



The Hospital Guardian

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CRISIS IN B.C. HOSPITALS

W. M. BLACK

Why Pick On The Hospital Worker?

Is our present B.C. Government piling up surpluses and collecting sales tax from the general public under false pretenses?



W. M. Black

Why are hospitals being forced to pursue a principle of deficit financing poor business practice at any time?

Should hospital workers have to live on bare sustenance levels? Why does the British Columbia Hospital Insurance Service disallow a pension plan, medical coverage, unemployment insurance — fringe benefits that are considered normal by private employers and by other government employment agencies?

These are questions which we would like to have answered.

Pointed Out Before

Our organization has been consistent in its approach. On January 25th, 1956, a special edition of this paper was published. At that time the economy of our province was at its highest level, but even then the tight money policy of the Government was throttling and starving our acute general hospitals.

In that issue of The Guardian we listed the various hospitals that were confronted with deficits. We pointed out that the acute general hospitals of this province were operating with less employees per hundred patients than any other hospital in the Dominion of Canada. We pointed out that they were operating contrary to accepted standards established anywhere in the United States or in the Dominion of Canada, standards set up to provide optimum patient care.

When the additional 2% sales tax was instituted to replace premiums, the general public understood that it was to assist in hospital financing. They were told it would spread the load more equitably over all the people, according to their ability to pay.

It was NOT imposed to pile up surpluses which could be drawn off into consolidated revenue, or into other areas which the Government might think more expeditious.

In a Legislative Bulletin published in 1957 we pointed out:

"Hospital Debts Mount As Sales Tax Revenues Diverted: Out of the Premier's estimate of \$86,400,000.00 for the next fiscal year, there should be \$34,000,000.00 earmarked for the operation of hospitals. But, Mr. Martin has estimated \$31,000,000.00 and that is the figure which he is asking the Legislature to approve. The same situation prevailed in 1955 and 1956. He skimmed off \$3,000,000.00 each year."

"Not only did the Minister of Health and Welfare underestimate his budget, he also

underspent his budget. And hospitals in the Interior are at the maximum of their overdrafts at the bank, for which they are paying interest rates on the basis of 5%. This is not recoverable from the B.C.-H.I.S."

The situation has not improved one iota, even with the assistance of the large contribution from the Federal Government. The future still looks bleak. Let us take a quick look at some figures:

Estimated Social Service Tax	\$84,000,000.00
Amount for operation of acute general hospitals (2/5 of total)	33,600,000.00
Contribution from the Federal Government	19,722,500.00
making a total of	53,322,500.00

Minister of Health and Welfare requested from the Legislature	29,754,347.00
Contribution from the Federal Government	19,722,500.00
making a total of	49,476,847.00

Evidently there is a discrepancy somewhere. The difference between the total amount available for hospitals and the amount being requested from the Legislature is \$3,845,653.00.

The breakdown of the estimated expenditure is as follows:

Payments to hospitals	\$42,000,000.00
Grants in aid of construction and equipment of hospitals	7,000,000.00
Administrative expenses	476,847.00
making a total of	49,476,847.00

The Honourable Minister will say that in the fiscal year 1958-59 payments to hospitals were \$34,000,000.00. This year they are estimated at \$42,000,000.00, an increase of \$8,000,000.00.

Where will this additional \$8,000,000.00 go? It will be expended for the operation of a thousand new beds being opened at various times during 1959-60. New accounts have been added by the Federal Government — D.V.A., Indians, Mariners, etc. — and it will be used to cover these. New beds opened in 1958-59 and only covered for a portion of that year will have to be looked after. Very little, if any, will be left for the increased operation costs of our acute general hospitals.

Before leaving these specific items, let us take a look at the inclusion of \$7,000,000.00 for hospital construction and equipment in the estimated budget. Does it rightfully belong there? At any rate, \$1,500,000.00 of this amount does not. This amount is recoverable from that portion of the Amusement Tax which is levied for this purpose and which is known as the Hospital Construction Aid Tax. If we add this \$1,500,000.00 to the estimated surplus of available funds over estimated expenditures, then we have an over-all surplus of

\$5,345,653.00.

Where did these statistics come from? They are all taken from the Provincial Government's estimates and expenditures for the fiscal year ending March 31st, 1960, as presented to the Legislature.

The taxpayer, the general public, never intended that the operations of our hospitals would be put on a profit-making basis and that funds provided by the Federal Government would be utilized towards this end.

Prior to the operations of the British Columbia Hospital Insurance Service, the Provincial Government was always confronted with fixed hospital expenditures out of consolidated revenue for which there was no recovery by special taxation.

There was a provincial 70c per diem grant to rural hospitals. There was also the 70c per diem paid to the B.C.H.I.S. by the cities and municipalities. This was cancelled out last year by the Government, thus relieving the cities and municipalities of this financial burden. If the same procedures were today in operation with our inflationary processes, we estimate that the provincial government would be making a direct contribution of at least

Federal Government grants. In fact, the Federal Government today is making a larger contribution to the operation of our hospitals than our Provincial Government.

Hospitals

Profit Makers

For Government

Historically, hospitals have always cost the Government substantial sums of money. Now a profit is being made and there is every indication that past procedures will continue, to the detriment of optimum patient care and the morale of hospital workers.

Not only is a profit being made, but hospital finances have been juggled and hospitals have been forced to pursue deficit financing. Freeze orders have been issued. There has been interference with collective bargaining and with hospital staffing.

Year after year, ever since the inception of the British Columbia Hospital Insurance Service, the hospital worker has been forced to arbitrate and conciliate in order to maintain some relationship with the national product and to keep pace with the infla-

tion, receives \$16.00 per diem rate. This is less than hospitals of equal size and in many instances, less than smaller hospitals with no training center.

Hospital Boards are directed on all phases of hospital operation. Local autonomy is again out the window. The control of our acute general hospitals is gradually being centralized in Victoria. This is frustrating to hospital Administrators, to Boards of Trustees and to the employees.

Govt. Interference Charged

What about the labour relations policy of the government with regard to our hospitals? It is shocking. Year after year, Mr. Martin states on the floor of the Legislature that he never interferes with collective bargaining. He throws the onus on Hospital Boards. But, raise wages or improve working conditions and you are told to find the money from local sources. If that is not double talk, what is? From what other local sources? Mr. Martin has all the sources of revenue.

To prove our point, we would like to quote from a communication which Mr. Martin directed to all hospital boards on Christmas Eve, 1958:

"Some hospitals, during 1958, agreed to provide additional fringe benefits, such as medical insurance and unemployment insurance, although they were aware that funds were not available to cover the cost in a number of instances. These added expenses have contributed substantially to hospital deficits. I can give absolutely no guarantee that additional funds will be provided for fringe benefits in 1959."

But, then, Mr. Martin has always taken this stand. Mr. Martin is consistent to say the least. Remember Circulars 55-7, 56-3 and 56-4, issued in 1954 and 1955?

Circular 56-4 stated: "The cost of pension plans, medical health or other types of insurance or fringe benefit that may have been made as a result of 1955 wage agreements, will not be accepted as an operating expenditure when determining the budget for British Columbia Hospital Insurance Service purposes."

Martin and Wicks At Odds

To-day we have the spectacle of nurses in 13 B. C. hospitals where unanimous conciliation awards were made, processing strike votes. And Mr. Martin, who does not interfere with collective bargaining, has now authorized the hospitals to pay \$20.00 effective as from April, 1959.

How does Mr. Martin reconcile his attitude to hospital workers? How does he reconcile it to the thinking of his colleague, the Minister of Labour, who in a speech during the budget debate, on February 17, 1959, made the following statement:

"In British Columbia, in reviewing statistics for 1958, I am

See "Hospitals"



Placards demanding action for the unemployed of the province featured the parade of the five hundred delegates who made up the B.C. Federation of Labour's recent trek to Victoria.

B.C. Fed. Marches On Victoria

- Will you support in the legislature the recommendations of the Federation on unemployment made to the cabinet, January 5, 1959?
- Will you support in the legislature the amendment to the Workmen's Compensation Act requested by the Federation?
- Are you opposed to further restrictive labour legislation?
- Are you opposed to the use of Civil Defence Act in a labour dispute?
- Will you support a moratorium on debts to prevent foreclosure on houses and household effects of the unemployed?

On February 2, close to 500 trade unionists, led by President W. M. Black, stalked the corridors and the offices of the Legislative Buildings in Victoria. They were looking for answers to the above five questions posed by the B. C. Federation of Labour. M.L.A.s were asked to state their position with a yes or no answer. The results were disappointing to a degree. The unionists found M.L.A.s scarce and cabinet ministers almost a rare species. The ones they did snag were hesitant, evasive and not prone to any suggestions that they should simply answer yes or no.

This was the annual labour lobby of the B. C. Federation of Labour, and the delegates were in a fighting mood. Many themselves were unemployed, they bore placards asking for immediate relief measures for the thousands out of work. They were in no mood for partial answers or platitudes designed to turn away wrath. Many became restive and angry because none of the M.L.A.s would commit themselves one way or the other.

What were the results of the lobby? The unionists, who had been divided into teams, reported small success. The C.C.F. opposition and Tom Upphill had pledged themselves unequivocally in sup-

port of the programme of labour. No one else had committed himself. Black charged the government with "callous indifference to the unemployed", and the B. C. Federation announced plans to petition the province, seeking 200,000 names in demand of immediate and concrete steps towards alleviation of the unemployment crisis.

Government reaction was emphatic and vindictive. Cabinet Minister Gagliardi charged the labour leaders with irresponsibility, he maintained that their concern was not with the unemployed, that they were attempting to use the unemployed situation as a political football solely to embarrass the government. Hardly had his attack ceased to echo in the press and on the air when his cohort, Works Minister Chant, unleashed a diatribe against labour that symbolised McCarthyism. In his speech he referred to trade union leaders as the lowest form of hoodlums—"bootleggers and thieves".

The lobby could be termed a success in two ways, it had results both positive and negative. On the negative side was the limited hearing accorded the various delegates while in Victoria, the lack of governmental response to the pleas for action. However, the very negative qualities contributed to the positive benefits. Trade unionists were more than ever convinced that the men elected to represent them were not too concerned with the immediate plight of the workers. The government's indifference to the unionists crystallized the desire to form their own political party. By forcing the issue, the anti-union elements of the government were forced to declare their hands openly, and a schism appeared in the ranks of the back-benchers themselves, as some of the lesser lights hesitated when called upon to support the radical statements of their leaders in the house.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY

My pulse always beats faster in British Columbia. It is that kind of a place.

"Pearl Harbour" Attack

Bill 43 Anti-Union

Bill 43, introduced by the Hon. Lyle Wicks to replace the "Trade-Unions Act", chapter 342, R.S.B.C., 1948, is regressive legislation. No other province has legislation in any way comparable.

Quebec recognizes trade unions as a "legal entity", but in no way attempts by law to restrict or hamper the use of pickets.

Informed labour leaders were immediate and unanimous in their condemnation of the newly proposed legislation. "May be the most restrictive in any Canadian province" remarked Claude Jodoin, C.L.C. President, as he pledged "fullest co-operation" in a campaign to defeat the bill. Vancouver Labour Council delegates called upon the B.C. Fed. to take emergent action. Federation president Black, charged that "this proves beyond any doubt that this is the government of Big Business". George Mitchell, secretary of the I.W.A. termed it a "double cross", another "Pearl Harbour" attack

upon the labour movement by the Social Credit government."

What does Bill 43 seek to introduce into the statutes of the province that should arouse such emphatic opposition? It would prohibit:

- Sympathy picket lines.
- Secondary picket lines.
- Information picket lines.

It would recognize unions as "legal entities", opening the possibility of continuing persecution of trade unions in the courts of the land, benefitting perhaps only the legal profession.

While labour leaders are opposed, management has come out in full support of Bill 43. The whole-hearted endorsement by provincial industrial leaders is a portent boding little benefit for organized labour.

Chain-Store Cleared By Kamloops Council

Local 180 delegate to the Kamloops Labour Council, J. Schneider, reported to the Kamloops Unit that Super-Valu Stores had been removed from the "Do Not Patronize" list, as they had signed an agreement with Local 212 of the Amalgamated Meat Cutters & Butcher Workmen.

Local 180 members concurred with the Labour Councils condemnation of the conditions of work of the loggers in Newfoundland, and pledged their support by voluntary donations. Unit officers donated their honorariums to head up the drive. It was also decided to give financial assistance to the Vancouver Moulders & Foundry Workers in Vancouver, who have been involved for months in a strike.

The membership also agreed to investigate ways and means of assisting to raise funds for the erection of a Labour Temple in Kamloops.

From Page 1

Hospitals

shocked to discover that a number of Conciliation Board awards rendering a unanimous decision were rejected. The fact is that during the year, on 12 occasions, awards were rejected where all three nominees agreed to the award. Rejection of unanimous Board awards is seldom heard elsewhere in Canada, and certainly does not speak well for the parties to the dispute. Surely the Board members must have considered the interests of their respective parties toward reaching a settlement, and yet their principals rejected the awards. The facts reveal that in three instances, unions rejected the award; in seven instances, the employer rejected; and in the remaining two, both parties rejected. Such facts reveal a lack of responsibility by these participants—neither is it confined to one side. No legislation was ever

conceived that could overcome a situation of this kind."

The Honourable Minister of Labour should take a long look at his colleague who is violating labour relations affecting our every rule in the handling of acute general hospitals.

These Are High Wages?

For years Mr. Martin has been talking about the tremendous percentage increase in hospital salaries and claiming that the cost of the operation of our hospitals is more than the economy can stand.

Let's have a look at some of the base rates paid to our employees in the acute general hospitals: Kitchen Maid—\$160.00 a month; Ward Assistant—\$160.00 a month; Flat Work Operator—\$170.00 a month; Cleaner-Janitor—\$250.00 a month; Nurse Aide—\$185.00 a month; Central Supply Attendant—\$165.00 a month; Laundry-Utility Man—\$275.00 a month; Kitchen Helper (male), Grade 2—\$250.00 a month; Building Housekeeper—\$185.00 a month.

These are the salaries that are pricing our hospitals out of existence!

If the Minister thinks our wages are high, he is suffering from an illusion. In provinces not so well endowed as B. C., they are paying scales just as high or higher than in British Columbia.

Automation Hits Hospitals

Automation, too, has its effect on hospitals. There is no security of tenure on the job. With the opening of the new laundry at the Vancouver General, with its new automatic equipment, 30 workers were laid off. Some of these had six years of service with the hospital. But with just two weeks' notice and in the middle of winter, their services were terminated. Remember, these people have no Unemployment Insurance.

The British Columbia Hospital Insurance Service has removed the burden of the cost of hospitalization from the general public. But in so doing, we are quite confident that the taxpayers of the province never intended that the hospital worker should become a serf with no rights, having to operate within the orbit of the Masters and Servants Act.

The Provincial Government is going to have a huge bonfire this spring to burn the provincial debt. If the debt is going to disappear, then the standard of living and working conditions of hospital employees will be going up in smoke with it.

A billion dollars is going to be spent in the next few years on black-top highways. Is there any question whether our economy can afford to subsidize such an extravagance while we sacrifice our hospitals, our universities, our social service structures and our mental institutions?

The time has arrived when our own people and the general public must be alerted to the dangerous impasse. The situation could endanger the entire social structure and render inadequate the operation of our acute general hospitals.

Kamloops Member Feted

January 13 — June Niven, a member of the Kamloops Unit, H.E.U. for 3½ years, was given a farewell party on notice of her departure. The social evening of the members of the Dietary Staff was held at the home of Mrs. C. E. McInnes.

And did you hear about the little orphan rice crispie that had plenty of snap and crackle, but no pop?



Prov. Pres. John Fleming, Hugh Duff and Woodthorp. Placards demanding action for the unemployed of the province featured

B. C. Fed. Meets

Labour Committee

On March 3rd, the B.C. Federation of Labour submitted a brief to the Select Standing Committee on Labour. The brief was concerned primarily with the problems of the unemployed, noting that while the total number of unemployed is 89,646 in January of this year, as compared to 101,916 the same time last year, the problem is still acute.

The Federation brief contended that in the absence of any concrete plans specifically drawn up to alleviate the problem on a long term basis, there is every indication that the winter of '59-60 will see a continuation of the presently grave situation. The Federation brief contained several recommendations, as follows:

Recommendations

On Unemployment:

1. We urge in the strongest manner possible that this Government immediately declare that an emergency exists in the field of unemployment and they call upon the Federal Government to join with them in that declaration.

2. We urge this Government to declare immediately that they will make available a sum of at least \$5,000,000 for unemployed assistance; and this sum to be used under the terms of the Unemployment Assistance Act, which would allow for additional grants to be provided for from the Federal Government General Revenue.

3. We urge this Government to convene immediately a Province-wide Conference — to plan an all-out program to bring immediate relief to those suffering from unemployment, and to bring about solutions to the present unemployment. The Conference to be composed of delegate representatives from the: Federal Government Agencies; B.C. Government; City and Municipalities; Labour Organizations; Farm Organizations, and other organizations who have a contribution to make in solving the unemployment problems and to relieve the distress.

At such a Conference agreement should be reached.

(a) As to the respective responsibilities of the Municipal Governments and the Provincial Government.

(b) A three-way agreement between the Federal, Provincial, Municipal on a stepped-up Housing Program, including low-cost housing and low-rental. Also a Slum Clearance Program. And improved Water and improved Sewerage Disposal Projects.

(c) An intensive building program for educational buildings, hospital buildings and other needed public buildings.

(d) More extensive road and bridge building programs.

(e) More dyke building and flood control of farm areas, including reclamation of farm lands.

(f) An improved hydro development program under the auspices of the B.C. Power Commission.

(g) The need for a program to encourage the establishment of secondary industries in this Province, as well as the planning for a steel mill.

(h) A program to stop dumping and the importation of foreign subsidized goods and products at the expense of local jobs.

(i) The reduction of the work week, elimination of unnecessary overtime and moonlighting.

(j) The need of a proper re-training program for those workers who will be displaced as a result of speed-up and automation.

(k) The need for overall improvement to the Unemployment Insurance Act to provide increased benefits and increased coverage.

(l) Proper care and assistance to the destitute unemployed.

(m) A debt moratorium to protect the goods and chattels of the unemployed.

In our studied opinion such a Conference must be called immediately, and will be successful with the proper planning. In this regard a further suggestion would be to appoint a Committee from the major participating groups to plan the Conference and Agenda.

Collection Agencies And Bureaus:

In times of such unemployment it is of course obvious that many people will have difficulty in meeting their commitments and paying their bills and we must draw to the attention of this Committee the harassment and the persecution which many people are experiencing in this regard. Collection agencies send out letters on legal-looking stationery that states a judgment is good for 20 years and the sheriff can collect after that. Many use the telephone to constantly harass debtors. Uninformed poor people think this is court procedure or has some connection with legal matters.

May we draw to the attention of the Select Standing Committee on Labour that the High Courts in Eastern Canada have recently ruled that many of these practices are illegal and might we recommend to this Committee that steps be immediately taken to set up a Commission to check these malpractices in B.C. and suspend the licences of such agencies as are infringing the law.

The Federation brief also strongly criticized the recent

statements of those Cabinet Ministers who strongly opposed labour leaders on the floor of the house.

Statement by the B.C. Federation of Labour on attacks made on the B.C. Labour Movement by Cabinet Ministers Gagliardi and Chant in the Legislature of British Columbia:

The B.C. Federation of Labour, as well as many other organizations and citizens of this Province were shocked by the malicious and vicious statements of these two Ministers.

We had thought that the days of such McCarthy-like tactics had vanished—that when charges of such a nature were being levelled that they should be supported by facts and that they should be specific—that guilt by association and the smear tactics employed were alien to the tradition of this Province, particularly so when made under the protection of Parliamentary immunity.

The blanket condemnation of unions and union representatives of British Columbia is an insult to every worker in this Province. It indicates, we believe, either the complete irresponsibility of the Ministers involved, or active Government support for this type of labour baiting.

We call upon this Select Standing Committee on Labour to immediately recommend to the Legislature that the Ministers involved either withdraw their statements or produce specific evidence to support them.

Prov. Pres.

Installs

Kamloops Officers

John Fleming, Provincial President of Local 180, installed the 1959 officers of the Kamloops Unit of the H.E.U. at a recent meeting in Kamloops. The President complimented the outgoing officers on their services to their organizations, and said he was certain that the incoming officers would prove as capable as their predecessors, carrying on the traditions of fine trade unionism as established by the Kamloops Unit.

The 1959 Officers installed were:

G. Todd - - - Chairman
In Cooper - Vice-Chairman
C. E. McInnes - Secretary
B. Huxted - - - Warden
R. Phillips - - Conductor
H. Ward
M. Hansen - - - Trustees
J. Fides

Interested guests at the meeting were Albert Tetz, Chairman of the Vernon Unit, and Secretary Business Manager, W. M. Black.

The four-hour day will bring many changes into our lives. For example, we'll have to re-schedule the coffee breaks.

St. Paul's Unit Elects

Executive Officers

At a special meeting held Feb. 5, St. Paul's Unit membership elected their Executive Officers for 1959. Election results were as follows:

Chairman Bill Murray
Vice-Chairman A. J. Coady
Secretary John Weisgerber
Conductor R. Vader
Warden Steve
Trustees J. Lord, A. Pollock
and Mr. A. Wagstaff

The officers were duly installed

by Business Manager W. M. Black, who congratulated them upon their election, and wished them every success in the discharge of their duties and responsibilities for their term in office.

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All submissions and correspondence to be sent to:
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"In humble dedication to all of those who toil to live."

HOSPITAL SITUATION CRITICAL

Now, we feel, is the hour when our position on the operation of our hospitals must be made known. Our membership must become cognizant of all the problems that confront us when trying to process their requests at the bargaining table.

We, as hospital workers, are aware of the gradual deterioration which has taken place in our hospitals, in spite of statements to the contrary made by Government sources.

What nonsense to say that hospitals were never treated better! This is far from the truth. Hospitals were never in a worse position, administratively, than they are today.

The employees are over-worked and under paid. Good housekeeping techniques and good patient care are at a premium.

If a vote was taken amongst the workers, Boards of Trustees and all Administrators, it would certainly be overwhelmingly one of non-confidence in the handling of the affairs of our acute general hospitals by the B.C.H.I.S.

Hospital workers must understand that every phase of hospital operation is gradually being controlled by Victoria. Labour relations and bargaining procedures are at an all-time low.

There have been instances where Boards of Trustees have hidden behind the various freeze orders. But, in the majority of cases, hospital administrators have attempted to be realistic in their approach to negotiating contracts.

This organization is appreciative of the drive and stand taken by the British Columbia Hospitals' Association, in their efforts to obtain fringe benefits for their employees.

We ask our membership to look at the financial position of the British Columbia Hospital Insurance Service, which is noted in another section of this paper, in relation to the operation of the hospitals.

The records must be very closely examined. It is time we pin-pointed the responsibility where it belongs — squarely on the shoulders of the Minister of Health and Welfare, the British Columbia Hospital Insurance Service, and the members of the Government.

If the workers feel frustrated, let them turn their eyes to Victoria. Let them inform their local M.L.A. of the disgraceful situation. Let them make known their distaste of the treatment which they are receiving at the hands of the British Columbia Hospital Insurance Service.

No Coffee For Hospital Workers

Mr. Martin, in a statement released to the Prince Rupert Daily News, blasted the administration of the Prince Rupert General Hospital, charging "mismanagement and maladministration". Among other reprehensible items cited, the Health Minister took exception to "the provision of free beverages to staff and others". This was the Minister's reply to the administration's request to B.C.H.I.S. to have a 5% increase to the engineers recognized in their budget. Understandably, the board of administration was highly incensed, not only by the Ministers ill-advised criticisms, but by his method of releasing his irate communique to the local press. In a move without parallel in B.C. history under the present B.C.H.I.S., six of the trustees of the Prince Rupert Hospital Association resigned in protest.

The situation at press time—the five engineers concerned are proceeding with strike plans,

scheduled to walk off the job on Thursday. Mayor Peter Lester has asked that Victoria appoint a commissioner to administer the hospital, replacing the six members who resigned, a request that Mr. Martin has refused. And the employees and staff, as contained within the contract, are still enjoying their coffee "on the house".

**ONE MEAT PIE STALLS
FORDS**
DONCASTER, ENGLAND — (Reuters) — Work at a Ford Motor Co. plant halted when 1,300 men staged a one-day walkout in sympathy with a fellow-employee fired for eating a meat pie as he worked on the assembly line.

"Trans-Canada Highway to be paved by 1960." Hooray, we're going to be joined to Canada by road, just like Sir John A. MacDonald promised!

Paradox of Our Times



ABRAHAM LINCOLN:

"All that serves labor serves the nation. All that harms is treason. . . . If a man tells you he loves America, yet hates labor, he is a liar. . . . There is no America without labor, and to fleece the one is to rob the other."

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT:

"If I were a worker in a factory, the first thing I would do would be to join a union."



Dick Morris

COLUMBIA CAPSULES

It's nice to know that one of our Orderlies made it from the morgue to the Operating Room for a stomach operation successfully. Congratulations Jack Wilkinson!

WHERE IS THE SERVICE

Fred Woodward of the Royal Columbian Hospital Maintenance Department was having a chit-chat with a patient on semi and privates the other day and in the course of the conversation asked him what he thought of the food and service in the Hospital. The patient replied, "Where can you get a hotel for seven dollars a day with full board, the choice of a menu and all the service you desire at the touch of a bell?" It is certainly gratifying to know that all our efforts are not in vain.

TO OUR COFFEE-TABLE

This space is devoted to the coffee table Unionists who are all too prevalent throughout all Units. These are the people who engage in union disputes across the coffee table during morning or afternoon coffee breaks. The same people who are usually, all too often conspicuous by their absence at regular union meetings. Yes, and those that attend the meetings and take a back seat but as quickly as they get to work the next day lash out with criticisms concerning whatever took place at the meeting the previous evening. It is realized that many of us are backward and extremely self-conscious when it comes to getting up and expressing ourselves at the Unit meetings. That gives us no earthly right to criticize and renounce what has taken place. Certainly we are going to have our talks around the coffee-table and more often than not it's going to be in regard to the Union as it affects all of us closely, and it's only natural to discourse on the subject. But let's make these talks constructive instead of damaging. It will certainly lend to stronger unity and morale.

There are those who find it convenient to attend the monthly meeting at a time when they personally are going to benefit or when a subject is going to be discussed which is going to benefit them. Then they may come away disgusted and cursing the Unit involved because they did not get sufficient backing to have what they desired instituted. This is an annual occurrence around bargaining time. Multitudes turn out, many who never found it convenient to attend meetings before, but, they must attend this meeting, after all aren't their benefits to be derived from our

next contract. We must be there to do battle for these. Yes, they come and many leave openly disgusted that they have not attained what they think they deserved. Little do they realize that if they had been loyal to their union and co-operated with their fellow members in what they were fighting for, their fellow members in turn would have been a great deal more co-operative in helping them attain their demands. You all know the old saying, "United we stand, divided we fall"—isn't it the truth? If we all heeded our obligations and devoted just a little more time to each other's problems and stuck together through difficulties, time would tell the benefits we would derive.

HELP YOURSELF

There seems to be a help yourself campaign on at the Royal Columbian. That is, help yourself to what's not yours. In the last few months this has become quite a pastime from all reports. It's too bad it has to be said but it appears there are those among us who will stoop so low as to steal from their colleagues. Words fail to describe such people who find it profitable to take from their fellows what they work hard for. It must truly give these despicable types a sense of pride as they engage in their filthy pastime. What a good feeling they must have inside them as they go home at night. I hope that some of these dregs of humanity read this; I suppose it's too much to hope to ask them to take an inside look at themselves. Their minds, if they can be termed as such, are likely too filled with how to connive something else out of those they work with. They can rest assured that if their conscience doesn't catch up with them someone will. They may carry on for awhile but an end comes to a game such as this. The knife of justice has a razor sharp edge.

UNIT OFFICERS ELECTED

At the first monthly meeting of 1959, the Royal Columbian Unit of 180 elected their slate of officers for the coming year. Only two offices of those to be filled were contested, Chairman and Conductor. The remainder of the offices were filled by acclamation.

The office of Chairman was filled by Brother W. D. Black for another year. Brother Black was opposed by Brother G. Kingsfield but the majority of the membership re-affirmed their faith in him by electing him for another term.

The office of Conductor was a two-way fight also between Brother C. Hodge and Brother W. E. Stanley with Brother Hodge getting the nod.

A peculiarity existed in this election in that those elected to the offices that were contested, garnered the same number of votes while those defeated also had the same number of ballots cast in their favour.

The remainder of officers elected for the coming year were: Vice-Chairman, Brother E. R. Rae; Secretary, Brother John Darby; Warden, Brother W. Booth; Trustees, Brother C. E. Davis, Brother A. E. Walker, and Sister June Piper.

An irregularity occurred in the placing of one of the trustees. Sister A. Pickell, originally elected by acclamation was forced to withdraw due to the three meetings clause in the By-laws. Nominations were then taken to fill the office of the third trustee. Nominated were Sister June Piper and Brother W. E. Stanley. Balloting was then done on the floor of the meeting with Sister June Piper proving to be the victor.

SUPERANNUATION

With bargaining time rolling around once more, the annual battle for superannuation looms

It is quite evident that there is a strong desire among the employees of the Royal Columbian to have this plan introduced.

At the last two monthly meetings of the Unit, we were given a general rundown on this plan and its ramifications by our Business Agent, Brother W. M. Black. Brother Black has had many years experience with this type of Plan and this puts him in a very desirable position from the point of view of the Union. With his understanding of the Act, he well knows what will benefit us and what will not.

It was brought to light that the B. C. Hospitals Association has had its request that the Royal Columbian Hospital establish the superannuation scheme unanimously endorsed by Hospital Board of the Royal Columbian. Following the endorsement, the Administration of the Royal Columbian corresponded with the Local 180 Business Office and requested that a questionnaire be circulated among the employees in order that an expression of opinion could be gained on their feelings toward the Plan. Brother Black stated that this was not considered desirous, as, being a proper Trade Union, all decisions of this nature are arrived at on the floor of the Union meeting, and as the members had not had the opportunity of having this matter explained to them, it was felt a questionnaire of this type might create a certain confusion and doubt in the minds of the employees concerned.

Brother Black further stated that all the Municipal Superannuation Act required was that two thirds of the Directors pass an appropriate resolution indicating their desire to give their employees coverage under the Act in question.

One of the most important points to be worked out is the coverage of past years service, and if this cannot be brought to a satisfactory conclusion, the Act would be of no use to us. Another important detail to be worked out is the cost of the plan to the employee, and the cost to the employer and that this must be in accordance with the desires of all concerned.

These are only two of the many ramifications which have to be thrashed out before any direct steps can be taken to institute the Plan. The Plan itself, if properly drawn up, is definitely beneficial to us. We have unanimously indicated our support of it on the floor of the union meeting, now it is up to us to stick by our guns and get it working for us.

Employers Favour Proper Coverage

How do the employers, in this instance, the administrative heads of all hospitals in B.C. who are members of the B.C. Hospitals Association, regard B.C.H.I.S. denial of super-annuation to their employees? A letter from Kenneth Conibear, Executive Secretary of the Association, dated Feb. 20th addressed to all MLA's stated in part:

"With only sufficient exceptions to make the injustice rankle, the B.C.H.I.S., acting under the authority of the provincial Department of Health & Welfare, denies all employees of the hospitals under its control the various fringe benefits which are enjoyed by almost all other wage-earners in the province—including the Civil Servants of the Government."

The letter goes on to point out that, by a nearly unanimous vote, the members of the Association endorsed a resolution at their convention in October of last year "Calling upon the provincial government through B.C.H.I.S. to bring superannuation and medical service insurance into effect", referring, of course, to hospital employees.

The letter then tells of the results of a survey conducted by the Association in the various hospitals, noting that in 89.5% of the hospitals nearly 100% of the employees were in favor of gaining such coverage. This with the survey still not entirely completed! Many hospitals, recognizing the desires of the employees, made application to the Commissioner of Municipal Superannuation, requesting that the act be made applicable to them.

The letter states "In reply they have been told that they must first provide assurance that the B.C.H.I.S. will meet the cost. To date, B.C.H.I.S. has refused to give any such assurance."

"The situation is therefore that under the present ruling of the Department of Health & Welfare there is discrimination between the employees of the two hospitals (Ed's. note — Vancouver General Hospital and the Royal Jubilee) and the employees of all other hospitals in the matter of superannuation, and discrimination between all hospital employees and nearly all other B.C. working people in the matter of medical insurance and like benefits."

Doctor: "This peculiar behaviour you speak of in your son, isn't it a matter of heredity?"

Mother (fiercely): "There's never been the slightest trace of heredity in our family!"



Local 180 delegates to the B.C. Federation of Labour annual convention give the speaker their full attention. L. to R.: Alex Paterson, John Darby, Prov. Pres. John Fleming, Hugh Duff and L. E. Woodthorpe.



June Niven of the Kamloops Unit smilingly holds a bouquet of mashed potatoes as she poses for camerawoman McInnes.

THE READERS WRITE

New Political Party

To the Editor:

The Canadian Labor Congress and the C.C.F. Party are currently investigating the possibilities of, and preparing for, the organization of a new political party for Canada.

It is intended that this shall be a party that is truly representative of the majority of the people of Canada, a party that will be pledged and obligated to promote and fight for better living and working conditions for the workers, farmers and middle class sections of our community.

It will be a Dominion-wide party of the common man as opposed to the old-line parties of big business.

Such a party has long been the dream of the Canadian people who have been inspired by the examples of the Labour Parties of Great Britain and other countries.

The struggles that are now giving birth to the new party have been long and hard.

They have been waged on two fronts, on the economic front through the trade unions, wheat pool and farm boards and on the political front by the C.C.F., labor lobbies, etc.

These struggles, primarily for better living and working conditions, have been, to a great extent, disconnected, separate actions of the particular groups and

the sharpest lesson that has been learned from them is that there is an urgent need for organized, concerted action involving all the organizations of the people, particularly on the political scene.

It is widely realized that any gains that we have won, or may win, can be taken away from us overnight unless we have our own representatives taking part in the government.

As the political consciousness of the people has broadened so have the attacks upon the living standards of the people been sharpened.

Big business is now waging relentless, open warfare against the labor movement in the hopes of suppressing the militant organizations of the workers and of clearing the way for unrestricted profiteering.

Rising prices, wage restrictions, unemployment, anti-labor legislation, currency manipulations, development of nuclear power for destructive rather than productive purposes, the cold war, anti-Soviet and anti-communist hysteria, exploitation of low paid labor in other countries, these are all weapons of big business for whittling away our rights as Canadians to full employment and a decent standard of living.

At the 21st Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union it was announced that the Soviets plan to outstrip the capitalist countries, economically and culturally, within the next 15 years and there is every possibility that they may do so because of the innate, wasteful inefficiency of the capitalist system with its characteristic features of unemployment, minimum production at maximum profit, poverty amid plenty, and periodic depressions and wars.

The capitalist answer to the Soviet challenge is to panic into further cheapening our standards in our effort to maintain its own egotistical profiteering and militaristic ambitions.

The people's answer to these attacks must be to present an informed, united front with the intent of eventually replacing the present system of government with our own people's government in the fullest confidence of knowing that we Canadians can do anything that the Russians can do, and better.

In April, 1958, the aspirations of the people were brought to the brink of maturity when the Win-

NORAH STUDIOS OK WITH COUNCIL

At the Feb. 12th meeting of the Kamloops Labour Council, the Nora Photographic Studios was endorsed as the only photographer in the area enjoying union support. The other studios are non-union. This move is of particular significance to Local 180 members, because Mrs. Hanula, whose husband is the proprietor of the Nora Studios, is a member of the Kamloops Unit, and the business is named after their daughter.

A recent issue of the Kamloops Sentinel carried a very interesting article paying tribute to Mr. and Mrs. Hanula and their daughter, Nora. A prisoner during World War II, the Hanulas home life was once again interrupted in 1956, when they became part of that group of refugees forced to leave their home and their country in search of freedom before the horror of Hungary. The Hanulas arrived in Abbotsford penniless, their home, their possessions, and worse of all, Mr. Hanula's health, were left in burning Budapest.

For five months the Hanulas remained in Abbotsford before deciding upon Kamloops. Mr. Hanula, his health broken by in-carceration in Russian prison camps, was physically incapable of manual labour. With no funds, his ambition to open a photography shop of his own seemed far beyond reach. But the Hanulas were determined and resourceful. Mrs. Hanula, Esther to her friends and fellow workers, obtained work in the Royal Inland Hospital. In April of 1958 Joseph Hanula opened his own studio in downtown Kamloops, bearing proudly the name of Nora, their daughter, a Gr. V student at Stuart Wood School.

What do the Hanulas think of Canada, and of Kamloops? "It is hard getting a start in Canada," Mrs. Hanula said, "But a friendly country, and a free country. We hope to be able to save enough money from my job in the hospital to successfully establish ourselves in our new venture."

nipeg Convention of the Canadian Labor Congress passed a resolution and I quote,

"There is a need for a broadly based political movement which embraces the C.C.F., the labor movement, farm organizations, professional people and other liberally-minded persons interested in basic social reform and reconstruction through our own parliamentary system of government." unquote.

This proposal was endorsed by the C.C.F. Party at its National Convention at Montreal in July, 1958, and then a joint committee of the C.C.F. and the C.L.C. was set up to study and prepare a draft constitution and draft program and so set in motion the machinery for building such a party.

The dream is now becoming a reality.

The purpose of the new party will be to promote and win long needed reforms to ease the economic burdens of the people and eventually to form a government of the people that will legislate for the maximum benefit of all Canadians.

We have a rich country and an industrious population and with such a government the economy of our country would be geared to production for use not for profit, for peace not for war and its motivating philosophy would be not fear of the Russians but complete confidence in Canada and its people.

To make the new party strong and successful it will be necessary for every man and woman to participate in its planning and organization.

The Joint Committee, therefore, has issued an appeal to the union locals, C.C.F. clubs, and farm groups to organize discussions and to prepare suggestions for presentation at the next conventions of the C.C.F. and the Canadian Labor Congress.

These suggestions may deal with such things as the physical organization of the party, its social, economic and political programs, finances, membership requirements and regulations, party name and many other relevant questions.

The V.G.H. Unit Political Education Committee to meet regularly for such discussions and we will welcome any and all members who wish to take part.

It is only we, the people, who can truly build a people's party of Canada and now is the time to do it.

Fraternally yours,
E. R. THOMAS.

Chilliwack Elections

Sister Myrtle Anderson was unanimously re-elected President-Chairman at the regular meeting held Feb. 12th. Sister Anderson, visibly touched by the hearty vote of acclamation, gave a short speech in which she thanked the members for their continued confidence.

Sister Anderson recently was nominated as Fraser Valley Representative to the Regional Council, but lost the election to H. L. Moore of Langley on a second ballot. The first ballot resulted in a draw.

George Holland was elected as vice-chairman over two other nominees. A. M. Short was unopposed for a second term as Secretary-Treasurer, a popular choice in view of her past record of excellent service in that capacity.

Sisters Robinson, Selfe, & Reimer were elected as Trustees. Sister Robinson's past experience as a school teacher will be of invaluable assistance in her new duties. Katie Reimer had been unable to assume office in the unit before because of domestic commitments, while Veda Selfe had been an Entertainment Committee member for the past year.

Live wire Marie Bowmen is the new Conductor. One of her first duties will be the installation of eight new members presently joining the unit.

Warden Sister Christie Dartnell will doubtlessly have the willing assistance of the distaff members in the discharge of her duties.

Neil Rempel was elected as Membership Officer and as the Education and Contract Chairman.

Social Officers for the forthcoming year are Sisters Ruth Korhans, V. Dneham and C. Melanchuk. Each of the sisters are by nature and disposition suited to their elected positions, fun loving, imaginative and willing workers. Socially the unit members can look forward to an active summer.

The members again referred to previous experience when selecting the Grievance Committee, choosing V. M. Anderson and A. M. Short to represent them in this difficult but very important and functional position.

At the conclusion of the regular business, the door prize (an attractive table lamp) was drawn for, and the meeting adjourned. Coffee and cake was served as the membership and the new officers informally discussed plans for the following months.

DICK MORRIS

TAKE A BOW, JOHN DARBY

How many of us stop to think of the time and energy spent by the Unit Secretary carrying out his duties. An excellent example of a truly devoted Trade Unionist is Brother John Darby, Unit Secretary of the Royal Columbian. Many of us know John and know how much time he devotes to union activities. Then again, many of us slightly acquainted with him see him rise at the monthly meeting, read the minutes and correspondence, engage in the odd debate and that's it, or so we think. Too many of us think that is all the job entails. How mistaken we are. Hours and hours of time weekly are literally eaten up fulfilling his obligations to the office we elected him to. After work hours, Saturdays and Sundays, he is on the go. There is certainly no personal or monetary gain and often too little credit given for the job done. In spite of all this he always has a minute to stop and listen to all tales of woe and give a helping hand if he is able to do so. If you have a justifiable grievance, he is ready to back you to the hilt. If not, he certainly doesn't ignore you but attempts to straighten you out in respect to your problem. Despite all his official activities, he manages to find time to improve himself for our benefit by attending public speaking classes once weekly in Vancouver. Let's hope that some of us reading this article stop and take a look at ourselves. Think of how much better a Union we would have if we only possessed half this man's devotion, loyalty and genuine diligence. This may apply to all Unit Secretaries, it's certainly hoped that it does.

A THOUGHT FOR TOMORROW

It was once said that an Irishman walks with God one day a year and that's St. Patrick's Day. How true this seems to be of some of our members who take the oath one day and completely forget what it stands for the next as they cast envious eyes on the other fellow's job because he gets a few dollars more than he does.

Let's all bear in mind that part of the oath which says, I will not harm my Brother or Sister or willfully see any harm done to him or her. How much more congenial our relationship could be at work if we only thought of this more often.

TOO MUCH FOR TOO FEW

As in every organization it seems there are those that get the bulk of work in keeping the machinery in running order. Unfortunately this malady exists with us all too predominately. As soon as one is vested with office, their name is up for everything that comes along. This seems to be one of the less desirable rewards of taking an interest in your Unit's activities. Certainly those who do take an active part, want to give their all for a great cause. But when extra duties pile upon you, something is going to suffer. Then if you are not accused of being a shirker, the feeling exists within you. If more of our good members would volunteer just a bit of their time instead of just making suggestions for others to do, much more could be accomplished quickly and satisfactorily. We all have that feeling to do something for others within us and a great deal of self-satisfaction is felt in doing something for others. So the next time your name comes up, instead of rising to decline, as too often happens, let's accept the job and do it as satisfactorily as we can.

ERIC THOMAS

Make Money In Your Spare Time

I would like to explain how we as Union members can make more money by using up a very small part of our spare time.

By making use of only two or three hours in each month, we can so substantially increase our income as to be able, in time, to afford many of the comforts and material things that we now have to do without. We can even eliminate the necessity of holding down two jobs to make ends meet, as many of our members are now forced to do.

How can this be done? Simply by attending one Union meeting per month.

At first glance this statement may seem pretty far-fetched but it is a well established fact that the attendance at meetings has a direct and positive effect upon the results of contract negotiations.

Our mere presence at the meetings will show that we are conscious of our own interests, that we want to better our wages and working conditions, to improve our standards of living and to protect our rights as workers and Canadian citizens.

The employer considers that a small meeting attendance indicates a lack of militancy among the employees. He argues that the employees must be satisfied with their working conditions and he feels encouraged to resist the demands of the Union.

On the other hand, the employer knows that well attended meetings indicate a wide awake membership and he realizes that he must make greater concessions in order to maintain harmonious labor relations within the hospital.

This is one of the main reasons that the employer always makes sure that he has a number of stool-pigeons and lick-spittles scattered among the employees whose function it is to sneer at the Union and discourage the employees from active participation. It pays him to keep these people on the payroll.

The gains to be won at the bargaining table as a result of an active membership can amount to quite a lot in actual cash value but this is not all.

It can result in more leisure time through increased holidays and shorter working time, etc. It can mean better health through better medical coverage and will most certainly create a more respectful attitude on the part of the employer toward the employees as well as greater self-respect and pride of profession among employees themselves.

In addition to all of the benefits listed above, I still have not touched upon the most important benefit of all to be gained through union activity.

It has been my observation, and I am sure that it can be borne out by the records, that the great majority of disputes and discharges involve employees who rarely, if ever, attend their Union meetings.

The reason for this is easy to understand. The employer knows that such employees are poorly informed, are not conscious of their rights, and therefore are more easily intimidated and pushed around.

The employer also knows that an active Union member is a well informed employee who would not hesitate to make the fullest and wisest use of the Grievance Procedure to protect his rights. He also knows that the employee who takes an interest in the employees organization almost invariably takes a deeper interest in his job and intends to stay with it. He is usually the most faithful and efficient

type of employee.

The employer, therefore, will not usually interfere with an active Union member unless he feels that he has a just cause to do so.

Active Union participation is not only insurance for greater benefits from wages, working conditions and job security, but under our present Constitution, every member who attends three or more meetings per year is entitled to Death Benefits of from \$100 to \$500 depending on length of service.

Increased membership activity could quite logically result in further similar membership privileges.

We have everything to gain and nothing to lose by attending our union meetings, so let's all adopt a do-it-yourself philosophy in respect to promoting our own welfare and not expect our Officers to do it all for us. They just can't do it.

Vernon Elections

Chairman Albert Tetz of the Vernon Unit announces that the new executive has been elected and duly installed. Enjoining the membership to come forth and support the new officers and committee, Chairman Tetz states in part:

"We are looking forward to a good year. I am sure it will be if all rally and help the committees. After all, each member is a vital cog in the wheel which we hope will run smoothly."

Noting that for the past year, a high interest had been maintained in the affairs of the unit, Chairman Tetz paid tribute to the Entertainment Committee for their efforts. remarking on the success of the children's Christmas Party and the Banquet, Social and Dance held Jan. 15th for the adults, he said:

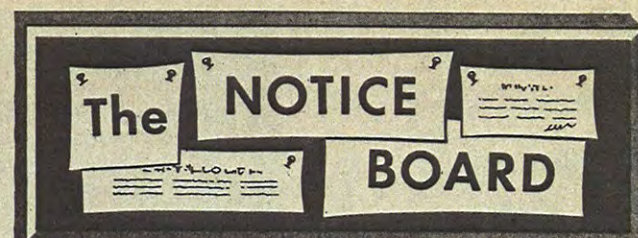
"The Entertainment Committee has my sympathy. It is quite a job to arrange entertainment in which all will participate and which all will enjoy."

A recent meeting of the Vernon Unit Labour Management Committee resulted in the hospital administration employing additional staff. Maximum bed occupancy on a continuing basis was placing an undue stress upon the existing staff, and it is hoped that the new employees will ease the individual work load.

The Vernon Unit also reports considerable activity on the part of the Contract Committee. With wage negotiations coming up this summer, it is probable that the Contract Committee will be busy for some time.

Socquet Pres. District Labor Council

Rolly Socquet of the Kelowna Unit was recently elected President of the Kelowna, Penticton, Vernon and District Labour Council. Well known to Local 180 members for his contributions to that organization, Rolly will undoubtedly succeed most admirably in his new position. His knowledge of the affairs of labour and his broad experience in that field will reflect credit not only upon himself, but will prove of great value to the Labour Council.



DANCE

Friday, March 13th
9-1 o'clock

TICKETS \$1.00 EACH

Usual Spot Dances and
Door Prizes

held in

"THE ARLINGTON"

(The Old White Rose Ballroom)

Sask. Power & Gas Local 16-649 Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers International Union, C.L.C., are inviting applications for the position of Executive Secretary, to be located in Regina. Salary: \$500.00 to \$600.00 per month. Any interested party wishing to apply may receive further information and a copy of the job description by writing to Mr. W. L. Johnson, Financial Secretary, Local 16-649, O.C.A.W.I.W., 102-1775 Halifax St., Regina, Sask. All applications will be treated as confidential.

Newfoundland Disgraces Canada

For once we can be pleased we haven't a Canadian flag. For the Canadian flag unfurled over the outpost of the Dark Ages known as Newfoundland would be a mockery of all of those things we as Canadians choose to believe in.

How snidely we mocked Little Rock, and sneered at the race riots in London, and righteously condemned the subjugation of the blacks in Africa. Oh, we were above and beyond and far removed from these vicious reminders of a yesterday long committed to an unmarked grave. Canadians, we believed, would never tolerate even a vestige of racial intolerance or labour persecution. Hadn't many of us fought, and seen our brothers bleed and die, primarily to protect our democratic privileges? And hadn't we been victorious? Hadn't we rolled back the forces of reaction, until autocratic dictatorships existed only in the small dark corners of the world? It was only a short while ago, measured even in years.

And thus, like a bad memory come back to haunt us, like the resurrection of a force of evil thought no longer to exist, this symbol of yesterday arose again, in our own country! Smallwood, champion of the Bowater Corporation, protector of the Anglo Newfoundland Development Company! This tiny man in high office who would deny the laws he is sworn to administer merely to defeat the rights of a couple of thousand of underpaid, underfed loggers to join a union of their choice. And his reason for so doing? Because the I.W.A. is a militant trade union!

Because the I.W.A. suggested that a sixty hour week was too long, that navy beans did not constitute a workingman's diet, that perhaps the men in the woods would like to shower occasionally, or sit in comfort in their bunkhouse. That's what they asked.

They went even further. They felt that \$1.05 an hour was too low a wage, and they asked for a raise to \$1.22 per hour. For having the temerity to demand such unreasonable things, they were declared enemies of Newfoundland, they were accused of threatening the economy of the province, the R.C.M.P., wearing helmets and carrying clubs, moved in on the pickets as though they were subversive aliens.

Trade unionists, indeed, all free men, across Canada decry this brutalization, this subjugation of democracy, this prostitution of the high post of premier.

Long Service Awarded

Friday, February 13th, 1959, saw Sister I. Donald terminate 14 years service with the Royal Columbian Hospital. An interesting sidelight to this is that in Sister Donald's 14 years with the Hospital, she did not miss one minute of time through sick leave, a truly enviable record.

On the morning of her last day with us, Mr. L. F. C. Kirby, Administrator of the R.C.H. presented Sister Donald with a corsage of deep pink roses, a Bulova wrist watch, suitably engraved and a travelling case, on behalf of the Staff and Management of the Royal Columbian.

Just prior to her leaving, Sister Donald was honored by the Switchboard Staff, Information and Personnel Departments with a lovely birthstone ring.

At the time of this writing, Sister Donald will be taking a well-earned rest in Honolulu, Hawaii, where she will remain for one month accompanied by Mrs. Abernethy, a life-long friend. Our good wishes go with her, she will certainly be missed.

McInnes Secretary Of Kamloops Labour Council

Mrs. C. E. McInnes, Secretary of the Kamloops Unit, of Local 180, has been elected as Secretary of the Kamloops Labour Council. This is Mrs. McInnes' second term in that position.

It would be nice to see an indication of enthusiasm displayed by more of our members as was displayed by Brother Henry Klassen of the Royal Columbian Unit. Brother Klassen, who has been off sick for several months, still saw it his duty to attend the January meeting of his Unit.

You're getting old when it takes longer to get rested than it did to get tired.