

workers." (end quote) I do not know where the author obtained her information on the purpose of labour unions and what they were built for. I would suggest however that were the above statement true, it would be a purely negative purpose. As one of those people termed by the writer who "are presumably elected because they are a bit brither than the rank and file member"(?) I would hasten to assure her that the labour movement has very positive and definite objectives. I would like to make a few observations on some of them. As a matter of interest, I am not connected in any way directly with the FFVWU TLC but am employed in the lumber industry as a union official.

"Purpose of Labour Unions"

A labour union is a voluntary association of workers whose purpose it is to bargain collectively with the employer to obtain just wages, hours and working conditions. Pope Pius XI in the Encyclical "Quadragesimo Anno" states "In the first place, the wage paid to the workman must be sufficient for the support of himself and his family." And further on adds: "Every effort therefore must be made that fathers of families receive a wage sufficient to meet adequately ordinary domestic needs."

"IS IT FAIR?"

"Workers in the Okanagan Fruit industry are among the lowest paid in B.C. industry. They receive anywhere from eighty-five (85¢) to one dollar and six cents (\$1.06) per hour. I recognize however that there are some piece-rate workers who earn much more; however I am concerned here with the hourly wage earner who depends on that hourly rate to support himself and his family. In the lumber industry in the Okanagan, the organized workers are receiving a basic hourly rate of one dollar and forty cents per hour; on the coast the basic rate for common labor is one dollar and fifty four cents per hour. From personal observation and experience- I have a wife and seven children to support- it is my opinion that an Okanagan worker cannot meet adequately ordinary domestic needs" on the scale of wages now being paid