

AUCE PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE REPORT

The officers of the present AUCE Provincial Executive started their term with a substantial list of activities and concerns. Many of the objectives outlined in past Conventions are now accomplishments, others are not. This Convention is the constituted structure to oversee the activities of the Provincial Executive. We submit to you our activities and rationale in the past year in hope of reaching a better understanding of what the Provincial Association has been and could be.

Much of the past summer was taken up in organizing a Provincial Office. We presently share an office at 207 West Hastings with SORWUC. AUCE has room 1113 and shares 1115 which is the equipment room (typewriters, copier, duplicator). SORWUC Local 1 is in room 1114 and Local 2 (the United Bank Workers) is in room 1116. The major office equipment purchases throughout the year have been a typewriter, a filing cabinet, a desk and a bond paper copier. \$5200 was spent on buying a bond paper copier, a Nashua 1220 with the rationale that a major service of the Provincial is getting information out to the locals - newspaper clipping service, research, arbitration cases, contracts, etc.

The major goal of the Provincial has been in opening up the lines of communication among and between locals. The AUCE Provincial Newsletter has been published every two months. Material for the Cross-Local Package has been distributed at each Provincial Executive meeting. Research on the AIB, various government make work programs and maternity leave has been done, as well as some cross-local meetings on these subjects. There have been some dinner meetings among representatives from various committees such as the contract and grievance committees. The shop steward seminars at Local 1 and 2 were attended by representatives from all locals. A motion was passed at the January Executive Meeting that the Secretary/Treasurer spend some days in each local every second month to help out in whatever way possible. This motion has not been used extensively by the locals but is coming forward as a resolution to this Convention. Throughout the year locals have phoned the Provincial Office to ask for help, usually research. Hopefully as the Provincial Office acquires more and better information and outside contacts this service will become more useful to the locals.

Another important aspect of the Provincial is to deal with the world outside of the union. Through the Public Sector Employees Co-ordinating Council (PSECC) many

valuable contacts have been made. The Secretary/Treasurer is on the Steering Committee of this Council. Through this committee we have been able to get research from the CLC and the BC Fed. on the AIB. We have contacts in the Hospital Employees Union and BC Teachers' Federation who have given advice to Local 1 regarding their roll back. We have met with people in the BCGEU and VMREU to discuss the summer work program at the Colleges and Universities and what we can do about it. The Council is presently discussing with the BC Fed. the planning of a rally at the legislature if the Provincial Government places wage controls on government employees only. As well as dealing with this Council we receive newsletters from a dozen unions and send our newsletters to them.

Although we are the smallest union that has organized colleges and universities in BC, our contracts are the best. We presently send newsletters and relevant information to all the colleges and universities in BC. The Executive has submitted a resolution to hold a Conference of these groups to further increase our ability to work together and benefit from each other.

The priority of organizing has been a cause of much debate. There are 3 unorganized colleges in BC. We have met with two of these colleges and are in contact with the Staff/Faculty Association of the third. These people receive our publications and we feel that if they wish to join us, they will. We have been approached by 2 clerical workers at the BC Student Federation, 3 employees at the CNIB stand at SFU and the 3 permanent staff at the Union Center Building at SFU. These groups are employed on campuses but are not employed by the University or College. To this point the Provincial Executive has decided to stay within the strict definition of our jurisdiction. However our organizing possibilities are limited. Time and money has been spent by the Provincial to aid SORWUC in organizing unorganized workers, especially the United Bank Workers. The Secretary/Treasurer has made trips to the Island to talk to bankworkers, has leafletted banks in Victoria (as well as here) and helped with the organizing drive at the Bank of Nova Scotia. \$2000 has been loaned to the UBW and this Convention is to decide whether or not to make this a donation. \$200 per month is being paid to the UBW for 6 months to supplement the salary of their office person. The AUCE/SORWUC Committee has met and 2 newsletters have been published. We are looking to this Convention to clarify AUCE's policy on organizing - shall we stay as we are, include employees 'at' institutions of higher education or organize an entirely new group such as insurance companies or restaurants. We wish to point out that the Provincial Association alone is vested with the power to establish local associations but it is up to the local if they wish to

organize a new bargaining unit into their local.

Another problem that has not been solved is aid to the locals either in terms of money or time. So far the money problem has been handled by trying to be as equal as possible and the time has mostly been on the basis of "the squeaky wheel gets the grease". There are provisions for the Provincial full-time person to work for up to 10 days in a local and there is a provision for a cross-local committee which can be financed by the Provincial.

There is much that this executive was not able to do. Research has been sparse and there was no bi-monthly research report. A wage and price control committee never got off the ground. The T.A.'s at SFU although chartered have not applied for union certification. There have been no Provincial Seminars.

However for our first complete year having a full time worker and an office we feel that much has been accomplished and hope that this convention can renew our direction and provide guidance for the year ahead.