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On September 25, Labor Minister Wicks convened what was billed as a major "Peace Parley" between representatives of management and labor.

The next day, after a total of less than 2½ hours' meetings the parley collapsed.

What was behind it?

In labor's view, it was an elaborate "trap" set by the government to provide a sounding board for the anti-union propaganda which has been built into management briefs over a long period.

Even some of the more reasonable people in management thought the same. They figured the government was trying to get all the anti-labor publicity possible, to back up their own thinking. T[illegible] Mr. Wicks [illegible] anti-union dr[illegible] management to [illegible]ial government.

Labor refused to fall into the trap.

The "peace parley," labor said in effect, was a sham. It wasn't genuinely trying to solve problems — it was merely called to provide publicity for the special [illegible]terests.

Mr. Wicks provided no agenda, no guidance on the approach the government expected. But management walked in with two briefs condemning labor, demanding restrictive labor legislation, right-to-work laws, the works — everything labor leaders have warned was in th[illegible]

replied, in effect: This is no conference.

They filed a letter outlining their suggestions for a proper "conference" in which solutions could be sought instead of hysteria sounded. They offered to co-operate in preparing an agenda.

Mr. Wicks' gavel came down. The "peace talks" were over.

Department of Labour RECEIVED OCT 7 1958 LIBRARY

ATTACKS ON LABOR OUT IN OPEN

VLC Plans Counter-Offensive

WINNERS OF LABOUR COUNCIL SCHOLARSHIPS for university entrance were announced this month and the two happy students won congratulations from delegates and officers when they spoke to the Sept. 16 Vancouver Labour Council meeting. Council President Lloyd Whalen (left) congratulates 17-year-old Margaret Tindall of West Vancouver, and 18-year-old James Watt, Vancouver, as council secretary E. A. Ted Jamieson adds smiling approval.

All-out Campaign Proposed To Offset Anti-Union Moves

Vancouver Labor Council this month signalled the opening of a counter offensive to the growing anti-union smears and "suppress labor" campaigns.

The campaign to restrict unions in B.C. came out in the open for the first time and trade unionists promised an all-out battle.

Delegates were told that only a united fight by all workers in B.C. will stop the powerful forces that are at work to weaken and destroy organized labor.

The anti-labor campaign will be the major issue at the B.C. Federation of Labor convention which opens in Vancouver Oct. 21.

The most intensive attack against labor in B.C. history came out in the open as the Social Credit government did more "kite flying."

It was reported that the cabinet was "thinking" of amending the provincial labor code to provide for compulsory arbitration, to water down labor's right to strike and possibly to introduce right-to-work provisions.

A week aerlier, Labor Minister Wicks — in some personal kite-flying—told a Vancouver meeting that public opinion favoring compulsory arbitration was growing, and that governments can't ignore public opinion.

The Sept. 16 labor council meeting heard warnings that labor had to launch a province-wide

(Continued on Page 2)

● ● ● IN BRIEF

NOMINEE—Building Service Employees' Union Local 244 has put forward the name of VLC Delegate John Henderson as a labor candidate for School Board in the December civic election.

* * *

NEW FACES — The following delegates were obligated and seated at September meetings of the Vancouver and District Labor Council: C. N. Bridge, Street Railwaymen, Division 101; A. G. Cragg, R. Mason, J. McDonald, J. Alterio and H. Bird, Carpenters' and Joiners' Union Local 452; R. S. Colbert, Retail, Wholesale & Department Store Union Local 535; Mrs. F. Feilberg, International Association of Machinists,

(Continued on Page 2)

Happy Students Thank Council For University Scholarship Aid

Two Vancouver high schools' students are away to UBC this fall with the aid of $250 scholarships from Vancouver Labor Council.

Winners of this year's awards were announced at the mid-month council meeting—and were introduced to delegates.

It is the second year of council's scholarship program, one which probably will be expanded later.

Winners were Margaret Eleanor Tindall, 17, of 1105 Haywood, West Vancouver; and James Alexander Watt, 18, 3155 East Seventh.

Delegates applauded the two students who told the meeting that "we hope we will be successful in our studies and do credit to the confidence placed in us by your council."

Winners were chosen by university officials on the basis of "proficiency and promise."

Miss Tindall made an average of 83.9 per cent on Grade 12 exams for university entrance, one of the best averages in her school area.

She intends to work for a Bachelor of Commerce degree and to teach in commercial and secretarial subjects when she graduates.

Her father died in 1954 and her mother supports the family of two daughters on a modest income.

During the last two summers she has worked as a waitress and office worker.

She has been highly recommended by teachers in her high school and others in her community.

James Watt graduated from Vancouver Technical School in June with an average of 82 per cent. He will probably enter science.

His teachers said he is skillful in mechanical inventions and that he has been active in the school science club.

His father is a World War One veteran and another brother who is now going to university had to remain out of classes for a year to work.

WHALEN, BROWN, TRINEER NAMED DELEGATES TO BCFL

Delegates from Vancouver and District Labor Council to this year's B.C. Federation of Labor convention are president Lloyd Whalen, IWA; John Brown, Teamsters, and Wyman Trineer, IWA New Westminster.

They were elected by acclamation Sept. 16 when three other nominees, Brothers E. A. Jamieson, A. T. Alsbury and W. Stewart withdrew.

The convention is scheduled for October 21-24.

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IN BRIEF

(Continued from Page 1)

Local 692; R. Cook, National Association of Marine Engineers; J. Dwyer, Bookbinders' Local Union No. 105; J. Atkinson, United Packinghouse Workers' Local Union No. 249; L. Samuels and R. J. Noel, Pulp and Sulphite (Converters) Local Union No. 501; R. Stewart and R. Confrey, Steelworkers' Local Union No. 5432.

★ ★ ★

SLIGHT PANIC—Liberal and Conservative party factions were thrown into a more-than-mild panic this month, wondering if they should jump on the anti-union bandwagon. It started when more labor smears blew into the open with suggestion the government was thinking of revising the provincial labor code with more restrictions on unions.

★ ★ ★

NO DENIAL—Premier Bennett hasn't denied rumors that compulsory arbitration under certain conditions is getting favorable government attention. He said he doesn't think compulsory arbitration "at all times" is good and added "it's up to the legislature."

★ ★ ★

United Packinghouse Workers Local 162 now bargain for employees of William Scott & Co., 1426 Cottrell, Vancouver.

ANTI-UNION

(Continued from Page 1)

campaign to combat the smears against unions.

Delegate Bill Stewart of the Marine Workers said "we can't tolerate any interference with our right to strike.

"No union wants to strike but when unfair employers put our backs to the wall, that right must be ours—it mustn't be tampered with in any way.

Brother Stewart said the campaign must be directed chiefly against any attempt to bring compulsory arbitration into this province.

"We must tell this employer-government plainly: 'If you are going to tamper with our right to strike you are tampering with, destroying democracy. If we have to, we will use our full economic strength to prevent it."

Delegate Stu Hodgson, IWA, said the new labor code referred to in news stories was being prepared by a committee of three.

One representative was from the lumber industry, one from the university and one from the field of industrial relations.

"They are working behind the scenes, and they are the group referred to by IWA president Joe Morris when he said big business and politicians are plotting together in back rooms."

Brother Hodgson re-echoed the warning that labor's biggest job today is to convince union executives and officials, then through them their memberships, of what is going on and of how serious the threat is.

He said if necessary, unionists must go to Victoria and picket parliament buildings all through the next session.

Brother George Home stressed that the anti-labor campaign "hasn't just happened this year." It has been building since 1946 and started in the U.S.

It has been stepped up since labor emerged in a powerful, united brotherhood—"a real threat to the people who control the economy."

He said every effort is being made in B.C., just as in the U.S., to make labor the election issue so that governments and business can ignore the real issues—unemployment and inflation.

He promised the province-wide campaign by labor will be the keynote subject at the B.C. Federation convention Oct. 21-24.

Delegate Ben Morley, Building Service Employees, laid the blame for the anti-labor campaign in B.C. on the door of the Social Credit government. He said even the present unsatisfactory Labor Relations Act isn't being enforced where employers are concerned.

On suggestion of VLC president Lloyd Whalen, dozens of delegates anxious to add their voices in protests satisfied themselves by a standing, unanimous vote to launch the province-wide protest.

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BAKERY SALESMEN, Local 189, I. B. T. C. and W. — Business Agent, A. Wylie, 490 E. Broadway; DI. 3411.

BARBERS — INTERNATIONAL JOURNEYMEN OF AMERICA, No. 120—115 Labor Temple; EM. 0641. Secy. Allan Coleman.

B.C. ELECTRIC OFFICE EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION — Business Manager Bill Swanson, 949 Hornby; phone MU. 3-6134.

BEVERAGE DISPENSERS' UNION, No. 676—Business Manager, Robt. G. Beddome, 440 W. Pender St.; MU. 3-3923 and MU. 3-4948.

BREWERY WORKERS UNION, Local 300 — Secretary, J. S. Peden, 256 E. 22nd Ave., phone DI. 5594.

BEVERAGE DISPENSERS (New Westminster) Local 835—Business Agent, J. F. Tomson, 70 - 8th St., New Westminster; phone LA. 2-7410.

BOILERMAKERS, IRON SHIPBUILDERS, BLACKSMITHS, DROP FORGERS AND HELPERS, Local 359—Financial Secretary, M. H. Hadley, 111 Dunsmuir; MU 4-1047.

BRICKLAYERS & MASONS INTERNATIONAL UNION, Local No. 1—Secretary Cyril T. Ingham, 4286 Balkan, Vancouver; DI. 4038.

BUILDING MATERIAL & FUEL TRUCK DRIVERS' UNION, Local 213—Business Agents, A. Medley, L. Janze and E. M. Lawson; Secretary, J. Whiteford, 490 E. Broadway, DI. 3411.

BUILDING SERVICE EMPLOYEES INTERNATIONAL, Local 244 — Business Agent and Secretary, Ben A. R. Morley, Room 216, 603 W. Hastings; MU 5-9452.

BUILDING TRADES COUNCIL — Secretary, Harold Taft, 110 Labor Temple, EX. 1210.

CARPENTERS' UNION, No. 452 — Business Agent, R. Buchanan; Financial Secretary, P. J. Deplissy, Labor Temple; DI. 2720 or EM. 1212.

CARPENTERS (New Westminster) Local 1251 — Business Agent, H. Taft, office 732 Royal Ave., New Westminster; phone LA. 1-0525; residence phone, LA. 2-9037.

CARPENTERS' UNION (Courtenay), No. 1638 — John Hansen, Pres.; Robert Hamilton, Sec.; Box 515, Courtenay.

CEMENT MASONS, Local 919, O.P. & C.M.—R. R. Baker, 271 Beta; GL. 0067-R, secretary; Office, Room 101, 119 West Pender, Dispatcher, MU. 4-6814.

CIVIC EMPLOYEES UNION, Local 407—R. Coello, President, 2567 East Fifth, HA 6910R.

CLUB CABARET, CONSTRUCTION CAMP CULINARY AND SERVICE EMPLOYEES, Local 740—Business Agent, G. W. Faulkner, 402 W. Pender; MU. 5-9828.

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DISTILLERY WORKERS' UNION, No. 92 — Secretary H. MacDougall, 120 Harvey, New Westminster.

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ELEVATOR CONSTRUCTORS, Local 82—Sec., H. C. MacKichan, 4633 Elmwood St., Burnaby; DE. 5689-L.

ENGINEERS, HOISTING AND PORTABLE, Local 115 — Business Agent, A. W. Scott, 5804 Fraser; FR. 6395.

ENGINEERS, SCHOOL AND CARETAKERS, Local 963—Secretary, G. J. Schultz, 2825 West Thirteenth; BA. 3000.

ENGINEERS' UNION (Stationary Operating), Local No. 882—Business Agent, Harry Berger, Room 8, 2414 Main; EM. 2429.

FIRE FIGHTERS (Burnaby), Local 323 — Secretary-Treasurer, H. D. Anderson, 38 N. Fell Ave., phone GL. 3831M.

FIRE FIGHTERS, Vancouver, Local 18—President, Hector Wright, 4149 Marguerite; CH. 4146. Secty., Frank Bain, 4559 Belmont; AL. 0516Y.

FLOORLAYERS' UNION, U.B. of C.J., Local No. 1541 — Room No. 108, Labor Temple, Business Agent, Bruce Robson, 3238 E. 29th; DE. 7297M.

GLAZIERS AND GLASSWORKERS, Local 1527 — Recording Secretary, A. Allen, 510 East 5th, DI. 6193; Business Agent, John Leeson, DI. 7535.

GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION (B.C.)—E. P. O'Connor, Gen Sec.; A. C. Bennett, Asst. Gen. Sec.; 2090 West 4th; BA. 5361-5362-5363.

GRAIN WORKERS UNION, Local 333 — Recording Secretary, Gordon H. Greeley, 1575 Dansey Ave., New Westminster.

HOSPITAL EMPLOYEES' UNION, No. 180—Business Manager, W. M. Black, 116 Labor Temple; EM. 5822.

HOTEL AND RESTAURANT EMPLOYEES, Local 28—Sec. A. E. Morgan, Room 406, 402 W. Pender.

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF HEAT AND FROST INSULATORS, AND ASBESTOS WORKERS—1356 Seymour; MU. 1-7615.

INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS, Locals 276 and 287—Business Agent, Anne Marshall, 119 W. Pender; MU. 4-5514; home, HA. 5961M.

INTERNATIONAL WOODWORKERS OF AMERICA, Local 1-217—President, Lloyd Whalen; Secretary, S. M. Hodgson, No. 6, 45 Kingsway; DI. 0274.

IRONWORKERS SHOPMEN'S, Local Union 712—Business Agent, V. E. Steers, 222 W. Broadway; DI 5611.

IRONWORKERS, Local 97 — Pres. Robt. Knox; Vice-pres. Victor Morell; Fin. Sec., Geo. Sinclair; Bus. Agent, Norman Eddison, 222 W. Broadway; DI. 8232.

JEWELRY WORKERS' INTERNATIONAL, Local 42 — Office, 339 West Pender, MU 4-1613; President, Frank Popowich, 1705 Napier, HA 2465R; Organizer, Chas. Crate, 124 West 20th St., North Vancouver; YU 7-6989.

LABORERS CONSTRUCTION AND GENERAL, Local 602—Secretary, C. H. Savage, Room 204, 307 W. Broadway; DI. 9233.

LAUNDRY WORKERS, No. 292—Business Agent, J. H. Irving, 490 E. Broadway; EM. 4543.

MACHINISTS, INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION, Lodge 692—Business representatives, D. H. Chapman and George S. Wenlock, Room 17, 2414 Main; EM. 7035; DI. 0513.

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MILK SALESDRIVERS & DAIRY EMPLOYEES UNION, Local 464—No. 107, 490 E. Broadway; Business Representatives, Ben McCrone and George Shaw; DI. 3411.

MOLDERS' UNION, Local 281 — Business Agent, M. Bjornson, 119 Labor Temple; EM. 5920.

MOTION PICTURE PROJECTIONISTS, Local 348—President A. E. McManus; Secretary, D. Calladine; Business Agent, L. Walker, 1356 Seymour; MU. 4-7024.

MUSICIANS' UNION, Local 145 — Business Manager, 402 W. Pender, Room 808; MU. 4-1564.

OFFICE EMPLOYEES' INTERNATIONAL UNION, Local 15—Room 1, 337 West Broadway; DI. 3515. Pat Landsley, Business Agent and Secretary-Treasurer.

OIL, CHEMICAL & ATOMIC WORKERS' INTERNATIONAL UNION, Local 16-601. President, C. L. Barber; Financial Corresponding Secretary, R. G. Burns, 4737 E. Hastings, North Burnaby; GL. 2121.

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REFRIGERATION WORKERS UNION, Local 516 — Sec., L. R. Wintle, 137 W. 40th; FR. 4409; FR. 8511.

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SCHOOL BOARD EMPLOYEES' FEDERAL UNION (Burnaby), Local 379—Secretary, G. J. McCrae, 3309 Lane, S. Burnaby.

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STREET RAILWAYMEN'S UNION, No. 134—Bus. Agent, R. C. Lawrence, Room 22, 774 Columbia, New Westminster. Phone LA. 1-7330.

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UNION LABEL TRADES COUNCIL —Secretary, Mrs. A. E. Hallock, day phone DI. 0827, evenings, DI. 3748.

UNITED GARMENT WORKERS' UNION, No. 232—Secretary, Marveen Stewart, 7190 Lougheed Hwy., R.R. No. 8, New Westminster.

UNITED GARMENT WORKERS, Local 190 — Recording Secretary, Annie Fast, 1238 East 63rd; EL. 2007.

UNITED STEELWORKERS OF AMERICA, Local 5688 — Sec., Wm. Giesbrecht, 33 East Broadway.

UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA EMPLOYEES' UNION, Local 116—Secretary, A. Leathem, 518 East 8th St., North Vancouver.

WATER AND SEWER BOARD EMPLOYEES, Local 393 — Secretary, R. Skinner, 571 W. 22nd Ave. EM. 9041.

WOOD, WIRE & METAL LATHERS Local 207—Secretary, J. May, office 1295 Kingsway; EM. 1223.

Council Education Institute To Study Attacks On Unions

The attack on unions by employer-groups and labor's counter offensive will be one of the main discussions at the Vancouver Labor Council-CLC education institute October 4 and 5.

The institute promises to be the most interesting and the largest ever held in this area.

It will be held in Burnaby South High School, 2350 Kingsway, South Burnaby.

Registration on the Saturday opening day is from 8 to 9:30 a.m., a general session in the assembly hall with keynote speaker Dean G. C. Andrew of UBC runs from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. and courses open at 10:30 a.m.

The open forum on the "Labor Crisis," will analyze the problems facing unions today, review the strike front in B.C. and study the nature of the employers' attack and labor's counter offensive.

It will be held Sunday at 1:30 p.m. and CLC vice-president Joe Morris will give a one-hour talk on the problem before the open forum discussion. All other courses will wind up by 12 noon on Sunday to permit everyone to attend the "Labor Crisis" discussions.

Here is a summary of other courses:

- **The labor relations act and your union**—full discussion of the act, labor board duties, certifications, negotiations, conciliation boards, strike action and court injunctions. Leader, Percy Lawson, CLC.
- **Safety and accident prevention**—responsibility of the compensation board, management and labor; control of hazards, launching safety programs. Leaders, John T. Atkinson, IWA, Arthur Francis, WCB.
- **Effective union administration**—designed to provide training for improved administration of unions. Leader, H. W. Sullivan, Hospital Workers.
- **Job of a shop steward and grievances** — duties and techniques for the shop steward. Leaders, Russ St. Eloi, Plumbers; Pen Baskin, Steelworkers.
- **Automation** — what impact does it have, is it a threat or an innovation? Leaders, Ralph Showalter, UAW; Bill Lowe, Office Employees.
- **Value of the union label and its history** — the value of union buying, power of the union dollar. Leaders, Mrs. A. E. Hallock, Union Label Council, George Droneck, ACW.
- **Labor's role in community affairs** — methods to make the union more active in campaigns such as housing, employment, community planning, etc. Leader, Geo. Johnston, Meat Cutters.
- **Political education**—how the legislatures affect trade unions, what is needed to have favorable legislation enacted. Leader, George Home, BCFL.

CHOICE for this month's union label gal is actress Barbara Nichols, who's latest role is in "The Naked and the Dead".

Labor Wins Clear-cut Victories In Longshore, Plumber Disputes

Clear-cut victories were won by organized labor in two major B.C. labor disputes this month.

The victories: those of Plumbers and Pipefitters Local 170, and five locals of the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union.

The plumbers' settlement, based on the majority recommendation brought down in August by oMntreal lawyer H. Carl Goldenberg and plumbers' representative E. A. Jamieson, ended the summerlong construction industry deadlock on the Lower Mainland.

It had started April 30 when the employers locked out plumbers, insisting they would receive no wage increase this year.

It was settled September 9 with contractors finally voting—in their first secret ballot—to pay the 26 cent package increase suggested in the Goldenberg-Jamieson report.

The settlement gave plumbers 20 cents more per hour, another six cents in holiday pay and other benefits.

Longshoremen's victory was equally significant but for different reasons. They had struck August 21, mainly for the principle that pensions are subject to collective bargaining.

The settlement reached September 21 under federal mediator Eric Taylor embodied that principle, provided a jointly-administered pension plan with better benefits, gave the union the 8-hour day and a 21-cent wage increase.

The position of organized labor in both cases was vindicated.

Council Pays Tribute To Two Deceased

Silent tribute to two deceased members of Vancouver Civic Employees' Union Local 407, Clark Moore and Jim Buchanan, was paid by delegates to Vancouver and District Labor Council's Sept. 16 meeting.

Their deaths were reported by Delegate Coello.

PNE Promises Co-operation

A public charge that "organized labor is not wanted at the Pacific National Exhibition" this month brought a promise from PNE officials that there will be no anti-union discrimination.

The charge was made at Vancouver and District Labor Council meeting at conclusion of the PNE, by Mrs. Josephine Hallock, secretary of the Union Label Trades Council.

She protested the treatment the council had received at this year's exhibition and warned that the Union Label Trades Council will not be invited back to next year's PNE.

Following publication of her statements, PNE officials hastened to release a statement which assured organized labor the Union Label exhibit will be welcomed back to next year's exhibition.

Mrs. Hallock had criticized not only the location of the Union Label booth at this year's fair, but also the attitude of PNE officials towards labor.

Her report not only brought the assurance that PNE officials will not attempt to interfere with next year's union label exhibit. It also resulted in a request from VLC executive board for all details in order to try to get labor represented on the PNE's board of directors.

Better Gov't Policing Urged On Work Hours

Vancouver and District Labor Council has urged the B.C. government to add to the Labor Department's staff in order to properly police the Hours of Work Act.

The action was taken by delegates following receipt of a letter from Labor Minister Lyle Wicks, seeking co-operation of the council and its affiliates in eliminating unnecessary overtime.

The minister's appeal brought a sharp reaction from the council's executive board. In effect, it urged the government: "Clean up your own house."

The executive reported that while most of the affiliated unions do their own policing with respect to overtime, that situation does not exist among unorganized workers.

"In some cases the conditions among unorganized workers are deplorable," the executive said. "This situation is probably due to the lack of staff in the Labor Department."

In his letter, Mr. Wicks said he has found both Management and Labor anxious to curtail overtime as much as possible.

"In periods when there are more workmen available than jobs, it is the policy of the government to eliminate all overtime possible," he wrote.

"This is done by curtailing the number of overtime permits issued and by enforcing the provisions of the Hours of Work Act."

He argued that in certain circumstances, it is necessary to allow overtime in order to create more employment, but added:

"Everything possible is being done to keep working hours in line with the provisions of the act . . . this can only be accomplished by the continued co-operation of all concerned . . ."

Pacific Upholstering Co. Ltd., 4394 Fraser Street, Vancouver, has been removed from Vancouver Labor Council's "We do not patronize" list.

Vancouver Upholsterers' Union, Local No. 1, advised council that it had reached an agreement with the company.

UNION LABEL PNE PRIZES

'.. So Many Nice Things'

A little old white-haired lady came to the Labor Temple one night this month.

She was a pensioner and like all persons on a low fixed income, her money too often didn't stretch far enough.

But this was a happy night because she was one of the winners in the jackpot of prizes given away at the union label booth at the PNE, and her prize, to her at least, was better than all the rest.

She won a big hamper of groceries.

"It is certainly a big hamper with so many things in it," she said. "Why there are enough groceries for me for the rest of the month."

* * *

Union Label Trades Council held a special presentation night in the Labor Temple this month to award prizes won at the council's PNE booth earlier this year.

Labor Day prize winners were: Ruby Defehr, Mrs. Doris Croteaux, M. Burdeniuk, Ronald T. Hull, C. Werner, C. R. Corks, A. Goddyn, Mrs. G. Chappelle, Mrs. N. Burns, Shirley Burchak, A. Walsberg, Mrs. C. Muir, D. B. Fleming (Trail), Mrs. K. Grantham, F. Van der Ree, B. Lalond, D. C. Oades, Mrs. J. Ewert, Mrs. J. L. Ayre, W. Stein.

Daily Prize winners were: S. Howard, A. G. Hawrmack, John Parkington, H. J. Barney, H. Denny, E. Wright, Bill Coquelisse, Marg Taylor, Ethyl Wilkinson, C. Murphy, Marg Goshko, L. Tanaceve, R. S. Wellens, Doris Brafeith, Mrs. H. Erickson, F. Charron, Malcolm Harkness, Mrs. Ian McNeill, S. Bright, Sheila Ingram, W. S. Frankish C. Elder, K. Montague and C. Smart.

EVERY WEEK ACROSS CANADA fire strikes at more than 1,000 homes, turning family sanctuaries into shapeless ruins, snuffing out hundreds of lives. Fire Prevention Week is set for Oct. 5 to 11 with the slogan "don't give fire a place to start!" If you haven't checked your home regularly for fire hazard it's time to start — ask the fire department to look things over for you . . . fire prevention is simple.

THE LABOR STATESMAN

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ALLIED PRINTING TRADES UNION LABEL COUNCIL VANCOUVER, B.C. 33

Vancouver, September 29, 1958

Five Months To Go

Alleged "thinking" by the Social Credit government is a far cry from legislation.

But in the case of labor laws, it's fortunate for organized labor in B.C. that the cabinet decided to leak some thoughts five months before the legislature meets.

Because in those five months, labor can and must make sure no such antediluvian views ever reach the floor of the legislature, much less finding expression in a government bill.

The way to do it is obvious.

Delegates to Vancouver Labor Council put their finger on it this month.

Every day from now till the legislators meet must be dedicated to broadening a province-wide demonstration of organized labor's determination to fight anti-unionism with every weapon conceivable.

Only by such all-out efforts can labor's hard-won rights be protected from the onslought now out in the open.

Public opinion? It is waiting now to hear labor's answer to the smear.

Opinion hasn't taken visible form, for or against. It doesn't take such form merely because professional "opinion leaders" and psychologically-slanted surveys say it exists.

What labor leaders and every unionist will say and do between now and February will be a big part of "public opinion" by the time legislation is under consideration in Victoria.

By our efforts in these five months, we can prevent repressive legislation ever being framed. The government's support has never been shakier. It wouldn't fly in the face of public opinion at the next session. It couldn't—no matter how deep it is in the pocket of those behind the "wreck labor" campaign.

If we fail in establishing a demonstrable public opposition to such "thinking" as the government now indulges—if by default, we leave any uncertainty about our worthiness extant—if Social Credit policymakers can feel sure enough to introduce anti-union legislation—then our campaign will be lost.

The "new labor code" must be stopped before it is written, stopped by the public, because if it reached even first reading in the government-dominated legislature it would pass into statute.

The "kites" have given us the warning and it's up to labor — up to the public — to shoot them down.

Support Red Feather

This year, the Vancouver and District Labor Council is supporting the Greater Vancouver Community Chest and Council and the New Westminster United Good Neighbour Fund in their annual drives.

The Statesman, as official organ of the Council, urges all Trade Unionists and their families to individually give these drives the support envisioned in Canadian Labor Congress policy.

An hour's pay a month from each unionist can guarantee a better winter for thousands of needy citizens served by the Chest.

STATESMAN LETTERS

Readers Write

Premier's Claims Challenged

Editor:

A press report appearing in the Victoria Daily Colonist captioned "B.C. Servants Not Penalized by Austerity", under date of August 31st, is completely misleading.

This report relates that "Premier Bennett Friday produced figures to show that provincial civil servants are not being forced to subsidize the Government's austerity programme. He said the average monthly wage for civil servants in July of this year was $305 as against $277 for the same month a year ago".

While the figures related are correct, they are incomplete and therefore completely and absolutely misleading.

It is a fact that prior to the effect of the 7½% increase of July 1, 1957, the average wage in the government service was, as stated, $277 per month. It is also a fact that the average wage in July this year was $305 per month.

The Premier, however, failed to state that the average wage outside government service in B.C. in June this year was $330.50 and is no doubt higher at this date as a result of concluded collective agreements since June to this date.

This differential of $25 per month is determined by the application of simple average computation.

A more appropriate and just method of determining justification for wage increases in government service is to examine the wages paid respective labor groups in government service with their counterparts in industry and other public services.

Surveys conducted by the government's agency in the field of evaluation, namely, the Civil Service Commission, and the Research Department of the Association, show the need for wage adjustments averaging approximately 10%.

It is imperative, where there is an honest attempt to do a fair evaluation, to take into consideration that many of the wage rates used in comparison with government rates have been in effect from anywhere from a month to over one year, which means that government employees wage rates from July, 1957, have consistently, month by month, been slipping further and further behind the rates enjoyed by their counterparts in industry.

It is in this sense that we state categorically that because the government failed to grant wage adjustments April 1, 1958, that government employees are required by the government's policy, or lack of it in the area of wage rates, to subsidize the government's austerity programme.

E. P. O'Connor,
General Secretary,
B.C. Gov't. Employees Association.

Another Kelowna Holdout

Editor:

In the last Labor Statesman we noted that it is stated the Retail Food and Drug Clerks Union, Local 1518, has been certified for the grocery employees of Gordon's Master Market, in Kelowna, B.C.

We would be very pleased if this were so, but this statement is erroneous and should read "Vernon" in place of "Kelowna".

During the past six or seven years, our Local has constantly endeavoured to organize Gordon's Super-Valu in Kelowna with little success.

We have, on occasion, signed up 90% of the employees but have lost the representation votes taken in the store.

During the early part of this year, a Gordon's Super-Valu store was opened in Vernon. Our members in Vernon, realizing the seriousness of an unorganized store in the district, greatly assisted us in organizing the Gordon's Super-Valu in Vernon.

We are pleased to state that we have the certification for Gordon's Super-Valu, Vernon, and are now negotiating with the operators in the Okanagan area for a new collective agreement. This certification was not easily obtained, for we have weathered three representation votes this year odoniGors'n votes this year in Gordon's Super-Valu, Vernon.

Wm. W. Wells,
Business Manager,
Local 1518.

(We stand corrected, but possibly our error was prophetic. We hope so—Ed.)

From The Prexy's Chair

By LLOYD WHALEN

Two specific issues have emerged in B.C. in the past month as the core of what anti-union forces have been driving for: compulsory arbitration and so-called "right-to-work" laws.

That they've been spelled out just when preparation is under way for the next session of the legislature is no accident. The propaganda screen had been laid for a year. September was, for management, the month to crystallize that propaganda into specific campaigns — the two campaigns which more than any other could, if successful, destroy trade unionism in B.C.

I've discussed the ludicrous right-to-work" drive in previous issues of The Statesman. Let's look at compulsory arbitration in just one respect.

The argument being sold to the public goes this way: "Pure arbitration is a time-honored and democratic way of settling civil disputes when the parties can't get together. The process stems from our judicial system and common law, and is the highest form of justice ever evolved."

What must now be pointed out to the public is the vast difference between arbitrating interpretation of a contract and arbitrating a contract itself.

In business, for example, the courts never decide on the initial terms of a contract. They do, however, arbitrate on the interpretation of terms and conditions in the contract if a dispute arises.

Put it this way:

Say I'm buying a car from a dealer. We sign a contract describing the vehicle and some guarantee that it will operate, and specifying the price and terms of payment. Later I find the car is a lemon. Or I find the payments are changed from what I understood they would be. One of us, the dealer or I, can go to court to have our dispute arbitrated.

But who ever heard of us going to court at the beginning, to determine what total price I should pay or what monthly payments I should make or what "extras" the dealer must provide in the car?

This I know is an over-simplified example of the difference, but it IS the difference which makes compulsory arbitration of labor disputes so very different from the Common Law-judicial concept of arbitrating disputes over interpretation.

In labor-management contracts, the arbitration of disputes arising from terms of an existing contract is an accepted process.

But we must resist the arbitrary setting of the contract itself by a third party. Contract terms just can't be forcibly legislated.

This is only one aspect of the issue. I'll come back to the subject again.

MONTREAL — Non-operating rail unions will take a strike vote in the current dispute with CNR and CPR.

The ballot will be submitted to 135,000 employees affected in the dispute because the railways said they could neither accept nor reject the conciliation board recommendations for an hourly wage hike of 14 cents in a two-year contract.

CROSS-SECTION

Students Use 'Art Of Suasion' As Bus Fares Upped In Mexico City

In the Vancouver court house this month, a public hearing quietly heard the pros and cons as the B.C. Electric made a bid for a bus fare boost.

There were briefs, questions, politeness and few anxious moments.

At about the same time, another bus fare "hearing" was taking place in Mexico City.

Jim Bury, assistant secretary of ORIT, a former Vancouver union leader and one who rarely passed up a BCE rate hearing, couldn't miss the chance for a comparison.

In Mexico City, city authorities gave the privately-owned bus line permission to boost fares—about three cents now and with another five-cent boost when new buses are put in service.

Jim went on in his letter from Mexico:

This second increase was granted on the understanding that new buses, already purchased and on display, 1500 in total, would go into operation and that the old buses would be retired to the country and smaller towns of Mexico.

"The bus drivers' union also made the demand that drivers receive a substantial wage increase, amounting to 5 pesos (about 40 cents) a day.

"The general public and particularly the students were opposed to the increase, particularly since none of the shiny new buses are yet in operation and the fares have been increased on the old equipment.

"One evening, the students took the law into their own hands. A bus depot was set on fire. Hundreds of buses were put out of commission, Molotov cocktails were hurled, and bus drivers and students had pitched battles resulting in many injured and one student reportedly killed.

"Over 300 buses were commandeered by student drivers and driven to the University campus where they were guarded by student patrols.

"The most daring students painted student buses at the old rates and definitely drove the buses through a stranded city of 4,000,000 persons.

"Trolley-buses and street cars operated by city government are not affected and are doing a roaring business, with passengers clinging to the sides and many perched on top. Taxis are loaded with four to six passengers.

"Although order has been partially restored today, buses are still held by the University students on the campus, while many hundreds of police and military are standing by doing very little to exert the authority of the state.

"There seems to be reluctance on the part of the government to move in and act against the students. Perhaps this is just looked on as a little prank, an outlet of superfluous youthful energy.

"We understand that nobody will be held responsible for the damage to the buses and the owners must assume the cost of repairs themselves."

And Jim concludes with this:

"Perhaps this unusual technique of combatting bus fare increases might be remembered the next time the B.C. Electric institutes an increase."

Somehow, we can't picture Vancouverites getting quite that worked up—even over a bus fare increase. But we'll admit, the method seems to be effective.

AFL-CIO Survey Repudiates Claims B.C. Unions' Pay Boosts Extreme

The recession in the U. S. hasn't cut into wage increases in any big way.

During the first half of 1958, wage increases were only a shade smaller than in the first six months of last year, according to the current issue of the AFL-CIO's collective bargaining report.

The report states: "The most significant bargaining feature of the early 1958 period of economic recession is that neither unions nor employers have regarded the economic downturn as a signal for the abondonment or sharp limitation of wage increases."

The most frequent pay boosts have ranged from 8 to 11 cents an hour, the survey shows. In addition, the steady liberalization of fringe benefits continued.

On wage hikes, the study showed:

- More than a quarter of the increases were 13 cents or more an hour.
- Nearly 55 per cent provided 10 cents or more.
- Only about 20 per cent were at the 4 to 6 cents scale, and a scant two per cent yielded token increases from one to three cents.
- About seven per cent of all settlements, mostly in long-depressed industries, provided for no increases.

The publication recalled the propaganda of employers for union "restraint" in demands, and editorial speculation that the year would be "tight" for bargaining because of the recession.

"But at the actual bargaining table, the recession usually has not been the key factor," the report said.

"Most unions have not been led into abandoning reasonable wage demands. Except at the most sorely depressed companies, unions have insisted on, and employers have been prepared to provide, reasonable wage increases regardless of the general economic picture.

"The union view has been that if the employer's basic financial position has remained sound, a temporary slump in business is not an acceptable excuse for giving up or modifying warranted wage increases which can be taken in stride on the basis of long-run economic conditions."

The report says that wage increases have benefited the economy as a whole because they have helped maintain consumer buying power and offer evidence of confidence that the recession could be halted.

The report doesn't suggest that the impact of the recession had no effect at the bargaining table.

It has probably served to limit what might have been larger wage boosts, the survey said.

It has been a factor in the postponement of some negotiations, and there has been an increase, though relatively small, in the number of settlements where raises were either passed up or were nominal.

On fringe benefits, the survey shows more than one-third of the settlements produced improvements in health and welfare schemes; better pension plans in 15 to 20 per cent of agreements; improved vacations in more than 25 per cent; and an additional one or two paid holidays in about 20 per cent.

Canadian Labor Day Came First, Says Oldtime Toronto Unionist

Most people consider that the celebration of Labor Day got its original push in May, 1882 in New York behind the prodding of Peter McGuire.

But not so.

A former member of the executive of the old Trades and Labor Congress, John W. Buckley, of Toronto, recalls that Labor Day originated under the auspices of the Toronto Trades Assembly in April 1872, ten years prior to McGuire's day.

The 76-year-old Buckley who has dug into old records of the Toronto Assembly says that beginning in 1872 there was an annual "workingman's demonstration" and picnic, in addition to an annual pilgrimage to the Toronto exhibition grounds.

He said that in 1882, July 22 was named as a holiday in Toronto and the first Labor Day procession was held with more than 3,000 people in the lineup.

Buckley feels certain that McGuire got the idea of a Labor Day in the U.S. from that celebration as he had been invited to be one of the principal speakers but declined because his wife had met with a serious accident.

The Canadian government proclaimed Labor Day a national holiday in 1894 at the request of the Trades and Labor Congress. In the same year, it was done in the U.S. at the urging of American unions.

Celebration of Labor Day obviously has more of a Canadian tie than most people realize.

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Unions Get Behind $2.9 Million Appeal

United Red Feather Appeal with a goal of $2,906,000 for Greater Vancouver moves off this year with full labor backing.

Vancouver Labor Council president Lloyd Whalen said "this year the labor movement in Greater Vancouver is making an all-out effort to support the Community Chest and Council and the organizations that constitute the Chest.

He urged the use of payroll deductions for donations.

"I should state that it is the opinion of the labor movement that this responsibility be shared in like manner by other groups in society, such as lawyers, doctors and professional people, business executives, etc. and that a portion of corporate profits go to such a worthy cause as is exemplified in the work of the Community Chest and Council.

"We can rest assured that the "Chest" is working vigorously on the principle of fair share responsibility from all parts of our society."

VL Council Opposes Proposed Transit Sale

Outright opposition to the proposed sale of the B.C. Electric transit system to private investors was voted by delegates to Vancouver Labor Council.

The action was taken on recommendation of the executive board, and was directed at current BCE negotiations to sell the system to a former U.S. transit operator now resident in West Vancouver.

The resolution, in addition to opposing sale of the system, also placed the council squarely against any move to subsidize the transit system out of municipal funds.

The Public Utilities Commission had circularized cities and municipalities asking if they are prepared to waive special local tax levies on the utility company.

The resolution said further that labor favors the existing practice of power, natural gas and transportation being treated as a single, unified operation. This unified operation is the PUC's rate-setting basis and shouldn't be changed.

But the CLC resolution concluded that, basic in the council's approach to public utility problems is the Canadian Labor Congress policy of public ownership of public utilities.

Brewery Workers Win Pay Boost

Agreement has been reached between Brewery Workers' Union Local 300 and employers, Delegate J. Peden advised Vancouver Labor Council.

The contract, nine months in the making, provides a 6 per cent pay increase and fringe benefits and is for one year.

Local 300 has established a bursary ta the University of B.C., Brother Peden announced.

SIU Wins 25 Pct.

Seafarers International has won a 25 per cent wage boost for 340 unlicensed personnel of Northland Navigation, Union Steamships and Tidewater Shipping, in new two-year contracts.

The agreements include a 12 per cent boost from June 1, 1958 and an additional 13 per cent effective Sept. 1, 1959.

Overtime rates have been increased to time and one-quarter.

Mark This Date For Your Future Fun

It's less than two months to banquet time.

The annual social event of Vancouver and District Labor Council will be held in the Commodore November 28th.

Date was set by the council this month.

Tickets will be $4.00 each. More details in next month's Statesman.

Ottawa Fumbling Means Lost Jobs

OTTAWA — Government delay in announcing plans—whatever it may have — for meeting winter unemployment is going to cost Canadians jobs.

That's the belief of William Dodge, CLC vice-president and labor representative at a winter employment conference held by the government last month.

Said Dodge: "The conference was very emphatic in the necessity for providing economic incentives for winter employment, particularly in construction. It has been shown that exhortation to provide winter work through "do it now" campaigns, commendable as they are, is not sufficient.

"There was equal emphasis on the necessity for quick action—if work is to be carried out this winter, it must be planned now, not when the snow is flying."

Dodge said "it is extremely regrettable the government continues to delay announcing any plans it may have."

The delay means fewer jobs in the winter and economists agree jobs will be extremely scarce with danger of unemployment exceeding last winters total, he said.

"Was her father surprised when you said you wanted to get married?"

"Surprised! Why the gun nearly fell out of his hand."

Wife: "Darling, I'm afraid your dinner will be a little burned tonight."

Hubby: "What's the matter? Did they have a fire at the delicatessen?"

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Government Accused As Strike Provoker

The B.C. Government was accused this month of "inviting its employees to strike."

The accusation was made by Brother Ed O'Connor, general secretary of the B.C. Government Employees' Association.

He was speaking in Vancouver and District Labor Council discussion of the plight of government workers.

Council voted full support to the government workers in their efforts to obtain fair treatment from Victoria. As reported in August editions of the Statesman, salaries of government employees in B.C. lag 11 per cent behind those of other workers.

The resolution adopted by the council urged the government "to make a policy announcement and firm commitment that there will be included in the 1959-1960 budget a lump sum . . . sufficient to increase wages within the government service to parity with those paid currently by better-class employers."

It also urged the government "to fulfil without further delay all commitments made to the B.C. Government Employees' Association relative to the 1957 strike settlement."

The resolution won full support of delegates.

Subsequently, the B.C. Government Employees' Association won a major round when the executive demanded an early meeting with the cabinet or a committee thereof to discuss employees' wage and other demands.

Through Provincial Secretary Wesley Black, Victoria announced it would arrange the meeting. Normally the cabinet receives briefs only at such meetings and refuses discussion.

The executive's request for a meeting followed voting by branches throughout the province in which members of the association overwhelmingly instructed their executive to "go as far as you see fit" to get 1959-60 wage increases.

The resolution adopted by VLC made these points:

- Despite settlement of the threatened 1957 strike, wages in 1957 were still an average six per cent below industry and the gap is now 11 per cent;
- Representations by the association for wage increases this year have been disregarded by the government and no provision for them was made in the 1958-59 budget;
- Commitments made by the government to effect settlement in 1957 have not been fulfilled;
- The "bargaining rights" enquiry has been prolonged to the point where it could not effect changes before the 1959 session of the legislature;
- "Neither the government employees nor the public wishes to be faced with strike threats by the B.C. Government Employees' Association relative to negotiations for wage increases in 1959."

Labor Relations Board has rejected an application by Famous Players to cancel bargaining certificate of Office Employees International Local 15 for office and clerical workers at the Dominion, Capitol and Royal theatres in Victoria.

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A SPECIAL MESSAGE
FROM LABOUR

We in the labour movement in the Greater Vancouver area fully support the United Red Feather Appeal.

The policy of the Canadian Labour Congress is to urge all levels of government to provide increased measures of social security, so that all Canadians may enjoy a better standard of living. Until such time as governments accept greater responsibility in this field, there is an urgent need to help people who desperately need help. Many of these needs can best be met, and always will be met, through the 66 voluntary agencies in the Community Chest and Council of Greater Vancouver.

The United Red Feather Appeal is the least expensive way of raising funds for this worthwhile cause. For this reason, we support the suggestion of **one hour's pay a month** as being a fair contribution from all employees. And we believe also that all sections of our community should give on this fair share basis.

We urge all working people in the Greater Vancouver area to do their share. With corporations, management and members of the professions doing likewise we are sure the 1958 Red Feather objective of $2,906,000 will be met and the less fortunate will be helped in time of need.

JOE MORRIS,
President of District Council No. 1, International Woodworkers or America
and
B.C. Vice-President of Canadian Labour Congress

ED O'CONNOR,
General Secretary, B.C. Government Employees Association
and
B.C. Vice-President of Canadian Labour Congress

WM. BLACK,
President of B.C. Federation of Labour
and
Business Manager of Hospital Employees Union, Local 180

GEORGE HOME,
Secretary of B.C. Federation of Labour

LLOYD WHALEN,
President of Vancouver and District Labour Council
and
President of Local 1-217, International Woodworkers of America

E. A. JAMIESON,
General Secretary, Vancouver and District Labour Council

DRIVERS BLACKLISTED?

VLC Urges Probe Of Car Insurance

A full-scale investigation into the operation of car insurance companies in British Columbia has been asked by Vancouver and District Labor Council.

Attorney-General Bonner has been asked to start the investigation immediately and if necessary use a Royal Commission to conduct it.

The action was taken by council on a resolution proposed from Building Service Employees Local No. 244.

The investigation is necessary to answer these questions, Mr. Bonner was told:

1. Is there a conspiracy between companies in arriving at the premiums charged for insurance?

2. Do the companies Blacklist drivers who have had the misfortune to have an accident, and on what grounds?

3. Should the government set up its own Insurance Company and thereby give motorists car insurance at cost?

A strong recommendation to "revert to the principles of British fair play and justice" by having the courts decide who shall drive and who shall not drive was also included.

But if the resolution was strong, the charges made by delegates who backed it in debate were stronger.

They said the car insurance companies are setting themselves on a pedestal, above the courts, assuming the roles of accuser, judge and jury.

One of the backers of the motion was Brother Charles E. Lamarche, IWA 1-217, who told the council his car insurance was cancelled without reason in April.

Applications to other companies were also rejected, without reason, and he was forced to go to assigned risk—still without reason.

One complication, he pointed out, was that if he had been in a position of having to buy a car on time payments, he wouldn't have been able to with assigned risk coverage.

The way the companies operate at present, delegates stressed, they can deny people the right to drive without giving any reason.

They refuse insurance without giving any reason, to drivers whose records are clear—drivers who have never had an accident and never been convicted of traffic violations.

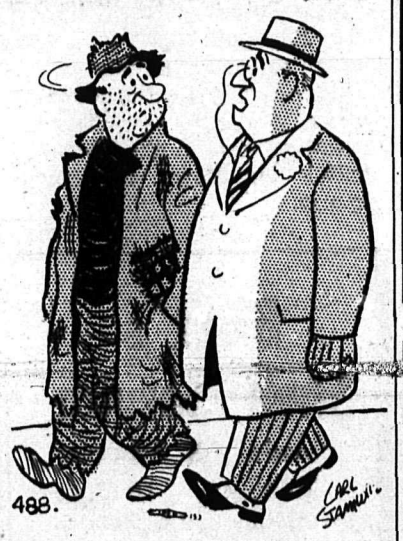
Besides that, charged Brother Jenkins of the Boilermakers' Union, the investigation should look into "shady practices" of some companies.

"They instruct their policy holders not to admit being in the wrong — they say they'll figure out some way to get you off if you never admit to being in the wrong."

Delegate Paddy Neale, IWA, sai the companies have the public "over a barrell' because insurance is needed to drive. "No one controls them. We need government insurance similar to Saskatchewan's."

Brother George Home said the question will be before the convention of the B.C. Federation in October.

Oscar's Steak House in Vancouver has been organized by Club and Cabaret Workers Local 740.



"Er—my good man! Would you care to exchange apparel?...I want to play a little joke on the union negotiating committee."

"The college I went to has turned out some great men."

"When did you graduate?"

"I didn't exactly graduate. I was turned out."

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