

"In the hearings conducted by the arbitration board in 1954 all evidence entered by the industry was strictly factual, and was subject to challenge by the union or the members of the board. It had been suggested that the industry's case dwilt on the lowest returns to the grower and highest wages paid to special categories of workers. This is not true. The industry in its presentation made an honest effort to present an average picture and if highs and lows were quoted they were quoted only in addition to average figures. and then only to show the range of earnings or growers returns. Practically all of the information presented to the arbitration board in 1954, to the conciliation board in 1955, and to various arbitration boards prior to that, were matters of public knowledge - as readily available to the union, with a little research work, as they were to the industry."

"LARGE EARNINGS CAN'T BE HIDDEN"

"Some of the material presented by the industry did deal in packing house cost but there again the majority of the packing houses are cooperative and publish to their members a detailed financial statement showing a breakdown of all their costs."

"The suggestion contained in a recent union statement that the union would have to have access to all books and records from producer to retailer before agreeing to arbitration would, as I see it, depend more on how much time and effort the union is prepared to spend in preparing its case than on anything which the industry was prepared to do in the way of making this material available."

"Since the cooperative packing houses and the selling agency operate entirely at cost there are no reserves, other than very minor ones for bad debts, in which large earnings by the industry can (I think this is a typo I think it should read can't be hidden) possibly be hidden. Again on this point, a complete financial statement of the whole of the year's operation is published annually by B.C. Tree Fruits Limited, including the whole of the pool account in detail all of which is audited by a firm of chartered accountants."

"As far as the trade outside the valley is concerned, the industry has no recourse whatever to their records; nor can I see what bearing such records would have since it is the f.o.b. price for the fruit which determines the return to the grower and the industry's ability to pay wages."

"I think the whole question of arbitration really hinges on the willingness of both sides to accept as fact everything which is entered as sworn evidence and which cannot be successfully challenged or refuted by the other side. If this basis is accepted, then arbitration holds every prospect of