C-43

THE LABOR STATESMAN

OWNED BY THE VANCOUVER AND DISTRICT LABOUR COUNCIL

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SELL-OUT CROWD attended the first annual banquet of the newly merged Vancouver and District Labour Council this month at the Commodore. The huge crowd applauded the affair as a great success and during a lull in the dancing, the Labor Statesman camera caught the smiles of these merry makers (from left): Council secretary E. A. Jamieson and Mrs. Jamieson, CLC representative Tom Goderham, Mrs. Freda Musgrave and Jack Paterson.

CLC Presses Board-Room Tax Protest

Vancouver Proposal Gets Backing As Congress Inteviews Cabinet

Canadian Labor Congress has taken prompt and strong action to back Vancouver Labour Council and Building Trades Council in their move to gain income tax exemptions on board and room allowances for construction workers away from home.

In co-operation with National Association of Master Plumbers, Toronto Builders' Exchange and other groups, the Congress has interviewed cabinet ministers asking the required exemption.

As outlined in a joint brief by the Vancouver Council and Building Trades Council, the department of National Revenue has reversed a previous ruling which permitted tax exempt payment of travelling and out of town living expenses to construction employees.

The CLC submission notes that the reversal order was made in July of this year.

CREATES UNREST

"It has created considerable uncertainty, doubt and unrest among employers and employees in the construction industry," the submission states.

It recommends that the new section be quashed, and that the regulation be changed to read: travelling expenses and out of town living expenses received by an employee of a construction con-

(Cont'd page 14)

Rest Your Head --No Jan. 1 Meet

Delegates won't have to spend New Year's night at a council meeting.

The first regular meeting for January falls on New Year's day—but has been cancelled.

Instead, meetings during January were pushed back and the first meeting will be Jan. 15, the second on Jan. 29.

Milk Salesmen Win Pay Increase, New Contract Rated Best In Canada

Milk Sales Drivers and Dairy Employees Local 464 have signed a two-year agreement with 10 Vancouver dairies, winning a wage increase of at least $30 a month, and giving milk drivers the first 8-hour day, five-day week in Canada.

The contract was signed this month, and is hailed as the finest milk contract in Canada.

It provides:

- A $15 monthly increase for all employees retroactive to March 1.
- A further increase of $15 for driver salesmen, and $17.50 for all inside employees.
- A further $2.50 monthly increase for shift differential.
- Ice cream and Fraser Valley divisions gain $32.50 and $22.50 a month, which means that ice cream workers have gained up to $57.50 per month in the past eight months.

First steps were taken towards eventual province-wide bargaining procedures, when Victoria members voted to go along with the Vancouver agreement.

Local 464 secretary John Brown said the new contract was drawn up on the basis of "every-other-day" delivery, and wages of home delivery drivers will be pegged to ensure they receive the $30 additional until the restricted delivery plan is stabilized.

Said Brown: "Your milkman wishes to give you just as much service as he has in the past, but it must be remembered that the number of customers that can be served by him in an 8-hour day, and the quantity they buy, will have a very large bearing on the price of milk."

Local 464 officials report that negotiations are under way with Lucerne Dairy, Shannon Dairy, Comox Co-op, and the Victoria milk companies. Organizing drive among milk haulers is also under way.

★★★★★ • The Headliner ★★★★★

TOO CROWDED—B.C. district IWA secretary George Mitchell this month urged some long-range planning to solve the parking problems near the Labor Temple. He proposed that the council should: 1. keep an eye out on land adjacent to the labor building and purchase property for parking lots, or 2.

(Cont'd page 12)

Do's And Don'ts For Housewives

Secretary John Brown of Milk Drivers 464 has released a list of helpful hints for housewives who wish to help their milkman and the industry keep the price of milk as low as possible:

1. Have bottles and tokens in place the day milkman calls;
2. Put them where they can be seen;
3. Make sure bottles are clean and dry;
4. Pay punctually to cut down on book work;
5. 'Phone additional orders to the dairy the day before;

And most important—BUY UNION MILK.

Health Plan Set

Building trades unions are holding meetings to plan a comprehensive health and welfare plan on the eve of negotiations with General Contractors and Highway and Heavy Construction Association.

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Militia Group Asks Council Cooperation

Proposal to form a joint committee with B.C. militia groups to provide for greater co-operation with labor is being studied by Vancouver and District Labour Council.

Lt.-Col. R. E. Wilkins and Lt.-Col. W. E. McKinney of the Honorary Officers Unit 24 of the Militia Group, made the proposal to the last meeting of council.

They said a joint committee with three members from the labor council and three from militia would meet four or five times each year to work out problems.

The militia needs greater support from all groups, particularly from labor, the militia men declared, stressing that a voluntary system of recruiting is very important in view of the troubled international situation.

Lt.-Col. Wilkins said the militia's biggest problem is "the apathetic point of view people take today.

"We can take another 50,000 on strength in B.C. militia groups today. If a war comes we must have men trained."

He said militia training aided in occupying leisure hours of young people, helped keep them "off the streets, not necessarily to train them for soldiers, but for better citizens."

Bob Beddome, business agent of Beverage Dispensers 676 has been appointed Council representative on the Royal Agricultural Industrial Society.

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

FLOORLAYERS' UNION, U.B. of C.J., Local No. 1541—Room 117, Labor Temple. Business Agent, Bruce Robson, 3238 E. 29th; DE. 7297-M.

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CURVACEOUS ACTRESS Jayne Mansfield is the choice this month for union label girl, as she poses in a union-made sweater for The Statesman camera. The pick was unanimous by members of IWA Local 1-217.

Protest On Refugees Rejected By Council

Vancouver and District Labour Council this month rejected a proposal to protest to the Canadian government the unquestioned entry of Hungarian refugees into Canada.

Majority voice of council delegates agreed the problems of providing for the thousands of refugees fleeing Soviet oppression required speedy action, unfettered by red tape.

At the same time, the council supported two other proposals from IWA New Westminster Local 1-357 which urged:

- Protest against the federal government policy of allowing large companies to sponsor immigrants to this country.
- Request to Ottawa that Canadian contributions to Hungarian relief should be in clothing, butter and grain instead of money.

Explaining the IWA Local 1-357 stand against "unquestioned entry" of Hungarian refugees, IWA delegate Miller said "we wonder if we are getting the heroes of Hungary?"

He pointed to proposal to bring forestry students and faculty from the Sopron university in Hungary and the Olympic athletes, commenting "it seems to me these people are in the preferred class — are they the heroes?"

UNQUESTIONED

"What type of people do we find fleeing the fighting? We should be very careful, and I question the advisability of bringing them in unquestioned," he said.

Dave Wade of Retail Clerks said, "I don't think we need concern ourselves of heroes or non-heroes.

"These people are victims of tyranny, oppression and murder," he said. "While it's true the CLC policy is for controlled immigration, I think today we face a dire emergency and red tape can kill the souls of men quicker than Russian tanks."

Delegate Bullock of Marine Workers said "these are people who in effect are asking for political asylum—what about the people left on the picket line in Hungary?"

CAN'T SEND BACK

Delegate Allison of Electricians Local 213 said "we can't send these people back to be murdered . . . what country could better use more population than Canada?"

Tom Alsbury of Civic Workers termed the debate "unfortunate" and said "I hope there won't be any indication that labor in Canada is against the Hungarian refugees."

President Lloyd Whalen in explaining the executive's recommendation for non-concurrence in the IWA protest proposal said "I think we are all concerned in helping the unfortunates, no matter what country they come from."

But he said probably the main fear was in employment.

JOBS FOR ALL

"We are told the refugees will get jobs . . . at the same time we want to make sure that Canadians will have jobs, too."

There was little objection to the protest against companies sponsoring immigrants.

IWA delegate Sid Thompson said "people are not free citizens when they come in under this system.

"A number of years ago a textile company in Quebec brought in immigrants over a period of years and placed them in virtual bondage.

"They worked at low wages and were in virtual bondage until they paid back to the company their fare to Canada."

Wyman Treneer of IWA said the sending of goods rather than money to Hungarian relief would serve a better purpose, and would help to use up surpluses of this country.

No Excuse For Buying Non-Union Council Told

Secretary-treasurer A. E. Hallock has informed the Vancouver Labor Council that there are in this locality 350 union barber shops; 120 union butcher shops; 40 establishments having contracts with Retail Wholesale and Department Store Union; and 120 food stores under agreement with Retail, and Grocery Food Clerks 1518.

Not much excuse for misinformed, non-union buying.

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THE LABOR STATESMAN

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Vancouver, December 15, 1956

OUTMODED QUALIFICATIONS

Vancouver's outmoded property qualifications for civic candidates are barring solid citizens from contributing their talents towards the development of the city.

That's the reason behind Vancouver Labour Council's request to have the property qualifications thrown out and replaced by a five-year residence clause.

At first glance, the property qualifications appear reasonable enough. Aldermen, for instance, must be registered owners of real property within the city limits with an assessed value of $500 over and above the registered charges against the property. The clause was obviously written to make sure that elected repreentatives have a modest financial interest in their city.

But that isn't the way it works out in practice.

Take the mythical John Smith, who bough a house for $9000. He paid $2000 down, and has a mortgage for $7000 —like most people. It might be thought that Smith, with a $2000 interest in his home, would be eligible. But the house turns out to be assessed for only $7000, and Smith cannot run because he does not have $500 over and above the assessed value.

Even if he had paid off all but a few hundred of the $7000 mortgage, he still could not run, because the mortgage remains a registered charge until paid off completely.

There are other jokers. The man who buys—for cash—a $16,000 apartment in a co-operative apartment scheme is not a property owner for civic purposes. The co-operative is the registered owner.

Consequently, thousands of excellent citizens, particularly veterans and trade unionists, are being barred from trying for civic office. These same men could run in provincial and federal elections—but not in their own city.

At a time when there is a crying need for high calibre men and women to take a hand in running the city, there is no place for artificial restrictions based on conditions of years gone by.

That is why we hope to enlist the support of many community organizations in a campaign to open the civic election field to a wider cross-section of men and women, representative of all classes in the city.

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Timely Warning

An Enamel Workers Union delegate warned Vancouver Labour Council this month that labor representatives should attend more public meetings to counteract employer propaganda.

Bill Giesbrecht, council representative to the committee for Human Rights said he attended a recent citizenship meeting where Hon. H. H. Stevens was the principal speaker.

Stevens spoke on "Our Economic Rights," reported Griesbrecht.

"The first part of his speech was in order but the rest of it was taken up with an attack on the labor movement.

"We should get out to more of these meetings to counteract some of this employer propaganda," he said.

Buy Union Made Goods With Union Earned Dollars

Laugh With Us

The Blue Ribon award must go to an uninhibited little girl in Alberta. She is six years old, daughter of a prominent physician.

Her mother was entertaining some important people when the little girl trudged down the stairs, her pajamas open at the rear and quite wet. "What's the matter?" asked her mother.

"Someone left the lid up," she answered, "and I dern near drowned."

* * *

A small boy went from door to door in a large apartment house, soliciting business.

"I walk dogs," he told a prospective customer. "If you've got a small dog, I'll walk him all around the block for a dime. Or I'll walk a middle-sized dog for 15 cents. And if you have a great big dog, my price is only a nickel."

"Why do you charge only a nickel for great big dogs?" asked the housewife.

"I don't walk great big dogs," the boy replied, "I ride 'em."

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FROM THIS ANGLE

SAGGING FARM INDUSTRY

Canadian Labor Congress is taking a leading part in the fight to increase farm income and to bolster employment in the farm equipment industry.

In days of general prosperity, few people realize just what is happening to the farmer, and to the workmen who make his equipment.

DBS figures tell the story, which CLC researchers describe as alarming.

In short: farmers' share of all goods and services produced in Canada has been almost halved in the past four years. And employment in the farm implement industry has declined 44.7 percent.

In cooperation with farm labor groups, the CLC points out: "DBS figures show that in 1951, out of a total national income of $17.1 billion, the net income of farm operators from farming operations was $2.2 billion, or 12.6 percent.

"In 1955, out of national income of $20.7 billion, farm income had fallen to $1.5 billion or only seven percent. The total income shared by all Canadians increased by $3.6 billion, but farm income fell by $700 billion."

To combat this situation, the CLC brief suggests farm price protection at adequate levels so that the farmers can purchase needed equipment without fear; more vigorous marketing policies; adequate credit facilities at low interest rates for farmers; and stricter action against monopolistic control by huge corporations processing farm products and supplying farmers' needs.

* * *

Trend toward 5-day, 40-hour week among manufacturing employees continues this year, according to statements released by the federal department of labor.

Three week vacations are also becoming more general, with 15 years of service to the company the most common requirement.

And believe it or not, a lucky ten percent of manufacturing employees enjoy four weeks of vacation, most often after 25 years of service.

* * *

Office workers are doing better this year in Vancouver and three other major cities surveyed by the department of labor. In Vancouver, a senior male clerk makes an average of $76.63, compared with $75.53 a year ago. Office workers in Toronto Montreal and Winnipeg make slightly less per week, but their increases last year were greater.

YEAR-END MESSAGES

A MOMENTOUS YEAR

By LLOYD WHALEN

At this Chrismas Season of 1956 we, in the trade union movement, glance back over the events of the past year, and, with mixed feelings, survey our progress.

It is true we have not yet been successful in building a world founded on brotherhood and free from want. Workers throughout the world are still being suppressed. Many persons are still hungry, homeless and with little hope.

We have not completely failed, our hopes and aspirations are not completely shattered.

The trade union movement has proved to the world it is a haven for the oppressed, and is an instrument for the provision of needed facilities and technical skills to assist the needy in geographic areas less fortunate than ours.

The universal wish for "Peace on Earth, Goodwill Toward Men" finds no greater basis of expression than the brotherhood of laboring men and women.

At times, during the hurly-burly of everyday struggle for betterment, we are apt to overlook the comradeship that is found only within the trade union movement, and it is with this thought in mind that I consider it a pleasure to extend to you, the Vancouver and District Labour Council Affiliates, my heartfelt wishes for a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

By EDWARD A. JAMIESON

On the threshold of a new year it is traditional to review the events of the past twelve months and attempt to prophesy as to what may happen in the year that lies ahead.

This year I am very happy to comply with tradition, for truly 1956 was a great year for the labor movement in this province.

Beyond a shadow of a doubt the highlight of the year occured on the evening of May 15 when the newly merged councils held the inaugural meeting of what we now call the Vancouver and District Labour Council.

Few, I think, will contradict me when I state that the merger has confounded the critics and has worked more smoothly than even the most optimistic of us dared to expect.

On the economic scene employment was maintained at an unprecedented level and towards the end of the year many unions were able to register impressive wage gains. All in all a year to remember.

Turning to the future it is quite plain what the duty of every trade unionist must be. We must translate into wages the impressive advance in industrial productivity which has occured in the past two years.

Employers are prone to remark that the only way to a bigger "slice" is a bigger cake. Well, the cake has been well baked. These increases in wages will not be easily won, they never are. But won they must be.

Truly this year I can echo the age-old greeting: "A Merry Christmas and a Properous New Year to you all."

★ **SPECIAL** ★

As a special feature, The Statesman presents year-end messages from President Whalen and Secretary Edward A. Jamieson of Vancouver and District Labour Council; and President Bill Black and Secretary George Home of the B.C. Federation of Labour.

By GEORGE HOME

The year 1956 will be recorded in history as the year of merger for the Canadian labour movement.

With the formation of the Canadian Labour Congress in April, 1956, and with the mergers of the Labour Councils throughout Canada during the summer of this year, and the mergers of the Provincial Federations in the fall of this year, a real base has now been laid for the trade union movement of Canada to make great progress in 1957, and the following years.

The responsibility for the carrying out of the program for which the pioneers of the labour movement have struggled, now rests upon the elected executives of these three bodies.

The first real results of their efforts should be witnessed in 1957, and labour can confidently expect a clear demonstration as to the maturity of the leadership which the labour movement can give to the citizens of Canada.

In the field of negotiations labour will have to again give the lead in increasing the standard of living of the people of Canada through the attainment of justifiable wage increases to meet not only the increase in the cost of living which is evident of the policies of our governments, banking institutions and employers, but also to keep pace with the ever-increasing productivity of the workers of the country.

In all, I would say 1957 should be a prosperous, healthy and happy year for the members of the labour unions in British Columbia.

By BILL BLACK

The past year has been one of consolidation and great promise, but there is still a terrific job of organizing before us. That should be the great aim of the B.C. Federation of Labour during the coming year.

Although we speak loosely of the great steps taken, and of prosperity for all, we have three groups with us who need assistance, and need it quickly.

There are members of those unions which still feel the pinch of inflation. Very few of us can say that rising wages have truly kept pace with the spiralling cost of living.

There are still tens of thousands of workers who do not know the benefits of union organization, men and women working at sub-standard wages, who feel the pinch of poverty and uncertainty even though they may be surrounded by security and plenty.

Finally, there are the marginal groups, pensioners and those on fixed income, for whom "prosperity" is but a mockery.

Labor has a tremendous responsibility, not only towards its members, but to the community at large and to members of these often forgotten groups in particular.

We can and must see that these people are looked after.

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LABOR STATESMAN DATELINES

International Dictatorship Fight

MONTEVIDEO — Leaders of free Uruguayan labor and of the AFL-CIO joined hands in a solemn pledge to fight all dictatorships at a gala welcome to Pres. George Meany and vice presidents David Dubinsky and O. A. Knight.

The vow was taken at a large meeting of the Confederation of Uruguayan Trade Unions at which Meany delivered a scathing denunciation — frequently interrupted by cheers — of Soviet Russia's bloodbath suppression of the Hungarian people.

Consumer Credit Still Zooming

OTTAWA — Latest reports show that consumer credit in Canada now outstanding is $2.4 billion—about $700 a family.

This is nearly 20 per cent higher than a year ago and about 50 per higher than in the generally prosperous year of 1953.

Those Cries About High Labor Cost!

GAINESVILLE, Ont. — Mrs. Kilburn Beal, who lives on a farm near here, won herself a 20- ft. freezer with a retail price tag of $619.50 because she was able to sort fact from propaganda on the cost of the direct labor that went to produce it.

The freezer was exhibited by the Canadian Labor Congress at 17 farm fairs in Ontario this year. Visitors to the CLC tent were invited to estimate the labor cost in a "guess the wage item" contest.

Some of the estimates were more than $500. Fifty-one per cent put the cost of $200 or more and 74 percent guessed at least $100.

Mrs. Beal knew better. She came up with $91.82 just two cents more than the official estimate.

Immigrant Total Rises Sharply

OTTAWA—A total of 40,085 immigrants poured into Canada during the third quarter of this year, an increase of 42 per cent over the 28,190 who arrived in this country during the corresponding period of last year, according to Immigration headquarters here.

The Big Companies Doing All Right

WASHINGTON — Profits and dividends are still doing nicely by big business and those who own it.

Very nicely, in fact. Corporate profits in the first half of 1956 were up eight percent over the comparable 1955 period, and were 34 percent more than in the first half of 1954.

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Federation Urges Close Watch On Immigrant Labor Wage Rates

Unions affiliated to B.C. Federation of Labor are urged to keep close check on immigrants working in their jurisdiction to see that they are not being discriminated against.

The merger convention established the policy that immigrants should be employed under conditions no less favorable than those enjoyed by other workers.

The resolution approved by delegates charged that many foreign-born workers are not familiar with the Canadian system of trade union organization, and are thus forced to work for scandalously low wages.

A second resolution from carpenters 1598 would make it mandatory for new Canadians to accept the eight-hour-day and 40-hour week as a condition of employment.

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Labor's Loss Worth A Lot —But No Go

Story of the month is reported by The Machinist, and concerns the wonderful loony idea of one William M. Bostick, a tool and diemaker i n Maple Heights, Ohio.

As it does to all of us, the time came for Bostick to make out his income tax.

This he did, reporting income of $5,045.

Then he declared that he should have received $98,-098, and filed a "loss on labor" return for $93,053.

In addition he claimed exemption for $3000 union dues L.A.W.S."

This, he explained later to the judge, meant Lonely American Workman's Society. He organized the society, set the dues, and was the charter member. Also the only member.

The tax people took a long, stunned look at the return.

Then, with some restraint, they told Bostick to figure his tax all over again. Without L.A.W.S. and the "loss on labor."

Barbers' Drive Signing Up Many New Shops

Barbers' Union organizing campaign is continuing at a good clip.

Here are newly signed shops worthy of your support: In Vancouver, W. H. Gore, 1268 East Hastings; National Hotel; J. D. Hildebrandt, 9122 Hudson; Minchello Barber Shop, 2595 East Hastings.

Burnaby, Frank Klasson, 1293 Madison; Ladner, K. W. Morrison, 4916 Delta; Nanaimo, Hotel Malaspina Barber Shop; Vernon, Terry Osterier; Richmond, John Chicola, 683 No. 4 Road.

Enderby, Hubert Barber; Keremeos, William Robertson; Campbell River, Ken Sawaga.

Vernon: Hickey and Sharp, Allison Hotel; Prince George: Pete Kosie, Caribou Hotel; Smithers, C. Collison; Osoyoos: John Lang; Campbell River: C. Sowaya; 1194 Davie, Vancouver, James Byers.

International Chemical Workers Local 546 has won a 30-cent hourly boost at Reichold Chemicals, Port Moody, in a three-year agreement. The boost comes into effect now with wage-reopening clause each year of the contract.

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NEWS FROM LOCAL 244

Golf Club Negotiations Fail

By BEN MORLEY

Negotiations for a new agreement with the Shaughnessy Heights Golf Club and the Point Grey Golf and Country Club have collapsed.

Management research has been negotiating for these two employers and it has been impossible to reach an agreement with them.

The Union's proposal for a 30 cents an hour increase was rejected by these people and they have refused to make any counter offer, attempting to throw the thing in the lap of the union at all times.

Conciliation Officer Forgie has recommended a conciliaboard and the local has nominated Brother Mel Kemmis.

At a meeting of the members employed at Shaughnessy recently, everyone vowed that if they did not get what they wanted, strike action will take place. These clubs have for a number of years been paying depressed wages and refuse to realize that wages are increasing each year.

* * *

Negotiations for an agreement with the Canadian Legion, Branch 177, is progressing favourably and it is expected an agreement will be signed in the near future.

* * *

We have had numerous enquiries from caretakers of apartment houses in the city during the last month about the possibility of becoming organized.

If there is one class of workers in Vancouver that is being exploited, it is in this field.

* * *

We take this opportunity of wishing our many friends a Very Merry Christmas and trust the coming year will bring prosperity to all.

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THE LABOR STATESMAN

★ Second Front Page ★

Vancouver, B. C. December 15, 1956 Page Nine

Strike Settled At Goodyear, Teamster Union Wins Pay Boost

Teamsters Warehousemen's Local have won a 35-cent pay boost in a three-year contract in settlement of the eight-week old strike at Goodyear Tire, 1004 Hamilton.

The nine employees at the tire warehouse went back to work Friday. The settlement also applies to employees of B.C. Tire Co.

A 15-cent boost is retroactive to Aug. 1 this year, with 10-cent increases in June 1957 and 1958. Contract also includes a union shop clause.

Label Council Enlarges Executive

An enlarged executive was elected for 1957 by the Vancouver Union Label Trades Council at its meeting this month.

George Johnston of Amalgamated Meat Cutters was re-elected president, George Droneck of Amalgamated Clothing Workers named first vice-president, and George Connolly of Dental Technicians, second vice-preident.

Mrs. Josephine Hallock was elected secretary-treasurer.

Trustees are James Fisher of Truck Drivers 31, Carl Moeller of Plumbers, and J. A. Hinke of Photo Engravers.

Three executive members are Earl Hallock of Pile Drivers, Jack Peden of Brewery Workers, and Earl Kinney of Lithographers.

MRS. HALLOCK
. . . union label secretary

Hospital Union Fights Firing Of Jubilee Men

Officials of Hospital Employees' Local 180 engaged in an organizing drive at Victoria's Royal Jubilee hospital have succeeded in having four employees re-instated after they were fired as the result of pressure by the local "employees' association."

The Hospital Employees' organizers, headed by chairman Jim Murray of the VGH unit, found that employees of Royal Jubilee are represented by an association without labor affiliation.

But the group does have a union shop agreement, and in an attempt to prevent establishment of a bona fide trade union, the four key workers in the campaign were summarily expelled from the association and as a result dismissed.

Hospital Workers' Bill Black intervened with the help of CLC representatives, and the four were re-instated pending a proper trial set for just before Christmas.

Black reported that Hospital Workers are on the verge of obtaining "far more than the required 51 percent of employees necessary to get certification, and will see that these people are represented by a proper trade union."

Protests Rise Over City Bread Buying

Vancouver Labour Council and Union Label Trades Council will continue efforts to have the city cancel a contract with a bread firm on the "we-do-not-patronize" list of the council.

Bakery and Confectionery Workers Local 468 told council delegates that earlier protests to City Council and Police Commission had failed.

The protests follow award of a contract to Golub Baking Co. to supply certain city departments with bakery products. The contract was awarded on the basis of the lowest bid.

Golub bid was 11 cents for bread while other city union firms bid 13½ cents.

A delegate from Bakery Salesmen's Union said the contract was let by the board of administration before it was approved by City Council.

He said that drivers' rates at Golub's are about $30 a week less than union rates.

Season's Greetings

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Council To Urge Scrapping Of Property Qualifications

Elimination of property qualifications for candidates for civic office will be urged by Vancouver Labour Council.

Delegates to the last council meeting approved recommendations of the political education committee to make representations to City Council for an amendment to the city charter.

Committee chairman Bill Black said qualification for civic office should be limited to five years residence in the city.

He said the provincial B.C. Federation of Labor will be urged to secure a similar change in the Municipal Act which governs municipal and civic elections other than Vancouver.

Responsible community organizations, Council of Women, veterans' and ratepayers groups will be asked to support the proposal.

Black said that under present property qualification regulations, many people including trade unionists, are excluded although they have a definite stake in the city.

Firms Checked

Grievance committee is investigating request from Building Service Employees Local 244 to place two firms on the council's "we-do-not-patronize" list.

Firms are Fourth Avenue Window Cleaners, 1984 Balaclava; and Mike's Janitor Service, 5893 Battison, South Burnaby.

Committee Seeking Candidates

Political education committee has already laid plans for possible entry of labor candidates in the December 1957 civic election.

Committee chairman Bill Black won council support with a recommendation that all affiliated unions be canvassed "with a view to obtaining suitable candidates to run in the next civic election."

Tom Alsbury said "I hope we'll be in the next election with our own candidates."

Buy Union Made Goods With Union Earned Dollars

Council Buys Shares In Temple

Purchase of $1,000 in shares in Labor Headquarters, owners and operators of the Labor Temple, was approved by Vancouver Labour Council delegates this month.

Council was advised it had $1,100 credit from redemption in cash of Labor Headquarters debentures, held by the council, and this money will be re-invested in shares. Shares are $10 each.

Millwork Fight To Be Settled

A committee of senior officers from Machinists and Carpenters' International from Washington are in Vancouver to solve a problem that has been plaguing B.C. for 50 years.

Their task: To decide once and for all a formula to cover the work to be done by each trade in the millwork field.

The two big internationals fought the matter out once in Miami, and arrived at a formula acceptable everywhere but in B.C., where local officials said conditions are different.

Greetings to Organized Labor!

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Solid Labor Experience Backgrounds New Federation Executive Officers

The new merged B.C. Federation of Labour last month elected its first executive officers.

Here are thumbnail profiles of the top officers—President Bill Black, First Vice-president Joe Morris, Second Vice-president Vic Midgeley, Third Vice-president Bob Smeal and Fourth Vice-president Pat O'Neil and secretary-treasurer George Home.

STATESMAN PROFILES

BILL BLACK, business manager of Hospital Employees Union, has seen his group grow from a few employees in Vancouver General when it was formed back in 1944 to a large organization which embraces most of the larger hospitals in B.C. today.

Scotland-born, he came to Vancouver when he was 14, worked as a newsie and later a messenger boy in a lawyer's office for $1 a week.

Bill was sold on union organization during the depression years when he drifted from apple picking to cordwood cutting, to work in a city mill. He was secretary of the B.C. joint committee on unemployment in the "tough" days.

Later he became an ambulance driver for the infectious disease branch at city hall, passed exams for health inspector, and in 1938 was named president of City Hall Employees.

Bill became city hall workers' business agent in 1943, resigned in 1953 to devote all his time to the hospital union. The 49-year-old leader has held many executive posts with the Trades and Labor Council.

* * *

Lancashire-born JOE MORRIS ("Big Mo") came to Vancouver Island in 1929 and got his first job in a coal mine. In 1934 he moved into lumbering, first in a mill and then in the woods.

The good-natured Ladysmith logger took over as president of the Duncan local of International Woodworkers after the Communist-inspired rift of 1948 and in 1951 was named first full-time first vice-president of IWA B.C. District.

He was elected president in 1951 to lead the largest IWA district in North America. Morris, 42, earlier this year was elected a vice-president of the Canadian Labour Congress.

* * *

Forty-five-year-old GEORGE HOME, only full-time paid official of the merger federation, is another Scot.

He was in his first "strike" at the age of 10 in Glasgow. He led a one-day walkout with his school pals to get more pay for delivering milk in pre-school hours for two elderly spinsters.

George came to Vancouver when he was 16, was a messenger boy, retail butcher, miner. He has been very active in union affairs, an executive officer of the CIO boilermakers during the war, president of Steelworkers Local 3546 in 1946, and president of United Packinghouse Workers Local 282 in 1947.

He held the post of secretary of the CCL B.C. Federation of Labor since 1948, and was president of the Vancouver Labor Council for one term the same year

* * *

Vic Midgely, while only 42, has been a member of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters for 25 years.

A member of Local 1598 Victoria, he has been an international representative of his union for the past 10 years. His main sphere of activity has been on Vancouver Island, and the

(Continued on page 12)

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UNION LABEL CORNER

Christmas Is A Happy Time

By JOSEPHINE HALLOCK

That wonderful time is with us again.

Christmas! All the usual rush, bustle and preparation for celebrating the great event . . . of bringing the family of man together in fellowship and goodwill.

This is the one time of the year when our thoughts turn to ways and means of promoting the spirit of Brotherhood.

It is quite usual to hear people say: "Where can I buy a fine gift for so-and-so? And how do I know I am buying the best for my family and friends?

We in the Labor movement know the answer. Yes, the Union Label is the best guarantee of all.

What could be better than to go to any of the big department stores or specialty shops and pick out for Dad a good dress shirt by Arrow and a Spider Loom tie.

Then for that strapping son a snappy sport shirt by "Townline."

Sister will thank you "the most" when presented with a tartan collar and belt set with beret to match, or a well-cut kilt in her favorite clan, all labelled "Algian."

Mother, too, will be charming and gracious in an "Origgina" blouse of her favourite color and material . . . or a soft wool cardigan by "Jantzen" is just the thing for chilly evenings.

At New Year the family will gather round for a party, and there will be music for dancing from the new R.C.A. record player, while the youngsters munch to their hearts content on a big box of "Smiles an' Chuckles" candy.

Christmas is a happy season.

And the warm glow of the occasion will be enhanced by the knowledge that you have spent your Christmas dollars on Union Label products, and thus secured union jobs at union wages for our brothers and sisters in the Labor movement.

Merry Christmas to all and a Happy New Year.

Toronto Council Canada's Biggest

TORONTO—Canada's largest labor council has been created by the merger of two Toronto labor councils.

Over 100,00 workers in the Ontario capital are embraced by the new organization known as the Toronto and District Labor Council — a composite of the Toronto District Trades and Labor Council and the Toronto and Lakeshore Labor Council.

William Jenoves, a half-century member of the Bricklayers' Union, was named its first president. He is also a vice-president of the Canadian Labor Congress.

I love our home—from wall to wall,
From back garage to entry hall,
From den to bedroom, bath to sink,
From roof to floor—but when I think
Of all we borrowed, all we spent
I almost wish we'd bought a tent.

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549 Carrall Street Vancouver 4, B.C.

IT'S OFFICIAL

Vancouver Labour Council is now officially affiliated with the new merged provincial labor body, the B. C. Federation of Labor.

Annual affiliation fee of $10 has been voted.

The Season's

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ITU Strike Vote Set For Wednesday

Printers in 18 city commercial printing shops will take a strike vote on Wednesday in deadlocked contract talks with employers.

Members of Vancouver Typographical Union Local 226 will vote in the government supervised strike ballot between 1 and 8 p.m. About 150 employees in the job plants are affected.

The contract expired ten months ago and efforts by union negotiators to reach a reasonable settlement have failed. Members asked a 29-cent hourly pay boost to bring their rates in line with newspaper rates and rejected a conciliation board report which called for a two-year contract with a 10-cent boost the first year and nine cents the second year.

The union also seeks vital fringe benefits.

Wicks May Back Apprentice Boost

Labor Minister Lyle Wicks indicated this month he is sympathetic to labor's request for a boost in apprenticeship pay rates.

He said more apprentices are required to fill the demand for skilled workers if B.C.'s economic expansion is to continue.

But one difficulty in getting apprentices is that young men can earn more money as common laborers than they can at the starting rate as an apprentice, he said.

One proposal has been to boost apprentice starting rate to 50 per cent of journeymen's rate instead of present 25 percent. A hearing will be held at 9 a.m. on January 14 at 411 Dunsmuir on apprentice rates.

The Board of Industrial Relations also will hold a hearing on January 22 at 2 p.m. on proposal revision of male and female minimum wage rates in the hotel and catering industry.

PROFILES (Cont'd from page 10)

Northern areas, including Powell River, Prince George and Dawson.

He has played a major role in affairs of the Victoria Labor Council for years, and was an executive officer of the B.C. Trade Union Congress and member of the unity committee.

Married with four children — and one grandchild, Vic lives in Victoria.

His father, Victor Midgely sr., was a well-known veteran trade unionist in B.C. He died two years ago.

Bob Smeal of Victoria has been active in trade unions from his bus driving days with Vancouver Island Company.

"Big Robert", special representative of the Canadian Brotherhood of Railway Employees in B.C. has been on the CBRE staff for 10 years.

At 36, has a solid labor background. He was president of the Victoria Labor Council for five years and has been an executive member of the former CCL provincial Federation of Labor for many years.

Brother Smeal is a navy veteran, with Second World War Service from 1939 to 1945.

* * *

Pat O'Neal gives the northern section representation among the executive officers group. He hails from Prince Rupert where he is president of the Trades Council.

At 35, Brother O'Neal is the youngest of the elected officers. He is a member of the Pulp, Sulphite and Paper Mill Workers.

★ HEADLINER (Continued from Page 1)

consider selling the Labor Temple and buy new property or build a new building in an area where land would be available for parking.

B S E

* * *

WELCOME — New delegates seated at last council meeting included Peter Skehor, Sheet Metal Workers Local 280; John Smith, Bakery Salesmen Local 189; W. Hensen, Lithographers Local 44; Ross Scott, Operating Engineers Local 115; Charles Ross, Longshoremen Local 507.

* * *

BUT WILLING — Veteran labor man and union-label promotor extraordinary, Ed Smith, missed his first council banquet this year in a long, long time. But he sent greetings which council president Lloyd Whalen read to the huge gathering: "It's with great regret I can't attend, because it's the first banquet I've missed since they started many years ago. I had my union shirt pressed and ready just in case I could make it but . . ." The huge ovation expressed sincere get-well wishes to Ed.

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Unions Deny 'Hassle' In Teamster Office

Report in a Vancouver newspaper indicating a "hassle" existed between Office Employees Local 15 and Teamsters Joint Council was denied this month by office employees' business manager Fred Alty.

He said the news article indicated that the Teamsters' Council was guilty of certain unfair practices and said "this statement was definitely not issued by consent of any responsible officer of Local 15."

Alty said further that a committee had met with the Teamsters and had completed negotiations for a contract covering the employees under certification by his union.

To clear up any misunderstanding arising from the news article, Bro. Alty said he wished to make it clear the contract negotiated with Teamsters was "completely satisfactory."

He said he would ask a retraction of the news article.

IRONWORKERS MOVE

Ironworkers Locals 97 and 712 have moved offices from the Labor Temple and are now at 222 West Broadway

"NIX, POP! I CAN'T LET YOU OPERATE MY EQUIPMENT IF YOU DON'T CARRY A UNION CARD!"

Health League Requests Delegate

Delegate George Connelly of Chemical Workers Local 511 will represent Vancouver and District Labour Council with the dental health division of the Greater Vancouver Health League.

The league asked for a labor representative and said its major project at this time is promotion of fluoridation.

MAKE EVERY WEEK
UNION BUYING WEEK

Ed Lawson Replaces Brown On Committee

Ed Lawson, president of Teamsters' Joint Council No. 36 has be appointed to a vacancy on the Vancouver Labour Council's political education committee.

Delegate Lawson will replace John Brown, business agent of Milk Salesmen's Union, who resigned on advice of his doctor.

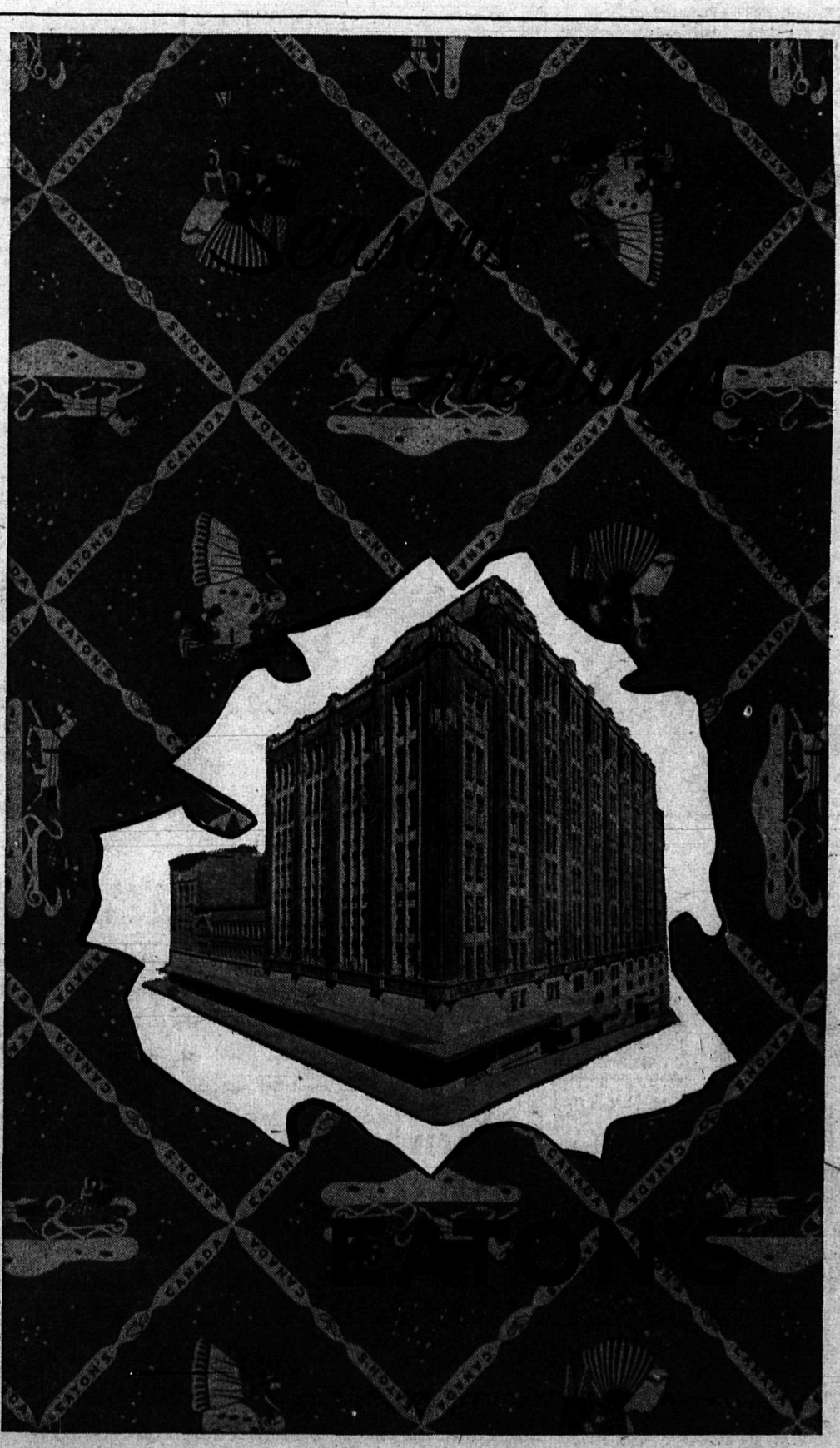
Bro. Brown advised that he has been unable to attend meetings of the committee and said "the doctor has ordered me to slow down,"

His resignation was accepted "with regret."

Union Protests Foreign Shipping

Marine Workers and Boilermakers served notice this month they will lodge strong protests over construction of ships for Canadian firms in foreign shipyards.

Delegate Bullock said it had been reported that Imperial Oil Ltd. had awarded contract for construction of a large tanker to a Japanese shipyard. The ship will be used to bring oil to Canada, he said.



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More MP's Pledge Backing In Tax Fight

Support to the protest against taxation of board and room allowances of construction workers on out-of-town jobs has been promised by five more B.C. members of parliament.

The brief sent to the federal government also was sent to MP's.

George Hahn, O. L. Jones, E. Regier, B. E. Leboe, and Angus McInnis have advised they will support the stand of Vancouver Labour Council and Vancouver Building Trades Council when the issue comes before the House of Commons.

Symptoms of mumps may appear as long as three weeks after exposure to contagion; these may be pain under the ear, swelling of gland below and in front of ear, fever and chills, with headache and loss of appetite.

PURCHASE GIFTS THAT BEAR THE UNION LABEL

UNION LABEL & SERVICE TRADES DEP'T.

Buy union made goods with dollars earned in a union shop.

Real Progress

GOOD WORK — From Vancouver Island comes the report that clothing merchants are hopping on the "union label" bandwagon. George Droneck, B.C. rep of Amalgamated Clothing workers recently toured the favored isle, came back with word that merchants "have given assurances they will convert stocks to union-made garments as soon as possible." They are buying spring goods now and will only hand out the orders to firms who can supply union-made garments. We call this a BIG step forward in the campaign of the "sleeping giant"—the union label.

TAX (Cont'd from 1)

tractor while working on a construction project away from his normal place of residence" shall be tax-exempt.

UNFAIR EXCLUSION

The submission points out that the new regulations do provide for tax exempt travelling expenses, but only for persons regularly employed by one employer. This interpretation excludes the construction employee.

National Association of Master Plumbers, which represents 1500 firms across Canada, expressed grave concern that the new regulation would make it difficult, if not impossible, to obtain suitable personnel to staff out of town projects.

The joint submission requested an immediate favorable ruling to guide workers and employers alike in filing 1956 tax returns.

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Old Dublin Ale and High Life now in new stand-up dozen and half dozen cartons.

PRINCETON BEER

PB 56-10

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B.C. Learns To Beat Unemployment With Year-Round Work Program

Federal government's current campaign to fight winter employment by careful planning is paying off, according to W. McKinstry, regional director of Unemployment Insurance Commission in Vancouver.

He said that in Kitimat, a UIC sponsored employment committee is consulting with the Kitimat Builders' Exchange to develop an 18-month building plan under which interior finishing work could be done in the slow winter months. In this way employment at Kitimat could be kept at a high rate all year round.

The UIC official reported that similar efforts to encourage all-year-round construction work are being made by community employment committees throughout B.C.

"If everyone works, everybody benefits," he said. "Conversely, an unemployed person is a potential customer lost to business and industry."

"Every dollar I have I owe to my faithful employes. Now the turncoats have joined a union to try to collect some of them!"

Provincial Employees Meet Cabinet

Provincial government employees have asked the government to bring overtime policies within the provincial civil service in line with those practiced in industry.

General secretary E. P. O'Connor pointed out that at present there are many "unfortunate situations" which are not conductive to esprit de corps within the service, and as a result there is loss of efficiency.

"A poignant example is to be found in the Highways department, where you have foremen receiving straight time for overtime work, whereas subordinate employees hired on a daily basis are paid time and one half for overtime service," O'Connor said.

The delegation which met the cabinet also asked the government to grant three weeks holiray to civil servants after five years service, instead of after ten years as required now.

In his brief, O'Connor said most provincial governments grant three weeks leave to employees after only one year's service, while the province of Ontario and the federal government grant four weeks after 25 years of service.

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Season's Greetings and Best Wishes
To the Executive and Members of the AFL-CIO and CLC for a Successful and Prosperous 1957.
British Columbia Cement Company Limited
Victoria, B.C.

GREETINGS TO ORGANIZED LABOR
BRITISH COLUMBIA HOTELS ASSOCIATION
Representing the Hotel Industry in British Columbia

Christmas Greetings
As the year draws to a close it is appropriate to consider the accomplishments of the year and view the prospects of the immediate future.
The year 1956 saw:
- Tremendous industrial expansion.
- More persons with jobs than at any time in British Columbia's history.
- More persons working under union agreements than ever before.

The prospects for 1957 are for more of the same!
May the Christmas Season be a Merry One for you and yours and may the coming New Year fulfill your brightest hopes.
BRITISH COLUMBIA DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR
LYLE WICKS, Minister. W. H. SANDS, Deputy Minister.

A MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL
from
Woodward's
YOUR FAMILY SHOPPING CENTRE
- VANCOUVER
- NEW WESTMINSTER
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