

in Okanagan into the Teamsters. hired by them

April 21, 1956

Calm Okanagan Union Battlefield Van Sun by Bruce Young

- extraordinary inter-union battle in Okanagan, International Brotherhood of Teamsters and the Okanagan Federation of Fruit and Vegetable Workers
- interested observers are the United Packinghouse Workers Union of America, they have three locals in Okanagan canning plants and have been seeking to extend their jurisdiction
- TLC and CCL merging, Teamsters will not join CLC because it holds a no-raiding pact and they won't sign
- UPWA concerned with way that Teamsters are stepping into the picture at the point of merger

-Dec. 10. 1955 Fruit Workers will not join teamsters

- Executive of the Federation of Fruit and Vegetable workers announced that they will not accept charter from Teamsters
- do not want to subject membership to three way split in the valley
- exec. split 5-2 on the issue
- membership apparently did approve merger after vote; "during the recent packinghouse strike the powerful Teamsters Union came to the assistance of fruit workers and contributed financially toward the strike fund."

Teamsters Handling Fruit Workers Gently

(Sun I think)

- three way split amongst 3000 organized Okanagan fruit workers patched by top-ranking Teamster official
- FFVWU-TLC ~~is~~ is uncertain of its future and will continue to work on its plans for merger with the Teamsters
- last week refused to accept Teamsters Charter, sharp division on membership
- some want to affiliate with teamsters others with the UPWU
- rest want independent organization
- Teamsters visited and outlined dangers if rift not healed immediately
- federation officials invited to Northwest Council of Food Processing workers first such convention of teamsters held outside the US- discussed demands
- impressed FFVWU officials - set out to develop constitution maintaining autonomy within teamster ranks

DEAR SISTER OR BROTHER from D.R. Leckie, Sec.-Treas. of FFVWU

"You will be receiving from the Federation Office a copy of a letter from a Mr. A. MacDonald, lawyer from Vancouver, legal representative of the U.P.W.A.-C.I.O., together with minutes of a so-called Executive meeting held on Dec. 28, 1955, and you will undoubtedly be puzzled as to the why and wherefore of such a letter and the