

Jan. '56: BCFGA Seeks to Iron Out Labour Trouble: "Despite strong opposition a resolution recommending appointment of a Central Labor Committee by the BCFGA in an effort to ensure a plentiful supply of orchard labour to points of need was approved by delegates to the 67th annual BCFGA convention."

- problem seen as imposing cmtee. on top of existing farm labour employment service, by opposition
- "N.C. Taylor took the position that if conditions were right there wouldn't be a labour shortage. "You've got to give them decent living ~~conditions~~ quarters, he told the delegation, which had already heard Deputy Minister of Agriculture, W. MacGillivray ^{substantially} say the same thing. The veteran Kelowna orchardist concluded: "The time has gone by when any cowshed would do."

Fruit, vegetable union may take strike vote:

- application for strike vote may be made to department of labour by union (FFWU - TLC) veiled hint by Cooney after told conciliation board turned down request for 10 cents an hour wage increase and other minor concessions
 - chairman of the board, F.M. Clement, ^{and J.C. Munro} for Fed. Shippers Association said no increase warranted in view of industry's depressed conditions, minority report by union
 - present rate for new and wine after 60 days employment is 1.05 for men and 80 cents for women
 - arbitrators criticized union brief as simple request for improvements, no statistical presentations and few arguments except that industry not in trouble, no recent wage increases and wages below other industries
- "The fruit shippers case was statistical." The industry was in a depressed condition; receipts falling, ability to pay not improved, costs up. statements supported by statistics
- "We accept the view of the fruit shippers. It is our belief, that not only have conditions not improved, but they have deteriorated ~~over~~ during the past years."
- Unwin: "The employers inability to pay could more likely be called a desire not to pay."

- workers have been patient relative to other industries, suggests a ten cents an hour for hourly and pro rata for pieceworkers

Kelowna Packers Vote to Strike: reiterates wage scale. 428 for the strike, 194 opposed; 622 ballots in government supervised vote; FFWU has two months to call strike; decision rests with executive; employers said vote not representative of packing house workers because most operations not operating with full crews

Letters to the Editor: from Wallace A Smith, Oliver.

"Favors Arbitration"

union asked in press release: "Do the primary producers thoroughly understand the position that they have been compromised into and what a strike would mean to them in