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Carnegie



NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 15, 1989.

401 Main St., Vancouver, B.C. (604) 665-2289

Anniversary Issue

AUGUST 15, 1986

3rd

AUGUST 15, 1989



A SPECIAL REPORT

Claude Richmond
Minister of Social Services and Housing

RE: WELFARE CUTBACKS

Dear Mr. Richmond:

As members of the community, we are outraged at the news which you have released to the newspapers regarding people on welfare.

Vancouver's Downtown Eastside is an area well-represented in the poverty and welfare statistics. We are deeply concerned and angered by your ministry's actions. Many of the 75,000 people classified as "employable" are affected by one or more of the following factors, hindering their ability to seek employment.

1. Some people on welfare are going to suffer because they are unable to seek employment due to the fact that they can't afford a phone, so they end up missing out on a job opportunity.
2. No money for training programs for people on welfare.
3. No money for transportation, in order to get to a job opportunity.
4. Lack of funds to buy proper clothing to wear to an interview.
5. Lack of funds for childcare.
6. Lack of funds for dental work, proper nutrition, etc.
7. Lack of knowledge of job hunting and follow-up techniques.
8. Lack of stable, affordable housing ("no fixed address") pertains to those living in hotels, rooming houses.
9. Lack of family and/or friends for moral support, "contacts".

Who does one contact in order to receive these items, of necessity, so that one may get off of welfare?

We feel that this proposed change in policy is extremely short sighted because many factors prevent people on welfare from obtaining adequate employment. Lack of motivation is not, as your government maintains, a primary cause of people's inability to obtain employment. What additional funding and services is your government willing to legislate to ensure that people on welfare have adequate financial and other resources to carry out your job search?

Could the ministry look at the points we have made. We feel it is very important that we be heard on this matter.

Thank you for your consideration.

CARNEGIE COMMUNITY CENTRE ASSOCIATION

Muggs Sigurgeirson, President; Barbara Morrison, Secretary; Margaret Prevost, Chairperson of Community Relations; Board of Directors (unanimously).

CC: Prime Minister Mulroney	Premier Bill Vanderzalm
Margaret Mitchell, MP	Emery Barnes, MLA
Jake Epp MP	Mike Harcourt, MLA
Provincial NDP Social Services Critic	
The Province; The Vancouver Sun; East Ender; Carnegie Newsletter	

Thought For The Day

ONLY THOSE ARE WHO PULLING THE OARS CAN ROCK THE BOAT.

PLEASE READ THIS LETTER CAREFULLY AS IT CONCERNS YOUR
ELIGIBILITY FOR INCOME ASSISTANCE BENEFITS.

Dear Recipient:

As you may be aware, British Columbia is enjoying the best economy in several years. The unemployment rate is down significantly, many new work opportunities are now available and you must make full use of them.

Income assistance benefits were provided as temporary assistance until the job market improved and you could become independent through employment.

The August cheque, which you have just received, will be the last one issued until you provide the Ministry with documentation of your efforts to find work. The declaration form on the cheque stub you complete each month indicates you are seeking work and are able to provide proof. This is a condition of eligibility under the GAIN Regulations.

Because of the current availability of jobs, you are expected to find work or show why you have not found or accepted employment.

No further benefits will be issued to you unless you list your efforts on the attached form and return it to your local Ministry district office prior to issue of the September cheque.

Yours truly,

Claude Richmond
Minister of Social Services
and Housing



Province of
British Columbia

Ministry of
Social Services
and Housing

ACTIVE JOB SEARCH STATEMENT

INSTRUCTIONS

List dates, names and phone numbers of employers seen and results of job interviews. Use both sides of this form to list employers and if needed use extra sheets of paper to list persons contacted. When completed, sign the declaration at the bottom of page 2(reverse) of this form.

RETURN THE FORM TO THIS OFFICE BEFORE AUGUST 18, 1989.

DATE CONTACT MADE WITH EMPLOYER	BUSINESS NAME AND ADDRESS	PERSONS CONTACTED	PHONE	TYPE OF WORK SOUGHT	RESULTS OF YOUR REQUEST FOR A JOB

THE "JOB SEARCH" SCAM!

Over 130,000 people are unemployed in B.C., but compared to the total population, that's only 9%. A system that employs 91% of the available workforce should have no reason to hassle the 3% (49,000) who have landed on Welfare. This 3% of "Employable" people will always be there, on Welfare, for various reasons best known only to themselves. It's totally unrealistic for any government to expect any system to be 100% functional. Any scientist or statistician can tell you that there will always be exceptions to the rule. In fact, social psychologists will tell you it's healthy for any society to have such exceptions, & that the evolution of societies is measured by their tolerance of these exceptions.

Of course, all this means nothing to a government largely made up of millionaire stock investors. It bothers them that there is even a 9% exception to the rules that uphold lifestyles such as their own.

Anyone who has spent any time on Welfare knows that the government uses it to sustain a level of emotional insecurity. The government hands you your monthly living allowance, but at the same time constantly threatens to take it away. This has been going on as long as we've had Social Credit in B.C. (over 25 years).

Now, once again, the hardnose attitude of economic intolerance surfaces with a "job search" requirement, on pain of instant cutoff for the small amount of money that actually sustains a bare existence.

Considering that the 49,000 "employable" single welfare recipients make up only about 3% of the actual workforce in B.C., it seems mean-spirited, petty, & even sadistic of any government to hassle them. Many, of course, have valid reasons for

not wanting to be employed. Many are actually beyond the mind-set that requires paid employment, & live their lives in a creative, more evolved manner, where "work" is often indistinguishable from play, & the natural activities of everyday life, paid or unpaid, are the work or 'contribution to society' these individuals make.

Once again, I want to emphasize that these unemployed people represent only 3% in a system that employs 91% of its citizens.

...But, as we all know, these are the pariahs of society, the "Welfare Bums" "The Criminals", the "socially undesirable", the politically unco-operative, the free thinkers who just want to go their own way. Any intelligent society would allow them that, considering that they represent the inevitable 3% the social psychologists say is just naturally to be expected.

Anyway, when you get Bill's letter, just go into your welfare office & ask for an Appeal Form, fill it out & hand it in. Thousands of others just like you will be doing the same. This will tie up the Appeal Boards for a long time & everyone who appealed will continue to receive their cheques. When your appeal is heard you will win it anyway because there is a Federal law that the Socreds never talk about: It says that no Canadian citizen can be denied social assistance for simply refusing to work (Canadian Assistance Plan).

Of course, some people will just give up & go to a more desperate existence — increasing the crime rate as they do so.

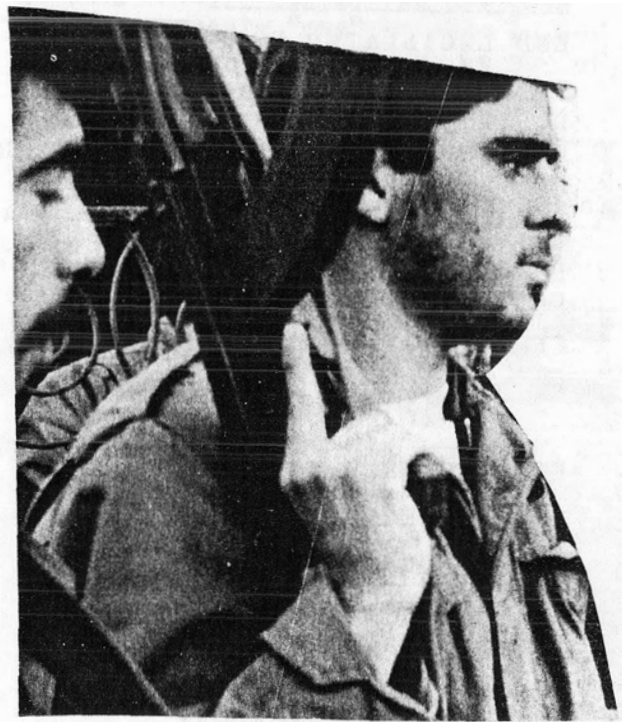
TORA

SURVIVAL INFORMATION
END LEGISLATED POVERTY

On August 4th, the socreds announced that all 49,000 so-called "employable" people on welfare would have to fill out job search forms by Aug. 23rd. If you don't do it, you don't get your September cheque they said.

On the very same day the new unemployment rate for B.C. was announced. It is now 9.2% officially unemployed, UP half a percent from last month. Over 100,000 people in B.C. are unemployed and cannot find jobs!! "Vancouver's unemployment rate rose a full percentage point, from 6.7 to 7.7 per cent." (Province: 6, August, 1989.)

Here are some of the things that might help you if you are "employable":



1. You don't have to fill out the job search if you have children. People with children are not included in this harrassment (yet).
2. You have the RIGHT to appeal if you get cut off welfare. If you appeal, you can keep your benefits until the appeal is heard. Get a group to help you with the appeal. You will have a much better chance of winning. See the list below.
3. Ask your worker for money to pay for the extra costs of searching for a job. Ask for a bus pass. Ask for money for clothing and shoes, for a phone, and for copying and printing your resume. If your worker says "no" get help from a group.

- 4.) If you are sick and unable to work, get a letter from your doctor that says you are "unemployable". The letter should state what your medical condition is, how long it is likely to last and how you are being treated. If "no" get help.
5. And last but not least, here is a handy dandy job search list. Apply to the employers listed on this page and ask them for a job. You probably won't get a job, but they will not hassle you.

(End Legislated Poverty,
#104 - 2005 E. 43rd.)

JOB SEARCH LIST

<u>BUSINESS NAME & ADDRESS</u>	<u>CONTACT PERSON</u>	<u>PHONE #</u>
END LEGISLATED POVERTY	JEAN SWANSON	321-1202
D.E.R.A.	AL ANDERSON	682-0931
D.E.R.A. HOUSING		
BLUE MOON HOUSING MANAGEMENT SOCIETY		
D.E.R.A. HOUSING CO-OPERATIVE		
CRABTREE CORNER 101 E. CORDOVA (Just for job search - not appeals)	BETTY MACPHEE	689-2808
FIRST UNITED CHURCH	ALLEN ALVARE KAREN HAWEL GOERGINA MARSHALL JIM ELLIOT	681-8365 681-8365
FIRST CHURCH HOUSING SOCIETY		
DUGOUT DROP-IN	JIM ELLIOT	681-8365
NEIGHBOURHOOD HELPERS PROJECT	JEFF SOMMERS	683-2253
VANCOUVER INDIAN CENTRE 1607 E. HASTINGS	BERT ISAAC PHILIP STEWART	251-4844
BC COALITION OF THE DISABLED 211 - 456 W. BROADWAY	R. LOXTON	872-1278
CARNEGIE CENTRE 401 MAIN STREET	SECURITY & KITCHEN	665-2220
D.E. WOMEN'S CENTRE 44 E. CORDOVA	KIM NIGHTINGALE	681-8480
LEARNING FRONT 217 MAIN STREET	MARDI JOYCE	662-7642
RAY-CAM 920 E. HASTINGS	CAROL BROWN	251-2141
NATIVE COURT WORKERS 239 MAIN STREET		687-0281

** If you are an employer or if you know of an organization who is willing to add names to this list, please contact the Carnegie Newsletter at 665-2289

WORK AND TRAINING
TRY TO GET THE SERVICES THE
GOVERNMENT SAYS YOU CAN GET

To make the government look good, Claude Richmond attached a list of services to his media release, services that people on welfare can get to help them get work. Twelve are listed but only 8 of these "services" apply to "employable" singles and couples without children.

Anyway, in case you want to try to get these services, here is what the government says you can get. If you want any of these, tell your worker.

- Enhanced earnings exemption:
 This is for people who get a job after they have been on welfare for 3 months or more. If it's part time, or pays less than welfare, you can keep \$50 a month plus 25% of what you earn above the \$50.

- Transportation allowance:
 If you are training or looking for work, you may receive assistance with transportation costs.

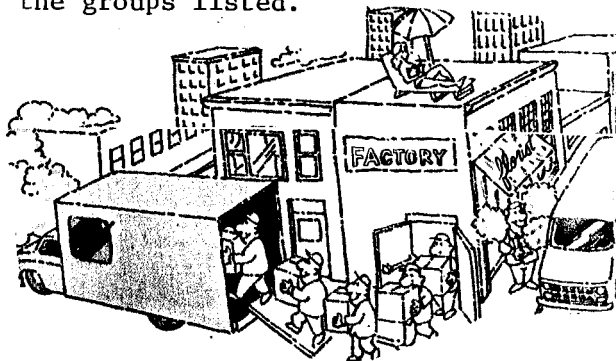
- Confirmed job:
 If you have a confirmed job, you may get assistance with transportation cost and work clothing.

- Referral to jobs:
 Staff in welfare offices have a computerized system and can tell people on welfare where to apply for available jobs and training.

- Training:
 You can take an upgrading or training course that may take up to 3 years to complete.

- Employment plus:
 This program gives money to employers to hire you if you are on welfare. If you are between 17 and 24 years old, ask about the Environment Youth Corps.

Sometimes, people have a hard time getting these. The government only says that people "may" be able to get them. If you need help, go to one of the groups listed.



VANCOUVER & DISTRICT PUBLIC HOUSING TENANTS' ASSOCIATION,
 246 E. Broadway. Phone 872-8648
 Monday to Friday..... 9 - 4 .

LITTLE MOUNTAIN TENANTS ASSOCIATION
 125 E. 37th. Phone 324-0555
 Monday to Friday.....10 - 3

B.C. COALITION OF THE DISABLED
 456 W. Broadway Phone 872-1278
 Monday to Friday..... 9 - 5 .

DOWNTOWN EASTSIDE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION (DERA),
 9 E. Hastings St. Phone 682-0931
 Monday to Friday..... 9 - 4 .

FIRST UNITED CHURCH
 320 E. Hastings St. Come Monday to
 Friday, 9 am to 11:30 am.

End Legislated Poverty 321-1202
 Downtown Eastside Residents' Association, DERA Housing Society, Blue Moon Housing Management Society, DERA Housing Co-op (all) 682-0931
 Little M



Province of
British Columbia

Ministry of
Human Resources

ELIGIBILITY DECISION

NOTICE OF APPEAL

APPLICANT'S NAME: _____ S I N _____

DISTRICT OFFICE _____

YOUR ELIGIBILITY FOR INCOME ASSISTANCE BENEFITS UNDER THE G.A.I.N. ACT AND REGULATIONS HAS BEEN DETERMINED AS FOLLOWS: _____

IF YOU WISH TO APPEAL THIS DECISION, PLEASE USE THE FOLLOWING NOTICE OF APPEAL.

WORKER'S SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

NOTICE OF APPEAL

STEP #1 - ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW

(PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY AND PRESS HARD)

If you believe that the Ministry of Human Resources' worker has not applied the G.A.I.N. Act and Regulations correctly in determining your eligibility for income assistance, then you may request that an Administrative Review of that decision be conducted by the Regional Manager or his designate. An application for Administrative Review must be made in writing to the Regional Manager within **30 DAYS** of the decision concerning your eligibility. To initiate an administrative review, complete this section.

I, _____ of _____
(NAME) (ADDRESS)
_____ (POSTAL CODE)

wish to appeal the decision of the Ministry of Human Resources made _____
(DATE)

at _____ by _____
(DISTRICT OFFICE) (WORKER'S NAME)

THE DECISION THAT I AM REQUESTING A REVIEW OF IS:

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Refusal to grant Income Assistance | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Refusal to provide extra emergency or crisis assistance |
| 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Refusal to grant Handicapped Benefits | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Cancellation of benefits |
| 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Refusal to increase Income Assistance | 6 <input type="checkbox"/> Reduction of benefits |
| 7 <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ | |

THE REASON FOR MY REQUEST FOR A REVIEW OF MY CASE IS: (If you are not sure, ask the worker for further clarification.) _____

APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER: _____ DATE: _____

INSTRUCTIONS

DISTRICT OFFICE: Give the White, Blue, Green, and Yellow copies to the Applicant. Keep the Pink copy for reference.

APPLICANT: IF YOU ARE REQUESTING AN ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW KEEP THE WHITE COPY FOR YOUR RECORDS. THE BLUE, GREEN AND YELLOW COPIES SHOULD BE SENT OR TAKEN TO THE REGIONAL MANAGER (ASK THE WORKER FOR HIS OR HER ADDRESS) OR RETURNED TO THE DISTRICT OFFICE FOR PROCESSING. THE REGIONAL MANAGER OR HIS DESIGNATE WILL RETURN THE RESULTS OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW TO YOU.

REGIONAL MANAGER: Keep the Blue and Green copies and send the Yellow copy to the District Office.

Higher Authority inspired poet extraordinaire Tora to make a photocopy of the article under Nicole Parton's name, appearing Tuesday, August 8 in the Vancouver Sun. The result - "Socred Weir(d) proposal a sensibleep for BC" - is our Cosmic Friend's agreement: The totalitarian mind-set is like a cuckoo clock in hell, keeping perfect time for 4 minutes and 3 seconds, jumping back five hours, keeping perfect time for 13 seconds, then jumping ahead a year. Parton ended her spiel with "Three cheers for the Socreds." Need I say more?

Socred weire proposal a sensibleep for B.C.



incentives to babysitting, transportation and clothing costs. Some social assistance recipients still refused to release their grip on the welfare state. Perhaps those who spurned the carrot will be more responsive to the stick. Unless B.C.'s 49,000 employables show some evidence of having looked for work this



LETTERS

I wouldn't touch the Bank of B.C. with a ten-foot pole.

I patronized its Commercial St. Nanaimo Branch (pre-hong kong). After enquiries, I was informed by Amnesty International that this bank had money in South Africa through a British bank. They also said that, as far as they could determine, Toronto Dominion was the only clean bank in that regard. I went to the Bank of B.C. and told them what I had been told, but not the sources.

The manager I spoke to gave me a song and dance about no direct investment in South Africa, which I considered an admission of indirect investment.

I moved to Toronto Dominion.

L.D.B. Terhune

Editor, Carnegie Newsletter:

Talk about "deja vu all over again"! In response to the Sacred govt's latest atrocity, and in keeping with the spirit of an anniversary issue of the Newsletter, I have been rummaging through back issues from last fall. We all remember the attack on the "unemployables". We thought we were fighting a "war to end all wars". We established a Welfare Rights Clinic at Carnegie; the P.O.W. group was born; pull-out petitions formed the centre page of the Dec.1 issue of the Carnegie Newsletter.

E.L.P. organized a meeting in Vic-

toria with Claude Richmond, the Minister Responsible (with yours truly as the Carnegie rep.). The Downtown Eastside Poets put out an impressive brochure, combining poetry, politics and practical advice to prospective victims. Everybody pulled together and the forces of light prevailed... we thought! Now darkness is once more upon the land and the battle is being joined anew.

Sometime allies like Nicole Parton are showing their true colours, and barf-bags are in order. It's gonna be a tough fight so in case anyone thinks there is anything new going on, I enclose a few selected lines from poems or letters of mine published during the previous campaign:

"Slave labour is the new growth industry in B.C. ... Desperation grows. Volunteer agencies can't cope. Do we re-open the psych wards? Expand the jails?? No cost-saving there.

Open the paper. Aha! Solution! Claude Richmond's "Employment Plus" ads. "Help now...when you need it." Help for whom? Businessmen. Free labour to co-ordinate festivals...upgrade ski areas and golf courses."

Build a playground for the wealthy. Whip the slaves into productive shape.

Trick or treat indeed!"

" Blow a grand
 On literacy workshops
 Teach poor people to read
 What they don't know can't hurt 'em
 Can it?

Free food of course
 Where it's really at
 Why else this plague of volunteers
 All this work without pay
 Makes 'em unfit
 For gainful employment
 Hurts MSSH
 Open market commodity value
 Next year
 When we privatize

None of this 'community' bullshit
 Keep 'em isolated
 On the ropes
 On the skids
 Uprooted, disenfranchised
 Put the fear of Claude in 'em
 Fear of the Ministry
 MSSH

..Ungrateful, unproductive
 Scum
 Cost us \$400 a month
 Support this life of decadence
 Deceit and debauchery
 High on the hog
 Full course meal
 Every second day.

..Watch him steal an apple,
 Then throw him in the slam.
 Maybe we'll get lucky.
 Maybe he'll starve.

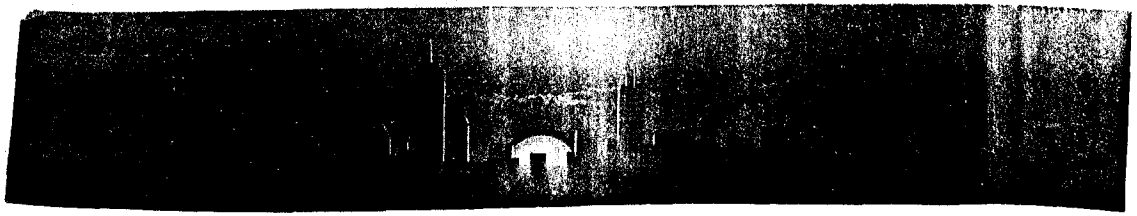
Or sell us his sisters
 Cheap
 Or both
 We got you Kramer,
 Dead to rights.
 You're nailed.
 O.K. Check the list...
 Who's next?

..(from Poem for Claude)
 Slimy, shit-faced liar
 Vile despoiler of human resources
 Reeking with stench of death
 Wreaking havoc, devastating lives
 Real people
 Unfit
 For your conxumption
 Sick sadistic Bastard
 You've gone too far.
 Left us nothing now to lose.

Hear those footsteps in the dark?
 See that shadow in the alley?
 Chill in the air. Do you feel it?
 Keep one eye open while you slumber.
 Death Angel, Minister of Misery,
 Your number's up. Tread carefully,
 Look both ways before you cross us...

P.S. To your copy of ELP's "Hassle-free Job Search List" (Aug.8) you may add the following: The Learning Front, 217 Main St., 662-7642. Drop by and we'll give you a letter. Keep P.O.W. posted on other employers willing to do the same.
 Vincererrios!

Mike Kramer



MSSH Crackdown

To date, this is the third attack on people on welfare by the Social Credit Government within the year. In November of 1988, unemployables and single mothers on welfare were cut \$50.00 a month. Only the single mothers were reinstated. Many unemployables are still classified as employables.

In March of 1989, Emergency Services was shut down and now only operates as a bed index.

In his latest attack, Claude Richmond sent job search forms to 49,000 "employable" welfare recipients with the threat that they have to be filled out and back to the F.A.W.'s by August 18th. Claude Richmond may be backing down on this requirement but it still leaves many people on welfare nervous and vulnerable to more harassment. A public meeting has been called for August 20th, 7:00 pm, at the Carnegie Community Centre to talk about what is happening and what we can do about it. Come with your questions and opinions.

By KIM NIGHTINGALE

(Editor's note: Since Vanderzalm, the 1st time rates moved, was when a court ruling said no discrimination based on age was allowed. They took \$7 off, rather than raise the rates for people under 26 to be the same as those for people over 26.)

A PEACEFUL PROTEST

WILL BE HELD OUTSIDE THE MINISTRY'S DOORSIDE
AND WATERFRONT OFFICES AT 180 MAIN STREET
(MAIN & POWELL), VANCOUVER, B.C. STARTING AT 8:30 AM--

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 16/89

RAIN OR SHINE. BE THERE - YOU COUNT!!!



This issue of the Carnegie Newsletter is the largest ever, with 36 pages & 900 copies printed. It'll likely happen just this once; budgets are meant to remind one that everything has a cost. Donations are still accepted, so if you can help, great. Spiritual evolution is the only game worth playing. Do all the good you can in all the ways you can to all the people you can in all the places you can for as long as ever you can.


EMERGENCY MEETING

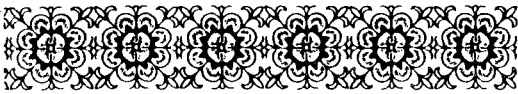
for employables on

WELFARE

7PM



 SUNDAY AUG. 20TH
 CARNEGIE CENTER
 401—MAIN STREET


 TOPIC\ ACTION\ ON THE
 SS JOB SEARCH LIST



One of the problems in the Downtown Eastside is housing. Despite project after project of government-assisted housing being built and quickly filled, the waiting for that housing remains long. Thousands wait.

In the meantime, many must put up with cheap hotel rooms, roach-ridden apartments and buildings too old and too far below health and safety standards for average people to make decent homes.

For a working person receiving minimum wage the choice is hard. One can move to a home that cost's half one's paycheque, or one can scrape and save and suffer the bugs, mice, rusty odours and slanted floors.

The DERA office at 9 E. Hastings has application forms to co-op housing around the city but again the waiting lists are all too long.

Remedies to the waiting list problems are growing scarce. According to MP Margaret Mitchell's Spring Report: "The government's new budget imposes drastic cuts to housing programs." In particular the report says, "...funds for co-op housing (will) revert to 1986 levels."

So it appears that the fight for reasonable standards of living in the city, and especially in the Downtown Eastside, is going to be a long and difficult battle.

By RON CARTEN



HUMAN BEING

What is a human being?

I asked.

What is humanity?

Is it mankind?

Is it womankind?

The Sphinx - life - replied

It is a web

Intricate and subtle

That is still a-weaving

That is still a-weaving.

B.E.F.



A direct translation of the word "professional" is almost always related to remuneration..getting paid for whatever is done. In a more universal sense, a Professional is someone who is deferred to as having more insight, more understanding of what is necessary and who is also capable of performing the work.

So much for the preamble. We, as members and users of the Carnegie Centre, almost got creamed through the manipulations and insensitivity of thoroughly modern, "professional" crap. The auspices - who runs our Centre - have come up before City Council FOUR TIMES in the last few years and each time it has been the inspired idea of some jerk to take us away from the Social Planning Department of City Hall and lump us in with some other department.

The first three times it was the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation (Parks Board) who would have been the delighted/delightful new parent body. 'Delighted' because

of the 22 or 23 community centres in Vancouver, only Carnegie is not stuck under their thumb, and the profound symmetry inherent in snaring us is a bureaucrat's wet dream. 'Delightful' doesn't even begin to express the concern and attention we could expect from a body that is 90% in favour of spending \$40 million to upgrade and enlarge a zoo when most of their 22 or 23 community centres can't even get money to fix roofs or build gyms or even put better services and facilities in vest-pocket parks like Oppenheimer.

Back in 1987, when the dismal excuses from DEEDS were bounced off the Association's Board, the exercise of setting up a panel to "review" Carnegie started off well enough. It only took a couple of meetings until the reason behind the selection of the panelists was obvious. Consider how objective this group was when over 95% of the speakers addressing the issue of auspices said that the Carnegie Centre should stay under Social Planning; when the staff here from the Director on down stated the same thing; when a survey of members overwhelmingly supported not changing to Parks...and this Carnegie Review put all this community feeling in its report and made a direct recommendation that Carnegie be transferred to the Parks Board.

(Even more telling, in retrospect, was the inclusion of the Chairman of the Carnegie Review Committee on the NPA slate for the last election for Council...his reward for trying?)

All that stopped the transfer was the threat of the federal government withdrawing Canada Assistance Plan money from Carnegie if it became just another rec. centre.

The arrogance of the NPA was undaunted and their long-range plans to "transform the Downtown Eastside"

(read steamroll) proceed. It's a painful thorn for them and their mega-projections that most of the efforts made by residents of our neighbourhood are supremely successful in spite of desperate measures to kill them.

- Carnegie or a parking lot
- Crab Park or highrises
- Four Sisters Co-op or landlords
- DEYAS Needle Exchange or AIDS
- DERA or dog-houses/rooms

This last effort to tear out the heart of our community was set up quietly and came through, of all places, the office of the City Manager as a one-line recommendation - "Carnegie to Parks". This was altered to be "Carnegie to Housing"...can you believe it?! This department hasn't even been formed yet and already it's the best place for the most successful community centre in Canada. Despite the obvious lunacy of such a move, no less than four City Councillors voted in favour of the transfer - Puil ("Get these damn squatters off Strathcona Gardens), Owen ("Crab Park access is very close to being resolved (1987, 1988, 19...)), Bellamy ("No, I can't back this DEEDS/I support DEEDS) and Wilking - so much for being fresh and uncompromised.

The Carnegie Community Centre is under the auspices of Social Planning from now on. Parks Board can use some of its \$40 million to build and run a much-needed recreation facility in the Downtown Eastside. The only option left to the puppet masters is to instruct their "NPA" to simply destroy Social Planning. Then Carnegie will have to be put somewhere else and our living room can then be changed enough so that the residents of the area won't use it..or won't be able to use it with fees for programs and coffee at..let's say..75¢ a cup!

By PAULR TAYLOR

CARNEGIE

GASTOWN and OTHER PLACES

Original drawings by GARRY GUST
in the 3rd floor Art Gallery of
Carnegie from August 15th to 27th.

Charge changes

A 21-year-old Vancouver man was charged with second-degree murder yesterday in connection with the June 25 beating of Gary George Emile, 34.

Raymond Lloyd Rube was originally charged with aggravated assault.

Emile, who died July 22, was found behind Punchlines in Gastown in a pool of blood.



BACHELOR MAN

The whole world is shoutin' 'bout it,
I don't even think about it,
I can go a long time without it;
I'm a Bachelor Man.

Off the cuff a love might find me,
But soon enough something would remind me,
That I should leave it all behind;
I'm a Bachelor Man.

I'm a man of hesitation; I'm afraid of suffocation,
I don't like the walls of love closing in on me.

So here I am, the one and only,
I breathe a sigh when I get lonely,
But maybe tonight I'll get lucky;
I'm a Bachelor Man.

I don't waver to temptation if I see a celebration,
When I hear those wedding bells I think of false alarms.

The whole world is shoutin' 'bout it,
I don't even think about it,
I can go a long time without it;
I'm a Bachelor Man.



Garry Gust

To the Editor,

I find something namelessly revolting and profoundly degenerate in this recent spate of men serving a third force, i.e. the resources of the state, to impose their impregnating will on resisting women. Could anyone sink lower than this cowardly assault?

The utter barbarism of this concept of the purpose of state power is shocking in the extreme.

The far-right sector of the pro-life movement, who are at the root of these actions, are the exponents of a big business drive to destroy democracy..rule of, by and for all people, not merely men. Through the courts, they hope to impose their minority opinion on the entire nation. In the courts, they hope to find a higher proportion of friends than the population in general affords. The Reagan era in the USA is the seed-bed of this putsch.

We need to be aware of this; and take note that pro-lifers cease

their passionate defence of the sanctity of life at the mouth of the womb.

I have seen or heard nothing from these people against war, poverty, injustice, unemployment or cutbacks in health services and education.. all of which undermine the security and well-being of women as citizens and potential mothers.

I appeal to all people to become active in putting an end to this disgraceful and degrading war against women..their equality as citizens and their right to the full exercise of freedom of choice. (NO new law on abortion!/Full government funding of free choice abortion clinics.)

The decision in Quebec was mean-spirited and base. Repression and coercion are destructive - always have been.

Whatever the outcome of this unseemingly assault, abortions will go on being sought by unwilling mothers.

Written by Maria Armstrong
Submitted by Bea Ferneyhaugh

NEED HELP ?

DERA can help you with:

- * any welfare problems
- * UIC problems
- * getting legal assistance
- * unsafe living conditions in hotels or apartments
- * disputes with landlords
- * income tax



DERA is located at 9 East Hastings
or phone 682-0931.

DERA HAS BEEN SERVING THE DOWNTOWN EASTSIDE
FOR 15 YEARS

(Tune: Casey Jones)

Buy! Buy! Buy!
More than you are able.
Buy! Buy! Buy!
S--t--r--e--t--c--h your credit list!
Leave the food off the kitchen table,
But buy yourself a model of the new--
--WHAT'S ZISS ?

Now, we workers read newspaper ads
We blink at neon signs;
On every side the call for cash
Is dressed in new designs;
Each business man with smiling eyes
Invites us in to spend,
Until our money's at a sudden end.

Buy! Buy! Buy! etc.

Now the price of butter hits the sky
The rents are roaring up;
Children's shoes cost more and more
The taxes too go up;
And if the bus fare gets so high
To work we have to walk
Then from every side, on every street
We'll hear this talk.

Buy! Buy! Buy! etc.

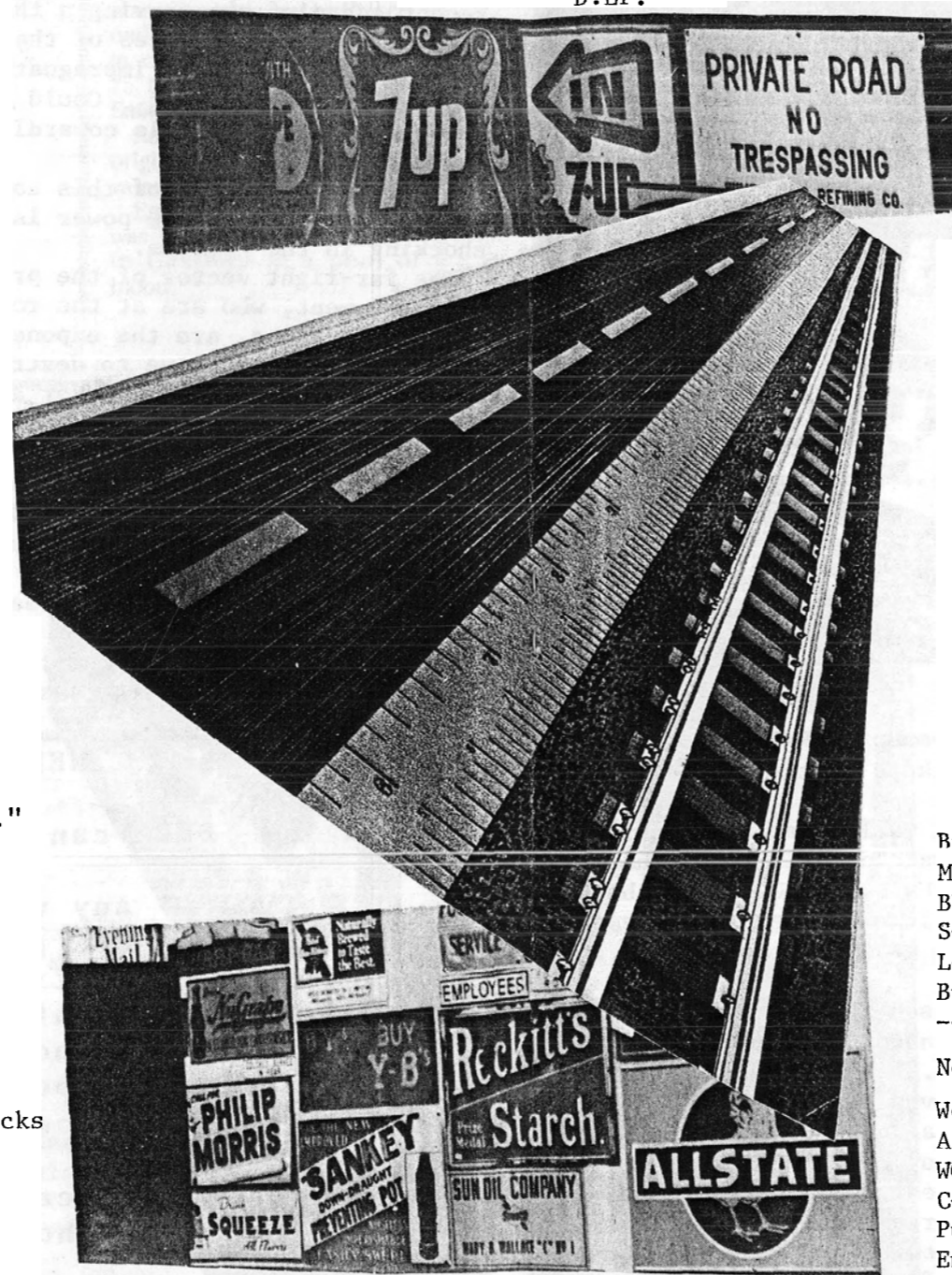
Now, the UIS is crammed with folk,
The breadline's stretching out;
The word goes round: "By Gosh! I'm broke."
The jobs are running out;
We go on strike; 'They' call us REDS;
To ask more pay is treason!
Until we feel we are about
To lose our reason.

CHORUS.

Now, the BIG SHOTS say FREE ENTERPRISE
Is what our people need.
They say that their 10-50-100 million bucks
Show us We can succeed:
But on the ads they spread around
No union bug one sees,
For the BIG SHOTS get their millions
From the Labour Squeeze.

A Song for Our Time

B.E.F.



CHORUS.

More, poloticos say thirty bucks
Can keep a man alive
While the tycoons pile their profits
And we honest workers strive
So free enterprise can flourish ???
In our green and pleasant land
And the build-up of their armies
Costs us two thousand thousand grand.

And it's
Buy! Buy! Buy! etc.

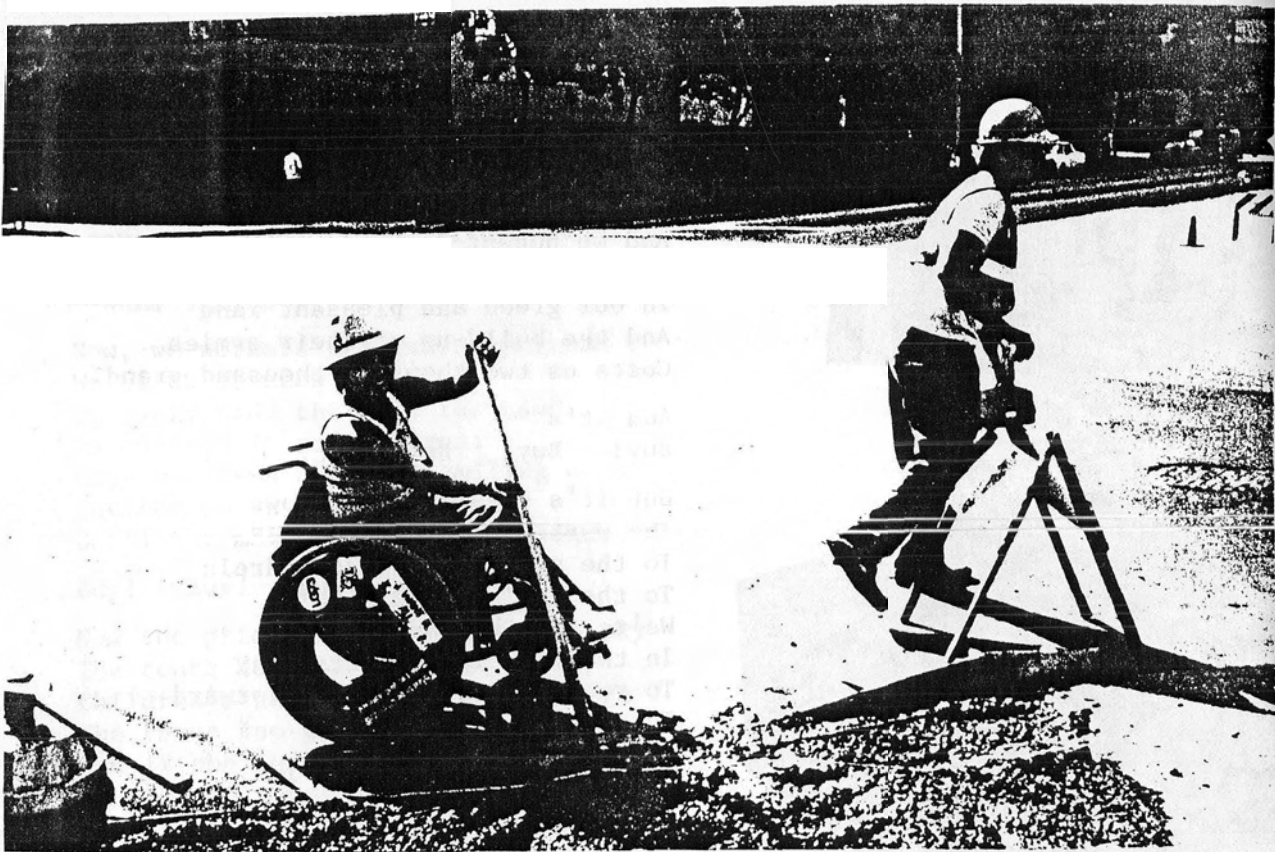
But it's clearly been shown
The worker's answer's "NO!"
To the profiteering scoundrels
To the AIB's - "GO SLOW!"
We're together now united
In the fighting workers' way
To resist, demand, press forward
To a brighter, freer day.

When Socialism will tie in
The cost of things we buy
With the money in our pockets
And our hearts will then be high;
For the millions that are added
By our labours every year
Will be OURS - Yes! O, OURS,
And we'll then not hear ...

Buy! Buy! Buy!
More than you are able,
BUY BUY BUY
S--t--r--e--t--c--h your credit list
Leave the food off the kitchen table
But buy yourself a model of the new--
--WHAT'S ZISS ?

No, then it'll be

Work! Love! Live!
All that you are able
WORK LOVE LIVE
C--l--a--s--p your comrade's hand
Put MORE food on the kitchen table
Enjoy yourselves together in a peaceful happy land.



"Please Get It Done...Get It DONE...DO IT!!!"

Margaret Prevost, the rookie Chairperson of the Community Relations Committee, bombs around in a wheelchair. One of her stickers on the wheels says, "I brake for the hell of it."

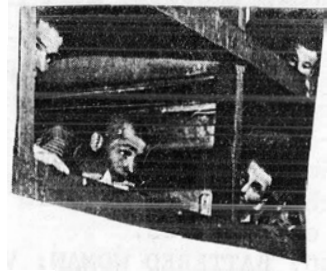
Eighteen months ago Marg made a phone call to Phil Carlson at City Engineering, talked about the number of people in the Downtown Eastside in chairs and went on to say that none of the four corners at Main and Powell had been modified to allow travel across the streets by herself and other speed-demons. As Marg tells it, Carlson was polite and assured her it was an oversight... "It'll all be done in a few weeks."

It's not that easy to brush Marg off, as Phil Carlson learned every Monday morning for the next year and a half. At 8:30 am, on Mondays, Marg would dial the long-memorized number and say "Mornin' Phil. It's not done yet. When are you going to get here and do it Phil?" (Serves him right, eh!)

Finally, about two weeks ago, the crew arrived on a Tuesday morning after Marg just stopped being polite altogether. 'The Monday before Carlson had said, "It'll all be done in a few weeks," and Marg went up one side of him and down the other, saying, "I've heard that for over a year!"

As the picture above shows, Marg was right in the thick of things until the workers had finished. The total time from start to finish... 4 days. Thanks Marg. Anybody know of another corner?

If I am the centre of my existence
Then all things in my immediate environment
Are likened to the toys of childhood
Should I take the only baseball
Then the game ceases -
All things move outward from the centre



I am constructed from the particles
of the Supreme Being,
But I am faulted...
We are in total the composite of all matter
Never an entity on our own
The energy existent is divided in all things
- Live and Dormant -
My spirit cannot rise to heaven

Or the universe will be unbalanced
Or some portion of Heaven must
be returned to Earth - - -
(an even exchange)
Well I will have none of it.



If anyone, even the Godhead, could break away
It would end the universe,
So there can only be repetition..
The only paradise is a return
to an unthinking form
My preference? A Rock
Not the Rock of Ages
only a stone of quietude.

Tom Lewis



Downtown Eastside Women's Centre
HEALTH PROJECT: AUGUST PROGRAM

Aug. 17: MENOPAUSE SUPPORT GROUP
- meeting begins at 4 pm to
watch a video about the

experiences of four women going
through menopause, and to share
their experiences.

Aug. 30: BATTERED WOMAN: VIOLENCE
BEHIND CLOSED DOORS ...

- this video features interviews
with both male offenders and female
victims. 2:00 pm.

Aug. 31: MENOPAUSE SUPPORT GROUP
- meeting to share experi-
ences and give support.

Women of all ages are welcome.



Notes from the NEEDLE EXCHANGE

- the DEYAS needle exchange is now
open Monday to Saturday 9 - 5.
- a Doctor, offering help free of
charge, will be back at DEYAS
on Thursday evenings from 5 - 8:30
starting the last week of August.

* DEYAS NEEDLE EXCHANGE
221 Main Street .. 685-6561

* DEYAS Office and Doctor
223 Main Street.



CONFERENCE

There was pandemonium
There was peace
There was the roar and rush of feet
Metal machinery, electric power,
Concentrated talk..there was more.

Down below and off in corners
Politicking patter curled and ebbed
On pebbled patternings of thought
Stretching tongues of penetration
Into the yet unrealized real.

Thought!

Then it was lost - the glow-worm idea
The first draft of a resolution
The link that swings dream
Into today's being.

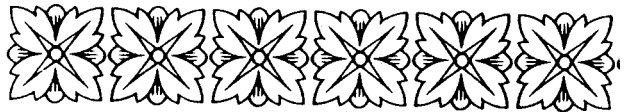
Somebody forgot - did not enter
In the right column
Lazed.

AND

There was pandemonium
There was peace
And I sat at my typewriter
Comfortably assured of the future.

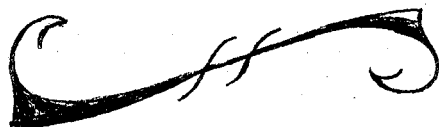
People!

B.EF.



When I feel small, insignificant,
and alienated, I think of the Carnegie
Newsletter. I think that if I write
something half decent and submit it,
chances are that it will appear in the
next issue of the paper. Thus, moti-
vated, my self-esteem gets a powerful
uplift with each new edition..for
which I'm very grateful.

Garry Gust



ELIMINATING RACISM

A WORKSHOP FOR WOMEN OF COLOUR

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 8 - SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 10, 1989

This workshop will provide a positive, non-threatening environment to explore and begin to work through a variety of issues connected to racism, internalized racism and internalized sexism.

The theme of the workshop is working through disappointment: the barriers to working as allies to each other as Native women, Black women, South Asian women, Asian women, Arabic women, Latinas, women of mixed heritage...

Facilitator: Gloria Yamato - is an African-American woman who has led numerous workshops on racism in the U.S and Canada.

REGISTRATION: Celeste 251 - 2635
Mari 872 - 4079

Sliding scale \$20 - \$150

ACCESS: The camp is wheelchair - accessible. Please let us know as soon as possible about access needs, i.e. hearing impaired, special diet, poverty. Call us about childcare.

CAMP ALEXANDRA - WHITE ROCK, B.C.
FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 8 - SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 10, 1989

Editor:

With much fanfare and hoopla the Socreds have announced new bus routes & Skytrain extensions and even some new Superbuses. It's still a pretty poor transit system, though, when the first Skytrain doesn't leave downtown Van. on a Sunday morning until 8:50. Perhaps the money being squandered on a logo for BC Transit's 100th birthday party next summer could go to providing a decent bus service on Sunday mornings.

Darren Lowe

He stands there with sweat on his brow
He takes a deep breath and exhales
Yes, he is the man of the hour...
He makes his first announcement,
"Ladies and Gentlemen, here is your feature!"
He combs his hair with his fingers
and wipes the sweat off his brow.
He is the M.C. - the Master of Ceremonies
He travels around from place to place
making announcements.
Nobody really gives him a hand
so I thought I'd say "Thank you,
you make a wonderful presentation."

Miki

Things ain't what they is
Never were what they are...
Star light star bright simply comes to this
Just a carbon cycle reduced
to a nuclear char
The wish for love and friendship
Made old J.C. a star
The race for intellectual one-up-manship
Jehovah became a fallen star
Oh to regain the purity
Of a trusting believing child
And the frail security
Of intellect running wild
Life is a mere one-act play
The curtain is the grave
Our cumulative debt of non-belief
Our children are called to pay
Their future's dark and long
As socio-economic slaves.

T. Lewis

*Calling Poets to submit poems for possible airing on Vancouver's new Dial-a-Poem line. There is no charge for this service. It is a 24-hour recorded poetry issuance. Copyrights remain with the poet, although one copy is kept on file at Dial-a-Poem. If requested, poetry will be returned to authors provided a self-addressed stamped envelope is enclosed with the submission. To submit poems write:

Dial-a-Poem

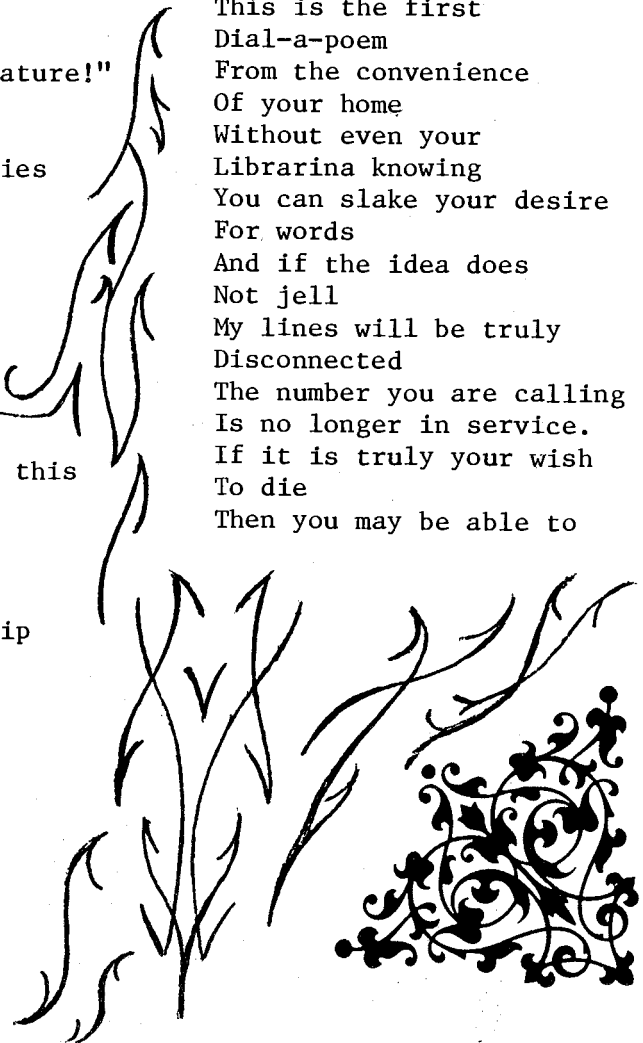
Box 1236

Vancouver, B.C. V6C 2T1

Dial-a-Poem #: 872-POEM (872-7636)

* ..to which D.E. Poet Tom Lewis says,

This is the first
Dial-a-poem
From the convenience
Of your home
Without even your
Librarian knowing
You can slake your desire
For words
And if the idea does
Not jell
My lines will be truly
Disconnected
The number you are calling
Is no longer in service.
If it is truly your wish
To die
Then you may be able to





The last place I looked
to find the wandering thing

The last place I looked
to find the wandering thing called

- place of belonging -

was where I should have started.

So, I imagined if I was someone else,
where would they look for peace of mind.
:or, as Neil Young says, "Is it really
only the needle and the damage done?"
but maybe that's far too much
...of a collage;

... too many pictures in a simple drawing;
...endless wandering!

So, if I looked through someone else's eyes
could I imagine where the wandering would stop,
for themselves, or...for me.

Damned if, in my own fashion, I don't realize
- this insane quest for a 'place of belonging'
--it's the biggest illusion of all.

So, if you or I find this illusion,
(in a bottle or a picture postcard)
I suppose it's alright to realize
-nothing is what it seems,
--and it probably never seemed to be

very much anyway. pessimistic vision... is
really only a word used to shelter people;
their darker art.

"looking for your place of belonging"
looking for something the mind of someone
only dreamed...

Who is so narcissistic to believe they have a right
to have a place of belonging.

Fact is:

we don't have any ownership of anything.

But, we can say, "I rent the life I'm living."

...for awhile....just not sure who the landlord is,
...who really owns this house?

you see, it's easy to realize there is a being
or person far greater than ourselves,
and it doesn't hurt at all.

Try it.

Give up all control for awhile;

you'll only fall down for a little while

life is just 'skin your knee', 'make it better'

With a little luck you'll make it through
unharmd.

Dave McConnell

The 2nd Annual
CARNEGIE CENTRE MUSIC FESTIVAL

Well, as it passed, our festival slowly faded to a memory of a wild day with lots of sunshine, food and music. The parade started from Oppenheimer Park at 11 am, which some people thought was a little early, but whatever the case the festival itself was a success.

We fed over 500 people and the stage housed performances by Tom Lewis, Uncle Bob, Za Za & the Angels, Marshall Hopkins, Barb Gudmundson, The Hoppin' Hornets, Against the Grain...all told there were over 40 players on the stage between 1 & 8pm.

Tora read 2 poems after Marg Prevost read a letter being forwarded

to Claude Richmond. The Adams Lake Drum Group highlighted the day by doing a very sensitive yet physical performance. Curious George, with an album just released, ended the festivities with a wallop!

People were on the roofs of the old buildings overlooking the rusted railway tracks and food was provided for all the performers. Rob & Mike did an excellent job with the sound, lots of people played and everyone had fun!

I am open to suggestions and look forward to next year's festival. Thanks to everyone who took part!!

By STEVE ROSE

I NEED YOUR HELP!!

Your support is desperately needed in my fight against a lying sleaze of a landlord. For a year now, I've been waiting for a \$110 damage deposit to be returned to me. My frustration led me to an assault charge.

On September 7th, I may have to give character references in a provincial court.

All I ask is that you sign your name on a petition in favour of my character and judgement against this landlord. Anyone who has been burned for their deposit and is sick of no one helping, talk to me. I wish to get my money back too! I need as much help as I can get. Thanks.

STEVE ROSE

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.

FREE - donations accepted.

City info staff can't accept donations for this Newsletter, so if you can help, find Paul Taylor and he'll give you a receipt.

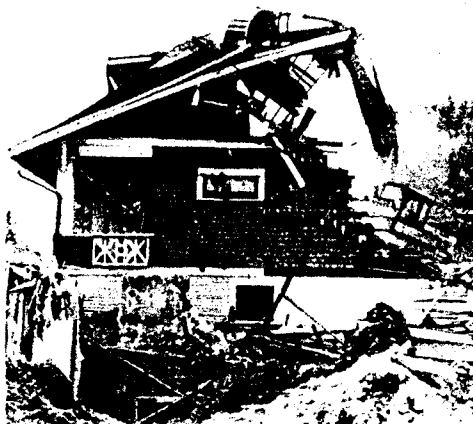
Thanks everybody.

Neil M.-\$2 Nancy J.-\$50
Sue H.-\$20 Steve R.-\$5
Terry the Terrible-\$100
DONATIONS: Yanum Spath-\$100
Nancy W.-\$300 Willis S.-\$100
George B.-\$15 Rich P.-\$41
Robert S.-\$20 Jancis A.-\$20
Louis P.-\$20 Tom -\$4.02
Marg. S.-\$10 L.B.T.-\$100
Ted B.-\$5 Sheila B.-\$2
Doug -\$20 Bea F.-\$25
Lillian H.-\$20 James M.-\$50
I.MacLeod -\$100 Kelly -\$3
Anonymous-\$13.23 J.East -\$1

“No place to go”

Thousands of Vancouver tenants are losing their homes. We need action now!

The housing crisis in the Lower Mainland is mounting, threatening tenants and homeowners alike. Tenants are being evicted to make way for high-priced luxury condominiums. Seniors are being forced out of the suites where they have lived for forty years. People on low and fixed incomes, particularly women, are the hardest hit. Perfectly livable, affordable, older apartment buildings are facing the wrecking ball in Kerrisdale, Kitsilano and other neighbourhoods.



ROBERT ALLEN

Rent increases of 30 and 40 per cent are common. Homeowners have been hit with major property tax increases that will force some to leave life-long homes and neighbourhoods.

Housing: A right for everyone!

A way out of the crisis

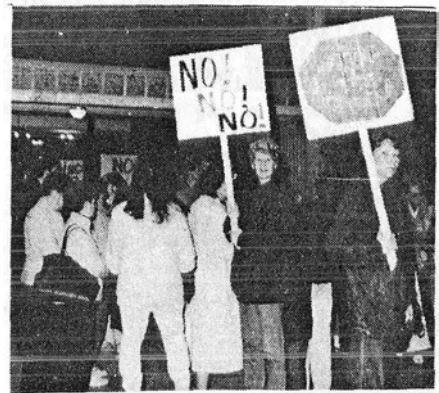
There is no single solution to the housing crisis. A variety of measures are needed from all levels of government - federal, provincial and municipal. We need action and we need it fast, to prevent eviction and relocation on a massive scale.

Immediate action must include:

- 1.) A fair rent review system requiring landlords to justify rent increases on the basis of increased operating costs.
- 2.) Longer timelines for eviction for landlord use or redevelopment of property, with full relocation costs born by the owner.
- 3.) Provincial Rental Housing Protection Act allowing demolition of affordable rental housing only where a developer provides an equal number of affordable housing units or contributes to a social housing replacement fund.
- 4.) Increased pensions and welfare rates reflecting current rents.
- 5.) City moratorium on conversions from rental housing to condos.
- 6.) City moratorium on demolition of affordable rental housing until provincial protections are in place.
- 7.) Speculation tax on profits from flipping property, with exemption for long-time owners - tax revenues to be used as part of a social housing replacement fund.
- 8.) Equitable system of property taxes to protect low and middle income homeowners.
- 9.) Municipal, provincial and federal funds to help upgrade existing affordable housing, particularly basement suites.

CREATING NEW AFFORDABLE HOUSING

- 10.) Funding for 20,000 new social housing units in Greater Vancouver as an immediate short-term goal, suitable for a range of groups including seniors, disabled, single parents and those with special needs, provided through a range of social housing alternatives including public housing, non-profit housing and co-op housing.
- 11.) Municipal, provincial and federal landbanking to provide free or subsidized land for public, non-profit and co-op housing.
- 12.) City policy forcing mega-project developers to provide free land for social housing, paid for out of the profits made out from rezoning.
- 13.) Re-establishment of the local area planning process and development of long term affordable housing plans with full community and citizen input.



Tenants protesting 30% rent increase on Barclay Street in Vancouver's West End

EROTIC!

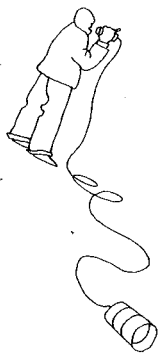
erotic
Canmerican

eratic

"Caw!" the little raven
at the Vol Pic Nic
Doug and Bob Weekend
Hoserday Pic Nic

the tiger lying in the grass
gets blasted by Bungalo bob's (Bill)
guitar lies gently weeping
Bulls and Bears high on the hill
up pasture the plateau
Mountain view
fountain of youth
Sunburn and
the Big "C"
Stops
Me
from "B"
ing (Gerund)
A
Gain
Porfavour (Please).

Taum D.



LOST AND FOUND WORLD

Riding backwards
is better
than standing
forward
on the Sky Train

Those aren't the doors
Those aren't the stairs
That's good news, isn't it
Will I get
Killed today?
Tons of traffic
bearing down
See how quickly
it changes
there's not enough
time to cross the
road. "The Hand!
It's the Hand!"

Taum D.

PENTHOUSE BLUES

When the sun fades away
at the end of the day,
here I sit all alone
with nothing but a memory,
and nothing to do
but wait for the stars.

Far below me I see
little things that remind me
of a day long ago
when two hearts were entwined,
a certain pair of eyes
that gazed into mine.

The blue sky above,
fills the world with love,
birds sing in the trees,
it's so happy in the day,
but my blues return
when the sun fades away.

Garry Gust

The Grand Prize Winner

By Claudius Ivan Planidin

The 4-H member still can't face
the large showcase of glass showing off
large slabs of beef -- the Grand Prize
winner at this year's fair.

For raising so long the Grand Prize
winner at this year's fair she has her
reward -- hot tears streaming in slabs.

It was only an animal
her parents tell her.

TELEVISION:

CHANNEL CHANGES:

A Rock & Roll milk commercial.
Turns into Chrysler changing the landscape

A stockbroker talking on a cordless phone
Turns into cancer cells
Dividing under a microscope

A box of Kleenex flying over the Rockies
Turns into soldiers picking up
Pieces of human bodies

Bob Hope introducing Golf U.S.A.
Turns into Anne Frank
Dying of pneumonia

Two guys arm wrestling over
A box of chocolates turns into
The Muppets singing God Bless America

A cat burglar raping a woman
Turns into George Bush telling a joke

The average selling price
For a single family residence
Turns into the Smothers Brothers
Eating Shredded Wheat.

Worm pickers in Ontario
picking 19,000 worms a night
Turn into a Nazi

Shooting a call girl in Berlin

Olympic athletes drinking Gator-Aide
Turn into speed rated radials

Marilyn Monroe
Dancing on a can of beer
Turns into giant hands in rubber gloves
Injecting something into
An arm tied to a bed.

Mister Christie feeding Oreo cookies
To a baby in a wheelchair
Turns into the atomic bomb
Blowing up islands in the Pacific

A hamburger singing
"We're going to make you love us!"
Turns into Head & Shoulders shampoo
Where you never get a second chance
To make a first impression.

Cop faces talking about murdered hookers
Turns into a Muslim saying: "If your soul
really belongs to God you will
attack the heart of Israel."

A toothbrush turning into a spaceship
Floats over a SWAT Team
Storming a suicide house

Crimestoppers putting crime behind bars
Turns into a touching look at
Nancy Reagan's courageous
Battle against breast cancer

A huge pair of hands putting Huggies diapers
On Adam & Eve turns into a helicopter
Picking up a cow.

Fast-acting Seldane turns into
The Goodyear diagnostic tune-up.

The Remington micro-screen ultimate
Turns into Alberta
Recovering from low oil prices

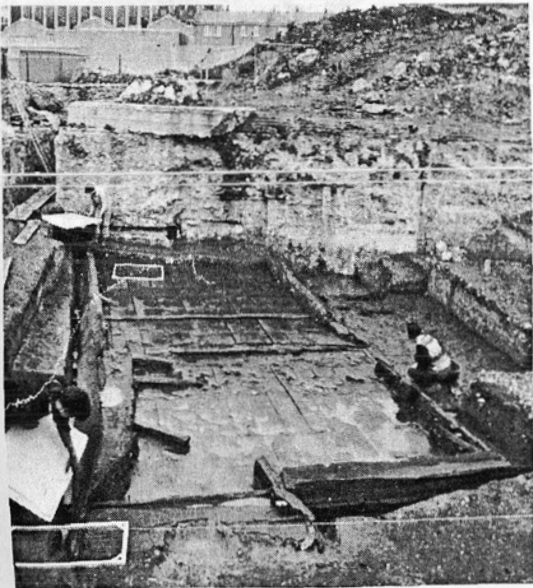
A thin black man dying of AIDS
Turns into George Burns
Smoking a cigar.

TORA

MAYOR OF OUR CITY

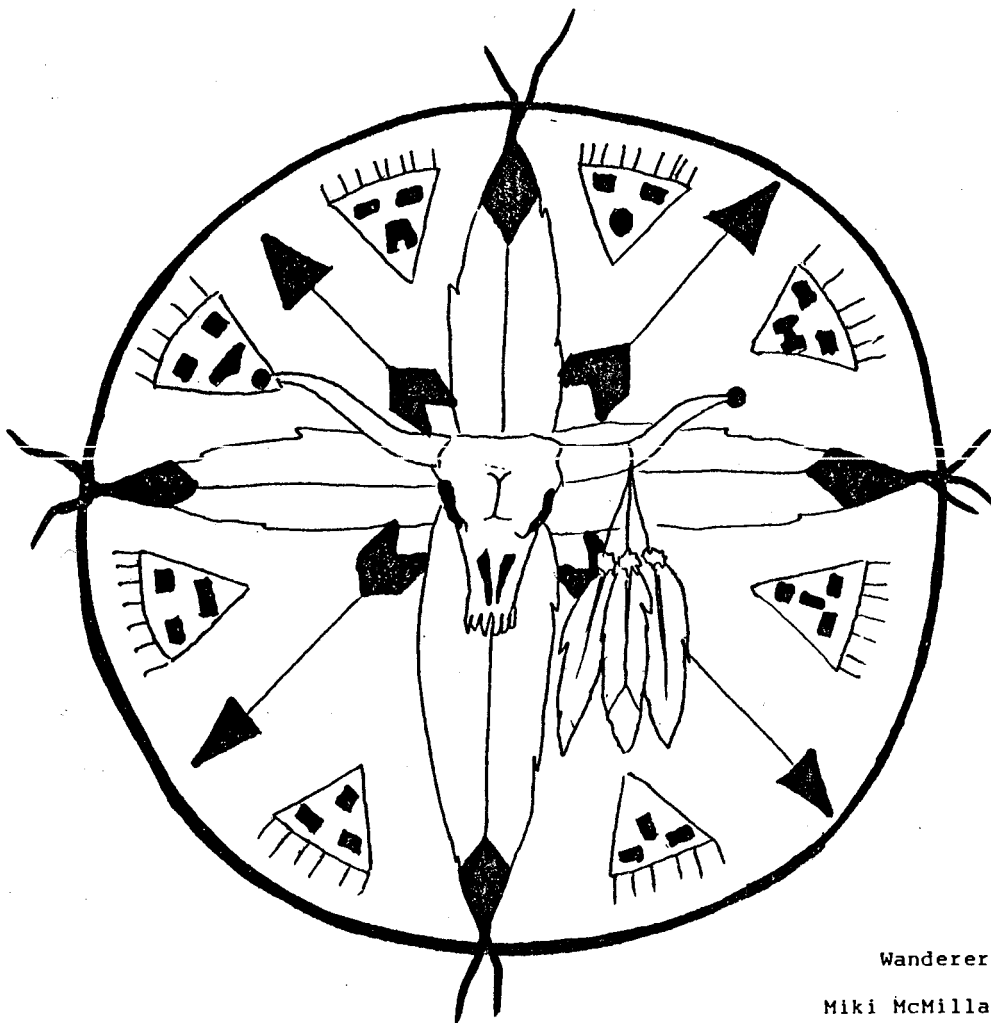
I saw in your eyes the dollar sign: \$
It was on TV recently
A report on west end
Residents showing you -
Mayor of our city -
Through their present dwelling places
Slated to be balled and bulldozed.
And - your eyes glazed, shuttered and
Indifferent -
You said, "Yes, very pleasant places"
- or words to that effect -

Knowing
They were slated to be bulldozed
And - not knowing - ?
They were betrayed by you from within?
I saw you later
Standing on the sidewalk outside
Talking to a woman being evicted
From her home, body twisted
And face - distorted with pain
And fear
Shrinking in horror with pain & **fear** -
Like the many in other lands
We've seen in these past years



Bea Ferneyhaugh

And saying in heathen disbelief
"But I have no place to go -
You know I can't afford
More than I'm paying now
I have no place to go!"
What epithet - what name - describes you
- Mayor of this city?
No visible invading army
Stood by you -
No intolerable pollution
Was called upon to give cause;
No earthquake..or threatened landslide -
No natural disaster dictated eviction
Requiring your considerate
Visit
To view the present - or impending
Destruction of these homes!
Development? So, some private \$?
We are living through
The death of the human race
Unless we learn to love life
More than cash assets \$\$\$
- unless we learn.



Wanderer

Miki McMillan.

she walks the valley every dawn
through pastures and fields of happiness
and sometimes loneliness.
with silver braids
and a buckskin medicine bag she blesses Mother Earth and
prays for her people.
she smokes the peace pipe,
she smudges and purifies
the air and her heart.
the cool crisp air of the mountaintop
is part of the awakening of the ,
Eight Elders whose dawn harmonizes
with the drumbeat and her singing
as she wanders about in the wilderness.

Home ... Home ... Home

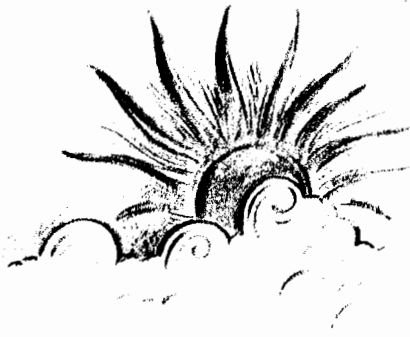
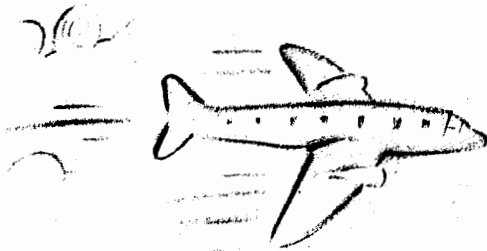
No sleep for 30 hours; just the latest in five months of getting down-time once every other day. No point in keeping track..the only thing 'on record' was five times, since March 2nd - sleep on two consecutive nights. (Not insomnia; no time.)

The arm in the mind's eye can get tired too, patting oneself on the back, so with no sleep for 30 hours and it being only 4 pm, with the flight at 11 pm, this incredible idea surfaced: get a few hours of sleep, set the alarm, time to eat, time to pack, time to get to the airport cheaply, time to check in, do the thing with baggage and being bleeped and wander to the airport's version of a birth canal in reverse. Even took time to fill the tub for a quick cold bath; time..time..time.

Upon awakening for no particular reason, the chrono screamed obscenities: "It's 10:20, it's 10:20." Stood cursing for about 30 seconds, doing a world of good, it was panic city. Clothes on, ticket, money & keys, go Go GO! Caught a cab - "THE PLANE LEAVES IN 30 MINUTES" - at Columbia & Hastings, tried to do a V.I.P. number with "Could you radio the airport and tell them to hold the plane" and the driver just looked in his mirror and the expression on his face said 'sure, right'.

The door opened with the words "You've got 6 minutes." Inside the door..AIR CANADA.."you've got seconds to spare. What happened?" How do you explain 5 months in 4 seconds... simple: "I fell asleep." "Gate 12."

Ever see a drunk run? Better yet, ever seen a drunk go the wrong way and make a Uee in a hall streaming with people, not fall over, not even knock anybody else down, continue careening toward the magic number '12' and finally turning the corner to see the door OPEN but...'oh no, they're starting to close it' - "I'M HERE. WAIT!" The last 10 yards are the toughest but stepping across the goal line (sorry, through the door) and the entire victory is shattered with Miss Prim & Proper contritely stating, "Please relax sir. There will be a slight delay for an inebriated person coming in a wheelchair." Stick it where the sun don't shine, sweetheart. Worst of all, the sot showed up right behind me and was at the gatepass counter where I got mine and the woman pushing him was none other than the one telling me I had "seconds to spare." Oh to be independent of asking for help unless necessary..when four or five words would have afforded a similar ride without convincing half of the people in the damned airport that the ghost of Newfoundland Screech had risen from the grave.



All of the above was a prelude to a really good time. I'd seen my father for about an hour 10 years ago, but we hadn't seen each other to say much more than hello for almost 17 years. He was waiting at North Bay's airport and at first I thought he hadn't eaten for a few weeks. My last memory had him about 40 pounds heavier with dark hair; the man whose hand I was shaking looked like he might make a scale top 100 by jumping on it and his hair was white.



About a year ago he'd almost died, rupturing his esophagus with massive infection resulting. Both of my brothers had gone to the hospital where they had him, expecting to end the trip with attending his funeral. He was totally committed to life-support systems and they had a direct talk with the doctor about pulling the plug.

"He's told us point-blank that if something like this ever happened, he didn't want to become a vegetable. What are his chances?"

The doctor said, "If he beats the infection, we can fix him up fine; The thing is that he has about a 7% chance of doing that,"

Rob, my younger brother, told me later that at that point he lost it. There seemed to be no hope at all.

In came John Henry Smith, Dad's closest friend. Rob said, "He's gonna die, John." John walked over, looked at Rob and my older brother Bill, and said, "Don't you count that old bastard out. He's got a fight in him like you've never seen. He is not gonna die."

Rob said that Bill then remembered this movie with Donald Sutherland in it, where Sutherland is behind enemy lines with his soldiers and they were all freaking out about dying and surrendering and so on. Sutherland leaned back and said, "You guys are giving me nothing but down vibes.. Down Vibes! I don't wanna hear nothin' but Up Vibes...and that's an order."

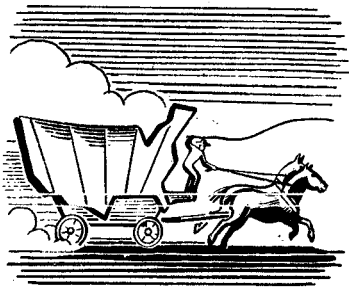
So Bill and Rob started with "well he's got a 7% chance..that's better than 5% or even 6%..." To make a long story shorter, Dad got better. When he was well enough to take the tubes out of his mouth so he could talk, John Henry Smith was there again - to warn the nurses.



John and his brother Stan, their respective better halves Dode and Dorothy, and Dad made the three of us feel at home for 3 days amid good talk, friends and neighbours dropping by, and just getting off on all four of us being together for the first time in almost 17 years.

Bill's friend Colleen was listening to Stan & John & Dad take the better part of 15 minutes to explain precisely how Dad had been solely responsible for costing John the astronomical sum of 20¢ two years before. She quietly told Bill that the whole trip had been worth it just to hear those three old bastards go at it.

I had been excluded for a few minutes when I committed the cardinal sin of remembering John mention that his doctor had restricted him to 3 beers a day. He'd had another one set down in front of him and, like a fool, I muttered "that's 4." John looked at me like I'd taken leave of my senses and said, "I'M a Senior Citizen," and grinned like he'd just fallen through the hole in an outhouse and come out smelling like a rose. (I still wonder what difference being a Senior Citizen makes, but maybe I'll get enlightened with that little wisp of wisdom when I'm 67.)



We drove from near North Bay to Toronto, going to an old friend's place first. After spending a long time on the Don Valley Parking Lot, it had become more and more obvious that Ian's advice was required. Ian knows downtown Toronto like the back of his hand and it kept his ass from bein' grass more than a few times. If there had to be a special way to go to make the train on time he'd know.

Ian and I had been partners years ago, but it was mostly me learning 'how to' from him. That helped make my 4 minute stay at his place easier - passin' through at high speed bro, and got brought back to the Milky Way with his sagacity: "Take a subway!" Okay, so much for a helicopter to the CN station, take a subway...

The train to London, to my mother's place, was leaving at 7:30 and I got on the subway at 6:40, lined up for a train ticket at 7:08, got to the platform at 7:26 and it pulled out a minute-and-a-half after I sat down. Oh no, no phone call..hope like hell they're home.

Stuck behind a freight, VIA was $\frac{1}{2}$ an hour late and the phone was busy. Six tries later (relief is always moments away) an answer and Mom and her husband Ted were on their way. A shower (!), some food (!!) and an old Clint Eastwood duster on TV 'til 3 a.m.

Mom and I drove around London the next day and walked along the Thames, just being together, nothing heavy and not much pushing/pulling with our respective psychic muscles. She bought some caramel corn and loosened a filling - my fault...kids make parents do strange things.

Bill & Colleen showed up the next day and another kind of easy time ensued with good food & bridge & kind feelings. It'd been a long time.

Coming back was uneventful until reaching my kitchen and turning on the radio for the news. "...Richmond, Minister Responsible, has given over 49,000 welfare recipients until August 23rd to prove they are seeking employment. If this proof isn't presented, the recipients will be cut off." Welcome home.

By PAULR TAYLOR

POLITICS

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SOCRED

'89

GARRY GUST

'The outlaws insisted their use of undernourished juveniles as bait was not excessive. Their comments were censored by police who were happy to have captured the culprits who promoted disaster.'

This' bashing of poor people is a smokescreen folks, a tactic of diversion. Owners & developers see astronomical profits in the next decade if immigration regulations are relaxed to allow any person in who has, say, \$150,000. Our reactions against socred stupidity could be warped to read: "They won't work" 'We have to get people who will'...'New immigrants will work (at the minimum wage)'..... PRT

CARNEGIE
NEWSLETTER

