

PUBLIC STATEMENT

released by the

EXECUTIVE BOARD of the HOTEL AND RESTAURANT EMPLOYEES' UNION,
LOCAL 28.

In view of the newspaper publicity that has been given our Local Union in the past few days, the Executive Board of this Union wishes to make a public statement regarding the attempts of Vice President A. R. Johnstone to take over the Local in trusteeship and the removal from office of President Emily Watts, Secretary-Business Agent May Leniczek, and Inspector-Organizer Roy Moore.

The Executive Board (composed of nine elected members) are united in the defence of the officers in question until such time as they have been charged, given a fair trial, and have been proven guilty. Up to the present time there has not been one official charge laid against these officers, only the inference "that the organization has not been conducted in the best interest of the Local and International Union". It is the opinion of the Executive Board that such a loosely worded statement could mean anything or nothing.

The Executive Board feels that they have been elected to safeguard and protect the Local Union and until such time as the membership has had an opportunity to receive a report on the action of the Vice-President and has been consulted as to their wishes and desires they will not turn over any of the properties of the Union or allow any of its elected officers to be removed from office.

The Executive Board feels that the officers along with the membership shall enjoy the same privileges that are extended to any other Canadian citizen, namely, the right of any individual to his own political belief, provided his or her political views are not expounded in the Union and are not used to influence the affairs of the Union. The Executive Board feels that these conditions have not been violated by any of the officers in question.

It is significant that two of the officers concerned were elected delegates who attended the International Convention last April, in the City of Milwaukee. These delegates, on instructions from the membership, cast their votes in favor of the opposition to the present administration, and the Executive is wondering if this is not the real reason behind the Vice-President's actions. It would appear any one who may disagree with any of the present administration of the International, may be called a "Communist" without any further proof.

Notices of a membership meeting are already in the
mail -- LET NO OBSTACLE KEEP YOU FROM HEARING A FULL REPORT.

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

Per Emily Watts
May Leniczek
Roy Moore

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