

## HERE WE ARE AND HERE WE STAY

At the start of the campaign, on November 3rd, the American unions of the QFL had the wind in their sails. "The QFL," they claimed, "is the real force in construction." They also forecast that the CNTU would be swept out of that sector.

As for the representatives of the 3Ds, they relied on a continuation of the breaks that the government had provided them with in recent months, and figured they would make good in the regions.

So what actually happened?

It happened that during the campaign, the CNTU again asserted itself in the role it has always played: that of an action movement, comprising in each region the kind of men who aren't afraid of work. The local unions fought a day-to-day battle, with a number of regions being aided by militants from other sectors. This is the basic reason for the considerable successes that resulted. The financial means committed by the CNTU could not measure up to those of the American unions, but effort closed the gap.

Far from being swept out, therefore, the CNTU has emerged from the raiding campaign stronger and more representative than it has ever been in the construction industry.

### WHY THIS CAMPAIGN?

On the morrow of a campaign as hard as this one, it can be useful to reflect on certain things.

What was the reason for this campaign in the construction domain?

Why such an inter-union struggle after a team effort like the Common Front?

Why the accusations levelled at the QFL's American unions?

It is the terms of Bill 290, adopted by the National Assembly in December 1968, that leave the workers free to select their union allegiance during a period of time determined by the law, and which is between the 180th and 140th day prior to the expiration of the agreement.

The position of the CNTU on this matter is that a mechanism is needed permitting the worker to exercise choice as to union allegiance; that union liberty and imposed monopoly representation are incompatible.

### WHY AN INTER-UNION STRUGGLE?

It is certain that union solidarity is exposed to danger during a campaign of this sort. "Yes to common fronts, but not at just any price".

Marcel Pepin repeated at many meetings during his province-wide tour.

### Sweep attempt fails; CNTU emerges stronger than ever in construction



At Berthier, a CNTU representative explains the law to a member of the QFL.

Which means that whenever our objectives are the same, as was the case in the public and parapublic sector, unity of action within common fronts is not only desirable but almost essential.

But when the aims are diametrically opposed, as is the case in construction: when unity would be possible only at the cost of diluting our thinking and our actions, there simply is no way. It never occurs to anyone to say that all political parties in Quebec should become one under existing conditions.

In construction, we do not have the same way of seeing or of thinking as the American unions of the QFL. While we fight for job security founded on regional priority, the American unions defend a system whereby, from Montreal, they place their affiliated workers on jobs in the four corners of the province, even though local labour may be unemployed. We believe that a local worker has the right to a job that becomes available in his home area.

This is only one point of disagreement. We differ also on the matter of wage equality. Our contention is that a particular trade has one rate, regardless of region or whether the work is done for small or big industry. We have defended this issue over recent years, against the opposition of government, of management associations... and the American unions.

### WHY ACCUSATIONS?

It should first be noted that the first accusations date back to March 25th 1971 when, at a press conference, the Montreal Construction Union denounced the criminal activities of certain representatives of the QFL American unions. They had beaten up two workers. This was the day after the intrusion of Dédé Desjardins and his group on the Parliamentary Commission at the Parliament Buildings in Quebec.

Subsequent to that, on November 13th last, the Montreal Construction Union asked for a meeting with the management of the QFL, to make it aware of a dossier on certain representatives of the American unions. In shaky tones, Messrs. Louis Laberge and Fernand Daoust reiterated their confidence in Dédé Desjardins and his group.

When the Montreal Construction Union made public its explosive file on the American unions, CNTU President Marcel Pepin declared that as unionists we had no right to be silent accomplices in such a state of affairs. "If such things existed in our own ranks, they would also have to be exposed," he added.

The facts contained in the Montreal Construction Union dossier had to be disclosed, in order to prevent the actions of certain individuals from continuing to obstruct trade unionism in its essential social role.

## Significant dates and events of the campaign

### November 3rd

Start of the raiding campaign in construction. The American unions of the QFL have proclaimed for the past month their intention to wipe the CNTU out of the construction sector. The 3Ds express confidence about enticing several thousand CNTU members to their fold.

### November 13th

The Montreal Construction Union advises the leaders of the QFL that it has a file on the activities of certain representatives of QFL-affiliated American unions. The QFL reply at a press conference is an unequivocal vote of confidence in Dédé Desjardins and his group.

### November 23rd

The Laurentian Construction Union sends a telegram to Minister Choquette, asking that he have the law respected at construction sites. Strong-arm types go on the prowl at Ste-Scholastique, intimidating CNTU representatives.

### November 28th

CNTU President Marcel Pepin, accompanied by Vice-President Victor Dahl and Lucien Poulin, President of the Building and Wood Federation, sets out on a province-wide tour to meet as many militants as possible, especially in construction. This tour is destined to continue non-stop until

December 12th; a period of 15 days during which 1,000 workers will be met in 24 different towns, either at meetings or on work sites. There will be 17 press conferences, and five telecasts of 15 minutes each will be produced.

### November 29th

The Montreal Construction Union denounces the grasp held by the QFL-affiliated American unions on the Construction Industry Commission (CIC); patronage, relatives and friends of American union leaders holding important jobs, etc. From Sept-Îles, Marcel Pepin wires Minister Cournoyer, requesting that the CIC be placed under trusteeship, that an administrator be appointed and given complete authority, and that Roger Perrault, director of the decree, be immediately removed.

### December 1st

The Eastern Quebec Construction Union publicly discloses a proposition of lawyers Thibodeau and Lesage, who seek to extract \$30,000 from it in exchange for the resignation of four Officers of the CSD who have refused to either call a general meeting or resign.

### December 5th

The Sept-Îles Construction Union, in a telegram to Minister Choquette, requests intervention because a busload of enforcers is patrolling work sites and ejecting CNTU members

if they refuse to sign up with the QFL.

### December 7th

The Sept-Îles Construction Union obtains from Superior Court an injunction prohibiting the intimidator of CNTU members by representatives of the American unions. A contingent of Quebec Provincial Police officers is dispatched to the scene to assure respect for the workers' freedom of choice.

The same day, at Montreal, the Construction Union makes public its momentous dossier denouncing the conduct and methods of a number of American construction union representatives. At Val d'Or, Marcel Pepin declares that the CNTU has no right to make itself an accomplice by remaining silent.

### December 8th

The Quebec Provincial Police arrest five American union representatives at Sept-Îles on charges of intimidation.

### December 9th

Following a meeting at Quebec at which it can only admit its failure in the construction sector, the 3D organization lays off all its permanent staff working in that sector.

The same day, at James Bay, seven representatives of the CNTU are ejected from work sites by some 100 American union bullies jammed into two busses. The ejection order has come from leaders of Local 791 of the heavy machinery union.

### December 11th

The four CSD officers resign and the Eastern Quebec Construction Union workers resume control of their organization.

### December 12th

Two representatives of the CNTU, accompanied by two lawyers and a dozen provincial police officers, return to James Bay and obtain the signatures of several dozen workers who wanted to join the CNTU but had been prevented from doing so.

At 4.45 p.m., the CNTU deposits at the offices of the QFL and the CSD a total of 8,698 resignation cards.

It is a triumph for trade union liberty.

Construction workers sign up with the CNTU at Sept-Îles.



## labour

Organe officiel de la Confédération des Syndicats Nationaux (CSN).

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# DEPART



Si vous réussissez à faire le tour, vous devenez un carcajou. Vous n'êtes plus avec le monde ordinaire. Vous êtes exempté des règles du jeu. Retirez-vous et changez de jeu. Aller jouer au monopoly.

Bonne Chance...

Vous décrochez un nouvel emploi. Vous pouvez prendre une semaine de vacances avant de débiter (dans ce cas, rendez-vous à la case CHASSE ET PECHE) ou commencez tout de suite à travailler (dans ce cas, rendez-vous à la case SOMA).

## AUTOROUTE EST-OUEST

Votre logement est condamné à la démolition pour faire place à l'autoroute. Déménagez immédiatement au PROJET-ABEILLE pour vous installer dans une maison qui vous appartiendra et où vous ne serez plus dérangé.

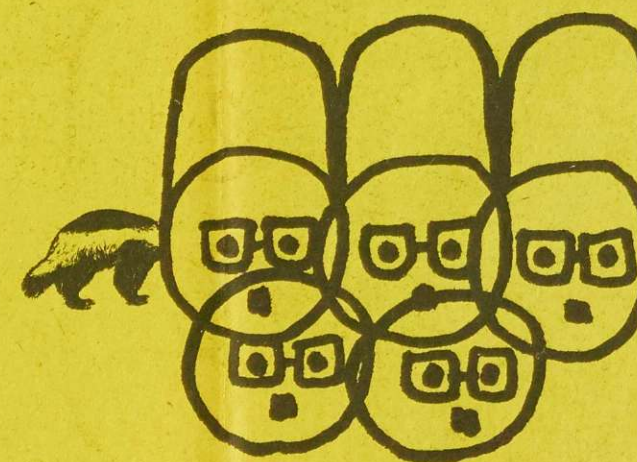
## BILL

# 19

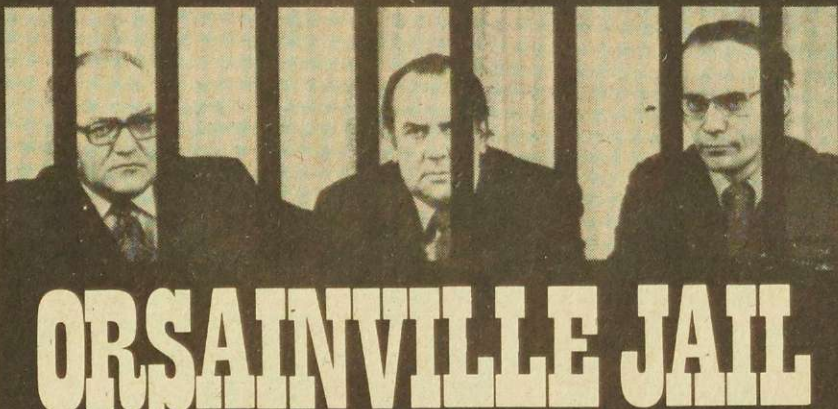
Vous êtes impliqué dans une grève pour obtenir un salaire de \$100 par semaine. Le bill 19 (ou un autre) vous oblige à retourner au travail et à accepter le salaire qu'on vous offrira. Si vous acceptez d'obéir, prenez une carte de BIEN-ETRE, car c'est ce qui vous attend au tournant; si vous refusez d'obéir, passez à la case JUSTICE.

## ITT

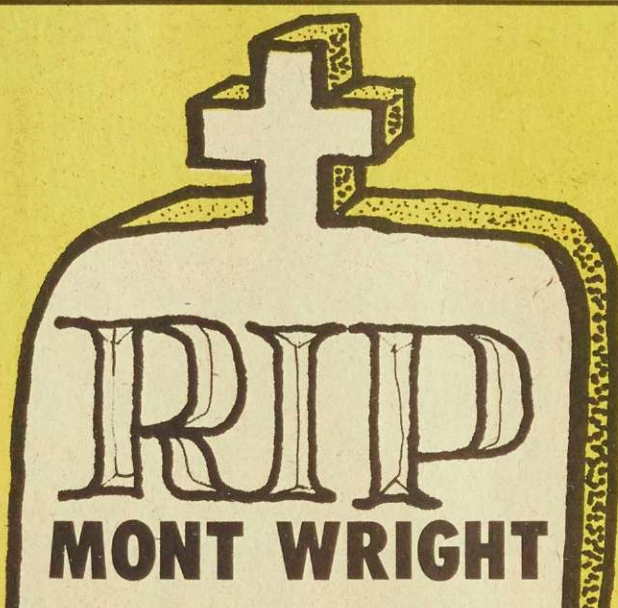
Rien ne vous appartient ici. Les arbres ont été donnés à ITT sur un territoire deux fois grand comme le Nouveau-Brunswick; ils seront transformés en fibres, mais en Allemagne; pour aider ITT à nous piller, le gouvernement lui donne \$40 millions de notre argent en subventions, une route de \$20 millions, des exemptions de taxes, etc. Partez. Vous êtes un étranger ici. Allez à la Baie James.



Les prochains jeux olympiques auront lieu chez nous et coûteront plus de \$300 millions. Le maire Drapeau affirme que ça ne nous coûtera pas un sou et que la loto va tout financer. Si vous croyez le maire Drapeau, passez à la case LOTO-QUEBEC; si vous ne le croyez pas, restez où vous êtes et attendez le prochain tour.



Si vous n'avez pas encore compris les règles du jeu et la loi du carcajou, vous allez avoir le temps qu'il faut pour réfléchir ici. Passez trois tours.



L'échafaudage sur lequel vous travaillez s'écroule. Vous êtes victime d'un des innombrables accidents qui surviennent sur les chantiers de construction. Vous êtes mort. Retirez-vous du jeu.

## BILL

# 71

Il y a peu d'espoir pour vous à l'école française. Vous pensiez que la restructuration scolaire à Montréal ferait quelque chose pour arrêter la dégringolade des écoles françaises au profit des écoles anglaises. Le bill 71 ne prévoit rien à cet égard. Le français n'est toujours pas non plus langue officielle. Tentez votre chance à la case RADIO-QUEBEC.

## BAIE JAMES

Si vous trouvez une job ici, vous aurez l'avantage d'habiter à 20 par chambre à Matagami ou dans le motel d'un ami du député à \$24 par jour. Si vous n'êtes pas ingénieur américain, vous aurez la vie dure, car vous êtes au royaume des financiers américains. L'électricité de la Baie James ne nous profitera pas. Vous faites mieux de retourner à Montréal et d'aller vous recycler à la case BILL 71.

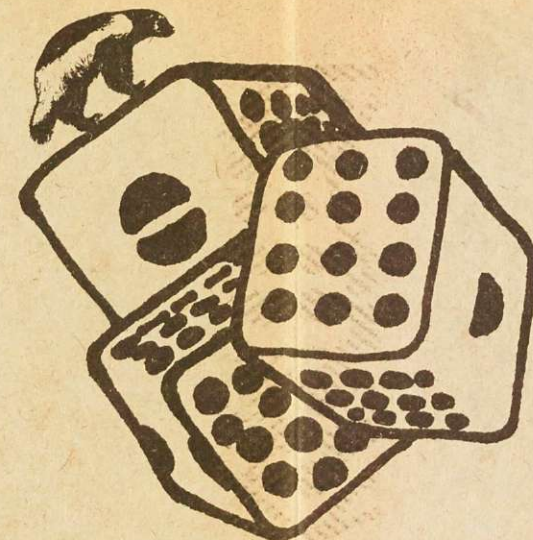
# le jeu du

# CARCAJOU

## THE WICKED 'CARCAJOU'

The CARCAJOU (which is a glutton in French and a wolverine in English) is a frightful creature. He lives in the northern forest. He is only about three feet long, but very strong, sly and cruel. No other animal will attack the wolverine, but he fears none of them, and will even attack a moose. He is a loner, and on the prowl both day and night. He is an impregnable thief. He steals the prey captured by other animals. He snatches the bait put out by trappers, and the game caught by them. He can force the door of a camp, open drawers, scatter food, and will soil with his stinking liquid anything he cannot eat. He will rip up the trap that has caught him. He will even turn on his own kind.

Vigneault reports the words of an Indian and his father who made a comparison between the wolverine and those men who exploit everyone around them, soiling all that they touch, consistently escaping punishment and always winning their elections. Menaud, a master log-runner, gave the name of "carcajou" to the traitor who hands over the domain of his ancestors to strangers and becomes their hired keeper. In Montagnais lore gathered by Rémi Savard, the cunning carcajou is frequently the central figure, a kind of sorcerer with magic powers. According to Yves Thériault, the Iroquois called it a filthy creature, carnivorous and stinking, that dirtied with its defecations all that it touched.



## CARTE BIEN-ÊTRE OU CHÔMAGE

Vous êtes devenu un parasite et un citoyen à charge. C'est votre faute. Vous êtes paresseux. Vous ne faites rien pour travailler. Il y a aussi bien des chances pour que vous soyez un voleur qui soutire des prestations auxquelles vous n'avez pas droit. C'est de l'argent en moins pour aider les compagnies à créer des emplois. RECULEZ DE DEUX CASES.

## INSTRUCTIONS

This is an educational game.

The rules are the same as those which prevail in our society in this year 1972.

In that sense, it is a democratic game.

It is played with dice, which means that everyone has the same chance to succeed. You have a certain number of choices to make, but there are also a good many things that are beyond your control and that you must simply respect.

If you are not wolverine, you will no doubt experience some difficulty, but don't lose heart. If you should come to the conclusion that the game isn't playable, then it will be up to you to get together with others, change the rules, and confront the wolverines.

## CHASSE ET PÊCHE

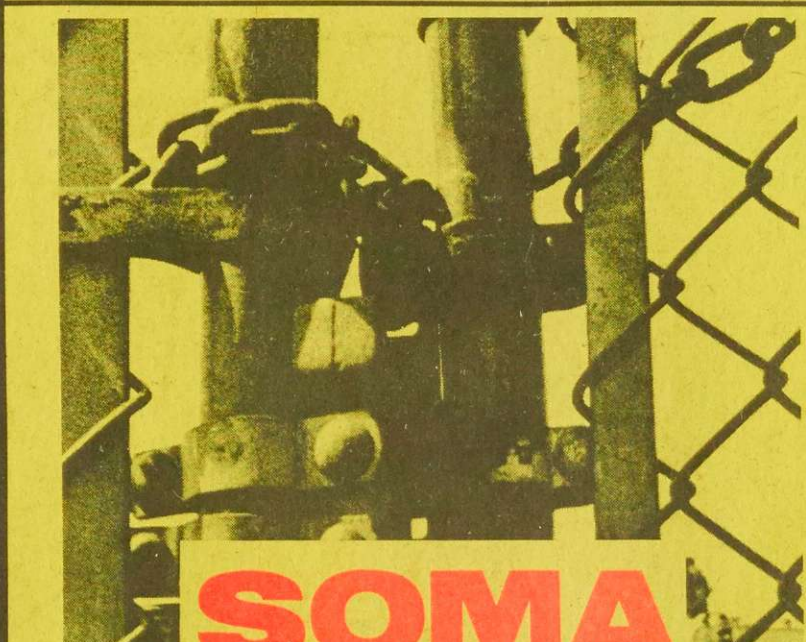


Vous pensiez être sur un terrain public. Erreur. Le parc où vous êtes avait été déclubbè mais le sous-ministre Simard vient de le reclubber. La police vient vous déloger et vous vous retrouvez à ORSAINVILLE JAIL.

## BILL

# 51

Votre maison est perquisitionnée et vous êtes arrêté par la police, sans mandat, conformément au bill 51 sur le crime organisé. Qui ne peut être soupçonné de comploter contre la propriété d'autrui et contre l'autorité établie? Vos démêlés avec la police vous font perdre votre emploi. Prenez une carte du BIEN-ETRE.



Domage. L'usine où vous travaillez doit fermer ses portes. La conjoncture économique n'est pas favorable. On ne vous laissera pas tomber cependant. Prenez une carte du BIEN-ETRE.



Vous devez passer en cour pour ne pas avoir respecté les règles du jeu. Si vous êtes du monde ordinaire, les juges et leurs amis auront vite fait de vous faire comprendre que vous êtes un danger public et de vous envoyer en prison pour vous convaincre de respecter les règles du jeu. Rendez-vous à ORSAINVILLE JAIL.

# Justice



Bell Canada a demandé une hausse considérable de ses tarifs parce que ses profits en 1971 n'ont été que de \$147 millions. Comme Bell Canada n'a qu'à demander pour obtenir des hausses de tarifs sans qu'ils aient à faire de grève, les tarifs vont monter. Vos salaires ne suffisent plus à payer vos comptes. Retournez à l'école en passant à la case BILL 71.



Vous n'avez plus les moyens d'avoir une auto: les compagnies de crédit et l'assurance-automobile vous chargent trop cher. Vous décidez de détourner l'avion du gouvernement connu comme l'avion des 14 soleils. Vous êtes arrêté et conduit à la case JUSTICE.

## BILL

# 58

Vous êtes compromis dans l'aventure pseudo-syndicale des 3D avec la complicité des politiciens et des notables. C'est un jeu dangereux. Jetez les 3 dés, et quel que soit le résultat, retournez à la case Bonne Chance.

## RADIO-QUEBEC

Vous comptez sur les émissions de Radio-Québec pour vous recycler, mais vous découvrez qu'il faut avoir le câble pour prendre les émissions et vous n'avez pas le moyen de vous abonner. Radio-Québec n'est donc pas pour vous. Naissez dans le noir et restez sur place jusqu'au prochain tour. Si vous protestez, déplacez-vous à la case du bill 51.

## PROJET ABEILLE

La maison que vous venez d'acheter fait partie d'un groupe de logements-citrons, financés par la société centrale d'hypothèque. Malheureusement, le bill 45 sur la protection du consommateur et le bill 59 sur le logement ne prévoient rien qui puisse vous protéger. Vous êtes dans le pétrin. Passez un tour.



Vous gagnez le gros lot de loto-Québec. Vos problèmes sont réglés. Débarquez du jeu et laissez les autres se démerder.

# THE MOVEMENT

## PARALLEL CEGEP AT ST. HYACINTHE

For many weeks, an important dispute has been fought at the St. Hyacinthe CEGEP between the administration on the one hand and the teachers and students on the other.

in vain despite the attempts of a government - appointed mediator. Thus, on one side the CEGEP's administration is increasingly authoritarian, haughty and arbitrary and uses threats and dismissals to conquer the teachers and the students.

It all started last June. Following the departure of the director of student services at the CEGEP, the six members of the service proposed to direct the service on the basis of collegiality. The administration refused this, hired a new director over the choice of a selection jury and dismissed two members of the service for insubordination.

On the other hand, the students and CNTU employees have had enough of dictatorship by technocrats. Their instrument of battle is rather practical and unique. They have created a parallel CEGEP. That is, they have set themselves up in three CNTU halls and in two of three pavilions of the campus in order to continue classes. But the context is somewhat different from that which prevailed under the technocrats. The general meeting is sovereign, all decisions are made on a collegial basis. In short, it is an experiment in direct democracy and it is effective, whatever the CEGEP bosses may think.

When the administration refused to reinstate the two animators, the students staged a strike, starting Nov. 8. The next day, the administration replied by dismissing six teachers, including the president of the union affiliated with the FNEQ-CNTU. Since then, all negotiations have been

## NEWS BRIEFS

### 1244 NEW MEMBERS IN THE CNTU

The CNTU executive announced Dec. 5 that 28 new unions totalling 1,244 new members had joined the movement. These new unions were in addition to 40 unions, covering just over 2,000 members, which had become affiliated between Aug. 15 and Oct. 2.

"Organization is getting a second wind and it's being felt within all the regions and all the CNTU federations and those who think they can defeat the strength of the workers are going to be surprised," said vice-president Claude Girard in announcing the new affiliations.

### 3 STRIKES IN PROGRESS

At the moment, 193 CNTU workers are on strike, 18 at Foyer des Hauteurs in St. Jerome for a year now; 30 at Pavillon Saint-Dominique in Quebec City, for 9 months and 145 at Cegelec at Laprairie for seven months.

### SAGUENAY

Le Progrès du Saguenay Ltée and the CNTU's information union have concluded a first contract, lasting three years, providing journalists at Progrès-Dimanche and Progrès Régional with full protection of professional activities. These two weeklies, among the biggest in Quebec, become the first to offer their employees the same protections and the same professional mechanisms as those of the daily newspapers La Presse of Montreal and Le Soleil of Quebec City.

### PEACE AGENTS

The Union of Public Service Peace Officers has decided to maintain its service agreement with the CNTU. At the union's congress in Quebec City Nov. 22, the vote to maintain the service agreement was 84 out of 87 delegates. The congress also elected new officers and amended the constitution.

### MUCTC

Since last Sept. 29, the executive of the drivers' section of the Montreal transportation workers has been trying to break the unity of employees of the MUCTC. During a general meeting, attended by only 69 of 3,200 members, the drivers' section decided to stop paying dues to the CNTU. Now the clique is trying to organize a house union with the support of the MUCTC bosses. Their objective is perfectly obvious-- to divide the union before the start of negotiations in January. The union of Montreal transport employees (CNTU) has launched an energetic campaign to prevent the destruction of real unionism in the Montreal public transportation system.

### QUEBEC

On Nov. 27, employees of Adalard Laberge of Quebec signed their first collective agreement after two months of negotiations. In addition to recognition of seniority and many other advantages, the employees will receive increases ranging from 57 to 90 cents over a two-year period.

### MONTREAL

During the annual general meeting, the members of the caisse populaire des syndicats nationaux de Montréal asked the federation of Co-op stores to open two other stores as quickly as possible, one in Laval and the other at Longueuil. They said this was the best way to force the big food chains to lower their prices.

At the same time, the meeting criticised the Institute de promotion des intérêts des consommateurs for collaborating with organizations linked to the insurance trust which opposes the nationalization of automobile insurance.

### VALLEYFIELD

The 260 employees of Canadian Industries Limited have accepted a new 3-year contract which, among other advantages, provides to wage increases of up to 28%. Another victory for the workers.

### UNIVERSITY OF QUEBEC

55 teachers of the University of Quebec at Montreal have been advised that their contracts will not be renewed by the university's administration. The teachers' union, which covers 360 of 400 teachers at the university, will undertake a series of actions to meet these dismissals.

### SOLIDARITY

CNTU president Marcel Pepin, accompanied by vice-president Victor Dahl and about 10 other members, paid a visit to the QFL members occupying the plant of Regent Knitting at St. Jerome. Mr. Pepin strongly urged them not to give up their fight for justice.

### GREAT VICTORY

After a hard four month strike, the 227 employees of Chaîne coopérative du Saguenay at St.-Bruno, in the Lake St. John district, have signed a 36-month collective agreement. The average wage, which was about \$2.10 an hour before the strike, was increased to about \$3.25. In addition, the principle of equal pay for equal work was acquired for the first time.

### ASBESTOS

Attempts by the 3D's to sign up the 1,800 employees of Johns Manville at Asbestos failed for the fourth time during a general meeting Nov. 26. Despite the fact that the union has left the CNTU, the pro-CNTU people aren't giving up. Rodolphe Hamel, one of the union's pioneers, made headlines in the newspaper Le Citoyen d'Asbestos saying that it was absurd for a union to leave the CNTU. This statement by an old militant had an extraordinary effect in the region.

## CNTU MESSAGE TO PROVINCIAL CIVIL SERVANTS

The CNTU executive has sent a message to the 29,000 members of the provincial civil servants' union in order to summarize the state of relations between the CNTU and the union. Noting that the result of the last referendum was very close (10,996 for disaffiliation and 10,200 against) the message provides an indication of the thousands of irregularities which occurred during the vote.

The message contains an analysis of the union's collective agreement compared to that concluded by the Common Front. In addition, the analysis shows that the Breuleux group

which led the negotiations for the civil servants' union, dropped a number of points of great importance to civil servants, especially on the question of integration which will lead to monetary losses of up to \$3,000 for nearly half the union's members.

Finally, the CNTU executive cautioned the union members against attempts by the Breuleux group to sabotage democracy within the union. These attempts have become more and more fruitful, it should be said, since the Breuleux-Harguindéguy group has voted itself \$250,000 to "consolidate" the union.

### 24th congress of the Fédération nationale des services

## WE'RE THE SOLUTION!

Some 600 delegates attended the 24th congress of the Fédération nationale des services in Montreal Dec. 3-9.

The FNS has been in existence for 25 years. In the beginning it covered 1,000 workers. In 1972 it had nearly 60,000. That's an uncommonly healthy sign. This progress wasn't accomplished alone. The congress was one step. The delegates' slogan was "we're the solution."

No one else. The solution is hospital employees, the nurses and the technicians. Norbert Rodrigue, stepping down as president, expressed it in his report. "The time has come to demand a share of the administration in the institutions in which we work each day, taking into account past experience with health action committees, with the nursing committees, with our present campaign to take our place, under Bill 65, in the different administrative levels of health institutions."

But before outlining the big

objectives of tomorrow, the FNS reviewed the past. For all, the Common Front had been a valuable and important action. The results had shown the value, even if the battle had been difficult with many militants imprisoned, 44 unions fined a total of \$507,850. The next time we will know what to expect and will be better prepared. In reviewing these recent battles, the congress dismissed Alfred Bossé, former permanent staff member of the FNS, who obtained leave without pay got himself elected to the Quebec legislature as a Liberal and ever since has taken stands against the workers.

The congress was also warned against the 3 D's attempts in certain hospitals. Even though a large majority of FNS unions renewed their connection with the CNTU, some are subject to raiding by the CSD.

But on the whole there is no doubt that the 3 D's would be very badly received if they tried anything on FNS unions.

The big objective for the future was clearly defined - co-management. The Department of Social Affairs may claim to know the needs of the hospitals but who better than those who work in them? In theory, Bill 65 make it possible for ordinary people to participate in the administrative boards of public establishments. But in fact it is quite obvious that the big shots will try to grab all the places. For this reason, union members must be vigilant. Within a few months, the FNS will set up health action

committees in each union and will train and help those who sit on administrative boards.

The congress elected a new executive. Renaud Flynn, former secretary of the FNS was elected president; Pierre Lachance, secretary and Egide Boivin treasurer. Regional vice-presidents are Louis-Paul Doyon, Simone Scott, Claude Mailhot, Gisele Cartier, Jean-Paul Caya, René Rousseau, André Serres, J.A. Turbide, Raymond Maltais and Nelson Devost.



## WHO PUT THE PADLOCK ON SOMA?

The CNTU's political action secretariat has made public a dossier on the coming closing of the SOMA plant at St. Bruno.

SOMA is an auto assembly plant which has been putting together Renault 12s and 16s since 1964. The plant is mainly financed by the GIC and is a government enterprise. That is, it belongs to the people of Quebec.

In July, 1972, SOMA was producing 52 cars a day and had about 500 employees, considered by experts to be among the most efficient in the field of car assembling. At present, the plant is only producing 18 cars per day and employs no more than 150 workers. In the space of six months, 500 workers will have lost their jobs because the plant will be closed in February.

Who put the padlock on SOMA?

First of all, the government of Quebec which permitted the signing of an unfavorable and risky agreement between the GIC and Renault. The federal government which signs pacts

with the U.S. favoring the great American monopolies to the detriment of our industries. The little private capitalists like Filion who saw in SOMA only a way of cashing in their interests rather than setting up a real force in the auto industry. And of course the great American, French or Japanese monopolies who wage a world-wide battle to increase their profits, to the detriment of the workers.

It was the capitalistic system which put the padlock on SOMA, as it did on many other industries in Quebec in recent years. At the moment the government is hinting that Volkswagen may take Renault's place and sign with SOMA.

This would certainly be an agreeable short-term solution. But as long as the government doesn't take every possible measure to promote the development of an auto industry in conformity with the interests of the Quebec workers: as long as no decisions are taken to provide Quebec a real transportation materials industry, the padlock will be placed again on SOMA and other places.

