



# Canadian

## WATERFRONT NEWS

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### WELFARE:

The Industry Welfare Plan has been established and is running smoothly. All pensioners are now covered with M.S.A. and the \$600 death benefit. The funds are being fitted together and we will have the consultants making their recommendations in the next few weeks regarding retro-activity and increased benefits.

### PENSIONS:

The pensioners who retired since August 1st, are still waiting for their extra \$100 a month under the \$7200 deal. They will get this back to August 1st or date of retirement if they retired later, as soon as the mechanics can be worked out, which shouldn't be to long now.

### GOVERNMENT KNUCKLES UNDER TC INSURANCE LOBBY

After all of Judy La Marsh's brave words about the selfish interests trying to undermine her pension plan, she has undermined it herself--or maybe allowed her boss to do it.

The Canada Pension Plan as originally outlined in Parliament last year was one of the most promising pieces of legislation in a long while. Not quite as good as the Liberals had promised on the hustings, but still closer than usual to fulfilment of a campaign promise. They were going to raise the Old Age Security Pension by \$10.00 without an increase in taxes, and on top of that they were going to add a contributory pension of \$100 a month, for workers with \$4000 average income, for a contribution of two percent of earnings, shared by employer and employee.

One could find a number of faults in that plan, but all in all, it was pretty good. Too good to be true.

Immediately, it came under fire from the big interests. The insurance companies could see the handwriting on the wall for their profitable private plans if this went through, so they put on a high power campaign against it, arguing that it would cost too much, and that it would dry up the sources of private capital, etc. At the same time, two or three of the provincial governments, who had ambitious plans for pension programs of their own, cried to high heaven about invasion of their jurisdiction.

Judy had some brave words to say about her opponents, but in the end she gave in. First, the ten dollar hoist in the flat rate pensions was tied to a one percent increase in taxes. Next the benefits under the contributory plan were watered down.

In the original proposal, the \$4000 wage earner was to get \$110 a month at age 70 (\$100 contributory plus \$10 boost in Old Age Security Pension)

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for a total contribution of \$40 a year. Under the new formula he will get \$76.67 (\$66.67 contributory plus the \$10 hoist) for \$70 a year (one percent of his earnings plus a \$30 hoist in the Old Age Security Tax). In terms of the amount of pension he will get for each dollar of contributions, that comes out to a sixty percent cut in the benefits promised. The Liberals, in short, have paid off at 40 cents on the dollar.

#### COLUMBIA RIVER "DOUBLE-TALK"

According to the Draft Treaty, B. C. will furnish the storage facilities -- dams, storage basins, etc., -- and the water must be released as the Americans need it, not to suit B.C.'s or Canada's needs.

This, in actual fact, gives complete control of the Columbia River in B.C. to the United States in perpetuity; not for the 60 years of the Treaty, because once you have communities and people dependent on water and the power established by this Treaty, it would be an act of war to withdraw it.

Facts: It takes 12 gallons for you to have a shower. Industry uses 50,000 gallons for every auto produced. 50,000 gallons for every ton of steel. Up to 700,000 gallons for every ton of synthetic rubber. And in case you need a drink after this, it takes 65 gallons to make a quart of whiskey.

California plans to spend \$4,000,000,000 (4 billion dollars) to bring four million acre feet from Northern California to Los Angeles and Southern California. This is more than three times the total cost of both the Peace and Columbia River developments. In order to do this, they will have to fight the people of Northern California through the courts, to obtain that right.

The Big Giveaway: The Columbia River has the third highest flow in the world, and will supply many times the four million acre feet that the people of California are spending 4 billion dollars for. This life-sustaining resource is being given away for the sum of \$275 million. This and the flood control payments, by some magic formula of loaning the money to ourselves and paying ourselves the interest, is the "big deal" for future Canadians. If this action is not stopped before it is ratified by Parliament, it truly will be a black day for future Canadians the day it goes through.

#### SIXTH CANADIAN AREA CONVENTION:

Notice of the Convention has gone out to all the Locals, with all the instructions with regard to delegate and resolution time limits.

There will be some changes required in the Area Constitution to cover the proposed changes in the Canadian Area and Coast Committee.

We are looking forward to a constructive Convention. Hope the Locals will send their full quota of delegates.

#### THE STRUGGLE GOES ON:

There are a number of strikes going on in our area. So far we have not received any requests for financial assistance, but the membership of I.L.W.U. stands ready, as always, to lend a hand to our fellow workers in any economic dispute with the employers.