



UNION NEWS

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CM&S-Inco Negotiations Subject of Meeting in Trail of Union Locals

Arrangements have been made for a meeting in Trail, immediately following the International convention, of representatives from Sudbury and Port Colborne locals and the representatives of Trail and Kimberley locals to finalize the bargaining program.

The agreements with both International Nickel and the CM&S come due for negotiation April 1. That is two months prior to the expiration of the agreements. About 24,000 workers are represented in these negotiations. There is no doubt that these negotiations will set the pattern this year as they have for the last 12 years.

There will be large delegations from eastern Canada who will have participated in the historic 30th convention of the International Union in Spokane as well as the delegates and members of the bargaining committees of Trail and Kimberley. The outstanding fact about this gathering is that represented therein is the most effective trade union organizations that have ever dealt with these two giant corporations, and that this unity has grown in its effectiveness and has established wages and conditions that are the tops in the industry.

Meetings have been held by the various local unions and discussions taken place on the proposals to be made in this year's bargaining. This has involved hundreds of rank and file members, union executives, shop stewards, and committee men. The representatives will also have the benefit of the discussions in the International convention when they will meet with the various bargaining committees that are also preparing for negotiations with the big American companies.

For the past few years strong emphasis has been given in the negotiations to matters such as pensions, insurance, holiday pay, and vacation pay, as well as the strengthening of the mechanics of the agreements arising from our experiences.

There is an outstanding record established by the union in their negotiations with these companies inasmuch that as a result of orderly and effective collective bargaining, apart from the strike involving a sec-

tion of the Kimberley local at Bluebell last summer, settlements have been reached in negotiations either through conciliation or through conciliation boards.

It is the experience and a proven fact that the most effective and fruitful way of bargaining with these corporations is by the cooperation of the membership as a whole, and by bargaining committees elected from among the local officers and the rank and file.

The workers in the Inco and Consolidated have not allowed themselves to be split up on a craft or local basis. Miners, smelters, millmen, chemical workers, trades and servicing department workers all are joined together in negotiations as members of the one union working for one company.

Attempts have been made to divide the workers on the basis of craft and locality, and the results have been disastrous for the workers who allowed themselves to be broken away.

In Calgary a group of electricians broke away from joint bargaining two years ago, and in their following negotiations were represented by the IBEW. Then when a conciliation board majority ruled for \$1.95 per hour, and this group had voted to take strike action to obtain that, the CM&S took them on, and despite the strike vote, they had to back away. But that \$1.95 was established last year by Mine-Mill through the processes of joint bargaining, and it didn't take a strike vote. It is now in effect for the IBEW members in Calgary.

Employees working in the CM&S chemical plant at Calgary listened to the AFL Chemical Workers who promised them higher rates if they would break away. They went into negotiations last year. The AFL Chemical Workers' Union waited until Mine-Mill negotiations were concluded, and then finally accepted by and large

the same conditions once established, only they made the agreement for 16 months. Oh, yes, the operators got a few cents more per hour but they took it from the helpers and labor classifications which the company did not mind at all.

These are two experiences that bear out and prove the main contention that only by complete unity of the employees and joint bargaining can effective gains be made. The "hold the line" policy last year adopted by all large corporations in Canada was first of all breached in the negotiations at International Nickel and the Consolidated. This year negotiations are taking place at a time when there has been vast improvements in the metal mining market.

The gains can be made in wages, insurance, and in pension arrangements providing the unions are effectively united, and the whole of the membership fully participating and backing up the bargaining committees that are elected to meet the company negotiators.

BROTHER LUCA AWARDED MEDAL

PIONEER: Brother John Luca, of Pioneer Local 693, has been recommended a medal for outstanding bravery by the Canadian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy, which will be awarded at the annual convention of the institute at Toronto in April.

Brother Luca is still in hospital, having been there since last November, when he suffered a broken left arm and serious spinal injuries while attempting to save his partner after a cave-in at Pioneer Mine.

His partner was caught in the cave-in and carried into the chute. After signalling for help, John went back from the station and attempted to extricate the other, but was caught in a second fall. His partner was killed.

Referendum

Denver, Colorado
February 11, 1955

We, the undersigned Members elected at the Forty-Ninth Convention, and Observers appointed by the Executive Board, comprising the Canvassing Committee of the International Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers, have canvassed the votes of the recent referendum and report the following results:

Amendment No. 1 Yes 15,181 No 11,358
Amendment No. 2 Yes 14,885 No 11,347

Based on this canvass we certify that both Amendments to the International Constitution were approved by the membership.

T. C. Taylor, Chairman, District 6
G. R. Cowper, Secretary, District 8
W. D. Dougherty, Observer, District 1
Claude Allen, District 2
Micheal Cilla, Observer, District 3
Leon D. Rehkop, Observer, District 4
Artie O. Collins, District 5
G. A. Bennett, District 7.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 11th day of February, 1955.

Myrtle L. Tully,
Notary Public

My Commission expires November 9, 1955.

Yale Unit Rejects Award; Will Call For Strike Vote

AINSWORTH—"The majority report of a conciliation board (R. S. T. Fraser for the company and R. Crowe, chairman) recently handed down in the Yale Unit, Local 901 vs. Yale Lead and Zinc Mines negotiations, was an outrageous insult!"

So declared the members at Ainsworth, and their feelings are shared by all who know of the terms of the award.

Trail, Kimberley, Bluebell and other locals, upon being advised of the award immediately pledged their support of the brothers at Ainsworth.

The award was an increase of 1/2c per hour for the miner's classification and those above, and a cut of from 2c to 4c per hour for all others. This, in face of the company's reported \$192,000 operating profit for 1954.

The membership unanimously turned down the award and have instructed the officers of the local to apply for a strike vote.

A strike assessment has also gone into effect to continue un-

til settlement is reached or strike takes place.

These brothers have a truly honest fight, deserving of solid support, for the miners' rate is an astounding \$10.60 at a profit making base metal mine.

TO BREAK THE PADLOCK

The International Union executive board at the last board meeting voted a contribution of \$200 to the Civil Liberties Union in Montreal, to assist in the fight to have the Padlock Law declared unlawful.