

Canadian locals are included in the same district organizations as locals in bordering American states. The tendency, however, is to establish Canada-wide districts having a substantial degree of autonomy.

There are two principal central organizations of labour at the national level, the Canadian Labour Congress (CLC) and the Confederation of National Trade Unions (CNTU). They co-ordinate the activities of their affiliates and act on behalf of the union movement in relations with governments and with organized workers internationally. Both the CLC and the CNTU hold biennial conventions that are attended by delegates from their affiliates, formulate general policies and elect officers. Their funds are obtained through a *per capita* tax on affiliates. Affiliates of the CLC are located in every province of Canada. They account for about two-thirds of Canadian union membership. Most of them are international unions, which are also affiliated with the AFL-CIO in the United States. The CNTU, whose affiliates operate mainly in the province of Quebec and are not international unions, encompasses about 5.5 per cent of total Canadian union membership. A third central organization, the Congrès des syndicats démocratiques, was formed in 1972. It is composed of a number of organizations formerly affiliated with the CNTU. The newest of the national

federations is the Confederation of Canadian Unions, formed in 1969, which includes only about 1 per cent of all union members. The remaining members are in unions not affiliated with any of these organizations.⁵

The CLC has established a provincial federation of labour in each of the provinces. These bodies co-ordinate the activities of the locals of affiliates at the municipal and provincial levels and are financed by a *per capita* tax on affiliates within their jurisdictions.

In matters of political activity, the CLC has a close relation to the New Democratic Party, to which many of its member unions are affiliated. The CNTU has not established ties with any specific political party.

Through the CLC and the CNTU, most Canadian unions are linked with organized workers in other parts of the world. The CLC is a member of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, which has affiliates in almost 100 countries, and the CNTU is an affiliate of the World Confederation of Labour, composed of labour organizations in more than 70 countries. Some national and international unions are also members of International Trade Secretariats (ICFTU) such as the International Transport Workers Federation, or of a Trade International (WCL), such as the International Federation of Christian Metal Workers Unions.

⁵ See Table 2, p. 11.