etc.):

Height:

Build:

Eyes:

Complexion:

Occupation:

Any former nationality:

Present nationality:

Sex:

Date of birth:

Place of birth:

Place of abode:

Signature:

For name:

Application for Registration as an Alien.

~~SECRET~~

S.51/531.

[Form No. 108.]



NEW ZEALAND POLICE

21/2/4 226

Subject: New Zealand Society for Closer Relations with Russia - proposed Trade Union
Delegation to the U.S.S.R. in April, 1952 - vide attached.

100,000-7-50-4923

The Superintendent of Police,
AUCKLAND.

Forwarded please.

J.P. Marsh

Detective Sergeant 2960.
9.2.52.

The Commissioner of Police,
WELLINGTON.

J.P. Marsh
Superintendent of Police.
Auckland 9.2.52.
Full
See 3

Publicly released under the NZSIS Declassification Policy

~~SECRET~~

: N E W Z E A L A N D P O L I C E :

Special Branch,
7th., February, 1952.

Report Of: Acting Detective A.W. KAY. No.4259.
Relative To: New Zealand Society for Closer Relations with
Russia - proposed Trade Union Delegation to
the U.S.S.R., in April, 1952.
"Vide attached."

I respectfully report that I have checked the attached list of Trade Union Delegates and forward herewith the full names of the Auckland nominees.

Ralph HEGMAN; identical with Garvin Ralph HEGMAN, who is subject of a Subversive History Sheet. HEGMAN is a carpenter by occupation and is Secretary of the Eden-Roskill Branch of the Communist Party.

J. DICKSON ; identical with John (known as "Jock") DICKSON who is subject of a Subversive History Sheet. DICKSON is a butcher by occupation.

W. R. RICHARDS; (Tramways.)

The only person by the name of RICHARDS in the Auckland Tramways, is a Wallace RICHARDS, of 80 Sackville Street, Grey Lynn. This man has not come under the notice of this Office before. It is possible that the name given refers to William Benedict RICHARDS a very well known member of the Tramways Union, who lives in Dunedin.

J. WILSON ; (Hotels.)

Identical with Isaac McKim (known as "Jock") WILSON, who is on record at this Office as a Communist Party Sympathiser.

R. DONALDSON ; (Plumbers Union.)

Would appear to be identical with Robert Thomas DONALDSON, a plumber of Wood Bay Road, Titirangi. DONALDSON has not previously come under the notice of this Office.

R. LYALL ; (Plumbers Union.)

Identical with Garfield Robert LYALL, who is subject of a Subversive History Sheet.

T. J. EVANS ; (Electricians Union.)

Identical with Trevor James Gibbons EVANS, of 35 Eversleigh Road, Devonport. Known as a moderate trade unionist.

R. MASON. ; (Labourers Union.)

Identical with Ronald Allison Kells MASON, who is subject of a Subversive History Sheet.

W. KELLEHER ; (Workers Union.)

Identical with William Patrick KELLEHER, who is subject of a Subversive History Sheet.

F. L. FENTON X; (Workers Union.)

Would appear to be identical with, Francis Leslie FENTON, a State Employee, of 46 May Road, Mt. Roskill

J. McQUILLAN !; (Workers Union.)

Would appear to be identical with, John Kennedy McQUILLAN, a Civil Servant, of 33 Ballin Street, Tamaki. Neither FENTON nor McQUILLAN have come under the notice of this Office before.

A. DRENNAN ; (Workers Union.)

Identical with Alexander DRENNAN, who is subject of a Subversive History Sheet.

(Continued.)

p5 { R.E. JONES / ; Identical with Ronald Edward JONES, who was Secretary of the de-registered Waterside Workers Union, (Auckland Branch.) He is on record at this Office as a Communist Party Sympathiser.
D. MARTIN / ; Identical with Douglas Murdoch MARTIN, who is referred to in P.G. 1941 page 282, and who is subject of a Subversive History Sheet.
F. MULLAR ; (Drivers Union.) Identical with Frederick Danial MULLER, who is subject of a Subversive History Sheet.
E. BOOTH ; Identical with William Eric BOOTH, who is on record at this Office as a Fellow Traveller of the Communist Party.
T. SPILLAR ; Identical with Herbert Leonard SPILLER, who is known as "Tom" SPILLER, and who is subject of a Subversive History Sheet. SPILLER was last reported to be employed by the Auckland Transport Board on track maintenance work.
A. MONTEITH ; (Pesce Council.) Identical with Allan Courtney MONTEITH, who is subject of a Subversive History Sheet.
Rita SMITH ; (Women's & Housewife's Organisations.) Identical with Lillian Rita SMITH.
 Margaret WOOLNOUGH ; Identical with Marjorie Ellen WOOLNOUGH.
Flora GOULD ; Identical with Flora Wallace GOULD.
Daisy SPILLAR ; Identical with Daisy Emily SPILLER.
Agnes DODDS ; Identical with Agnes Helen DODD.
 All the above mentioned women are subjects of Subversive History Sheets.

Elizabeth FERRIER ; (Students.)
 There is no one of this name on record at this Office and enquiries have failed to reveal anyone of this name in Auckland who is connected with Students, Schools or the Teaching profession. While checking luggage belonging to Elizabeth ARYA, who is subject of a Subversive History Sheet, I found a piece of brown wrapping paper with the name of Elizabeth FERRIER, written on it. This name had been crossed out and the name, Mrs. Beth COLDICUTT, written under it. The remainder of the address remained the same. It was, Victoria Station, London. It would appear that Elizabeth FERRIER and Mrs. Beth COLDICUTT are one and the same person and that Miss FERRIER became Mrs. COLDICUTT while overseas.

~ PF. — L.B. ROBINSON ; (Milk Vendors.) Identical with Louis David Honeyman ROBERTSON who is subject of a Subversive History Sheet.
V. PYSTER ; (Woollen Workers Union.) Identical with Victor Cedric PYSTER, who is subject of a Subversive History Sheet.
A. LEES ; Identical with Andrew LEES, who is subject of a Subversive History Sheet.
H. PEDEN ; (Miners, Huntly) Identical with Herbert PEDEN, who was defeated in the Miners elections held in 1951. He is stated to have followed the Communist Party line during the election campaign.
G. LAWSON ; Identical with George LAWSON, who is subject of a Subversive History Sheet. He was associated with PEDEN and like him was defeated in the Miners election of 1951.

(Continued.)

Extracted for
 P/F
 E. FERRIER
 Now E.M. FERNANDEZ

Steve HIEATT ; (Miners Waikato.)
Identical with Stanley Hooper HIEATT, who is subject of a Subversive History Sheet. It was last reported that HIEATT was working at the Otahuhu Railway Workshops.

J. MITCHELL ; (Wellington Watersiders.)
It is possible that this man is identical with John James MITCHELL, who is subject of a Subversive History Sheet, and who is a very prominent member of the Auckland Branch of the de-registered Waterside Workers Union.

Ron MASON ; (Artists and Writers.)
Identical with Ronald Allison Kells MASON who is previously mentioned under the heading of "Labourers" page 1 of this report.

Frank SARGESON ; Identical with Norris Frank DAVEY. He is more commonly known as Frank SARGESON. He was reported on in December, 1940, (840/2567), when he wrote to the Minister of Justice urging the release of Friedrich Georg Maria Theodor STREWE, who is on record as a Communist Sympathiser. SARGESON or DAVEY has not been identified with any open activity of the Communist Party or any of its "Front" organisations.

R.D. FAIRBURN ; Identical with Arthur Rex Dugard FAIRBURN, who is on record at this Office as a Communist sympathiser.

Frank DROMGOOLE ; Identical with Frank Swift DROMGOOLE, who is the subject of a Subversive History Sheet.

Basil DOWNING ; Would appear to be identical with Basil Cairns DOWLING, the reference librarian at the Otago University Library. His home address is 75 Blacks Road, Dunedin.

Charles BRASH ; Would appear to be identical with Charles Orwell BRASCH, the editor of "Landfall" who lives at 31 Royal Terrace, Dunedin.

Allen CURNOW ; Would appear to be identical with Thomas Allen Monro CURNOW, a journalist, who lives at 41 Leinster Road, Christchurch.

It is stated in the attached memorandum that it is the aim to send 50 delegates to the U.S.S.R., the 50 to be chosen from the attached list.

It is interesting to note that the expenses incurred by Elizabeth ARYA, one of the New Zealand delegates to the Berlin Youth Festival, amounted to about £300. The different organisations interested in sending ARYA to Berlin were hard pressed to find sufficient funds.

Based on the cost of sending ARYA to Berlin the cost of sending a delegation of 50 to the U.S.S.R. would be in the vicinity of £15,000, which sum would appear to be well out of the reach of the Society for Closer Relations with Russia.

For your information, please.

The Officer-in-Charge,
Special Branch,
Auckland.

Alan W. Kay.
Acting Detective, 4259.
7.2.52.

~~SECRET~~

x51/531

21/2/4
[Form No. 108.]

248



NEW ZEALAND POLICE

Subject: NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY FOR CLOSER RELATIONS WITH RUSSIA - PROPOSED TRADE
UNION DELEGATION TO THE U.S.S.R. in APRIL 1952.

100,000-7-50-4323

Detective Sergeant Grant:

For attention please.

As you are aware, the Canterbury Housewives' Union is also endeavouring to raise funds for the purpose of sending a Trade Union Woman Delegate to the U.S.S.R.

Regarding the names of Christchurch persons (shown in attached List of being desirous of inclusion in the proposed Delegation to Russia) all are on record in Special Branch, Christchurch and all are the subject of subversive History Sheets with the exception of CORLISS and DAY. CARRUTHERS is expected to return to Australia, permanently, in some 3 or 4 weeks hence, and TAYLOR has been resident in Greymouth since March, 1951.

It will be necessary, in due course, to check overseas passenger bookings and applications made locally for Passports, in an endeavour to obtain a complete List of those Christchurch persons who may be selected to travel to Russia as members of the proposed Delegation.

J. J. Baecrow
Senior Detective No. 2814
6/2/52.



~~SECRET~~

Publicly released under the NZSIS Declassification Policy

XS1/531

21/2/4

221

~~SECRET~~

S.51/531

29th January, 1952.

MEMORANDUM for

The Superintendent of Police,
AUCKLAND & CHRISTCHURCH.

NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY FOR CLOSER RELATIONS WITH RUSSIA -
PROPOSED TRADE UNION DELEGATION TO THE U.S.S.R. IN
APRIL, 1952

Forwarded herewith for the information of your Special Branch is a copy of a report received from an undercover source in Wellington.

The decision to send a Trade Union delegation to Russia was made at the Society's Annual Conference in October last when it was agreed that it would be left to the trades unions themselves to elect whoever they liked to join the delegation.

By
Commissioner of Police.

~~SECRET~~

NEW ZEALAND POLICE

~~SECRET~~

21/2/52

221

x51/531

Special Branch, C.I.B.,
WELLINGTON.

24th January, 1952.

refer also report dated 7.2.52
REPORT OF: D.S. Paterson, *identifications* Det. Sgt No. 3668.

RELATIVE TO: NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY FOR CLOSER RELATIONS WITH RUSSIA -
 PROPOSED TRADE UNION DELEGATION TO U.S.S.R. APRIL 1952.

I respectfully submit herewith a list of some ninety-five names of persons from trade unions, women's and housewives' organisations, peace council, student bodies, and the Society for Closer Relations with the U.S.S.R. who have been nominated to the latter Society for inclusion in the Trade Union Delegation to Russia in April of this year.

It is recalled that at a conference of the New Zealand Society for Closer Relations with the U.S.S.R. in October 1951, preparations for this delegation were made.

The list of names was obtained in delicate circumstances and is believed to have been in possession of John Andrew MANSON, well-known member of the Communist Party. It is thought that it may have come into his possession from Robert ADAMS, secretary of the Painters' Union, at the Trades Hall, Wellington.

It is understood that from this list, a selection of some fifty names is to be made. It is noted that most of the names are of persons already known to the Special Branch for their part in subversive or militant trade union activity.

When the final selection becomes known, fuller details of those who make the journey (if it ultimately eventuates), are to be given.

The Superintendent of Police,
WELLINGTON.

D.S. Paterson
 Detective Sergeant.

The Commissioner of Police
to Mr. G. M. M. M.
28/1/52

File

~~SECRET~~

21 Jan 52

217

I respectfully beg to report the following for your information -

The following is a list of names of persons desirous of inclusion in the proposed "Trade Union delegation to Russia" to be held in April 1952. This list, which Jack Mason had, was compiled by the Organizers, C.F. Painter's Union, Trades Hall, Wellington, and dated 8 Jan 52. Mason also stated that approximately 50 delegates will be selected from this list:

Dunedin

Ralph Hegman

J. Dickson

W. R. Richards

J. Wilson

R. Donaldson

R. Lyall

T. J. Evans

R. Mason

W. Kelleher

F. L. Fenton

J. McQuillan

A. Drennan

R. E. Jones

J. Martin

F. Muller

E. Booth

T. Spiller

A. Monieith

Rita Smith

Margaret Woolnough

Flora Gould

Daisy Spiller

Agnes Rodds

Elizabeth Fernier

L. B. Robinson

V. Pysie

A. Kees

(Tramways)

(Hotels)

(Plumbers)

(Plumbers)

(Electricians)

(Labourers)

If + card for William Patrick KELLEHER destroyed 4-7-90

Workers
Union

Drivers
Union

(Peace Council)

Womens
and
Housewives
Organizations

(Students)
(Milk Vendors)
Wollen Workers
Union

Hamilton

R. Tibbey

G. Carrall

Labourers

Hully
H. Peden } Miners
G. Lawson }

Rumaga
J. Harrington (Miners)

Mangakino

Don Ross } Workers
T. Akeahata } Union
M. McDonald }

Waikato

Don McRae } Miners
Steve Heatt }

Chapier

C.T. Brown } Observers
A. Donovan }

Hastings

T.F. Hill } Observers
S. Hiddewood }

Palmerston NTH

F. Manning } Observers
R. Siegal }

Wellington

Connie Birtchfield } Women's and
Judy Stanton } Housewives
Beryl Bennett } Organizations
Nora Heflinstall }
Gwen Podolski } Peace Council
Doris McCallum } and S.C.R.
Eddie Manson }

S. Havil } Watersiders
J. Drake }
J. Mitchell }
T.F. Gebbie } Railways
Johannesen }
R.E. Lote } (U.N.A.)
J. Hunter } (Engineers)
B. Hansen } (Tramways)
W. Molineux } (Carpenters)
A. Steeter } Observers
J. Hewin }

Joe Pierce (Seamen)
F. Matthews (Peace Council)
C. Bolling (Students)
Isobel Easton (Students)

Gt mouth

R. Mitchell } miners
F. Thompson }

Brunnell

R. Ross

W. Kerr

Card for Robert Ross destroyed 27/6/87

Card destroyed 28/3/83

Stacken

H. Browning

F. A. Connel

miners

Card for Frederick Alfred Connel destroyed 3/12/44

CHCH

F. h. Langley
J. R. Whitford
A. B. Grafton
F. E. McNulty
E. Corliss
C. Day
I. Corliss
J. Cox
G. Enpson
Elsie Locke
J. Moses
A. Ostler
Ron Taylor

Dunedin

E. W. Hunter
S. Ikin
R. McIntyre
L. B. Swan

Ron Mason
R. D. Fairburn
Frank Sargeson
Basil Downing
Charles Bresh
Allan Curnow
Frank Strongoole

artists
and
writers



quote this number
 La S. 51/618.
 POLICE DEPARTMENT, 24/7/51
 WELLINGTON C.1. 27th November, 1951.
 2/12/4 413

MEMORANDUM for

The Superintendent of Police,
WELLINGTON.

COMBINED ORGANIZING COMMITTEE FOR A NEW ZEALAND
 DELEGATION TO THE U.S.S.R.

The attached cyclostyled circular received from the Superintendent of Police, Christchurch, is forwarded for information and attention by your Special Branch.

Messrs R.Dore and Adams are no doubt identical with persons of the same name who have previously come under notice.

Please return the circular after noting and arrange for a separate report to be furnished containing all relevant information that may be available concerning the activities of this Committee.

D/4/1. Paterson.

Chief Insp. for
 Insp. C. L. Brown
 29.11.51

Deputy Commissioner of Police.

SECRET

" THE EVENING POST "

Monday, October, 22nd, 1951

Proposal For Union Delegation To Visit Russia

A proposal to send a trade union delegation to Russia was fully supported today by delegates to the annual conference of the New Zealand Society for Closer Relations with Russia. An organising committee was set up, and steps will be taken to interest trade unions and other organisations in the proposal. It would be left to the trades unions themselves to elect whoever they liked to join the delegation.

The chairman (Mr. R. Adams) said it was estimated that it would cost about £500 for each delegate.

The committee will, initially, endeavour to interest trade unions, but it was left open for the delegation to be extended to include representatives of housewives, farmers, students, teachers, or similar groups if they were interested in joining.

X 51/531

21/2/4

21/4

copy on P/F

~~SECRET~~

EXTRACT/COPY

213

From (source): Special Branch
WELLINGTON Reference: 51/531 Date: 18 October 1951
For File No. 21/214
Original on 26/17/4
Received on Extracted/Copied by [redacted] On 12.6.1961

REPORT OF : D.S.Paterson Det.Sgt. No.3668

RELATIVE TO : N.Z.Society for Closer Relations with USSR: Sponsorship
of Workers' Delegation from New Zealand to Russia.

I respectfully report having received from a delicate source the attached letter addressed to Reginald John BAILEY, 246 Vivian Street, Wellington. BAILEY is a known Communist Party member who is at present employed as a taxi cab driver. He is also a member of the executive of the Wellington Drivers' Union.

The letter is from the N.Z. Society for Closer Relations with the USSR and is signed in the hand of Mrs Gwendoline Mabel PODOSKY, national secretary of the organisation.

The text of the letter is that the Soviet Legation at Wellington has stated that if sufficient interest were shown in the visit of a New Zealand Workers' delegation to Russia that the Soviet Trade Union Organisation would probably extend a suitable invitation. It is said that the question of such a delegation was raised among prominent Trade Union leaders in Wellington following the visit here of John PLATTS MILLS.

It is noted that this matter is to be discussed at the National Conference of the Society at Wellington during the coming weekend.

D.S.PATERSON
Det.Sgt.

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

EXTRACT/COPY

212

From (source): Police Dept.

Reference: K 51/348

Date: 24th July 1951

For File No. 212/4

Original on 33/5/4

Received on

Extracted/Copied by

On 22.2.61

REPORT OF: Det. Sgt. R. Jones.

RELATIVE TO: Communist Party activities in Auckland - report dated 16.7.51,
received from [REDACTED] forwarded.

Publicly released under the NZSIS Declassification Policy

As has been previously reported by me from this office, the Communist Party has been virtually underground since the commencement of the waterfront Dispute in February 1951, and no information has been received at this office that there has been either a District Conference

or a National Conference of the Party during that period. Whilst the Communist Party does not have any set date for the holding of the National Conferences, they usually take place between March and May in each year. Therefore, the political reports and trade union reports which are normally received have failed to eventuate this year, but I would draw attention to the article published in "The New Zealand Labour Review" dated July 1951, namely, "The Political Situation in New Zealand", by Sid Scott (identical with Sidney William SCOTT, National Secretary of the New Zealand Communist Party and subject of a subversive history sheet). This article is an extract from a review of the political situation in New Zealand made by SCOTT, but the occasion on which it was made is not stated, but contains much useful matter for study for Special Branch officers.

R. Jones

EXTRACT FROM REPORT OF [REDACTED]

When one member queried the possibility of obtaining funds from overseas sources, it was explained that Russia expected the Communist Party in each country to stand on its own feet and support itself, that if it could not build itself up by its own efforts into a powerful organisation, it was not worth hand feeding, as that way, it would never be strong enough to eventually take the country over.

In a recent conversation between SKILTON, McARA, WILCOX and a Mr. WILLIAMS, a Workers' Union official, it was stated that the Communist Party were satisfied with the way the strike had gone, but realised that they could not push the men any further, as they were at the end of their tether and in a bad way financially. They have, therefore, considered it wise not to strain the men too far, but to keep them favourable for the future.

It was considered that a very hard blow had been struck at capitalism and brought the people one step nearer the day of revolution.

I enclose herewith copies of an Auckland Peace Council Bulletin.

~~SECRET~~

~~**SECRET**~~
EXTRACT/COPY

G.D.D.—11

211

From (source): [REDACTED] Reference: 51/325 Date: 10 July 1951
For File No. 21/2/4
Original on 21/6/4
Received on [REDACTED] Extracted/Copied by [REDACTED] On 31.10.1962

.....

During a visit to Unity Centre on Friday afternoon, 6th July, Ken STANTON stated that although the strike was practically over, the Communist Party was very concerned over the Government's action to exercise strict control on individual members of the old Waterside Union in the event of them wishing to return to wharf work. STANTON stated the Communist Party policy over the past two months was that as many members of the various Unions concerned in the dispute should return to work whilst the opportunity of doing so remained open. There would then have been many militants and Party members re-engaged in their original work, and thus be in a position to continue the fight against Fascism. STANTON remarked that due to the stubbornness of some Union leaders this opportunity for infiltration had now passed and everyone now knew that anyone seeking employment in the mines or on the waterfront would in future be subjected to strict examinations and scrutiny. He also mentioned that the National Secretary of the Communist Party (Vic WILCOX) was coming to Wellington over the weekend, 7-8 July, to discuss these matters with Walter NASH, with a view to having the matters brought before the House of Representatives. The possibility of the Government instituting some form of Anti-Communist legislation is also giving the Party much thought, and STANTON was of the opinion that Holland will await events in Australia before declaring war upon the Party. He said that even if the Party was declared unlawful it would probably have the effect of making the Communist Party more powerful.

.....

Extract from Covering Report by Det.Sgt.D.S.Paterson dated 12 July 1951.

During a visit to Unity Centre on July 6, [REDACTED] discussed with K.S.C.STANTON, District Secretary of the Communist Party, the waterfront dispute, and learned from him that the Party was very concerned regarding the proposed policy of screening persons to be admitted to the new wharf unions. In a verbal discussion on this point, [REDACTED] has stated that it now seems clear that the Party wished the dispute concluded more than two months ago, so that the disposition of Party members would not be prejudiced as is now evident. They are none the less at present seeking to place members who can pass the scrutiny. This applies also in the case of the miners and other Unions.

It is understood that Victor WILCOX visited Wellington on the weekend July 7-8, to discuss with the Hon. Walter NASH the screening of new unionists, but the agent has not been able to obtain further information.

~~**SECRET**~~

~~SECRET.~~

27th November, 1950.

MEMORANDUM for:

The Rt. Hon. Prime Minister.

.....
I am enclosing for your information some notes which have been compiled by the Police Department on the New Zealand Waterside Workers' Union and the influence of the Communist Party.

(Sgd.) W. H. FORTUNE

Encl:

The Commissioner of Police
Received

W. H. Fortune
2

30 NOV 1950

File
pn

50/470
21/2/4
210



If any reply, please
quote this number:

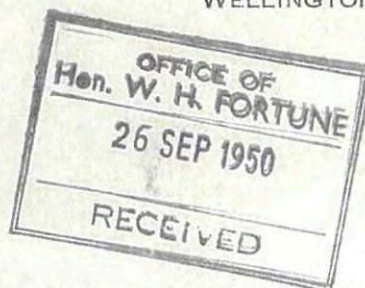
S. 50/470

209

~~SECRET~~

POLICE DEPARTMENT,

WELLINGTON C. 1. 26th September, 1950.



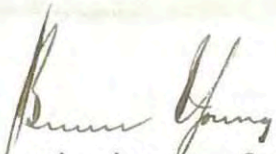
MEMORANDUM for

THE HONOURABLE MINISTER IN CHARGE OF POLICE

THE NEW ZEALAND WATERSIDE WORKERS UNION AND
THE INFLUENCE OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY

I am forwarding to you herewith a copy of notes which I have had prepared in my office concerning the influence of the Communist Party in the New Zealand Waterside Workers Union.

A second copy is attached in case you may consider forwarding it to the Rt.Hon. the Prime Minister.


Commissioner of Police.

Encl

SECRET

208

THE NEW ZEALAND WATERSIDE WORKERS UNION AND THE INFLUENCE
OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY

The New Zealand Waterside Workers Union is a closed Union with a membership of about 6,750. There are branches of the Union at the various ports throughout New Zealand, the main ones of which are -

Auckland	-	About 2,100 members
Wellington	-	Just over 2,000 members
Christchurch	-	About 650 members

The National Executive personnel is -

President:	Harold BARNES
Secretary:	Tobias McGlinchy HILL
Executive:	Thomas Gilmore WILLIAMS (Wellington)
"	Frederick William McNAMARA (Auckland)
"	James BLACK (Napier)
"	Edward Albert NAPIER (Wellington)
"	Archibald C. DELLAWAY (Wellington)
"	Gerald PANTHER (Greymouth)
"	John SARGENTINA (Lyttelton)
"	Neil CRICHTON (Port Chalmers)
"	F.V. VELLA (Bluff)

As vacancies occur in the various Branches these are filled by workers whose main qualification must be a clean industrial record. Prospective new members have to face the full membership of the Branch to ensure that no person is admitted to membership who has been guilty of anti-working class activity.

For many years the Waterside Workers Union has been regarded as the spearhead of industrial disputes in New Zealand. The Auckland Branch of the Union is particularly militant. As the former President of the Auckland Branch, Harold Barnes gained experience and became a dominating force which enabled him to completely control that Branch. It is true that for several years he made the decisions for that Branch and the rank and file accepted them without question.

Although Barnes has never been known as a member of the Communist Party by this Department his policy as leader of the Union has been indistinguishable from the policy and tactics of the Communist Party.

The Waterside Workers Union is the only New Zealand Union affiliated with the World Federation of Trade Unions. Concerning this it is of interest to note here that in 1949 the Communist-controlled Carpenters Union in Auckland received the moral support of the Auckland Branch of the Waterside Workers Union, but this did not prevent the de-registration of the Carpenters Union. However, the Auckland Branch through its National Executive had a letter signed by Tobias McGlinchy Hill, National Secretary, forwarded to the New Zealand Federation of Labour in which among other things Federation officials were characterised as "agents of the employing class".

This letter together with the fact that the Waterside Workers Union had affiliated with the World Federation of Trade Unions received the censure of the Federation of Labour. The Union not only refused to withdraw the letter but declined to disaffiliate from the W.F.T.U. and at a conference of the Federation of Labour the Waterside Workers delegates together with a number of other delegates, contrary to their Unions' instructions, left the conference. A conference of defecting delegates then set up the Trade Union Congress.

It is claimed that the Trade Union Congress represents about 20,000 workers, whereas the Federation of Labour claims to represent 200,000 workers. It is interesting to note that the New Zealand

Transport Workers Federation held a meeting prior to the conference of the Federation of Labour to decide tactics to be employed at the conference.

The office holders of the New Zealand Transport Workers Federation are -

Paul A. HANSEN, Secretary New Zealand Tramways Union (Wellington): Secretary-Treasurer.
William Benedict RICHARDS (Dunedin Tramways Union): President.
Edward Albert NAPIER (Wellington Branch New Zealand Waterside Workers Union): Vice-President.

The militant branch of the Transport Workers Federation is also in Auckland where Edward Alick WHITLOW is President, Arthur Edward ANDREWS is Secretary, while John James MITCHELL (Waterside Workers) and Frederick Daniel MULLER (Drivers) are delegates. All four mentioned in the Auckland Branch are members of the Communist Party.

The first real industrial dispute after the breakaway of the Waterside Workers Union from the Federation of Labour occurred at Auckland at the end of July and is known as the "Rangitoto" dispute. It was confined to Auckland for six days but on the seventh day the National Executive of the Waterside Workers Union called for a Dominion-wide stoppage. Commenting on this, Barnes stated that if non-Union labour was employed to work ships he was confident that those ships would not be worked at any other port in the world..

The Government made arrangements for perishable cargo to be worked independent of the Waterside Workers Union.

On the 3rd August, the day Barnes ordered waterside workers to cease work throughout the Dominion, the Federation of Labour invited the Waterside Workers Union to refer the dispute to the Federation on the understanding that the Federation would negotiate on its behalf. Barnes and Hill responded and promptly met the executive of the Federation of Labour, and following an approach to the Rt.Hon. the Prime Minister and the Hon. Minister of Labour Barnes agreed to the Rt.Hon. Prime Minister's offer of a Royal Commission to investigate every aspect of the waterfront industry, on condition that they resume work and that all parties would accept the Commission's findings. Barnes, through the Press, acknowledged the co-operation of the Federation of Labour.

In accepting the assistance of the Federation of Labour it appears that Barnes has recognised that as a force to be reckoned with in such a dispute the Trade Union Congress is futile. The recognition of the invitation of the Federation of Labour by Barnes in the first test after the breakaway from the Federation has met with the disapproval of the Communist Party. There is no doubt that if Barnes was a member of the Communist Party he would have been the subject of disciplinary measures for "opportunism".

At a special stop-work meeting held at Auckland on the 7th August Barnes gave his report concerning the arrangements that had been made with the Government. Although the Communist Party members of the Union were amazed at the "surrender" of Barnes, and Alexander Drennan had openly expressed disgust, the meeting was brief and without incident and the Communist Section refrained from showing its hand in a matter that had been apparently accepted by the members.

Work on the waterfront did not remain normal for long, however, for early in September the dispute concerning the unloading of lamp-black from the ship "Asuncion de Larrinaga" commenced at Wellington. This finally involved all branches of the Waterside Workers Union and

was only finalised after the Government had declared a state of emergency by proclamation on the 20th September that work recommenced normally on the 22nd September.

It remains to be seen what effect the recent disputes will have on the future of the Trade Union Congress, and, similarly, whether the influence of the Communist Section is likely to wane.

There is a strong liaison between the Waterside Workers Federation of Australia and the New Zealand Waterside Workers Union. The New Zealand Waterside Workers Conference which commenced at Wellington on the 6th December, 1949, was attended by James HEALY, General Secretary of the Waterside Workers Federation of Australia, and John LONERGAN, President of that Federation.

It is known that James Healy has been a member of the Central Committee of the Australian Communist Party since 1945. He was appointed General Secretary of the W.W.F. in 1937 and has held the position ever since.

The arrival of Healy and Lonergan at Auckland by flying-boat on the 6th December, 1949, was attended by Alexander Drenman, who accompanied them by aircraft on the following day to Wellington.

While in New Zealand Healy addressed meetings of branches of the Waterside Workers Union at Wellington, Lyttelton, Port Chalmers (Dunedin) and Auckland. He departed by flying-boat for Sydney on the 19th December, 1949, in company with Lonergan.

A copy of his report (which has been received from a delicate source) to members of the Waterside Workers Federation of Australia concerning his visit to New Zealand is attached.

It appears that one result of Healy's visit to New Zealand was the decision of the New Zealand Waterside Workers Union to affiliate with the Seamens and Dockers Trade Union International (Maritime Federation of the World).

In speaking to the Auckland Branch of the Waterside Workers Union in the Auckland Town Hall on the 16th December, 1949, Healy said that a Trans-Tasman Bureau would be set up shortly, but no further information has been obtained concerning this although Barnes and Hill left New Zealand for Sydney on the 24th March, 1950, and arrived back on the 6th April, 1950. It is likely that if a Trans-Tasman Bureau was set up it is not known to the rank and file members or even to District Executive Officers.

On the 1st September two members of the National Executive of the New Zealand Waterside Workers Union, Archibald Charles DELLAWAY and John SARGENTINA, left New Zealand by flying-boat to attend the Biennial Conference of the Waterside Workers Federation of Australia as fraternal delegates.

It is also known that the New Zealand Waterside Workers Union was represented at the Conferences of the World Federation of Trade Unions held in Milan and Marseilles in July, 1949, by E.V. ELLIOTT, the representative of the Waterside Workers Federation of Australia, at the Conferences mentioned. Elliott is the Federal Secretary of the Australian Seamen's Union and a member of the Communist Party.

The following details concerning the leaders of the New Zealand Waterside Workers Union are of interest :-

Harold (known as "Jock") BARNES

Born in New Zealand about 1907. He was educated at Mt. Albert Grammar School where he matriculated. He later attended the Auckland University College where he read law. After obtaining two subjects he abandoned his law studies.

On leaving school he entered the Public Service, joining the Lands and Survey Department as a draughtsman cadet. He was dismissed in 1932 for disciplinary reasons connected with articles concerning New Zealand Government policy which he had published in an Australian paper. All manner of appeals failed, but he was alleged to have been promised reinstatement in the Public Service by members of the Labour Party if they were elected to office. On the Labour Party assuming office as the Government, Barnes' dismissal from the Service was upheld.

He first came under notice in 1932 in connection with near Communist activity.

In 1938 he was elected as a Labour candidate for the Mt. Albert Borough Council. At that time he was contributing articles along the current Party 'line' to the Communist Party paper "Workers' Weekly", under his own name.

In 1939 he was Secretary of the Morningside Branch of the Labour Party, but later fell out with the Labour Party and joined forces with John Alexander LEE, who formed the Democratic Labour Party.

On the 15th April, 1940, he took part in a meeting of the Peace and Anti-Conscription League, and on the 29th September, 1940, he also took part in a meeting organised by the Labour Rights Emergency Committee.

In 1941 he took part in two public meetings organised by the Aid For Russia Committee. All these meetings were largely organised by the Communist Party.

In June, 1944, he was before the Magistrates Court, Auckland, on two charges of inciting a strike of waterside workers. The informations were dismissed.

His attitude during World War II was pacifist and anti-war, and this led to some dissension between him and those who strictly followed the Communist Party 'line'.

He was Secretary of the Auckland Branch of the Waterside Workers' Union, and in 1945 he became President of the local Branch and also National President of the Union.

In 1945 he organised the Auckland Waterfront Union's Central Committee, which was the forerunner of the New Zealand Transport Workers' Federation.

He has contributed articles to and made statements for publication in the "People's Voice" newspaper.

In 1949 he spoke at several public meetings of the Peace and Anti-Conscription Federation (Communist inspired) during the campaign on the Conscription Referendum. His speeches were scarcely distinguishable from the Communist Party 'line'. He was joint author with John Alexander Lee of a pamphlet "Resist Peace-Time Conscription", sales of which were pushed during the above-mentioned campaign.

In 1949 he retained the Presidency of the Auckland Branch by only 160 votes. At the Biennial Conference of the New Zealand Waterside Workers' Union he was able to hold the position of National President and make this a paid position. His salary is £832 per

~~SECRET~~

-5-

204

annum, plus \$2 per day. He has also been provided with a Standard "Vanguard" car. The position apparently combines that of organiser.

Tobias McGlinchy HILL

He is stated to have been born at Balantyre, Scotland, on the 5th November, 1915, and to have come to New Zealand with his parents about the year 1925.

In 1934, Hill was arrested at Nelson on charges of vagrancy and attempted theft of petrol. The former charge was not proceeded with and he was admitted to twelve months probation on a plea of guilty and was returned to his home.

Hill followed the calling of a seaman for about seven years, but has been the National Secretary of the New Zealand Waterside Workers Union for many years. Although not known to be a member of the Communist Party he has closely associated with prominent members of that Party. Like Barnes he has addressed and taken part in many meetings throughout New Zealand, mostly in connection with anti-conscription and peace. He has spoken from the platform of the Communist Party.

There are no known members of the Communist Party in the National Executive of the New Zealand Waterside Workers Union, but the following rank and file members of the Union are members of the Communist Party :-

Gordon Harold ANDERSEN, commonly known as Bill ANDERSON.

He was born at Christchurch on the 21st January, 1923, and is the son of a naturalised British Subject. Has convictions for assault, resisting Police, drunk and disorderly. Formerly a member of the Seamen's Union but was dismissed. Has been a member of the Communist Party since approximately 1945. Very active in the Seamen's Union as a seller of literature and collector for Communist funds.

In 1947 he joined the Freezing Workers' Union and instigated a strike of mutton slaughtermen. He was associated in this bitter dispute with Ronald Charles BLACK, who had also been dismissed from the Seamen's Union. The strike failed, having no support from the Union Executive, and Andersen then joined the Waterside Workers' Union. He has spoken on a number of occasions from the Communist platform, and is presently a member of the Auckland District Communist Party. He is a poor speaker, but a dangerous type at demonstrations and in times of public unrest.

Ben BRAY

Was born at London, England, on the 30th August, 1907. His wife, Myrtle Maud, was born in New Zealand. He arrived in this country as a seaman on the "Tainui" on the 27th December, 1933. He joined the Communist Party at Auckland in 1938.

He has been a member of several strike Committees in waterfront disputes since 1940. In 1942 he was elected to the executive committee of the Auckland Branch of the Union.

He joined H.M.S. "Tamaki" on the 29th October, 1942, and served only in New Zealand waters. He was released from the Navy about November, 1943.

He was re-elected to the executive of the Auckland Branch of the Waterside Workers' Union in 1946, and successfully held his position until the 1949 Elections.

Bray has been a member of the Auckland District Committee of the Communist Party since 1946, and attended National Conferences of the Party as a delegate. He has been a speaker at public meetings of the Communist Party on numerous occasions, and also contributed articles, mainly about waterfront affairs, to the "People's Voice" newspaper.

In July, 1950, he became printer and publisher of the "People's Voice" newspaper. It is not known whether he has permanently left the Waterside Workers' Union or whether he is on temporary leave of absence. Excitable type and impulsive, but has the saving grace of a sense of humour.

Ronald Charles BLACK

Born in 1911. Nothing definite is known of his antecedent history. He speaks with an accent, which could be taken for mild Cockney, Australian or New Zealand. It has been said in some quarters that he has a trace of Australian aboriginal blood. He is a married man, but is presently residing with Martha Tuhoe, a native of Scotland, who is separated from her Maori husband.

Black, since his first conviction in Auckland in 1931 for fighting, has been before the Court on eight occasions, the other charges being drunkenness (1 conviction), assaulting Police (2 charges), and common assault.

Black is a leading industrial agitator, for the Communist Party, and in this respect he has been closely associated with Gordon Harold Andersen.

Black is a fairly recent recruit to the Waterside Workers' Union. He was formerly a seaman.

He first came under notice on the 14th October, 1942, when he attended a group meeting of the Wellington Communist Party as a "member at large". Was a Wellington delegate to the National Conference of the Communist Party in 1946.

He has been resident in Auckland since 1948, and has spoken from the public platform of the Communist Party on many occasions. In 1949 was elected to the Auckland District Committee of the Communist Party, and is now its Chairman.

Reginald CONVERY

Born on the 28th November, 1921, and is the son of a member of the British Communist Party. He was formerly a member of the Communist Party in the United Kingdom.

He followed the occupation of seaman and was in Australian waters in 1939. He returned to England and finally left there on the 20th June, 1946, for Australia. He served as a seaman on the Australian coast until the 27th September, 1948.

On the 2nd November, 1948, he signed on a coastal ship at Auckland and served on several coastal ships until the 27th May, 1949, when he signed off at Auckland.

Following a short period as a non-union watersider, he was admitted to membership of the union in January, 1950. He is closely associated with John Victor MATHIAS as a Communist contact for the importation of Communist literature. He is a quiet worker and has not been known to have associated with any open activity of the Communist Party.

James CAMPBELL, known as "Jock" Campbell.

Born in Scotland in 1900 and came to New Zealand in 1924. He joined the Communist Party in 1941. Commenced work on the waterfront in 1942. Represented the Waterfront Branch of the Communist Party as delegate to the Auckland District Committee Conference of the Party in 1945 and 1946.

Alexander DRENNAN

Born at Greenoch, Scotland, on the 16th December, 1899. He claims to have had one year's service in the Imperial Army. He came to New Zealand in 1925. He was active in the Unemployed Workers' Movement and commenced work on the Auckland waterfront in 1934.

He has been convicted of assault, procuring lawlessness,

~~SECRET~~

-7-

202

obstructing Police, inciting disorder, obstructing public place, and of publishing a subversive statement. These convictions arose mainly through his activity in the working-class struggle. His character is otherwise good, although as a result of an estrangement with his wife [REDACTED] He is a good worker.

He has held many executive positions in his Union - National Councillor, Vice-President (National Executive and local branch), and in 1950 was elected President of the Auckland Branch. In 1948 and 1949 he unsuccessfully contested the Presidency of the Auckland Branch against Harold Barnes. He was for several years also President of the Auckland Trades Council.

Drennan joined the Communist Party in 1932, and has remained a consistently active member. He was National Chairman of the National Executive of the Communist Party, but in March, 1949, following an enquiry into his conduct he was removed from office, but remained a member of the National Committee.

He has a large personal following in his Union, and gains his popularity from his earnestness and sincerity of purpose.

John Victor MATHIAS

Born in New Zealand in 1903. He was before the Court at Gisborne in 1919 for a breach of the peace. He left New Zealand about 1921 and worked on the Pacific Coast, U.S.A., as seaman and longshoreman. He returned to New Zealand as a stowaway on the s.s. "Tolten" on the 25th October, 1938. No charge was preferred as the Captain had signed him on as a member of the crew.

He joined the Communist Party a month or so after arrival, but returned to working on coastal vessels. He joined the Waterside Workers' Union in 1945. He is one of the contacts for the importation of Trade Union and Communist literature.

Has spoken from the Communist platform at public meetings and is a dangerous and inflammatory speaker. He has not held any executive position in the Union.

John James MITCHELL

Born in London, England, in 1903. Was a seaman by occupation and as such worked on the New Zealand coast. Joined the Auckland Branch of the Waterside Workers' Union in 1937. He joined the Communist Party in 1938 and was a delegate to the Easter 1939 Conference of the Party held in Wellington.

In 1942 he was elected to the Executive of the Waterside Workers' Union and still is a member of the Executive. He has been working against Drennan in the Union for personal reasons, but is unlikely to supplant him.

Mitchell was for some years active as a member of the Beresford Street School Committee, and in 1944 was elected Chairman. The same year he was a Communist candidate for the Auckland City Council, but was unsuccessful.

In 1946 he was elected an Executive member of the Auckland Trades Council.

In 1948 was a delegate to the National Conference of the Communist Party.

In 1949 was Chairman of the Auckland District Committee and still is a member of that Committee.

In 1949 was National Organiser of the Peace and Anti-Conscription Federation, and later the same year was Communist candidate for Auckland City in the Parliamentary Elections. Although a working-class area, and although he had worked hard and was well known in the district, he polled the lowest number of votes of all the Communist candidates in Auckland. He is quite a fair speaker.

Herbert Leonard SPILLER, Known as Tom SPILLER

Born in New Zealand in 1910. He lived for a number of years

in Napier, Hawke's Bay. He joined the Communist Party in 1934. In 1935 he went to Spain and served in the International Brigade. He left New Zealand by underground means, and probably returned the same way about March, 1938. He toured New Zealand and Australia, speaking on behalf of the Spanish Medical Aid Committee. He is a forceful and militant speaker. He commenced working on the Auckland waterfront in November, 1942. Has been a frequent speaker and Chairman at public meetings of the Communist Party in recent years, and is a member of the Auckland District Committee.

Ivan TOMASEVIC

Born in Yugoslavia on the 16th March, 1897, and came to New Zealand as a political refugee in 1923. He has been the leading member of the Yugoslav Group of the Communist Party since 1932.

His Certificate of Naturalisation was revoked in 1933, but was returned to him in 1936. He is married to a British Subject.

He has been a member of the Waterside Workers' Union since 1941, but has never held office in the Union.

He is a fluent and militant speaker in both English and Yugoslav. Since the split between Tito and the Cominform his influence in the Yugoslav community is waning.

William Francis WALKERDENE

Born in London, England, on the 17th January, 1917. Formerly a seaman, he took his discharge in New Zealand. Was divorced in 1944 at Auckland and remarried at Auckland on the 17th December, 1947. He resides with his wife at 5 Grange Road, Mt. Eden, which is used as a cover address for the Young People's Club and some of its members.

He first came under notice in connection with Communist activity in January, 1949, and is one of the Party's most active members. He has been a chairman of one public meeting of the Communist Party, but is a poor speaker. He is sales organiser of the "People's Voice" for the Maritime Branch of the Communist Party, and in this respect appears to be the most successful of all the organisers in the drive for increased circulation. He is in his first term of office as a member of the Auckland District Committee of the Communist Party. He has been a member of the Waterside Workers' Union for the past three years.

The following are lesser known personalities who are members of the Auckland Branch of the New Zealand Waterside Workers' Union and members of the Maritime Branch of the Communist Party at Auckland :-

Arthur Edward ALDERTON
Eric Charles ARNOLD
Donald CAMERON
George Isaac HUMPHRIES
John Joseph MURRAY
Thomas Leslie RICHARDS
Albert WHOWELL
Ronald Francis ARMISHAW

Nick BELICH
Sidney BROWN
Ernest DELANEY
Charles Frank DODD
George William DUNCAN
Richard Patrick MURPHY
George RICHARDS
Albert Wright WOOLNOUGH

The following known members of the Communist Party at Wellington are members of the Wellington Branch of the New Zealand Waterside Workers' Union :-

Charles Morris BROOKS (District Executive Member, Watersiders).
John Andrew MANSON
Donald AUSTIN
William BAGLEY (Snr.)
Noel DORNAN
Jure GRBICH
John Salmon KYDD
Ian MITCHELL
William O'REILLEY
Panos BOOLERIS

The following known members of the Communist Party at Christchurch are members of the Christchurch Branch of the New Zealand Waterside Workers' Union :-

Francis Edward McNULTY

Born in New Zealand in 1914, and resides at 5 Thomas Street, Linwood, Christchurch.

He is a member of the Branch Executive of the New Zealand Waterside Workers' Union at Christchurch and is Chairman of the Maritime Branch of the Communist Party, Christchurch. He is undoubtedly the leader of the Communist faction within the Union and is the most active in Party matters.

Henry Tennant WILKINSON

Born in New Zealand in 1909, and resides at Cranford Street, St. Albans, Christchurch. He is a foundation member of the Maritime Branch of the Communist Party at Christchurch.

William Fenn KEERS

Born in Ireland in 1910, and resides at 185 Peterborough Street, Christchurch. He is a foundation member of the Maritime Branch of the Communist Party at Christchurch.

James Edward NUTTALL

Born in Australia in 1892, and resides at 49 Wychbury Street, Spreydon, Christchurch.

Maurice Gordon McNARN

Born in New Zealand in 1915, and resides at 201 Selwyn Street, Christchurch.

Robert McCREANOR

Born in Northern Ireland in 1910, and resides at 178 Ferry Road, Christchurch.

John James PORTER

Resides at 21 Phillip Street, Linwood, Christchurch. Is a Communist of long-standing but is not known to have taken an active part in the affairs of the Communist Party for some years past.

REPORT OF JIM HEALY TO MEMBERS OF THE WATERSIDE WORKERS' FEDERATION OF AUSTRALIA RE HIS VISIT TO THE BIENNIAL CONFERENCE OF NEW ZEALAND WATERSIDE WORKERS' UNION, HELD AT WELLINGTON, NEW ZEALAND, ON THE 6th DECEMBER, 1949

At the last meeting of the Federal Council it was decided to accept the invitation extended by the waterside workers of New Zealand to attend the biennial conference of the union to be held at Wellington commencing on December 6. The General President and myself were appointed delegates to attend this very important conference.

Delegates to the Conference extended a very hearty welcome, and expressed pleasure that the Federation had seen fit to send the two principal officers in answer to their invitation.

After hearing the reports made by the General President, J. Barnes, the General Secretary, T. Hill, and the National Vice-President, A. Drennan, we were struck with the similarity of the developments that had occurred in New Zealand in regard to disputes between the Union and the Government, and the Union and the Waterfront Control Commission which is the equivalent of the Stevedoring Industry Board in this country.

Divided Loyalty:

The reports showed that the Union had divided right and left on a number of matters and the same problem evidenced itself wherein some members had thought their first loyalty was to the Labour Government rather than to the Union, even though the Government had removed the Union representatives from the Waterfront Control Authority and the Minister for Labour had circulated a pamphlet endeavouring to weaken the position of the national officers of the organisation.

Whilst it had been possible to obtain general unity on the questions in dispute, one branch, Timaru, had rejected the decisions of the Union and had taken its action to such length that Conference decided to refuse the delegate from Timaru to continue attending the Conference.

Amazing Similarity:

After hearing reports from myself and the General President, delegates were amazed at the close similarity of events that had occurred here in Australia and subsequently were unanimously of the opinion that the points stressed by us should be cleared up and complete unity of all members obtained round the Union's policy and that, so far as the Union is concerned, the first loyalty of the member is to the Union and its policy and not to any Government, because as the recent Elections show, Governments come and go, but the Union is the workers' chief defence at all times.

It was agreed that the ranks had to be closed against the new developments that would flow from the return of the Tory Governments in both countries and that the fullest measure of unity should be obtained not only throughout both unions but between both unions.

International Unity:

The New Zealand Union decided to follow the lead given by the Federation and to affiliate with the International Dockers.

This decision was arrived at unanimously, many delegates expressing their view that much closer co-operation had to be achieved between all the waterside workers in the Pacific area and, to this end, it was felt that the affiliation with the Trade Union International would materially assist.

It was also decided that the Trans-Tasman executive, consisting of the National President and General Secretary of each union, should meet

regularly to discuss problems that arose affecting either union; that such a meeting should take place at least once a year and more often, if the circumstances dictated.

After discussions by this executive a report could then be made to the National Executive or Council of each union and such action could be recommended as considered best suited to meet the occasion.

Close Co-operation:

The New Zealand Union pledged itself to retain and improve the close co-operation that has existed between the two unions over the past years and, on behalf of the Australian Union, we were able to assure our comrades in New Zealand that we would reciprocate to the fullest extent.

Following the conclusion of the Conference it was requested that we should visit a number of the New Zealand ports and we were able to address stop-work meetings, which were fully attended by the memberships, in the ports of Wellington, Lyttelton, Dunedin, Port Chalmers and Auckland.

We arrived back in Australia on December 19, and brought with us, to our members in Australia from the waterside workers in New Zealand, fraternal greetings and good wishes for the success of our claims for improved wages and conditions decided upon at our recent Council meeting and which were fully outlined to the New Zealand workers at the stop-work meetings referred to.

The New Zealand workers will watch our efforts in these matters with the closest of attention because they appreciate, as we do, the fact that improvements in either country are of material interest to both unions.

On behalf of the New Zealand Waterside Workers' Union we extend to all our members the best of good wishes for the coming festive season and a happy and prosperous New Year.

25th September, 1950. 197

REPORT of: Detective Sergeant R. JONES, No. 3272.

Relative to: "Defence of Peace and the Struggle against the Warmongers" - Letter addressed to dockers of English ports.

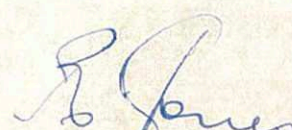
- Vide attached -.

I respectfully report that the attached memorandum should more correctly have been forwarded with the previous file, S.50/39, with which I submitted a report dated 27.2.50. It will be noted from the attached memorandum that reference is made to a memorandum of 15.2.50.

Regarding the matter mentioned in the last paragraph of the attached memorandum dated 9.3.50, I have no information regarding any letters or circulars emanating from the source mentioned.

Similar calls to action which have been received by the New Zealand Waterside Workers Union are covered by my reports dated 16.5.50 and 30.5.50 respectively, and attached to Secret file S.50/39.

For your information.



The Superintendent of Police,
AUCKLAND.

Detective Sergeant 3272

Forwarded to the Commissioner.

S. Hall

Superintendent of Police.

26.9.50

File
JW

S.50/39

196

~~SECRET~~

30th June, 1950.

Sir Percy Sillitoe,
Box No.500,
Parliament Street B.O.,
LONDON, S.W.1.

Dear Sir Percy,

I have no information of copies of a letter or circular similar to those issued by the French National Federation of Dockers having been seen in New Zealand, but you will be interested to know that the policy of the Communist Party in New Zealand concerning war has continued as indicated in my letter of the 15th March.

The division in the New Zealand Federation of Labour caused by the affiliation of the New Zealand Waterside Workers Union with the Maritime Federation of the World still exists, with the result that the more militant trade unionists who are inspired by the Communist Party have their own nationalist organisation known as the Trade Union Congress.

Concerning the handling of war materials by New Zealand Waterside Workers, the following publication appeared in the New Zealand "Evening Post" newspaper on the 2nd June, 1950 :-

"Wharf Union will not handle War Materials.

New Zealand waterside workers will not handle any cargo of war materials for Malaya. The policy announced after a meeting of the executive last night is described as 'endorsement of the resolutions from branches, stating that this union will not work any cargo carrying war materials to Malaya'.

The pending visit of Field-Marshal Sir William Slim, Chief of the Imperial General Staff, who led the Burma campaign, was significant, said the president of the union (Mr H. Barnes).

At any time the union had taken a stand on such matters, the passage of time had vindicated the stand. The classic example was the refusal to load scrap iron for Japan."

Yours faithfully,

184
Commissioner of Police.

~~SECRET~~
NEW ZEALAND POLICE

195
The Special Branch,
The Detective Office,
WELLINGTON,
June 26, 1950

REPORT of D.S. Paterson, Detective, No.3668
RELATIVE to "The Defence of Peace and the Struggle Against
Warmongers"--United Kingdom inquire re letter
issued by French National Federation of Dockers.

I respectfully report having made inquiries into the matter raised in the attached memorandum from the Commissioner of Police regarding the Communist campaign to offset the advantages accruing to the Western Powers as a result of the American Military Assistance Programme. The theme of this campaign is strike action by "dockers" or their refusal to handle war-material.

Information on the forming of N.Z. Waterside Union policy is regarded as "tight" but it is no secret that Tobias HILL, national secretary, and Harold BARNES, president are at present riding on the crest of a communist wave though their membership of the party has not been established. The N.Z. Waterside Workers' Union is affiliated to the W.F.T.U. and one is inclined to the belief that it is more at the direction of this body than an act of its own initiative that the union made a newspaper announcement ("Evening Post") on June 2, 1950 that no cargo of war materials for Malaya would be handled by N.Z. waterside workers.

The subject of supply of war materials has been raised by almost every communist party speaker recently in furtherance of the party's "peace" harangue.

Watersiders have been active in keeping alive the N.Z. Trade Union Congress, a Communist-blessed national organisation of Trade Unions formed in April of this year to be free of the yoke of the moderate N.Z. Federation of Labour. The matter of the struggle against warmongers has no doubt been

~~SECRET~~

(2)

U.K.S.S. inquire re letter issued
by French Nat. Fed. of Dockers

194

thoroughly presented by communist union members of the T.U.C.

I have noted the attached letter of M. Baudin, general secretary for the secretariat of the National Federation of Dockers to "all the dockers of the English Ports". Inquiries have been made but without evidence resulting to show that any circular based on this letter has been circulated to watersiders here.

The Inspector (Detective Branch),
WELLINGTON

W.S. Pearson

Detective, No.3668

Wharf Union Will Not Handle War Materials

New Zealand waterside workers will not handle any cargo of war materials for Malaya. The policy announced after a meeting of the executive last night is described as "endorsement of the resolutions from branches, stating that this union will not work any cargo carrying war materials to Malaya."

The pending visit of Field-Marshal Sir William Slim, Chief of the Imperial General Staff, who led the Burma campaign, was significant, said the president of the union (Mr. H. Barnes).

At any time the union had taken a stand on such matters, the passage of time had vindicated the stand. The classic example was the refusal to load scrap iron for Japan.

~~SECRET.~~Police Stn. DUNEDIN CENTRAL,Date: 29th March, 1950REPORT of Detective A. E. LEADLEY, No. 3762

RELATIVE TO;-- Memorandum "The Defence of Peace and the struggle Against the War Mongers - Extract of letter received from the United Kingdom Security Service, London.

I respectfully report that I have made inquiries amongst persons employed on the Dunedin Waterfront who are known to me personally, and I have been confidentially informed that to date, no correspondence of the nature of the attached letter has been referred to Union members in Dunedin for consideration.

No difficulty has yet been experienced on the Dunedin Waterfront as to the loading of any particular goods which would indicate that the employees are in any way influenced by correspondence as disclosed in the attached copy of the letter which is claimed to have been circulated.

I have been unable to obtain any information which would suggest that the requests made in the copy of the letter attached have come under the notice of the local Waterside Workers.

A. E. Leadley
Detective No. 3762
29/3/50.

The Superintendent,

J. H. Hall
Chief Detective
29th March, 1950.

Inspector McHugh

For your perusal.

J. McIntyre

Supt.

30 3 50.

The Superintendent

Perused and returned

A. E. McHugh
Chap 30/3/50

*The Commissioner of Police,
Wellington.*

J. McIntyre
30 3 50 Supt

File in

Special Branch,
Police Station,
CHRISTCHURCH.

REPORT OF Detective T. J. Knowles, No. 3519.

RELATIVE TO Defence of Peace and Struggle against
Warmongers: Letter from French Federation of
Dockers to English Dockers.

I respectfully report having perused the attached letter from the United Kingdom Security Service in reference to the present Communist Campaign to offset the military advantages accruing to the Western Powers as a result of the American Military Assistance Programme, but I am unaware of any activity in this direction on the part of members of the Communist Party at Christchurch.

I have no knowledge of any letters or circulars, similar to that circulated by the French National Federation of Dockers, being distributed to any Docker or Waterside-worker in this Police District.

Should any information relating to the distribution of similar correspondence come to hand, or should it become known that members of the Communist Party at Christchurch are taking any active interest in that direction, the facts will be reported immediately.

Senior Detective Halcrow,

T. J. Knowles
Detective No. 3519.

CHRISTCHURCH.

The Superintendent of Police,
CHRISTCHURCH:

I have made inquiry from certain confidential sources in Christchurch but can obtain no information of any circulars similar to the one which is the subject of this file having arrived in this district.

I have discussed, in confidence, the matter with Detective-Sergeant Ward of Lyttelton who might come across any such circulars in the course of his work and he will advise me if anything of interest becomes known.

I have noted the particulars in the file and shall report if any information is received on the subject in future.

J. J. Halcrow
Senior Detective No. 2814

21/3/50

~~SECRET~~

The Special Branch,
WELLINGTON,
March 16, 1950

190

Report of D.S. Paterson, Detective, No.3668
RELATIVE to "DEFENCE OF PEACE AND THE STRUGGLE AGAINST WAR-
MONGERS" report by Suslov and activity by C.P.
Affiliations.

I respectfully report having read the attached notes on this subject.

The "struggle" for peace by the workers of all countries outside the U.S.S.R. has been one of the pillars of the C.P. doctrine. The preamble to the Constitution of the New Zealand Communist Party contains this passage: "... Consequently, the Communist Party carries on a ceaseless struggle for the preservation of world peace and for the defeat of the war-mongers ...".

This topic is almost invariably raised at Communist Party public and committee meetings.

At a combined demonstration in Wellington last October by the Wellington Young People's Club, the Hutt Valley Progressive Youth League and Victoria University students, pamphlets asking for support of eleven "demands" were issued. The foremost "demand" was for "Peace".

Some months prior to a public referendum in New Zealand in 1949 on Compulsory Military Training a movement called the Peace and Anti-conscription Federation, Communist Party instigated and dominated, campaigned vigorously against the issue. Branches of this Federation were inaugurated by small groups of C.P. members.

Fifteen Communist Party members went to the N.Z. electoral polls on November 30, 1949 with the banner of "peace" as the foremost platform, but only 3,267 votes were cast for them.

The New Zealand Communist Party weekly newspaper, the "People's Voice", on September 7, 1949, gave the streamer caption, "World Youth Mobilises for Peace" to an article written by Ronald Joseph SMITH, N.Z. delegate at the World Youth Festival at Budapest earlier that year. The article is largely in derogation of "war-mongers", as are from time to time similar articles in this paper.

Speakers for peace are from time to time heard among trades unionists, in most cases these being "left-wingers." Although the leading body of its kind here, the N.Z. Federation of Labour last year disaffiliated with the W.F.T.U. because it was Communist dominated, it is possible that propaganda from this source may filter down to union members, but as far as can be ascertained in this district there has been little or no increase of C.P. members in trades union executives. The impetus through this source as suggested by Suslov would not, I do not think, be great.

For the Commissioner, please.

The Inspector (Detective Branch),
WELLINGTON

D.S. Paterson
Detective, No.3668

S.50/39

189

On ~~SECRET~~ 15th March, 1950.
published the following:-

"Students' Manifesto"

Auckland.- The New Zealand Student Labour Federation, an organization of progressive students in all four Colleges, has recently issued a Manifesto of W.Z. This is based on the statements by the students for Peace movement, whose Congress was held in Warsaw, Poland. The Manifesto is receiving growing support.

Dear Sir Percy,

The undersigned, says the Students' Manifesto, peace, express our collective responsibility for the possibility of the world have no wish for such a war and that only the peoples of peaceful sections, regardless of race and that only the peoples of preserve the world.

"THE DEFENCE OF PEACE AND THE STRUGGLE AGAINST THE WARMONGERS" (Your Ref. SF.411/13/B.1.b(MJEB))

I thank you for your letter of the 3rd February which was received together with the paper entitled "The Defence of Peace and the Struggle Against the Warmongers".

In New Zealand "the Struggle for Peace" was activated around the Conscription Referendum. On the 26th-27th March, 1949, at Wellington a conference of anti-conscriptionists was held at which it was decided to set up a national organisation to be known as the "Peace and Anti-Conscription Federation". The calling of this conference was believed to have been Communist inspired and after a few early meetings the main activists in the Federation were Communists or Communist Sympathisers.

Quakers and Christian Pacifists, in the main, played an independent role during the Conscription Referendum Campaign.

At the conclusion of the campaign, John James MITCHELL, Communist and National Organiser of the Peace and Anti-Conscription Federation, stated: "I would like to pay a particular tribute to the Communist Party who were the only political organisation as such to throw their full resources into the campaign and worked tirelessly to achieve victory. The result (23 per cent of the voters opposed conscription) was a nominal victory for the anti-working class forces".

On the 17th August, 1949, after the Referendum was held, Amiel Isaac KEESING, of Auckland, National Secretary of the Peace and Anti-Conscription Federation, announced: "The Peace and Anti-Conscription Federation will remain in existence as an organisation to fight for the objectives for which it was formed. These are the preservation of World Peace and the safeguarding of the People's Civil Liberties "The Federation feels that ample justification has been established for its existence. 153,000 voters in New Zealand have shown this to be true. Accordingly, the Federation will continue to function and grow. Its objects in the future will be -

1. To assist in every way possible to mitigate any hardships caused by the imposition of Conscription, either on the people concerned or their families;
2. To safeguard the interests of people whose conscience will not permit them to take up arms;
3. To publicise at every opportunity, efforts to obtain exemption by or for those who advocated and voted for Conscription;
4. To work for the ultimate repeal of the Act; and
5. To earnestly seek the co-operation of all people, in all lands, towards international disarmament and world peace."

On the 27th July, 1949, the "People's Voice" newspaper published the following :-

"Students' Manifesto"

Auckland.- The New Zealand Student Labour Federation, an organisation which includes Clubs of progressive students in all four main University Colleges, has recently issued a Manifesto of N.Z. Intellectuals for Peace. This is based on the statements by the International Intellectuals for Peace movement, whose Congress was held recently in Wroclaw, Poland. The Manifesto is receiving growing support.

'We, the undersigned', says the Students' Manifesto, 'being conscious of our collective responsibility in the building of a durable peace, express our deep concern over the current situation which contains the possibilities of a third world war. We are convinced the peoples of the world have no wish for such a war and that only the unity of all peaceful sections, regardless of race, religion, creed or colour, can preserve the peace we all cherish.

'In particular, we recognise that war, and the threat of war, must mean the deterioration of international friendship and its fruits, the decay of national culture and living standards, and restraints on academic freedom.

'It is clear, too, that greater expenditure for armaments must mean less for education. Thus the current drive for conscription in New Zealand, if successful, would inevitably deprive students and apprentices of the opportunity for study and of long overdue increases in bursaries and other facilities".

The 14th Conference (Annual) of the Co-Operative Women's Guilds was held at Palmerston North on the 28th-29th March, 1949. Two resolutions were passed and forwarded to the Prime Minister and the Hon. Minister of Defence. They are -

1. "That this conference is concerned at the suggestion of compulsory military training in peace time, and the consequent withdrawal of men and women from industry and farming".
2. "That we urge the Government to instruct its representative on UNO to support the outlawing of the atom bomb".

Several women Communists are known to be members of the Co-Operative Women's Guilds.

The 6th National Conference of the National Federation of Young Peoples' Clubs was held at Waitakere Beach, Foxton, from 22nd to 25th October, 1949. A statement issued to the Press after the Conference says:

"While we may fight for improved conditions, and a better way of life for youth, these were dependent on the maintenance of world peace and international co-operation and respect for the freedom and independence of all people. It was necessary to fight with greater determination for peace, and oppose the schemes of the warmongers and their criminal plans. In joining the mighty movement for peace, the Conference expressed its determination to fight for political and civil liberties, for the equality of all peoples and opposition to any form of racial discrimination"

On the 10th February, 1950, a meeting was held in the rooms of the New Zealand Housewives Association, Union Bank Buildings, Victoria Street West, Auckland, under the auspices of the Women's Movement for World Peace. The object of the meeting was to decide a date for celebrating International Womens Day. A booking has been made for the

Auckland Town Hall Concert Chamber for 16th March, 1950.

The Womens Movement for World Peace seems to be a child of the Auckland Womens Charter Association, a quasi Communist organisation.

Over the signature of Ben BRAY, Auckland Communist, the "People's Voice" newspaper dated 26th October, 1949, published the following :-

"Peace Exhibition and Congress Proposed"

One of the proposals made at the recent conference of the Peace and Anti-Conscription Federation was that a peace exhibition should be held. The exhibition will help people to appreciate the actions of the Labour and Tory warmongers and rally people for the fight for peace. The conference also decided to organise a national peace congress thus preparing the way for a Pacific Peace Congress in the near future. The New Zealand Peace Congress should be supported by peace-lovers from every sphere of life. It will be our country's answer to those who would lead us into a third world war

A Peace Congress is to be held in the Exhibition Buildings, Melbourne, Australia, on the 16th April, 1950. Invitations to attend this Congress have been sent to Paul ROBESON, negro singer, The Dean of Canterbury, Dr Hewlett JOHNSON, and Madame SUN YAT-SEN, Vice-President of the Chinese People's Republic.

It has been learnt that no campaign has yet been launched which would ensure the success of the New Zealand Peace Congress, which was mooted at the Conference of the Peace and Anti-Conscription Federation referred to above.

Immediate consideration, however, is to be given by the Peace and Anti-Conscription Federation to extend an invitation to ROBESON, JOHNSON and SUN YAT-SEN, to visit New Zealand.

In June, 1949, the Auckland Branch of the New Zealand Waterside Workers' Union took up a voluntary subscription for the Peace and Anti-Conscription Federation, which amounted to £125. Further appeals to the Union by the Federation would not doubt meet with similar success.

The Biennial Conference of the New Zealand Waterside Workers Union was held in Wellington on the 6th December, 1949, and subsequent days. An extract from the report of Tobias HILL, National Secretary, which was unanimously endorsed, read -

"Conscription. No survey of the past two years would be complete without some reference to conscription. The campaign conducted for conscription would have done credit to any totalitarian country. Here again we saw politicians cruelly abandon one of the cardinal principles of our movement.

WHAT WAS DONE MUST BE UNDONE AND AGAIN I BELIEVE THE MOST POWERFUL FACTOR IN RIGHTING THIS GRIEVOUS WRONG WILL BE THE TRADE UNION MOVEMENT".

Rank and file members of the Auckland Branch of the Waterside Workers Union were informed at their monthly stop-work meeting held on the 16th December, 1949, that the New Zealand Waterside Workers' Union had decided to affiliate with the Seamens, Dockers, Inland Waterways and Allied Workers Trade Union International (Maritime Federation of the World). The announcement was made by James HEALY, Communist Secretary of the Waterside Workers Federation of Australia, who attended the Biennial Conference.

Affiliation with the Seamens, Dockers, Inland Waterways and Allied Workers Trade Union International (W.F.T.U.) has led to the

~~SECRET~~

POLICE DEPARTMENT

WELLINGTON, C.I. 9th March, 1950.

expulsion of the New Zealand Waterside Workers Union from the New Zealand Federation of Labour. The outcome of this is full of possibilities and at the present time it would be unwise to hazard a guess at the measure of support the Waterside Workers will gain from the Trade Union movement in general and other affiliations to the Transport Workers Federation (N.Z.) in particular.

Journalists, cultural workers, parliamentary and other public leaders, are not sufficiently sympathetic in this country to be drawn into the Communist campaign to "secure a stable and lasting peace".

Sufficient, however, has been written in this report to give a fairly clear picture of the Communist Party's efforts to mobilise the women's, co-operative, youth, and students movements and trade unions, in accordance with the suggestions made by Comrade SUSLOV as set out in your note, and is referred for your information and report by your

Special Branch :-

"Would you please refer to our Yours faithfully, (MJB) of 3 February, 1950, which dealt with the present Communist campaign to offset the military advantages accruing to the Western Powers as a result of the American Military Assistance Programme.

Attached is a copy of a circular dated 31 January, 1950, and addressed by M. BARDIN, General Secretary of the National Federation of Dockers in Paris to the Director of Security Intelligence. The distribution is reported to have been entrusted to an official of the Merseyside area of the British Communist Party.

The reference to American dockers in the last sentence of the circular would appear to be a slip. The French Communist Party paper, 'Humanite', quoted on 31 December last a letter couched in identical terms which had been sent on the previous day by the French Federation to American dockers of Atlantic ports. A reference to this letter to the American dockers was made under the date 31 December, 1949, in the 'Chronicle of International Events' given in the Soviet periodical, 'New Times', No. 2, for 8 January, 1950.

Although the refusal of workers in Western Europe to handle war material was receiving considerable publicity and support in the British 'Daily Worker', we had no information when the circular of 31 January came to our notice, to suggest that the British Communist Party had made or was making any particular effort to persuade British workers to strike; the Party appeared to be devoting most of its time and energy to the prosecution of its election campaign. Since that date, however, we have learnt from a delicate source that the Party is in fact running a campaign in the London docks, and probably in other ports, to stop shipments of arms; it appears that the Party's attempts to put this policy across are not being at all well received by the majority of London dockers.

We do not yet know how much effort the Party is devoting to this campaign, nor whether it is specifically directed to counter one category of shipment as against another. The date at which the Party embarked on the campaign is also unknown to us; it is unlikely that such a step would have been occasioned solely by the receipt of a circular from a French trade union. It is possible, however, that it was connected with a visit to Paris, in the latter half of January, paid by George ALLISON, the Party's Industrial Organiser. In the course of this visit, ALLISON met officials of the W.F.T.U., and he may well have also been in touch with the French Communist Party.

We should be glad to hear if copies of this letter or circulars of a similar nature issued by the French National Federation of Dockers, are reported to have been distributed in other countries."

Commissioner of Police.



185
In your reply, please
quote this number:
S.50/39

~~SECRET~~

POLICE DEPARTMENT,
WELLINGTON C.I. 9th March, 1950.

MEMORANDUM for

The Superintendent of Police,
WELLINGTON. *all Delin.*

With reference to my memorandum of the 15th February, with which was forwarded a document entitled "The Defence of Peace and the Struggle Against the Warmongers", the following is an extract of a further letter received from the United Kingdom Security Service, London, and is referred for your information and report by your Special Branch :-

"Would you please refer to our SF.411/13/B.1.b(MJEB) of 3 February, 1950, which dealt with the present Communist campaign to offset the military advantages accruing to the Western Powers as a result of the American Military Assistance Programme.

Attached is a copy of a circular dated 31 January, 1950, and addressed by M. BAUDIN, General Secretary of the French National Federation of Dockers in Paris to 'all dockers of English Ports'. The distribution is reported to have been entrusted to an official of the Merseyside area of the British Communist Party.

The reference to American dockers in the last sentence of the circular would appear to be a slip. The French Communist Party paper, 'Humanite', quoted on 31 December last a letter couched in identical terms which had been sent on the previous day by the French Federation to American dockers of Atlantic ports. A reference to this letter to the American dockers was made under the date 31 December, 1949, in the 'Chronicle of International Events' given in the Soviet periodical, 'New Times', No.2, for 8 January, 1950.

Although the refusal of workers in Western Europe to handle war material was receiving considerable publicity and support in the British 'Daily Worker', we had no information when the circular of 31 January came to our notice, to suggest that the British Communist Party had made or was making any particular effort to persuade British workers to strike; the Party appeared to be devoting most of its time and energy to the prosecution of its election campaign. Since that date, however, we have learnt from a delicate source that the Party is in fact running a campaign in the London docks, and probably in other ports, to stop shipments of arms; it appears that the Party's attempts to put this policy across are not being at all well received by the majority of London dockers.

We do not yet know how much effort the Party is devoting to this campaign, nor whether it is specifically directed to counter one category of shipment as against another. The date at which the Party embarked on the campaign is also unknown to us; it is unlikely that such a step would have been occasioned solely by the receipt of a circular from a French trade union. It is possible, however, that it was connected with a visit to Paris, in the latter half of January, paid by George ALLISON, the Party's Industrial Organiser. In the course of this visit, ALLISON met officials of the W.F.T.U., and he may well have also been in touch with the French Communist Party.

We should be glad to hear if copies of this letter or circulars of a similar nature issued by the French National Federation of Dockers, are reported to have been distributed in other countries."

165 *I have forwarded to the Director of the Special Branch*
9.3.50
[Signature]
Commissioner of Police.

SECRET
NEW ZEALAND POLICE.

P.N. No.

184

550/39

Police Stn. Dunedin

Date: 28th February 1950

REPORT of J.C. Russell, Detective, No. 2505

RELATIVE TO:- "The Defence of Peace and the Struggle Against
The Warmongers"
Vide attached.

I respectfully report that I have made confidential enquiries in Dunedin regarding the attitude of Trade Unions towards the above report.

The Waterside Workers of Dunedin in sympathy with Northern Cities, that is Auckland and Wellington are affiliated to the World Federation of Trade Unions, which is an active champion of "The Defence of Peace And The Struggle Against The Warmongers". My information is that the Dunedin Waterside Workers are apathetic towards this affiliation to the "W.F.T.U", the reason being that in Dunedin there is not the militant section in the Union that there is in the North Island.

I have received confidential information that no other Union in Dunedin or Otago is affiliated to the "W.F.T.U."

During the course of my enquiry I have been unable to obtain any information that the document "The Defence of Peace And the Struggle Against The Warmongers" has reached Dunedin or Otago.

My informant states that he has no knowledge of the document being in Dunedin, and no mention of the document or its aims have been discussed among Trade Unions here.

J.C. Russell
Detective 2505
28/2/50

The Superintendent,

Respectfully forwarded,

T.H. Hall
Chief Detective

28th February, 1950.

The Commissioner of Police,
Wellington.

Respectfully forwarded. No evidence or information of activities referred to herein at Dunedin.

J. McEntyre
Supt.

1. 3. 50

Publicly released under the NZSIS Declassification Policy

The Chief
Detective,
DUNEDIN.

~~SECRET~~

NEW ZEALAND POLICE.

183
S.56/39

Special Branch,
AUCKLAND.

27th February 1950.

REPORT of Detective Sergeant R. Jones No. 3272
relative to "THE DEFENCE OF PEACE AND THE STRUGGLE AGAINST
THE WAR MONGERS".

"Vide attached"

I respectfully report that in 1949 "the struggle for peace" was activated around the Conscription referendum.

On March 26-27th 1949 at Wellington a conference of anti-conscriptionists was held at which it was decided to set up a national organisation to be known as the "PEACE AND ANTI-CONSCRIPTION FEDERATION". The calling of this conference was believed to have been Communist inspired and after a few early meetings the main activists in the Federation were Communists or Communist sympathisers.

Quakers and Christian Pacifists, in the main, played an independent role during the conscription referendum campaign.

At the conclusion of the campaign, John James MITCHELL, Communist and National Organiser of the Peace and Anti-Conscription Federation, stated, "I would like to pay a particular tribute to the Communist Party who were the only political organisation as such, to throw their full resources into the campaign and worked tirelessly to achieve victory. The result (23 per cent. of the voters opposed conscription) was a nominal victory for the anti-working class forces."

On 17.8.49, after the referendum was held, Amiel Isaac KEESING, of Auckland, national Secretary of the Peace and Anti-Conscription Federation, announced, "The Peace and Anti-Conscription Federation will remain in existence, as an organisation to fight for the objectives for which it was formed. These are the preservation of World Peace and the safeguarding of the People's Civil Liberties. "The Federation feels that ample justification has been established for its existence. 153,000 voters in New Zealand have shown this to be true. Accordingly the Federation will continue to function and grow. Its objects in the future will be,

1. To assist in every way possible to mitigate any hardships caused by the imposition of Conscription, either on the people concerned or their families;
2. To safeguard the interests of people whose conscience will not permit them to take up arms;
3. To publicise at every opportunity, efforts to obtain exemption by or for those who advocated and voted for conscription;
4. To work for the ultimate repeal of the Act; and
5. To earnestly seek the co-operation of all people, in all lands, towards international disarmament and world peace."

On 27th July 1949 the People's Voice newspaper

published the following,

"STUDENTS' MANIFESTO

AUCKLAND. - The New Zealand Student Labour Federation, an organisation which includes Clubs of progressive students in all four main University Colleges, has recently issued a Manifesto of N.Z Intellectuals for Peace. This is based on the statements by the International Intellectuals for Peace movement, whose Congress was held recently in Wroclaw, Poland. The Manifesto is receiving growing support.

'We, the undersigned,' says the students' Manifesto, 'being conscious of our collective responsibility in the in the building of a durable peace, express our deep concern over the current situation which contains the possibilities of a third world war. We are convinced the peoples of the world have no wish for such a war and that only the unity of all peaceful sections, regardless of race, religion, creed or colour, can preserve the peace we all cherish.

'In particular, we recognise that war, and the threat of war, must mean the deterioration of international friendship and its fruits, the decay of national culture and living standards, and restraints on academic freedom.

'It is clear, too, that greater expenditure for armaments must mean less for education. Thus the current drive for conscription in New Zealand, if successful, would inevitably deprive students and apprentices of the opportunity for study and of long overdue increases in bursaries and other facilities'.

The 14th Conference (Annual) of the CO-OPERATIVE WOMEN'S GUILDS was held at Palmerston North on 28-29th March 1949. Two resolutions were passed and forwarded to the Prime Minister and the Hon. Minister of Defence. They are,

1. "That this conference is concerned at the suggestion of compulsory military training in peace time, and the consequent withdrawal of men and women from industry and farming".
2. "That we urge the Government to instruct its representative on UNO to support the outlawing of the atom bomb."

Several women Communists are known to be members of the Co-Operative Womens Guilds.

The 6th National Conference of the NATIONAL FEDERATION OF YOUNG PEOPLES' CLUBS was held at Waitakere Beach, Foxton from 22nd to 25th October 1949. A statement issued to the Press after the Conference says,

"While we may fight for improved conditions, and a better way of life for youth, these were dependent on the maintenance of world peace and international co-operation and respect for the freedom and independence of all people. It was necessary to fight with greater determination for peace, and oppose the schemes of the war-mongers and their criminal plans. In joining the mighty movement for peace, the Conference expressed its determination to fight for political and civil liberties, for the equality of all peoples and opposition to any form of racial discrimination."

On 10.2.50 a meeting was held in the rooms of the NZ HOUSEWIVES ASSOCIATION, Union Bank Buildings, Victoria Street West, Auckland, under the auspices of the WOMEN'S MOVEMENT FOR WORLD PEACE. The object of the meeting was to decide a date for celebrating International Womens Day. A booking has been made for the Auckland Town Hall Concert Chamber for 16.3.50. A full report on this meeting was submitted from this office on 19.2.50.

The WOMENS MOVEMENT FOR WORLD PEACE seems to be a child of the AUCKLAND WOMENS CHARTER ASSOCIATION, a quasi Communist organisation.

Over the signature of Ben BRAY, Auckland Communist the People's Voice newspaper dated 26.10.49 published the following.

"PEACE EXHIBITION AND CONGRESS PROPOSED.

"One of the proposals made at the recent conference of the Peace and Anti-Conscription Federation was that a peace exhibition should be held. The exhibition will help people to appreciate the actions of the Labour and Tory warmongers and rally people for the fight for peace. The conference also decided to organise a national peace congress thus preparing the way for a Pacific peace congress in the near future. The New Zealand Peace congress should be supported by peace lovers from every sphere of life. It will be our country's answer to those who would lead us into a third world war....."

A Peace Congress is to be held in the Exhibition Building, Melbourne, Australia on 16th April 1950. Invitations to attend this Congress have been sent to Paul Robeson, negro singer, The Dean of Canterbury, Dr. Hewlett Johnson, and Madame Sun Yat-Sen, vice-president of the Chinese People's Republic.

It has been learnt that no campaign has yet been launched which would ensure the success of the New Zealand Peace Congress, which was mooted at the Conference of the Peace and Anti-Conscription Federation, referred to above.

Immediate consideration, however, is to be given by the Peace and Anti-Conscription Federation to extend an invitation to Robeson, Johnson and Sun Yat-Sen, to visit New Zealand.

In June 1949 the Auckland Branch of the New Zealand Waterside Workers' Union took up a voluntary subscription for the Peace and Anti-Conscription Federation, which amounted to £125. Further appeals to the Union by the Federation would no doubt meet with similar success.

The Biennial Conference of the NZ Waterside Workers Union was held in Wellington on 6th December 1949, and subsequent days. An extract from the report of Tobias HILL, national Secretary, which was unanimously endorsed, read, -

"CONSCRIPTION. No survey of the past two years would be complete without some reference to conscription. The campaign conducted for conscription would have done credit to any totalitarian country. Here again we saw politicians cruelly abandon one of the cardinal principles of our movement.

WHAT WAS DONE MUST BE UNDONE AND AGAIN I BELIEVE THE MOST POWERFUL FACTOR IN RIGHTING THIS GRIEVOUS WRONG WILL BE THE TRADE UNION MOVEMENT." (The heavy type was used in the report.)

Rank and file members of the Auckland branch of the Waterside Workers Union were informed at their monthly stop-work meeting held on 16.12.49 that the NZ WATERSIDE WORKERS' UNION

4.

180

had decided to affiliate with the SEAMENS, DOCKERS, INLAND WATERWAYS and ALLIED WORKERS TRADE UNION INTERNATIONAL (MARITIME FEDERATION OF THE WORLD). The announcement was made by James HEALY, Communist Secretary of the Waterside Workers Federation of Australia, who attended the biennial conference.

Affiliation with the SEAMENS, DOCKERS, INLAND WATERWAYS and ALLIED WORKERS TRADE UNION INTERNATIONAL (W.F.T.U) has led to the expulsion of the NZ Waterside Workers Union from the NZ Federation of Labour. The outcome of this is full of possibilities and at the present time it would be unwise to hazard a guess at the measure of support the Waterside Workers will gain from the Trade Union movement in general and other affiliations to the TRANSPORT WORKERS FEDERATION (N.Z) in particular.

Journalists, cultural workers, parliamentary and other public leaders are not sufficiently sympathetic in this country, to be drawn into the Communist campaign to "secure a stable and lasting peace."

Sufficient, however, has been written in this report to give a fairly clear picture of the Communist Party's efforts to mobilise women's, co-operative, youth, and students movements and trade unions, in accordance with the suggestions made by Comrade SUSLOV as set out in the attached note.

For your information.

The Superintendent of Police,
AUCKLAND.

R. Jones
Detective Sergeant 3272
27.2.50.

Director of S.I.

~~SECRET~~

179

Telephone Nos.
REGENT 6050.
WHITEHALL 6789.

SF.411/France/8/B.1.b(MJEB)

BOX No. 500.
PARLIAMENT STREET B.O.,
LONDON, S.W.1.
24 February, 1950.

Dear Mr. Cummings,

Would you please refer to our SF.411/13/B.1.b(MJEB) of 3 February, 1950, which dealt with the present Communist campaign to offset the military advantages accruing to the Western Powers as a result of the American Military Assistance Programme.

Attached is a copy of a circular dated 31 January, 1950, and addressed by M. BAUDIN, General Secretary of the French National Federation of Dockers in Paris to "all dockers of English Ports". The distribution is reported to have been entrusted to an official of the Merseyside area of the British Communist Party.

The reference to American dockers in the last sentence of the circular would appear to be a slip. The French Communist Party paper, "Humanite", quoted on 31 December last a letter couched in identical terms which had been sent on the previous day by the French Federation to American dockers of Atlantic ports. A reference to this letter to the American dockers was made under the date 31 December, 1949, in the "Chronicle of International Events" given in the Soviet periodical, "New Times", No. 2, for 8 January, 1950.

Although the refusal of workers in Western Europe to handle war material was receiving considerable publicity and support in the British "Daily Worker", we had no information when the circular of 31 January came to our notice, to suggest that the British Communist Party had made or was making any particular effort to persuade British workers to strike; the Party appeared to be devoting most of its time and energy to the prosecution of its election campaign. Since that date, however, we have learnt from a delicate source that the Party is in fact running a campaign in the London docks, and probably in other ports, to stop shipments of arms; it appears that the Party's attempts to put this policy across are not being at all well received by the majority of London dockers.

We do not yet know how much effort the Party is devoting to this campaign, nor whether it is specifically directed to counter one category of shipment as against another. The date at which the Party embarked on the campaign is also unknown to us; it is unlikely that such a step would have been occasioned solely by the receipt of a circular from a French trade union. It is possible, however, that it was connected with a visit to Paris, in the latter half of January, paid by George ALLISON, the Party's Industrial Organiser. In the course of this visit, ALLISON met officials of the W.F.T.U., and he may well have also been in touch with the French Communist Party.

We should be glad to hear if copies of this letter or circulars of a similar nature issued by the French National Federation of Dockers, are reported to have been distributed in other countries.

Yours sincerely,

G.R. Kitching

for Sir Percy Sillitoe.

J. Cummings Esq., C.B.E.,
Director of Security Intelligence,
P.O. Box 775,
Wellington,
New Zealand.

1 Enc.

AMF

MJEB/FG

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

178

Copy.

Paris. Le 31 janvier, 1950.

The National Federation of Dockers

to

all the dockers of English Ports.

Dear Comrades,

The French dockers have taken the firm decision to refuse to unload war material supplied to our country by foreign Governments.

The reasons for such a refusal are the following :-

The war of free peoples to liberate the world from barbarian Fascism ended hardly five years ago, and already the warmongers are preparing a new world slaughter.

Contrary to what your rulers, your newspapers and your right-wing trade union leaders are telling you, the French people, and in the first place the French workers, are not willing to wage a war under the leadership and for the profit of capitalists.

They are convinced that your present rulers, as well as the American rulers, are taking the lead in the preparation of war against Soviet Union and Peoples' Democracies, in their own class interests.

Contrary to what you are being told, the Paris Government, which obeys the orders of the United States Government, does by no means represent, either the opinion of the French popular masses, nor the interests of France.

True to our traditions, we, dockers, refuse to lend our helping hands to the preparation of a new war of aggression, particularly since this new war, would be directed against the peoples who have achieved their independence and their freedom and who have created a progressive and equitable regime.

The French workers stand by the dockers.

We are now appealing to you to help us forge the ties in the defence of Peace, which must bind all of us, port workers, who in the past and on many occasions have proved capable of applying proletarian solidarity in our struggles.

The French dockers ask you not to load war material bound for France, since they have taken the decision not to unload it on their side.

They are convinced that you wish to safeguard Peace as much as they do themselves.

By refusing, on your side to load war material, on our side to unload it, we will bring our contribution to the salvation of mankind.

Long live the solidarity of the French and American dockers for the defence of Peace.

For the Secretariat.
The General Secretary :

M. BAUDIN.

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~



150/39. 177
If any reply, please
quote this number:
POLICE DEPARTMENT

WELLINGTON C.1. 15th February, 1950.

MEMORANDUM for

The Superintendent of Police,
WELLINGTON.

I have received from the United Kingdom Security Service a document entitled "The Defence of Peace and the Struggle Against the Warmongers". It reveals the present Communist campaign to offset the military advantages accruing to the Western Powers as a result of the American Military Assistance Programme.

The United Kingdom Security Service ask to be advised of any information that is available concerning the activities in New Zealand along these lines.

The Inspector.
Detective Branch.

John Abel
Insp for Insp.
16.2.50

Humming
Commissioner of Police.

at. Dr. Mackenzie
G. C. H. Connolly
250 Chief. Dr.
81/50.

~~SECRET~~



1.50/39
176
If any reply, please
quote this number:

POLICE DEPARTMENT

WELLINGTON C.1. 15th February, 1950.

MEMORANDUM for

The Superintendent of Police,
AUCKLAND.

I have received from the United Kingdom Security Service a document entitled "The Defence of Peace and the Struggle Against the Warmongers". It reveals the present Communist campaign to offset the military advantages accruing to the Western Powers as a result of the American Military Assistance Programme.

The United Kingdom Security Service ask to be advised of any information that is available concerning the activities in New Zealand along these lines.

*The O/C
Special Branch
S.O. Hall
Supd
17.2.50*

J. Hamming
Commissioner of Police.
The Supd.
Please see report attached
R. Jones
27.2.50

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

175

Telephone Nos.
REGENT 6050.
WHITEHALL 6789.
Telegraphic Address:
SNUFFBOX, LONDON.

BOX No. 500,
PARLIAMENT STREET B.O.,
LONDON, S.W.1.

3 February, 1950

SF.411/13/B.1.b(MJEB)

Dear Mr. Cummings,

You may care to have the attached paper entitled "The Defence of Peace and the Struggle against the Warmongers" regarding the present Communist campaign to offset the military advantages accruing to the Western Powers as a result of the American Military Assistance Programme.

We should be grateful for any information that you may be able to give us about local developments on these lines.

Yours sincerely,

A.R. Mitchell

for Sir Percy Sillitoe

J. Cummings, Esq., C.B.E.,
Director of Security Intelligence,
P.O. Box 775,
New Zealand.

1 ENC.
MJEB/ACH.
AW

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

174

"THE DEFENCE OF PEACE AND THE STRUGGLE
AGAINST THE WARMONGERS"

"The Defence of Peace and the Struggle against the Warmongers" was the title of the report by SUSLOV of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (Bolsheviks) delivered at the meeting of the Cominform which was held in Hungary during the second half of November, 1949, and of one of the resolutions passed by the Information Bureau on that occasion.

"The Communist and Workers' Parties", said SUSLOV, "must utilise all means of struggle to secure a stable and lasting peace, subordinating their entire activity to this which is now their central task.

"It is necessary to work even more persistently to consolidate and extend the movement of the partisans of peace: drawing new sections of the population into this movement and making it the universal and irresistible movement of the day".

SUSLOV suggested the organisations through which this campaign could be carried out.

"Particular attention should be devoted to drawing into the peace movement trade unions, women's, youth, co-operative, sport, cultural-education, religious and other organisations, and also scientists, writers, journalists, cultural workers, parliamentary and other political and public leaders who act in defence of peace and against war".

He then gave instances of the practical work of the World Federation of Trade Unions (W.F.T.U.) in this connection:-

"The World Federation of Trade Unions emerges as an active champion of peace and international co-operation and the organiser of millions of factory and office workers for the struggle against the instigators of a new war.

"Trade union bodies affiliated to the W.F.T.U. play a great role in organising peace supporters. In many countries they are the initiators of the national peace movement and of the formation of national committees in defence of peace.

"Trade unions have taken a leading role in the organisation of strikes and demonstrations of protest against the aggressive North Atlantic agreement, and also in the organisation of popular petitions and other mass measures in defence of peace, national independence and freedom of peoples.

"Peace committees at factories and offices for the formation of which the Paris Peace Congress and the Milan Trade Union Congress call, can and should become the central link in the activity of trade unions in this sphere. Such committees have already been set up in many enterprises in France, Holland, Britain and other countries."

/It was

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

173

- 2 -

It was said to be the task of the working class, i.e. of the Communist and Workers' Parties, to head the peace struggle of all mass public associations, and to give it purposeful and effective direction. Preparations for a new war were stated to be indissolubly linked with the enslavement of the countries of Europe and of other continents by American imperialism. The Marshall Plan, Western Union, and the North Atlantic Pact were described as links in the evil conspiracy against peace and at the same time as links in the chain placed by trans-Atlantic monopolists around the neck of other peoples.

"The duty of Communist and working class parties in capitalist countries is to merge the struggle for national independence with the struggle for peace; ...

.....
"Particularly important tasks confront the Communist Parties of France, Italy, Britain, Western Germany and other countries whose peoples the U.S. imperialists wish to use as cannon fodder in realising their aggressive plans.

"Their duty is to develop, with even greater energy, the struggle for peace to frustrate the criminal designs of the Anglo-American instigators of war."

This report by SUSLOV has since been translated into action by both the World Peace Congress and the Communists working through national organisations associated with the W.F.T.U.

At a meeting of the Executive Bureau of the Permanent Committee of the World Peace Congress held in Paris on 16 December last, the text of a general appeal for peace was drawn up. This document, which was to be placed before all governments, made the following demands:-

- (1) Termination of the armaments race which dooms people to poverty and shatters every hope for welfare. This can be done by cutting down war budgets and armed forces.
- (2) Termination of the monstrous threat of atomic bombardment. This can be done by prohibiting the atomic weapon.
- (3) Termination of intervention against nations, particularly in Indonesia, Malaya and Viet Nam. This can be done by direct and immediate negotiations under the guidance of an international organisation.
- (4) Termination of all reprisals against peace supporters, reprisals aimed at suppressing the resistance of the peoples and at creating conditions for the preparation of war.
- (5) Termination of the war of nerves and restoration of confidence. This can be done by signing a Great-Power peace pact within the framework of the United Nations Organisation.

These decisions of the World Peace Congress were published in the Communist organ "World News and Views" on 31 December, 1949, which also recorded that in France the struggle for peace was taking on more concrete and militant forms. Following the example of dockers in Marseilles and

/Algiers,

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

- 3 -

Algiers, the merchant seamen and dockers of the port of Brest had decided to transport no more war material destined for Viet Nam. In Paris a meeting had been held of soldiers returned from the war front in Viet Nam to demand the ending of the "reactionary war against the people of Indo-China" and to draw up their Charter of Demands, including work, technical training, free medical attention and the withdrawal of the expeditionary force from Viet Nam. A meeting of a thousand railwaymen from the Paris region had called for the stoppage of all raw materials destined for Indo-China, and the union of trade unions of Paris workers (trades council) had called for solidarity with the Viet Nam people and for the development of concrete action to stop the manufacture and transport of war material for Viet Nam.

The same issue of "World News and Views" included a statement issued by the Political Committee of the British Communist Party on 17 December, 1949, under the title "Stop the Drive to War!". The demands made in this statement included the repudiation of the Atlantic Pact and the ending of the war in Malaya. A month later the Executive Committee of the Party issued a manifesto calling for an end of the war in Malaya, the withdrawal of troops and "no transport of munitions or men for war in Malaya."

In Denmark, the Executive Committee of the Danish Dockers Union has demanded from its members refusal to unload any ship carrying war material destined for signatory countries of the Atlantic Pact. Similar action has been taken in Holland and Italy.

Few details are yet available about the part that the trade unions internationals of the W.F.T.U. are to play in the international campaign to counter the flow of war material to Europe under the North Atlantic Pact. A good indication, however, is provided in a statement in a Roumanian journal on the aims of the Transport Workers' Trade Union International, which was formed in Bucharest between 10 - 13 December, 1949:-

"If the enemies of mankind try to bring about another world massacre, the workers and the transport workers' T.U.I. will be in a position to paralyse all traffic on railways, roads and in the air By stopping work they will paralyse the transport activities in the aggressive countries."

An intensification of such efforts in all the countries concerned must be expected to follow the despatch of aid allotted to Europe under the American Military Assistance Programme. In view of the strength of the French Communist Party and of the fact that the bulk of this American military aid is to go to the French army, the anti-war struggle is likely to be keenest in France. Repercussions, however, may be felt by any of the national governments held by the Communists to be within the "imperialist camp."

30 January, 1950.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

File Ref: 171

CROSS REFERENCE

For File No. ex Ref 50/313

21/2/4

Title:

Further relevant information re: World Federation of Trade Union connections with
22. Waterside Workers Union and Communist Party

is filed in file No.

26/4/1

refer also 40/75/6
40/75/9

14-8-50

17-7-50

as folio No.

Date: 29.6.50 26-9-50, 11.8.50, 18.9.50

Cross reference made by

P/ TAYLOR

Initial

Section: R2

Date: ~~21/7/62~~
3/7/62



J.50/313

21/2/4 170
In your reply, please
quote this number:~~SECRET~~POLICE DEPARTMENT,
WELLINGTON C.I., 11th July, 1950.

Original on 26/4/1

MEMORANDUM forThe Superintendent of Police,
CHRISTCHURCH.

The following is the text of a letter received from the United Kingdom Security Service concerning the World Federation of Trade Unions and Communist influence therein:

"You will be aware that the World Federation of Trade Unions is making considerable efforts to extend its influence through the machinery of its Trade Departments (known as Trade Unions Internationals). This issue was raised repeatedly during the W.F.T.U. conferences in Budapest from 10 - 24 May and particular emphasis was laid upon the importance of establishing contacts with those countries in which the national Trade Union organisation is no longer affiliated to the W.F.T.U.

Because the Communists already appear to have a firm footing within the New Zealand Waterside Workers' Union and because of the vital importance of the waterfront to the economic life of the country, we feel that the Seamen and Dockers' T.U.I. is the Trade Department most likely to be interested in New Zealand.

New Zealand's contact with this T.U.I. would appear to be through E.V. ELLIOTT, Federal Secretary of the Australian Seamen's Union. He represented the Waterside Workers of both Australia and New Zealand at the W.F.T.U. conferences in Milan and Marseilles in July 1949, and was elected a vice-president of the Seamen and Dockers' T.U.I. At the recent Budapest conferences, which he also attended, he was elected to the Executive Committee of the W.F.T.U. He returned to the U.K. from Budapest, via Prague, on 16 June and left by air for Australia on 19 June. Certain confidential reports of his activities at Budapest are being studied and should these contain any indication of the intentions of the Seamen and Dockers' T.U.I. towards New Zealand we shall, of course, let you know.

We had already noted from your reports that there is a close liaison between the Waterside Workers of New Zealand and Australia, and our representative in Australia now informs us that James HEALY (Australia) and H. BARNES (New Zealand) have agreed to the formation of a Trans-Tasman Bureau of Waterside Workers.

The indications are that the New Zealand Waterfront Workers' Union is likely to become of increasing international importance. It would be of assistance to us if, at your convenience, you could let us have a short note on this organisation. We should be particularly interested to learn the estimated degree of Communist penetration and to have details of the principal personalities involved. We should be grateful also for any firm information you may have regarding the Trans-Tasman Bureau."

The points mentioned above will be of interest to your Special Branch, and I should be glad of any information that they are able to furnish concerning the subject, and particularly for a report in respect of the last paragraph as a basis for a report to be forwarded to the United Kingdom Security Service concerning the degree of Communist penetration in the New Zealand Waterfront Workers' Union with details of the principal personalities involved.

Bruce Young
Commissioner of Police.

NEW ZEALAND POLICE.

Special Branch
Auckland.2nd. June 1950.

REPORT of Temporary Constable L.W.Wise, T.1997.
relative to Auckland Carpenter's Union Ballot.

I respectfully report having made discreet enquiries in Auckland regarding the Carpenter's Union Ballot, the result of which has now been published.

The campaign preceding the Ballot was intensive on both sides, particularly in the case of the former officials of the old Union. Roy STANLEY and his colleagues spared no expense or energy in a determined effort to regain control of the Union.

Propaganda in the form of pamphlets, samples of which are attached hereto, were distributed to carpenters in the Auckland district, and almost daily, lunch hour meetings were addressed by Roy STANLEY, John Robert FRENCH, and Donald McEWEN. STANLEY and McEWEN addressed lunch hour meetings as far south as Huntly, and I am reliably informed that they received a "cool" reception in that area.

The "militant" ticket comprised of the following candidates ;

Cyril LeRoy MOOR

John Robert FRENCH

Roy STANLEY

Donald McEWEN

Albert William CRISPIN

^{P/K} and Peter Paul PURDUE, all of whom are subjects of Subversive History sheets, and;

Revell John KEARNEY

Leicester Arnold WEIGEL ^{P/K}

and Wilfred Harbury NELSON. ^{P/F}

KEARNEY has not come under notice in this office in connection with any open activity with the Communist Party.

^{P/K} WEIGEL is on record in this office as having donated 5/- to the "People's Voice" Press Fund, vide "People's Voice" newspaper dated 17.7.46, page 5, and 10/- to the "People's Voice" Fighting Fund, vide "People's Voice" newspaper, dated 1.10.47, page 2. Further enquiries will be made regarding WEIGEL with a view to issuing a Subversive History sheet.

^{P/F} NELSON is employed at the Plant Diseases Division of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, as a casual carpenter. He has not come under notice in this office in connection with any open activity with the Communist Party, but he is known to be a sympathiser, if not a Party member, and further enquiries are being made with a view to issuing a Subversive History sheet.

Scrutineers for the "militants" were;

Douglas Murdoch MARTIN
Trevor John Patrick POTTER
Lawrence Gerard MATTHEWS

Frederick William McNAMARA *Card destroyed 28.11.91*
Louis David Honeyman ROBERTSON *SW*
and Harold Francis CALLAGHER. *RF on 19/5/60*

MARTIN, POTTER, and MATTHEWS are subjects of Subversive History sheets.

The Returning Officer was Mr. H.S. HURLE, Assistant Superintendent of the Department of Labour and Employment.

STANLEY has assured the members of the Union, that despite the result of the Ballot, he will "continue to fight in their interests in keeping with the best traditions of the New Zealand Trade Union Movement"

The "press" clipping showing the result of the Ballot is attached hereto.

I have ascertained that when the affairs of the old Carpenter's Union were wound up, it was decided at the country delegates conference which was held in Auckland, that bequests should be made to youth organisations "for the developement of progressive leaders for the future". It was also pointed out "that the Young People's Club had in it's membership, many apprentices including young carpenters who were ^{the} trade unionists and leaders of the future". The conference decided that the office furniture which was not required by the new district office, should be donated to the Auckland Young People's Club. The total value of the furniture, together with a cash donation made to the Auckland Young People's Club by the old Carpenter's Union amounted to £175.0.0.

The Officer in Charge
Special Branch
Auckland.

J. C. Wise
T/Constable 1997.

COMMUNIST BID FAILS

Carpenters Decide

NEW UNION'S "TICKET" RETURNED

Members of the Auckland Carpenters' Union, in a postal ballot for the annual election of their officers, voted by more than two to one in favour of the whole of the present executive's "ticket." Two complete "tickets" were put up for the nine posts, one by the sitting executive, representing the men who broke away from the Communist-led union deregistered during last year's lengthy dispute and the other by former officials of the old union. The latter joined the new organisation to make a bid to resume control on the grounds that the union had been formed by "scabs" and was "boss-controlled."

Of the 2074 members financial at the time the ballot papers were distributed over ten days ago, 1834, or 90 per cent, exercised a vote. Trade unionists throughout the Dominion have awaited the result with considerable interest as it is one of the few occasions on which an independent returning officer has been called in to conduct a postal ballot for the election of union officers.

Counting of Votes

The counting of the votes was done yesterday at the office of the assistant-superintendent of the Department of Labour and Employment, Mr H. S. Hurle, who acted as the returning officer. This occupied the best part of the day and was carried out in the presence of seven scrutineers. Following was the result of the voting, as confirmed by scrutineers last night, the sitting executive's nominees being marked with an asterisk:—

President.—Successful: Owen R. Kemp* 1237; unsuccessful, Cyril L. Moor 593.

Vice-president. — Successful, Clifton T. Hill* 1263; unsuccessful, John R. French 559.

Secretary.—Successful, Laurence D. Murphy* 1222; unsuccessful, Roy Stanley 600.

Organiser.—Successful, Gordon C. Ross* 1231; unsuccessful, Donald McEwen 590.

Executive (five seats).—Successful, Arthur G. Arnold* 1275, Vincent A. Lorrigan* 1229, Eric O. Mortensen* 1263, Reginald G. Ranby* 1215, Allan Raymond* 1226. Unsuccessful: Albert W. Crispin 556, Revell J. Kearney 599, Wilfred H. Nelson 582, Peter Purdue 561, Lester A. Weigel 542.

Exceptional interest was taken in the struggle for the key post of secretary between Mr Murphy, the secretary of the Kōhi-Mission Bay Branch of the Labour Party, and Mr Stanley, the Communist candidate for Onehunga in the last Parliamentary election and former secretary of the New Zealand Carpenters' Union. Mr Murphy has been organiser for the new union during the first 12 months of its existence and Mr Hill, the new vice-president, has been secretary. Only two of the sitting executive, Messrs Arnold and Mortensen, sought re-election. The new executive will assume office at the annual meeting to be held on June 8.

Action Vindicated

Speaking on behalf of the executive last night, Mr Hill said the overwhelming vote in favour of the sitting executive's candidates had vindicated the action that had been taken last year to form a new union. He expressed gratitude to those members who had supported the executive and for the phenomenal interest shown by members as a whole in the ballot.

The following statement was made by Mr Stanley, as secretary of the "rank and file committee": "The result of the election is naturally disappointing. However, the rank and file committee for bona fide unionism and their panel of candidates accept the decision of the rank and file. The membership can rest assured that we will continue to fight in their interests in keeping with the best traditions of the New Zealand trade union movement."

"N. Z. HERALD"
31. 5. 50.

50/768

BITTER AKLD. BALLOT DRAMA

Representations to the returning officer for last-minute changes in procedure have delayed distribution of the voting-papers to enable more than 2000 members of the Auckland Carpenters' Union to elect their officers for the next 12 months by secret ballot.

Much of the old bitterness engendered when the union came into existence after the strike last year (when its predecessor was deregistered by the Government) has been revived.

Led by R. Stanley, the former officers of the old union who have since joined the new union are making a determined bid to gain control.

Electioneering has been conducted with an intensity rivalling a keenly contested local body election.

Candidates in Mr. Stanley's faction claim to have been addressing lunch-hour meetings on major building jobs every working day of the week.

Day after day pamphlets and other literature have poured into carpenters' letter-boxes.

Elaborate precautions have been taken by all concerned to ensure that secrecy of the ballot is completely preserved in order to avoid accusations of unfairness after the verdict is announced.

On instructions of the Department of Labour (which is conducting the ballot), all receipt books and financial records of the union have been handed over to the department for custody.

These included a duplicator stencil used for duplicating ballot papers. After Mr. Stanley's scrutineers had lodged an objection to the use of such ballot papers the department ordered a fresh lot should be properly printed. This was completed yesterday.

-PA

*The Superintendent of Police
Auckland*

*Revised
Commission*

O/C Special Branch 5.50

G. Harley
Superintendent,
19th May, 1950

Const. Wise

R. Jones

Lt. Sgt. 22.5.50

*The O/C. Special Branch
Report here with, please*

*L. S. Wise
Hand 1949
3.6.50.*



NINE POINTS FOR A REAL UNION

HERE is the nine-point programme put forward by the rank and file campaign committee set up to restore bona fide unionism among Auckland carpenters.

This programme will be achieved if the nominees of the committee are supported in the coming union elections. The committee's nominees are the team of outstanding trade unionists who were the officers of the Auckland branch of the New Zealand Carpenters and Joiners' Union throughout its struggle for justice for the members.

● REHABILITATE OUR UNION IN THE EYES OF THE TRADE UNION MOVEMENT

First, **REMOVE FROM OFFICE EVERY INDIVIDUAL WHO PLAYED THE EMPLOYERS' GAME.** All present holders of office in the "new union" helped the employers to weaken our struggle for justice.

Second, **GET BACK INTO THE TRADE UNION MOVEMENT.** This is impossible under present leadership. We must remove from the records of the New Zealand trade union movement our present shameful title of "scab union."

Third, **GET BACK CONTACT WITH THE REST OF NEW ZEALAND CARPENTERS.** This, also, is impossible under present leadership. Our isolation from the New Zealand Carpenters and Joiners' Union is a weakness to us and to them.

Fourth, **COMPLETE SUPPORT FOR THE PRESENT DEMAND** of the New Zealand Car-

penters and Joiners' Union and other unions for an **IMMEDIATE WAGE INCREASE OF £2 5/- A WEEK.**

● **REHABILITATE OUR UNION IN THE EYES OF OUR OWN MEMBERS**

First, **END THE DICTATORSHIP OF THE EXECUTIVE.** Rules must be amended to make the executive the **SERVANTS** and not the **MASTERS** of the rank and file. **ALL MATTERS** must be decided, as in the past, by the rank and file, and the executive and officials must do what they are told by the membership.

Second, **STOP OUTSIDE INTERFERENCE IN OUR UNION AFFAIRS.** In everything, including the conduct of secret ballots, the control of union affairs must be in the hands of trade unionists, not outsiders.

Third, **FULLY RESTORE THE JOB DELEGATE SYSTEM.** It used to be the first line defence of our members' working conditions. The present leaders have shown a glaring lack of enthusiasm for the job delegate system.

Fourth, **NO MORE FANCY WAGES FOR UNION OFFICIALS.** Auckland carpenters have always been hostile to the milking of union funds for officials to get well-paid billets.

Fifth, **RESTORE THE PRINCIPLES OF GENUINE TRADE UNIONISM IN THE AUCKLAND CARPENTERS' UNION.** This means: consulting the rank and file by any and every means on all policy questions; complete loyalty in carrying out rank and file majority decisions; unity of the union against splitters; close co-operation with the rest of the trade union movement; service to members, not to the employers; no indirect subsidies from master builders (for example, ads in "The Level").

FIGHT FOR BONA FIDE UNIONISM

A Bona Fide Union Again..

"This meeting pledges itself to work for the election in the Auckland Carpenters and Joiners' Union of those who have proved in the past their single devotion to the interests of the membership."

This resolution was unanimously passed by a Saturday morning meeting of 200 carpenters in the Auckland Trades Hall on April 15. Someone suggested passing the hat around and £28 14/4 was contributed on the spot for the fight for a genuine trade union.

The meeting expressed its strong disgust at the shameful position Auckland carpenters are in: that they are forced to join a union the Federation of Labour has branded as a "scab union."

..For Auckland Carpenters

The meeting thought that only the election of officers of the former union would scrub out the brand, and restore bona fide unionism among Auckland carpenters. The old officers were unanimously endorsed by the meeting.

The rank and file expressed its desire for leaders of known experience and ability for the tough times ahead. The workers face a reactionary Government and a threat of slump: standards of living are already being attacked. The former officers of the union have proved themselves hard fighters for the rank and file, and with the backing of the members won many of the conditions existing today.

(Published by the Rank and File Campaign Committee)

ENDORSED BY THE RANK AND FILE

A TESTED TEAM FOR A HARD ROAD

EXAMINE THEIR RECORDS:

PRESIDENT: CYRIL MOOR

Active in the union since the last depression. First elected as executive member of the old Auckland district council in 1935, became secretary of the Mount Albert branch (later amalgamated with Auckland) in 1937. In 1940, elected secretary of the Auckland branch of the union, and held that position until entry into the army. Overseas three years, serving in the desert and Italy. Elected to the branch executive again on his return from overseas, and later became president. Re-elected to that position annually until the murder of the union last October. At various times, represented the union on the Auckland Trades Council, Auckland Labour Representation Committee and the Auckland Apprenticeship Committee, also at Federation of Labour, Labour Party and National Carpenters' Union conferences.

★ ★

VICE-PRESIDENT: JACK FRENCH



Came to the fore as a job delegate on many big jobs before and during the war (Mason Bros., Silos, Marble Co., Mangere Crossing Camp, etc.). At the big Sylvia Park stores job, where there were about 200 men, was chairman of the job committee; led the struggle which resulted in retaining afternoon smoko. After two years as a member of the Auckland branch executive, elected organiser in 1943. Members showed their confidence in him by returning him to that position at every election, until the dissolution of the union a few months ago. Following an anti-union newspaper campaign in 1948, he was re-elected with a two-to-one majority. For three years represented the union on the Auckland Labour Representation Committee, and was a member of the L.R.C. executive; member of the Auckland Trades Council for the last six years. Did outstanding work as chairman of the Trades Council's Building Investigation Committee which exposed many breaches and abuses of the building regulations during the war. Has had wide experience as a union assessor; taken part in scores of negotiations with individual employers; assessor for the naval base dockyard agreement in 1946; assessor for the New Zealand carpenters' award on three occasions; resident executive member of the National Carpenters' Union from 1946 to the time when he resigned in order to join the "new union."

SECRETARY: ROY STANLEY

Recognised as one of the most able men in the New Zealand Labour movement. The Rt. Hon. P. Fraser said in the House of Representatives (Hansard, 27/9/45): "Mr. Stanley is one of the ablest trade union representatives in this country and has been one of the most co-operative during the war period." Mr. W. Anderton, M.P., also stated in the House (Hansard, 17/10/45): "Mr. Stanley is one of the most able men in New Zealand's industrial life." The measure of Roy Stanley's ability and loyalty to the working class is that he has been offered many well-paid billets to tempt him away from the trade union movement, but these bribes have been refused.

Served in World War I, returned wounded after three years. Took part in unemployed struggles during the depression; executive member of the Mount Albert Unemployed Workers' branch, executive member of the Council against War and Fascism, president of the Free Speech Council in 1934.

Became executive member Auckland carpenters' branch in 1934, and country organiser in 1936, travelling thousands of miles at all hours of day and night to build the union after the depression. Has given full-time service to the union since that time until last December. Appointed national secretary of the car-

ORGANISER: DON McEWEN

Joined Auckland carpenters' union in 1927 after apprenticeship, and elected to executive 1934. Thereafter re-elected each year, except for two years when he went into furniture trade, one year of which he was on furniture trade union executive. Represented furniture trade union at the important Unity Conference of 1938 which unified the trade union movement in New Zealand. President of old Mount Albert carpenters' union branch. Overseas in army. On return became president Auckland branch, held that office three years until election as secretary. Town and country organising as required during past five years, doing country organising at time when overtime was increased to time and a half and full overtime. Has represented union on Auckland L.R.C., also on Trades Council since 1938, and at various Federation of Labour conferences. Delegate to national conferences since 1943, member Auckland apprenticeship committee, assessor for award. Has in the past been job delegate on many occasions, including later stages of Middlemore Hospital job, and H. G. Short, Onehunga, and chairman of job delegates. During army term was chairman of camp committee and editor of wall newspaper. Secretary Auckland branch during the dispute and member national executive of New Zealand union. Now job delegate, Street's mental hospital job.



★ ★

EXECUTIVE: FRED KEARNEY

Did an outstanding job as employment officer during last year's dispute, when he succeeded in placing scores of locked-out members. Has been active in the union ever since joining in 1944; became an outstanding leader on Residential's Tamaki job from 1946, being chairman of the five carpenters' delegates; won many victories for the workers. These included exposure of a travelling time racket which finally resulted in the winning of £300 in back pay. Took great interest in apprentices. Executive member of the old union from 1947 to the dissolution of the union. Represented the union on Auckland L.R.C., Auckland Trades Council, Auckland carpenters' district conference and the National Carpenters' Union conference. Prominent member of the Direction Committee in the big dispute. On return to work, was victimised. Now delegate for a Hall Construction job.



EXECUTIVE: BERT CRISPIN

A Rehab. trainee, who joined the union in 1945. Became an executive member of the union in 1948. Before joining the armed forces, was member of the executive of the Auckland Drivers' Union for two years, and represented that union on the L.R.C. and Trades Council. After war service, battled for ex-servicemen in other organisations besides the union. For five years, and still, a member of the Auckland Rehabilitation Committee; five years executive member Auckland branch, Home Servicemen's Association (president of the association in 1947-8); member of the Auckland War Memorial Committee. In the past took active part in school committee work. At present is job delegate for M.B.M. job.

EXECUTIVE: "BLUE" WEIGEL

Has done good work for the union as delegate on a number of big jobs, for example Wiseman's Newmarket job, Kauri Timber Penrose, and Avondale School. Member of the union executive for three years until the winding up of the union; has temporarily acted as organiser of the union for several periods. Represented the Auckland branch of the union on the Auckland Trades Council, Waitakere Labour Representation Committee, and at various carpenters' national and district conferences. As a member of the Direction Committee during the dispute, did an outstanding job on the organising side. In the army several years.

EXECUTIVE: PETER PURDUE

Before coming to New Zealand in 1939, job delegate at age of 18 in six months' strike in Dublin, which won wage increase of 14d an hour. Carried job delegate credentials from Amalgamated Society of Woodworkers on joining union in New Zealand. On Fiji C.C.U. job, when the workers' delegate was victimised for fighting for better conditions, took over as delegate. Delegate on big wartime steel stores job. Delegate for men engaged for American Construction Unit for Islands, which finally did not sail because Americans refused to guarantee good conditions. Delegate on Lower Hutt job when poor camp conditions led to showdown with Fletcher and a victory for workers. When carpenters transferred to shipbuilding during war, was job delegate during big and successful struggle for travelling time for shipwrights; member shipwrights' union executive. Army for 2 1/2 years, wounded in action in Italy. Member Auckland carpenters' executive several years. Member Napier Street School Committee two years, secretary of the school's dental clinic. Has represented the union on Auckland L.R.C., Trades Council, and several district conferences.

EXECUTIVE: BILL NELSON

The only non-member of the old executive—takes the place of Don Buffitt, who has left the trade. Did a fine job on the organising side as member of the Direction Committee during the dispute. Was also an honest and militant job delegate for Shorts before the dispute. One of the first Rehab. trainees in Auckland, and a foundation member of the Trainees' Association. One of those early trainees who fought for the extension of the scheme to two years, which has benefited all trainees since. Besides union activities, is executive member Roskill Co-operative Society, president of the Three Kings Kindergarten, and a committee member of the Peace and Anti-Conscription movement.

penters' union 1941, and continued until his voluntary resignation "to fight for restoration of bona fide unionism." Was Auckland secretary as well as national secretary during the war years. Served on Defence Construction Committee. Has represented the union for many years at all important conferences and meetings.

He has been the advocate for New Zealand carpenters for all awards since 1939, and was an assessor prior to that. Member of the New Zealand Apprenticeship Committee until his recent resignation. As delegate of union to Auckland Trades Council, held several offices, including vice-president and national councillor.

Has also represented the whole trade union movement; represented the New Zealand Federation of Labour in standard wage cases of 1945 and 1947; member of the Apprenticeship Commission which was responsible for many reforms; advocate for the Federation of Labour in the apprentices' test case in 1945 (big increases for apprentices were won). Represented New Zealand trade unionists at the inaugural conference of the World Federation of Trade Unions, 1945, and workers' adviser to the L.L.O. conference of that year.

ROY STANLEY IS A SYMBOL TO TENS OF THOUSANDS OF NEW ZEALAND WORKERS, HONEST, CLASS-CONSCIOUS TRADE UNIONISTS WHO REFUSE TO BE BOUGHT OR FRIGHTENED INTO BETRAYAL OF THEIR FELLOW WORKERS, BUT FIGHT FOR JUSTICE, PEACE AND SECURITY.

A TESTED TEAM . . .

This is the team that, with the loyal backing of the rank and file, made the carpenters one of the most respected and admired unions in the country. Our prestige as fighters for the standards of workers stood second to none in the eyes of the trade union movement.

Carpenters during the past 15 years have been the pioneers in establishing many new conditions for the building industry. We will fight for better conditions still.

The Auckland union was attacked, deregistered and disbanded because the employers FEARED the prestige of the union and its ability to win victories for its members. Unable to defeat the union on their own, they summoned many allies, including a few in our own ranks.

The present officers of the Auckland carpenters' union allowed the builders to use them against their fellow workers. Formation of the new union was a manoeuvre by the master builders and Government to defeat the carpenters' struggle for justice.

. . . TO PUT OUR UNION . . .

The employers hope, through the present union leaders, to keep the workers where they want them, and gradually destroy all that has been won in the past. These plans can be checkmated by rooting the builders' pals out of office and putting back the old fighting team.

AUCKLAND CARPENTERS—TOUGH TIMES AHEAD CALL FOR A STRONG UNION UNDER COURAGEOUS AND HONEST LEADERS.

YOUR CHOICE is between employer-collaborators, who helped break our struggle for justice, and tried and tested leaders whose record is second to none in the trade union movement.

Headquarters of the Rank & File Campaign Committee: 312 Karangahape Road, Auckland C.2.

. . . BACK ON THE MAP

"It is a terrible crime when men conspire with the employers to defeat the just demands of their fellows. The Federation of Labour conference voiced the feelings of all honest trade unionists when it determined that 'under no circumstances will this conference recognise the scab carpenters' union in Auckland.'"—SAM IKIN, secretary, Otago Carpenters and Joiners' Union.

CRIMES

AGAINST

CARPENTERS

No blacker crime can be committed by worker against fellow worker than the actions of present officials of the Auckland Carpenters and Joiners' Union against the carpenters of Auckland.

THESE TRADE UNION CRIMES, BEGUN IN THE PAST, ARE CONTINUING INTO THE PRESENT, AND WILL GO ON IN THE FUTURE, UNLESS RANK AND FILE CARPENTERS CLEANSE THE UNION OF EMPLOYERS' AGENTS.

Crimes Against . . .

1st. CRIME: SURRENDER OF THE CLAIMS OF CARPENTERS FOR AN ADEQUATE LIVING WAGE.

Here are facts YOU ALREADY KNOW. Draw your own conclusions:

FACT 1: Hill, Murphy and Co. gave themselves a wage of £13 a week. After the union was formed last year, they went forward for a new award. The union's representatives came to a COMPLETE AGREEMENT with the employers. **IT WAS FOR £7 16/8 A WEEK, OR £5 A WEEK LESS THAN THEY PAID THEMSELVES.**

FACT 2: Fearing a further betrayal of the membership, OLD UNION SUPPORTERS demanded a special union meeting to discuss claims for the next award. After a fight they got a meeting. With 230 present, the meeting, held on February 15 last, decided by an OVERWHELMING MAJORITY that the wage claim should be the equivalent of 5/7 an hour—£11 3/4 a week, the same claim as the New Zealand Carpenters and Joiners' Union. (This amount is necessary to restore wages to pre-war standards.) **HILL AND CO. SPOKE AGAINST THE CLAIM AND DID THEIR BEST TO STOP THE MEETING REACHING DECISIONS, BUT THEY WERE OVERWHELMED BY ABOUT TEN TO ONE.**

FACT 3: On April 24, carpenters reading their daily newspapers were astounded to read that, though the award still had a full two months to run, the union officials had already met the employers—**AND WERE ASKING FOR £1 3/4 A WEEK LESS THAN THE DEMANDS OF THE RANK AND FILE—AND £4 A WEEK LESS THAN THEY PAID THEMSELVES.**

In reducing the claim from 5/7 to 4/6 without authority, Hill, Kemp, Murphy and Co. have:

- Defied the decision of the members of the union.
- Scabbed on every carpenter in Auckland, scabbed on the New Zealand Carpenters and Joiners' Union (whose claim for 5/7 is now before the Arbitration Court).

"FOURTH, COMPLETE SUPPORT FOR THE PRESENT DEMAND OF THE NEW ZEALAND CARPENTERS AND JOINERS' UNION AND OTHER UNIONS FOR AN IMMEDIATE WAGE INCREASE OF £2 5/- A WEEK."—Policy statement, Rank and File Committee.

OFFICIALS OF THE OLD UNION, NOMINEES OF THE RANK AND FILE IN THE COMING ELECTION, HAVE ALWAYS FOUGHT FOR THE HIGHEST POSSIBLE WAGE RATE FOR CARPENTERS.

They will continue to fight because builders are making scandalous profits, and many refuse a decent wage to the workers who make their profits.

NOTE WELL: Neither employers nor Arbitration Court give higher wages until the workers show themselves DETERMINED and UNITED in their demand.

The urgent need of Auckland carpenters for a higher wage to meet the dwindling pound IS BEING SABOTAGED by employers' agents in the union.

CARPENTERS AND JOINERS NEED A MILITANT LEADERSHIP TO LEAD THE FIGHT FOR A JUST WAGE

. . . Carpenters

Crimes Against Carpenters

2nd CRIME: CONSPIRACY WITH THE EMPLOYERS TO ROB AUCKLAND CARPENTERS OF ADEQUATE TRAVELLING TIME.

More facts you already know:

FACT 1: The slashing of travelling time—even on the inadequate basis that existed then—was the main cause of the 1949 dispute when by 1700 to 29 a go-slow was decided on. The dispute was won time after time by the workers; the employers were saved only by outside intervention. **One of the moves to defeat the workers was the organisation of a new union by the employers.** ("We've got you b—s beat," said V. E. Haughey. "WE'VE formed another union.") In the new union's new award, Murphy and Co. agreed to the ditching of all those members who travel long distances. They accepted the clause that had been rejected by 1700 carpenters. (To popularise their friends in the union, the employers agreed to a minimum travelling time of two hours a week.)

FACT 2: At the special union meeting of February 15 last, the members BY AN OVERWHELMING MAJORITY directed the union to fight for a more just travelling time clause. They called for payment for ALL TRAVELLING beyond a mile and a half from the worker's home, for EVERYONE covered by the award, carpenters and joiners. This was carried with over 200 in support and about a dozen voting against.

FACT 3: Kemp, Hill, Murphy and Co. THREW OVERBOARD this demand of the rank and file. They took forward the old unjust clause, with a few minor alterations.

Murphy and Co. have set back perhaps for years the struggle for a travelling time clause that will be just and fair to EVERYBODY.

The nominees of the Rank and File Campaign Committee have ALWAYS FOUGHT on behalf of those members who are forced to travel long distances to the job, and for those members employed in the shop of the employer. Our claim is that travelling time should be paid for all travel except the first mile and a half from the worker's home, and for all carpenters and joiners. The Court so far has given only patched-up compromises that satisfied only a few. But this injustice must and will be removed in time, if carpenters and joiners are prepared to struggle for it.

The Team

President: C. L. Moor.
Vice - President: J. R. French.
Secretary: R. Stanley.
Organiser: D. McEwen.
Executive: R. J. Kearney,
P. Purdue, W. H. Nelson, A. W. Crispin and L. A. Weigel.

CARPENTERS AND JOINERS NEED A MILITANT LEADERSHIP FOR THE WINNING OF JUST TRAVELLING TIME

3rd CRIME: Neglect of the splendid job delegate system, the workers' first line of defence in preserving conditions.

Here are further facts which you may or may not know:

FACT 1: Murphy, Hill and Co. have shown the greatest reluctance about the job delegates. The old union had over 70 delegates; now there are only one-third of this number.

FACT 2: Not a single job delegate was functioning until the supporters of bona fide unionism joined up with the new union, after the old union was outlawed by Parliament. Even then, the executive wanted, NOT DELEGATES APPOINTED BY THE MEN ON THE JOB, BUT "JOB REPRESENTATIVES" APPOINTED BY THE DICTATORIAL EXECUTIVE.

FACT 3: No attempt was made to hold delegates' meetings until Murphy and Co. were forced to do so by Don McEwen and others. It is plain that the employers' agents intended to let the job delegate system die out.

"THIRD, FULLY RESTORE THE JOB DELEGATE SYSTEM. IT USED TO BE THE FIRST LINE OF DEFENCE OF OUR MEMBERS' WORKING CONDITIONS. THE PRESENT LEADERS HAVE SHOWN A GLARING LACK OF ENTHUSIASM FOR THE JOB DELEGATE SYSTEM."—Policy statement, Rank and File Committee.

CARPENTERS AND JOINERS NEED A MILITANT LEADERSHIP TO DEVELOP FURTHER MEMBERS' PROTECTION UNDER THE JOB DELEGATE SYSTEM

The rank and file nominees, officers of the old union, will fight for the job delegate system. They were responsible for building it in the past.

Bosses' agents don't want the job delegate system. They fear the rank and file, and want to keep all power in their own hands.

4th CRIME: Dictatorial control by a few officials, and insolent contempt for the rank and file without parallel in the long history of our union.

Facts again as to activities of Hill, Murphy and Kemp:

FACT 1: Reduced the wage claim decision of their members' meeting (already mentioned).

FACT 2: Threw overboard the travelling time decision of this meeting, as well as several other claims.

FACT 3: Refused to allow the rank and file to appoint assessors for the award, at this same meeting of February 15.

FACT 4: Tried to throw off the apprenticeship committee, behind the backs of the membership, three men who have devoted years of service to apprentices, and to replace them with three appointees of the executive. Instead of asking the three members for their resignation, and putting the question to a democratic vote, they tried to ring in their nominees by taking

"FIRST, END THE DICTATORSHIP OF THE EXECUTIVE. RULES MUST BE AMENDED TO MAKE THE EXECUTIVE THE SERVANTS AND NOT THE MASTERS OF THE RANK AND FILE. ALL MATTERS MUST BE DECIDED, AS IN THE PAST, BY THE RANK AND FILE, AND THE EXECUTIVE AND OFFICIALS MUST DO WHAT THEY ARE TOLD BY THE MEMBERSHIP."—Policy statement, Rank and File Committee.

an application to the Arbitration Court. The three members said they were prepared to resign, AND WOULD HAVE DONE SO BEFORE IF ASKED, provided the rank and file was allowed to make the appointment. The Court refused to make a decision and left Hill and Co. to settle the matter in the proper, constitutional way, by democratic discussion and election.

FACT 5: Murphy, Hill and Co. have made public admissions that they don't take instructions from the rank and file members, in spite of the fact that the rule says: "Subject to the control of any general or special meeting the affairs of the union shall be managed . . . by a management committee."

HILL (in the box in the Arbitration Court when this rule was quoted to him: "I don't think the rule means the executive is under the control of the rank and file of the union. The executive controls the union. The executive is outside the control of the rank and file of the union.")

MURPHY, to the special meeting on the award claims (quoted by "The Level"): "The assessors were in no way bound or compelled to accept any claim, remit or suggestion put forward by the meeting."

KEMP, at the same special meeting (from report in "The Level"): "A member demanded that the assessors [for the award proceedings] be appointed then and there at that meeting. The chairman (Peters) ruled that the executive had power to appoint the assessors, therefore he would not accept the motion. This was immediately challenged by the mover and the vice-president (Kemp) took the chair. The mover stated that the old union always elected its assessors at its meeting. The chairman replied by reading rule 27 and refused to accept the motion." The assessors were appointed by the executive.

Final settlement of all matters by the rank and file has always been the practice of the rank and file candidates, officers of the former union, who are pledged to remove the dictators from office. Even minor questions have been taken to the rank and file. **THERE IS NOT A SINGLE CASE ON RECORD WHERE A MAJORITY DECISION HAS BEEN FLOUTED BY THE OFFICERS IN THE PAST.**

AUCKLAND CARPENTERS,

who showed such magnificent solidarity in the dispute, will not tolerate further these crimes against them.

Headquarters of the Rank and File Campaign Committee: 312 Karangahape Road, Auckland C.2.



AUCKLAND CARPENTERS:

Sweep out of office the fellow travellers of the employers and restore bona fide unionism!

Issued by the Carpenters' Rank and File Campaign Committee for a Bona Fide Union.

Artcraft Press Ltd.
3000/5/50

Crimes Against Carpenters

"Under no circumstances will this conference recognise the scab union in Auckland."—Minutes of the 1949 conference, New Zealand Federation of Labour, page 28.

Z.

PUT IT THERE!



Every bona fide unionist knows the issue—clean or scab unionism. Every clean unionist knows how to vote. I hope and believe the result will be a mighty

victory for clean unionism.

—Message from Jock Barnes to Rank and File Carpenters' Election Committee.

CLOSE THE RANKS . .

In the struggle for higher wages, we need a strong, militant carpenters' union. Auckland.—Toby Hill, watersiders' national secretary.

At this time of savage attacks on our living standards by the Holland employers' Government, Auckland carpenters STAND ALONE.

We are cold-shouldered by the rest of the trade union movement: we can't affiliate to our fellow unionists.

WE ARE ON THE OUTER WITH THE WHOLE TRADE UNION MOVEMENT SO LONG AS THE UNION HAS ITS PRESENT OFFICERS.

Decent unionists will have nothing to do with us. The 1949 Federation of Labour conference refused us recognition.

This means that we are

- Debarred from helping to shape national trade union policy;
- Debarred from getting the backing of other unions in the fight for higher wages and against cuts;
- **DEBARRED FROM ADDING OUR FAIR SHARE TO THE COMING FIGHT FOR OUR FAMILIES AGAINST THE WORKER-HATING GOVERNMENT.** We are at the mercy of the employers by our isolation.

From the Mangakino local executive of the N.Z. Workers' Union, signed by M. M. McDonald, chairman, and D. Ross, secretary:

"We greet with enthusiasm the determination of genuine trade unionists among the Auckland carpenters to restore an honest and sincere leadership to the Auckland carpenters' union."

"It must now be clear to the great majority of Auckland carpenters that their interests and welfare, their job conditions and rates of pay will be neither protected nor improved under the present officials. It must be just as clear that so long as the present officials remain in office the Auckland carpenters will remain outside the ranks of their national union and the trade union movement. This can only play into the hands of the employers. It is not in the interests of Auckland carpenters, BUT IT IS IN THE INTERESTS OF HIGH-SALARIED UNION OFFICIALS, AND ALL THOSE WHO DESIRE TO PLACE FURTHER BURDENS OF INCREASED PRICES, ETC., ON THE BACKS OF THE WORKERS."

"Unity in the ranks of carpenters is necessary for them to play their part for higher living standards, security and peace."

DEPLORABLE

The present position of Auckland carpenters is deplorable, with a leadership incompetent, unwilling and unable to improve your living standards. The remedy is in your hands. Clean the slate in this election, and then you can resume your place in the bona fide trade union movement.—From Toby Hill, National Secretary, N.Z. Waterside Workers' Union.

One thing will change all that: **CHANGING THE OFFICERS OF THE UNION.** Auckland carpenters have this opportunity in the coming election.

The Rank and File Committee's candidates have had messages of congratulation, support and best wishes from trade unionists all over New Zealand. (A few of these are given.)

All decent unionists want Auckland carpenters back in the trade union family as soon as possible.

The trade union movement needs the Auckland carpenters, who have proved in the past their ability to defend conditions by militant struggle.

And Auckland carpenters need the trade union movement.

PROMINENT TRADE UNIONISTS SAY . .

"I hope that your stalwarts win out in this election."—Secretary of an important miners' union.

"Herewith a cheque to help the stalwarts in the final stages of the struggle."—Secretary of a waterside workers' branch.

"Dear Roy,—I trust your campaign meets with the success it deserves, that the forces of reaction are routed, and that the Auckland carpenters' union is restored to honest leadership."—John Roberts, secretary, Canterbury Clothing Trades Union.

"I trust the results of your election will restore the union to honest leadership representing bona fide trade unionists. You can publish in any way you like my personal message of good wishes for final victory over the scabs and employers' union."—S. B. Macdonald, secretary, Dunedin Waterside Workers' Union.

"Congratulations to the bona fide unionists for their campaign."—A. McDonald, secretary, New Zealand Bakers' Union.

"The ending of the influence of employer-sponsored 'unionism' in the Auckland building industry is imperative for the wellbeing of the New Zealand trade union movement generally. Every honest unionist will wish success to those militant unionists who kept the standard of the working class aloft during the carpenters' struggle against the forces of the State and the employers. You certainly have my best wishes for success at the forthcoming election."—Bill Richards, National President of the Tramways Union.

CLEAN OUT THE EMPLOYERS' AGENTS FROM THE LEADERSHIP OF THE UNION, AND JOIN UP AGAIN WITH THE TRADE UNION FAMILY.

"That £100 be voted to the campaign for bona fide trade unionism among Auckland carpenters and joiners."

This was the decision unanimously passed by delegates from branches throughout New Zealand at the April conference of the New Zealand Carpenters and Joiners' Union.

For the first time, there was no delegation from Auckland city.

Auckland carpenters like Roy Stanley were the driving force in the formation of the National Union.

CONGRATULATIONS

"This executive congratulates its former officials on their decision to contest the election in the union with a view to bringing the union back to bona fide trade unionists."—From the Auckland carpenters' branch executive, now located in Hamilton.

Third, GET BACK CONTACT WITH THE REST OF NEW ZEALAND CARPENTERS. This, also, is impossible under present leadership. Our isolation from the New Zealand Carpenters and Joiners' Union is a weakness to us and to them.—Rank and File policy statement.

Auckland carpenters' leaders were prominent in building unity out of a host of small district bodies. Auckland had provided the New Zealand Carpenters and Joiners' Union with most of its national officers from its beginning.

But they could not attend the 1950 conference.

In the eyes of the National Union, and in the eyes of every carpenter throughout New Zealand, our union is not a bona fide trade union. THEY HAVE NO DEALINGS WITH IT.

Auckland carpenters will remain isolated from their fellow tradesmen until the present officers are removed and their places filled by bona fide unionists.

Three Past Presidents

The three presidents holding office in the Auckland carpenters and joiners' branch prior to Cyril Moor and Don McEwen have all sent good wishes to the Rank and File Committee for the campaign:

A. P. KAY (1936-7)

"I would appeal to all members of our union past and present who have the interests of our organisation at heart and do not want to see an employers' union functioning in our trade to give the present campaign committee for bona fide unionism every help possible. . . I want to congratulate the immediate past officers of our union on the improved conditions of our awards during the past ten years."

J. B. McCORMACK (1938-9)

"I am uncompromisingly on the side of unity. The national union was attained only by arduous labour and persistent struggle and nothing must be allowed to disrupt it. Splinter groups of any colour or kind are helpless to preserve the hard-won privileges of the workers: only by unity can this be achieved. Auckland must again take its rightful place inside the national organisation."

T. KELLY (1940-41)

"I look to all trade unionists, especially carpenters and joiners in Auckland, to range up alongside our 'fighting back' committee and nominees for election in the carpenters' union in Auckland. That travesty of a trade union was conceived, sponsored, financed and legalised by that combination of bedfellows: builders, Employers' Federation, Chambers of Commerce, 'Labour' politicians, industrial high-ups and a handful of Auckland carpenters."

WELLINGTON—"All the best for your effort in June. You have my branch's and my own best wishes in the endeavour to re-establish the carpenters' union in Auckland."—Wellington Carpenters and Joiners' Union branch, in forwarding a cheque for £35 3/6.

DUNEDIN—"In the forthcoming election for officers and executive of the new union, I sincerely hope the members will recognise its initiators as the Judases who sold them, and consign them to the limbo of the damned, and elect those staunch trade unionists who have so consistently shown that the interests of their fellows are paramount."—Letter from the secretary of the Otago Carpenters and Joiners' Union.

JOB DECISION—The district secretary for the Auckland branch of the Carpenters and Joiners' Union (Roy Tibby) has written conveying the support of bona fide trade unionists on the Forest Products job at Tokoroa for their Auckland mates who are contesting the Auckland election. They send their sincere hope that the union will again be brought to a clean, solid organisation run in the interests of its members.

Our fellow carpenters look to Auckland carpenters and joiners for the final decisive victory in the 1949 dispute by an overwhelming defeat of the employers' agents in the union. Already finance has been generously provided by carpenters for the campaign to oust the present leadership of the union.

End the isolation of Auckland carpenters from their fellow carpenters in the rest of New Zealand.

EVERY VOTE FOR THE RANK AND FILE CANDIDATES IS A STEP FORWARD TO THE FOLD OF THE NATIONAL CARPENTERS' UNION.

... BACK IN THE UNION FOLD

OVER TO YOU

AUCKLAND CARPENTERS EARNED THE ADMIRATION OF ALL HONEST WORKERS BY STANDING FIRM FOR FOURTEEN BITTER WEEKS IN THE 1949 CARPENTERS' DISPUTE. OUR FELLOW WORKERS ARE CONFIDENT WE WILL SHOW THE SAME DEVOTION TO BONA FIDE UNIONISM IN THIS ELECTION.

But it is not enough to win. Make it AN OVERWHELMING VICTORY.

Don't throw your vote on the mantelpiece. Show the world the high trade union quality of Auckland carpenters by inflicting a crushing, overwhelming, final defeat on the employers' agents. LEAVE NO DOUBT THAT AUCKLAND CARPENTERS ARE STAUNCH TO THE LAST MAN.

THESE JOBS ARE ON RECORD

Up to time of writing (May 9) the candidates have been on the road six working days. Despite the hostility of many employers, lunch hour meetings have been held every day and 307 members have attended. On every job visited so far, a resolution of support for the Rank and File candidates and their nine-point policy has been carried.

In all cases except where otherwise stated the support has been UNANIMOUS. These are the jobs up to date to have declared themselves:

PENROSE C.C. ABATTOIRS (one dissentient)	FLETCHER HARVEY'S JOB RESIDENTIAL C.C., PANMURE	HALL C.C. PENROSE R. WHALE'S JOB
S.M.A. (58 present, 3 dissentients)	PENROSE C.C. MENTAL HOSP.	McLEOD'S OTAHUHU JOB
McLEOD'S SCHOOL JOB, Tamaki	CARMINE & HOPKINS' JOB	McLEOD STATE HOUSING (ORAKEI)
McLEOD'S MECHANICS BAY Job	HALL C.C. CHAMBERS JOB	

MANY OTHER JOB MEETINGS HAVE BEEN ARRANGED . . . BE IN!

SOME GREETINGS FROM THE RANK & FILE

Extracts from letters received from rank and file members

"Best of luck in the campaign for eliminating the scab outfit."

"I am now on the retired list and on Social Security. But here is 2/6 for your funds to help clean out the scabs."

"May you have every support in your campaign."

"I am certain the carpenters of Auckland in this election will belt the day-lights out of the scabs who sold them to the employers."

"We the undersigned are wholeheartedly behind you."

"The hiding the bona fide unionists will give the scabs in this election will expose to the world the phoney propaganda of McLagan, Baxter and other misleaders of labour during our dispute."

"Sorry I can't make this 5/- more, but I am on the retired list now, but still very much interested in militant unionism. Best of luck in the elections."

D DAY

A big welcome hand has been given to Rank and File candidates visiting the jobs round Auckland. On one big job the delegate welcomed Jack French with a wide smile, a warm handshake and the remark: "We're all behind you here. And all waiting impatiently for D Day."

CANDIDATES FOR BONA FIDE UNIONISM

PRESIDENT: C. L. MOOR
VICE-PRESIDENT: J. R. FRENCH
SECRETARY: R. STANLEY

ORGANISER: D. McEWEN
EXECUTIVE: R. J. KEARNEY, P. PURDUE, W. H. NELSON, A. W. CRISPIN and L. A. WEIGEL

It's OVER TO YOU to show carpenters and all other trade unionists throughout New Zealand that Auckland chippies were in the new union only for the purpose of turning it into a bona fide union.

OVER TO YOU!

Published by the Rank and File Campaign Committee. Headquarters, 312 Karangahape Road, Auckland C.2.

Artcraft Press Ltd.—3000/5/50

A BALLOT PAPER
NOT RETURNED
IS "A VOTE" FOR
COMMUNISM

Swell the majority for clean
TRADE UNIONISM
and stamp out the

COMMUNIST'S GANG

Support the team that restored industrial
peace in the trade and gained the best
award in the country — with a better one
in the making

**DON'T BE FOOLED BY THE
COMMUNIST'S PROPAGANDA**

This is **YOUR** opportunity

These are **YOUR** men

President: KEMP

Vice-President: HILL

Secretary: MURPHY

Organiser: ROSS

Executive:

ARNOLD

MORTENSEN

LORRIGAN

RAYMOND

RANBY

Here are the Names of Men who are . . .

PLEDGED TO UPHOLD AND FURTHER YOUR TRADE INTERESTS

IN PRESENTING THEM, THE PRESENT EXECUTIVE THANK YOU FOR THE STAUNCH WAY IN WHICH YOU HAVE STOOD BEHIND THEIR ACTIONS AGAINST COMMUNISM DURING THE PAST MONTHS, AND URGE YOU TO CONTINUE YOUR EFFORTS AND INCREASE YOUR VIGILANCE.

President:	KEMP, Owen R.
Vice-President:	HILL, Clifton T.
Secretary:	MURPHY, Laurence D.
Organiser:	ROSS, Gordon C.
Executive:	ARNOLD, Arthur G. LORRIGAN, Vincent A. MORTENSEN, Erik O. RANBY, Reginald G. RAYMOND, Allan

TOGETHER, MEMBERS AND EXECUTIVE, WE SHALL ESTABLISH AND MAINTAIN WORKING CONDITIONS SECOND TO NONE.

BE SURE TO RETURN YOUR VOTE

ISSUED BY THE EXECUTIVE OF THE AUCKLAND CARPENTERS & JOINERS & JOINERS' MACHINISTS UNION OF WORKERS.

OBSERVER PRINTING WORKS LTD.

169
21/2/4

COMMUNIST DISRUPTION IN TRADE UNION AFFAIRS

Communist disruptive tactics in trade union affairs, both in Australia and Britain are outlined in dispatches received from the British Trades Union Congress and the Australian Council of Trades Unions.

Both dispatches roundly attack the communists' "cold war" and forecast a strengthening of Labour forces against them. The main points of the dispatches, which were released by the High Commissioners of both the United Kingdom and Australia, are given below.

BRITAIN

Against the background of the current industrial troubles, British trades union leadership is reacting strongly in uncovering and challenging the communist sources of this mischief.

Unofficial stoppages of work, though serious, can easily be exaggerated in their industrial effects. It is misleading, therefore, to depict British industry in a state of great turmoil and conflict.

Unofficial stoppages, however, have given trades union leadership serious concern. The source of the trouble is identified in the activities of the Communist Party.

The official journal of the National Union of Seamen, which had been dragged into the inter-union quarrel originating in Canada, is outspoken in declaring that the clue to all these industrial troubles is "to be found in the cold war that the communists are waging in all countries to prevent the revival and economic reconstruction of free and democratically governed nations."

It rarely happens that esponsible spokesmen of unions express stern disapproval of the policy of other unions as they are doing at present.

COMMUNIST MISCHIEF-MAKING

The seamen's journal, referring to communist mischief-making in the inland and overseas transport services, is echoed by other union journals, which bluntly denounce the leadership of the workpeople involved in these stoppages.

At the annual conferences of some of the most powerful and influential of the British unions equally significant decisions and declarations of policy have been made.

At recent annual meetings there has been a show-down between left elements, who challenge the T.U.C. policy of resistance to communist penetration, and the executive bodies and moderate elements represented by the delegates.

Significantly, the lead has come from those big unions which have been dragged into industrial disputes originated by communist agitators.

The whole series of trades union conferences have affirmed that even to maintain present standards every effort must be made by union-management co-operation to secure increased and more efficient production. That is the settled policy of the British T.U.C.

AUSTRALIA

The Australian Council of Trades Unions supports the view that the Australian coal strike and simultaneous dock strikes in London and Canada were all part of the international communist plan to wreck Marshall Aid. This was indicated by A.C.T.U. officials following reports from London that Scotland Yard had information of the communist plan.

The A.C.T.U. officials said there was ample evidence of a world-wide communist conspiracy to disrupt the trade of democratic countries.

Throughout the coal dispute the A.C.T.U. has been accused by communist trade union leaders of "lining up with the Government against the miners." The council has pointed out that people who criticise the A.C.T.U. fail to appreciate that in an industrial dispute there must be some body to act as negotiator.

The history of the Australian trade union movement has shown that the A.C.T.U. is the final authority which brings about a settlement, even though it might be a compromise.

Leaders of moderate unions, many of whose members were unemployed because of the strike, have looked to the president of the northern New South Wales branch of the Miners' Federation, Mr. W. Crook, a member of the Australian Labour Party.

Mr. Crook showed little enthusiasm for the strike. Voicing the fear that the miners' organisation would be wrecked by the strike, he said: "I'm not going to lead any army to slaughter. It's no good trying to lead an army forward if its heart is not in the job. There is no doubt many of the miners want to call it off even if they have to take a hiding. We have to remarshal our forces so we will be fit to fight again."

Mr. Crook is typical of Labour Party trade union leaders who have agreed that the coal strike was a direct attack by the Communist Party on the Labour Government.

A show-down between the Australian Council of Trade Unions and the small but powerful group of communist-led unions defying it, is foreshadowed in a statement by the assistant-secretary of the A.C.T.U., Mr. R. R. Broadby.

He said that there was no doubt that the continued defiance by communist-controlled unions of the A.C.T.U. would be vigorously discussed at the A.C.T.U. congress later this year.

"It is certain that the workers are wakening to the real motives of the Communist Party in fomenting strikes. Recent developments in the trade union movement would lead one to believe that the workers will no longer permit themselves to be treated as guinea pigs 'to satisfy political experiments of people inflated with a false conception of their own egos," said Mr. Broadby.



NEW ZEALAND POLICE

x49/50

21/2/49 168

Special Branch,
Auckland Detective Office.

1 March 1949

REPORT of Detective sergeant R. Jones No. 3272

relative to WESTFIELD FREEZING CO. Ltd request assistance re
Communist infiltration at Works."Vide attached"

I respectfully report that on seeing Mr. Ridley, works manager, Westfield Freezing Co. Ltd on 20.10.48, he informed me that he would be pleased if he could receive a list of known Communists so that this could be referred to when engaging labour at the opening of the present season. Further, that it was not proposed at that time to refuse any known Communist employment at the works but he would be placed where he was least likely to cause trouble.

I explained to Mr. Ridley that this suggestion could not be put into effect. He then stated that he would discuss the matter further with his employment officer, Mr. Baxter and let me know

Following our conversation it was learnt that Gordon Harold ANDERSEN and Ronald BLACK, well known Communists who were responsible largely for the mutton butchers strike the previous season, applied for work as mutton butchers. The application was refused. At a meeting held at the works at which both Andersen and Black were present, it was decided to uphold the management in refusing to employ them.

Both these men are now employed at the King's wharf stores of the Auckland Farmers Freezing Co.

Mr. Baxter, referred to above saw me on two occasions with different suggestions which I knew were not acceptable to this department, and finally Baxter stated that he would bring his employment books to this office for checking.

This has been done and the only known Communist engaged by them for casual employment is George Lawson BROAD. He was discharged on 17.1.49 for arriving late and being in an intoxicated condition.

Superintendent Hall was advised verbally of the position and his instructions complied with.

For your information.

The Senior Detective,
Special Branch,
AUCKLAND.

R. Jones
Detective sergeant 3272

The Superintendent,
Respectfully forwarded.
E. Stevenson
S.Det.,
2.3.49

Forwarded to the Commissioner.

S. Hall
Superintendent of Police.

✓ 2.3.49. *File*



167

NEW ZEALAND POLICE.

Subject: ATTACHED LETTER FROM THE WORKS MANAGER OF THE WESTFIELD FREEZING COMPANY
LIMITED, AUCKLAND.

100,000/1/42-145341

The Commissioner:

To prevent the infiltration of Communist agitators into the Westfield Freezing Works during the coming season, the Works Manager seeks our assistance.

Do you approve of my replying to the effect that I am not in a position to furnish information along the lines requested, please?

R. J. Madden
 Inspector,
 for Superintendent.
 11th October, 1948.

The Superintendent of Police,
 AUCKLAND.

Please direct Detective-Sergeant Jones to co-operate in this matter with Mr. Ridley.

R. J. Madden
 Deputy Commissioner of Police
 14.10.48

Detective-Sergeant Jones,

For
 attention accordingly.

R. J. Madden
 Inspector, for
 Superintendent,
 16th October, 1948.

DISTRICT OFFICE.

4612/48.

AUCKLAND.

Westfield Jones
allaphin
effect.

16 OCT 1948

He S/O. (Special Branch)

Please see report attached

R. Jones

Det. Singh
1.3.48.

PRIVATE BAG, AUCKLAND

WESTFIELD FREEZING COMPANY
LIMITED

WORKS:—WESTFIELD

TELEGRAMS—"FILALORA" OTAHUHU

TELEPHONES { 24-710
24-711
24-712*Westfield,
Auckland,
New Zealand*

8th October, 1948

The Superintendent of Police,
Central Police Station,
AUCKLAND C.1

Dear Sir,

Last lamb killing season we suffered more than usual from working hold-ups fomented to a considerable degree by several active members of the Communist Party.

In view of the importance of the Freezing Industry, and the desirability that work should run steadily through the lamb season we are anxious to avoid engaging similar communist workers for the forthcoming busy period. In certain circumstances where it may perhaps be inadvisable to refuse engagement it would be possible for us to ensure that known trouble makers obtain employment only in those departments where they are least likely to do harm.

We have discussed this matter with Detective-Sergeant Jones and inquired of him whether it would be possible for us to be given the names of known Communists who might be implanted into this works with the express intention of causing labour unrest. We appreciate, of course, that any such particulars would need to be regarded as strictly confidential.

Detective-Sergeant Jones advised us to make official application to your goodself, which we now do. We should be grateful for any information on these lines with which it may be possible for the Police Department to supply us.

We are,

Yours faithfully,

For WESTFIELD FREEZING CO. LTD.*[Signature]*
Works Manager.

AGR:MF

This has been done and the engaged by three for casual employment is 3. He was discharged on 17.1.48 for arriving intoxicated on duty.

Superintendent Ball to position and his instructions.

for your information.

The Senior Detective,

✓ D Oneo

STRENGTHEN THE PARTY

The Factory Branch - Basic Organisation of the Party

Leon Mauvais
(From "Cahiers du Communisme", May, 1948)

A new and recent examination of the activity and organisational position of the Party in the factories has allowed us to note very considerable improvements in this essential sector of Party work.

These improvements can be noted not only in the big industrial departments like the Sein, Pas-de-Calais, Bouches-du-Rhone, the Nord, Meurthe-et-Moselle, but also in other departments, where industrial concentration & potential are less developed, though they still have great importance - departments such as Haute-Vienne and Var, for example.

Elsewhere, in a number of departments, work has been begun the results of which will not fail to be generalised and noteworthy, to the extent to which the effort is carried on with method and tenacity. That is the case in about 30 federations, including the Rhone, the Allier, the Gard, Seine-et-Loire, Seine-et-Oise, the Alpes Maritimes, etc.

These improvements are characterised mainly:

1. By better mass work in a number of factories.

A better contribution is being made to the defence of the workers' demands and of their purchasing power, to the struggle against the laying off of workers and for the defence of our industry, which is threatened by American expansionism, aided by the treasonable policy of the French trusts and government.

The results gained at the Renault works are most important and significant, the wage increases won in some of its departments being backed by considerable recruitment to the C.G.T. unions.

A stop has been put in many cases to the splitting manoeuvres of the Socialist-F.O. (Force Ouvriere-Right-wing breakaway from C.G.T.) leaders, supported by the government and the big employers. The magnificent results gained in the elections of delegates or factory committees by the C.G.T. unions in the mines, the big stores, the Paris transport industry, the metal factories of Fives-Lille, Renault, etc., are particularly conclusive.

2. By a strengthening of the Party's influence and organisational bases in the factories.

More intensive recruiting has taken place. Moreover, many comrades in local branches are joining the factory branches and now carrying on their main activity among their workmates.

Our Party workers, inspired by the conception of a Party with deep roots in the workplaces, are seeking and applying new organisational forms and methods of work.

Greater attention is being given to bringing out factory papers, one of the best means of connection with, and defence of, the masses.

3. By more and more sustained attention by leading Party committees to work in the factories.

The transfer of members of federation & section committees and executives to the main factory branches is becoming general & makes it possible for these workers not only to teach the Party and the masses to make a big & effective contribution to the development of the Party activity & its bases, but also, as Lenin and Stalin taught us, to learn from the masses, to understand their worries, their desires, their activity to give careful study to the practical experience of the struggle of the masses, to gain deeper faith in the creative forces of the proletariat and the revolutionary correctness of its class instinct. Thus they are drawing precious lessons and developing their own experience to ensure the general leadership of the movement.

These results, whose importance we do not wish to exaggerate, are nevertheless indisputable and promising.

By analysing the way in which they were obtained, the positive & negative aspects of our work, we will create the conditions for their development throughout the country and particularly in the decisive industries.

Where we have gained results, we owe it to the essential fact that our comrades have learned and understood that in order to carry out Party policy, it is indispensable to strengthen our activity and organisation in the factories.

Far be it from us to underestimate the importance of the organisational problems which are many and at times complex, of developing our work in the factories. But experience shows precisely that the solution can be given only to the extent that the Party understands politically the road

it must take, the slogans for demands & for activity that must be developed & carried through.

It is then that the means for carrying out this policy show more clearly and can be given concrete application.

Organisational defects generally originate from the underestimation or even ignoring of the fundamental principles of our policy, with the mistaken idea that we must be a mass Party.

Why can such things still be noted, when elsewhere there are many examples of correct understanding & good work in the factories? Is it not because we still too often think that what we know everyone must know?

Too often we forget that the authority & strength of the Party have grown considerably in recent years, that sometimes 90% of our members are new ones who know nothing or not enough, about not only methods of mass work, but often and above all about the fundamental organisational principles of the Party. So it is not superfluous to explain & repeat them patiently & perseveringly.

Factory Branches and Party Theory.

Article 12 of the Party rules states that: "The cell is the basis of Party organisation (in the factory, mine, workshop, office, shop, farm, etc.)."

Without underestimating the role of branches in apartment houses, streets, localities or rural areas, it is obvious that the Tenth Congress in adopting these rules, intended to recall attention, by emphasising it to one of the fundamental principles of Party organisation & activity.

The forms of organisation & the methods of work of the Party may change, taking into account the general situation or particular situations but the principle of organisation & activity in the factories remains, immovable, fundamental for the carrying out of the Party policy. From the groups of three in the factories we passed after the Liberation to forms of organisation & methods of work adapted to the new situation, that of the struggle in a period of legality; but during illegality as now, we did not cease to emphasise the primary importance of work in the factories.

The fact is that, if the Communist Party is open to all men and women "who accept its programme and rules, belong to one of the Party's basic organisations, carry out some activity and pay their dues regularly" (article 2 of the rules), it is nonetheless based essentially on the working class, on the proletariat which "is the only really revolutionary class," as Marx and Engels wrote in the Manifesto, the centenary of which we are now celebrating.

In this same Manifesto, Marx & Engels had observed:

"Now, the development of industry not only increases the number of proletarians, but concentrates them in greater masses; the strength of the proletarians is increased and they become more conscious of it." And further on: "The workers begin to form combinations against the bourgeoisie to defend their wages. They go so far as to form permanent associations in order to make provision beforehand for these occasional revolts."

They showed that the Party is the condition of the socialist revolution, they expressed the fundamental idea of the Party as the vanguard of the working class.

Lenin developed this idea in the condition of imperialism, he showed how the Party is & must be the highest form of organisation of the working class. He made clear the organisational principles of the Party of a new type that was indispensable at this stage of history. And in Sept. 1902 he wrote, in particular:

"Let us pass on to factory circles. These are particularly important for us, for the main strength of the movement lies in the organisation of the proletariat within the big factories, in view of the fact that they cover the section of the working class that is not only the most numerous but also the most influential, the most developed and with the most fighting spirit. **EACH FACTORY MUST BE OUR FORTRESS.**" (our emphasis - L.M.)

In this way Lenin defined one of the fundamental tasks of the Party which, to lead the working class, must be closely linked to it, to the non-Party masses.

Now, how is it possible to be "closely linked" to the working masses, except by being organised in the workplaces themselves?

It is in the factory that Communists can best get to know the state of mind and the needs of the workers, seek out and effectively give expression to the slogans, test the way in which the working class receives our slogans & our policy and, consequently, teach the working class & learn from it.

It is in the factory that the Communists, by proving themselves the best defenders of the workers, can win their confidence, get elected to the various positions as delegates and to the leadership of mass organisations, as many recent elections bear witness.

It is in the factory that Communists can make their best contribution to the organisation of the struggle, to the achievement of the conditions for the success of the struggle.

That is why our Comrade M. Thorez declared at the 11th Congress: "It can never be repeated too often that the workshop, the mill, the office, and the factory in general is the basis of the Party organisation. The main task of the Section Committee, of the Federal Committee, is to help in the efficient working of factory branches, above all in the big workshops."

The positive Experience of the Pas-de-Calais.

When the Aubervilliers Central Committee meeting urged all Communists "to pay attention to the needs & aspirations of all strata of the toiling people ... To place themselves resolutely at the head of the people's movement, with boldness & a spirit of responsibility", it implicitly urged those working in the factories to develop their activity & their political & organisational initiative so as to achieve this essential task & live up to the confidence placed in us by millions of Workers.

Now, the big strikes of Novr-Decr 1947 proved this. In all the factories where our Party has organised, active forces, considerable results were obtained, and on the other hand the opposite results could be observed where the Party was poorly organised.

During & after these strikes, many eyes were opened. Comrade Camphin correctly wrote: "In the mining field of Pas-de-calais, where the struggle against Jules Moch's myrmidons & against the splitters of Force Ouvriere was particularly fierce, the need for all Communists working in the same pit, in the same factory, to know one another was very obvious to everyone, and all now understand much better that it is indispensable to make the factory branch work, if we are to be victorious in the coming battles." (France Nouvelle, 6 March, 1948)

In a report from the leaders of the Bruay-en-Artois section, we find striking confirmation of this estimate by their federal secretary. These comrades, after explaining how, in July-August 1947, they began to reorganise the miners on the basis of pit branches, emphasise that the activity of these branches was decisive, in these words: "This struggle of the miners in November & December 1947 was waged with enthusiasm by the workers in our pits, with magnificent success, thanks to the new organisation, and this in spite of the fact that social-democracy was still strong & active at this period in some pits, especially in No.3 workings."

And our comrades went on to relate that with the gaining of their demands that the miners achieved, they noted:

1. Better connections of the mine delegates with the masses & the Party.
2. A great success in the elections of the mine delegates, the average vote for the Bruay group being almost 80%, while "the workers in the pits were aware that the candidates nominated were ardent Communists."
3. A development in the Party's influence not only in the pits but also on a local basis (recruitment to the Party of 175 comrades, a high percentage of whom were women, sale of 2900 copies of Liberte instead of 900);
4. The pit branch meetings are better attended than those of the old local branches, "because of the miner being among workmates and thus having a double interest in these meetings, dealing with the Party policy and with their trade."

As we see, these miners now understand how justified was our insistence on having them organised & working on a pit basis. Not only are they showing more faith, enthusiasm & interest in their activity, but they are noticing that even on a locality basis, the influence & authority of the Party are growing.

Undoubtedly our comrades from the Drome could learn a lesson from this experience, for they observe that "Party members sometimes oppose the formation of a branch in their factory, since work on a locality basis seems to them to be easier."

This "opposition" from the comrades in the Drome, and at times in other departments too - have the leaders of the federations & sections concerned tried to find out the real reasons for it? Have they used the best possible means for convincing & assisting, so as to enlighten these members & show them that activity & organisation in the factories are not only possible, but also and above all indispensable in order to carry out the Party's policy?

Our comrades from Bruay-en-Artois do not hide the fact that they were mistaken for a long time. "since the Liberation, we had been organised in mixed locality branches, including miners, surface workers, pensioners, women, etc..." they wrote. And they add: "The comrades on the Section Executive considered that this formula was the best, basing themselves on the fact that it was the one which had always existed and that we had never succeeded in building pit branches."

Doesn't it seem that, in the Drome and elsewhere, such mistaken ideas still persist?

Since the Liberation, elections & referenda, have been numerous. It may have seemed natural that the main activity & organisation of the Party must have a locality basis (which is a mistake, as can be seen from the example of Bruay itself), where it was impossible, even unwise, to carry out a reorganisation between two election periods.

Do not our comrades in Bruay themselves admit that "The Section Committee hesitated at the important job of transferring the organisation in a period in which the Party had to face continual elections."

Actually, in Bruay a year ago & in the Drome even today, proof was or should have been given that this transformation is necessary and possible.

Many positive & negative examples of this kind could be given in all departments.

It is because the Party has bases in these factories that, in the S.N.C.A.C. at Bourges, a defence committee was elected by 800 workers and technicians - including some members of Force Ouvriere - out of 1300, that in the Orval Workshops at Saint-Amand, 90% of the workers support their defence committee, that at the Toulon Arsenal the Party has recruited over a hundred new members in Jan. and there are now 250 trade union delegates instead of 130.

But it is because the Party work has weakened in the factories that its forces have diminished in the towns of the Aube, and at the same time the trade unions are showing losses, particularly in the big hosiery factories; that at Annecy and Annemasse, in spite of favourable objective conditions, the Party is not making progress, because our federal leaders admit "our factory branches are not alive" or ... "only exist on paper"...

In every department, our workers know of such positive or negative examples: let them study them in detail and frankly, both in meetings and in their federation papers and bulletins, let them appeal to the initiative of the rank and file members, to all the workers. Experience proves that with the help of the masses we often solve difficulties that appear insurmountable to some workers whose intentions are good, but who do not move with the times.

Our Conception of a Mass Party and Work in the Factories.

So it is essential to understand, and to make others understand, that it is in the factories that the main battle is being waged for the defence of the workers' demands, for the defence of national independence and for Peace, that the factory branch is indispensable to the Party in carrying out its historic mission, that it is its fundamental basic organisation.

But it is no less important, in order to organise strong factory branches and make them work effectively, to have a correct conception of the mass Party.

Maurice Thorez could say, in his report to the 11th Congress:

"We are posing the problems of organisation as we did 20 years ago, without relation to the new situation, and to the policy and tasks of the Party that flow from this new situation."

In this way our General Secretary strongly directed the Party's attention to the need for it to become conscious of this lag existing between organisational forms and methods of work, in relation to the political line.

If there are still too many places where such lags can be noted, it is because we have not come to understand sufficiently that organisational forms, methods of work and of recruiting must be adapted to the situation, to the Party's political line, to its influence, to its development and the new possibilities that are created.

Millions of Frenchmen and Frenchwomen have confidence in our Party. On a factory basis, we already organise tens, hundreds, even thousands of members.

It is obvious that organisational problems cannot be posed in the same way as they were when our Party only had a few units in workshops. Such organisational forms and methods of work, which corresponded to a past situation, which were a factor in the development of the Party organisation, may have become a stumbling block to this development, an outworn form of organisation.

Mass recruiting obliges us to have broad vision, to show boldness and initiative, for it is not enough to call on thousands of workers to join our Party, we must create the conditions for them to join it for organising them and making them work as a mass.

Moreover, we must beware of all rigidity in seeking out forms of organisation and methods of work. There can be no ready made formula, no methods valid for all situations. Thus, in organising the workers at Peugeot's in Sochaux, we had to take account of the fact that there were

many who lived a long way from their workplace. That is so, for instance, with those who live at Hericourt, who come and go ~~xx~~ from the factory by trains whose timetables correspond exactly with Peugeot's starting and finishing times. 161

To try and organise these workers on a strictly workplace basis would finally result in not allowing them to join and to work effectively in the factory. It was then decided to bring together at Sochaux all those who lived near the factory. But with the others, like those from Hericourt, we organised them in one branch which meets in Hericourt itself, it being understood that the secretary of this branch must have contact with the Party committee of the Peugeot factory at Sochaux.

In this way, Communists who were scattered in local branches could be brought together, new members could be recruited and the "Peugeot Branch", while having an organisational base at Hericourt, was none the less carrying out activity in the factory. But even this form of organisation, correct in this particular case, would not be so everywhere.

In his article which we have already quoted, Comrade Rene Camphin explained that in "Pit 8 of Auchy-les-Mines work men who live in 27 different localities, many coming from little villages in Flanders". It was not possible to organise them in the same way as at Hericourt, for they are far from being, as in that case, grouped around the place where they live. But if they live in different localities, all regularly use the same bus coming and going from work. So our comrades made the correct decision to form what they called a "Bus Branch". Now, there are 28 Party members out of the 40 ~~members~~ miners who catch this bus (remember that at the end of February there were only 24 members).

How are the contact and the work carried out? Rene Camphin explains, "This branch is attached to the Auchy-les-Mines section. The secretary of the Party's pit committee is the Mine delegate, and he is the one who carries out the contact, explains the directives, hands out the material, takes the money from the branch treasurer to give to the Section treasurer. All of this is done in the washrooms or at crib time, for as soon as the shift is over, the men immediately get into the bus to go home, and it is on the bus that the Branch meeting is held."

In the same article, he gives an example of the same kind, but this time for miners working in pits of the Marlos-Auchol group, who do not catch the same bus, but the same train, and it is "Train Branches" that are formed with the miners working in the same pit, the same methods of contact and work being used as at Auchy-les-Mines.

These examples are conclusive. From analysing them, it results that the methods of organisation and work could be found and applied in each given situation only to the extent to which there was a correct conception of a mass Party.

Activity of the Enemies of the Working Class in Factories.

For many long years, reaction has not known what to say against those it called by a term meant to be scornful, the "cellulars". Comrade M. Thorez was able to say at the Tenth Congress that these "cellulars" were the heart of the French Resistance in the factories. We can say now that the correctness of our activity and our organisation in the factories is proved so strikingly that the enemies of the working class are trying to organise in the factories to bring out factory papers, etc. The defence of the workers' demands is the least of their worries. Actually, they are organising in this way to do the work of the French and foreign trusts, in order to divide the working class and its trade unions, prevent it from organising activity in defence of its living and working conditions.

We see at work the Socialist-Force Ouvriere factory groups which, directed by the Blums, Mayers, Marceau Piverts and other Guy Mollets are working as strike breakers and splitters of the trade union movement. Moreover the R.P.F. leaders, ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ make no secret of the objectives set their factory groups. In a press conference on 27th March last, Baumel, one of the R.P.F. leaders, after pointing out, "Every factory group has its own factory paper. Within its factory, it fights the Communist branches", outlined their role as strike-breakers in this way: "We have indeed formed, in the Public service, groups which, if need arose, could run the Public services."

Let us recall, moreover, that "le Monde" of 20th March told that in a meeting of "responsible R.P.F. workers" Balensi, a national delegate, repeating what Andre Malraux had said the day before to the "protection groups" (read S.S. groups - N.D.L.R.), explained:

"Be prepared. You will fight. I do not wish to know which of the faces before me will be those of the dead and the victors. I wish to see here only fighters. If you can be certain that America will finish the war with

(Continued)

us, you can not be certain that she~~x~~ will begin it with us."

So such activity from the enemies of the working class should not fail to give food for thought, if it is needed, to all our leaders and members working in the factories. With more speed, ardour, faith and enthusiasm, and with a greater spirit of initiative, they will face the factories, to develop there our organisation and our activity in favour of the workers, to carry out there the tasks envisaged in our own rules, in article 13, and particularly, ".....the study and defence of these demands (of the workers), linked with class action and the aims of class emancipation pursued by the Communist Party."

(Issued by the Central Organisation Committee, July, 1948)

EXTRACT from "THE TRADE UNIONS" --L.Sharkey)

The General Objective

Marx and Engels have given us a graphic picture of the birth and mode of development of the Trade Unions and industrial struggles. "The proletariat goes through various stages of development. With its birth begins its struggle with the bourgeoisie. At first the contest is carried on by individual labourers, then by the work-people of a factory, then by the operatives of one trade, in one locality, against the individual bourgeois, who directly exploits them. They direct their attacks, not against the bourgeois conditions of production but against the instruments of production themselves: they destroy imported wares that compete with their labour, they smash to pieces machinery, they set factories ablaze, they seek to restore by force the vanished status of the workmen of the middle ages. (The Luddites in England, for example. L.S.)

"At this stage, the labourers still form an incoherent mass scattered over the whole country, and broken up by their mutual competition...

"But with the development of industry, the proletariat not only increases in numbers, it becomes concentrated in greater masses, its strength grows, and it feels that strength more...the collisions between individual workmen and individual bourgeois take more and more the nature of collisions between two classes. Thereupon, the workers begin to form combinations (Trade Unions) against the bourgeois: they club together in order to keep up the rate of wages: they found permanent associations in order to make provision beforehand for these occasional revolts. Here and there the contest breaks out into riots.

"Now and then the workers are victorious, but only for a time. the real fruit of the battle lies, not in the immediate result, but in the ever-expanding union of the workers. This union is helped on by the improved means of communication that are created by modern industry, and that places the workers of different ~~localities~~ localities in contact with one another. It was just this contact that was needed to centralise the numerous local struggles, all of the same character, into one national struggle between classes. But every class struggle is a political struggle.

"This organisation of proletarians into a class, and consequently into a political party, is continually being upset again, by the competition between the workers themselves. But it ever rises up again, stronger, firmer, mightier." (Manifesto of the Communist Party, 1848).

But the working class, unaided, cannot raise itself to the level of an understanding of the historical development of society, that is, to a revolutionary, Socialist and Communist consciousness. Lenin enunciated this proposition in his basic work, "What is to be Done?" Lenin did this in the course of his attack upon the theory of "spontaneity"; of reliance upon the spontaneous development of the labour movement lacking a guiding theory, without a well-organised and trained Party to lead it; in his denunciation of "tailism", of lagging behind the masses. Lenin based this conclusion on the conditions of the working class in capitalist society: lack of education, hard work, lack of leisure, poverty, etc.

The ~~formulation~~ formulation of the theoretical foundation of the labour movement, Communism, was made by two great men, namely KARL MARX and FREDERICK ENGELS. By so doing, by placing themselves at the head of the proletarian movement, Marx and Engels, of course, became the greatest of proletarians. Lenin wrote of Marx and Engels in this regard as follows: "We said that there could not yet be Social-Democratic (Communist) consciousness among the workers. This consciousness could only be brought to them from without. The history of all countries shows that the working class, exclusively by its own effort, is able to develop only Trade Union

(Continued.)

consciousness, i.e., it may itself realise the necessity for combining in union, for fighting against the employers and for striving to compel the government to pass the necessary labour legislation etc. The theory of Socialism, however, grew out of the philosophic, historical and economic theories that were elaborated by the educated representatives of the propertied classes, the intellectuals. According to their social status, the founders of modern scientific Socialism, Marx and Engels, themselves belonged to the bourgeois intelligensia. Similarly, in Russia, the theoretical doctrine of Social-Democracy arose quite independently of the spontaneous growth of the labour movements; it arose as a natural and inevitable outcome of the development of ideas among the revolutionary Social intelligensia. "(Lenin: What is to be done?")

Our Party today has a similar task, to raise the political understanding of the masses to the level of a Communist understanding of society and the consequent tasks of the labour movement. Marx and Engels, Lenin and Stalin, have given us an understanding of the historical tasks of the working classes in regard to the revolutionary change-over from Capitalism to Socialism. The advance guard of the proletariat have been able to grasp these theories, to master Marxism-Leninism: it has to be taken to the masses who, unaided, are unable to raise themselves to the level of a theoretical understanding, are unable to advance beyond the immediate practical tasks of wages, conditions, strikes.

The Trade Unions are the most important ^{wages} organisations of the working class and therefore, have a special importance for the Revolutionaries. "Without the Trade Unions a revolution is impossible," Lenin has written.

What are our tasks in regard to the Trade Unions?

These tasks fall into two main sections: (1) the raising of the theoretical level, the winning of the workers for a revolutionary objective, and (2) the practical-organisational.

In regard to the first, Marx gave a classical summing up of the Trade Unions, their tasks, and the need for a revolutionary outlook and objective for the Trade Unions in "Value, Price and Profit."

These few hints will suffice to show ^{that} the very development of modern industry must progressively turn the scale in favour of the capitalist against the working man, and that consequently the general tendency of the capitalistic production is not to raise, but to sink the average standard of wages, or to push the value of labour more or less to its minimum limit. Such being the tendency of things in this system, is this saying that the working class ~~therefore~~ ought to renounce their resistance against the encroachments of capital, and abandon their attempts at making the best of the occasional chances for their temporary improvement? If they did, they would be degraded to one level mass of broken wretches, past salvation. I think I have shown that their struggles for the standard of wages are incidents inseparable from the whole wages system, that in 99 cases out of 100 their efforts at raising wages are only efforts at maintaining the given price of labour and that the necessity of debating their price with the capitalist is inherent to their condition of having to sell themselves as commodities. By cowardly giving way in their everyday conflict with capital, they would certainly disqualify themselves for the initiating of any larger movement.

"At the same time, and quite apart from the general servitude involved in the wages system, the working class ought not to exaggerate to themselves the ultimate workings of these everyday struggles. They ought not to forget that they are fighting with the effects, but not with the causes of those effects: that they are retarding the downward movement, but not changing its direction: that they are applying palliatives, not curing the malady.

"They ought, therefore, not to be exclusively absorbed in these unavoidable guerrilla fights incessantly springing up from the never-ceasing encroachments of capital or changes of the market. They ought to understand that, with all the miseries it imposes upon them, the present system simultaneously engenders the material conditions and the social forms necessary for an economic reconstruction of society. Instead of the conservative motto: "A fair day's wages for a fair day's work" they ought to inscribe on their banner the revolutionary watchword: Abolition of the wages system!"

"After this very long and, I fear, tedious exposition, which I was obliged to enter into to do some justice to the subject matter. I shall conclude by proposing the following:

"Firstly. A general rise of the rate of wages would result in a fall in the general rate of profit, but, broadly speaking, not affect the prices of commodities.

"Secondly. The general tendency of capitalist production is not to rise but to sink the average standard of wages.

Thirdly. Trade Unions work well as centres of resistance against the encroachments of capital. They fail particularly from an injudicious use of their power. They fail generally from limiting themselves to the guerrilla way against the effects of the existing system instead of simultaneously trying to change it, instead of using their organised forces as a lever for the final emancipation of the working class, that is to say the ultimate abolition of the wages system.

The strategical aim of the Communists in the Trade Unions is precisely the one indicated by Marx; to inscribe on their banners the revolutionary watchword, "abolition of the wages system."

Marx therein gave us an understanding of the role of the "immediate demands": of the day-to-day struggles, without which the workers would be degraded, broken wretches, past salvation. Marx indicates also the role of the partial struggles as preparation for the revolutionary struggle for political power. "By cowardly giving way in their everyday conflict with capital, they would certainly disqualify themselves for the initiating of any larger movement." Lenin summed up this teaching of Marx on the Trade Unions when he designated the Trade Unions as "schools of the class struggle, schools of Communism." Marxism-Leninism thus places a fundamental task for us in regard to the Trade Unions, the defeat of reformism and their transformation into revolutionary bodies fighting for the Proletarian Dictatorship.

STALIN: THE PARTY GROWS STRONG BY WINNING THE UNIONS

Dealing with the importance of the Trade Unions as the main source of strength of the workers' Party and combating the sectarian trends among the Communists in the West European and other countries, Comrade Stalin declared:

"In the West there are still certain "Communists" who do not understand this and who continue to propagate their anti-proletarian and anti-revolutionary slogan "Leave the Trade Unions!" It must be said that no one could do the Communist Movement in the West more harm than these and similar "Communists".

These people think of attacking the Trade Unions from without regarding them as an enemy camp. They do not understand that, good or bad, the rank and file workers regards the Trades Unions as his citadels, his strongholds, which help him to maintain his wages, his working day, and so forth. They do not understand that far from facilitating Communist penetration among the vast masses, such policy undermines this work.

"The average rank and file worker will say to such a "Communist": "You are attacking my citadel, you wish to destroy the cause which it has taken me decades to build, because, as you say, Communism is better than Trade Unionism. I don't know. Perhaps you are right in your theoretical discourses on Communism; it's not for me, a simple worker, to judge your theories. But one thing I do know: I have my Trade Union citadels, they have led me into battle, have defended me, well or ill, against the onslaughts of the capitalists; and he who tries to destroy these citadels is trying to destroy my cause, the cause of the workers. Cease attacking my citadels, come into the Trade Unions, work in them five years or even more, help us to improve the unions and to strengthen them, and in the meantime I shall see what sort of fellow you are. If you really prove to be the right fellow, I, of course, will not hesitate to support you," and so on. That, more or less, is the attitude of the average rank and file worker of the present day towards the anti-Trade Unionists. He who fails to understand this characteristic feature in the mentality of the average worker in Europe will understand nothing about the position of the present-day Communist parties.

"What constitutes the strength of Social-Democracy in the West? The fact that it supports the Trade Unions.

"What constitutes the weaknesses of our Communist parties in the West? The fact that they are not yet linked with the Trade Unions and that certain elements within the Communist Parties do not wish to be linked with them.

Hence the main task of the Communist Parties of the West at the present time is to develop the campaign for unity in the Trade Union movement and to bring it to its consummation; to see to it that all Communists, without exception, join Trade Unions, there to work systematically and patiently to strengthen the solidarity of the working class in its fight against capital, and thus attain the condition that will

enable the Communist Parties to rely on the Trade Unions."

These words were spoken by Stalin sixteen years ago, but they might have been said yesterday, for they still hold force for us.

A GOOD UNION WORKER.

In order to equip themselves as not only the best theoretical and political leaders of the Trade Unions, but also as the best practical Trade Unionists, militants must master the Awards as they cover their industry or factory, they must know the Rule Book of the Union and its organisation, history, customs and practices. Only in this way can they become the best Trade Unionists.

Some members fail to keep themselves "financial" in their Unions, with the consequences that they lose standing and when an opportunity to contest an official position happens along they are ineligible to stand. Positions are lost that might have been won but for this careless-ness.

It is also bad for a militant to drop out of a Union whilst in arrears and without notifying the Union and complying with the rules covering resignations. This may afterwards be used by the reactionaries to discredit us, and in any case, as the Communists must be the best unionists, they must take care to be financial and observe rules. Members should have a knowledge of the rules of debate in order to prevent a "slick" chairman putting one over them.

Comrades in the Unions must study the conditions and problems of Union members and draw up programmes of demands for the Union to be able to give a lead, in good time, on all matters affecting the Union and strive at all times to unite the Union Membership and foster good relations with other Unions.

Speaking in the Union is also an art. We do not want to bore the workers with long and windy speeches or go over their heads by being too theoretical. We must deal with the questions before the meeting in an attractive fashion. This does not mean that we confine ourselves solely to economic questions. "No politics in the Union" means bourgeois politics in the Union. We must skilfully seize appropriate moments and opportunities to discuss politics and Socialism with the workers at Union meetings and elsewhere. Our goal is to raise the consciousness of the Unionists to the level of a Socialist understanding.

PART 2.

REFORMIST "THEORIES" AND HARMFUL PRACTICES MUST BE ROUTED.

This slogan was put forward by the "Economists" in Russia.

The "Economists" said that the tasks of the Trade Unions should be confined to the economic - wages, conditions, hours.

Lenin attacked and destroyed this trend, pointing out that "no politics in the Union" really meant bourgeois politics in the Unions; it meant that the workers were left at the mercy of bourgeois propaganda and ideology.

We have seen that the objective must be to politically revolutionize the Unions. Some comrades interpret this to mean that they should confine themselves to academic, abstract discourses on theory and political questions at Union meetings. Communists must be the best Trade Unionists, i.e., giving a lead on all the problems of the Trade Unions and lead the fight for the economic demands of the workers; in short, be the best fighters on the job and during strike periods.

At the same time, politics must be introduced, linked with the Union's problems, and on favourable occasions when political issues are raised in correspondence, etc., to educate the workers in Socialist ideas. The Union Journals and other avenues must be fully utilised for such political education. The Union Journal, "The Ironworker" is a model of the sort of Trade Union newspaper required, combining the industrial and political working class policy. The reformists here in Australia cling to the "Economists" idea of "no politics in the Union" or only reformist politics in the Union. The aim must be to kill this reactionary idea in the Union by showing that, without a correct political policy, without the theoretical education of the rank and file, the Union's efforts are in the end doomed to futility.

The question of the relationship between economics and politics was continually before Marx and the First International. In a resolution drawn up by him for the 1871 Conference the following instructive passage occurs :-

"In the presence of an unbridled reaction which violently crushes every effort at emancipation on the part of the working class, and pretends to maintain by brute force the distinction of classes and the political domination of the propertied classes resulting from it; considering that against this collective power of the propertied classes the working class cannot act, as a class, except by constituting itself into a political party, distinct from and opposed to all old parties formed by the propertied classes; that this constitution of the working class into a political party is indispensable in order to ensure the triumph of the social revolution and its ultimate end - the abolition of the classes; that the combination of forces which the working classes have already effected by its economical struggles ought at the same time serve as a lever against the political power of the landlords and capitalists; the Conference recalls to the members of the International : That in the militant state of the working class, its economic movement and its political action are indissolubly united."

Here is a clear expression by Marx of the idea that politics are the concentrated expression of economics, that the workers need a revolutionary political party to lead the struggle for Socialism and that the Trade Unions, far from adopting an attitude of neutrality, of non-partisanship, should adhere to such a party and play their part under its leadership in the struggle.

BANKRUPTCY OF "GRADUALIST" THEORIES.

The reformist leaders in the Trade Union movement contend that the needs of the working class can be satisfied by a policy of reforms, by a gradual increase in wages, a shortening of hours and improvement of the job conditions. They tell the workers that if the Unions keep on increasing wages that soon there will be no exploitation, no margin of profit left for the employing classes.

This is the Trade Union equivalent of the Social - Democratic theory of "gradualism" and "peaceful evolution" of "revolution without class - struggle, bloodshed or dislocation of industry."

It is true that the reformists can point to instances where the Arbitration Court has awarded increased wages, shortened hours, or eased conditions of employment in the factories. Why, therefore, cannot we continue this peaceful, evolutionary process until we make the position of the bosses untenable in industry; why not undermine their control by these piecemeal processes? It will be found, however, that tremendous mass pressure (economic strikes, demonstrations, and agitation in the Press and on the platform, preceded all reforms by the Arbitration Courts or "voluntary" concessions to the workers.

14224 14225 14226 14227 14228 14229 14230 14231 14232 14233 14234 14235

~~SECRET~~

Lx 41/520

155

21/2/4

3rd. April, 1948

To The Rt. Hon. The Prime Minister,

In connection with the Mangakino Hydro Workers Strike your attention is drawn to the attached reproduction of mimeographed directions issued by the National Executive of the Communist Party of New Zealand to members in 1941, which were received from a secret source.

They are Number one, "on the Establishment and Work of Trade Union Instructors". Number two "On the Establishment of Trade Union Leadership".

Handwritten signature

COMMISSIONER OF POLICE.

~~SECRET~~

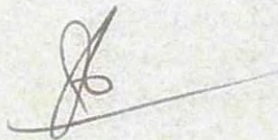
✓ 41/520
154

3rd. April, 1948

The Hon. Minister of Works,

The enclosed correspondence addressed to the Rt. Hon. the Prime Minister is forwarded for your information in connection with your visit to Mangakino.

The instructions issued by the National Executive of the Communist Party in regard to Party work in Trade Unions will no doubt be what you had in mind when you asked for information concerning the Trade Union Bureau of the Communist Party collecting information for their Party on Trade Union activities.



COMMISSIONER OF POLICE.

NUMBER TWO.ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF TRADE UNION LEADERSHIP

Towards the carrying out of the reorganisation of trade union work as adopted in the N.E. resolution "Trade Unions and the Party" leading committees of the Party are advised to supplant control of the work and policy of the members in the separate trade unions, from that of general responsibility to that of personal responsibility. This means that where there are a number of Party members belonging to the same trade union local Party committees should call them together and carry out the election of a leadership for their trade union work, either one leader or in the larger organisations a small leading committee.

Such leaders or leading committee would conduct among their respective members similar work as is outlined in the functions of the trade union instructors in the area branches. At the same time it must be recognised that this leadership is directly responsible to its own membership for its activity. This type of leadership is established, not for the purpose of eliminating general meetings of Party members belonging to one organisation, but for the purpose of eliminating unnecessary discussions, and to allow time for the members of such organisations to devote their energies to mass work, training and leisure.

The experience and greater political maturity of the membership of the bigger connections of the various trade unions make policy matters on routine question easily settled. The important factor to determine in these connections, is the co-ordination of the membership's work and activity. This co-ordination of work can be accomplished by the leader or leading committee, by personal contact with each member or a short bulletin.

This method of work will overcome the need for Party members to expend much time attending discussions on Union affairs, composed entirely of Party members, it will permit time for the winning of the support of non-party or Labour Party trade unionists, by means of job discussion, or elsewhere around the question of the campaign under way.

In this way greater interest will be created around the problem of trade union organisation which will create strivings among the best elements for greater activity.

Work carried out in this manner will develop around every Party member a number of Party supporters who will fight in unity with the Party membership on the issues involved, thus reflecting a Party Leadership which will spread its influence far in excess of its numerical strength and consolidating the working class accordingly.

The conducting of trade union discussions on matters of immediate interest can be conducted by every trade unionist in the Party. But through the medium of trade union discussions the resulting consolidation of the trade union movement will create a growing demand on the part of the workers for a knowledge of the higher and deeper political tasks of the working class. All party members are not yet fully confident in conducting discussions around the deeper problems. It is necessary therefore to give assistance in this direction to Party members who want it.

Copy to Mr F.P. Walsh on 12.4.48
[Signature]

Leading committees of the Party must have on hand Communists equipped with at least a good general knowledge of Marxism-Leninism, who are available to conduct discussions on the higher political problems of the day, when such discussions have been arranged.

In this way Communists in their day to day work will be mobilising the working class on the basis of their immediate tasks, equipping the working class ~~■~~ from the armoury of Marxism-Leninism, and conducting a continual daily campaign to recruit members of the Party.

Leading Committees must make it obligatory on all Communists responsible for trade union leadership to undergo an educational course on Party theory and practice. These courses will be conducted in collaboration with the National Executive. However it must be borne in mind that such courses, are rounding off courses, and the question of success or otherwise of Party training will be determined by the individual incentive of the Party members to study the works of Marx, Lenin and Stalin and of the C.I. of their own accord.

By applying such methods of work, and Party will be initiating, leading and organising the trade union fight against capital, consolidating its ranks with the ~~best~~ very best trade unionists, building the Party, ~~consolidating its ranks with~~ on the basis of class conscious activity, as the Party of Lenin and Stalin must be built.

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE.

ON THE ESTABLISHMENT AND WORK OF TRADE UNION

15.1

INSTRUCTORS.

On the adoption of the resolution "Trade Unions and the Party" the National Executive resolves that all leading committees begin to reorganise trade union work. Leading committees are therefore advised to immediately establish, in collaboration with branch leaders, trade union instructors in all branches.

There are in all branches, particularly area branches, members of trade unions who have not yet been drawn into active and concrete work in their trade unions. These Communists belong to trade unions where one or two members are our only connection. Such members have the right to conduct trade union campaigns, and it is the duty of the Party to sustain such a right for its members. The function of the trade union instructors is to develop and train such Communists upon the basis of the practical problems of their specific trade unions, against the burdens of war, in defence of living standards, conditions of work, freedom of trade unions assembly and of an honest working class press.

It is not the intention of the National Executive to create trade union discussions at area branch meetings. Trade union instructors will confine such discussions to private talks with single members in question. Where no suitable comrade is to be found to act as trade union instructor in a particular branch one should be transferred from another branch.

Trade union organisations meet only a few times a year, at the best, one meeting each month, while some trade unions hold only one meeting per year. While the activity of the Communists at the trade union meeting is extremely important, this on no account means that trade union activity begins and ends at trade union meetings. The exigencies of the class struggles demand constant trade union work in many and varied industrial fields. The great responsibility of the Party and its membership in the trade unions is to organise trade union unity; genuine working class organisations which will develop the vital interests of the working class against reaction and against the splitting tactics and manoeuvres of the reformist leaders. Every Communist trade unionist must realise this responsibility and strive to equit himself in the spirit of Bolshevism, to fulfil this working class task as speedily as possible.

By beginning in an elementary way, be consistently and vigourously defending the interests of the working class, taking strict account of the specific interests of the particular category of workers in the given sphere, every Communist can drive through the manoeuvres of reformism, stand out as the initiator, leader and organiser of the working class against capitalist reaction.

The trade union instructors will teach Communists where to begin. To adopt a correct policy to meet a given situation, it is necessary, first and foremost, to have made a correct analysis of that given situation. The Party does not yet have a good knowledge of its members, it does not fully know the trade unions to which they belong. Live trade union instructors will supply the Party with the requisite facts, as the Party should know them, viz, Party membership in the unions, what unions Communists are to be found in, and the number of these Communists the visible strength of specific trade unions, financial membership, unfinancial membership, the numbers attending meetings, how often meetings are held and the type of meeting, how often the Executives of unions meet and so on.

Copy to Mr. T. P. Walsh on 12.4.48
Jh

There are the questions of award conditions, social security benefits, compensation claims and payments, and a comprehensive knowledge of legislation around such questions which are essential factors in the mobilisation of the mass struggle. Without a knowledge of such matters the Party knows very little about trade unions. Trade union instructors in the branches would sift the matters out, and all other factors in the trade union routine, from the Communists under their leadership.

In this way, the Communists in the trade unions would be trained with a comprehensive knowledge of union affairs which would arm them with the necessary facts and authority to create trade union associations in their own homes.

Trade union discussions are matters which interest all workers. The development of such discussions is a means to widen our activity, and in this activity, with the help and assistance of the leading committees and trade union instructors, every Communist trade unionist can become a real working class organiser, a real leader.

Furthermore, on the basis of concrete trade union work, the best elements in the trade unions will become active, and the incentive and enthusiasm for ~~the~~ higher political work will grow, creating a rich field for Party recruiting, based on the correct methods of recruiting; i.e. on the basis of working class activity.

No Communist trade unionist should consider himself an isolated unit, unimportant and impotent as a Party organiser. The problems of such a Communist are working class problems which the Party must take and solve, otherwise the Party cannot equip itself as a working class Party, as a vanguard Party.

Trade union instructors, educating and assisting in the solution of the problems of the separate, single isolated contacts in the trade unions, are essential steps in Party organisation, in breaking down Party isolation from the masses, in overthrowing the policy of class collaboration of the reformist leaders in the trade unions, in developing real trade union unity based on the class struggle, and in preparing the basis consolidated mass action against capitalist reaction in every form.

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE.

~~SECRET~~

EXTRACT/COPY

From (source): Police Dept. Reference: 46/119 Date: 25.7.1947
For File No. 31/2/4
Original on 26/17/4
Received on Extracted/Copied by On 11.6.1962.

REPORT OF: Det. Sergt. S. C. Browne.

RELATIVE TO: Affiliation of Trade Unions with Society for Closer Relations with Russia.

'Vide attached'

I respectfully report that this is a matter which had not advanced past the discussion or suggestion stage. Enquiry shows that C.P. members in the Society for Closer Relations with Russia propose to sponsor a remit to the effect that the Society for Closer Relations with Russia should ask the Trade Unions to affiliate with the S.C.R. In other words, the S.C.R, if the Communists in the Society are successful in having their remit adopted) proposes to approach the Trade Unions in the same manner as the Communist Party has in the past approached the Labour Party asking for affiliation. On the face of it the remit is one which will get little hearing from the Trade Union Movement generally, but C.P. members in the Unions are instructed to give the matter their support, if the motion is brought forward at a meeting of whatever Trade Union the member happens to belong to.

The other matter raised in the report of [redacted] followed on during the discussion on this proposed remit. Ian MITCHELL (an ill-informed person) suggested that the District Committee should approach the Legation of the U.S.S.R. etc. Enquiry shows that the C.P. has not at any time received literature from the Legation of the U.S.S.R. and that the District Committee of the C.P. would take no notice of his suggestion. The suggestion that the C.P. should approach the U.S.S.R. legation and ask them to instruct the French Press Service to supply literature is simply MITCHELL'S own idea, and all the other suggestions and remarks on this subject were made by MITCHELL. The District Committee of the C.P. will not take any notice of his suggestion, and as stated above enquiry shows that the C.P. has not at any time received literature from the Legation of the U.S.S.R.

No attempt has yet been made to contact Trade Unions regarding affiliation with the S.C.R. as the proposition has not been raised by the C.P. in the S.C.R. itself.

S.C.B

~~SECRET~~

Publicly released under the NZSIS Declassification Policy

~~SECRET~~

EXTRACT/COPY

From (source): Comm. of Police Reference: 47/119 Date: 9 July 1947
For File No. 21/2/4
Original on 26/17/4
Received on Extracted/Copied by On 29.1.1962

MEMORANDUM for:

The Superintendent of Police,
WELLINGTON.

AFFILIATION OF TRADE UNIONS WITH THE SOCIETY FOR CLOSER
RELATIONS WITH RUSSIA.

In his report of the 12th June [redacted] says:-

"All members of the Communist Party who are members of Trade Unions are instructed to give their fullest support in their Unions, for the affiliation of the respective Unions to the S.C.R. This affiliation question is being brought forward by the S.C.R. and all Unions are being contacted along these lines. All Communist Party members who are members of the S.C.R. are to form a fraction within the S.C.R. and try to gain recruits for the Party. MITCHELL suggested that we should get the District Committee to contact the USSR Legation and ask them to instruct the French Press Service to supply the S.C.R. with literature and propaganda on the USSR. This was considered a good suggestion and it was thought that if we contacted the USSR Legation through the District Office the Legation themselves would supply literature."

Has any movement been made to contact Trade Unions concerning the proposed affiliation with the Society for Closer Relations with Russia?

Has anything been done on the lines suggested by MITCHELL that the District Committee should contact the USSR Legation for the purpose of getting literature and propaganda on the USSR for the Society for Closer Relations with Russia? This is most important and any action as the result of the suggestions made must be fully reported.

It appears to me that the report of [redacted] to the effect that the District Committee of the Communist Party approach the USSR Legation and ask them to instruct the French Press Service to supply literature and propaganda on the USSR to the Society, requires clarifying.

[redacted] says "it was thought that if we contacted the USSR Legation through the District Office the Legation themselves would supply literature." Has the Party on any occasion received literature from the USSR Legation?

Please have this given immediate and careful attention.

(Signed).....
Commissioner of Police.

~~SECRET~~



S. 47/103.

21/2/4

In your reply, please
quote this number:~~MARTIN~~~~Douglas Murdoch~~~~SECRET~~

POLICE DEPARTMENT.

WELLINGTON, C. 1.

23rd June, 1947.

MEMORANDUM for:

The Rt.Hon. the Prime Minister.

COMMUNIST PARTY PAMPHLET "TAKE HOME ANOTHER £1 TO MUM".

The attached pamphlet is part of the Communist Party propaganda for a wage increase of £1 a week for trade unionists. The author of the pamphlet is Douglas Murdoch Martin, an active member of the Communist Party for many years.

Martin is Secretary of the Auckland Plasterers' Union and assistant Secretary of the Auckland Carpenters' Union. He is editor of the "Union Record" and has written articles for the "N.Z. Labour Review" on the question of the arbitration system and its reform.

He was born at Christchurch on the 24th October, 1903. He commenced his career as a journalist. He was then a Presbyterian Minister. Early in the war he was a pacifist. His activities brought him before the Wellington Supreme Court on two charges of publishing a subversive statement (Public Safety Emergency Regulations), and on the 18th July, 1940 he was sentenced to 6 months' imprisonment on each charge, cumulative. He was released on license on the 14th of March, 1941.

In the middle of 1941, Martin switched from organised pacifism, at least his attitude changed swiftly when Germany invaded Soviet Russia, to become quite militant and spoke at public meetings on behalf of aid to Russia.

Martin did not seem embarrassed by the fact that only a few weeks before publicly demanding more and more military aid to Russia (and not for the British Commonwealth of Nations) he had followed his pacifist pursuits in addressing a meeting of The Fellowship of Conscientious Objectors.

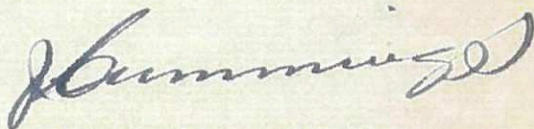
Rd A H
8 12 49
86

Martin was one time President of the New Zealand Left Book Club. It is reported that Martin was expelled from membership of the New Zealand Labour Party; if this is true you probably already have some information concerning him.

In 1947 Martin was elected to the Auckland Trades Council of the Federation of Labour. He is on the Apprentices Committee.

The Communist Party has now launched a Dominion wide appeal for £1,500 for a fighting fund. In his appeal for funds published in the "Peoples Voice" of the 4th June, Vic. Wilcox, campaign organiser, says : "The campaign against the communists is on because the New Zealand reactionaries and their hangers-on have realised the growing strength of our party as a force in the New Zealand Labour Movement."

It would appear from the article quoted that the Communist Party intends to issue further pamphlets as "an offensive against re-action".



Commissioner of Police.

847/57

140

COMMUNIST ACTIVITY IN THE PARTY

LONDON, June 14.
The secretariat of the Labour Party is preparing a secret report for the National Council of Labour, a joint body consisting of the Labour Party, the Trades Union Congress, and the Co-operative Movement, on Communist activity within the Labour Party, says the "Sunday Dispatch." New Communist tactics had necessitated this.

Foiled in the attempt to secure affiliation with the Labour Party, says the "Dispatch," the Communist Party's inner caucus has directed "permeation" of trades unions. This has already reached formidable proportions. The Cabinet Ministers, except three who are sympathetic to the Communists, are very concerned at the way Communists are getting control of key trades union positions.

Prime Minister Launches Attack On Communists

Forecasts Labour Discipline Of Trouble-Makers In Industry

Denouncing trouble-makers and Communists, who, he said, employed disruptive tactics, the Prime Minister, Mr. Fraser, told the Labour Party conference yesterday:

"We won't abandon ship. If the choice ever lies between carrying on and applying discipline, or turning our backs on all that we have achieved, and the interests of the people, then we will apply discipline, and we will look to the Labour movement to stand four-square with us in this responsibility, if and when we face it."

Mr. Fraser, who spoke for more than an hour, strongly attacked the Communist Party, for what he described as disruptive tactics by a small number, designed to advance some sort of a Communistic revolution, and said that they themselves admitted their action was political and not industrial.

Mr. Fraser said that New Zealand had to face up to the realities of economics. The stage of mere propaganda had passed. The margin of subsidies was rapidly disappearing, he said, and, referring to wages, he pointed out that prices overseas had increased enormously because poorly-paid workers were today receiving higher wages than they had ever before been paid.

"Why do these few people, the Communists, polling a few hundred votes, try to create discontent and a resort to direct action?" asked Mr. Fraser. "It is because they don't belong to the New Zealand Labour movement. They are not in sympathy with its ideals, and they are not working for the party or the Government. I am not reflecting on them, for they are the first to admit it and to say openly that they are out to cause disruption by making demands and causing all sorts of difficulties for a political purpose. I don't speak their language, but I know that hold-ups are caused by them and then used by the Tories."

Same Policy Elsewhere.

"I want you to ponder on this, for it is the same policy the same people are adopting in every country in the world, including Britain and Australia. I have no message for those claiming to be of our household but who conspire against us. We have a Labour Government in this country, and the co-operation between that Government and the Federation of Labour has been as close as it could be. We want that to continue, and the whole movement, industrial and political, to march forward in an unbroken line."

The names "blacklegs" and "scabs" were not the prerogative of trouble-makers, said Mr. Fraser. They were not sacred nor sacrosanct. If they were hurled about it was necessary to look and see who were the industrial "blacklegs" and "scabs"—to see who they were and to identify them before the people that all might recognise them.

"We are all one and must go forward in line so that all may benefit. We can see one group trying to break that line to secure temporary advantages for themselves at a great cost to their fellows."

"My duty as leader of the party, and as Prime Minister, is to come before you and state the position. We believe in democracy. We believe what has been done is worth saving. Just look at the results. Salaries and wages have brought added money into the homes of the people, three times as great as when we came into office. Social security has gone up 15 times."

"No section of the community has a right to hold up this surge of progress. We won't abandon ship. If the choice ever lies between carrying on and applying discipline, and turning our backs on all that we have achieved, and the interests of the people, we will apply discipline, and we look to the Labour movement to stand four-square with us in this responsibility if and when we face it."

"I would be blind if I did not see these problems. I would be insincere if I did not state them to you, because they are your problems as well as mine. We will be traitors to ourselves and to the people if we do not say 'This far and no farther,' to those now trying to endanger our work and progress. We don't want any muddled-minded miniature Mussolinis or haughty half-witted Hitlers in our country. We are not afraid to face difficult situations, and are ready to march onwards, steadily forward to the goal of our ideals," Mr. Fraser added.

Address By Mr. Roberts.

The president of the party, Mr. James Roberts, in his opening address, said that although Labour's opponents had made much of the industrial disputes lately occurring in New Zealand there were in fact fewer stoppages and less industrial trouble during the war period and since in this Dominion than in any other country.

The Labour movement of New Zealand had a very definite responsibility in this matter, said Mr. Roberts. So far Labour had not been able to solve the problem of industrial unrest, but he appealed to delegates to bring intelligence and commonsense to bear upon the problem, at this conference, for industrial disputes threatened to destroy all that Labour had accomplished for the workers.

If we wanted peace abroad the first job was to establish harmony at home, and there was no logical reason why this could not be accomplished. While questions affecting industrial matters were the business of the Federation of Labour, the fact remained that when industrial disputes of any magnitude took place the party was, willingly, involved.

The Labour Government had by legislation given the industrial organizations their proper place in society. It had guaranteed full employment, and provided a guaranteed wage and improved living standards for the workers. It had blazed the track for other countries in social legislation, but it had not been able to solve the problem of industrial unrest and industrial disputes which might have the effect of destroying all that had been accomplished.

Calm Consideration.

Could not this conference be a meeting-house where the question could be considered calmly, and the intelligence of delegates applied so that the problem could be solved in a commonsense manner? Could they establish an organisation or method by which any real grievances which might exist could be adjusted without recourse to lock-outs or strikes?

The Government had already provided the means by which most industrial disputes could be adjusted, and to the ordinary person it would appear the commonsense thing to use those avenues, for experience had been that even when direct action was taken, negotiations between employers and workers must take place before the dispute was settled.

"N.Z. Truth," Wednesday, May 21, 1947—Page 8

COMMUNIST STRENGTH IN N.Z.

LONDON (International News Service).—The Communist Party today claims a membership of 12,692,000 in 68 countries outside Russia. In addition, there are 11 countries where the party has gone underground and figures are not revealed. New Zealand has 2000 members and Australia 25,000. The complete listing, obtained by International News Service from the National Headquarters of the English Communist Party in London, represents the most detailed survey of Communist strength yet revealed.

LISTED AT 2000 MEMBERS

Detailed World Survey

IT must be emphasised that the figures are entirely from Communist sources and may not give the full picture.

COUNTRIES in which the Communists have gone underground are revealed as Portugal, Spain, Martinique, Ceylon, Indonesia, Philippines, Siam, Algeria, Morocco, South Africa, and Tunisia.

Although Marxism is not illegal in all of these countries, there are tactical and other reasons for not revealing party strength.

Another point is that membership figures do not correspond with the relative influence of each party unit; for example, Brazil is listed as having 130,000 while the U.S. group claims only 74,000.

A second factor in judging real Communist strength is the total membership among the elected representatives of the country. It will be seen that they have a much greater voting strength than party membership figures would indicate.

In Sweden, the Communist strength is given as only 46,000, but they won 92 seats in the last municipal elections. In Holland, the membership is officially 50,000, but the group polled 502,000 votes in the last general election and now has 15 seats in Parliament.

In Belgium, the Communists have 100,000 members but received 300,000 votes in the last election and today hold 23 seats in the Chamber of Deputies and have four Cabinet portfolios.

In France, the official membership is 1,300,000 but the Communists polled 5,475,000 votes, gaining them five seats in the Cabinet.

In Italy, 2,200,000 people are registered as Communists, but 4,342,000 voted for them in the last election. They now hold 108 seats in Parliament and have four Cabinet Ministers.

Great Britain has only 43,000 members, and the party received 102,000 votes in the general election.

It should be noted that, in the case of Britain, Communists did not oppose Labor candidates where the race against the Conservative candidate was likely to be close.

This policy of supporting Socialists in order not to split the Left vote is followed in all countries where it is deemed advisable and has been done frequently in the United States.

The Communists have 33,000 members in Norway and today hold 11 seats in Parliament. In Denmark, they have 60,000 members and hold 18 representatives in Parliament.

The last Scandinavian country, Finland, is occupied by Russian troops, but even under these circumstances there are only 28,000 Communists and 51 representatives in Parliament—about one-third of the total seats.

There are 1,576,000 Communists in the Soviet zone of Germany and 350,000 in the Western zones. Austria has a membership of 150,000 and the Communists polled 290,000 votes in the general election. They have four seats in Parliament and one Cabinet Minister.

The Communists are in considerable strength in the remaining countries in Europe which are commonly regarded as coming within the Soviet orbit of influence.

Russia has a party membership of 6,000,000 and, in the last election, it was officially revealed that 819,000 people voted against the regime. This is less than one per cent. of the total electoral vote and, in order to register this protest, the voter had to nullify his ballot.

According to official figures, Greece today has 400,000 Communists, but in the present state of virtual civil war, many of these have fled to the north. The Communists have been active in South America and have an impressive foothold in each of the 18 major countries.

Canada, where the Communists reportedly were successful in gaining access to atom bomb secrets, has only 23,000 members.

In the whole of Asia, China has the largest Communist Party membership with 2,000,000, and India is a poor second with 52,700.

Japan reportedly has only 6000 Communists, while Burma has 4000, Malaya 10,000. Palestine is reported as having 1400.

138

Mr. Naldy
P.M.

547/57

GLOVES OFF TO COMMUNISTS

Union Sec. Hits Hard

SIGNIFICANT of the fact that the average trade unionist is a decent citizen who does not want to be dragged along at the heels of a pack of irresponsible and crafty Communists is a fearless and

outspoken report by the Secretary of the N.Z. Federated Saddlers, Canvas Workers, Riggers and Related Trades Unions. The report, which was adopted at the annual meeting of the Association, is published in full below.

COMING on top of a striking contribution from a trade union official printed on this page a fortnight ago, on the insidious menace of Communism, it demonstrates the awakening consciousness of responsible trade union thought to the dangerous elements in their midst.

THE report, which is signed by Messrs. A. L. Gilly (president) and John Tucker (secretary) is as follows:—

Publicly released under the NZSIS Declassification Policy

In presenting this report, and making herein a hurried survey not only of our registered organisation, but of the trend of events in the whole organised industrial field, I pray for your forbearance, tolerance and understanding. I shall endeavor to express the truth as I see it, and if the truth, perchance, as it is, is likely to wound and enrage those minds wrapped up in selfish motives rather than in public welfare, I trust that they will give expression of thought, the freedom and democratic range it deserves in a free community, and to which they claim allegiance. The Saddlers and Canvas Workers' Federation is an integral part of the industrial manufacturing machine of the nation, and although smaller in membership numbers than other industrial pressure groups, it contributes its quota towards the production of consumable goods, and has a right to be heard.

The 40-hour week and its application by demand, enforced by a number of essential and key industries through the use of the strike and illegal stoppages, has been a costly business to the nation, and a great loss to the Government of the country.

"Sitting in the shadows of the past war's happenings, one is almost tempted to ask: was the Government justified in legislating such curtailment of working hours at a time when the flow of goods in this country, Britain and the world were far below the consuming demand, the stream of money in circulation, by reason of its excess over the amount of goods available, deflating the value of the medium of exchange?"

"Would it not have been better to enlist the co-operation of every worker in field and factory to produce with the utmost of their energies the essential goods needed, keep down prices, and thereby maintain the purchasing power of the pound? It was not the intention of the Government that the 40-hour week be universally applied, nor did they dream that with threats and challenges it would be used as a weapon against them to enforce claims, stoppages of work and economic loss nationally.

"More production, not more money from wages, salaries or investments, is the present economic need. More money pumped by any means whatsoever into the circulating financial system already overflying will only serve to devalue the whole currency and endanger the retention on the statute book of our social security laws.

"There may be a place in the world for foreign ideologies and communistic propaganda, but not in God's own country—New Zealand—which is a pattern to the world. The public are not dense, if long suffering, and those who from selfish motives or by ignorance or design delight in placing stumbling blocks in the path of progress and inflict suffering on their fellow workers and the community by lapsing into idleness and working essential industries by fits and starts will not escape the public wrath they deserve.

"THE MACHINERY FOR SETTLEMENT ALL DISPUTES INDUSTRIALLY ARE AMPLE AND ADEQUATE, BUT IGNORED, AND EVEN THE SERVICES OF THE FEDERATION OF LABOR AND THE GOVERNMENT ARE DISREGARDED. SUCH ACTIONS SAVOR OF INDUSTRIAL INSANITY, THE BLIND LEADING THE BLIND INTO THE DITCH OF NATIONAL ECONOMIC CHAOS.

"Workers who have staged strikes and stoppages during the year thereby to some extent depleting the goods in the national pool, were ill-advised, and whatever their imaginings may be, they were at that point

MILITARY MOVE

THE first of a series of exchange military lectures between the United States and Britain aimed at fostering understanding between military officers of the two countries, will be given at West Point, U.S. Military School.



Wedemeyer.

General Hull, commandant of the British Military Staff College, Camberley, will speak there on "The System of Officer Education in the British Army." Next, Lieutenant-General Wedemeyer, commanding general of the U.S. Second Army, will give a series of lectures in England.

not only hitting the helpless community, but themselves and all other workers. Make no mistake about it, the living standards of the people as a whole—not in part, by class or group, but as a whole—depend not on the amount of money they receive from any source, but on the amount of goods produced into the national pool and distributed therefrom at a price having a true relation to cost.

"The energies of the national industrial movement should be directed towards lowering prices rather than clamoring for exorbitant wage rates. By that way only will the

value of the pound increase and standards of living improve.

"Organised power and public power: Those who challenge the Prime Minister and the Government to an industrial battle and the 'mobilisation of all industrial forces' for that purpose are intoxicated by their false importance and dictatorial influence, forgetting that public opinion is a powerful factor in the management and shaping the destiny of a nation.

"The total strength of organised labor industrially is about 240,000, whereas at the last election, public opinion as expressed at the polls numbered over 900,000. Is it then reasonable that one-third of the population be allowed to dictate by group pressure what the other two-thirds shall bear in hardships by reason of stoppage of essential industries?"

"Nazism in Germany and Fascism in Italy were born on the industrial field and grew to be intolerant, blood-thirsty monsters. Public opinion as a result became shackled to the autocratic chariots of Hitler and Mussolini. The public are shareholders in this God-given land inheritance. They are workers by hand or brain, and contribute their share towards subsidies to maintain industries and keep down prices and taxation towards expenditure and maintenance of Social Security laws and other social benefits and defence. May public opinion be awakened in defence of British freedom and liberty, to participate in all matters affecting its whole welfare without fear or favor, and protect itself against falling a prey to the 'grizzly bear' of frozen freedom.

"I would recommend that the workers of the N.Z. Federated Saddlers, Canvas Workers, Riggers and Related Trades Association pass a resolution on the following lines and forward it to the N.Z. Federation of Labor, with a view of laying it before the Government:

"That in the matters of industrial disputes affecting essential industries, and which in turn affect the whole community, the Federation of Labor be requested to approach the Government with the request that an amendment be made to Section 109 of the I.C. and A. Act, 1925, by adding thereto the provisions of Sections 4, 5, 6, and 7 of the Labor Disputes Investigation Act, 1913. Further, that provision be made also for a representative of the public to be entitled to sit and take part in the settlement of all disputes wherein public hardship may be inflicted upon the public thereby, or, the national economy be threatened."

"The intention of the foregoing amendment is (a) that a secret ballot of members of affected unions must be taken before a strike can take place; (b) power is given the Minis-

ter to enforce the law; (c) the public to be heard before they be forced to bend to force; (d) in such hearings costs, profits and prices must be admitted and the economic effects claims made upon the national welfare of the people as a whole.

"I believe in liberty of speech, action, and to every man his way, he believes according to his light, or they that by false doctrine teach the philosophy of force might against reason and logic industrially or politically are enemies of the State and human welfare," concludes the report.

137

Handwritten notes and signatures.

Publicly released under the NZSIS Declassification Policy

Editorial Opinion

"N.Z. Truth," Wednesday,

May 7, 1947—Page 14

WHY ARE LEADERS SILENT? Insidious Cancer Of Communism

FOR how long are the genuine trade unionists going to tolerate the cancer of Communism in their midst? Leaders of industrial unionism, who were once leaders in fact as well as in name, are now finding themselves being pushed out into the wilderness by the concentrated organisation and attack of men whose loyalty is certainly not to their own country or the well-being of the whole of the workers.

NOT only have those men remained silent, but of equal importance is the strange reluctance of the leaders of the great Labor movement to come out into the open and brand Communism as a menace to the people of the country and a threat to democratic government.

THEIR failure to take positive action to combat Communism is incredible. The Labor press throughout New Zealand realises full well that Communism is white ant-eating industrial unionism, but here again no attempt is made in the columns of those newspapers to expose this grave threat from within the unions and the Labor movement itself.

Such tacit acceptance of Communism is all the more extraordinary when viewed in the light of the traditional antagonism of the Labor Party as expressed each year at the annual conference, when overtures by the Communist Party for affiliation have been summarily rejected.

It would seem to suggest that those whose duty it is to expose trenchantly the culprits are frightened to do so.

The Australian Labor Party in the past several months has been compelled to take action. The Labor Party and industrial union leaders in Australia, alarmed by the strength of the Communists and the key positions they hold, have declared war in an attempt to eradicate or, at any rate, control the menace. Contrast this with New Zealand, where organisations and industrial leaders whose very existence is imperilled by a threat working from within, and motivated from outside the country, remain silent and deprive the workers of the leadership and guidance they have every right to expect.

So indifferent is the Labor press of New Zealand to what is taking place that they waste precious space in which to rant unconvincedly about the battle as between "entrenched capitalism" and "trades unionism, whose rights, they proclaim, capitalism is bent on stifling."

There is a job screaming for their attention, calling for courage and intelligent leadership. They appear strangely reluctant to tackle it. Neither Labor leaders nor the Labor press have declared with blunt candor that Communism cares not one jot or tittle for the rights of trades unions or the well-being of trade unionists.

Those who peddle the pernicious doctrine care even less for the progress, prosperity and real welfare of this country and its people. Communism is a wholly disruptive force; it knows no allegiance to the constitutional elements within the country. It is destructive in the economic source.

Communism grows and expands on the apathy of the general worker, who, like so many men in other walks of life, will not attend meetings of their union or organisation when officers are to be elected or matters of policy are to be determined.

The Communists are fanatically determined. They organise themselves in full force. What they lack in numbers compared with the total strength of the organisation they more than make up for by their attendance at all meetings. They are a veritable spearhead in attack. The moderates and the apathetic awake to the danger only when the harm has been done.

Communism is dividing the workers. Wherever Communism has reared its ugly head, there have followed inevitably serious disturbances, industrial unrest, strikes, stoppages, go-slow, disregard for law and order.

What is lacking today, and is eagerly awaited by many thousands, is an inspiring and courageous lead in a crusade to eradicate Communism; remove from certain trade unions the paralysing grip of this insidious menace with its concomitants of fear and suspicion of unionist against fellow-unionist.

The time has arrived for the Government, the moderate and loyal trade union elements and the Labor press to join with all those for whom British liberty and freedom are more than mere names and so actively assist in destroying an evil cancer which, if not destroyed, will itself destroy us and all the good things that modern civilisation stands for.

to Nelson
gn



21/2/4 147

In your reply, please
quote this number:

S.47/57

~~SECRET~~

POLICE DEPARTMENT.

WELLINGTON, C. 1.

28th April, 1947.

MEMORANDUM for:

The Rt.Hon. the Prime Minister.

AUCKLAND TRADES COUNCIL OF FEDERATION OF LABOUR -
1947 ELECTION OF OFFICERS - COMMUNIST PARTY CONTROL.

The annual elections for the executive of the Auckland Trades Council of the Federation of Labour have recently been held. Of the fifteen office holders elected ten are known to be members of the Communist Party. There is little change from last year and the Council will, therefore, remain under Communist control. The elected members of the Council are :-

Secretary -	ASHTON, Walter	Trade Union Secretary and member of the Communist Party.
President -	DRENNAN, Alexander	Vice President of the Auckland Branch of the Waterside Workers Union and Chairman of the National Executive of the Communist Party.
Minute Secretary -	CHANDLER, F.C.	Secretary Chelsea Sugar Workers Union and Devonport Steam Ferry Employees Union.
Apprentices Committee		
Legislative Committee -	DAVISON, S.	Printers Union.
Executive -	KELLEHER, William P.	Delegate N.Z. Workers Union.
Executive and Apprentices Committee -	MACKIE, John	Secretary Engineers Union and Member of the Communist Party.
Apprentices Committee -	MARTIN, Douglas Murdoch	Secretary Carpenters and Plasterers Union and member of the Communist Party.
Executive -	MATTHEWS, Lawrence Gerald	Secretary Drivers Union. Although not known to be a member of the Communist Party he follows the Party line.
Executive -	MITCHELL, John	Waterside Workers Union and member of the Communist Party.
Disputes Board	James	
Legislative Committee -	MULLER, Frederick Daniel	Organiser of Drivers Union and a member of the Communist Party.
Disputes Board -	POTTER, Trevor John Patrick	Secretary of Labourers Union and member of the Communist Party.
Executive -	REID, Leonard Walter Scott	Chairman Otahuhu Branch Amalgamated Society of Railways Servants and a member of the Communist Party.

RA RA
8.12.49

Executive -	SMITH, Lawrence Eric Priestley	President of Tanners and Fellmongers Union.
Executive -	SPECK, Alfred Otto	Ex President Tramways Union and member of the Communist Party.
Vice President-	WHITLOW, Edward Alick	Secretary of Tramways Union and Workers Representative on Railways Tribunal and Member of Communist Party.

PARTY PENETRATION.

The penetration of the Communist Party into Trade Unions is, of course, nothing new. The Communist Party has always described itself as the vanguard of the working class in the fight against the exploiting class and it follows that it is the task of Party members working in trade union organisations to secure the leadership of them so that they can be brought under the political guidance of the party. The Party member in a trade union, therefore, gives his first obedience to the Party. All Party members in an organisation come under the direction of the Party and work as one unit with a Common policy. The purpose of this is obviously twofold - (a) To draw the organisations into support of every day grievances or current campaigns organised by the Communist Party and (b) the long term purpose of organising for the purpose of securing control.

This is of course a matter of tactics - following the line that in so far as they were successful they would strengthen the Party Leadership in the Labour Movement and support won on a particular issue might be converted gradually into support on any issue.

Office in a Trade Union does not appeal to the average worker, it seldom brings much popularity and involves the sacrifice of much leisure. Members of the Communist Party appear to be fanatically devoted to their cause and are apparently instructed by the Party to put themselves forward for office no doubt in order to increase their personal leadership and to get control of the union organisation. The Party member with the support of a highly trained organisation as against the apathy of the average unionist has an advantage that no other candidate will possess. The result, which is important, is becoming more apparent in the post war policy of the Party, is that by his willingness to accept office and the aid of his Party, members of the Communist Party exercise in trade unions an influence out of all proportion to their relative numbers as a whole.

POST WAR POLICY.

The alliance of anti-fascist forces which commenced about 1935 is still apparent in the post war policy of the Communist Party. The monopolists and privileged classes are branded as Fascist and continue to be the target of the propaganda department of the party.

In pre-war years it was clearly recognised by the Communist Party that there was an imminent prospect of war either between fascism and the democratic powers or by an alliance of imperialist powers against the Soviet Union. The view was expressed that, even if the war started as a war between rival imperialisms, the warring powers would at some point compose their differences and switch the war against the Soviet Union. Their main task, therefore, was to defend the Soviet Union as the sole hope of the working class against fascist domination. That this is still their immediate aim is quite apparent. That the allegiance of the Communist Party in New Zealand is first and foremost to the U.S.S.R. was clearly and irrevocably demonstrated in the early years of the war. At the outbreak of the war the Communist Party advised the workers that it was an Imperialist war which statement could not be reconciled with

Publicly released under the NZSIS Declassification Policy

their pre-war efforts to organise in a United Front against Fascism. In 1939 and 1940 and until Germany attacked Russia the Communist Party did all it could to frustrate our war effort. The Party reversed its policy when the Soviet was attacked and it then became a war against Fascism. It was the victory of the Soviet rather than that of the United Nations which received their approbation.

Today everything that strengthens the Soviet Union is regarded by the Party as strengthening the working class throughout the world. That they may be expected to uphold the interests of the Soviet Union at the expense of what others would regard as their own National interests I think was clearly shown by the following newspaper report of February, 1946 which I now quote :

"N.Z. POLICY TO SOVIET

Communist Leader's Criticism.

Auckland, February 15.

The Communist Party will support the Labour Government at the forthcoming General Election, said Mr. A. Drennan, chairman of the New Zealand Communist Party's national conference which opened tonight. Mr. Drennan presided over an attendance of about 450. Mr. Drennan said hostility displayed by Mr. Bevin and Mr. Fraser toward the Soviet Union at the United Nations conference was noted by New Zealand Communists with displeasure. It was time New Zealand had some Communist members in Parliament. The conference would investigate the possibility of nominating a number of candidates to stand at the General Election. Mr. Drennan's remarks were supported by several other speakers, all of whom emphasized that it would be the party's first objective to secure the return to office of the Labour Party. At the same time, it was proposed to preserve a critical attitude towards some of the Government's economic measures, specially toward its foreign policy as expressed by Mr. Fraser."

That the chief loyalty of the Communist Party is not to this country and those who are genuinely seeking social progress through parliamentary procedure is amply demonstrated by a study of the activities of the Party throughout the Dominion. It is my considered opinion that placed in any position of trust they will put their loyalty to the Communist Party first. The placing of these individuals in positions of responsibility in the Labour Movement should, I suggest, be guarded against where possible, as it not only assists them in obtaining that cloak of respectability but the resultant increase in recruits and following will strengthen the Party claim to affiliation in the Labour Movement.



Commissioner of Police.

~~SECRET~~

SUBJECT: AUCKLAND TRADES COUNCIL OF FEDERATION OF LABOUR - 1947 ELECTION
OF OFFICERS - COMMUNIST PARTY CONTROL OF.

133

The Sub. Insp. Dets.

Of the total of 15 office holders elected 10 are known at this office to be members of the Communist Party.

These ten are as follows -

DRENNAN,
WHITLOW,
ASHTON,
MITCHELL,
MACKIE,
EID,
PECK,
MARTIN,
POTTER,
MULLER.

E. H. Stevenson

Senr. Det.

24.4.47.

He, Luffi,

Mason

2 Senr. Dets.

apt.
24 1947

The Supt.

S. O. Hall

Insp

24-4-47

The Commissioner

For information

J. Sweeney

Supt 24/4/47

496
254

~~SECRET~~

SUBJECT: AUCKLAND TRADES COUNCIL OF FEDERATION OF LABOUR - 1947 ELECTION
OF OFFICERS - COMMUNIST PARTY CONTROL OF.

133

The Sub. Insp. Dets.

Of the total of 15 office holders elected 10 are known at this office to be members of the Communist Party.

These ten are as follows -

DRENNAN,
WHITLOW,
ASHTON,
MITCHELL,
MACKIE,
EID,
ECK,
MARTIN,
POTTER,
JULLER.

E. H. Stevenson

Senr. Det.

24.4.47.

She [unclear],
He [unclear]
Insp. Dets.
apt.
24 1947

The Supt.

S. O. Hall

Insp

24-4-47.

The Commissioner
For information
Friday
24/4/47

496
257

Special Branch,
Auckland Detective Office,

23rd April 1947.

REPORT of Detective sergeant R. Jones No. 3272

relative to COMMUNIST PARTY activities in Auckland. Communists
elected to the AUCKLAND TRADES COUNCIL.

I respectfully report that the annual elections of the AUCKLAND TRADES COUNCIL were recently held in Auckland. The results show little difference from the election of last year and which was reported on by me on 26.4.46. Comparison with the report referred to shows that known Communists have maintained their positions and the Council will therefore remain under Communist control.

Following is the result of the election.

2 PRESIDENT: Alexander DRENNAN, unopposed. Vice President of Auckland Branch of Waterside Workers Union and chairman National Executive of the Communist Party. S.H. sheet forwarded.

15 vice-Pres. Edward Alick WHITLOW, unopposed, Secretary Tramwaymens Union and workers representative on Railwaymens Tribunal. S.H sheet forwarded.

+ Secretary: Walter ASHTON, unopposed. Well known Trade Union Secretary and Communist. S.H sheet forwarded.

3 Minute Secretary : F.C. CHANDLER, secretary Chelsea Sugar Workers Union and Devonport Steam Ferry Employees Union. Not known to be a member of the Communist Party and has not previously come under notice at this office.

EXECUTIVE: *8* Lawrence Gerard MATTHEWS, Secretary Drivers Union. Not known to be a member of the Communist Party but follows the Party "line". Previously reported on from this office.

9 John James MITCHELL, Waterside Workers Union. S.H Sheet forwarded.

6 John MACKIE, Secretary Engineers Union. S.H sheet forwarded.

5 William P. KELLEHER, delegate N.Z Workers Union. Not known to be a member of the Communist Party.

12 Leonard Walter Scott REID, Chairman Otahuhu branch Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants. S.H sheet forwarded.

14 Alfred Otto SPECK, recently deposed President Tramwaymens Union. S.H sheet forwarded.

73 Lawrence Eric Preistley SMITH, President Tanners and Fellmongers Union. Previously reported on from this office. Not known to be a member of the Communist Party.

Apprentice-ship Committee. *7* Douglas Murdoch MARTIN, secretary Carpenters and Plasterers Unions. Member of Communist Party. S.H sheet forwarded.

4 S. DAVISON, Printers' Union. Not known to be a member of the Communist Party and has not previously come under notice at this office. Also elected to this Committee is John MACKIE referred to above.

Disputes Board : *11* Trevor John Patrick POTTER, Secretary Labourers Union. S.H sheet forwarded. Mitchell referred to above is also a member of this committee.

Legislative Committee : *10* Frederick Daniel MULLER, organiser Drivers Union. S.H sheet forwarded. Davison referred to above was elected a member of this committee.

R. Jones
Det. Supt. 3272

SUBJECT: _____

COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN TRADE UNIONS.

131

The Sub. Insp. Dets.

Respectfully noted.

The annual elections for the executive of the Auckland Trades Council of the Federation of Labour have just recently been held. I am informed that once again the Communist Party has obtained complete control, the whole of the Party bloc nominated being elected. I believe that only two are not members of the Communist Party. A list of the office holders and committee will be forwarded as soon as they are obtained, but there is little change from last year.

E. Stevenson

21.4.47.

Senr. Det.

*The Commissioner
In information
Gawley
Sup/ 21/4/47*

*File
Gm*

~~SECRET~~
NEW ZEALAND POLICESpecial Branch,
Station Detective Office, AUCKLAND.

Date 14 th April, 1947.

Report of Senior-Detective E.A. Stevenson

No. 2627

Relative to COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN TRADE UNIONS.

I respectfully report that no information has yet been obtained through secret and other confidential sources about an alleged list of 25 Communist remits to Trade Union members of the Party. The matter is being kept in mind.

The obtaining of information along this line is rendered more difficult by reason of the fact that because of his occupation the Department's source of information has no direct trade union contact.

The secret report from Wellington quoted in the Commissioner's memorandum is not entirely correct, as there was no Easter Conference of the Labour Party or of the Federation of Labour. I understand that these conferences are being held in June.

Every effort is being made in this matter, but as yet it can only be reported that no information at all has been obtained in support of the correctness of the secret report.

The Inspector, Dets.
AUCKLAND.

E. A. Stevenson
Senr. Det.

*The Supt.
Scottall
Insp
14.4.47.*

The Superintendent of Police,
AUCKLAND.

A copy of the remits has been obtained in Wellington.
For your information.

The Insp (ar)

*Swearing
Supt 18/4/47*

J. Cummings
Commissioner of Police.
-16.4.47.

*The Sub. Insp (Hets)
Scottall
Insp
18.4.47.*

*S. A. Stevenson
Insp
18.4.47.*
APR 18 1947

~~SECRET~~



144
If any reply, please
quote this number:

S.47/57

POLICE DEPARTMENT.

WELLINGTON C. 1.

31st March, 1947.

MEMORANDUM for:

The Rt.Hon. the Prime Minister,
WELLINGTON.

COMMUNIST PARTY ACTIVITIES IN TRADE UNIONS.

Further to my memorandum to you of 28th March concerning above, a copy of the remits issued by the Communist Party to Trade Unions is forwarded for your information.

Encl:

Commissioner of Police.

143

DRAFT REMITS.

1. That the Stabilisation Regulations in so far as they peg wages and prevent wage increases be revoked including the immediate abolition of wage controls in any form.
2. That Price Fixation be made on the basis of prescribed standards drawn up by the Standards Institute and compulsorily enforced by law.
3. That the National Council be instructed to draft immediately the necessary amendments to the I.C. & A. Act to empower the Court to grant additional wage increased based on increased productivity of industry.
4. That the Conference demand that the Government submit in draft form all new labour legislation to the National Executive of the Federation of Labour for endorsement or otherwise.
5. That when a request is made by a Union for investigation to be made in a workshop or factory to the Industrial Hygiene Consultant to the Labour Department, a copy of his report shall be given to the Union concerned.
6. That industry councils be established, comprising representatives of the Government and workers, with statutory powers to co-ordinate the labour and materials in each industry with the view of planning production of essential commodities by establishment of quotas to prevent luxury goods being produced at the expense of necessities and, in certain cases, nationalisation; to ensure that all plant be used to its fullest capacity consistent with Trade Union conditions; to ensure that standards are maintained and that workers get an equitable share in the profits they create.
7. That friendly assistance and co-operation be continued between the Federation of Labour and the Public Service Association.
8. That the following be the wage policy of the Federation of Labour:
 1. (a) A minimum weekly wage of £6.11.0. per week for all adult male workers. (N.Z. This incorporates 11/- cost of living bonuses)
 - (b) All adult female workers shall be paid a weekly wage not less than 90% of the adult male workers wage. Where the same work is performed men and women the minimum rate for all workers shall be the adult male rate.
 - (c) In any such case where exemption may be granted from weekly provision the worker shall be deemed to be a casual worker and (1) shall be paid at a rate per hour equal to one fortieth of the weekly wage plus 25%. (2) Such worker shall be guaranteed a minimum of eight hours' pay at such rate within the ordinary working hours each day upon which he is engaged.
2. Application for a new standard wage pronouncement of weekly wages (1) as follows :-

(a)	£6.10.0. for unskilled	(2)
	£7.2.6. for semi-skilled	
	£7.14.0. for skilled.	
3. Amendment to I.C. and A. Act:

To enable the Court when fixing wage rates to take into consideration the increased capacity to produce as well as the cost of living and then in a general way and a particular way give effect to the principle that increased production must be reflected in improved living standards.
4. For an increase of all pensions, sickness and unemployment benefits from £2 to £3 per week. War pensions to be increased where necessary to place beneficiaries in a relatively improved position.
9. That all daily or weekly guaranteed wages or annual salaries be based on the hour week and not on overtime hours worked.
10. That the present taxation minimum of £200 be raised to £312.
11. That no taxation be paid on overtime and other penal rates and allowances. That the present method of imposing tax on tax be abolished. Note: At present income

n wage tax deducted from workers' wages.

CHECK UP

12. That the National Executive present a report to Conference showing what steps have been taken to carry out 1946 Conference decisions on remits 8 (Weekly Wage) 18 (Weekly Wage) and N.Z.L.P. 31 (Guaranteed Weekly Wage) (See pages 35 & 38 of the Conference Report).

13. That the National Executive present a report to conference on the steps it has taken to ensure that 1946 Conference decisions on Remits 25 (Survey of productive capacity of industry etc.) and 28 (Worker participation in control of industry) (See pages 25 1946 Conference Report) would be put into operation.

14. In view of the failure of the Government to give effect to the 1946 Conference recommendation on Remits 27 and 66 (Building utilisation committees to control building permits) and 40 (Formation of a state housing corporation) (See 1946 Conference Report pages 14, 22 and 26) this Conference request the Prime Minister to give an assurance that the Government will now undertake immediate steps to give effect thereto.

15. In view of the failure of the Government to give effect in full to the 1946 Conference recommendation on remit 70 (State ownership of land, sea and air transport and workers management) (See page 23, 1946 Conference Report), this Conference request the Prime Minister to give an assurance that the Government will now undertake immediate steps to give effect thereto.

Note: Further remits on nationalisation and workers' participation in control should arise from big industries concerned, e.g. Building (bricks, cement etc.) Railways (worker control) etc.

16. Factories Act: That the Prime Minister be asked to explain why the Federation of Labour amendments were not incorporated in the Factories Act and for an assurance that the amendments be provided for in the coming session.

17. Amalgamations of Unions along lines of industry.

The National Executive will bring a report before Conference.

Remit: That the National Executive be instructed to convene Conferences of each group of Unions affected with a view to bringing about amalgamations.

ORGANISATION

18. That the capitation fee be increased to 1/-.

Note: The present capitation is 9d. per member of affiliated Unions. Responsibilities to the W.F.T.U. and the widening of the Federation of Labour activities make it imperative that the capitation fee be increased. An increase of 3d. would give additional income of £2,250 making a total income for the National Office of £9,138 per annum.

19. That this Conference elect a committee of three to draw up a new Workers' Compensation Act and submit same to the Government for implementation.

WORKER FARMER UNITY

20. That with a view to evolving a joint programme to advance the interests of both workers and working farmers, Conference instruct the National Council to appoint a committee to carry out this work. Conference further recommends all Trades Councils to initiate regular meetings with farmers to examine our joint problems and develop the closest co-operation.

FOREIGN POLICY

21. That Conference call on the Government to adopt an independent, non-imperialist foreign policy based on unity between Britain, the U.S.S.R. and the U.S.A. in the interests of peace. The granting of immediate and full independence for colonial

peoples, the outlawing of the atomic bomb and all-round international reduction of armaments, and the ending of support for anti-working class forces throughout the world to be essential parts of such policy.

ISLAND TERRITORIES

That this Conference request the Government to have a majority of elected representatives on the Cook Islands Legislative Council and to have the Cook Island Amendment Bill further amended.

NOTE: Island Councils have recently been set up with a majority of elected representatives. This does not apply to the Legislative Council which consists of 21 members - ten to be chosen by Island Councils, ten official members and the Resident Commissioner who presides at all meetings and has a casting vote.



S. 47/57.

If any reply, please
quote this number:

129

~~SECRET~~

POLICE DEPARTMENT,

WELLINGTON, C.1.

MEMORANDUM for

28th March, 1947.

The Superintendent of Police,
AUCKLAND.

COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN TRADE UNIONS.

In a Secret report of Communist Party activities in Wellington it is stated:

" It will be noted that the National Executive in Auckland has forwarded a list of 25 remits to Trade Union members for the purpose of having these remits passed by the various Trade Unions where the C.P. has a majority, or at least is capable of getting the remits discussed and passed, so that they will go forward to the Easter Conference of the Labour Party as coming from the Trade Unions. "

Please endeavour to have a copy of the remits prepared by the Communist Party obtained as early as possible or information of the activity of the Executive in this direction.

URGENT

J. Cunningham
Commissioner of Police.

*The Hon (Mr)
J. M. G. Jones
Supd 1/4/47*

S. Bk. 483/255.

*The Sub-Insps (Hills)
Sgt Hall
Insk
1.4.47*

A. E. T. Conson
G. A. Ash
S. Insp. L. B. L.
1 APR 1 1947

~~**SECRET**~~
EXTRACT/COPY

128

From (source): [REDACTED] Reference: 47/56 Date: 20 March 1947
 For File No. 21/2/4
 Original on 21/6/1
 Received on [REDACTED] Extracted/Copied by [REDACTED] On 21.5.1962

I attended the meeting of the Central Branch of the Communist Party held in the W.E.A. Lecture Room, Trades Hall, Vivian Street this evening.

Those present were:-W.HUNTER.....

HUNTER gave a report that all C.P. members who are Union members are to meet in the near future to discuss remits that are to be put before the Federation of Labour and the Labour Party Conference. It is quite likely that at a later date these remits will be discussed at an Aggregate Meeting of the C.P.

Extract from Covering Report by Det.Sergt.S.C.Browne dated 27.3.1947

It will be noted that C.P. members in industry who are Trade Union members are expected to take an active part in having certain Communist sponsored remits passed by their Unions for transmission to and consideration by the forthcoming Federation of Labour Conference. "E" who has separately reported on this matter states that there are 25 remits altogether, and he is endeavouring to obtain a copy of them. These remits have been forwarded to the various Branches by the National Executive in Auckland.

~~**SECRET**~~

~~SECRET~~

EXTRACT/COPY

127

From (source): [REDACTED] Reference: 46/200 Date: 31 October 1946
For File No. 21/2/4
Original on 21/6/1
Received on [REDACTED] Extracted/Copied by [REDACTED] On 21.5.1962

I attended the meeting of the Central Branch of the Communist Party held in the Watersiders Debating Club Rooms, 37 Courtenay Place this evening.

Those present were:.....W.HUNTER.....

.....

The rest of the time of the meeting was taken up with Study Class, which was conducted by W.HUNTER, who spoke on the history of Unionism in Great Britain, and how necessary it was for the workers to have Unions and be able to organise to put forward demands and if necessary use the strike weapon to gain those demands. It was most necessary, said HUNTER, for the members of the C.P. to work within the Unions and where able to gain control so as to be able to give a lead when the workers were putting forward demands.

[REDACTED]

~~SECRET~~

BAD MONTH FOR COMMUNISTS

THIS is a bad month for the Communist parties in three British countries. On June 12 the British Labour party not only rejected again a motion to allow the Communist party to affiliate with it, but adopted a resolution to alter its constitution so that in future no separate political party may be admitted to affiliation. "We have formed the opinion," said Mr. Herbert Morrison, "that the Communist party is not only a political party but is also a conspiracy." An even harder rebuff was given the Communist party by the New South Wales Labour Conference, which declared it to be "a danger to Australian democracy and the permanent foe of the Australian Labour party" and "a body foreign to the history and spirit of the Australian Labour movement, and concerned solely with pursuing the foreign policies of Soviet Russia." Yesterday the New Zealand Labour party unanimously rejected a request from the Communists for a conference. These happenings signify Labour's awakening in all three countries to the true nature of its would-be ally.

If the severe terms in which the Labour parties of the United Kingdom and New South Wales denounced the Communists had been used by some non-Labour organisation it would have been accused of being "reactionary," hostile to "the workers," and even "Fascist-minded." The importance of the denunciations by the Labour parties lies in the simple fact that they have become familiar with Communist tactics, and familiarity has bred disgust, and a sharp realisation that, to the Communist, democratic processes exist to be used only as a means to gain dictatorial power. So in the political sphere Communism has been strongly rebuffed; but, in British countries, it has never been strong there. Its capacity for disruption has been exerted mainly in the industrial sphere, where it has been, and remains, far more dangerous. Yet there, too, its strength is gained through the apathy or the unawareness of others. For this reason the forthright action of the New South Wales Labour Conference is less important than the movement, now well launched in the same State, to purge the unions of Communists. When a union has a Communist-dominated executive, that union is no longer in control of its own affairs; it is being used as part of what Mr. Morrison rightly called "a conspiracy."

N.Z. Communists Unlikely To Obtain Unity With Labour

It may be taken for granted that unity as desired by the New Zealand Communist Party with the New Zealand Labour Party for the forthcoming elections will not be achieved.

The issue is expected to be raised today at the annual conference of the New Zealand Federation of Labour, the Wellington branch of the New Zealand Carpenters' and Joiners' Union having submitted a remit proposing that the national executive convene a meeting of the national executives of the Labour Party, Federation of Labour, and Communist Party with a view to securing an electoral agreement and uniting the efforts of all progressive people to secure the return of the Labour Government.

The New Zealand Communist Party has much of its strength quartered in the trade union movement, but when put to the test of a vote at the conference of the Federation of Labour the Communists are not expected to exercise by any means sufficient influence to achieve th unity they are seeking.

There is a keen desire within several provincial Trades Councils to see all possible voting strength consolidated for Labour by election day, but this will not help the carpenters very much with their resolution.

The last annual conference of the New Zealand Labour Party adopted a resolution refusing to be associated with Communist Party propaganda. The next annual conference of the Labour Party will open on Monday.

4217/57

134

Evening Post.

N.Z. POLICY TO SOVIET Communist Leader's Criticism

AUCKLAND, February 15. The Communist Party will support the Labour Government at the forthcoming General Election, said Mr. A. Drennan, chairman of the New Zealand Communist Party's national conference which opened tonight.

Mr. Drennan presided over an attendance of about 450.

Mr. Drennan said hostility displayed by Mr. Bevin and Mr. Fraser toward the Soviet Union at the United Nations Conference was noted by New Zealand Communists with displeasure. It was time New Zealand had some Communist members in Parliament. The conference would investigate the possibility of nominating a number of candidates to stand at the General Election.

Mr. Drennan's remarks were supported by several other speakers, all of whom emphasized that it would be the party's first objective to secure the return to office of the Labour Party. At the same time, it was proposed to preserve a critical attitude toward some of the Government's economic measures, specially toward its foreign policy as expressed by Mr. Fraser.

7.1946

Please attach to file re election of Auckland Trades Council.

RJA

Registration Office.

Date:

200 0000000-0000

~~SECRET~~

EXTRACT/COPY

From (source):  Reference: 42/1045 Date: 9 December 1942
For File No. 21/2/4
Original on 21/6/1
Received on  Extracted/Copied by  On 5.6.1962

I attended the meeting of the Te Aro-Brooklyn Branch of the Communist Party held in the Studio of T.WOOD, 119 Willis Street this evening.

The business done at the meeting was the reading of the latest Bulletin (a copy of which is enclosed) and the reading by SKILTON of the instructions for the carrying out of the Industrial Campaign which is to commence on January 14 1943. An Aggregate Meeting of the Party is to be held before the commencement of this Industrial Campaign. I was unable to get a copy of the instructions for this campaign this evening, but shall get one at a later date and post it to you. It is the intention of the C.P. to form C.P. Factory Branches in the firm of N.W.Thomas Ltd., Ghuznee Street, and also in the Loco Workshops at Thorndon of the N.Z.Railways. W.HUNTER said that the Branch, when formed, at N.W.Thomas Ltd. will comprise eight (8) members; that is including MARTIN, TWEEDALE and himself.

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

EXTRACT/COPY

From (source): [redacted] Reference: 42/1028 Date: 2 December 1942
For File No. 21/2/4
Original on 21/6/1
Received on [redacted] Extracted/Copied by [redacted] On 5.6.1962

.....
The District Committee of the C.P. here in Wellington are going into ways and means of the probability of forming Industrial Groups and C.P. Factory Cells in the different factories and workshops where they have members and contacts. This question will probably come before ~~maximizing~~ the Branches in the near future.

.....SKILTON is also preparing an industrial campaign to put before the Branches.

.....



~~SECRET~~

EXTRACT/COPY

From (source): [REDACTED] Reference: 42/881 Date: 27th September 1942
For File No. 21/2/4
Original on 21/6/15
Received on [REDACTED] Extracted/Copied by [REDACTED] On 28.5.1962

Re West Branch.

The West Branch met on Thursday night at 20 May Street. Jack LEWIN; Les VERREY; Bob HALL; Mr & Mrs Fred HALL; Walter SCOTT; and two new members, Mrs QUIN and a friend Mrs ----? were present.

.....

Re Mining Dispute.

The Weekly Bulletin states that as many requests had been received for information about the mining dispute, the District Committee had taken pains to get to the bottom of the matter. For some time the National Executive have known that all was not well with the Huntly Branch, or whatever name it goes by. They found that it was the only Branch which had actually dropped back. They got no co-operation from it and on points of policy were actually defied. Bill WOOD, Chairman of the National Committee was sent to clear up the trouble but could do nothing. It was found that the Party was a hot-bed of anti-war, would-be-fascists. And it was decided that they must be dropped from the Party as quickly as possible. The National Office states that had the Party done its job there would have been no strike, but as it is, the Party is directly responsible for the strike, because of its failure to implement its policy.

.....

[REDACTED]

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

EXTRACT/COPY

From (source): [redacted] Reference: 42/360 Date: 15 March 1942
For File No. 21/2/4
Original on 21/6/1
Received on _____ Extracted/Copied by [redacted] On 29.5.1962

.....

A.DRENNAN of Auckland is in Wellington at the present time and attended the meeting of the Trades Council this evening to discuss the Westfield dispute.

.....

At the instigation of DRENNAN and other "comrades" the Trades Council and some of the Unions are to put forward a demand for the release from gaol of the men imprisoned for striking in Auckland.

.....



~~SECRET~~

EXTRACT/COPY

Detective Office
WELLINGTON

From (source): WELLINGTON Reference: 41/1223/1Ak. Date: 1 October 1941

For File No. 21/2/4

Original on 21/5/5

Received on Extracted/Copied by [REDACTED] On 1.2.1962

REPORT OF : Detective Samuel Craig Browne No.2865
RELATIVE TO : Monthly Report on Communist Activity in Wellington.

.....
Members of the Brooklyn Branch meet at 42 Reuben Avenue;.....
Kelburn at the home of W.A.JAMIESON, 29 Crieff Street.....

.....
At the present time the following persons are known to be holding executive positions:

.....
JAMIESON, Walter Allan - West District Organiser; member of West District Committee; Industrial Organiser.

.....
McARA, Peter Wilfred George - Industrial Organiser.

.....
BUXTON, Lionel John - Member of West District Committee.

.....
The Trade Union Movement is regarded as the principal field for Communist activity and consequently there is a fair amount of C.P. activity in that movement. A recently issued C.P. "directive" stated inter alia: "It should be the aim of every Party member to build a following round himself in Trade Union meetings; on the job; and in every organisation where he works enabling the Party to spread its roots." An "Industrial Bureau" directs C.P. activity in the Trade Union movement and is described as "the Provincial Council's Executive Arm in the Trade Union and Industrial field - responsible to the Provincial Council through its secretary who is a member of the Provincial Committee." It is believed that A.B.SKILTON is secretary of this "Industrial Bureau."

Communists have created a fair amount of disruption and carried on activity in the Wellington Carpenters' Union for some time past. They are well represented at Union meetings by P.G.W.McARA; W.A.JAMIESON; A.W.MULLON and L.J.BUXTON. McARA recently opposed J.MOULTON at the election for Secretary of the Union, but was defeated.

.....
A.B.SKILTON is going to oppose the present secretary of the ASRS (Mr Allerby) at the forthcoming elections in that Organisation.

.....
The following communists are delegates to the Trades Council: M.ORMEROD (Engineers Union), B.A.FORTUNE, (Clerical Workers), E.BOWEN (Painters Union), A.LAIRD (Shop Assistants; P.W.G.McARA & L.J.BUXTON (Carpenters Union) A.B.SKILTON (ASRS) and E.NAPIER believed to be a CP member is the delegate from the Watersiders Union. In connection with this latter mentioned Union it is to be noted that J.S.KYDD, W.O'REILLY and A.ROBINSON were recently admitted as members.

S.C.BROWNE
Det. No.2865

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

EXTRACT/COPY

From (source): Sp.Br. Wellington Reference: Ex. S.41/1114 Date: 29th July, 1941
For File No. 21/2/4
Original on 21/5/5
Received on Extracted/Copied by On 1.2.61

Relative to: Report of [redacted] dated the 27th July, 1941.

The shop assistant from Macduffs who is to meet Adam LAIRD to discuss a plan of action to be taken at a meeting of the Shop Assistants Union is identical with Inez Joyce SOUTHWOOD, subject of previous correspondence.

S.C. BROWNE
Detective.

Report of [redacted] dated 27th July, 1941.

A woman shop assistant from Macduffs whose name was reported months ago has approached HALL to meet Adam LAIRD and her at 46 Torrens Tce. on Monday night July 28th to discuss a plan of action for the Shop Assistants Union meeting on Wednesday night. HALL is unable to attend but he will receive a report of proceedings and a note on what he is expected to say.

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

EXTRACT/COPY/

From (source): Sp.Br. Wellington Reference: Ex.S.41/952 Date: 16th June, 1941
 For File No. 21/2/4
 Original on 21/6/3
 Received on Extracted/Copied by On 16.1.61

Relative to: Two reports of [redacted] dated the 14th and 15th June, 1941 respectively.

.....
 Forwarded herewith are copies of two C.P. circulars
 The circular headed "Private and Confidential. To District Industrial Organisers, and Branch Industrial Organisers", contains information which may be of value regarding C.P. activity in the Trade Union Movement. With reference to Trade Union activity, the following persons (communists) are delegates to the Trades Council:-

Joan Harriman STEAD - Clothing Trades Union
 Miles ORMEROD - Engineers Union
 Edward BOWEN - Painters Union
 Charles M. BROOKS - A.S.R.S. Association.
 F.E. FREEMAN - " "
 Aubrey Bruce SKILTON - " "
 Elsie FREEMAN (LOCKE) - Woollen Mills Union
 Adam LAIRD - Shop Assistants Union
 Matilda J. EASTON - Bakers Union
 Walter A JAMIESON - Carpenters Union
 Cecil J. MULLINS - " "

Previous correspondence indicates that J.H. STEAD has been expelled from the C.P. so it is doubtful whether she is a C.P. representative.

The C.P. is a minority on the Trades Council. Each Union has the right to appoint a number of delegates to the Trades Council. At a T.C. meeting held on the 28th May last there were 131 delegates present.

.....
 S.C. BROWN.
 Detective.

~~SECRET~~

PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL.
TO DISTRICT INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZERS and
BRANCH INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZERS.

Wellington.
 10/6/41.

Dear Friends:

The purpose of this letter is to explain the functions of the Industrial Bureau and the tasks of Industrial Organizers being supplementary to the recent P.C.* resolution on organization that is as far as work in the Trades Unions and Industry is concerned

THE INDUSTRIAL BUREAU is not a separate organization from the P.C. it is simply the P.C. Executive arm in the Trade Union and Industrial field, in exactly the same way as the Organizing Department or the Finance ~~ex~~ and Agit-Prop Departments are in their respective fields. It is directly responsible to the P.C. through its secretary, who is individually responsible for activity and who is assisted by a chairman and two other cadres who meet as a Bureau regularly to deal with the day-to-day problems in the industrial field, questions of Party Policy being referred to the P.C. Secretariat or Executive. The cadres attached to the Bureau have been chosen by the P.C. for their special knowledge of Trade Union and Industrial problems, political ability and working-class experience. The Bureau secretary is an elected member of the P.C. and sits on the Executive of that organ, reporting regularly on the work of the Bureau throughout the Province. These reports are forwarded in turn by the P.C. to the National Committee for the information of the National Trade Union Bureau, the Executive arm of the National Committee in the Trade Union and Industrial field. The Bureau through its secretary and organizing cadres has direct contact with its District Industrial Organizers who in turn are in direct contact with each Branch Industrial Organizer in the District. The Bureau also has direct contact with Trade Union discussion leaders in the various Unions, and also

* P.C. referred to
 refer to Provincial
 Council or
 Committee,

individual progressives in the key industries both Party and non-Party.

The primary task of the Bureau is to extend the roots of the Party and to develop progressive organization on the basis of Party Industrial Groups and progressive job committees in every factory or job in the Wellington Province, linked up in the case of job or shop committees first locally and then Provincially, and finally Nationally, along the lines of industry. The task of a Party Industrial Branch is to lead the work of their job or factory on the basis of job demands in co-operation with progressive non-Party elements at the same time recruiting to the Party as they develop in political consciousness and working-class understanding. Party Industrial Branches should be formed wherever three Party members are working on the same job or factory the comrades concerned remaining attached to their Area Branch until the Industrial Branch is more fully developed.. Industrial Branches are under the jurisdiction of the District Committee and should elect their functionaries in the same way as area branches.

DISTRICT INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZERS

should attend the Industrial Bureau Educational Classes and Conferences and have direct contact with the Industrial Bureau organizing cadres. He should call periodical meetings of the Branch Industrial Organizers with whom he should have close personal contact. His main work is that of concentration on developing contact and organization in the factories in the District. He should make a survey of all jobs and factories in the District and in conjunction with the Branch Industrial Organizers, as a first task, endeavour to get contact with the largest industries in his district. He is also responsible for collecting the various reports required from the Branch Industrial Organizers (P.T.O.)

and passing them on to the Bureau at the same time giving a regular monthly report on district work.

BRANCH INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZERS

should activate the whole Branch in obtaining contact with his Area on the job or factory. The Industrial press can be used as a method of approach to jobs and factories, during the lunch hours, etc. Progressives contacted can be induced to handle the paper on the job, and workers in each job or factory developed on this basis. The Branch should, wherever possible, endeavour to obtain contact in the largest factories, first gradually extending the activity to all jobs and factories in their area. Contacts outside the Branch Area should be passed on through the District Organizer to the Bureau.

REPORTING. Branch Industrial Organi-

-zers are personally responsible for keeping before all members the necessity of, at all times, to link up the important political and economic campaigns with the basic needs of the workers, with whom comrades are in contact either daily or occasionally as necessity arises.

(1) It is the task of the Organizer to pay special attention to the filling in and safe custody of Industrial report forms. This will ensure that accurate and up-to-date details are at all times in possession of the Industrial Bureau.

(2) Individual monthly reports must be obtained from all comrades in industry on the basis of job news and activity and Trade Union meetings.

(3) Reports are to be obtained from any Trade Union discussion leaders attached to the Branch, promptly after each Union or Discussion meeting.

All reports must be handed to the District Industrial Organizer promptly each fortnight so that he may pass them in at the Industrial Organizers meeting which is held fortnightly. The task is one of vital importance for the efficient functioning of the

Industrial Bureau and all comrades are requested to co-operate to the utmost with their Industrial Organizers in the rendering of reports promptly and accurately.

SECRETARIAT,

WELLINGTON T.U.B.
(Trade Union Bureau)

1/4
21/2/4

LESSONS OF THE HUTT STRIKE

Rec'd from
9-6-41



FOREWORD

In this pamphlet it is proposed to make a brief and critical survey of the history of the five days strike which took place in the Woburn Railway workshops from Monday, March 10 to Friday, March 14, 1941. It is also proposed to draw from this survey certain lessons concerning the strategy and tactics of strike action which are and will be of great importance to the working class of N. Z. in the great industrial struggles which are undoubtedly looming ahead.

Forms of organisation and methods of struggle in the working class movement can only be tested out in the course of action, and in the Hutt strike we are perhaps fortunate in that the lack of any preparedness and prior organisation for the strike have enabled us to draw lessons, not only of the tactics to be pursued in a strike, but of the whole strategy and general organisational methods needful for the working class to wage a successful struggle by direct action.

PART 1

1. SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STRUGGLE

THE HUTT STRIKE assumes great importance as the first major clash of class forces that has taken place in this country since the war began, and there can be little doubt that it marks the beginning of a new phase in the class struggle in N.Z... The idea of "peace in industry" has been fostered to a greater extent in this country than in other countries through the election to office of a Government terming itself "Labour" and at one time basing itself and its strength upon the Labour movement. Thus, quite apart from the war, the Government has been able to command the "tolerance" of the working class so far as direct action and open struggle are concerned, and the idea that has been fostered in the Labour movement as to the undesirability of "embarrassing" the Government has proved very powerful in damping down direct action by the workers.

This unwillingness of the workers to "embarrass" the Government has lasted not only throughout the period when the Government could claim to be pursuing a progressive policy in the interests of the workers, but has persisted through into the present period long after the Government has embarked on a different policy dictated by the war, a policy reminiscent of that of the Coates-Forbes regime of 1931-35. This spirit of tolerance has been responsible for the quiescence of the workers, at a time when the Government is engaged in whittling down the very reforms which it was elected to institute, and is engaged in actually chopping away the very foundations upon which it was built, namely the strength of working class organisations and trade union principles.

The Hutt strike marks the beginning of the end of this remarkable stage in our industrial history; for in that strike we see at last the masses of the workers beginning to rouse themselves from the blissful sleep of the last five years, and taking direct action in their own defence, not merely against the private employers, but actually against the Government itself. More than this we see that the general importance of the strike to the whole of the working-class lay in the fact that the workers concerned were taking action on an issue that affected not only themselves, but the whole of the workers — namely the maintenance of the 40-hour week.

To those who closely observed the course of the strike, there can be no doubt that it bore within itself the seeds of a struggle as great as, if not greater than the epics of the Maritime Strike and the Waihi Strike, with every possibility of having culminated in a reign of violence as great as that which took place at Waihi. It was quite obvious that Semple and the rest of the Government were prepared to wage "total warfare" against the strikers and any other section of the workers who might decide to support them. Under the Strikes and Lockouts Emergency Regulations, 1939, any strike is illegal for the period of the war, and the Government has power to invoke the full forces of State coercion against any body of strikers. That they were prepared to do this in the case of the Hutt Strike, while they have not done so in previous strikes since the war began, is proof that the Government, perhaps more than anyone else, realised that the Hutt strike was a spark which may have set alight the whole of the inflammable material of discontent in the working class, whose resentment against the destruction of former rights and privileges is mounting day by day. Moreover, there cannot be the slightest doubt that, having once embarked on the method of State coercion in order to crush strike action, the Government will make ever more use of such methods in the future.

This is precisely the state of affairs which paves the way for fascism, and it is of great importance that the working class should equip itself right away with a form of organisation and an understanding of methods of struggle which will enable it to resist any further encroachments upon its rights, and will enable it to take successful action for the restoration of those rights which it has already lost.

2. BACKGROUND

The issue which led up to the strike was of very long standing. As a matter of fact for a record of procrastination on the part of the Government, unwillingness to act on the part of trade union officials, and extreme (almost incredible) patience on the part of the workers, the record of the 40-hour dispute in the Railway Workshops should take a little beating.

Up till the year 1925, the whole of the Railway service had been working on the basis of a 48-hour week. In that year, however, a ballot was taken among all workers in the service on the question of whether or not they would choose to work a 44-hour week at the same hourly rates as previously, that is with a consequent loss in their weekly wages equivalent to 4 hours' pay. The result of the ballot was that the Workshops section of the service decided to reduce hours to 44 at their own expense, while the traffic and other sections decided to remain on the 48-hour week. This state of affairs persisted up till about September 1936 when the 40-hour week was introduced by the Labour Government.

Immediately two anomalies became apparent. The first was that, while all sections of the service went on to the 40-hour week nominally, the Workshops did so at the weekly wages previously received for a 44-hour week, while the rest of the service were paid the same wages as they had previously received for a 48-hour week. The second was that, while overtime was paid for any hours in the day worked in excess of eight hours, when it came to a question of Saturday work, the Workshops branches were obliged to put in four hours at ordinary rates (and the other branches eight) before overtime pay was received for that day.

In a spirit of "tolerance" and "co-operation" the workers made an approach to the Government to ask for the rectification of these and other anomalies. Not wishing to "embarrass" the Government, the workers' representatives decided to allow the Government a year's grace before pressing for the institution of a proper 40-hour week. Twelve months passed, but although certain minor demands were met by the Government, the main questions were not settled. Months lengthened into years... Periodically representations would be made to the Government, and biennial Conferences of the Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants would pass resolutions for the full institution of the 40-hour week.

For instance, in 1939, at the A.S.R.S. Conference, Mr. S. Gaspar, now national president, the man who, more than anyone else was responsible for the breaking of the strike, moved such a resolution on behalf of the Hillside Branch. Again in the minutes of the 1941 Conference we find the following :-

Remit 151.- That the complete 40-hour week be instituted in all departments.

--- Hillside Branch. Carried.

Remit 152.- That the Conference reaffirm its policy of a 40-hr. week, and that we use every effort to resist encroachment on our trade union rights.

--- Otahuhu Branch. Carried.

Remit 153.- That all time worked in excess of 40 hours be paid at overtime rates.

--- Otahuhu Branch. Carried.

On the 14th. November, 1940, the Executive of the Railway Tradesmen's Association waited on the Minister, Mr. D.G. Sullivan, and placed before him the men's case for the 40-hour week. They were met with the customary procrastination. After all, they had waited for four years.... Why should they not wait for another four? Shortly after that Sullivan lost his job as Minister of Railways and Semple was put in his place. On February 14th. he wrote the following letter to the R.T.A. :-

"With reference to the representations made by the Executive of your Association at the interview on 14th November, 1940, requesting that penal rates be paid for Saturday morning work, I wish to inform you that while it is regretted that at the present juncture the payment of penal rates for Saturday morning work cannot be granted, I have, as promised, looked into the question of the practicability of eliminating Saturday morning work in the workshops.

"I find that under ordinary circumstances the necessity for workshops employees working on Saturday morning could be practically eliminated. As you are, however, aware, the workshops are at present undertaking a considerable quantity of munitions work which is necessarily of an urgent nature, and while this obtains, I am sorry to say that there appears to be little likelihood of the elimination of Saturday morning work being given effect to. The matter will, nevertheless, be kept in view, and you may rest assured that Saturday morning work will be restricted as far as is reasonably practicable, consistent, of course, with the prosecution of the Dominion's war effort.

"Yours faithfully,
R. SEMPLE,
Minister of Railways."

This was as plain and definite a "NO!" as one could ever expect to get. When this letter was produced by the railwaymen during the strike, the only thing Semple could find to say was that it had been left over (unsigned) by his predecessor, and that having confidence in the said predecessor, he had not hesitated to put his signature to it! However, he did not disclaim the letter.

During the whole period from 1936 the working of overtime on a Saturday morning was optional, in the sense that if any man were asked and gave an excuse as to why he was unable to work, there was no attempt at compulsion. Under such a state of affairs the men were prepared to tolerate, and many of them to welcome even, the working of overtime on Saturday. Since about the middle of last year, however, the working of Saturday overtime began to become more and more prevalent, till finally it involved some two or three hundred men every week. It began to grow obvious to all the men that through the operation of this Saturday work they were losing the 40-hour week. Also Saturday work was becoming oppressive since many of the men were working 58, and in some cases 68, hours a week owing to overtime on week nights. The determination began to grow among the men that if they did not make a stand soon, then the 44-hour week would come to stay in all departments.

On Wednesday, February 5, matters finally came to a head.

3. STRIKE!

On that day, a number of men in the foundry were approached in the usual way and asked to work overtime on Saturday. By this time they were becoming "fed up" with overtime and a number of them refused to turn up. The foreman began to adopt a bullying attitude and the result was a meeting on the job, at which the men decided that they would all refuse to work on Saturday, and requested that a mass meeting of the whole workshops should be held. This meeting took place the following day, and a resolution was passed declaring the refusal of all the men to work on Saturdays until the question of overtime pay for such work was settled. A further mass meeting was held on the Friday, and was attended by the national secretaries of both the A.S.R.S. and the R.T.A. These secretaries advised no action pending the return of Semple and Casey (General Manager of Railways) from the South Island. Nevertheless the previous decision was upheld. The Assistant-Manager refused to negotiate, and in the afternoon word came through from Semple that all men who refused to work overtime on Saturday would be suspended.

It was at this stage that the first mistake was made. Realising that if the suspensions were put into effect strike action was the only reply, the men's leaders in the shops should have set up a temporary strike committee pending a mass meeting on the Monday morning. This committee, whose functions would have ceased on the Monday, with the democratic election of a full strike committee, could have made certain arrangements on the assumption that a strike would eventuate. The outlines of the campaign should have been drawn up and, most important, delegates should have been despatched immediately to the other Workshops. Decisions made and actions taken could then have been referred to a mass meeting on the Monday for endorsement.

On Monday, March 10, 280 men who had refused to turn up on the Saturday were suspended, and, leaving the works, held a meeting outside the gates, at the same time as a meeting of the remainder of the men was held inside. The outside meeting decided to request the men inside to remain at work till lunch-time pending negotiations with the Minister. This was a dangerous move, and might have had the effect of separating the suspended men from the others. Also the resolution showed certain elements of weakness, as it must have been obvious that the time for "reasonableness" and negotiations was

past. The meeting inside passed a resolution that if the negotiations with the Minister were unsuccessful they would cease work at mid-day. Semple refused to compromise, saying that he would "walk out of his door first". At mid-day a mass meeting of the men decided to cease work. A strike committee was set up and a number of sub-committees.

Although this form of organisation was correct in general it must be admitted that the composition of the committee was far from satisfactory, the main weakness being that it was completely dominated by Union officials. This, as will be seen, was the main factor in the strike failing to achieve its main objective. (It did fail to reach its objective, because, although the action was precipitated by the suspension of 280 men, its real motive was to win the 40-hour week in the Workshops.)

A mass meeting was arranged, but was not to take place until 10 a.m. on the following day, and in this way almost 24 hours of valuable time were lost. Still no attempt was made to despatch delegates to the other Workshops, and the seriousness of this mistake can only be realised when it is remembered that one of the main reasons given for the necessity of returning to work later on was the failure of the other Workshops to take sympathetic action. Also, that particular 24 hours gave the Government time to marshal its forces to smash the Hutt strike and to isolate the men from their fellow workers in other centres. Another mistake which was made and which might have had serious consequences was the allocation of members of the strike committee to the picket line on the following day. Had police action been taken against the pickets, then it would have had the effect of beheading the strike right from the start.

On the Monday night, a number of members of the strike committee went to the works gates to get a meeting of the night shift. At that meeting they were informed by Superintendent of Police, Lopdell, that the strike was illegal and that it would not be possible for them to hold a meeting. Nevertheless no difficulty was experienced in bringing out the night shift.

Having thus had fair warning of the intentions of the Government to break the strike by force if necessary, the committee should immediately have got to work to consider ways and means of meeting this attack, if necessary by deciding to break the Regulations, and challenge the Government to put the strikers in prison. Instead, the committee made the grave mistake of allowing the initiative to pass into the hands of the Government by deciding to observe the Regulations. As the Regulations were designed specifically to throttle any strike it is impossible to conceive just how the committee expected to wage a successful struggle by strictly 'legal' means.

The following morning, before the mass meeting, the Union officials were called aside by Superintendent Lopdell and informed as to their rights and restrictions under the regulations, one of the most astounding restrictions being that no meeting would be allowed to discuss in public the rights and wrongs of the case. The officials decided to abide by this. They never thought of challenging the Regulations, despite the fact that nearly 3,000 copies of the first Strike Bulletin, which was a flagrant breach of the Regulations had been distributed with perfect freedom and without a single copy being seized by the police.

However, when the meeting assembled, the Chairman explained that the Regulations were in force, that it had been decided to abide by them, and that no one could discuss the merits of the case at that meeting. Thus the committee surrendered without a struggle, one of the most important weapons in strike action, the right to hold public meetings to explain every detail of the struggle to the strikers in order to preserve their morale and their fighting consciousness. This gross neglect of the needs of the rank and file was continued throughout the whole course of the strike, and was due to one thing only — the unwillingness or inability of the leadership to challenge the Emergency Regulations. Especially towards the end of the strike, the leadership seemed to get entirely out of touch with the rank and file, as negotiations were proceeding whose nature was not made known to the strikers. A vote of confidence in the two National Councillors on the A.S.R.S. and the R.T.A. to speak for the men in any negotiations was certainly carried, but negotiations should not have been allowed to come to a stage where these delegates consented to a return to work without consulting the rank and file.

On Tuesday night the delegates to the other centres finally got away. They were much too late. Not only were the Government informed beforehand of the fact that the delegates were going, but they laid their plans accordingly, as will be seen from the later

111
description of events at Otahuhu and Hillside. On Wednesday a picnic was held, accompanied by the same kind of formal and lifeless meeting as had been witnessed on the previous day. The Government's move had succeeded in its objective.

A combined meeting of the A.S.R.S. and R.T.A. Branches was held that night in the Labour Hall, Petone; and at this meeting the second great weakness was revealed. This new weakness lay in the fact that the strike committee had failed to comprehend its duties and had failed to establish its authority as the ONLY organisation empowered to carry on negotiations and sign agreements with the Government. It became obvious at this meeting that the power to negotiate had in actual fact been handed over to the National Officials, who, with the exception of the Woburn members (one on each executive) had declared their absolute hostility to the strike and their determination to break it.

These executives had already brought forward their terms to the Government for the settlement of the strike. The A.S.R.S. proposed simply that the men be allowed to return to work; the R.T.A. proposed that the men return to work, and that the Government open negotiations on the question of Saturday morning work. At this stage the two Woburn members of the Executives should have proclaimed their hostility to the proposals and withdrawn from the negotiations, with the statement that the Executives had no authority to conduct the negotiations with the Government. Had this been done and reported back to the union meeting then a vote of no confidence in the Executives in the matter of carrying on negotiations could easily have been passed, and the initiative retained with the strikers. As it was the Government refused to agree to negotiate, but stated that they would consider allowing the men to return to work. That their statement could have been framed in this way — they would consider ALLOWING the men to return to work — shows just how far the initiative HAD passed from the hands of the strike committee.

All this time, of course, the militancy and determination of the rank and file remained splendid, and continued to be so, right up to the end of the strike. However, they were not aware of the real trend of events. This was amply proved — at a time when negotiations were proceeding which were finally to end in the acceptance of the deceptive and ambiguous terms dictated by the Government, terms which had no reference to the main issue of the 40-hour week — at this very time the workers unanimously passed a resolution that they would remain out on strike until they had won what they set out to win. However, the main evil, namely that of the necessity of waging a strictly "legal" struggle had by this time taken a thorough hold of the men, with the result that a motion to condemn the action of the Government in invoking the Emergency Regulations against a body of workers who were fighting for the 40-hour week was heavily defeated.

Although very few of the rank and file realised it, the joint union meeting of Wednesday marked the beginning of the end. The right of the National Executives to negotiate for the men was not challenged, with the result that the negotiations continued next day. In the morning the Government handed its terms for a settlement to the National Presidents. These terms, which were based upon the recommendation of the National Executive of the A.S.R.S. (that the men be allowed to return to work) read as follows :-

"The Government accepts the statement that the National Executive of the Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants and the National Executive of the N.Z. Railway Tradesmen's Association regret that any action of their members was carried out in an unconstitutional manner.

"The Government has further decided to permit the Hutt Workshop employees to resume duties under the conditions existing prior to their refusal to work on Saturday mornings.

"The men concerned will be expected to resume duty on or before Monday the 17th March. Any member not commencing duty on or before that date, except in the case of illness, will be considered as being absent without leave and his name will be written off the books accordingly."

These terms were agreed to unanimously by the National Executives and it was decided that their acceptance be moved by the two Woburn members at a mass meeting to be held at the works on the following day. While a decision to return to work at this time had become inevitable for reasons given below, it would have been better to have maintained the authority of the strike committee and of the strikers through the local representatives withholding the consent until it had been given at a mass meeting of the workers.

However, although mistakes were undoubtedly made by the National Councillors, it would be incorrect to attach any BLAME to them as their particular actions in the course

of the negotiations were determined by the whole trend of the strike, and the COLLECTIVE weakness of the leadership on the strike committee. The councillors acted throughout in good faith. There is no doubt that through its failure to discuss questions of policy at mass meetings the committee allowed the main issue to become clouded over, till things developed to the state where the workers did not know whether they were striking for the 40-hour week or for the reinstatement of the suspended men. The Government's decision offered no settlement on the question of the 40-hour week, but did give in on the question of the suspended men, provided that the workers no longer refused to work on Saturday mornings. Since then, while certain concessions in the way of limiting Saturday work have been obtained, it has become obvious that the Government had, and has no intention of establishing the 40-hour week for the Railways. Thus the main object of the strike has not been reached, although the Government has had a salutary lesson.

Before analysing the reason why the return to work was inevitable, it is necessary to refer to some of the other tactical mistakes which were made in the course of the strike.

The main weaknesses have already been referred to -- failure to challenge the Emergency Regulations, failure to raise the consciousness of the rank and file, failure to take prompt action in approaching the other centres. But there were other failures equally important in the long run. In the first place, with 1,500 men on strike and perhaps three times that number of people dependent on them, the question of raising as much money as possible in the shortest time possible should have been a primary consideration especially as there was the likelihood of a protracted strike. Yet, although a finance committee was set up, there was not one penny collected in the first two days of the strike. This could easily have been avoided by enlisting the services of fifty or a hundred of the strikers, arming them with collection sheets and getting them to canvass every house in the Hutt and as many as possible in Wellington. However this was not done -- (although some attempt was made on the third day) -- and the appeals for financial support remained of the most formal character. Again, a task of the utmost importance in any strike is to rally the maximum support amongst the public. The accomplishment of this task was rendered almost impossible by the decision to abide by the Emergency Regulations; but nevertheless a great deal more could have been done through the wide distribution of leaflets and by personal canvassing.

The enlistment of the support of the women should have been a factor of great importance and should have been accomplished right from the start through the setting up of a Women's Auxiliary and the election of a number of women on to the strike committee. Yet it was not until the Wednesday meeting at Hutt Park that a decision was taken to set up a Women's Auxiliary, but it had not even taken form by the time the strike was over.

All these mistakes, and others which were made, were all by-products of the failure of the leadership to activate the greatest possible number of the strikers in all the diverse forms of work that need to be carried on in the event of a strike. To point out these mistakes at a time when the strike is finished is not merely being wise after the event. Rather it should be understood that it is extremely important that the workers should be able to analyse their mistakes so that, in any future struggles, it will be possible to avoid a repetition of them.

It should now be possible to understand why, despite the nature of the terms imposed by the Government, it was necessary to take the decision to return to work at the Friday meeting. From the point of view of a campaign the strike had reached a point where success was extremely unlikely, and demoralisation amongst the ranks of the strikers could very easily have set in. The forces invoked by the Government were such as to have required the strongest moves by the strikers, yet, right from the very first day, the Government was able to establish the upper hand by the simple means of taking the offensive when it was up to the strikers to take the offensive.

A strike that is on the defensive from its outset stands no chance of success. The other main factor which made the return to work inevitable was the failure of the other Workshops to take sympathetic action. The necessity for such sympathetic action was clearly understood by every striker and it was only through the winning of such support that the strike could have been successful. A third factor necessitating the return was the inability or rather the inexperience of the leadership to give real guidance and direction. They found themselves faced with something which was far too big for them. The fourth factor was the failure of the leadership and the strikers in general to break from the old conventional Trade Union methods of struggle.

110

They did not understand that a strike requires a special apparatus and special methods of work which are quite different from those employed in the Trade Unions. In actual fact, while the initial action taken was that of strike action, what really eventuated in the long run was not a strike at all, but rather something between a demonstration, and a protracted stop-work meeting.

It is important to understand this last point particularly. For it alone can explain how it was that the strikers decided almost unanimously to return to work at a time when their militancy and determination were as high as ever. The return to work did not indicate a defeat, but a tactical withdrawal in the face of superior forces. The workers must learn how to retreat as well as how to advance.

It is also important to understand the meaning of the resolution that was carried at the Friday meeting. This resolution was to the effect that the strikers accept the Government's terms, express their determination to see that there should be no victimisation and instruct their National Executives urgently to take up the question of overtime pay for Saturday work.

Thus it can be seen that the resolution was in no way a surrender to the Government, but rather a decision to carry on the struggle in a new form. The five days' strike had served its purpose within the chain of circumstances outlined above. It had been a useful demonstration of the solidarity of the workers in their determination to resist attacks on their conditions. It had succeeded in securing the reinstatement of the suspended men. It had been a warning to the Government. Unity had been preserved throughout the struggle — and now it was necessary to go forward in a united manner to a new phase in the struggle. The struggle still goes on!

4. IN THE OTHER CENTRES

To complete this account of the strike it is necessary to describe the events at other Workshop centres, as these events show even more clearly and bluntly than those in the Hutt how the Government has embarked on a course that is not only opposed to that of the working class but promises to lead the Government sooner or later into a direct clash with the working class. The events in these centres also serve to expose completely the role of the National Officials of the Unions and also the subservience to the national officials of some of the local leaders.

On the same day as the strike commenced (March 10) the Otahuhu Branch of the A.S.R.S. held its usual monthly meeting. The only communication from Woburn which was produced by the Secretary was a telegram which had been despatched on the previous Friday informing other Branches of the Government's threat to suspend those men who refused work on Saturday morning. The Chairman made a statement — that he had received information to the effect that the strike was illegal, and that no meetings could be held on Railway property. The Chairman also attempted to stop any discussion on the strike and refused to call a mass meeting at the Workshops to reaffirm the policy of the 40-hour week. The result was the adoption of a resolution not to discuss the Woburn strike.

The next day two notices were displayed in every department at Otahuhu. The first was a telegram from Gaspar, National President of the A.S.R.S., which read :-

"Executive Council called to deal with Hutt Shops dispute. Your Branch hereby instructed to take no action or pass any Resolution until further notice."

The second notice appeared over the signature of the works manager, and read :-

"Meetings of any description in connection with the Hutt strike must not be held on Railway property."

The result was that the Branch Officials would not even attempt to make contact with Woburn. However, on the Thursday, word went round the works like wildfire that a delegate had arrived from the Woburn shops and would address a meeting outside the works gates. At lunch time a large crowd went out to the gates; and the Works manager, who was there, ordered all the men to remain on the premises. However a considerable number went outside. A police inspector and a constable warned the delegate that a meeting could not be held in any circumstances despite the fact that the delegate stated that he was there to explain and not to incite. The outcome was that it was decided to hold a meeting at

the Trades Hall, Auckland, at 7.30 that evening. This meeting was also banned by the Police under the Emergency Regulations, but the Boilermakers' Union, who were meeting at the Trades Hall that night, stepped into the breach and invited the delegate to address their meeting if he was present. They also decided to admit to their meeting any railwaymen who turned up. Doorkeepers were posted to see that only boilermakers and railwaymen were allowed in. Six detectives tried to barge their way in, but were told with true proletarian directness "where to get off." In the course of seeking out the detectives the doorkeepers developed a very effective technique. As every man applied for admission his hands were carefully examined. Only those whose hands bore the marks of honest toil were allowed to enter.

The Chairman was handed a notice from the detectives outside, stating that if the delegate was present and addressed the meeting he would be arrested and the meeting broken up. This was ignored, and the meeting went on. A resolution was carried condemning this unwarranted interference with a bona fide trade union meeting by the police, and demanding that the Government enquire into the conduct of the Auckland police. The stopping of the meeting outside the Works gates was also condemned.

The next day a large number of railwaymen at the Shops approached the respective chairmen of the A.S.R.S. and the R.T.A. with a petition asking them to call a special meeting on the following Monday. The Chairmen tried to avoid the issue by quoting the telegram from Gaspar and the notice posted by the Works manager, but finally the A.S.R.S. chairman approached the manager to seek permission. The manager took his stand by a telegram received from his Head Office and flatly refused to allow the meeting to take place. It is worth recording that, whereas this telegram was received on Monday, March 10, and stated that, under the Emergency Regulations no meetings could be held, Semple stated on the following day (Tuesday) that "he had not yet discussed the matter (of the Emergency Regulations) with his colleagues. It was, he said, a question for Cabinet to decide." (Auckland "Star", 11/3/41.)

News was received during Friday afternoon that the strike was off and that the men were returning to work on Monday under the "status quo".

That evening, the Hutt delegate addressed a special meeting of the Auckland Trades Council, convened to discuss the dispute. He was accorded a great hearing, and a number of resolutions were carried in support of the Hutt men. His report of police action and intimidation astounded most of those present, and it was unanimously resolved that a deputation should wait on the Commissioner of Police to demand why in a so-called democratic country such methods had been used. It was also revealed at the meeting that for the previous two days the editors of all newspapers had been under orders from the censor, to make no reference to the strike except by permission of the Director of Publicity.

Events at Hillside (Dunedin) are also worth recording. On Tuesday evening, March 11, a delegate was despatched from the Hutt shops to visit Christchurch and Dunedin for the purpose of explaining the Woburn events to the men in the other workshops. When the delegate boarded the ferry at Wellington he was followed by a detective, and from that time, right up till he left Dunedin finally on the Saturday, he was never once free from police surveillance. Not only was the delegate afforded such treatment, but the Hillside workers were even refused the right under the Emergency Regulations to hold Union Branch Committee meetings, and were informed by the police that if such meetings were being held, even in private houses, the police would act.

The official leadership of both Unions allowed themselves to be intimidated by such methods; but, in defiance of the police and the Emergency Regulations, a mass meeting was called by rank and file unionists for outside the Works gates at 4.30 on the Friday afternoon, when the delegate addressed about 300 workers. As news had come through shortly before the men had finished work that the strike had been settled, a good deal of interest had waned. Otherwise the meeting would undoubtedly have been larger. Despite the fact that five detectives, who had been following the delegate all day, attended the meeting, several workers spoke in support of the strike, and the following resolution was carried unanimously:-

"That this meeting of Hillside workers approves the action of the Hutt workers in defending the 40-hour week; and considers their action to be in the interests, not only of the railway workers, but of the whole N.Z. working class."

So ended the Hutt railway strike, the first of the big clashes that are now arising in this country..

4-6-1941

21/2/41 109

EXTRACT FROM REPORT CIRCULATED AMONG SELECTED MEMBERS OF THE
COMMUNIST PARTY.

REPORT OF TRADE UNION WORK.

At the last Provincial Conference held on the 27th and 28th April, 1940 Comrade A.D. attended as a National Executive Member. In addressing the Conference he especially stressed the basic requirements for improving work in Trade Unions. In short Comrade D's speech was punctuated with slogans, "Base our Trade Union work on the job", "The Trade Unions must be the united expression of workers on the job". Comrade D stressed the necessity of each Party member building a following around himself, not only in Trade Union meetings, but on the job; in every organization in which he worked, enabling the Party to spread its roots and become fused with the masses. The Conference unanimously agreed with the line of the Party and the National Committee that the need to concentrate on organization in factory, mill and mine as the only adequate and practical basis for strengthening the Trade Union must, and would, be applied. With this end in view the Provincial Conference appointed 4 of 5 Comrades as a Trade Union Bureau. These Comrades were J., A., M., and J. This Bureau never had a full meeting and as an Executive Organization of the Trade Union work simply did not exist.Individual Comrades sought to assist to develop Party work in the Trade Union Movement and on the job, and discussion between the Party members concerned and the Secretariat resulted in the "Industrial Worker" being born. The starting of the paper had the effect of concentrating all effort on its development resulting in the complete failure of the Trade Union Bureau as then constituted.

COPY ON

COPY FROM 21/5/2

As time went on it became clear, to say the least, that the state of Party work in Trade Unions was deplorable.It was not until the Tobacco Workers, and more particularly the Hutt Strike, that the importance of this task was at all realized by the Provincial Committee, and it would be correct to say that present members of the Trade Union Bureau had only just realized its importance.and it was decided to reorganize the Trade Union Bureau along the lines suggested by the National Committee. The delay in realizing the failure of the Trade Union Bureau must be attributed to the complete absence of a Central Commission for the purpose of checking up the work of the Party organizers. The National Committee suggested the appointment of Trade Union instructors from each branch. This suggestion was adopted and the instructors from each branch selected by the Trade Union Bureau Secretariat on the basis of their industrial knowledge were appointed by the Provincial Conference. The instructors constituted the Trade Union Bureau and met on a regular fortnightly basis. The first task undertaken by the Bureau was the working out of organisational plans as follows:

1. A complete survey of Party members in the Trade Unions and official positions were to be taken each month.
2. The immediate organisation where a Union has four or more Party members on Trade Union discussions both on an inner and broad basis as required.
3. The immediate formation of Party Branches in industries or jobs such as the waterfront and tramways where the possibilities exist for an immediate successful organisation.
4. The organising of written reports from
 - (a) Trade Union instructors on the basis of organising work.
 - (b) Trade Union discussion leaders on the report of Trade Union discussions.
 - (c) Party members on the basis of Trade Union

meetings and actual work and news gleaned on the job.

5. The building up of files on each Union from the reports received from Party sources and from the press, such as the "Industrial Worker" so that a complete picture of conditions in each trade union is obtained.

6. The preparation of a fortnightly Secretariat report which is forwarded to the Provincial Committee for the purpose of check up and then forwarded to the National Committee.

7. The holding of local meetings in the Trade Union Bureau for the purpose of

- (a) Planning Party organization in industry,
- (b) Heading lectures by experienced Trade Union members on the strategy and tactics of Union and industry organisation in a planned educational programme for Trade Union Instructors.

8. The conducting of an industry survey throughout Wellington City of all jobs in factories and the establishment of all militant contacts through the Trade Union instructors in each case, ultimately establishing Party groups around each comrade or militant in the job or factory.

9. The assisting of militant workers and comrades with their industrial problems.

10. The organising of public campaigns such as the appeal of the Emergency Regulations assisted by propaganda and leaflets where desirable.

11. The organising of Party finances by obtaining regular weekly guarantees from comrades and sympathisers interested in Trade Union work who do not otherwise contribute to the Party.

The Bureau under the leadership of Comrade A as Chairman and Comrade B as Secretary with the Secretariat consisting of Comrade McA and W has been functioning in its reconstituted form for a littler over two months. Trade Union Instructors, with the exception of Johnsonville, have attended meetings of the Bureau fairly regularly.The Hutt were asked to send a delegate but have not yet functioned on the Bureau.Comrades do not, as yet, appear to realise the importance of rendering regular written reports. ...Greater efforts, both in the way of check up and propaganda on the need of work on the job will have

to be made.Two party branches have been formed in industry, namely the waterside and tramway, and plans are under way for the forming of a second waterside branch. The work of these branches is in little more than the initial stage.As a whole the Bureau had not realised its primary task, that of building the Party on the job and wherever a Party member or militant was to be found in industry forming a Nucleus round him in each department. The whole question is effectively dealt with in the report of the Hutt Strike issued by the Provincial Conference. The Party cannot be combined by carrying on the formal manner of the Trade Union meetings; the work of the Party must be based on the demands of the workers on the jobs.Appointed members have attended the Trades Council fairly regularly and are increasing in numbers.The Carpenters Union has been left to bring the bulk of the resolutions forward to the Trades Council. This had had a bad effect on this Union and steps are now being taken to remedy this by activating other Unions where the Party has influence. Individual comrades also failed to take part in the debates throwing all the work on to one or two comrades, viz: Comrade G and M who consequently receive all the attacks of the reactionary leaders. Fortnightly Secretariat reports have been compiled and forwarded to the Provincial Committee Secretariat for discussion and then forwarded to the National Committee. ...This report gives the Party an indication of activity in the industrial movement covering the following Unions: Carpenters, Labourers, Engineers, Bakers and Pastrycooks, A.S.R.S., Tramway and Drivers. It is hoped that the National Committee will be able to circularise the information to militants in all sections in the Unions reported on. One of our tasks is to extend the number of Unions being reported on to all those in which we have contact.

..... The Secretariat is preparing individual files for each Union in which we have contact on the basis of reports received from Party sources, The "Industrial Worker" and the press in general. The Bureau will thus be in a position to assess the difficulties in each Union and so plan the work of militants accordingly. The Bureau has assisted militants standing for office in the Labourers and Drivers Union while they prepare for production leaflets in support of their candidature.Work has been done in the organising of a progressive ticket of officers for the Wellington Trades Council in conjunction with the National Committee and the Federation of Labour. The importance of collecting finance on the basis of Party Trade Union work has been stressed but at the present time only one branch is forwarding to the Bureau a regular weekly sum. Even this amount is collected from Party members and not from Party sympathisers. ... Both the Tobacco Workers and the Hutt Strike, particularly the latter, in conjunction with the Secretariat of the Provincial Committee received assistance and advice from the Bureau. In the case of the Hutt Strike organising and technical cadres were sent on to the job and were able to give valuable assistance to the Strike Committee - co-operating with the Railway Party Branch in the problem of propaganda, planning strategy and tactics.More effective co-operation could have been given had the Local Party Branch fully understood that the role of the Party should at all times be to take the initiative, - in extending our influence and in the building up of job contacts greater advantage must be taken of the "Industrial Worker". The importance of studying the discussing the editorial of the paper cannot be stressed too much as it contains the industrial directive

of the moment. The following is the Wellington Party membership in the undermentioned 24 Unions for the month of February - the latest available: -

Carpenters	11	General Labourers	4
Drivers	3	Public Service	2
Store Workers	2	Harbour Board	1
Freezing Works	1	Shop Assistants	1
Woollen Mills	1	Clothing	5
Engineers	4	A.S.R.S. (Wgtn) & Road	
Timber Workers	2	Service Branch and	
Watersiders	4	Painters	3 each
Tramways	2	Painters	1
Plumbers	1	Bakers	1
Tobacco Workers	1	Clerical Workers	3
Packers	1	N.S.W.U.	1

The following executive positions were held at Wellington:-

National President	1	L.R.C. Delegates	2
Trades Council		Local President	1
Delegates	10	Executive members	5

Although greater activity in recruiting on the job and at Union meetings could have been taken present reports show that we can expect at least a 25 per cent. increase in Trade Unions at the time of this report.The Party's influence is growing in the Trades Council, but we have not yet got the majority influence, although at times victories are obtained, notably on the personnel of the Committee of Inquiry into the M. Wall case.

CAMPAIGNS IN THE TRADES UNION.

PALMERSTON NORTH:

Next to Wellington is the oldest Party District. It was in this Centre the first Trades Union work was centred round the Carpenters Union, although for a while good work emanated from the Hotel Workers Union.

FREEZING WORKERS, FEILDING:

In this work, by its very nature on the one hand and the fact that it is the oldest Trade Union on the other, good work has been done by the Party Comrades at the above shed. The District Party Committee has helped the men considerably to develop their work and build the Party in the Province.

WANGANUI:

Very little factual points can be made here in respect to the Trade Union work because of the fact that Trade Union contact has been generally poor and sporadic, but it can be said generally that the Party is now operating to advantage in the Railway Union, P.F.A., A.S.R.S. and E.F.O.A. In regard to the latter union it is regretted that an outstanding comrade was transferred to the Auckland Province. Also in Wanganui good ground work has been done in the Watersiders Union and Carpenters Union.



NEW ZEALAND.

In your reply, please
quote this number:

4401/5

Ex

S. 40/2046.

POLICE DEPARTMENT.

WELLINGTON, C. 1.

Memorandum for

ALL DISTRICTS.

8th November, 1940.

Police attending Labour Union Meetings.

With reference to my memorandum of the 10th September last: When it is suspected a Trade Union Meeting is being used by any person to cover subversive operations, the police, on the authority of the Officer in charge of the District, should approach the responsible officers of the Trade Union in question and ask for an assurance that subversive operations be not permitted at the Union meeting. If such an assurance is not given, the matter can be reported to my office.

This memorandum may be retained at your office.

D. J. Cummings
Commissioner of Police.

*Ex Scott
see memo
get other file.*

file

5 NOV 1940

Dear Miss Egan,

With further reference to your letter of the 2nd October I have had enquiry made concerning the matters raised in your letters of the 20th and 23rd September. I am advised that no instructions were issued for the attendance of a detective at the funeral of the late Mr. A.B. Powell, and that Detective Marsh who was on annual leave at the time definitely did not attend.

As regards the complaint by your L.R.C. concerning the attendance of a detective at a meeting of the General Labourers' Union, the police were informed on good authority that certain persons who had been prominently associated with the Communist Party were utilising certain Trade Union meetings for the distribution of copies of the "People's Voice", an illegal publication, and the detective was instructed to take such steps as were necessary to ascertain whether this was correct or not, and to act accordingly.

It will be understood that persons cannot be permitted to use any type of meeting for subversive purposes, nor can any building or room be held to be immune from supervision. At the same time, it is not my own personal wish that police officers should attend any Trade Union meetings unless on the invitation of the responsible officers when, in the opinion of the management of the organisation, such action is advisable.

The course that I am requesting the police to follow in connection with suspected subversive operations under the cover of Trade Union meetings is to approach the responsible officers of the Trade Union in question and ask for an assurance that such subversive tactics and operations would not be permitted at the Union meetings. I am sure that this assurance will be given and loyally adhered to by every responsible Trade Union Executive officer, and will be endorsed by the members of the organisation. Failing such an assurance, it is obvious that the police would have no option but to take whatever steps were necessary to detect and prevent subversive activities.

Kind regards.

Miss M.A. Egan,
Hon. Secretary,
Otago L.R.C.,
C/o Barnes & Company,
210 Stuart Street,
DUNEDIN, N.Z.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) P. FRASER

Commissioner of Police:

Referred. Please see last
P.F. paragraph.

8-11-40.

R. F. Madden Esq.
Police Headquarters

File returned for
submission of draft reply to
Miss Egan as arranged.

J. J. Sadler

R/Secy.

31.10.40

We Harway,

The other file referred
to in minute of 21/10/40
has not been returned from
your office

R.D.M. Adden
1/11/40



~~SECRET~~

NEW ZEALAND POLICE.

Subject: Miss M.A. Egan, Hon. Sec., Otago L.R.C., writes to Rt. Hon. Prime Minister re Detective attending Otago Gen. Labourers' Union meeting; also Detective attending funeral of Mr. A.B. Powell; also W.J.M. Wilson, Secretary, Dunedin Painters' Union writes re Police attending Trade Union meeting.

100,000/3/40-19783]

The Right Hon. Minister in
Charge of Police.



I attach reports for your information. It appears that the detective did not attend the funeral of the late Mr. Powell.

The letters refer to a detective attending a meeting of the Otago General Labourers' Union in August last. Full reports on this matter were sent to you on the 16th ultimo.

Prof. 21.10.40

D. K. Cummings
Commissioner of Police.
21.10.40.

*Seen.
JF,
21.10.40.*

~~SECRET~~

NEW ZEALAND POLICE.

Subject: Miss M. A. EGAN, Hon. Sec., Otago L.R.C., writes to the Right Hon. Prime Minister re a Detective attending the Otago General Labourers' Union meeting, and also a Detective attending funeral of Mr. A. B. Powell.

100,000/3/40-19783]

The Superintendent of Police,
DUNEDIN.

For report please. Is this
the same meeting that was previously
reported on?

D. J. Cunningham
Commissioner of Police
3.10.40.

The Chief Detective
7.10.40

The Superintendent:-

Please see report attached.

T. E. Healy
Chief Detective.
7/10/40.

The Commissioner,

D. J. Cunningham
Inspector
for
Superintendent
8-10-40.

The Superintendent of Police,
DUNEDIN.

Please have a report from
Detective Marsh furnished.

D. J. Cunningham
Commissioner of Police.
11.10.40.

The Chief Detective
11/10/40

The Chief Detective,

Please see report of 17-10-40,
attached.

J. A. Marsh
Detective, No:2960.
17-10-40.

The Commissioner
17.10.40

NEW ZEALAND POLICE.

(Police—100A.

S.40/2046.

Detective Office,

Police-station : Dunedin.

Date : October 17th, , 19 40.

REPORT of Detective J.P.Marsh, , No. 2960.

relative to Miss M.A.Egan, Hon Sec, Otago L.R.C. writes to the Right Honourable Peter Fraser, Prime Minister, re a Detective attending the funeral of the late Mr. A.B.Powell.

" Vide the attached".

I respectfully report that I definitely did not attend the funeral of the late Mr. A.B.Powell. I was not aware of his death until I read his obituary notice in the "Evening Star" on the 5-8-40, vide the attached clipping.

The Chief Detective,
Dunedin.

J. P. Marsh

Detective, No: 2960.

17-10-40.

The Evening Star

MONDAY, AUGUST 5, 1940.

MR A. B. POWELL

Mr Arthur Basil Powell, who passed away suddenly last week, was a well-known figure in political circles in Dunedin and in the arena of newspaper correspondence. Born in Talgarth, Wales, in 1874, he was brought to New Zealand by his parents, the late Joseph and Maria Powell, of Port Chalmers, in the sailing ship Timaru. He was educated at the Arthur Street and Normal Schools, and at the age of 19 began his seafaring career on the old sailing ships. He was employed for many years by the Union Company, and obtained his master's certificate in 1907. Failure to pass an eye test in 1910 caused Mr Powell to leave the sea, and he sat and passed the Public Service senior examination, and took up an appointment as night supervisor in the Dunedin Telephone Exchange. In 1925 he left the Government service to take up farming, the venture, however, proving very ill-advised at that time.

Extensive travel and much reading had aroused in Mr Powell a very keen interest in sociology, and in the last 20 years he sacrificed a great deal of his time and energy to the working class movement. His courage and sincerity won him many friends even among people whose views differed widely from his own. He is survived by his wife, four daughters, and five sons.

NEW ZEALAND POLICE.

[Police—100a.]

Police-station: Dunedin.

Date: 7 th October, 194 0

REPORT of Chief Detective T. E. Holmes, No. 1713

relative to Miss M. A. Egan, Hon Sec, Otago L.R.C. writes to
the Right Honourable Peter Fraser, Prime Minister, re a
Detective attending the Otago General Labourer's Union, meet-
ing, and a Detective attending funeral of Mr A. B. Powell.

I respectfully report no Detective has visited any Labour Union Meeting since the Detective Gibson incident of 13-8-40, fully reported 30 th August 1940, report referred to by Commissioner's memorandum dated 3-10-40, herewith.

With regard to Detective Marsh attending the funeral of Mr Arthur Basil Powell, this was not done under instructions. Mr Powell was identical with person whose name has previously appeared in secret correspondence, his funeral took place on the 1st of August. Detective Marsh was on annual leave from 22nd of July to 3 rd of August 1940.

Detective Marsh is at present on leave attending the funeral of his mother and does not resume until the 17th Instant, his address is 65, Wood Street, Ponsonby, Auckland, W.I.

The Superintendent,
DUNEDIN.

T. E. Holmes

Chief Detective.



THURSDAY, August 1, 1940.

POWELL.—On July 30, 1940, at Dunedin, Arthur Basil, beloved husband of Annie Powell, 294 Vogel street; aged 66 years.—The Funeral will leave our Chapel, 78 St. Andrew street, To-day (Thursday), August 1, at 2.30 p.m., for the Anderson's Bay Crematorium. Hope and Kinaston, funeral directors.

2 OCT 1940

Dear Miss Egan,

I am in receipt of your letters of the 20th and 23rd September and shall be pleased to have immediate enquiry made concerning the matters raised therein. You will be further advised in this connection later.

With kind regards.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) P. FRASER

Miss M.A. Egan,
Hon. Secretary,
Otago L.R.C.,
C/o Barnes & Coy.,
210 Stuart Street,
DUNEDIN, C.I.



Commissioner of Police:

Referred.

Handwritten signature/initials

2 OCT 1940

NEW ZEALAND LABOUR PARTY

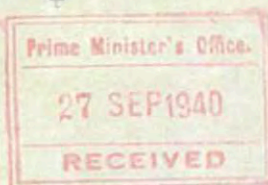
PHC 581

OTAGO L.R.C.

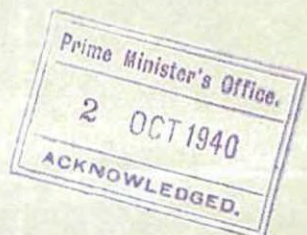
Please Note Address of Secretary:

C/o Barnes & Coy.
210 Stuart Street.

DUNEDIN, C.I. September 23rd 1940.



Rt. Hon. P. Fraser,
Prime Minister,
Wellington.



Dear Sir,

A further complaint has been forwarded to the O.L.R.C. that at a recent meeting of the Otago General Labourers' Union a detective was in attendance, and I have been instructed to advise you that this L.R.C. is very much opposed to this ~~xxxx~~ type of supervision by the Police Department, and trust that an investigation will be made immediately.

Yours faithfully,

Mary A. Egan,

Hon. Secretary.

NEW ZEALAND LABOUR PARTY

OTAGO L.R.C.

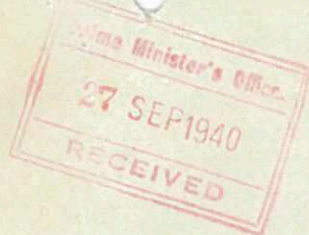
PHO. 581

Please Note Address of Secretary:

c/o Barnes & Coy.

210 Stuart Street,

DUNEDIN, C.I. Sept. 20th. 1940.



Rt. Hon. P. Fraser,
Prime Minister,
Parliament Buildings,
Wellington.

Dear Sir,

I have been instructed by the above Committee to seek information as to the reason why Detective Marsh attended the funeral of the late Mr. A.B. Powell, and who issued the order for his attendance there.

Trusting you will give this matter your immediate attention.

Yours faithfully,

Mary A. Egan.

Hon. Secretary.

~~SECRET~~

EXTRACT/COPY//

From (source): [REDACTED] Reference: Ex. S.40/2220 Date: 8th October, 1940
For File No. 221/2/4
Original on 21/3/5
Received on [REDACTED] Extracted/Copied by [REDACTED] On 20.2.61

"INDUSTRIAL WORKER".

The Communist Party is 100 per cent behind the new paper, the "Industrial Worker" which is published in Wellington. At present the circulation in Auckland is only a few hundreds. These come to Walter ASHTON, Secretary of Glassworkers Union and well-known Party member and he arranges distribution through the Party Groups. However, according to what Gordon WATSON told me during the week, there is a move afoot to set up a Committee of Trade Unionists to manage the organisation and distribution of the paper. I have been asked to go on the committee in an advisory capacity but think it inadvisable to decline the invitation. Gordon WATSON informed me that the Party had control of the paper and would use it to the fullest and thus relieving the "Peoples Voice" of trade union matters and giving more space to other material. He also informed me that the "Industrial Worker" must be developed immediately otherwise it would have to go out of business. The principal point in regard to the distribution of the paper in Auckland is that it is distributed EXCLUSIVELY by the Communist Party.

~~SECRET~~

1 29/181

100

[Form No. 108.]

21/2/4



NEW ZEALAND POLICE.

Subject: Communist activity among Coal-miners.

100,000/8/38-8709]

Detective Sergeant Knight.

Would you please let me have a report on this subject, showing what has been done, for the information of the Commissioner of Police.

21/10/40

W. E. Barker
Inspector of Police.
11/4/1940.

The Inspector

Report attached herewith

H. C. Knight
Det. Sgt
16/5/40

*The Commissioner of Police,
Wellington.*

*For your information
please. The matter will receive
strict attention.*

*This file was in a
drawer here on my arrival.*

W. E. Barker
16/5/40

*Comm
bmt*

See file

file

99

[Police-100A.]

NEW ZEALAND POLICE.

Police-station : Detective Office Greymouth

Date : 16th May 1940, 19

REPORT of Detective Sergeant H.E. Knight, No. 2052

relative to Communist activity amongst Coal Miners.

Vide attached Memorandum.

The Inspector of
Police
Greymouth.

I respectfully report having contacted all the Managers of Coal Mines in the Greymouth Police District in respect to this matter, but have not since obtained from them any information or complaint in regard to Communist activities in any way hampering their operations. The matter is a difficult one to define the actual position, but to put it briefly the Owners and Managers are not in the strict sense of the word in charge of the mines, the actual control of the working is in the hands of the Miners Unions. All of the Miners Unions in the Westport District are controlled by Communists who hold all the Executive positions in the Unions. At the State Mines in the Greymouth District the Unions are controlled by reasonable men and no Communist holds any important position on the Unions. In the private mines at Wallsend and Dobson the Communist element and supporters have about equal weight in the management of the Unions.

However the position is this, that outside subversive statements in respect to the Government and the Government policy and possibly in very few instances some small individual obstruction for a personal grievance, no concerted effort to restrict the Mines will be made. In this I might exclude the general tendency of all workers to ask for an increase in wages to meet the higher cost of living. The reason for my opinion is that practically every miner including the Communist element have their homes and everything that they possess in the vicinity of their work and have been made to realise that should any extensive destruction take place the probability of the workings being

Re-established are remote or in doubt, further owing to circumstances over which they have no control such as lack of shipping railway truck shortages and weather conditions their earnings over a period have not been sufficient for them to desire to take a holiday, which strictly speaking is the main cause of either the Miners or Truckers wishing a stoppage.

Further when the full control of the ~~Miners~~ local Union is in charge of the so called Communist element the matter is looked on with pride by them and the responsibility of stoppages is thrown directly on their shoulders. This is not strictly a Communist principal and they cannot therefore work to system by being a lone disruptive element amongst otherwise peaceable workers.

Further the Communist while the Labour Government is in power on the Coast receives little or no hearing and in many cases is severely dealt with by his fellow workers who he may attempt to subvert. I might also mention that within a recent period many who were proclaimed Communists and supporters are now proclaiming that they have no connection with the party or system.

W. E. Wright
Det Sergt



In your reply, please
quote this number:

39 107

POLYGRAPHIC HEAD OFFICE

97

POLICE DEPARTMENT,

WELLINGTON, 4th September 1939.

SECRET

MEMORANDUM for

GREYMOUTH.

COMMUNIST ACTIVITY AMONG COAL MINERS.

Please ensure that the closest watch is kept in your district for any evidence of industrial unrest being fostered among coal miners by members of the Communist Party or other subversive organizations.

Any necessary inquiries should be made by a member of the Detective staff, and handled with the greatest circumspection.

D. J. Cunningham
Commissioner of Police.

Det Sergeant Knight.

*you will also have to do Blairball
if you consider it necessary*

W. J. Knight

6.9.39

The Inspector.

Respectfully noted. I am endeavouring to obtain suitable contacts for information in each district.

Copy taken

Det. Sergt

13/9/39

H. C. Knight

~~SECRET~~

EXTRACT/COPY

96

From (source):

Reference:

X 40.325A

Date:

16.3.40

For File No.

21/2/4

Original on

26/17/9

Received on

Extracted/Copied by

On

14.12.60

REPORT No. 203.*****
TRADE UNION POSITIONS.

At the meeting I attended during the week alarm was expressed by the Party members at the loss of Trade Union executive positions suffered recently by the Party. Examples are:- J.R. ANGELLO being displaced in the A.S.R.S., Harry JOHNSON losing his seat on the executive of the Local Bodies Labourers Union and "Sandy" McLENNAN losing the Secretaryship of the above-mentioned Union by nine (9) votes. McLENNAN was not in the Party nevertheless he followed the Party lead. It was also stated that the whole of the Party and militant section of the A.S.R.S. had been removed and that the A.S.R.S. was now in control of a bunch of "reactionaries."

The general opinion expressed was that the Party members had been too lax in their Trade Union activities and had taken too much for granted. Efforts must be made from now on to consolidate Trade Union work and "win the masses" to the Party by setting a good example as trade unionists to the rank and file. By doing this the Party will win the confidence of the masses and instead of losing Trade Union positions, will gain same. A Trade Union line is being drawn up and will be put into operation in the immediate future.

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

EXTRACT/COPY

From (source): Sp.Br. Auckland

Reference: Ex.S.40/285

Date: 12th March, 1940

For File No. 21/2/4

Original on 22/3/5

Received on

Extracted/Copied by

On 8.12.60

RELATIVE TO: [redacted] report No.202 dated 10.3.40 concerning
Communist Party activities.

I respectfully forward the attached report of [redacted] dated 10.3.40. (Below)

Referring to waterfront hold-up of work at Auckland when the strike committee was elected by the Waterside Workers Union members on the 9th inst the first four nominated for the committee are all members of the Communist Party. They are:

Alexander DRENNAN P.G. 1934/626
John MITCHELL
Albert Edward (Jack) BASHAM P.G. 1927/529
Ben BRAY

All have been mentioned in previous reports re Communist activities.

Those who went to Wellington as delegates were:-

Harold BARNES, a member of the Mt. Albert Borough Council, on the Labour Party ticket.
Victor NUGENT, who was to have spoken at a Free Speech meeting in Quay Street, on Sunday, 11.2.40, but which was abandoned. This man was not known as a Party member.
McLEAN, a close associate of DRENNAN and BARNES.

In view of the subsequent decision of a large majority of the watersiders on the 12th inst to return to work, it is now apparent that the support accorded the Communist nominees at the former Strike Committee meeting was not truly representative of the mass of the Union feeling.

It bears out once again what I have often reported previously regarding industrial labour troubles. That is, that the energy and initiative of Communist trade union members on the one hand, and the apathy, laziness, fear and the very common and somewhat natural feeling that if there is any unpleasant issue to decide then "I don't want to have anything to do with it" on the other hand, is mainly responsible for the well-organised Communist minority being able to make decisions for a body of their fellow workers perhaps 20 times their own number. Whereas, in actual fact the large majority is actually opposed to the Communist "line".

In no sphere of industry is this assertion more borne out than on the waterfront and in the Railway Workshops.

.....

E.A. STEVENSON
Detective.

REPORT OF [redacted] No.202
WATERFRONT DISPUTE.

Up until the time of the Strike Committee was set up the Communist Party took more or less a back seat in the Waterfront dispute. However the first four nominations for the committee were communists and the names are as follows: Alex.DRENNAN; Johnny MITCHELL; Jack BASHAM; and Ben BRAY. These four were duly elected on the strike committee. When discussion took place regarding sending delegates to Wellington to confer with the Wellington watersiders, Alex DRENNAN was one of the first nominated but refused on the grounds that being a well-known Communist, might prejudice the chances of a satisfactory settlement of the dispute. Therefore Jock BARNES, Victor NUGENT and another delegate were elected to proceed to Wellington. This is the position as it stands at the time of writing this.

~~SECRET~~



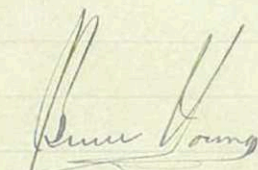
NEW ZEALAND POLICE.

Subject: **COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES** on wharves and railways:

103,000/11/30-14051

The Inspector:-

At present there is no evidence of Communist activity on the wharves or railways: The Commissioner's instructions will be strictly complied with:

10/29

Chief Detective

14-10-39:

*I he Superintendent
D. P. G. G. G.
But I hope for a long
16.10.39*

*The Commissioner
J. Levin Supr
17.10.39*

39 [Form No. 108.
POLICE DEPT. HEAD OFFICE

21/2/4 94

NEW ZEALAND POLICE.

[Police—100A.]

Police-station : Wellington Wharf.Date : 8th October, 19 39.REPORT of Detective Sergeant W. Tricklebank,, No. 1796.

relative to COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES ON WHARVES AND RAILWAYS,
VIDE ATTACHED FILE..

I beg to report that the Communists have been very quiet about the Wharves and ships.

The Seamen's Union dumped several members of their Union whom were well known Communists, and the others have been very quiet of late..

Fitzgerald was one of them, he is now a member of Waterside Workers Union, but he is never heard of.

Gibson who was another member who was dumped, I understand went to Australia where he came from..

The general workings of the Wharves are much improved of late, and I don't think the Communists get much of a hearing at the monthly stop-work meeting which are held in the Denkey-room on the first Thursday each month.

Should anything take place regarding the Communists about the Wharves, I will report accordingly...

The Chief Detective,

WELLINGTON CENTRAL.

W. Tricklebank

Detective Sergeant NO. 1796.

Detective Sergeant Doyle:-

Please note for attention re Communist activities on the Railways:

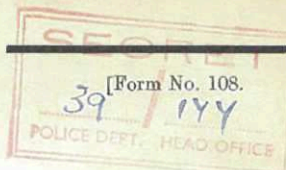
10/29
James Doyle
Chief Detective
9-10-39:

The Chief Detective,

Noted for attention. So far there have been no complaints regarding Communist activities in connection with the working of the Railways.

J. Doyle
Det. Sergt
14-10-39

SECRET



NEW ZEALAND POLICE.

Subject: Communist Activities on Wharves and Railways. at Dunedin

Vide Commissioners memorandum S.39/177.

100,000/8/38-8709]

Detective Russell

For attention, please

T.E. Holmes

Chief Detective

4/9/39

The Chief Detective

Please see report attached.

J.B. Russell

Detective 2505

21/9/39

The Superintendent.

T.E. Holmes

Chief Detective.

20-9-39.

The Commissioner
For your information
21.9.39

NEW ZEALAND POLICE.

[Police—100A.]

Police-station : Dunedin

Date : 21st September, 19 39

REPORT of J.C. Russell, Detective, No. 2505

relative to Communist activities on Wharves and Railways.

Vide attached

I respectfully report that I received confidential information from Mr. Ruth, Justice of the Peace, residing at 42 Eskvale Street, St. Kilda, Dunedin and employed at Hillside Workshops that Communist literature had been distributed outside the Hillside Workshops Cargill Road, Dunedin on the 1/9/39.

Mr. Ruth stated that the literature was in pamphlet form and he obtained samples which have been forwarded to Wellington vide separate files.

I subsequently saw Mr. McEvoy and obtained the names of the persons who were distributing these pamphlets and they are as follows :-

John Joseph Hamman, welder, 2 Hope Street, Dunedin

David Godfrey Brown, welder, 74 Pine Hill Rd. Dunedin,

William John Marslin, holder up, 188 Musselburgh Rise
Dunedin,

These men will be watched in future and should they be detected distributing Communist literature in or about the Workshops I will be immediately informed.

I have no direct evidence that the above men were distributing the pamphlets my information came through Mr. Ruth who obtained it from a third party whose name he did not wish to disclose.

Mr. Ruth does not wish it to be spread about that he is supplying the information.

As this matter affects the Railways I deemed it necessary to submit a report.

Samples of pamphlets distributed have been forwarded to Wellington vide report submitted by me on the 6/9/39.

J.C. Russell
Detective 2505

The
Chief Detective
Dunedin.



In your reply, please
quote this number:

89

~~SECRET~~ 89/177.

POLICE DEPARTMENT,

WELLINGTON, 1st September 1939.

MEMORANDUM for
Superintendent of Police,

DUNEDIN.

COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES ON WHARVES AND RAILWAYS.

Please ensure that a watch is kept for any evidence of the intention of the Communist Party, or other subversive organizations, to interfere with the smooth working of shipping or railways in your district.

D. J. Cummings
Commissioner of Police.

*The Chief Detective
has careful
attention please.
D. J. Cummings
4/9/39*

Detective Sergt Taylor

As you have been detailed for the Railway and Wharves during the emergency period, please note and return, it will also receive attention from the "Secret" correspondence man Detective Russell.

T. E. Coleman
Chief Detective.

4/9/39.

The Chief Detective,
Respectfully noted.

G. Taylor
D/Sergt. No 418.
4/9/39.



NEW ZEALAND POLICE.

Form No. 103.
39 144
POLICE DET. HEAD OFFICE

87

Subject: Communist Activities on Wharves and Railways.

100,000/11/30-140511

The Chief Detective,

Respectfully noted for attention.
I have seen Mr. Rodgers, Railway Traffic
Manager and if any information should
come to hand I will report same
immediately.

William A. Farish,

7/9/39

Detective No. 3086.

The Superintendent
Noted.

W. A. Dunlop

Chf Det

8.9.39

The Commr.

The only man
who has come under
the notice of the Police
is a man named
Karl. Lorau Schoultz,
a native of Denmark
whose file is herewith.

S. Kaula

Supl 10.9.39

Copy

~~Secret~~ 39/177

86

Police Department,
Wellington. 1st September 1939.

~~SECRET.~~

Memorandum for

The Superintendent of Police,
Christchurch.

Communist Activities on Wharves and Railways.

Please ensure that a watch is kept for any evidence of the intention of the Communist Party, or other subversive organizations, to interfere with the smooth working of shipping or Railways in your District.

(Sgd) D. J. Cummings
Commissioner of Police.

The Chief Detective,

For your information and attention please.
Lyttelton Police have been advised.

S. R. R. R.
Superintendent of Police.
2/9/39.

Act Parish

For attention please
W. A. Dunlop
Chf Det
2.9.39

NEW ZEALAND POLICE.

[Police—100A.]

Detective Office,

Police-station: Wellington.

Date: 9th February, 1939

REPORT of Detective Sergeant P. Doyle, No. 1337

relative to the result of election of Trade Union Delegates
in the Wellington and neighbouring districts.

Vide attached.

I beg to report that through the absence of my informant from the city on holiday, and my own absence from duty on annual leave, I have only been able to obtain the required information today in connection with the recent election of Trade Union Delegates in the Wellington, Westland, Manawatu and Nelson districts.

I attach a copy of the Ballot Results, from which it will be seen that the Communist candidates failed to gain representation as Trade Union Delegates, this refers to J. Croxson and J. J. Robinson, and Croxson also failed in his attempt to become a District Councillor, although he polled 144 votes as against 167 by the successful candidate J. H. Blair.

There appears to have been a complete lack of interest shown in the election in the Wellington District where 1485 ballot papers were issued and only 440 returned, a similar position applies in the other districts.

However, it is satisfactory to know that the Communists gained no ground in this district, and all the old delegates still hold office, although the lack of interest shown by the rank and file might have resulted otherwise.

In addition to the ballot results, a copy of which is attached, I have also attached a copy of the unopposed members elected for Wellington, Wanganui-Ning Country, Haurarapa, Hawkes Bay, Nelson, Masterton, Buller, Wanganui Westland, Manawatu, Otaki, Palmerston North and Greymouth.

I am unable to ascertain the results of voting in other centres, except that I am informed that no material changes took place, but the strength of the Communist representation is not known here.

P. Doyle
Detective Sergeant 1337.

The Chief Detective,
Wellington.

BALLOT RESULTS.

WELLINGTON DISTRICT.

<u>Trades Council Delegates:</u>	Arthurs J.	298
	Blair V.H.	257
	Butler P.M.	358
	✓ Croxson J.	222
	Keane D.J.	268
	Mackintosh R.A.	170
	O'Grady M.	313
	✗ Robinson J.J.	168
	Informal	1

I hereby declare Messrs. P.M. Butler, M. O'Grady, J. Arthurs, D.J. Keane and V.H. Blair elected.

WELLINGTON L.R.C. Delegates:

Arthurs J.	343
Blair V.H.	339
Butler P.M.	366
Keane D.J.	352
Mackintosh R.A.	304
Millard A.	263
O'Grady M.	354
Page W.F.	255
Todd J.L.	268
Informal	1

I hereby declare Messrs. P.M. Butler, M. O'Grady, D.J. Keane, J. Arthurs, V.H. Blair, R.A. Mackintosh and J.L. Todd elected.

<u>District Councillor:</u>	Blair V.H.	167
	✗ Croxson J.	144
	Mackintosh R.A.	94

I hereby declare Mr. V.H. Blair elected.

In the Wellington District 1,485 ballot papers were issued and 440 returned.

	<u>WESTLAND.</u>	
<u>District Councillor:</u>	Cranston T.	31
	Wilcox J.	156
	Pupich J.	18
	Gloss W.H.	29
	Informal	1
	No Coupons	10

I hereby declare Mr. J. Wilcox elected.

In the Westland District 675 ballot papers were issued, and 245 returned.

	<u>MANAWATU.</u>	
<u>District Councillor:</u>	Bell E.D.	78
	Queenan J.P.	125
	No Coupons	17

I hereby declare Mr. J.P. Queenan elected.

In the Manawatu District 767 ballot papers were issued and 220 were returned.

	<u>NELSON DISTRICT.</u>	
<u>District Councillor:</u>	Cuthbert M.	26
	Terry C.	71
	No. Coupons.	13.

I hereby declare Mr. C. Terry elected.

In the Nelson District 321 ballot papers were issued and 110 returned.

BALLOT RESULTS.

MEMBERS UNOPPOSED.

WELLINGTON DISTRICT.

President: J. Arthurs.
Vice-President: P.E. Wright.
Trustee: G. Fraser

WANGANUI-KING COUNTRY.

Councillor: J.J. Scott.

WAIKARARAPA.

Councillor: R.N. Shaw.

HAWKE'S BAY.

Councillor: J. Arthur (Takapau)

LABOUR REPRESENTATION COMMITTEE.

M. Cuthbert	Nelson
E. Terry	"
C. Flanagan	"
R. Shaw	Masterton
J. Ammunsen	"
S. Daniells	"
G.S. Stevenson	"
J. Roberts	Buller
J.A. Pupich	"
H. Stephen	"
T. Cranston	"
N.L. Death	Wanganui
A. Carmichael	"
F.G. McGrath	Westland
H. Trowland	"
(one position to be filled for Westland)	
SC. Bright	Manawatu
W. Seaburgh	"
D. Thompson	"
W.A. Batten	Otaki
L. Moheky	"
L. Bevins	Palmerston North
L. Newdick	"
J.P. Queenan	"
F.S. Smith	"

TRADES COUNCILS.

W.H. Closs	Greymouth
H. Stephen	Buller
J. Wilcox	"
W. McAliece	Masterton
R. Shaw	"
R.E. Wilton	"
N.L. Death	Wanganui
A. Smith	"
M. Cuthbert	Nelson
C. Terry	"
R. Lee	Manawatu
L. Newdick	"
J.P. Queenan	"
F.S. Smith	"

21/2/4
X 37/163
Q 37/140

NEW ZEALAND POLICE.

[Police—100A.]

Detective Office,

Police-station: Wellington,

Date: 20th December, 1938 84

REPORT of Detective Sergeant P. Doyle, No. 1337

relative to members of the Communist Party holding office
in Trade Unions at Wellington.

I beg to report that so far as Wellington is concerned the activities of members of the Communist Party in connection with Trade Unionism is of a minor nature compared with that of Tom Stanley and his followers at Auckland.

Those holding office here are J.J. Robinson, Labourers Union, who is a delegate to the Trades and Labour Council.

E. Burt of the same Union and who resides at 139 Vivian Street and employed by the Johnsonville Town Board on scheme 13.

J. Croxson formerly organiser for the Labourers Union and now employed by the City Council on sewerage work.

Bill O'Reilly a labourer employed on the Johnsonville No. 13 Scheme.

Robinson, Burt and Croxson with the support of O'Reilly are working quietly in an endeavour to get control of the Trade Unions, but the latter is regarded as a mild Communist, who is easily influenced, and it is believed that he will desert the cause of Communism in the near future.

Adam Laird an employee of the Art Cabinet Company is interested in the movement, but is not regarded as an ardent Communist. He represents the shop assistants.

Charles Morris Brooks represents the Railways, but he carries little or no weight in the movement.

Ella Stewart represents the clothing workers, but she too is not regarded seriously by the rank and file in the Trade Union movement.

H. Kind is the Boot operators representative, but little is known of his activities, and the same applies to a man named Childs of the Coach and Body builders.

There is a man named Theyers also interested, but on whose behalf it is not known.

There is a movement on foot now by the Wellington, Nelson, and Westland Local Bodies Labourers and Related Trades Industrial Union of Workers in conjunction with Municipal and General Workers Union to elect Trades Council Delegates.

This will be done by secret ballot, and the Communists are making every endeavour to secure the election of Robinson and Croxson, but the saner labour members are working equally as hard to defeat their object, knowing that if Communism succeeds, Trade Unionism will be in the grip of that Body.

The Chief Detective,
Wellington.

At Auckland the Stanley followers are out to gain control, while Hawkes Bay with a man named Kay in control is following suit, Gisborne has two strong candidates in the field, whose names I have not been able to ascertain, but one of them nominated Stanley as a delegate to the Geneva Conference which is to be held early next year.

Canterbury is in much the same position through the instrumentality of the followers of one Saunders, who is endeavouring to capture control of the Trade Union movement in that district.

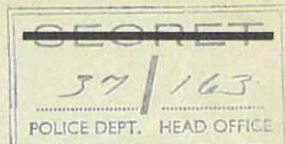
Dunedin Communists are supporting one McIntyre, who is vice-President of the Labourers Union, but little is known regarding his sympathies with the Communistic principles, but it would appear that he is a favoured candidate by that Body.

The elections will take place on the 31st December, 1938, instant, the ballot closing at 5 p.m.


Detective Sergeant 1337.

Wednesday 14/7/37.

21/2/4



82

The following is a list of Trade Unions which contains members, who are also members of the Communist Party, here in Wellington.

Municipal and General Workers Union..... 5. (J.J. Robinson, Denevan, Morton, McDonald, Ormerod.)
Mr. King
Lu 37/170
Plumbers Union..... 1. (On Executive) ?
Stone Masons Union..... 1. (" " McHardy).
Coach and Body Builders Union..... 4. (Freeman, Burt, (Exec.) Childs, Theyers.)
Shop Assistants Union..... 1. (Laird, on Executive).
Plasterers Union..... 1. ?
A.S.R.S..... 1. (C.M. Brooks.)
Storeman and Packers Union..... 1. (Thompson.)
Boot Operatives Union..... 1. (H. Kind, on Exec.)
Clothing Trades and Tailoresses Union..... 1. (Ella Stewart.)
Engineers Union..... 1. ?
Tramway Employees Union..... 1. (A.J. Birchfield.)
Clerical Union..... 2. (B. Fortune, Margaret Perrett.)
Watersiders Union..... 3. (C. Barker & ?.)
Lu 37/170
~~P & T Employees Assn..... 1. (Harding ?.)~~
Students Assn..... 1. (Silverstone.) *P/F*

~~SECRET~~ 37/140 21/2/4
[Police-100A.]

NEW ZEALAND POLICE.

Police-station: Detective Office, Auckland.

Date: 16 th December, 193 8 81

REPORT of Detective E.A. Stevenson, No. 2627

relative to members of the Communist Party holding office,
and prominent in, trade unions.

"Vide attached"

I respectfully report that following is a further list of names of Communist Party members in Auckland who are active in the trade unions referred to. As far as is known all of those mentioned in the earlier reports attached are still active.. In this further list it cannot be stated in every instance that the member is definitely holding some office in the union, but where that fact is known it is stated.

All the following names have been previously referred to in correspondence re Communist Party activities... All, are not merely sympathisers, but actual members of the Party.

✓ PF
ANGELO, John Reginald; carpenter at Otahuhu railway workshops and active as a communist there for over 2 years past. May be on executive of the Railway Tradesmens' Assn. Sometimes writes in the "Workers' Weekly" and speaks often in lunch hour meetings at the workshops.

✓ PF
ARMSTRONG, Richard; member of the Auckland Council of the Federation of Labour. Secretary of the Optical Workers Union. Member of the Auckland City Council.

✓ PF
BLAIR, Gus; the only previous reference to this man was in my covering report, dated 13th Sept, 1938, to [redacted] report No. 185. I then stated that 2 years ago the leader of I.G.3A at the Otahuhu railway workshops was a man of this name... Blair is the branch secretary of the Railway Tradesmens' Assn. at the railway workshops.. See the attached "Workers Weekly" article dated 18/11/38. The information that Blair is a member of the Party did not come from the Department's usual secret source, but I believe it to be reliable.

✓ R
HUTCHINGS, Robert; a waterside worker at Auckland, referred to frequently for some years past as a sympathiser working as a waterside worker at Auckland.. He is now a Party member and is active in the Waterside Workers Union, but it is not thought that he holds office.

✓ PF
MURRAY, Joseph J. ("Slasher"); an Auckland waterside worker. Active in the union, but not thought to be on the executive, but is closely associated with Alexander Drennan, who is.

✓ John James
MITCHELL, Johnny; same as Murray. Writes Communist articles for "Workers Weekly" under own name, on waterfront conditions

✓ Edward PF
JUDE, James; a hotel barman. The only active and open Communist in the Hotel & Restaurant Workers Union. Recently stood for office of President of the union, but defeated on split vote.

The Chief Detective,
Auckland.

✓ John PF
RAYNER, Jack; upholsterer's trimmer in railway workshops at Otahuhu. A continually active Communist there for years past and takes active part in union affairs there, but not known to hold office.

✓ PF
SAMWAYS, George, or Henry George; Party member in Auckland for several years past.. On the executive of the Auckland and Suburban Local Bodies Labourers' Union. Not a speaker and no gift or personality for leadership.

On executive of
 Boilermakers
 union. See
 Dec 29/28
 ✓ PF
SMITH, Henry Mornington; very well known as local Communist. Former ship's fireman and mentioned in former list as active in Seamen's Union, but never had much following. For 4 months past he has been employed as a boilermaker at the Otahuhu Railway workshops.. Quickly came to the front there as a Communist agitator and took a leading part in the recent strike there, in which he was appointed delegate. Is said to have gained a good following there and gained a good deal of prestige there since strike. This man will always take a leading part as a Communist in industrial disputes. His history previously ^{given} on more than one occasion.

✓ PF ~~PF~~ *Card destroyed 2/1/68*
STEVENSON, Albert Edwin; an active and confirmed Communist. Is branch secretary of the Otahuhu railway workshops branch of the Associated Societies of Railway Servants.

✓ PF
WOLF, Richard Charles; a local Communist for several years. Is on the executive of the Plasterers' Union. Is not a speaker. Industrial disputes do not seem to be a feature of this union.

4 extracts
 all P/F's
 At present there are no other Communist Party members who are known to take a leading, or influential part, in the actions and deliberations of their respective unions.

Of course, as I have reported previously on several occasions, all Communist Party members who are working in industry and are trade union members are among the best of unionists so far as active interest in union affairs and attendance at meetings goes.

Increased Communist activity in trade unions is not so much the result of an increase in the number of Communist Party members and supporters in those unions and in the District Council of the Federation of Labour, but because of the disinterestedness and apathy of such a large number of trade union members who are not Communist supporters by any means.... The newspaper extracts which I have attached hereto throw some further light on this aspect of a danger which apparently has only recently become generally recognised.

The point of the whole matter seems to be that legislation can compel workers to become members of a union but it does not compel them to attend union meetings and take an active and intelligent interest in union affairs.

Communist Party members are not strong numerically in the various trade unions, but their influence and voting power becomes much stronger because they make it their business to gain a real understanding of union problems and they therefore, often become the logical and natural leaders.. Also because of the indifference of large numbers of workers whose chief interest in their union is that they

are compelled to be members and pay the fees.

The Communists fully appreciate the very great power that rests with those who control the industrial labour movement, and that has been the chief sphere of their activities during the last 2 or 3 years.

They hope, through a powerful representation on the New Zealand Federation of Labour to bring increasing pressure to bear on the Political Labour Party and the Government?

From careful attention to Communist speakers and reading the "Workers Weekly" it can be seen that one of the important reasons behind the recent strikes and stoppages of work is the efforts of the militants -largely Communists- to severely curtail the powers of the Arbitration Court, if not to do away with it and with ^{the} Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act, altogether, and to return to the old idea of collective action and direct bargaining with the employers, backed up by the threat of strike action.

To this end Communists are frequently quoting the late Harry Holland's pamphlet on Arbitration entitled "Labour Leg-ironed".

E. J. Stevenson.

Det. 2627.

NEW ZEALAND POLICE.

21/2/4
Police-100A.

X 37/140

Police-station: Dunedin

78

Date: 11th December, 1938

REPORT of J. C. Russell, Detective, No. 2505

relative to Members of the Communist Party holding office
in Trade Unions. Vide attached.

I respectfully report that I have enquired into this matter and the following members of the Communist Party are acting on the various Trade Union Executives in Dunedin.

John McLellan Jamieson, on executive of the Painters Union.

James Jamieson, on executive of the Metal Workers Union.

Samuel Ikin, delegate, Federation of Labour.

Arthur Basil Powell, on executive of the Labourers Union

Francis O'Rorke, secretary of the Dunedin Central Branch of the National Unemployed Workers Movement

Frederick McComish, on executive of the South Dunedin Branch of the National Unemployed Workers Movement.

Edgar Wilson Hunter, secretary of the Federation of Labour.

11F Edward Brooks, Drainage Board employee, 15 Brighton St. Kaikorai, Dunedin, on executive of the Federation of Labour.

Members of the Communist Party in Dunedin are not welcomed by trade union members on their respective executives or councils.

The
Chief Detective
Dunedin.

J. C. Russell
Detective 2505

21/2/4
NEW ZEALAND POLICE.

[Police—100A.]

X37/140

Police-station: CHRISTCHURCH.

Date: 9-th December 1938./193/

77

REPORT of Detective D. McKenzie, No. 2515.

relative to members of the Communist Party being elected
to Trade Union Executives.

I respectfully report that since the resignation of [REDACTED] there does not appear to be any means or source of eliciting information in this or similar matters.

As far as I can ascertain the Communist Party has ceased to exist in Christchurch, consequently their activities in the past and a knowledge of their membership when active is not available so far as I am concerned.

Dealing with the subject under review, it is a matter of conjecture as to what the present position really is.

A study of the reports submitted by [REDACTED] who was actually a member of the party showed that the party, in so far as Christchurch was concerned, could not be classified as "head strong" at any stage of their activity and that finally they "ceased to exist"

The problem now, is, how can it be determined in the absence of some person who is in sympathy or affiliated with the movement—what the true position really is.

I was informed that Mr Roberts, Secretary to several Trades Unions and to the Federation of Labour, is against the Communist Movement. A subsequent talk on the subject with him gave me the impression that he was sincere in what he had to say, which was to the effect that so far as Christchurch was concerned the position had not altered since July 1937.

The Chief Detective,
CHRISTCHURCH.

-over-

-2-

Mr Roberts added that they were constantly keeping a check on matters which I was interested in and that they took good care that no person with communistic leanings was elected to an executive position.

I learned from a Trade Union Secretary, whom I have personally come in contact with a for a number of years. That the Communist party has actually ceased to exist in Christchurch, but that there are members in the several Trades Unions who were still imbued with the objects of past Communistic teachings and were ever ready to cause dissension should opportunity present itself.

In this connection he referred to a special address given by the Hon' Minister of Labour (Mr Armstrong) who specially emphasised the necessity of every one "pulling their weight" and the veiled threat that unless every man played the game and did his share there was a probability of a further election, as the present Government would not tolerate a "Go slow Policy".

I have also been informed that the local Secretary of the "Freezing Works and Related Trades Union" (Mr Killpatrick) is believed to be in sympathy with Communistic leanings; and further that George Angus, a carpenter of 24, Willard Street, Spreydon, who was recently elected to the Carpenters Union is also in sympathy with the Communist Party.

Mention was made of a man named Jamieson, who was frequently referred to by [REDACTED] who was in charge of the International Book Shop and who is now in Wellington. This man, in the opinion of my informant, is likely to cause trouble, and was a delegate to a conference held in Wellington in June or September last.

Det. H. K. Kuzie
Detective, No. 2515.

July 16th, 1937.

MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY ON TRADE UNION EXECUTIVES.

I respectfully beg to report, that, after exhaustive enquiry the position of Communist Party members on Trade Union Executives does not exist as far as Christchurch is concerned.

I understand however that a Mr Roseoe of the Railway Dep't Addington Workshops who is a member of the FRIENDS OF SOVIET UNION is also on the Executive of the Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants.

Communists D. Glanville and P. Grotoreux are members of the General Labourers Union but do not hold any executive positions.

J. J. Porter who was active in the Seamens Union until twelve months ago did not reach executive rank. He is now employed by N. Z. Breweries Ltd and has stated openly that he has no intention of jeopardising his job by again dabbling in communist activities.

From my personal observation it is obvious that any person professing Communist ideas is not wanted in the Trade Unions or any Labour movement.



Auckland Star
23-11-38.

INDUSTRIAL LABOUR.

CRISIS REPORT DENIED.

ONLY "A HEALTHY GROWL."

(By Telegraph—Press Association.)

WELLINGTON, Tuesday.

A denial of reports circulated that there was a hint of a crisis in the industrial labour movement and a possible purging of the Federation of Labour was given by the president, Mr. A. McLagan, at the conclusion of to-day's session of the federation.

It was quite apparent that in an organisation representing more than 200,000 workers there should arise degrees of friction, but this could best be described as a healthy growth of a very healthy movement, said Mr. McLagan. The movement was making progress and had its critics, but what progressive movement was not without such critics? The statement that there were likely to be lively discussions at the meeting was without foundation.

The object of calling trades councils to send extra delegates was in anticipation of the Government being desirous of discussing a wide range of subjects with the federation, the president added, but it was now clear that this would not eventuate. The Prime Minister and the Minister of Finance had addressed the meeting on the Government's proposals regarding its campaign in support of New Zealand-made goods, and had sought the co-operation of the federation.

Mr. McLagan said it was improbable the federation would discuss the position of Mr. D. W. Stalker. The Southland federation had already been in contact with the Manufacturers' Federation, and had discussed various matters for encouraging the purchase of New Zealand-made goods. The federation had agreed to take part in the campaign.

Auckland Star
29-11-38.

"A FAIR VOTE."

WESTFIELD POSITION.

DENIAL OF BULLYING.

An emphatic denial that the men had been bullied into the strike decision was made by the president of the Freezing Workers' Union, Mr. G. Baker, to-day.

"The meeting was open to all union employees at the works and was attended by the majority," he said. "The vote was a perfectly fair one. At first some of the girls employed in the cannery department were opposed to striking, but in the end they had agreed. Actually the vote was a unanimous one. Certainly the 150 butchers were most directly concerned, but the principle involved in the dispute was recognised to be of general application, affecting all at the works."

Auckland Star
24-11-38

EXTREMISTS.

IN TRADE UNIONS.

INFLUENCE AT WORK.

CONCERN IN DUNEDIN.

(By Telegraph—Own Correspondent.)

DUNEDIN, this day.

Concern felt in the North Island, particularly in Auckland, concerning the growing influence of extremists in the district councils of the Federation of Labour is to a lesser extent repeated locally. Any influences that are being exerted are largely attributable to the surprising lack of interest shown by members of trade unions in attending meetings when important matters are up for discussion. Extremists could not possibly hold seats on any Labour body if, when the time for appointing delegates from any one trade union arose, there was a reasonable quota of normally disposed members.

These opinions were gathered from secretaries of various trade unions. Although confirmation was reluctantly given in some instances, the general response was the same—that the extreme, or Communistic, element is undeniably at work exerting a pernicious influence. Meetings called by trade unions are invariably "stacked"—that is, sufficient of the Communistic element goes along in a body strong enough to outvote or to sway the votes of the more level-headed section of those present.

"Influence Not Powerful."

"This does not mean that the Communist element is very powerful," one man stated. "It is not really, but in block voting its influence can easily be imagined, for even a majority of one may result in a measure being carried that is repugnant to most of those associated with the union."

Another man said: "If extremists can sway a meeting, and I am not going to say they cannot, it must be obvious, since they are in the minority, that the so-called level-headed members have a remedy in their own hands. The point is that these supporters of sane Labour don't trouble to attend meetings, and their lack of interest is food and drink to the extremists' cause. The extremists would not have a leg to stand on if meetings were properly attended. It is said in Auckland that delegates from that city to the National Council of the Federation of Labour were not appointed by the wish of the trade unions; still, you can't get away from the fact that they were appointed by the majority present at meetings called to appoint them. Union members must know they are up against a very active Communistic element, and it is up to them to go all out and fight it."

X 32/11/40 21/2/4
Auckland Star
10-12-38 74

NO FOUNDATION.

"PURGE" IN LABOUR.

UNION'S EMPHATIC DENIAL.

The statement that there is no foundation for the suggestion of a purge in the Federation of Labour is contained in a resolution carried at the recent annual meeting of the Auckland and Suburban Local Bodies' Labourers' Union.

The text of the resolution was: "The members of the Auckland and Suburban Local Bodies' Labourers' Union view with concern the continuous Press attacks on the organised trade unionists, especially the suggestion of a purge in the Federation of Labour. We wish to state that there is absolutely no foundation for these statements. The unity of the Federation of Labour and its support of the Labour Government is unquestioned by the trade union movement and will not be split by the reactionary utterances of the New Zealand Press."

X 37
29/140

73

COERCION?

RECENT DISPUTES.

HOW THEY COMMENCE.

NO SECRET BALLOTS.

ADMISSION BY UNIONISTS.

A suggestion that the element of coercion has entered into recent stoppages of work in the Auckland district was made to-day in a letter written to the "Star" by a unionist involved in the Westfield dispute and by workers associated with other industrial trouble which has flared up after precipitate action by sections of workers.

The outstanding fact which emerged from inquiries made was that decisions to cease work or strike are invariably made at mass meetings on the job or at special general meetings on a show of hands and not by secret ballot! Those who have the temerity at such meetings to oppose the element which is "jockeying for a strike" or favours swift action, it was declared, are "hooted, jeered and bullied until they throw in their lot with the crowd."

Such tactics as these, it was added, are not proving helpful to the general labour movement—either industrially or politically—and no secret was made that there was a good deal of anxiety that there should arise out of the conference in Wellington last week of the Federation of Labour a better and smoother-working arbitration system and a greater measure of reliance on the federation for the "pouring of oil on troubled waters" when workers in the various industries become restive.

Workers' Comments.

Here are a few comments by workers, which support the contention that when strike decisions are made no little intimidation is employed because the secrecy of the ballot is not relied upon.

"Regarding the strike at Westfield or stop-work as it is called this time—a case by any other name," writes a correspondent to the "Star." "There are 100 men and girls stated to be out on strike yet only 150 of these will get any benefits from it, the others being quite satisfied with their conditions. It is stated that the others came out in sympathy. Nothing of the sort. They came out because they were called out by their union, which is controlled by the butchers, who earn such big money that a few days off work means nothing to them. But what of the others—the labourers and other workers? I am willing to take a bet that if a secret ballot were called work would start at once. The present system of making these decisions is to call for a show of hands. If a show of hands does not suit the would-be strikers, the others are hooted and jeered and bullied until they throw in their lot with the crowd. Another thing is that all the men who are on the 'off shift' are never considered or have any say, but arrive at 11 o'clock time to start work only to find the door closed."

"I am sure that the general public do not know many of these facts, but labour under the misapprehension that freezing workers are hotheads and unsatisfied. This is not so, and I am only one of many who are 'fed up to the teeth'."

"TRUTH IN IT."

HASTY ACTION FIRST.

"COUNCIL HAS TO CLEAN UP."

"The dispute at Westfield can only be local, but there is a lot of truth in what your correspondent has to say," said a prominent trade union official when consulted. "Invariably when a strike is mooted a decision is made on a show of hands. There is nothing in the constitution of the Federation of Labour which demands that a secret ballot should be held. The only thing is that the federation, or rather the district council of that organisation, is supposed to step in if a dispute affects other organisations apart from the workers where trouble has started, or alternatively, if it is invited by any affiliated organisation to carry on negotiations on its behalf. The constitution stipulates that affiliations must refer a dispute to the district council before definite action is taken, but that practice as a general rule has not been adopted, and the council has not had a chance yet. The workers usually 'kick over the traces' and then ask the council to clean up the mess. I don't for a moment think there would have been the number of stoppages in Auckland that there have been had the federation been consulted in the first instance. There have been cases, of course, where strikes have been the culmination of grievances working up to concert pitch over long periods, but, even there, the federation might have been able to handle the situation peacefully by going direct to officials and they been given the opportunity to do so."

It was explained in other quarters that not all the blame for precipitate action rested on the men, for some industries were controlled by overseas firms, whose representatives were inclined to introduce American and British methods into their works. There was often pin-trucking, which did not fit in with New Zealand standards, and was absent from similar types of works controlled by New Zealand interests, who understood the New Zealand outlook and practices in industry. There was also the question of the psychological moment for direct action to be considered, and the trying nature of certain industries, which tended to make men jump into disputes at the slightest pretext.

Disputes Committees.

Nevertheless, there were ways of overcoming these problems, by greater reliance on the Federation of Labour, and, perhaps, by supplying machinery in the Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration for the speedier assembling of disputes' committees. Harassing conditions awards might also be removed by a constitution of the Arbitration Court, with assessors on either side being taken from the industry concerned in dispute, instead of being permanent assessors, as at present. Technical and complex problems were peculiar to various industries, and a judge and two permanent assessors, with no

actual experience in the industries, could not be expected to give the satisfaction that was desired and would produce industrial harmony. To-day anomalies were in practically all the awards because the best system of arbitration had not been evolved.

The need for quicker action by disputes' committees was very apparent, it was stated. In many awards there was provision for these committees, but the time allowed for them to sit was long, and in some cases up to two months. In seasonal occupations this meant that discontent was allowed to carry on for extended periods. Hence it was, particularly in industries of this nature, that the men decided to act first at a moment when the employers could least afford a stoppage, and force a conference afterwards. All these matters—speedier sittings of the disputes' committees, the giving of more power to the Federation of Labour, and the appointment of assessors from each industry taking a dispute to the Arbitration Court—were being freely discussed in union circles, it was added, and it was hoped that some of them would be incorporated in the Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act, if and when, the Government decided to amend it.

OTAHUHU DISPUTE.

"NOTHING WAS GAINED."

INFLUENCE OF A SECTION.

Replies to inquiries made among those affected by the recent hold-up at the railway workshops at Otahuhu suggest that a set of conditions almost identical with those stated to exist at Westfield were present. The decision to stop work was made at a mass meeting of the men in the morning, the vote being by a show of hands.

"The majority of us did not want to strike," said one of the men. "We had no sympathy with the small knot of men who were trying to foment trouble. Actually three men put up their hands to vote against the decision, but they were howled down, and the vote was declared to be unanimous. All the men came out. They had no choice. The strike was held to be a victory for the men. Perhaps it was, in demonstrating that 1500 men can stick solidly together in a cause they know little about, but which they are told is for the benefit of their fellow workers."

"On the other hand, what was gained? Precisely nothing! We all lost two and a half days' wages and, I think, a share of the sympathy of the public. I think it will be a long time before there will be another strike about such a trivial thing again. The same element at the workshops—and this is greatly in the majority—does not believe in such irresponsible strikes. They see now that they were influenced by a small element, composed for the most part of Communists."

Desire for Purge.

"There are going to be changes out there soon; we are not going to be dictated to by a crowd of Communists," declared another worker. "The statement in the 'Star' about a purge is correct, and the sooner it is done the better. Most of the men at the workshops are 100 per cent behind that statement, and as soon as they are shown how to carry out this purge they will do it. After all, they are ordinary, decent working men, and, given fair treatment, they will give decent service. Most of them stand for Labour, but only a handful for Communism."

Another man stated that had a secret ballot been taken there would not have been a strike. He pointed out that many of the men had not had any say in the decision to strike. These were the night-shift workers, who did not know anything about the trouble until they arrived in the evening and were told by the pickets that there was a strike on, and that they could go back home.

X 37/140

21/2/4 72

EVENING POST, THUR

RANK AND FILE BLAMED

UNION TROUBLES

COMMUNIST CONTROL

APATHY AND NEGLECT

(By Telegraph.)
(Special to the "Evening Post.")

DUNEDIN, This Day.

The concern felt in the North Island, and particularly in Auckland, concerning the growing influence of extremists in district councils of the Federation of Labour is to a lesser extent repeated locally. Any influences that are being exerted are largely attributable to the surprising lack of interest shown by members of trade unions in attending meetings when important matters are up for discussion. Extremists could not possibly hold a seat on any labour body if when the time for appointing delegates from any one trade union arose there was a reasonable quota of normally disposed members.

The above opinions were gathered from the secretaries of the various trade unions. Although confirmation was reluctantly given in some instances, the general response was the same, that the extreme or Communist element is undeniably at work exerting a pernicious influence. Meetings called by the trade unions are invariably "stacked," that is, sufficient of the Communist element goes along in a body strong enough to out-vote or to sway the votes of the more level-headed section of those present.

"This does not mean that the Communist element is very powerful," one man stated. "It is not, really, but in block voting its influence can easily be imagined, for even a majority of one may result in a measure being carried that is repugnant to most of those associated with the union."

Another man said: "If extremists can sway a meeting, and I am not going to say they cannot, it must be obvious, since they are in a minority, that the so-called level-headed members have the remedy in their own hands. The point is that these supporters of sane labour do not trouble to attend meetings, and their lack of interest is food and drink to the extremists' cause. The extremists would not have a leg to stand on if the meetings were properly attended. It is said in Auckland that the delegates from that city to the National Council of the Federation of Labour were not appointed by the wish of the trade unions. Still, you cannot get away from the fact that they were appointed by a majority present at the meetings called to appoint them. Union members must know they are up against a very active Communist element, and it is up to them to go all out and fight it."

X 37
39/140

2/2/4 71

The Auckland Star:

WITH WHICH ARE INCORPORATED
The Evening News, Morning News,
The Echo and The Sun.

*For the cause that lacks assistance,
For the wrong that needs resistance,
For the future in the distance,
And the good that we can do.*

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 1938.

MINORITY RULE?

One of the consequences of "compulsory unionism," a consequence not unforeseen by experienced union leaders, is an increase in the proportion of men or women whose union membership is nominal. They pay their dues, accept the privileges which collective bargaining secures for them, but take little or no part in their union's affairs. This condition has undoubtedly made it easier for the militant, politically-minded section of every union to exert an influence far exceeding its numerical strength. As was revealed by the article published last night, the militant minority in Auckland have realised their opportunity and are making use of it. The Auckland district council of the Federation of Labour, called on to choose delegates to attend an important federation conference, chose three whose qualifications, on the basis of experience and representative standing, were inferior to those of other candidates. The selection was made, of course, by a majority of the meeting, but not by a majority of the council. The active minority was decisive.

The trades unionists of Auckland should consider this situation carefully, in the light of other recent industrial events. The Federation of Labour is now a powerful organisation, whose decisions are far-reaching. It is frequently called in to mediate in local industrial disputes, and its influence so far has been moderate and conciliatory, leading to the impression that it realises its responsibility to the Government as well as to trades unionists. If its temper had been different, if its executive had been less keenly aware of its responsibility, more than one local dispute, trivial enough in its origin, might easily have become large and widespread. In that event, thousands of unionists, not directly concerned themselves, would have been called upon to show "loyalty" and "solidarity" in support of the decisions of the central executive. But the unionists have a duty to themselves which comes before loyalty to union decisions: that duty is to ensure that union decisions are made by delegates who are truly representative of the feeling of the union. It is a duty which can be discharged only by personal attendance at and participation in union meetings where selections are made. As a beginning, some unions in Auckland should inquire why their representatives were not present at the district council meeting, and, if the explanations are unconvincing, they should replace them.

The Auckland Star:

WITH WHICH ARE INCORPORATED
The Evening News, Morning News,
The Echo and The Sun.

*For the cause that lacks assistance,
For the wrong that needs resistance,
For the future in the distance,
And the good that we can do.*

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 1938.

WHO FAVOURS STRIKES?

How long are the frequent and costly stoppages of work, of which that at Westfield is the latest example, to go on? What is their purpose? The community, including a very large number of unionists, is asking these questions. It hears of the sudden decision of a group of men to stop work, then of negotiations and finally of a "settlement" which results in work being resumed. In the meanwhile the men directly concerned have lost wages and the community, too, has suffered inconvenience and loss. Is there any gain to be set against the loss? If there is, it is usually hard to discover. Even if every grievance which causes men to stop work were legitimate, the fact remains that there are facilities available for redressing it, without stopping work, and it is the legal duty of every unionist to use those facilities. Why are they not used?

A correspondent whose letter is published to-day suggests an answer to this last question. He says that decisions to stop work are customarily made at "mass meetings," by a show of hands, after exhortations by an aggressive minority, that moderating voices are shouted down and that workers who are absent because of being on other shifts have no voice at all, but are bound by the "decision." Independent inquiries lead to the conclusion that the conditions described by the correspondent are by no means fanciful. What is the remedy? Clearly, the workers have it in their own hands; they must better control their own affairs. To aid them—especially in unions where young men and women may be carried away or intimidated by the tactics of an aggressive minority—the Government might well consider making secret ballots compulsory. If it is fundamentally important—as it is—that the Parliamentary franchise should be secret, is it any less important that the worker should have the right to a secret vote on questions which directly affect his pay envelope?

37
X 30 / 140

21/2/4 70

Auckland Star - 22-11-38.

GRAVE CONCERN

CRISIS NEAR?

POSSIBLE PURGE.

INDUSTRIAL LABOUR.

COUNCIL OF FEDERATION.

ADVERSE INFLUENCES SEEN.

Grave concern is felt in industrial circles in Auckland at the trend which recent events have taken, and it is hinted that a crisis may be precipitated in the near future which will awaken unionists from their apathy and purge the district council of the Federation of Labour of influences which threaten the very foundation of the movement.

A certain element, it is suggested, is particularly active and is indicating an industrial labour policy contrary to accepted ideals, and, furthermore, it is alleged that their supporters have been largely instrumental in engineering strife among sections of the working-class movement.

The concern existing has reached "fever heat" in the past few days as a result of the appointment last week by the District Council of the Federation of Labour of delegates to attend the most important conference of the federation, which opened in Wellington to-day. The purpose of this conference is to deal with all matters relating to the making and administering of awards—a burning question so far as the trade union movement is concerned.

The existing machinery of the Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act has not been giving general satisfaction and has been fraught with endless delays. The establishment of a Second Court of Arbitration was expected to eliminate the root cause of complaints, but it failed to do so.

Administration of Department.

Another suggestion is that the administration of the Labour Department is creating widespread dissatisfaction. The whole of these matters will come under review at the Wellington conference, and it is expected that before it concludes a decision will be reached as to what steps are necessary to overcome existing difficulties, and representations will be made to representatives of the Government.

So much hinges on the discussions and their outcome that the announcement on Saturday of the Auckland delegates to the conference—one involving important and highly technical issues—came as a surprise to the majority of trade unionists, it is stated.

No secret is made in industrial circles that all is not well as an outcome of these appointments.

IN CONFERENCE.

TILL FRIDAY NEXT.

LABOUR FEDERATION.

NATIONAL COUNCIL MEETS.

(By Telegraph—Press Association.)

WELLINGTON, this day.

The National Council of the Federation of Labour met this morning, representatives from 18 trades councils, in addition to special extra delegates, attending.

The meeting was addressed by the Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. M. J. Savage, and the Minister of Finance, the Hon. W. Nash. Mr. B. Roberts, M.P., was also present.

The conference is expected to last till Friday. Among the business to be discussed are policy matters with the object of bettering workers' conditions. The proceedings are not open to the Press.

Speculation Rife.

Speculation is rife as to how such a state of affairs could have developed, and the claim made about twelve months ago that the Federation of Labour was being run by a section of extremists connected with various off-shoots of the Communist party has been renewed. Indeed, those close to the "inner circles" of the Labour movement state quite definitely that at meetings of the federation, which are held to deal with matters concerning the New Zealand worker, half the time is devoted to discussing extraneous subjects not connected with the trade union movement.

It is claimed that Communists and near-Communists represent about 1 per cent of the trade union membership, but in the Auckland Trades Council they are alleged to have about 33 per cent of the representation. Furthermore, they are reported to be extremely active, attending meetings regularly and voting as one man. In many instances, it is alleged, the voting is conducted in such a way as to indicate that a pre-arrangement has been made as to who the nominees for certain offices shall be and who shall be supported.

An Apathetic Outlook.

In striking contrast to this virility is the suggested apathy of a large section of trade unionists, who do not attend the meetings of their unions and thus allow individuals who are not representing their views to be appointed as delegates to such bodies as the Federation of Labour. Delegates when appointed by unions outside of this coterie are also apathetic, for less than half of their numbers participate in the district council deliberations.

In discussing the situation which has developed, a prominent Labour official said this morning that a serious problem had been created, and it would have to be faced up to by the Trade Union movement if the organisation was not to share the fate of working-class movements in other parts of the world.

The host of recent strikes, he alleged, could be attributed to activities of the section in the movement referred to. A situation similar to that in Auckland did not appear to exist in any other part of New Zealand, and therefore the position would be a grave reflection on the apathy of the workers in the city if they allowed it to continue.

"A Showdown Coming?"

Officials of the Federation of Labour in Auckland declined to comment on the question which is said to be troubling them, but it appears obvious, to use the expression of the official consulted, that a "showdown" is on the way. It seems also likely that things have reached such a plight that the problem will be placed in the near future before the rank and file of the unions affiliated to the federation, with a view to ascertaining whether the votes recorded by their delegates in some instances represent their opinions. If this is done, it is contended, there can be no doubt as to what the result will be.

37
X 29/140

69
2/2/4

"Workers' Weekly"
18-11-38.

No Confidence in McIlvride

Resolution by Otahuhu Mass Meeting

A.S.R.S. AND R.T.A. MEN UNITED

A further mass meeting was held at the Otahuhu Workshops today and the large attendance proves that interest created by the recent dispute is being well sustained. A general desire to consolidate the benefits accrued from a trade union viewpoint prevails.

The half-hour was absolutely inadequate, but there is one point I wish to draw attention to.

After brief progress reports were presented to the men by Mr. Blair, branch secretary of the R.T.A., and Mr. Stevenson, branch secretary of the A.S.R.S., Mr. Morton, president of the National Boilermakers' Federation, who had just returned from Wellington, outlined what had taken place there this week.

The reports and documentary evidence established a long overdue exposure of the complacency, inefficiency and bungling rampant among our T.U. hierarchy, the activities of Mr. L. A. McIlvride, general secretary of the A.S.R.S. and the A.S.R.S. National Executive being especially alarming.

The meeting resolved to the effect:

"(1) That a wire be sent to the Minister of Railways deploring lack of co-operation by T.U. head offices.

"(2) A condemnation of the attitude of Mr. L. McIlvride and the A.S.R.S. National Executive when they refused (or at least delayed) to accept the Minister of Railways' offer that a conference be held with an independent chairman."

The meeting then adjourned.

A special general meeting of the A.S.R.S. Otahuhu branch members was then called when, after an amendment "that Mr. McIlvride be heard first," was overwhelmingly defeated, a motion to the effect that "after hearing reports this meeting deplores the inefficiency of Mr. L. McIlvride and the A.S.R.S. National Executive and expresses an emphatic vote of no confidence in Mr. McIlvride as general secretary and the A.S.R.S. National Executive," was carried with a handful of dissentients.

The meeting then concluded.

I feel that steps should be taken immediately to acquaint our (over 13,000) members and the public, too, of the story of the recent dispute.

A.S.R.S. MAN

NEW ZEALAND POLICE.

[Police—100A.]

Police-station: Detective Office, Auckland.

Date: 25 th August, 1937

REPORT of Detective E.A. Stevenson, No. 2627

relative to members of the Communist Party acting as Trade Union executives; Auckland Builders and General Labourers Union.

I respectfully report further to my report dated the 6 th inst - Secret 37/140. The attached newspaper cutting naming the newly elected officers of the Auckland Builders and General Labourers Union is of interest in connection with the subject of Secret 37/140.

The following members of this executive are members of the Auckland Section of the Communist Party.

President : Edward Frank Bradley.
Vice-Pres : Walter Ashton.
Secretary : Thomas Stanley, P.G.1930/506.
Executive : Henry George Samways, P.G.1916/516.

Ivan Tomasevic, member of the Yugo-Slav group whose Naturalization Certificate was revoked in 1933 and subsequently returned to him, after the present Government took office.

The other members of the executive of the Union have not come under notice in connection with the Communist Party.

E.A. Stevenson.
Det. 2627.

*Supr Till
S.H. Hall
by hand
25-8-37*

Forward to the Commissioner

*(147/37)
S. Till
25/8/37 Supr*

"Auckland Star"
24/8/37.

OFFICERS ELECTED.

GENERAL LABOURERS' UNION.

The following officers of the Auckland Builders, General and Other Labourers' Union have been elected for the next 12 months, only sufficient nominations being received:—President, Mr. E. F. Bradley; vice-president, Mr. W. Ashton; secretary, Mr. T. Stanley; executive, Messrs. Harry Green, W. B. Twist, E. R. Lenehan, Irvine Clark, I. H. P. Laing, H. G. Samways, I. Tomasevic; trustees, Messrs. T. Whitaker and J. Vinac.

The Chief Detective,
Auckland.



21/2/467

In your reply, please
quote this number:

~~SECRET~~ 537/206

~~SECRET~~

POLICE DEPARTMENT.

WELLINGTON, C.1. 1 st September 1937

ACTIVITIES OF THE N.Z. COMMUNIST PARTY DURING TWELVE MONTHS
ENDING 31-8-37

The general activities of the New Zealand Communist Party during the twelve months ending 31-8-37 have shown that the Party is evincing a particular interest in Trade Union matters. The success of the C.P. (Communist Party) in this direction has been referred to at times by the Executive, but only in the inner circles of the Party. Public reference to it, even in its own organ, the "Workers Weekly" is avoided.

In a paper entitled "Draft Resolution on Building the Party" presented at the Party Plenum on 14-8-37 by Leo Sim the following paragraph appears; "The N.Z. Communist Party is exceedingly small, but unless its ranks are strengthened it will not be possible for the workers of N.Z. to defeat reaction and also to advance against capitalism. Without a strong well developed revolutionary party there will be no revolution. Since the last Party Congress we are able to record some very definite successes due to our party activity in the Trade Union movement. The Plenum desires to therefore/ emphasise the need to consolidate these successes by drawing into our Party those workers who become convinced of the correctness of our policy."

I have endeavoured to ascertain the exact strength of the Communist Party movement in this country.

In December 1936 the membership of the Party was stated to be 243, of whom 111 were in Auckland, and as Leo Sim stated, it is exceedingly small. The membership today remains at approximately the same figure, but this figure does not truly gauge the situation.

21/2/11
COPY FROM

Seen
file
DJE

Its principal strength is in the Trade Union movement.. There are also many persons who clearly show that it suits their purpose to be able to deny actual membership of the Party, but who do in fact support it, and who would under certain circumstances become actual members.

The circulation of the "Workers Weekly" was on 27-8-37 reported to be 5,424.

The following figures are believed to be a correct statement of the Communist Party's position on the executive of various Trade Unions in the four centres:

<u>District</u>	<u>Number of C.P. members on Excecutive.</u>	<u>Number of Trade Unions affected.</u>
Auckland	21	7
Wellington	7	4
Christchurch	nil	
Dunedin	7	6
Total	35	17

Communist Party members on the executive of District Councils of the Federation of Labour are shown as follows;

Auckland,	3 (supported by another, not actually a member.)
Wellington	3
Dunedin	1
	<u>7</u>

The unsuccessful candidate in Auckland scoring the greatest number of votes was a member of the C.P.

I do not think these person are elected to such executive position because they are members of the Communist Party, but I am satisfied they are there in accordance with a concealed policy of the Communist Party to obtain a voice in Trade Union matters, to direct if possible the policy of the Union, and under certain circumstances to disturb the policy.

There is reason to believe that the Communist Party of New Zealand is influenced in no little way by the C.P. of Australia. At the December 1936 Conference of the C.P.N.Z. the most influential delegate present was from Australia, L. Sharkey, who was largely responsible for the decision at that conference to remove Frederick Engels Freeman, General Secretary, from office. It was urged by Sharkey that Freeman had been pursuing a policy not conducive to unity in the Labour movement generally. At that time the C.P. were concentrating on affiliation with the Labour Party, and it was obvious that if Freeman was likely to be a hindrance he had to go. Leo Sim was then appointed General Secretary. He has during the year made an extensive tour of the Dominion, but reports indicate that his meetings aroused little interest. He also attended a Conference in June last in Sydney.

A remark made by Sim when addressing a meeting at Hikurangi on 24-5-37 is worthy of mention. In reply to a question from a member of the audience Sim said that in the event of New Zealand being involved in War members of the Communist Party would be encouraged to join the fighting forces for the purpose of sabotage, that would be part of the policy of the Communist Party.

In certain quarters there is a dissatisfaction with Sim's secretaryship, he is not entirely supported in Auckland, where there is an obvious Freeman element in existence. The Communist Party's strength is greatest in Auckland and I think it is not unlikely that Freeman will again be General Secretary next year.

In conclusion I beg to suggest that although the Communist Party is at present numerically weak its Trade Union strength may eventually be a disturbing element. The presence of so many Communist Party members on the executive of Trade Unions is probably brought about by the apathy of Trade Union members generally who are content to see elected to the executive of their union anyone willing to accept office, in many cases probably not knowing that he is a member of the Communist Party.

A. M. Darling
Detective 2645

21/2/4

64

NEW ZEALAND POLICE.

[Police—100A.]

Police-station: Detective Office, Auckland.

Date: 6 th August, 193 7

REPORT of Detective E.A. Stevenson, No. 2627

relative to members of the Communist Party acting as
Trade Union executives.

"Vide attached Memo"

I respectfully report that the following Auckland Trade Unions have among their members active members of the Auckland Section of the Communist Party :-

Amalgamated Societies of Railway Servants (Otahuhu Railway workshops branch)
Engineers, Firemen and Cleaners Assn.
Railway Tradesmens' Assn.
Carpenters and Joiners Union.
Shipwrights and Boatbuilders Union.
Tramways Union.
Moulders Union.
Waterside Workers Union.
Seamen's Union.
Plasterers Union.
Drivers' Union.
Auckland Builders and General Labourers Union.
Boilermakers Union.

The following members of the Communist Party are holding, or have held until recently, some executive office, in their respective unions. Nevertheless, it would not be correct to assume that the members of the unions have elected these Communists to office because of their known Communist views, but rather because of the energy and active interest shown in trade union affairs by these Communists, and because of the individual apathy of the great majority of trade union members.

A very large number of trade unionists, apart from knowing who is the Secretary of their union, have not any idea of who holds office in their union.

Auckland Carpenters and Joiners Union : This is the trade union in which the Communists seem to have made most progress. The present Secretary is JOSEPH G. KENNERLEY a Communist sympathiser who closely follows the Party line, though not a member of the Party.. He has been very often referred to as a F.S.U. lecturer.

The present Organiser of this union is ROY STANLEY, P.G. 1934/513. He is a member of the Communist Party.

The Chief Detective,
Auckland.

Other members of the Communist Party who are, or recently have been, on the Executive of this Union are - WILLIAM ARCHIE GREIG, THOMAS O'CONNOR, ROBERT JOHN CAMERON, JAMES MCCORMACK, and JAMES MCMILLAN MANN.

And destroyed 4.89
In addition DUNCAN NEIL MCCORMACK is the President of a branch of this Union formed at Takapuna.

Auckland Builders and General Labourers Union : The full time General Secretary of this Union is THOMAS STANLEY, P.G.1930/506, formerly Secretary of the Auckland Section of the Communist Party and still an active Party member.

The full time Organiser of this Union is WILLIAM ALBERT SIMMONDS, also a Party member.

There are also some other members of the Party on the executive of this Union.

R + and destroyed 16.9.91
Auckland Drivers Union : FREDERICK DANIEL MULLER and GEORGE POSTLEWATE, both members of the Party hold office in this Union.

Railway Tradesmens Association : GEORGE EDWARD JACKSON, a member of the Railway workshops group of the Communist Party, holds some executive office in this Union.. He is the Secretary of the Spanish Medical Aid Committee, which originated in the Railway workshops.

R + and destroyed 21.5.91
Shipwrights and Boatbuilders Union : WILLIAM LINDSAY HORNE, an active Communist Party member, is prominent on the Executive of this Union.

Waterside Workers Union : ALBERT EDWARD (JACK) BASHAM, P.G.1927/529, and ALEXANDER DRENNAN, P.G.1934/626, are on the Executive of this Union.

The foregoing are all the Party members who are known to function on the executive of their respective trade unions, but there is no doubt that there are more than this.. For instance, the Amalgamated Societies of Railway Servants (Otahuhu Railway workshops) have two or three Communists on their executive.. ISAAC WILLIAMS is probably one, and THOMAS GALE another.

It was stated at the last Communist Party conference held at Wellington, Christmas 1936, that the Party in Auckland held no less than 27 executive positions in trade unions... However, it is most difficult to ascertain exactly who they are.

A year ago all Party members securing work and joining trade unions were instructed to immediately inform the Local Party Committee so that they could be put in industrial cells in the industry in which they are engaged.

The attached newspaper cutting dealing with the Auckland District Trades Council of the recently formed national organisation - the Federation of Labour, is most illuminating, showing as it does, the result of energetic work by Communist members within their respective trade unions.

There are either 7 or 8 persons on the executive of this Council, directly representing well over 30,000 trade union members.. Of this executive, THOMAS STANLEY, THOMAS GALE, ALBERT EDWARD BASHAM are also leading members of the Communist Party in Auckland, and JOSEPH G. KENNERLEY is a close Party sympathiser who will follow the Party line.

62

The next on the list of voting for the executive was HENRY MORNINGTON SMITH, P.G. 1934/626, a well known and active Communist, and member of the Seamen's Union.

I am unable to be sure whether H. MULLER, of the Drivers Union, mentioned in the attached newspaper cutting, is identical with the Frederick Daniel Muller, referred to earlier in this report.

The great majority of Communist Party members in Auckland are now in employment and are, of course, members of their trade unions, and generally speaking they are the union members who display the most interest and energy and activity in trade union matters.. The average trade union member simply cannot be bothered to attend his union meetings, and resolutions that from time to time receive publicity in the newspapers are almost always merely representative of a small but keen Communist minority.

E. Stevenson

Det. 2627.

Insp Ward

S. Hall

by HU

7-8-37

Forwarded to the Commissioner

S. Till
9/8/37

~~SECRET~~

37/140
POLICE DEPT. HEAD OFFICE

NEW ZEALAND POLICE.

21/2/4
[Police-100A.] 61

Police-station: Dunedin

Date: 19th July, 1937

REPORT of J. C. Russell, Detective, No. 2505

Secret
relative to Members of the Communist Party acting as
Trade Union Executives at Dunedin.

I respectfully report that I have enquired into this matter, I have been informed that the following persons are acting on the various Trade Union Executives.

John McLellan Jamieson, on the executive of the Painters Union.

James Jamieson, on executive of the Metal Workers Union.

X Samuel Ikin, on executive of the Carpenters Union, was until recently secretary.

Arthur Basil Powell, on executive of Labourers Union.

Francis O'Rorke, secretary of Dunedin Central Branch of the National Unemployed Workers Movement.

Frederick McComish, on executive of the South Dunedin Branch of the National Unemployed Workers Movement. *Pf + card destroyed. M/S. 11. 90*

Edgar Wilson Hunter, salesman 21 Ferguson Street, Musselburgh, Dunedin, on executive of Shop assistants union.

With the exception of the man Hunter all have been the subject of reports made previously.

The
Chief Detective
Dunedin.

Superintendent
John G. G. G.
20.7.37
J. C. Russell
Detective 2505

22/1/29

The Communist

S. Pearce

20/7/37

~~SECRET~~



21/2/4

quote this
~~SECRET~~ 37/140

60

X 37/140

POLICE DEPARTMENT,

WELLINGTON, 1st July, 1937.

MEMORANDUM for

The Superintendent of Police,
AUCKLAND.

Members of the Communist Party acting as Trade
Union Executives.

It is apparent from reports reaching this office that the Communist Party is concentrating on having its members elected to executive positions in Trade Unions, where, possibly owing to apathy on the part of some union members, they are directing the policy of the Union as they wish.

Please have a report submitted showing what members of the Communist Party are known to be Trade Union Executives within your district.

D. J. Cummings

Commissioner of Police.
41

For Insp Ward
(130)
32
D. J. Till
5/7/37 Insp

The Chief Det
R. Ward
5/7/37 Insp

Mr. Stevenson
D. Hall
L. Hall
5-7-37

The Chief Detective,
Report attached.
E. Stevenson
Det. 2627.
7-8-37.

Monday 16/7/38

~~SECRET~~

34/4112 1
21/2/4

Enclosed is a copy of a resolution on Trade Union work.
There were eight (8) copies of this typed, and it has to go to the CC for any small alterations or corrections, before being sent out to the Groups.

M.Ormerod wrote out most of this resolutuion.

Perspectives Of Struggle.

There is every indication that in the nearest future the N. Z. Working class will enter upon a series of sharp industrial struggles. The employers are beginning to take steps in the key industries to worsen the wages and conditions. This is particularly so in the Water Transport, Railways and the Mining industries.

With the Watersiders this take the form of refusal to meet the Union representatives to negotiate a new agreement. Taking advantage of the modifications of the Arbitration Court the employers are virtually refusing to recognise the right of the Union to collective bargaining. In the case of the Cooks and Stewards the Ship owners are attempting to reduce the manning scale (see "Workers Weekly" May 15th.). They have further replied to the demand of the Cooks and Stewards for the restoration of the wage cuts by refusing to discuss the question of wages separate from the general conditions of work.

The same applies to the Seamen. The Owners have intimated that they will not discuss wages apart from the general conditions and they will not consider the restoration of the wage cuts.

Among the Railway men there is deep discontent on the question of the wage cuts, superannuation payments and stoppages for house rent payment from wages. Besides this there is a steady attempt of the department to introduce the speed-up (time Study).

Among the Miners part-time work and speed-up have destroyed the once favourable conditions that existed. Using the hire and fire clause the Mine owners victimise any worker who shows any sign of militancy. The development of co-operative mining and the policy of excluding these Miners from the Union as well as the failure of the Leaders of the Miners Unions to prepare for a National stoppage (i.e. at the time of the recent negotiations they ignored the demand from the West Coast to organise a National stoppage) has reduced the Miners to a weak position and dis-unity. The reformist character of the Trade Unions and their constitution and rules place obstacles on the rank and file, and tie the Trade Unions to capitalist institutions (conciliation councils etc.). This legal form of "struggle" - class collaboration - leads the workers to defeat.

The Chief Characteristics of The Struggle.

In the various industries the characteristics differ widely. Among the Cooks and Stewards and the Seamen there is a movement for the restoration of the wage cuts. Among the Railway

too, this plays an important role, but the movement here seems to be more towards the formation of one Union in the industry and the right to participate in political parties, for Railway workers. Among the Watersiders the movement is towards forcing the employers to recognise the Union and to negotiate for a new agreement. Among the Miners the movement is taking shape for a more equal distribution of the work and the right of the Union to control this.

The Role Of The Party.

In estimating the work of the Party among the workers we can record but few successes, since last year. The most outstanding was the organisation of the hold-up of the "Monterey". In general the LPC of Auckland acted correctly. Leading comrades called together a committee of non-Party workers who issued an appeal to the workers concerned, for international solidarity and the refusal to work the "Monterey". The LPC acting as a separate body made its own appeal. Our comrades were able to organise mass support and as a result there took place a great demonstration of international solidarity. The "Monterey" was declared black and unloaded with difficulty by non-Union labour.

In spite of this good work the LPC made a very bad mistake in failing to connect the dispute with the immediate demands of the Watersiders and instead of agitating for these demands they put forward the slogan of World Soviet Power. This of course reduces this slogan to a mere phrase.

Another definite success was the organisation of the militant group of Wellington Seamen at the time of the Cooks and Stewards Hold-up who were able to force a special meeting to discuss the immediate demands of the Seamen and the question of solidarity action with the Cooks and Stewards. A serious shortcoming in this work however was the failure of the Party comrades who were leading this work to call together the fraction prior to the meeting which resulted in their inability to counter the application of the closure by Walsh to the discussion. This failure is closely connected with the failure of the comrades concerned to carry on the job agitation and to make general preparation.

Although we can record a definite strengthening of our influence in the Railway Workshops, a Party cell being set up in the Hutt and Auckland Shops and we see the same in the Huntly Coal Mining district, where a Mine cell has been organised, we have up till now been unable to register any real success in masswork. In spite of this improvement we cannot close our eyes to a whole series of shortcomings in our Trade Union and industrial work as a whole that will, if not rectified, destroy the influence we now possess.

The fundamental weakness of our work is the failure to maintain a steady unrelenting struggle for the immediate small matters that arise day in and day out on the job.

In the case of our comrades in the Railways there is an outstanding failure to organise action around the vital questions that arise and effect the actual working conditions. No action has been organised on the question of the speed-up. No protest has been organised on the question of taking time off in place of overtime. Our comrades have failed to react to the discontent that has come about in connection with the matter of transfers. Instead our comrades have submitted to the tradition of Trade Union rules and procedure and attempted to create one big Union by making the "Leaders" take action upon the resolutions passed at Trade Union meetings.

Instead of beginning from below and forming united committees of rank and file workers around the question of One Big Union, our comrades have attempted to force the officials to take action on the top.

What applies to the comrades in the Railways, applies less sharply, but equally truly to the comrades who have been active among the Water Transport workers. The line that has been followed here is, when there are signs of action, our comrades have rushed in shouting slogans and distributing leaflets, thus appearing to the workers as militant limelighters, and when they fail to gain support they retire and wait the next sign of struggle. The effect of this has been to strengthen the anti-Party prejudice among those workers who are under the influence of the reformists. These workers have in some cases come to look upon the Party comrades as those who interfere and who are only interested in strikes for the sake of striking. This inconsistent activity has prevented us from establishing well organised and strong fractions of supporters who are fully alive to the role of the reformist leaders. This has resulted in our comrades being too weak to break through the opposition from Walsh and Kennedy to the demands of the rank and file for activity. The failure of our comrades to carry on the day to day work in the Trade Unions and on the jobs has been covered over by various "theories". Most common of all is the "theory" that our militant groups of workers must be "only the best!" "That every one cannot be invited to these meetings". In some cases it has taken the form of "Let us Smash the Unions". --- "They are only reactionary anyway". These phrases only serve to cover up the deep rooted sectarianism and the fear of the ordinary workers. They cover up the opportunist passivity of our comrades in the face of the attacks of the employers.

The Line Of Our Party Work.

The General line of the work of our Party com-

the Trade Unions and in the industries must undergo a sharp change. First of all we must decide to break with the method of spurts of activity followed with spells of inactivity. We must base ourselves on the organising of groups of workers to prepare for action on the simple day to day questions that arise, on the questions of transfer, overtime, dirt money, against the speed-up, enforcement of the preference, engaging labour etc. etc. At the same time as we establish regular groups around such struggles as these we must organise our supporters to raise these questions at the Trade Union meetings, and try and get the support of the Union as a whole. In order that we may be able to develop support in the Trade Unions for the actions which we initiate on the jobs we must prepare ourselves and our supporters to break through the traditions, rules and regulations that exist only to hamper actions by the Unions. Only in this way will we be able to prevent ourselves and our supporters becoming entangled in Trade Union rules and formalism.

Where we have contacts on jobs and where we can secure them, our comrades should have talks with these workers on their job conditions and find out what questions on the job the workers are dissatisfied with. The comrades should then discuss with these contacts on how to take up an agitation on one simple question, on the job, with the other workers. On a building job, in Wellington, two workers were victimised, one militant began an agitation on this, pointing out how, if this was continued, the boss would worsen conditions under the threat of victimisation. The men went on strike and picketed the job until the two workers were reinstated, which resulted in a victory. The action of the workers on this job forced the secretary of the General Labourers Union to declare support to their action.

~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ Here is a concrete case of job action, of how agitation began on one demand. Small demands, such as, a shelter on the job etc., can be taken up in a similar manner, commencing with a deputation to the boss to demand that these small grievances be rectified. Agitation on these small questions and showing in a simple and practical way in which these small demands can be taken up, will raise sufficient interest among the workers to get them to form a job committee. For instance, the first deputation to the boss would form a basis for a job committee which is the organised expression of the workers on the job. Such questions as are taken up by the job committee, form the basis for taking them inside the Unions. Trade Unions are organisations of the working class to defend their economic interests. It is clear then, that the Unions should take up such questions as job conditions, wages and victimisation. Here is a basis for a

force support for job demands.

54

Of course the reformist Union leaders will oppose this, but it is just here where militant Trade Unionists begin to expose them and counterpose their line of action to the reformists, winning support for it, and standing militants for the elected positions in the Unions. This is the road to the turning of the Trade Unions from organs of class collaboration to organs of class struggle.

The "Workers Weekly" is a good means of getting contact with employed workers. Regular selling at work places and the comrades entering into discussion with workers who buy the "Workers Weekly" will create contacts for the Party if consistently kept up.

While concentrating our activity on these day to day actions, our comrades must place before the workers in the various industries demands of a more general character which will serve to unite wider sections of the workers in each industry, such as, restoration of cuts, abolition of wage tax and levy, and for - industrial Unionism - i.e. one Union for each industry, Railway men, Cooks and Stewards and Seamen in one Union.

In the Railways our comrades must push to the fore the main demands of the Railway workers, i.e. for one Union for Railway workers, the restoration of the wage cuts and for full political rights. At the same time they must commence to take up the immediate job grievances amongst the workers themselves, against speed-up, bad conditions of work, victimisation etc., and taking up an agitation for job action, even to the extent of stop-work and protest strikes to force the improvement of job conditions and grievances.

The recent action of the Cooks and Stewards for the restoration of the 10% cut, despite the sabotage and betrayal by their officials, shows their determination to fight for the cuts; this is still their main demand. The Party attempted to get joint strike action with the Seamen and Cooks and Stewards for the restoration of the cuts. Although this attempt was defeated, on the one hand by our weak position in the Unions and on the other by the sabotage of the officials and their trickery in getting the rank and file to accept the July Conference proposals with the Ship owners, we must intensify our work among the Seamen and point out that the July Conference to discuss "wages and other matters" does not mean the discussing of the restoration of the cuts, nor a new agreement. We must expose the Conference as a manouever by the officials to prevent the rank and file taking action. At the same time pointing out that the cuts can only be restored by strike action. Our work is to immediately prepare for joint action by the Seamen and Cooks and

their main demand - restoration of the cuts - and to form rank and file committees of action on ship and shore to prepare for strike under rank and file leadership. The officials must not be allowed to drag out the Conference for weeks. The rank and file should force the officials to give a report on the cuts and the cuts are not restored - - then we must immediately raise the question of strike.

The officials of the Watersiders Federation have stated their preparedness to participate jointly at this Conference, providing the dispute is handed over to the Alliance of Labour - we must expose this as being only a manouever. We must work among the Watersiders for preparation for strike, jointly with the Seamen and Cooks and Stewards, on the restoration of the cuts and for a new agreement. Our main slogan for the Water Transport workers is - "A General Strike Of Water Transport Workers".

Throughout our whole agitation among the employed workers and Trade Unions, we must always raise the question of unity between employed and unemployed workers, and particularly so in connection with the Charter demands.

For the Party to be firmly established among the employed workers and lead them in their day to day struggles, Communists must seize upon the every day grievances of the workers, no matter how small these may be. It is from these small questions we must begin our work and rally the workers around them. From this beginning and the militant contacts that support this first step, we must begin to broaden our activities and develop it into a rank and file movement, to a point where we can put forward a militant programme in a given industry, as a beginning of an opposition movement. We must support any opposition expressed by the rank and file against their Trade Union bureaucracy, even if it not entirely in accordance with our line. Our task here would be to support such a move and to influence it to adopt a real militant line.

The continual worsening of economic conditions and the capitulation to the employers by the reformist Trade Union leaders creates a very favourable objective for Communist work and leadership among the employed workers and in the Trade Unions. This capitulation to the employers has found the workers of one important industry to be without organisation - that is the Meat workers. Here the task is to organise these workers on the basis of works committees.

The field of Party work among the employed workers and in the

That we turn to this phase of work it is necessary for every
 Group, Factory Cell, LPC to make one comrade responsible for leading and
 checking responsibility, that is, in carrying out the tasks of the Party on
 have also which must receive the fullest attention of the Groups, Cells and
 this work comrade who is made responsible for Party work among the employed
 LPCs, and Trade Unions must do all possible on the question of developing
 Party's tasks in this connection, seeing that the Trade Union and Unemploy-
 Fractions meet, and assisting the fractions in the way of suggestions and
 questions to be taken up in Trade Unions.

The Party organisations must assist as much as possible the com-
 rade selected for this work. Wherever possible every Party member should be
 a member of a Trade Union, and Groups are obliged to see that this is carried
 out.

The recent events in the field of struggle among the employed
 and unemployed - Cooks and Stewards - "Monterey" - Palmerston North - Hikurangi
 - show the beginning of new struggles.

Throughout the whole of our agitation among the employed workers
 in the Trade Unions our comrades must raise the question of unity between
 employed and unemployed on the basis of the "Workers Charter". In order
 the Party may effectively lead this work, an organisational re-adjustment
 is necessary. In each area group, LPC and Factory Cell, one comrade must be
 given the special task of checking up and leading this phase of our work. He
 will be responsible for seeing that each employed Party member is a member of
 his Trade Union. He will see that the Trade Union fraction meets regularly.
 He will lead the work of the group or LPC as a whole in the agitation and organ-
 isation of militant groups to take up the struggle for the day to day questions
 which arise out of the jobs.

The incidents of the past few months ---The Go-Slow on the Water-
 front, the "Monterey" Hold-Up, the Cooks and Stewards Hold-Up, the growing dis-
 satisfaction in the Railways --- should impress upon every Party comrade the
 nearness of the approaching struggle.

FORWARD COMRADES TO PLACING THE PARTY IN THE LEADERSHIP OF THE STRUGGLES

~~SECRET~~

33/509. 51

21/2/4

MEMORANDUM for,-

18th August, 1933.

The General Manager,

New Zealand Government Railways.

Communists in Railway Department.

You may be interested to know that Lynnas Butterworth, Thomas Gale, and Jack Rayner, - all employed by the Railway Department at Otahuhu, have recently been in communication with the International Committee of Railway Workers, at the Headquarters of the Red International of Labour Unions, Moscow. The Secretary of the latter organisation referred them to "Comrade Mullins" and other Railway-men from Australia who visited the Soviet Union in 1932, and whose reports appeared in the Australian Railway Press. Mullins is a Railway employee in Victoria. This information is absolutely reliable, but as it has been obtained from a delicate source I must request that it be treated as VERY confidential.

Butterworth, Rayner, and Gale have been known for some time past to be members of the Communist Party and also of the Friends of the Soviet Union Organisation (an offshoot of the Third International). Meetings of both these organisations have been held at Rayner's private house.

A new Group of the Communist Party, entitled "The Railway Group" has recently been set up at Otahuhu, with Robert Ferdinand Petersen as Secretary and J. Rayner as Literature Distributor. T. Gale and James Nelson Harper are also members of this Group.

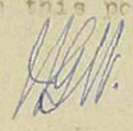
I might mention that the Communists attach great importance to obtaining "contacts" in the Railways, and definite instructions have been received by the New Zealand Communist Party from the Executive Committee

of the Third International at Moscow to make special efforts to set up "Party Fractions" in all 'key' industries including Railways, Tramways, Shipping, Mining, etc.

In addition to those already mentioned, the following Railway employees are known to be members or sympathisers of the Communist Party :-

- W. Powell, No 1 Line, Main Road, Putiki.
- J. Wilson, Coronation Street, Christchurch
- D. O'Leary, Glenavy.
- ? Ritchie, 12 Hilton Street, Aramoho.
- G.A. McDonald, 30 White Street, Wanganui.
- W. Scott, 4 Burn Street, Hawera
- R. McNeill, 83 Glover Street, Hawera
- J.W. Radford, Shannon.
- ? Rutter, Te Horo
- ? Roscoe, Christchurch.

There is also one W. Warner of Lower Hutt, who is believed to be a Railway employee but we have not, so far, been able to get definite information on this point.



Commissioner of Police.

~~SECRET~~

OF.2/3/DS9

~~SECRET.~~

21/2/4

33/216

OLIVER HOUSE,

35, CROMWELL ROAD,

SOUTH KENSINGTON,

S.W.7.

22nd May 1933.

Dear Mr. Wohlmann,

Many thanks for your secret letter 33/216 of
3rd April 1933. regarding R. H. WEBB.

Richard Henry

I am sorry to say that nothing tangible came of the further enquiries referred to in my OF.2/3/DS9 of 18th February 1933. The "Tasmania" arrived at King George V Dock on 2.2.33. and sailed for Liverpool on 10.2.33. No applications were made in London for permission to land for discharge. The ship was expected to pay off at Liverpool, and sailed thence for New Zealand on 18.2.33. Nothing could be gathered in London regarding friction whilst she was in King George V Dock.

Yours sincerely,

Arthur Harber

Colonel Sir Vernon Kell.

W.G. Wohlmann, Esq.,
Commissioner of Police,
Johnston Street,
Wellington.

~~SECRET~~

3/2/16

~~SECRET~~

3rd April, 1933.

Colonel Sir Vernon G.W.Kell,
Oliver House,
35 Cromwell Road,
South Kensington,
LONDON, S.W.7.

Dear Sir Vernon,

Many thanks for your secret letter OF.2/3/DS9 of
18th February last, and enclosure which has been perused with interest.

R.H.Webb who forwarded the communication to the
Executive Committee of I.S.H., Hamburg, is at present National Secretary
of the Communist Party of New Zealand.

I shall be interested to hear the result of your
further inquiries.

Yours sincerely,

Commissioner of Police.

h

~~SECRET~~

OLIVER HOUSE,
35, CROMWELL ROAD,
SOUTH KENSINGTON,
S.W.7.

OF.2/3/DS9.

18th February 1933.

Dear Mr Wohlmann,

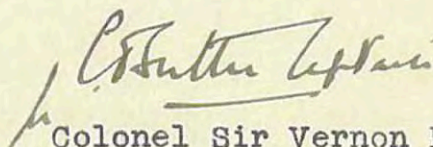
I attach for your information a copy of a report sent by the Central Executive Department of the Communist Party of New Zealand to the International of Seamen and Harbour Workers in Hamburg, copies of which have also been sent to the Seamen's Minority Movement in London and Liverpool.

The report has to do with an incident on board the s.s. "Tasmania" which it was thought would arrive in Liverpool from New Zealand. The action recommended by the I.S.H. in Hamburg was that the ship should be met on arrival in England and that members of the S.M.M. should get into connection with the crew and prevent victimisation taking place against the guarantee given by the Captain of the ship.

The boat, which was to arrive in Liverpool, is thought actually to have arrived in London about the beginning of the month.

I am making further enquiries as to the matter at this end and will let you know what I hear.

Yours sincerely,


Colonel Sir Vernon Kell.

W.G.Wohlmann Esq.,
Commissioner of Police,
Johnston Street, Wellington.

COPY.

Copy to SMM, Liverpool.

COPY OF REPORT RECEIVED FROM ISH & MM MEMBERS OF THE
CREW OF THE S/S "TASMANIA" WHILST IN NEW ZEALAND.

To: Executive Committee I.S.H., CENTRAL EXECUTIVE (IND. DEPT.)
 Hamburg. COMMUNIST PARTY OF NEW
 ZEALAND, 12 Farish St.
 WELLINGTON, NZ. December 18, 1932.

Dear Comrades, The following report is for the purpose of giving you information in order to enlist your aid in preventing victimisation of those concerned and we hope that it reaches you in time for you to be fully prepared to launch a campaign if such procedure takes place.

With Communist Greetings

(signed) R.H.WEBB, for C.E.

Secretariat.

(For information purposes,
Originals sent to MM and
ISH London, England.)

s/s "Tasmania", Auckland,
N.Z. 13.12.32.

20.11.32. New Plymouth.

When this ship left Sydney (Australia) we called to a place named New Plymouth, New Zealand. We arrived there on Sunday 20.11.32. and we found out that there was a strike on with the butchers in the Freezing Works over a reduction in their wages, "scab labour" was employed in the Freezing Works, and the Waterside Workers in sympathy with the butchers refused to handle the frozen meat that this ship was supposed to get because it was declared "black" by the Butchers.

21.11.32. New Plymouth.

Monday morning at 8.40 am: the Chief Officer came forward and asked the Firemen "What about you men working the cargo?" and after a brief space of time two men said "No". The Chief Officer then said "Well then, get two men to represent you and send them along to the Captain!" After a brief meeting of the men, Sailors and Firemen, two men from each side was selected and the four men selected went along and interviewed the captain. The Captain asked if the men would work cargo and was told point blank "No", he then suggested to the men that if he took the ship to a place called Wanganui, four hours run from New Plymouth, would the men work cargo, but as the men had not been asked that the Captain gave 10 minutes to explain this to the men. After the ten minutes interval the four men went back to the bridge and the Captain asked "Well, what do the men say to that" and the answer was "no". The captain then told us we had nothing to be afraid of as barricades were being erected and he would have police protection, but this kindly advice was ignored. The Company Agent was then called to interview the four men and he asked why the crew would not work cargo and he was told that there was plenty of labour available on shore and the cargo was declared "black" by the Waterside Workers and Freezing Workers and on that our men would not handle either cargo or even give steam for volunteer labour.

22.11.32. New Plymouth.

At about 9 am: This morning the Captain had everyone on the bridge and asked each and every man individually would he work cargo and each and every man refused point blank.

22.11.32. There was a call of all hands on the bridge and on the bridge the Chief Mate told the Captain, who came on deck with the official logbook, which was read out, and the men and the representatives agreed it to be correct except the following: "That if volunteer labour comes aboard we will all walk ashore". This passage in the Log Book was strongly resented to by the delegates and one asked the captain to erase it from the Log as no such thing was mentioned. The captain then asked the men "What about keeping steam in the next port if volunteer labour was brought on board". He was told that steam would be kept if the ship lay anchored in the roadstead, he then said he may take her alongside, so as no port had been mentioned only the "next port" he was asked to leave the question until our arrival, however we were successful in our object as she was delayed ten days, two days in New Plymouth and eight days in Wanganui. The Captain said we hear more about it when we arrived home in Liverpool (England).

Whilst the ship was in Wellington, Walsh, the President of the Seamen's Union of New Zealand assisted to get a guarantee from the Captain that no action would be taken or the men victimised upon the arrival of the ship in England, otherwise the men would not leave Wellington (N.Z.) This guarantee was granted by the Captain.

~~SECRET.~~ 32/406 49

~~SECRET~~ 32/406.

[Police-1001.

NEW ZEALAND POLICE. 21/2/4

Police-station: Detective Office, Auckland.

Date: 28th August, 1932.

REPORT of Detective P.J. Nalder, No. 2374.

relative to Affiliation of Watersiders' Union with Labour
Defence League at Auckland.

I respectfully report that there is no doubt but that the leaders of the Waterside Workers' Union understand the nature of the Labour Defence League, and they have not yet paid their £1-1-0 affiliation fee to the Labour Defence League.

Responsible leaders are against the affiliation and while this is the case it is unlikely that anything would develop from the affiliation of these two bodies.

Action is being taken to bring to book the persons responsible for the issue of the paper called "THE WATERSIDER".

Sub-Insp.,
Det. Staff,
Auckland.

P. J. Nalder
Detective No. 2374.

Mr Inspector.
For your information. We have now seized the Printing outfit at 63 Norton Rd. and presented our Williams for disposing the "Watersider"

Subcom
Out Insp 29.8.32
The Superintendent.
Forwarded.

From conversations with men in close touch with the Executive of the Watersides Union & the members of the Union. I am informed that there is no likelihood of the affiliation with the Labour Defence League. It has been mentioned but received a deaf ear.

*Forwarded to the
Commissioner
1008 32 29/8/32 C. J. L. Supp*

M. J. L. Supp
29/8/32 Insp



In your reply, please
quote this number:

48

32/H.06.

POLICE DEPARTMENT,

WELLINGTON, 22nd June 1932.

MEMORANDUM for

The Superintendent of Police,

AUCKLAND.

Affiliation of Waterside Workers' Union with Labour
Defence League at Auckland.

The position arising out of the
affiliation of these two bodies will require to be carefully
watched. If the real nature of the Labour Defence League
can be discreetly exposed to leading members of the Waterside
Workers' Union so much the better.

The Labour Defence League in New
Zealand is a branch of the International Red Aid, the
headquarters of which are at Berlin, and we have evidence
that they receive and act upon instructions from that body,
the leaders of which are in direct contact with the Comintern
at Moscow.

With regard to the attached copy of the
"Watersider, this document advocates a seditious strike (see
Regulation 14.(2) of the War Regulations Continuance Act, 1920.
This form of seditious propaganda appears to be gaining ground
in Auckland and a determined effort must be made to bring to
book the persons responsible.

H. E. W. Williams

Commissioner of Police.

For the Inspector.

A. J. Hill
28/6/32

324/32
The Sub Insp (Det.)
W. J. W. W. W.
29/6/32

Det. W. J. W.

In attention
W. J. W.

Det. W. J. W.
29.6.32

NEW ZEALAND POLICE.

47

Police-station: Detective Office, Auckland

Date: 13th June, 1932.

REPORT of Detective P.J. Nalder, No. 2374.

relative to Communist activities in Auckland Waterside Workers' Union, vide attached.

I respectfully report that I have Noted the attached correspondence.

At the Stop Work Meeting of the Watersiders' Union on the 7th of June 1932, it was decided that they affiliate with the Labour Defence League.

No doubt the Watersiders thought that the Labour Defence League functions for the purpose of looking after "class war prisoners and their dependents", whereas it is an organisation closely connected with and run by the Communist Party, and from its platform the overthrowal of the Capitalist System and the seizure of power by the workers is really advocated.

I have attached the latest issue of the "WATERSIDER", which deals with this affiliation.

"The Watersider" is issued by the Watersiders Concentration Group of the Communist Party of New Zealand. This issue is dated the 10th June 1932.

There is no such person as "A. Rawson". It is printed at 63 Newton Road on the Communist Party's duplicator.

Norman Walding is the most active Waterside Worker Communist.

P.J. Nalder
Detective No. 2374.

Wm Inspector

W. J. Nalder

Det Insp 14 6 32

The Superintendent

Forwarded

I am of the opinion that should there be a hold up of the departure of the Ottawa Conference delegates it will come from the Seamen's Union in refusing to take the ship to sea. So far I have heard nothing & do not expect trouble from that source.

W. J. Nalder
14/6/32 Insp

Forw. to the Commissioner
J. T. Gill
15/6/32

Sub-Insp.,
Det. Staff,
Auckland.

THE WATERSIDER

46

Auckland, 10th June 1932
No. 3. Issued by the Watersiders Concentration Group, C.F. N.Z.

WATERSIDERS LEAD THE WAY.

In deciding to affiliate with the Auckland Branch of the Labour Defence League, the Auckland Watersiders have demonstrated to other fraternal unions a practical manner in which they can recognise and assist this mass organisation to put up a United Front against the War Regulations Continuance Act now being used by the ruling class to banish working-class fighters to gaols. The Labour Defence League is a non-Party and non-sectarian mass organisation open to all sections who adopt its aims and objects. With the class v class issue daily growing intensified, the Labour Defence League must command the interest of all sections in its propaganda for the release of class-war prisoners, its assistance to their dependents and its unceasing demands for the repeal of the War Regulations Continuance Act, 1920.

The decision of the Auckland wharfies to affiliate to the Labour Defence League will be acclaimed by all class-conscious workers.

FORWARD TO A MASS UNITED FRONT AGAINST THE ATTACKS OF THE RULING CLASS ON WORKING-CLASS RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES!!!

@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@

UNITY WITH MINERS.

At the last stop work meeting of the seamen at Auckland a resolution was carried pledging solidarity with the miners' strike and an undertaking to refuse to man ships to carry scab coal when required. Not only does this strike affect seamen, it affects all sections of the Transport industry and at this stage of the capitalist crisis ALL sections of Transport workers should pledge their solidarity to the miners' struggle. Soon, the reserve stocks of coal will be depleted, forcing the bosses to import scab coal.

When this situation arises, comrades, refuse en masse to discharge or handle imported coal.

ALL SUPPORT TO THE MINERS' STRIKE!!!

@@@@@@@@

THE YELLOW INTERNATIONAL.

The International Federation of Transport Workers and the Social Democratic Parties have repeatedly and openly assumed the role of strike-breaking organisations. So during the strike of the German harbour workers in February 1931 and during the strike of the German Fisherman in Hamburg-Altona in July 1931, when the reformist "Gesamtverband" openly called upon its members to scab.

So during the strike of the Polish seamen when the International Federation of Transport Workers tolerated the tactic of defeat of the local reformist union. So in Japan where the section of the International Federation of Transport Workers first conferred with the shipowners on the wage robbery and later openly agreed to it. So in Norway recently, and so during the heroic struggle of the Havana fishermen, which was supported only by the International of Seamen and Harbour Workers and her sections.

FRENCH WHARFIES ACT.

An unconfirmed report from Le Havre (France) states that a Committee for Struggle Against Imperialist War was set up, composed of harbour workers, seamen, railwaymen, metalworkers and representatives of the Unemployed Committees. The harbour workers discovered a large amount of explosives on a vessel destined for Japan. Part of this cargo was thrown overboard by the harbour workers and in the empty barrels were placed anti-war appeals addressed to the Japanese workers.

@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@

WHAT'S ON.

Social and dance at the Oak Hall, Liverpool St., every Saturday night at 8.00.

Reg 14, 15, War Regs, Cont. Act 1920

WITH THE RELIEF WORKERS.

The Watersiders Branch of the U.W.M., falling into line with its companion branches, has adopted the family (the wife and three children) of a watersider sentenced to two years' imprisonment. To date three collections have been taken up, the results being very gratifying. Mention must be made of the splendid action shown by members on relief work at Curran St. On payday, although some of these men had only one day's pay of 7/6 and others 10/- to draw, they volunteered and paid sixpence each of this meagre amount to provide the necessary payments of the family allotted. The collectors felt, when seeing such unselfish loyalty shown, that with such strength of sacrifice their movement is growing into a force that will in the very near future be a power to contend with.

RALLY TO THE SUPPORT OF OUR COMRADES IN THE BOSS-CLASS GAOL!!!

~~~~~

BREAKING CONDITIONS.

As the bosses' offensive against the wharfies becomes more intensified, so do we find breaking of union rules becoming more prevalent. This is but a phase of the class struggle today and can be expected from the weaker elements of the rank and file who cannot put up a militant stand against the bosses' policy of speed up and increased profits. Only by a United Front of rank and file members of the union and the setting up of Workers' Committees on the job can we expect to put a spoke in the bosses' wheel and win back those hard-fought for conditions already filched from watersiders.

ORGANISE FOR A DETERMINED STAND AGAINST THE NEW CONDITIONS BEING RAILROADED THROUGH BY THE BOSSES!!!!

~~~~~

MARXIAN STUDY CLASS.

Every Thursday night at 8 p.m., Marxian study class at 13 Newton Road. Come along and learn how the boss robs you and yours.

MILITANT FARMERS.

On June 22 a conference of Industrial Unions convened by the Farmers' Union will take place to formulate a policy by which Industrial Unions will be able to offer a United Front of all sections of workers against the Government's policy of highway robbery and slave camps.

HOW ABOUT A DELEGATE FROM THE WHARFIES' UNION?

~~~~~

DO YOU KNOW THAT?

Lloyd George, writing in the "Neue Freie Presse" in July 1931 said Germany (Communist) will be much more dangerous for the whole world than a Communist Russia. Hand in hand with Germany, the significance of the Russian Revolution would be multiplied a hundredfold. Accordingly it is advisable for all countries to make the greatest sacrifices to prevent such a catastrophic alliance from taking place.

In 1931 France voted 60 million dollars for bombing planes, has already 606,114 aeroplanes, and is mobilising 2 million blacks in Africa.

That the League of Nations TALKS of disarmament.

That the local police confiscated last week's Camp Objectors' Bulletins.

Baron Tanaka, ex-Prime Minister of Japan, in his second memorandum to the Japanese Emperor, wrote: "In order to conquer the world we must first conquer China. With all the resources of China at our disposal we shall pass forward to the conquest of India, the Archipelago, Asia Minor, Central Asia, and even Europe."

~~~~~

BARTER.

Our unofficial delegate to the new agreement confab reports that the bosses are now offering so many spuds or onions etc., according to the class of cargo you handle, providing that enough are spilled in the hold or in the shed, in lieu of wages.

This will also do away with the time now allowed to call at the pay-window.

Printed by A. Rawson, 63 Newton Road, Auckland.

NEW ZEALAND POLICE.

Queen Street Wharf

Police-station: Auckland

Date: June 9th, 1932.

REPORT of Detective Sergeant A.G. McHugh, No. 1738

relative to passing on the information contained in the
attached letter to the officials of the Auckland Waterside
Workers Union in an indirect but discreet manner 150,000/2/31-15607

I respectfully report having passed on the information contained in the attached letter to the officials of the Auckland Waterside Workers Union in an indirect but discreet manner.

One of the leading Stevedores who is regarded and respected by the waterside workers as an authority on waterside work undertook to convey this information to the officials of the Waterside Workers Union.

Coming from him the officials will take notice of the information and I feel sure that it will have the effect as desired by the Commissioner.

For the information of the Commissioner I would like to point that the Arbitration Court permitted the Union to limit its membership, and it was mutually arranged between the Auckland Waterside Workers Union and the Port of Auckland Stevedores Association that the membership be limited to 1310.

This stood until the 5th August 1931 when the membership was again reduced and now stands at 1150, and new applicants have little or no chance of getting in as the officials hold that they have sufficient members enrolled under the agreement.

Sub. Inspector
of Detectives
Auckland.

The only persons likely to get into the Auckland Waterside Workers Union is members transferred from other Ports and they must be taken on, so I have arranged with my friend to also let the Union Officials know that an attempt may be made to swamp the Auckland Union with Communist members from other Ports.

I have also ascertained that no new applications for membership have been received at Auckland, and no new names are shown on the books.

At present there seems very little likelihood of there being any trouble on the Auckland waterfront in the near future as there are so many men out of work and only too willing to step into the waterside work.

Apart from this, I am given to understand, that the Union Officials are strongly against stoppages, strikes, or disputes at the present time.

A. G. M. G. Hugh
Det. Sergt. NO 1788.

Det. Walden

In note.

Walden

Det Insp 10. 6. 32

Sub Insp

Please see Report Attached.

J. J. Walden
Det No. 2374

13th June 1932.

43



Copy, please
note this number:

POLICE DEPARTMENT,

WELLINGTON, 6th June 1932.

MEMORANDUM for

The Superintendent of Police,

AUCKLAND.

Enclosed is a précis of a letter sent by the C.E. of the Communist Party, Wellington to the L.P.C. Auckland on 4th instant.

The letter suggests that an attempt is to be made to stir up trouble on the waterfront prior to and during the time of departure of the Delegation to Ottawa.

The object of the Communists is no doubt to get into positions in the Watersider's Union where they could use their influence in fomenting strikes, etc.

Their theory is that the recent riots in Auckland acted as a lead to other centres, and that similarly, mass action on the waterfront at Auckland would act as a suggestion to other branches of the Union.

If this information could be discreetly passed on to the Union officials (if they are considered trustworthy) it may have a good effect.

W.G. Woodhouse

Commissioner of Police.

For the Inspector.

(314/32)

*S. Jull
8/6/32 Subt.*

The Sub Insp (Det)

*For discreet handling
please. J.D. Collins*

8/6/32 Insp

O/S with H/L

*Can the Commissioner's instructions be
carried out safely. J. H. P.*

*Sub Insp
J. L. B. 2*

RE

COMMUNIST MEMBERSHIP OF THE WATERSIDER'S UNION.

Determined efforts are to be made, in view of the recent Court decision concerning the claims for damages against the Union, to secure membership for as many Communists as possible.----- It is essential that membership fees be paid at time of application so as to prevent the Secretaries referring the application to the Executive for approval. In this way it will be possible to overcome any objection to C.P. Members.--- That it is essential to secure membership as much as possible is urgently stressed.--- In view of the fact that Union intends appealing against the decisions it is imperative to lodge these applications for membership immediately as admission of members may be temporarily suspended pending the hearing of the appeal.---- It is also essential that the intending members, once elected, use their every endeavour to push the I.S.H. etc. and endeavour to arrange contact with International Organisations of this kind.

present they have not made any application.

At 12 noon on date, I interviewed Mr Johnston, Secretary of the Waterside Workers Union (he is a very reliable man and I can trust him). I asked him if any of the Communists had made application to become members of his Union. He replied "they have not up to the present date".

I told him that I have received reliable information that they were going to try and get in the Union.

Mr Johnston stated that he would do all in his power to keep them out.

He also stated that they were considering appealing against the Verdict, which was given against the Union a few days ago at the Wellington Supreme Court.

Before any person can get into the Waterside Workers Union, he has to be nominated by at least two principal members, so it will be seen that the Communists will not be able to get in very easy.

The Inspector,
Wellington.

Mr Johnston was very pleased to get this information and he promised to let me know should he get any application from the communists in the near future.

Regarding the Seamens Union the Secretary Mr. McFarlane, and the President Mr. Baker, are sympathetic towards the Communist Party, therefore it is unlikely of interviewing them.

At the present time the Union is very busy.

32/406.
41
[Police-100A.]

NEW ZEALAND POLICE.

Police-station: Detective Office, Wgton.

Date: 17th June, 1932.

REPORT of Detective Sergeant W. Tricklebank, No. 1796.

relative to Communists alleged to be trying to get into
Waterside Workers and Seamen's Union, for the purpose
of fomenting Strikes Etc, Vide attached report No. 32/406.

I beg to report having made discreet enquiries regarding the Communists supposed to be trying to get into the Waterside Workers and Seamen's Unions, but up to the present they have not made any application.

At 12 noon on date, I interviewed Mr Johnston, Secretary of the Waterside Workers Union (he is a very reliable man and I can trust him). I asked him if any of the Communists had made application to become members of his Union. he replied "They have not up to the present date".

I told him that I have received reliable information that they were going to try and get in the Union.

Mr Johnston stated that he would do all in his power to keep them out.

He also stated that they were considering appealing against the Verdict, which was given against the Union a few days ago at the Wellington Supreme Court...

Before any person can get into the Waterside Workers Union, he has to be nominated by at least two financial members, so it will be seen that they will not be able to get in very easy..

The Inspector,
Wellington.

Mr Johnston was very pleased to get this information and he promised to let me know should he get any application from the communists in the near future..

Regarding the Seamen's Union the Secretary Mr F. Newfield, and the President Mr Walsh, are sympathisers with the Communists Party, therefore it is useless me interviewing them..

At the present time the Union Steamship Company

have a large number of their boats tied up and hundreds of Seamen and firemen are out of work, so it would be useless any person joining the Union at the present time..

When the Seamen are engaged to join the ships, they have to produce their discharges to the Chief Officer or Engineer who is engaging them, therefore it would be a very hard job for the Communists to get engaged under the present conditions..

Whenever a ship is signing new articles, I have always made it my practise of attending at the Government Shipping Office to ascertain who signs on . If a Communists is known to the Officers or Engineers, they never give them a position..

In the near future I will pay special attention to all Ships signing on new crews..

W. L. Lichtenband,
Detective Sergeant I796.

The Information must.

J. L. Lichtenband
ms. 32.

For the Comm

W. L. Lichtenband

18. 5. 32. Sup



40
32/406.

POLICE DEPARTMENT,

WELLINGTON, 7th June 1932.

MEMORANDUM for

The Superintendent of Police,

WELLINGTON.

The following instructions were recently sent by the Central Executive of Communist Party, Wellington to the Local Party Committee at Auckland :-

"Determined efforts are to be made, in view of the recent court decision concerning the claims for damages against the Union, to secure membership for as many Communists as possible..... It is essential that membership fees be paid at time of application so as to prevent the Secretary's referring the application to the Executive for approval. In this way it will be possible to overcome any objection to C.P. Members.---- That it is essential to secure membership as much as possible is urgently stressed.--- In view of the fact that the Union intends appealing against the decision it is imperative to lodge these applications for membership immediately as admission of members may be temporarily suspended pending the hearing of the appeal.--- It is also essential that the intending members, once elected, use their every endeavour to push the I.S.H. etc. and endeavour to arrange contact with international organisations of this kind".

The I.S.H. is the International of Seamen and Harbour Workers. The object of the Communists is no doubt to get as many as possible of their members into the Waterside Workers' Union where they can use their influence in fomenting strikes, etc.

without indicating the source of police information
If the above information could be discreetly passed on to the officials of the Union (if they are considered trustworthy) it may have a good effect, as no doubt similar efforts will be made by Communists to join the Wellington branch of the Union.

Commissioner of Police.

To the Union

Let Sgt Trickleband should be able to attend to this matter.

*W. Trickleband
S. G. 32 Super*

The Auckland Branch.

*J. L. Lundy
S. G. 32*

The Inspector.

Please see report attached.

*W. Trickleband
Recd: Secy. 1796
14/6/32*

75/55

Monday, June 6th., 1932.

39

● Précis of a letter sent to the L.P.C., Auckland, by the Ind. Dept.
of the C.E. on Saturday night, June 4th.

RE

COMMUNIST MEMBERSHIP OF THE WATERSIDERS' UNION.

'Determined efforts are to be made, in view of the recent Court decision concerning the claims for damages against the Union, to secure membership for as many Communists as is possible.-----It is essential that membership fees be paid at time of application so as to prevent the Secty's referring the application to his Executive for approval. In this way it will be possible to overcome any objection to C.P. members.'-----
That it is essential to secure membership as much as possible was urgently stressed.---
'In view of the fact that the Union intends appealing against the decisions it is imperative to lodge these applications for membership immediately as admission of members may be temporarily suspended pending the hearing of the appeal. -----It is also essential that the intending members, once elected, use their every endeavour to push the I.S.H. etc., and endeavour to arrange contact with International organisations of this kind.'

This letter savours of an attempt to stir up trouble on the waterfront prior to and during the time that the Ottawa delegation is to depart. Motions of strike etc., forwarded to Union headquarters from time would establish a precedent and a lead for other branches of the Union. ----It is recognised that the recent riots in A'kld were a 'lead' to the unemployed of other districts.--- ~~Similarly~~ Similarly 'Mass Action' on the Auckland waterfront would act as a suggestion to other places.





~~SECRET~~

38
51/52.
21/2/4

D.

Customs Department,

C. 36/959/135.

WELLINGTON, 1st April, 1931.

~~Secret.~~

Memorandum for

The Commissioner of Police,

WELLINGTON.

"The Pan Pacific Worker."

With reference to your memorandum No. 31/52 of the 4th ultimo respecting the magazine entitled "The Pan Pacific Worker" (Vol.1V No.2, dated 5th February, 1931), I have to inform you that it has been decided not to prohibit the importation of this magazine but to allow delivery by the Customs on the understanding that no guarantee is given that subsequent action will not be taken by your Department under the War Regulations Continuance Act, 1920.

Collectors of Customs throughout New Zealand will be advised to that effect.

The documents forwarded with your memorandum are returned herewith.

for Comptroller of Customs.



DOMINION OF NEW ZEALAND

37

Solicitor-General's Office,

WELLINGTON, 27th February, 1931.

Secret

The Commissioner of Police.

THE PAN PACIFIC WORKER - ALLEGED SEDITIOUS
PUBLICATION - Secret: 31/52.

Referring to your memorandum of the 24th instant hereon I have considered the issue of the above publication forwarded therewith. The publication is probably in breach of Section 4 of Regulation 2 of the Second Schedule to the War Regulations Continuance Act 1920, inasmuch as it advocates lawlessness and is of a seditious nature within the meaning of Ambrose v. Glover 1922 N.Z.L.R. 96.

The document, however, deals primarily with questions arising in other parts of the British Dominions and matters which are not likely to arise in New Zealand. Under the circumstances, and in view of the obscure language of the publication, I do not think any good would be achieved by a prosecution. In fact, it is possible that harm would be done. I therefore advise that the document is of such a nature that no proceedings should be taken with reference to it under the War Regulations Continuance Act, 1920. It is returned to you herewith.

Arthur Fair

Solicitor-General.

Enclosure.

36

"PAN PACIFIC WORKER"

Long

The Private Secy

Hon. Minister

We

~~The Comptroller of Customs,~~

~~Customs Department,~~

~~WELLINGTON.~~

His Majesty's Trade Commissioner's Office,
NEW ZEALAND.

36/959/135 7th March 1931

Registered at the G.P.O., Sydney, for transmission by post as a periodical.

Vol. IV. No. 2

February 5, 1931

The Pan-Pacific Worker

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF
THE PAN-PACIFIC
TRADE UNION
SECRETARIAT



[AUSTRALIAN EDITION]

SPECIAL STRIKE ISSUE

WORKERS! YOUR COUNTER OFFENSIVE AGAINST CAPITALISM HAS BEGUN! ALL OUT AGAINST THE BOSSES' WAGE CUTS!!



PRICE THREE-PENCE

The Pan-Pacific Worker

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE PAN-PACIFIC
TRADE UNION SECRETARIAT

[AUSTRALIAN EDITION]

Temporary Address: TRADES HALL, SYDNEY

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

Half-Year - - 2/- Per Year - - 4/-

Special Rates for Unions—£1 per 100
(Post Free)

CONTENTS:

	Page
Notes of the Hour	1
Alarm Call to the Workers of the Pacific	5
Letter of P.P.T.U.S. to the Indian Proletariat	7
Nitrogen's Place in War Preparations	11
Editorial Announcement	16



The Pan-Pacific Worker

[AUSTRALIAN EDITION]

Vol. IV. No. 2

Sydney, February 5, 1931.

Price 3d.

NOTES OF THE HOUR.

Arbitration Yesterday and To-day.—Initiators of Wage-cuts.—A Blow Against Entire Working Class.—The Vote for the General Strike.—Garden Sabotages R.I.L.U. Policy.—Militant Minority Must Organise Counter Offensive.

(By H.M.)

TO tens of thousands of workers it is now clear why the Theodore-Scullin Federal Labor politicians in 1929 and the Lang-Garden combination in New South Wales in 1930 insisted that the Compulsory Arbitration Courts had to be preserved at all costs. As the supreme legal arbiters of wages, hours and conditions of labor, these courts have thus far proved effective instruments against the working class.

To carry out the capitalist offensive against our class, the Labor Party politicians needed the Arbitration Courts.

The arbitration system furnishes one of the most striking examples of that triple alliance of employers, capitalist state and trade union bureaucracy, that for more than three years has been waging an unrelenting campaign against our class.

But it is not merely during the past three years that the arbitration courts have proved their effectiveness for capitalism. They have always been weapons against labor. In times of relative prosperity when workers, through strike struggles, or, in many cases, even the threat to strike, could have compelled the capitalist class to disgorge a greater part of the surplus they had stolen from labor, these arbitration courts intervened and handed down decisions granting trivial increases in wages, or decreases in hours of labor, but they always frustrated the demands put forth originally.

Such decisions, to be effective, required the

development of a huge anti-working class system, tying the trade unions to these courts. This was achieved through the policy of "registration" of the unions with the courts, a policy in effect for decades. The essential prerequisite for registration was the signing of a pledge to refrain from striking against any decisions of the court, a guarantee in advance to submit to all arbitration court decisions. Trade union officials, instead of functioning as leaders and organisers of workers, became special pleaders before these courts and devoted their time to presenting alleged statistics on living costs and profits of the capitalists in order to pretend to combat the figures presented by the employers' agents to back up their demands. The arbitration system is so organised that the judges represent the government, the employers' "experts" represent the exploiters of labor, and theoretically the trade union bureaucrats represent the wage workers. A little investigation is sufficient to convince any wide-awake worker that all three groups, in varying degrees, represent the capitalist class against the workers.

The trade union bureaucracy, pledged to the system of compulsory arbitration, not merely urged the acceptance of awards, but, as an integral part of the arbitration machine has always fought against any attempt of the rank and file to carry on a struggle against such decisions. When, in spite of the trade union bureaucrats, strikes occurred against court awards, the union officials proceeded to

mobilise "loyal unionists" as strike breakers, just as the Australian Workers' Union bureaucracy is doing at this moment against the striking pastoral workers in Queensland. There has been no exception to this procedure, aside from those recent occasions when the trade union bureaucracy did not dare come forth openly in their customary strike-breaking role, but had to place themselves at the head of the movement so that, at a convenient moment carefully prepared for, they could betray it.

Because of the system of compulsory arbitration the working class never, at any time, even under the most favorable objective conditions, obtained wages and conditions they could otherwise have obtained.

* * *

TO-DAY these same Arbitration Courts, that in periods of relative prosperity acted as a brake upon the advance of the working class, are the initiators of every attack upon us. But the turn from trivial reformist concessions to the open offensive against the working class met with stubborn resistance. The reply of the workers to the first attack in the capitalist offensive against wages, hours and conditions of labor was strike action of such a determined character that the bureaucrats at the head of the unions involved did not dare oppose it. They had to resort to adroit trickery to be able to serve their capitalist masters, while maintaining their positions as "labor leaders." The policy of the labor fakery, in such struggles, was to fight against any attempt at militant conflict, to resist every suggestion of extension of the strikes, to prevent the rank and file establishing its own machinery for conducting strikes, and to drag out the struggle to the point of mass impoverishment and exhaustion of the strikers. Then finally, at a favorable opportunity, to invent, with the aid of the employers and the government, an atrocious deception calculated to persuade the strikers to agree (temporarily) to the terms of the awards. The terms of such awards, it is true, did prove to be temporary, inasmuch as the betrayed and defeated workers were compelled to accept even worse terms than originally set down by the courts. Thousands of workers who played heroic parts in these conflicts are discriminated against. Many others, older workers who cannot keep up the pace of the speed-up, never

got back into industry that was fast becoming rationalised.

After each such defeat the anvil chorus of capitalist press, "labor" press, trade union leaders and labor and capitalist politicians would loudly bellow "Once again the strike weapon has failed!" These were the exact words of that infamous social-fascist rag, the "Labor Daily," after it had used its columns for months to help the mine-owners, the government and the treacherous officials of the Miners' Union prepare the betrayal and after it had discouraged every attempt to turn the lock-out of the miners in the Northern fields



into a real strike by extending it to the coalfields of the South and West. All these separate attacks during the past three years upon the different sections of our class—the watersiders, the timber workers, the miners, the metal workers, the rail and tram workers, the pastoral workers—were deliberately prepared moves in a drive calculated to defeat the whole working class and place upon our backs the entire burden of the capitalist crisis.

Each fall in the economic position of Australian capitalism has been followed by an intensification of the offensive against the working class. It is quite evident that no matter how limited become the markets for Australian products, no matter how low the total production sinks, the capitalist class is determined that their profits shall continue to flow in undiminished volume. If the capitalist gov-

ernment is unable to meet its huge interest bills for the imperialist war and for war preparations now going on, the problem is solved by another smash at the working class, in the form of a wage-cut or a direct tax on wages, or both—as was the case in January. Every slash in wages is followed by a period of buoyancy in Australian shares on the stock market, because the investors are thereby assured that they can still get at least the prevailing average rate of profit out of our exploitation. So accustomed are the bankers, the industrialists, the coupon-clippers and the whole retinue of parasites to the enforcement of arbitration court decisions that it is doubtful if many of them have, until recently, realised that a time must come when that system will be challenged by the mass power of the working class.

* * *

HERETOFORE the faithful lackeys of capitalism at the head of the trade unions, the king's ministers in the labor governments and their police agents and gaolers have been able to stem the revolt



against the capitalist offensive. But events accompanying the most recent and most vicious decision of the full bench of the Federal Arbitration Court prove that the job now assigned to the trade union bureaucracy of aiding the capitalist class impose the ten per cent. wage-cut in every State of the Commonwealth and the additional 3/- to 5/6 cut, decreed upon the basis of the report of the Federal Statistician, is more difficult and complicated than their former betrayals.

Although suffering a series of defeats, the workers have shown an increasing determination to resist every attack made upon them as one section after another of our class faced the capitalist attack initiated through the arbitration courts. The bosses and all their agents knew the radicalised workers would instantly demand strike action in face of such a drastic and general wage-cut as that administered by the arbitration court. The latest decisions hit all sections of the working class, uniting them as victims of one common blow.

Such a wave of indignation arose in the factories, in the shops, on railways, tramways, in the units of the Unemployed Workers' Movement, in the labor exchanges and the union halls that everywhere there was one demand as a reply to the arbitration court decision—**GENERAL STRIKE!**

* * *

IN the evening of the same day the announcement of the court's decision was made, occurred the regular weekly meeting of the New South Wales Labor Council. Rank and file delegates from the shops expressed the sentiment of the workers when they demanded an immediate strike. There was even talk in some industries of striking the following morning. In such a tense situation a strike in one factory, even a very small unit in a given industry, might easily start a move that will spread like wildfire.

The vote of council delegates for a general strike was 64 to 13. Garden and the marionettes comprising the Trades Hall "inner circle" did not dare openly oppose it. The best they could do was to leave the date indefinite. The first proposal was that the strike be called February 1st. As that date falls on Sunday its absurdity is obvious.

Let no one imagine that Garden and company have abandoned their treacherous course as agents of capitalism because they did not fight or vote against the general strike motion. Even while pretending to favor such a strike these left social-fascists are fighting against it. The uncertainty of the date makes it possible for the bureaucrats to manoeuvre against it. Immediately after the decision all available machinery for betrayal was set in motion. The executive of the Australasian Council of Trade Unions was called to meet in Sydney, the "conference" of bureaucrats of the Australian Workers' Union was convened in the

same city, to affirm their own "re-election" as officials and to strengthen the strike-breaking apparatus of the labor bureaucracy.

The reptile press loudly shouted that these officials viewed with alarm the present situation; they expressed the opinion that a "state of emergency should be declared to preserve the living standards of the people." W. J. Duggan, president of the A.C.T.U., accompanied by the secretary, C. Crofts, appealed to that hoary strike-breaking gang, the officialdom of the A.W.U., to unite the two organisations because "at any moment there might be a crash." E. Grayndler, "labor" member of the legislative council, asked whether the A.C.T.U. was still affiliated to the Pan-Pacific Trade Union Secretariat, to which question Crofts gleefully replied in the negative; while



Duggan ventured the opinion that there was "no barrier between the A.W.U. and the A.C.T.U."

In face of the radicalisation of the masses the trade union bureaucracy unites as one strike-breaking machine to help the master class continue its offensive against the working class. So utterly debased have the A.C.T.U. officials become that they apologised to the A.W.U. scab-herders and strike-breakers for once having adopted a resolution calling them by their right names. Crofts assured the A.W.U. gang that he and his associates were prepared to wipe all such references from the books; in other words Crofts volunteers to forge the records of former A.C.T.U. conferences in behalf of unity with strike-breakers for a common purpose, i.e., to prevent "a state of emergency" that may seriously affect the capitalist class.

Further to deceive the masses of workers the A.C.T.U. has decided to hold its "emergency" congress February 16, a week after the date (February 9) tentatively set for the beginning of the strike. This is a further step toward sowing confusion in the ranks of the workers and is in no way antagonistic to the Sydney Trades Hall bureaucracy who, although they did not publicly declare in favor of February 9 as the date for the beginning of the strike, assiduously popularised that date.

* * *

EACH new situation requires the development of new tactics of treachery on the part of the social-fascists. A capitalist attack that evokes a widespread demand for a general strike is met by the professional betrayers of labor with a policy of playing, in the most cynical fashion, with the general strike slogan. While pretending to favor a general strike, these swindlers are continuing, with other methods, their traditional policy of trying to discredit all strike action.

Instead of putting into effect the strike preparations of the Red International of Labor Unions, Jock Garden and the officials of the New South Wales Labor Council (an affiliated body of the R.I.L.U.) try to sabotage the election of rank and file committees of action, the building of Workers' Defence Corps in the enterprises, and the mobilisation and strengthening of the Workers' International Relief, by placing the whole affair in the hands of the bureaucratic "disputes committee."

Furthermore, these traitors go to the astonishing length of trying to prevent strike action against the wage-cuts on the part of certain groups of workers by pleading that no action whatsoever should be taken until all the workers are ready to act. With such filthy deception do they strive to stifle all strike action, because they know full well that, in this situation, once a strike begins in one important branch of industry, it can rapidly spread until it reaches the dimensions of a general strike.

* * *

TO expose and counteract this demagoguery and treachery and to organize for the launching of the counter-offensive is the task of the Minority Movement. In anticipation of the manoeuvre of Garden and (Continued on page 14)

ALARM CALL TO THE WORKERS OF THE PACIFIC!

Imminent Danger of Imperialist Intervention and Attack on U.S.S.R.

WORKERS of the Pacific!

What has been obvious for a very long time now finds a new and most alarming corroboration:—The preparation of imperialist intervention and war against the First Workers' Republic of the U.S.S.R. is no longer a matter for speculation or conjecture; its perspective, its more concrete planning, the distribution of roles among the various imperialist powers and their vassal States surrounding the U.S.S.R., the strategic plans of attack, and even the date for the armed intervention against the U.S.S.R. are now revealed to the whole world as a result of the discovery and arrest of the counter-revolutionary persons and organisations acting as the direct agents and tools of the imperialists from within the Soviet Union.

Intervention in 1931

Proven and corroborated facts show that the armed attack and intervention are planned for the early part of 1931; the leading imperialist statesmen of France, Britain and the other powers are directly involved and named as the organisers and leaders of the attack (Poincaré, Briand, etc.).

Unimpeachable evidence links Paris and London with Warsaw, Bucharest, and with the other vassal States on the eastern frontier of the Soviet Union. Tanks, bombing planes, poison gas, armored cars, the most modern artillery, munitions and the movement of troops along definite routes of attack and their distribution among the various buffer vassal States of French and British Imperialism, has been going on planfully and systematically for a long time, and is still going on. Preparations for the attack are thus in full swing, and the imperialists are only waiting for their favorable opportunity to attack.

Fear Soviet Achievements

The reasons for this imperialist intervention are to-day clear to every thinking and class-conscious worker in every part of the world: The First Workers' Republic with its vic-

torious proletariat are actually engaged in building up Socialism; they have already completed successfully the first two years of Socialist Construction; with every year, every month, week, the position of the U.S.S.R. in relation to the capitalist world is becoming more and more invulnerable.

The very existence of the U.S.S.R. and its world proletariat, and to all oppressed and exploited peoples of the colonial and semi-colonial world, a mighty fortress and base for steady and phenomenal progress, gives to the international revolutionary movement and for the struggle against imperialism and capi-



talism. It serves not only as an inspiration, but as the living and growing proof to every toiler that the only salvation lies in the proletarian revolution and the destruction of capitalism. That is why the imperialists and capitalists cannot tolerate this division of the earth into two distinct worlds, two irreconcilable social and political systems. That is why they are preparing and about to launch the attack and armed intervention.

Fight Capitalism at Home

Our task as revolutionary workers and organisations is clear:—The only way to combat imperialist war is by war against imperialism and capitalism at home.

In China the workers and peasants must intensify a hundredfold their struggle against imperialism and against the counter-revolutionary Kuomintang and the militarists who, during the Chinese Eastern Railway conflict, unmasked themselves as the tools of the imperialist hounds against the U.S.S.R. In co-ordinated action with the revolutionary peasants' movement and the Workers & Peasants' Soviets and Red Armies, the industrial proletariat in the industrial centres must unfold and Kuomintang militarism, in conjunction with the Defence of the Soviets of China and the broadest mass action against imperialism with their daily mass struggles in the shops and factories. The slogan, "Defend Soviet Russia and Soviet China," must resound throughout the length and breadth of the country and serve as the rallying cry of revolutionary struggle and for the mobilisation of tens of millions of workers and peasants. In India, Indo-China, Korea, Formosa, Philippines, and in Indonesia, the Malay States and all other colonial and semi-colonial countries, the struggle against Imperialism and the national-bourgeoisie—who are the agents and allies of the imperialists against the workers and peasants' revolutionary movement—must be intensified and organised on a real mass basis, under the leadership of the revolutionary organisations of the proletariat.

Colonial Masses Must Join Conflict

More than ever is it becoming clear that the struggle of the colonial and semi-colonial toiling masses against imperialism cannot possibly be separated or considered apart from the Defence of the First Workers' Republic: the one guarantees the other, and the one without the other is meaningless. In the capitalist and imperialist countries bordering the Pacific and dominating the Pacific (Japan, U.S.A., Britain, France) the proletariat must take the initiative and lead the millions and tens of millions of toilers in Defence of the Soviet Union. Here, too, the only effective way of warding off the threatened imminent attack on the U.S.S.R. is: to unfold an unparalleled mass struggle against capitalism and imperialism at home.

Stop Troops and Munitions

Mass demonstrations, Mass and General Strikes as a protest and alarm-mobilisation of the whole working class, Mass affiliation and active participation in the League of Friends of the U.S.S.R., the absolute prevention of shipments of troops and munitions and war materials to any of the vassal States of French and British imperialism or to any of the colonial or semi-colonial countries in any part of the world; intensified work among the soldiers and sailors of the imperialists; the formation of Proletariat Defence Corps, and Workers' Control Committees elected by all the workers of the most important enterprises to disclose and prevent the movement or transport of troops and munitions; and what is of paramount importance in all countries—the most ruthless struggle against all social-reformists and social-fascists, the direct agents of the imperialists within our ranks.

On our guard! To the Defence of the Soviet Union!

Organise mass action and mass strikes to block the plans of French and British imperialism, to crush the U.S.S.R.!

Not a man and not a gun against the Workers and Peasants' Soviets of U.S.S.R. and of China!

Active support to the revolutionary movement of China, India, Indo-China, Korea, Indonesia and Formosa!

Turn the imperialist weapons against imperialism itself!

To the last man and the last drop of blood—in defence of the only proletarian fatherland and the citadel of the world revolution!

—The P.P.T.U.S., Shanghai.

FRIENDS OF SOVIET UNION

Workers of Australia, counter Imperialism's threatened attack against the Soviet Union by joining the Australian Section of the Friends of Soviet Union, National office, 1st Floor, 305 Pitt Street, Sydney. Only by doing so can you learn the true facts concerning the marvellous development of Socialist construction in the Workers' Fatherland. Branches at Brisbane, Broken Hill and other centres. Join now this mass organisation, which is rallying the working class of Australia to its banner with the fighting slogan of Not a man; not a ship; not a gun against the Soviet Union!

TO THE INDIAN PROLETARIAT, THE VANGUARD OF THE INDIAN REVOLUTION

(Letter of the Pan-Pacific Trade Union Secretariat, on the occasion of the Trade Union Congress in Bombay, December, 1930.)

THE Trade Union Congress in Bombay is taking place at a critical stage in the development of the national-emancipation and revolutionary movement of India. At this stage, the true role and nature of all class forces, both revolutionary and counter-revolutionary, stand out crystal-clear, serving as the unmistakable guides for organisation and action by the Indian proletariat, which together with the Indian peasantry constitute the main driving force of the Indian revolution, and the only force capable of organising and leading a consistent and uncompromising struggle against British Imperialism, for the complete independence of India, and for the liberation of the working class from the yoke of capitalism.

Reaction Stands Unmasked

The phenomenal extension and intensification of the revolutionary emancipation movement has unmasked all the counter-revolutionary elements and forces working with British Imperialism and against the Indian Revolution, both nationally and internationally:—(a) The national bourgeoisie of India is carrying out its own class activities and safeguarding its own class interests through its executive organ—the Indian National Congress. Under the pressure of the broad and deep revolutionary mass movement against imperialism, the National Congress (national bourgeoisie) is compelled to make a show of "passive resistance" against British Imperialism, and has to some extent succeeded in diverting the revolutionary force and energies of the working class from the revolutionary anti-imperialist and class struggles into the channels of "passive resistance."

The National Congress is by its very nature anti-proletarian and therefore counter-revolutionary. Only the pressure of the revolutionary masses delay the inevitable capitulation of the Indian National Congress to British Imperialism. (b) The most dangerous elements, from the point of view of the working class, are the so-called "left" elements among the

national-reformists (Nehru-Jr., Patel, Subas, Ruikar, & Co.) who are merely the demagogic instruments of the national bourgeoisie for diverting the revolutionary mass movement of the workers and peasants into "safe" channels not endangering the class interests of the bourgeoisie. Their function is to mislead the working masses by "left" phrases and vague promises. They are the most dangerous element hampering the development of the workers and peasants' movement on clear class-revolutionary lines and under revolutionary proletarian leadership. (c) The agents of the national bourgeoisie within the working class, the reformist trade union leaders (of the type of Joshi, Chamm Lall, Bakhale, Shiva Rao and Co.) have revealed themselves as the splitters of the Indian Trade Union movement and as the direct agents of the imperialist British Trade Union and Labor traitors. They have come out openly against a unified revolutionary trade union movement in India, based on the class struggle, and against international proletarian solidarity (opposing the Red International of Labor Unions and the Pan-Pacific Trade Union Secretariat), at the same time carrying out the orders and the policy of the counter-revolutionary Amsterdam International and the British Labor imperialists. (d) The British Labor Party and the British Trade Union Bureaucracy stand out before the whole world as the avowed agents of British imperialism and counter-revolution. The traditional policy of "blood-and-iron" in suppressing the national-liberation and revolutionary movements in India, has been intensified and multiplied a thousandfold under the "Labor" Government (bombardments from the air and destruction of villages, 25,000 arrests during the past 4-5 months in India, the Meerut Trial, the suppression of trade unions and militant organisations of the workers, peasants and youth, and the crowning event—the Indian Circus in London, where His Majesty's "Labor" Government conducted the Round Table Conference with 10 Ruling Princes, 5 Great Landowners, 29 titled persons—Baronets, Sirs, Nawabs, Rao Bahadurs, etc.—7 Ministers and ex-Ministers, 6 Knighted British agents in Indian States, etc., etc.). (e) The development of the Indian Anti-imperialist and revolutionary movement has also revealed—once more—the counter-revolutionary and imperialist role and nature of the Second and Amsterdam Internationals, who are working

through their British agents to draw the Indian labor movement into the morass of social-reformism and class collaboration. It suffices to point the recent sessions of the Executive of the Second International at Zurich, where the social-fascist representatives of all countries, without a word of criticism, approved



the blood-and-iron policy of the MacDonald Government in India, and where the "left" social-fascists of the B.L.P. (Messrs. Brockway and Co.) silently acquiesced.

Like the Chinese Revolution, and the revolutionary movements in Indo-China, Indonesia, Korea, etc., so the Indian revolutionary and anti-imperialist movement has revealed to the whole world the counter-revolutionary nature and activities of the Second and Amsterdam Internationals (beginning with their open struggle against the First Workers' Republic of the U.S.S.R. and ending with their open co-operation with the counter-revolutionary Kuomintang in China and with the British Imperialists in India.

Joint Action for Indian Revolution

It is at this stage of development of revolutionary events in India and on the occasion

of the Trade Union Congress in Bombay, that the Pan-Pacific Trade Union Secretariat once more takes the opportunity of addressing itself to the Indian working class and of expressing in the first place, the international revolutionary solidarity of the toiling masses of the Pacific with the revolutionary emancipation movement of India, and with its organised vanguard—the revolutionary Trade Unions of India.

Ours is not merely a wordy expression of solidarity. The Pan-Pacific Trade Union Secretariat comprises the advance-guard of the working masses in almost all the colonial and semi-colonial countries of the Pacific. It is a mobilising and organising and fighting organ created by the class-conscious proletarian elements of China, Korea, Formosa, Philippines, Indonesia, Malay States, Indo-China, etc. The revolutionary trade unions of these countries, in joint action with the revolutionary proletariat of the imperialist countries—Japan, U.S.A., Great Britain—and in closest alliance with the victorious revolutionary proletariat of the First Workers' Republic of the U.S.S.R., have united on the platform of the class struggle and irreconcilable struggle against imperialism, capitalism and all its agents. That is why the Pan-Pacific T.U. Secretariat and the workers of the Pacific cannot but follow the events in India with the closest attention, in the desire to help the Indian emancipation and revolutionary movement in the struggle against our common enemy, and in effort to bring about organisational unity and joint action with the Indian proletariat—the vanguard of the Indian Revolution.

Chinese Revolution Advances

At this very moment, the Chinese workers and peasants, under the leadership of the All-China Labor Federation, are engaged in a life and death struggle with the Chinese counter-revolution which, like the Indian bourgeoisie and feudal lords, are also in alliance with the imperialists against the working class and peasants. At this very moment, dozens of districts in Central and Southern China are occupied by the Workers and Peasants' Red Armies.

The Soviets, the Workers and Peasants' own organs of power and government, have displaced the old rotten militarist and feudal system in these districts, and the struggle is on for the reinforcement of the existing Soviet

Bases and for their extension to the whole of China. The agrarian revolution, the confiscation of the landowners' land and its distribution among the peasantry, is an accomplished fact in the Soviet Districts; the Eight Hour Day, Workers' Control and Social and Labor Legislation are also facts; delegates are being elected by the workers and peasants throughout China to the forthcoming All-China Soviet Congress. It is in the name of these real, living and growing and unvanquishable forces of the Chinese Revolution that we are sending you our proletarian greetings and expression of international revolutionary solidarity.

At this very moment the workers and peasants of Indo-China are also engaged in a life and death struggle against French imperialism. Whole districts and provinces have risen in revolt against the bloody regime of the French imperialists and the native oppressors and blood-suckers. There, too, the revolutionary peasant masses are beginning to form Soviets, and under the leadership of the proletariat is bringing the Indo-Chinese anti-imperialist and revolutionary movement to a higher phase of development. It is in the name of all these revolutionary masses that we send you revolutionary greetings and expressions of solidarity.

We also address you in the name of the heroic working class of Indonesia which, despite the bloody suppressions by the Dutch imperialists, are carrying on their revolutionary struggle for independence and liberation. Also in the name of the Korean and Formosan revolutionary working class fighting ceaselessly against Japanese imperialism. Also in the name of the militant Filipino proletariat and peasants who under the banner of the Pan-Pacific T.U. Secretariat and of the R.I.L.U. are carrying on the revolutionary struggle against American imperialism and against their native bourgeoisie.

The Path to Victory

In the struggle against imperialism, against capitalism, for the liberation and complete independence of India and for the liberation of the Indian workers and peasants, both foreign and native oppression and exploitation, two conditions are absolutely essential for success:—(1) A clear-cut working-class programme and policy, based on the uncompromising class struggle, with organisations absolutely independent of the bourgeoisie or of any section of the bourgeoisie, and purged of all



—By Fred Ellis

Gandhi, Pacifist!

bourgeois and petty-bourgeois leading (misleading) elements who only paralyse the revolutionary proletarian movement and hamper its development on revolutionary class lines, and (2) international proletarian solidarity and joint action by the toiling masses of the colonial and semi-colonial countries in alliance with the revolutionary proletariat of the capitalist and imperialist countries.

A Workers' Programme of Action

Recognising the leading role of the working class in the Indian Revolution, it is necessary to break loose the trade union and political organisations of the working class from the organisations and influence of the national bourgeoisie. The special class interests of the Indian proletariat in the revolution demand not only the recognition of the treacherous,

anti-proletarian and therefore counter-revolutionary nature and role of the Indian National Congress, but especially the treacherous role of the "left" elements of the Congress whose function it is to deceive and mislead the working class into serving the class interests of the bourgeoisie and to prevent independent class action by the proletariat, but also the active struggle against these our class enemies.

Fight Against Splitters

The Indian Trade Unions must combat ruthlessly all those who preach and practice class-collaboration and class peace; all those who in any way seek to erase or to cover up the sharp and unbridgeable class division between the proletariat and the bourgeoisie; all those who hesitate and vacillate or seek a compromise in the struggle against imperialism and against all its agents, "labor" and other.

It means that the class-conscious Indian workers must fight to the death all those labor traitors who split or attempt to split the ranks of the working class and the trade unions (Joshi, Chamm Lall, Bakhale, Shiva Rao and Co., who, in their struggle against the Left Wing, allied themselves with the British "Labor" imperialists and with the Amsterdam International). It means also that the Indian workers must combat and get rid of all those in its ranks who in any way oppose or hinder the carrying out of an independent class policy with independent working-class organisation and action (to remove and get rid of such traitors as Kandalkara of the revolutionary and heroic Girm Kamgar). Instead of being misused and misled by the national bourgeoisie and national reformists, the Indian proletariat must, through independent class action and organisation, completely isolate the

national-reformists from the revolutionary mass movement, and itself take over complete leadership of workers and peasants' mass movements and struggles against imperialism and the native oppressors and exploiters.

Organise Mass Struggles

The vast experience of the revolutionary working class movement in other countries shows that the proletariat can accomplish its revolutionary tasks successfully only on condition that it systematically strengthens and extends its organisations among the masses in the shops and factories, and that it prepares, organises and leads the struggles of the broad masses of toilers in the shop, factory, mine, mill and on the land and plantations. It is in the process of organised struggle for the vital interests of the working masses that the Trade Unions and the independent political organisations of the working class are steered and strengthened.

The widest masses must be mobilised for the struggle for increased wages, the Eight-hour Day, for social legislation, unemployment insurance (solely at the cost of the State and employers), the protection of women and youth workers (equal pay for equal work, and safeguarding the special interests of the young and female workers). The systematic development of economic struggles for the vital, daily interests of the toiling masses must be linked with the political demands and slogans and the general class demands of the working class (struggle against imperialism, complete independence, the right to organise, freedom of speech, press and assembly for the revolutionary organisations of the working class, the liberation of the working-class prisoners—Meerut, etc., etc.).

(Continued on page 15)



The Palace of Industry, Charkov, Soviet Union.

NITROGEN'S PLACE IN WAR PREPARATIONS

By A Chemist

NITROGEN made its debut in politics in the form of potassium nitrate, or saltpetre.

A monk who ground up some saltpetre with sulphur and charcoal, obtained a violent explosion. This was an epoch-making event. Gunpowder had been discovered.

Gunpowder is no longer an important military explosive. It has been almost displaced by more effective explosives, such as cordite, lyddite, T.N.T., amatol, nitrocellulose, smokeless powders, fulminates and azides, all of which owe their explosive properties to combined nitrogen.

Some nitrogen compounds, such as many of those used on a large scale in the dyestuff, rubber and explosive industries, have caused thousands of cases of industrial poisoning, many of which killed their victims. Nitrogen is not only a harbinger of death, but also a harbinger of life.

Some nitrogen compounds, for instance, are very valuable fertilisers. The rapid growth of

the industrial towns and the increase in population made the European food problem a serious one. The German chemist, Liebig, showed how sterile land may be made fertile by the use of chemical fertilisers, which can also double and even treble the crops grown on arable land.

Nitrogenous Fertilisers

Beside potassium and phosphorus, crops also require "fixed" nitrogen. Thus nitrogenous fertilisers became very important articles of commerce.

The only nitrogenous fertiliser which could be obtained in sufficient quantity was Chile nitrates, the production of which became Chile's chief industry.

Although the natural deposits of this substance in the arid regions of Chile are large, they are not inexhaustible, so in 1898 the British chemist, Crookes, raised his slogan: "Nitrogen or starvation."

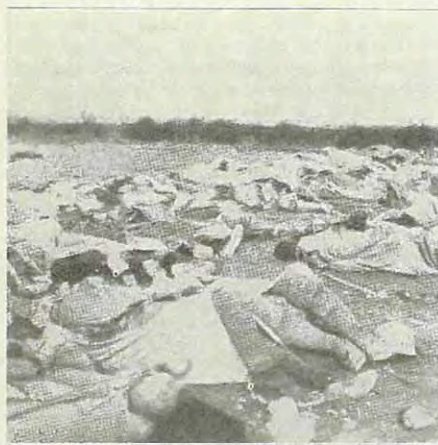
Crookes had calculated that if the population of the world continued to increase at a normal rate, future generations would be unable to grow enough food, for lack of nitrogenous fertilisers, unless the chemists discovered some way of making these from the nitrogen in the air.



The Balance-Sheet of the War:—10,697,000 Killed; 29,906,000 Wounded.

The Governments, throughout the world, were not interested in the food supplies of future generations, or in scientific research. They were more interested in preparing for future wars, on which hundreds of millions of pounds were spent every year, so Crooke's warning passed unheeded.

The first nitrogen fixation works were built at Notodden, in Norway, where the nitrogen of the air was burnt in an electric arc, and the oxides of nitrogen produced were used for



The Victory of Capitalist War!

making calcium nitrate, which was sold as a fertiliser under the name of Norwegian salt-petre.

Shortly before the world war the German chemists, Haber and Bosch, discovered a method of making ammonia from the air and water. The nitrogen of the air was combined with hydrogen from water, and the resulting ammonia was converted into the fertiliser ammonium sulphate.

Cheap to Work

This process was cheap to work; air and water exist in practically limitless quantities, and Haber-Bosch plants could be erected in almost any part of the world. Obviously this was a discovery of the greatest economic importance. The world-war made it also a discovery of quite another importance, and to-day the governments are intensely interested in nitrogen fixation and have their nitrogen poli-

cies and their nitrogen programmes. Their nitrogen programmes are not agricultural, but military programmes—preparations for future wars.

Nearly all military explosives contain nitrogen, the source of which is nitric acid, which in 1914 was made from the fertiliser Chile nitrates. Nitrogen largely determined the original military plans for the conduct of the world war. Germany's stock of Chile nitrates would only last for about six months, so the German military command calculated on a "short, sharp, jolly war."

The Allies' original plan was to hold up the German armies for six months, when they should collapse for want of explosives.

The German plans miscarried; the Allies' plans also miscarried; they had overlooked the existence of Germany's huge dyestuff factories and her large number of research chemists, who succeeded in turning the war largely into a chemists' war.

Both sides had badly underestimated the quantity of explosives they would require, so both sides turned to the use of poison gases. The French attempt in 1914 was a failure, but the German gas attacks in 1915 were so successful that chemical warfare came to stay, and to-day the capitalist governments throughout the world are prepared to use chemical warfare as one of the chief weapons in the next great war.

The German chemist, Ostwald, discovered a practical method of oxidising ammonia to nitric acid, a discovery of great military importance.

Nitric acid for explosives could now be produced from water and air, and the huge synthetic ammonia fertiliser factories owned by the dyestuff companies became huge explosive factories, and for four years the Germans continued to produce astonishing quantities of explosives, despite the naval blockade.

Before the war the German dyestuff factories had accumulated vast quantities of a nitrogen compound—mononitrotoluol—which was produced as a by-product in the manufacture of certain dyes, and for which they could find no use. During the war they found that on certain treatment this substance yields trinitrotoluol, which proved to be a better high explosive than any then in use—the notorious T.N.T.

These feats caused the greatest admiration in the War Offices of the Allies, which also started making T.N.T., and trying to fix nitro-

gen. The British Research Department then discovered that the limited quantity of T.N.T. available could be made to go much further by adding four times its weight of ammonium nitrate.

This mixture they called amatol, and it had certain advantages over T.N.T.

The importance of the chemical industry in modern warfare is shown by the fact that all the poison gases, and 80 per cent. of the explosives, used by the German armies in the world war were produced by the German dyestuff factories. Having "smashed German militarism," the ex-Allies proceeded to copy its methods, and just as after the armistice they all started building large dyestuff factories as potential poison gas arsenals, so they also started a race in building nitrogen fixation works as potential explosives arsenals. As one chemical journal remarks, "nitrogen fixation became the fashion, everybody is doing it."

Intensive research was organised in Europe, America and Japan. The Japanese Government even set up a special nitrogen research laboratory. New methods of fixing nitrogen

have already been discovered, and there are now half a dozen different kinds of plants being operated on a large scale.

Huge German Output

The huge German dye, chemical, explosives, oil, fertiliser and metal combine, the "I.G.," is now fixing 700,000 metric tons of nitrogen annually; 570,000 tons at the Leunawerke which is three miles long, and employs 23,000 work-people, and 130,000 tons at Oppau, where 11,250 workers are employed, including 170 chemists and physicists in the research laboratory.

In Great Britain the Government started to erect a nitrogen fixation works at Billingham-on-Tees, towards the end of the war. These works are now the Synthetic Ammonia and Nitrates, Ltd., and form part of Mond's huge combine, Imperial Chemical Industries, Ltd., which has been formed on the I.G. model. The Billingham works have been developed to an extraordinary extent under the guidance of a military gentleman, Colonel Pollitt, and although not completed, they have already cost £25,000,000.



The Victory of Socialist Peace!

NOTES OF THE HOUR

(Continued from page 4)

company to set the date for February 9, and then sabotage all preparations so that the response would be inadequate, thus furnishing these fakers an excuse to traduce the workers with the charge that they, the officials, wanted the strike, but the masses would not respond, the Minority Movement began energetic preparation for the struggle by mobilising all its resources for the setting up of effective organisational machinery. The demand for joint action of the employed and unemployed, the organised and unorganised, was met with a broadside of filthy and lying abuse from that utterly degenerate sheet, "The Labor Weekly," which accused Comrades Docker and Sharkey of being at the head of a conspiracy to "break up the trade unions," of being advocates of the open shop and of "degrading the R.I.L.U." Just as these unprincipled scoundrels pretend to favor the general strike in order to be in a better position to smash all strikes, so they pretend to defend the R.I.L.U. in order that they may be better able to defeat every attempt to carry out in Australia the strategy and tactics formulated on the basis of the experience of the world labor movement. They know full well that the rank and file of the trade unions would decisively repudiate them if they dared come out openly against the R.I.L.U., just as the R.I.L.U. has already repudiated the renegade, Garden.

Garden assails Docker and Sharkey because they are carrying out the R.I.L.U. policy of building a united front from below, of uniting the workers to resist the capitalist offensive upon the basis of elementary demands. Garden opposes this because it is the specific job of the social-fascist gang to divide the workers into employed and unemployed, organised and unorganised, native-born and foreign-born, blacks and whites. Thus, with every conceivable intrigue, do the labor bureaucrats play their parts in the capitalist united front in the attack against the working class.

Against the triple alliance of employers, capitalist government and labor bureaucracy, and their arbitration court which is in initiator of every new attack in the drive against our standard of living and working conditions, the Minority Movement will fight to mobilise the masses for effective struggle. This latest

wage-cut will never be permitted to be enforced unchallenged. The hard, detailed organisational work of setting up democratically elected rank and file Committees of Action, Workers' Defence Corps, and machinery for relief of working-class fighters, will be carried forward everywhere, and a united working-class front forged in the heat of conflict that will shatter the capitalist offensive.



—By FRED ELLEN

Against the contemptible scoundrels of social-fascism who play with general strike slogans the Minority Movement wages a relentless campaign and prepares organisational machinery that can transform the agitational slogan for a general strike against wage-cuts and against the arbitration system into a policy of action.

TO THE INDIAN PROLETARIAT

(Continued from page 10)

This struggle should culminate in a **General Strike** of all the workers in the most important industries and enterprises. This General Strike, if well prepared, and if made the persistent slogan of the Trade Unions, will show and make felt the mighty force of the proletariat as a class force, and will be a great step forward in the development of the Indian Revolution. Political mass strikes are the most efficient and powerful weapons to be used in the struggle against imperialism and for the direct and common class demands of the proletariat. This struggle of the industrial proletariat and of the city toilers must be closely co-ordinated with the struggle of the millions of poor peasantry to carry out the agrarian revolution on the land. Only in close alliance with the peasantry, and leading the peasantry, will the Indian proletariat fulfill its historic revolutionary functions successfully.

Factory Committee Basis

The establishment of Revolutionary Trade Unions is of extreme importance. The Girni Kamgar bears evidence to the fact that the establishment of Red class unions founded on the Factory and Shop Committees, meets with the support of the working masses. The necessity of their establishment becomes still more obvious in view of the fact that the overwhelming majority of the Indian proletariat are still unorganised. (The Miners are outside of any organisation, the plantation laborers and agricultural workers are unorganised, the majority of the workers in the other industries—metal and textile—are also unorganised). The Red Trade Unions must be built up on the industrial principle (One Industry—One Union), and based on the Factory or Shop Committee elected by all the workers of any given enterprise. The Red Trade Unions will affiliate with the All-Indian Trade Congress after it will have been purged of all extreme Right elements. In alliance with the revolutionary oppositions within the national-reformist unions, the Red trade unions should strive for the transformation of the T.U. Congress into a militant class centre independent of the national bourgeoisie and under the leadership of the revolutionary trade unions. All national or race prejudices which, until now, have been deliberately fostered by

the imperialists and their agents, must be overcome and the Red unions should unite the workers irrespective of creed or race.

Need for Proletarian Leadership

A very serious problem is that of leadership and cadres. The trade unions must be systematically purged of all anti-proletarian elements and the best and most active workers from the shops and factories trained and placed at the head of the trade unions and other proletarian organisations (the struggle is the best criterion for choosing leading cadres).

It is in the spirit of international working-class solidarity, in the interest of the successful struggle against imperialism and the native exploiters and oppressors, that the Pan-Pacific T.U. Secretariat calls upon the workers of India and their militant trade union organisations to join up in one united revolutionary front with the millions of toilers in the other colonial and semi-colonial countries, and with the revolutionary proletariat of the capitalist and imperialist countries.

To do this by declarations alone is obviously insufficient. Against our common class enemy we must organise and fight jointly. Only organised action by strong organisations of the proletariat based on the uncompromising class struggle can assure success. We therefore appeal once more to you to have your trade unions join up with the Pan-Pacific T.U. Secretariat for joint action against imperialism and against capitalism and their agents within our own ranks.

The growing danger of new imperialist war, especially the danger of an imperialist attack on the First Workers' Republic of the U.S.S.R., which, in contrast to the deep world crisis of the capitalist world, is building up socialism and improving the conditions of the working class—which is the ruling class—the need for a united proletarian front of the toilers of the Pacific is ever more urgent.

Recent revelations by counter-revolutionary agents of the French and British governments show clearly that the imperialist powers are actively and constantly preparing an armed attack on Soviet Russia, the fatherland, the only fatherland of the international proletariat. This must be averted by a united revolutionary

anti-imperialist and anti-capitalist front of the workers of the Pacific and of all countries. Only the class war can and will prevent another bloody imperialist war.

We therefore call with you:

Long live the Indian proletariat—the vanguard and leader of the Indian Revolution!

Long live the alliance of the revolutionary proletariat with the peasantry—the only guarantee of successful struggle against imperialism, feudalism and capitalism!

Long live the revolutionary Trade Unions of the Indian proletariat, the fighting organs of the working class based on the uncompromising class struggle!

Liberate the Indian working masses and their organisations from shackles of the treacherous national bourgeoisie and all their agents—of all shades and grades, "Left" or otherwise!

Oust the agents of imperialism and national reformism from our own ranks. Oust all

vacillating and treacherous elements from the trade unions who preach compromise with imperialism or class peace and class collaboration instead of Class Struggle and Class War!

Rally to the defence of the First Workers' Republic of the U.S.S.R. against the onslaughts in preparation by the imperialists!

Rally to the support of the Chinese Revolution and of the Workers and Peasants' Soviets of China! Defend the heroic revolutionary workers and peasants of Indo-China, Indonesia, Korea, Philippines, Formosa, etc., against their respective imperialist oppressors!

Down with the counter-revolutionary Amsterdam and Second Internationals and the British "Labor" imperialists—the agents of capitalism and imperialism!

Join the Pan-Pacific Trade Union Secretariat!

—P.P.T.U.S., Shanghai.

EDITORIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Owing to changes in our editorial staff the publication of this issue of the "P.P.W." has been unavoidably delayed beyond its due date. Henceforward, however, the "P.P.W." will appear regularly on the first of each month.

New authoritative articles on current economic problems affecting the workers of countries bordering the Pacific, new slashing cartoons by world famous artists, along with other popular items of working class interest, will be featured in our forthcoming issues.

The "Pan Pacific Worker" is the only monthly publication of the working class of Pacific countries with a definitely proletarian outlook—the only monthly publication giving that class the correct lead in its everyday struggles against its enemy, Capitalism.

Subscribe at once!

CONTENTS OF PREVIOUS NUMBERS

VOL. III.—No. 10.	October 1, 1930.	VOL. III.—No. 11.	November 1, 1930.
Protest Against Mass Butchery in China: From the Secretariat	289	Trade Union Unity in the Pacific: By P. G. Hannett	321
The Urgent Need for a P.P.T.U. Congress in Australia: By Hector Ross	291	Against Imperialism: By E. M. Higgins	323
Class Warfare at Port Adelaide: By G. Roper	294	The Round Table Conference: By "Observer"	327
The Class Struggle in Queensland: By F. Gordon Crane	296	The New Pastoral Workers' Union: By Senator Arthur Rae	329
The Financier and the Fighter: By "Aesop Junior"	299	Arbitration and the Rail and Tram Workers: By George Beach	335
Unemployment in N.S.W.: From the L.R. & I.B.	300	The Romance of Farming in the Soviet: By Anne Scarlitt	336
Amalgamations of Companies 1929-30: From the L.R. & I.B.	302	Nominal and Real Wages in Australia: From the L.R. & I.B.	339
British Rule in India: By W.M.H.	307	Australian Manufacturing Industries: From the L.R. & I.B.	342
The Situation in Egypt: By "Historian"	311	Amsterdam-Berlin via Stockholm: By A. Losovsky	346
The Capitalist and the Socialist Economic System: By J. Stalin	313	The Bookshelf	351
Labor Congress in Philippines	316		
Displacement of Workers by Machinery ..	318		
The Bookshelf	319		
VOL. III.—No. 12.	December 1, 1930.	VOL. IV.—No. 1.	January 5, 1931.
The Queensland Trade Union Congress: By F. W. Paterson	353	A Voice from Meerut Jail	1
Organise the Fight for the Pan-Pacific Congress: By Herbert Moore	356	The Meaning of "Niemeyerism": By Herbert Moore	3
Fight of the Melbourne Unemployed: By C. R. Walker	359	The Tasks of the Revolutionary Trade Union Movement in Australia: R.I.L.U. Executive Committee	7
Pastoral Workers Fighting Against Wage Cuts: By Norman Jeffery	362	A New Marine Workers' International	13
Thug Law and the Workers: By Pat George	364	Results of Second Year of Five-Year Plan: By E. Petrovich	15
Mutiny in Meerut Jail	366	Editorial Note	16
The Bookshelf	368		

51/52 35

4th March, 1931.

The Comptroller of Customs.

"The Pan Pacific Worker".

I beg to submit for your consideration a copy of the monthly issue of the above-named periodical dated 5th ultimo, together with the opinion of the Solicitor-General thereon.

This periodical is the official organ of the Pan Pacific Trade Union Secretariat, a revolutionary organisation with headquarters at Shanghai, which is under the direct control of the Communist International at Moscow.

The organisation above referred to is endeavouring to secure the affiliation of all trade unions in the various countries bordering the Pacific with the avowed object of overthrowing by revolutionary means the present capitalist system of government.

I shall be glad if you will advise whether the importation of this periodical is to be prohibited as provided by Order-in-Council published in the New Zealand Gazette 1921, page 1186.

Kindly return the enclosed documents with your reply.

Encls.

Commissioner of Police.

222

34
31/

SECRET

24th February, 1931.

The Solicitor-General.

"The Pan-Pacific Worker" - an alleged seditious
publication.

I beg to submit for your consideration the attached copy of the "Pan-Pacific Worker" dated 5th instant, and shall be glad if you will advise as to whether it is in breach of Section 4 of Regulation 2 of Second Schedule, War Regulations Continuance Act, 1920.

May I direct attention to the following:-

Articles on pages 5 to 10, addressed to workers of the Pacific, entitled "Fight Capitalism at home", "Colonial Masses must join conflict"; and "Stop troops and munitions". In the latter article an appeal is made to workers for the absolute prevention of shipments of troops and munitions and war materials to any of the vassal states of French and British imperialism or to any of the Colonial or semi-colonial countries in any part of the world; intensified work among the soldiers and sailors of the imperialists; the formation of Proletariat Defence Corps - to disclose and prevent the movement or transport of troops and munitions.

The pamphlet also advocates the active support of the revolutionary movement in India, and the organisation of mass action, etc.

I should be glad of an early reply, as I have information from a secret source that a supply of these publications is en route and will be delivered to a well known local Communist within the next few days.

Encl.

HCN
Commissioner of Police.

Ex

42
File S. 30/52.

33

21/2/4

12/7/30

Papers relative to Helen Jane SCOTT, N.Z. Delegate to the Fifth World Congress of the R.I.L.U. in Moscow, have been placed on her Individual File.

~~SECRET~~ *E 30/42*
[Police—100A. *32*
21/2/4

NEW ZEALAND POLICE.

Police-station: Detective Office W'ton

Date: July 12th, 1930

REPORT of Detective N. W. Baylis. No. 2385

relative to Communist Party and Red International of Labour Union Congress.

"Wide the attached"

[150,000/4/29—1262

I respectfully report that I have kept a carefull watch on the Communist Party since receiving with a view to ascertaining whether or not it was their intention to send delegates to the above mentioned Congress but so far as I was able to ascertain such was not the case.

No doubt Communist Frederick Freeman of the Wellington Group of the Communist Party who is at present in Russia would attend and probably represent the New Zealand branch of the party.

The Communist Party at the present are in a very poor position financially and I doubt very much if they would be able to raise the fare to Russia for one person let alone a number.

As the Congress is to be held this month there will be no time for anyone leaving New Zealand ~~in time~~ to attend. Should any further information come to hand regarding this matter I will report same.

N. W. Baylis
Detective 2385

*Ad to the Insp
R Ward
15.7.30 Sub Insp*

The Comm.

S. R. Ward

15.7.30

In the Comm

17.7.30

W. H. Morrison Sub Insp

The Sub Inspector
Detective Office
Wellington.



~~SECRET~~

30/42

~~SECRET~~

POLICE DEPARTMENT,

WELLINGTON, 9th May, 1930.

MEMORANDUM for

The Superintendent of Police,
AUCKLAND.

Communist Party and Red International of Labour
Unions Congress.

On page four of the attached copy of the "Red Worker" an article appears from which it may be assumed that the New Zealand Communist Party proposes to send a delegation to the Congress to be held at Moscow next July. Please have careful inquiries made, and advise this office immediately it becomes known who the delegates are to be, with full particulars as to date of departure and any other information that may be of value.

Two years ago Comrade R.F. Griffin went to Russia on a similar mission, and the fact that the Department was apprised beforehand led to important results.

This must be treated as a SECRET communication.

W.B. McIlveney

W.B. McIlveney,
Commissioner of Police.

McLander
12 *15/30*
Encl. to Sup't H.D.

The Hon. Insp.
Sub Branch.

J. L. Lander $\frac{12}{5}$
Encl. 30,

For Det. W. L. Lander.
Confidential inquiry
7/1/30
Det. Insp.
12.5.30.

27/2/37

30

The Red Worker

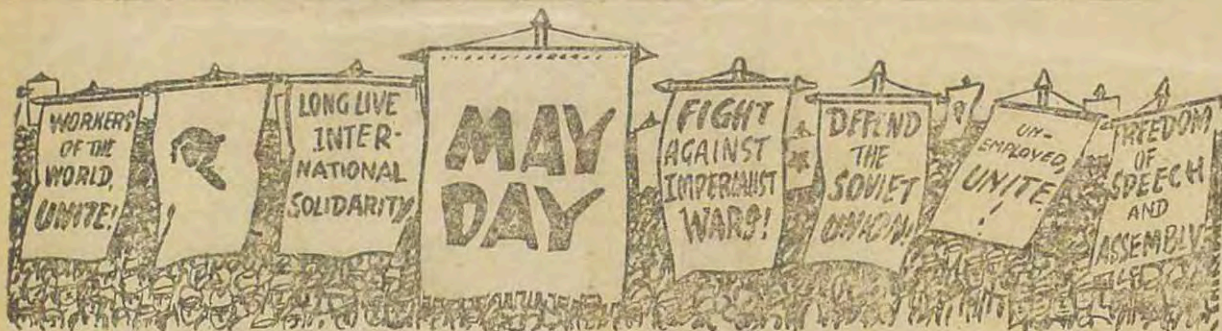


Vol. 2, No. 11.

THURSDAY, MAY 1, 1930.

Registered as a Newspaper.

PRICE: ONE PENNY.



DISPUTE AT BALCLUTHA.

GO-SLOW IN OTHER WORKS.

Due to the action of the Freezing Company in victimising Com. Hunt, a member of the Communist Party, the men ceased work and are being supported by the men in other works, in Canterbury and Otago. The manager of the works is reported to have threatened to resign if Com. Hunt was employed.

Com. Hunt left Wellington for the south only on the night before the men ceased work and is at present organising support in the Canterbury district. The principle at stake is the right of the company to victimise the men. An increasing tendency in this direction has been apparent this year, and, in fact, the companies have actually boasted that preference was being given to local men as "the travelling men are often trouble-makers."

The Press has from the jump worked with the companies, and has continually reiterated that "normal killing has been resumed," but the men are still out, as we go to press.

If the freezing companies are allowed to get away with the squeezing out of militants, the way will be clear to launch an offensive on wages and conditions. The present decline in the meat trade is bound to result in this attack before long. The only safeguard is to fight every encroachment on wages and conditions and build committees for the propagation of militant unionism in all the works. Nothing can be expected from the officials of the unions, whose job is to stifle and sidetrack all disputes.

Mr. H. C. Revell has been a shining light in this connection in the present dispute.

WOULD NOT HURT A WATERSIDE WORKER.

During the hearing of an affiliation and maintenance case at Auckland, brought by the daughter of a missionary against a half-caste Tongan youth eleven years her junior, the lady's solicitor made every effort to have the evidence suppressed. The magistrate said that to suppress the evidence on the grounds that the complainant's father was a clergyman would be to introduce the question of class distinction immediately. Thereupon Mr. J. F. W. Dickson, the lawyer in question, said, "I submit, sir, that what would not hurt a waterside worker would be extremely prejudicial to a judge or anyone else of any position." Mr. Dickson, while unable to quote any section of the Act empowering the magistrate to suppress evidence, stated that it was possible to do so in the Supreme Court.

WORKERS SEIZE PULPITS.

BULGARIA.

As in many other countries (for instance, England and Germany), the incitement against the Soviet Union by the pious churchmen is conducted in Bulgaria.

In all churches the preachers came out against the Soviet Union. But the workers of Bulgaria responded to it wonderfully.

They went into the church, interrupted the preachers and turned the service into a propaganda meeting of the workers. In many instances the preachers left the church and called the police.

MAY DAY.

Day of Struggle Against Capitalism and Workers' Holiday.

The First of May is a day for workers, on which to affirm their International Solidarity, with the workers of the rest of the world, in the struggle against Capitalism, and its evils. In Soviet Russia, it is a day of rejoicing for the victory and emancipation of the toilers. On this day the workers of Russia will demonstrate their enthusiasm for the revolution which brought them the seven-hour day and the five-day week, increased social benefits, control of their own industries, and a political system which places power in the hands of the workers themselves and has definitely removed Capitalist Dictatorship for all time. On this day, too, the workers of Soviet Russia will express their determination to resist by every means in their power the threatened war against their country, and their sympathy with the struggling workers of all lands, and their determination to help in the struggle against the common enemy.

The workers in the other five-sixths of the earth are faced with a situation which, on May 1, 1930, shows us that the contradictions of Capitalism are becoming more apparent than ever. War preparations are going ahead more rapidly, in spite of various pacts and conferences. Propaganda for war on the part of the Workers' Republic fills the Capitalist Press. Unemployment has become a permanent feature in all countries, which not even the so-called "Labour" Governments find themselves capable of solving. Rationalisation, which includes new methods of speeding up as well as new labour-saving machinery, is causing even greater impoverishment of the masses. Strikes, revolutionary demonstrations, street fighting are being reported regularly from all countries. An upsurge of the national revolutionary movement is proceeding in the colonial countries, and is rapidly, in China and India, coming under the leadership of the revolutionary proletariat.

The oft-repeated assertions of Communists that the workers face only further degradation, increasing poverty, or another war, with the alternative of social revolution, is fast becoming clear to the workers everywhere.

The promise for the coming winter in New Zealand is for the greatest crisis in the history of the country. The last year was a peak year for the primary industries, a year of the highest production, exports and prices for our primary industries. The highest since the year preceding the last crisis in 1926. The effects of world competition are now being felt, and the international crisis of Capitalism has caused a big drop in the prices for all these primary products. Meat, butter, wool, flax, etc., are all down in price, and still falling. This must inevitably result in a further aggravation of the unemployed problem and a general onslaught on the wages and conditions of the workers here, of which signs have not been wanting. The only way out for the workers of this or any other country is by continual struggle against a reduced standard, and speeding up; against unemployment, for work or wages, which must be carried forward through continual struggle to the building of better organisations to the ultimate struggle for power in N.Z. We lag far behind the working class movement in other countries, but this is not a reason for despair, but for greater effort and determination on our part to raise the banner of the class struggle, and to assert our determination not to submit to Capitalist slavery, but to struggle to build fighting organisations for the overthrow of Capitalism.

May Day offers us the opportunity.

LET US CELEBRATE THIS DAY AS THE DAY OF REVOLT OF THE WORKING CLASS. LET US SEND FRATERNAL GREETINGS TO THE WORKERS OF RUSSIA AND ASSURE THEM OF OUR DETERMINATION TO RESIST BY EVERY MEANS IN OUR POWER THE WAR PREPARATIONS AGAINST OUR SOCIALIST FATHERLAND. LET US AFFIRM OPENLY OUR DETERMINATION TO FIGHT AGAINST ALL CAPITALIST WARS, AND AGAINST ALL ATTEMPTS OF THE MASTER CLASS TO LOWER OUR STANDARDS OF EXISTENCE. LET US SEND FRATERNAL GREETINGS TO OUR COLOURED FELLOW-WORKERS OF CHINA, INDIA, AFRICA AND SAMOA, WHO ARE STRUGGLING AGAINST THE SAME IMPERIALISM WHICH CONDEMNS US TO WAGE SLAVERY OR UNEMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY.

DOBSON MINE DISPUTE

DEPUTY SACKED.

The Dobson mine dispute has resulted in a win for the men. The dispute arose because the miners refused to work in the mine where dangerous gases had accumulated. A deputy reported that the place was all right and fit to work in. As a result of this the men demanded his removal, but the company would not agree to dispense with such a loyal defender of its interests. The question was considered at a meeting of the National Executive of the Miners' Unions, who agreed to the setting up of a tribunal to decide the matter, and gave an agreement to abide by the decision. It has happened on this occasion that the men won, but it is necessary to be wary of all such stunts as this. Disputes Committees and Conferences are a subtle way of defeating the workers. For a National Executive of a Union such as the miners to indulge in such methods is a further example of treachery. Not by class collaboration can the workers hope for benefits from Capitalism. If the issue had been more vital and the situation more critical, we are prepared to say that the decision of the tribunal would have been against the men.

Direct action and struggle is the only way to gain anything for the working class.

SEVEN-HOUR DAY ON RAILS.

Instructions have been issued by the Peoples' Commissariat of Railroads providing for the establishment of the seven-hour day for the workers on four of the chief railroads of the Soviet Union.

Next year the seven-hour day will be established on still others, and on the completion of the Five Year Plan the railroad workers throughout the country will work on the seven-hour day.

HANGS SELF ON HOOVER'S SIGN OF PROSPERITY.

A worker dressed in blue overalls, clearly unemployed, broke and starving, was found hanging dead across the face of a big signboard at Linden Boulevard and 58th St., Brooklyn, yesterday, the signboard bearing one of the innumerable going slogans put out by Hoover throughout America on signboards: "Let's get to work! Prosperity!"

The poor, jobless worker, about 40 years old, unidentified by anything on his body, had evidently gotten a clothesline rope somewhere, climbed to the top of the signboard, fastened the rope to a bracing timber and to his neck, and thrown himself over the front across the "prosperity" sign of Hoover as a mute protest at capitalist starvation.

FEAR OF WORKERS' NEW SPIRIT!

SOFIA.—The three members of the Sofia Committee who arranged an "Art Night" on New Year's Eve for the workers of Sofia, where recitals and songs were given, have been arrested, because, at the end of the evening, the workers sang the "Internationale."

RED WORKER

Address all subs., donations, to the Manager, "Red Worker," 166d Vivian Street, Wellington.
 Address all notices, letters, etc., to the Editor, "Red Worker," 166d Vivian Street, Wellington.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS

All subs., donations, etc., to be sent, and be made payable ONLY, to Vanguard Press, 166d Vivian Street, Wellington.
 A red wrapper on this paper means "your sub. has expired; send-in your renewal now."

"THE RED WORKER"

THURSDAY, MAY 1, 1930.

THE MEANING OF MAY DAY.

May 1st was an old-established festival day in the days of Greece and Rome, when the people gathered to render homage to the Goddess of Agriculture and Fruitfulness, and to the Goddess of Manual Labour and Protection of Slaves. In Europe, throughout the Middle Ages, it remained a village festival, a day on which peasants gathered flowers and decorated the villages and danced around the Maypole. With the coming of the Industrial Revolution and the transformation of the peasants into wage labourers, May Day was appropriated as a day of special significance. A day which symbolised for the toiling masses, after their long winter of oppression as chattel slaves, and serfs, a hope of better days to come, a day when the earth and the fulness thereof would be theirs. We have the satisfaction of knowing that while most of the ancient days of festival have been appropriated as important holidays by the religious institutions, this day remains the special possession of the working class. The Fourth Convention of the American Federation of Labour, in 1884, decided to devote May 1st to the struggle for the eight-hour day, and in Paris, in 1889, the First International gathering of Socialists decided on the celebration of the Red May Day as a day of struggle against international Capitalism. Since then decades have slipped by, and during these decades May 1st has been in two respects a gauge of working class development. On the one hand, this world holiday revealed the strength or weakness of the Labour Movement. It also indicated the extent to which, in the different Socialist Parties, the radical or opportunist tendencies was strongest. It has ever been a child of sorrow to the reformists and opportunists. They sought to make it, instead of a day of struggles, a day of no special significance, merely a spring festival, on which we "walked to music through green fields," and for the most part endeavoured to transfer its celebration to the nearest Sunday, with meetings of a character suitable to the Sabbath. The Day has, however, remained what it was originally intended to be—a day of demonstration in the streets for the elementary demands of the workers, and a day on which, under revolutionary leadership, they expressed their determination to end the system of Capitalism.

In Germany, in Poland, in Czarist Russia, in many of the capitals of Europe, May 1st was ever, and still is, a day of blood. It was celebrated, despite all prohibition, as a day on which workers defiantly threw down their tools and took to the streets. It is a day of fear for the ruling class, who, casting aside all masks, strive to suppress this demonstration of the workers' will to power.

May Day, 1929, was followed by reports of huge gatherings of workers in all parts of the globe—of blood spilled and heads broken in Paris, Warsaw, Kovno, Vienna, London, Tokio, Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane, New York, and Buenos Aires. From Berlin came reports of a reign of bloody terror, of which we had been forewarned by Government prohibitions and Fascist demonstrations. Under order from "Socialist" Ministers of the Government, the Chief of Police, Zoergel, also a Social Democrat, directed a reign of terror, in which passive civilians and revolutionary workers were ruthlessly shot down.

The special character of May Day makes it a workers' holiday which we must strive to celebrate, not with legal permission or approval, but without asking for sanction, must strive to get the workers to stop work and defiantly demonstrate against Capitalism, and its impositions. Not so much a public holiday as a workers' day of struggle. Party members, militants and sympathisers are urged to do their utmost to stop the wheels on May 1st, and to hold meetings and demonstrations of all kinds, at which the workers shall be urged to express their fraternal greetings to the workers of the world and Soviet Russia in particular, against Imperialist war, and support, for the immediate demands of the workers and unemployed.

WORKERS OF N.Z., JOIN THE STRUGGLE FOR THE UNITY OF THE WORKERS AND OPPRESSED PEOPLES OF ALL LANDS IN THE STRUGGLE AGAINST CAPITALIST IMPERIALISM AND FOR SOCIALIST EMANCIPATION.

HIT ON THE HEAD WITH A BRICK.

That was what happened to a Wellington comrade who was selling Dresher's "Russia."

It was a compliment to the pamphlet—No worker can afford to be without a copy.

An Arsenal of Facts and Figures, Indispensable to the Propagandist.

ORDER FROM THE WORKERS' BOOKSHOP,
 166d VIVIAN STREET,
 WELLINGTON.

Solitary Confinement.

GRIFFIN AND MARSHALL'S EXPERIENCE.

During the last week of Comrade Griffin's imprisonment, he was sentenced to 24 hours' solitary confinement, and Marshall to 30. The trouble arose over the stopping of Marshall's tobacco by a warden, on the grounds of insufficient labour. This was unjust, as Marshall had been working harder than many other prisoners, and he had not been spoken to or warned that he was not doing sufficient. He does not smoke, but exchanged his tobacco with other prisoners for syrup or food rations. The warden who stopped the tobacco was one who professed to be disgusted with his job and against the usual petty tyrannies imposed by other wardens on prisoners. He had gone out of his way to be friendly with Comrade Griffin and pretended some sympathy. The fact was that he is too lazy to work himself and at the time he was out of favour with the superior officers and wished to show his zeal. He therefore chose Marshall as one who was quiet and did not smoke, as a means of regaining his favour with the "chiefs," of whom all the wardens are afraid.

Both Comrades Griffin and Marshall told him exactly what they thought of his action. He then locked Comrade Griffin up and reported him to the Superintendent for insolence. When Comrade Marshall heard what had happened he declared a sympathetic strike and was also locked up for refusing to work. Both were brought before Salek, J.P., and local wholesale chemist. He proceeded to bounce the prisoners and attempted to lecture Comrade Griffin, without in any way considering that there might be two sides to the case. Comrade Griffin made no defence, but pointed out that he had no rights and the magistrate had all the authority, therefore he did not wish to be lectured, but was prepared to take his punishment. "Rump—Twenty-four hours," Marshall, when asked to explain why he had stopped work, said it was a "sympathetic strike," at which the old J.P. nearly had a fit. "You can't bring those Communist ideas in here. . . . What do you mean?" roared and shouting, and completely losing control of himself, he carried on at great length, much to our "audience's" amusement. When "his worship" had blown himself out, finishing on a note to the effect that in gaol "you must look after yourself and never mind anyone else," he was quietly told by Marshall that he would not be an individualist in goal or outside. "Twenty-four hours," "Salute the magistrate," said the chief warden as Marshall left. "I refuse." More fireworks, and an extra twenty-four hours for our comrade—forty-eight in all.

This happened on Monday afternoon. When they returned to their cells, everything was removed, books, papers, mattress, blankets, etc. The only thing left was the Bible. They got the usual tea that night at 5 o'clock, rice, dry bread, and tea practically without milk and no sugar. At 7 o'clock they were removed to cells in another part of the prison. At 8 o'clock they were given three blankets, one of which had to be used for a pillow, and their trousers and underclothes were taken away. A dipper of water was placed in the cell and a loaf of bread. This was all Comrade Griffin received until 7 o'clock on Wednesday morning, and Comrade Marshall until Thursday morning. The blankets were taken away in the morning and the trousers returned, as well as a clean dipper of water. The actual solitary confinement lasted from about 9 o'clock on Monday, although the books, etc., were not taken away until 3 o'clock. This meant nearer to 40 hours for Comrade Griffin and 64 for Comrade Marshall, instead of 24 and 48 respectively. This is the usual, so that prisoners actually get considerably more than the time to which they are sentenced.

This was not the whole of the punishment, as far as Marshall was concerned, as visitors were refused the right to see him on the following Saturday, and on enquiries being made were told that this was a privilege which was automatically cancelled because of disrespect shown to the visiting justices. In the future such things will have to be fought strenuously. The position is that any warden can indulge in petty tyranny by stopping a prisoner's tobacco. The prisoner has no rights, and if he expresses himself, is liable to be hauled before a magistrate, who always considers the officer right and the prisoner wrong. In addition to the sen-

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

"NEWS" FROM RUSSIA.

"SPECIAL CORRESPONDENTS" WHO GET A BIT MISLED.

O Wednesday, February 19, 1930, the "Morning Post" had the following report from "Our Own Correspondent":

"Riga (Latvia), Feb. 18. 'The Soviet Press admits that the statements of the Metropolitan Sergius have not made the desired impression abroad.' (Our italics.) The 'Times' published the following from 'Our Own Correspondent': 'Riga, Feb. 18. 'A statement was published in Moscow this morning to the effect that the 'interview' of the Soviet Press with the Metropolitan Sergius has 'dumbfounded' Soviet enemies especially in Paris.' (Our italics.) You pays yer penny and takes yer choice.

74 HUNGER STRIKES.

An incomplete report of the Red Aid of Poland states that during nine months of the year 1929 74 hunger strikes were carried through by political prisoners.

MEXICAN DEPORTEES.

Deportations of revolutionary workers from Mexico are daily going on. A few weeks ago, four Communists were deported to Poland. Another batch of eight workers were also deported for being members of the Communist Party. Most of the prisoners are held "incommunicado." It is, therefore, impossible to find out the exact number of the deported revolutionaries.

"LABOUR" GOVERNMENT THANKED.

COALOWNERS' DELIGHT AT COAL BILL'S "DISTRACTION" OF MINERS.

"The Coal Mines' Bill, by distracting the attention of the miners, has helped to bridge an awkward period during which some of the district wages agreements were due to terminate."—"Callery Guardian," 3/1/30

THOMAS ADMITS IT.

AGREES THAT HIS JOB IS TO INCREASE WORKLESS.

The following question was asked and answered in the House of Commons, on January 21.

Major Elliot (Con., Glasgow): "Will Mr. Thomas include in the white paper, figures of the effect on employment of the measures he has taken for the revival of export trade?"

Mr. Thomas: "It is impossible to do that. I am encouraging certain schemes of Rationalisation because they are in the interests of the country, but the effect of them must be to add to unemployment."

MASS TRIAL IN BUKAREST.

Forty-two Communists were sentenced to two years in prison each for taking part in a Communist demonstration. As the sentence was read the prisoners sang the "International." Their lawyer was attacked by a Fascist mob and was badly beaten.

GREEK WORKERS DEMONSTRATE AGAINST YUGOSLAV TERROR.

ATHENS.—A demonstration took place before the Yugoslavian Embassy in Athens against the Yugoslavian Dictatorship. Windows were broken by stones. The masses shouted: "Down with the Balkan Fascism. Long live the Yugoslavian Communist Party." The police made many arrests.

Donations Press Fund.

Per E. Gladwin, 1/6; S. Bult, 1/1; Pitts, 2/8; G. Bowen, 2/6; Andy, 12/6; A. Hill, 12/-; R. Graham, 1/-; E. Angus, 1/4; W. Waters, 7/-; Per R. Yorston, 2/12; Totals, £4 12s. 6d.

Donation, Label Case Expenses, Blackball Miners, 15s. 6d., per R. C. Graham.

tence imposed, the Superintendent, who is a miniature Mussolini, can impose additional punishment for the same offence.

HOW BRITISH SEAMEN LIVE.

The s.s. Cumberland is a 11,000-ton steamer, but whether she belongs to the Federal Line or the N.Z. Shipping Company is of no concern except that her swartest crew is helping to keep Incheape and Co. in extravagant luxury.

The crew number 14, 7 able seamen and 7 ordinary seamen or boys. Like nearly all vessels owned by the company, the combine specialises in exploiting youth labour. The wages of the A.B.'s are £9 a month, while O.S.'s wages range from £2 5s. to £5 17s. a month. The ordinary seamen and A.B.'s work an 84-hour sea week, working this on the notorious four hours off and four hours on system.

The food is appalling. The crew only have tea once a day, because inferior coffee is cheaper. An assortment of meat scraps is the usual dish. There is not a crumb left for the long night watches. One small tin of condensed milk must suffice a man for three weeks. Syrup sweetens the watery coffee when sugar gives out, yet the sugar markets of the world are overstocked. It brings to mind the saying of Christ days when "Russian sugar was fed to English pigs" in order to keep the price of that commodity up. It is a tragedy, commodity watching 1lb. of butter a day being divided amongst 14 men. There are three grades of food. The captain and officers get the best, the petty officers medium, and the crew the refuse.

COSTS OF PRODUCTION MUST COME DOWN.—INCHCAPE.

Recently memorials have been unveiled to the men of the mercantile marine who died to save British Capitalism during the last Imperialist blood bath, yet in peace the men are treated as dogs on board and allowed to starve ashore.

Worse than these are the jail conditions of British seamen with those of Soviet seamen. The hours of labour are six and seven per day. The wages are 10s. Officers and crew receive the same food. Unemployment pay and rent free while out of a ship. One month's holiday annually on full pay. Libraries, Lenin Corners, etc., for study, organised games for recreation, working clothes free.

The day when we shall follow the example of our Russian comrades draws swiftly nearer.

INCHCAPE'S VIEW.

"EIGHT-HOUR DAY HARMFUL." Lord Incheape says: "For some time past shipping as a whole has not been doing well. Notwithstanding this, we are now faced with all sorts of ideas, such as the eight-hour day on board ship, which, if brought to fruition, will add to our difficulties, and will, I am safe to say, do our men not a particle of good. Discipline on board ship is one of the very first essentials." "It will be a misfortune for the British Mercantile Marine if there is any interference with the present system, with which the Seamen's Union are perfectly satisfied."

RAID ON SOVIET TRADE MISSION.

BERLIN.—Recently 20 detectives raided the offices of the Soviet Trade Mission in Munich. Fascists had declared that the mission dealt in explosives. Despite a search lasting many hours, of course, nothing of the sort was found. The homes of the employees of the Mission were also searched without result. This is another blow in the general campaign against the Soviet Union.

GIRL WORKERS GAOLED IN ITALY.

TFENTY-EIGHT IN ONE MONTH. ROME.—Twenty-eight working girls, sentenced to a total of 129 years' imprisonment by Fascist special Courts in one month alone, are evidence of the workings of law and order in Mussolini's Italy. All were sent up for purely political offences.

Typical of the prisoners are Giorgia Rosetti, young textile worker of Biella, and Anita Pusteria, a factory worker at Como, sentenced to torture and maltreatment by the Fascist police. Anita Pusteria contracted tuberculosis in prison, and Lina Murandotti went insane as a result of the treatment meted out to her. Zaira Clanchi, needle trades worker from Florence, will serve a life term as a cripple, in addition to her three-year prison sentence, as a result of the beatings given her by the police.

PARNELL BYE-ELECTION.

FAKE "LABOUR" CANDIDATE.

The bye-election now proceeding in the Parnell electorate raises the issue as to what action class-conscious and revolutionary workers must take. How shall they vote?

The candidate for the Labour Party has already begun his campaign and his arguments so far consist in trying to show that, because of his experience, he is better than the other fellow. There is very little from him about the platform of the Labour Party and absolutely nothing of its objective, which in the last few years has become a skeleton in the cupboard, which the politicians fear will pop out some time and give the show away on them. This is consistent with the general attitude of the Labour politicians, who are not by any means unanimous just now, as can be seen by those support given to the United Party by Mr. Lee Martin. We hope at a future date to publish some revelations as to the question of fusion with the United Party which was discussed by the Parliamentary Caucus of the N.Z.L.P. If this took place, certain of the Labour members of Parliament were to become Ministers of the Government. This was turned down, apparently because there were not enough jobs to go around. It was certainly not because of any question of principle. Are the Labour politicians not co-operating with the class enemies of the workers at all times, even when the industrial organisations are opposed to co-operation, as, for instance, in connection with the Committee to Inquire into the Compensation Act?

The time has gone by for an indefinite attitude in regard to such things as unemployment, Samoa, freedom of speech, war preparations, Arbitration, etc. There is no solution for these things under Capitalism. If the Labour Party can solve these problems, the ruling class will be only too glad to let them. The policy of the Labour Party is such, therefore, that instead of helping to push over tottering Capitalism, they are doing their utmost to bolster it up, not only when they reach power, but before they get on the Treasury benches. Their purpose is to restrain and divert the struggles of the workers against unemployment or wage reductions. To make it easy for the boss class to confuse the minds of the workers in order that they may be diverted from struggling with their economic power to remedy the evils which afflict them. After the Labour politicians reach power their historic mission is to function as betrayers of the working class, failing to carry out even the elementary demands of the workers, and ultimately to act as Social-Fascist, instead of Social-Democrats, by using the State machine of Capitalism to defeat the workers.

Workers in the Parnell election should have no truck with any of the candidates. They all stand for the maintenance of Capitalism. It has not been possible for the Communist Party to put up a candidate, but we advise all workers to vote for Communism. Write it across the ballot paper.

"I vote for Communism. To hell with the lot."

Barrier Miners Leave A.L.P.

The fortnightly meeting of the W.I.J. of A. (Barrier district) decided last night to cancel the district's affiliation with the A.L.P.

It was agreed that the Labour Party had failed to lend any material assistance to the workers in their struggle against capitalism and that the Labour Party in office merely administered the capitalism system. No voice was raised to excuse the treachery of the Scullin Government in the coal fight.

"Every member of the Australian Labour Party," Scullin emphasised, "is pledged to constitutional methods. . . How can we in Australia look for industrial peace if the awards of the courts are to be treated lightly?"

Attorney-General Brennan chimed in:

"To lend countenance to such folly (as the proposal to disarm Gavin's notice) would be to play with treason and help to build up an intolerable despotism out of harmony with the democratic principles of the Labour Party."

Thus in three months the Labour Government has shown itself to be, not only a champion of capitalism, but the recognised best champion of capitalism.

"OUR" PRIMARY INDUSTRY.

FARM COMMODITIES FALL.

Much ink was spilt at the beginning of the season in order to build up the hopes of the farmers of New Zealand concerning the bright outlook various editors purported to hold for the welfare of our struggling land workers. But with the general falling of prices for cheese, butter, wool and hemp, we now find these professional sycophants attributing same to industrial inefficiency or want of closer co-operation between the employer and his employees. These gentlemen always complain that production must be increased, and now that the wonderful productive forces of Capitalism have produced such an enormous surplus, they state that one cure for this malady is the lowering of the wages and the general standard of living of the toiling masses. Of course, most farmers are so mentally paralysed with the "My arm" idea that they have the private property "bug" developed to a fine art, hence to tell a farmer that he is one of the toilers is nothing short of insulting him. The human nomenclature which is wrapped between the paper of a pound of butter is just the same as that embodied in the ton of coal. The method of payment, however, is not quite so barefaced, and consequently the psychology of brother "Cockie" is far from class conscious; in fact, most of them seldom receive their cheques on the 20th of the month, as they often are compelled to make definite arrangements with their dairy company to pay this one and that one, then the interest which they pay on their various mortgages and that which they pay on their stock, implements, milking machines, etc., is generally protected by an order on their company. This method of payment certainly saves "Mr. Cockie" a lot of trouble, but it is mainly adopted because it safeguards the bloodhounds against any recklessness on the part of the son of the soil. The labour time of the cockie's sons and daughters is seldom taken into account when our worthy "backbone of the country" is making his calculations concerning the value of the commodity he is engaged in producing, and therefore the rate of his exploitation never occurs to him. Many young children can be seen throughout this "God's Own Country" going into the cow huts before daybreak, and are, as a result, very dull and tired when at school. This form of exploitation is almost parallel to the conditions which exist for children in backward China. The direct cause of this is the high rent landlord, who robs him of the greater and interest the farmer pays to the amount of his products and precludes him from engaging labour outside. Farmers are very easily gulled by politicians and other lackeys of the Capitalist system, and the sooner they realise that they only receive a starvation sum for their energy expended, and that they too belong to the ranks of the working masses, but whose peculiar station in life lends itself to a greater rate of exploitation than that of the toiler who works in industry. The financial concerns, such as Nathan, McEwan's, Paterson's, and Co., etc., will cheerfully embrace the opportunity of advancing them money on goods received in store, or they will guarantee them at the bank, but in addition to charging them commission for marketing their goods, they will also charge them interest on the advance made. Actually speaking, the "Cockie" is charged interest on his own money, for these firms take exceptionally little risk. To entail an advance often entails much legal formula, and the "Cockie" is also a source of revenue to the lawyer. There are dozens of parasites who are continually carried by the farmers: auctioneers, salesmen, land agents and many other so-called intellectual and superior people who live from the sweat of the farmer and his family. The dividends of these large stock firms represent in a measure a percentage of the surplus value extracted from the land workers, and we cannot wonder why it is that our esteemed brother worker, "Cockie," is so often called the backbone of the country, for he is certainly the most servile slave the master class has to deal with.

The only remedy our farmers have to end this economic slavery is the expropriation of the exploiters and the abolition of the Capitalist system and re-establishing society along the lines of Communism. They have nothing to lose but their mortgage deeds and other forms of strangleholds, so they should not hesitate to

CHILD SLAVES OF THE UNION JACK.

British Imperialism boasts it has abolished slavery where the Union Jack waves. By slavery it means, of course, the system described in "Uncle Tom's Cabin." It does not classify as slaves the millions of coloured peoples who work under conditions which would have made the old slave dealers seem like good Samaritans in contrast with modern Imperialist exploiters.

Communists have often exposed the claim that the old form of slavery has been wiped out. We have exposed conditions in British Kenya, etc., and the system of forced labour throughout the Empire which gives the lie to Imperialist boasts.

We are now again able to expose slavery in British territory—this time in Hong Kong. The form practised there combines all the bestiality of the old form with the horrors of unrestricted Capitalist exploitation.

In Hong Kong slavery is called the Mul-Tai (child slavery).

Three months ago Lord Passfield (Sidney Webb), Colonial Secretary in the Labour Government, promised to make a statement of policy on Mul-Tai, but since then nothing has been done, which means, of course, that the Government condones it. Webb is only continuing the policy of his predecessors, who have always promised "statements of policy" in order to shelve a matter in which they have no wish to interfere.

There are to-day 10,000 slaves in Hong Kong, bought and sold in the open market just like beasts.

In theory, the system is illegal: it was abolished by law years ago. But in practice the number of slaves have increased since the law was passed. Recently a case of child slavery came before a Hong Kong police court (British), where it was declared by a detective witness that a boy had been sold for £14 by "a perfectly lawful transaction."

These child slaves are used for domestic and industrial service—even children of seven having to work in factories or as servants. The conditions under which they exist are shown by various reports to be appalling.

The system has official blessing. Children "adopted" by official institutions are sold for revenue purposes without the consent or knowledge of their parents.

LABOUR DEFENCE LEAGUE.

We quote some statistics of the white terror throughout the world over a period of nine months, 1929:—Murdered, 89,033; wounded and maltreated, 26,665; arrested, 62,228; deported, 616.

An analysis of these figures goes to prove that the atrocities committed in defence of Capitalism the world over are directed not only against its political enemies, but against those classes of society whose real interests it does not represent. Wholesale persecution is the order of the day. Methods of torture as barbarous as those of medieval times are practised in this "enlightened" age. Reaction, with its laws, hastens to the aid of the ruling class in its struggles against the exploited working masses. Still, emergency laws, Fascist suppression auxiliary to the army of the Capitalist Governments, everywhere can never stifle that spirit of martyrdom for a great cause which the figures quoted above represent.

The I.R.A.C.W.P.A. and L.D.L., based squarely on the class struggle and taking on the field against all enemies of the working class, have supplied these statistics to the Labour Defence League, and thus our own organisation, by adopting a correct policy and with the assistance of all class-conscious workers, will become a powerful protecting shield for the working class in all its struggles. We urge all workers to join up with the N.Z. section of the International Workers' Defence Movement.

W. O'REILLY.

Join the only revolutionary party—the Communist Party—and thereby assist in the historical mission of the proletariat is called upon to perform.

STRUGGLING COCKIE.

"That the unions are made up of workers is not enough. They represent an organisation of their class only if they pursue a class line, a class policy."—Lenin.

POLICE TERROR LEVELLED AGAINST UNEMPLOYED.

Extract from letter from J. Basham.

As the Sydney "Basher Gang" (the police) have incapacitated me for some time, I shall have time to enlighten you on events here. In the first place, I was not allowed to disembark from the "Marama" until the Customs were fully satisfied that they would allow me to land. In fact, they asked me if I had been deported from N.Z. They made an exhaustive search of all my belongings, and had apparently been fully informed of all my activities. N.Z. After the Customs had finished with me the "D's" had their go, and gave me a lift in their car, which was fitted with wireless, to the Central Station, where I was ushered into the presence of the "head man." After a lot of cross-examination, by means of which they tried to get me to talk of the relations of the two parties, thinking I might have been a renegade in the true sense of the word, they took my finger-prints and allowed me to return to the wharf.

Wednesday, the 26th, was International Unemployed Day, and all sections of the "Third" International were instructed to assist in unemployed demonstrations. Here all demands are prohibited. On Wednesday we decided to witness the demonstration. I took a walk round a couple of blocks and saw that the police were well organised. They were well prepared. Outside Anthony Hordern's, a policeman was allocated to each plate-glass window. In Goulburn Street groups of uniformed police were stationed. Here and there could be seen patrol wagons and khaki-clad police on motor-cycles and sidecars. About eight o'clock a member of the Kauri Miners' Pipe Band attempted to form the unemployed (about a thousand) into sections of fours, and then the police started to move. They formed a cordon across the road. At this stage two members of the C.P. (Randell and Tom Wright) mounted one of the ledges of the Trades Hall and addressed the crowd, informing them that the police would assault them without the least provocation, but if they were prepared to march to Hyde Park, then they knew what to expect. Voices from the crowd shouted, "Let us go!" The crowd had moved a few yards, when the police, apparently having received the signal, drew their batons and charged. They kicked, punched and battered whoever came within reach. It was not long before I came in for my share. I received a blow in the back from a baton and was seized by the wrist. I managed to get myself free and started to run. This is where I made a mistake. As soon as I started to run the police came from all directions, both plain-clad and uniformed. One of these (I cannot find a word suitable), ran towards me and gave me a savage kick in the knee; another picked me up in the posterior, just missing my testicles. The language they used would make an Auckland water-ski bluish. I did not feel much of the effect of the kick on the knee until I tried to walk to the railway station. It took me all my time to get home. I shall be laid up for a week at least.

Referring to the baton charge, the Labour Daily mentioned that it was officially stated that the unemployed threw stones at the police. This was a damned lie. Only one of the unemployed did manage to secure a baton from one of the police and gave him a sample of it.

to the Arbitration Court, which will almost certainly side with the employers.

Must these men wait until the rotary system has thus been taken from them before they learn their lesson? All workers must rally to the slogan of the Communist Party.

AWAY FROM THE ARBITRATION COURT.

New Zealand comrades—watch your step.

MEAT WORKER.

THE "RED WORKER" WANTS 5,000 SUBS.

BY JUNE 30.

FIRST PRIZE: Illustrated History Russian Revolution.

For the greatest number of yearly subscriptions obtained during May and June. Every dozen increase on bundle orders will count as one subscription, provided that it is understood that increases must last three months at least.

SECOND PRIZE: One Pound Open Order on Literature Department.

For the greatest increase in sales obtained during May and June. Every new subscription obtained will count as an extra sale.

Pull up your socks for the New Sub. Drive.

JOIN IN THE RED WORKER SUB. DRIVE—MAY 1 TO JUNE 30.

TOWARDS THE FIFTH R.I.L.U. CONGRESS.

The event of outstanding importance in 1930 will be the Fifth World Congress of the R.I.L.U., which is to take place in Moscow in July. Of recent years the R.I.L.U. has become the cynosure of the world's working class, and year by year its prestige and membership have been increasing and consolidating.

Conspicuous in the discussions this year will be the questions of rationalisation, Social Fascism and war. Unlike the Amsterdam conferences where well-paid trade union bureaucrats talk piously about the workers and simultaneously do their damndest in the interest of Capitalism, the R.I.L.U. gets down to working class politics in a manner at once realistic and earnest. The method is, to appraise the world situation and then to formulate the strategy and tactics necessary to meet the situation.

Anyone who cares to look back over the analysis made and decisions adopted at the Fourth R.I.L.U. Congress in 1927, will be struck with their accordance with fact and will note how since that time the findings of the Congress have been amply justified by world events. Rationalisation has been intensified, the reformist trade union leaders have gone over completely to Capitalism, the danger of war has grown much more marked. At the same time the workers have recovered from the depression of 1926 and all over the world there is, with variations in different countries, a revolutionary upsurge. All these things were foretold by the Fourth Congress.

With two years of further such experience of the revolutionary movement it is safe to assume that the Fifth Congress will acquit itself even better. It is our immediate duty to see to it that from this country a delegation is sent, a delegation not of trade union bureaucrats, but of workers, elected by workers, straight from the job. There is no time to be lost: we must get on with the task at once. The Fifth Congress will mark another stage in the demise of world capitalism and register another stride in the march towards world Communism.

Comrades, on with the good work!

CAPITALIST PRESS FOAMS WITH LIES AGAINST JOBLESS MASSES.

DISTORT FACTS ABOUT UNEMPLOYMENT IN THE SOVIET UNION.

The "New York Times" is getting nervous—hysterically so.

Its editors, like La Fontaine said, are paying tribute to the devil. They slap their own faces and cut their own tongues.

One glaring example out of thousands: On March 6, the "Times" dined up with the usually attractive headline: "Jobless in Russia: More Red Bayonets." Inter alia, the lengthy account following, there was the "Observer's" report that "there are now in Soviet Russia from 7,000,000 to 10,000,000 unemployed, and on a conservative estimate, from 75,000 to 100,000 political prisoners."

Just four days before (March 2), however, the same "New York Times" printed a report fresh from Moscow by the "Times" own correspondent, Mr. Walter Duranty, that:

"Instead of unemployment, which reached nearly 1,000,000 among the organised workers a year or two ago, to say nothing of the almost chronic unemployment among a large percentage of peasants who used to be towns as unskilled labour, there is more work to-day in Russia than there was a year or so ago."

"The rapid growth of factories and other construction work have taken up the urban slack, while rural communities are occupied with the transformation in the old agricultural system into the collective movement."

THE ROTARY SYSTEM.

Filched From Sydney Meat Workers.

(To the Editor.)

Dear Comrade,—The slaughtermen at the Flemington (Sydney) abattoirs are in grave danger of losing the rotary system. The men put up a fight for a few days for its retention, an dthen, duped by reactionary trade union officials, returned to work and left the settlement of the matter

ORGANISING AS DONE BY THE ALLIANCE OF LABOUR.

(To the Editor.)

Dear Sir,—In the "N.Z. Worker" dated February 19, 1930, is a report on the activities of Organiser G.H. on behalf of that sub-collecting outfit, the Alliance of Labour. He is reported as having visited the various works in the Wellington district, held meetings, and received resolutions of confidence in the Alliance of Labour. Amongst the works mentioned is the W.M.E. Co., Ngahauranga, which, quite true, he visited. But he addressed no meeting and spoke to only one or two individuals, and he did not receive a resolution in the A. of L. This "write up" is only a cunning move by the "brigade of leeches" to mislead our members so far as this work is concerned. Anyhow, what has the Alliance of Labour done for the freighting workers? Nothing, except collecting the capitation fees. What did these cowardly officials do for the freighting workers in Hawke's Bay in 1927? They deserted them while the fight was still on, and although Roberts and Glover were in Napier at the time, neither of these union jockeys came to Hastings to hold a meeting of the men when the fight was called off. Consequently, the men resented this, and a few days after starting work a meeting, largely attended, was held in Hastings and a resolution of no confidence in these officials carried unanimously.—Yours, etc.,

NGAHAURANGA.

AGAINST IMPERIALIST WAR.

(To the Editor.)

Sir,—If we desire to defeat the militarists we must beat them at their own game with gloves off. Once moving the military machine can only be smashed from within. To this end we should direct our activities. I want to the last war a real Henry Dubb ignorant of the class struggle in fact the finished product of our Boss class education system and Priestcraft. Looking backward over three years' service in Flanders I now see how even a small boy without telling him the truth in a manner that he is not likely to forget. I can now sign myself as I am,

A RED SOLDIER

RELIGION IN RUSSIA.

BARRAGE OF IMPERIALIST LIES TO WORK UP WAR FEVER.

The barrage against Soviet Russia grows daily more intense. Any one serves to give them the opportunity to heave their scurrility at the Workers' State. Religious persecution is a favourite slogan wherewith to unite the tin soldiers of Locker Lamps.

The Decree on Religious Associations issued by the Soviet Government has stirred the stinking puddles in which the British Capitalist politicians love to wallow.

Of course, they are not concerned about the actual details of the decree, which has categorised, defined and restricted all religious societies in the U.S.S.R. and has put them in their proper places.

They are more concerned about working up an agitation on the grounds of religious persecution. Archbishops, bishops, lords and mere members of Parliament are yelping on the trail.

As a matter of fact, there is no religious persecution in Russia today. Those who want to go to the church can go. What is forbidden is the teaching of religion in the State-controlled establishments. (This is also forbidden in France.)

So excited have these God-fearing people become that they have actually announced the prohibition of the celebration of Christmas!

In Russia to-day it is not religion which is being persecuted, it is the people who are not being persecuted by the "sainly" creatures of religion.

The Russian people are blazing a trail along which the priests cannot venture as priests.

The religious fanatics in England to-day may think that it would be a fine thing to get the Russian Church back to the good old times such as this:

"In the days of the Czar, the priest had no freedom, he must not even preach against drunkenness, for that would injure the State vodka monopoly. When slavery existed, he was forbidden to raise his voice against it. Even in those days, however, there were men who would speak out, despite every restriction."

Of the late Czar, twenty-eight bishops were sent to Siberia, and innumerable priests exiled to the remotest parts of the empire. —From "Russia Before the Dawn" (by J. Mackenzie).

They can go on thinking. They have first to upset the Workers' State, but they have a very big task before them!

LABOUR DEFENCE LEAGUE CONTRI- BUTION.

Although our comrades, Griffin, Murphy and Marshall, have been released from prison, the law under which they were convicted remains an instrument of oppression, not only against the class-conscious elements, but against the whole of the working class. The system of obscurantism which was employed in an endeavour to sustain the imperial Government, prior to the advent of the modern Capitalistic production, is a feature of government in this country.

Previous attempts on the part of parasitic and exploiting classes to prevent the worker acquiring a knowledge of the economic processes, an investigation of which would reveal to him his beast of burden status, must rank as failures, consequently the successful fight which we can wage against the weapon of obscurantism against the judicial apparatus of the State, will oblige it to resort to still more drastic measures, and expose the true nature of its Capitalist democracy. We stand, then, prepared to resist the predatory excursions of the State upon our liberties of thought and expression. Standing thus, we are not alone. The world-wide attacks upon the working class tends to promote the unity of all oppressed workers. Therefore, we, along with kindred international organisations, continue our struggles for the release of class-war prisoners, for the defence of those who fight for Labour and to express and strengthen the international solidarity of toilers against the forces of reaction and class oppression.

We call to all workers who hate oppression to join with us in the struggle. Help to build a body which will fight Capitalist legal oppression. Join the Labour Defence League.

Printed and published by the Proprietor, J. J. Robinson, 40, Mortimer Crescent, Wellington, at the office of the "Red Worker," 1664, Vivian Street, Wellington, New Zealand.

Ex 30/38

[Police—100A.]

NEW ZEALAND POLICE

GRiffin, Richard
Hans

Police-station: HUNTLY

Date: 2nd May , 1930.

REPORT of Const Thomas Ingram , No. 1219.

relative to Richard Francis Griffin, well known member of the Communist Party addresses a meeting of workers in the Huntly Town Hall at 10-30am on the 1st inst. Vide attached file.

[150,000/4/20-1102]

I respectfully report that Sergt Cowan, also Const Olsen arrived in Huntly at 6-30am on the 1st inst by the Auckland Herald delivery train.

They both remained in reserve at the office at police station here.

I ascertained that Griffin arrived in Huntly on the previous evening from Auckland.

I remained around Great South Road in the vicinity of the Town Hall and eventually a few people gathered around and the meeting commenced about 10-35am.

Mr Ray Richards who is the president of the Glen Afton Miners Union presided as chairman and introduced the speaker Griffin.

Richards is a Welshman who has been in Huntly for a few years, & is one of the few members of the Communist Party here in Huntly. There was also on the platform "John Walker", of Pukemiro, miner, who is the president of the Northern Miners Industrial Union of Workers, but does not belong to the Communist Party as far as I can ascertain and he did not speak.

I went into the Hall at the commencement of the meeting and I found there were 33 people in the hall including two women. During the time Griffin was addressing the meeting other four men came into the hall but before Griffin had finished speaking his audience had decreased to 32 altogether.

Griffin confined his remarks more to the conditions existing in Soviet Russia than anything else, and stressed the point that Britain, and some of the other European Powers, were trying to stir up bitterness against the religious persecution that they allege exists by the Soviet Government there, who are said to be destroying all the churches &c.

Griffin said that this is done by Britain for the purpose of fomenting ill feeling against the first Socialist Republic in the world, namely Soviet Russia, also advised his hearers to be careful in accepting as authentic such newspaper reports which were not correct.

He also dealt upon the ideals of the League Of Nations, who were supposed to be trying to prevent war &c, and said that as long as the Capitalist Class existed it would be impossible to prevent war, as the greed of all nations for conquest was engendered by that class. He said that May Day was a day of rejoicing amongst the working class, who should look upon it as such in reference to the advances the Working Class, aided by Socialist doctrines had attained to during the last few years.

Griffin also dealt with the large increase in mechanical labour

The Superintendent Of Police

AUCKLAND.

To/

saving devices which were all brought about by the Capitalist class such as oil burning ships, and all classes of electric power which had done away to a large extent the use of coal, thereby causing short time worked by miners.

There was nothing very brilliant about the speaker or his address and he did not at any time during his address advocate anything in the shape of revolutionary action, or use anything seditious in his remarks.

So far as the Huntly miners are concerned I am convinced that the Communist Party will never obtain a hold amongst them.

The meeting broke up at 11-45, Griffin having spoken about an hour. There was an invitation for questions to be put to the speaker and some questions were put but nothing of any moment was discussed.

Sergt Cowan and Const Olsen returned to their stations by the 4-5pm express from Huntly.

There was a social & dance held in the Town Hall same evening which commenced soon after 8pm, I looked into the hall at 9-30pm also at 10-45pm but everything was very quiet and orderly.

The most of the audience were young people, the majority of them coming in for the dance from the outside districts around Huntly.

There was nothing in the shape of red flag decorations, neither did

I see any one wearing the Communist Partys colours, a red rosette. There was no parade or outside demonstration of any kind held in Huntly during the day.

7. *Angiam*
Const No 1219.

NEW ZEALAND POLICE.

Police-station: Detective Office, Auckland.~~SECRET.~~Date: 28th April, 1930.REPORT of Detective P.J.Nalder, No. 2374.relative to Richard Francis Griffin - a member of the
Communist Party organising May Day celebrations at Huntly.

[150,000/4/29-1362]

I respectfully report that Richard Francis Griffin, a leading Wellington Communist, is at present in Auckland.

I have ascertained that he is going to be at Huntly on the 1st of May, to address the Miners and assist in a May Day Demonstration. He is organising this demonstration of Huntly Miners.

Sub-Inspector,
in charge of
Detective Staff,
Auckland.

He is a quick fluent speaker, and expresses Revolutionary ideas. He speaks a good deal on Soviet Russia, having visited there as a New Zealand delegate of the Communist Part of New Zealand, about 18 months to two years ago.

He is identical with Richard Griffin referred to in P.G.1930 page 197.

I respectfully suggest that this information be noted by the Huntly Police.

P.J. Nalder
Detective No. 2374.

The Inspector
For information of Huntly Police
T. Whelan

Mr. Wahlmann.

K
28.4.30

Dut. Insp.
28.4.30

NEW ZEALAND POLICE.

Police-station: HUNTLY

Date: 29th April, 1930.

REPORT of Const Thomas Ingram, No. 1219.

relative to May Day meeting advertised to be held in the Town Hall, Huntly, at 10-30am on 1st May 1930. Speaker "R.F. Griffin" of Wellington. Vide attached.

[150,000/4/29—1202]

I respectfully report that the attached advertisement appeared in the Huntly Press of 24th inst.

It appears that under the auspices of the Northern Miners District Council, the meeting will be held in the Huntly Town Hall, at 10-30am on the 1st May next, the speaker being "R.F. Griffin" of Wellington.

There is also a Dance & Card evening advertised where the people are asked to roll up and make the "Workers Celebrations" a success.

I have been making quiet inquiries as to whether there is to be any outside parade, or demonstration of any kind, but so far I have been unable to ascertain if there is to be a parade or not. I will make further inquiries and will immediately communicate by telephone if I learn anything.

To/

The Superintendent Of Police

AUCKLAND.

T. Ingram

Const No 1219.

The Superintendent.

For your information.

St. Mary 30
Ingram 30

Mr. Landis

Is Griffin known to the
Detectives please? Sgt. Brown will be
at Huntly tomorrow regarding matter.

J. H. Brown

The Hill Inspector

(Religious Branch)

Ingram

more attached

St. Mary

Ingram 30

St. Mary 5
Ingram 30

30/4/30 for Supt. H. D.

Huntly Press, Thursday, April 24, 1930

May 1st, 1930
MAY DAY MAY DAY

UNDER the auspices of the Northern Miners' District Council, a meeting will be held in the Town Hall at 10.30 a.m. Speaker: Mr. R. F. Griffin of Wellington.

Dance and Card Evening from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. Good Floor, Music, Prizes and Supper. Good time guaranteed. Roll up and make the "Workers' Celebrations a success. Everybody invited. Admission, Gents 1/, Ladies 6d.

MAY-DAY COMMITTEE.

~~SECRET~~

29/9.

NEW ZEALAND POLICE.

~~SECRET~~

Ex. 29/9.

[Police-80a.]

P/F

Memorandum for

The Commissioner of Police

District Office, Greymouth

Wellington.

24 APR 1929

, 192

SUBJECT: R. F. Griffin, Communist - to attempt to influence West Coast Miners to affiliate with R. I. L. U.

I beg to report that the above named person met with no success in his attempt to influence the West Coast Miners to affiliate with the R. I. L. U.

Griffin has now returned to Wellington.

James F. Palmer
Inspector of Police.

NEW ZEALAND POLICE.

[Police—100A.]

Police-station: Greymouth,

Date: April 22nd, 1929

REPORT of Detective H.C.Murch No. 2498

relative to activities of R.F.Griffin, Communist, attempt
to influence West Coast Miners to affiliate with R.I.L.U.
(vide attached)

I respectfully report, in respect to the attached file that I have kept in close touch with the activities of the various Miners Unions here since the visit of R.F.Griffin with a view to ascertaining any steps taken with a view to affiliating with any of the Communist organisations mentioned in the Commissioner's file attached.

My inquiries show that Griffin met with very little success in his activities here and that no question of affiliating with any Communist or Red organisation has yet been mentioned at the Union Meetings. I was confidentially informed that Griffin had received a letter from Russia to the effect that his work was considered very unsatisfactory and that he would have to take much more active steps and show results or he would be dropped.

His meetings on this part of the Coast were poorly attended and he received a poor hearing. Since I have been here the Communist movement has suffered various setbacks and internal dissension has been very rife resulting in several prominent members disassociating themselves from the movement. From my inquiries to date Griffin's visit here has so far been without result, the miners being very lukewarm and the large majority in active enmity to the movement, particularly since the present Government has assumed office.

While here, Griffin resided with Jack Doyle, a prominent Communist at Nelson Creek. Angus McLagan, Dominion Secretary of the Communist Party also

resides with Doyle. McLagan is a very active member of the party and has been endeavouring, with a certain following, to gain control of the Blackball Miners Union but without success.

I am keeping in touch with any developements which might occur respecting the activities of the local Communists and should any question of affiliation with any of the Red Unions mentioned in the attached file come before the Unions for discussion, I will report immediately I am able to ascertain the particulars of the discussion and results.

Griffen returned to Wellington last month.

W. M. H. H. H.
Detective 2492.

~~SECRET~~ 29/30

GRAFFIN, (Police 100)
Huntly
James

NEW ZEALAND POLICE.

Police-station: Huntly

Date: 26th March 1929.

REPORT of Const Thomas Ingram No. 1219.

relative to public lecture on the subject of "Three months in Soviet Russia", delivered in the Huntly Town Hall, on the night of Sunday the 24th inst--: Vide attached newspaper cutting. [150,000/6/28-8746]

I respectfully report that a young man named "R.F.Griffin", of Wellington, who is evidently travelling around New Zealand under the auspices of the Communist Party of New Zealand giving lectures of his experiences while on a visit to Russia as a delegate from the Communist Party of New Zealand arrived in Huntly on the 22nd inst, and spoke in the Great South Road, same evening to a small audience. At 8pm on Sunday night he addressed a meeting in the Town Hall a collection being taken up there to defray Griffins travelling expenses. Const Robertson & I attended both meetings, that in the Town Hall having an audience of about 100 people. Griffin is very cautious and there was nothing seditious uttered by him, his address mainly consisted of describing the improved conditions of the workers of Russia under Soviet rule, as compared to what existed before the Revolution & the wiping out of the Czar and all the Russian monarchy.

To/
The Superintendent Of Police
Auckland.

T. Ingram
Const No 1219.

For the Commissioner
W.G. Williamson
28.3.29. Supr
(78/28 11/29)

Huntly Press, Friday, March 22, 1929

PUBLIC LECTURE

**"Three Months in Soviet
Russia."**

By Mr R. F. GRIFFIN (Wellington).

Just returned after seven months' trip abroad.

TOWN HALL, SUNDAY, 24TH
MARCH, AT 8 P.M.

OPEN-AIR MEETING, FRI-
DAY, 7.30 P.M.

Questions invited.

Auspices Communist Party of
New Zealand.



NEW ZEALAND POLICE.

Police-station: AucklandDate: 28th February, 1929REPORT of Const R Allan, No. 1146relative to R. H. Griffin. Lecturer on
conditions in Russia

I respectfully report that from inquiries made I find that Griffin was seen by a Railway employee going on board the Komata on Monday the 25th inst bound for Wellington. He did not book his passage so evidently went on board and paid his passage there as I believe is often done on this boat.

I had previously made inquiries at the Shipping Office but without result. He Griffin was unknown to Const Bruce who was on duty when the boat went out.

My informant appears quite confident that it was Griffin he saw go aboard the boat.

Alfred

Const 1146

Forwarded to the Commissioner.

Inspector

Inspector.

21/3/29

345
29

~~SECRET~~ 29/11

20th February, 1929.

H. M. Miller, Esq.,
New Scotland Yard,
L O N D O N, S.W.1.

Dear Mr. Miller,

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your secret letter
No.S.S.320/ABD/461 of 27-11-28 and enclosures, for which I thank you.

The information contained therein has been noted,
and will be treated as secret.

Yours sincerely,

W.B.McIlveney,
Commissioner of Police.



In any reply, please
quote this number:

~~SECRET~~

29/9.

POLICE DEPARTMENT.

WELLINGTON, 19th February 1929.

MEMORANDUM for,-

The Inspector of Police

Greymouth.

R.F.Griffin- Communist - to attempt to influence West
Coast Miners to affiliate with R.I.L.U.

Please have special attention given to
any meetings held by R.F.Griffin in your district.

I am in possession of secret information that he
has advised a Russian Official of the Third International
in Moscow that unless he (Griffin) can do something drastic
he is afraid Comrade Achlutsky's hopes of getting the New
Zealand miners under his wing are not too good at the moment,
and that in view of the position he will have to try, by
hook or by crook, to get the miners affiliation (presumably
to the Red International Of Labour Unions) from the top, and
they can afterwards argue about withdrawals, etc.

I desire to obtain as much information as possible
respecting his activities among members of the West Coast
District Council, Miners Union.

The fact that the above information is in our
possession must not be disclosed.

Please treat this as a secret inquiry.

W.B. McIlveney
W.B. McIlveney,
Commissioner of Police.

The Sec. Miners
Amussen
Ans

22.2.29

29/14
GRIFFIN, Police--100A.
Michael Harris

NEW ZEALAND POLICE

~~SECRET~~

Police-station: Greymouth,

Date: February 18th. 1929

REPORT of Detective H.C. Murch, No. 2498

relative to R. Griffen, noted communist at present on
lecturing tour.

(vide attached)

150,000/10/20-10540

I respectfully report that R. Griffen, of Wellington, a noted communist, respecting whom I have previously reported, spoke here on Saturday evening last, the 16th. instant.

The meeting was an open air one held in front of the band rotunda in Mackay St. It was poorly attended the majority of the spectators attending from idle curiosity.

Griffen gave a resumé of his visit to Russia extending over a period of three and a half months, outlining the benefits to the workers in Russia under the Soviet regime. I attended the meeting and noticed that the crowd was decidedly hostile towards him.

At one period of his speech he stated that after seeing the conditions of the Russian workers, he explained the conditions etc. of the New Zealand workers. The Russian workers then asked him to convey the message back to his comrades that they should do the same as the Russians did, presumably, to revolt.

He was asked several questions, the majority being of a personal nature indicating the hostility of the crowd towards him. One questioner asked if Griffen was in favour of the Czar and his family being locked up and annihilated. Griffen replied that if anybody stood in the way of the progress of the workers he was in favour of their being annihilated. Everybody commenced to ask questions at once and finally the meeting broke up.

Apart from the aforementioned remarks there was little in the speech at which umbrage could be taken, the lecturer being aware of the presence of the Police and was careful not to openly advocate violence.

H. C. March
Detective 2438.

The
Inspector of Police,
Greymouth.

~~SECRET~~

[Police-100A.]

29/9

NEW ZEALAND POLICE.

~~SECRET~~

Police-station: Greymouth

Date February 1st, 1929

REPORT of Detective H.C. Murch No. 2498

relative to Communist Activities... R.F. Griffen... intention
to tour New Zealand.

I respectfully report that it has come to my knowledge that one R.F. Griffen a prominent communist who recently returned from Russia, intends in the near future to tour both Islands of the Dominion with a view to stimulating interest in the communist movement.

A letter to this effect was recently received from 5 Knigge Avenue, Wellington, and signed by "Jean Deveaney" apparently a small girl. The letter also solicited a subscription to provide funds for the tour and finished with a P.S. signed by Griffen himself stating the importance to the workers of the good work being carried on.

H.C. Murch
Detective 2498.

The
Inspector of Police,
Greymouth.

Forwarded to the Commissioner.

J. M. Murch
Inspector.
112129

New Scotland Yard,
S.W. 1.

~~SECRET~~

Dear Mr. McIlveney,

In reply please quote S.B.320/ABD/461of 27.11.28.

I attach, for your information, a photostat letter from R.F. GRIFFIN, the New Zealand representative to the recent Congress of the Third International, to a Communist in this country. This includes the draft of an article on "Imperialism in the South Seas", which GRIFFIN has written for the "Sunday Worker" here. Earlier this month a wire to the effect that GRIFFIN was on his way back to New Zealand on the S.S. "Orama" was sent to you.

I should be grateful if you would treat this intercept as very secret. I am sending a copy of it to the Attorney General's Department in Australia.

Yours sincerely,

Heenan

W.B. McIlveney, Esq.,
Commissioner of Police,
Police Department,
Johnston Street,
Wellington.



... from the ship. But he promised I would see him
... 'Sunday Worker'. I don't know whether this is what you
... perhaps it will help for the future until some one else
... to the fore again.

I have not much time as I promised all kinds of things
... and am afraid I cannot fulfill all contracts.

Life on ship board is not so bad except for lack of
... Food is good on this run and we have avoided sea-sickness.

Yours for communism
R. F. Griffin

Imperialism in the South Seas

One result of the British workers fight to 'Win the War'

The League of Nations recently rejected the appeal of the Samoans against the New Zealand administration which was given to N.Z. under mandate as a 'Sacred Trust of Civilization' in the words of the Covenant of the League ~~and~~ under the Peace Treaty.

M. O. F. Nelson who was deported from Samoa for his leading activities in the Mau (League of Samoans) was in attendance at Geneva but was refused the right to appear personally before the mandates commission.

The decision on this question actually suggested that the N.Z. government had not been sufficiently drastic in its suppression of the agitation. This, after it had deported over 100 chiefs and three Europeans (including M. Nelson) and had sent two gunboats there and landed marines, as well as organising in New Zealand a special military police force for Samoa.

The agitation has gone on for some years almost since the first occupation of Samoa by the N.Z. forces but has actually only reached a head since 1921 after thousands of natives (25%) had been died as the result of an avoidable influenza epidemic.

Since then repressive measures have been growing along with the corruption of officials.

Attempts have been made to force the natives 'to work' that is to become a wage slave producing copra, by taxes and the individualisation of family lands (communal).

Native customs and usage have been ignored and abused and the administrator General Richardson has played the part of a tyrannical military dictator.

Mr. Nelson is a trader and his views reflect the outlook of a trader. In his pamphlet "The Truth about Samoa" he finds a "rainbow of hope" in the fact that the Military Dictator has retired, the head of the controlling department in Wellington has been superannuated, and the constituency of the responsible minister (Mr. Roseworthy) has been wiped out by a providential act of the boundary commissioners. The disappearance of this Big Three who were primarily responsible paves the way for a new era of peace and goodwill. Apparently Mr. Nelson's view is that bad individuals ~~and~~ or bad administration is responsible for the trouble.

A slight examination of the history of Samoa for the last hundred years would teach him otherwise.

Ropra and Rubber as well as the increasing trade of the N.Z. bourgeoisie have more to do with it than individuals. The Samoans can hope to gain nothing except to the degree to which they conform to the needs of Imperialism or can exert pressure on the N.Z. Capitalist class.

Their hope is not in the League of Nations but in combining their struggle with the struggle of all the Anti-Imperialist forces throughout the world.

R. L. G.

~~SECRET.~~ 29/8

[Form No. 108.]



NEW ZEALAND POLICE.

Subject:

Truth about Soviet Russia
Public Lecture Trades Hall 8 PM. 27/1/1929

75,000/8/26-7119]

The Supdly

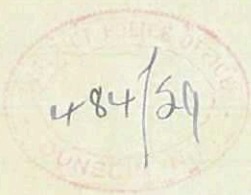
You may consider this Meeting should be attended, please

J. Cunningham
Sub. Insp.
26.1.29

Det. L. H. Kuller

Please have attention given to this individual and have a man present at the lecture tomorrow night.

J. C. Willis
Supt. 26.1.29



Act/Det Kearton.

Please attend this meeting in company with Constable Johnston.

14/29
J. C. Willis

Detective Sgt for Chief Det
26-1-29.

Chief Detective/

Please see report attached.

J. P. Kearton
A/Det. No. 2491
28/1/29

The Superintendent.

Richard Francis Griffin, the speaker at this meeting, belongs to Wellington.....I have personally known him for some years....He is a very prominent member of the " Communist Party" also a member of the " Irish Republican Revolutionary Party".

Dave Griffin, Bookseller, 53 Willis Street, Wellington, is his father, and is also a disloyalist.....

J. C. Willis

Det Sergt for Chief Det
28-1-29.

The Commissioner

Forwarded for your information please.

J. C. Willis
Supt. 29.1.29

29/8

[Police—100A.]

NEW ZEALAND POLICE.

DETECTIVE OFFICE
Police-station: DUNEDIN

Date: 28th. January, 1929

REPORT of A/Detective J.E. Kearton, No. 2491

relative to Public Lecture " TRUTH ABOUT SOVIET RUSSIA" by
R.F. GRIFFIN, held in Trades Hall, Dunedin on 27/1/29.

[150,000/6/27—3153]

I respectfully report that acting on instructions received I duly attended the above mentioned lecture in company with Constable Johnston on the night of the 27th. inst. The Lecture commenced punctually at 8pm

and terminated at 9:20pm. It was held in a small room in the Trades Hall and was very poorly attended. The speaker dealt solely with the present working and living conditions of the working class in Soviet Russia and improvements in same brought about during the Revolutionary Period.

His chief subjects were:- Factory life: Life in the Red Army & Navy: and the Soviet Justice Department..

There was nothing of a seditious nature about any part of the lecture which consisted purely of the speaker's own experiences (varnished or unvarnished) while in Soviet Russia.

There were no interjections, or questions asked and the meeting was very orderly throughout.

J.E. Kearton
A/Detective No. 2491

To/
Chief Detective
Dunedin.

NEW ZEALAND POLICE.

Police-station: Dunedin.Date: 25th January., 1929.REPORT of Serjt Gilligan. W. P., No. 1489.

relative to Richard Francis Griffin defacing Telegraph posts
by affixing posters thereto.

(Post and Telegraph Act, 1908, Section 105). [150,000/6/27—3153]

I respectfully report that about 10-50 p.m. on date I noticed handbills had been affixed to the telegraph posts in Stuart street. On reading these posters I ascertained that it was advertising a lecture to be given by one R. F. Griffin, the subject matter of the lecture being "Three months in Soviet Russia." While reading this poster Mr F. G. Duncan, Solicitor, informed me he had seen the man sticking them on the posts and that this man had just turned out of Stuart street into the Octagon. I, accompanied by Mr Duncan followed up and on turning into George street I saw that these posters had been also affixed to the telegraph posts in George street. Continuing along George street I came upon this man, who was then standing in the doorway of A. & T. Inglis's shop.

On questioning this man he admitted affixing these handbills to the telegraph posts along the different streets. He also informed me he had no authority from any person to affix them to the telegraph posts in the streets.

I asked him for one of the posters but was informed that he had affixed all he had to the different telegraph posts in the streets.

I asked him where he got them and received the reply. I brought them from Wellington with me. I then asked him if he was employed by any person to stick them up and received the reply, "No. I am doing it for myself."

I then took a short statement from him which I hereto attach.

Also see attached, a handbill which I removed from the telegraph post at the intersection of George street and Maray Place. This man is at present residing Miramar private Hotel, Stuart st.

Dunedin.

X
Detached for proceed
To station 16-29/1/29

The Sear Serjt

Dunedin.

For 1/29
by 29/1/29
4/3/29 2-6-1-29

30/19

W. P. Gilligan Serjt
17-1489

Richard Francis Griffin
3 Lanera Street
Wellington, at present
staying Miramar
Private Hotel Stuart
Street Dunedin.

States I had a
number of hand bills
on Soviet Russia
which I brought
with me from Wellington
I posted these hand
bills on different
telegraph posts in the
streets of Dunedin.
I have no permission
from any authority
to stick these bills
on telegraph posts.
R. F. Griffin.

Ex 1928/10/12, GRIFFIN, R.F.

[Police—100A

NEW ZEALAND POLICE.

~~SECRET~~

Police-station: Detective Office W'gton

Date: January 3rd, 1929

REPORT of Detective N. W. Baylis., No. 2385

relative to meetings of Communist Party, Plebs League, and Irish Republican Association during the month of December 1928.

[150,000/9/28-8746

I respectfully report that no Public Meetings whatever have been held by any of the above mentioned parties during the month of December last.

Communist Richard Francis Griffin, returned to New Zealand on the S.S. Ulimaroa arriving at Auckland on the 25-12-28, I have noticed Griffin about the streets during the past week and I understand that it is the intention of the Communist Party to arrange a lecturing tour of New Zealand, for Griffin and that the subject of his lectures will be his experiences while in Russia.

Communist Freeman is still doing casual work on the Water-front, he is not showing a great deal of activity in connection with the Communist movement.

In all probability Communists will again commence to hold meetings now that Griffin has returned. I am informed that their finances are very low at the present time and that they are having a hard battle to keep going.

There is nothing further of note

The Chief Detective which has taken place during December 1928.
Wellington.

N. W. Baylis
Detective 2385

The Comm

A. Heaville

Imp. for Sup

H. 1. 29

~~SECRET~~ 30/1/29
[Police—100a.]
21/2/4
NEW ZEALAND POLICE.

Police-station: Timaru

Date: 25th February, 1930.

REPORT of Detective L. Studholme, No. 2025

relative to contemplated strike having been engineered
for the 3rd February, 1930.

"Vide attached"

[150,000/4/29—1262]

I beg to report that I had no knowledge
of any strike having been engineered for the 3rd instant.
As far as I can gather it has not been spoken of in Timaru.
No "One Day" strike has eventuated here.

To the
Inspector of Police
Timaru

L. Studholme

Det. No. 2025

*To Commissioner
As Para Inspector
26/2/30*

28

[Police—100a.]

NEW ZEALAND POLICE.

Police-station: Detective Office Wellington

Date: February 6th, 1930

REPORT of Detective N. W. Baylis., No. 2385

relative to Contemplated Strike to take place on the 3-2-30.

"Vide the attached"

[150,000/4/29—1262]

I respectfully report that I have given the above mentioned matter special attention, but as will be seen by my previous reports nothing eventuated on the 3-2-30. The Communist Party and the so-called "Labour Defence League" made only feeble attempts to organize this strike. I was unable to catch any of the members of either party mixing with workers for the purpose of advocating this strike, and I think that the only real attempt to organize ~~this strike~~ was by sending out pamphlets and writing articles which they published in their Paper "The Red Worker."

The Chief Detective

WELLINGTON

N. W. Baylis
Detective 2385

Forward to the Inspector
W. L. Paul C. J. S. J.
7-2-30

For the Commissioner
W. H. Munson
7.1.30 Supp

~~SECRET~~

30/1 27
[Police—100A.]

NEW ZEALAND POLICE.

Police-station: Detective Office Wellington

Date: February 6th, 1930

REPORT of Detective N. W. Baylis., No. 2385

relative to ONE DAY STRIKE -advocated by the Communist Party for 3rd February 1930.

"Vide the attached"

(150,000/4/29-1202)

I respectfully forward herewith clipping from the "Evening Post" of Wednesday the 5th February 1930. This article deals with an attempt by the Communist Party to hold a One Day Strike on the 3rd of February 1930 with a view to showing dissatisfaction in connection with the "War Regulations" under which some of their members were convicted some time ago, and who are now serving terms of imprisonment.

The strike was to also show that the Labourers of this country were not satisfied with the recent Samoan trouble.

From discreet inquiries which I have carried out I have ascertained that the attached article was written by one PETER BUTLER now of the General Labourers Union and one time a member of the Communist Party Wellington. But now dissociated from them.

The Chief Detective
WELLINGTON.

N. W. Baylis
Detective 2385.

*Forward to the Inspector
C. W. Lopaugh C. W. Lopaugh
6 2 30*

*For the Commissioner
A. H. Munn
7. 2. 30 Supl*

ONE DAY STRIKE!

A COMMUNIST FAILURE

(By "Soc.")

Have you ever seen a fox terrier in a bed of dahlias, looking for an imaginary rat? If the dahlias are not yours, you get some amusement from it—perhaps; but if you are the owner, it is a different matter.

The activities of such a fox terrier, under such circumstances, reminds one of the frantic efforts of the people known as the Communists in regulated society, who, getting hold of an imaginary grievance, chase shadows, spoil the plot, and cover themselves with ridicule.

An instance of this is given by the attempts of the Communists to effect a one-day strike on Monday last. Hand bills, dodgers, and surreptitious visits to places where men were working, slogan cries, revolutionary phrases, flamboyant gestures were broadcast, and the Communists were 100 per cent. optimistic that the stupid wage plug would follow their empty drum, and down tools at their request on the 3rd of February.

Alas for their hopes! The wage plugs are not so stupid as their revolutionary leaders considered them to be. The 3rd of February dawned sunny and fair, proceeded in its usual way, as fair and sunny Mondays usually do, was recorded in the book of time as uneventful, and instead of the Black Monday that the Communists desired it to be, the 3rd of February will long be remembered as the day of the Communist farce.

The Communist attempt on this occasion shows how futile their activities are in a country of this description. Whilst there will always be differences of opinion between employers and employees, rulers and ruled, the people of this country, as a body, will never tolerate conditions such as existed in Russia before the revolution, and which made the ground fruitful for the activity and propaganda of the revolutionary party.

Many attempts have they made to gain limelight and prominence for their fruitless propaganda, all ending, more or less, in failure; but never before in the history of New Zealand have they held themselves up to such ridicule as they have by their attempt to call a universal one-day strike on the 3rd of February. Their effort was splendidly ineffective. They succeeded in laughing themselves out of Court, and another blank squib from their armoury has refused to explode.

Poor chaps! They are more to be pitied than blamed, and their vice is the vice of stupidity.

We can imagine how the news will be received in Moscow, the spiritual home of the comrades. Instead of the elation which would have welcomed the success of this foolish protest, there will be hurriedly cyphered messages and admonitions dispatched to this far-away isle of ours.

It is remarkable the energy that is wasted by these zealots in a cause that was never favourable, never substantial, and, like dead sea fruit, is tasteless to those who own it. The average worker in New Zealand, when Communism is mentioned, thinks, if not states, the sentiments expressed in the Spiritual passage:

"Forgive them, for they know not what they do."

25

DETECTIVE OFFICE

GILBORNE

C.B.C.R.R.F.

4th FEBRUARY 1930

Report of Detective J McLeod re contemplated strike, vide attached.

I respectfully report that I have spent a considerable time about the wharves since the receipt of attached Memo from the Commissioner of Police, with a view of ascertaining if possible, the likelihood of a strike, but have been unable to obtain any information concerning it.

As far as I can learn, nothing of the kind is anticipated here, I however will keep this matter in mind, and should I hear anything indicative of a strike of any kind will at once report.

Inspector O'Halloran

Gilborne

J. W. McLeod
Detective.

The Commissioner of Police,
Wellington,

Very discreet inquiries have been made since the receipt of your memorandum, but no signs of any industrial trouble have been shown.

30/208

H. E. O'Halloran
Inspector of Police,
4-2-30.

The Sun 4/2/30

THE SUN, CE

BIG STIKE YESTERDAY FAILED TO EVENTUATE!

AGITATION BY "REDS"

PROTEST AGAINST PROSECUTION OF COMMUNISTS

Had the New Zealand Communist Party had its way, there would have been a one-day strike of workers throughout the Dominion yesterday, as a protest against the prosecution last November of four members of the party, and the subsequent imprisonment of two of them, for being in possession of seditious literature.

These four men were Arthur F. Marshall, editor of the "Red Worker," Richard Griffin, who was described as a leader of the movement, Gordon E. Munro, literary secretary of the organisation, and William Murphy, ex-literary secretary. Each was fined £50, in default three months' imprisonment, and Griffin and Murphy were subsequently imprisoned.

A circular issued by the party some time ago reads as follows:—

A ONE-DAY STRIKE

THE ONLY EFFECTIVE PROTEST.

The prosecution of four members of the working class under the War Regulations Act has been followed by the imprisonment of Comrades Griffin and Murphy. A definite attempt to smash the Communist Party has been launched as the prelude to the open attack upon the existing working conditions of the workers in this country. This attack must be met with determined resistance by the working class.

The Labour Party and the Alliance of Labour Bureaucracy, knowing the feeling that exists among the rank and file, and fearing a mass political one-day strike for the release of the imprisoned men, have in accordance with their role of betrayer of the working class attempted to lead the indignation of the workers into legal and harmless channels.

Empty prattlings about "Democracy," appeals for freedom of thought, and deputations to the Government—the mouthpiece of the capitalist class—are of no avail.

ONLY THE ORGANISED HOSTILITY OF THE WORKING CLASS CAN COMPEL THE CAPITALISTS TO RELEASE THE VICTIMS OF CLASS OPPRESSION.

IMMEDIATE PREPARATIONS FOR A ONE-DAY STRIKE ON FEBRUARY 3 FOR THE REPEAL OF THE WAR REGULATION ACT.

FOR THE RELEASE OF GRIFFIN AND MURPHY.

Issued by the Central Committee,
Communist Party of New Zealand.

Trade union secretaries in Christchurch state that the circular was simply treated with contempt.

Police

23

[Police—80A.

NEW ZEALAND POLICE.

Memorandum for

The Commissioner of Police,
WELLINGTON.

District Office, Greymouth,
4th. February, 1930.

SUBJECT: CONTEMPLATED STRIKE - 3/2/30.

Nothing eventuated in this District in respect to the contemplated strike on the 3rd. Instant. All Coal Mines and other industries were fully manned on that date.

The issue was put to a meeting of the Blackball Miners Union, but was defeated, while the State Coal Mines at Runanga decided to take no action, but to let the matter rest in the hands of the District Council.

In "The Red Worker", (registered as a newspaper), dated 2.1.30, and published by the proprietor, J.J. Robinson, 40 Mortimer Crescent, Wellington, at the Office 166d, Vivian Street, there appears an article "Release Griffin and Murphy" in that article a "one day strike by all workers in all industries on February 3rd. was advocated."

25-2
250

Jan. Hilg. Johnst.
Inspector of Police.

NEW ZEALAND POLICE.

22

Police-station: Hastings.Date: 31st January 1930., 19REPORT of Constable Percy Alsop, No. 2264.relative to "Contemplated Strike" Vide attached
memorandum from the Commissioner.

[150,000/4/29-1262]

I beg to report that I have made discreet inquiries re this matter so far as it affects this district.

I am informed that there is absolutely no talk of a "ONE DAY STRIKE" at the Paki Paki, Tomoana or Whakatu Freezing Works.

My informants are directly associated with the individuals likely to participate in a movement of this nature, and I am assured that the men are contented, and there is no suggestion of a strike here.

In the event of any subsequent happenings relating to proposed strikes, my informants have promised to acquaint me of full particulars.

Senr. Sergt. Dempsey.

Hastings.*Percy Alsop*

Constable No. 2264.

*Urgent**The Inspector's office
31/1/30**for Dempsey's
serv*

*The Command
Nothing is known of the
proposed strike here*

*Hemmings
Sgt
1.1.30*

NEW ZEALAND POLICE.

Police-station: Detective Office, Wanganui.Date: 31st January, 19 30REPORT of Detective J. Walsh, No. 2090relative to contemplated one day strike on 3/2/30.Vide Commissioners memo dated 15/1/30

[150,000/9/28—8746]

~~Secret~~

I respectfully report having made inquiries regarding this matter.

Inspector of Police

WANGANUI

So far as I can ascertain the different labour organisations in Wanganui have vetoed the suggested one day strike. I was speaking to a prominent Labour Representative this morning and he informed me that he was certain that the suggestion of the Communist Party would not be given effect to in Wanganui.

I attach hereto a copy of a poster that has been posted up about the waterfront and Railway buildings. Papers herewith.

J. Walsh
Detective No. 2090

Forw^d to the Commissioner

S. T. Lill
31/1/30 *Lump*

NEW ZEALAND POLICE.

20

Police-station: Queen's Wharf, Wgton.Date: 29th January, 1930.REPORT of Detective Sergeant W. Tricklebank, No. 1796.relative to alleged contemplated one day strike, Vide
attached memorandum dated 15/1/1930.

[150,000/4/29—1262]

I beg to report having made careful enquiries about the Waterfront regarding the alleged one day strike, but failed to obtain any reliable information that a strike will take place. I have interviewed all the reliable Officials about the Wharves, but failed to learn anything.

At 2 p.m. yesterday the 28/1/1930 I was talking to Mr Johnston, Secretary of the Waterside Workers Union, I asked him if there was any chance of a strike taking place, he laughed at the idea, stating that it was just a few hot heads who were talking. He further stated that there was no hope of getting the Waterside Workers to come out on strike.

From my general enquiries about the Waterfront, there seems little hope of the Waterside Workers or Seamen coming out as alleged.

I will continue my enquiries and should I hear ^{anything} further, I will report accordingly.

The Superintendent of Police,
Head District,
Wellington.

W. Tricklebank
Detective Sergeant 1796.

To the Commissioner
W. Morrison
30/1/30 Supt

NEW ZEALAND POLICE.

[Police—100A.] 19

Police-station: Christchurch

Date: 28th January, 19 30

REPORT of John Bruce Young, Detective Sergeant, No. 1611

relative to Secret memorandum from the Commissioner of Police
re CONTEMPLATED STRIKE.

[150,000/4/29—1262]

I have to report that I have given this matter very careful attention since receipt of the attached memorandum and ascertained that the matter is apparently being engineered by the Communist Party. I have obtained a copy of their official publication "The Red Worker" and it deals with the agitation for the "One Day Strike" on the 3rd February 1930. The copy is forwarded herewith.

I have been unable to obtain any evidence of any action being taken by any of the Labour Unions here in furtherance of this Strike movement. The matter will receive every attention and any information received will be promptly reported.

Sydney H. Fournier, the leader of the Communists here is at present being kept under surveillance, with a view to obtaining evidence of the distribution of propaganda re Samoa referred to in the Commissioner's Secret memorandum 30/3 of the 23rd instant. As yet there has been no evidence of distribution by him.

The Chief Detective,
Christchurch.

John Bruce Young
Detective Sergeant No 1611.

For The Superintendent

J. Carroll
Blf. Des.

29. 1. 30

Approved by the Commissioner

[Signature]
Superintendent of Police.

28/1/1930 W. G. W. W. W. W.

NEW ZEALAND POLICE.

Police-station: Detective Office,

Date: 28th January, 1930.

REPORT of Detective P.J.Nalder, No 2374.

relative to Contemplated Strike.

(150,000/4/29—1262

I respectfully report that further to my report of the 25th instant re a Strike being engineered for the 3rd proximo, I have since ascertained that a printed circular has been issued, headed, "The Only Effective Protest, against the prosecution of 4 members of the Communist Party under the War Regulations Act. Imprisonment of Griffin, Munro, Murphy, and Marshall." The body of the circular suggests a combined strike of the workers on the 3rd of February 1930, in an effort to compel the capitalist class to release the prisoners. (These men were recently prosecuted under the War Regulations Continuance Act 1920 at Wellington.) The circular calls for preparations for a one day Strike, on 3rd February, for the repeal of the War Regulations Continuance Act, and for the release of the prisoners named. The Circular is issued by the Central Committee of the Communist Party of New Zealand.

As far as I have been able to ascertain I believe that the circular was issued at Wellington. Up to the present I have been unable to obtain a copy, but will make every effort to do so.

Ch-Detective,
Auckland.

The Commissioner asked that any information obtained should be communicated to him.

P.J. Nalder
Detective No. 2374.

The Inspector/

There is little probability of the strike taking place.

The Commissioner
For your information,
please.
28/1/30.
Mr. W. Williams
28/1/30.
W. Williams
28/1/30
For the Commissioner
vide pp. 220, 25th inst.
28/1/1930
W. Williams, Sec.

NEW ZEALAND POLICE.

Detective Office

Police-station: Napier

Date: 27th January, 1930.

REPORT of Detective Sergt T Fitzgibbon, No. 1016

relative to "Contemplated strike" Vide attached memorandum from the Commissioner.

[150,000/4/29—1262]

I beg to report having made inquiries in town and also at the Port but I can hear nothing of the contemplated "One Day" strike.

The persons I have spoken to on the matter are in close touch with the class of person who would be participating in the strike but none of them ever heard of it.

The Inspector of Police.
Napier.

T Fitzgibbon
Detective Sergt.

Urgent

*Senr Sgt
Haskins*

*Anything known of
this matter among
Works employees?*

*Stennings
Sgt
28.1.30*

Pb Constable Alsop

For urgent discreet enquiry.

J Dempsey
Senior Sergeant
28.1.30

Senr. Sergt. Dempsey.
Report herewith.

Suey Alsop
Constable. 31/1/30

NEW ZEALAND POLICE.

Police-station: NgaruawahiaDate: 20th January, 1930. 192REPORT of William Carran, Constable, No. 2235.relative to Number of miners employed in Mines in the
Ngaruawahia Police District." Vide attached."

[150,000/6/27—3153]

I respectfully report that the Waipa Collieries, Glenmassey, is the only Mine in this Police District.

I have interviewed Mr. T. Thompson (Manager) and ascertained from him that there are 121 men employed there - 29 above ground and 92 under-ground,: They comprise of miners, truckers, shiftmen, &c.

With regard to any communication with the Rothbury (Australia) miners, Mr Thompson informs me that Mining Delegates from that Mine were over here about two or three months ago - he could give no definite date-and addressed the Glenmassey Miners. As a result a levy on every miner's earnings were made to assist the miners over there. It is understood that this levy is made on every miner's wages throughout New Zealand.

Although ether discreet inquiries were made no other communication of any kind between the miners here and those at Rothbury could be ascertained.

No trouble of any kind is anticipated by the Officials at this Mine within the near future.

I was unable to get into touch with Mr Thompson sooner than today-hence the delay in returning this file.

The
Inspector of Police,
HAMILTON

W. Carran
Const.No.2235.

NEW ZEALAND POLICE.

Police-station: Hamilton.Date: January 23rd, 19 30REPORT of Mtd Constable F.N.A. Lin, No. 2363relative to Mining area--number of men employed at Whatawhata Coal "ine.""Vide attached".

[150,000/4/29-1062]

I respectfully report having made discreet enquiries and ascertained that there are nine men employed at the Whatawhata Coal "ine. There are four men engaged in the Mine, two men employed trucking the coal from the Mine to the road dump and one salesman and one Manager.

From enquiries I have made I have ascertained that no communications have been received from the Rothbury Miners and no local demonstration such as a "protest strike" is anticipated.

Should any communication be received from the Rothbury Miners, Australia I will be notified immediately.

The delay in returning this file has been caused through being able to get definite information. The mine has just recently re-opened after being closed over Xmas and New Year holidays.

In the presence of
Greene
24/1/30

F. N. A. Lin
 Mtd Const No. 2363

To the
 Genl Secy
 of Police
 Hamilton.

20-1-30

Page 12.

14

ONE DAY STRIKE

A COMMUNIST POSTER IN WANGANUI.

Wanganui, January 18.

In various parts of Wanganui circulars are to be seen posted up advocating a one-day strike for February 3. This circular purports to be issued by the Central Committee, Communist Party of New Zealand, and runs as follows:—

"ONE-DAY STRIKE.

THE ONLY EFFECTIVE PROTEST.

"The prosecution of four members of the working class under the War Regulations Act has been followed by the imprisonment of Comrades Griffen and Murphy. A definite attempt to smash the Communist Party has been launched as the prelude to the open attack upon the existing working conditions of the workers in this country. This attack must be met with determined resistance by the working class. The Labour Party and the Alliance of Labour Bureaucracy, knowing the feeling that exists amongst the rank and file and fearing a mass political one-day strike for the release of the imprisoned men, have, in accordance with their role of betrayer of the working class, attempted to lead the indignation of the workers into legal and harmless channels. Empty pratings about 'Democracy,' appeals for 'freedom of thought, and deputations to the Government—the mouthpiece of the capitalist class—are of no avail. Only the organised hostility of the working class can compel the capitalists to release the victims of class oppression."

"Immediate preparations for a one-day strike on February 3."

"For the repeal of the War Regulations Act."

"For the release of Griffen and Murphy."

"Issued by the Central Committee, Communist Party of New Zealand."

NEW ZEALAND POLICE.

~~Memorandum~~ forC/o Ngamawahia

District Office,

Hanilton16. 1. 30, 192

SUBJECT: Number of miners employed at Glen-Afton
or other places in your Police District.

8,000/3 24--3325]

Please ascertain the number of
 miners employed in your district and also
discreetly ascertain if there has been any
 communication with the Bothbery (Australia)
 miners or if any local demonstration is
 anticipated such as a "protest" strike at the
 end of this or early next month. Report
early.

The Inspector

J. Rawle

Report herewith. 20

M. Kerran
 Const. 2235 30

Imp.

NEW ZEALAND POLICE.

~~SECRET~~

Police-station: Detective Office Wellington

Date: January 14th, 19 30

REPORT of Detective N. W. Baylis., No. 2385

relative to Communist Party - attempt to organize a One Day Strike to take place on the 3rd Of February 1930.

"Vide the attached"

[150,000/4/29—1262

I respectfully report having made inquiries regarding the attached leaflet, with the following result:-

This leaflet is one of a number which have been printed and sent out by the Wellington Central Committee of the Communist Party who are operating in conjunction with the Labour Defence League. The Labour Defence League have also printed leaflets similar to this one, and these have also been distributed.

On the 12th Inst Detective Murray and I attended a meeting of the Labour Defence League, and this One Day Strike idea was openly advocated by the speakers there. In view of this Detective Murray and I interviewed the three men responsible for that meeting their names are Sydney Wilfred Scott, secretary L.D.L. 12 ~~K~~ Nigge Avenue. Judah Leon Waten, 79 Aro Street. John Joseph Robinson, 40 Mortimer Terrace.

I questioned these men about the attached leaflet, but they would not make any admissions. Scott stated that he was not a member of the Communist Party but admitted that he was Secretary of the Labour Defence League. Waten who states that he arrived in New Zealand from Australia about five weeks ago admitted that he was a member of the Communist Party and when asked if he would repudiate the fact that he was member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party and was in part responsible for the attached leaflet he stated that he would not. Robinson also said that he would not repudiate that he was on the Central Committee and was partly responsible for the attached leaflet. Beyond this these men would admit

The Chief Detective
WELLINGTON.

EXTRACTS/COPIES
TAKEN J.L. WATEN

nothing further.

In my report of the 12th Inst I have referred to these men . It will be seen that I have mentioned there that Scott was known to me as a ~~member~~ of the Communist Party. My reason for that was because when handing back books seized by the Police in connection with the cases against Griffin, Murphy, Munro and Marshall, Scott accepted them, and signed for them at the Communist Head Quarters 166d Vivian Street . In addition to this he spends the whole of his time at these Head Quarters , and although he denies it, there is no doubt in my mind about his being an active member of the Communist Party.

Regarding the man Waten, he is a recent arrival in New Zealand from Australia. He speaks with a foreign accent and is ~~constantly~~ about 26 years of age. I have not met him before and it would appear that Sunday night last was his first appearance as a member of the Communist Party here.

Robinson has been connected with the Communist Party for some time, but it is only recently (since the imprisonment of Griffen and Murphy) that he has been taking part at the meetings.

These three men have been warned that they will probably meet trouble if they continue to openly advocate force and strikes. They are no doubt responsible for the printing of, and distributing of the attached leaflet.

R. W. Bayles
Detective 2385.

10

A ONE DAY STRIKE

The Only Effective Protest.

The prosecution of four members of the working class under the War Regulations Act, has been followed by the imprisonment of Comrades Griffin and Murphy. A definite attempt to smash the Communist Party has been launched as the prelude to the open attack upon the existing working conditions of the workers in this country. This attack must be met with determined resistance by the working class.

The Labour Party and the Alliance of Labour Bureacracy knowing the feeling that exists amongst the rank and file, and fearing a mass political one day strike for the release of the imprisoned men, have in accordance with their role of betrayer of the working class, attempted to lead the indignation of the workers into legal and harmless channels.

Empty pratings about "Democracy," appeals for freedom of thought and deputations to the government-the mouthpiece of the capitalist class- are of no avail.

ONLY THE ORGANISED HOSTILITY OF THE WORKING CLASS
CAN COMPEL THE CAPITALISTS TO RELEASE THE VICTIMS
OF CLASS OPPRESSION.

IMMEDIATE PREPARATIONS FOR A ONE DAY STRIKE ON FEBRUARY 3rd
FOR THE REPEAL OF THE WAR REGULATION ACT.
FOR THE RELEASE OF GRIFFIN AND MURPHY

oooooooooooooooooooooooooooo

Issued by the Central Committee

Communist Party of New Zealand.

NEW ZEALAND POLICE.

Police-station, Wellington Detective Office,Date: 12th. January, 1930.REPORT of Detective N. W. Baylis, No. 2385.

relative to Meeting called by the Labour Defence League held
at the Gaiety Hall, Abel Smith Street, on Sunday evening the
12/1/1930.

(150,000/4/29-1262)

I respectfully report that in company with Detective Murray I attended a meeting held by the Labour Defence League in the Gaiety Hall, Abel Smith Street, at 8 p.m. this evening (Sunday the 12/1/1930). ^{Copies} ~~A copy of~~ the advertisements relating to this meeting which appeared in the "Evening Post" of Saturday the 11/1/1930, are attached hereto.

At 8 p.m., when 45 persons all told were present in the Hall, Detective Murray and myself were called forward to the speakers' table. A man named Scott addressed us in an undertone and told us that a mistake had been made by advertising the meeting as a public one. It was really meant to be a private meeting for members and intending members of the Labour Defence League. He requested us to leave the Hall for this reason. We pointed out to him that as the meeting was advertised as a public meeting, and the public had no doubt gathered there as a result of its being advertised, we would have to attend and treat it as a public meeting. Detective Murray asked the three men their names. The speaker said his name was Scott; another said his name was Watten; whilst the third man gave his name as Robinson. Scott is known to me as a member of the Communist Party. Scott then intimated that they would commence it as a private meeting and request all who were not members or intending members to leave. Detective Murray pointed out to him that as it was advertised as a Public Meeting it would have to be opened as such, and if

*War Regulations Continuation Act 1920
 Second Schedule, Reg 13 (15)*

The Chief Detective,

WELLINGTON.

stry



they so desired they could hold a private meeting afterwards. We then returned to a position at the rear of the audience.

The man who said his name was Robinson, then acted as Chairman, and said he would open a public meeting as advertised, by calling on Comrade Watten to address the meeting for about 20 or 25 minutes. Watten then got up and said that he would address the meeting on the Samoan question and the recent convictions against Griffin, Murphy and others for being in possession of working class literature. He said that both subjects were closely connected. It was the Boss Class suppressing the Samoans because they refused to pay unjust taxes which had been imposed upon them. He referred to this as the "Thug" methods of the Boss Class. The Samoans were a peaceful people who had sufficient to live upon without working. What right had the Ward Government to deny these people the right to live their own lives and govern their own Country without imposing these unjust conditions. The Ward Government in its determination to suppress the Samoans had sent Police and Military forces there, and the Police had shot down these natives for refusing to submit to these unjust taxes. He mentioned that the imprisonment of Griffin and Murphy went to show that the Capitalist Class was weakening, and was doing all in its power to suppress the working class. It was an attack upon the organised leaders of the workers, and it must be resisted. The Labour Party, with its weak kneed methods, had approached the Ministers protesting against the suppression of working class literature. What good could that do? The Labour Party had been proved to be a party which approved the Capitalist methods. How could it expect a change of heart in the Ward Government by sending a deputation protesting against the recent convictions. The Labour Party had

betrayed the working class. They allowed the Capitalist Class to deliberately suppress literature which was essential for the education of the workers. The Capitalists could read what they liked, but they were not going to allow the working classes to read books which would be likely to educate them on industrial matters. The Communist Party had made its slogan "A one day strike to take place on the 3rd. February." They of the Labour Defence League advocated this one day strike also. They must organise and do all in their power to make it a success on February 3rd. The more who supported the strike, the better. It must be a general strike. This would show the Ward Government that the working class was determined in its protest against the "Thug" methods employed by the Capitalists in the suppression of working class literature and the shooting of the Samoans.

Brief discussion followed. There were one or two speakers and one question asked was "What significance or connection was there between the Samoan question and the recent conviction of Griffin, Murphy and others?" Part of the above related facts outlined by Watten were said in answer to this question.

A Communist known to me as Arthur Finch Marshall (one of the four recently convicted for being in possession of prohibited literature) was a member of the audience. He rose and addressed the meeting. He repeated much of what Watten had already said. He mentioned about the sending of Police, Military and a warship to Samoa. They must protest in a forceful manner against the shooting of the Samoans and the suppression of working class literature. He stated that

the Labour Party had betrayed the working class. He referred to the Rothbury Strike in Australia and pointed out the suppressive methods employed there. He also instanced a recent mine strike on the West Coast where 30 odd Police were "dumped" (armed) into a small mining town with 1,000 population. The Police had, as a result, brought ~~up~~ trumped up charges against some of the miners in connection with a demonstration which they carried out. In talking about the Samoans, he stated that the Ward Government had simply provoked the Samoans into resistance, and this was being done in New Zealand. (He used the word "provoked" on the prompting of a member of the audience). He said that already pamphlets had been distributed advocating a one day strike for the 3rd. February, but that was not sufficient. Committees would have to be organised and every one would have to do his utmost amongst his workmates to ensure the success of the strike. It did not matter if there were only 5 men employed in a firm, a member must do his best amongst them. It might be possible to get one mine to strike, or one ship to strike. It might be possible to get all the mines to strike or all ships to strike. These methods used by the Capitalist were an attempt to reduce the workers to the level of the workers in England and other Countries where a low level prevailed. The one day strike on February 3rd. would be a means of defeating the aims of the Capitalists by showing them that the workers were determined to resist. As an instance of how the Government was out to suppress the working class, he drew the audience's attention to the fact that there were two detectives present, and he pointed us out. He said that as this was a private meeting we ought to be made to leave. All eyes were turned in our direction. There were several "hear, hears". Detective Murray then interrupted and addressing those present said that

the meeting had been publicly advertised and we were attending it as we would do any public meeting. He told them that the matter of our presence there had already been discussed with the speakers. He stated that he desired to point out that in openly advocating the use of force and strikes as they had been doing, they were committing a serious offence against the law.

Marshall concluded almost immediately after this. The Chairman Robinson said there was apparently no further discussion. He stated that it was his intention to close the Public Meeting and call a Private Meeting of members and intending members of the Labour Defence League. He then ordered that all non-members or persons who did not intend to become members, leave the hall. About 10, including the speakers, remained. The Public Meeting closed at 8-35 p.m. having lasted about 25 minutes.

I might mention that both Watten and Marshall referred to the one day strike as being a means of drawing attention to the War Regulations Act and having it repealed.

Inquiries are being made with a view to getting the full names and addresses of the speakers, and ascertaining the persons responsible for issuing a circular advocating this strike, which is the subject of a separate file.

Arthur Finch Marshall is one of the persons who were recently fined £50 for being in possession of seditious literature. The fine has not been paid and a Distress Warrant was executed on him on the 10-1-30 and a Warrant of Commitment will probably be issued by the Court ~~today~~ on 13-1-30.

H. W. Baylis
Detective 2385

Forwarded to the Inspector.

For the Commissioner
W. H. Murray
13. 1. 30 Supp

T. E. Holmes
2/8/31 $\frac{13}{30}$

4
"EVENING POST"

11-1-30

A public meeting under the auspices of the Labour Defence League will be held in the Gaiety Hall, Abel Smith street, to-morrow, at 8 p.m., to consider ways and means of effectively protesting against the New Zealand Government's policy in Samoa, and the recent sentences inflicted on the three Communists convicted of having in their possession literature, which contravenes the War Regulation Act.

MEETINGS.

HANDS OFF SAMOA.

PROTEST MEETING.

All interested in effectively protesting against the New Zealand Government's Samoan Policy invited to attend.
GAIETY HALL, ABEL SMITH-ST.,
SUNDAY, 8 p.m.

~~SECRET~~

G.D.D.-11

EXTRACT/COPY

21/2/53

From (source): **Det. H. Nuttall**

Reference: **Wellington**

Date: **10th June, 1927**

For File No. **File**

(C.P. N.Z.)

Original on

File

(Seamen's Union, Wellington)

Received on

11.6.1927

Extracted/Copied by

On **14.1.1958**

RELATIVE TO: **dispute in Seamen's Union, Wellington.**

- Vide attached file - (Report dated 27/1/27 and a number of Press clippings)

I beg to report that the case of James Brennan v. Fintan Patrick Walsh and Felix Newfield, officials of the new Seamen's Union, Wellington, was concluded in the Court here on Friday 20th May, 1927.

The defendants were successful in the case, it being held by the Court that no intimidation had been used towards Brennan.

When the new Union was formed one Peter Michael Butler, well known Communist was elected Treasurer. Butler is now working on the wharf as a labourer. The new Treasurer being Maurice Augustus Hall, who is well known as a strike leader on various intercolonial boats.

At the present time the New Zealand Labour Party are doing their best to rid their ranks of the Communist members. The President, Mr. W. Sample, published a long article in the Evening Post of 14.5.27 dealing with the Communist Party, copy attached hereto.

So long as the Labour Party continue their present attitude towards the Communist Party there is little to fear from Fintan Patrick Walsh, Newfield & Co. Without the support of the Labour Party they can do very little.

The case of W. T. Young, late Secretary, Seamen's Union, Wellington, versus Fintan Patrick Walsh, Newfield & Co., has not yet commenced.

When this case comes before the Court a full report of the case will be furnished.

Please find herewith newspaper cuttings containing the whole of the evidence in the case Brennan v. Walsh, Newfield & Co.

~~SECRET~~

COMMUNISM

WILD AND DANGEROUS MOVEMENT CONDEMNED

BY LABOUR PARTY PRESIDENT

Asked by a "Post" reporter for his opinion of the condemnation of Communists by the Metal Workers' Assistants' Union and the Wellington branch of the Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners, as reported recently, Mr. R. Semple, president of the Labour Party, stated that in view of the tactics adopted by the Communists in the last municipal election and their avowed hostility towards the industrial and political movement of the working class, those organisations had done the only thing possible to protect the first principle of trade unionism.

"The Communists the world over," he continued, "are carrying out a policy of disruption against the Labour movement, and in order to be more effective they seek to sneak into Labour Party branches and other organisations by disguising their real intentions."



MR. ROBERT SEMPLE.

They hope by their policy of 'white-anting' to bring about the collapse of the existing Labour Party and trade union organisations, so as to exploit the resultant suspicion and ill-will in favour of desperate policies of sabotage and civil war.

"In this they are following instructions definitely received from Moscow and formulated by the Third International and its leaders, which instructions explicitly oblige them to go the whole length of any deceit if needs be, and to resort to strategy, adroitness, illegal proceedings, rancour, and subterfuge; in fact, anything to penetrate into the trade unions and remain in them to carry on Communist work. Experience has proved that this policy has been pursued even to the point of disrupting and smashing the organisations concerned to the detriment of the workers they represented."

"WORMING THEMSELVES IN."

The following instruction which is signed by the members of the Communist Party branch in Wellington is an evidence that not only do Communists violate the confidential business of the bodies into which they worm themselves, but they subordinate the interests of these bodies to the Communist Party.

WELLINGTON GROUP C.P. OF N.Z.

A committee responsible for the assisting and directing members in the co-ordination of work within trade unions and other organisations was set up at last meeting, in accordance with the decision of Christchurch Conference.

This committee requires the following information, and members will assist by returning this form, fully filled up, as soon as possible.

Name
Address
Occupation
Name of Trade Union

Other Organisations:

Bodies to which union or other organisation is affiliated.

Official or delegated positions held by member in either of above.

Members are requested to hand to one of the members of the responsible committee, before the twentieth of each month, starting from May next, a report of individual activities for the month, containing, briefly, information of the principal business of the organisations to which they belong, and a brief account of their actions and opinions on these matters. This will allow the committee to become acquainted with trade union matters generally, and to make a report to the monthly meeting of the group (on the last Saturday of the month) for consideration.

SPIES AND INFORMERS.

"No construction can be placed on this," said Mr. Semple, "other than that the Communists act as spies and informers upon trade union business on behalf of an outside body which unscrupulously misrepresents and opposes the policy of both trades unions and the Labour Party."

"The Communists," Mr. Semple went on, "have a perfect right to form their own parties and to propagate their own ideas on political, industrial, and social questions, but when they resort to methods which are false, scurrilous, hypocritical, and cowardly, it is time working-class organisations made a firm and determined stand against this group of disrupters, who are pursuing a policy altogether foreign to our national traditions and circumstances. If they think they can destroy organisations it has taken generations to build up by the faithful services of the pioneers of our movement, and which have won concessions and reforms too numerous to mention—organisations which bear the hallmark of devotion and self-sacrifice—they are hugely mistaken. The Labour movement owes the men and women who have done this pioneering work a deep debt of gratitude, and it would not be worthy of the efforts they have made if it allowed this policy of disruption and vilification to continue. I am certain it has no intention of doing so."

LABOUR ACCEPTS THE CHALLENGE.

Mr. Semple said that the Communists, by their methods of intrigue, lying, and slander, had challenged the bona fide Labour movement of this country and the only self-respecting thing for the movement to do was to accept the challenge and purge its ranks of them whenever they showed themselves. The Labour movement had nothing in common with the tactics and policy pursued by them. They stood for violence and force, and were prepared to use any weapon no matter how foul it might be. They believed in dictatorship, and they aimed to bring all existing institutions to chaos and confusion in the hope that from the disorder, misery, and tumult, their dictatorship would be established. In the process

democratic principles would be destroyed. In a society like New Zealand where the democratic tradition prevailed the franchise was wide enough to provide a constitutional remedy for all grievances. The policy of the Communists was wildly absurd, as well as dangerous, and it was only necessary to expose their methods to show that the construction of a new society along those lines was impossible.

"In contrast with the Communists," concluded Mr. Semple, "the Labour movement in New Zealand is the avowed enemy of dictatorship of any kind. It believes in democratic control, both within its own organisation and as a matter of public policy. Dictatorship means the dominance of a clique, and to this the Labour Party is wholeheartedly opposed, because it believes that the people have the right to govern themselves. The Labour Party also believes that the evils of society can only be removed by a steady educational process, and it is doing its utmost to reach its ideals through the minds and hearts of the masses of the people. This process, whatever may be said against it, is sure."

OPPORTUNITY FOR NEW ZEALAND.

"The Labour movement, moreover, holds that each country should guide its own destiny, according to the traditions of its people and their economic and social environment and habits, and it firmly holds to the belief that New Zealand with its wealth and potentialities can be made an object lesson in Socialism for the rest of the world as soon as the people will it so. It is therefore, against policies of hate and bloodshed which not only menace its existence, but render unfit men and women for the patient work essential to the building of a new order of society."

~~SECRET~~

EXTRACT/COPY

2172/1

H. Marshall

Reference: Wellington

Date: 27th January, 1927

1/1/1/- File

(C.P.N.Z.)

File

(Seamen's Union, Wellington).

27/1/27

Extracted/Copied by

On 14.1.1953

RELATIVE TO:

trouble in Seamen's Union, Wellington. W. T. Young, Secretary and F. C. Howell, Assistant Secretary, ejected from office.

I beg to report that for some time past there have been rumours that matters with the Seamen's Union were not going along smoothly.

On Tuesday last 25th inst., the Secretary, W. T. Young and Assistant Secretary, F. C. Howell, were relieved from office by members of the Union.

At the present time there is little information available as to the sudden action of the Union.

That the movement is a Communist one there appears to be no doubt judging by the men who have been appointed to the official positions in the Union.

The new President is Pinton Patrick Walsh alias Tucky, Fireman on S.S. Teasdale. He is a well known Communist leader, Chairman of Pioneers League, also a prominent member of the Irish Republican Association Wellington.

Walsh is a dangerous man and in 1911 was arrested Syracuse, U.S.A. in connection with the blowing up of a Miners' Hall during a strike there. Several reports have been furnished about him by Senior Detectives Lewis and Cameron.

The new Vice-President, Maurice Hall, is also a well known Communist, has been employed on S.S. on various ships trading here.

This man was responsible for the holding up of the S.S. Maheno on 3.9.26 and also on 11.1.27. He like Walsh is a dangerous man and an out and out revolutionary. Previous reports have also been furnished about him by Senior Detectives Lewis and Cameron and also by myself.

The new Treasurer, P.A. Butler, is identical with Peter Michael Butler, a well known member of the Communist Party, Pioneers League and Irish Republican Association.

This man takes a very prominent part in the above-mentioned associations. He is the man who was closely associated with Noel Lyons when Lyons created all the trouble here re S.S. Maheno. Lyons was later sentenced to 2 months imprisonment for refusing to leave New Zealand on 3.7.25.

The new Secretary, Felix Huxfield, is unknown to me and his name does not appear in the Secret File book. I have never heard him before. Enquiries will be made to ascertain who he is and I about him.

Please see newspaper reports attached.

Detective.

~~SECRET~~