

those in any other industrial nation.

In Canada, there was a departure from the non-participation policy. Influenced by labour party success in Britain, the new Canadian Labour Congress joined with a fledgling western labour party (CCF) to found the New Democratic Party. However most Canadian workers still support the old-line parties and as yet, the CLC does not have much political clout.

I'M ALL RIGHT JACK

In the 70s, with the slowing down of the U.S. economy there was a trend for many international unions to protect the jobs of American workers. They pressed for import restrictions and in 1971 an import surcharge was imposed by President Nixon. Canada argued that its special relationship justified an exemption and reminded the Americans that Canada was not a cheap labour country, under-cutting American workers. Canadian union leader protests were ignored by the AFL-CIO. When the chips were down, the internationals looked after their majority membership, the 92% who were American. This was a hard pill for the minority to swallow.

CANADIAN LABOUR BATTLEGROUND SCENE

Clearly union activities have closely paralleled American corporate involvement in the Canadian fabric, and labour today is regarded by some as the battleground for the nationalists vs. the continentalists. Canadian unions in the Canadian Labour Congress are influencing the structure and power of the CLC and diluting the strength of the AFL-CIO connection. In fact membership in international unions has dropped from 72.1% in 1960 to 51.4% today, in part due to the formation of national unions.

Until 1974, the largest union in Canada was the United Steel Workers of America. Now it is CUPE (Canadian Union of Public Employees). The United Paperworkers International have broken ties and become independent. Within the internationals themselves there have been demands for greater autonomy. A contentious issue, apart from the locus of decision-making, is the millions of dollars collected in dues by the internationals each year, versus the disproportionately small amount they spend in Canada. Conversely American representatives see themselves as mediators in inter-union squabbles, claiming they have been asked to do so. There are economic interests who prefer the *status quo*, such as the multinationals who find it more convenient to deal with branches of the same union.

In addition to these internal conflicts, Quebec labour remains outside the mainstream of North American unionism, making it difficult for Canadian unionism to present an integrated front. Thus Canadian labour will continue to be fragmented and international unions will remain on shaky ground until the issues of independence and autonomy are resolved.

WORKING AND LIVING

Minimum hourly wage for adults 18+ as of Jan. '78

Quebec	\$3.27	New York	\$2.30
Alberta	\$3.00	California	\$2.50

Average weekly unemployment benefits paid in Dec. '77

Canada	\$105.84	U.S.A.	\$81.53
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Average price of a single family home in 1977

Canada	\$55,570	U.S.A.	\$49,500
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Average mortgage rate

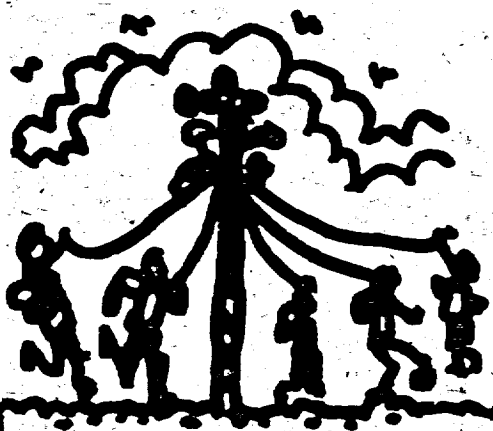
Canada	10.5%	U.S.A.	8.5%
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Average daily cost per hospital bed

Canada	\$112.22	U.S.A.	\$118.00
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Potential work time lost due to strikes

1977	Canada	0.15%	U.S.A.	0.17%
1976	Canada	0.55%	U.S.A.	0.19%



LABOUR DAY

There has been a lot of controversy over the origin of Labour Day. Americans claim to have initiated it and certainly the Knights of Labour agitated for it in New York when they paraded on the first Monday in September in 1882, 1883, and 1884. Canadian unionists maintain it started in Canada in 1882 when there was a labour-sponsored celebration in Toronto. Before that, at the time of the 1872 Toronto printers' strike, there was a public gathering. In any event, in 1894 both Congress and Parliament passed bills making it a legal holiday throughout the U.S.A. and Canada. Labour Day is celebrated on May 1st in most other countries.

ANOTHER ROAD

The Confederation of Canadian Unions (CCU) was founded in 1971 as a "voice for those who believed in a united Canadian labour movement". CCU policy is to persuade Canadian unions to form one powerful centre as an alternative to the CLC, leaving it with its international unions. The CCU also hopes to act as a catalyst, convincing individual unions to break away from the parent body and affiliate with Canadian unions. Growth has been very slow. In 1975 there were just over 20,000 members, mostly in western Canada. However the questions raised by the CCU contribute to the debate on union and CLC domination versus Canadian nationalism.



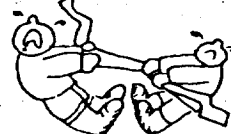
Madeleine Parent is the most prominent spokesperson for the CCU. A convent-bred girl from middle-class Quebec, Mme. Parent was a determined union organizer of French-Canadian industrial workers and became an enemy of Premier Maurice Duplessis during his second period in office (August 1944-September 1959). He had her indicted for seditious conspiracy, persuading many citizens that she was a Russian Communist who had been landed from a submarine. She was not, of course. She and her late husband, Kent Rowley, were founders of the all-Canadian Textile and Chemical Union.

Bilateral ABCs

A ... is for
AUTOMOTIVE
AGREEMENT



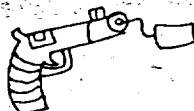
B ... is for
BOUNDARY
DELIMITATIONS



C ... is for CULTURE
and CAPITAL
INVESTMENT



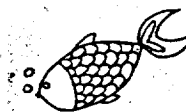
D ... is for
DEFENCE POLICIES
and AGREEMENTS



E ... is for
ENERGY and
ENVIRONMENT



F ... is for FISHERIES,
FASHIONS and
FOREIGN
INVESTMENT
REVIEW ACT



G ... GREAT LAKES
WATER QUALITY
AGREEMENT



H ...
What else?
HOCKEY
and the
NHL



I&J ...
INTER-
NATIONAL
JOINT
COMMISS-
SION,
the oldest
bilateral tribunal



K ... KITH,
KIN, and KISSING
COUSINS!



L ... is for
LAW OF THE SEA
including the
200 MILE LIMIT



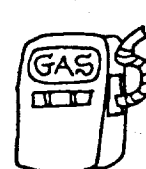
M ... MACHIAS
SEAL ISLAND
It belongs to
US but the
U.S.A.
claims it.



N ... NORAD
and NATO, and
NUCLEAR
CO-OPERATION



O ...
OIL, yes
but our
national interests
come first



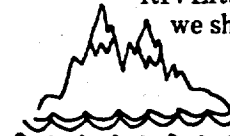
P ... PACIFIC
SALMON,
POTATOES,
POTASH and
the PIPELINE



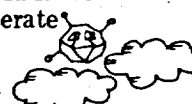
Q ... QUOTA
RESTRICTIONS
on both
sides of
the border



R ... ROCKY
MOUNTAINS and
RIVERS
we share



S ... SPACE
RESEARCH and the
SPACE SHUTTLE
SYSTEM. We
co-operate



T ... TV, TRAVEL
and PRIME
MINISTER
TRUDEAU



U ... UNITED
STATES OF
AMERICA - our
biggest trading
partner
and ally



V ... VÖCIFEROUS
NATIONALISTS



W ... WEST
COAST TANKERS
with cargos of oil
and gas



XYZ ... All the busy beavers
at EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
who created this folio so
you'd have a better understanding of our close-
knit relationship, and an appreciation for the
wide range of subjects which must be constantly
negotiated between US and the U.S.A.

