



THE COMMITTEE
OF CANADIAN
COMMUNISTS

FOCUS

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME I - Number 1 - May 1979

LABOUR AND THE FEDERAL ELECTION



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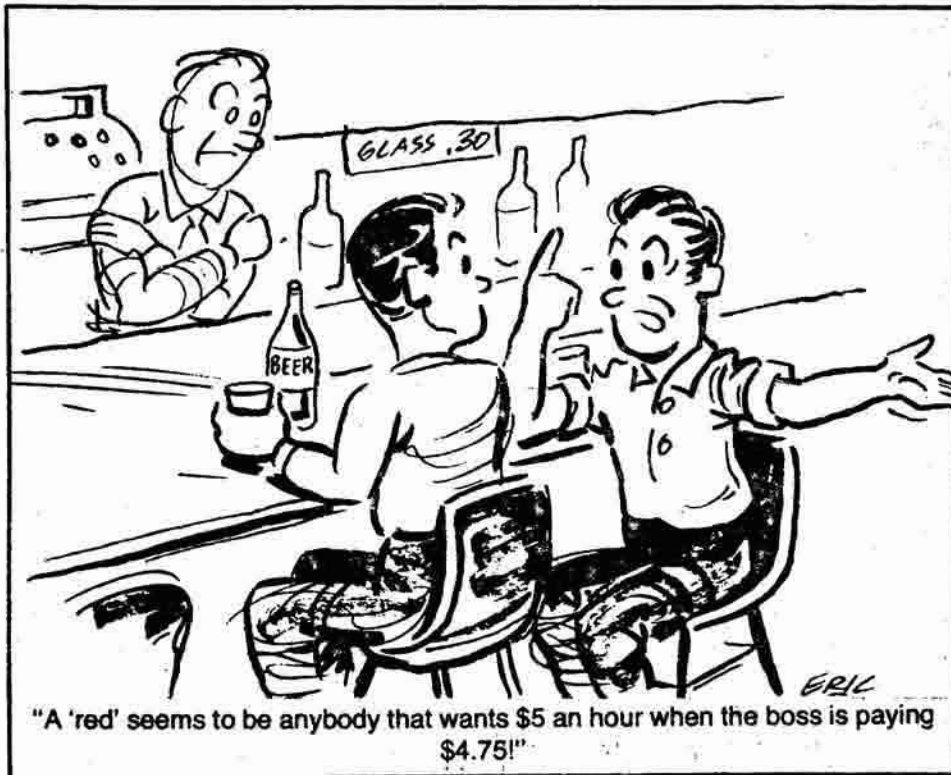
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COMMITTEE OF CANADIAN COMMUNISTS
Room 217 - 1808 Smith Street,
Regina, Saskatchewan

EDITORIAL

This is the first issue of Focus Newsletter, a journal of current events and action published by the Committee of Canadian Communists. We plan to publish 6 issues a year.

The Committee of Canadian Communists came into being on April 15, 1979, in Regina.

It is not a political party and is running no candidates in this election campaign. We advance our program as a contribution to strengthening the vote for the candidates of the Communist Party of Canada; where the Communist candidates are not running, for the candidates of the New Democratic Party.

We came into existence as a Committee as a result of differences within the Communist Party of Canada - differences it has become impossible to resolve under existing conditions within the Party.

Some of our members are no longer members of the Communist Party of Canada. Nonetheless, it is our wish - and intention - to participate in the struggle for a socialist Canada; and it is through the newly formed Committee of Canadian Communists that we intend to do it.

We make certain positions clear:

- * We are for the Communist Party of Canada;
- * We carry on the Leninist traditions and practices of Tim Buck. We are his inheritors, and will do our utmost to further his work in the courageous, creative, partisan and steadfast manner which characterised his work for socialism;
- * We are true proletarian internationalists; we defend the Soviet Union as the bulwark of world socialism;
- * It is our task to organize class struggle, to develop an understanding in the working-class that their struggles must be directed, not only against individual employers, but also against the entire class of capitalists and the governments which support that class. The working-class expresses the interests of the whole people.
- * We bring socialist ideals to the working-class and connect the working-class with socialist convictions;
- * We work for the actual building of a broad, anti-monopoly coalition, with the aim of curbing monopoly power and laying the ground work to move on to socialism. Labour-farmer unity is a central and key aspect of anti-monopoly unity;
- * We seek to bring into existence a united organization around broad, democratic issues, and issues which arise from day-to-day, affecting the lives of the people;
- * We seek to train young people to become able leaders of the revolutionary movement;

- * We fight for full equality for women;
- * We fight against racism in all its forms;
- * We work for and guard the unity of the trade union movement;
- * We work for a durable and lasting peace based on the peaceful coexistence of countries with differing social systems, and for world disarmament as a key factor in securing detente.

Our journal will initiate campaigns and develop Marxist-Leninist analysis of concrete Canadian problems, seeking to widen the scope of the political struggles of the people.

We work for solid ideological unity in the Communist Movement. We are convinced that a painful and difficult phase in the life of the Communist Party of Canada will be overcome and a stronger Communist Movement will emerge.

We support and defend the program of the Communist Party of Canada. Most of us helped to formulate it. Tim Buck laid its foundations. We try to make the program the living property of the working-class.

We appeal to you for support.

Pass on this Newsletter,

Write to us,

- the editors.

NOTICES

Space problems prevent us carrying the review of YOURS IN THE STRUGGLE or the Testimonial. Next Newsletter.

FOCUS NEWSLETTER will appear from time-to-time to deal with current issues.

In addition, we plan to publish FOCUS ON MARXISM-LENINISM 4 times a year as the theoretical journal of the Committee.

We need suggestions, criticisms, and active help in circulating them. Our thanks to all who made this issue possible through financial contributions and suggestions.

Tick the appropriate box,

- \$2.50 regular subscription to FOCUS NEWSLETTER
- \$5.00 sustaining subscription to FOCUS NEWSLETTER
- \$5.00 regular subscription to FOCUS ON MARXISM-LENINISM
- \$10.00 sustaining subscription to FOCUS ON MARXISM-LENINISM

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LABOUR AND THE FEDERAL ELECTION

Working class and farm voters want the federal election on May 22nd to result in a real change that will overcome the threat of depression. At the same time many are deeply skeptical that it will.

The major political parties, the Conservatives, the Liberals and the NDP, proclaim that the election of a new government, in itself, will provide the answers to the country's problems.

The defeat of the Liberals and Conservatives, or even a substantial swing to the NDP, would dramatically underline mass popular desire for progressive policies - but would not guarantee the achievement of those policies.

The crisis conditions in the economy and politics of the country are deep going and permanent. Mass unemployment, wild profiteering, inflation, poverty, racism and government corruption have become permanent features of life in Canada in the 1970's. The main efforts of the Liberals and Conservatives is to frustrate and confuse the search for solutions. The Trudeau-Clarke road show is designed to perpetuate the myth that they represent some conflicting interests when in fact they represent variations of the same interests - monopoly capital.



Soviet wage increase

Large numbers of Soviet workers will have their wages raised 23-30 percent as of January 1, 1979, the Soviet news agency TASS said Friday. Those getting the raises will be teachers and workers in education, health service and medical workers, salespeople and workers in retail trade and community services. The wage raise is a real one, that is, represents a real increase in purchasing power, because there is no inflation in the USSR and prices are stable. TASS said the wage raises will help to promote the improvement of the system of education, health and medical care, and trade, from which the entire Soviet population will gain directly.

DETENTE means jobs

Betrayal of Canada

The financial oligarchy which dominates the economy and politics of Canada is a partnership of US and Canadian monopoly capitalist interests. The commanding heights of the Canadian economy are owned by US monopoly interests. Canadian big-business makes quick and enormous profits from this partnership. From time to time, there is friction between the partners, but the differences do not extend to a disagreement over the continued joint plunder of the country.

United States imperialism expanded its ownership and control over the Canadian economy all through the period when Trudeau was making his most eloquent speeches about Canadian independence. In particular, the control of the US oil monopolies of Canada's vital energy resources has become even tighter under the Liberal administration.

The massive penetration of US capital into Canada has contributed to the disintegration of the unity of the country. The rush of provincial governments to sell resources to the highest bidder has created regional and provincial rivalries that artificially divide Canadian working people.

US imperialism, with the help of the Conservative and Liberal parties, has extended its domination over every aspect of Canadian life - exporting raw materials - importing machinery and supplies - dominating the manufacturing market - creating trade imbalances - worsening the energy crisis and interfering in the political life of the country.

Rank 77	76	Company	Assets		Net Income			Major Shareholder Place of Residence
			\$000	Rank	\$000	Rank	% Return on Equity	
1	1	General Motors of Canada	1,471,492	17	180,640	6	31.4	→ G.M.C → U.S.A.
2	2	Ford Motor Co. of Canada	1,928,800	14	36,700	45	4.1	→ FORD → U.S.A.
3	3	Imperial Oil	3,401,000	5	289,000	1	16.6	→ EXXON → U.S.A.
4	4	Canadian Pacific	7,357,419	1	239,862	3	11.3	→ WIDELY → CANADA
5	5	Bell Canada	7,330,694	2	286,208	2	10.7	→ WIDELY → CANADA
6	8	Alcan Aluminum	3,724,332	4	220,528	4	15.9	→ WIDELY → U.S.-CDN.
7	6	Chrysler Canada	805,108	39	9,629	134	3.0	→ CHRYSLER → U.S.A.
8	7	Massey-Ferguson	2,874,861	7	36,260	47	4.1	→ ARGUS → CANADA
9	9	Shell Canada	2,014,013	12	154,587	8	13.7	→ SHELL N.V. → NET. CANADA
10	10	The Seagram Co.	2,194,434	9	93,264	15	9.0	→ BRONFMAN → CANADA
11	12	Gulf Oil Canada	2,573,600	8	185,000	5	16.1	→ GULF OIL → U.S.A.
12	11	Inco	4,460,516	3	109,286	9	6.4	→ WIDELY → U.S.-CDN.
13	13	Canada Packers	382,024	73	18,113	82	9.8	→ WIDELY → U.S.-CDN.
14	15	TransCanada PipeLines	1,718,478	15	86,183	17	15.2	→ CP INVESTMENTS
15	14	MacMillan Bloedel	1,360,946	20	60,618	26	12.2	→ CP INVESTMENTS

