

CIO
CCL



B.C. DISTRICT UNION

NEWS

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B.C. Federation of Labor Presents Introductory Brief To Provincial Govt.

A new power in B.C. labor manifested itself with the close of 1944 when on December 20 a delegation of four from the B.C. Federation of Labor (CCL) met with the cabinet ministers of the provincial government to press labor's claims for greater recognition and consideration in the formulation of provincial policies.

The four delegates, D. O'Brien, the Federation president, vice-presidents Harvey Murphy and Alex McKenzie, supported by Nigel Morgan in the absence of secretary-treasurer Harold Pritchett, represented 64 local unions, and five district councils, with a total membership of over 60,000, a sizeable proportion of the voting public of B.C.

The brief presented by the delegation asked for modifications in existing legislation, new regulations and stiffening of existing ones in relation to the labor, compensation, and other acts, and presented concrete and general proposals for postwar reconstruction.

Morgan, Bengough To Go To London

The west coast will be well represented at the World Labor Conference opening in London on February 8.

Representing the AFL unions will be Percy Bengough, President of the Trades and Labour Congress of Canada, while from the CCL unions, Nigel Morgan, International Board member of the IWA is an alternate delegate.

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Three suggested provisions to be added to the order were presented by the brief, in order to eliminate company unions. One would prevent a company granting any pay or time allowance to any employee whether a representative of a union or a "company organization," before the body represented is certified. This, in the opinion of the delegation, would prevent unscrupulous employers interpreting Section 19, sub-section 1 of P.C. 1003 to give aid and comfort to company union organizers. The other urged strict penalties on employers for unfair labor practices, and the definition of such in a manner calculated to leave little leeway for illicit operations of the union-hating boss.

It is a credit to Canadian labor that both trade union congresses are officially participating in this world trade union conference, even though the parent body of the AFL refuses to send a delegate.

Nigel Morgan has been selected by the CCL Executive. We are sure to get a full report from Brother Morgan on his return and our union along with other unions will help to defray the expenses. Meetings will be arranged by the locals after his return to get reports on the conference proceedings.



NIGEL MORGAN

The third suggestion would grant a union, along with certification, the union shop or maintenance of membership as requested.

The delegation asked for amendment of the "Masters and Servants Act" to make compulsory the checkoff of union dues, after certification, when requested by the membership, pointing out that payroll checkoffs for almost every other cause but trade-unionism has become the general rule, and that only reaction-

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Yukon Carnival A Huge Project

WHITEHORSE, Y.T. — The races and the hockey games are Yukon Carnival Week to be ranked high among the sports held at Whitehorse during the week of March 4 to 11 inclusive, likely to create the most interest. Curling will also undoubtedly be very popular, and the Indian pageant to be staged during that week is also creating a great skating, ski and snow shoe

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District Drawing Will Celebrate 1st Anniversary

No member of the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers can possibly lose in the huge district-wide draw and celebration of the anniversary of the founding of our District Union, tentatively set for February 26.

Of course, there will be half-a-dozen lucky major winners, last meeting of the District Board, is to have a celebration in every member who buys a ticket; every local, taking the form of the fun of a real bang-up provided by local members, as near-ince-wide celebration in a variety of forms, and the satisfaction of having personally contributed something towards a stronger and more firmly established union.

Labor Wins In Toronto Elections

Stewart Smith, endorsed by the Trades and Labor Council AFL and the CIO unions in Toronto has been elected to the Board of Control, achieving a vote of 41,692.

When one considers that there was a light vote cast, this is a remarkable achievement.

Also elected to the Toronto City Council were Aldermen Charles Sims, and Norman Freed, by acclamation, while two labor candidates, Margaret Gray and Edna Blois, were elected to the School Board.

Toronto, long noted for being the centre of the Tories, by achieving labor unity in these elections, made these gains possible. The results in Toronto coming so soon after our own civic elections in Vancouver prove conclusively that what is needed, if labor is to get adequate representation in the governments of Canada, is labor unity.

Dances, banquets, parties with refreshments are some of the suggested methods in which the founding of the District Union may be commemorated, and the draw for prizes totalling \$600 is intended to stimulate interest pending the announcement of results at the event in each locality.

The six prizes are a bedroom suite, value \$250; a chesterfield suite; a wristwatch; suit of clothes; books; and a mantel chime clock.

After a proportion of the income from the sale of books of tickets goes to the local and the cost of the prizes, the balance will be applied to formation of a District Union Fund, something urgently needed throughout the past year.

Tickets shouldn't be hard to sell, at one buck a throw, when there's a chance of such acceptable prizes, and all locals are asked by the District Board to do their best to empty one book after another.

First sale of a complete book was reported by Britannia last week, but the final success will be judged by the number of books sold, not by the speed of sales, so there's a chance for almost any local to give a good run to the high pressure guys on Howe Sound.

The District Union hopes to make the celebration an annual affair if this first attempt proves successful.