

The Beginning

90% of teachers join OSSTF in 1920, following the inaugural meeting in December 1919
Equal pay for Equal Work is adopted as policy

The Depression

Salary cuts, job losses, food & clothing drives
Pregant teachers are fired
"Education Week" is introduced
The Toronto School Board introduces pay-by-merit

The War Years & Beyond

Teachers win mandatory membership with the creation of OTF
Pensions for widows and dependents are achieved
OSSTF issues its first Pink Letter
The standard contract comes into effect for all teachers

1950's

Certification with 4 categories is established, an important step in improving qualifications and professional status

1960's

The membership expands rapidly in the face of wide-spread teacher shortage
Teachers threaten "mass resignations" in labour disputes.

1970's

Teachers walk-out province-wide, December 18, 1973
Teachers win right to strike

1980's

First dental plans and paid parental leaves form part of Collective Agreements
OSSTF changes its Letters Patent to organize other professional employees
Teachers rally in Hamilton to fight for some control of their pensions

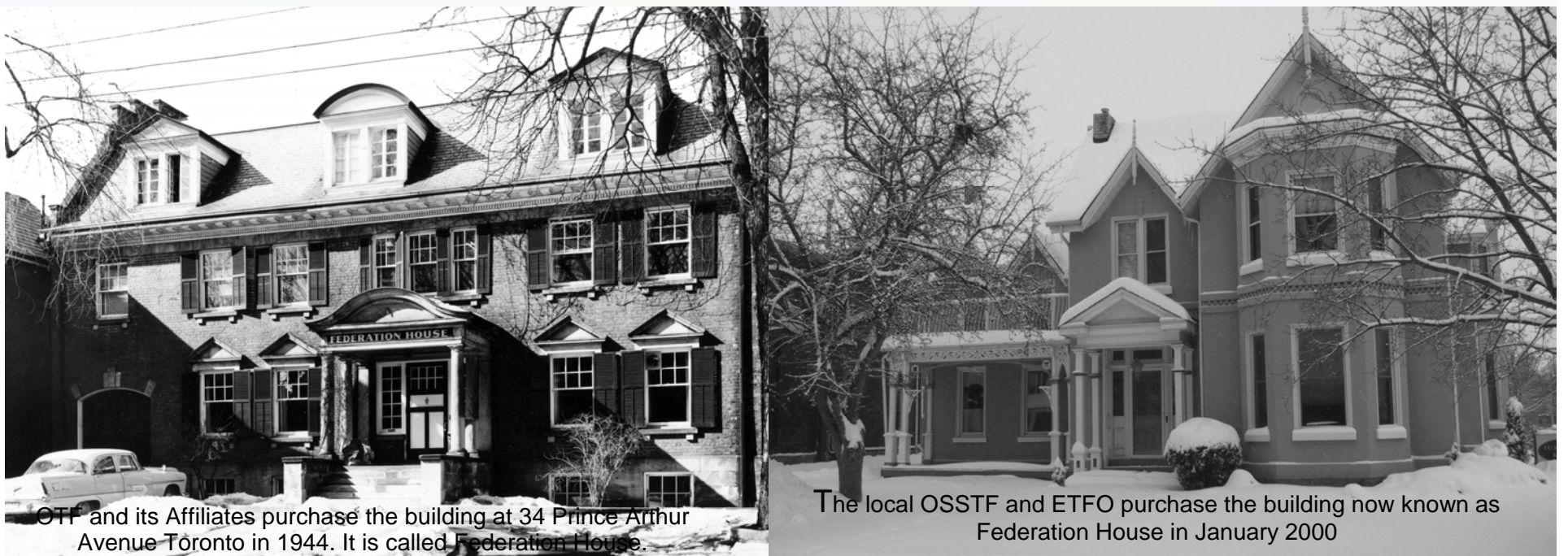
1990's

Teachers win shared control of their pension plan
The NDP Social Contract freezes wages and reduces staffing levels. Teachers take "Rae Days"
The Tory Harris government "invents a crisis in education" to destabilize public education
October 1997 126,000 teachers and education workers mobilize in defence of public education. It is the largest and longest political protest against any government in North America
The Harris government wins a second majority and working conditions come under attack

126,000 teachers mobilize in defence of public education
October 1997



It is the largest and longest political protest against any government in North America



OTF and its Affiliates purchase the building at 34 Prince Arthur Avenue Toronto in 1944. It is called Federation House.

The local OSSTF and ETFO purchase the building now known as Federation House in January 2000