

have the say at such a policy meeting as they are the ones directly affected. F.L. Fitzpatrick said that the primary producer and the labourer in the industry were but parts of the same wheel. Each needed the other and what affected one affected the other. Both got money from the same source and both share in it. There should never be a reason for such a serious step as a strike. Their differences should be settled amicably and arbitration was the reasonable and sane and proper way of doing so.

Speakers from the southern area indicated clearly that the southern growers felt they had been let down by the negotiating committee. They had worked and sacrificed to carry on despite the strike and had done so successfully. They resented concessions being made to the strikers.

Following the meeting, the district councils met and after some discussion asked A.R. Garrish to withdraw his offer to resign as BCFGA president. On Saturday he had made the offer because of a policy disagreement with the negotiating committee. He could not go along with the concessions being offered he stated. He stood with the southern growers against further concessions.

Following the lengthy session, which was closed to the press, the industry reiterated its offer of five cents an hour boost to key personnel; three cents an hour to male workers and two percent on all piece work.

The wage boost would take effect September 1, with a similar increase May 1st, 1956. Contract would run for two years.

As an alternative offer, the industry has proposed a five cent an hour increase across the board effective immediately and an equivalent increase on piece work rates.