

LONGSHOREMEN



I.L.W.U. ■ CANADIAN AREA

WATERFRONT NEWS

APRIL, 1984

**SPECIAL ISSUE ON 25th ANNIVERSARY CONVENTION
VANCOUVER, MARCH 12 - 16, 1984**



CONVENTION MAPS POLICIES TO MEET GROWING GOVERNMENT AND EMPLOYER ATTACKS

In his opening remarks to the convention, president Don Garcia noted that in the past 25 years we have come a long ways. When the Canadian Area was formed the founding convention represented 2100 members. Today we have 3500. Tracing the history of negotiations and strikes he pointed out that in the past 25 years our members were off the job for a total of 147 days due to strikes and lockouts, which works out to approximately 6 days a year.

Each of the delegates was presented with a booklet titled "Our 25th Anniversary Edition" describing the results of our struggles and the gains we have made.

Our 25th anniversary convention was different from previous conventions in at least one respect. It convened in the midst of an all-out attack by employers and governments against all the gains won by labour in the last 30-40 years. Not only that, the arms race has escalated so much in the past year that today we stand on the brink of nuclear extermination.

That faced us with some new problems. How do we meet this onslaught

against the trade union movement and our living standards? What can we do to prevent nuclear extinction?

As is customary, the convention looked to the Officer's Report to provide both analysis and direction. That report, the main document before the convention, covered a wide range of subjects including peace, the rise of the New Right, political action, the Sacred Government's restraint program, the Solidarity movement and economic and social alternatives to put B.C. back to work.

And as is also customary that report was subjected to searching examination and critical review by the delegates in attendance. The debate, often heated, which lasted for five days amended the report in line with the wishes of the convention before adopting it.

The policies adopted will now guide the officers and the membership for the two critical years ahead.

This issue of Waterfront News carries summarized reports of the main policy questions dealt with by the convention. It will serve to supplement reports to locals by their delegates and provide every member with the highlights.

**END THE
ARMS
RACE**

**BEFORE THE
ECONOMY
BOMBS OUT!**

**WALK FOR
PEACE**

**APRIL 28
VANCOUVER
VICTORIA**

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INTERNATIONAL LONGSHOREMEN'S AND WAREHOUSEMEN'S UNION
CANADIAN AREA

AN INJURY TO ONE IS AN INJURY TO ALL

FRANK KENNEDY — EDITOR
111 VICTORIA DRIVE
VANCOUVER, B.C.

PRESIDENT
1ST VICE PRESIDENT
2ND VICE PRESIDENT
3RD VICE PRESIDENT
SECRETARY-TREASURER

D.P. GARCIA
D.C. LOMAS
W. GALLIC
D. HARRIS
F. KENNEDY



JOIN THE PEACE MOVEMENT

Since our last convention we have seen a tremendous upsurge in the peace movement throughout the world, both east and west, as people set aside their differences on political, social, economic and philosophical questions and unite in the demand for an end to the nuclear arms spiral. Practically every segment of society, every political, labor, church and community group became involved in these peace efforts. Literally millions of people took to the streets in all the major cities of Europe, both east and west, as well as the U.S. and Canada. Most of the protests in the

past year were against the stationing of Cruise and Pershing 2 missiles in Europe which was recognized as a serious escalation of the arms race, and in the case of Canada against the testing of Cruise missiles by the U.S. on Canadian soil. Our union has always supported and endorsed any movement towards peace. We urge all our locals and members to participate in any activities being organized for the annual peace events in April and also to support the tran Canada peace petition caravan being organized by the Canadian Labour Congress.



Left to right: H. Eider, F. Kennedy, J. Herman, A. Saunders, K. Gregory, J. Irvine, W. Gallie, R. Fleming, R. Smith, D. Lomas, D. Garcia, D. Harris, A. Kotowich, L. Copan, C. Pritchett, A. Baker, D. Beatty, R. Peebles, E. Bjarnason.

During the course of the convention a Gala Banquet and Dance was held at the Sheraton Landmark Ballroom to pay tribute to the presidents and officers who served the union over the past 25

years. Following a super smorgasbord-style dinner, plaques were presented to all past Canadian Area presidents, from Craig Pritchett, its first president in 1959, to Don Garcia, the current presi-

dent and to all former officers who attended. A plaque was also presented to Dr. Emil Bjarnason, the Canadian Area's Research Director. International president Jim Herman also addressed the gathering.

PEACE — THE GREAT IMPERATIVE

In the last two years the arms race has intensified and international relations between the two great powers have deteriorated.

The stationing of U.S. Cruise and Pershing 2 missiles in Western Europe with the agreement of NATO but over the opposition of millions of people who took to the streets to register their opposition, has brought about a qualitative escalation of the arms race.

How can this race to a nuclear war where there will be few survivors and where the living will envy the dead, how can this be reversed?

There is only one way and that is by verifiable reduction of nuclear weapons, leading to their total abolition, and a verifiable reduction of conventional weapons, leading eventually also to their abolition.

Is there any basis for such negotiations?

Last year the Soviet Union made a declaration to the United Nations, a unilateral declaration, that it would never be the first to start a nuclear war. It invited the U.S. and the other three nuclear powers to do likewise. All four declined to do so. We believe that the U.S., Great Britain, France and China should make a similar declaration.

The Soviet Union has proposed an agreement between NATO and the Warsaw Pact countries for a freeze on both nuclear and conventional type weapons. This has been rejected by the USA and NATO. The question that begs for an answer is why? An effort must start someplace and this approach would test the sincerity of the parties involved. A positive first step.

We repeat: the only way to stop this insane arms race is by negotiations. There are no lack of proposals. All that is lacking at present is the will.

MILITARY SPENDING AND JOBS

Military expenditures are inflationary because of the nature of the contracts that they bring into being — namely cost-plus and open-ended contracts which inevitably lead to profiteering and corruption.

Military spending is capital intensive and technology intensive — not labour intensive. It attracts and employs highly qualified people, scientists and skilled technicians. The young and unskilled are not needed. It is estimated, for example, that the U.S. MX missile, which will cost between \$30 and \$70 Billion will create only 38,000 jobs for a period of eight years.

It is no accident that Japan, where military spending is very low, leads the Western world in manufacturing productivity and many fields of technology

that enable it to compete effectively the world market.

Military expenditures leads to capital both public and private, being invested in non-productive areas and therefore slows down productive growth.

The United Electrical Workers Union at its convention in Toronto last April pointed out that every billion dollars military spending creates only 76,000 new jobs, while the same \$1 Billion spent in the civilian sector would produce the following:

- If spent on machinery would create 88,000 jobs;
- Spent on health services would create 139,000 jobs;
- Spent on education would create 187,000 jobs.



NOMINATIONS FOR CANADIAN AREA OFFICER

PRESIDENT



DON GARCIA



DAVE LOMAS



J. CORDECEDO



G. WHITE



WILLARD GALLIC

1ST VICE PRESIDENT

2ND VICE PRESIDENT

3RD VICE PRESIDENT



STEVE BUSHELL

SEC. TRES.

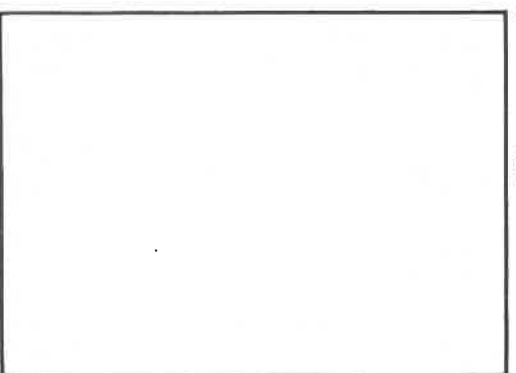


FRANK KENNEDY

TRUSTEES — 4 YR. TERM



T. BUTTERMAN



FRANK KENNEDY

INFO ON ELECTIONS

BALLOTS AT THE LOCALS ARE TO BE CONCLUDED BY APRIL 6, 1984. RESULTS RELEASED BY AREA OFFICER APRIL 13, 1984.

SOLIDARITY — THE WAY TO GO

MAY 5 PROVINCIAL ELECTIONS

Two of the main lessons of the Solidarity movement are:

(1) Unity of the whole labour movement and of labour with the community is essential to the mobilization of labour and the public.

(2) Opposition in the legislature must be complemented with extra parliamentary opposition — opposition in the streets and job action if necessary to defeat regressive legislation and actions by this government.

Up until now the Solidarity movement has been what might be called a reactive movement, one that reacted when the government attacked social services and labour and human rights. That protest must continue. It must fight for the right of all public sector unions to be exempt from Bill 3, without exception. It must fight for the repeal of repressive and reactionary legislation already passed. And it must be on guard and ready to fight any further repressive or reactionary legislation, especially such measures as amendments to the labour

code and right-to-work legislation.

We also believe that the time has arrived for Solidarity to become not only a movement against something but a movement for something. This requires Solidarity working out its own program of measures that could and should be implemented by a government of this province to ensure human and labour rights, get B.C. out of the depression and provide jobs for all, and adequate social services for the whole population. We believe that every group associated with Solidarity should become involved in this process, contributing its own ideas.

RESOLUTION ADOPTED

Whereas this report deals with Solidarity against the provincial government's cutbacks and our association with Solidarity!

Therefore be it resolved that we suggest and assist financially the establishment of a newspaper called "Solidarity" and the distribution of same!

The NDP campaign suffered from two major weaknesses.

The first was that Social Credit restraint and cut-back policies adopted for at least a year before the election had met with little opposition either by the NDP or labour.

The defeat of Social Credit can be hoped for and worked for but it cannot be guaranteed. Such ruthless and conscienceless governments not only make use of government funds for their own election campaigns — they can also redistribute seats prior to an election to ensure their own re-election. Labour has an independent role to play no matter what government is in office and that role is to defend labour's interests and people's interests against all attacks, no matter from what source. Political action by labour must not be limited to election times — it must be year round.

The second major weakness in the NDP campaign was that it did not convince the public that it was a clear cut alternative to Social Credit. In fact NDP leader Dave Barrett even said publicly that the NDP might even be tougher than Ed Peck, the government's administrator of the wage control program.

It is to be hoped that when the NDP meets in provincial convention in May to select a new leader, it will also take a critical look at its program. The support of the trade union movement cannot be taken for granted — it must be earned and this includes the NDP having a program that corresponds to that being put forward by labour. The trade union movement is the base of the NDP, not just some special interest group to be called on for support at election time.

UPCOMING FEDERAL ELECTIONS

Obviously the Liberals have no solution for the current depression, except to ensure continued high profits for the corporate elite at the expense of working people. Furthermore, they cannot be trusted to keep any progressive promises they now make, or implement or enforce any progressive legislation they now support.

The Conservatives also have no solution for the current depression and are tied closely to the big foreign owned multi-nationals. Their main electoral tactic today is to say nothing concrete about their policies, to just make motherhood statements and continue to criticize the Liberals. They are concealing their real intentions, as did Bennett and the Socreds in the May 5 provincial elections. If the Tories should be vic-

WANTED — AN INDEPENDENT FOREIGN POLICY

We believe Canada should have an independent foreign policy based on what is good for Canada. We believe Canada should be a non-aligned country supporting all steps to peace, no matter from what source, and opposing all actions which increase the war danger. Canada would be able to speak much more effectively for peace if we were out of NATO and NORAD, both of which could involve Canada in nuclear war without our consent.

Canada should press for verifiable arms reduction leading to the elimination and destruction of all nuclear, chemical, bacteriological and other weapons.

We should not be meeting NATO's demand by increasing our war expenditures, by stationing troops in Europe or by allowing foreign countries to train their troops or test their new weapons here. Canada should be a nuclear-weapon free zone.

torious, we can expect the same thing federally that we got from Social Credit in the past nine months. Canadian politics would be moved far to the right. This leaves us with no alternative except to support the NDP, but that support should be critical support. It is clear that the task for the NDP is to identify policies and programs that will offer a clear and distinct alternative to the old line parties. In B.C. the Liberals are a spent force. The main fight will be between the NDP and the Conservatives. In the present political situation in Canada it cannot be taken for granted that the NDP will be able to retain its seats in the province. Labour cannot be indifferent to the outcome. The Tories must be defeated in B.C.

Even if the tens of thousands of warheads in the world's nuclear arsenal are never used, British Columbians will be the victims of the arms race. We are paying the economic cost today, every day.

Of course, in the event of nuclear war, British Columbia would sustain a devastating nuclear strike. An independent study by Swedish analysts identified at least a dozen economic and military targets in our province, including Esquimalt, Nanoose, Comox, Prince Rupert, Kamloops and Vancouver.

Dr. Tom Perry, of the University of British Columbia, estimates that a one-megaton bomb burst in the air over Vancouver's city hall on a weekday would kill 400,000 people outright. A further 300,000 would die within the month and 20,000 would be horribly burned. There are only 2,000 burn beds in all of Canada and the continental United States.

But we already are paying the price of the nuclear arms race with lost jobs and a declining economy. The fight for peace also is a fight for jobs and a strong economic future.

"I'm walking for peace because I believe in stopping the arms race. Money spent on arms doesn't create jobs. We face restraints and rollbacks and don't see any jobs."
 Caroline Lee, CLIPW

world armaments expenditures in 1982. Today, it is buying arms at the rate of \$1 million a minute. Military research budgets outstrip research spending on health, energy and outer space combined.

Diversion of the United States' vast resources into arms manufacturing is reducing the amount of raw materials available for consumer goods. This is fuelling inflation. The record investment in the military is tightening the money supply, forcing up interest rates. And the lack of investment in productive sectors like housing, energy, transportation and the service sector is cheating the economy of literally hundreds of thousands of jobs, reducing purchasing power.

Recent studies have proved that countries with low levels of military spending are experiencing strong economic growth. Japan is

the prime example. The United States, the United Kingdom and our own economy, a virtual captive of the American system, reflect the slumping productivity that accompanies heavy arms expenditure.

Capital spent on arms is taken out of the economy. Capital spent on new machinery, peaceful research, education or health is returned to the economy to reproduce more wealth.

That's a simple fact of life our governments ignore. Rather than trim arms expenditures, they cut social services and wages, clamping down on our economy's ability to grow.

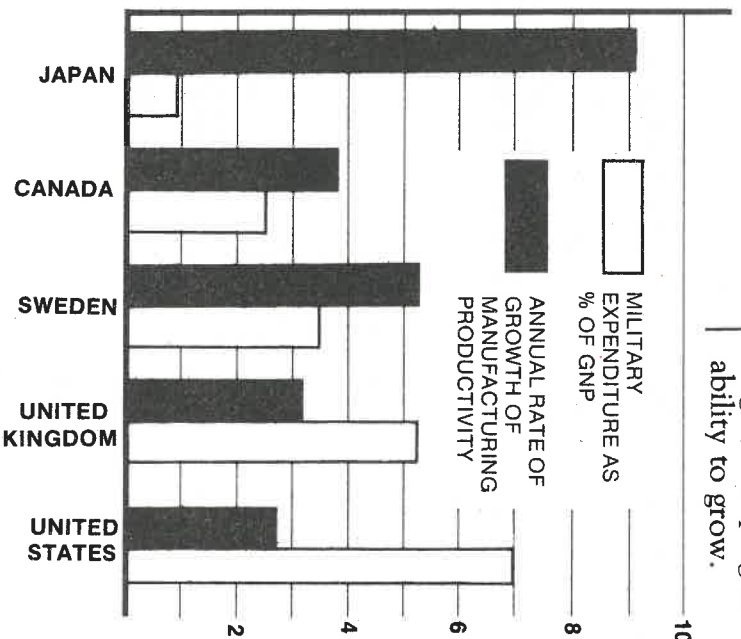
Canada is mired in the arms race up to its eyebrows. The latest national budget forecasts almost \$100 billion in expenditures, including a staggering \$9 billion for defence.

When transfer payments to the provinces and payments on the national debt are excluded, Canada's military spending will soak up more than 30 percent of the national expenditures for 1984 to 1985.

Billions of this amount are for the purchase of F-18 fighter planes, elaborate gadgets that will be utterly useless in the event of nuclear war. No wonder our government is running a deficit.

The fact is, Canada's defence budget is growing annually faster than the rate of inflation.

In the U.S., too, the rising deficit is directly attributable to unprecedented arms spending. The U.S. accounted for half of the \$600 billion in



- There is a direct relationship between growth in the economy and military spending.

Source: World Military and Social Expenditures, 1982

"The money is there to build houses, ships, hospitals, schools or whatever, but it's going into the arms budget instead. Until we invest in people, not arms, we won't beat unemployment."
 Colin Snell, Carpenters



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UNWILLING TO CUT ARMS EXPENDITURES, western governments have been squeezing working people.

Wage controls, "restraint programs" and continued high unemployment are the solutions that government and big business have advanced to reduce inflation. Rather than tackle the problem at its source, they transfer wealth from services and growth to military spending.

There is no money for education and health care, but

billions are

available for fighter planes. For the cost of an F-14 fighter, nine schools could be built.

There is no money for housing, but hundreds of millions for new Leopard tanks.

The cost of a Leopard tank is the same as the cost of building 36 three-room

apartments. One billion dollars spent on housing

could generate more than 100,000 jobs. The same expenditure on the military produces only 75,700 jobs.

There is no money for a Canadian merchant marine, but billions for new navy frigates. There is no money for reforestation or salmon enhancement, but hundreds of millions for new military reconnaissance aircraft.

Far from preventing war, the new weapons our government is buying and testing make a nuclear

holocaust more likely. The Cruise missile, now being tested in Canada, takes us a dangerous step closer to nuclear war. Flying below radar and striking with great accuracy, it is a weapon of surprise and first strike, not one of deterrence and retaliation.

Our economy is being starved to death by the arms race. Until we deal with the question of arms spending, our economy can never recover. We will not be able to offer our children a job, decent health care or proper education if we do not reduce arms spending, achieve nuclear disarmament and secure peace.

MILITARY SPENDING COSTS JOBS!

\$1 billion spent on

EDUCATION creates 187,299 jobs 

HEALTH CARE creates 138,939 jobs 

CONSTRUCTION creates 100,072 jobs 

MASS TRANSIT creates 92,071 jobs 

THE MILITARY creates 75,710 jobs 

- Every billion dollars spent on conventional or nuclear arms is a direct loss of jobs from our economy. One billion dollars spent on the military creates about 75,700 jobs. In construction, it could put more than 100,000 people to work. Far from stimulating employment, military spending actually reduces it.

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WHAT CAN I DO?

You can make a difference. The worldwide marches for peace have made disarmament the critical issue of the day.

The B.C. Federation of Labour and the Canadian Labour Congress have both dedicated the trade union movement to the fight for peace. We can make a difference by demonstrating our concern and our support for immediate negotiations aimed at a balanced, mutual and verifiable program of disarmament. We can fight to stop Cruise testing and to make Canada a nuclear-weapons free zone. We can support the Peace Petition Caravan being organized this summer to call on Parliament to end cruise testing, to declare Canada a nuclear-weapons free zone, and to divert arms spending to human needs.

But first of all we can join the Arms Race Walk for Peace in Vancouver April 28. Our lives and our livelihoods are at stake.

WALK FOR PEACE APRIL 28



• This special feature produced by the Trade Union Peace Committee in association with your local union. Design: J. Bradburne. Editing: G. Meggs.

HERMAN SPEAKING AT BANQUET



International ILWU president Jim Herman addressing convention banquet.

Excerpts from address of J. Herman, international president, ILWU, to Canadian Area ILWU convention, Vancouver, B.C., March 15, 1984.

The Officer's Report discusses the most crucial question before this convention — whether or not we're going to have world peace. It points out that it takes but 100 missiles from either side, dropped on either side, to destroy a nation, to wipe out vast hundreds of thousands and millions of people; the blessed are those that die quickly. The young people in this union have to lock hands with everybody as do the older ones to guarantee that we have a peaceful world. The struggle for peace is a personal, self-serving commitment to our own future.

By definition we are a left union. We have a different conviction, a different commitment, a different agenda, and that conviction, commitment and agenda has to do with how we see humanity, with what we have to do not just for those in our own ranks who are mauled by a system that guarantees inequalities, but by the oppressed, the poor, the persecuted wherever they may be. The bottom line is that we fulfill the obligation of addressing the problems of our membership as effectively as we can through the most democratic resources available to us and then we go on to address other problems. Being a left wing union doesn't mean that you have a slavish adherence to anyone's ideology. It means that you have a compassion and an unqualified commitment to struggle and to doing what you can to make the lot of people better and to stop greed and corruption.

Today the crunch is on. This is a hard ball era when the employers figure it's their day to slam bang unions. The name of the game on both sides of the border is to play hard ball. It is in this atmosphere that we go into bargaining.

The interlocking arrangement between money on both sides of the border is clearly established. Anybody who has any kindness in their heart for corporations, any corporation, any goddamn one of them, needs intensive psychiatric care.

The most fundamental of our problems is how do we get our rank and file to get their ass out into the street when somebody else is engaged in struggle. The ILWU will not survive as an island all by itself so we better get our ass in gear and we better get our act together. There are no real enemies inside; they're all outside.

If any people here think maybe we're too militant, they better re-think it. We all better re-think where we're at and what this union is. This union is our salvation.

We're the largest class in our society and when we learn that and understand the power we have, then we will create a world that is truly one where there is equality, where there is justice, where workers in any place in the world will not be kicked around any more.

The conversation on the docks has to be about how we preserve the character of this union along with our strength. Our most evil adversary is an economic system that guarantees injustice. All our people must understand that every struggle in any industry deserves our support and participation.

CATHOLIC BISHOP SPEAKS OUT

One of the most important documents issued last year in the struggle for social reform in our country was "Ethical Reflections on the Economic Crisis" by the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops, released in January, 1983.

The statement notes that "the present recession appears to be symptomatic of a much larger structural crisis of capitalism where trans-national corporations and banks can move capital from one country to another in order to take advantage of cheaper labour conditions, lower taxes and reduced environmental restrictions. It noted also that "the increasing concentration of capital and technology in the production of military armaments further intensifies this economic crisis, rather than bring about recovery".

It is critical of government policies where "the causes of inflation are seen as workers' wages, government spending, and low productivity rather than monopoly of prices," where "the means of curbing inflation are such austerity measures as the federal 6 and 5 wage restraints program and cut-backs in social spending rather than controls on profits and prices," and where through corporate tax reductions "the survival of capital takes priority over labour". Mega-projects it notes "may increase economic growth but they generally end up producing relatively few permanent jobs while adding to a large national debt."

It calls for a new approach where "needs of the poor have priority over wants of the rich" and where "the rights of workers are more important than maximization of profits."

"What is required first," it declares "is a basic shift in values; the goal serving the human needs of all people in our society must take precedence over the maximization of profits", adding that "labour, not capital, must be given priority in the development of an economy based on justice".

It asked that labour unions "have effective role in developing economic policies" and proposed that "all people of good will in local and regional communities throughout the country be encouraged to coordinate their effort to develop and implement such strategies."

Specifically the Bishops proposed emphasis be placed on "socially useful forms of production; labour intensive industries . . . community owned and control of industries".

Without trying to supply all answers they called for a "productive dialogue about alternative visions and strategies".

The statement means that labour has new allies in its struggles for social justice. The hand extended by Catholic Bishops should be welcome labour.

We urge our members and local develop this cooperation wherever possible.



Convention Delegates Rod Doran, J. Sickavich, D. O'Donnell.

HOWIE SMITH TO CRAIG PRITCHETT



Howie Smith, Local 514, presents plaque to Craig Pritchett, first Canadian Area president, at convention banquet.

BILL C-9 — POLICE STATE

Bill C-9, an act to establish the Canadian Security Intelligence Service, just like its predecessor Bill C-157 introduced and dropped last year after widespread public protests, opens the door to the establishment of a police state in Canada. The major anti-democratic features of Bill C-157 are retained in Bill C-9.

Section 12, just like Section 14 of the previous bill, directs the CSIS to collect information on any activities which it suspects "on reasonable grounds" of "constituting threats to the security of Canada". The Director will pass judgment on what is "reasonable"; until now it has included peace organizations, trade unions, political parties, women's groups, native peoples organizations, all reform groups which in any way are critical of big business or the Establishment. No group is safe from snooping, spying and disruption.

Section 23, just like Section 22 of C-157, authorized the Service after securing a warrant from a judge, to

"remove from any place any thing stalled", "to enter any place or open obtain access to any thing". This means it can break into premises, bug phones and open mail, in other words, to commit any act it considers necessary including those things which would criminal offences if committed by ordinary citizens. This section legalizes deceptions. There is no privacy left to any individual or group. Rights supposedly guaranteed to us under the Charter Rights are rendered null and void.

Section 18 of C-9, just as Section 1 C-157 specifies that no one may disclose the name of any covert agent of the agency or any of its informants. penalty is up to five years in prison.

Bill C-9 is a police state bill that the potential of enabling the new agency to spy on, harass and disrupt lawful dissent in Canada. The whole labour movement should unite to defeat it. Its aim is to intimidate dissent of kind and especially peace activity militant actions by unions.

FEB. 20 SOCRED BUDGET MORE OF THE SAME

The central features of the Feb. 20, 1984 provincial budget of the Social Credit government are:

(a) a further reduction in the living standards of working people, (b) further concessions and subsidies to business, (c) an increase in unemployment, and (d) no job creation program.

Premier Bennett makes no secret of the fact that one of the reasons for his so-called restraint program — for reducing government expenditures on social services, for taking away labour and human rights, for imposing wage controls, for undermining the WCB, for reducing taxes on big corporations — is to create an economic and political climate that foreign investors will find attractive. Special emphasis is being given by the government to attracting investors from southeast Asia where union and human rights are almost non-existent and where sub-standard wages

prevail. That in itself should be enough warning to all of us as to what the Socreds have in store for B.C. if they get their way.

The budget shows that the government has decided to completely ignore the widespread protests that followed its July 7 budget, that it is determined to go ahead with its program of redistributing the wealth of the province in favour of the big corporations under the guise of restraint. Corporations were told in the budget speech that they could expect further reduction in their taxes in the near future.

The government has in effect said to the trade union movement and to Solidarity: "To hell with you; our job is to serve business, not people; there's nothing you can do about it."

The Labour Movement and Solidarity have a responsibility to take up the challenge.



Dr. Emil Blamason, Canadian Area Research Director.

END ALL FOREIGN INTERVENTION IN CENTRAL AMERICA

The record of the U.S. in Central America is one of overthrowing democratic governments and imposing military and fascist dictatorships so as to protect the big U.S. multi-nationals, such as United Fruit, which for generations have been exploiting and bleeding the people of Central America. In El Salvador over 50,000 people have been murdered by an army and by army death squads equipped, trained and financed by the U.S. In Guatemala over 100,000 people have died at the hands of a repressive regime installed by the CIA in 1968 when it overthrew the Arbenz government.

The people of Nicaragua and revolutionary and reform forces throughout Central America are united around the following demands:

1. Put an end to the armed confrontation in Central America. The conclusion of a non-aggression pact between Honduras and Nicaragua.
2. Stop all arms deliveries to the belligerents in El Salvador and give the Salvadoran people an opportunity to solve their own internal problems.
3. Discontinue military support, including arms supplies and the training of any anti-government forces in the region.
4. Respect the Central American people's rights to self-determination and not interfere in the internal affairs of sovereign states.
5. End the economic aggression and discrimination against Central American Countries.

ARGENTINA NOW DEMOCRATIC

In Argentina the war and defeat brought to the surface a surge of anti-government feeling that even the military could not suppress. It was forced to agree to elections being held for the first time in seven years. Argentina now has a constitutionally elected government. That government is now trying the military for the crimes it committed during its dictatorship, when 30,000 government opponents disappeared. The evidence is that they were tortured before being murdered, many were taken up in planes in batches, their stomachs slit open and then dropped in to the sea. Others were buried in mass graves with their hands cut off to avoid identification.

Another result of the war was the growth of anti-American feeling in Argentina. The U.S. had armed and supported the dictatorship including police and death squads. Then when the war started the U.S. supported British and supplied it with intelligence about the movement of Argentinian armed forces.

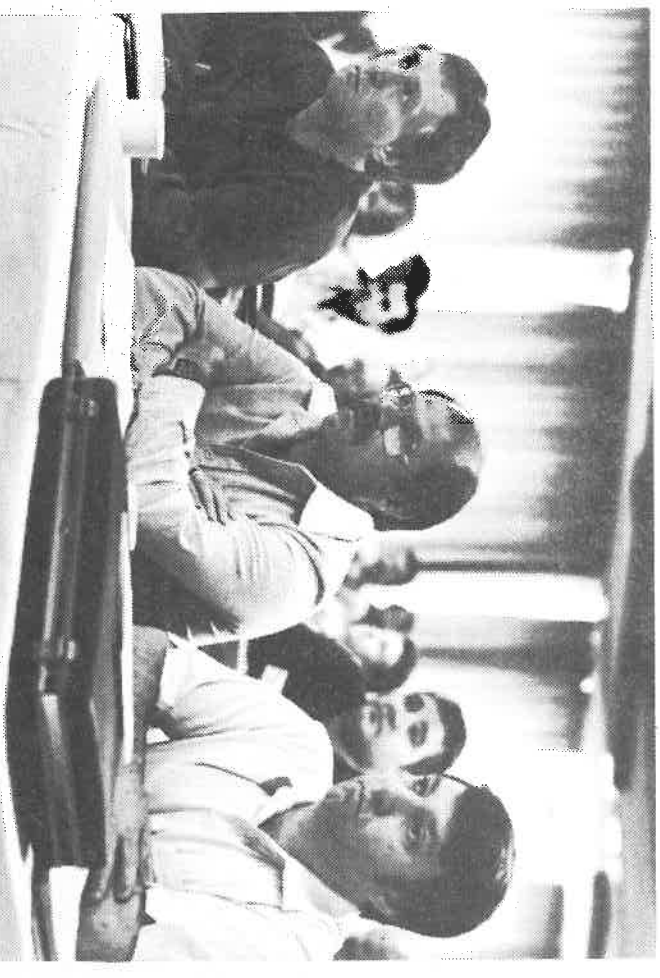
During the dictatorship trade union leaders were indiscriminately murdered and trade union and human rights suppressed. We join and support the demands of the Argentinian people that human and trade union rights be fully restored.

INVASION OF GRENADA

We join with labour everywhere in condemning the invasion of Grenada by the U.S. on October 25, 1983.

It was one more case of the military might of the U.S. being used to protect big U.S. multi-nationals who for almost a century have exploited the riches and the people of the Caribbean, Central and South America. The Munroe Doctrine has become the Reagan Doctrine. Now the many reforms instituted in health, education and job creation by the government of this tiny country, no bigger than Burnaby, are being abolished by the U.S.

We join with labour throughout the world in demanding the withdrawal of U.S. and all other occupation forces and fully support the right of the people of Grenada to choose their own government and decide their own affairs free of all outside influences or forces.



Local 508 Delegates: J. McKinley, R. Jones and R. Mrs. Mrus.

POLAND

The situation in Poland appears to have stabilized. Martial law has been lifted. Strikes have ceased and production is once again rising. The economy appears to be improving but it will obviously take some time to overcome the serious economic miscalculations of previous governments and the economic setbacks caused by the long series of strikes led by Solidarity. The continued ban on trade with Poland is causing economic hardship.

Solidarity as well as the old trade union structure that was in place before Solidarity remain banned. Efforts are now being made to rebuild the trade union movement. The law adopted by the Polish parliament on this issue recognizes that the new trade union movement must be self-governing and independent, free of government and political control. Equally important is its recognition that the participation of the trade union movement is essential to overcoming the economic and political crises in Poland.

The view of the government is that the old trade union structure had failed to serve its members and that Solidarity had been transformed by its leaders into an anti-Socialist political party supported by both internal and external opponents of socialism.

Little information is as yet available on what progress is being made in building a new trade union movement.

Our stand remains the same as it was two years ago — that it is the right of Polish workers to set up unions of their own choice without interference from the state or from outside forces.

MIDDLE EAST

The situation inside Lebanon remains extremely complex with many armed factions, both domestic and foreign, engaged in the fighting. In our view all foreign troops should be withdrawn from Lebanon and the Lebanese people left to work out their own solutions as best they can.

As for solutions to the Middle East Crisis as a whole, a just and lasting peace could be achieved on the following basis:

- The withdrawal of Israeli forces from all Arab territories occupied since 1967 and the evacuation of all Israeli colonial settlements in the occupied territories.

- The right of the Palestinian Arab people to self-determination and the establishment of their own independent state in the West Bank, including Arab Jerusalem and the Gaza strip; the solution of the problem of the Palestinian refugees in accordance with UN resolutions.

- Respect of the right of all states in the region, including the future independent Palestinian state and the state of Israel, to independent existence and peaceful life, within recognized borders to be secured by international guarantees.

6. Renounce the installation of foreign military bases and the holding of military exercises in Central America.

These proposals are fair to all sides. They deserve the support of the Canadian government, of Canadian labour and of our union.



LL.W.U. Canadian Area Officers.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL ALTERNATIVES

The essentials of an alternative economic strategy to that advocated by the Fraser Institute and being implemented by the Social Credit government have already been indicated by the Canadian Labour Congress and a number of its affiliates including the United Electrical Workers, the Canadian Union of Public Employees, the Postal Workers and the B.C. Provincial Council of Carpenters.

They revolve around such key issues as Canadian control of the economy including a large degree of public ownership and a restructuring of the economy with the emphasis on a strong secondary and manufacturing industry, more purchasing power in the hands of Canadians, a massive job creation program leading to full employment, diversification or our trading partners, a fairer taxation system, and cuts in defence spending. Some of these proposals are national in scope, some provincial and some involve both levels of government. Specifically such proposals include:

- **Public ownership of resources, key industries and financial institutions** to make possible public planning and public control of the economy.
- **Restructuring the economy** by building secondary industries to ensure a strong manufacturing base in Canada, and decrease our dependence on the export of our resources.

- **A massive job creation program** to include a large scale program of building affordable housing, a Canadian merchant marine registered in Canada and

crewed in Canada, an east-west power grid, a copper smelter and specialized steel industry for B.C., furniture and prefab plants in B.C., reducing working time with no reduction in take home pay, a ban on closures and lay-offs and the takeover of closed down plants.

- **U.I. should take effect on the first day of unemployment and last for the duration. Adequate incomes for those retired or unable to work.**

- **An end to all wage restraint and austerity programs.** Restoration of full bargaining rights to all public sector workers.

- **Increased trade with the socialist and developing countries.** End our reliance on the U.S. for imports and exports.

- **Implement exchange controls** to prevent the drain of profits made in Canada to foreign countries. Lower interest rates.

- **New tax policies** which will end concessions to big corporations and compel them to pay a fair share of taxation.

- **Price and rent controls** to control inflation.

- **Cuts in defence expenditures** with diversion of these funds to economic recovery programs.

What is required is not less government intervention as demanded by the Fraser Institute and its corporate backers, nor the privatization being instituted by the Social Credit government, but more constructive and positive intervention in the economy to stimulate economic recovery.

THE NEW RIGHT MENACE TO LABOUR

The big multinationals and other corporations which dominate all the economies of the western world are faced with the problem of how to maintain or even increase their profits at a time of economic crisis and when their economic base is narrowing. Several methods are open to them, all of which are being adopted.

Increasing the arms race and military expenditures. A profitable undertaking for the military industrial complex for it skims off a huge section of the national wealth into the coffers of a few large corporations.

Intensifying neo-colonialist exploitation in countries like South Korea, Taiwan, El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala, Chile and Brazil. While at the same time propping up vicious military dictatorships which will guarantee and protect foreign domination.

Intensifying the exploitation of the working class. By taking away all the gains won in the last 30 to 40 years while at the same time taking away human and labour rights to weaken the ability of people to protest or fight back.

The philosophy of big business, its right wing economists and the governments and politicians under their control is referred to as the New Right or monetarism. Many of the policies of monetarism are now being implemented by Prime Minister Thatcher, President Reagan and Premier Bennett.

Monetarism and the New Right claim that all the ills of society are caused by

FRASER INSTITUTE MOUTHPIECE OF BIG BUSINESS

The Fraser Institute is directed and funded by the big corporations that control the economy of Canada. Its 37 member Board of Directors includes representatives from these corporations — the banks, insurance companies, resource extraction corporations, developers and real estate interests, firms such as CPR, Noranda, MacMillan Bloedel, IBM, Imperial Oil, Daon, Genstar and Cadillac Fairview.

Twenty of the biggest corporations affiliated to the Fraser Institute have assets totalling \$248,000,000,000.

The Fraser Institute advocates that medicare should be abolished, that no public funds should be spent on health care and that the whole health care system, including hospitals, be privatized.

It also advocates that the same thing be done with education, that the public school system be replaced by private schools.

It has consistently demanded the abolition of all rent controls and also proposes that all zoning by-laws be abolished.

It opposes human rights and equal opportunity legislation, declaring that "the right to discriminate is a desirable feature of free societies."

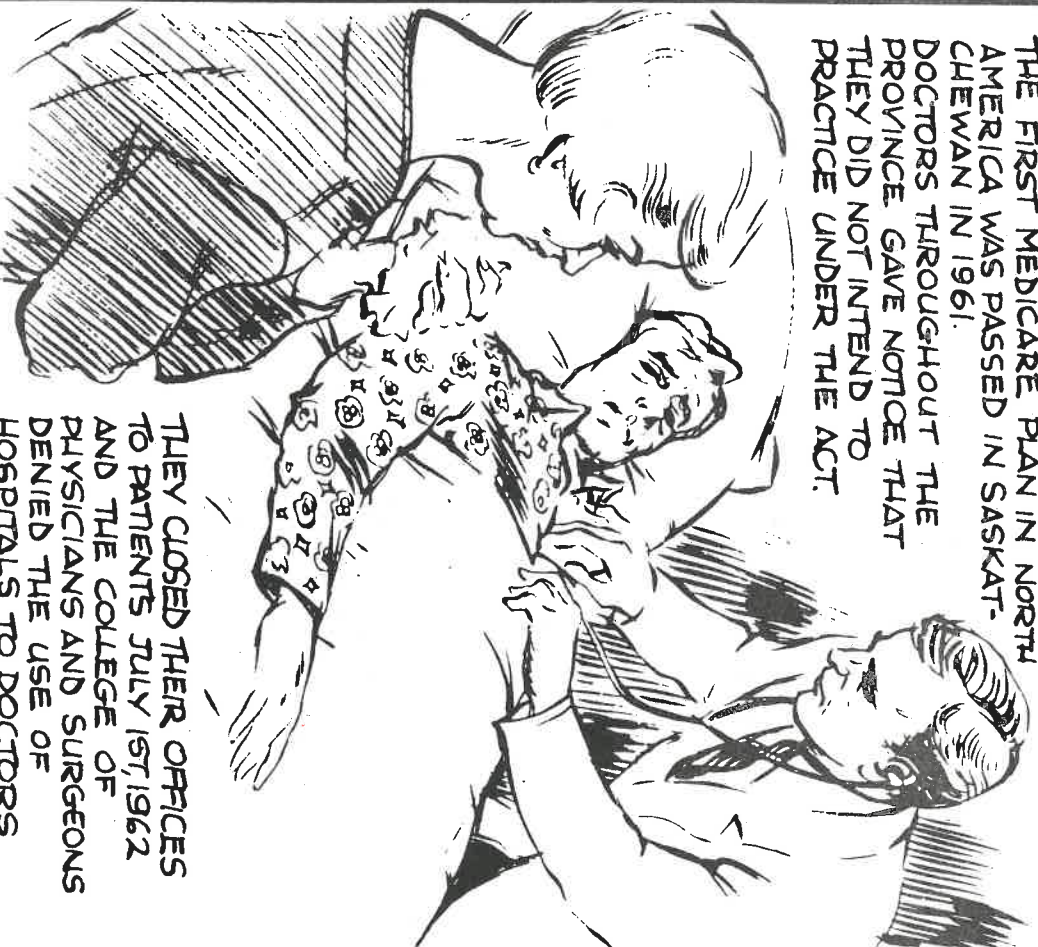
It demands that the public service be drastically cut, that contracting out be used to replace services presently provided by various levels of government and that the right to strike be taken away from all public employees.

It would replace unemployment insurance and welfare with "private charity".

Spotlight on LABOUR HISTORY

THE FIRST MEDICARE PLAN IN NORTH AMERICA WAS PASSED IN SASKATCHEWAN IN 1961.

DOCTORS THROUGHOUT THE PROVINCE GAVE NOTICE THAT THEY DID NOT INTEND TO PRACTICE UNDER THE ACT.



THEY CLOSED THEIR OFFICES TO PATIENTS JULY 1ST, 1962 AND THE COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS DENIED THE USE OF HOSPITALS TO DOCTORS SUPPORTING THE ACT.

A BITTER SMEAR CAMPAIGN LED TO THE DEFEAT OF THE NDP GOVERNMENT IN 1964 BUT THE LIBERALS DID NOT REVERSE THE PLAN AND MEDICARE FINALLY BECAME A HARD-FOUGHT FOR REALITY FOR ALL CANADIAN WORKERS.

two factors (1) big government and big unions.

By big government they mean money spent on social services such as health care, education, unemployment insurance, and laws which in any restrictive big business in its pursuit of maximum profits — taxes, built codes, environmental safeguards, etc on the job.

By big unions they mean the organizations which protect labour's rights to organize and strike and all the gains labour won in the past 30 to 40 years.

Not surprisingly they are the foremost exponents of increased military expenditures, the Cold War and confrontations in international relations.

Today we have a completely new game. The days when unions could successfully make substantial gains in a expanding economy and compel governments to expand social service benefits are finished. Now the struggle is to what we have against the concerted attacks of governments and employers. They want to take back everything they have won since World War II.

The labour movement must develop new strategies to deal with this concerted attack by employers and governments on our rights and benefits. No one but the union can win this kind of a battle itself. It will take the combined efforts of the whole trade union movement and determined to take whatever action becomes necessary up to and including general strikes. Not only this is necessary to secure the support of the whole community in this struggle.

It wants the minimum wage abolished declaring that it creates unemployment because three or four workers at \$ an hour could have jobs if it weren't the "immoral" minimum wage.

These and many more outrageous demands of the Fraser Institute are the demands of some fringe group. They are the proposals of the big corporations that control the economy of B.C. Canada. The Fraser Institute is a public mouthpiece.

The Social Credit government, as we know all too well, is taking the advice of the Fraser Institute and its director Michael Walker and implementing many of their proposals. That is what the 7, 1983, provincial budget and the accompanying 26 pieces of repressive legislation were all about. No wonder Walker now boasts that "we told them what to do in very specific terms, based on work of the past 10 years."

If we want to look into the future what the Bennett government has store for us, all we have to do is look at the policies advocated by the Fraser Institute. If they are successful what will end up with is the destruction of present democratic system and replacement with an authoritarian corporate state closer to George Orwell's 1984 than to democracy as we have learned to understand it.

The attack on the public sector is but a prelude to an attack on private sector unions. Bennett is determined to head off his anti-labour program. regressive changes introduced with regard to the Workers Compensation Board should be a warning to all of us of the kind of legislation that lies ahead.