

(Letter to the Editor of the Penticton Herald) by Brian Cooney  
Director of Organization

"CAN'T GET JUSTICE"

"I have noted with interest your recent editorial on July 27th. You have voiced the opinion that workers could gain as much by arbitration as through strike action. Basically your thinking is sound as you observe that a board's value lies in being able to look on both sides of the door and in being armed with legal power to look under the mat."

We are convinced that we have never had a board that was too willing to look under that mat. You ask what the industry can bear? Also consider what labour can bear. Much is being made over our decision not to arbitrate. You will note that the spokesmen for industry are carefully keeping away from discussions on the same question as they affected previous conciliation boards."

"In defence of our decision not to arbitrate, let us go back to 1954 when, to show what a packer could earn, figures were presented showing what the world's champion apple packer packed per hour in competition. to show earnings of box makers, the largest day's output from a machine in the history of the Kelowna Growers Exchange was used. Any grade, variety or sized range that sold particularly poor was used to show returns to growers. All of which was presented to the arbitration board by a Vancouver lawyer who never missed a technical point. Workers in this industry decided that they were tired of being bamboozled by such tactics. They do not agree that justice can be obtained in that

way."