

FREE - donations accepted.

Carnegie



NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 15, 1989.

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

END LEGISLATED POVERTY

FLAW
FrontLine Advocacy Workers

CRABTREE CORNER (Y.W.C.A.)

DOWNTOWN EASTSIDE WOMEN'S CENTRE

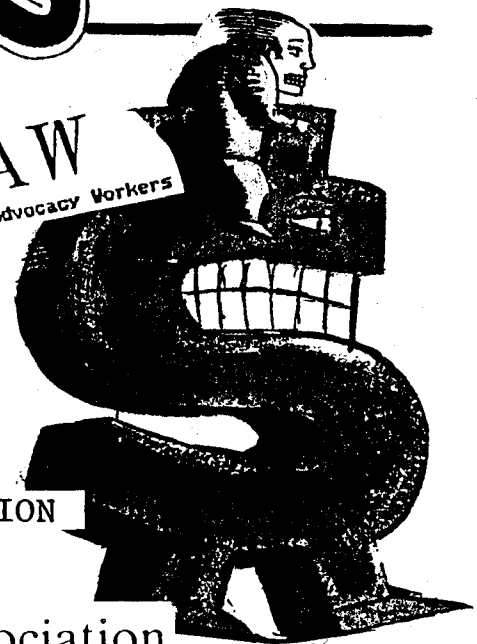
First United Church

CARNEGIE COMMUNITY CENTRE ASSOCIATION

Downtown Eastside Residents Association

BUSINESS

東
區
居



On September 5th, representatives from the above community groups held a press conference in Carnegie. The spokesperson chosen by all to lead the event was the co-ordinator of End Legislated Poverty, Ms. Jean Swanson. Jean began by handing out a copy of Claude Richmond's letter, sent to 49,000 recipients of welfare money who are vaguely classified as "employable". The first question asked was, "Please imagine that you receive \$430 a month. You may be over 55, sick, maybe haven't worked in 10 years or have already worked 30 years... imagine that you get this letter in the mail. What is your reaction?"

Jean went on to point the glaringly unethical and untruthful aspects of the letter and reps each told of the amount being billed to the Ministry for work done that is paid for when provincial employees do it. Someone pulled Claude's strings and he danced with perhaps \$100,000 of public money, creating havoc.

The total billed amount, due by October 5th and still not paid, is \$5,364.40.

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

(I would like to apologize for my faulty lyric which was out of meter. More seriously, I implied that the use of heroin and opium was a Chinese problem instead of colonial business. Heroin was first manufac-

tured by doctors in the west and the opium trade was forced into place in China by Gladstone-Disraeli and "Chinese" Gordon, the famous Imperial General.)

John

Verse: I sold my horn in New Orleans (I wish I was on welfare
To be reborn in Claude Richmond's Dream
Now I'm nicotine on a Sacred Screen

Chorus Der Zalm them all I was told to sell my soul
for American Gold Extend free trade/have no fear
Starvin' Drunk on a Fantasy Garden beer
Jimmy on the Cross don't shed no tear

Verse: I'm a Single Parent (I wish I was on welfare now)
They sold my children off the skids
now they don't show up on Computer grids.

Chorus

PROSPERITY *the big dream* **OPPORTUNITIES**
PERSONAL BENEFIT *greed* **AN TRIAL**³
An embarrassment of riches

FLAW

FrontLine Advocacy Workers
NEWS RELEASE

POVERTY IS WIDELY ACKNOWLEDGED AS AN ILL OF OUR SOCIETY. BOTH THE FEDERAL AND PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENTS RECOGNIZE THE COMPLEXITY OF THE PROBLEM. THE BURNING QUESTION ASKED BY FRONTLINE ADVOCACY WORKERS THROUGHOUT BRITISH COLUMBIA IS "HOW COULD THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL SERVICES AND HOUSING EXPECT ANYTHING POSITIVE TO RESULT FROM THE 'SWIM OR SINK' LETTER (mailed to 49,000 "employables" by the Minister, Claude Richmond)?"

IN THE LOWER MAINLAND THERE IS A NETWORK OF ANTI-POVERTY ORGANIZATIONS THAT HAVE HAD THEIR WORKLOADS INCREASE STEADILY OVER THE PAST 5 YEARS. INDIVIDUALLY AND COLLECTIVELY, CONSTANT EFFORTS HAVE BEEN MADE TO REMOVE THE STIGMA ATTACHED TO CITIZENS RECEIVING ASSISTANCE INCOMES, YET THE GOVERNMENT CONTINUES TO MAKE CHANGES IN ITS BUREAUCRATIC SYSTEM WHILE SIDELINING THE CRUCIAL REFORMS NEEDED. IT CONTINUES, AS EXEMPLIFIED BY THE DECREES OF CLAUDE RICHMOND, MINISTER, TO TREAT PEOPLE RECEIVING ASSISTANCE AS GENERICALLY LAZY AND CRIMINAL. THIS GROSS MISCONCEPTION WAS PUBLICALLY STATED SEVERAL TIMES IN THE LAST TWO YEARS:

- a reduction in rates by \$7 when the Ministry was informed that recipients under 26 were being discriminated against with assistance \$25 lower than recipients over 26. (legislating malnutrition)
- a cutback of \$50 for single mothers while 'reclassifying' thousands as employable
- the first increase in over 5 years brought the average income to at least 45% below Poverty Levels

THE RESULTS OF RICHMOND'S LETTER THREATENING "EMPLOYABLES" WITH HAVING THEIR BENEFITS STOPPED ARE ALMOST UNIFORMLY DETRIMENTAL, COSTING THE TAXPAYERS MUCH IN THE WAY OF INCREASED SOCIAL UNREST AND GROUPS OF FRONTLINE ADVOCACY WORKERS IN UNCOMPENSATED TIME, ENERGY AND MONEY.

THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL SERVICES AND HOUSING HAS BEEN PRESENTED WITH A BILL FOR \$5,364.40 FOR COSTS INCURRED BY NON-PROFIT, COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS COPING WITH THE NEEDS OF RECIPIENTS DIRECTLY AFFECTED BY THE AUGUST 4th LETTER OF RICHMOND. NEEDED IS AN ACCOUNTING OF THE TAXPAYER'S MONEY SPENT BY THE GOVERNMENT ON THIS EXERCISES (Printing and posting 49,000 letters; printing & posting media releases not sent to recipients); wages, travel & hotels of management staff on issue day)

FRONTLINE ADVOCACY WORKERS HAS MADE A FORMAL REQUEST TO CLAUDE RICHMOND, MINISTER OF SOCIAL SERVICES AND HOUSING, TO MEET WITH THEM AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO, IN PART, ENSURE THAT THE ETHICS AND MORALITY DISPLAYED IN RICHMOND'S LETTER ARE NOT RESORTED TO AGAIN.

First United Church

First United Church was actively involved as an advocate organization in the Downtown Eastside responding to the stress and confusion created by Claude Richmond's letter of August 4th. First Church recognizes the conditions of job search for employables receiving Income Assistance, but objects strenuously to the tactics used by the Minister in enforcing this policy.

Existence on the inadequate levels of Income Assistance is stressful enough without the added threat of losing one's source of shelter and food.

Attached is a bill to the Ministry of Social Services and Housing for costs incurred by the staff team of First United Church in our efforts to inform and assure people of their rights in this situation. These expenses are above and beyond the costs of our normal daily workload.

We feel particularly justified in presenting this bill as our community workers received requests from a number of Ministry staff to support and inform people of their rights, attempt to diffuse anxiety and assist them through this process.

As workers we recognize the additional burdens placed on the District offices by the Minister's office, but do not feel that it is our responsibility to implement Ministry policy or changes.

Extra costs incurred are as follows:

Add'l Staff Time:	50 people at $\frac{1}{2}$ hr.		
	x \$7.35	=	\$367.50
Photocopy Expenses:	\$.10 per 2-sided copy		
	x 250 sheets	=	25.00
Bus Tickets	40 x \$1.25	=	50.00
(to confirmed job interviews or appointments)			
			<u>\$442.50</u>

Downtown Eastside Residents Association

A letter was sent by yourself to 49,000 "employable" welfare recipients in B.C. stating that they would not get further benefits if they did not fill out a job search.

Our office was flooded by hundreds of people who were scared they were going to be cut off welfare. Our staff spent considerable time explaining to them their basic rights. We reproduced information that the Ministry should be distributing and counselling people who could not get through to their worker.

We feel that the government should pay for out time and expenses for their ill-thought attack on welfare recipients.

Costs to DERA:	Staff Time - 9 different staff		
	200 hrs. @ \$11.63/hr.	=	\$2325.00
	$\frac{1}{2}$ of newsletter - printing	=	75.00
	Information sheets - printing	=	50.00
			<u>\$2451.00</u>

Since you sent the letters out to 49,000 employable welfare recipients in early August, you have created a lot of extra work for the staff at our Centre. We have spent literally days reassuring women in the Downtown Eastside, explaining what they are required to do, helping women who should be unemployable re-classified and helping women who are illiterate read and fill out their forms.

We are already overworked being one of the few services women will go to in this area, and are quite angry that we have had to do your ministry's work because there are not enough financial aid workers to cover this massive overload you have created. Enclosed you will find a bill for our services:

2 Staff women's salaries: 1 x 3 days work	\$210
1 x 4.5 days work	315
Printing materials - How To Do A Job Search	10
TOTAL:	\$535

Like most support groups we are ourselves underfunded, so the next time you decide to do something this broad ranging, we would suggest;

- 1.) That you have adequate staff on hand to deal with peoples problems and to assist them;
- 2.) Make it clear to your workers what you are trying to accomplish (many FAW's had different stories about the consequences of your letter);
- 3.) Make sure there are jobs out there for people to apply for.

RECOGNIZING ABUSE FOOTING THE BILL

BUSINESS

LUXURY

WEALTH

END LEGISLATED POVERTY

The following is an itemized bill for costs incurred by End Legislated Poverty in helping people cope with the letter you sent to 49,000 employable people:

- Preparation of handout outlining people's rights and listing advocate groups that would help them (one and a half days)	\$150
- Printing of 2000 handouts (4.4¢ each for two sides)	88
- 2000 sheets of paper	51
- Preparation of sheet outlining training program and services available to people on welfare (half a day)	50
- paper for training handout (1000 sheets)	25
- Copying for training handout	22
- Costs of mailing above handout throughout the province: Stamps	49
Envelopes	12
Labour (1/3 day)	33
- Wages for people distributing material and advising people in food bank lineups on Aug 9th (5 hours at \$12.50/hr)	63
- Advising and referring people on welfare who called to check out their rights and responsibilities (one day)	100
- Accepting job applications (half day)	50
TOTAL:	\$693

We trust that your government will remit this amount in full within 30 days.

CARNEGIE COMMUNITY CENTRE ASSOCIATION

The taxpayers of Vancouver agreed in 1986, by referendum, to fund the renovation and expansion of services in the Carnegie Community Centre. The Carnegie Association is a charitable body of members, users and supporters of our Centre. It is sad that now, because of an ill-thought action on your part, we are faced with covering the costs incurred by volunteers coping with the results of it.

Following is a listing of expenses directly resulting from the bad planning and inefficiency of your Ministry. These costs are real and in no way inflated or exaggerated. They represent cash outlay on the part of the Carnegie Community Centre Association, its members and volunteers, and of advocacy workers here.

- | | |
|---|----------|
| 1.) Printing of extra copies of the <u>Carnegie Newsletter</u> and increased size of same for the issue published 15 August 1989. This issue contained much information that was necessary to inform recipients of their rights and obligations vis-a-vis MSSH ----- | \$121.00 |
| 2.) Copying of notices calling residents of the Downtown Eastside to attend an emergency meeting, which would focus on rights and obligations and what "employable" means in the terms used by MSSH ----- | 20.00 |
| 3.) Printing costs of the 22 August 1989 issue of <u>Future of Carnegie</u> . The entire issue contained information, advice on the rights and obligations of recipients and admonitions to exercise them with MSSH ----- | 22.90 |
| 4.) Costs of holding the above mentioned emergency meeting. The hall was provided free of charge by the Carnegie Centre as well as use of a public address system. Expenses were incurred for 4 pots of coffee and 200 small cookies as the next issue day was 3 days hence and almost all in attendance had no money for food. ----- | 60.00 |
| 5.) The time put into informing recipients of their rights, the process of appeal, the necessity of picking up their rightful assistance and much counselling to aid recipients to cope with the stress and emotional reactions brought on by the insensitive action of MSSH --(\$12/hr-X 24 hrs.-2 persons) | 504.00 |

The above represent the minimum of crucial services that are rightfully the province of your Ministry to ensure.

TOTAL: \$727.90



THE ROOTS class
CORPORATE POLICY
POWER EMPIRE
FLAG-WAVING MASKS
THE ORIGINS
best the world has to offer.
OF THE WEALTHY

We're in Business

In view of your recent hard-line rule towards "employables" I am submitting an account of the time I spent during the period Aug.3 to 23 and am requesting your ministry to re-imburse me:

- 4 hours to distribute information to clients -
- 4 hours to attend various offices on cheque day -

JONENE BICKETT, ADVOCATE

Total 8 hours at \$12.50 per hour . . . \$100
 Gas for driver's car 15
 Total . . . \$115

Considerable time was also spent trying to phone you directly and I had some good communications with your staff here (Barbara) and in Victoria (Lisa Markham). Both urged me to tell you what I think.

Mr. Richmond, I was a social worker with the ministry for nine years and I know it could function much more smoothly if you followed some of my suggestions. Your current policies do not allow even competent workers to make decisions about their clients; this adversely affects everyone. It halts the process of getting jobs for those who can work and of reassessing those who cannot. There will always be a core of people who will remain on welfare forever and some who will consistently try to defraud the government. In my experience, it makes more sense to concentrate on those from your scrutiny and the programs you offer. Now, this is not the case. Most of the good plans are not implemented because of gross bureaucratic inefficiency.

I appreciate your intention to reduce the number of people on welfare, but you are proceeding in entirely the wrong direction. I would be pleased to discuss alternate plans with you in detail, and hope to meet with you personally soon.

Jonene Bickett, Advocate

Claude Richmond
 Minister of Social Services and Housing
 Parliament Buildings
 Victoria, B.C. V8V 1X4

Dear Mr. Richmond:

5 September 1989

This is a statement of account, informing you as the Minister of SS & H that costs incurred by frontline advocacy workers coping with the results of the August 4th letter are being formerly billed to you.

Particulars are on the attached papers. Summarizing:

- End Legislated Poverty : \$ 693.00
- Downtown Eastside Women's Centre : 535.00
- Jonene Bickett, Advocate : 115.00
- Crabtree Corner (YWCA) : 400.00
- First United Church : 442.50
- Downtown Eastside Residents' Association : 2,451.00
- Carnegie Community Centre Association : 727.90

TOTAL AMOUNT DUE: \$5,364.40

The TOTAL AMOUNT DUE is to be remitted to the respective organisations and individuals within 30 days.

For Frontline Advocacy Workers, PaulR Taylor, Editor,
 CARNEGIE NEWSLETTER.

Claude Richmond
Minister of Social Services and Housing
Parliament Buildings
Victoria, B.C. V8V 1X4

30 August 1989

Dear Mr. Richmond,

We are writing to inform you that we believe the letter you wrote to 49,000 so-called employable people on welfare, the process of forcing all of these people, on very short notice, to fill out job search forms, and threatening that "No further benefits will be issued to you..." is extremely unethical. We are appalled by it.

We are also writing to inform you of things that could be done by your government to get more people off welfare.

Your letter is unethical because:

1. Your letter lied about our economy. It stated that B.C. is "enjoying the best economy in several years." In fact, our unemployment rate went up a full percentage point to 9.2% on the day that you announced the crackdown.
2. Your letter did not recognize the role of social and financial workers in using their discretion to assess individuals for job readiness.
3. Financial workers are not allowed to speak out publicly about the problems with this letter and its enforcement, or they could be fired. This muzzles informed people who could contribute to a good solution.
4. The letter and the subsequent deployment of managerial staff to district offices to help with cheque day cost a lot of taxpayers' money - money that could have been spent on useful training or programs.
5. The letter stated the responsibilities of the 49,000 people to look for work, but it did not state what their rights are. It did not state that they have the right to appeal, that older people would be exempt, that people could apply to be unemployable. The letter to people affected did not contain the list of training programs and services for people on welfare but the news release to the media did.
6. The letter to people affected did not state that people could apply for money for bus transportation, clothes, phone, etc., while the news release and attachments did. This gave the media information that the people affected did not have and made it seem to the general public that the Ministry was helping people when in fact it was threatening them.
7. The letter increased the workloads of underfunded, understaffed and volunteer organisations who, because of their social conscience, worked very hard to get information out to people affected, to offer to help them with appeals, to provide information on training programs and job search and on how to become classified as "unemployable!"

8. The letter did not treat the 49,000 people on welfare as individuals of worth. It did not treat them as older people who have worked all their lives, as sick people who haven't yet been declared "unemployable", as people who have trouble reading and writing, as people who were abused in their childhood and are still having trouble dealing with this and as people with over 48,000 other circumstances.

9. The tone of the letter blames and accuses its recipients. It treats them as scum who are all refusing to look for work when this is not true.

10. Lastly, the worst part of all is that the letter created incredible stress for people on welfare to the extent that several advocates talked to people who considered suicide.

In addition to "terrorizing" people on welfare with the threat of taking away their ability to pay rent and eat, the letter has another dubious achievement. It perpetuated the myth that people on welfare are too lazy to work and diverted attention from the government's unwillingness to create decent jobs and the fact that the official unemployment rate is still an incredible 9.2%.

The letter is one part of an abusive economic system which sets up a Master/Servant type of relationship between employers and people forced to work for wages far below the poverty line.

This is what we want: The government should make a sincere effort to create decent jobs. This means real jobs that last more than 2-6 months and simply recycle demoralized people from low paid government subsidized jobs to U.I. to welfare and back. These jobs should have a potential for advancement and decent benefits.

Wages should be increased. Minimum wage should go to \$7.45 an hour, the amount it would be if it had the same purchasing power as it did in 1975. Women need pay equity and unions should have more rights.

We need higher welfare rates so that people can afford to eat nutritious food, live in reasonable accomodation and pay for suitable clothing and transportation and other necessities including the necessities of job search.

We need real training, including college and university training that we can afford and good literacy training.

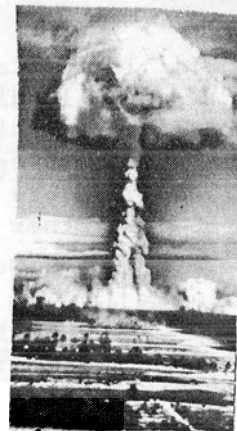
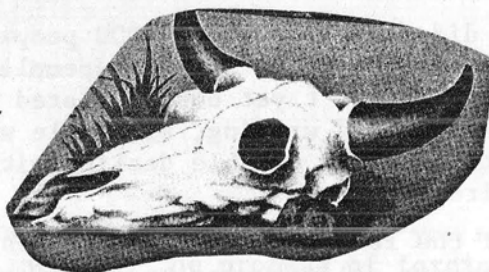
We need more good quality, affordable childcare.

We need an amendment to the Human Rights Code that prevents discrimination against people on welfare.

We will be contacting your office regarding a meeting to discuss these points.

Yours truly,

(Original signed by representatives of all affiliated organisations of END LEGISLATED POVERTY.)



Conservatively Speaking

I attended fine schools
where I learned a lot
about all the differences
between haves and have nots
there were only haves at our school
that was plain to see
to learn about the others
we studied history.

From the earliest times
so there is nothing new
The poor are blamed
for our problems
that unites us you see
and when we're together
all agree to stand firm
and let the strong survive.

The richest are the strongest
on that we all agree
so we start raising prices
and spending visibly
The poor are astounded
they can't see a happy end
they start fighting each other
when what they need is friends.

They don't know it's only money
of that I'm quite sure
people who don't have any
believe in it more
We bombard them with disinformation
and sports scores galore
there's lots of money
in bashing the poor.

We're all part of
the same system
us more than them
We have us a fine system
and there is no one to blame
there is no responsibility
and there is no shame
We should consider that.

In a world of innuendo and
outright lies
big groups of big groups
all seeking an identity that
they know is a lie
and money is the answer
to all the lies I've ever told
and everyone pays.

The depression is deepening
soon everyone will know
even fallen evangelists
can't make the news
war news is boring
there's no sense of fear
but our side has an answer
it's nuclear war.

The one thing
that I can't figure
and I would like to be sure
if life is really bullshit
and I'm equal to them all
then money's not the answer
and if money's not the answer
there's no need for war.

Greg

THE PATRONS COMMENT

Sunday evening, Sept. 24, at the Town Hall Forum, about fifty people made comments and suggestions on the programs at Carnegie.

It is the time of year in which staff review the programs in preparation for planning the 1990 program year. The Program committee of the Board decided to start the process with a public meeting to get feedback from the membership. We organised it as a mental 'walk through the building'. Donald MacPherson listed all the programs with a brief description and which programmer is responsible for it, on paper. He had each floor on a separate page and the idea was to review each activity, floor by floor, and ask for comments.

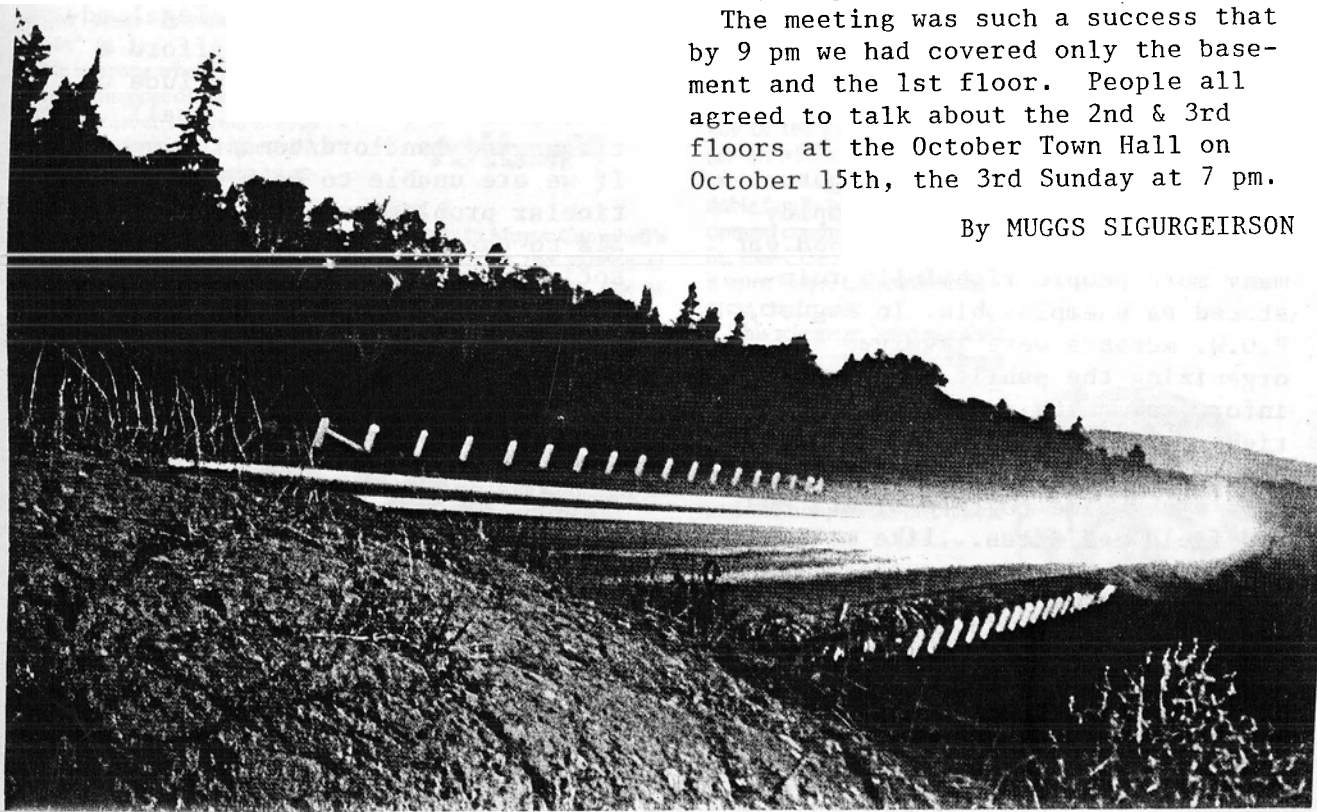
I wondered while we were planning it if people would stay all the way

through, thinking that most would be interested in their own activities. Was I wrong! The Theatre was full, the response was wonderful and the comments and suggestions were interesting, helpful and often well-thought out. Following are some of the ideas:

- * Concern for safety due to worn-out equipment in the weight room;
- * Better sound-proffing in the Theatre
- * A timer with an alarm at the free phone on the 1st floor;
- * Long discussions took place on the need for more security and people sitting on the front steps. The request for more female security was clear. The issue of crowded steps is complex but it is difficult to get through some days. Benches were brought up again.

The meeting was such a success that by 9 pm we had covered only the basement and the 1st floor. People all agreed to talk about the 2nd & 3rd floors at the October Town Hall on October 15th, the 3rd Sunday at 7 pm.

By MUGGS SIGURGEIRSON



The timing is everything
The places are all the same
The sun rises and
The sun shines
No matter where in the world you are.
The trick is
to be in the
Right Place at the Right Time.

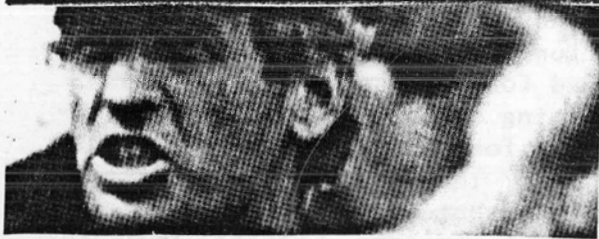
If you like oceans
Then go to the sea
Find a peaceful spot
and sit and wait and see
If your karmic awareness
Can be realized peacefully.

RIGHT PLACE AT THE RIGHT TIME

If you like mountains
Hasten to them my friend
Wax your skis and build a fire
Respecting nature's beauty
Is the only way to be.

If you like the plains
They can be too far away
Store food for the winter
The wind will be cold
Remember you are where you're at and
The time is Now!

Greg



PEOPLE ON WELFARE

I have facilitated this Tuesday afternoon group since November.

It has produced a welfare video with Right Advocacy Project; it has used peer support for people on welfare in Carnegie. It fought against mothers being made employable and losing \$50 a month and got many more people rightfully reinstated as unemployable. In August, P.O.W. members were involved in organizing the public meeting to inform community residents of their rights when the sacred government continued bashing the poor.

It's now time to re-evaluate POW and field new ideas...like meeting once a month..having speakers...

Since writing the above, Irene Schmidt and a friend have agreed to facilitate Tuesday meetings so please attend and plan for the near future. Thanks everybody.

Sheila Baxter

LAW STUDENTS' LEGAL ADVICE PROGRAM

This program's Legal Clinics will be held every 2nd Tuesday evening, from 7-8:30 pm, in Carnegie, on Sept.19, Oct. 3, Oct. 17, Oct.31 & Nov.14. The dates for January to March will be announced later.

The program offers free legal advice to those who cannot afford a lawyer. Issues covered include uncontested divorce, wills, small claims and landlord/tenant disputes. If we are unable to help with a particular problem, we will make referrals to the appropriate legal or social service. If you have any kind of a legal problem or questions of a legal nature, please don't hesitate to drop by and we will do our best to be of assistance.



Baker replies to Mayor Campbell

Editor,

The Hon. Bill Reid was just forced to resign because he was alleged to have given contracts to one person without a public tender. That is exactly what Vancouver City Council did when it leased 50 million dollars worth of land to VLC Properties Ltd.

The mayor in his September 21 letter ("Ald. Baker still doesn't understand") says that the sole aim of this company is to keep rents as low as possible and without a subsidy. But the Offering Memorandum (the company document that describes the deal to prospective investors) makes it absolutely clear that VLC has no such purpose. To the contrary, it enjoys the unlimited right to develop lands for any purpose, anywhere.

"... the Company may determine that it is appropriate and prudent to expand the types of properties in which it invests as well as the geographic areas in which these investments are made." (p. 5)

He is wrong when he says that the sole purpose of the company and the lease structure is to keep rents low. The stated objective is not low rents. It is "to earn an appropriate long-term rate of return for the Company's shareholders comparable with other 'blue chip' investments." There is no limit on the initial rents to be charged. Thereafter, yearly increases are expressly allowed.

The rents will be high. The mayor implies that rents for a 600 square foot unit would rent for \$720 per month. The average rent in Vancouver city as of April 1, 1989 for a 1 bedroom apartment was \$526 per month. To achieve even these exorbitant rates requires subsidies. They are expressly contemplated. The Offering Memorandum says:

"If subsidies for more apartment units in Vancouver are not authorized... the Company will be unable to meet its objective to construct 1200 to 2000 apartment units before the end of 1990

unless the Company bears the cost of the rent resulting from higher interest rates or the City of Vancouver agrees to amend the terms of the lease." (p. 20)

This means that if rents are to be kept low, the city's rent and the investor's return will have to be further reduced. That is a subsidy. Moreover, the City will not get paid for many years. That too is a subsidy.

That is not all. VLC has the enormous advantage of tying up lands for an inordinate amount of time without having to pay a nickel in option money. To control any land at no option cost for 24 months is an amazing advantage to VLC as a developer. This advantage must be regarded as yet another subsidy.

Finally, the mayor says that Council said to the development community in June, and again in August that it should meet the terms of this deal. Like hell it did! The lands were in fact never offered to anyone else, no standards were ever set, and the statement is simply not true.

Jonathan Baker
Alderman

"VLC deal rotten"

Editor,

In reply to Mayor Campbell's letter regarding the Vancouver Land Corporation, the tone of his letter is insulting and misleading. It is not "misunderstanding" that causes us and Alderman Jonathan Baker to oppose the mayor's "sweatheart deal" with Jack Poole. Rather, it is a clear understanding that this deal is rotten from beginning to end.

The VLC gives Mr. Poole and his company options on \$48 million worth of city land for 80 years without a penny down. The lost interest alone is a considerable subsidy. Past city land leases have been paid up front—earning interest from day one.

There has not been an independent evaluation by our city

staff, nor by any outside body. Council does not even have a written legal opinion from our law department as to whether the VLC deal involving the city is legal and above-board. This is important because a written opinion from a leading municipal lawyer throws into question whether the city can legally be part of this venture.

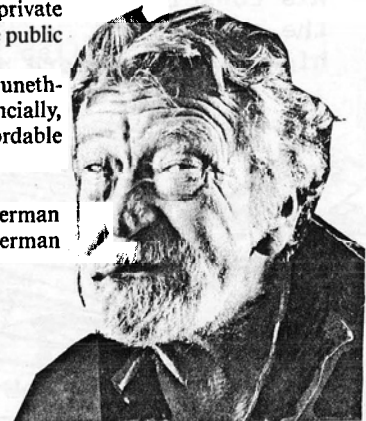
We are told that VLC will provide affordable housing, especially for evicted Kerrisdale residents. An examination of the rent structure (generally \$1.20 per square foot) makes it clear that the units will be beyond the financial reach of Vancouverites who are experiencing high rents, demolition and eviction. In addition, most of the city land handed to Mr. Poole is on the east side (none is in Kerrisdale) thereby providing no help to longtime Kerrisdale residents who want to remain in their own neighbourhood.

Financially, this is a special deal for Mr. Poole and his company. The deal was "cooked up" in the back room, behind closed doors, by Mr. Poole and Mayor Campbell. It was not offered to any member of the development community, nor was it offered to any of the non-profit housing groups who have a great deal of experience in developing affordable family housing. The development community and the public, like COPE, only learned of it when Mayor Campbell held his press conference.

This scheme to build so-called affordable rental units is a huge land grab, in which one private company will monopolize public land for 80 years.

We believe it is wrong, unethical and a bad deal financially, and will not provide affordable housing.

Libby Davies, Alderman
Bruce Ericksen, Alderman



Gordon Campbell, Mayor, was so sure he could make a public defense of this VTL stuff that he agreed to debate the issue with Johnathan Baker.

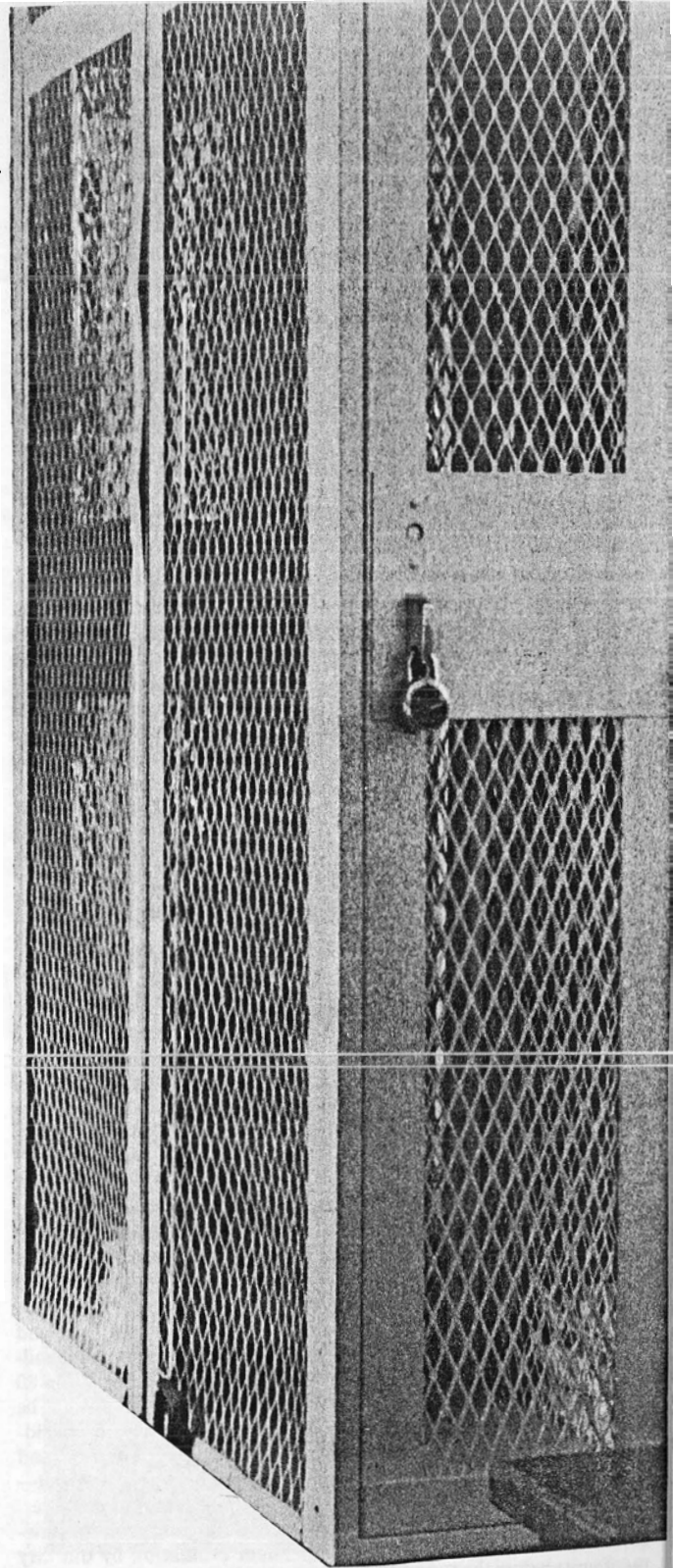
DERA's monthly General Membership meeting, held at Carnegie, was to be the place. The Mayor then cancelled his appearance, saying that his designate would come instead.

Then this designate, George Puil (Chairperson of the City's Finance Committee), called the day before and cancelled. The public reason is "too busy" but if four Aldermen question the legality of this scam...

Seems that the ethics of the situation point to the sleaziness of it. Campbell gave a friend of his about \$2 million of public money and left all other developers out in the cold.

Campbell had to ask himself if 1) it's legal; 2) who will win and who will lose?; and 3) can I live with myself afterwards?" Number one is minor to rich people like Campbell, who just hire reams of lawyers and tie the whole thing up for years. Number two is worse than minor; the person he 'helped' is his friend. Number Three is an idiotic question for Campbell and others of his ilk to ask themselves. It's crucial to have a conscience in order to give any kind of answer. I doubt if Campbell has heard or listened to his conscience for years. That's the problem . . . too many people in high places who are stone cold dead.

By PAULR TAYLOR



Doing Time

OPENING AT CARNEGIE OCTOBER 13th

There will be an opening for Doing Time at the Carnegie and the Pitt at 8 pm on Friday, October 13th.

15
Doing Time is an art show about women in prison that will be showing in the eastside from October 14 to November 4th. The 25 lifesize figures are by Persimmon Blackridge. The personal stories of life in prison and on the street are written on the walls around the figures by Michelle Kanashiro-Christensen, Geri Ferguson, Lyn MacDonald and Bea Walkus. The sculpture is beautiful and the words are strong - telling it like it is by people who've been there.

"How did I go straight? I had a trick who almost killed me. I was stabbed real deep and long. I was in the hospital, healing up, and I thought god, I can't do this. I said to my doctor 'I don't want to be on the methadone program anymore.' He told me that I would be on methadone for the rest of my life. He made me so angry I had to do it just to prove that son of a bitch wrong."

- Michelle Kanashiro-Christensen

Doing Time is a big project in size and impact. It will fill both the Carnegie and Pitt galleries and pieces from it will be in various community groups at the same time. Here's where you can see all the parts of it:

CARNEGIE CENTRE GALLERY
401 Main St. - 3rd floor
10 am - midnight daily.

PITT GALLERY
36 Powell St.,
Noon - 5 pm Tues.-Sun.

DOWNTOWN EASTSIDE WOMEN'S CENTRE
44 E. Cordova
Mon-Fri 10-5; Tues. 11:30-5

Legal Services
191 Alexander St. @ Main
Mon-Fri 9-3:30; Wed 12:30-3:30

Last Open Stage at the Classical Joint

Rockingest Rockfest
End of an Era
Reminiscent of disappearing rooms
Downtown Eastside
Rock of Shelter
"To Hamlin" I heard my voice
sailing over the crowd
music in the house last night
Poem Stage at the Pied Pumpkin
Glasgow Inn - a classical joint
inside the gates of Eden
there were:

Miss Robert Paradine
Steve Rose
Kevin Dooley
Jenny Ole & Cassandra
Joanne Hamen
Jo Mosk
Ambroise
Brad Samish

Tipi Ago Go
FEATURE Walt Liberty
Barb Jackson & Earle Peach

TORA
Beta
Steve
Jo

Bob Tia
Wally
Ricky D
Michael

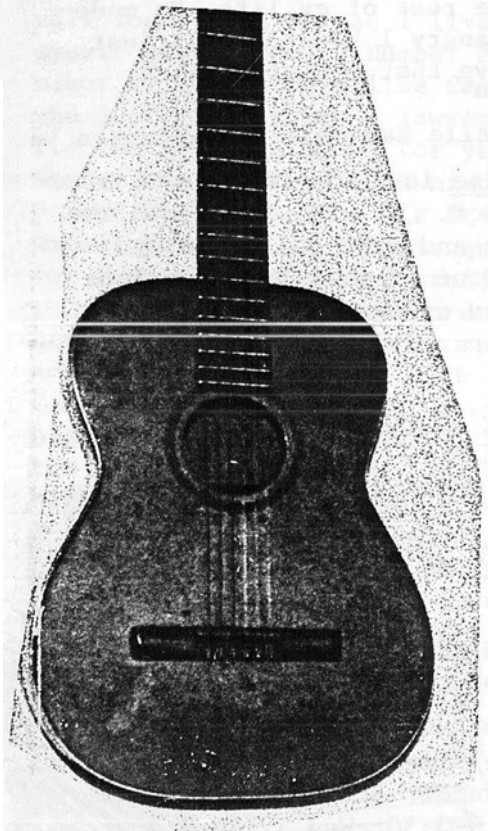
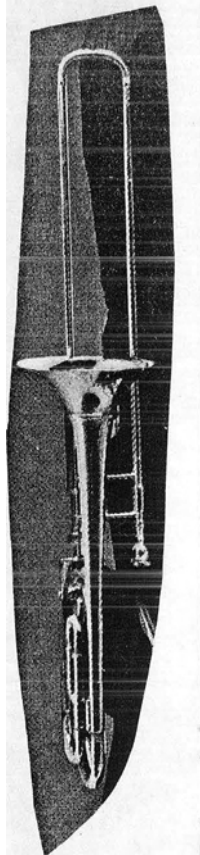
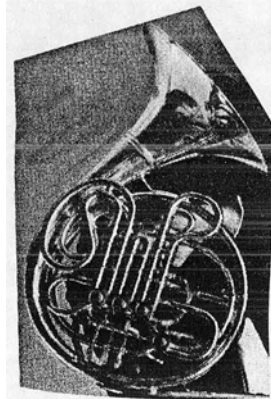
Daniel Wilson
Bruce Sour

Wraught wheel spokes
Candlelight shadows hushed (Pied)
Pipe Down they're practising
their religion (Faith)

Well I'll be gone smashin' windows
This is Paul George (for)
"A 5 minute Poem" grins Peter GrrrImm
Izzat Shoebox Dean
and Jo, "This is a good one"

"This room just makes me want to do this song"
"and I'm gonna dedicate it to all my friendzzz!"

Taum DanYCREAG



The first shipment of produce is in from the CEEDS farms in the Cariboo, and it has made for some very tasty eating in Carnegie.

We've had cucumber and sour cream soup; stir-fried vegetables; lots of good salad and sandwich makings; vegetarian chili; squash soup; and mashed potatoes.

There's more to come, too, including farm-fresh pork, chicken, lamb & beef.

All the vegetables and meats from CEEDS are organically grown - no pesticides or other chemicals. And the animals live the natural way, not penned up in a factory farm.

Carnegie receives this bounty because the Carnegie Community Centre Association is a sustaining member of CEEDS.

CEEDS stands for Community Enhancement and Economic Development Society. It's a network of four organic farms and two large gardens in the 100 Mile House and Williams Lake areas where everything is done communally. DEEDS is a non-profit society, and not connected to any religious or political group.

Several Carnegie people have visited the farms and have stayed there for periods of up to three months. The farms are open for visitors, or for permanent members. There's no criteria, just a willingness to pitch in with farm chores and to benefit from the healthy, outdoor life.

If you want to find out more about the farms, just contact Muggs Sigurgeirson at Carnegie at 665-2220 or leave a message at the front desk.

Speaking of farm-fresh veggies, the produce just keeps pouring in from the Strathcona Community Gardens. All those delicious little yellow tomatoes for Carnegie salads, the carrots, cukes and cabbages. And then

there's Eric Ericksen's magnificent yellow squash. Have a peek at it in the kitchen office. It makes a basketball look anemic. The squash is going to become a Jack-o-lantern at the Volunteer's hoedown in October and then return to the kitchen to be made into something scrumptious.

Carnegie has its own plot in the Gardens. If you figure you've got a green thumb, or want to get one, why not check with Atiba in the Volunteer Office. There's a spot for you.



DINAH: From CEEDS to Carnegie.

At What Price Love



At what price Love?
To squirm and suffer in the dead of night;
To whistle and scream like a babe in arms;
To wish and wish upon a star,
To love one love -
One love for you only, no one else?
Suffering the damned alone in bed
Needing, aching for one hold, one kiss -
Forever wounded to the quick -
Hanging on a thread; to fall, the dread?
Only in the end to be alone again -
To say: Wasn't this where I began?
Should I love again, and play the fool
To many a foolish prank, perchance?
I wonder - at what price Love ...

Carl Erdmann

Happy the way I am

Give me but a crust of bread
And nothing more than a bed
For I am happy the way I am
So there's no need to push your scam
You try to tell me that life's not fine
That things get better; don't sell me that line
You want to sell me on getting a job
and yet you say that I'm a slob
You see my Friend I was a gundy dancer
Til I got old & was found to have cancer
I had a home and a family as well
My wife and kids left me, how swell
They say it was because I drank
That was the start of why I sank
I tried to keep my life in balance
I don't seem to have any other talents
So get off my case and leave me alone
and let me enjoy life wherever I roam.



MEDITATION

O meet it is and sweet it is
To cuddle and to kiss
Though the laws of our society
Crown loving with distress.

O meet it is and sweet it is
For youth and maid to wed
Though the laws of our society
For joys bring griefs instead.

O meet it is and sweet it is
To give birth to girls and boys
Though the laws of our society
Rob families of their joys.

O meet it is and sweet it is
For youth to have its dreams
Though the laws of our society
Damn hopes, gut youth, smash dreams.

O sweet it is, O sweet it is
To see with open eyes
That the laws of our society
Not long can tyrannize.

O sweet it is to join the fight
To set our people free
From the laws of our society
From the bonds of property.

(1940s)

Bea Ferneyhaugh

PHASE IN A MIRROR

Define what tomorrow means;
Another round of vagabond scenes.
A slow walk thru Chinatown,
To Strathcona's hallowed ground.
Rake the earth, pull the weeds,
Preempt time, fill some needs.
Have a smoke, feast the eyes;
Summer blooms with smells & sighs.

Walk back, thru Oppenheimer field,
Eyes waxed in a protective shield.
Stroll down Powell, check in at home;
No red light on; nobody phoned.
Pack a sketchbook with pens & ink,
Head for Crab Park, sit there & think.

The Bavaria Deli, behind Gassy Jack,
Favourite table empty, drink coffee black.
Gaze thru the window, rain coming down,
Tourists in shorts sketched in Gastown.

Five p.m., go home, no red light.
Have a nap, wait for the night.
Wake up, turn on, it's neon time,
Music is life searching for rhyme.
After midnight the human side comes;
Blood brought alive by the beating of drums.
Where are the lovers and trusted friends;
Lost in memory as the music ends.
One last walk, the long way to bed.
Repetitious visions dancing in the head.

Garry Gust

THIS GOVERNMENT HAS NOT DONE ABOUT AIDS:
- They refuse to fully fund AZT and other experimental drugs
- They have not supported community education on AIDS.
- They have closed hospital beds and refuse to deal with a nursing shortage
FACTS:
- B.C. has recorded 591 cases of AIDS. Less than half of these people are still living
- B.C. has about 3,000 people with ARC or other serious AIDS-related infections
- B.C. has at least 10,000 people infected with the HIV virus
- The Provincial govt. will tell you that there are 3,063 people infected with the HIV virus.
- They take this number from their own provincial testing lab, but it does not reveal the entire picture of HIV infection in this province
- Canada has recorded 2,586 cases of AIDS. B.C. has the highest incidence of AIDS, almost twice the national average.
- This is an urgent situation. Daily, more people become ill and daily, more people die.



It is an outrage that Nicole Parton's column (Sacred Welfare Proposal a Sensitive Step for B.C. - Tuesday, 6 Aug.) should be allowed to denigrate 49,000 B.C. citizens.

Classifying them as 'layabouts' who 'would rather line the beaches' 'who cheat the system' and have the time to find it 'productive putting the touch on strangers for spare change', Ms. Parton lashes out in a particularly venomous and irresponsible manner.

Forgotten, somewhere in this distorted message, are facts which mirror other realities.

If we are to subscribe to the narrow vision presented, then there are only two groups that count. One that has pride, self-respect and humanity, and one that doesn't. One that is ably employed and one that is ably unemployed-on-welfare. The world divided into two, black and white, good and bad. The bureaucracy of the Ministry of Social Services and Housing would love this formula and should send Ms. Parton a dozen long-stemmed roses for her help in cutting down the (MSSH) paperwork.

However, is there not a clause within our Charter of Rights and Freedoms which makes it illegal to discriminate against someone solely on the basis of their socio-economic status?

Consider this, Ms. parton, that SURVIVING on welfare is not the life of the idle rich. Try juggling the rent (\$250 and up, mthly), utilities, food, clothing, transportation, let alone the fact that everyone needs a couple of evenings with friends, whether that be at another's home, restaurant or bar, and we've witnessed an amazing human feat on \$450 per month.

The present B.C. welfare rates are approximately 50% below the poverty level. I'm sure that this 'measure of your humanity' donated through 'your' working taxes is reason to gloat as you bring the children on Robson to taste the latest flavour of Italian ice-cream.

If you come from the lowest income group in Canada, you can expect the following:

- * to live
 - 6.3 fewer years if you are male
 - 2.8 fewer years if you are female
- * to be disability-free
 - 14.3 fewer years if you are male
 - 7.6 fewer years if you are female
- * an infant mortality rate
 - 1.95 times higher for male infants
 - 1.86 times higher for female infants
- * to live a 'quality-adjusted' (healthy) life
 - 10.3 fewer years if you are male
 - 5.1 fewer years if you are female
- * an accidents, poisoning and violence mortality rate
 - 1.88 times higher if you are male
 - 1.45 times higher if you are female

so, how's the ice-cream melting?

There is pride, self-respect and humanity amongst the ably unemployed on welfare. We do pay taxes on everything we buy. But, it is hard to achieve pride and self-respect when those jobs mentioned of gardening, cleaners and window-washers take it for granted that we've got 'small brains and strong backs', besides the lowest non-unionized salaries this side of the employment market. Besides, you do need qualifications! Do you know the difference between a Rhododendron and an Azalia and their needs? Neither do I!

Have you talked with someone (apart from MSSH officials) who has received those wonderful 'cash incentives towards babysitting, transportation and clothing costs'? Your so-called 'government carrots'? I've talked with many welfare recipients and they've not known people who have received these benefits. They have felt the 'government's stick' though.

If you would like to feel the 'government's stick', may I suggest that you don your gardening clothes, (disguising yourself as a welfare applicant), make all the necessary calls and runarounds and then try to survive, with husband and family, on the B.C. welfare rates. I assure you that your stance and ideals will radically change.

Or, check Page F8 of Saturday's Sun (5 August) and look for the ad "Are You on Welfare?" under the Help Wanted ads. Within the ad, training is provided for those age 25-44. Within the 49,000 letters sent (MSSH - Fri. 4 Aug.) are definitely 10,000 plus welfare recipients who are under 25 and over 44. What about them? Try to get a student loan when you're 50 and Manpower and Welfare refuse to pay for retraining.

Let's prepare for the Labour Day '89 crisis. After this date approximately 10,000 ably employable welfare recipients, who cannot meet the new requirements for a variety of reasons, will come to 'decorate' our fine B.C. streets. The missions, foodbanks and social service outlets will face an overload, shutdown situation..unable to meet the demands on their services. And the people in need...what can they do - who can they turn to? Can a population already on inadequate diets and living in inadequate shelters be expected to just 'line the beaches', waiting, hungry, exhausted and pacified while the government experiments on its citizens? I say NO!

Perhaps everyone who is hurt by this social-experiment should take a brick and throw it through the window of a bank and get their status changed, from ably-unemployed-on-welfare to incarcerated person. They could now expect the government to pay \$40,000 annually (approximately 8 times more than I now get on welfare in a year) for their shelter, food (3 meals daily) and clothing. Maybe, just maybe, the govt. would come to understand... but I doubt it. It's the same govt. which plans to spend billions on transit while making cutbacks in the social services (ever wonder how they're gonna finance the Skytrain extensions?); highly questionable land-deals with foreign citizen Li Ka-Shing; severance pay deals of \$200,000 for fired ex-employees; and wholesale blind destruction of the earth to mostly foreign-based profit-oriented forest companies. So I know what I see and what I can expect. Maybe I could get you to 'scoop' the story as I throw the first brick. Think of the added prestige you'll have on Robson street.

I am on welfare. I am ably unemployed. I have journalistic training. I would like to work. Would you be willing to put your money where your mouth is and get me a JOB INTERVIEW at the Pacific Press establishment?

I know that you have no responsibility to my position...and that this govt's policy is not yours (although you do advocate it in your opinion piece). I am only making a personal extension to see if you'll go further than just the words which you so capably write - or maybe your realm is only to move words about...

I have a subscription to the Vancouver Sun (don't mention it to MSSH - they would probably consider it a luxury - what with the entertainment section) and do make it a point to read Nicole Partron's column on a regular basis. I shall continue to read and hope that things will change for the better.

By MATTHEW CROSS

LIFE, LIBERTY & THE PURSUIT OF WHAT?

Upgrading skills to make more money is a waste of time... Once you learn the job, a large part of your life energy will have to be farmed out to someone's business... so, the richer you get, in actual money, the poorer in free time quality life experience you will become.

A low level of income does not inhibit intelligence, creativity or personal development. Lack of education can be an opportunity to discover reality. Valuable lifetimes, in which quiet, unassuming men & women have evolved themselves & contributed to the evolution of those around them are more often lived in lower than average economic circumstances. This has nothing to do with romanticising "poverty", but comes about because the psychological conditions imposed by poorer living are sparser, tougher, more demanding - there's more basic reality to deal with, & more time to experience it fully.

With no job, no alarm clock & less money, it's possible to find your "entertainment" inside, where openings into other, deeper states of awareness appear.

People are usually afraid of these openings, because they hold the power to challenge their entire value system, & ultimately, to place them in doubt about basic conceptions of

right & wrong.

To explore these possibilities, it's necessary first of all to realize that all real power is personal ...it comes from within a person - this person is anyone & everyone. To live in such a way that you release the power of deeper awareness within yourself creates the deepest treasure, the most abundant wealth any human being could hope to gather in one lifetime. ...So, stop crying about being "poor", & spend more time finding out what real wealth is about.

Openings into this experience can only be found in such things as silence, timelessness, contemplation, solitude, humility, love, music, poetry, effortless concentration, spontaneous inspiration, natural being... When you're out in a silent empty world, just before sunrise, or upstairs staring at the moon from your open window...when you're studying the geometry of junk in the back alley, when you have time to notice neon lightshows in the rain, or investigate the strange condition of not being dead yet...then you can look into ordinary things, instead of through them or around them.

You can see that the way you talk, think, eat, breathe, move & sleep are far more important than "career opportunities"...because the way the world is 'out there' is a combined

result of how each person is being, inwardly, at each moment.

All our talking, moving, eating, breathing, everyday existence is each person's piece of the puzzle... the basic building block we contribute to the overall pattern of social interaction is only our personal way of being...the simple actions of everyday life are waiting to be discovered. To develop & refine the ordinary requires free time with less money. To learn what you experience becomes who you are, & vice versa.

Most of the experience's offered by a pursuit of money are so superficial & deadening to the soul that, in the long run, the career opportunity of a lifetime turns out to be a serious mistake.

All the accumulated mistakes of many lifetimes make one big mistake; industrial war on the environment.. a war on personal freedom..a plot against life as she should be lived.. chemical warfare by prescription.. anything to keep the mind in a place where it will be "useful" to society.

The only responsible contribution an individual can make to a sick society is to get out of it & stay out of it...you don't have to raise goats and live on a desert island to do this. All you have to do is continuously withdraw your mental & emotional energy from systems & put it into individual life experience only.

When enough people are doing this, the attitude of the human race will improve...an improved attitude is the only thing that can save a doomed planet.

But the odds are against anything like this ever happening... why? Because large corporate systems enslave the energy & demand the allegiance of individuals.

Bill wants to educate you: Jimmy wants to give you a job. Grace wants to improve your image your image & even the communists can't wait to get their hot little hands on high tech. industrial progress.

The boss is always up there with his smile & handshake, holding out a buck for anyone who can prove they've got "the right stuff"...but unless you can love poverty & see God in the garbage, you'll never learn to turn your back on career opportunities.



TORA

About 75 local kids seemed to enjoy themselves at the annual Crab event. At one point on the 22nd of September there were over 50 kids and a large number of parents at Crab Park; the menu was simple with hot dogs, ice cream, potato salad and coffee.

"Chee-Whiz" did clown entertaining with stilt walking and a performing dog. Giles Chin did masks molded to each kid's features and then the masks were painted. Diane Wood did the day's facepainting.

Everyone in the park, regardless of age, was fed and each kid got a prize.

Cecille Henry and Brian Robinson from Ray-Cam provided some recreational kids' games.

This was C.R.A.B.'s 2nd festival of the summer - the 1st being "Honour the Earth" - and funding for children's waterfront day was provided by Raycam (\$250), the City (\$500 and the Port (\$250). We will request a full \$500 from the Port again next year.

Thanks to Gabylys' Meats on the 400 block Powell for their support.

The local, low income kids get very little in the way of festivals and CRAB tries in a positive way to make up for some of that lack.

Don Larson

THE PHONE RINGS - SHOULD I OR SHOULDN'T I

by Margaret

When she calls and says no one loves me,
I feel sad
But then I say to myself, that's the booze
talking.

Sometimes I just want to hang up, but then I
think of all the bad things that could happen.
So I listen to what she has to say.

I'm sorry for calling you when I'm drunk,
no one understands what I'm going through.
But you're always there when I need to talk.

On weekends I feel like leaving my machine on
because I don't want to hear this over and over.
Then I think what if it's an emergency.

If only he knew what she was like before.
I wish he never entered her life,
But then I can't blame it on him,
Because she's old enough to say no.

What is it that I need to do to make
her stop drinking? How can I help her
to see herself and what she's turned
herself into?

I TRULY WANT MY SISTER BACK

INVISIBLE

I went to the corner
Whar did I see?
Hurry, hurry, hurry.
Hustle, hustle. hustle.
I reached out,
No one saw me.
I cried out,
No one heard me.
Where did I go?
Back to my room
And, the bottle.

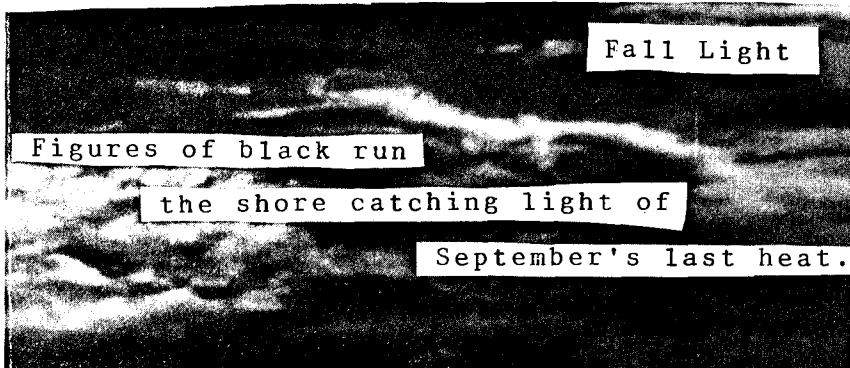
Frank Nichols

SEARCHING

I know someone cares
Around the next corner?
Down the next alley?
Over that hill?
Maybe the next province
I know someone cares.

Frank Nichols

Claudius Ivan Planidin



No one ever ruined
their eyesight by
looking at the
bright side
of life.

James Roadknight

LIVE UNREHEARSED

1125

Main & Hastings RADIO CO-OP RADIO 102.7 FM / 4:30 PM EVERY 2ND THURSDAY

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

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.

DONATIONS: Yanum Spath-\$100
 Nancy W.-\$300 Willis S.-\$110
 George B.-\$15 Rich P.-\$41
 Robert S.-\$60 Jancis A.-\$45
 Louis P.-\$20 Tom -\$4.02
 Marg. S.-\$20 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
 J. East -\$1 Nancy J.-\$50
 Sue H.-\$20 Steve R.-\$5
 Neil M.-\$2 B. & B. -\$8
 Terry the Terrible -\$100
 Anonymous - \$43.23

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

I am a chameleon
I try to blend into colours
My blood is red
It bleeds like a sunset
So I write
I am a poetess
I try to blend into words
My thoughts are bred
Of experiences of sunsets
I am the center of a universe
Or so you said
Once upon a time
I try to blend into stars
My energy is heat
So I burn
I am Elizabeth
I try to blend into myself
My brain is electric
So I think

Elizabeth Thorpe

LIFE

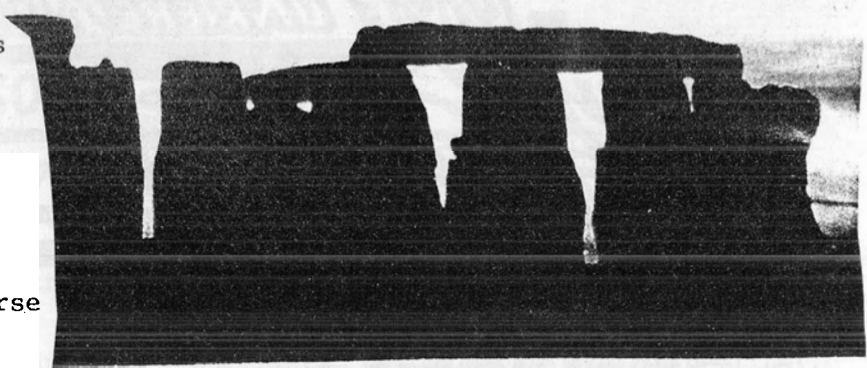
Dropping, falling
I feel it calling;
It's come at last.
I cannot drop this one,
It's made of glass.

Searching, looking,
I feel it hooking,
But there's no trace.
I cannot find this one,
It's made of space.

Finding, keeping,
The curse is sleeping;
The child has grown,
He cannot find me,
I'm made of stone.

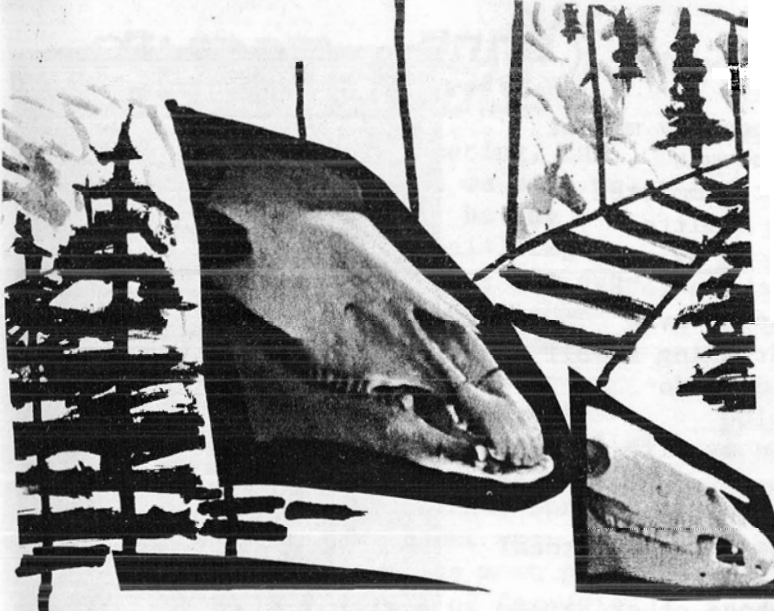
And the stone
Breaks the glass,
And the space
Comes to see
It's made of me.

Garry Gust



Waiting for the light to change
but do you think it honestly bloody does.
No - not if you blink your eyes
so I was thinking, the entire trip
is a red light all the way - but
I've heard the older folks say,
'Get ready for the green and go!'
but the green is few and far between.
So how many of us have slept through it?
How many times have I slept through it?
But what the hell, what's the hurry anyway -
A wheat field takes time to grow,
and a child takes time to learn -
and an adult takes time to mature.
So what's the difference where we're at--
Have you heard it - the ancient cliché
"I know where you're at!"
Shit, who really gives a damn...
Just go do it!
Maybe the green light is the
'not worrying too much' part..
People will think what they think anyway
People will say what they will say anyway
...have you ever wondered?
if a tree worries about what another
tree thinks about it
does a robin ever worry about what another
robin thinks about it
In nature I doubt if any of the 'but what
does the other think' syndrome even exists.
So what's stopping us from being
a whole lot better to each other...
I wonder!

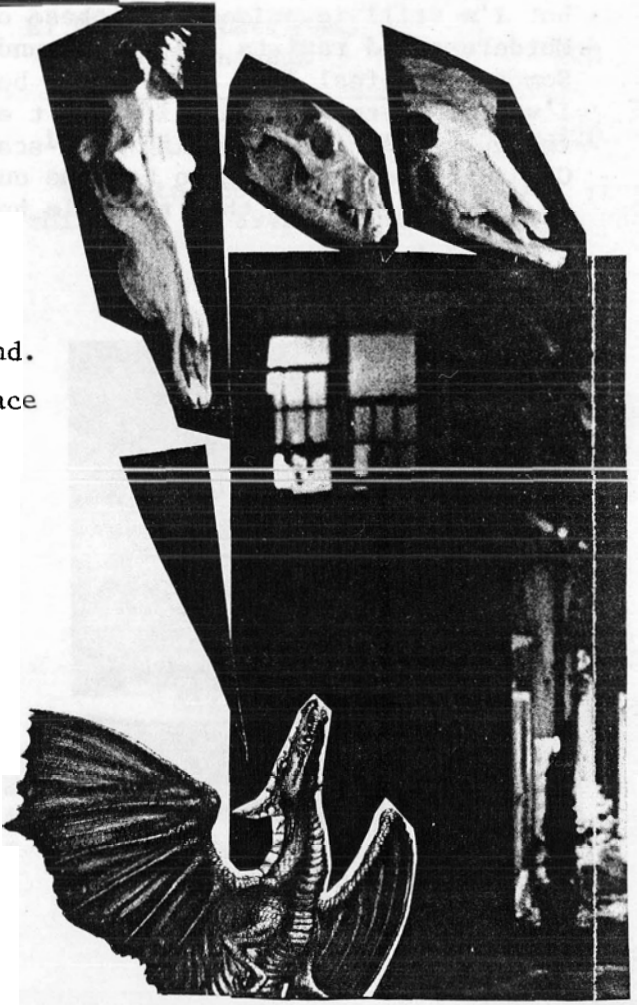
Dave McConnell



Spirit As Salted

as sea snemones,
tentacles outstretched
consciously willing openness
always unretracting
in excruciatingly exquisite seas
washing through
overwhelming fear with love;
like sea eagles,
wings in tight
pointedly hurtling cutters
sharp-hooked beaks catching
edged space between surfaces
of truth splashed dreams.

Ken Lyotier



RAVEN SPEAKS:

Eyes flash open on the north shore
Rainforest takes my body
Now I am dead
Now I float in the feathers of Raven
Over the inlet, through the longhouse
Through a smoke of faces at the far end.

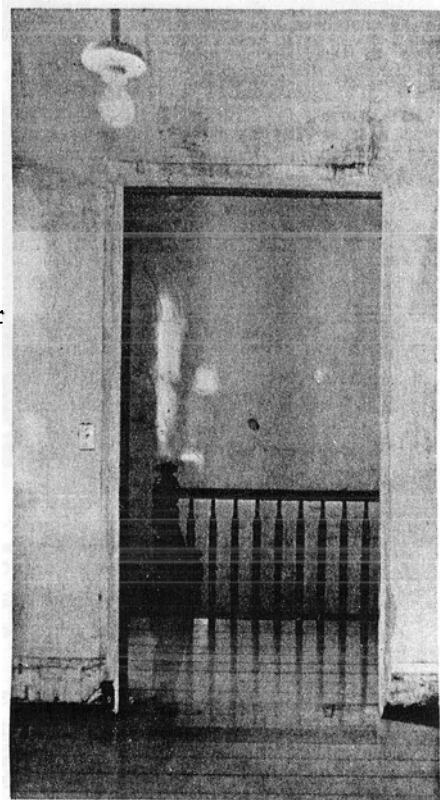
I enter your dream of 20th century space
Now I hang around the parking lot
Send down mystic sounds
Against the supermarket fence

Here I see the pig's head
Captured by the crowd
Here I dance
On the ashes of his desk top
Transformed in fire
Here I take him by the hair
Hold him underwater
See him come up
Face to face
With earth bears
& electric eagles
Assembled even now
Inside the mountain

TORA

here in prison I'm taking things well
adjusting to this life in a cell
my moods go through changes moment by moment
I'm feeling fine at this very moment
And yet I'm here for crimes not committed
I was found guilty & that they admitted
I produced a witness who stood by my side
I told them the truth I had nothing to hide
You see my friend my father passed over
I'd taken a few pills, tried drinking myself sober
When I admitted to crimes I didn't do
I was believed by the men in blue
And now I am fighting to regain my life
to get out of this prison & away from this strife
I was denied bail, I'm pending appeal
Waiting on these transcripts is quite an ordeal
My lawyer seems to be taking his time
but I'm still in prison with these other slime
Murderers and rapists are all around me
Sometimes I feel 'can this truly be?'
I've been here since April doesn't anyone care
the guys in here are giving me a scare
Can anyone do anything to help me out
to set me free from this terrible bout?

Charles

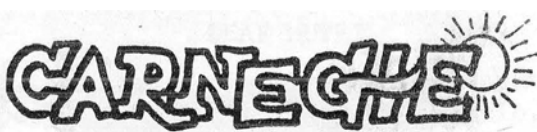


BEYOND THE BLUE GATES

Beyond the Blue Gates a wishing well
Subconsciously dwells in the flow
Of sweet dream heartbeats from the stars
To wishers too sad to know
That death relieves the burden of Self
And reunites the Soul
With endless Cosmic energy
Replenishing the Whole.

Beyond the Blue Gates a place of mind
Exists in a perfect state
Of unified order, ruling all,
And recreating our fate.
Expecting the coming toll of bells,
A Master within us waits
To wake its servant's spiritual lull
And go back thru the Blue Gates.

Garry Gust



At a recent finance meeting, the Association learned that we were in the enviable position of having a \$10,000 surplus. Provincial regulations on Bingo state that any non-orifut organisation having income from a Bingo must spend that money in full every year.

All of the projections for spending hadn't happened, so the opposite of 'where do we get the money' was the case. First, guidelines for how to spend this were set up:

- things that serve the most people
- cover as many areas of Carnegie

Every part of our Centre and the staff people in charge were asked to put on collective thinking caps and the ideas were really the product of hard decisions. Area by area:

A. LIBRARY (Linda)

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-----|
| 1) Display rack for audio tapes | 701 |
| 2) Electric typewriter | 200 |
| Total | 901 |

B. EQUIPMENT (Donalda)

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---------|
| 1) BBQ | 400-500 |
| 2) Double Sink (portable) | 125 |
| 3) Slide Projector | 300 |
| 4) 5 Chess Games | 250 |
| 5) Carpet Bowling Equip. up to | 2000 |
| 6) Sewing Machine | 500 |
| Total | 3675 |

EQUIPMENT (Bruce)

- | | |
|------------------------|-----|
| 7) Ping Pong Table | 640 |
| 8) Shuffleboard | 239 |
| 9) Canvas Punching Bag | 100 |
| 10) Boxing Gloves Bag | 20 |
| Total | 999 |

C. PROGRAMMING (Alicia)

- | | |
|-------------------------------|------|
| 1) 20 blank video cassettes | 200 |
| 2) Hides for cultural sharing | 500 |
| 3) Kiln repair & display case | 200 |
| 4) Instamatic camera & film | 200 |
| 5) Information Rack | 100 |
| Total | 1200 |

D. MUSIC PROGRAM (Earle)

- | | |
|---------------------------------|------|
| 1) Drum Kit | 500 |
| 2) Accoustic guitar with pickup | 200 |
| 3) Insertable pick-up | 75 |
| 4) Electric guitar | 200 |
| 5) 2 new boom stands | 100 |
| 6) new guitar amp | 250 |
| Total | 1325 |

D. LEARNING CENTRE

- | | |
|----------------------|------|
| 1) Computer Mouse | 200 |
| 2) Books | 350 |
| 3) Periodicals | 150 |
| 4) Bus Passes | 150 |
| 5) Film & Processing | 150 |
| Total | 1000 |

E. KITCHEN (Catriona)

- | | |
|-------------------|-----|
| 1) Porcelain cups | 200 |
|-------------------|-----|

EXTRAS

- | | |
|------------------------|-----|
| 1) Floor Hockey sticks | 120 |
|------------------------|-----|

The total to be spent following this plan is \$9420. Well done!

DOWNTOWN EASTSIDE
YOUTH ACTIVITIES SOCIETY

D.E.Y.A.S.

Free Doctors on site
223 Main St.

Wed. evening: 5 to 8:30
Dr. AL VENNEMA

Thurs. evening: 5 to 8:30
Dr. COLIN HARRICKS

Drop in or call for an appointment --

685 4488

STD Nurses are on site
through the weekdays.

(Confidential)

THE ING

We're the champions of loving
The arch foes of all hate;
We are staunchly for removing
All that says stand still and wait.

In the striving, and the willing
In the heaving to be free,
We are showing how our being
Guarantees our liberty!

For in struggling we're asserting
That the essence of our life
Is the knowing we are coming
To the end of force and strife

As the crowning way of winning
The essential things of life --
The working out of contradictions
Between the husband and the wife;

For the husband and the wife,
My dears, is the heart of everything:
It's the to and fro of ocean tides
And the seed-ground plants that spring

Into living parent flowers
That supply the pollened pistils -
Bearing seed for virgin flowers
And the new life this instills:

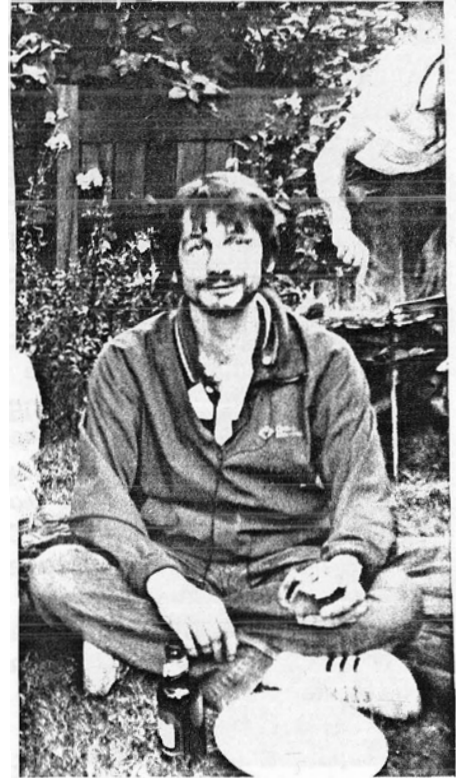
It's equality of opposites
That makes the whirling world go round:
It's the reasoning out of problems,
It's the heights, it's what's profound.

Take away the living "ing", my dears,
And the universe falls dead;
Neither male nor female matters,
Neither "no" nor "yes" can spread:

Only hate remains - that freezes;
Only fear remains - that chills;
Only corpses lie about us
Such a wasteland (0) nought fulfills.

(IT'S NOT EVEN A HOLE-IN-THE-GROUND)
- BUT IN THE OZONE

B. EF.



"RANDY"

Death comes
on soft cat feet
silent as
the setting sun.
She creeps up quietly
in mid-laughter
or mid-life ...
taps you on the shoulder
gently
gently
gentle as the hum
of a songbird's hum
in mid-flight
she touches you
lovingly
and says
it is time now -
come

("What a pity - that couple can never
speak to each other about their love."
! Woman talking about a handicapped couple!)

This dance of fingers
sheds veils of air, reveals
ten times over
the nakedness of my desire.
My palms doubly celebrate you,
inscribe my love
upon the space between us, enclose
tenderness, shapes it
like a flower.
And though the world about us roars,
this silence
is our own private universe



wherein I sow a promise: kisses
falling like stars
towards your mouth; each fingertip
a white flame
foreplaying heaven, igniting us
towards that wordless ceremony
where you and I
will blaze in pas-de-deux,
and where all language fades
into that profounder silence
that will be our bodies, singing.

Jancis M. Andrews

Scepticism & RELIGION

For the scientist, skepticism is a must, but for the religionist skepticism is a no-no...looks like I have to follow science and reject religion.

Of course I adored my Grandmother who was a devoted Buddhist, but to me Buddhism too is a subject I'm skeptical about. My grandmother was completely illiterate and naturally influenced by both good & bad religionists. Fortunately she had a very good influence on me; she was kind, generous and patient and I never saw her angry at any time while I was being nurtured by her. It could've been her nature...she probably would've been the same without religion. All my life I've tried to be like her..I must've succeeded in some ways.

If you follow science you are skeptical about everything but if you are a religionist you must have faith without doubt (any doubt about your religion and you're unfaithful).

It's natural to become doubtful about the religionist's teachings if you follow science - this is very bad from the religionist's point of view. Even scientists make wrong theories from wrong conclusions of wrong information.

A good example is the theory of the creation of our universe...big bang. What was it like before the big bang? Was there primordial ether, with one primordial atom to make the big bang? We do like to simplify things scientifically..it's easier to take. Science accepts the possibility of a universe with an intrinsic nature of complications and chaos, a nature that is always illogical, a nature with no beginning and no ending.

As humans we have to bring everything to human-size, if possible to just two dimensions. Science allows me to see the universe in 3 or 4 or 5 dimensions, without fear of losing my placemark in time. I like that; it's simpler.

Archie Miashita

WHY IS IT?

Because you come
With naked conscious face
To the world's mad sunrise

To the cold clawed feet
Of furious gods

To the pyramid, the circle,
The sundial

Creeping out on insect feet
Antennae thrusting into
What's unknown

Because the human race is
Visiting itself
Crouched down around
Electric campfires
Reading instruments
Muttering some kind of
Coded numerical noise
That makes no sense
Against the huge deep
Input of all space

Because you enter
God's organic greenhouse
& do not wake up
In Blood Alley
Vomitting your dreams up
In the dark

Because you are
Climbing this hillside
Hoping to wake up
Whatever it is
That sleeps
On top of it all.

TORA

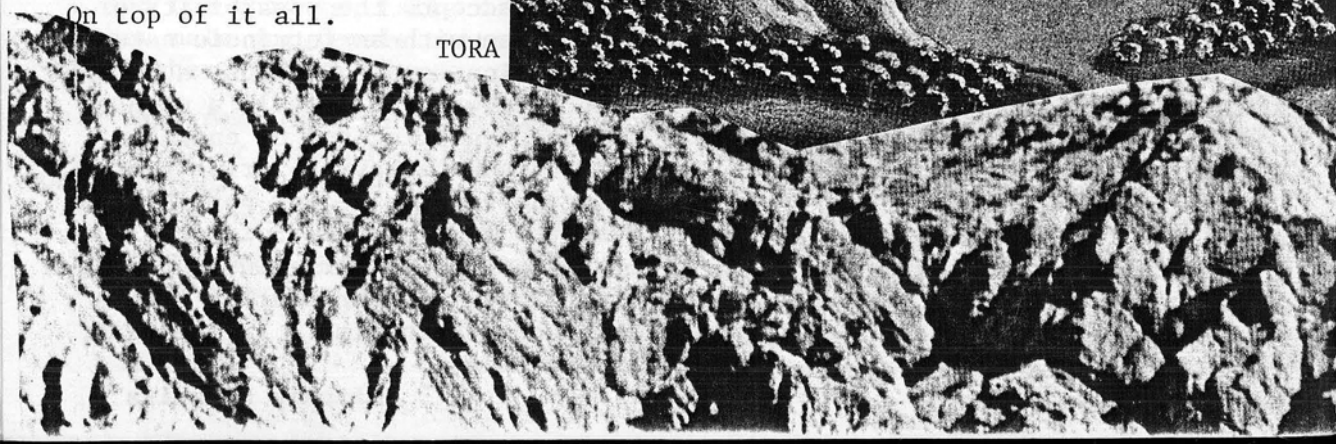
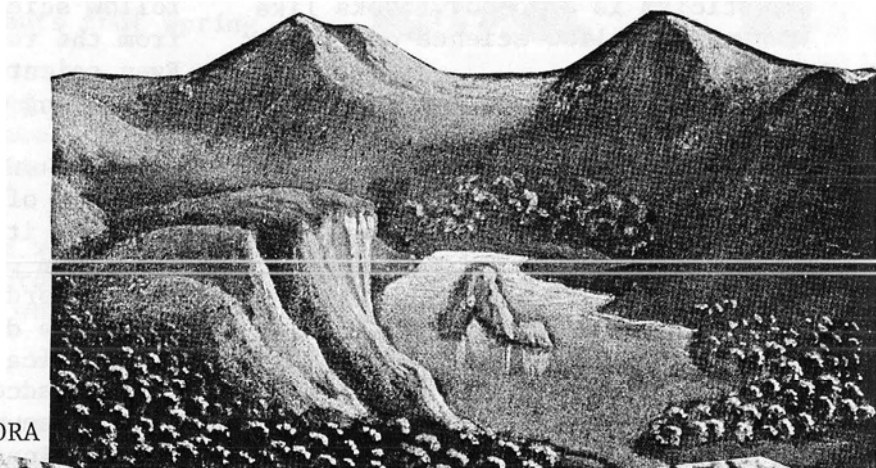
In Memory of my Friends

ROY HUBBARD
RANDY FRENCH

Thinking of You

Let me think of you
With a smile in my heart
I want to remember the good times,
not the bad.
When my eyes
take on the beauty of the stars,
I think of you
For your love is too
special to remember
without happiness.

Sheila Bell



Medical Discharge (No Club Med)?

Well hell. The Carnegie Newsletter is alive and several authorities on the subject have reluctantly agreed that your humble editor is, too.

Despite confirmed rumours to the contrary, eagerly spread by numerous visitors, the total brain-death hoped for by the illustrious enemies of social justice has been wildly exaggerated.

"What happened, you twit?"

"I fell down..fell down with a crunch..crunched a bone..hurts... gonna hurt worse come mornin'..worry 'bout that later."

It was a Wednesday night, 11:30, slept on the Monday, Friday & Tuesday previous, and the simple act of stepping out of the tub got out of hand (or out of mind, to be more exact). Before the 2nd foot got to the floor, the 1st foot was sliding away. The 2nd one joined the 1st and I fell down, bouncing on my butt on the floor.

A flash picture was just like in Batman comics: Robin the Boy Wonder takes care of the grunts with a "SMACK" while Batman decks this issue's Bad Man with a "POW"... and this blank forgets to remember lesson #1 in basic levitation (swallow your tongue and breathe through your bones) resulting in the last frame of the show being a wonderful "CRACKUNCH" with jagged lines of pain leaving the lower back.

A blow by blow account of events has little to do with any of you gentle readers. Adjustment to hospital routine is different for each of us. The process of discharge, however,, including therapy and out-patient follow-up, was and is a joke.

The matter of the doctor in emergency being stopped cold from "send-

ing you home with pills for the pain" was minor - he'd tried that crud even after learning from X-ray that it was a fractured spine!

The Doctor (the one whose name goes on your file) spoke to me for 2 minutes that day, for about 30 seconds five days later and on the morning of discharge. Yeah. I saw him once after no contact for nine days. The 30 seconds had given me enough time to ask about therapy and he said we'd start with standing, then walking with help, then physio.

It sounded normal and sufficient at the time but, on the morning of discharge, I learned that it was still on the 'expected to begin soon' list.

A nurse came in during breakfast and said, "So you're leaving today." It was news to me. It also marked the start of that ancient game known now as Pass-the-Buck.

I have a hard time playing the role of patient/client/victim. That's the illusion that, because someone else acquires the power to make decisions affecting me, I have no further say. We are no longer part of any process, information and input from us is irrelevant and we are supposed to accept the end of another changeless chapter. From welfare to housing to legislated poverty to enforced mal-nutrition to medicine to work to education to money to politics and back... the role of 95% of all people is seemingly written in stone - impotent, voiceless and powerless.

As always it is difficult to change the opinion of anyone engaged in the exercise of power, be it petty power or great power. If we stay involved and contribute to the best of our individual and collective

abilities, such an ending of being cast in such helpless roles should not occur. If it does, as it did in this case, gut reactions can be a good guide.

Within an hour of being informed that that day was my last, four doctors, four nurses and a social worker had come to the hospital room. Pass-the-buck was a reluctant exercise on the part of all except The Doctor. He finally showed up wondering what the problem was...and I went up one side of him and down the other. Then he displayed his common humanity by saying that it was my fault that no appointments had been made, that no arrangements for homecare had been set up, that I didn't even have cab-fare. It was pointless to educate him; he was already The Doctor. If that wasn't enough to make me fall on my knees and beg his forgiveness for questioning his inspired example, well, that was obviously my problem too.

The act of putting pen to paper can be very satisfying, especially when you can't write fast enough to put down exactly what you have to say. This example prompted a letter to the President of St. Paul's Hospital with copies to the College of Physicians & Surgeons (Board of Ethics), the Minister of Health, the Vancouver Sun and the Province.

Should be interesting.

By PAULR TAYLOR

newsletter *Mail*

Editor,

One sector which hasn't received much coverage in discussions of Wilson's 9% sales tax is that of non-profit and charitable organisations.

Under the Finance Minister's proposal any such agency which receives more than 50% of its revenue in government funds is eligible for a partial rebate on the 9% tax paid. I'm treasurer of a non-profit society in the West End and because we are a part of the United Way and also actively fundraise from private sources we receive less than 50% funding from government funding. Therefore, we are not eligible for any rebate on sales taxes paid.

It seems to me that to be fair those established social service or cultural or recreational agencies who work hard to fund their own programs and are not a burden on the taxpayers of Canada should also be exempted from this tax.

I hope the Carnegie Newsletter will assist in alerting our many Downtown Eastside community organisations of this and that they will take a few minutes to send a letter protesting this to the Hon. Michael Wilson, Minister of Finance, House of Commons, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0X4.

And remember, no postage required!

Darren Lowe

"I don't mind being crazy
if I can be great
and do something with it."

A. Stevens



I am more powerful than the combined
armies of the world;

I have destroyed more people than all the
wars of the nation;

I have caused millions of accidents and
wrecked more homes than all the floods,
tornadoes and hurricanes put together;

I am the world's slickest thief. I
steal billions of dollars each year.

I find my victim's among the rich and poor
alike, the young and the old, the strong and
the weak;

I loom'up to such proportions that I cast
a shadow over every field of labour;

I am relentless, insidious, unpredictable;

I am everywhere - in the home, on the
street, in the factory, in the office, on the
sea and in the air;

I bring sickness, poverty and death;

I bring nothing and take all;

I am your worst enemy;

I am alcohol.



"I FEEL GOOD INSIDE"
WHEN I HAVE ACCOMPLISHED SOMETHING

by Margaret

When you say, gee I admire you
I often ask myself why?
Whatever I'm doing is because I want to do it,
not because someone asked me to.
It's making me feel good inside

My younger brothers and their children look up to me,
Because I'm me. Not because of the wheelchair.
By all means I'm not rich, but I have a heart of
GOLD.

If I can make someone happy or
make a person smile and
hear the laughter of joy.

Only then, I know I have accomplished my goal.



CARNEGIE

TO: Norman Mark, Pat Kendall, Irene Schmidt, Pau Saa, Kevin Moore, Barb Gudmundson.

To each and all of you I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation for the time and labour you gave in order to make our Thanksgiving dinner so special and wonderful.

None of it could have happened without your efforts and I wanted you to know how much those efforts are valued and appreciated.

David Sinclair

Dear Dear People

TO ALL THE FOLKS THAT PARTICIPATED
IN ALL THE FUND RAISING IN THE
CHILDREN'S FUND FOR SUMMER
ACTIVITIES. IN EVERY WHICH
WAY YOU HELPED I WANTED
TO THANK YOU VERY MUCH
GREATLY APPRECIATED.
YOURS SINCERELY
Bonnie Stevens

Sept 28/68

P.S.
Thank for
Caring

