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# Carnegie

## NEWSLETTER



FEBRUARY 1, 1988.

Circulation since inception: 19,800 copies

# HASTINGS & MAIN

NEW STAR BOOKS

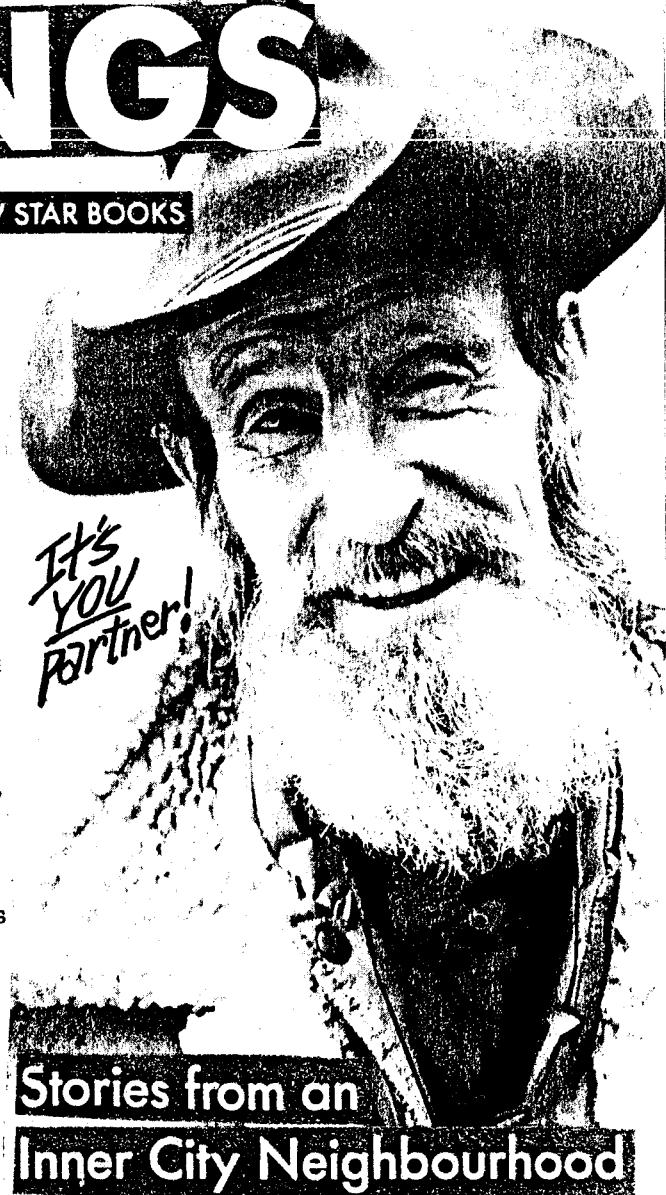
UP, UP, and AWAAAYYY!

It's out and it's beautiful! The first book published by the Carnegie Community Centre Association was "launched on Sunday, January 24, to begin the gala celebration of this Centre's 8th birthday.

Hastings and Main is the result of over five years of dedicated, hard work by many people. On its pages are 20 stories that were selected from over 70 interviews with patrons in 1983-84.

Master of Ceremonies was Ron Dutton, until recently the head Librarian of the Carnegie Branch of the Vancouver Public Library. Ron first arrived here in 1980 with general instructions to "start" a library - for people who "couldn't read anyway." (As per system (Carnegie style), it is now the most used branch in the city.)

Ron told of the history of the book beginning with an idea of Laurel Kimbley. He called each of the 'main' members of the crew to the front to



Stories from an  
Inner City Neighbourhood

# Carnegie

NEWSLETTER

THE NEWSLETTER IS A PUBLICATION OF THE  
CARNEGIE COMMUNITY CENTRE ASSOCIATION

Articles represent the views of individual  
contributors and not of the Association.

Art by: TORA, DAVE RYERSON,  
LEAH DUNKLEY, RICHARD TETRAULT  
Cover Photo: JIMMY STEWART



DOROTHY NEALY 1917-1988

**FREE - donations accepted.**

City info staff can't accept  
Newsletter donations, as this paper  
is a hot little item of discussion  
with the Carnegie Review Panel. If  
you can help with spare change(!)  
find Paul Taylor, and he'll give you  
a receipt. **Thanks everybody.**

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DERA HAS BEEN SERVING THE DOWNTOWN EASTSIDE  
FOR 13 YEARS

# HASTINGS and MAIN

Interviews by Laurel Kimbley  
Edited by Jo-Ann Canning-Dew

A project of the Carnegie Community Centre Association

present them with copies of their work, and all radiated the enrichment that this project awarded them. It was something like Carol Channing won a lawsuit in the States and said, "It was like being pregnant for five years and finally giving birth and the baby is Beautiful!"

On hand were many dignitaries - Aldermen Davies, Erickson, Taylor & Price, with Deputy Mayor Owen (and Ald. Boyce); Max Beck, Director of Social Planning; senior reps from the VPL, the School Board and parks.

Ron recognized the many who had quietly helped, behind-the-scenes, transcribing and researching and editing, most of the time - again in Carnegie style - as volunteers.

Joanne Canning-Dew, the over-all Editor, spoke of the dynamic spirit that literally vibrated when she came here for the first time. She, along with others ensuring this fruit of their labours, was inspired by the gut-wisdom and hard lives of seemingly innocuous elders - wisdom acquired by just not giving up.

The selection of stories was, in itself, a gut-wrenching task. In Laurel's words: "no one part of this Process is more significant than another and no one story is more important than another. There are many beautiful and important stories not included in this edition; they form the basis for your next book. The ones which were chosen were selected because they harmonized well together and because they emphasized a part of our History which needed to be told. We are Stars and all of our lives and gifts are meaningful."

With a touch of sadness, Ron told the audience that the first three people in the book had passed on. Several of those whose stories appear were present and each was presented with a book, often through misty eyes saying thanks.

Nancy Jennings, our departing Director, spoke of the theme in many of the stories: that survival is the main part of the lives of many in this, Vancouver's "have-not" area. Nancy asked the "haves" present to keep this expression of what life is like for us, the people behind Hastings and Main at Main and Hastings.

Nancy spoke of Ron being the quiet person who became known as the "shopping cart librarian" from picking up & delivering books in downtown eastside style, and as the person who was responsible for the recovery and installation of the three smaller stained glass windows under the spiral stairs.

Val Kalk is also leaving as Volunteer Coordinator, and Nancy rightly gave her the accolade of 'Carnegie's heart'.

When Muggs, the President, was called up, she seemed embarrassed at first but looked out at faces well-known and said, "Nancy told me that shit is fertilizer. Everything that seems like the end of the world is just another chance to learn what a wonderful centre this is, and after a year and a half, I'm convinced that Carnegie is Full of fertilizer!"

The Association Board purchased 200 copies of Hastings and Main and sales were brisk at the cost price of \$6.00. Star Books printed 2,000 and the second printing will occur soon.

## 4 Hastings and Main

To cope with life here, that's at the heart of the stories. In closing Ron read from remarks made by Gary Poirier:

"On the outskirts of the city, everybody is fighting. I mean, they're all worried how they're going to get all this stuff and how are they going to pay for it. They gotta get this, they gotta get that, they gotta go. Well, I was a "gotta go": I gotta go out of town, there's a job, gotta work seven days, I'll see ya in six weeks, wife, I gotta go make some money. Well, I'll bet you everybody down here, whatever they got, it's all paid for. It may not be much but it's something to them because it's theirs - and it's paid for."

Seems to me that this is our way of looking at life. Hierarchies of wealth and power don't impress people who know that only the 'free' intangibles are priceless.

By PAULR TAYLOR

### To Everyone at Carnegie

I am trying to update the file of available 'resources' in the Downtown Eastside. 'Resources' is not just a nice word that bureaucrats use. To me, it means the things we need and use every day like food, shelter, clothing. It also means things we need in emergencies (legal, medical, childcare, etc.) or on an ongoing basis. These "basics" are not always readily available to those of us who are poor or broke.

For example, right now I am updating the information available at the front desk on housing; hotels, emergency shelters, good places for women, elders, and disabled. If you have ANY suggestions, come and tell me.

My name is Pam, and I am working on the 3rd floor from 10-4, Mon. to Fri. in what is called the Oval Office -



(does that make me the president yet?)

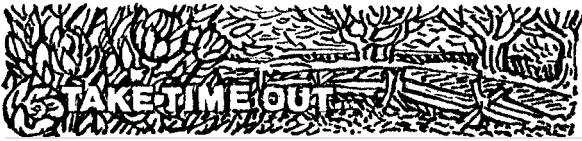
Seriously, I welcome any suggestions for goods and services. The lists at Welfare offices on free food and clothes are not out for quick looks and no-one wants to take a number just to find out where to go.

This info can be broad enough to include the cheapest tobacco store; hotels that are good, but have no phone; what food lines have better food; where to return pop/beer bottles...

The file of available resources is what we make it. Don't leave it all up to me, because inevitably I will miss things. There is a lot out there if we know how to get it.

Also, I welcome suggestions for info you want to see available at Carnegie. Hope to hear from you.

PAM F.



When I was a little girl living with my grandparents , I was at their fruit farm in Fruitland, Ont. One morning, we were just finishing breakfast when Gramps looked out the window and exclaimed, "Look at that funny looking cart coming in our laneway." So of course we all went out to see what it was all about.

It was what we called a Gypsy Caravan in those days. The man stepped down and greeted Gramps, and asked him if we could help him get his horse fixed up.

An Animal Doctor lived across the road, so Gramps sent me to get him.

When the doctor came over, he said that the horse would have to rest for a few days. Gramps told Jake to park his rig behind the barn.

The Lady, whose name was Natasia, would come and sit on the back step and talk to Grandma & I. One day she put her arm around my shoulders and told me this little story:

"Lillian, as you grow older, you will find your life is like the weather; sometimes it will be like the sunshine, sometimes there will be tears like the rain, and sometimes when you look at the birds in flight you will wish you could be like them and fly to unknown places - but honey always take time to smell the roses."

Did you ever have someone like this come into your life, even for a little while, then leave?

As the years go by I often wonder what happened to Natasia & Jake..and sometimes when I get so bogged down with everyday living I say to myself Hey! Lillian, how about taking the time out today to smell the roses.

Lillian

## POETRY

Limbo

Love's emotions rise and fall  
From cloud to cactus; falling,  
Twisting, turning, piercing.

Distant melodies calling, warning.  
Oh! do not haunt me. Let me live.

Far off countries lull my soul  
Soothing malignant fires within  
The very heart of love and sin.

Lamas, Buddhas urge my departure  
From this land of grief and sorrow.  
Not today. Maybe tomorrow.

Anita Stevens

### Bittersweet Harvest

Words can only reach themselves -  
it is our silence we need to share  
and when lovers greet across a gaze  
words are the first things to fall away.  
Some poems are the fruit of accumulation.

Steven Belkin

### Androgyny

Androgyny is the mirror  
waiting behind the image  
for a truer eye to open.

Androgyny is the smile  
the face of freedom wears  
once the masque dissolves.

Androgyny is the space  
the spirit carves, to dance  
to its own choreography.

Steven Belkin

# WOMEN CENTRE GETS A NEW WHIRL(D)

What's new in the news? I mean the real news, the news that speaks to me, not some man in a suit. Hold your breath because this, unlike Mulroneys's free(slave) trade, is exciting news:

The Downtown Eastside Women's Centre is moving from its humble location at 217 Main making room for the Carnegie Literacy Centre there.

We (since it is the women who are the centre) are moving to the old "44", at 44 E. Cordova. But you're not going to recognize it. Forget your bad memories of long lineups for institutional food, waiting diligently amid a wasteland of male faces.

Instead, imagine a big bright space filled with lots of light... Sound like heaven? Well, we've been putting up with hell for so long, that we deserve it. Then imagine this space filled with all kinds of wimmin and children doing lots of different things. The possibilities are only limited to our unlimited imaginations.

As magical as the new centre sounds, it won't materialize by saying "Abracadabra". If you want to help move on Jan. 30, call the Women's Centre by that date at 681-8480, or go down to 217 Main on that day. We are weaving a bigger web but we need more "spin-sters" to do it. See ya there!

- p.j. spinning

# CARNEGIE

This is a token of appreciation to all those who saw fit to elect me on the Board.

I will do my best to fulfill what ever obligations are expected of me. But neverthe less, we can accomplish a lot by working together as a unit - as members of Carnegie Centre, a unique community centre - we can do a lot of good.

So let's make the year 1966 a good and prosperous new year. We can learn much from the lowly turtle - he makes headway by sticking his neck out!

Joeseph Boucher

Editor:

This is to notify you that Wayne and I shall no longer be writing for the "Volunteer Voice" or working for Stage 401 because of the unfair and atrocious way we have been treated by certain volunteers. Some of these people have been allowed to have far too much power and should be dethroned.

Unless the Volunteer Support Committee runs in a more democratic way it should be disbanded. As a member of the Carnegie Community Centre Association Board I believe we have far too many committees.

Is the way Volunteer elections are held done in a legal and democratic way? These and many other questions need to be answered immediately.

Irene Schmidt

# NATIVE CONCERNS

The native population of the Downtown Eastside has a problem. There is not enough communication, sharing of services, or unity between the various native agencies in the community. What can we, as native people, do to help improve this situation?

Oppenheimer Park previously had local staff through the months of May - September to help the community in areas such as recreation, camping and children's activities.

The Indian Centre could also have input to programming in these parks, working co-operatively with the other staff in order to meet the need of the community. In Oppenheimer Park for example, the Indian Centre could focus on areas like Single parents group, Elders Club, and so on. These programs could take place through the summer and fall. After the fall the programs could be transferred to the Indian Centre and then these groups could be combined at the Centre with programs already happening there.

An all-native women's slowpitch team could be formed through the Downtown Eastside Slowpitch League that presently plays out of Oppenheimer and Strathcona Parks. Women interested in playing recreational ball could also be given their own time slot. These could be ongoing programs. The women's team could play tournaments throughout the city and, once a week, have exhibition games with other women's teams - it just needs organizing.



The Indian Centre could also help a group of young men organize a West Coast trail trip to get them out of the city for awhile. Funds for the trip could be found through various fundraising events such as dances, car washes, and raffles.

There are many volunteers who are willing to work on all the areas mentioned. These suggestions could help to improve the situation between the Centre and the people in the Main & Hastings area.

We natives have much to offer each other and the community, but it must start somewhere.

Just because it never happened before doesn't mean it can't happen now.

By FRED ARRANCE

8 Jan 24/88 Carnegie  
89 years old in '88 -

The entire building was awash with people on this special day.

- a Bridge tournament jammed the Art Gallery;

- the Role-Playing Games Club was in session;

- the Learning Centre was and is bubbling over with information on their progress (a grant for one hundred and ten thousand dollars doesn't just fall from the sky) -

the premises to be vacated by the Women's Centre at 217 Main, after their move to the old '44' on Cordova, will be the home of the Tutor-Training Project;

- the Association Office, home of the Carnegie Newsletter & Volunteer Voice, housed displays of every paper published since 1986!

- outside the Communications Room on the 3rd floor is the area where John Cressman and Al Wilson work. John is responsible for all the posters and announcement sheets that brighten up Carnegie's walls.

- the second floor was like it is every day: people everywhere - in the gym, the weightroom, the Pool Room, sitting in the main area sharing coffee...talking...thinking and

laughing as squads of volunteers ferried the sandwiches and birthday cakes (3 of 'em) to the Theatre and concession;

- the first floor was packed with card players in the main lounge, seniors in their lounge too, the Library always busy and then the extra hundreds of people just here. Carnegie T-shirts were on sale at \$2 each and scores more people in the Theatre. Another event took place after the book-launching that an eye-witness wrote the following about:

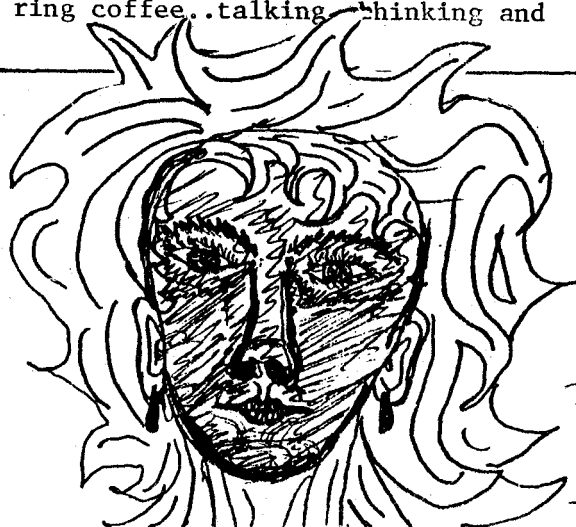
"Carnegie's colourful and charismatic calligrapher has finally gotten to write his own script.

Al Wilson's big day arrived last Sunday - the same day as the Carnegie book launch and birthday party. With all the visitors in the building, Al got to assemble five of his "sweethearts" - Nancy Jennings, Cindy Carson, Susan Gordon, Val Kalk and Muggs Sigurgeirson.

Standing in a row, each with her Al-given baseball cap on, they were presented with one of Al's distinctive calling cards - hand lettered greetings from the pen-master of Carnegie. You never saw Al look so proud!"

Only at Carnegie, you say? Yup!

By PAULR TAYLOR



*you can  
depend on  
Love ♪*

LEAH.D.



## ONE YEAR FOR ONE DOLLAR

Carnegie advertises (offers) a year's membership for a dollar, but, depending on when you renew or buy your membership, you could get anything from a few months to a full year - for the same dollar fee.

This depends mostly on luck, since few of us are so time-conscious that we always remember to do things at the same time, year after year.

There is only one way to ensure that every Carnegie member gets a full year's membership for one dollar, & that is to have each card expire one year from the date of issue.

Some members of the Board feel that this would be too difficult to keep track of, since our membership lists are made up by hand...but if our master membership list was put into a computer & simply updated each day, one full year's membership for a dollar could be guaranteed to everyone & a list of valid members could be accessed from the computer at any time simply by pushing the right buttons.

The idea that every member should receive a full year's membership for a dollar did not seem to carry much weight with the Board when it was brought up recently. I was told I could lobby for the idea if I wanted to...but I don't think it's my responsibility to campaign & explain & try to convince everyone of something that just obviously should be done, since it would benefit the membership as a whole.

The Board has always been big on "benefitting the membership" as a whole"...so now here's something they can do for everybody...& the computer will make it easy...of course, I know people often have a lot of reasons why new ideas "can't be done" & if that's where the Board's at, then so be it.

TORA

# Letters

Dear Jim Bahen, (Carnegie Constitution Committee)

I attended the Jan. 17th town meeting at Carnegie regarding the constitution and benches.

People need at least two months (60 days) to buy a Carnegie membership. An equal amount of time, at the very minimum, is needed to buy a card so that you could vote in the June Elections. The cards are sold at the end of April or early May. Clearly there is no "lead-time" to buy a membership card so that you can vote. This makes it easier for small, political, local groups to gain a control on the Board. This gaining control of the Board has happened already in the Centre.

This matter needs straightening around in time for the June, 1988 general election at Carnegie.

On another matter, I'm looking forward to seeing small benches with backs on them on the Main & Hastings sides of the Carnegie Centre building. One spot not to put a bench is at the southeast corner of Carnegie on Main St. I'm referring to the area beside Bennies' Shoes. Another is too near the Hastings St. side alleyway. Also having trees near the benches for shade is a good idea.

Don Larson

Oh my God! February is here already? Another deadline to meet and I've got popcorn butter spilled all over my notes. My ego has been shattered. I just got a letter from Gene Siskel and Roger Ebert in which they gave my last batch of reviews two resounding THUMBS DOWN. Oh Well. Maybe they're just pissed



off that their columns aren't printed in the Carnegie Newsletter. Only CLASS MATERIAL here. Anyway, enough of my meanderings. Let's get on with the new batch of Friday Night Movies showing in the Carnegie Theatre. As usual, I have used the 4-star rating system, as follows:

- \*\*\*\* Excellent
- \*\*\* Good
- \*\* Fair
- \* Poor

February 5th:

TWO-LANE BLACKTOP (1971)\*\*

Directed by Monte Hellman

Starring James Taylor, Dennis Wilson and Warren Oates

A driver and his mechanic bet their '55 Chevrolet against a driver in a Pontiac GTO in a cross country race to Washington, DC. The movie is okay, but singer James Taylor and Beach Boy drummer Dennis Wilson are really good in their acting debuts.

February 12th:

TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD (1962)\*\*\*\*

Directed by Robert Mulligan

Starring Gregory Peck, Mary Badham, Philip Alford, Robert Duvall and Brock Peters

A tale of kids growing up in the

Depression era of the 1930s in a small town in the southern states. Gregory Peck won an Academy Award for his portrayal of a lawyer who must defend a black man accused of rape. This is a very good movie which you don't get to see very often. Be sure not to miss it.

February 19th:

ZOOT SUIT (1981)

Directed by Luis Valdez

Starring Edward James Olmos, Tyne Daly

Daniel Valdez and Charles Aidman

This film is loosely based on the Sleepy Lagoon Murder Mystery which took place outside Los Angeles in 1942 and the highly publicized Zoot Suit riots one year later. I have not yet seen this movie, so it is unrated.

February 26th:

GOTCHA! (1985)\*\*\*

Directed by Jeff Kanew

Starring Anthony Edwards, Nick Corri,

Linda Fiorentino, Alex Rocco, Marla Adams and Klaus Loewitsch

A shy college sophomore travels to Europe during spring break and becomes involved in an international espionage plot. This high paced film should have you riveted to your seats. There are lots of laughs too.

I have been informed a couple of these movies may be preceded by some locally produced short films, so keep your eyes'peeled.

Until next month, this is the Unknown Critic signing off and hoping you enjoy your evenings at the movies.

# Poetry

## Eternity

Numb my brain.  
Pierce my heart.  
Replace with bolts  
The pain that's sharp.

In sixty years  
A million tears  
For every stab the heart can take  
Before the time it's bound to break.

Anita Stevens

spinning and floating

spinning and floating within the galaxy

like a black hole drawing multitudes of colour  
into unknown masses of unharnessable energy,  
erupting, exploding, vibrant, disturbing,  
discharging brilliance, omnipotent and free

Anita Stevens

## Elavil

Sweet little pill, you enter my system  
This way and that. What destination?  
They say depression is your foe.  
Still you don't know which way to go?  
Annihilate atoms bilious and brown.  
Create lillies on your way down.

Hazy, inarticulate, eyes sore and red,  
Symptoms of emptiness, lifelessness, dread.  
Loveless, childless, manless, what use?  
Must I constantly suffer, endure the abuse?  
To face tomorrow with feelings the same.  
Why bother? They happen all over again.

Sweet little pill, after your quest.  
Leave me in peace. Let me rest. Let me rest.

Anita Stevens

Keep Your Strength Before Me

Keep your strength before me  
that I may mock the fear  
my marrow vomits  
when I am forced to act.

Reveal to me its sources  
that I may better seek a fount  
in the spare time  
my paralysis allows.

Suffer my enfeebled cheers  
as you celebrate your power  
that I may grow to clear my self  
of ego's sexist bile.

I'll never match your strength  
because I am not a throng;  
but if you keep your strength before me,  
sister, I'll find the ways to follow on.

Steven Belkin



CARNEGIE DIDN'T JUST HAPPEN ALONG  
LIKE SOME FLOWER-GIRL IN  
THE BEER PARLOUR SMILING  
& SELLING TEDDY BEARS.

YEARS OF HARD WORK WENT INTO  
FORCING POLITICAL DRAGONS  
TO GIVE UP DREAMING ABOUT  
BUSINESS MEN'S CLUBS & PARKING LOTS.

YEARS OF HARD WORK -  
TO TURN THIS STONE BUILDING INTO  
SOMETHING LIKE SUNRISE.

DAY BY DAY - YEAR BY YEAR  
MAKING IT HAPPEN DOWN HERE.

I DON'T KNOW HOW MANY PEOPLE  
COME & GO  
OR HOW MANY HOURS  
VOLUNTEERS WORK TO GET THINGS DONE,  
OR WHO'S RESPONSIBLE FOR WHAT -  
BECAUSE MY MIND  
DOESN'T WORK THAT WAY.  
BUT WE ALL TAKE CARE OF BUSINESS  
MORE OR LESS,  
WE ALL JOIN HANDS  
SOONER OR LATER.

DAY BY DAY - YEAR BY YEAR  
MAKING IT HAPPEN DOWN HERE.

A CENTRE LIKE THIS IS  
SOMETHING THAT HOLDS THE OUTSIDE TOGETHER  
A CIRCLE OF SAFETY  
A POINT OF COMMUNICATION  
FOR ANYONE - EVERYONE,  
YOUNG OR OLD, SMART OR DUMB  
CLEAN OR DIRTY, SANE OR CRAZY.

WHERE ELSE COULD LIFETIMES  
LIKE THESE GET LIVED TOGETHER?

EVEN WHEN IT'S ONLY  
SHARING TOBACCO & SPARE CHANGE  
ON THE SECOND FLOOR.  
READING A NEWSPAPER ON THE FIRST FLOOR,  
PLAYING A GUITAR ON THE THIRD FLOOR,  
IN THE THEATRE - ON THE STAIRWAY,  
LEARNING TO LISTEN  
TO SEE EACH OTHER,  
TO REMEMBER THE NAMES & FACES  
OF REAL PEOPLE IN A REAL NEIGHBOURHOOD.

DAY BY DAY - YEAR BY YEAR.

NO PLACE CAN BE HEAVIER THAN HERE.  
NO PLACE CAN BE LIGHTER.

AT THE CENTRE OF  
VANCOUVER'S BASEMENT COMMUNITY,  
THE STREETSIGNS, BARS, & BORING  
HOTEL CORRIDORS ALMOST DISAPPEAR.  
EVEN THE COPS HAVE TO BE POLITE  
WHEN THEY COME IN HERE.  
PEOPLE AGREE TO RESPECT ONE ANOTHER -  
BUT THAT DOESN'T STOP THEM  
FROM SPEAKING THEIR MINDS.  
MAYBE YOU'D BE SURPRISED  
WHAT'S ON PEOPLE'S MINDS THESE DAYS -  
THE NEWSPAPERS COULDN'T PRINT IT,  
COULDN'T EVEN TELL THE WHOLE STORY.

THERE'S NO OTHER COMMUNITY CENTRE  
WHERE YOU'RE WAITING TO GET IN  
OFF THE STREET AS SOON AS  
THE DOOR OPENS EVERY DAY.

NO OTHER COMMUNITY CENTRE  
TO SOMETHING LIKE THE DOWNTOWN EASTSIDE.  
NO OTHER COMMUNITY  
BUILDING A SPACESHIP LIKE CARNEGIE -  
FULL OF BLACKSHEEP,  
ALIENS IN A NEIGHBOURHOOD OF ALIENS,  
A FAMILY OF ALIENS  
LEARNING TO TRUST ONE ANOTHER,  
TO REMEMBER WHO WE ARE -  
WHO WE ALWAYS WERE,  
AT THE HEART OF A COMMUNITY.

THE EXPERIENCE OF JUST  
OPENING THE DOOR  
FOR EVERY NEW PERSON  
WHO WALKS IN OFF THE STREET  
WITH A TRUST IN SOBER SURVIVAL.

SURVIVAL OF SOCIAL DISASTER,  
SURVIVAL OF PERSONAL TRAGEDY,  
SURVIVAL OF CHANGES  
LIKE EXPO & RESTRAINT,  
SURVIVAL OF URBAN REDEVELOPMENT -  
WHERE THEY TRY TO WIPE OUT  
YOUR PERSONAL HISTORY &  
REPLACE IT WITH AN ANSWERING SERVICE.

WE ARE THE PEOPLE - DAY BY DAY  
YEAR BY YEAR - WE ARE THE PEOPLE  
MAKING IT HAPPEN DOWN HERE.

REMEMBERING TO KEEP THE TRADITIONS OF  
STREET SURVIVAL ALIVE -  
THE TRADITIONS OF DOWN TO EARTH CHARACTERS,  
LIKE THE REALITY OF  
EVERYONE WHO WALKS THROUGH THE DOOR,  
EVERYONE WHO KNOWS THEY'RE SHARING  
SOMETHING REAL IN AN UNREAL WORLD.

YOU WANT TO BUILD A NEW WORLD  
THAT WILL FIRE THE IMAGINATION  
& FREE THE HEARTS OF YOUR CHILDREN?  
BUILD IT AROUND SOMETHING SOLID,  
SOMETHING REAL,  
LIKE THE CARNEGIE CENTRE,  
LIKE THE LEARNING CENTRE,  
LIKE WAKING UP WITH STEADY HANDS -  
LIKE COFFEE & COMMUNICATION  
IN THE CABARET ON TUESDAYS,  
WITH POLITICS & PAINT & WOODWORK  
IN THE BASEMENT,  
MUSIC AND TECHNICAL SKILLS,  
READING AND WRITING ON THE TOP FLOOR -  
WITH HEALING ENCOUNTERS,  
FASCINATING CHARACTERS,  
CRAZY CONTRASTS,  
GROWING STRONG FOR SURVIVAL.

STRONGER THAN THE WELFARE FREEZE.  
STRONGER THAN BOOZE.  
STRONGER THAN THE RENT INCREASE.  
STRONGER THAN THE STREETFRONT,  
WITH COMMERCIAL CLAWS.

AT THE CENTRE WE'RE BUILDING  
AN ALTERNATIVE TO LIVING ALONE.  
AT THE CENTRE WE'RE MAKING  
A SUCCESS OUT OF FAILURE.

DAY BY DAY - YEAR BY YEAR  
GROWING UP ALL OVER AGAIN  
MAKING IT HAPPEN DOWN HERE.

FROM THE ASHES OF  
YESTERDAY'S TRAGEDY  
BURNING IN THE STREETS -  
CLIMBING OUT OF THE DARK,  
THE LOSER'S SOUL IS  
REACHING FOR SOMETHING  
THAT'S SO CLOSE  
IT'S ALREADY COMING TRUE.

DAY BY DAY - YEAR BY YEAR.

EVERYONE SAYS  
SOMETHINGS'S HAPPENING DOWN HERE -  
EVERYONE'S GOT THEIR OWN IDEA  
ABOUT WHAT'S HAPPENING TOO.  
BUT CARNEGIE'S GOT SOME KIND OF  
MAGIC WITH PEOPLE  
MAKING IT HAPPEN,

DAY BY DAY - YEAR BY YEAR,  
MAKING IT HAPPEN DOWN HERE.

TORA

We waste a lot of time being  
 disillusioned -----again  
 and again we dance through the  
 distance ----reaching  
 for a humanly realistic living condition so far away and  
 almost -----unattainable but  
 before we can destroy ourselves searching any farther we  
 fall down ----and  
 skin our knees only to learn something about  
 being attacked and pain ----and  
 we don't want what we've always known - Fear  
 entrapping us! ---ambushing us!  
 on our search for a healthier, better life  
 so -----we  
 go back to the beginning and start where we start from  
 now! -----"and listen"  
 if someone says be gentle this time  
 we --- will  
 be safely:  
 own own self - - - selves.

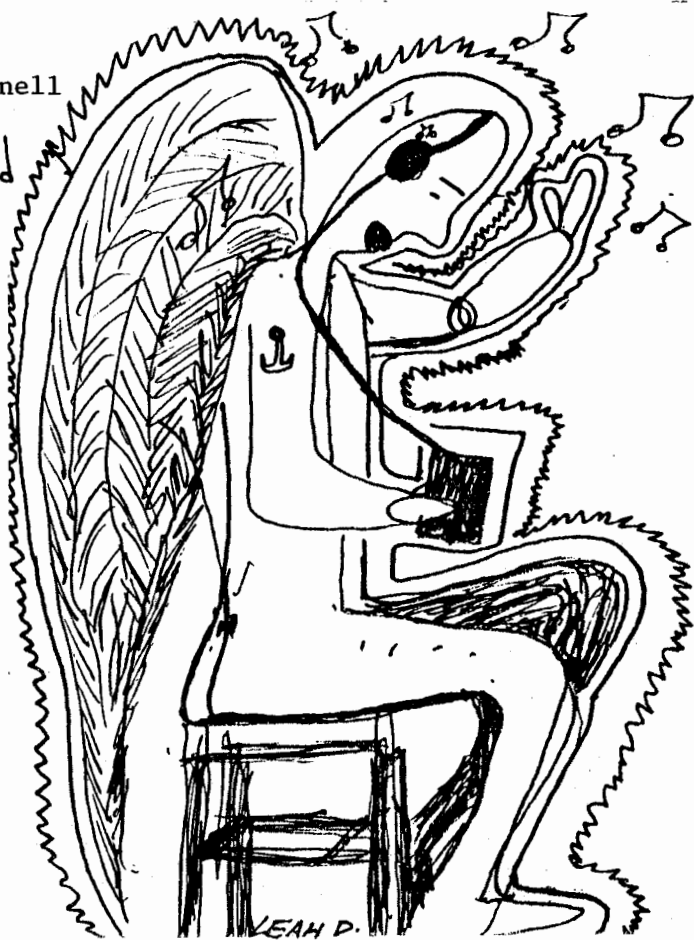
Dave McConnell

# Poetry



She said,  
 "Let X be equal to the years,  
 Y equal to the times..  
 This simple equation  
 yields the number 5000."  
 I suggested a sign  
 ' 5000 and, 5000 and two '  
 served but she retains  
 a quiet dignity...  
 In her service to society.  
 They only want a service,  
 While I require a totality.  
 So we drink our beer  
 with no compromise,  
 'til she returns to work -  
 and I to empty words.

Tom Lewis



VEAH D.

To: E.L.P. MEMBERS & FRIENDS  
From: JEAN SWANSON  
Re: Front Line Advocate Meeting February 16

Dear E.L.P. Members and Friends,

I'm writing to invite you to our next FLAW meeting. Ken Holmes, of the BCGEU, has agreed to attend. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss:

- (1) Problems experienced by Welfare advocates,
- (2) techniques for winning cases,
- (3) victories and defeats we've had and how to change defeats to victories,
- (4) areas where there are opportunities for political action.

I hope you can come and share your concerns with other ELP members.

If you have any specific problems you want to discuss, please call us at 685-5599 so we can add it to the agenda.

Please NOTE:

Time: Tuesday, Feb. 16, 1988 at 7:30 p.m.

Place: First United Church, Lower Lounge

Hope to see you there. This meeting is primarily for people who are actually doing advocacy. Send the people in your group who are involved in this.



**chaos**

Like a crusading white knight, facing a black armored foe, he told him "This centre shall not fall onto thy filthy hands..nor into the dark realm of your liege lords!"

Such was his rebuke to the evil black knight's claim of early victory - to make it a park's board playland. Nice going B.E.

Crasly yours,  
Captain Chaos

Okay, now there's the results of the survey about what should be done with Cupid: he got fired and ~~now~~ the job is all mine! Here's the hit list and what they will be getting on Feb. 14:

- the Grey wondrous one on a date with my cousin Grosshilda
- D. McC. to be swept off his feet by a baboon
- to the scorn lovers a chance to turn the tables on the ones who scorned them
- to the scorers of lovers, Dear John letters
- for the lonely ones, romance over a cup of tea....

Crasly yours,  
Captain Chaos

## DE-YA-S DINNER

Last Friday, January 15, Downtown Eastside Youth Activities Society held their annual free dinner for the community. The dinner consisted of roast beef, mashed potatoes, peas and carrots; needless to say the whole dinner was very delicious.

D.E.Y.A.S. sponsored the dinner but it was very clear that it was the hard work of Larry Parinteau and Didi Nelson to help co-ordinate the many volunteers that made this dinner happen.

It was also good to see the many different kinds of people from the community together for a common purpose. During the dinner the drum group "Arrows to Freedom", along with their dancers, started to please the crowd with their traditional songs and dances. And that set the feeling of a pow-wow or a gathering - more than just a free dinner. Thanks to both drum groups and their dancers for taking the time to come out and play for the people.

More than four hundred people from the community got fed that night - 150 more than what was expected.

All volunteers worked very hard on the dinner and should give themselves a pat on the back, for being part of the crew that helped make this Friday night more than just a beer in one of the bars on skid row!

By FRED ARRANCE



## Poetry reading

The Carnegie Centre Library is pleased to present a Poetry Reading by Canadian Poet Susan Glickman on February 15. Winner of the Harbourfront "Discovery" competition in 1980, she also received the Clifford Leech award in 1984.

Susan Glickman has been called "...a lyrical ironist (Jeanette Seim in The Canadian Forum) and "...a poet gifted in a larger measure than we are used to..." (Robert Allen, Matrix) Her most recent publication is The Power to Move.

This free event will take place in the Carnegie Centre Art Gallery at 7:30 p.m., February 15, 1988. Ms. Glickman's visit is made possible by the League of Canadian Poets. Everyone is welcome to attend. For further information, contact Carnegie Library and Linda Clark: 665-3015.

## Women of CARNEGIE

There are ongoing meetings for 'Women of Carnegie' every Wednesday (except 'payday') at 3:00 p.m. on the 3rd floor in the Oval Office.

We plan to have a display of Women at Carnegie on the 3rd floor for International Womens' Week (Mar 7-13). We also plan a dinner sometime during that week. We need more hearts, heads & hands!

So come join us - Weds. at 3:00. See you then!



THE STONE THE BUILDERS REJECTED

Our community has the greatest urban concentration of Native people in the Lower Mainland...we also have the most bars, bootleggers & beer parlours.

Native communities were first introduced to alcohol by our white European ancestors. The confusion & craziness it caused among them was, & still is, a racist joke to those who have no heart.

In many cases, alcohol was the weapon used to separate Native people from their heritage - even smallpox & venereal disease were, in some places, deliberately spread among them.

Anyone who still thinks our white European ancestors just showed up, shook hands with the noble redskin & occupied the wide open spaces of a new world, is crazy. Not only was there a shooting war, but it was backed up by chemical & germ warfare & cultural suppression & an attempt at total genocide.

It's an undeniable fact of history that the white race deliberately created the utmost degradation, suffering & despair among the original inhabitants of this area of the Earth's surface we're standing on now; covered over here at Main & Hastings by concrete slabs, pierced by gas mains, sewer pipes & electrical cables...

In our neighbourhood Native people continue to survive - & miraculously to call back their own high spiritual heritage, which our Christian forefathers characterized as "inferior". They continue to defend the natural world, the forests & wild animals against our ignorance & greed, & they continue to point out that a spiritual relationship to life must take over where politics fail.

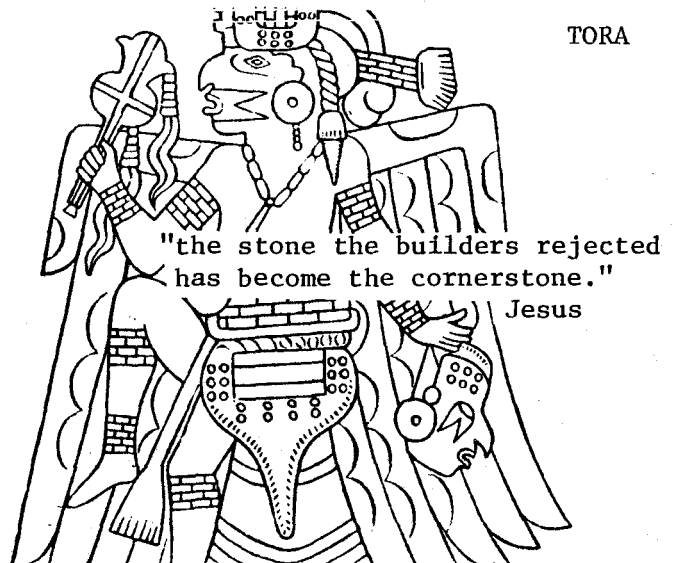
Carnegie is the centre of a community of survivors. It reflects the problems of survivors, not least of which is the problem of Native-white relationship...still with us after all these years.

I think the most important thing Carnegie could do for Native people is to make free space available to Elders & teachers on a regular basis; so that Native street people can relearn & maintain their cultural identity & spiritual connections.

We, the offspring of white European invaders, need this more than anyone because the future of our children, & of all children everywhere - their quality of life - depends upon an acceptance into our lives of the ecological & spiritual wisdom carried & preserved for so many years, under such difficult circumstances, by our Native brothers & sisters.

Because our ancestors failed in their attempts to destroy them, Native people are not only the teachers of their own people now - but they are our teachers, & anything we can do to acknowledge that fact at Carnegie, should & must be done.

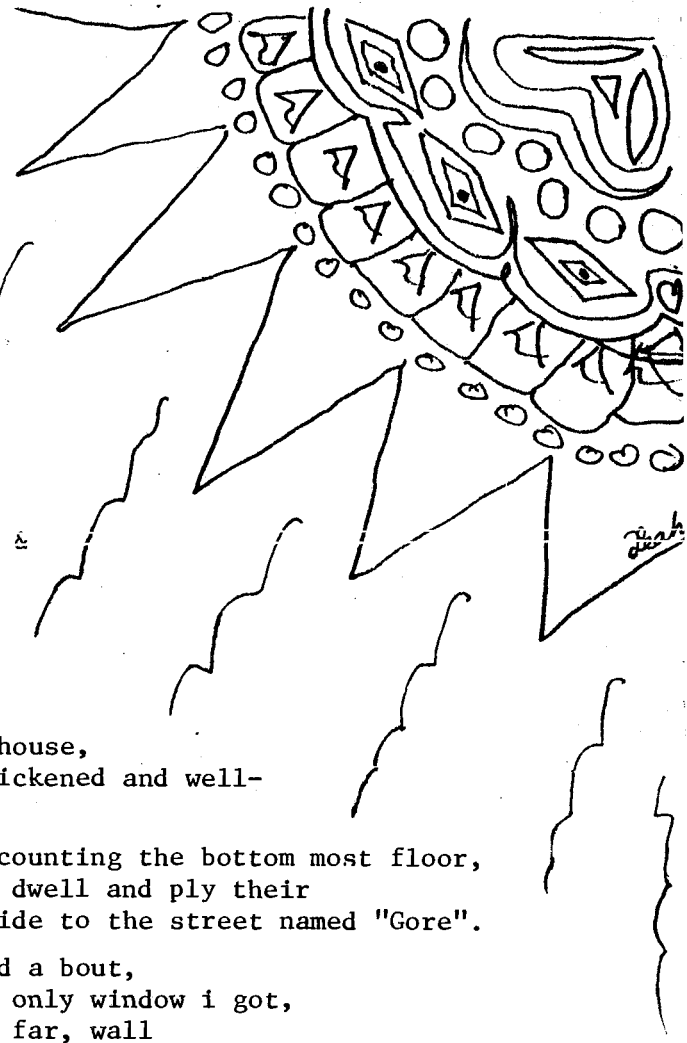
TORA





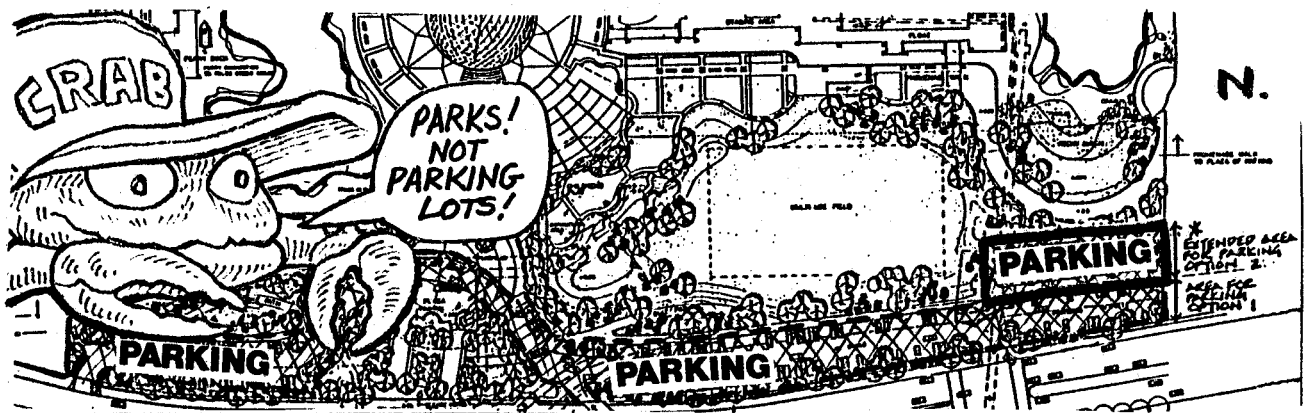
# Poetry

re: Morning



i open my ear  
to the vibration of buses  
rattling heavy-treaded  
through my ancient floor-wooded room &  
the walls quiver, like earth tremor,  
from the after shock, the affect,  
of by-passing Moto-cycle-cops  
on duty bound, pass past,  
this  
well-eroded brick brown facade, the house,  
to my cell, plaster slathered and thickened and well-  
& I close my ear again  
three stories tall, well maybe four counting the bottom most floor,  
where the Barbers, the hair-pressers dwell and ply their  
old, old, old, trade. Off to this side to the street named "Gore".  
& at 6 a.m. precisely or there 'round a bout,  
Sun diamond bright shine through the only window i got,  
Shadow slat blocked play on the far, far, wall  
& me, a battle-locked vagrant really, a tramp, with  
a roof o'er my head of hair;  
& three cats running lynx sure footed over there,  
over the dirty, dusty, not plush-piled fading red carpet  
or,  
then again in a fast-pan-flash leap all three not at the same time,  
but, each after the other atop, up onto, spring up-on, the  
only lonely dresser-bureau linked in silent meditation to the plaster  
& to the wall.  
& off again they ski-skamper, skittling off to play, say, hey,  
cat-tag or cat-seek n' hide, or whatever it is that their  
cat brains say. i throw them out the door.  
& I close the openings shut,  
to my brain, & sink, I remember, into deep, black, dark, sleep.  
& i remember to wake again.

H. Walter



## EAST FALSE CREEK PARK

CRAB (Create a Real Available Beach) committee is an independent grassroots downtown eastside group of unpaid volunteers. CRAB's main accomplishment to date is a seven acre waterfront park at the foot of Main Street, that sits on \$35million worth of landfill. CRAB is working also to improve access for the elderly, children and disabled to "Crab Beach".

CRAB is opposing the needless destruction of  $\frac{1}{4}$  acre of prime waterfront parkland at "East False Creek Park" for 35 parking spots.

These parking spots are for Science World, which is moving into the aluminum-looking golfball at Terminal and Quebec streets.

Formerly, Science World had no parking while operating out of their Granville and Dunsmuir location. Now they say they need 430 parking spots and "significantly" more in the future.

But Science World and the City will have a year and a quarter to find 35 parking stalls. CRAB has told them of where they could find them:

- on-street parking on Quebec St. for Science World customers only;
- build a portable, modular parking lot near the ALRT station at Main; (a local firm, "Redi-Park, Inc.", builds up to seven-storey struc-

tures that are 80% cheaper than permanent, cement structures.)

- the City has parking one block south of Science World at the B.C. Transit/Hydro yard;

- city staff have told parks board that leases for parking will be made available in two or three years in the area;

- there is a lot storing Expo modular pavilion roofs one block south of Science World...couldn't this site be used for 35 parking stalls?

Why isn't Science World pushing the ALRT line, new bus routes and existing bus routes and car pools as a ecological way of people getting to their building? During Expo, people used rapid transit and public transit and even walked to the area, seemingly without any problem. Much of Science World's business will likely come from schools who will rent their own buses.....

The 35 car lot will have negative impact on the whole northern part of the eight-acre waterfront park at the foot of Terminal Avenue. It will hover over the "beach" area where kayaks and canoes will be launched; a pollution buffer of trees, grass and space will be lost. The sandy beach area will likely be the only direct access to water for many people on False Creek.

# Cooky's Corner

Abbreviations for recipes:

TSP- Teaspoon

T - Tablespoon

C - Cup

PKG- Package

WW - Whole Wheat

(Helpful Hints)

1. After grains are ground, they are best refrigerated. This preserves the freshness, flavour and nutrition. 2. Ovens vary in temperature. Watch any new recipe to see when it is done. 3. Glass pans bake faster than metal ones.

## Leftovers - Shepherds Pie

½ C cooked beef cut in cubes

½ C leftover vegetables

¼ C liquid (veg. or water)

salt & pepper to taste

1 T finely chopped onions

½ C mashed potatoes

Grated cheese

- in a casserole dish, combine beef, vegies, liquid, onions, s&p spread with a layer of mashed pot. Top with a little grated cheese or margarine. Bake for 30 min. at 350 degrees. Serves one person.

"Health & Money - between these two temporal blessings is this difference: Money is the most envied but the least enjoyed. Health is the most enjoyed but the least envied."

THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU!!!

The "8 in '88" celebration was a smash hit, and saying thank you is the only way to express my gratitude to the many volunteers and staff who helped on Sunday.

Robin Sobrino



**slanders**

Dear Sam Slanders

So how much cocaine can I get for half a million bucks, anyway?

Marty

Dear Marty

I really don't know, but I am sure that I can get you a good deal on a one-way ticket to Bolivia.

But seriously folks, given the financial looseness of you know whom, how much of the half million federal dollars will find its way into a political bank account?


Yrs Truly,  
Sam Slanders

## WORK PARTY ANYONE?

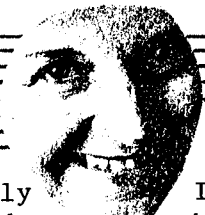
Would you like to get some physical exercise? Work outdoors? Meet people? Contribute to the development of a community garden for our area?

Every Saturday morning at 11 a.m., there is a workparty at the Strathcona Community Gardens. We are digging irrigation ditches to lay more water lines, building pathways that will handle many wheelbarrows loads and hauling loads of sand to the orchard area.

The Gardens are at the 700 block of Prior, between the firehall and Strathcona Park. Everyone is welcome! Come over and have a look!



# THE MIDDLE CLASS



The middle class is invariably dissatisfied with everybody and everything except themselves - of which they approve wholeheartedly.

The lower class, the working class they constantly seek to improve their own profit, of course. They are united in their disapproval of anything upper class. In fact, it is hard to say what, if anything, the middle class approves as they are always trying to improve everybody and everything all the time (that is except themselves and their own taste which they deem beyond reproach.)

Since the middle class controls the vote they are never in the wrong - because they can always and almost always do vote against anything whenever they begin to suspect that it could be beyond their taste or understanding.

In other words, sooner than admit that anybody is smarter than themselves, or has better taste, or that they are in the wrong, or have made a mistake, or erred in judgement of character...they simply vote themselves correct without exception.

The middle class has every reason to be quiet and unassuming.

(If I were as dishonest as most members of the middle class, I'd want to keep quiet about it too!)

What's so bad about being homeless? Why not make it easier to be homeless? I like living in a hotel room, (a room of my own) and eating in restaurants. When I don't have the expense of buying and maintaining a "house" it means I have that much more disposable income for other forms of spending.

Why vote?

Simply accept that I am the best. I am not the best because I am more honest than the rest or more talented or anything else. I am simply the best because I am the best. You can't count the vote on me, because I don't believe in democracy.

(Do you want to be happy  
or do you want democracy?)

I do not think that democratic institutions should be abandoned. It is desirable to keep democracy around so that the wishes of the majority are known.

However, I do not see why everything should cater to the debased tastes of lawyers and merchant princes (princesses). It ought to be possible to over-rule the will of the mediocre middle class majority. A Senate that is equal and elected cannot be effective. The choice is clear: a single Senate or a double Senate. A triple Senate is an impossibility.

The bastion of decency, constant progress and improvement, the middle class likes nothing better than to find something wrong with somebody or something..then it has a suitable object of improvement!

Generation after generation, the middle class remains the same however much the members of same fancy themselves as agents of change. They change their hairstyles en masse and fashions as required and rowing is replaced by long distance swimming and swimming is displaced by cycling and cycling is displaced by jogging and jogging is displaced by aerobics or whatever. What next? Boxing? The very thing; yes!

The eggs had a big fight last night. I don't know anything (about it). All I saw were smashed eggs & egg cartons strewn about a three block area surrounding Eaton's, the Robson Square courthouse, the Art Gallery and the Hotel Vancouver!

Perhaps some Action Artists littered the landscape with smashed egg shells, egg yolks and egg cartons to let us know the eggs are fighting. I don't know anything (about it).

"Now this is the exhumed and resumed voice of Gordon Sinclair, reporting to you from the streets and sidewalks, the buses and restaurants of Terminal City..returning you to regular radio listening."



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#### NANCY'S FOND FAREWELL

Even we had a going away party for Nancy Jennings, the shock of losing her surrounds the entire building. The Board meeting began promptly at 7:05 on Thursday and we finished the entire meeting by 8:20, including the election of a new member to the Board.

The campaign was great and the candidates were Mary Cappell, Dave Melvin, Gerry Santino, Bill Baglot and Hoe Boucher. Joe is the newly elected member.

In selecting Board members and "Volunteer of the Month" we should find out who is working hard behind the scenes and not just who is visible on the Concession Stands or second floor.

We always knew how sensitive Nancy was but having to leave Carnegie verified this. The video was a great idea as everyone had an equal opportunity to say farewell.

Last but not least the Carnegie musicians poured out their feelings. The poetry by Tora brought tears to many eyes.

Nancy brought us through Carnegie's hardest times. Even if people disagree with the Director, they have to admire her courage, stamina and the ability to be pleasant under difficult circumstances. Let us hope Nancy has a much easier position in her new endeavour. Our loss is their gain.

The Carnegie Community Centre is a real challenge for any director and anyone who manages this task deserves a medal. After all, just being on the Board opens one to a great deal of abuse.

The interim director is Gary Hamlin. Let us make his task easier so that he doesn't take the abuse that was directed at Nancy.

Good luck Nancy and please come back to visit soon.

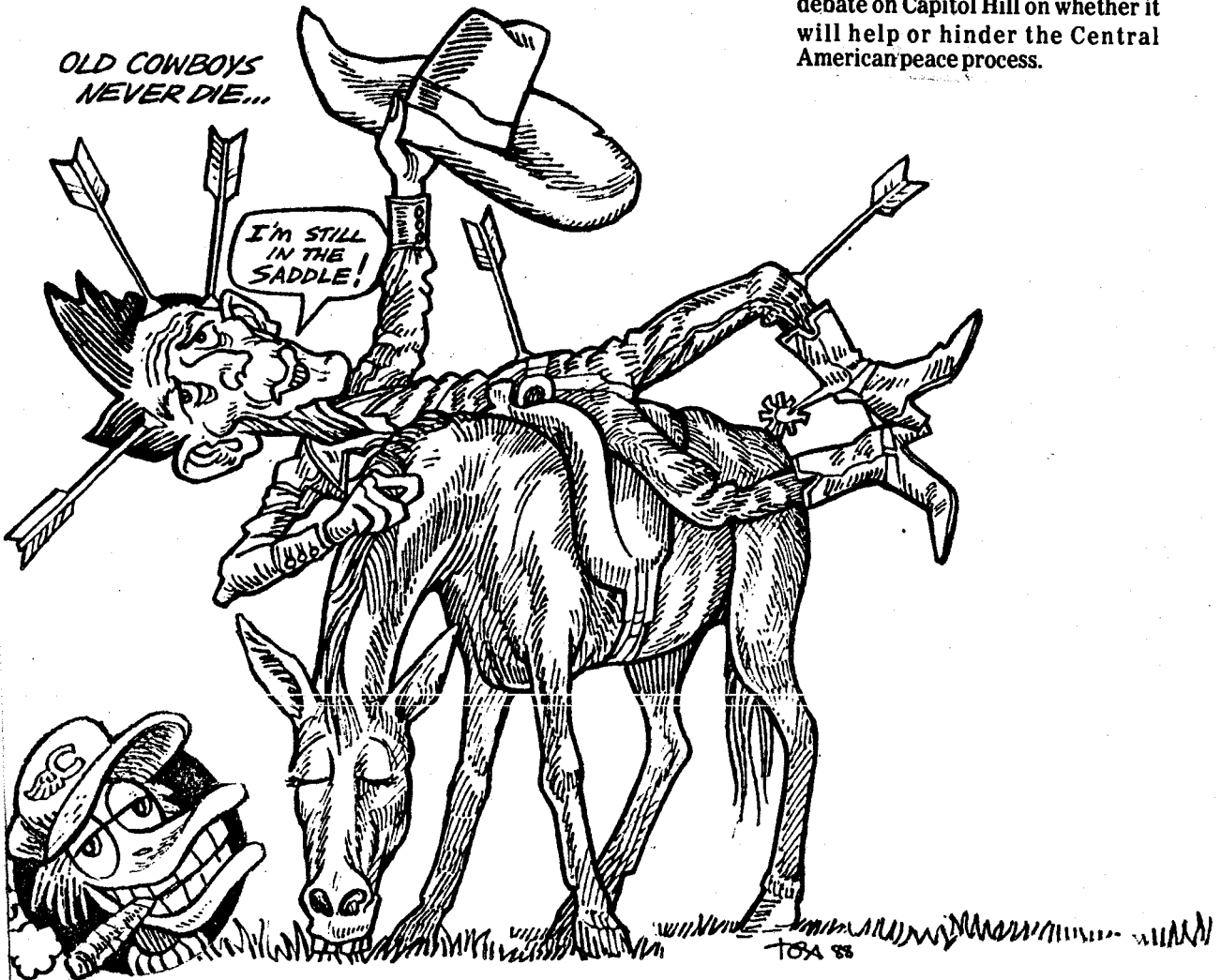
By IRENE SCHMIDT

# Not quitting time, Reagan says!

"Put on your work shoes — we're still on the job," Reagan said in his final address to Congress on the state of the union.

He made a strong pitch for Congress to vote next week to provide more money to the U.S.-backed Contra rebels in Nicaragua. The funding request is already stirring heated debate on Capitol Hill on whether it will help or hinder the Central American peace process.

OLD COWBOYS  
NEVER DIE...



'When a man assumes a public trust,  
he should consider himself as public  
property.'

THOMAS JEFFERSON  
PRESIDENT OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
Remark to Baron Von Humbolt, 1807

# Tell Wind

Jancis Andrews  
(from a work-in-progress:  
Poems from the D.E.)

The coldest day for eighty years, and this wind  
careening down Carrall Street  
where CFRO now sings the Downtown Eastside blues  
rouses my English childhood ghosts.  
Here, too, the prostitutes,  
the unemployed and the unemployable are buffeted  
by cries - these  
doing the Downtown East Side shuffle  
in the crack that falls  
between the Sally Bash and the dole run out.  
In Pigeon Park, I notice  
the wind blowing a newspaper  
from its rack, the pages  
lifting like the skirts of whores, revealing  
corporate bum -  
the tart -  
ing up of business expenses,  
and the governmental screwing  
of the taxpayer.

On the air  
LIVE  
& UNREHEARSED...



## Main & Hastings BRAINSTORM

Brainstorm theatre—live, unrehearsed,  
political satire with serious psycho-babble,  
and spontaneous Downtown Eastside  
propaganda, activist interviews, poetry, and  
environmental awareness, community  
announcements and news to die screaming  
by—music, local, live in the studio, or  
otherwise every second Thursday, with  
extended family and/or friends.

**4:30-5:30**  
**CO-OP RADIO 102.7 FM**  
**EVERY SECOND THURSDAY**

