

New finance formula a 'strait-jacket'

By J. A. SPRAGGE
Assistant Director, Professional
Development

Careful examination of Sections 24 - 27 of Bill 86 convinces us that the Bill is a device to peg rates of expenditure on school operation for an unspecified period of years at a level equal to, or very closely related to, those in effect in 1957.

Section 197 (4) of the amended Act prohibits any school board from adopting, without approval by another authority a budget that exceeds by more than 10% the amount of the basic program as determined for that district by the Minister of Education. The outside authority to which the board must



appeal for approval of a larger budget may be the municipalities and rural representatives in the district (whose consent must, it appears, be unanimous); or the owner-electors by referendum; or the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council. None of these avenues of approval offers any real prospect of support except in exceptional emergency circumstances and after a time-consuming and burdensome informational campaign. Effectively, in normal circumstances, the board is limited to an operational budget not exceeding 110% of the amount of the basic program.

The severity of this restriction depends on the level at which the Minister fixes the amount of the basic program.

The amount of the basic program is arrived at by applying to the number of instructional units in the current school year the rate of approved expenditure

per instructional unit for the preceding year. Thus, the formula does make provision for an increase in total cost proportional to any increase in pupil enrolment.

The rate of expenditure per instructional unit to be included in the basic program, however, is not the actual expenditure for the previous year, but only that part of it which the Minister sees fit to approve.

Section 181 (4) of the amended Act guarantees that the total cost of the basic program on a province-wide basis shall not be less than 90% of the total operating expenses for the previous year.

DISCRETIONARY POWER

The Minister has discretionary power to exceed the 90% level, but there is certainly no guarantee that he will do so. Significant, therefore, is the effect on school board budgeting if in any year he does adhere to the 90% figure.

In such a case, the amount of the basic program for the current year, per instructional unit, is 90% of actual cost for the preceding year.

The maximum budget the board may adopt is 110% of the amount of the basic program: that is to say 110% of 90% of the actual expenditure rate of the preceding year. It is to be noted that 110% of 90% equals 99%. Thus, in the circumstances described, the board is limited to a rate of expenditure for the current year that is one percent lower than its rate for the preceding year, with provision to take care of increased enrollment, but no provision for any increase in the cost of any of the goods or services the board must employ.

Moreover, the preceding year's expenditure level to be used in determining the amount of the basic program is an average level for all boards in the province.

Any board which, for any reason, experienced in the previous year an expenditure rate above the provincial average must reduce its rate to the average and then get along on 99% of that. Effectively, each year's average rate of expenditure becomes the following year's maximum.

DISTRESSING PICTURE

This distressing picture of financial restriction is of course related to the premise that the Minister will fix the amount of the basic program at the minimum statutory level of 90% of actual expenditure.

By adopting some higher level in any year he may ease, to such degree as he chooses, the restrictive pressure on school boards.

School boards may be expected to face with little enthusiasm a situation in which their degree of fiscal freedom is adjusted from year to year at the Minister's

(Continued on Page 5)

PENTICTON MAKES READY

Penticton is preparing.

Close to 2,000 teachers are expected to descend on the Okanagan City during Easter Week to attend the 52nd Annual General Meeting of the BCTF.

Elaborate preparations for a Professional Day, long hours of business sessions in the Peach Bowl Convention Center and social events, highlighted with an 'Odyssey Ball' were getting into high gear as the Newsletter went to press.

It is the first time that the AGM has been held away from the Lower Mainland in many years and the first time ever in the Okanagan.

The convention registration sessions start at 8 a.m. Monday, April 15, in the Peach Bowl. There will be no business sessions on the first day, instead it will be an 'Educational Issues Day' with leading Canadian educators discussing issues ranging from 'The Teacher as a Facilitator of Active Learning' to 'How Important is Organization?'

PSA business meetings will be held during the late afternoon and evening and there will be a late-evening reception. Business sessions get under way at 9 a.m. on Tuesday, April 16, and carry on all day. The delegates' dinner will be from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. in the evening, while the gala Odyssey Ball takes place from 10 p.m. to 1 a.m.

Business sessions resume again at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday morning and continue all day. A half-day of business sessions is scheduled for Thursday.

Twenty-four resolutions are up for discussion, along with committee reports and recommendations.

Executive opposed to SACU proposal

The BCTF executive committee has come out in strong opposition to proposed nation-wide college entrance examinations.

The executive, at its March meeting, directed that letters be sent to Education Minister L. R. Peterson and the presidents of the three public universities in the province asking them to withdraw their support for SACU — The Service for Admission to College and University.

The letter stated: 'We believe that the disadvantages inherent in any plan of nation-wide examinations, as proposed by SACU, far outweigh any possible advantage as far as students are concerned.'

Some reasons for the executive stand are:

• Imposition of common examinations inevitably results in a degree of curriculum control.

• The emphasis in modern education is on discovery, creativity, experimentation and divergent thinking. A system of common examinations implies conformity and a return to earlier outdated emphases.

• Such examinations place an emphasis on memorization rather than analyses and evaluation. Therefore it is inappropriate to

use these tests in the determination of university entrance standards.



David Menear, education editor of The Toronto Star will deliver the keynote address: 'The Teacher as a Facilitator of Active Learning' on the first day of the AGM. Menear is former principal of Willow Park Public School, Scarborough.

BRITISH COLUMBIA TEACHERS' FEDERATION

NEWSLETTER

APRIL 1968

VANCOUVER, B.C.

VOL. 7, No. 9

Certification system changed

By C. D. OVANS
General Secretary

B.C. is to adopt an entirely new system of teacher certification, according to an announcement made by the Hon. L. R. Peterson, Minister of Education, in the Legislature recently.

The existing six certificate categories — EC, EB, EA, PC, PB and PA — will no longer be issued to new entrants to teaching in the province. They will be replaced by: A 'Teaching License' to those who have completed a minimum of one or two years of academic and professional training beyond secondary school. (Replacing the existing EC and EB categories.) The license will be valid for a period of four years and renewable for further four-year period at the discretion of the licensing authority.

A 'Standard Teaching Certificate' to those who have completed a three-year program at the university level. (Replacing the existing EA certificate.)

A 'Professional Teaching Certificate' to those who have completed a teacher preparation program requiring four or more years of university level work. (Replacing the existing PC, PB and PA categories.)

In addition, Letters of Permission to teach will continue to be issued when a school board can establish a need to appoint as teacher a person who is not eligible for regular licensing or certification and can furnish to the Superintendent of Education acceptable evidence of the suitability of the person to meet the need.

A Letter of Permission would be made valid for one year, as at present, and made subject to reissue for periods exceeding one

year at the discretion of the superintendent. A Letter of Permission would specify a purpose and could be quite restrictive — for example, permission to teach a course or courses in chef training or permission to teach instrumental music.

OTHER CHANGES

(1) There is to be appointed a Departmental Committee on Teacher Certification with authority to review certification practices and to recommend to the Superintendent of Education the certificate or license to be granted in individual cases.

(2) Programs of teacher training offered in other provinces of Canada will be evaluated in terms of B.C. requirements and a table of comparability will be drawn up such that a teacher trained in another province by examining the table will be able to tell which particular B.C. certificate he is eligible for.

(3) Persons holding licenses, certificates, or Letters of Permission to teach will all be defined as teachers in the Public Schools Act. (At the present time those on Letters of Permission are excluded from the definition of 'teacher'.)

(4) Persons holding Letters of Permission to teach will henceforth automatically become members of the BCTF unless they are denied a membership category by the BCTF.

In assigning a B.C. license or certificate, the Registrar will no longer need to examine an individual transcript. Proof that the applicant has completed a particular program of teacher training in another province will in itself establish eligibility for a particular B.C. license or certificate.

WHY THE CHANGES?

Up until now as part of a basic education program underwritten by the province there has been a salary grant scale in terms of which the government has paid to school boards a grant based

upon the certification category and the years of approved teaching experience of each teacher employed.

The whole scale will no longer exist. With its disappearance goes any necessity for the Registrar to categorize teachers.

The trend in teacher certification across Canada and throughout the U.S.A. in recent years has been in the direction of simplification through the creation of fewer and broader classifications.

Here in B.C. there must have been at one time more than 50 teaching certificates which in 1956 were classified into six categories. This year the six categories essentially are reduced to three.

The time may well come when only one category of certification will exist, representing the authority granted by the province to each, with distinctions concerning kind and level of teaching left as a contractual employment matter to be worked out between teacher and school board.

The Registrar's office of recent years has been at times severely criticized by teachers because of delays in processing applications for certification or certification changes.

The greatly simplified requirements and procedures being adopted will remove the causes of delay.

WHAT DO THE CHANGES MEAN?

The most significant impact of the changes is that salary categories, which currently are closely tied to certification categories, will have to be assigned by some agency or agencies other than the Registrar of the Department of Education.

The BCTF can hardly object to this because of its long standing policy that salaries paid should be based upon agreements negotiated by school boards and teachers and should not be directly related to grants paid by

(Continued on Page 2)



B.C. Teachers Credit Union recently expanded its offices better to serve the more than 7,000 members. The expansion project was designed and supervised by BCTF Building Superintendent Tom

Chubb. Carpenter on the project was Martin Davidson, assisted by Dave Cash and Roy Firth, all of the federation's maintenance staff.

Credit union sixth largest in province

B.C. teachers now have the province's sixth largest credit union, with assets of well over \$7 million.

Eugene Deagle, president of the B.C. Teachers Credit Union told the annual meeting, March 16, that loans increased during the past year by 26% to \$5,883,721. Savings increased by 20% to a total of \$5,572,240.

The president said total loans

since incorporation were \$26,362,942. The meeting approved a 4½% dividend on members' share savings accounts for 1967.

The president also reported that good progress had been made in converting the credit union records to a computer, and that most of the bookkeeping for the organization was now being done by Data Processing.

Certification

Continued from Page 1

the government to the school boards.

In terms of this stand, it is entirely reasonable that salary categories should be decided by teachers and trustees and not by the Department.

Some years ago the BCTF sought to have salary categories determined by years of university education completed. The six category salary scales now commonly in existence and described as EC, EB, EA, PC, PB and PA, could be readily headed 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, with the numbers representing years of university level education beyond junior matriculation.

Transfer from a categorization system based on certificates to one based on years of university education completed would pose no problem in the case of teachers already certificated in B.C. or teachers trained in B.C. graduating this year or in the future.

There is a real problem, however, in assigning salary categories to those trained outside the province. The BCTF and the BCSTA are now placed in the position of having to decide on a new system of categorization and means of applying it to individual cases.

A second possibly significant change is the decision to appoint

a departmental certification review board. Both the BCTF and the BCSTA have asked for representation on this board which, if granted, will be recognition for the first time that the profession has a legitimate concern in certification.

In short it can be said that the certification changes in themselves are not very significant. They will have the effect of removing a vexatious source of friction between teachers and the Registrar's office.

In clearing up this problem, they transfer to some other authority or authorities the still to be resolved problem of assigning salary categories to individual teachers.

TRUSTEE HONORED

Veteran school trustee William Fraser, who has served on school boards in the Creston district for the past 40 years, was honored by members of the Creston Valley Teachers' Association during Education Week. He received a gift from the association as teachers paid tribute to his 'untiring efforts to provide the best educational programs for the children of the area and for his wisdom in teacher-trustee relationships.'

The President and the Executive Committee of the British Columbia Teachers' Federation cordially invite all teachers and their guests to

The Odyssey Ball

to be held in the Peach Bowl in Penticon

on Tuesday, April 16, 1968

from 10:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m.

Your BCTF Membership Card is your admission ticket for you and your partner

Act amendments affect teachers

A number of changes directly affecting teachers were included in the amendments to the Public Schools Act placed before the legislature.

More important changes are listed below:

SICK LEAVE

The number of sick leave days per year has been increased by 50 percent — from 10 to 15 days. Further, the number of days sick leave that an individual can use in one year has been increased from 100 to 120. Sick leave will still be fully cumulative.

President Buzza said the changes in sick leave 'are very welcome indeed. However, he said a number of provinces still have sick leave provisions that are superior to B.C.'s.

He said the federation had sought, in a brief to government, a total of 20 days per year for sick leave 'so the benefits actually fall short of our requests. However the changes leave us much better off than previously.'

LETTERS OF PERMISSION

In the past, Letter of Permission holders have been excluded from membership in the BCTF. Under the changes they will be, by definition, 'teachers.' However, as such, they will not automatically hold full membership in the BCTF.

The federation has opposed for some time full and automatic membership for such people because they do not have full teacher training. The change is such that these people will become automatic members unless they have been 'declared ineligible by the BCTF for a category of membership.'

In effect the federation has control over which Letter of Permission people will become members. This means that the federation will have to establish criteria.

DISMISSAL OF TEACHERS

With regard to school board dismissal of teachers, the basic right of appeal of a teacher, should a board of school trustees suspend or transfer or dismiss him, still applies.

The only change is that in addition to having to put up \$50 to have the appeal heard by an investigation committee, the individual in future will have to put up a further \$100 if he wishes to proceed to a board of reference hearing.

At both levels, should the investigation committee, or the

board of reference, find in favor of the teacher, the money is returned. The essential thing is that the appeal provision is still maintained.

PROBATIONARY PERIOD

Previously, only the principal had a probationary period of two years. In future, this provision will apply to vice-principals, head teachers and supervisors.

There will be a better definition of the vice-principal's responsibility, giving him more responsibility should the principal not be available.

NEGOTIATIONS

The appointment of a conciliator has been put ahead for two weeks, so that in effect the period in which the conciliator can operate has now been increased by two weeks. Neither the BCTF nor the BCSTA opposed this change.

This gives the single conciliator more time to attempt to reconcile any differences that may still exist between the two parties.

To study function of faculty

A special commission studying the function of the faculty of education at the University of B.C. would like to hear from the teachers of the province.

The commission, chaired by Professor George S. Tomkins, will examine the structure and the function of the faculty. Its findings, says Prof. Tomkins, will shape UBC's portion of teacher education for years to come.

The commission is seeking briefs from teachers and local teachers' associations, as well as from persons in other areas of the educational system.

'We would like to hear from any teachers who have views on the structure or function of the faculty,' Prof. Tomkins said. 'Everything submitted will be given careful consideration.'

Other members of the commission are: Professor Sam Black (vice-chairman); Professors Roy Daniels, Ernest Fiedler, Craig Gillespie, Eric MacPherson and Shirley Naleyvkin.

COMMISSION HEAD IMPRESSED

The chairman of the BCTF's Commission on Education says he is 'very impressed' with the calibre of the briefs that have been submitted to the commission to date.

'The topics that have been discussed in the brief are just about as wide as education is itself,' said Don MacKenzie.

'However, somewhat to our surprise, there does seem to be a consensus over a wide area in British Columbia with regard to some changes that seem desirable or needed.'

While MacKenzie was reluctant at this time to pinpoint any one topic that is receiving more attention than any other in the briefs, he did indicate that the teacher aide question is high on the list.

'More and more teachers are bringing up the topic of some kind of non-professional assistance to allow them to do a better professional job,' he said.

The other members of the commission are Mrs. Lorill Hanney and James Carter. Staff adviser to the commission is Bill Allester.

The commission is meeting three times a week to

analyze and discuss more than 70 briefs received so far. Size of the briefs ranges from a page to 69 pages.

Commissioners have also been visiting local associations that have submitted briefs to ask questions and get further clarification.

Deadline for submission of briefs has been set at May 31, though MacKenzie said he hopes that all briefs will be in long before that date.

'If any individual or local association is considering submit-

ting a brief, I would urge them to try and do it as soon as possible so we will have an opportunity to further discuss the brief,' he said.

While majority of the briefs have come from teachers, the commission has also received submissions from parents, students and organizations outside of the teaching profession.

MacKenzie has visited a number of areas of the province to meet with teachers and get a first-hand look at education away from the Lower Mainland.

The commission will study all of the briefs during June and members hope to prepare their report in July for presentation to the executive committee of the federation in the fall.



DON MacKENZIE ... impressed

AGM Timetable

Monday, April 15

- 8:00 a.m. Registration (Foyer)
- 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.—Plenary Session—'Educational Issues' (Vedette and Valiant Rooms)
- 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon—Provincial Teachers' Medical Services Annual Meeting (Plum-Apple Room)
- 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon—Address—'The Teacher as a Facilitator of Active Learning' — David Meneer, Education Editor, Toronto Star. (Vedette and Valiant Rooms)
- 12:00 noon Annual Meeting—B.C. Association of School Supervisors. (Pilgrim House Motor Inn)
- 1:00 p.m. Annual Meeting—various provincial specialist associations. (See program on page 6 for locations)
- 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.—Group Sessions—
 - (1) 'Development by the Learner of a Satisfactory Self-concept.' (Vedette Room). Speaker: Dr. J. B. Van Stolk, Psychiatrist and Faculty member, University of Calgary.
 - (2) 'An Integrated Humanities Program in the Secondary School.' (Valiant Room). Speaker: Dr. Marguerite V. Hood, Professor of Music, University of Michigan.
 - (3) 'Student Responsibility for his own Learning.' (Glengarry Rooms C & D, Prince Charles Motor Inn). Speaker: Dr. C. D. Nelson, Head of the Department of Biological Sciences, Simon Fraser University.
 - (4) 'Significant Learning in the Vocationally-oriented Courses.' (Auditorium, Penticon Sr. Secondary School). Speakers: Mrs. Eleanor Vaines, Professor of Home Economics, University of British Columbia; Robert Heywood, Professor of Commerce, University of British Columbia.
 - (5) 'Creation of a Resource Center.' (Activity Room, Queen's Park Elementary School). Speaker: F. J. McMillan, Audio-Visual Supervisor, New Westminster School District.
 - (6) 'Individualization in the Elementary School.' (Veteran Room). Panel: Dr. Sheila O'Connell, Professor of Education, Simon Fraser University; Mrs. Dorothy Rizer, Professor of Education, University of British Columbia; R. J. Berod, Principal, MacKenzie School, Victoria.
 - (7) 'Organization — How Important Is It?' (Penticon Golf and Country Club). Speakers: Dr. W. J. Hartrick, Center for Studies in Administration, University of British Columbia; Dr. Norman Robinson, Professional Foundations, Simon Fraser University.
- 3:00 p.m. Annual meetings—various provincial specialist associations (See program page 6 for locations).
- 3:15 p.m. Annual Meeting—Teachers of Home Economics Specialist Association. (Penticon Sr. Secondary School).
- 3:30 p.m. Annual meetings—various provincial specialist associations. (See program page 6 for locations).
- 5:00 p.m. Annual Meeting—Provincial Intermediate Teachers' Association. (Penticon Golf and Country Club).
- 7:30 p.m. BCTF Co-operative Association Special Meeting. (Glengarry Room, Prince Charles Motor Inn).
- 9:30 p.m. Wine-tasting party. (Valiant and Veteran Rooms).

Tuesday, April 16

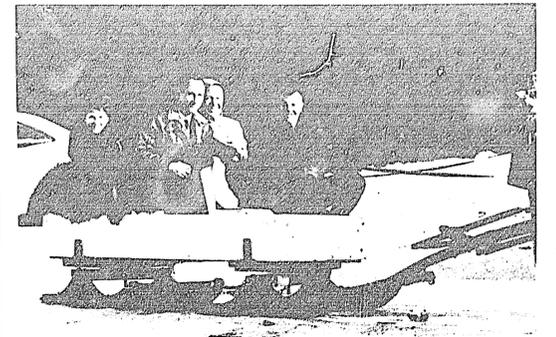
- 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon—Annual General Meeting, First business session. (Vedette and Valiant Rooms).
- 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.—Annual General Meeting, Second business session. (Vedette and Valiant Rooms).
- 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.—Delegates' Dinner. (Vedette and Valiant Rooms). Presentation Charlesworth Memorial Scholarship. Presentation G. P. Fergusson Memorial Award.
- 10:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m.—Odyssey Ball. (Vedette, Valiant and Veteran Rooms).

Wednesday, April 17

- 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.—Annual General Meeting, Third business session. (Vedette and Valiant Rooms).
- 2:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.—Annual General Meeting, Fourth business session.
- 7:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.—Annual General Meeting, Fifth business session.

Thursday, April 18

- 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.—Annual General Meeting, Sixth business session. (if required). (Vedette and Valiant Rooms).



Dr. Marc Belth, of New York City University, Mrs. Belth and the BCTF's Charlie Ovens were taken for a sleigh ride when they attended the annual convention of Burns Lake Teachers' Association in February. They are pictured here, aboard the sleigh, along with Dave Gooding, principal of Grasseley Plains Elementary-Junior Secondary School and sleigh owner Len Ralby.

PSA committee gets terms of reference

The federation's newest standing committee — the Committee on Provincial Specialist Associations — had its terms of reference approved by the executive committee at its March meeting.

The terms are as follows:

1. The PSA committee should be concerned with the overall operation of the provin-

cial specialist associations, including their relationships with the BCTF committees;

2. The committee should review problems and other matters relative to PSAs as raised or identified by PSAs, by the executive committee, by other BCTF committees, by local associations, or by individual members;
3. From time to time the committee should convene meetings of PSA officers in order to assist in the co-ordination of their activities.

Chairman of the committee is federation second vice-president Ed Nelson. Members are: Mrs. Lorna Robb, Richmond; Robert Campbell, Vancouver; John Collins, Maple Ridge; Don Fonseca, Delta; Stuart Galbraith, Burnaby. The executive approved a budget allocation of \$1600 for the committee for the coming year.

The committee's report to the executive stated that a one-day meeting of PSA officers would be held in the BCTF building on May 4.

Have a ball at the ball!

Will you be 'alone' at the Convention? Please don't let your state of 'aloneness' keep you away from the Odyssey Ball.

Remember, it's your Ball — if you're a female, and alone, there will be lots of men 'alone' too!

Even if it is a Ball — surely male and female teachers can 'get together' for a dance without formal introductions and/or statements of intentions!

Teachers' book wins international acclaim

By JOHN ARNETT

Two Richmond teachers are co-authors of a book that is being internationally acclaimed as the most definitive work ever produced for the layman on the influence of plant disease on world history, society and culture.

'Famine on the Wind', written by teachers Garnet L. Carefoot and Edgar Spratt is being compared with Rachel Carson's 'Silent Spring' and Paul de Kruif's 'The Microbe Hunters.'

The book has been published by Rand McNally and Co. in the U.S., by Longmans in Canada and has been translated into German.

Reviewers of major publications in Canada and the U.S. — ranging from the Scientific American Magazine to the Toronto Globe and Mail have been high in their praise for the book.

'Famine on the Wind' has also been selected from thousands submitted as one of the best scientific and technical books of 1967 by the prestigious U.S. Library Journal. This is despite the fact that the book is written in lay language for lay interpretation.

'We have been thrilled at the reception that our book has received,' says Spratt, who retired three years ago after teaching at Richmond Secondary School for 17 years.

Carefoot, who teaches science at Richmond Secondary, says it is the first book on plant disease written for the layman.

He said that in the 17 years that he and Spratt worked producing the book they got information on plant diseases from many different countries, contacted every major university in the world and corresponded with literally hundreds of people in all parts of the globe.

'The more we delved into the subject, the bigger it became,' he said. 'Sometimes we despaired of ever becoming able to assemble all of the information.'

'Famine on the Wind' tells the story of parasitic plant diseases, how they have affected man's destinies in the past and how they may shape man's doom tomorrow.

The book shows that such dissimilar events as the Hebrew migration to Egypt, the failure of Peter the Great to gain the Dardanelles, Ireland's Nineteenth century potato blight and the recurrence of the dread medieval disease of 'Holy Fire' in 1951 are all related to the problems of plant disease.

Reviewers across North America have heaped praise on the book and Dr. B. R. Sen, Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, said of the book '... this book makes an admirable contribution to our campaign for preventing the appalling waste of foodstuffs... the layman will find it of absorbing interest.'

Here are excerpts from some reviews:

Scientific American Magazine—'The two Canadian authors of this agreeable book follow the pattern of Paul de Kruif, author of the classic "The Microbe Hunters." It should become a standard almost in the classic mode of "The Microbe Hunters."'

Sherbrook Daily Record—Garnet Carefoot and Edgar Spratt have written a profound, interesting and exceedingly pertinent

book. It is one that deserves wide reading and consideration.'

Edmonton Journal—'Famine on the Wind' captures its readers and gives them a sense of personal involvement.'

Toronto Globe and Mail — 'I suspect the authors gathered enough material for a book several times the length of this one. The result of their pruning is a gem of condensation, there is not a superfluous sentence. Exploring the deprivations caused by wheat

rust, ergot of rye, grain smuts, potato blight, grape mildew, coffee rust and others, the authors manage to invest these prosaic afflictions with a fascination in such a pleasing variety of ways that the reader is for an intriguing experience.'

Minneapolis Tribune — 'The recounting of huge economic losses in the savings of food for a hungry world that result from complete victory makes fascinating reading.'

Victoria Colonist — 'Occasionally — and what a joy — a book which looks like unrelieved duty turns out to be pure pleasure. Such a book is "Famine on the Wind." The subject is plant disease, and to my astonishment I was so fascinated that I couldn't put it down.'

Dateline in Science put out by Merck Sharp and Dohme, one of the largest pharmaceutical manufacturers in the States, says:

'On the jacket of this book it states that Garnet Carefoot in 1963 won the first award in writing for young Canadians. We believe it. On the basis of this work, we recommend him and Edgar Spratt for more awards.'

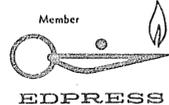
'Readings in orthodox literature and plant mythology may not be everyone's choice, but then this isn't an orthodox handling — instead it deals with the interaction of man and plant and fungus. The statement of that interaction is engrossing.'



E. R. Spratt, left, and G. L. Carefoot with a copy of their book "Famine on the Wind" a product of 17 years of research and writing. The book, published in Canada, the U.S. and Germany, is receiving wide acclaim.

BRITISH COLUMBIA TEACHERS' FEDERATION NEWSLETTER

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Buzza comments . . .

The use of standardized components in school construction does not necessarily mean that school districts would end up with a series of identical jerry-built schools which would be a blot on the community. Schools built in this way can be attractive and durable and flexible. They can be built to meet educational specifications prepared by teachers for students.

The Muriel Baxter School in Cranbrook (see story below) is merely the forerunner of what is possible. Every room has a sink, carpeting, a 'wet' area, adjustable shelving, liberal storage space, adequate tack and blackboard units.

Attractive prefinished ash and natural-finish beams combined with movable walls to form team teaching areas help create an effective and attractive teaching area.

On-site construction took only 6 weeks for a 5-room school with washrooms, office, staffroom and resource area. Not only is there flexibility possible within such a school — a washroom unit can be 'picked up' and moved elsewhere or a small-group seminar room can be set up in a matter of hours — but flexibility is possible in exterior design without adversely affecting the appearance of the school.

Let's not write off the potential advantages of this type of construction too quickly. Basically, it's what we do in our schools rather than what we spend on them that matters.

Unique feature

The 1968 AGM will have a unique feature — an Educational Issues Day which will take up the first day of the meeting.

Morning sessions will feature the BCTF's Commission on Education being interrogated by a group of top elected members of the federation, plus a keynote address by David Menear, education writer for the Toronto Star on the topic 'The Teacher as Facilitator of Active Learning.'

Seven concurrent major group meetings will take place during the afternoon sessions. Discussions will center on Menear's topic.

Chairmen of the afternoon sessions will be the seven candidates for member-at-large on the executive committee.

Details of the Educational Issues Day program are on page 3.

Factory-built open area school

Editor's Note: The following article is reprinted from the Nelson Daily News.

Elementary students at a new Cranbrook school are re-learning how to listen.

School officials attribute a marked change in student behavior to the 'open classroom' concept used by a Coast building firm in designing and constructing this school.

Teachers have noted increased student response at recently-opened Muriel Baxter Elementary School as a result of two or three classes sharing a large teaching area without dividing walls.

The open space plan has encouraged teachers to experiment in team teaching, according to P. B. Pullinger, Cranbrook District Superintendent of Schools.

The \$125,000 school is B.C.'s first factory-built school using the principle of large classrooms sur-

rounding a resources center — containing library and audio-visual facilities.

The modular building sections used in construction of the 7,000 square foot building were manufactured in North Vancouver and transported some 600 miles.

The 150 students at Muriel Baxter School, who previously attended shift classes, are benefitting from a new achievement in British Columbia building schedules. They moved into their new environment four days ahead of a tight building schedule.

TOOK 36 DAYS
Their modern school took 36 days to build — and actual factory construction time was only 14 days.

The school is named after long-time Cranbrook educator Miss Muriel Baxter and is the first stage of a planned 16-classroom complex.

By using the system, it was possible to build the Muriel Baxter School in North Vancouver, while at the same time site preparation

and construction of concrete foundations progressed at Cranbrook.

The 22 completely finished modules, or sections, used in the construction of this building were of two sizes: 10 feet by 28 feet and 10 feet by 38 feet with clear roof spans over the full length of each section. Sections containing washrooms, mechanical room, medical and staff rooms were of the rigid type, affording factory installation of electrical, plumbing and heating services. These modules were transported individually to the site on detachable trailer-type undercarriages.

All modules which contained essentially open space only were of the folding type, in which supporting walls fold flat between floor and roof sections. This system permits stacking of three modules for maximum economy in transportation.

Upon arrival on site the folding units were lifted from the flat deck trailer using a crane, placed

on foundations and unfolded — all in one continuous operation. Placing of all rigid and folding sections was accomplished in less than two 8-hour shifts.

NOISE ABSORBED

In the case of Muriel Baxter Elementary School, the two separate, large teaching areas employ 38-foot and 28-foot long sections of 9-foot and 10-foot width. The centrally located resources and service area consists of 28-foot sections and is accessible directly from all teaching areas. This eliminated almost entirely the need for wasteful corridor space. Noise-absorbing floor carpet is used almost throughout the building with linoleum tile adjacent to work counters and non-teaching areas.

School Superintendent Pullinger credits the favorable student-response to teachers as a result of combined classes and the low noise level due to floor carpets.

'The students' attention is more concentrated,' he said.

'Content of education' conference in October

The BCTF Curriculum Directors and the UBC Faculty of Education are sponsoring a two-day conference, October 4 and 5, on 'The Content of Education: The Child and the Real World.'

The conference, to be held in the UBC Education Building, will focus on how children, particularly younger children, learn, through exploring and manipulating objects in their environment.

The conference will emphasize that science and social studies provide a tremendously useful medium to achieve this purpose. Wherever possible, examples of the unity of knowledge—particularly of social studies and science—will be provided. Ample opportunity will be given for small group discussions.

Six outstanding resource speakers—three from the science fields and three from the social studies—are to be invited.

E. T. Tribe, chairman, BCTF Curriculum Directors, commented: 'I am very excited about this conference. To my mind it is one of

the most significant which the BCTF has sponsored, either singly or jointly, for this time the focus throughout will be on children, and how children learn. I expect to see a very large registration, and I'm sure school boards will be anxious that large numbers of their teachers attend.'

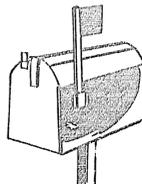
Tribe said further details concerning registration will be provided soon. 'There will be a registration fee of \$8.00, which will include one luncheon,' he said.

The central planning committee hopes for a minimum registration of 500 teachers with a heavy registration of primary teachers. Members of the committee are Professor Angus Gunn and Dr. C. J. Anastasiou, representing the faculty, and Mrs. J. A. Maling, a curriculum director, and Mrs. I. A. Cull, both representing the BCTF.

WITHDRAWS

Alan L. Maxwell, a candidate for Member-at-Large on the executive, has withdrawn his name from the race because he plans to take a year of educational leave.

Mailbox



stituted a crisis. This type of action will not help solve the problems which will be created by the freeze.

As professionals who are deeply concerned about the quality of education which the children of our district receive, we regret that many classrooms required for September 1968 will not be completed.

This will place an unnecessary hardship on hundreds of students in our district. Overcrowded classrooms, swing shift, and temporary accommodation are simply not good enough for Burnaby children.

In a province endowed with such wealth as ours has, we cannot see any justification for second rate educational standards.

The members of the BTA hope that the Representative Assembly will reconsider their actions, particularly in light of the recent campaigns to improve teaching and learning conditions in B.C. schools.

BURNABY TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

Medicare and PTMS

Dear Sir:
I feel that I must take exception to some of the suggestions and statements in Mr. R. A. McCormick's letter in the February issue.

The President of the PTMS stated in the second paragraph: 'However, we should bear in mind that the terrific cost and financial conditions at home and abroad may delay the introduction of medicare.'

As one who has coverage under this medical plan, I must protest such a misleading and erroneous statement as this. We are already paying in Canada under such plans as this and others \$600 million a year. The cost of a national medicare plan has been estimated to be \$680 million a year, only \$80 million extra. If a national plan is instituted, we shall not then be required to pay our premiums to PTMS, and that money will be available to go towards the cost of the national plan. In other words, for an extra \$4 per capita, we can have a comprehensive medical plan for all our people. That doesn't sound like a 'terrific cost' to me.

The second point I wish to raise is this: when a national plan is implemented, on what ethical basis do we ask the general public to spend public funds to put into our PTMS plan in order to give us 'extended health benefits' (to use Mr. McCormick's own term)?

I submit that it is most improper to do so. I think our efforts would be better spent in making national medicare work and, if 'extended health benefits' are necessary, that we should work toward getting them included in the national plan so that they may be available to everyone, not just ourselves.

Yours sincerely,
V. W. JONES,
932 Sixth Avenue,
Kamloops, B.C.

Where the money went

Handbook new look coming up

The B.C. Teachers' Federation took in \$944,173 and spent \$849,735, leaving a surplus of \$94,438 in the year ending June 30, 1967, the annual statements show.

The following is a breakdown of revenue and expense:

	1967	1966
BCTF Revenue		
Fees	\$ 903,880	\$ 818,261
Interest and miscellaneous ..	6,138	6,771
*Lesson Aids (net) ..	8,158	(2,215)
**B.C. Teacher (net) ..	20,790	20,425
Property (net) ..	5,207	2,595
	\$ 944,173	\$ 845,837

	1967	1966
BCTF Expense		
Benevolent Fund \$..	1,704	1,580
Canadian Teachers' Federation ..	29,813	28,242
Convention and Annual Meeting ..	10,840	14,058
Departments and Committees ..	99,004	59,841
General ..	174,648	142,347
Interest on Bank Loan ..	1,635	3,142
International assistance ..	17,036	15,802
Salaries ..	369,326	292,844
Salary Indemnity ..	85,180	79,010
Traveling ..	58,549	40,711
	\$ 847,735	\$ 677,576

Transfer to Reserve for 1967 ..	96,438	168,261
WCOTF Expense ..	2,000	2,100
Excess of Revenue and Expense ..	\$ 94,438	\$ 166,161

	1967	1966
Lesson Aids		
Revenue ..	\$ 25,090	\$ 22,457
Expense:		
Clerical ..	\$ 3,802	\$ 4,886
Text and supplies purchases ..	13,130	19,786
	16,932	24,672
*Net Revenue (Expense) ..	\$ 8,158	\$ (2,215)

	1967	1966
B.C. Teacher		
Revenue:		
Subscriptions ..	\$ 34,839	\$ 32,572
Advertising ..	36,177	31,404
	\$ 71,016	\$ 63,976
Expense:		
Printing ..	\$ 45,525	\$ 37,226
Mailing ..	1,853	2,286
Sundry ..	2,848	4,039
	50,226	43,551
**Net Revenue ..	\$ 20,790	\$ 20,425

BCTF books open to all members

BCTF members may, either by letter or in person, obtain a copy of the complete audited financial statement or question any expenditure or fiscal policy of the federation. The main items in the schedule of expense were as follows:

Salaries:	
Presidential ..	\$ 13,744
Administrative ..	153,922
Stenographic ..	180,498
Pensions ..	16,524
Medical, Group Insurance, Unemployment Insurance, etc.	4,638
TOTAL ..	\$ 369,326

Traveling	
Administrative Staff ..	\$ 22,027
Conferences ..	4,361
District Councils ..	12,280
Executive ..	10,555
Geographic Representatives ..	924
Local Associations ..	8,402
TOTAL ..	\$ 58,549

Departments and Committees	
Agreements ..	\$ 12,045
Curriculum ..	11,559
Effective Teaching and Learning ..	1,494

Executive ..	9,600
In-Service ..	6,394
In-Service Education ..	3,794
Pensions ..	1,366
Public Relations ..	17,813
Representative Assembly ..	17,491
Summer Short Courses ..	6,953
Summer Conference ..	2,297
Sundry ..	8,198
TOTAL ..	\$ 99,004

General	
Audit and Accounting ..	\$ 875
Depreciation—furniture and equipment ..	13,845
Grants ..	37,546
Legal ..	2,222
Postage and Express ..	9,135
Rent ..	47,640
Stationery, Supplies and Printing ..	41,560
Resource Center ..	3,245
Sundry ..	3,194
Telephone and Telegraph ..	15,386
TOTAL ..	\$ 174,648

Strait-jacket

Continued from Page 1
pleasure, with no assurance that in any year it will not be removed altogether.

All of the foregoing is concerned with the total amounts the school boards will be permitted to spend. Equally disturbing are changes in the provisions governing sources of revenue.

As in the past, the amount of the basic program in each district is furnished in part by the proceeds from a standard mill-rate applied to taxable property in the district, and in part by a basic grant.

As in the past, the level of the standard mill-rate is to be fixed annually by the Lieutenant Governor-in-Council. Formerly, however, the Act guaranteed that the standard mill-rate would not exceed 18 mills, and further guaranteed that on a province-wide basis the basic grants would cover at least 50% of the amount of the basic program.

Both of these guarantees have been deleted. There is now no statutory restriction on the extent to which the government may shift the incidence of school costs from the consolidated revenue of the province to the local property tax payer. Admittedly, there is as yet no evidence of the government's intent in this respect. Nevertheless, deliberate deletion of the guarantees is difficult to explain except on the assumption that the government is no longer prepared to meet them.

Of course, a school board which is determined to exceed the amount of the basic program by more than ten percent is at liberty to seek the support of the external authorities specified in the Bill.

With careful planning and assiduous effort, approval may be won. The board is then faced with the stipulation in Section 197 (4) of the amended Act, that the additional expenditure thus approved may be order of the Minister be excluded from calculation of the amount of the basic program for the succeeding calendar year.

Hence, if the additional rate of expenditure is to be anything more than a temporary measure for one year, the ponderous procedure of obtaining external approval must be repeated annually.

Section 197 (4) is in fact loaded against the board which wants approval to exceed the ten percent spending limit. If the board chooses to seek approval from the municipal councils, it is in

the unfortunate position of striving for co-operation from a direct competitor for the local tax dollar.

If it turns instead to the 'owner-operators' it faces a group which includes all who have a vested interest in tax reduction and which excludes many of the parents who could be counted on to support educational progress.

In either case, the basically negative attitude of the group is fortified by the implication of the legislation itself, that to exceed the ten percent limit is contrary to general government policy.

Thus, the legislation is carefully designed to maximize the probability that the board will fail in its effort to gain approval, and to enable the Minister to disclaim responsibility for the failure by assigning it to a local agency.

It is perhaps inevitable that conflict will occur between those who advocate greater expenditure to improve the quality of our education system and those who oppose any increase in taxation.

In recent years, we have seen a growing tendency, in some minds regrettable, for these opposing views to be represented by two levels of government.

School boards, by and large, have been initiators and supporters of measures to promote quality in education, and within reasonable limits have been prepared to undertake necessary expenditure to that end.

The role of the provincial government in education has increasingly been that of defender of the public purse.

Bill 86 greatly strengthens the control mechanism, and renders virtually impotent the one public authority with an intrinsic interest in educational progress.

Our analysis of this Bill may be faulty; we sincerely hope we may be shown to have misinterpreted its provisions. We cannot, however, be satisfied with any verbal assurance of government intent to apply its new restrictive powers leniently.

If the Bill means what it appears to mean, it is a powerful instrument to subject education to centralized, restrictive provincial control by placing school boards in a strait-jacket which the Minister may tighten or slacken at will.

It will destroy local autonomy and impede progress in education by denying to school boards access to the wherewithal to implement progressive policy.

The BCTF Handbook will be distributed to all members next year, but it will be shorter and will have a less durable cover than this year's booklet.

After examining several ways of publishing and distributing the handbook next year, the executive committee decided to print pages 1-95 only of the present booklet, revised as necessary.

The pictures of BCTF officers, the personnel lists of the Department of Education and faculties of education, lists of district superintendents and school board secretary-treasurers, and the appointment calendar will not be included in next year's booklet.

The decision to send the booklet to each BCTF member, rather than only to those who request copies, was made because of the large amount of record keeping, correspondence and mailing involved in the present distribution. Sending the handbooks to all teachers will cost less than sending them only on request.

Using the different binding and making the booklet shorter will save \$1,500, even though more copies will be printed. In addition, a considerable saving in staff time will result from the automatic distribution. The booklets will be sent to teachers at their schools.

If the new format is acceptable to teachers, the booklet may be printed less frequently in future, perhaps every three to five years.

The handbook decisions were made during the executive committee's paring of the budget for next year.

Anti-freeze campaign coming up

The BCTF executive, at its March meeting, began to lay the groundwork for a fall campaign to publicize the effects of the school construction freeze.

It is hoped that the B.C. School Trustees Association and the B.C. Parent-Teacher Federation will co-operate.

The need for a united front in telling the story of the effects of the freeze was stressed by executive members.

Members felt that despite pressure from some local associations to take a more positive public stand right now, it would be better to wait until the fall when the effects of the freeze will be felt in the schools.

They also felt that the matter was getting sufficient public airing through debates in the legislature and no amount of pressure at this time is going to force the government to change its mind.

Other executive members said that in view of the international monetary crisis and experiences in other provinces they believed the government when it said that money was not available at this time.

The executive envisages a public meeting, possibly in the Queen Elizabeth Theatre in Vancouver, to kick off a fall campaign. This meeting would be called after sufficient information has been called to graphically portray the effects of the freeze on the schools in the province.

The meeting would be followed by an informational campaign to acquaint the public and legislators on the seriousness of the situation and its effect on teaching and learning conditions in the schools.

Specialist association meetings

April 15, 1968

ADMINISTRATORS
 Penticton Golf and Country Club
 3:30 p.m. Business Meeting.
 Guest Speaker: Dr. Norman Robinson, Professional Foundations Faculty, Simon Fraser University.

ART
 Glengarry B Room, Prince Charles Motor Inn
 3:00 p.m. Business Meeting.
 6:00 p.m. Dinner (\$3.50).
 7:30 p.m. "What is Visual Communications Education?"—Don Joplin and Ken Anderson.

COMMERCE
 Penticton Senior Secondary School
 3:30 p.m. Informal Workshop — Discussion— Present and future trends in the commercial program
 (a) Report on Curriculum Revision.
 (b) Specific Curriculum Problems.
 (c) Is the Commerce Program meeting the needs of the students?
 6:30 p.m. Dinner (\$2.00 to \$2.50).
 7:30 p.m. Annual General Meeting.
 (a) Reports from Executive and Committee Members.
 (b) Election of Officers.

COUNSELLORS
 Plum-Apple Room, Penticton Peach Bowl
 3:15 p.m. Social period.
 3:45 p.m. Address: "Behavioristic Aspects in Counselling"—Dr. Charles Gallo-way, Faculty of Education, University of Victoria.
 Question Period.
 5:00 p.m. Business Meeting.

ENGLISH
 Valiant Room, Penticton Peach Bowl
 2:30 p.m. Business Meeting.
 General discussion and sharing of ideas on the teaching of English.
 6:00 p.m. Cocktails.

HOME ECONOMICS
 Penticton Senior Secondary School
 3:15 p.m. Address: "A New Emphasis on Personal Creativity as an Objective in Home Economics Classes"—Mrs. E. Vaines, School of Home Economics, UBC.
 6:00 p.m. Dinner — Summerland Golf Club.
 7:15 p.m. Business Meeting.
 (Pre-registration \$3.50 to Mrs. Dorothy Craig, Box 613, Chemainus by April 5).

INTERMEDIATE
 Penticton Golf and Country Club
 5:00 p.m. Cocktails and Dinner (Tickets on sale Monday morning).
 7:30 p.m. Business Meeting.
 Panel Discussion: Implications for the intermediate level of education of ideas presented during earlier sessions.
 Questions and comments to panel members.

LIBRARIANS
 Vedette Room, Penticton Peach Bowl
 3:00 p.m. Business Meeting and Reports.
 Election of Officers.

MATHEMATICS
 Cafeteria, Penticton Senior Secondary School
 3:30 p.m. Business Meeting.
 7:00 p.m. Address: "The Overhead Projector in the Mathematics Classroom"—Lt. Cdr. C. W. Montgomery, Assistant Professor of Mathematics, Royal Roads Military College, Victoria.

MODERN LANGUAGES
 Heather Room, Prince Charles Motor Inn
 3:30 p.m. Discussion on new French text.
 6:30 p.m. Business-Dinner Meeting.

OCCUPATIONAL PROGRAM
 Blue Boy Restaurant
 3:30 p.m. Business Meeting.
 5:30 p.m. Dinner.
 Guest Speaker: Mr. Elmer Gish, Principal, Wagner High School, Edmonton.
 7:30 p.m. Discussion and comments on address.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION
 Queen's Park Elementary School
 1:00 p.m. Business Meeting.
 2:00 p.m. Overview of Existing School Community Programs in Canada and the U.S.A.
 3:00 p.m. Summary of C.R. 12 development in B.C.
 4:00 p.m. Utilization of Community Recreation Personnel in Physical Education and C.R. 12 Planning.
 7:30 p.m. The Need for Curriculum Revision in Physical Education from Grade 1 through 12.
 8:30 p.m. Current Problems of School Physical Education Facilities Cutback.

PRIMARY
 Veteran Room, Penticton Peach Bowl
 3:00 p.m. Tea and Social Hour.
 4:00 p.m. Business Meeting and Reports.
 Election of Officers.

SCIENCE
 Queen's Park Elementary School
 3:30 p.m. Business Meeting.
 Addresses by members of Junior Secondary Science Revision Committee.
 6:00 p.m. Dinner (\$3.50) — Wayfarers Room, Pilgrim House Motor Inn.
 Address: Dr. John Gall, Senior Scientific Officer of the Radio-Astrophysical Observatory.

SHOP
 Penticton Senior Secondary School
 3:30 p.m. Business Meeting.
 Election of Officers.

SOCIAL STUDIES
 Stardust Motor Inn
 Theme: Canada in the Pacific World.
 3:00 p.m. Teaching Canada in the Pacific World— Jim Mulholland on content and techniques.
 Discussion.
 5:30 p.m. Pacific Rim Smorgasbord.
 Business Meeting.
 7:30 p.m. Address (with slides): "Canada's Relations with the USSR and China"—Dr. Jan Solecki, Department of Asian Studies, UBC.

SPECIAL EDUCATION
 Penticton Senior Secondary School
 3:00 p.m. Business Meeting and Reports.
 Election of Officers.

SUPERVISORS
 Pilgrim House Motor Inn
 12:00 noon Luncheon (\$3.00).
 Business Meeting.
 (a) Changes in Constitution.
 (b) Brief to Commission on Education.
 (c) Discussion on Supervisory Practices (if time allows).

April 10, 1968

SPECIAL COUNSELLORS
 BCTF Auditorium, 2235 Burrard Street, Vancouver.
 6:00 p.m. Business Meeting.
 7:00 p.m. Social Hour.
 8:00 p.m. Address: "Education and the Technological Revolution"—Dr. Herbert C. Taylor, Jr., Dean of Research, Western Washington State College.

April 19, 1968

RETIRED TEACHERS
 British Columbia Room, Hotel Vancouver
 9:15 a.m. Registration.
 9:30 a.m. Business Meeting.
 Luncheon (\$2.00).
 12:00 noon Guest Speaker: Mr. Willard Ireland, Provincial Archivist.
 1:45 p.m. Business Meeting (continued).
 Discussion on Pensions with Mr. Howard Forrest, Commissioner of Teachers' Pensions.

AGM '68

By DICK DUNLOP, Convention Committee Chairman
 Thank You!
 It is difficult to know just where to go from here. There are so many — teachers, trustees, parents, city officials, citizens — whom the convention committee, the executive committee and the president of the B.C. Teachers' Federation would like to thank for their assistance in getting our convention to this point.

The one group, which is representative of all those mentioned, is the Board of School Trustees for the Penticton school district.

The board has released school facilities and equipment so that our provincial specialist associations could meet. Its secretary-treasurer, N. Hyssop, has advised and assisted in the delicate area of protocol as well as in co-ordinating the use of the school for teach-cr-superintendent interviews.

The chief executive officer, G. Paton, and school administrators H. D. Pritchard and J. A. McKinnon, have facilitated the attendance of teacher consultants to the committee at meetings of the con-

vention committee as well as at special business sessions.
 The federation is deeply indebted to the board for all of the assistance that it has given.

ODYSSEY BALL
 If you are wondering what to wear — remember it is a Ball — but the Odyssey label saves the day. It is to be an experience through art. The ladies can really let themselves go — color and more color — long or short (even pant suits, girls) — just come and have a ball! Fellows — we never did figure out how you can be colorful, but pant suits are expected for you, too!

Short courses in art needed

There is a need for more short courses in the teaching of art. Art teachers should make a persistent effort to seek improved working conditions.

School districts need an art consultant and/or a trained art teacher to visit various schools.

These are some of the major findings from a questionnaire sent out to primary art teachers in the province by a special committee of the B.C. Art Teachers' Association which is looking into art curriculum revision for the elementary school.

The survey showed that time allotments for teaching art varied from 30 minutes to 200 minutes a week.

While art teachers had no difficulty getting standard equipment, such special materials as kilns were difficult to get, although most teachers did state that it was possible to order materials other than those provided.

The survey did show that many teachers are carrying on a successful art program despite pressure from other courses, lack of special facilities and interference from extra-curricular activities.

John Scott, of Haney heads Co-op for 1968

John A. Scott of Haney has been elected president of the BCTF Co-operative Association. He succeeds Roy E. Mountain, of Langley.

Mr. Scott, who has taught in the Maple Ridge School District for the past 24 years, is at present on the staff of Glenwood Elementary in Haney.

He has been vice-president of the Co-op since 1965 and a director since 1961.

The fast-growing Co-op now has assets in excess of \$16 million. It has more than 9,000 members.

Vice-president of the association is John P. Husdon, New Westminster. He is principal of Tsawwassen Junior Secondary School. Secretary is Douglas H. Jennings, of North Vancouver.

Directors are: Eric Tongue, North Surrey; Arild Dalsvaag,



Burnaby: Walter McGown, Vancouver; Alexander MacKenzie, Vancouver; W. Douglas Clarke, New Westminster and R. E. Mountain, Langley.

Candidates' views in capsule form

EDITOR'S NOTE: Candidates for BCTF office were asked to express, in 100 words, their answers to one of the following two questions:

1. What, in your opinion, is a major problem in education and what suggestions do you have for solving it?
2. What, in your opinion, is the major problem facing the BCTF and what suggestions do you have for solving it?

RAY WUNDERLICH
 Achieving a partnership role for the profession through the BCTF is the major problem.

Decisions of others determine our effectiveness. We share responsibility and become apologists for a system designed and managed by others.

It is logical, therefore, that we share decision-making authority concerning: professional membership; school staffing and facilities; curricula and programs; teaching conditions and our economic welfare.

Our total resources should be coordinated and directed to:

- (1) producing consistently reliable advice;
- (2) gaining acceptance of agencies, authorities, and public, of our partnership role.

The BCTF has evolved an organization and administration sufficiently sophisticated to cope with added responsibility and authority.

LOUIS BEDUZ
 Defining the relationship of the BCTF to its members is one of the issues that will require our attention in the coming years.

Whether the BCTF should adopt detailed resolutions that direct local action, or should develop guidelines for local action are questions we must answer.

My hope is that the Commission on Education will supply some answers. For myself, the BCTF must provide a service to, not control of, its members: the staff to provide information and advice, committees to study and develop policy, and the executive to make the members aware of the implications of various proposals.

LARRY DAVIES
 A major problem facing our federation is the relative ineffectiveness of our attempts to attain more effective teaching and learning conditions.

We must immediately do three things:

- (1) Reorganize the Effective Teaching and Learning Conditions Committee along the lines of the agreements' organization, with zonal representation, well defined routes for direct communication, and specific guidelines for action.
- (2) Establish specific objectives for 1968-69, with two criteria of intolerance:

(a) 'Over 39.' There are some exceptions, but not as many as we have tolerated.

(b) 'Teachability.' This would allow the intolerable classification to be applied to situations in which the numbers conform, but in which little or no consideration has been given to class make-up.

(3) Reaffirm our pre-established desirability limits, and streamline our methods for getting action from Victoria.

W. G. DUNLOP
 In my opinion the major problem facing the BCTF is our failure to create and project the professional status of teachers in the province.

We must make the public aware of the role of the teacher as a professional to improve our image. The present Commission on Education is a beginning. The findings of the Commission must be brought forcefully to the attention of the public and the Department of Education.

Surely the time has come to amend the Public Schools Act to include the professional teacher legally at the Departmental level as a partner in educational decision-making.

Final authority in educational matters should not reside with lay groups alone, without prior advisory consultation with the professional teacher. Only then can the BCTF Membership Plan begin to become meaningful.

ALEX PHILIP
 Failure to communicate is our major problem.

Communication on the job itself — between members of staff; between staff and administrators; between all of these and district superintendents, trustees and the Department — is far from effective.

Small wonder, then, that it is no better between members of local associations; between them and their executives; between all of these and district councillors, GRs, executive and administrative staff.

The solution is not easy—but as a first step, BCTF leaders must learn to use streamlined, jargon-free language in all their communications.

They can then rightfully expect all members to respond to them constructively.

DON SAGE
 We must strive to obtain public realization of the great contributions to the youth of B.C. which we teachers are making. Be proud of our teaching achievements!

By our examples of hard work and friendship to our students we should expect the development of better understanding between the students, the school, the home and the society of our province.

We should be able to expect in return that the students give us respect for both our labors and our physical and mental well-being.

The people must come to realize that we are determined to educate their children to their greatest potential.

ED NELSON
 The greatest problem faced by the BCTF is the low priority that is accorded to education, not in relation to the provincial budget, but rather in relation to the needs of education in our rapidly changing world.

The current outrageous freeze on school construction is symptomatic of the attitude which regards education as an expense to be borne rather than as an investment.

In this educational climate it is difficult to bring about changes such as may be recommended by our Commission on Education.

There is, however, growing dissatisfaction among teachers, trustees, P-TA groups and others.

The BCTF should work closely with all groups in an attempt to bring public pressure to bear on those who are so reluctant to give education its proper priority.

JIM KILLEEN
 There are plenty—that's what should excite teachers!

One problem is the question of control of the educational program in each individual school (or district). The professional staff of a school (or district) must determine the jobs to be done and then must get on with them. How can local initiative, responsibility and decentralization be achieved?

First, all of the available autonomy must be used by the staff to good advantage—now.

Second, teachers must be prepared to advance systems of thinking that can be used to shape the school environment.

Bruce Joyce (Columbia University) would replace part of the traditional 'methods' presentation in teacher education programs with programs designed to enable the teacher to analyze and control curricular systems, social systems, and technological systems. The teacher is thought of and prepared to be a responsible effector of the educational process.

The BCTF must take a new stand on teacher preparation and the definition of the teaching role and function in terms of pupil needs, not the needs of our present educational structure.

We must be prepared to initiate, to act rather than react to this major problem.

ADAM ROBERTSON
 The major task facing the BCTF is individual in nature. Apathy and disinterest are symptomatic of our most complex problem, the lack of a strong personal commitment on the part of many of our members toward the realization of our avowed objectives.

Our task is to bring forth a renaissance, a revival of individual participation, a dedication of self for the common welfare. The solution is not the responsibility of the group, it is an individual responsibility.

Our future as a federation depends upon how well we measure up as individuals. This is our challenge! Will we meet it?

JOHN A. YOUNG
 Our school system is underpowered, understaffed and underfinanced — just like the BCTF.

Our schools do not meet the urgent and insistent need of a quality education for each and every individual child. Thus, our children are being deprived of their birthright.

The BCTF does not meet the urgent and insistent need to provide each teacher with the services and leadership he needs to realize his professional destiny. Teachers are daily being robbed of their right to serve the true needs of children.

Education in this province is urgently and insistent in need of a militant, progressive, dynamic and imaginative BCTF.

GIL JOHNSTON
 Growing need for a new kind of teacher is insidiously forcing itself upon education.

The teaching profession individually and collectively must grapple with this problem and clearly define the emerging new roles and functions of the modern educator.

It is no longer enough to have academic competence in subject matter combined with empathy for children, an understanding attitude and one year's superficiality in paedogogy and subject

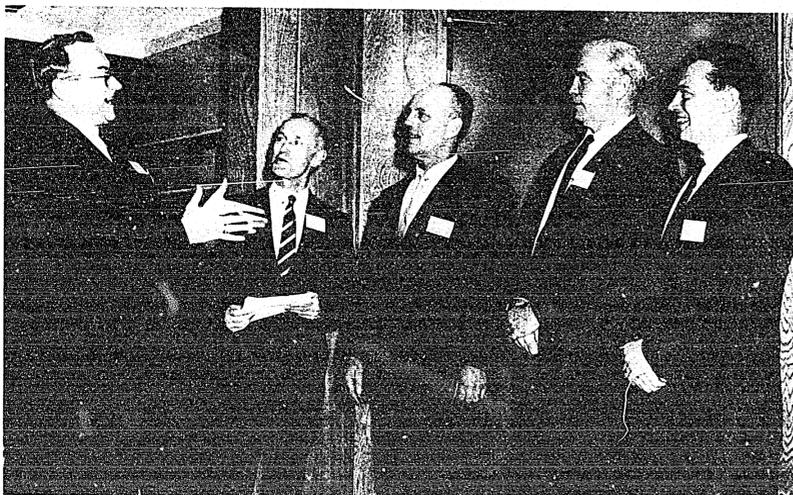
lective bargaining section of the association until 1963, and won international acclaim as a consultant in the field to the National Education Association of the U.S.A. and to other Canadian provinces.

He played an active role in ATA activities, especially in service on committees of the Canadian Teachers' Federation, and the ATA education finance committee.

He was a member of the Edmonton Kiwanis, and served as chairman of the board of Robertson United Church in Edmonton. He was a member of the Edmonton chapter of Phi Delta Kappa.

He is survived by his wife, the former Marguerite Coak of Youngstown; three daughters, Allison and Diane of Edmonton, and Sharon of Vancouver; his mother, Mrs. E. Seymour of Calgary; and two sisters, Mrs. Allison Vaness and Miss Helen Seymour, both of Calgary.

During his seventeen years of service to the ATA he was editor of the ATA Magazine from 1951 to 1966. He was active in the col-



Directors of the Provincial Teachers Medical Services hosted school trustees at a dinner meeting in the BCTF auditorium in early March. Shown here prior to the meeting are, left to right: R. A. McCormick, New Westminster, president of PTMS; A. Lock, Burnaby, vice-president; J. W. Daly, Burnaby School Board; J. Goldie, Burnaby and C. J. Murnane, chairman, Burnaby School Board. Visitors also toured PTMS offices.

ATA's Fred Seymour dies of heart attack

The assistant executive secretary of the Alberta Teachers' Association, Mr. Fred Seymour, 54, died of a heart attack in late February in Calgary.

Accompanied by his wife, he had been in attendance at the Calgary city teachers' convention at the time he was struck by his fatal illness.

Mr. Seymour joined the professional staff of the ATA in 1951, after having served for three years as Calgary City representative on the ATA Executive Council, and as elected president of the Association from 1949 to 1951.

He served as assistant executive secretary of the Association to the time of his death. He was to have become the executive secretary on the retirement of Dr. S. C. T. Clarke, the incumbent, this year.

During his seventeen years of service to the ATA he was editor of the ATA Magazine from 1951 to 1966. He was active in the col-

Candidates for members-at-large



LOUIS BEDUZ



LARRY DAVIES



W. G. DUNLOP



ALEX PHILIP



DON SAGE



G. STUART WRIGHT



RAY WUNDERLICH

LOUIS BEDUZ

Born Kimberley; B.A. (1949), B.Ed. (1958), M.Ed. (1965) UBC; teaching experience: Kimberley 1952-57; Union Bay Elementary 1957-60 (principal), Comox Jr. Secondary 1960-68 (vice-prin., principal since 1966); member Kimberley T.A. 4 yrs., secretary, chairman agreements committee, president; member Courtenay District T.A. executive since 1958, secretary 5 yrs., president 1965-66, chairman committee on educational issues, was member agreements committee, acted as teachers' advocate in arbitration; member North Vancouver Island DC since 1960, secretary; chairman BCTF Ad Hoc Committee on Membership; Geographical Representative for NVIDC on Representative Assembly 1965 to date. Nominated by Nominating Committee.

L. T. (Larry) DAVIES

Born Vancouver; has PC certification, working on completion double English major for B.Ed. (S); teaching experience: Trail (Sunningdale Elementary 1 yr., Trail Jr. Secondary 1 yr. boys' PE; 2 yrs. mathematics, English and science), Maple Ridge (Garibaldi Secondary boys' counsellor 2 yrs.; Glenwood Elementary, principal, 1961 to date); has been local association agreements chairman 3 terms, president Maple Ridge TA, representative on district council, fine arts chairman; has been convention chairman for Fraser Valley East DC; past member executive Counsellors' Assn.; Geographical Representative on Representative Assembly 2 yrs.; member BCTF Commission on Intolerable Teaching Conditions. Nominated by Maple Ridge Teachers' Association.

W. G. DUNLOP

Born Shellbrook, Sask.; attended school there. Served with RCNVR 1943-45; Teacher Training 1949-50 Vancouver Normal; B.A. (UBC) 1955; B.Ed.(S) 1964. M.Ed. (UBC) 1957; teaching experience: Howe Sound (2 years), Sechelt (2 years), North Vancouver (13 years — at present head of Science Department, Handsworth Secondary School); past president North Vancouver TA; member BCTF Convention Committee and now chairman; past chairman BCTF Professional Growth Through In-service Education Committee; 1 year Geographical Representative on BCTF Executive Committee for North Shore District Council; Geographical Representative for NVTA on Representative Assembly 1966-68. Nominated by North Vancouver Teachers' Association.

ALEX PHILIP

Born Forth, Lanarkshire, Scotland; elementary education London; secondary education Highbury County Grammar School; Exmouth Teacher Training College 1946-47; B.Ed.(S) UBC 1964; teaching experience: Devon and Cornwall 1947-55, Prince George (teacher Cannought Elementary, vice-prin. Harwin and King George V Elementary schools) 1955-59, Victoria (teacher Tillicum Elementary) 1959-60, now on Elementary (prin.) 1960-61; Fort St. John (librarian North Peace Sec.) 1961-63; Telegraph Creek Elementary (prin.) 1963-64, Portage Mountain (librarian Hudson

Hope Elem. Jr. Sec.) 1964 to date; Prince George TA treasurer, member and chairman agreements committee; Peace River North TA member and chairman agreements committee; Portage Mountain TA chairman 3 years agreements committee and still member, chairman liaison committee 1964 to date; BCTF Agreements Co-ordinator Peace River 1962-63; Geographical Representative for Peace River on Representative Assembly 1965 to date. Nominated by Nominating Committee.

W. D. M. (Don) SAGE

Raised and attended school in Vancouver; B.A. (UBC) 1940, M.A. (Clark, Worcester, Mass.) 1941 after year as Scholar in History and International Relations; some war work, then 4 years Canadian Army in Ottawa and London as lieutenant-narrator in Historical Section, C.G.S.; has remained active in militia; teaching experience — Calgary, Alta., 5 yrs.; Vancouver (Lord Byns Sec. 1956-67, Templeton Sec. 1967 to date); active in ATA projects; in VSSTA has been member working conditions committee and joint VSSTA-

VESTA liaison committee, helped prepare submission to Chant Commission (1960), now member sub-committee investigating teachers' opinions of parent-teacher associations and one of two vice-presidents; past president B.C. Social Studies Teachers' Assn.; was member Dept. of Education history advisory committee; helped prepare Teaching Guide to Canada's Centennial (1967); is a director of Can. Assn. for the Social Studies and was B.C. delegate to assn's 4th Annual Conference (1967); member executive U.N. Assn. (Vancouver Branch); co-sponsor U.N. Inter-high Council of Lower Mainland; served on UNESCO Commission for Canada and was delegate to 1964 national conference. Nominated by ten members in good standing.

G. STUART WRIGHT

Born Vancouver; attended school there; after some years in industry was instructor for Dominion-Provincial Youth Training Program; 24 years' service in Canadian Army components, overseas during war; Industrial Arts

teacher training 1946-47, completed secondary advanced certification 1958; teaching experience — Port Alberni (11 years, with leave one year to serve as member Canadian Delegation, International Supervisory Commissions, Cambodia and Viet Nam), Nanaimo (1958 to present); has served on various local and BCTF committees; past president Nanaimo TA and member South Vancouver Island DC 3 years; member Steering Committee 1964 AGM; Geographical Representative on BCTF Executive Committee for SVIDC 1964-65; GR on Representative Assembly for SVIDC 1965-68. Nominated by Nominating Committee.

RAY J. WUNDERLICH

Born Cudworth, Sask.; attended school there; B.A. (UBC) 1948; Teacher Training (UBC) 1949; pilot RCAF 3 years; teaching experience — Kelowna 12 years (junior and senior secondary schools), Victoria 7 years (Oak Bay Secondary School); past president Kelowna T.A. and Okanagan Valley Teachers' Association;

chairman OVTA Fall Convention 1960; past president GVTA; member Co-operative Committee (a joint trustee-teacher committee which considers and makes recommendations on policy matters of mutual concern); co-chairman with trustee for Victoria's Centennial Community Conference on Education January 1967; member GVTA's Continuous Progress Co-ordinating Committee and co-chairman BCTF Commission on Education Co-ordinating Committee; past chairman convention committee; past chairman BCTF Constitution and By-Laws Committee; member BCTF Education Finance Committee, ad hoc committee on Membership Categorization Plan and ad hoc committee on Problems of Large Urban Locals; Geographical Representative for OVTA on BCTF Executive Committee 2 years; BCTF Consultative Committee 1 year; serving second year as Geographical Representative for GVTA on Representative Assembly. Nominated by Nominating Committee.



Four of the nine members of the hard-working BCTF Convention Committee are shown here examining a sketch of decorations for the Odyssey Ball, social highlight of the 1968 AGM in Penticton. Left to right: Dick Dunlop, committee chairman; Donna Adams, Ron Hender-

son and Joe Sadowski. Other members of the committee are: J. C. Morris, Mrs. Jean G. Rutherford, Doris Standly, Dorothy Peirson, and J. E. Robertson.

BRITISH COLUMBIA TEACHERS' FEDERATION NEWSLETTER