IN THIS ISSUE ■ SPECIAL BCFL CONVENTION COVERAGE

THE LABOR STATESMAN

OWNED BY THE VANCOUVER AND DISTRICT LABOUR COUNCIL

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LABOR'S CANDIDATES

Civic Election Slates Named

HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL education institute sponsored by the Vancouver Labour Council in co-operation with the CLC education department was held at Burnaby South High School this month. This Statesman picture shows lineup at registration desk and some of council and CLC officers. One of institute highlights was panel discussion on labor's counter-offensive against employer's anti-union attack.

To Contest City Council, Park, School Board Seats

Vancouver and District Labor Council this month announced its slate of candidates for Vancouver's December civic election and outlined a new plan to expand labor participation in municipal elections in other adjacent areas.

For Vancouver, labor has named its first mayorality candidate in many years. Three aldermanic candidates were chosen and two for School Board and two for Park Board.

Labor candidates will not contest all seats up for election.

But council's political education co-ordinating committee chairman Ed Sims said that "when other organizations have nominated candidates, the committee will give consideration to labor endorsation of candidates from outside the labor council."

Meantime, meetings in Burnaby, Surrey, North Vancouver (covering both the city and district) and New Westminster were set up by the council to compile names of candidates and develop an election platform.

Named as labor candidates in Vancouver:

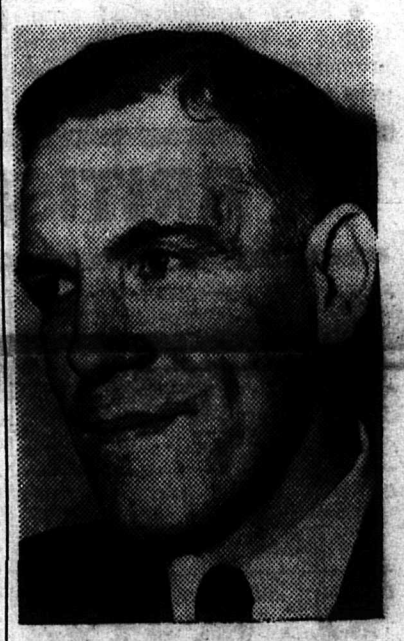
For Mayor—**Tom Alsbury,** city high school principal, chairman of council's education committee, and long-known in civic politics.

For city council—**E. A. Ted Jamieson,** council secretary-treasurer. **Jam Jenkins,** president of Marine Workers and Boilermakers Union. **Paddy Neale,** Vancouver IWA Local 1-217.

For School Board—**Jack Henderson,** long-time unionist and a veteran School Board trustee; **John Hayward,** Street Railwaymen's Union.

For Parks Board—**Bill Pierce,**

(Continued on Page 2)



TOM ALSBURY
. . . for Mayor

Union-Made Gloves

CLC representative Dan Radford advised the Vancouver Labor Council this month that the Watson glove is the only union-made glove in B.C. and that the Treen glove is made by non-union workers.

Convention Tabs Anti-Union Attack, Ready To Battle Restrictive Laws

Meet attack with attack.

That was the unanimous decision of B.C. trade unions last week as a seven-point "counter-offensive" was mapped against the vicious anti-union employers' campaign.

The B.C. Federation of Labor convention set out the program which includes more effective co-operation in strike situations, an extended public relations program, more emphasis on education to "strengthen trade union democracy", community welfare activity, labor lobbies and demand for a "where-do-you-stand" declaration from all MLA's.

The convention also adopted an increased per capita structure to help finance the new plan, to get labor's story to the public and beat back the misrepresentations of the attack by employer organizations.

The per capita will jump to four cents per member per month, an increase of two cents.

Speaker after speaker called for a united drive from all unions to defeat any attempt aimed at more restrictive labor laws in B.C.

The special convention resolution submitted by the resolutions committee won a unanimous vote of approval.

"The employer groups have openly announced their demands for more restrictive legislation, such as compulsory arbitration, the ban on the union shop (through right-to-work laws), government regulation of trade unions through incorporation, and liability for damage suits on account of business losses occasioned by strikes," the resolution declared.

It said that employers have successfully exerted pressure on the political parties in power" to secure support for these laws which will eliminate genuine collective bargaining and destroy free trade unionism."

It was pointed out that the proposed legislation is aimed at preventing unions from successfully negotiating for improved wages and conditions and management's whole campaign "acting in collusion with governments can only result in widespread and bitter conflict with industrial chaos."

Here is the "counter offensive" plan turned over to the BCFL executive council to implement:

1. Promote greater unification of trade union strategy . . . with special emphasis on fuller and more effective co-operation in strike situations.

2. Develop an expanded public relations program to inform industrial workers on matters affecting their welfare, to inform the general public on purposes and ideals of the trade union movement, and to make available reliable information on the relationship of prices, profits and

(Continued on Page 2)

THIS IS THE ATTACK

The BCFL convention declared there is conclusive evidence that organized employers have intensified their attack on unions in these ways:

- **By uniform adoption of bargaining tactics designed to block the negotiation of any possible betterment of wages and working conditions.**
- **By use of provocative tactics both during negotiations and during strikes to make it appear that unions are solely responsible for any public inconvenience.**
- **By use of all propaganda media "to depict trade union administration as irresponsible, unreasonable and corrupt"—to persuade the general public incorrectly that wage increases have been the main cause of increased living costs, to conceal the inflationary effects of their exorbitant profit-taking and price fixing, and to exploit mass unemployment in an attempt to implant fear in the minds of the workers as a deterrent to trade union action.**

More Plants On Short Work Week

OTTAWA — The five-day work week is on the march in Canada —the latest survey showing that 88.3 per cent of all plant employees in manufacturing now enjoy two full days of leisure.

Four years ago, the percentage was 82.5.

The labor department survey also revealed the steady rise in plant workers on the 40-hour week. It's now more than 70 per cent compared to about 50 per cent in 1954.

Buying Union Termed Duty

"Patronizing union-made products and services is our right, and more than that, it is our duty."

That was a statement by the union label committee to the annual B.C. Federation of Labor convention.

"Today, the union, label, shop card and service button have an importance they have not had before, for today they are taking their rightful place as one of labor's most important lines of defence," the report declared.

The convention approved a five-point program on union label:

- All unions be urged to redouble the drive to increase union-label consciousness.
- Enlarge the federation's union label committee to five members.
- That the CLC be urged to include the following pledge in obligation of members and officers of all affiliates: "I promise to patronize, wherever and whenever possible, only those firms which display the union label, shop card or button."
- Provincial cabinet be urged to grant contracts for supplies when obtainable, to union manufacturers.
- Study possibility of establishing a fund for union label promotion in areas where assistance is needed.

ATTACK

(Continued from Page 1)

wages.

3. Expand the education program to strengthen trade union democracy . . . to engage more successfully in the struggle for social security.

4. Encourage full participation by union people in all aspects of community endeavor.

5. Take immediate and positive action to offset the threat of restrictive legislation by labor lobbies, mail campaigns, petitions, etc.

6. All local unions will be asked to tackle MLA's in their constituencies to get a declaration of views and to report on their votes in the legislature on proposed restrictive legislation.

7. Set up a "fighting fund" to finance the program.

Mechanic to car owner: "Let me put it this way. If your car were a horse, it would have to be shot."

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ELECTION

(Continued from Page 1)

IWA Local 1-252; and Charles Lamarche, IWA Local 1-217 who ran as labor aldermanic candidate last year.

The council hopes to endorse three further candidates from outside council to give a fully endorsed labor slate for the six city council seats.

It hopes also to endorse four suitable candidates from outside labor to make a solid slate for the six School Board positions, and to endorse two others for the Park Board's four seats.

To expedite the civic election campaign, council's political co-ordinating committee and the executive will have power to endorse "suitable candidates" of other organizations.

Last year, council entered three candidates in the Vancouver aldermanic race, the first move in years to get direct labor representation on city council.

Although the bid was unsuccessful, labor candidates made a commendable showing at the polls.

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

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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.

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

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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.

ELECTRICAL WORKERS' UNION Local 213—Business Manager, John Waplington, 111 Dunsmuir St., MU. 1-7381 - 2.

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.

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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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MUSICIANS' UNION, Local 145 — Business Manager, 402 W. Pender, Room 308; 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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PULP & SULPHITE WORKERS, Local 708, Watson Island—President E. P. O Neal; Secretary A. Macphee, P.O. Box 294, Prince Rupert, B.C.

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

RETAIL GROCERY AND FOOD CLERKS, Local No. 1518—Sec. W. W. Wells, 337 West Broadway; EM. 3348.

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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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.

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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.

● ● ● IN BRIEF

RETIRED — Well known in B.C., John Sherman, vice-president and long-time member of International Pulp, Sulphide and Paper Workers, effective Oct. 30. Reason for the sudden retirement: poor health brought on by overwork.

★ ★ ★

UNTHINKABLE — On the tussle for Chinese offshore islands of Quemoy and Matsu, a BCFL convention committee commented: "The world should not be panicked into war over the defence of these islands. To suggest that a third world war could be triggered over the issue of these two islands is unthinkable."

★ ★ ★

NO ACTION — VLC grievance committee recommendation against placing Vancouver Province on council's "we do not patronize list" was approved this month. Committee chairman Norman Cunningham said assurance has been given that labor will get factual news coverage.

★ ★ ★

NO DICTATION—Vancouver Labor Council President Lloyd Whalen made this clear to any political group trying to muscle in on council's municipal election campaigning: hands off. Whalen said he will not recognize any unofficial meeting of unionists called to endorse labor candidates in any local area, that no group can name candidates and expect the council to endorse them. In a sentence, he summed up: "No political group is going to dictate the policies of this council."

★ ★ ★

NEED BLOOD — All unions will be asked to get behind the Blood Bank drive. Norman Prouse, Beverage Dispensers, made the appeal this month, said blood bank stocks are running low.

★ ★ ★

BIG LOSS — Labor across Canada mourned this month. Dead after heart attack is Howard Conquergood, well-liked, hard-working, capable director of the political education department of the CLC.

★ ★ ★

NEW WORK—VLC's latest endeavor will be in community services. A new committee has been set up with George Johnston of Amalgamated Meat Cutters as chairman.

★ ★ ★

MORE PR — Tom Ward, Ottawa, CLC director of labor councils and federations, told a council meeting that congress officials will meet shortly to discuss labor's public relations program to work out a plan in PR education for all labor groups.

★ ★ ★

BIGGER — The PNE will stay in the top league bracket again next year. The usual 11-day fair will be upped to 14 in 1959, one day longer than the 13 days this year which celebrated the centennial.

★ ★ ★

VISITORS—In town this week, familiar faces: Alex McAuslane, international rep for Oil Chemical and Atomic Workers, aiding locals in negotiations with big oil companies. Donald McDonald, secretary-treasurer of CLC, guest speaking at B.C. Federation of Labor convention. Dr. Eugene Forsey, CLC research director, who did a brief drop-in at the same convention.

FORMER Miss Sweden, Greta Thyssen, is the unanimous pick for "union gal of the month."

Two Special Night Classes Open Nov. 6

Vancouver Labor Council will open two evening education courses—on public relations and public speaking—in early November for members of affiliated unions.

Tom Alsbury, chairman of council's education committee said response to the proposed courses has been good and that first sessions will start Thursday, Nov. 6 in Vancouver Technical School.

The courses are: Public Relations for Trade Unions, and How to Conduct Union Meetings, Rules of Order and Elementary Public Speaking.

The classes will continue each Thursday until mid-December. Tech school is at 2600 East Broadway and classes are from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Day classes for shift workers might be arranged if there is enough interest, Alsbury said.

Gov't. Workers Deny Political Party Tie-Up

B. C. Government Employees Association has denied that it is committed to support any political party.

A statement by GEA said its constitution forbids any political activity by the association.

"Resolutions dealt with at GEA's annual convention this month implied its continuing support and affiliation with organized labor but should not be construed as an Association endorsement of any political party," a GEA spokesman said.

Safety Meeting

Canada's biggest single safety meeting, the annual two-day conference of the B.C. Safety Council, will be held Nov. 13 and 14 at Hotel Vancouver.

MISREPRESENTS

BCFL Convention Raps 'Brotherhood' Booklet

Question: If fewer than one out of every four workers in Canada belong to a trade union, then organized unions must be wielding an influence out of all proportion to their size.

Answer: True. Recent figures show that a little over half of all workers in Canada are union members, and as such can speak with the authority of a majority.

* * *

This is an exerpt from a booklet titled "Opening Minds to Brotherhood" which has been condemned by B.C. Federation of Labor convention as "contributing to a misunderstanding and misrepresentation of industrial relations."

The booklet is published under the auspices of Canadian Council of Christians and Jews, national sponsorship of Brotherhood Week.

A demand has been made that the booklet be withdrawn from circulation.

Bill Giesbrecht, chairman of the convention human rights committee said a question and answer section "reads as though compiled at the Canadian Chamber of Commerce headquarters.

"If the authors wish to set themselves up as the mouthpiece of the Chamber of Commerce, that is their privilege, but when they publish this distortion on the pretext of 'opening minds to Brotherhood', they are guilty of an inexcusable abuse of one of the finest principles to which human beings can aspire."

(In the question quoted above, figures are both contradictory as well as inaccurate.)

* * *

Another question in the booklet: Canadian Unions are ruled by irresponsible labor bosses who line their own pockets with unions' funds, and do not have to account to the union members for what they do.

Answer: False. Legislation on both provincial and federal levels provides for a secret ballot, auditing of union funds and investigation of union expenditures. Unsupervised unions have no right to conciliation and arbitration procedures under Canadian law.

(Giesbrecht said this "quite obviously proves the authors know little or nothing about Canadian labor laws.")

* * *

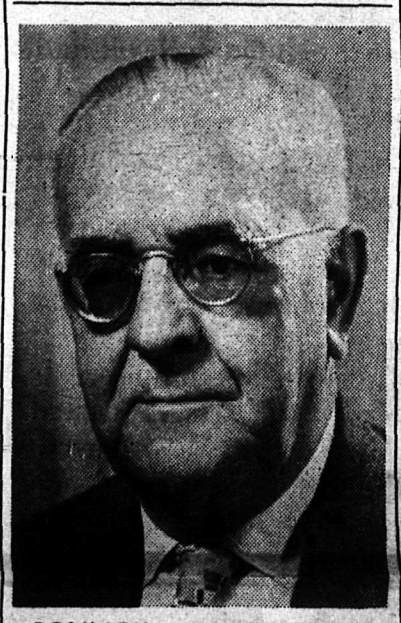
And another question from the booklet: Big business is bad for the country and its workers because it is interested only in forcing down wages and forcing up prices to make bigger profits.

Answer: False. Large corporations have become aware of their responsibilities to the national economy, and are very sensitive to public opinion. While isolated cases of monopolistic practices and price-setting have occurred in recent years, the trend is toward providing the best goods at the lowest competitive prices in order to maintain a market and so that employment will be regular and not spasmodic. That corporations are sensitive to both public opinion and to the welfare of workers is seen in the growth of pension schemes, sick pay, hospitalization and holidays with pay. Most firms today employ public relations men and personnel supervisors in order to maintain good relations with both the public and the employees.

(To this one, Giesbrecht said: "We need not remind you about the struggle waged by the labor movement to gain the benefits listed in the answer."

Solid Vote For Whalen In Red Feather Work

Vancouver Labor Council President Lloyd Whalen this month won a solid vote of confidence following criticism by a delegate that he was spending too much time on Community Chest work.



COUNCIL secretary E. A. "Ted" Jamieson is one of three labor aldermanic candidates in Vancouver civic election.

A resolution from council's executive board approved at the Oct. 7 council meeting condemned the actions of Syd Thompson—a delegate from Whalen's IWA Local 1-217—who "attacked the officers of this council for carrying out the policies of the council and the CLC."

The resolution declared that CLC policy states that federations and labor councils should support and become active in the field of community services and that the Vancouver council had earlier unanimously voted to back the Community Chest red feather drive.

Whalen, together with other officers has been active in carrying out these policies.

The resolution said that delegate Thompson had criticized the council president at a meeting held at 1343 Robson on Sept. 13 "for carrying out the policies of the council and the CLC and did cause statements to be made over the radio and in the public press of a similar nature."

Delegates voted to "extend to President Whalen a vote of confidence and reaffirm its desire that he continue to carry out the policies of the council and the CLC with regard to supporting community services."

Traffic Plan Being Studied

A Vancouver Labor Council proposal to ease traffic congestion at Powell and Victoria drive is being considered by the city.

Council was told that the city's traffic commission has approved a signal control for this intersection, but installation also needs the okay of the CPR and the Board of Transport Commissioners as a rail crossing is involved.

The signal probably will be put in next year, the city advised.

UAW-Kohler Battle Nears Fifth Year

SHEBOYGAN, Wis. — The strike of United Automobile Workers Local 833 against the Kohler company—plumbing fixtures manufacturers—is now in its 1,672nd day.

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

Vancouver, October 31, 1958

The Civic Election

Vancouver Labour Council this month opened a bid to win labor representation on civic boards.

There'll be labor candidates for mayor, city council, school board and parks board in the December race.

Labor and its policies have had little sympathetic voice on these boards for years. Yet, as a collective group, labor is probably the largest single section active in economic and community affairs. It's voice should be much stronger in city hall, the school and parks affairs.

Political action by labor at the civic level had been dormant for years until last December. At that time, VLC named three aldermanic candidates. And although the bid was unsuccessful, it revitalized a much needed civic awareness in union people.

This year's campaign is much broader, fields more candidates and will probably stretch into neighboring municipalities — as it should.

Conducting a successful election campaign is no small job, even at the civic level. It takes hard work, money and more hard work. It requires the help of many to handle the hundred and one jobs — from the simple task of folding election literature, to the more aggressive door-knocking campaigns and the essential job of raising funds.

It needs leg work and team work.

Mechanics of the campaign will be worked out and sparked by the council's political education co-ordinating committee. When the gears of the campaign are readied, the rest of the union people should be set to do their part.

A campaign may look 100 per cent effective on paper. But it becomes worthless unless the facilities to carry it out are there.

In this fight, labor is not seeking favors for a select group. It supports a platform moulded from common sense objectives, and aims at administration for the good of the whole community.

That's why labor candidates should win support from voters outside the trade union movement. Opposition will come from the special interests of big business which have long dominated the thinking at city hall.

Union people should make sure they're ready to do their job.

"Help in the campaign and help at the polls" is your guide.

Last year far too few of total eligible voters turned out for the Vancouver civic election.

Surely, the least that labor people can do is make that short trip to mark their ballot — and to mark it for their labor candidates.

A Powerful Lesson

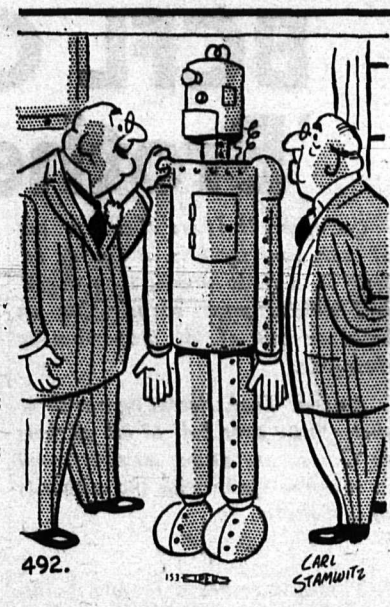
There's a powerful lesson in a news story in the AFL-CIO News this month.

The story said that hundreds of thousands of jobless workers who have used up their meager unemployment compensation benefits in the U.S. are finding they have no "right" to work in the 18 "right-to-work" states.

Instead they are faced with the grim alternatives of exercising their "right" to go on relief or their "right" to starve.

In the 12-month period ending Aug. 31, the top five states in the exhausted benefits category were all "right-to-work" states. And of the 18 states with these phoney laws, 14 turned their backs on the long lines of jobless earlier this year when they refused to take part in the federal-sponsroed program to extend th period for paying benefits.

TRADE UNION FOIBLES



"He obeys my every command, J.B.!—Egad! If his kind could only vote!"

"Union meeting?...Gosh, I'd like to, Fred, but I don't have time!"

"Tell the boss he can't fire me until he pays me more dough!"

FROM THIS ANGLE: AUTO INSURANCE

Are We Paying Too Much?

Saskatchewan's Automobile Accident Insurance Act, introduced in 1946 and administered by the Saskatchewan Government Insurance Office, formed the basis of "the World's Most Advanced Auto Accident Plan", an automatic accident-compensation scheme designed to provide a reasonable minimum of compensation for losses arising from motor vehicle accidents **regardless of fault.**

The need for a personal-injury-compensation plan was particularly pressing because an increasing number of Saskatchewan accident victims were being denied compensation under third party liability insurance.

The authors of the Automobile Accident Insurance Act (AAIA) in common with many others, found that the then existing concept that compensation was recoverable only from those who are proved legally responsible was inadequate, not merely from the standpoint of the individual but of society at large; and that society was doing nothing directly to solve the problem of personal loss in motor vehicle accidents.

Many accident victims were denied compensation under third party liability only because, having been unable to make a private settlement, they could not afford to take court action against the other party.

Nor was the victim who could afford to go to court assured of compensation, inasmuch as accidents involving modern, fast-moving vehicles often yield little or no evidence, thus making it difficult or even impossible to establish legal responsibility.

★ ★ ★

Third party liability insurance can do nothing to help the victim of the hit-and-run driver.

Nor does it help the passenger who is injured in an accident for which his driver is judged to be responsible, unless the driver is guilty of gross negligence.

Thus countless innocent victims of motor vehicle accidents are denied financial redress in areas where third party liability coverage is the principal source of insurance protection.

But Saskatchewan's AAIA provides compensation in every case. Compensation without regards to fault was the sole coverage originally provided when the AAIA became effective on April 1, 1946.

Since 1946 the following coverages have been added to the Act: collision April 1947, third party liability April 1948, fire and theft April 1949, comprehensive (collision, fire and theft and misc. coverages) April 1951.

An insurance premium is payable on every motor vehicle licenced in Saskatchewan. This must be paid when the licence is purchased, and this makes certain that all Saskatchewan vehicles are insured. The 1958-59 premium varies with the type and age of the vehicle.

The B.C. Federation of Labor annual convention last week urged a new campaign to emphasize the need for government automobile insurance in B.C.

The convention adopted a report from its legislative committee which urged a crown corporation be set up in B.C. to handle car insurance on the Saskatchewan principle.

The report made a detailed study of the Saskatchewan plan, found it provided less costly coverage for car owners and provided for payment to those injured in motor accidents regardless of fault.

This special Statesman report summarizes the committee's findings.

As outlined earlier, compensation is payable **regardless of fault** to those injured in motor vehicle accidents in Saskatchewan and to Saskatchewan residents while riding in Saskatchewan-licenced vehicles on North American highways outside of Saskatchewan.

Only a motorist who is in breach of condition (that is, while unlicenced, driving while drunk, etc.) may be denied compensation for injuries. But if he is killed in an accident, his family will be awarded death benefits under the Act regardless of his breach of condition.

Here is the scale of benefits under the Personal Injury Section of the Saskatchewan Act.

Death Benefits: Where death caused by a motor vehicle accident occurs within 90 days following the accident, or within 120 weeks of total continuous disability following the accident, benefits payable are: For the primary dependent $5,000. For each secondary dependent: $1,000 (total aggregate for secondary dependents $5,000). Up to a total of $10,000 for one death. If the victim is a married woman and no benefits are payable to dependents, $2,000 is payable to her husband.

When children aged 1 year or over are killed, payments are made to the parent who was providing for them, as follows: 1-6 years $100; 7 years $200; 8 years $300; 9 years $400; 10 years $500; 11 years $600; 12 years $700; 13 years $800; 14 years $900; and 15, 16 and 17 years $1,000.

Funeral expenses: The sum of $200 is payable in lieu of funeral expenses in all motor vehicle deaths covered by this section, including the deaths of children under 1 year of age.

Also Dismemberment Benefits, Supplementary Benefits and Weekly Indemnity Benefits.

Under the AAIA all Saskatchewan motorists are insured against bodily injury claims up to $10,000 for one person and $20,000 for more than one person injured or killed in an accident.

The Third Party Liability section also covers motorists

(Continued on Page 8)

The Saskatchewan Automobile Accident Insurance Act has been studied by governments, private groups and individuals across Canada and from many parts of the United States and the world; yet nowhere has the Saskatchewan plan been adopted. Does this not imply that investigators have found the scheme unsatisfactory?

Research foundations and university committees throughout North America have conducted thorough and impartial studies of compulsory automobile insurance plans, such as the AAIA and virtually all have shown themselves in favor of this type of automobile accident insurance.

There have been also investigations by non-socialist governments.

In either case, it can be understood that a "social" insurance plan like Saskatchewan's cannot be adopted on merit alone; it must be acceptable to, and have the full support of, government, and the chances of adoption depend, of course, on the particular government's political philosophy.

CROSS-SECTION

'More Coverage For Broader Appeal' New Role For Labor Press — Hayes

A feeling growing by the day: the need for a strong labor press.

The issue was discussed at this month's B.C. Federation of Labor convention—though there was no decision — as trade unionists looked for methods to launch their counter-offensive against the misrepresentations and the vicious attack by employer groups on organized labor.

Al Hayes, IAM president, produced his ideas on labor's press in speaking to a U.S. labor conference this month.

Said Hayes: "The labor press has long played an honorable role in our movement, but today that role needs to be enlarged and expanded.

"For one thing, because of TV and similar distractions, we cannot count on all our members to come to meetings . . . outside of the workplace, the only regular channel we have to such members is the union newspaper.

"For another thing, in more and more communities the labor paper is the only remaining challenge to the news monopoly of the daily commercial press."

But Hayes had definite views on what the labor paper has to do.

It must do more than merely report on union activities, he said.

"Perhaps there will have to be subsidies to permit this transition from labor papers of a limited appeal, to labor-sponsored community papers of broad appeal.

"But somewhere we must find the funds that will permit the labor press to expand its staff, to enlarge its pages and pictorial coverage, to develop comics, if you please, and to include all the other features that make a family eager for the arrival of the paper boy."

'Solidarity Day': A New Pledge By Free Unions With A Target Of Five Million To Carry It Out

International Solidarity Day was celebrated on Oct. 23.

Sponsored by the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, it was marked on the anniversary of the day in 1956 when Hungarian workers revolted against Soviet oppression.

But, too few recognize the significance.

The day was intended as a focal point for "renewed solidarity among workers of the free world—to bring a message of hope to many millions of workers in countries enslaved by communist tyranny and others suffering under fascist or military dictatorships," the ICFTU said.

The background: the ICFTU set up the international Solidarity Fund with a target of $5,600,000 to be raised between Jan. 1, 1958 and Dec. 31, 1960.

So far, about two-thirds of the target sum has been pledged for the three-year drive.

The money will be used to organize and train workers in countries where trade unionism is weak or just beginning; to loan money to unions like to the Philippine trade unions for an organizational drive or for the re-establishment of the free trade union movement as was done in Venezuela; or to give speedy humanitarian aid when tragedy strikes at poor laboring communities.

The ICFTU sets out today's urgent task: to speed the growth and development of vigorous democratic trade unions in the underdeveloped areas of the world.

Every year, countless new wage-earners join the world labor force, many of them men and women who recently were living in bare subsistence conditions.

Although they often learn to handle complicated machinery skilfully, they are paid wages far below those doing similar work in the socially advanced countries.

Today, social progress gained in industrialized countries is threatened by the much greater mass of unorganized workers in the developing countries where industrialization is fast becoming a massive reality.

Garden Fungus, Carbolic Acid, Strychnine: The Cancer Quacks Are Still At It In Big Way

There has been little said lately about cancer quacks. You'll recall it was a popular subject at one time.

This month, Dr. William Sawyer, medical consultant to the International Association of Machinists, revived the issue because, it seems, the quacks are still at it in a big way.

He says there are probably more than 4,000 cancer-cure quacks in the U.S. today. And they are reaping an annual estimated $10,000,000 from the public.

★ ★ ★

It is understandable that anyone with cancer will try anything as a last resort, he said. No one can blame a person for grasping at a straw when all else has failed.

But—too often, unfortunately, people begin treatment by approved methods too late.

"Cancer quacks are generally money-minded sharpsters who, with no medical background, claim they can treat and cure cancer with a secret remedy without resorting to surgery or X-rays," he said. But investigation of these so-called cures hasn't found any beneficial effect whatever.

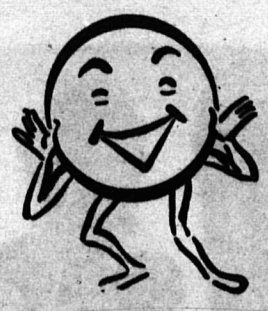
Some of the substances that have been found in some of the so-called cures: potassium iodide, fungus out of the garden, various herbs, cottonseed and almond oils, alcohol, iron, strychnine, tannin, carbolic acid, opium, glycerin, cresol and quinine.

"None of these will benefit cancer," said Dr. Sawyer.

And he winds up with this:

"Victims of cancer are all too easily misled by the false promises and dishonest tactics of the cancer quack. Too many people are unaware of what our modern cancer detection and treatment clinics can do.

"Real progress is being made in treating some forms of cancer, but it can only be done by doctors who are qualified in its diagnosis and treatment."



Laugh With Us

The doctor came rushing into a patient's room.

"Have you kept a chart on his progress?" he asked.

"No," the young nurse replied with a blush, "but I can show you my diary."

* * *

Farmer to the bookseller: "Now I want a book on 'How to Sell' all the stuff I've learned 'How to Raise'."

* * *

"I took my daughter to see her first baseball game last Saturday and she lost her voice. Next time I'm taking my wife."

* * *

A poll was taken to find out how many people were watching television in taverns. The returns were staggering.

The teacher had asked pupils to list, in their opinion, the nine greatest Americans. After a while she stopped at one desk and asked, "Have you finished your list yet, Bobby?" "Not yet," he replied. "I can't decide on the shortstop."

* * *

Electricity had finally reached the home of a backwoods family and a washing machine salesman lost no time trying to sell the housewife. After examining the strange contraption carefully the woman asked, "What's that 'ere hole in the bottom for?"

"That's to let the water out," replied the salesman.

"I knew this think was a fake," said the housewife, scornfully. "It don't wash with electricity, you got to use water."

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Top Officers Re-Elected At 'Fed' Meet

Top officers of the B.C. Federation of Labor were returned to office at the federation's annual convention.

Here are the results of the balloting (votes in brackets):

President—**Bill Black**, Hospital Employees, re-elected by acclamation; Secretary — **George Home**, Packinghouse Workers, re-elected by acclamation; First vice-president—**Joe Morris**, IWA, (271) re-elected, defeating William Stewart, IBEW (70); Second vice-president—**Vic Midgley**, Victoria Carpenters, re-elected by acclamation; Third vice-president—**Bob Smeal**, Victoria CBRE (199) re-elected defeating Bill Stewart, Marine Workers (145); Fourth vice-president — **Pat O'Neal**, Prince Rupert Pulp Sulphide Workers, re-elected by acclamation.

Executive Council elected members: Ed O'Connor, B.C. Gov't Employees (317); Charles Stewart, SRU (290); Bob Beddome, Beverage Dispensers (289); Sam Jenkins, Marine Workers (284); Mel Kemmis, Bakery Workers, (258); Hector Wright, Firefighters (254); Ewart Orr, Steelworkers (242); Jack MacKenzie, Victoria IWA (233); Bill Symington, Packinghouse Workers (198); Ray Haynes, Retail Wholesale (189).

Defeated were: Bert Savage, Construction Laborers (186); John Waplington, IBEW (145); Orville Braaten, Pulp Sulphide (126); Craig Pritchett, Longshoremen (141); Gordon Heron, Teamsters (108); Jack Hawthorne, Machinists (87); Wyman Trineer, New Westminster IWA (183).

The convention approved a constitutional change to establish an executive board consisting of the executive council plus one representative from each affiliated labor council. The labor councils will appoint or elect their own representative.

FEDERATION officers posed for Statesman camera after re-election at third annual convention (from bottom) President Bill Black, vice-presidents Joe Morris, Vic Midgley, Bob Smeal, Pat O'Neal, and secretary George Home.

MACDONALD AT CONVENTION

'A Lesson From Hitler'

Here are highlights from speeches to the third annual convention of the B.C. Federation of Labor:

★ ★ ★

Donald MacDonald, secretary-treasurer, CLC: "The vicious and unparalleled anti-labor campaign was evil in its conception and even more evil in its implementation.

"It is unbelievable when a segment of society (labor) which has made such outstanding contributions to not only its own people but to all Canadians, can be subjected to such a tirade of misrepresentation and have other sections of society fall prey to it.

"Management groups have taken a lesson from the book of Hitler and Mussolini who conceived the Big Lie—if told often enough it will be believed."

★ ★ ★

E. E. Boulton, B.C. Farmers Union: "No intelligent man can draw a real line between labor and the farmer because there is only a psychological line. But there is an attempt today to drive this psychological wedge between the wealth producing people of this country."

★ ★ ★

Labor Minister Wicks: "From all appearances, the time loss due to labor disputes under provincial jurisdiction this year is likely to be only one-quarter of what it was in 1952. Certainly, it will be much less than the amount of time lost due to unemployment or the amount of time lost due to sickness or accidents—as a matter of fact, it is not likely to be as much as that lost in the construction industry last year due to accidents."

★ ★ ★

BCFL President Bill Black: "The year 1958, our centennial year, will go down in history as the year of the Big Attack on Canadian labor. This attack has been developed on a national scale, it was premeditated, it was deliberate, in spite of all the procrastinations and denials on the part of management's organizations.

"The psychological and propaganda warfare which has been levelled at the workers has been terrific . . . big business has used every gimmick in the book . . . to create a public opinion favorable to themselves. They have succeeded to some degree with their propaganda.

"Let me say here and now: if free enterprise is good for one group of society, it is good for all groups. Labor is going to reserve the right to sell its services or withhold its services, without any interference.

"We are not going to operate with two rule books. If there are going to be restrictions, those restrictions will apply all the way down the line."

Cemetery Workers Win Wage Boost

Workers at two Burnaby cemeteries won a 33-cent basic wage boost in a settlement this month that ended a one-day walkout.

Members of Construction and General Laborers Union, workers at Forest Lawn and Ocean View won: incorporation of a 10-cent hourly bonus rate in the basic rate, an immediate 13-cent increase, and further five-cent increases on April 1 and Oct. 1, 1959.

Base rate at start of the dispute was $1.42 an hour.

VLC Backs SIU In Oil Tussle

Seafarers' International Union won support from Vancouver Labour Council in a bid to bring a dispute with Imperial Oil to a successful conclusion.

A council meeting this month endorsed a resolution to circularize all unions and labor councils in B.C. informing them the company is on the council's "we do not patronize list."

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B.C. HOLDING 'STATUS QUO,' NOT PRICING ITSELF OUT

Don't you believe it. B.C. is not pricing itself out of the world markets.

A report to the B.C. Federation of Labor convention said simply that progress is being made throughout the world on living standards, that the world level of prices and wages are on the upsurge.

"Labor must contend that on the basis of increasing prices, wages and standard of living throughout the world, that B.C. is not pricing itself out of the world markets but is maintaining the status quo.

"We contend this cliche on pricing out of markets is not only misleading but in most cases is a deliberate lie on the part of those who would prevent a more equitable division of profits," the report said.

BCFL CONVENTION SUMMARY

The Decisions

★ ★ ★ ★

Political Action

The convention recommended "unqualified support to the resolutions and statement" endorsed at the Winnipeg CLC convention and that efforts be continued and intensified in meetings between federation officers and the CCF provincial committee to further plan a program "that will bring success to the aims and objectives of the working people of this province, the election of a people's government in B.C."

Officers said the policy is a continuation of the past policy of the federation in line with CLC recommendations.

Federation policy from last year's convention declared that "the CCF warrants the support of the workers in B.C. as the best means of presently obtaining their legislative aims."

National CLC policy urges all affiliated unions, federations and councils to: 1. take the utmost interest in political affairs; 2. to continue such forms of political action or education as they may have carried on in the past; 3. to undertake such further activities as may in the future appear to be appropriate for achieving the basic objectives of the congress, a convention report said.

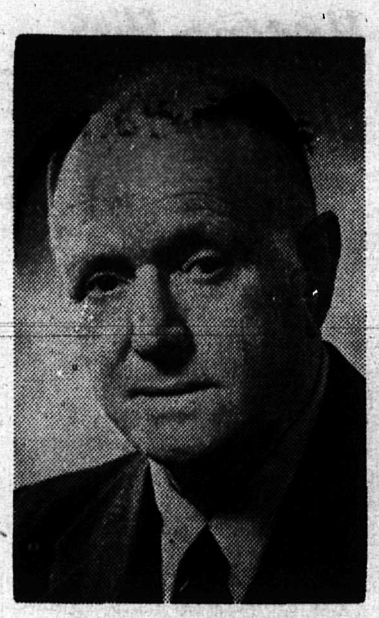
The CLC executive council will bring in a report on a plan for a new "political instrument of the Canadian people" with a draft constitution and program to the next congress convention in 1960.

Strike Votes

Amendment urged in Labor Relations Act to provide that a union may conduct a strike vote at any stage in negotiations without government interference, and that employers' group in that industry, "where a union representing the employees in any industry bargains with an agency representing an employers' group in that industry, then all operations shall be considered as part of a single unit for the purposes of the Act."

Older Workers

The convention urged all levels of government "to end the unjust, and discriminatory practice of so many employers who refuse to hire workers in the 40-45 age group and over and ask the CLC and all affiliates to work for removal of discriminatory clauses in pension plans."



LABOR candidate for School Board is veteran Jack Henderson.

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AUTO INSURANCE

(Continued from Page 4)

against property damage claims up to $5,000 with no deductible outside Saskatchewan and with a $200 deductible within the province.

For those who desire more coverage, the Government Insurance Office offers supplementary insurance called the Package Policy. Available for an extra premium charge, the Package Policy extends the motorists' coverage to the following limits:

Bodily Injury (liability) $60,000/120,000; Property damage (liability) $10,000; Passenger hazard (liability) $50,000/100,000; Reduces the $200 deductible on collision, upset, and plate glass to $50 or $100 for private passenger cars and to $25 or $50 for farm trucks; Removes the $200 deductible on all other comprehensive coverages.

* * *

It should be noted the purchase of the Package Policy is optional, further, that a motorist is free to buy any type of auto extension policy from an insurance agency of his own choice.

The premium rates set by the Government Insurance Office are determined by Saskatchewan experience.

As road and traffic conditions, as well as driving habits, vary from province to province, as between state and state, etc., it must not be assumed that even under exactly the same plan set up elsewhere, premiums would be the same.

But this much can be said, that under such a plan drivers in that area would, collectively, pay less than they presently do, because:

1. the usual acquisition costs are practically eliminated.
2. the interest on premium investments is retained in the AAIA fund,
3. the "social" nature of the plan reduces administration costs.

Furthermore, profits are eliminated; rather, any surpluses over and above the fund's minimum reserve accumulating are returned to the motorists in the form of either lower rates, extended coverages, or both.

* * *

A rural resident who owns a 1956 Ford car, and who can qualify for a three-year no claim discount can get the Saskatchewan coverage shown for premiums as follows:

If for pleasure use only $47. (Made up of $25 licence plate insurance, 20 Package Policy, 2 Driver's licence insur.).

If for business use (Package Policy $22) $49.

A resident of Regina, Saskatoon or Moose Jaw who owns a 1956 Ford, and who can similarly qualify, can get the same coverage for:

Pleasure use only (Package Policy $33) $60.

Business use (Package Policy $36) $63.

The AAIA fund created by the premiums received, pays, through claims, benefits to motorists and others who are victims of automobile accidents, as well as paying administrative costs. If there remains a surplus over outgo, in any one year, it is government policy to hold such excess in the fund for the benefit of the potential auto accident victims.

No surplus is transferred to the general operations of the Office, nor is the surplus credited to the consolidated revenue of the province.

Any accumulated surplus above that required for reserve is returned to the people in the form of either broadened coverage or lowered rates, or both. All interest earned on the investment of AAIA assets is paid into the fund.

LABOR CANDIDATES

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Hartung Hits Election Tactics

PORTLAND — IWA International President A. F. Hartung has condemned "union wrecking tactics" employed by any faction to gain control of a local union for purposes which deviate from the union's declared policies.

Hartung said it is not his custom to express partisan views during a local union election, but said that in this case he felt compelled to denounce "dishonest electioneering."

His statement referred to what he called a "thoroughly unscrupulous attack" on the administrative record of President Lloyd Whalen and fellow officers in Vancouver IWA local 1-217.

"It will be a sad day for the IWA if our local leaders are to be subject to this form of attack, by minority groups with questionable antecedents who launch such attacks for the purpose of securing control of the local union's well-conserved resources," he said.

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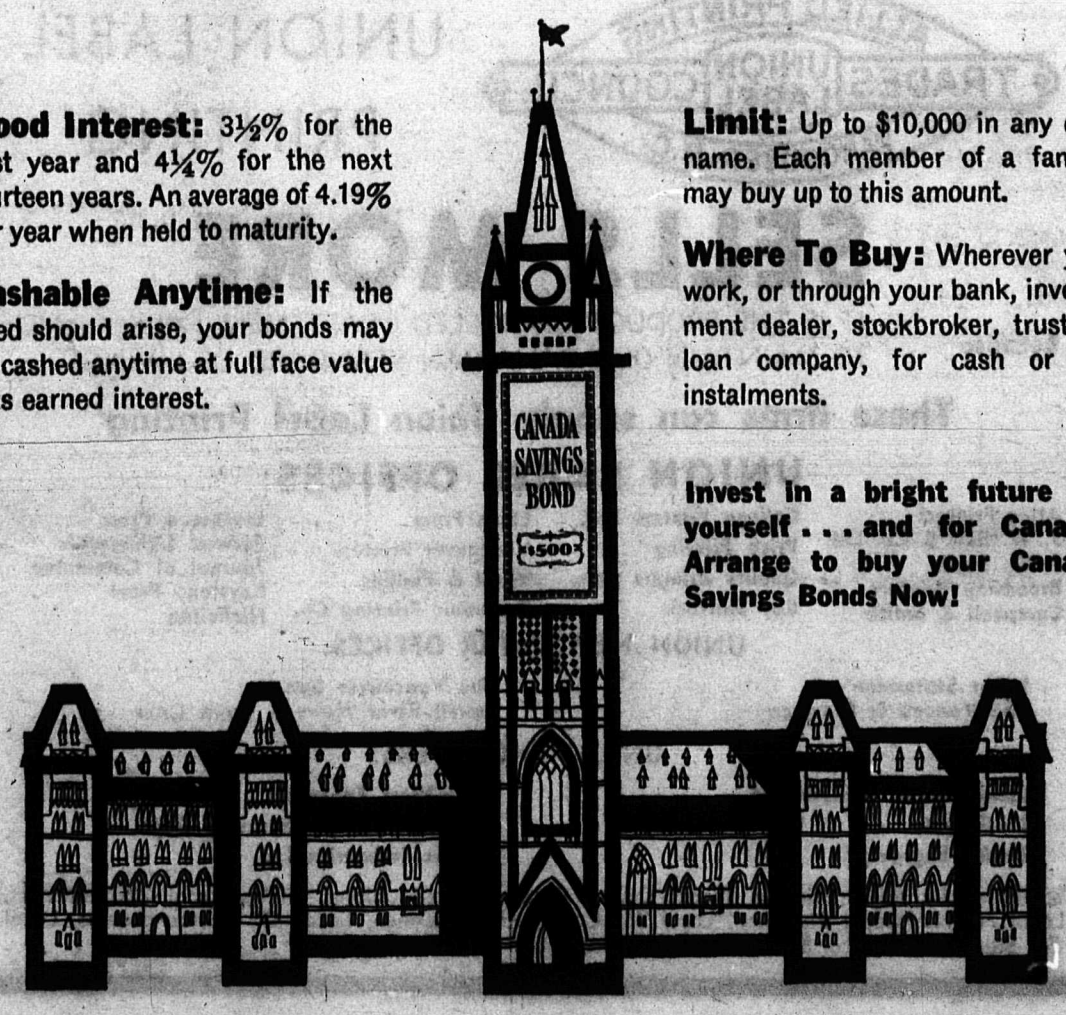

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