Something New Has Been Added!

ADDITIONAL PROTECTION
FOR CREDIT UNIONISTS WHO ARE
READERS OF THIS PUBLICATION

THE B.C. CREDIT UNIONIST

through

CO-OP FIRE AND CASUALTY CO.

offers you and your family

$2,000

PROTECTION AGAINST
ACCIDENTAL DEATH AND DISABILITY

See Page Nine For Details
HAVE YOU HEARD

ABOUT

The Co-operative Fire & Casualty
Home Owners Bonus Plan?

THE ALL IN ONE POLICY PROVIDING
PROTECTION AGAINST THESE HAZARDS:
Fire, Impact by Vehicles and Aircraft, Lightning,
Explosion, Water Damage, Windstorm,
Falling Objects, Smoke, Hail, Malicious
Damage and Riot.

PLUS
A variety of coverages available including
theft protection on household contents and
personal belongings.

PLUS
Family legal liability protection.

Investigate This Plan Today by Contacting

CO-OPERATIVE FIRE & CASUALTY CO.
96 East Broadway, Vancouver, B.C.

OTHER OFFICES—Cloverdale, Courtenay, Prince George, Nanaimo, Victoria,
Port Alberni and Prince Rupert

Auto Insurance available also at extremely competitive rates on
a 3, 6 or 12 Month Term

In Like A Lion —
Out Like A Lamb

What's the trouble with March? It is animal month with a vengeance. Who hasn't heard some elderly relative described as "Mad as a March Hare", in addition to the weather menagerie.

South of the Border February is birthday month, and holiday month too, with Lincoln, Washington and St. Valentine's day.

Take April then—April showers brings May flowers. They don't call precipitation rain in April. It 's 'showers'. It rains in March, sometimes it snows, in fact March is an unpredictable month. Let's face it.

But March here in British Columbia marks the deadline for annual meetings in our credit unions. Weary treasurers sit back with a sigh of relief after the meeting has been held, and the hard earned dividend posted to the last share account.

New officer lists pour into the League office, and the mailing list goes in for revision, all three thousand parts of it.

No matter whether March brings rain or snow—the sun shines or temperature dips below zero, we each have our own device for our protection. It's the CREDIT UNION UMBRELLA.

THE B.C. CREDIT UNIONIST
Official organ of the B.C. Credit Union League, published monthly.
Office, 96 East Broadway, Vancouver 10, B.C.
Managing Editor, Jean Haynes; Makeup Editor, Mary Matthews;
Editorial Board Staff Writers, Cy Harding and Evelyn Bourchier.
Advertising rates on application to the League.
Authorized as Second Class Mail by the Post Office Dept., Ottawa.

CREDI T UNION LEAGUE: A non-profit organization composed of affiliated credit unions, formed to organize and assist credit unions. J. P. Lunde, President; R. F. Williams, First Vice-President; M. Rogers, Second Vice-President. Managing Director, R. A. Mees. — B.C. Central Credit Union: A credit union for service credit unions and cooperative organizations. Manager, J. R. Robinson. — CU & C Health Services Society: A medical plan serving citizens of British Columbia with comprehensive coverage for medical and surgical services, Manager, J. H. Constable.

Telephone TR 6-5521 for all organizations, or staff.
The Army of the Common Good

By CY HARDING

The Forerunner of Our First Credit Union

There was a saying, common during the thirties, that a man’s mental activity varied inversely as the distance between his spine and his belly button. While I could never fully endorse this philosophy, there is an element of truth in it and during times of adversity mass interest in social problems and their solution does reach a high level.

From the poverty of Rochdale rose the British Co-operative Movement and from the distressed area of Burnaby sprang the first credit union in British Columbia. In the thirties Burnaby could well be described as the “derelict area” of British Columbia. It was, as a municipal official said to me, “the dormitory of Vancouver and New Westminster.” For all practical purposes there was no industry in Burnaby at that time. Its population was composed almost entirely of people who worked either in the mills or offices of Vancouver or New Westminster. When the depression struck, the income of the residents of Burnaby and, shortly after, the income of the Municipality also, dried up. A larger proportion of the residents of Burnaby were unemployed than of any other area of B.C.

The Municipality, unable to meet its contractual obligations, was bankrupt. The control of municipal affairs was taken out of the hands of the people and placed in the hands of an appointed administrator, whose prime role was that of looking after the disappointed bondholders.

The people of Burnaby had lost the standard of living and their democratic rights. But they retained their ability to discuss, consider and struggle.

During the thirties, representatives of every shade of political opinion could be found in Burnaby: street corners, unemployed halls and homes were centres of discussion. Freaks, crack-pots and plain fakers of all kinds came to Burnaby and all were listened to and their ideas discussed. The representative of “People’s Party”, with his catch-slogan of “Co-operation, Social Credit, and Technology” received as attention a hearing as Ernie Winch and better than A. D. McRae.

Into this cauldron of ideas, D. McDonald poured his potion. “DG,” helped each other in every possible way. He is still affectionately called, was the more able physically cut wood for mere “depression thinker”. He had seen less able. The slightly better off shared some of the social defects while their poverty with the less fortunate. They were singing the siren song of perjury on top of a page of notes on an prosperity. During the twenties he was a subject, in my possession, is the correspondent, among others, the organization: “The Army of the Common Good, members of the ‘Army’ had joined the Army of the Common Good. Members of the “Army” organised in thirty one families during Union of Canada and argued with Frankingham, Tierney Philips, Pete Guthrie, to name a few. These joined him in spreading the message. They gave freely of their time, energy and shoe leather.

Money was exceedingly scarce. Remembering these days, Mrs. Bingham called walking often, with her husband, as much as seven miles to a meeting—

and the same distance home after the last shred of inspiration or enthusiasm had been drawn from the speaker. Everyone did the same. One who delivered “throwways” in Kitsilano used to walk from McKay to his route and back home again—so that he and the wife could use the streetcar tickets given by his employer to take their boy to Stanley Park on Sunday. Everything was done the scarce and the sale was slow but many were the expedients to cut corners. An office, rent free, was obtained in a new, modern block on Pender Street in Vancouver, with, what was probably “DG’s” greatest achievement, a phone which was used without any charge for two years!

A store and warehouse was obtained near McKay station on the B.C. Intercity. Another vacant store was occupied and used as a depot in North Burnaby. This store had been vacant so long and was considered so hopeless by the owner, that it was some months before he discovered he had a tenant! A run-about truck, without a city license, was used to carry goods from the wholesale to the depot and between the depots. By keeping to lanes and back streets and with some benevolent blindness by the police, this unlicensed truck operated for two years. Then things began to pick up a little, more people were working, and the officers of the Army of the Common Good received a hint that a license for their truck was in order. They complied with the request.

Educational bulletins, advertising material for the Army’s stores, had to be typed, mimeographed and distributed. This was done by voluntary labor. Most of the typing was done by a young girl who would work away cheerily for hours for her carfare and, sometimes, a meal. Educational meetings and social gatherings were held in the McKay warehouse, Liberty Hall and in the homes of the members who lived in larger houses.

It was out of these educational meetings that the first credit union in British Columbia developed.
Credit is basic in our economy. Since the beginning of time people have lived on credit. Industry and commerce depend on credit to finance new developments and services, to expand, to keep current operations running smoothly.

Government uses credit, too. Did you ever stop to think that every time you buy a savings bond you’re lending money to your government at interest? All of us make much more use of credit than our grandparents did. Nowadays, thanks to science and industry, we have the help of many machines to make life easier and pleasanter; washing machines, electric refrigerators, electric stoves, automobiles, water heaters, radios and so on. But they’re long term investments, and most of us need credit to buy them.

It’s no disgrace to borrow—the proper use of credit is good—only its abuse is wrong. A good credit rating is one of your most valuable assets.

Today, thinking people realize that the individual has the right and need to borrow for the same basic reasons business or government borrow—to make investments of long term value, to meet emergencies and to take advantage of opportunities as they arise.

WHY CREDIT UNION LOANS COST LESS

Credit unions can make loans at lower interest rates than other agencies because:

They have low expenses: often space and light, heat, etc. are provided by the sponsor.

They are run by volunteers: members of the board of directors and committee-men serve without pay, with the exception of the treasurer, who may be paid, for the main burden of work falls on him.

The board of membership means that the credit union knows its members, so investigation fees are unnecessary and collection costs are insignificant.

"PROVIDENT AND PRODUCTIVE PURPOSES"

Credit union loans are made only for good reasons—"provident and productive purposes". The credit union loans money, by participating in Chapter and only when the loan will in its judgment activities. Here is where the battle for the long run benefit of the menace of new ideas is accomplished and where new problems can be dealt with to best advantage. When credit unions realize fully that they are the chapter and they are the League, then progress together instead of stumbling around in different directions.

CHARACTER COUNTS

The character of the borrower is the most important security for the loan. Regardless of any other security pledged, the character of the member as most important. Often those who need money most have no property to pledge for a loan, the credit unions consider the character of the member as most important. Often those who need money most have no property to pledge for a loan, the credit unions consider the character of the member as most important. Often those who need money most have no property to pledge for a loan, the credit unions consider the character of the member as most important.

The faith of the credit union is justified; the extremely small losses on individual units, together, to the betterment of every participating credit union. It is the direct responsibility of every Director to see to it that his credit union keeps step in this steady march toward achievement. This cannot be done by "playing a lone hand."

IT'S YOUR BUSINESS

As a member, you are part owner of your credit union. All earnings of credit union, after expenses and reserves are returned to the members in the form of dividends on their shares.

From Kansas C.U. News.

WHEN IN PRINCE GEORGE

Downtowner Motel

3rd Avenue Fully Modern

Bruce and Laura Low

CHAPTER MEETINGS

IN VANCOUVER

Jac Schroeder

Director of Education

Vancouver credit union policymakers turned out in force for their meeting in the Thunderbird Room early in February, where George Stirling, special representative of CUNA Mutual led discussion on the insurance company's services. Similar meetings have been held in all chapter areas.
The Answer Man

Question: Sometimes I wonder if it is a good idea to have children encouraged to join the credit union. After all, usually the money comes from the father. Why shouldn't he just put it to his own credit?

Answer: The children of today are the adult workers of tomorrow, who will be assuming the burdens which we must relinquish all too soon. Should we not train them to carry on the work which we have started? Children should be taught to deposit some portion, no matter how small, of their own allowance. The parent can then match, or double, the child's portion if he wants to increase the account. But the child should definitely participate in the savings plan.

Question: At our annual meeting the credit committee reported that they had granted loans totaling $6,000 to cover vacation expenses for members. It seems to me that this is a frivolous purpose for a loan, and not worth while. Don't you agree?

Answer: A credit union is formed to help its members attain a better way of life. Allow the member and the credit committee to decide if a vacation loan will be good for the member and his family. A vacation may make it possible to get away from everyday problems and frustrations, to regenerate energy through recreation and travel, and to see how other people live. This is helping the member, I believe.

Question: How much do I pay for a loan at the credit union?

Answer: A penny per dollar per month is the maximum credit union rate. Never more. That's another way to say 1% per month on the remaining balance. This comes to $6.50 for each $100 of loan paid in equal monthly installments. It is far less than small loan rates and most financing charges. In most cases it is better than so-called "bank rates" which may sound small, but may actually add up to more than a credit union loan.

Question: Can it help me to consolidate my debt into one loan at the credit union? And the present time can pay off on our loan each pay day (weekly), and some times, if I'm lucky, there is an extra pay day in the month.

Answer: I bet you are getting a little deeper into debt each month. It is much easier to spend too much when you own money to too many people. With one loan you have some control over your debt. There is nothing to stop you settling something aside each week out of your pay cheque to apply on that month's payment. Probably the Treasurer would be willing to take weekly payments from you if that is the basis on which you are paid.

If you owe Zig and Zag Dept. Store $100.00, Blatt and Blatt $75.00, and Owalot Shoppe another $50.00, none of the debts looks as if you can't handle them. Taken together they are $225.00 which is not too serious as long as you aren't running up comparable accounts every month. Credit Unions keep your expenses, like your waist-line, under control.

B.C. CREDIT UNIONIST — MARCH, 1960

Canadian Co-operative Law

by W. B. FRANCIS, Q.C., LL.D.

Published by The Carswell Company Limited, Toronto, 1959

Reviewed by R. J. McMASTEr

This carefully prepared study of Canadian Co-operative Law has a special interest to Credit Unionists in British Columbia, particularly in this year when they are expecting the results of their survey of the Credit Union Movement.

Walter Francis has not only included a whole chapter on Credit Unions, filled with useful comparative information. He has also set Credit Unions in their proper perspective in Co-operative history and philosophy.

"Canadian Co-operative Law" can be obtained by mail directly from Carswell Company Limited, 145 Adelaide St. West, Toronto 1, or from their associate: Burroughs & Company Limited, 517—7th Avenue S.W., Calgary, Alberta. The price of the book is $10.50.

Co-operatives including Credit Co-operatives are portrayed not just as legal entities but as economic and social institutions, designed not to promote a business but as instruments by which persons having similar or identical interests attain solutions to pre-existing needs by mutual participation.

It is a book to be carefully studied not just perused. For those who would plan the future on a solid foundation of understanding this book will no doubt prove a frequent source of reference.

If You're on a Committee

- Don't be a know-it-all. No matter how smart you are, there is always somebody smarter.
- Have faith in the democratic process.
- Make crystal clear the meaning of your words.
- Don't try to ram your ideas down other people's throats. Group discussions are not debating societies.
- Avoid angry outbursts, personalities, and impugning remarks.
- Encourage the shy. Keep meanderers in the right channel.
- Don't wrangle. It gets you nowhere except into somebody's hair.
- Summarize your meetings with positive decisions.

—Adapted from Co-op News, Maynard, Mass.
SPRING
Is Bustin' Out All Over

And Your Credit Union stands ready to help you and your family with your spring "Celebrations" plans-
Come in now and let us help you with your plans to "brighten" up your:
HOME with a new coat of paint, remodelling for easier living, repairing, or new roof.
GARAGE with a new or "almost new" automobile or repairs to "Old Faithful". You will be surprised how easy it is to make the financial arrangements through your credit union.
FAMILY BUDGET with a low cost credit union loan to consolidate all those old tied debts in one new loan that you can handle with less drain and worry.

WANT TO MOVE ANYWHERE?
Phone MU 4-1404
We are agents for North American Van Lines, and can arrange your move—ANYWHERE!
FOR A WIFE APPROVED MOVE contact
BOWMAN CARTAGE & STORAGE LTD.
839 Powell St., Vancouver 4, B.C.

"A DIGNIFIED SERVICE AT A CONVENIENT COST"
Chapel of Chimes
HARRON BROS. LTD.—FUNERAL DIRECTORS
55 East 10th Ave.
Vancouver, B.C.
TR. 6-8877

CREDIT UNION

HomE MOVIE SCREEN—For Sale, $7.50. Da-Lite Challenger 37" x 50". Complete with stand. Vancouver Film Council, 5 East Broadway, Vancouver 10. Call TR. 4-5826.

FOR SALE—Craftsmen safety clutch type electric hand saw. 7/8" blade. Almost new. Phone RE. 1-7162.

WANTED—One used fireproof filing cabinet, net. B.C. Distillery Employees Credit Union, LA. 2-2904.

FOR SALE—One Ladies Musk rat Fur Coat, Full length, size 15, $85.00. Like new. Phone TR. 4-3217 after 5 o’clock.

FOR SALE—120-Base accordion as new. $150.00. TR. 4-57978 phone evenings.

WANTED—By collector, B.C. Trade Token also Canadian and Newfoundland coins. Premium prices paid. Phone evenings TR. 6-3485.

FINE FOR WRAPPING FISH—and may be even for reading, is the B.C. Co-operative One buck for 10-month trial sub. Co-op. Union, 5 E. Broadway, Vancouver 10.

PORTABLE TYPEWRITER—Smith Cloc ona, Gothic type, excellent condition, for sale. B.C. Credit Union League, 96 E. Broadway, Vancouver 10. TR. 6-5521.

%

\section{Make Ends Meet}

Many credit union officers are often asked the question: "How far into debt can a family safely go?" A good answer in terms of consumer or installment debt, not mortgages, would be:

"Don’t owe more than it would take one-tenth of your income to pay off in one or two years."

Another bit of advice sometimes offered: "Budget food, clothes, shelter so you don’t go into hock for more than one-third of what’s left."

\section{How Do You Show Your Appreciation?}

An excellent way to share our appreciation of credit union benefits can come from an all-out effort to personally tell the Credit Union Story to as many people as possible.

If even a small percentage of credit unions participated in such a program, the amount of possible contacts stagers the imagination.

Our wonderful Credit Union Movement has been built by the efforts of volunteer workers, but there are still thousands of people who do not yet share with us the credit union advantages. The opportunity to share it is before us.

\textit{—From "Keynotes", Pennsylvania C.U. League.}

A woman answered the bell on her front door and found a small boy standing there with a bow and arrow in his hand.

"Lady," he said pleadingly, "can I have my other arrow?"

"Yes," agreed the housewife kindly, "if I can get it for you. Where is it?"

The boy studied his toes for a long moment. Finally he spoke. "Its stuck in our cat."

\section{Play It Safe}

If you almost always use next month's money to pay this month's bills, you will always be broke. Start NOW—with the money in your pocket—to set up a fund to handle emergencies. Don't wait for a low-expense month to come along. There aren't any.

The really big things you want are not for you but for your family, College for the boy, a church wedding for the girl, work-savers for Mom, a more modern house some year soon ... For reasons like this you CAN save Most people do. You must decide how much, how often.

\textit{If you put a dollar of savings into your credit union, you make a dollar of credit available to members who need it. This is the easiest way we know to help other people. While they work out their own credit problems with your help, you collect the dividends.}
**Union.**

12 have made arrangements to borrow from Westview by the Powell River Credit Union. A collection agency, has been opened in the participating credit unions of the Alberta League has been set up. Bank festivities.

**Castlegar Provides Pipe**

"Helping the credit union for the purchase of plastic pipe for the Arena.

**Credit Union "Stars" on Ozzie & Harriet TV Show**

Ozzie and Harriet Nelson, thinking their son, David, had gone over his head into debt with a finance company, went through a typical parents' turmoil to help straighten him out, on their TV show recently, only to find out that a letter from the finance company was only an advertisement and that their assumptions were all wrong. Said David, aghast at the very idea that he could be in financial hot water. "I have no problem. I handled all my finances through the university credit union!"

**Deadbeats Not Poor**

CHICAGO—A recent survey showed 20% of the deadbeats here have $6,000-$10,000 incomes, and 40% are in the $4,000-$6,000 level. "Emotional immaturity" and a "cultural pattern" of piling up bills were blamed.

**Grand Forks Featured**

The January issue of Impact, published by Cuna Supply Cooperative in Madison, featured an article on Grand Forks and District Credit Union. This credit union has never had to write off a loss, and has never refused a loan.

**Consider the Whole Picture**

Remember the fable of the blind men who examined the elephant? Feeling the legs, one said "The elephant is like a tree." Another, fingering the tusks, said "No, it is like a plow." The third, touching the elephant's trunk, said "You are both wrong—the elephant is like an eel."

They each knew only part of the picture. And the credit union member who says "But one percent per month interest on my loan is twelve percent per year" sees only part of the picture, too.

The basic cost of the loan is twelve percent per year IF YOU MAKE NO REPAYMENT. Steady repayments reduce your interest rate, patronage refund if your credit union makes such a refund) also reduces the rate, in some cases as much as twenty percent.

The inaculcable bonus created by insurance on your loan—"the debt dying with the debtor"—is a reduction of the cost of loans which cannot be set up in percentages. Not all credit unions carry loan insurance, but here in British Columbia all League members carry this valuable insurance on their loans.

So when you are comparing the cost of loans, don't be misled by percentage rates on interest only. Consider the other benefits, refunds, insurance, and the fact that to your credit union you are not just a number in a pass book, but THE MEMBER. Sickness, unemployment, disaster may impair your ability to repay temporarily. Your credit union takes this into consideration. What other lending institution can do as well?

**$14,000.00 WORTH OF BABIES!**


It costs a lot of money to have a baby these days, which is why wise credit unionists provide for prepaid medical care through their membership in C.U.&C.

For financial protection against illness and accident—and to help make parenthood a really blessed event—enquire today at your local credit union office, or write:

**C. U. & C. HEALTH SERVICES SOCIETY**

96 East Broadway, Vancouver 10, B.C. — TRinity 9-5711

Health Insurance at Cost — the Co-operative Way

---

**McBride Credit Union Zooming**

Established fifteen months ago, McBride & District Credit Union has already acquired 350 members and over $100,000 in assets, plans to double that in the next year. Potential membership is 1000.

**Airplane Financing**

Word comes from Arizona of two credit unions which have financed airplanes in the past several months. Quite a record for two of the smaller Arizona credit unions!

**Credit Union Sponsors Student Exchange Program**

NANAIMO — Four senior students from the Nanaimo and Chilliwack High Schools recently exchanged week-long visits, taking regular classes and attending high school festivities. Expenses of the students in these two British Columbia towns were paid by the Nanaimo Credit Union.

**Stabilization Program Launched**

CALGARY — The stabilization program approved at the annual meeting of the Alberta League has been set up in operation with first deposits (representing 5% of the participating credit unions' net annual earnings) totaling $25,000.

**Keep Men Working**

Lakeview Credit Union in Dawson Creek ran an ad suggesting that members could borrow up to $500 for renovation to the home, new garage, wiring, etc. "Help keep men working during the winter," they said.

**Castlegar Provides Pipe**

Project Society Members in Castlegar have made arrangements to borrow from the credit union for the purchase of plastic pipe for the Arena.

**Powell River Opens Branch Office**

A branch office, to be used initially as a collection agency, has been opened in Westview by the Powell River Credit Union.
I had been going over the West Kootenay chapter president's report with an eye to pinching large sections of it for use in this column, when a monstrous thought came to mind:

Could it be—is it possible—that some of the membership, the newer ones, maybe, are not familiar with the labors of their chapter? After listing the miles travelled during the past year to meetings, the paper consumed by minutes and correspondence, the hours spent arranging schools, workshops—would the question still be, “Well, what IS a chapter?”

One pales at the idea, but the possibility remains—doesn’t everyone know what a chapter is? Nobody can join a credit union without absorbing quite a bit of the philosophy of it. Attending the annual meeting brings home the fact that we have a Central credit union, which is a credit union for credit unions, you might say. The newest member soon realizes that so large a movement must have provincial and national bodies to advise, promote and protect it. The pamphlet rack in the office informs him of the unparalleled services offered by our own insurance society, League, CUNA and CUNA Mutual soon become familiar terms. But one fears that all too often the credit unions and the League’s field staff, and at greater cost.

Many hours are spent planning our chapter’s annual School for Credit Union Officers, and in arranging time and space for meetings with provincial and national representatives.

The chapter has been referred to as “Little League,” but it is doing a big job in developing the credit union movement as a whole.

The past two years have enabled people to realize the people of our nation than your movement, and that, it seems to me, is the service for its member credit unions and for the whole credit union movement, realizing that it gives its strength, particularly when coupled with the desire that responsible body. The past two years have enabled your and your associates have to serve the people of this nation.

Be assured, dear member, your chapter bears little resemblance to Len Norseth’s celebrated Victoria Conservative Clubhouse, but is an active, up and coming body, with your interests very much at heart.

“I know that you rejoice in the accomplishments of the past. And I know that you are not satisfied,” Secretary Fleming said—“because you are working towards a sound objective, because you have developed effective programs designed to achieve that program, and because you are willing to dedicate yourself to the task of serving the people of this nation.

“There is no question in my mind at all, but that great as have been the accomplishments of the past, the accomplishments of the future will be even more significant. I can assure you that whether I am serving in my present post, or whether I am serving in some other capacity, I will always regard it as a privilege to have the opportunity of participating in any way that I can in your movement.”

JEST IN FUN

Johnny had returned from a birthday party. His mother, apprehensive lest his appetite should overcome his manners, asked, “Are you sure you didn’t ask Mrs. Benson for a second piece of cake?”

“Oh, no, Mother,” he replied. “I only asked her for the recipe so you could make a cake like it, and she gave me two more pieces!”

RUBBER STAMPS
FOR ALL PURPOSES
SEALS — STENCILS — SUPPLIES
WESTERN STAMP WORKS
346 West Broadway
Vancouver, B.C.

Mt. Pleasant Chapel
FUNERAL SERVICES
Kingsway at 11th Avenue

B.C. CREDIT UNIONIST — MARCH, 1960
B.C. CREDIT UNIONIST — MARCH, 1960