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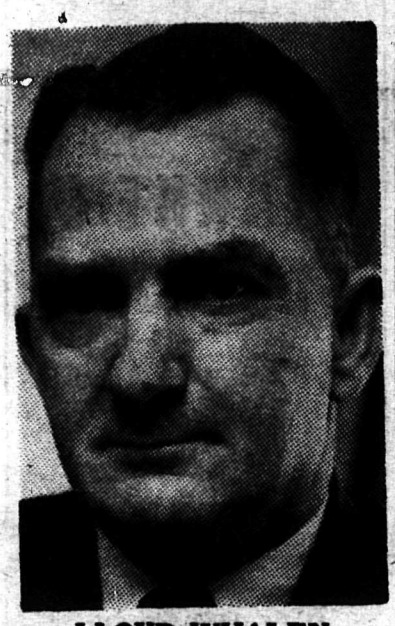
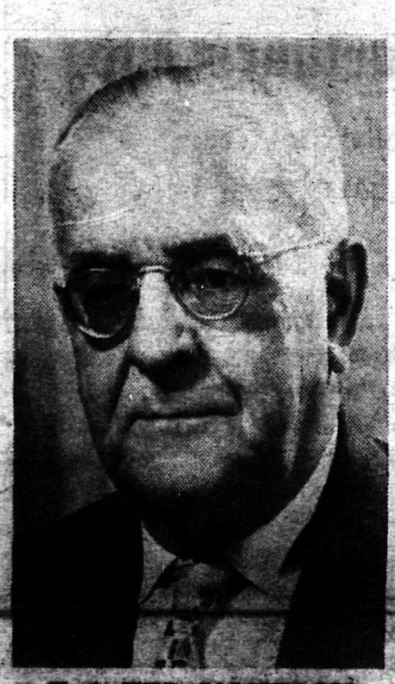


LLOYD WHALEN



E. A. TED JAMIESON

ED SIMS

GEORGE JOHNSTON

ON UNEMPLOYMENT

COUNCIL, FEDERATION PRESS GOVT ACTION

B.C. District Woodworkers Hold 21st Annual Convention

B.C. district International Woodworkers open their 21st annual convention in Vancouver next Monday, February 3.

The big IWA parley will tackle negotiating demands for 1958, and proposed changes in their international constitution and administrative structure as two of the major issues.

Top Officers Of Council Returned

Lloyd Whalen was renamed president of Vancouver Labour Council and E. A. "Ted" Jamieson was returned as general secretary at the annual election Jan. 21.

Both were renamed by acclamation.

Tom Alsbury was nominated to contest the post of first vice-president, which he held last year, but he declined to run. Ed Sims was elected to succeed Alsbury.

Later, Alsbury, who won election as an alderman in the December civic election was nominated for third vice-president but again he declined.

However, he did stand for chairman of the education committee and was elected by an 11-vote margin after a second ballot was called.

Here are the election results (votes in brackets):

- **President: Lloyd Whalen;** IWA Local 1-217, acclamation.
- **First Vice - President: Ed Sims,** Brewery Workers, elected, (191), A. E. Hallock, Pile Drivers, (41).
- **Second Vice - President: George Johnston,** Meat Cutters, elected, (150), Orville Braaten, (83).
- **Third Vice - President: Mel Kemmis,** Bakery Workers, elected, (135), Percy Deplissy, Carpenters, (88).
- **Secretary:** Ted Jamieson, acclamation.

Committe chairmen—**Organization: Wyman Trineer,** re-elected, acclamation. **Legislative: Jack Henderson,** re-elected, acclamation. **Public Relations: Alan Coleman** (171), George Droneck (50). **Grievance: Norm Cunningham** (152), John Hines (63). **Education:** First Ballot—**Tom Alsbury,** (100), John Hayward (95), Josephine Hallock (19). Second Ballot —**Tom Alsbury (109),** John Hayward (98). **Credentials: John Brown,** re-elected, acclamation.

In The News

☆ ☆ ☆

STRIKE END At Simmons
. . . Page 3

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SCHOLARSHIPS Planning
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LEGISLATURE Report
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Government Workers Have New Home

B.C. Government Employees Association have moved to their new home.

The union's new headquarters building is located at 2090 West Fourth. Note new telephone numbers: BAyview 5361, 5362, 5363.

Aid Plans Urged Again, Jobless Totals Mounting

B.C. Federation of Labour has called a staff meeting for Friday, January 31 to study the latest developments in the unemployment situation.

The Federation will make a searching investigation of the whole problem and is expected to present a lengthy brief to the B.C. legislature's standing committee on labor.

The opening of the Spring legislature session in Victoria last week handed the labor committee the job of hearing representations from all groups, after the opposition members demanded that the government do something on the jobless situation.

☆ ☆ ☆

The haunting spectre of unemployment continues to grow on the Lower Mainland.

Jobless totals have now reached the highest point since the depression period of the 1930's and it's generally conceded the ranks of the out-of-work will continue to swell during the next two months.

Faced with the reality of possible widespread suffering, Vancouver Labour Council and the B.C. Federation of Labour are stepping up a campaign to get immediate action on unemployment at federal, provincial and municipal government levels.

Council delegates at a meeting Jan. 21, called for a mass march on Victoria. They have asked the Federation to arrange "as soon as possible" a labor lobby at the legislative buildings where MLAs have already begun their spring session.

The 100,000-member Federation, meanwhile, has asked Prem-

(Continued on Page 8)

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ • The Headliner ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

GRINDS ON THE HOUSE — New contract clause in Meat Cutters' proposed settlement with major food chains provides that management has to supply the knives — and keep them sharpened. Companies also have to supply cleavers, steel, rolling pins and needles — or pay the butchers a cent an hour in lieu of these tools of the trade.

* * *

LOOKING BACK — Division 101 of Street Railwaymen's Union didn't send out their usual Christmas cards last month. Instead, members voted to send the money normally spent on cards to the Central City Mission which was hard bent to keep up with porridge and soup for many destitute unemployed.

* * *

NO SOBS—Move of Westinghouse's TV program "Studio One" from New York to Hollywood —

(Continued on Page 8)

Label Council Honors Johnston Yes, With A Union-Made Gift

Union Label Trades Council this month honored retiring president George Johnston of Amalgamated Meat Cutters.

And a "thank you" presentation, naturally enough, was completely union made—a gavel made by Carpenters' Union with an engraved silver name plate made by Jewelry Workers' Union.

Johnston retired after several terms as head of the group which untiringly promotes the value of union labels, shop cards and buttons.

More Soft Drinks Under 'Union' Tag

Teamsters Local 351 has been certified to bargain for a third soft drink firm in the city—Lucky Strike Bottling Works.

The firm distributes Mission brand soft drinks.

John Brown, secretary of Local 351 (Miscellaneous Workers, Wholesale and Retail Delivery Drivers and Helpers Union) said negotiations with the firm will open shortly.

He reports the organization of the Lucky plant broadens the list of "union" soft drinks to include these products, giving you a wide selection:

Lucky Strike Bottling — All Mission flavored soft drinks.

Pepsi Cola Company — Pepsi Cola, Schweppes, Club Soda, Schweppes Ginger Ale, and Schweppes Tonic Water.

Stubby Products — Two Way, Stubby Ginger Ale, Stubby Grape Punch, Stubby Orange, Stubby Cola, Stubby Root Beer, Stubby Lemon Lime, Stubby Creme Soda.

Brown said that union people should be sure and ask for "union" mixer when they go into a bar.

And Local 351 reminds labor men and women that Coca Cola and Canada Dry are on the "we do not patronize" list of the Vancouver Labor Council.

One Charter For Fur and Leather

Four fur and leather workers locals in Vancouver have been consolidated under a newly chartered Local 412-FL of the Amalgamated Meat Cutters.

Formerly, separate locals represented the employees in different companies — Leckie Shoe Company, Leckie tannery operation, Pierre Paris shoe factory and tannery, and the fur industry. About 200 members make up the new consolidated local.

A recent agreement at Faulkner Furs included a 10-cent hourly increase and employer-paid medical plan.

W.V. Bus Drivers Win Pay Boost

Bus drivers on West Vancouver municipal lines have won a $1.96 hourly rate in a new contract.

The rate provides a 16-cent increase starting Jan. 1. In addition, the contract provides that the full wage increase that is negotiated by Street Railwaymen's Union in the new contract with B.C. Electric will be added to the rate.

The municipality also agreed to a day's pay for all blue bus line employees on all statutory holidays and additional pay for all time worked on the holiday.

CLC Shifts Staff Men Down East

OTTAWA — Canadian Labour Congress has made staff changes in the Ontario and Prairie regions.

Henry Rhodes, of Regina, moves to Toronto to become organization director for Ontario, succeeding Russell Harvey who has resigned from the CLC staff.

Rhodes was formerly organization director for the Prairie Region and this position has been taken over by Gordon Wilkinson of Regina who was education director on the Prairies.

Robert Hale, Regina, a CLC organizational representative, takes over the Prairie region education directorship.

Union Label Work Gloves

PARKER GLOVE CO.

278 East 10th Avenue
Vancouver, B.C.
EM 6811

MARK HAMILTON U. W. (BILL) HAMILTON

Hamilton Mortuary Ltd.

FUNERAL ADMINISTRATORS

ELgin 3311

Fraser St. at 38th Ave. Vancouver 15, B.C.

BRITISH COLUMBIA TRADE UNION DIRECTORY

AMALGAMATED MEAT CUTTERS AND B. W., Local 212—Representative, Geo. Johnston, 203 Labor Temple; EM. 5735.

AUTO WORKERS' UNION, Lodge No. 1857, I.A. of M. — Business Agents, Jack Chapman, Walter Penny, 2414 Main St.; EM. 4104-5.

BAKERY AND CONFECTIONERY WORKERS, Local 468—Secretary, Melvin J. Kemmis, 337 W. Broadway; DI. 9520.

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.

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 MA. 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; TA. 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, Ben A. R. Morley, Room 216, 603 W. Hastings; MA. 9452.

BUILDING TRADES COUNCIL — Secretary, Ed. Kennedy, 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, TA. 6814.

CIVIC EMPLOYEES UNION, Local 407—D. Cronin, 4786 Little, DE. 3163-L; office, Room 200, Labor Temple.

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

DENTAL TECHNICIANS, Local No. 511, I.C.W.U. — Secretary George Hygh, 4007 Dunbar.

DISTILLERY WORKERS UNION Local 69—Financial Secretary and Business Agent, Russell A. Cyr, 1890 2nd St., New Westminster, LA. 2-5011.

DISTILLERY WORKERS' UNION, No. 92 — Secretary, Ray Lawton, 479 E. 30th Ave., phone EM. 8613.

ELECTRICAL WORKERS' UNION Local 213—Business Manager, A. M. Morrison, 111 Dunsmuir St.; PA. 7381-2.

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

ENAMEL WORKERS' FEDERAL UNION, Local 291 — Sec., Wm. Giesbrecht, 2390A W. Broadway.

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; PA. 7615.

INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS, Locals 276 and 287—Business Agent, Anne Marshall, 119 W. Pender; TA. 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; President, G. H. Brown, 1608 W. 57th Ave.; Secretary, Richard MacLean, 2458 Yale, HA. 4064M.

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 Richard R. Peters, Room 17, 2414 Main; EM. 7035; DI. 0513.

MARINE WORKERS & BOILERMAKERS' INDUSTRIAL UNION, Local 1 — President, S. Jenkins; Secretary, W. Stewart, 339 W. Pender St.; PA. 9481.

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; TA. 7024.

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

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

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.

PAINTERS UNION, Local 138 — Business Agent, Herb Macaulay; Secretary, John Hines, 337 W. Broadway; EM. 6033.

PAINT AND VARNISH WORKERS, Local 1550—Secretary, Bruce Parkin, 3629 McEwan Ave., North Vancouver; WI. 4383.

PATTERNMAKERS' ASSOCIATION —Secretary, E. Westmoreland, 4504 Mountain Highway, North Vancouver; YOrk 8966.

PILE DRIVERS AND WOODEN BRIDGEMEN, Local 2404 — Business Agent, S. Allen, Room 105, 307 West Broadway; DI. 7817.

PLASTERERS' UNION, No. 779 — Secretary, W. E. McMynn, Room 202, 490 East Broadway.

PLUMBERS & PIPEFITTERS, Local 170—Bus. Mgr., J. R. St. Eloi; Asst. Bus. Mgrs., James Barton and J. L. Fisher, 115 Labor Temple; EX. 1428.

PRINCE GEORGE AND DISTRICT LABOR COUNCIL — Room 17, 1331 4th Ave., Prince George; phone 191L2.

PRINTING PRESSMEN, Local 69—Sec. A. Milne, 2049 West 30th; AL. 3506L.

PULP AND SULPHITE (Converters) UNION, Local 433—Business Agent, O. Braaten, 525 W. Pender, Suite 1; MU. 3-8284.

PULP AND SULPHITE WORKERS, Local 312, Ocean Falls, B.C.—Secretary, George Meldrum, Drawer 190, Ocean Falls, B.C.

PULP & SULPHITE WORKERS, Local 708, Watson Island—President A. MacPhee; Secretary, E. P. O'Neal, P.O. Box 294, Prince Rupert, B.C.

PULP, SULPHITE AND PAPERMILL WORKERS — International office, 315-316 Crown Bldg. H. L. Hansen, International rep.; TA. 3858.

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.

SEAFARERS' INTERNATIONAL UNION — Secretary, Norman Cunningham, 298 Main; PA. 3468.

SHEET METAL WORKERS, Local 280 — Bus. Manager, Alex McGee, 207 Labor Temple; DI. 8020.

SHINGLE WEAVERS' UNION, Local No. 2802—Secretary, J. E. Hird, 1524 W. 65th; KE. 4428L.

SHIPWRIGHTS, BOATBUILDERS, JOINERS AND CAULKERS, Local No. 506 — Business Agent, J. T. Best, Room 402-3, The Shelley Building, 119 W. Pender; TA. 3725.

SIGN AND PICTORIAL PAINTERS, Local 726—Sec., J. A. Middleton, 6339 Kitchener, N. Burnaby; Bus. Agent, John Leeson, 2465 East 46th Ave.; HE. 1-2051.

STREET RAILWAYMEN'S UNION, Div. 101 — Business Agent, C. Stewart, Street Rly. Bldg., 125 E. 8th; DI. 2010.

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

TAXI DRIVERS, Local 151—Secretary, C. Gower, 490 E. Broadway; DI. 3411.

THEATRE EMPLOYEES, Local B-72—Secretary, Mrs. F. Foster, No. 6, 1004 Wolfe Ave.; CE. 5253.

TILE SETTERS, Local No. 3—Recording Secretary, D. P. Ewan, 4116 Dominion, North Burnaby.

TRUCK DRIVERS' UNION, Local No. 31—Business Agents, Reg Lenfesty and C. Solem, 490 E. Broadway; DI. 3411.

TUNNEL & ROCK WORKERS, Local 168—337 W. Broadway, Secretary, H. Croft; phone EX. 3231.

TYPOGRAPHICAL UNION, Local 226—Secretary, P. Campbell, 212 Labor Temple; EM. 6810.

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.

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.

WANTED: Union label queen contestants — but they don't have to be bathing beauties.

ALL REINSTATED

Simmons Workers Win Contract As 10-Month Strike Settled

Employees of Simmons Ltd. have chalked up a victory after a 10-month strike at the Vancouver plant.

The settlement was reached late last week after the company had requested reopening of negotiations.

The back-to-work contract brings a wage boost, retroactive pay, re-instatement of all employees, and other contract gains.

Employees, members of Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Union, went on the picket line March 27 last year in the struggle for their first contract with the mattress and bedding firm.

They started the trek back to the Grandview highway plant on Monday. Production was expected to get rolling shortly.

Here are the general terms of the strike settlement contract:

One-year contract from Jan. 24.

Basic female rate boosted to $1.20 from former 85 cents, and basic male rate to $1.45 from former $1.20. Setting up of new job classifications and average increase of 20 to 25 cents an hour. Piece work rate boosted by six per cent.

Lump sum $100 retroactive pay to all employees who were on the payroll when the strike started.

Nine paid statutory holidays.

Maintenance of membership security clauses and compulsory checkoff of union dues.

Re-instatement of all employees in the welfare plan, including pensions, group life insurance, weekly indemnity and medical-surgical plan.

Plant-wide seniority on promotions, layoffs and rehiring.

About 72 employees walked off the job and had continuously picketted the plant until the settlemetn was reached last Friday. Strike pay had been paid during the long shutdown.

Unions in this area rallied to the support of the Simmons employees in the prolonged strike.

Wanted: Union 'Queen' Candidates For Centennial Year ULTC Events

Vancouver Union Label Trades Council this year hopes to launch a contest for a Union-label Queen who would reign over all promotions this year.

Council secretary Josephine Hallock said that under the plan local unions would select their Queen candidate and the winner would play an important role during next fall's union buying week campaign and other events.

Mrs. Hallock will make a strong bid for a Union Industries Show in Vancouver this year where union industries would display products in a public exhibit. It would be one of organized labor's efforts for a centennial year event.

She said a fashion show displaying union-made clothing for men and women could be held during the industries display.

Although plans are still tentative for the Queen contest, Mrs. Hallock said that local unions interested in sponsoring a contestant should contact the council office at DIckens 0827.

Official applications will be available at the council office next month if there is sufficient interest shown in the contest, she said.

Union Industries Shows are held regularly in the U.S. The Vancouver promotion would be on a smaller scale.

* * *

The label council reports a good financial condition at the year end. The sale of union-made Christmas cards was successful and plans for next Christmas call for original designs for a trade union Xmas card. Anyone can enter the design contest and you're invited to send in your design.

* * *

The official centennial committee book is on sale at the label council office.

* * *

Newly elected executive members for the label council are Bro. C. Moeller, Plumbers; George Connolly, Dental Technicians; and Brother LaCusta, of New Westminster Carpenters.

Brother Kerr of B.C. Projectionists has taken over as recording secretary.

* * *

The latest in the growing crop of union labels has popped up on boats. The all-union-made boat is fiberglas, produced under the "Holiday" trade name in Kansas City, Kansas. They carry the label of the Glass Bottle Blowers Association.

* * *

Women's auxiliaries of the AFL-CIO or of affiliated unions can become affiliates with full voice and vote on local or state union label councils in the U.S. now. This change was approved at the AFL-CIO Union Label Department convention.

* * *

Union chefs are honored in a new 23-minute color movie just released by the Hotel and Restaurant Employees Union, and available to all local unions for showing. "Hail To The Chef" is part of the union's public relations drive to make friends for the industry and the union.

AFL-CIO Organizing Staff Cut

WASHINGTON — The AFL-CIO has announced cuts in its organizing and headquarters staff that affect about 100 of its present employees.

Most of those to be dropped are organizers.

The cuts were made necessary by "finances and the need for streamlining the staff to the current programs," said secretary-treasurer William Schnitzler.

Changes have been authorized by the executive committee and go into effect Feb. 1. It's known there has been a feeling among many members of the executive council that the organizing department has been overstaffed since the merger.

Efforts are being made to place the discharged organizers on staffs of affiliated unions. Organizers of 65 years or over will be retired under the AFL-CIO pension program, those approaching retirement age will be transferred to the public relations department while 55 others are being discharged.

This Label Really Be Flying High

If there are any rational creatures in outer space, they'll be seeing the union label some day.

In San Diego, the Machinists have established an "astronautical" department for workers at Convair, builders of the U.S.'s Atlas missile.

One of the department's goals— a union label on space ships.

WCB Urges Check Before Moving

Workmen were warned by the Workmen's Compensation Board this month that if they are injured and are on compensation they should not leave British Columbia unless they first secure written permission.

Failure to do this will seriously jeopardize the continuation of compensation payments for time loss and medical aid, board officials said.

The Workmen's Compensation Board supervise all medical treatment of compensation cases.

The B.C. Board has no jurisdiction over medical attention outside of B.C. For this reason the Board warned, it is necessary to insist that this regulation be adhered to.

WITH BIG THREE

Linemen Reject Award, Taking Strike Vote

Electrical workers are voting in a government supervised strike ballot today and Friday in the current wage dispute with B.C. Electric and two large line contractors.

Members of International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 213 earlier rejected a conciliation board award which the union said "failed miserably to satisfy the members' wage requests."

Today's voting in the Electrical Workers hall is for members working for BCE, Hume & Rumble, and Peterson Electric in Vancouver, New Westminster, North Vancouver and West Vancouver areas.

Voting for employees in Haney, Chilliwack, Abbotsford, Ruskin, Langley, Mission, Cloverdale, Agassiz and Stave areas is set for Friday in the Canadian Legion at Abbotsford. Members in other outlying areas will get ballots by mail.

About 1,300 linemen electricians are involved in the dispute. Local 230 Victoria also will take a strike vote on the same contract disputes.

"You are asking high wages for a man with no experience," said the employer interviewing a job applicant.

"Well," said the man. "It's so much harder work when you don't know anything about it."

Food Stores On Council's WDNP List

The Market Basket grocery chain has been placed on Vancouver Labour Council's "We do not patronize" list.

Grievance committee member E. M. Orr, reporting for chairman Bill Robertson, told the Jan. 7 meeting that the committee recommended the action after a hearing at which the grocery chain management was invited to appear.

"Two notices were sent to them, but they failed to turn up," he said.

Request for the action was originally submitted to Council by Retail Food and Drug Clerks' Local 1518.

A GI returned exhausted to camp after a wild weekned. Over his bunk while he was sleeping, his buddies hung a sign: "Temporarily out of Ardor."

Wyman Trineer

RE-ELECTED unanimously to head Vancouver Labour Council's organization committee again in annual elections last week was IWA's Wyman Trineer.

"Yes, I'll give you a job," said the warehouse manager. "And the first thing I want you to do is sweep the floor."

"But I am a college graduate," protested the youthful applicant.

"O.K.," the employer said, "then I'll show you how."

Sign Firms On WDNP List

Vancouver Labour Council has placed Economy Sign and Decorating Co. Ltd., 615 12th Street, New Westminster, and Hopps Sign Co. Ltd., 855 Homer, Vancouver, on its "We do not patronize" list.

Action followed a request from Sign and Pictorial Painters' Local 726.

There was a young man of Montrose,
Who had pockets in none of his clothes,
When asked by his lass
Where he carried his brass,
He said: "Dear, I pay through the nose."

THE LABOR STATESMAN

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Vancouver, January 30, 1958

Let's Get On With It

Honorable ministers of the Crown, it's time to face facts.

Those who manage our affairs at Victoria, and those who administer to the nation from Ottawa have been caught off base.

Labor tried to warn you, but you turned a deaf ear.

Just about now, with unemployment mounting across this land, we of the labor movement could well say, "We told you so."

But experience has taught us to be hard-headed realists. Let's get at the job, even as late as it is.

What labor does want, gentlemen, is some action. And labor wants it fast.

Robert Strachan, leader of the opposition at Victoria, tried to get action last Friday. He requested an adjournment of the House to discuss "a matter of urgent public importance—the unemployment situation in British Columbia."

His motion failed and the whole matter of unemployment has now been sidelined to a committee on labor.

Since we're faced with the largest jobless totals since depression years, we might well question the government's action. The matter should be aired immediately.

But what's done is done. We say to you now, gentlemen, get that committee into action as fast as possible.

And to you in Victoria and you in Ottawa we say, "Let's stop fumbling the ball."

What this country needs is an emergency employment program that can be swung into action by all levels of government the moment it's needed. There's got to be closer liaison between government, labor and industry on the unemployment question to insure that the warning signs won't go unheeded again.

And government members, especially at the federal level should stop playing political football with the livelihoods of our workers.

In short, gentlemen, let's get with it.

TRADE UNION FOIBLES

"Who told you that common man is worth only 87 cents—the National Association of Manufacturers?"

"I didn't say the boss laid me off...I said he's laid off me since I started wearing my union button!"

In The Legislature

(Editor's note: This is a guest column on opening of the spring legislature by Robert Strachan, leader of the official opposition.)

The second session of the 25th parliament of B.C. commenced on Jan. 23. It was a blustery, raw Victoria day when the Lieutenant-Governor arrived at the legislative buildings to start us into the work of the session by reading the Speech from the Throne.

It was one of the longest speeches from the Throne on record, but Lt.-Gov. Ross, read the speech very well. The Speech is written by the Premier and is supposed to give the members some inkling of government proposals for the coming session, but the speech this year, though longer, simply took more words to say less than is usual on such occasions.

It pointed up the pleasant aspects of the last twelve months and turned a blind eye to the trouble spots, especially those directly affecting the provincial government. It mentioned with admiration the various royal commissions which have been set up or are now in operation.

In listening to the speech, I was left with the impression that we have more commissioners investigating more problems than ever before in our history.

The first day of regular sessional work is normally given over to the two government speakers who move and second the motion that the House thank His Honour, the Lieutenant-Governor, for his very gracious speech of the previous day.

However, because of the urgency and the great need for immediate constructive measures to keep our workers gainfully employed, in my position as Leader of the Opposition I moved the ajournment of the House to discuss a matter of urgent public importance; namely, the unemployment situation in B.C.

This motion was ruled out of order by the new Speaker and when the Opposition appealed his ruling, he was sustained by the Government. This would, of course, lead the general observer to believe that the attitude of the Government was that unemployment was neither definite, urgent nor important. But to our surprise, immediately after my motion had been ruled out of order, the Minister of Labour himself stood up and moved a similar motion with an alteration stipulating that the matter be referred to the committee on Labour.

This sparked a hot debate which took up two hours of the afternoon. While speaking to motion, I pointed out to the Premier that in his brief to the Federal-Provincial conference, which was held on November 25, 1957, he himself had, in the very first page of that brief, asked for "an examination of the measures which may be undertaken to improve business and provide employment now." It was my contention that if the Premier considered that an examination of possible measures was important on November 25, 1957, then it was even more imporant on January 25, 1958 that the matter be attacked forthwith.

From The Prexy's Chair

By LLOYD WHALEN

Labor is getting sick and tired of the dog fight that goes on year after year in Ottawa over just how many are unemployed in Canada today.

The Unemployment Insurance Commission reports in excess of 700,000 jobless. On the other hand, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics comes up with about half that amount.

And while Liberals and Conservatives and government departments fiddle with their statistical differences, the jobless crisis continues to grow more serious.

Who cares about the degree of unemployment? The important question is "What are we going to do about it?"

It is about time we got down to fundamentals; time we removed our blinkers and looked at the world as it really is — time we decided who is responsible for unemployment. When we know the cause, we can fix the responsibility.

Employers — the Right-to-Work merchants — are fond of stating:

"We think the right-towork is one of the most precious liberties that a man possesses. Man has as much a right to work as he has to live, to be free, to own property, or to join a church of his own choice, for without freedom to work the other would soon disappear."

They also add that anyone who takes a man's right to work away from him should be restrained by law.

We'll buy that.

"Let take a look at who takes away a man's right to work — on the grand scale.

In the old days when demand for a product fell off, prices were reduced to stimulate sales. Today, in huge sectors of our economy, price competition has all but vanished.

Everyone knows in this day and age that when demand falls you don't lower prices to stimulate sales. You keep prices as they are, or even increase them, and cut back production.

To put it bluntly, you create unemployment!

Now, Management states that no one, except themselves, has any right to tamper with prices. In other words, they have a God-given right to create unemployment as and when they see fit. We are told that every right creates a responsibility. Do these industrialists who state they have a right to create unemployment also admit they have a responsibility to the unemployed? They do not.

They are ardently opposed to increasing Unemployment Insurance benefits to the point where a man and his family can exist without going into debt. They see nothing incongrous in stating that unemployment benefits must be kept low enough to drive a man to seek employment, while all the time they are depriving him of employment.

It's about time the problem of unemployment was put right where it belongs — on the backs of those responsible — industry.

We of the Labour movement are not alone in that opinion.

T. K. Quinn, once Senior Vice-President of General Electric—until he couldn't stomach big business any longer — remarked on the attitude of em-

(Continued on Page 6)

THE READERS WRITE

Labels And Buttons Should Concern You

Editor: Today we often see and hear: "patronize the Union Label, Union Shop Card and the Union Service Button." Some union members ask themselves **"Does this Concern Me?"**

The Answer is **"yes"** and I would like to explain why.

We know that many people are still unorganized and still work for as little as 85 cents per hour. That is hard to believe in this day and age, but it is true.

Remember, many of you were until recently unorganized yourself, working for sub-standard wages.

These unorganized workers in many cases are unorganized because the employer has struck fear into their hearts. He doesn't dare to be seen with a union official, because he is afraid his boss will fire him.

And it is no empty fear — it happens every day in this year 1958.

Therefore, if you refuse to patronize non-union labor, products or services these workers are going to be organized more easily.

If the boss knows that a lot of people will refuse to patronize his non-union establishment or product, he is going to come to terms with the union and give his employees union wages and working conditions.

And that means a higher standard of living for all Workers.

Do you see the light? Do you Buy Union?

Let me put it another way — If you are a union worker receiving union wages, etc., how long will you be able to live properly if there are too many people who don't earn enough money to buy what you produce, sell or deliver?

How much of what you produce, sell or deliver could a worker earning 85 cents per hour buy?

The best way to save your job — get more wages, etc., — to build a more prosperous future for yourself and the Canadian economy, is to patronize the union label, union shop card and union service button.

This may sound fancy, but all it means is that you would be doing something about those poor fellow workers who need a helping hand from us and at the same time you would be assisting yourself.

Don't forget: "I Am My Brother's Keeper."

John Brown,
Miscellaneous Workers,
Local 351.

CROSS-SECTION

Bigger Pay Cheques Key To Nation's Prosperity, Report U.S. Reseachers

A report this month by a non-profit, non-political research organization should cause employers to give some sober second thought to the whole question of union wage demands.

The report says that wages should be substantially increased throughout U.S. industry to help the national economy buy itself out of recession and unemployment.

And while it deals specifically with the U.S., the findings of the Conference on Ecnomic Progress has a direct bearing on the Canadian economy, linked as it is with our neighbors to the south.

The Conference is headed by national leaders in business, labor and agriculture. Their report was prepared by the Conference's staff director, Leon H. Keyserling, chairman of the former President Truman's council of economic advisors.

In backing their stand that higher pay is the principal key to a full national prosperity, the Conference leaders point out that by 1960 the income of the average American family should rise about $20 a week to give the economy the buying power it needs to maintain full employment.

They go on to lay the blame for the current recession to a drop-off in the buying power of wage and salary earners.

Here are the four main highlights of their report:

- U.S. economic problems have come mainly because consumption has not expanded enough to absorb our rapidly growing productive power. Per capita buying power actually declined in 1957 as a whole.
- Profits have far outstripped wages. Comparing the firts three quarters of 1957 with the similar period of 1956, profits of large corporations increased more than 50 percent faster than wage rates in all manufacturing.
- Unusually large price increase hiked profits after taxes by 8 percent in all manufacturing, comparing the two periods.
- Industry is making ample profits to increase wages without raising prices. This would generate more purchasing power and in turn create jobs.

The report emphasized this final point about business with these remarks:

"In many cases no sacrifice of an adequate level of profits, even in the short run, would result from a combination of pay increases and price reductions resonably combined to achieve more real purchasing power."

News From Underground Relates Inhuman Hungarian Prison Camp

More "news" is leaking out of Hungary. It tells of hardship and inhuman conditions — the aftermath of the reprisals that followed the uprising.

The International Confederation of Free Trade Unions says it has first-hand reports of increasing internment of prisoners in concentration camps.

One report says that about 60 kilometers from Budapest, near the village of Tokol, work is going on feverishly to build a vast new concentration camp, the biggest in Hungary — designed for 20,000 persons.

Another report concerns inhuman conditions in the Kistarcsa camp, about 20 kilometers from Budapest.

This camp was built to house 3,500 to 4,000 persons, but is now packed with 20,000 prisoners, according to the ICFTU informant.

Overcrowding means prisoners are forced to sleep in four shifts. After six hours sleep, prisoners are routed out and their places are immediately taken by another group, and so on.

There are only a few sick wards in this camp, located in a separate building and capable of accommodating no more than 40 to 50 persons. The ICFTU reports that the health of prisoners is deplorable.

Sneeky Sydney Snakes Scabs At Warehouse — Humans Go Jobless

In Australia, a new twist in the problem of automation: union patrolmen are being done out of jobs by snakes.

Fantastic as it seems, an enterprising individual named Harry Kemp has started renting out six-foot snake as night watchmen in warehouses and already they've replaced more than a dozen human night watchmen in Sydney. The snakes are non-poisonous, but are brightly colored. They are let loose at night and collected again the following morning — and they are said to scare burglars half to death.

The snakes also eat rats in the warehouses. But union watchmen, despite their failure to achieve this latter talent, still claim the snakes are scabs.

Scholarships Renewed By Oregon Labor

In Portland, the Oregon State Labor Council this month pushed into their twelfth year of labor-sponsored university scholarships.

The council announced it will award three $500 scholarships and three $100 awards to high school seniors in 1958. Over the years, the Oregon council has paid out more than $20,000 in these education grants.

The scholarship issue is of particular interest here because Vancouver Labour Council last year launched its first two UBC scholarships.

Under the Oregon scheme, high school seniors take an examination testing their knowledge of industrial relations. The top six in the state are then interviewed by a committee of labor officials and the three top award winners are chosen.

Students don't have to be from a labor union family. Only about one third of those who have received the awards in the past have come from families with union backgrounds.

Kohler Cardnappers Play Fast And Loose With Strike Banner

Down in Sheboygan, Wisconsin, where the United Auto Workers strike against the Kohler company is now in its 1,397th day, a picketline mystery has popped up.

It seems that the union's strike standard — the placard proclaiming that a strike exists —has been mysteriously vanishing on weekends.

When the last shift of pickets departs on Saturday, the standard is left in its cement-block base in front of the Kohler employment office gate. But when anybody drives by on Saturday night or Sunday, the standard is missing.

Then, regular as clockwork, when the first shift of pickets turns up Monday morning, the standard is already back in its base.

Th e union so far has been unable to catch the culprit and there's one theory that a ghost is at work.

But the more realistic strikers believe the cardnapping stems from one of these motives: week-end visitors and guests at the Kohler ivory tower are spared having to look at it; or viistors might be on the look for the sign since Life magazine printed a picture of the "faithful weekend picket," and it is somehow removed by company men.

A strikers' bulletin passes out this advice to the culprit: "There are enough sneak thieves who've stolen our jobs without your periodic theft of our picket sign."

There was a trim maiden named Wood
Who only did things that she should,
Till she reasoned on day
"If I really want play,
'Tis time I did things which I could."

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LABOR STATESMAN DATELINES

Polishers Dispute

Marble Polishers' Local 179 have taken their wage dispute with Continental Marble Company before a conciliation board.

The union is asking a 50-cent an hour across the board increase. The company has flatly rejected the demand.

In a report to the Jan. 7 Council meeting delegate W. A. McDonald said the union's last agreement with Continental was signed two years ago.

"We now regret entering into a two year agreement at that time," he said, "because now that economic conditions are not quite so good we are running into stiff resistance from the company."

Marble Polishers are also seeking a union-shop clause.

Cap Workers Win

NEW YORK — United Hatters, Cap and Millinery Workers made history this month with its first national strike — which ended in three days with victory for the union.

The new two-year agreement brings a 15 per cent over-all package settlement for plants on the 35-hour week and higher boosts for areas on the 37½ and 40-hour work week.

Study Papers

Executive board of Vancouver Labour Council is studying a request from Street Railwaymen, Division 101, that action be taken to establish a labor weekly newspaper at Vancouver.

The SRU said that "a monopoly of the news media" exists as a result of the merger of Vancouver's two daily newspapers.

"We suggest that in view of the situation, that the Council and the B.C. Federation of Labour, as soon as possible, further its studies of the need of establishing a labor weekly paper that would help fill the vacuum that presently exists," the resolution stated.

Big Signature

Construction unions under the Vancouver and District Building Trades Council have signed agreements with a large U.S. construction firm which holds few union agreements south of the border.

The firm Brown and Root is handling the construction of the asphalt plant at Ioco. A standard working agreement has been signed with the Building Trades Council.

The agreement provides for employment of workers who are members of unions affiliated with the council and the company agrees to be bound by existing agreements of each of the unions including wages, hours and working conditions.

Female Jobs

The importance of union organization to the new female job seeker was stressed by Mrs. Josephine Hallock in a panel discussion sponsored by the Vancouver Council of Women this month.

Mrs. Hallock said that the community which has good union organization and large union membership is a more reliable and healthy area for the job seeker.

Such a community has a better standard of living and allows less financial worry and time to enjoy and take part in church, school, cultural and educational groups.

She pointed out that 10 years ago, about 37 percent of teen-age girls were working, but that by 1955 this dropped to 33 per cent and has stayed at about that level.

More younger girls are staying in school longer today which means that the breadwinner through benefits of union organization is able to better provide for his family, including better education for girls.

Loads Of Gifts

Christmas may be over but it will be a long time before hundreds of city youngsters forget IWA Local 1-217's ninth annual Christmas party December 22.

Some 4,500 gifts were distributed to lucky youngsters of IWA families and on hand to lend the proper festive note was old Santa himself.

SCHOLARSHIPS

* * * * * *

Council Reviews Plans

Vancouver Labour Council will likely renew its sponsorship of univeristy scholarships for high school students this year.

The Jan. 7 meeting of the VLC instructed the incoming officers to meet with the education committee on the scholarship question and to bring in "such recommendations as deemed proper."

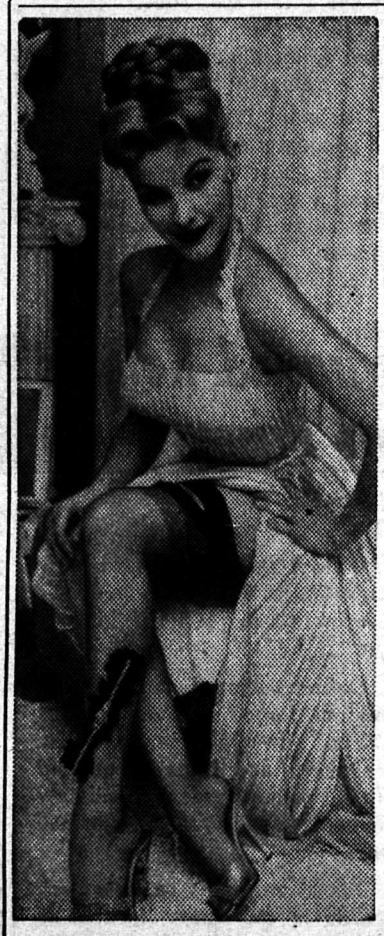
Action followed a letter from W. H. Gage, dean of administration and inter-faculty affairs at University of B.C., asking if council intends to continue the sponsor scholarship plan.

During 1957 the VLC sponsored two $250 scholarships at University of B.C. They were known as the Vancouver and District Labour Council Entrance Scholarships.

Winners were two 18-year-olds, Lindsay Cook of Vancouver and Koit Teng of Pitt Meadows. They were chosen by a university committee headed by Dean Gage on the basis of academic standing, financial circumstances and quailities of character and leadership.

The scholarship program was originally envisioned on a continuing basis, but last year the education committee decided to offer just two scholarships as a starting point.

It's expected that the program will be broadened this year.



UNION label gal-of-the-month choice is actress Debra Paget, judged to have the most beautiful legs in the world.

McMANUS HEADS PROJECTIONISTS

A. E. McManus has been elected president of B.C. Projectionists Local 348.

In the annual elections of the men who operate the cameras in movie houses, D. Calladine takes over as Secretary and L. Walker becomes business agent.

McManus was formerly business agent of the local.

WHALEN

(Continued from Page 4)

ployers' organizations towards unemployment insurance:

"Just what they (i.e. the National Association of Manufacturers) expect discarded workers to do passes understanding. They have certainly disqualified themselves as humitarian arbiters. I have begun to believe that the opposite of their position on any question is most likely to be right."

For one, (paraphrasing Mr. Charles Wilson) what's good enough for a Vice-President of General Electric, is good enough for us.

Sister Annie Fast has been elected recording secretary of Local 190, United Garment Workers of America.

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NEWS BRIEFS

On the bargaining front in the past month, these things happened: **Beverage Dispensers and Culinary Workers Local 835** signed first agreements at three Victoria hotels, using the standard agreement of the Lower Mainland area. Hotels involved are Douglas, Royal Olympic and Westholme . . . The same union has settled one-year contract revisions with seven New Westminster cafes. Two additional statutory holidays and an across-the-board boost of 2½ cents an hour were some of the gains.

* * *

Beverage Dispensers Local 676 have added the bargaining certificate covering employees in the cocktail lounge of the Martin Hotel, 1176 Granville, to their long list . . . **IWA Local 1-424** has signed up sawmill and logging employees at Tezzeron Lake, way up there 29 miles north of Fort St. James. The operation is Park Brothers . . . **Pile Drivers Local 2415** now bargain for employees of A&B Construction of Nanaimo . . . **Teamsters Local 351** have won certification for driver salesmen of the Lucky Strike Bottling Works, Vancouver . . . **IWA Local 1-252** have signed up employees of Richmond Sash and Door . . .

* * *

....**Eamon Park** has been named executive assistant to **United Steelworkers** Canadian director Bill Mahoney in Toronto. Park, with Steel since 1942, formerly headed the union's legislative department . . . In Regina, the **Saskatchewan Federation of Labour** has asked higher workmen's compensation payments in a brief to the provincial cabinet. SFL wants 100 per cent earnings for compensation, an increase from the present 75 per cent, the same goal sought by the B.C. Federation of Labour.

* * *

In the old country, five **Trades Union Congress** unions representing 300,000 workers in co-operative societies have beaten the British Government's wage freeze. Unions had threatened to abandon wage agreements and negotiate with each society separately, a new tactic which may set a pattern for other industries . . . **Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers** have set a shorter work week as one of the major contract goals in the oil industry. Union representatives from Vancouver to Montreal in their conference at Regina stamped the 36-hour week, an eight percent wage increase with a minimum of 18 cents an hour, premium pay for regular Sunday work and standarization of conditions, as contract targets.

Oil Workers Canadian director Neil Reimer, explaining the shorter week drive, said; "the union feels that the petroleum industry, with its tremendous resources, should give the lead in order to avert layoffs and unemployment facing the country. It's estimated the shorter week would boost employment in the oil industry by about 11 per cent.

* * *

The ugly head of **"right to work"** laws has popped up in Canada again, this time in Ontario. It come, as you might expect, from the Ontario Chamber of Commerce which opposed "compulsory" union membership and asked for the so-called "right to work" legislation . . . The **Alberta Civil Service Association** is aiming at a 40-hour work week for provincial government employees . . . Federal department of labor figures show that the **five-day 40-hour week** for plant employees in manufacturing is on the climb. By April 1957, the five-day week was the rule for 88.4 per cent of all plant employees.

Building, Industrial Unions Make Progress On Jurisdiction

Good strides in solving jurisdictional problems between building trades unions and industrial unions in B.C. have been made.

The Labor Statesman learned that Building Trades Councils of Vancouver and Vancouver Island have met with some of the large industrial type unions during the past two weeks.

It's reported the groups are "well on the way to a working agreement" on jurisdictional issues.

Council A'growing, Has 150 Affiliates

☆ ★ ☆

And 71,500 Union Members

Seven more local unions affiliated with the Vancouver Labour Council during 1957.

At December 31 there were 158 unions in the VLC representing an average membership over the year of 71,500.

These facts are contained in the Council's summary of activities for 1957, released to delegates this month.

During the year the Council held 20 regular meetings and the executive board met 26 times. Meetings were held by the various standing committees and the Political Education Committee.

Here are the newly affiliated local unions:

IWA, Local 1-252 (formerly B.C. Woodworkers, Local 2); Linedrivers, Warehousemen, Pick-up Men and Dockmen, Local 605; Printing Specialties and Paper Products, Local 598; United Steelworkers of America, Local 5432; Canadian Postal Employees Association; Brotherhood of Railroad Trainment, Lodge 1040; and Vancouver Newspaper Guild, Local 115 (formerly two locals — VNG Local 1 and VNG Local 207).

First of each month a young railroader was hounded by dress shops, shoe stores and other retail establishments for bills his wife ran up buying clothes. At last, a friend took him to one side and said: "You're getting a bad reputation around town for not paying your wife's bills. Why don't you put a stop to it?"

Sighing, the young man replied: "Well, it's this way. It's a lot easier to make arrangements with my creditors than it is with my wife."

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MEMBERS ACCEPT

Retail Meat Workers Awarded Big Boosts

A conciliation board has recommended major gains — including wage boosts up to 47½ cents an hour in two years — for 800 employees of retail meat operations in Greater Vancouver, Greater Victoria and New Westminster.

The recommendations have been accepted by members of Amalgamated Meat Cutters Local 212.

Besides healthy wage increases, the board recommendations call for a boost in night work premiums, new seniority provisions, boosted vacations, welfare plan improvements, double time for Sunday work, and other benefits.

The wage increases are recommended in two stages: 10 per cent retroactive to Nov. 1, 1957, and another 10 per cent effective Nov. 1, this year.

For a male employee under three months experience, the total wage gain is 21½ cents an hour, bosting the rate to $1.26½ next Nov. 1 or $50.60 for a 40-hour week.

A journeyman meat cutter, over 36 months experience, would gain 41 cents an hour to a rate of $2.35 or $94 for a 40 hour week, while a head meat cutter's rate at Nov. 1 this year would jump to $2.60 an hour.

For female employees, a 25 cent increase over two years covers most experience ratings. After 24 months experience, the rate would be $1.75 an hour, or $70 for a 40-hour week.

The new night premium pay for work after 6 p.m. would jump to 25 cents an hour from the present 15 cents, and new vacation provision brings three weeks vacation after 7½ years service for the 1959 holiday schedule.

The board made two recommendations on welfare plans. One proposes the consolidation of present plans to allow transfer of employees from one store to another within the industry without loss of benefits. It would also include many employees not now covered.

It also recommended a joint committee to study other provisions such as weekly indemnity, sick leave and life insurance. The study would form the basis of future negotiations on the welfare plan.

Companies would make up the diference in normal pay for employees called on jury duty and employees would be guaranteed proper time off for voting in elections under other contract clauses.

The award affects employees in 175 retail operations of Safeway, Super Valu, Shop Easy and independent stores.

The settlement is expected to set a pattern for another 200 union members in department stores, and meat markets in other Vancouver Island and Fraser Valley centres.

Loggers Endorse 32-Hour Principle

Two-day annual convention of Logers Local 1-71, IWA, last month voted in favor of the principle of the 32-hour work week to spread existing employment among available loggers.

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Hardware Disputes To Concilation

Wage disputes in two major hardware firms will be put before conciliation boards.

Affected are about 350 employees of Mc & Mc, wholesale and retail, including office employees in Vancouver, North Vancouver and New Westminster; and 200 office and warehouse employees of Marshall-Wells (B.C.) Vancouver operation.

They are members of Retail Wholesale and Department Store Union.

The Mc & Mc workers are seeking a wage increase averaging about $35 a month, and a cut in the work week from 40 to 37½ hours. Negotiations have been going on since September.

Marshall-Wells workers are pressing for wage boost on category basis, averaging between $30 and $35 a month. Talks on the new contract started last July.

Both companies earlier offered a 7½ per cent boost—from $17 to $20 a month—which was rejected by union members.

UNEMPLOYMENT

(Continued from Page 1)

ier Bennett to call a special conference of B.C. municipalities over the unemployment problem.

It has warned the Premier, for the second time, that a state of emergency exists and that government, business and labor must sit down together to find ways of providing jobs.

The VLC meeting also unanimously adopted a resolution reiterating its stand for a program to create work through expansion of trade, increased national development, large scale public works, low cost housing, and construction of much-needed schools and hospitals.

It also urged that government officials at all three levels consult with industry with a view to creating further employment by immediately starting contemplated new construction and alterations.

It pointed out that these demands were first adopted at a mass unemployment rally sponsored by the VLC in Vancouver Nov. 29, and it added:

"Except for replies from the minister of labour and the public works minister stating that additional appropriations have been made to encourage the construction of low-cost housing, no other action has been taken by the respective governments."

Copies of the new resolution have been sent to Prime Minister Diefenbaker and party leaders in the federal government, and to Premier Bennett and party leaders in the B.C. legislature. Lower Mainland municipalities and the Canadian Labour Congress have also received copies.

JACK HENDERSON

. . . Re-elected to head Vancouver Labour Council's legislative committee this month.

Meade Prexy Metal Council

James Meade of Sheetmetal Workers Union, was elected president of the Vancouver, New Westminster and District Metal Trades Council by acclamation this month.

Annual elections named these other officers: Vice-president ,M. Bjornson, Molders, acclamation; Secretary-Treasurer, Dave Chapman, Machinists, acclamation; Trustees, L. Wilson, Machinists, and G. Banner, Heat & Frost Workers.

HEADLINER

(Continued from Page 1)

with a new and unusual contract clause which won't allow playwrights to write any dramas with sad endings — brought this comment from an official of AFL-CIO Radio and Television Directors' Guild: "Westinghouse sure told off Sophocles, Shakespeare and Eugene O'Neill."

* * *

STRIKE FUNDS — Vancouver Fire Fighters' Local 18 want the VLC to set up a committee to process appeals for funds from local unions that take strike action. Question has been referred to the organization committee.

* * *

WELCOME ABOARD — Following delegates were obligated and seated at the Jan. 7 meeting of VLC: J. L. Condy, Barbers' 120; F. Lieberg and R. F. Clair, IWA 1-217; J. T. Froese, IWA 1-252; A. N. Archibald, F. Dressler, A. Rose, J. Hachey, F. Towson and L. Miller, IWA 1-357; A. Toffaletto and C. MacPherson, Miscellaneous Workers' 351; H. Ewert, Shipwrights 506; D. C. Gow and A. M. Foster, Laborers 602; A. McDonald, Food and Drug Clerks 1518; and F. H. Howarth, B. C. Government Employees.

Projectionists Battle Elimination Of Exams

B.C. Projectionists Union is fighting a move which it claims could destroy wages and working conditions in theatres and cripple the union.

In its battle to maintain standards, Projectionists Local 348 is opposing representations now being made by the B.C. Exhibitors Association to the Attorney General's department in Victoria.

A union statement this month outlined the problem:

"If these representations are followed through in their entirety, it could easily destroy the union or at least cause it to lose jurisdiction over many theatres in the interior of the province and generally lower the wages and working conditions that this union has worked so hard to obtain over a period of the last 40 years.

"The Exhibitors' Association is asking first for the banning of all nitrate film in the province and claim that by so doing the fire hazard would be reduced to the point where the present examinations for projectionists would no longer be needed.

"This, of course, is not a true fact. While it is true that acetate base film, such as is in general use today, does burn much more slowly than nitrate film, it will still burn, and it would in fact be much more easily noticed by the audience that a fire had occurred with this film than with nitrate film.

"Through many years it has been shown that the danger to the public is not the actual fire, but panic — very few persons have ever been burned to death in a theatre, but a great many have been killed by panic which resulted from the fire.

"It has also been established by the National Fire Protection Association who have kept a record of theatre fires since 1896, that only 22 per cent of these fires have been caused by nitrate film while 34 per cent were due to electrical causes.

In this day and age of wide screen processes, cinemascope and other technical advances, the danger from electrical fires has continually increased due to the larger and more complex equipment used. The union cannot agree that there is any justification for lessening the qualifications of a tradesman in this or any other craft.

"In this enlightened day and age, the requirements should, if anything, be more stringent.

"Certainly no employer should desire a less skilled worker; therefore this present move by the exhibitors can only be for the purpose of breaking down wages and working conditions within the industry with the hope that when this has been done they will be able to rehire their present skilled projectionists, but with wages and working conditions greatly reduced from the standards which generally prevail throughout the industry today.

"The union contends it is a duty of the government to prevent employers from sacrificing the safety and comfort of their patrons, and the welfare of employees who have served them faithfully and well, on the altar of the almighty dollar, which appears to be the shrine at which so many worship."

Two More Unions Join Label Group

Two more unions have affiliated with the Vancouver Union Label Trades Council—Carpenters Local 1251, New Westminster, and Building Service Employees Local 244.

New council delegates include: E. J. Kerr, Projectionists; Jack Hawthorne, Machinists; Mae Ferguson and Phyllis Fanus, United Garment Workers; R. S. Johnson, Carpenters 252; D. O'Shea, Engineers 115; H. Kinder, Pile Drivers; Al Heard and P. Bedore, Laborers; L. S. Webber, Plumbers; K. Onby and A. Baldo, ILGW; D. Laird, BSE; C. Oke, and M. Lacusta, NW Carpenters.

Jobs Few In Trades

Employment and activity in metal trades was listed as poor by most unions at the mid-January meeting of the Vancouver and District Metal Trades Council.

Reports by unions on employment were: shipwrights, poor; machinists, poor; sheetmetal, fair; painters, poor; molders, very poor; plumbers, slack; electricians, fair, expect more unemployed soon; heat and frost, fair.

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