

Support growing for labor's October 14 protest

OTTAWA (CUP) — Support for the October 14 national day of protest is gaining momentum, and all indications are that it will successfully demonstrate public opposition to federal wage controls. CLC president Joe Morris told a September 15 press conference here.

Morris said it is "too early in our campaign to make any definite predictions" but that "after a cross country tour during which officers of the Congress met with many groups in all provinces, it is evident that the campaign is gathering momentum and that on October 14 Canada will witness a manifestation of popular dissent seldom seen in this country."

The president of the 2.3

million-member labour congress spoke to reporters following a two-day meeting of the CLC executive council, the first such meeting since the executive named October 14 as the day of protest.

He said that reports received by the council "show every indication that the protest will be an effective one all across Canada."

"The cross-country tour of congress officials over the last three weeks saw group after group, in province after province, pledge their determination to join the protest" he said, including "public employees, steelworkers, machinists, auto workers, marine and dock workers, bus drivers, postal workers, letter carriers, teachers, students, telephone workers, po-

licemen, taxi drivers, woodworkers and people in many other walks of life."

The only CLC affiliated union so far to publicly oppose the protest action is the Public Service Alliance of Canada, representing federal government employees. Morris said support has also been forthcoming from non-CLC unions, such as the Ontario Public Service

Employees Union and the CNTU and CEQ labour centrals in Quebec.

He lashed out at the federal government's \$1.1 million campaign launched in early September to convince the public to support the wage controls program, which recent polls show does not have the support of a majority of Canadians.

He said the CLC's organizing campaign for the day of protest will cost less than \$100 thousand, and that the "million dollars of taxpayer's money the federal government is currently spending on its advertising campaign in a futile attempt to convince these same taxpayers that wage controls are good for them, will only add to their indignation."

Uof T refuses support

TORONTO (CUP) — The University of Toronto student council voted to refuse support for the Canadian Labour Congress' national day of protest at their September 9 meeting.

Vice-president Doug Gerhart called the October 14 protest "large scale organized civil disobedience aimed more at undermining democratic rule in this country than as a legitimate protest method with the intention of gaining economic goals."

Another executive member said council would become "partners in crime" if it supported the day because he questioned its legality. Council president Shirley French called for support of the day pointing out the common goals of labor and students.

"We are part of the work force," she said. "We have worked with labor in the past and will probably look to them in the future for support."

CLC spokesperson Lou Melchier denied that the day of protest would be a breakdown of collective bargaining. He said the federal government broke down the collective bargaining system by imposing wage controls.

Despite the council's refusal to support the day of protest by 20-9 margin, it voted 16-12 in favor of a motion opposing the present federal anti-inflation program.

In a joint meeting in August, the CLC and the National Union of Students (NUS) agreed that students and labor shared common areas of concern over the federal government's anti-inflation program. While there are no plans for a nationally co-ordinated campaign, the organization suggests in its new newspaper, The Student Advocate, that member councils will likely "include anti-controls material in their regular work." U of T is a member of NUS.

Union stops hike

CHARLOTTETOWN (CUP) — The student union at the University of Prince Edward Island has foiled the university administration's plans to raise residence rents as high as 26 per cent.

In appealing the rent hike to the provincial supreme court the union succeeded in bringing student residences under the PEI Landlord and Tenant Act and the Rent Review Act.

Under the Landlord and Tenant Act students in residence are no longer subject to immediate room search and eviction, while the Rent

Review Act limits rent increases to 8 per cent yearly, unless the landlord can justify a greater increase.

Provincial Rentalsman John Comeau has allowed the administration a 12 per cent rent hike.

The UPEI administration now says they may cut some student services.

University president Ronald Baker says he has "every sympathy" for the students, but "four fifths of their education is funded through subsidies, and that's not including grants and loans."

Nobody for President

KANSAS CITY (ENS-CUP) — The manager of the Nobody for President campaign had a run-in with the U.S. Secret Service during last month's Republican National Convention.

Nobody's campaign manager, Wavy Gravy, was hustling back and forth between the convention site and a local park where demonstrators were headquartered when a suspicious Secret Service agent decided to check him out. He began to frisk Gravy and discovered a bulge in his pocket.

Instead of a gun the agent found a set of wind-up clicking teeth with a big Jimmy Carter smile. Holding the chattering teeth in his hand, Wavy asked the agent to be quiet, explaining, "Our leader is talking."

The agent decided Gravy was "too weird to bust," and walked away.

Gravy says the real highlight of the Republican gathering was a confetti parade with Nobody in the back of an open convertible.

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