

PICKET BULLETIN NUMBER 3

Friday, December 5, 1975

CONGRATULATIONS! AUCE members are doing a terrific job. Our picket lines are very effective. Those of our members who have been involved in strikes before are impressed by the energy, the enthusiasm and the sheer number of picketers. KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK.

FINALLY! Our strike has been so effective that the University has called our Contract Committee back to negotiations beginning Friday at 3 p.m.

BUT! We must keep up the pressure on the University by maintaining effective picket lines.

WE HAVE HELP! Students, faculty, other U.B.C. staff and members of AUCE Local 2 (S.F.U.) have volunteered to picket with us. Other groups such as the B.C. Law Union have strongly voiced their support for our "struggle to obtain a just contract" and volunteered for picket duty.

HOWEVER! U.B.C. employees in CUPE Local 116 must report to work any time there is no picket line. 24 hour pickets at all gates are necessary so that CUPE shiftworkers are not forced to work during our strike.

MORE PICKETERS! So far, we have not covered all gates late at night. Unless we can use scarecrows for pickets, we need 70 to 80 extra human picketers between 11 p.m. and 5 a.m. every night.

CALL FOR HELP! Ask your fellow workers, friends, neighbours, relations, people on the bus--anyone who will help--to join our lines. Send volunteers to the union office at 11 p.m. Friday and Saturday and Sunday evening at 7 o'clock (while AUCE members are at the membership meeting).

A SUCCESSFUL STRIKE DEPENDS ON EFFECTIVE PICKETING

DON'T FORGET

VERY IMPORTANT MEMBERSHIP MEETING

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7

7:30 P.M.

PRINCE OF WALES SCHOOL - 2250 Eddington Dr.

BEHIND ARBUTUS VILLAGE

Friday, December 5, 1975

Dear folks on the picket lines,

The Contract Committee will be meeting with the University today (Friday) for the first time since Tuesday night. We don't know what the outcome of the meeting will be but this meeting was scheduled as a result of contacting the Board of Governors on Thursday morning. The Control Committee wrote up a brief outlining our position on the outstanding issues for the Board's information. We were told that the Board was being misinformed about our negotiations; i.e., apparently they were told that we had no position at all on these outstanding issues and that we were unwilling to negotiate. This is, of course, B.S. We told the Board of Governors in the brief that we wanted to meet with them to explain our position [as the only information they ever get is from the University reps] and to say that we are willing to negotiate.

You may already know that Frances has had her calculator out again and on Wednesday afternoon figured out that there is hardly any difference in cost to the University between our proposed wage scale and the University's offer. According to Frances' calculations, there was a difference of about \$400,000 per year (or the equivalent of 2 weeks AUCE payroll over a whole year).

Marcel phoned the University to ask them if they were aware that our proposal would cost them only \$400,000 more per year. And surprisingly enough, the University's calculations came out to only about \$240,000 difference.

The University is forcing us to strike for the equivalent of about one week's AUCE payroll per year. Why has the University forced this strike?

They tell us we're covered by Federal Wage Controls. We still think that the provincial government would have to enact parallel legislation before we can be considered covered by the controls. The University reps, Chuck Connaughan especially, are smart enough to know that the Federal Government cannot enact legislation to cover Provincial Institutions.

By now, we think that the University has made enough money from our strike to make up the difference between our proposal for wages and theirs. So financially there is no reason why the University can't meet our demand for the restructured wage scale plus the 10% or \$100.

The only hang-up left is the legislation. And this whole situation is very strange! The University has already shown a willingness to settle above the guidelines by applying for an exemption--so why not agree to our proposal? If the University is sincere in their willingness to settle above the guidelines and cost is not a problem--what the hell are they trying to do by forcing a strike? Let's not forget Chuck Connaughan's reputation for giving unions a hard time.

Anyway, we'll try to get another report out to you tomorrow about the outcome of the meeting today. You're doing great--keep the spirits up!

CONTRACT COMMITTEE

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