

# BRITISH COLUMBIA TEACHERS' FEDERATION NEWSLETTER

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APRIL 1969



## A short visit with the premier

Thirty-two teachers from school districts in the province that are having financial troubles because of the new provincial education formula, spent two days in Victoria in early March meeting with MLAs and cabinet ministers to discuss problems back home.

Some of the teachers also took time out from listening to the debate in the legislature to visit with Premier W. A. C. Bennett. This picture was taken in the Premier's office. Don Ryan photo

### Golden AGM

## Fifty years a federation

Color the 1969 AGM gold.

The Federation has been in operation for 50 years and the anniversary will be marked in a number of different ways during the Annual General Meeting in Hotel Vancouver.

Each delegate will receive a (golden) souvenir of the meeting; the program will be on gold paper and the color will appear prominently in decorations.

A special golden anniversary program will take place on the evening of Tuesday, April 8. The program will feature a look at the BCTF over the years.

On the same evening, past presidents and honorary members of the Federation will attend a Golden Anniversary dinner.

This year, in an attempt to cut down on mounting costs, there will be no delegates' dinner where, traditionally, awards have been presented. The awards will be made, instead, during the golden anniversary celebration.

The first day of the AGM, Monday, April 7, will be Professional Day. Theme of the morning session is taken from the title of the report of the BCTF Commission on Education — 'Involvement, the Key to Better Schools.'

President Tom Hutchison will deliver his presidential address at 9:30 a.m., followed by a keynote address by Lloyd A. Dennis, co-chairman of the Ontario Royal Commission on Education.

Provincial Specialist Associations will meet all afternoon.

AGM business sessions are scheduled for Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday until noon, with a meeting of the Representative Assembly on Thursday afternoon. Elections take place Wednesday afternoon.

The Hotel Vancouver has been completely renovated since the last AGM there in 1963. Escalators have been provided to speed up movement between convention floors and a parking garage at the rear of the hotel provides ample space for guests and visitors.

There will be a number of Federation displays in the foyer of the convention floor.

A new feature this year will be 'Open House' at the BCTF building, 2235 Burrard, on the afternoon of Tuesday, April 8. Busses will be available to transport delegates to the building for an hour-long tour.

Another special feature will be a display of photographs of all past presidents of the BCTF. These photographs will later be framed and placed in board rooms in the BCTF building.

There will be no formal registration this year, but delegates are asked to pick up name tags and programs at the information desk. Delegates' kits will be handed out at the start of the business sessions on Tuesday morning. The Wardens of past years who checked accreditation as delegates entered the convention room have also been eliminated this year.

## Budget available

The BCTF's 1969-70 budget of \$1,699,100 was approved by the Representative Assembly at its January meeting. Members wishing copies of the budget can receive them by writing the Treasurer of the BCTF, 2235 Burrard St.

## Frank talk from four teachers

By JOHN ARNETT  
Press, Information Officer

Education Minister Donald Brothers heard some frank talk from four teachers during an impromptu discussion in the minister's office March 6.

The four — Al Blakey and Bob Pyke of Vancouver, and Malcolm Mactavish and Sam Reid of Sechelt — were members of a 30-teacher BCTF delegation which spent two days in Victoria to discuss educational problems of their districts with their MLAs.

They had a surprise interview with Brothers when they dropped by his office for a picture-taking session.

The Minister, who was extremely busy at that time because his department's estimates were being discussed in the House, took time out to question the teachers about their views on education finance.

He pointed out to the four that the government is spending an increasing amount of money on education each year and asked them if they knew how much was being spent.

Mactavish said the teachers visiting Victoria for the two days were more concerned with problems at the local level than the provincial, but were unhappy about the provincial finance formula which, he said, was the cause of many of the local problems.

The Minister and the teachers got into a wide-ranging discussion of everything from portables to the supply of teachers, Mactavish bored in with a number of pertinent questions. 'Have you ever taught in a portable, sir?' Answer: 'No, I have never taught in one, but I have studied in one at UBC.'

Teachers buttonholed MLAs and cabinet ministers in the corridors, offices and in caucus rooms. They took MLAs out to lunch and dinner and talked over coffee.

Some of them got to meet the Premier in his office.

The group also listened intently to the debate on the education estimates in the House, hearing first Opposition Leader Strachan and then Liberal Leader McGeer lambaste the government for its education policies.

The trip to Victoria was part of the Federation's information campaign. Most of the representatives were from districts that faced referenda for operating costs in excess of the 110% of the

basic education program provided by the formula.

Others, from such districts as Vancouver and Burnaby, went along to talk about general problems in their areas.

The group augmented a lobby made up of President Tom Hutchison, Assistant General Secretary Stan Evans and Assistant Director of Economic Welfare Bruce Watson. The three officials have been back and forth to Victoria ever since the Legislature opened.

## Convention timetable

### SATURDAY, APRIL 5

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.—Executive Committee Meeting (B.C. Teachers' Building).

### SUNDAY, APRIL 7

8:30 a.m.—Registration (Columbia Foyer). Note: Registration is voluntary.

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon — B.C. Teachers Credit Union Annual Meeting (Alouette Room).

9:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon — Plenary Session, 'Involvement, the Key to Better Schools' (British Columbia Room).

1. President's Address—Tom Hutchison.

2. 'Living and Learning' — Lloyd A. Dennis, co-chairman, Ontario Royal Commission on Education.

1:00 p.m. — Meetings of various specialist associations (see p. 6 for program details and locations).

9:00 p.m. — President's Reception (Pacific Ballroom).

### TUESDAY, APRIL 8

9:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon—Annual General Meeting, first session (British Columbia Room).

2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. — Annual

General Meeting, second session (British Columbia Rm.).

5:30 p.m. — Golden Anniversary Dinner for past presidents and honorary life members (Board Room).

5:45 p.m. — Provincial Teachers' Medical Services Annual Meeting (Tweedsmuir Room).

7:00 p.m. — Annual General Meeting, third session (British Columbia Room).

8:30 p.m. — Special Golden Anniversary Program (British Columbia Room).

### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9

9:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon — Annual General Meeting, fourth session (British Columbia Room).

2:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. — Annual General Meeting, fifth session (British Columbia Room).

7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. — Annual General Meeting, sixth session (British Columbia Room).

### THURSDAY, APRIL 10

9:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon — Annual General Meeting, seventh session (British Columbia Room).

2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. — Representative Assembly Meeting (Columbia Room).



## Hutchison comments



The vicissitudes of the education finance formula are documented elsewhere in this issue, and by the end of this month most boards will have received, one way or another, most of the money they require for the operation of their schools.

Whether the painful learning of this year will be taken to heart by Department or boards, or whether we go through the same process next year, remains to be seen.

Now, an education finance formula distributes money. If enough is distributed, at the right time, the formula is likely to go unquestioned, except by taxpayers, rightly averse to unjustified spending if it can be located.

THE TWO major determinants of any formula are educational needs, and what can be spent. Within those two determinants our Bill 86 attempts to ensure a basic program to all districts, to provide for growth, and to give government control over the rate of spending. The great virtue of a formula is that it is visible, calculable, and predictable. It should include all essential services, and yet leave room for variety.

The formula fits some of the requirements. The instructional unit value is known by December 1 for budget planning.

The formula does provide for growth in that an increase in enrollment will, with some time lag, bring more funds, and calculation of the IU value is such that 1969 values are based on 1968 approved expenditures, divided by the 1967 number of IUs. As noted before this year's value is 6.8% over last year's.

THERE IS also the 110%. This, by the way, and we wish the newspapers would get it right, is not 110% of what the board spent last year, but 110% of what the government approves. Nevertheless, if approved expenditures are realistic, this is a growth factor.

It is also worth noting that within the basic concept of the formula is the idea that a board may spend, within its 110%, without earmarking or accountability to a regulation set of requirements or services. That is, there is room for imaginative planning.

The formula, as stated by the Minister, does attempt to reduce the discrepancy between rich and poor districts, and it does force boards to scrutinize their budgets carefully. The 110% is a kind of bench mark, a danger signal, and one cannot quarrel with this.

FINALLY, and obviously, the formula does give the government control over the level of its spending on education. Again one cannot quarrel with this idea, though one may quarrel with the idea that the government should control, not only its own, but all educational expenditures.

What is wrong, therefore, with a formula which the government considers to give an adequate education, coupled with financial responsibility?

Despite the increase in IU value, one may question its level, in that, at first budget formulation, half the districts were over the 110%.

There was no indication at this time that other monies would become available — why should they be expected in operating a formula?

WE STILL question fundamentally the public ignorance of what approved expenditures set the base for the education program.

There must have been miscalculation this year, and it would be a comfort to boards in planning to have some idea of what the Minister regards as 'approved.'

It is true that the Minister did recognize the problems the original Basic Education Program caused, and was alert to the need to provide more monies.

But it is our contention that some needs could have been foreseen and delineated, so that boards could have made early, adequate, budget decisions. Special education is an obvious example.

IT IS BASICALLY an error to proceed from the assumption that equality in educational opportunity is reached by controlled and equivalent money grants to boards. The impression given, that boards are extravagant if they exceed the 110%, is at odds with the fact that the services required in our varied districts to maintain education, and their costs, are not the same.

In addition, and rightly so, the onus is on boards to provide the cutting edge of educational development. A formula which classes as extravagance the efforts of some boards to move ahead in the areas of cultural deprivation, educational television, upgrading of staff through detached duty, or early childhood education, is not well devised.

THE FORMULA could even show as extravagance the hiring of sufficient teachers in small secondary schools to provide the range of programs the government itself prescribes.

A crowning irony is that, of two boards, each offering neither more nor less than the other, one might reduce the mill rate and the other have to go to the people in referendum.

No formula will ever be perfect, especially in a province as varied as B.C. An implication of this variety is the need to give boards more room to maneuver.

The standard mill rate, at 25.5, is too high to permit local boards this room, but much more serious is the provision for operational referenda.

THIS REQUIREMENT leaves a year's operations in uncertainty, and even though the amount involved over the 110% may be a small percentage of the budget, planning uncertainty must be reflected over the whole.

If the people are dissatisfied with their boards, let them speak at the polls. Nothing but good could come from more vitality in board elections. If we must play ducks and drakes with operational expenditure, let it be universal practice, or let us choose some area less vital than education.

This formula could work, provided:

1. that, as far as is possible, what is approved is known;
2. that major exceptions to the provincial pattern be identified and provided for, as has been done with special education;
3. that boards be permitted to spend over the 110% level, on their own judgment.

## Mailbox

### Diagnosis questioned

The Editor:

I was fascinated, in a wry sort of way, by your editorial 'Malaise in Mission' in the March issue.

'Doctor' Cairnie, whom the Federation assigned to diagnose and treat the Mission Secondary School pedagogical malaise, was uncompromising in his diagnostic report: teacher frustration, brought on by an over-infusion of 'under-qualified' blood in the faculty arteries, a condition aggravated by acute cerebral constipation of the local board and its officials.

His proposed treatment, pills properly sugared for the consumption of the ailing staff elite: purge the academic bloodstream of this poison and all will be well in the school. Hopefully, the BCTF will supply the board with sufficient laxative to get them (pardon the expression) moving. End the analogy.

Is it all that easy and clearcut? Since when does the mere possession of a B.Ed. Secondary degree guarantee that a teacher will be, in fact, a teacher?

Does the mere staffing of a school with teachers fully 'qualified' or even 'over-qualified' (15 units over the PB requirement will put you on the PA salary scale, men!) free the system from what Mr. Cairnie calls 'the inadequate learning situation that exists for teachers'?

Mr. Cairnie himself seems to doubt this, though his trepidation appears, as it were, in spite of him. He ruminates thus: 'Quality education cannot be legislated. It does not emanate from textbooks, nor is it molded into the physical fabric of school buildings.' And get this: 'It springs from the competence, confidence and enthusiasm of teachers when they have been given the resources and support they need to perform their professional job.'

Competence, confidence, enthusiasm — and the greatest of these is competence, not necessarily qualification. Yet how many teachers, in how many schools, lack one, or two, or perchance all three of these prerequisites? No matter! Let there be come 'under-qualified' scapegoats for the altar and the sacrificial knife will appease the gods and the gullible masses in short order.



Charles Ethell, principal of MacCorkindale Elementary School, has been awarded a \$2,500 Dome Petroleum Teaching Fellowship to study the use of volunteer aides in elementary schools. He has been granted two months' leave of absence by the Vancouver School Board to carry out the study.

As one of the 'under-qualified' I write thus since the Cairnie-type-diagnosis myth has been largely responsible for driving me out of teaching after seven frustrating years in British Columbia classrooms.

I grew tired of being asked by a school principal to give demonstration lessons in senior English to fledgling 'qualified' colleagues.

I grew tired of marking Government exam papers in Grades 12 and 13 English cheek by jowl with some character who, though 'qualified' had obviously never been trusted with those subjects in his school, and was immobilized if his official marking key were mislaid.

I grew tired of doing these, and other things, and still being lumped in the statistics as 'under-qualified' when the panic button was pressed.

To return finally and momentarily to the medical analogy conjured up by the title of your editorial, the Concise Oxford Dictionary defines 'malaise' as: 'Bodily discomfort, especially without development of specific disease.' 'Doctor' Cairnie has had his say. Anyone for a second opinion?

Yours sincerely,  
ROBERT M. THORBURN

### BCTF commended

Dear Sir:

At the last regular meeting of the school board the trustees expressed the desire that the B.C. Teachers' Federation be commended on the report Involvement—The Key to Better Schools.

This report has been studied with great interest at special meetings of the members of the board and representatives of the Williams Lake District Teachers' Association.

Yours very truly,  
MRS. J. M. DYE,  
Secretary-Treasurer  
School District No. 27,  
Williams Lake.

### Fee increase, k y opposed

De Sir:

a duly constituted general meeting the teachers of Vancouver Island West Teachers' Association passed a motion to take a ballot on the issues of the \$5 increase in BCTF fees as well as the extra \$3 BCTF levy in the 1968-69 school year. They also decided, before the actual ballot was taken, to send the results to the BCTF Newsletter for publication.

The ballot, which contained the following questions, was subsequently carried out.

1. Do you favor the \$5 increase in BCTF fee in the present school year?

2. Do you favor the extra \$3 BCTF levy payable in the present school year?

Question 1: Yes, 5; No, 21; Undecided, 3.

Question 2: Yes, 4; No, 22; Undecided, 2.

These results show 17% supported the \$5 increase, whereas 14% were in favor of the \$3 levy. Vancouver Island West Teachers' Association has about 40 teachers in its membership.

Yours very truly,  
The Teachers of Vancouver Island West TA.

### Sentiments endorsed

Dear Sir:

The principal and staff of the Saseenos Elementary School unanimously endorse the sentiments expressed in the letter from the staff of the General Gordon School in the February 1969 issue of the BCTF Newsletter.

It is to be hoped that the many who undoubtedly feel the same way will add their support in favor of both this letter and that of Torquil MacLeod.

Yours faithfully,  
E. J. HOPWOOD,  
Principal.

### General Gordon staff supported

Dear Sir:

We commend the staff of General Gordon School for their cogent letter which was recently republished in the BCTF Newsletter and we would like to voice our firm support for the statement they so ably expressed.

Yours truly,  
THE STAFF,  
Lord Strathcona School.

### GVTA, board get together

The Greater Victoria Teachers' Association, long at odds with the Victoria School Board, has finally won a voice in local education planning.

A delegation from the association met with the school board at one of its regular meetings in February.

John Smith, president of the 1,260 member association, told the Board: 'We're asking to be partners, to be involved and consulted, but we are not asking to run the show.'

Board Chairman Dr. Carron Jameson replied: 'It's most desirable that we do have such meetings.'

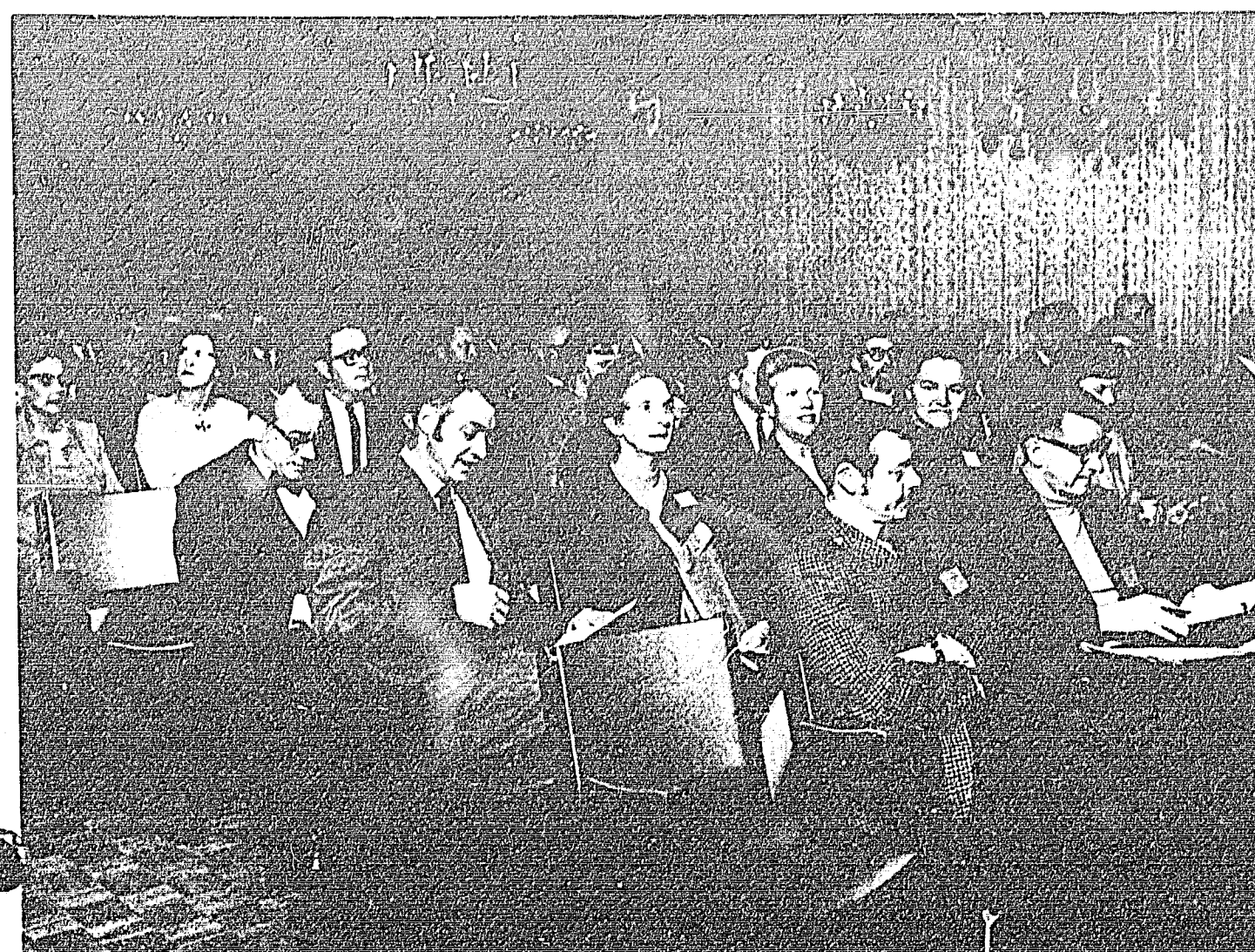
Proposed areas of consultation were: school planning, curriculum development, and public information. Also mentioned were school resources, individualized instruction, discipline and the occupational program.

Last November teachers approached the board with similar requests, but were turned down. Trustees said at that time that liaison meetings would be nothing more than 'beef' sessions on the part of teachers.

Former Board Chairman Peter Bunn said joint meetings of the Board and teachers 'would also be an opportunity of letting them know what's on our minds.'

#### PEI POSITION

Applications are invited for a General Secretary and Publicity Director for the Prince Edward Island Teachers' Federation. Forward applications, stating qualifications, experience, and salary expected, to Prince Edward Island Teachers' Federation, Box 518, Charlottetown, P.E.I.



Part of the group of delegates from school districts across the province who attended the conference on drug problems at the Villa Motel in Burnaby.

### Education about drugs

## Must bridge 'credibility gap'

Teachers, doctors, police officers and others tend to suffer from a 'credibility gap' in trying to warn students about the dangers of using drugs, says Vancouver psychiatrist Dr. Benet Wong.

They are looked upon as presenting the views of the Establishment and, therefore, anything they say is viewed with suspicion by young people, Wong told a Burnaby seminar on problems related to improper use of drugs by youth.

The two-day conference, attended by 77 representatives from school districts throughout the province, was sponsored by the provincial Department of Education, the B.C. Teachers' Federation and the B.C. School Trustees Association.

Wong, who practises privately, says he knows of no adequate, effective school program in B.C. aimed at educating the students about drugs — their use and abuse. 'I hope to hear about some, or at least some planned ones at this conference,' he said.

Wong said almost everyone agrees that a preventative program concerning drugs must use an educational approach. 'This is what this conference is all about.

'From my own personal contact with young people, primarily from schools in the Lower Mainland, I have heard about a variety of approaches, including presentation of facts in the classroom by films, addresses by representatives of the Narcotics Foundation, doctors, law enforcement officers and drug users or ex-users.'

'Of all these presentations, the facts most commonly accepted by the adolescents I knew were those presented by drug users and ex-users,' Wong said.

He said he would like to see schools conduct more research projects on drugs. 'Assigned essays for social studies, English or guidance on the question of drugs seem to be rarely used. I feel certain that they would be welcomed by the students.'

Wong said that use of disciplinary action, such as suspension or expulsion of a student found to be using drugs, is a practice of some schools. He said this is an unrealistic approach, if the school officials believe that it will rid the school of the drug problem, or serve as a deterrent to other students.

'In at least one school district

that I know about, drug users are transferred from one secondary school to another in exchange for other drug users. The 'drug merry-go-round' has many of the students in that district laughing,' he said.

Wong added that the primary reason for drug abuse by youth is not the lack of information. 'Thus, the mere presentation of information will do little to help with the problem.'

'Our main goal should be to understand why each individual uses drugs; it should not be to punish, frighten or coerce him/her out of using them.'

He quoted some reasons for using drugs as follows:

- Because everybody else does — peer acceptance;
- For pleasurable sensations, 'kicks';
- To combat depression or anxiety;
- Rebellion against authority — because use of drugs is illegal and unacceptable to parents and all authority figures;
- Curiosity, need to explore new sensations;
- Feelings of inadequacy, incompetence, passivity, inferiority.

Wong said he believes that the main reason why the present younger generation has turned to drugs is because the young people are overindulged, with resulting lower frustration tolerance.

'They have not been expected, or helped, to be responsible and independent. They are spoon-fed at home and at school.'

'Their creative urges have been thwarted at home, at school and in the community, creating a passive orientation to life.'

'Communication has strengthened horizontally (peers) and weakened vertically (adults); hence the generation and credibility gap.'

'Thus, with regard to education and drugs, the emphasis should not be on what to present, but, rather on how to present not only information on drugs, but also on every subject by every teacher in every school. The attitude is the way; the self the tool.'

At a press conference at the conclusion of the seminar, J. R. Meredith, assistant superintendent of education for B.C., and P. J. Kitley, the Education Department's co-ordinator of teacher recruitment, said that the delegates came up with a number of guidelines which will be suggested to the Department and local school boards.



Teachers were well represented at the conference. Here Mrs. Isobel Cull of the BCTF staff discusses the program with Henry Lunn, Prince George; Mrs. Christine Douglas, Mission and Donald Levey, Armstrong.

### TEAL seeks members

TEAL is looking for new members.

The initials stand for Teachers of English as an Additional Language and membership in the association is open to all persons who are teaching English to New Canadian children and adults.

President Mrs. Pat Wakefield, 6510 Linc Street, Vancouver, says TEAL has a membership of 53 persons and a potential of 250.

Objectives of the association include:

- To foster and promote effective instruction of English as an additional language in B.C.
- To raise the status of teachers of English as an additional language.

TEAL even conducts its own in-service education programs for its members, she said.

In May 1968 TEAL became affiliated with the BCTF—the first such group to be recognized in this way.

#### HAWAIIAN CHARTER

Space is still available for the B.C.T.F. Co-op's Hawaiian charter flight at Easter. For further information contact Miss Vi Scott, B.C.T.F. Co-operative Association, 736-7741.

## Lighthouses must keep on burning!

By B. C. WATSON  
Assistant Director, Economic Welfare

Progress in education has always come about through the willingness of individual school boards to show the way, to experiment, to reorganize — in effect, to be lighthouse districts.

In past years the lack of any real educational research by the provincial government forced school districts to take the lead, a lead which was welcomed by the other school districts and of great benefit to education.

But what is occurring this year? Nine school districts have been compelled to take a referendum to their ratepayers. In 1968, six of these nine received less than 40% of their budgets from the provincial government, all received less than 60%, one received no grant and one received 0.5% of its total operating budget as a direct grant.

Most of these districts received little financial assistance from the provincial government, and could afford, on their own, to be lighthouses and to be in the forefront of change.

Now, in spite of their ability to pay, they are being forced to referendum. Defeat of a referendum will prohibit these districts from continuing their enlightened programs.

The electricity from the Peace and the Columbia cannot re-light the system. The lighthouses can continue to show the way in education only if school boards are granted fiscal independence, so that they may translate ideas into actions.

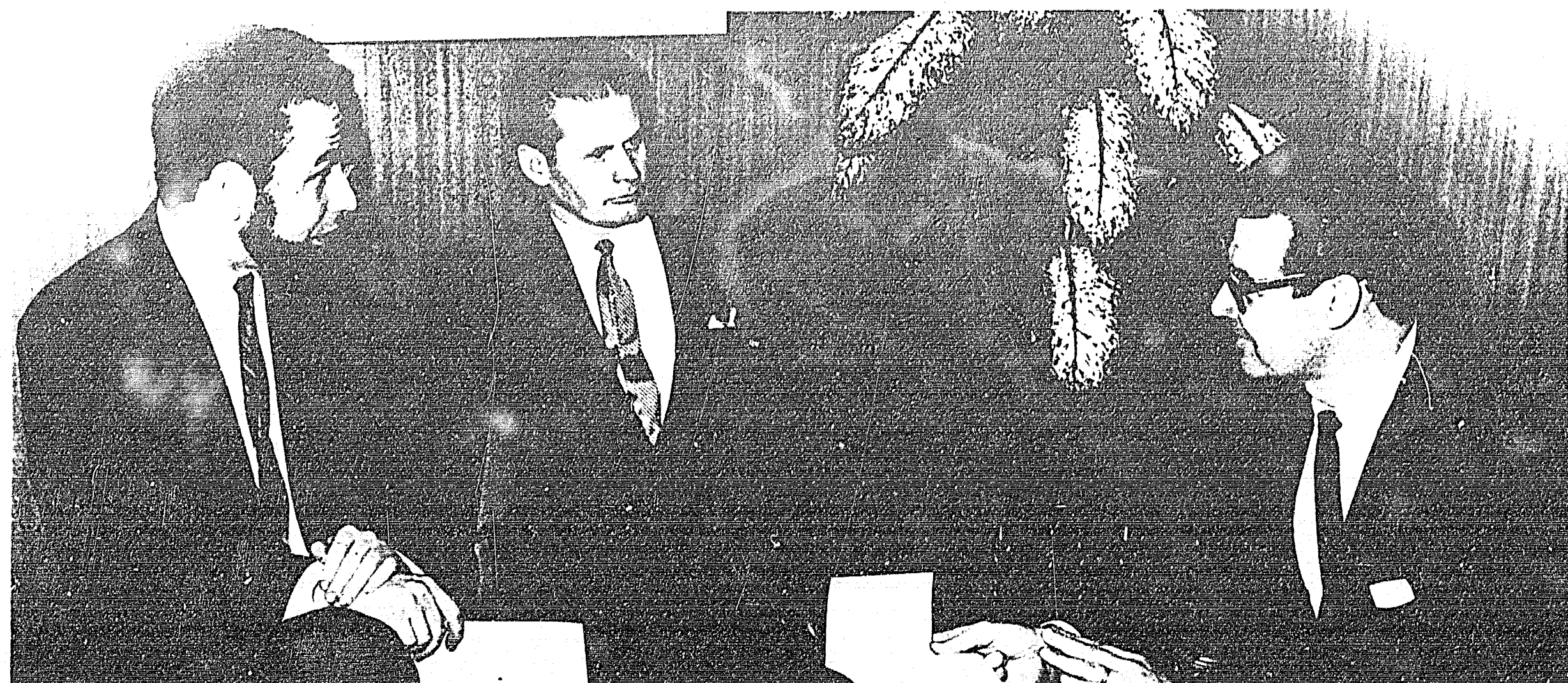
The 110% restriction must go; the averaging concept must go. The formula must be reviewed — and in the very near future.



BCTF President Tom Hutchison (left) and BCSTA President Jim Campbell gave their views on 'Who Really Runs the Schools?' at the Vancouver Parent-Teacher Council's 17th annual conference in February.



# THE VICTORIA LOBBY



Teachers who took part in the Victoria lobby buttonholed MLAs and cabinet ministers whenever and wherever they could find them. Here Al Blakey, left, of Vancouver Elementary Teachers' Association and

Bob Pyke, of Vancouver Secondary explain some of their district's problems to Education Minister Donald Brothers in his office.

## LOBBYISTS SAY

# 'Trip well worth it'

Reaction of delegates who took part in the Victoria lobby March 6 and 7 was generally good.

A Newsletter poll of some of the delegates a few days after they returned home showed that most felt that they had been able to put the story of their local problems across to their MLAs.

Del Hoffman of Windermere said he was impressed with the fact that much of the debate on the floor of the House reflected the concerns of teachers.

'It was obvious that some of the MLAs had been reading BCTF publications and talking with teachers,' he said.

He said MLAs he talked to were only vaguely aware of educational problems in their constituencies. 'They seemed to feel that only the teachers were concerned about these problems so therefore things couldn't be too bad,' he said.

### MEET WITH TRUSTEES

Hoffman said he and Mike George, the other Windermere representative who went to Victoria, plan to meet with local trustees to tell them about the lobby and to acquaint them with the fact that the local MLA was not well informed on local educational problems.

A referendum is a poor method of deciding on school board operating costs said John Halliday of Powell River.

'Although they (MLAs) were determined to enforce some kind of financial control on educational spending, they also showed willingness to adjust any future formula in light of their experience so far this year,' he said.

Halliday added that the lobby was worthwhile because it brought publicity to bear on the problems caused by the formula.

He said Powell River District Association met with the deputy minister for more discussion March 12.

### WELL RECEIVED

Gordon Ingalls of Ladysmith said the delegation was well received. 'Our issues were also well presented in the house,' he added.

He said that although the MLAs were not cognizant of the problems at the local level beforehand, they showed a concerned interest.

'I think the government has been embarrassed by the information presented it,' he said.

Al Fraser of Williams Lake said the money for the lobby was well spent. 'It shows that teachers are keenly interested. This type of lobby couldn't help but be effective.'

Hunter Vogel, a Langley Secord MLA, expressed concern for the local's problems.

Fraser said both Vogel and Ed-

ucation Minister Brothers indicated that changes will have to come if absolutely essential.

Fraser will be meeting with trustees and teachers to discuss the lobby.

### SMALL GROUP EFFECTIVE

An en masse delegation to Victoria would not have had as good an effect as this one said Bill Hunter of Burnaby. 'If there were many more involved, we would have lost our impact.'

He said the debate in the house focussed attention on the problems that the local districts were facing as a result of the new education finance formula.

'Discussion sounded as if the representatives were filled in beforehand on details,' he said.

Hunter met with Eileen Dailly, one of the three MLAs from Burnaby, and she said she was very concerned about the effects of the formula on all districts.

W. J. Murray of Cowichan said he wondered what the outcome would be. 'Opposition leaders were very receptive to the issues, and some were previously well informed.'

'Our MLA representative had met with the local association, the school board and the Parent-Teacher Council and was well in the picture,' he said.

Murray said he felt that two days was 'too long a time for what

we had to say; however, on the overall, it was very worthwhile.'

### TEACHERS' VIEWS

One of the most significant aspects of the lobby to Victoria, according to VESTA President Al Blakey, is that classroom teachers were expressing their points of view.

'We could relate specific problems, rather than generalizations,' he said.

'It was also a real education for myself,' he said, adding that he had never attended a session of the Legislature before.

Dave Grant of Kitimat said he believes teacher concern about the formula has ignited controversy which has forced the government to really look into the formula.

He said that the Secord members were less informed than the general opposition members.

'Our local MLA, Mr. Little, was very much unaware of our problems, even of the fact that we were going to referendum.'

'He was alarmed at the sizeable mill increase if the referendum was passed.'

Grant said Kitimat leaders will meet with Little, Education Minister Brothers, two Kitimat school board officials, the district superintendent and the secretary-treasurer for further debate March 20.

### AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Bob Buzza, chairman of the Awards and Scholarships Committee, reported the names of the winners of this year's scholarships for teachers. The names will appear in next month's Newsletter.

Buzza indicated that the committee had been unable to award all the summer session scholarships available and recommended that the Executive Committee approve the awarding of the unexpended funds (\$1,250) in the form of a third post-graduate scholarship for winter session. The Executive Committee approved the recommendation.

Buzza also reported that the committee has been studying the entire scholarship program to determine whether or not any changes should be made in it. After having discussed many alternative proposals, the committee recommended that the Annual General Meeting be asked to discontinue the scholarship program. The Executive Committee agreed.

The AGM will make the final decision.

'We emphasize the fact that our recommendation is in no way an attempt to downgrade academic excellence,' said Buzza. 'Indeed, we believe that the many other aspects of the Federation's

work offer irrefutable proof of the Federation's very real desire for excellence in education.'

Under the proposal, to be submitted to the AGM with a full explanation of the reasons behind it, the Ferguson and Charlesworth Memorial Awards would be continued, as would the Maxwell A. Cameron Memorial Medals and Prizes for the student-teachers leading the graduating classes of the Education faculties.

The scholarships which would be discontinued, those for student-teachers and for teachers-in-service, amount to \$10,500 a year.

### AUXILIARY SCHOOL PERSONNEL

A report of the Committee on the Utilization of Human Re-

sources in Education precipitated a lengthy debate about whether or not auxiliary school personnel should be members of the BCTF. The committee opposed such membership. Some Executive members supported the committee's arguments; other disagreed.

Finally, the Executive Committee decided by majority vote to amend statement 13.C.04 to read: 'That there be no provision for auxiliary school personnel to be members of the BCTF.'

### EDUCATION FINANCE

Some members of the Executive Committee expressed concern about growing public resistance to the use of property taxes for education. BCTF policy favors the property tax.



Teachers from Powell River and Sechelt explain some of their district's problems to Premier W. A. C. Bennett. Pictured with the Premier here are John Halliday and Tom Young, Powell River and Malcolm MacTavish and W. L. Reid, Sechelt.



North Shore Liberal MLAs Dave Brousson and Barry Clark listened with interest to problems being faced by North Vancouver board as outlined by NVDTA president Jim Robertson and PRO Leigh Farrell.



Burnaby teachers soon sought out their MLA Mrs. Eileen Dailly, the NDP education spokesman in the House. Left to right: Bill Hunter, Mrs. Dailly, Marilyn Bullock and Jim McFarlan.

# Teacher qualification service opens office

The Teacher Qualification Service is now operating from offices at No. 220, 1070 West Broadway, Vancouver.

J. E. Clague, Evaluator for the Service, says that TQS has a three-way responsibility — to school boards, to individual teachers and to the profession as a whole.

'It must, and will, try in its judgments to be fair to all three,' said Clague.

Telephone number is 736-5484.

'It is implicit in the term "evaluation" that there are differences in quantity, in quality and direction in the operation of such a service and that lines must be drawn,' he added.

He said work will begin immediately on the preparation of application forms and category cards, and on processing the backlog of applications already awaiting attention.

'It is our hope that newly certified teachers, district superintendents, and school board secretaries will co-operate to avoid swamping the service during the period when routines, standards and lines of communication are being established.'

Clague said the majority of the students coming into the profession for the first time should fall neatly into their categories as established by TQS.

For example, nearly all standard certificate holders will belong to category 3; licenses, with two years fully completed, one year of which is the professional year, in category 2; professional certificates with a BA, BSc or BEd (secondary) will fit into category 5.

'Where there is doubt about proper placement, board and teacher should agree on a temporary

placement and the teacher should request an evaluation.'

Teachers are asked to keep in mind the following points:

(a) the TQS cannot at this time undertake a widespread revision of teachers already placed in categories under the old system of certification — i.e., EB, EA, PC, and so on, except where teachers have taken additional university credit courses sufficient to improve their category. For example, a holder of PB certificate earning a master's degree.

(b) the evaluation will represent years of teacher training satisfactory to the TQB.

(c) the acceptance of a course or courses by the TQS does not in any way commit any university to accept such courses for credit toward a degree program.

(d) neither does it affect the decisions of the Department of Education with respect to the certificate issued.

(e) partial years of training will not be evaluated — e.g., 3 years plus 6 units.

(f) Category 6 will normally be granted only to certificated teachers who have been awarded a master's degree from a university accredited as Class A.

# Lloyd Dennis AGM speaker

Lloyd A. Dennis, one of the authors of Ontario's Hall-Dennis Report on Education, will be the keynote speaker on the first day of the 1969 Annual General Meeting.

Dennis will speak on the work and the findings of the Royal Commission of which he was a member and is also expected to compare his report with that of the BCTF Commission on Education.

Many of the recommendations in the BCTF Commission Report were similar to those in the Ontario report.

Dennis served as co-chairman along with the Honorable Mr. Justice E. M. Hall of the Provin-

cial Committee on Aims and Objectives of Education in the Schools of Ontario. Before that he was principal of Deer Park School in Toronto.

A graduate of the Toronto Teachers' College in the University of Toronto, he obtained a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1955 and completed a Bachelor of Education in 1958.

He taught in Toronto public schools as an elementary teacher and as a science teacher in a Toronto senior school.

He served as social studies consultant in Toronto for five years and he has written several books in the area of education. His titles include, 'Thank You Neighbor', 'Homes Around the World', 'From Sea to Sea', and 'Land of Promise.'

He was creator and writer of a children's page which appeared in the Toronto Telegram for six years.

# Branca speaks to TEAL

The Honorable Mr. Justice Angelo E. Branca, will give the closing address at the second annual conference of the Teachers of English as an Additional Language (TEAL), to be held at the University of B.C. May 3.

Keynote speaker will be Dr. Robert E. Kaplan, Chairman, Program and Linguistics, University of Southern California.

The following is the program: 8:30 - 9:00—Registration. 9:00 - 9:30—Business Meeting. 9:30 - 9:45 — Introduction of Guests and Speakers.

9:45 - 10:45—Keynote Speaker—Dr. Robert E. Kaplan, Chairman, Program in Linguistics, University of Southern California.

10:45 - 11:00—Coffee.

11:00 - 12:00 — Panel—TEAL Training, 'What' and 'Why' Dr. Robert E. Gregg, Phonologist, Dr. Leonard C. March, Sociologist, Dr. Ruth E. McConnell, Grammarian, Dr. Robert B. Kaplan, Chairman, Mel L. Henderson.

12:00 - 1:45—Luncheon. Faculty Club.

1:45 - 2:45—Panel—'The Other Side'.

2:45 - 3:00—Coffee.

3:00 - 4:00—Closing Address. The Hon. Mr. Justice E. Branca.

NOTE: Pre-registration is mandatory because for Faculty Club luncheon and coffee breaks must be made in advance.

# PENSION POINTERS

Dave Smith will be available for interview during the AGM on the following schedule:

Monday, April 7, BCTF office, 2235 Burrard St.

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, April 8, 9, 10, Foyer of Convention Floor, Hotel Vancouver.

Friday, April 11, BCTF office.

Smith reports that he has addressed eight local associations; more than a dozen staffs and one district council. He was also in attendance at one spring convention for consultation. When he goes to a local association outside the Lower Mainland area, he stays over for a day for interviews with teachers.

### Reports and Resolutions Booklet

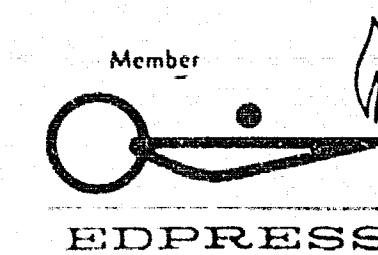
An error was made in the printed report of the Pensions Committee. (See p. 70, paragraph 4, Reports and Resolutions.)

Reference is made to the 'fact' that pensions have increased by approximately 2% each year since 1940. Actually increases have been in the neighborhood of 3%.

The statement was meant to imply that if there had been a 2% per year of service formula in 1940, there would still have had to be a 2% annual compounded escalation factor for pensions to have reached their present level.

## BRITISH COLUMBIA TEACHERS' FEDERATION NEWSLETTER

Editor: JOHN ARNETT  
Assistant: KATHLEEN SYMES  
Editorial Offices:  
105 - 2235 BURRARD STREET  
VANCOUVER 9, B.C.



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# Table officer candidates

## For president



**J. W. (JIM) KILLEEN**

Born Regina, Sask.; elementary school there; secondary school Burnaby; B.A., Teacher Training and M.Ed. (UBC); Vancouver Special Counsellors' Training Program; teaching experience all in Vancouver — Walter Moberly Elementary, Templeton Secondary (slow learners, English, social studies, counsellor), Lord Byng Secondary (area special counsellor), John Oliver Secondary (administrative assistant), Magee Secondary (vice-principal), now John Oliver Secondary (vice-principal); summer school teacher and vice-principal; night school teacher; member Board of Management, UBC Alumni Association and co-author Alumni Association report on university government; member Phi Delta Kappa and Sigma Tau Chi (men's honorary fraternity, UBC); was member VESTA and VSSTA, now member VSAA committee on practice teaching and ex-officio member executive; has been member BCTF Community Colleges Committee and Ad Hoc Committee on Education of Vocational Teachers; now member Policies and Procedures Committee, past-chairman Teacher Education and Certification Committee; BCTF representative to Teacher Qualification Service and Teacher Qualification Board; was Geographical Representative for VSAA on BCTF Executive Committee; Geographical Representative for VSAA on Representative Assembly 1965-68; member BCTF Executive Committee (spring 1968) to complete term of a member who had resigned; BCTF representative on Joint Board of Teacher Education (1964 to date); BCTF First Vice-president 1968-69. Nominated by Nominating Committee.

## For first vice-president



**ADAM G. ROBERTSON**

Born Saskatchewan, moved to B.C. at age 14; graduate Victoria Normal School; B.A. (UBC); teaching experience—commenced 1931, now Creston (16 years supervising principal elementary schools, appointed supervisor elementary schools 1964); wide reputation in field of elementary curriculum,

recently summer school lecturer UVIC and UBC off-campus instructor at Cranbrook in winter; past president Cranbrook and Creston Teachers' Associations (charter member of latter); secretary East Kootenay Teachers' Association 21 years; past president B.C. Principals' and Vice-Principals' Association; BCTF Member-at-Large 1967-68; Second Vice-president 1968-69. Nominated by Nominating Committee.



**JOHN A. YOUNG**

Born Bathurst, N.B.; B.Com. (UBC) 1949; Diplôme d'études, Cours de civilisation française (University of Paris) 1952; Teacher Training (UBC) 1955; M.Ed. (UBC) 1961; RCAF Sept. 1940 - Jan. 1945; teaching experience — Salmon Arm (teacher and commercial specialist, high school one year), Vanderhoof (teacher, commercial and French specialist, elementary - senior high two years), Vancouver (teacher of shorthand and typing to adults at Technical School while at UBC 1954-55), Greenwood (principal, elementary-senior high 1955-57), Keremeos (principal, junior-secondary 1961-65), Campbell River (principal, senior secondary 1965 to present); 1957-60 Group Headmaster in Sarawak, Borneo, under Colombo Plan, in charge of organizing and setting up experimental scheme in primary education; co-founder at UBC of CUSO (Canadian University Service Overseas); president Keremeos Teachers' Association three years; past president Okanagan Valley Teachers' Association; active in P-TA and other community organizations; member Canadian College of Teachers and Phi Delta Kappa; member BCTF Committee on Effective Teaching and Learning Conditions; OVTA Geographical Representative on BCTF Executive Committee 1963-65; member BCTF Consultative Committee 1964-65; BCTF Member-at-Large 1965-69. Nominated by Nominating Committee.

## For second vice-president



**LOUIS BEDUZ**

Born Kimberley; B.A. (1949), B.Ed. (1958), M.Ed. (1965), UBC; teaching experience—Kimberley; Union Bay Elementary, Comox Junior Secondary (principal since 1966); president, secretary, chair-

man of agreements committee, Kimberley Teachers' Association; president, secretary, executive member, Courtenay District Teachers' Association; acted as teachers' advocate in arbitration; member North Vancouver Island DC since 1960, secretary; chairman BCTF Ad Hoc Committee on Membership; chairman Ad Hoc Committee on Teacher Competence; Geographical Representative for NVIDC on Representative Assembly 1965-68; Member-at-Large, BCTF Executive Committee 1968-69. Nominated by Nominating Committee.



**J. G. JOHNSTON**

Born Nelson; attended school there; attended Notre Dame University and Royal Roads Military College; Teacher Training (UBC) 1957; held positions in business as accountant and comptroller before entering teacher training; teaching experience — Quatsino (1 year), Arrow Lakes (1 year, principal elementary-junior secondary school), Golden (4 years, principal elementary-senior secondary school at Field); Gold River (3 years); held various positions in local associations including president and agreements chairman; district councillor EKTA 1962-65 and Member-at-Large on BCTF Executive Committee 1965-69. Nominated by Nominating Committee.



**FRANCES M. WORLEDGE**

Born Victoria, attended school there; in business approximately 15 years; Teacher Training B.Ed. (Sec), UBC; work begun on Master's program; teaching experience — 12 years Vancouver; past member and Chairman of Vancouver Elementary Teachers' Association committees including salary, convention, induction, inservice; Past President VESTA; past member board of VSTMSA, salary, negotiations, working conditions, and sick leave committees; Past President PITA; past member BCTF Convention and Resolutions committees; Past Chairman Large Urban Locals Committee; past member WCOTF Hospitality Committee; BCTF Committee on Sick Leave; continuing as secretary of Vancouver Elementary Sports Association; member VESTA Large Urban Committee, Salary Chairman and Negotiator VESTA; member VESTA negotiating team for working conditions contract; member BCTF Effective Teaching and Learning Conditions, Teacher Education, Letter of Permission, Problems of Culturally Deprived

# Voting starts at 2:30 Wednesday

Delegates to the Annual General Meeting are reminded that they must be in the British Columbia Room of the Hotel Vancouver by 2:30 p.m. sharp on Wednesday, April 3, to receive ballots for the election of officers for next year.

The election procedure is detailed in Section B (p. 4) of Reports and Resolutions, copies of which were distributed to all schools last month.

Only delegates holding official delegates' cards (sent to secretaries of local associations) will be given ballots and this only if they are in the room at 2:30 p.m. No one will be allowed to enter the room while ballots are being distributed, and no ballots will be issued after the initial distribution.

Delegates who arrive late for the Wednesday afternoon session will lose their votes in the elections.

The procedure is used to ensure that no more than one ballot is issued for each delegate's card.

## Mission

# Brief on class size prepared

A committee of department heads in the Mission Secondary School has submitted a brief outlining desirable class sizes in various subject areas to the school board.

The brief, requested by the district superintendent, has been reviewed by the board and a meeting is scheduled between the department heads and the superintendent for mid-March.

The proposed meeting represents the first step in a possible resolution of the crisis created by the Mission staff when they requested the BCTF to declare the learning situation in the school as intolerable.

'We are cautiously optimistic about the meeting,' said Brian Appleby, ET & LC Chairman. 'The public airing of our grievances may have caused some conflict,' he said, 'but it has also made the trustees and everyone concerned aware of the very difficult teaching and learning conditions in this school. The meeting could be a significant move toward the resolution of many problems.'

'We recognize that class sizes are not the only measure of a good educational system,' said Appleby. 'But if the trustees really mean what they have said about improving the situation next year, they should go in for a little spring prevention.'

'They can convince the staff of their sincerity by providing a firm commitment at this time to a suitable student-teacher ratio for next year.'

Staff members also believe that they must have a firm commitment that the district superintendent and school board are prepared to establish a special committee to examine other critical elements in the school system, including the adequacy of library resources, provisions for remedial instruction, and the introduction of auxiliary school personnel.

Ken Gardner, president of the Mission Teachers' Association, also sounded a careful note of hope. 'We have had meetings before that fizzled,' he said, 'but we are prepared to try again. For the sake of the youngsters we have to explore every avenue that might offer solutions.'

Gardner noted that he had received letters of encouragement

for the stand taken by the Mission staff from teachers and local associations.

'The support offered by colleagues is most heartening,' he said.

BCTF President Tom Hutchison said that the situation in Mission must be resolved satisfactorily. 'Needs have been clearly established in Mission school district,' he said, 'yet it is one of those that had no difficulty in meeting the restrictions of the finance formula. In fact, Mission was one of the below average districts and was able to cut its mill rate. Money should not be a major problem in the district.'

Hutchison indicated that the Federation would continue to provide support and resources to the Mission staff. He hoped that parents in the district would also take an active interest in supporting the position of the Mission teachers.

## SOCIAL STUDIES CONFERENCE

The Canadian Association for the Social Studies and The Alberta Social Studies Council are co-sponsoring a Canada-wide conference April 10, 11 and 12 at the University of Calgary. For further information and brochure write to Miss E. M. Buchanan, Supervisor of Conferences, Division of Continuing Education, University of Calgary, Calgary 44.

# Study public use of schools

Elementary and secondary schools in North Vancouver may soon be open for public use until late at night.

A group of municipal and school board officials and teachers is attempting to develop the 'community school' concept, which makes greater use of schools.

Jack Stephens, physical education department head at Windsor Secondary School, has been appointed staff worker for the new Community Service Committee.

'The whole idea is to involve the people of the community again,' he said.

Provision for senior citizens' activities, sports facilities, meetings and dances would be included in the program.

North Vancouver School Board's next two secondary schools will be in the Lynn Valley Center and Blueridge areas.

'They must be community schools,' said Stephens. 'We can't afford to build facilities which don't involve more use than the schools are getting now.'