

Lack of Job Counseling Retards Young Job Hunters

Volume 4, Number 1, September 1948

URI: <https://id.erudit.org/iderudit/1023430ar>

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.7202/1023430ar>

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Publisher(s)

Département des relations industrielles de l'Université Laval

ISSN

0034-379X (print)

1703-8138 (digital)

[Explore this journal](#)

Cite this article

(1948). Lack of Job Counseling Retards Young Job Hunters. *Relations industrielles / Industrial Relations*, 4(1), 9–9. <https://doi.org/10.7202/1023430ar>

Two further differences between the Congresses, perhaps relatively minor at present but not unimportant in the long run, have to do with research and workers' education. In both, the C.C.L. has been more active than the T.L.C.

Six C.C.L. unions, the Steelworkers, the Mine Workers (District 26), the Packinghouse Workers, the Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers, the Woodworkers and the Rubber Workers, have research Departments of their own. So has the Ontario Federation of Labour. In addition, the Congress itself has a Department with a full-time staff of four, which issues a regular monthly bulletin as well as providing information and drawing up briefs for the Congress, its officers and its affiliated and chartered unions. The T.L.C. has nothing of this kind, and only one of its unions has a research department in Canada.

The C.C.L. also has an active education committee which has already held two highly successful schools for workers. The first was a fortnight's summer school at Lake Couchiching, Ontario, at the end of July, 1947. The second was a week's winter school, at Ajax, Ontario, in January 1948, with the co-operation of the Uni-

versity of Toronto. Other schools of the same sort are being planned. The T.L.C. has done nothing comparable, though it is encouraging to note that the two Congresses, the Canadian and Catholic Confederation of Labour and the independent Railway Brotherhoods are co-operating with the University of Montreal in a Labour Institute to be held in the province of Quebec.

The differences between the T.L.C. and the C.C.L. are important. No less important, however, is the underlying unity of aim and method. Both Congresses believe in democracy, and practise it. Both believe in the rule of law. Both want a stable, orderly, progressive society, moving forward through free collective bargaining, free elections, the method of trial and error and compromise. Both reject totalitarianism in all its forms. In spite of their differences, the two have found it possible to co-operate on some important matters of common concern, as in their recent joint petition for the disallowance of the Prince Edward Island Trade Union Act. It is to be hoped that, increasingly, they may be able to work together, with, in St. Paul's words, « diversities of gifts, but the same spirit ».

LACK OF JOB COUNSELING RETARDS YOUNG JOB HUNTERS ¹

Almost half of 1,079 young people under 22, interviewed during a survey sponsored by the California Committee for the Study of Transient Youth, migrated to California from other States or moved from one California town to another to find a job.

Almost all had difficulty finding jobs, not only because jobs were scarce even for local boys and girls, but also because four out of five of the migrating youth had acquired no specific job skills. The young people were interviewed by public and private agencies to which they came looking for work, or because they were in need of funds, housing, recreation, or guidance.

The agencies participating in the survey, according to the report entitled "Transient Youth in California," were able to provide only emergency

help—a bed for the night, a meal, at times in a jail or detention home, or through the Salvation Army, Travelers' Aid, or the "Y's."

The agencies cooperating in the survey recommended: (1) that counseling facilities including vocational counseling, social-work counseling, and psychiatric counseling be provided; (2) that more jobs for young and beginning workers be made available, with training furnished by both employers and trade-unions. Also recommended were special shelters for migrants, youth centers, a centralized agency for handling problems of migrant youth, and better cooperation between different areas and States in getting children back to their homes.

Copies of this report may be obtained from The California Youth Authority, 315, South Broadway, Los Angeles 13, Calif.

(1) Labor Information Bulletin, United States Department of Labor, August 1948, p. 9.