

→ Mrs. Martin was a strong proponent of industrial organization, although the HREU was a member of the craft-oriented TLC. During 1945-46, the HREU signed a master agreement with the majority of restaurant employers and began to organize the hotels. The union helped to establish a new add better Minimum Wage Law for women; restrictions on women working late hours which forced the employer to furnish transportation home; a shorter work-week (44 and then 40 hours) and better shifts. Mrs. Martin attended the 1946 convention of the union at which the syndicates threatened the internal opposition and retained control of the International. Mrs. Martin and other Canadian delegates were physically threatened, and the opposition leader was shot. Soon after this, the International organized to remove her and Emily Watts ^{from the Executive} despite membership protest. In 1946, before ^{LOSING HER POSITION} she was removed, she spoke on the radio defending a woman's right to a job and a union, as a union member and official.

SARA MCKINNON

→ Mrs. McKinnon moved to B.C. in 1937, where she lived for a year on Stewart Island. She married in 1938 and worked in the Only. She worked occasionally as a domestic, for \$3.50/day, while raising her small children. She began to work at Vancouver General Hospital in the laundry in the late 1940's and then moved over to St. Paul's. The shift work was very hot and heavy in the laundry where the majority of workers were female. She had considered herself "United Farmers of Ontario" as a child in Ontario, despite her Conservative family and was sympathetic to the CCF. At St. Paul's she became involved in changing the company union into a really representative union; one which would fight for more than a 3% increase/year. Workers compared their conditions and wages to those of workers at VGH and joined the union. Organization was facilitated by one of the nuns, Sister Gertrude, who was known for her progressive ideas. She blocked the attempts of the personnel manager to intimidate union sympathizers. The issues were basic bread and butter issues: hours, wages, holidays and shifts. Union organizers ^{confronted} faced a strong ideology of commitment to the hospital service fostered by the hospital. Mrs. McKinnon was active on the ^{union's} education committee and elected to the executive as trustee and warden. The shiftwork made it difficult to involve many workers in union activity.

EDRA MCLEOD

Edra McLeod worked in Boeing during the War to help with the War effort. While the plant was being ^{ORGANIZED} unionized, she questioned whether or not to join the union. A management lock-out in retaliation for a sit-down by the workers resulted in a victory: one 5 minute break each day. Mrs. McLeod's husband was overseas for the duration of the War. She left the aircraft industry to find work with B.C. Hydro in 1944. Only women whose husbands were overseas and who were under 25 were to be hired, as conductorettes. After the War it took 5 years for women to be allowed to drive. Out of 30 women drivers,