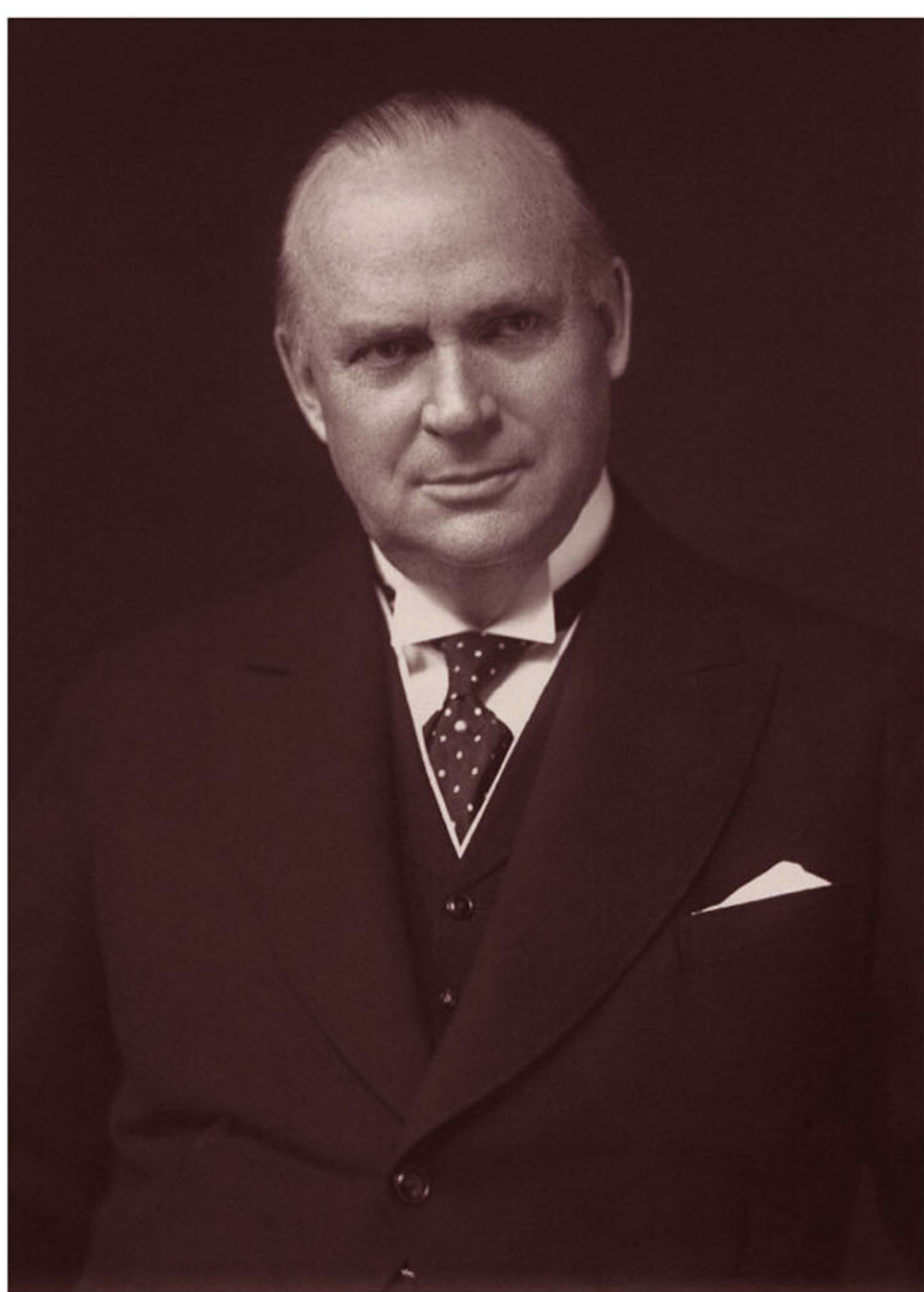


Liberty

MAR. 4, 1939

SWASTIKA OVER CANADA

The Nazi menace at our door!
A startling revelation of what is
happening—and what may come
BY "ENVOY"



Says R. B. Bennett: "We cannot be watchful enough!"

WE are on our guard!" declared Colonel S. T. Wood, Commissioner of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

"We are damned well on our guard!" said Ian Mackenzie next day. He is the energetic Minister of National Defense of the Dominion Government.

"We cannot be watchful enough," says the Right Hon. R. B. Bennett, former Dominion Premier and retired Conservative leader. He is "Canada's Grand Old Man," the conscience of his country.

Against what are police and government on guard?

Fascism! Two indigenous rival parties and the emissaries of three foreign governments—the Japanese, the Italian, and the German—are working toward a common end in Canada: the destruction of democracy.

Nowhere on the American continent is democracy being subjected to more virulent attacks. Canada has come to occupy a key position not only on this continent but in the British Empire. How closely knit are the interests of the United States and Canada was recently illustrated by the investigation of the German spy ring. Washington G-men and Canadian Mounties worked together on the case.

Another case was recently disclosed by ex-Premier Bennett, who had ascertained that some time ago the Nazis had smuggled a complete arsenal from Chicago

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SWASTIKA OVER CANADA

into Canada. The military instructor of the Nazis in Canada is a retired major by the name of Scott. When, a few months ago, six noncommissioned officers and privates of the Royal Canadian Artillery took part in a Nazi meeting in Toronto, wearing their full uniforms, there was a tremendous wave of indignation. An investigation was immediately started. It showed that Major Scott had no connection with the active service any more, and—of course—that the Canadian army, a small but extraordinarily well disciplined body, decisively rejected anything which might connect it even remotely with such mortal enemies of the British Empire.

The government at Ottawa is of the opinion that Japanese attempts on the Pacific Coast constitute the most serious espionage problem, for they do not end with sending "fishing boats" to Vancouver. They distribute hundreds of thousands of copies of Japanese propaganda literature to every one whose name can be found in any telephone book. Most intensively circulated is a small pamphlet bearing the title *Why? Who? How? Questions and Answers on the Sino-Japanese Conflict*, and purporting to be published by the Foreign Affairs Association of Japan. Needless to say, its "answers" put every bit of the blame for everything on China—for the benefit of the public of a market that Japan's dumping-ground export trade is trying hard to conquer.

Another pamphlet mailed throughout Canada in thousands of copies, and designed for American household consumption also, is a collection of excerpts from Japanese speeches and articles. Most noteworthy among the voices here united in propaganda is that of Viscount Konoye, brother of the erstwhile



Says Mounties' Commissioner Wood: "We are on guard!"

Premier of Japan, who upon returning from a visit to California attributed the unpopularity of the Japanese there to the failure of their propaganda.

Naturally, the Germans cannot lag far behind where the Japanese lead. Another publisher, who hides his identity behind "P. O. Box 2290, Montreal, Que." and the rubber stamp of a completely unrecognizable "Ligue Feminine Anti-Communiste de Mon-

treal," floods Canada with a pamphlet that is about the dirtiest rag that has ever appeared in print. It is entitled *The Key to the Mystery*, and carries this on its front page:

"Humanity is overwhelmed with wars, revolutions, acute crises, waves of unemployment . . . fear and anguish, depressions without precedent. Where from do such evils come? From the English? The French? The Italians? The Americans? The Poles? The Arabs? The Eskimoes? No!"

Of course all evil comes from the Jews. The rousings to pogroms smeared over the other thirty-one pages defy description. The "material" used is not new. I have seen it before—every line of it. The origin is the *Weltdienst*, a feature service distributed by Lieutenant Colonel Fleischhacker of Erfurt, a retired German officer and intimate of Hitler and Julius Streicher, whose notorious *Stuermer* this pamphlet tries to emulate.

How do the collected works of Fleischhacker get from Erfurt, Thuringia, to Montreal, Quebec?

The explanation advanced by Fred Rose, a Canadian labor leader, is most illuminating: "This race-hating product was published in both English and French in hundreds and thousands of copies. It was printed in Montreal. Publication costs amounted to more than \$10,000. Who supplied the money? The Nazi Foreign Propaganda Office supplied almost 75 per cent of the material."

Adrien Arcand is the would-be Hitler of Canada. I went all the way to Kingston, Ontario, where the Fascist Party was supposed to be holding its annual convention, especially to meet him. But, although Kingston is a relatively small community, the Fascists could not be found. Of course they had every reason to hide, since the mayor had declared them "unwelcome visitors" and announced that he would not permit them to parade or hold one meeting. A circular letter sent by the Fascists to the Jews of Kingston advising them to leave town before the convention assembled had so enraged the whole community that there would have been rioting, and even perhaps bloodshed, had they shown themselves.

This Kingston convention, however, accomplished the founding of the National Unity Party, forging into one organization most of the rival Nazi and Fascist groups of the country. Only Fred Patterson's group, the Canadian Guard, has held itself aloof from this union.

SWASTIKA OVER CANADA



Nazi-Fascist promoters. Left to right: Maj. J. M. Scott, military instructor; Adrien Arcand, "would-be Hitler"; Joseph Farr.

Patterson claims that Arcand is "too extreme." Nor does Patterson subscribe to anti-Semitism. Now Arcand's Nazis and Patterson's Fascists are locked in a death struggle.

The convention also dispatched a message of loyalty to the Governor General, selected the flaming torch as the party emblem, and formulated a new program—taken bodily from Hitler's "twenty-three unchangeable points." The message of loyalty is unanswered. Nor was the selection of the party emblem very fortunate. The flaming torch is and has always been the emblem of Canada's veterans of the World War, whose spokesman immediately warned the Nazi-Fascists not to wear it if they knew what was good for them. They have heeded the warning.

The Arcandian meetings are orgies of optimism. Speakers declare that the "totalitarian power"—note the Hitlerian expression—will be won in three years. Arcand promises that he "will reconquer Canada from the Red clutches of Moscow and international Jewry."

True, this arrant Hitler-parroting nonsense has found some few listeners—youthful ones. In Quebec, groups of students have smashed Jewish shopwindows. In Toronto they even tried to burn a synagogue.

Of course all this has nothing to do with Canadian politics, and the police of the cities can easily cope with it. They deserve high praise. In Toronto I attended one of Arcand's meetings. So did 1,500 others, the most he has ever been able to assemble. The same evening there were three anti-Fascist meetings in town—total attendance, 15,000. Their guest speaker, Dr. Dodd, the former United States ambassador to Berlin, was cheered and cheered. Indignation against Fascists boiled up when word got around that a note threatening death had been sent to his hotel. Yet the police kept control.

How big is the Canadian Nazi-Fascist movement, and what are its prospects? Who are really behind it?

For figures one must rely on the party itself. Joseph Farr, national organizer, estimates that it has 23,000 members in Ontario alone. He and his friends have announced that they will try for governing power in the next election. The National Unity Party claims 150,000 registered party members throughout the Dominion. Undoubtedly these figures are grossly exaggerated. But the fact remains that the Canadian electorate seems to some extent to be breaking away from the two traditional parties, and that a third front has a greater chance of success now than ever before.

On the other hand, the consciousness of democracy is much too strong in the Canadian people to permit any totalitarianism to be particularly attractive.

Who are really behind the movement?

For the time being, many of the real leaders think it advisable to do their leading anonymously. But some of them are known. Besides leader Adrien Arcand and organizer Joseph Farr, there are military Chief of Staff Major Scott, Dr. G. Lambert of Montreal, I. Clement, who is secretary of the Eastern Division, with headquarters in Montreal, and W. Whittaker of Winnipeg.

The movement is honeycombed with foreign agents. Chief among these is Karl Gerhardt, Nazi number one. He claims to be a German journalist. He is looked upon as Hitler's confidant and is known to have a close though unofficial connection with the German consular service. He is a Canadian citizen. Ex-Premier Bennett, however, has declared he can prove that Gerhardt never was entitled to Canadian citizenship.

All Canada regards the present German consular service with suspicion. This is why the Dominion government has repeatedly refused Germany's offer to advance the consulates to embassies. A probe has been launched into the connections between accredited official German agencies and sabotage and espionage activities. Again it was Bennett who pointed out the danger.

Both consulates and masquerading Gestapo agents are particularly keenly after the 600,000 Canadians of German extraction. Constant attempts are being made to bring these into the fighting line for Nazi purposes. The experience of Adam Sharrer of Sudbury is an example. He is one of the few Nazi sympathizers among German-

SWASTIKA OVER CANADA

Adrien Arcand

Canadians. On a visit to the Fatherland, he was arrested and jailed, accused of having had published an anti-Hitler article in a small Canadian newspaper. He had a hard time proving that another man named Adam Sharrer had written the piece. He is now back in Canada—and will think twice before he visits the Fatherland again.

A German-Canadian living in Kitchener, Ontario, actually did attack Hitler in print as well as by word of mouth. He received a letter from the consul of the Third Reich warning him that unless he ceased his activities his parents in Germany would suffer the consequences. He read the letter before a public meeting. Two weeks later he had word from Germany that his parents had been “admitted” to a concentration camp.

The Nazi center of activity is the Deutsche Bund headquarters in Montreal, controlled by the Montreal Consulate of the German Reich. There are branches of the Bund in every large Canadian city. It maintains its own schools in Montreal, Toronto, Winnipeg, and Kitchener. Children are taught not only the German language but the German greeting, the Hitler greeting, and the Nazi tenets. Their education is completed in the big camps near Winnipeg and Montreal.

Members of the Bund are pledged to employ as many Germans—that is to say, Nazis—as possible, and to express preference for them as co-workers. They are to purchase only German merchandise. They must send their children to German schools wherever possible and see to it that only genuine party comrades are employed as teachers for them. And so on—and on. These regulations are published in Winnipeg as the main props of the “Four-Year Plan” under which the Bund hopes to penetrate the political life of the Dominion.

Naturally, Fascism cannot afford to lag behind. Nowhere is hate against England preached more openly than in Montreal's Casa d'Italia, the seat of the Canadian Fascio, whose official publication *L'Italie Nuova* attempts to influence all Canadians, and regularly publishes French and English sections attacking the Empire.

The real mouthpiece of the united, yet split, Fascist movements is a publication in French—*L'Illustration Nouvelle*, printed in Montreal and edited by Arcand. Its foreign editor is Mario Duliani, an intimate of the Montreal Italian consul. Its specialty is its perpetual attacks against the United States, especially anent the projected commercial treaty between our two countries.

One cannot argue with a Nazi-Fascist. They are not capable of argument. It is their job to propagandize, that harmony on this continent may be disturbed.

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