

of providing a reasonably fair and peaceable method of resolving our differences over the division of the available money."

"FFVWU MIGHT CONSIDER FUTURE ARBITRATION -- IF?"

Sept. 19th Penticton Herald

"Refusal of the FFVWU to submit its wage demands to arbitration became one of the major issues of the recent packinghouse workers' strike. Union thinking on the matter, now that peace has been restored in the industry, is revealed in the following statement by Bryan Cooney; "It might be well at this time to consider the question of arbitration as the argument will no doubt rise again at some future date. The industry, through its bargaining committee has during the past few months maintained doggedly that it is the only fair way to adjust any differences we might have. This, of course is an about face to their past policy but there is a saying 'a wise man changes his mind, a fool never.' We, on the other hand, have been determined after one unhappy experience, not to take a chance on buying a surprise package at the expense of our membership. We remember the times we asked to arbitrate, and we were turned down by industry, and have not been able to go along with any such suggestion. At least not during the 1955 negotiations. "

"Now that our differences have been brought to a conclusion for this agreement it becomes necessary to again look to the future and possibly ask the question, will we agree to arbitration? The answer could be yes, but only under certain conditions. To agree we must have access to the books and records of all phases of the fruit industry - from producer to retailer. To be asked to accept the figures that industry sees fit to present is not good enough. We must have the opportunity to have men study the whole set up from A to Z and produce figures showing whether or not this industry can or can not return enough money to the primary producer to enable them to pay fair wages and retain enough to pay themselves a fair wage for their labours. Failing this, we must demand a Royal Commission investigation in order to arrive at the answer being asked by both primary producers and packing house labour. Yes we might agree to arbitration!"