



The Hospital Guardian

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Vancouver, British Columbia



September 2nd, 1958

VANCOUVER BEACHES CONDEMNED



Warning! — this is the sign decorating the desecrated beaches of Vancouver.

Irate Citizens Deprived Of Trip To Beach

CENTENNIAL YEAR:
1958

Vancouver's beaches, polluted by the sewage of 400,000 residents, reached the danger point early in August, and were posted with grim warning signs by the city Health Department. Bacterial counts had risen so that the water constituted a health hazard. Sweltering citizens, sweating in one of the hottest, driest summers on record, found themselves deprived of what had originally been some of the finest natural beaches in Canada. To go swimming meant running the risk of disease and infection.

The closure was directly attributable to a complete lack of metropolitan planning. Conscientious public employees were aware twenty years ago that the indiscriminate disposal of the city's sewage into adjacent tidal waters would inevitably lead to pollution. Other cities, Glasgow, New York, and Milwaukee, to name but a few, met the sewage disposal problem with modern plants, creating an example Vancouver could easily have profited by. But years of municipal governments geared their city planning, not to the necessities of tomorrow but to the mill rate of their today.

Public resentment is understandably high. However, the brutal truth remains. It will be some several years before Vancouver's beaches are again fit for public use.

I.W.A. — Disturbed by public unrest with the chaotic industrial situation, I.W.A. leaders recommended to the membership acceptance of the Sloan Report, and were supported by the majority.

U.F.A.W.U. — Strike of the salmon fishermen averted by a last moment offer from the Association.

CONSTRUCTION — Goldenberg Commission majority report suggests 26 cent package for plumbers. Lockout lifted by contractors — strike maintained by Plumbers Union.

ELECTRICIANS — Back to work with 11 cent increase.

LONGSHOREMEN — An 84% strike vote in support of the negotiating committee of the I.L.W.U. The Longshoremen are seeking an eight hour day, (in place of nine) four hours call time (in place of two) and culmination of two and one half years of fruitless negotiations for an adequate pension plan on a 4%-4% contributory basis.

MILKMEN — A majority strike vote obtained, Wednesday, August 20.

BAKERS — Workers at Canadian Bakeries, Ltd., to strike.

\$480,000 TO B.C. HOSPITALS

OTTAWA (CP)—The federal health department too, announced grants totalling \$480,000 to British Columbia hospitals. Centres receiving assistance are:

Kitimat—\$362,386 towards construction of a new 128-bed general hospital.

Lillooet—\$52,000 to help in construction of a 17-bed district hospital.

Vernon—\$15,000 towards construction of the Centennial Health Centre.

Williams Lake—\$15,000 towards construction of an area health centre.

Trail — \$14,133 towards the Kinsmen Health Centre.

Port Alberni—\$13,000 towards a new health centre.

Greenwood — \$5,000 towards a new health centre.

Invermere—\$4,000 towards construction of an eight-bed nurses' residence at Windermere District Hospital.

Staff Praised

JULY 12—A mock "disaster", in Training for local Civil Defense, drew ready praise for the Powell River General Hospital and staff. According to plan, the boiler in the high school "blew up," severely injuring several students. The prompt reaction of all the hospital staff in this simulated emergency was deserving of the highest praise local Civil Defense authorities said, in commending them for their exhibition.

New Council Formed

One New Council Formed
While the months of July and August are by tradition reserved for the rest of the weary and the pleasure of the young, Local 180 plunged inexorably ahead with the business of being a Union during the summer months.

The following Councils met in session during the month of July — Vancouver Island District Council, July 6; Lower Mainland, July 13, and the Okanagan District Council, July 20.

The Lower Mainland District Council saw the inauguration of a new Council, the Fraser Valley District Council, representing Local 180 members in the hospitals in Abbotsford, Chilliwack, Haney, White Rock, and Langley.

KAMLOOPS—Sister Margaret Ferguson, a member of the Kamloops Unit since 1953, left the district. She will reside in the Vancouver area.

A surprise party was held at the home of Mrs. Goldie Gough (who is also leaving Kamloops for coastal points) to bid farewell to Sister Ferguson.

Powell River G.H. Accredited

Powell River General Hospital has been accredited for a period of three years by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals, Chicago, of which the C.M.A. is a member.

Accreditation is obtained by a determination and evaluation of the standard of patient care in a hospital.

B.C. hospitals are continually striving for accreditation and many have reached their objective. As at March 31st, 1958, the following public acute-care hospitals had been accredited: Burnaby General Hospital, Burnaby; Children's Hospital, Vancouver; Grace Hospital, Vancouver; Kelowna General Hospital, Kelowna; Mater Misericordiae Hospital, Rossland; Nanaimo General Hospital, Nanaimo; North Vancouver General Hospital, North Vancouver; Powell River General Hospital, Powell River; Queen Alexandra Solarium for Crippled Children, Victoria; Royal Columbian Hospital, New Westminster; Royal Inland Hospital, Kamloops; Royal Jubilee Hospital, Victoria; St. Joseph's Hospital, Vancouver; Trail-Tadanac Hospital, Trail; Vancouver General Hospital, Vancouver; and the Vernon Jubilee Hospital, Vernon.

In addition, there are eight other accredited institutions in British Columbia operated by the Federal and Provincial Governments.

B.C. Labour- Front Dispatch

As we go to press, here is a summary of the battle-lines in B.C.'s explosive labour-management war, a situation that has been seething all summer and is far from settled yet. In this province, the unions are in the forefront, meeting an attack that is Canada-wide and continent-deep.

Put to the test, the trade union movement is responding by drawing closer together. There is a realization that in such a widespread attack, unity of action and commonness of purpose is the only hope for survival. Out of the crucible will emerge a stronger and more potent labour force, united in true brotherhood, dedicated to the betterment of all workers, impossible to defeat.

READ

"Labours Role In B.C.'s Future"

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"In humble dedication to all of those who toil to live."

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Labour Relations

In the interests of efficiency, the smooth operation of the various hospitals must be the prime concern of Management.

Hospital administrations send their top representatives to the bargaining table. Contracts are negotiated in good faith and the broad interpretation of the negotiated Agreements in all sections and phases is usually understood by the negotiating team.

When the contract goes into operation, then the fun begins. We have administrative personnel in the office and supervisory classes who are putting their interpretation on the agreement. But, they aren't aware of the ramifications of negotiating the agreement and they weren't at the bargaining table. Consequently, they are not aware of the intent and the understandings arrived at.

Our problem is not always with the "Big Boss", but with the "Little Bosses."

The operation, and the abuses, of the "Hours of Work" section by Department Heads is a glaring example.

We adhere to the principle of the 40 hour, 5 day week. However, to permit leeway in scheduling days off and time off, in many of our Agreements this section will read, in part, as follows:

"Employees will work no more than 40 hours per week, or no more than an average of 80 hours in a two week period."

It is understood that a worker will work no more than six days straight without proper days off and will receive a long week end every sixth week.

Because of the peculiarity of hospital operation, hospital workers cannot receive their Statutory Holidays on the due date. Therefore, it is generally agreed that this will be given in conjunction with the regular days off, at certain periods in the year, when they will be of some value to the individual. This method of scheduling is particularly applicable to our 100 bed hospitals because of their staffing problems.

Yet, we continuously have grievances and examples of workers who are on the job seven, eight and nine days, without time off. Or they are granted their Statutory Holiday one day and three days later are given their regular days off. In some instances, they even go to the extent of giving half days off. There is no proper arranging and no notice is given as to when they are going to get the days off.

This is a complete violation and negation of the intent of our Agreements and creates nothing but dissatisfaction and discontent through the ranks. Working seven, eight and nine days without a day off, no proper scheduling of Statutory Holidays, is not conducive to maintaining an efficient worker and this type of operation is detrimental to the functioning of the hospital.

Local 180 spent years in establishing the principle of the 40 hour week. We also pioneered it for the nurses and other personnel. But it is apparent that certain sub-heads have no conception of drawing up schedules. Or, the schedules are drawn up for their own convenience or for the convenience of the particular group they represent, without too much consideration being given to contract provisions as they affect the lay staff.

In many instances, Management fails to explain the ramifications, the operation and the interpretation of the Union Agreement. And then they wonder, when they next approach the bargaining table, at a stiffening attitude on the part of the Union's Negotiating Team.

This isn't applicable to all hospitals. To some we must give "A" for an excellent Labour Relations policy, for instituting Union-Management Committees, and for a proper recognition of the function of Shop Stewards. In this regard, Chilliwack is an outstanding example, with no grievances, high morale and efficient operation.

Where an enlightened Management has put these policies into effect, there are no grievances and no glaring problems.

We are making every effort to have an educated, well-informed membership. We only wish that Management, in all instances, would pursue the same course.

Better team work would mean happier personnel, a higher degree of co-operation. All of which leads to better service to the public, whom we all serve.

SEPT. 1-LABOUR DAY

The Readers Write

The Hospital Guardian:

I would like to take this opportunity to express my congratulations on a most successful convention and to congratulate the new Provincial Members on their election to office. Best wishes also, to the delegates to the various conventions. I feel sure you will be most interested in the business you are to undertake.

To the retiring members, my best to you all in the future and I hope to see you all again sometime. I'm sorry that circumstances prevented me from being with all of you at the convention.

PHIL SEVIN,
Trustee.

The Hospital Guardian:

The Derby Committee wishes to thank all contestants for turning out and contributing to the success of the Sixth Annual Fishing Derby. We are looking forward to seeing you all again next year.

Derby Committee.



The Hospital Guardian:

As a delegate to the recent convention, it was clearly brought home to me that the lack of education was a serious handicap in being unable to express my thinking.

In view of the increasing need for knowledge it is my hope that the educational program launched by No. 180 will be taken full advantage of.

I hope the younger members of No. 180 recognize that in addition to vocational training to equip him for his job a worker in the modern world must have access to certain other forms of knowledge. These he needs in order to enable him to participate effectively in the widening field of activities in which labour now has a share of responsibility for the affairs of the community. A worker must, for example, be able to take a useful part in union affairs and collective bargaining, or to serve as a member of a works council production committee, wage-fixing board, or social insurance committee. For these functions, in addition to first-hand knowledge of his own industry, he needs to possess a clear general idea of the social or administrative structure and of the procedures for conducting trade union or public affairs.

I would like to suggest that everyone give his best in an effort to gain as much as possible from the courses.

H. L. MOORE,
Langley.

Labour Must Assume Leadership

The confusion, the state of the world, and the unsettled atmosphere in which we live, is worthy of review.

We are fast approaching an era when, if we are to survive as a human race, the working men and women of this country will have to make their voices heard in a more efficient and organized fashion.

These are the people who are being pushed around, just like the ebb and flow of the tide, to satisfy the wishes and whims of politicians—politicians who have no conception of where they are going and who have a lion by the tail which they dare not let go.

The Labour movement will have to do some re-evaluation and re-tooling to meet the fast changing conditions under which we live. The general public is subject to brain washing, through a controlled press. Labour has been a very convenient whipping boy. It has served to detract from the real issues of the day and to cover up the inabilities of our politicians and captains of industry, who have us living in a world of cold war and of insecurity. There has been developed a psychology of fear.

The instability of our present modern leadership is reflected back down through all ranks of society. But the finger is pointed at the Labour movement. There may be weaknesses, as there is no perfection, but we have had some able teachers. There are some beautiful examples of the master minds who pay lip service to free enterprise.

Actually we live in an era of state controlled Capitalism. In an era of monopolistic control and cartels. In an era where the only motivating factor in life is the taking of profits. In the era of absentee ownership.

There are many examples of where profits are the first consideration. Nationalism is good for the Americans and the Canadians and the British, but not good for the Arabs. It might disrupt the flow of cheap oil to the American refineries.

The pawns in this game of international intrigue are the working men and women of the world, and the freedom to exploit the under-developed countries. When the American oil interests at Anacortes, just south of us, filled their refineries with cheap oil from Venezuela, what happened to the production of Canadian oil?

A pipeline is created with much controversy and shouting of closure, but millionaires are created over night. This is ethical!

We proceed to erect a Printing Building in Ottawa, supposedly to cost \$6,000,000.00, which ends up costing \$16,000,000.00. The Conservatives shout at the Liberals for covering up economic reports, and six months later they do the same identical thing themselves.

The captains of industry decry international unionism. They want restraints imposed. Yet they themselves recognize no international boundaries when it comes to the exploitation of the natural resources or interference with our Canadian economy. They want international freedom.

Who stopped the shipment of automobiles to China? Who closed down Britannia and Fernie? What consideration was given to the workers for their lifetime of service in these industries and communities?

In the field of planning for public welfare, there is a shortage of funds. The building of adequate hospitals or the providing of our senior citizens is an insurmountable problem. We have appeals from all quarters to assist in looking after the less fortunate citizens. We have to beg for additional funds for research to combat disease, but we can pour millions down the drain for obsolete aircraft, for an obsolete DEW line.

Apparently, they haven't realized yet that the best defence that Canada can develop is to have a country that looks after its senior citizens and the less fortunate, a country with full employment and a high standard of living. It is only when the working force is used to full capacity, when we are buying back the goods that we produce, that we will have full employment.

The planning of our cities leaves much to be desired. In Vancouver the beaches are to be closed for four years because of the inadequacy of government planning, both at the provincial and at the municipal level. Many were aware of this situation twenty years ago. This is one of the few recreational facilities enjoyed by the mass of the people and they are to be deprived of even this. They cannot go to Las Vegas, or to Honolulu, to escape the pollution of our harbours and waters and beaches.

There has been too much apathy on the part of the wage earners of this country. It is time we re-examined our position at all levels and especially the political level. We must stop "Letting George do it." We went through the Hungry Thirties, we fought two wars, but we learned no lessons.

We haven't resolved the problem of the distribution of goods. We cannot keep abreast of the technological age which is creating unemployment. We are sitting idly by and drifting in a world of fear and insecurity.

There may be a glimmer of hope. When the common people of this country begin to develop political consciousness, when they shake off the shackles of apathy, then something will be done. The necessary steps will be taken towards creating an economy which is planned and where there is peace and security. A world without fear and strife.



The Provincial Executive of Local 180 inspect progress on new headquarters. Situated on Broadway in the 300 block, the new two storey building should be available for occupancy in October. Executive members are, seated left to right, Tony Burrell, 2nd Vice-President, North Burnaby; Alex Paterson, Financial Secretary, V.G.H.; John Fleming, Provincial President, Royal Columbian; W. M. "Bill" Black, Secretary-Business Manager; W. D. Black, Trustee, Royal Columbian; Albert Tetz, Okanagan District Council Representative. Standing left to right, Jim Spracklin, 3rd Vice-President, V.G.H.; W. "Wally" Lake, Maple Ridge; Phil Sevin, Trustee, V.G.H.; Hugh Duff, Trustee, V.G.H.; Gerald Larson, Lower Mainland District Representative; Joe Gallagher, 1st Vice-President, Powell River; Harold Cole, Kootenay District Council; R. Louis Woodthorpe, Vancouver Island District Council Representative.

Employers Responsibilities

An article in the August 14 issue of the B.C. Catholic titled "Must Employer Provide Jobs?" is an interesting and informative analysis of the employer-employee relationship existing today on the Canadian scene. The article acknowledges the responsibility of the worker to those who employ him. No organization should be required to provide employment to incompetent workers, or to hire more employees than are necessary to capably despatching the duties of that organization, it states.

On the other hand, an employer "violates social justice if he refuses employment to applicants who conform to the requirements, merely because they belong to some religious or racial group."

"A person has a right to employment when employment is his only means of support. Moreover, gainful employment makes a definite and indispensable contribution to the economic welfare of society; we help our fellow men by keeping at work and by doing our work well."

"From this point of view likewise, people need employment and have a right to it. And since employment can be provided only by owners and managers of business, one of the obligations of those who are in business will be to provide that work they can obtain from no other source."

"The obligation of providing employment rests in the totality of employers."

"In a free society the discharge of this obligation depends on contractual agreements freely entered into between employers and employees. When individual employers fail to observe the requirements of justice in relation to those who apply to them for work, their offence is immediately against society as a whole."

"It then becomes the duty of the authorities of the state, as the custodians of the common good, to

take the steps which will be necessary to bring the recalcitrant employer into line, and to establish the norms according to which requirements of social justice are to be met."

Continuing Employment

The article went on to freely explore the obligations of an employer to his employee.

"If the employer freely agrees to keep an employee at work for any given period of time, he must fulfill his agreement, unless un-

justified discharge of employees.

"Arbitrary and unfair discharge of employees, violates the social rights of the entire group of people who depend on employment for their subsistence, and who have been honest and successful in their attempts to do their work."

"Arbitrary discharges, moreover, constitute breach of an implied but nonetheless real element in any ordinary contract of employment."

1st Labour Day - 1882

Labour Day will have come and gone by the time you receive this edition. Labour Day is an accepted perquisite for the workers, both in the United States and in Canada. Some of our people will be unaware of its origin.

This is a concession that was bitterly fought for down through the years. The first advocate for Labour Day was Peter J. McGuire, a New York carpenter, who suggested setting aside one day in the year in honour of Labour.

That was in the year 1882 and the first Labour Day celebration was held in New York City during September of the same year. Before the history becomes obscure, we should not lose sight of the fact that the first Monday in September is truly Labour's Day.

forseen circumstances intervene to make it morally impossible for him to do so.

"Even apart from any specific agreement, the employer has an obligation of justice towards his employees to anticipate future needs during periods of reduced demand, and to provide steady work with a minimum of interruption even at some sacrifice of profit over and above the cost of maintaining his establishment."

"When individual employers fail, or are unable to provide steady work, and widespread suffering thus results, the authorities of the state, again in the interests of the common good, have an obligation to intervene."

Reference was made to the un-

"When a person accepts a position in a firm which has strength and standing and which will continue to operate indefinitely, he has a right to expect that he will be kept in his position as long as he can continue to fill it with the degree of competence envisaged when he was hired."

—B.C. Catholic—Aug. 14

SIGNS OF OUR TIMES

The Air Line Pilots Association last week issued the following plea to youthful rocket builders:

"Please don't launch your rockets near airports, landing and take-off patterns or airway routes. You might bring down an aircraft."

V.G.H. Welfare Committee Active

One committee that functions as actively during the doldrums of the summer months as through the rest of the year is the Sick and Welfare Committee of the V.G.H. Unit of Local 180. Averaging 30 calls per month, the committee members visit those who are ill, either at home or in hospital, with a gift of chocolates, cigarettes, fruit, magazines and flowers.

Chairman Jim Ballard of Oxygen feels that the work of his Committee is appreciated by those who are visited. The Committee asks the co-operation of every Union member. The members of the Committee are listed below, with their phone numbers. If you are aware of the absence of your work mate for three or more days due to illness or accident, contact any member of the Committee and give them the information. They will immediately follow up with a visit or a call.

The Sick and Welfare Committee attempts to prove that Local 180 is not interested only in meeting attendance, it is sincerely concerned with the health and welfare of every individual member. While the Committee wishes to thank the membership for co-operation received in the past, it hopes that Your name will not appear on the list.

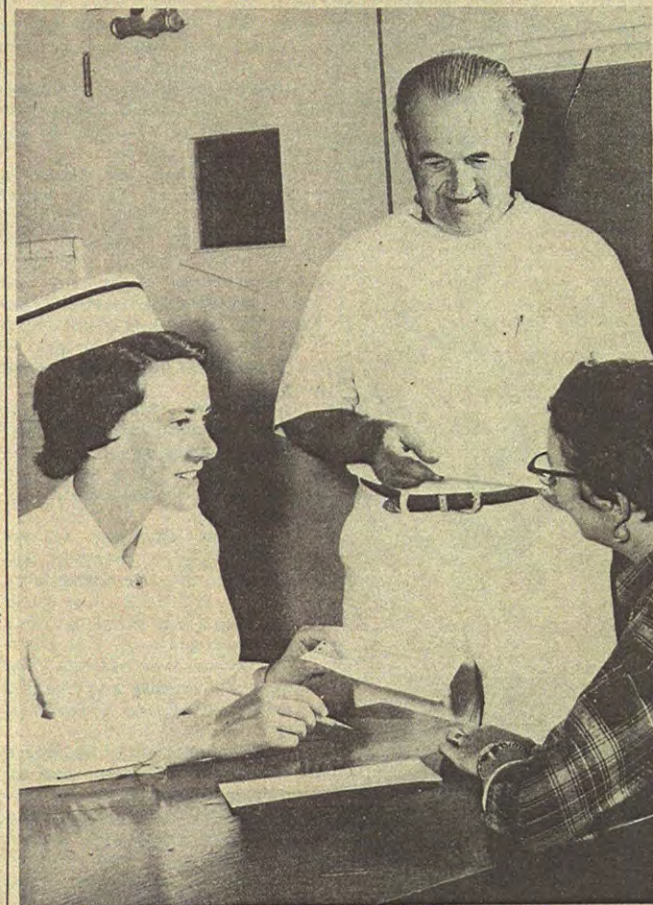
Chairman: Jim Ballard, Oxygen, EM 3168. Members: Mrs. MacKay (Grace); Mrs. Keslar, Maternity, EM 6540; Mrs. J. Robertson, Dietary, DI 5819; J. Basaraba, Oxygen, HE 1-4088; L. Wright, Oxygen, EL 6770; P. Forsha, Orderly, FR 6241; H. Duff, Orderly, EL 1454.

A Vancouver wheel went to the psychiatrist for the first time and poured out his story. "Doctor, I have this problem. I live in a big home in British Properties with a swimming pool, have two Cadillacs, belong to five exclusive clubs, have two yachts, a private plane, keep an apartment at the Ritz and eat so well I run up

more than \$1,000 a month at Woodward's Park Royal."

"That sounds great," commented the psychiatrist, "What kind of a problem is that?"

"My problem, Doc," moaned the patient, "is that I only make \$90 a week."



Brother Angus Crowdy, Chairman of the newly formed Hospital Community Appeals Fund for V.G.H. staff, watches as Margaret Grose, R.N., Head Nurse, presents a cheque to Miss Jean Howarth of the Vancouver Province. The cheque for \$200.00 to the Province Family Fund was the first disbursement from the new charitable organization at V.G.H., and was to assist the families of the men killed in the recent Second Narrows Bridge disaster.

LABOUR'S ROLE IN B.C.'s FUTURE

LABOUR



1958 to 2058



By W. M. BLACK
President, B.C. Federation of Labour.

Former Leaders Lauded

To commemorate a century of progress in this great province of British Columbia, I have been asked to be visionary and to portray the next hundred years and Labour's role. This could tax the most vivid imagination.

But, a knowledge of past history and an appreciation that there is nothing static in the universe — the world in which we live is evolutionary in character — should act as a guide. And when one views the progress not only of the last century but of the lifetime of my generation, it shouldn't be too big a drain on one's imagination to be hypothetical about the future.

At least we shall have this assurance — we shall not be here to discover whether or not we were correct.

Tribute must be paid to our predecessors in the Labour movement for the great contribution which they made to the development of this province. We must never be unmindful of the terrific struggles which they waged in their efforts to create a better standard of living and greater social justice for the common people of B.C. This was in the era when Unionism was unacceptable, when there were no laws to ensure the right of free collective bargaining, and when what they fought for was considered revolutionary.

The social changes which they tried to achieve are now "proper". Today they are reality. There is no social law on the Statute Books of British Columbia for which Labour cannot claim some credit. And the greatest changes were made when Labour held the balance of power in our Provincial Legislature.

A Changing World

Today we talk about the 30-hour week and people shudder. But people shuddered when they talked about the 40-hour week at a time when the working week was 54 hours. The 30-hour week will be a reality long before B.C. celebrates its Bicentenary.

Perhaps the greatest contributing factor to human welfare has been the broad education of the masses of our people.

Fifty years ago our imaginary powers would not permit us to visualize radio or T.V. The very idea of pictures coming through the air was foreign to us. Once aeroplanes were unthinkable, but today Sputniks and satellites are becoming quite commonplace. Who knows, we may be able to reach the moon much sooner than anticipated.

Living in this scientific, evolutionary, technological world, Labour, consciously or unconsciously, is re-tooling. It is re-aligning its thinking to meet rapidly changing conditions.

The whole character of our mode of living is changing and the operation of our working force will change still more. The world in which we live is shrinking. Our population is growing. Our scientific know-how is increasing. The workers of the future won't be just hewers of wood and drawers of water.

The trade unionism of the future will not be a tolerated, but an accepted institution within the orbit of society. Of necessity, the Labour movement will change with the times. It will employ highly skilled staffs—economists, engineers, educators. It will become a full partner in planning.

Worker Highly Skilled

The trend will be towards greater social thinking. For just as surely as we emerged from savagery to barbarism, to feudalism, to capitalism, a hundred years from now we shall have moved into the social state where a planned economy will be the order of the day.

There will be terrific increases in our population, but there will be a greater increase in our gross national product. Production will increase at a greater rate than our population because of the increase in mechanization and automation.

Unskilled jobs will disappear and the trend will be greater social production with a highly skilled work force. With this scientific development, the very character of the work force will change, demanding a higher degree of knowledge and skills to operate the expensive equipment which will be used. When one appreciates that one earth moving machine can do a thousand times the work load of a man equipped with a shovel, it is not too difficult to imagine future developments in the field of automation.

Though there will be a greater development of secondary industries to take care of the insatiable desire of our people for an improved standard of living, this will be offset by the development of great efficient centres for the distribution and sale of goods. Bigger super markets. Better methods of processing the marketing. A hundred years from now the corner grocery will be extinct and competition as we know it today will be non-existent.

Unions, in meeting this challenge with their highly skilled staffs, will be working in conjunction with other social forces. Time and motion studies and those subjects allied to it will be undertaken to improve the way of life.

More Learning — Less Work

To meet the requirements of the new scientific era, to develop the required knowledge which will be necessary because of the intricate abilities required in the technological age, the school life will be lengthened to the age of approximately twenty-five. The working span of a man's life will be about twenty-five years.

The task in the future, as it is in our presently changing society to a lesser degree, will be to spread the work load equitably over all our people, drastically reducing the hours of work. Life expectancy will be increased due to the efforts of medical science. There will be less illness. The population will be educated to utilize the benefits of automation and science and to cultivate and make use of leisure time.

The trend in education, which is the subject of so much controversy at the moment, will not be solely to the sciences. Equal stress will have to be placed on the humanities of life, the art of living. This will pose a great challenge to the leaders of our educational system. The problem of the humanities, leisure living, the cultural developments shall be just as great, if not greater than, the scientific achievements. Greater recreational and cultural facilities will be developed to meet these changes.

The youth of today and the youth of tomorrow, if given the opportunities, will arise to the task and resolve the problems in the same fashion as past generations rose to the problems of their era. Just as the offspring of the Hungry 30's rose to the task of manning the production machine and manning the mechanisms of war.

N.H.S. SUCCESS

"Not just a glorified poor law, but a full health service for all the people"—Clement Attlee.

Ten years ago on July 5, 1948, Great Britain embarked on a National Health Service plan. A decade later, an examination of the record points up the success of the venture, and is a valuable lesson to Canadians interested in and hopeful of similar legislation.



Lord Attlee, Prime Minister of Great Britain ten years ago, when the present National Health Plan was introduced in that country.

As we have met the challenges of the past, we shall meet the challenges of the future.

Social State Inevitable

The very character of our cities, our architecture will change. There will be no unplanned communities. Modes of transportation will change. We will move into the era of the mono-rail, the helicopter and space travel. Due to the rapid growth of population and with the limits to our urban areas, cities will go skywards and will become communal. The apartment dweller will be the citizen of the future.

A hundred years from now our very mode of government will have completely changed as the operation of our society will be totally different. And the government will be social in character, truly representative of the people. The method of operation will be different and the creation and the application of laws will be peculiar to the times. The tendency towards a social existence which is now shown will be much greater in the future, with a tremendous expansion of the welfare state.

In this the Unions will play a major role, in continuing to protect and look after the welfare of the working men and women. If a man's working span of life is to be twenty-five years, and if life expectancy continues to increase, with man living longer and working less, a tremendous adjustment in social security laws will take place to provide adequately for early, long and fruitful retirement.

Labour Challenged

This is all going to pose a challenge to the Labour movement. But I feel that we have the adaptability to meet changing times, to meet the onslaught of science, to educate and to negotiate the changes which will be required for the society of the future.

All this hypothetical reasoning on my part presupposes man's ability to cope with science and to cope with the law of change. It is based on a belief in man's ability to live in a contracting world, to live with his neighbour and to find a solution to the international problems. In my humble opinion, total war would mean

From the very beginning, participation in the National Health Service plan was extensive. After nine months, 41,650,000 out of a total population of 42,750,000 had applied to be placed on general practitioners lists for health service treatments. Ninety-seven per cent of the population of Great Britain is using it today.

How extensive is this service. Every man, woman and child is entitled to the services of doctors and dentists, to hospital treatment, to drugs, dressings, false teeth and hair, spectacles, surgical boots and appliances, and invalid chairs. The London Times says "What the health service has done is to ensure that the discoveries of the research laboratories and institutes of the world are made freely available to every citizen of these islands to an extent that was not possible under the pre-1948 system based on the tripod of the "panel" scheme, voluntary hospitals and local authority services."

Contrary to prediction, the medical profession has adjusted itself admirably to socialized medicine. A survey conducted in the formative stages of the plan showed over half of the general practitioners satisfied in their work, while a minority (15%) preferred a favoured or mixed practice, mostly health service but with some private practice to vary the routine. "The doctors have enormously improved the service to the former working class panel patient"

the annihilation of our presently constituted society and the human race would have gone for naught.

We no longer live in a world of isolationism and we cannot, like the little Dutch boy, stick our fingers into the holes in the dykes to hold back the sea. We cannot stop evolution. We cannot stop science. We must learn to control them.

Labour now is conscious of these things. Labour statesmen of today are ever striving to meet the challenge of science and of automation and are attempting to utilize these for the benefit of mankind as a whole.

The society of the future, the world of tomorrow, will be a greater place and a better place, a more human place, for all.

Living in a world where "nothing is, everything is becoming" should test our mettle. There are still new frontiers to be opened. True, they are different frontiers than those of the wilderness or the early pioneering of British Columbia.

But, this has been the dream and the vision of men down through the ages in the Labour movement. It was their inspiration and their drive. To them I pay tribute as today we stand on the threshold of the new era.

The Labour movement of today and of the days to come will arise to this challenge of the future. It will help to create and to build this world of tomorrow. It will be a full partner in this exciting venture.

—From Centennial Edition of the Victoria Daily Times.

SOCIAL GOVERNMENT & WELFARE STATE EDUCATIONAL CURRICULUM BROADENED

Yvonne Muise Top Angler



V.G.H. member Yvonne Muise with her hand caught prize-winner.

Lady Takes The Hardware In Annual Derby

Horseshoe Bay—July 27th

A modest salmon, scaling seven pounds, three ounces stripped, won a first prize of fifty dollars for Yvonne Muise of V.G.H. in Local 180's Sixth Annual Fishing Derby. Yvonne outfished over seventy other eager "angling" competitors to gain possession of the handsome cup awarded each year to the champion salt-chucker.

While the first prize went to the ladies, the men garnered the rest of the loot. Collecting for their skills were:

2nd Prize—Bob Christie—	
V.G.H.	\$40.00
3rd Prize—Bill Taylor—	
V.G.H.	\$30.00
4th Prize—Tom Semotiuk—	
R.C.H.	\$20.00
5th Prize (tie)—	
Harold Mordin—R.C.H.—	\$5.00
Carl Kania—R.C.H.—	\$5.00

Two members of V.G.H. Maintenance Dept. displayed their psychic powers by correctly predicting the exact weight of the winning fish to the ounce. Jim Rodgers and Murray Robertson shared honors in the Hidden Weight Contest.

V.G.H. Annual Picnic Cancelled

By PHIL SEVIN
Committee Chairman

When this, the second issue of your new Hospital Guardian reaches you, the Annual Picnic for the V.G.H. unit members of Local 180 will be a happy memory. Unfortunately, it was cancelled on the 3rd of August due to rain. Your Social Committee was sorry this happened and immediately tried to get a new date. We were successful in getting the grounds for Sunday, August 24th. A full account of the picnic will be in the next issue of the Guardian.

Members quite often ask for dances during the fall and winter season and your committee is always trying to plan ahead. We have done so again.

On Saturday, October 25th, the first V.G.H. unit Annual Banquet and Dance will be held in the Georgia Hotel. Tickets will be at the unbelievable price of \$2.00 per person. This will entitle you to a wonderful dinner starting at 6:30 pm. Before the dancing, from 9 to 12, you will be entertained by a floor show which will be of the highest calibre.

As this is our first attempt at such an affair, we are limiting the tickets to members only, numbering 200. They will go on sale on August 24th, so first come, first served. Your Committee feels, and certainly hopes, that all the tickets will be sold without too much trouble.

Here is your chance to take the wife, husband, girl or boy friend out for a wonderful evening's entertainment and fun. Where else will you get so much for so little?

As stated before, your Social Committee tries to plan well ahead for your entertainment and fun. However, this can't be done without your help. We need your suggestions as to what you prefer, such as dances, picnics, parties, etc. Have you any ideas? Don't keep them to yourselves; pass them up to the Committee.

At the moment, though, we want to make the coming event the most successful ever put on. Let's all get together and put it

Kamloops Unit Enjoys Picnic

JULY 13 — Sunny weather graced the first picnic of the Kamloops Unit of 180, held at the B.C. Forestry Survey Camp at Paul Lake. Pleased participants would particularly like to thank Mr. Pete Small and Larry Burnhom of the B.C. Forestry for their co-operation in making the site available for the picnic. Situated twelve miles from Kamloops, it was an ideal location for the event.

Members with cars conducted a shuttle service to transport the people going on and coming off shifts. There were races for the children, and food for everyone. Hot dogs, ice cream, soft drinks, salad plates, tea and coffee were feature items on the menu of the day.

At 8 p.m. a weary but satisfied committee policed the grounds for the assorted debris common to any successful picnic. Those responsible for arrangements were J. Schneider, M. Coutts, G. Gough, O. Canuel, L. Wimmers, J. Ottoand, and C. McInnes.

DRY IN ONTARIO, TOO!

Peterborough, Ont.

A sharp rise in sales of malt, hops, and yeast since the strike of Ontario's brewery workers closed beer outlets has been noted here.

"Bowling has certainly improved Mac's grip. You can't get him loose of a dollar nohow now."

★ ★ ★

Difference between a recession and a depression.

A recession is when you lose your job. A depression is when I lose mine.

over with a bang. Get your tickets early. Only you can make it the event of the year.

—Your Social Committee.

P.S. Arrangements for the Xmas party are almost completed. An effective Committee's work is never done. See you at the Banquet.

INFLATION WORRIES IN U.S.

WASHINGTON (AP) — Will creeping inflation get off its knees and start galloping?

Washington officials fear the possibility and already are dosing the U.S. economy with what they hope is preventive medicine.

Creeping inflation — the slow but steady increase in living costs — has been going on since the war. Official figures show that people in the United States now must spend \$1.24 to buy what cost 63 cents in 1941.

The worker who retired in 1941 on a \$1,500-a-year pension is fighting to stay out of the poor house. Bank accounts have been robbed of nearly half their value.

Economists and politicians say this is nothing compared to what

U.K. DRUGS PROBED

In the face of rising drug costs, the Hinchcliffe Committee was appointed by the British Government to investigate the whole situation, and bring down a report with appropriate recommendations. The report as handed down, agreed that economies were possible, and could be achieved by two groups — the doctors and the manufacturers.

Aimed at the doctors was the committee proposal that information on the comparative costs of standard and proprietary drugs should be more readily available, that more emphasis should be placed on instructing medical students in economical prescribing, and that regional medical officers give freer advice to established doctors on developments in drugs and in comparing one doctor's prescribing habits with another's.

The committee proposed to the manufacturers that they be compelled by legislation to show the price of their products in the advertising literature sent to doctors. The industry's association already recommends this to its members, but some firms fail to do so, with the result that doctors cannot know the cost of some of the new drugs. The committee's other main recommendation for the industry is that the British Pharmacopoeia Commission should give an "approved name" to a new drug before it is marketed. At present a year or two may elapse before it does so, by which time doctors have got so used to the proprietary name that when a similar but cheaper drug becomes available they may not prescribe it. If a doctor is familiar with the approved name from the beginning, he is more likely to use it on prescriptions.

It was further suggested that the approved name be given the same prominence on all literature and labels as the trade name.

AND IN U.S.

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. government charged six major drug companies Saturday with fixing prices of wonder drugs at arbitrary, artificial, noncompetitive and rigid levels.

The action, one of the most important anti-monopoly complaints ever drafted by the Federal Trade Commission, climaxed a two-year study of the antibiotics industry. Industry spokesmen promptly denied the commission's charges.

The outcome of the case could affect the medical bills of millions who, according to one estimate cited by the commission, spent \$750,000,000 on miracle drugs in 1957.

According to the commission, the six accused firms have an absolute monopoly in sales of tetra-

cyline drugs which include Aureomycin, Terramycin and Achromycin.

The agency said the tetracyclines are the largest selling antibiotics by dollar volume.

Developed within the last 10 years, they are called broad spectrum drugs because they attack a wide range of disease-breeding microbes.

Those accused of conspiracy to monopolize the wonder drug industry are:

Chas. Pfizer & Co., American Cyanamid Co., Bristol-Myers Co., and Olin Mathieson Chemical Corp., all of New York City; Bristol Laboratories Inc., Syracuse, N.Y.; and the Upjohn Co., Kalamazoo, Mich.

—From The Vancouver Province

might happen in the next few years.

To pay its bills, the U.S. government is resorting to massive borrowing. This will push the national debt to a record high.

Federal borrowing moves more money into circulation — in some cases \$6 for each \$1 borrowed.

All that money has a way of getting spent. And if the supply of goods becomes tight, people with money bid up prices.

Keep multiplying increases fast-

er than you make new goods and you get inflation that can be disastrous.

President Eisenhower speaks of a "horrible" deficit and says consumers may rebel against high prices.

Labor unions are urged to use restraint in seeking wage increases. Business men are asked to think twice before raising prices.

—From The Vancouver Province



One of the many groups of fishermen at Horseshoe Bay for the annual Local 180 Fishing Derby. Kneeling, L. to R.—Bob Wilson, "Bill" Black, Tom Semotiuk, Bob Cockrane. Standing, L. to R.—Bill, Webb, Bob Christie, Yvonne Muise, Betty Tawse, Bill Taylor, Carl Kania, Jim Spracklin, Phil Bruchel.

An Open Letter:

To:

The Rt. Hon. ERIC MARTIN

Dear Sir:

Much has been said on previous occasions—to the Government, to the Minister, at Boards of Conciliation and Arbitration—on the question of superannuation and other welfare benefits for hospital workers.

The Government has refused to recognize these benefits as legitimate costs. Where individual hospitals have included them in their budgets, in order to gain recognition for these legitimate costs in their per diem grants, it has been denied.

Is the welfare state only for the benefit of the few? Are hospital workers second-class citizens? Is the cost prohibitive?

All other public employees will receive these benefits. The public will pension off the school teachers, the fire fighters, the municipal workers, the civil servants. After eight years of service, the members of the Legislature will receive a fairly adequate pension. They also enjoy medical coverage and other perquisites and are certainly in a better position to look after their retirement years, and to look after their medical bills, than a hospital worker.

We are again approaching the bargaining table. Again, within the orbit of our requests, will be superannuation, unemployment insurance and medical coverage. We know, Mr. Martin, that the various hospital managements are more

than willing to include these perquisites in the Agreements. The stumbling block will be the policies of your Department. Once again management will say these are not allowable expenses. We are prepared to do it, but the British Columbia Hospital Insurance Service refuses to cover the cost" will be the cry.

Powell River is the example. They crossed the "t's" and dotted the "i's". All that was necessary to bring that group within the orbit of the Pension Act was the permission of the Provincial Secretary. This has been withheld for over a year.

Why didn't the Provincial Secretary exercise his right? Because it was not in line with Government policy?

You have stated that when there was federal participation in a hospital scheme, you would be more than willing—in fact, anxious—to see adjustments made. NOW IS YOUR OPPORTUNITY. The Federal Government is participating and in spite of any additional service imposed upon the province of B.C. by this partnership, the B.C.H.I.S., which is a paying proposition as it was, will net a further 17 million dollars in additional funds annually.

The editors of the daily papers are crying for an explanation, or an accounting, of the disbursement of the fund. They want an ease-

ment of the sales tax. We say that now, before there is any easement, is the time of reckoning for hospital workers.

We have been patient. We are prepared to join with Hospital Administrators in requesting that the discrimination practiced against hospital workers by the denial of these fringe benefits, cease.

We further state that before any monies received from the Federal Government are funnelled to the Consolidated Revenue Fund of the province of British Columbia—before any "federal" money is earmarked for general purposes and ends up building highways and roads—we want, for our people, over-all superannuation coverage and Unemployment Insurance coverage and the right to put medical plans in our various contracts. We say, frankly, that the general public is not opposed to the hospital workers receiving these fringe benefits.

You have had your easement. You now have your funds. The rest is up to you, Sir, and to the Executive Members of the Provincial Government, to ensure that people who make possible the operation of our British Columbia Hospital Insurance scheme receive their rightful protections. Any further vetoing of these rights will be considered a violation of the normal bargaining processes.

—The Hospital Worker.

Compulsory Arbitration

The "B.C. Coast Steamship Service Act" which was recently rushed through Parliament to end the strike on CPR's B.C. Coastal Steamships provides for the appointment by the Canadian Government of an Administrator to run the line, immediate return to work of the striking seamen, maintenance of the existing agreement until final settlement is reached. Union and Company are both required to resume negotiations toward a final settlement of the wage dispute, with an immediate 8% increase (the Company last offer before the strike) put into effect under the Act.

However, the legislation contains a serious "gimmick" which was not disclosed by the Prime Minister when he first announced the legislation. The Act provides that, if further negotiations are unsuccessful in bringing about agreement, the Government is empowered to establish procedures for effecting a settlement. These procedures include COMPULSORY ARBITRATION, the very method which the Prime Minister had so strongly attacked when it

NUPE CITED

As we go to press, our delegates will be leaving for the Fourth Annual Convention of the National Union of Public Employees, by whom we are chartered and through whom we are affiliated to the Canadian Labour Congress.

This is a coming organization, with a tremendous job ahead of it. A job that requires statesmanship, foresight and the ability to knit together all the various public employee groupings within the jurisdiction of the National Union of Public Employees in this country.

It will require tolerance and patience. The problems at times will appear insurmountable.

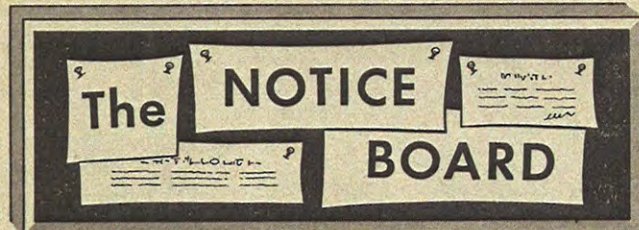
We are sure that the delegates assembled in convention will arise to the occasion. The delegates from Local 180 will play their part and will play it well.

We are concerned with the development of a strong organization. We are concerned with the unification of all hospital employee groups across this broad Dominion. To us this is vital and the advent of National Hospital Insurance makes it even more so. This must come about within the orbit of our National Union in order that we will be able to look after the interests of that section of our working force which renders invaluable and useful service to the general public.

We wish the convention every success in its deliberations.

was imposed by the former Liberal Government in 1950 to force an end to strike of railway non-operating employees.

—From "LABOUR FACTS"



Bowling! Bowling! Bowling!
Sept. 8, 58-59

The bowling season officially opens for V.G.H. personnel at 9:15 p.m. at Chapmans on Broadway. All V.G.H. employees and friends welcome. Anyone interested, please contact the Bowling Committee.

Wally Fedak—Maint.
Jimmy Spracklin—Maint.
Stan Kania—Maint.
Bill Taylor—Laundry

**V.G.H. UNIT
BANQUET & DANCE**
at
Georgia Hotel
Sat., Oct. 25th
Tickets—\$2.00 - 6:30 p.m.
(Contact Social Committee)

This is your paper. What news would you like in it? What unit activities do you wish publicized? Sports? Community affairs. Send information to the Vancouver Office for publication.

New Contracts

The following contracts have recently been signed in various centres across Canada:

Hospital

National Union of Public Employees and Edmonton Hospital Board, Edmonton, Alta. New agreement includes 4% increase; 40-hour week; sick leave of 1½ days a month cumulative to maximum of 120 days; after five years' service, employee is paid for 25% of his unused sick leave credits.

Municipal

National Union of Public Service Employees and City of Winnipeg. New agreement City of New Westminster, B.C. Two-year renewal calls for 17% increase. New rate for lineman—\$2.97.

N.U.P.E. and City of Brantford, Ontario. Contract renewal calls for 7% increase. New labor rate—\$1.62.

N.U.P.E. and Winnipeg School District, Winnipeg. Renewal includes 7% increase. New labor rate—\$1.43 (\$1.68 after 4 years).

Civic Employees' Union local

Pity The Poor Canadian Housewife

By MORDEN LAZARUS

A Canadian industrialist has pointed out the disparity between per family average wages in the United States and Canada, and has given the Canadian housewife credit for her ingenuity in making ends meet.

"The Canadian housewife," president T. G. McCormack of Dominion Stores Ltd., told an American Marketing Assn. conference at Harvard University, "in trying to maintain a standard of living for her family comparable to that of the wealthier U.S.A., has become the shrewdest purchasing agent in the world."

The grocery-chain head stated that the Canadian housewife has a thousand dollar a year less to spend than her counterpart in the United States . . . a per family average of \$4,284 compared with \$5,274.

Larger Family

The Canadian family is also somewhat larger—an average of 3.8 members compared with 3.6, so that the Canadian housewife has more mouths to feed and more clothes to buy. At the same time she pays more for many commodities such as home appliances due to tariffs and higher distribution costs in a smaller market.

"How the Canadian housewife stretches her small income, in the face of higher prices," adds Mr. McCormack, "and still manages to do a good job of keeping up with the U.S. Joneses, is a lesson in good management."

The Canadian housewife shops for value and is skeptical of gimmicks.

"I see nothing wrong in trying to keep up with the wealthier Joneses if that means striving to offset natural disadvantages by greater efficiency and harder work, and that is what Canadians have done in many fields," concluded the Dominion Stores president.

Cost of Living

While praising the Canadian homemaker for her ability to maintain a good standard of living on a relatively small income, it might be well to take a look at cost-of-living of five based on today's prices.

The following table is based on the Toronto Welfare Council's "Guide to Family Spending" published in 1949, revised in 1952—and with the figures updated to April 1958:

SUBSISTENCE FAMILY BUDGET—TORONTO FOR A MINIMUM LEVEL OF HEALTH AND SELF-RESPECT

	Prices April 1952 Per month	Prices April 1958 Per month
Food	\$ 96.03	\$101.12
Clothing	39.86	38.90
Clothing upkeep	4.06	4.53
Personal care	4.79	5.35
Transportation	5.82	6.50
Rent	52.00	59.90
Household operation	19.14	19.89
Health services:		
Recreation, education, etc.	21.46	23.95
Blue Cross standard ward	2.75	5.30
P.S.I. Blue Plan	6.25	7.50
Life insurance	2.50	2.50
Health supplies	.31	.35
House furnishings	10.00	10.39
Total monthly requirement	264.79	286.18
Weekly requirement	61.16	66.09

339 and City of Nelson, B.C. One-year renewal calls for 5% increase, raising labor rate to \$1.58½.

Civic Employees' Union local 5 and City of Prince Rupert, B.C. One-year renewal effective Jan. 1, includes 7½% increase retroactive to Jan. 1. New labor rate—\$1.89.

Civic Workers' Union and City of Port Alberni, B.C. New agreement effective Feb. 16 includes 8% increase; 3 weeks' vacation after 5 years. New labor rate—\$1.73.

Civic Employees' Union local 65 and Town of Fort Frances, Ontario. Nine-day strike settled

This is a minimum budget with no allowances for luxuries or savings. The absolute minimum for subsistence living is calculated at \$66.09 a week. Average weekly earnings in manufacturing in Canada were \$67.02 at April 1st (40.0 hours at \$1.659 an hour); in construction \$72.24 (40.4 hours at \$1.788); in services \$40.23 (40.4 hours at .996).

The best the average housewife can do is provide a minimum standard, unless several members of the family are working and/or the family has other sources of income.

Rent

The average figures for rent \$59.90 a month, is ridiculously low. No good accommodation is available in industrial centres at anything near this price. A more accurate figure for adequate accommodation would be \$85 a month. Since most families can't afford this amount, they probably have to live in overcrowded circumstances.

The food allowance for a family of five is also inadequate, as are transportation, health supplies and house furnishings. If these below-par figures are increased to the point where they provide not just a "minimum" standard, but an adequate standard of living, the average income for a family of five would have to be at least \$80 a week.

Not even in Ontario and B.C. where the average industrial wage is highest does the average wage reach this level. In the other provinces the average is far below. We are bound to agree with the Dominion Store head that the Canadian housewife must run her household with exemplary efficiency and economy.

—Cooperative Press Association

Buy Wisely Buy Union Label

down with renewal calling for 9% increase; reduction of hours from 44 to 40; overtime pay for Saturday work. New labor rate—\$1.53. Int. Bro. Electrical Workers local 213 and calls for 7% increase; 3 weeks' vacation after 10 years; night premium raised from 5c to 7c. New labor rate—\$1.37 to \$1.46½.

Olive Canuel - George Poncelet Of interest to Kamloops Unit was the recent marriage of a Local 180 member, Sister Olive Canuel to George Poncelet.