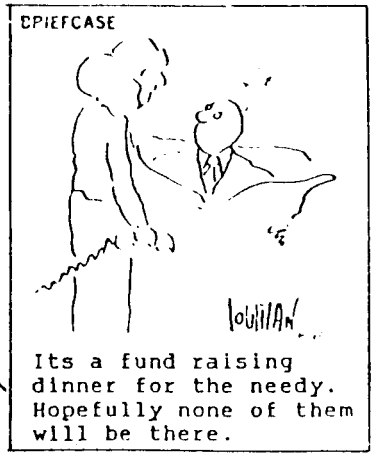
FREE - donations accepted.

Carnegie NEWSLETTER

MAY 1, 1991.

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

CHARITY is a BANDAID, not a SOLUTION



This cartoon shows how charity makes some low income people feel.

WHAT SOME PEOPLE WHO USE FOOD BANKS THINK ABOUT THE 'TASTE OF NATIONS' EVENT

By Jean Swanson. On April 10th I went to a Vancouver food bank line up and explained to people that the 'Taste of Nations' event was happening, that it was to raise money for food charity. I asked people what they thought of the idea and if they thought there were better ways to deal with hunger. I also showed them the bandaid leaflet. All of the people I asked said that they agreed with the leaflet. I talked to 7 groups of 3 or 4 people each. Here's some of what they said:

"(Taste of Nations) is a good idea. We shouldn't have to eat scraps, but its better than climbing in bins."

"Why don't they just give the money to us? Right now we're stuck."

"Its positive isn't it. Its helping the poor. What else can you do?"

"I think its the government responsibility, not charity. They should raise the minimum wage. Do you want people to live like animals?"

"I'd say (to the people who attend Taste of Nations) 'I hope it makes you feel better cause it doesn't make me feel better.' $62 to us is like a penny to them."

"If welfare were at a higher level there would be a better level of respect for all people."

"If people had a better economic base, more would go to school, more would relax and be able to put food on the table."

"The picture (cartoon in the bandaid leaflet) is good. That's what it comes down to."

"It would be better if we were like Sweden with free daycare and education."

"The economic situation has created a line. If wages are increased, you create jobs; more people are able to consume more."

"Tell (the people attending Taste of Nations) its the government's responsibility."

"Profit and greed create these imbalances therefore we have a gap of really rich and poor."

"Its a good idea. The only thing is, I can't afford to go."

(turn over)

"Taste of Nations" was an event held at the PanPacific Hotel near Canada Place on the waterfront. Seems that the mountains of fancy food 'left over' after banquets and corporate dinners and all manner of swank social events really bothered people..after they had eaten their fill.

"Taste of Nations" was a $62 a plate affair where all present were going to do 'their bit' for charity and make donations to buy a van for the Food Bank. This van would then go around to huge gala dinners and load up all the leftovers and take them to the Food Bank to be included in the next week's distribution.

End legislated Poverty was outside with about 10 members. A large banner proclaimed what is stated on the Newsletter's cover. Sheila Baxter sat at our version of a fancy table, dressed as a wealthy matron, and while enjoying her "fancy" meal, made a show of offering crumbs to the poor on the ground around her and extolling the virtues of her charity. Several of us handed out pamphlets made to purposely look like bandaids, to the passersby and people arriving to go to the "Taste" dinner.

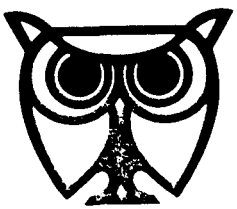
They had this to say:

THE PROBLEMS ARE

*High unemployment: no jobs for 180 thousand people in B.C. in March '91;
*Low wages: a single person can work full time at minimum wage and still be over $3000 below the poverty line;
*Welfare rates at about half the poverty line;
*Housing is too expensive and hard to find;
*Free Trade is costing jobs and pushing wages lower;
*Our governments are purposely keeping unemployment high, wages low, and trashing social programs. This is their strategy to become "competitive in a global economy."

THE CHARITY BANDAID:

*Charity creates a relationship of power and dependence instead of equality and respect;
*Charity makes the giver feel good while the receiver feels humiliated;
*Charity perpetuates inequality;
*Charity doesn't end poverty;
*Charity lets the government off the hook;
*Charity creates the illusion that people's needs are being met when they are not;
*Most people fall through the cracks of charity.

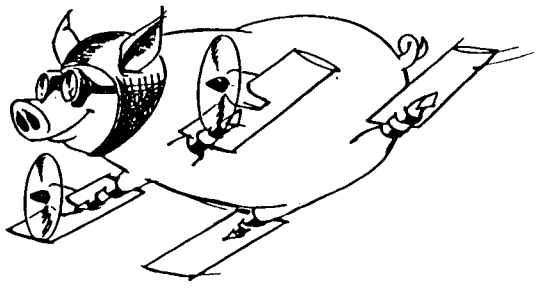


THE JUST SOLUTION:

*Create decent jobs;
*Raise minimum wage to at least $7.50 an hour;
*Raise welfare rates to the poverty line;
*Build affordable housing and bring in rent control;
*Base taxes on ability to pay;
*Say "no" to the free trade deal;
*Base government economic strategies on meeting people's needs, not on playing the game of competitive impoverishment.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

*Write to your MP and MLA and tell them you support the above policies;
*Support organizations committed to justice so we don't need charity;
*Vote for politicians committed to policies that will end legislated poverty.



End Legislated Poverty Statement at Taste of Nations Event

By Debbie Ellison, a member of the Board of End Legislated Poverty

"I would like to make a statement on behalf of End Legislated Poverty to explain why we are here this evening. The Board thought that it would be important for a person who uses food banks to be making this statement. I am one of thousands of people in B.C. who use food banks.

"First I want to state clearly what we are not doing:

We are not attacking the food bank.

We are not asking people to stop donating to the food bank.

This is what we are saying:

We want to end the need for food banks. We want people who are concerned about hunger to join us in fighting to end the need for food banks so that all people can live with dignity & respect. We want to challenge the people who attend this event and the people who read or hear about it through media.

"We challenge people who aren't poor to ask hard questions about charity. Does charity meet the needs of poor people? How many people fall through the cracks of charity? How many don't use food banks because they are disabled or because they work, or because they are students and can't get there? How many don't use food banks because they would rather be hungry than humiliated? Will charity end poverty? Or will it let people think that the hunger problem is solved when it is growing instead? Does charity reflect the kind of society we want? Do we want a society where the poor subsist on leftovers from the rich?

"We challenge people who aren't poor to listen to people who are poor. Some of us do use food banks. But it's not because we like to. We don't want to live in a society where one group is powerful and another powerless. We want to have a relationship of equality and citizenship. We don't want handouts and humiliation. We want jobs and adequate incomes.

"We challenge people who aren't poor to join with us in rejecting American style social programs where food and housing are provided for the poor at the whim of the rich. One of the results of privatized charitable social programs is that alienation, violence, crime and drug use become rampant as they have in the U.S.

"And we challenge people who aren't poor to work with us to change our system to end poverty. We need jobs, housing, higher minimum wage, higher welfare. Canada has the resources to provide a decent life for everyone. We challenge people who aren't poor to demand that our politicians work for a just society, where people are more equal and where the poor don't have to depend on leftovers from the rich to subsist."

"Right now we can use all the help we can get. It would be better to have higher welfare. We can't go to shows. We can't afford a luxury like a haircut. That's why my hair is long."

"Governments could do more. It would be better to increase the minimum wage."

"You don't know what goes through people's minds. Some want to give cause it makes them feel good. Some are genuine."

"It makes me feel like a has-been (to have to receive charity). It makes me feel small. You gotta lower yourself down to this after working so many years?"

"Its a disgrace (to have to receive charity). Its chopping your ego."

"I wouldn't want to make (the people attending Taste of Nations) feel bad."

"I want lots of these events. They should be regular. It will alleviate 1 percent of the problem for a short time. I feel grateful. We appreciate it. (Do you have any other feelings?) "A little gunshy. Downtrodden. All those negative feelings come out. But you go with your needs and not your feelings."

"The cost of housing and food and hydro is too much. Welfare isn't enough. We need more money to live."

"They say budget, budget, budget. There's not enough to budget."

"Its not the best way but its better than nothing. I'm afraid of spoilage. You have to eat that kind of food (leftovers from banquets and restaurants) right away. Food poisoning is dangerous."

"When you've been working all your life and then you're left standing with your hand out. It cuts you down."

"Its like we're eating garbage. Its an insult. Its giving the leftovers from the rich to the poor. Its a shame. Why don't they hold these banquets and invite us?"

"Its the right way for now but its not a solution."

"The government is the main problem. We've got to make them listen. They don't give a shit about us."

"I suppose this ticket (to Taste of Nations) is tax deductible, eh?"

From a literary guerilla the End Legislated Poverty Board: "Its so horrendous to be dependent on someone's leftovers. Someone's going to offer me their left over *h'ors d'heurves* because they're full from gorging themselves on *bouef bourgeois.*"

Produced by End Legislated Poverty, #2ll 456 W. Broadway, Vancouver, B. C. V5Y lR3 Phone 879-1209

A Senior-romantic!

Calendars move along; we still hang around.
We have reason to stay; there is romance in the air!
We have known romance before - many moons ago.
Romance is fun today; it will be fun tomorrow; it is in the air!
More fair ladies about for us to see; our World is more like it!
Medical science is helping us along - it cares.
We find beauty itself staying longer - more of it to choose in more places!
We find beauty in personalities - people who care.
It is no problem to love a senior young, or a beauty earlier.
We regret the canes - the able-walkers and wheel-chairs.
But many a pleasant smile persists - happy greetings by people together!
Romance is more than fun & games - many kinds - for you and I to share!

K'lem gee!

First love.

Going through the pain of losing someone hurts.
Especially if it's someone you've loved.
But someday you'll find somebody new that will make you feel better about yourself and about your life; you'll have fun with that very special person.
And you'll find that it is as fun as the first...
but you'll never forget that first love that you lost.
Even if it isn't the same..but later on in life,
you'll find that first love taught you a lot,
it taught you that having someone there to talk to is very comforting and special.
So don't ever forget the special times you had with that person.
Remembering is part of life.

The roses are red the violets are blue
here's a poem from me to you so wish I may and wish I might I hope I meet alot of new friends tonight.

Michael Potts

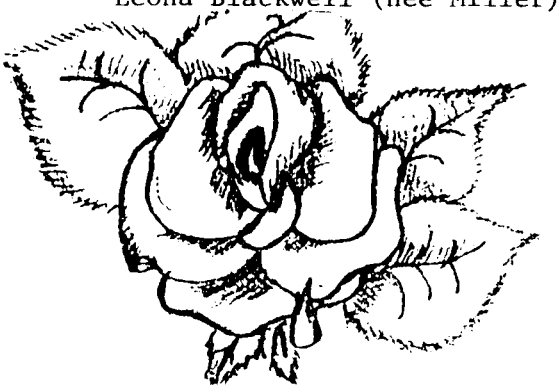
This poem is for anyone who has lost someone to a terminal illness.
Dedicated to Arthur & Edith Miller

GOD SAW YOU GETTING TIRED

God saw you getting tired,
When a cure was not to be.
So he closed his arms around you
and whispered "Come to me."

You didn't deserve what you went through.
And so he gave you rest.
God's garden must be beautiful,
He only takes the best.
And when we knew you were sleeping
So peaceful and free from pain,
We could not wish you back,
To suffer that again.

Leona Blackwell (nee Miller)



READER SPEAKS UP

A couple of newsletters back Tora wrote that full employment is a capitalist plot. This is wrong. Business is always against full employment because it pushes wages up, so working people make more money and business profits go down. High unemployment drives wages down and makes us poorer. And since people get less money, corporations get more. The poorer you are the less power you have in society and less say in how things are run. This's one of the basic laws of capitalism and capitalists like it that way.

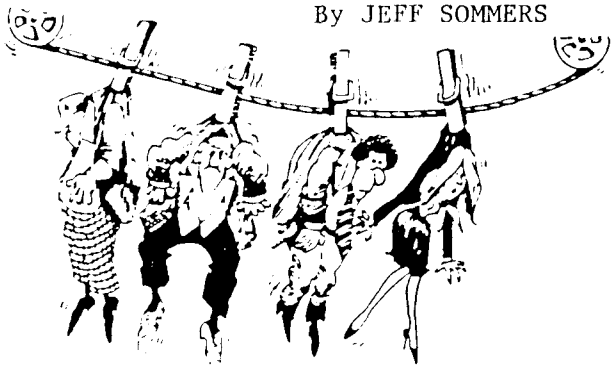
For example, Tora gives the impression that socred welfare policies promote full employment. Not true. Socred welfare is a system to subsidize low-wage employers, many of whom are socred supporters. There are different ways that socreds make it easy for business to pay workers low wage: By keeping GAIN and Handicapped payments lower than the poverty line, by paying for privatized employment skills' programs that stream people into low wage jobs; by paying small businesses that hire people who used to be on GAIN; by forcing people off GAIN into the job market. Even if you pay your employees crappy money, the government will make sure there is a steady supply of people who will take it. They need a high rate of unemployment to do this.

Low wages are the opposite of full employment. A full employment society promotes high wages and good working conditions. People only work for low wages when there are no alternatives. This is the kind of situation that capitalists and their supporters like Social Credit/Tories/Liberals promote. They don't like full employment because it means that employers have to offer higher wages to attract workers. They also have to offer better working conditions.

When there are lots of jobs, we are able to pick and choose which ones we want. This means that some places are left with a shortage of workers. To get people to fill the job, the employer has to up the wages and provide better working conditions. Because wages are higher and corporate profits slimmer, wealth is spread around a little more equally. Corporations are a little less powerful and the rest of us are a little more powerful.

There are problems with the system of employment and wage slavery that forces us to work at making other people rich so that we can make just enough to scrape by. Full employment is one direction out of this because it gives working people more power over the direction of society. As wages go up, working conditions improve and people have more creativity, choice and control in their jobs. For those who choose not to have jobs, benefits like UI & welfare are far better than in high unemployment societies, like B.C. So whether you want to have a job or not, we're all better off with full employment.

By JEFF SOMMERS



Rt. Hon. B. Mulroney
24 Sussex Drive
Ottawa, Ontario.

Dear Brian:

How about a raise in the "Baby Bonus"? How about an increase in Federal Equalization payments for us chronic welfare bums? How about subsidies to the cannabis growers so all of us may enjoy its salubrious effects inexpensively. Just a few suggestions you parsimonious S.O.B.

P.S. And don't forget the old age pensioners.

In the downtown area we have a lot of older people. These people do not always have family to go to. A simple hello or a few minutes of your time can make someone else's day. The day I found out that my mother had passed on, the staff, volunteers & patrons were very supportive. Because they put all pettiness aside and helped support a friend, I feel I am very fortunate to have a place like Carnegie to call home. My special thanks to Atiba, Donalda and Catriona.

Leona Blackwell

WINDSONG

Wind Song, take me with you
As far as we can soar
Thru the dreams of beauty
and song
Of the knighted raven & night owl
And the eagle's cry of day
And the falcon
of the rainbow
Thunder & Lightning
Suddenly stop and gives
Thy heart and soul
Wings to soar
Thru the heavens
Above the mountains
And the sea.

Miki

I must learn to trust myself
before I can trust others

I must learn to respect myself
before I can respect others

I must learn to love myself
before I can love others

I must learn to do many things
before I do unto others

Dreamweaver

My First Love

Everytime I see you,
I burst into tears
I still see you now
From time to time
Even though you're gone
and past
We made each and every
moment last
Like Magic.

The tears have fallen
And the pleasure & pain
& understanding
Have come to be
Now I long to be
With you another time
But the moments have
ceased
My heart has broken
And we each sought
a new love.

Miki

I really appreciate the beautiful jacket that I and other volunteers received at the Volunteer Dinner.

The food was spectacular and music by Natural Elements had me and others clapping and stomping!

We have our army of blue jackets - next time we go on a demonstration or a trip we will be so obviously united.

Thank you staff.

Sheila Baxter

Readers may know that I have been carrying on a one-man programme of going out to help Carnegie-area persons with problems they have been having with their TV sets.

This was a Carnegie-supported programme and I received coffee tickets, just as does any other volunteer, in accordance with the time I spent.

So far in the course of the program I was called in to look at and work on a total of 26 television sets. Of those, I was successful in bringing about improvement in 16 of them.

At the outset, I had published a letter in these pages saying that any one could do what technicians do in TV shops in 40% of the cases where sets come to their shops - make them work right by simply making adjustments to the controls at the front of the sets and those other controls that poke through little holes at the backs of the sets.

In fact, my first letter on the sub ject took the form of a short course in how to do it. More than one person expressed appreciation for those instructions and several told me they had kept their copy of that Newsletter for future reference when their TV set might act up.

In a letter in the last edition of the Newsletter, I stressed again how I am not a TV technician, how so many TV problems could be corrected by messing around with the available controls and I surely think I have been getting the idea across that very many TV problems can be correcte by the viewer. I think a lot of Newsletter readers have picked up on this and realized maybe they don't need highly paid technicians or even Eric Erickson. I think they are going to work on their TVs themselves. Without any doubt, many of them will be succeeding. That is very fine with me. I will rejoice no end if all the Downtown Eastsiders become able to do as much as is possible to keep their TVs happening without high-priced help.

In line with that goal, if the Newsletter editor permits, I'll offer lessons issue by issue on how-to-do-it with all those controls to get good reception.

First Lesson

Suppose your picture is too red ot too blue or too green. And you've tried without success to straighten it out by manipulating the Colour & Tint buttons at the front or under th front edge of your set.

Your first move is to turn off the Colour button or control on the front of your set. When all the colours are in balance, this will give you a grea B & W picture. If the picture you get is too red, go to the back of the set and a bit at a time, turn up the Blue Screen and Green Screen controls until you get a good B&W picture. If this makes your screen too bright and you can't correct it by means of the Brightness control, then turn down the Blue and Green Screen buttons to where they were before and then turn down the Red Screen. Remember always, turning up the Screen colour gives yo more brightness, more light. Trying to correct the colour balance by always turning them down will make your picture darker and dimmer.

More next Newsletter. My phone # is 253-5187. Call me if you want to.

By ERIC ERICKSON

Bad Morning on E. Hastings

Bottles, bottles everywhere
And I'm not quite in the pink.
Bottles, bottles everywhere
But not a drop to drink.

Bottles on the window sill.
Bottles in the sink.
Bottles, bottles everywhere,
But not a drop to drink.

Eric

LIGHT REFLECTIONS

INSIDE THE PRISM
I SEE
MYRIAD SHADES
OF BLUE, GREEN, VIOLET
OF SUPERIMPOSED SQUARES,
OBLIQUE ARCS,
A KALEIDOSCOPE
OF COLOURFUL
CHARACTERS:
POETS WAXING PHILOSOPHIC,
PHILOSOPHERS SPEWING POETRY
WITH CHRISTIAN INTOLERANCE,
CHAIRSIDE INVENTORS
TELLING STORIES,
FANATICS
DENOUNCING
AUTHORITY,
BY THEIR DEFIANCE
FEEDING ITS STRENGHT,
MYSELF
FORMING,
NOW SMOKY GREY
NOW BLACK....
DID THE PRISM DISAPPEAR
OR DID I?

Joanne Hamen

on writing a poem

solitude
i seek first
to be
alone

reflections
into a misty
long forgotten
dream...

exploration into
forbidden places
faded now
beneath ethereal webs of
dust and shadow

music
a key to unlocking
mysteries and secrets
inducing moods and
inspirations
images echoing
in
my mind

creating a flow of
impressions
interpreting images
out of the ethers of
thought
alive and pulsating
impassioned in
remembrance

Crysta-Bell

Someone's Baby

He opened the Smithrite
Looking for food or whatever
Shaking with the early morning chill
Clothes - damp - cheap - soiled
The smell of the glue he sniffed
to kill the pain - The glue
Was all around him.
that fried his brain.

Once he was a baby boy who
Came out of his mothers womb
Into the world and the light
Wrapped in a blanket bathed and fed
Sweet little baby boy
What happened to you
How many other babies
Will one day search for food
and fry their brains with glue
- and why.....

Sheila Baxter

NATIONAL CITIZENSHIP WEEK

Statement by Margaret Mitchell, M.P.

Every year at this time we celebrate National Citizenship Week. This year especially we recognize the trouble and turmoil people of many countries must live with everyday and we appreciate the relative stability and progressiveness of our own country. As we work for a renewed Canada we should think about what being Canadian really means and the kind of society we want in the future.

For me, being Canadian isn't simply owning a Canadian citizenship or birth certificate, although these confer a legal status. Many new immigrants who chose to come to Canada and are not yet citizens are no less Canadian than the rest of us. They work hard to adapt and contribute to their new country raising children and grandchildren as future Canadians. I am saddened that many older women are afraid to apply for citizenship because of language or literacy barriers.

Being Canadian isn't an exclusive privilege of a dominant group. Since the beginning, Canada has been a pluralistic society. Aboriginal people have their own culture and traditions which are an important contribution to the Canadian heritage. Immigrants from all over the world brought along their distinctive appearances and unique ways of life to enrich our cultural mosaic. We are proud to be a microcosm of the global community where people of all backgrounds live together in a generally peaceful manner.

Although the physical differences amongst Canadians are obvious, what is more important is that we share similiar values and a similiar vision for Canada. We all believe in and value the basic principles of democracy, justice and human rights which form the pillars of our society. We want a fair and just society free of poverty, hunger and violence where everyone, including women and other disadvantaged groups, can have equal opportunities to develop to their full potential. We want a clean, healthy environment for our children and a peaceful world for ourselves and for others around the world.

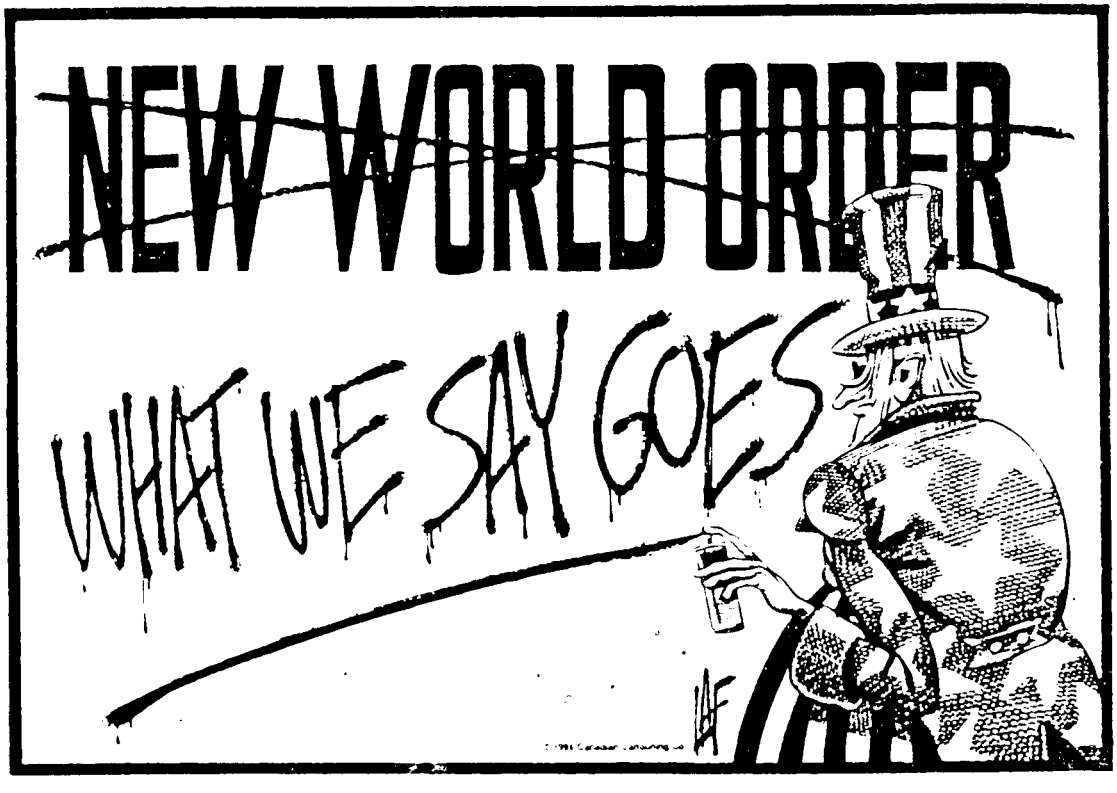
However, we cannot deny that we are a long way from achieving our goals. Many problems that have been around for years are still with us including unemployment, pollution and violence. At the same time new problems are arising which require immediate attention. The treatment of aboriginal people remains a national disgrace. Their situation has not significantly improved. Francophone Canadians feel that their culture is threatened and their rights are slipping away. Visible minorities are still struggling to be equal participants in Canada where recism is on the increase. Their struggle is hampered by the lack of government action to fight racism. Women continue to be the victims of violence and the abilities of disabled people are frequently undermined. During these difficult times, it is easy for us to blame others who seem to be better off for our problems.

Recently NDP leader Audrey McLaughlin stated the following seven principles which we believe are fundamental to a renewed and united Canada where citizens have equal rights and opportunities:

1. full employment and elimination of poverty;
2. a commitment to international peace through common security;
3. aboriginal self government;
4. recognition of two official languages and diverse cultures;
5. a unique Quebec based on self determination;
6. advancement of women and minorities;
7. truly democratic institution.

Canadian citizenship in the future will have a deeper meaning as we work together to achieve these goals.

Save this pamphlet Think about it Give it to a friend

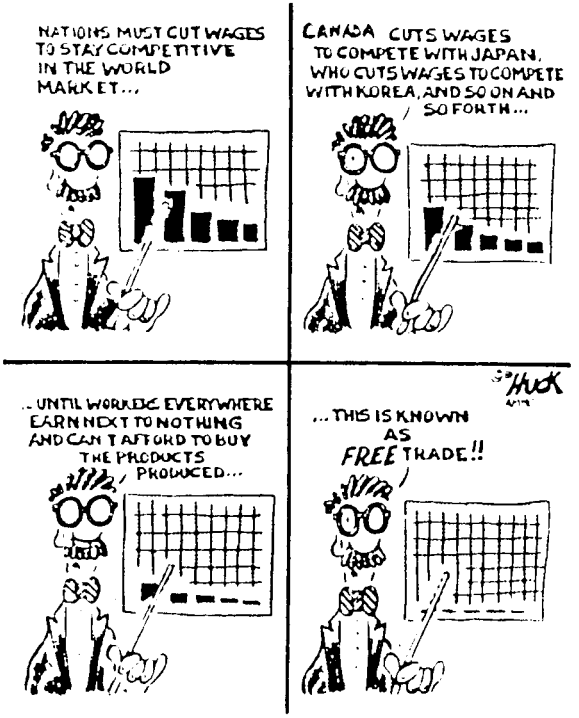


Free trade--a key part of the New World Order

George Bush, Brian Mulroney, and Caros Salinas are working for a new world order. In their vision, transnational corporations should have more rights. Corporations should have the right to move to any country where labour is cheap, taxes are low and pollution regulations are lax or non-existant. In the Bush/Mulroney vision corporations, accountable to shareholders, will be "free" to make crucial decisions about job creation, production of food and housing, wages, investment, the environment, culture, and social programs. Free trade is a key part of this New World Order.

Free trade--more lost jobs

Over 200,000 Canadian jobs have already been lost because of free trade with the U. S. Many of these jobs have moved to low wage U. S. states, and even to Mexico.



Free trade--more low wages

We know in our guts that Canadian workers, with a minimum wage of $5 **an hour**, cannot compete with Mexican workers who often get less than $5 **a day**. Canadian workers are already being told to accept lower wages so their employers can compete.

Free trade--more trashed social programs

Already, the Mulroney government has leveled Canada's Unemployment Insurance down towards the U. S. standard. With Bill C-69, the Tories have started a process that will effectively end family allowances, old age pensions, and universal medicare unless we elect another government to repeal this law.

Free trade--more corporate control of the environment

Free trade lets corporations move to countries where there are virtually no environmental standards. This helps polluting corporations produce cheaper products and undercut responsible companies. Part of free trade negotiations involves harmonizing environmental standards down to the lowest common denominator.

Knocking 'em Dead

Hey, it's SHOWTIME in the Theatre of War!
The one sure time the poor get free tickets
- even though they'd never asked -
and the rich are devastated if the poor don't come.
Bush is holding a super big blow-out,
no expense spared; This show costs Canada
alone, ninety million bucks a month!
It's got everything - thrills, spills,
and all the body bags you can grab
before the bell rings, you lucky, lucky people!
And here, straight from his star wars programme,
at great personal sacrifice, comes superstar George Bush,
your kinder, gentler ventriloquist
with his dummy Brian Mulroney. Yehhhh!
And George and Brian will open with their theme song,
the number one hit in the Gulf.
Take it away, Brian and George!

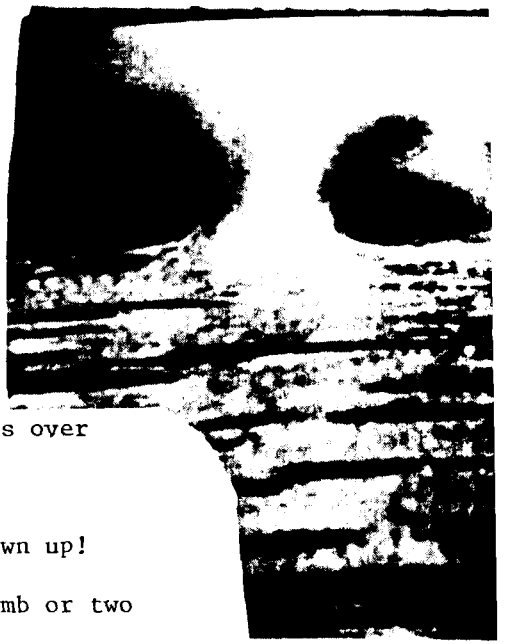
GEORGE AND BRIAN (to When Irish Eyes Are Smiling)
This gulf war is conducted,
for the highest principle -
yes, the whopping principle and interest
on American oil shares ...
Come on now, everyone, join in the song and dance,
- keep those arms and legs flying -
(off, that is ....)

BRIAN: Gotta hand it to you, George - when this war's over
there's going to be a bonanza of contracts!
GEORGE: I think I thought of everything.
All those roads that'll need rebuilding!
All those houses blown down! All those hospitals blown up!
Not to mention prothesis firms having a ball
fitting false limbs to all those Iraquis missing a limb or two
and to our own boys and girls too, Brian -
BRIAN: And don't forget free trade, George - gee, George,
I could kick myself!
Why didn't think of this war earlier!
I did promise Canadians jobs, jobs, jobs
and now they can't call me lyin' Brian anymore
because after this war, we're gonna have full employment!

GEORGE AND BRIAN: With a hey and a ho and a hey nonny no -
a war in the gulf is the way to go,
With a hey and a hum and a bloody big gun
ecibinuc sabctions ain't half as much fun
as blowing Iraqui children to Kingdom Come

GEORGE: Gee, it's too bad, Brian,
all the best parties gotta end sometime
and someone has to pay the piper.
BRIAN: Don't worry, George, Canada is a democracy
where everybody shares equally.

Now, you and I have alrea
because we set this war u
GEORGE: Yes, we've sacri
so now we'll pass the tab
to the unemployed and tho
and cut their payments re
giving them the opportuni
of contributing to this g
There's so darn many of t
that we'll raise that mon



ly done our bit
) -
ficed already, Brian -

se people on welfare
al good, thus
ty
reat country of ours.
hem, George,
ey in no time at all!

GEORGE AND BRIAN: Oh, do your welfare mums keep low,
can you swing them to and fro?
Can you tie 'em in a knot,
Can you tie 'em in a bow?
Can you throw them over your shoulder
the way you did their welfare folder -
do your welfare mums keep low?

GEORGE: Say, Brian, do you know why the Iraqui crossed the road?
BRIAN: I don't know, George, why did the Iraqui cross the road?
GEORGE: Why, Brian, 'cos he was chicken
and didn't want to get fried!! Hoo hoo hoo -
BRIAN: Hoo, hoo, hoo - Oh, George - gee - you kill me -
GEORGE: Er - oo - don't say that, Brian, don't say that ....
BRIAN: Gee, George, I've had such a great time,
I just hate having it all come to an end,
and Big Business especially has been such a great audience
and we've had such wonderful reviews, haven't we, George,
just wonderful - all those beautiful supportive editorials in the Globe & Mail and the Vancouver Sun and on radio & television -
GEORGE: We sure have, Brian, and that was a great idea of yours
to change the slogan "Support Big Business in the Gulf"
to "Support <u>your troops</u> in the Gulf!"
Couldn't have done it better myself,
And I won't forget this, Brian, when the time comes
for those Mexico free trade talks -
I'm making a personal commitment right here, boy,
that your industries can move straight down to Mexico
and those heart-warming wages of three dollars a day -
and none of this environmental protection rubbish, Brian -
BRIAN: Oh George, that's so beautiful - gee,
it sort of gets me right here -
I feel I should make a reciprocal gesture
like cutting Medicare or something -
GEORGE: Sure, Brian, I got a favourite gesture right here!
(Makes the Nazi salute)
BRIAN: Er - gee, George - maybe not <u>that</u> gesture -
GEORGE: Oh! Oh, sorry, sorta force of habit ... there!
(places hand on heart)
BRIAN: That's better! Now how about a final chorus
for the nice folks -
George, gee, that hand on the heart stuff,
it makes you look so good - sort of - holy -
GEORGE: "Well, this <u>is</u> a holy war, Brian! Okay, pal,
that's a good note to end on ...

GEORGE AND BRIAN: (last bars of <u>When Irish Eyes Are Smiling</u>)
Oh, Big Business is so happy
and the generals us do thank
and this is a ho-ly war-ar
because profits are sacrosanct!

Dusty

Free trade--more power for corporations

Free trade gives corporations more rights like these:
*the right to take profits and dividends out of a country;
*the right to bid on Government contracts of other countries and create jobs outside of Canada with taxpayers money;
*the right to buy energy even if we need to conserve it;
*the right to take over more and more Canadian companies;
*the right to dominate Canadian culture;
*the right to keep governments from providing universal public programs like daycare or auto insurance.

Free trade--an end to effective democracy

In a democracy, politicians who make decisions are accountable to the people who are affected by the decisions. With free trade, multinational corporations will make most of the decisions that affect people's livelihood and environnment. They will make decisions on all the things listed above and more. Corporations are accountable to shareholders who want profits, not to the people affected by their decisions.

Free trade--a chance to unite people to work for a just and democratic society

Canadian polls show that most of us don't like the free trade deal with the U. S. and don't support a deal with Mexico. The Action Canada Network (formerly Pro Canada Network) is uniting groups representing over 10 million Canadians to stop these deals and to work for a society of social and economic justice and democracy.

In B. C. the Coalition Against "Free" Trade is working to educate people about the trade deal with Mexico and to stop the deal. CAFT also wants to start the process of naming constructive alternatives to free trade. For example, we want trade deals only when they:

*improve the living standards of all workers in all countries;
*set strong environmental protection standards;
*ensure that democratically elected governments can develop policies and programs which meet the needs of their citizens;
*protect human rights.

Printed by a non profit group

You can find out more:

* Get a copy of **Que Pasa**, the most up-to-date information on how free trade with Mexico will affect people in B. C. Call Jim Sinclair at 255-1336 or Jean at 879-1209.

* Subscribe to the **Action Canada Dossier**. It's up to date information on the work in Canada to stop the free trade deals and to build a future shaped by people, not profits. Write to Action Canada Dossier, 251 Laurier Ave. West, Suite 904, Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5J6. Subscriptions are $20 for individuals.

* Borrow a copy of **Dirty Business**, a video about Mexican wages, working conditions and environmental pollution. Call Jef Keighley at 522-7911. Show the video at a meeting of friends, your union, church, or group.

* Get a copy of **"We can say no" and "Fighting Back"**, two hard hitting, lively videos about the trade deal and what you can do. Available in May. Call Jef at 522-7911 or Jean at 879-1209.
7:30 pm.

* Buy a ticket for a night of entertainment and information with a speaker from Mexico, Utah Phillips, and others. Call Mayworks at 324-8821 for tickets.

You can get involved:

* Get the Coalition Against "Free" Trade's **Proclamation** on the trade deals with the U. S. and Mexico. Get your church, union, or group to pass the proclamation. Organize an event to use it. Call Jean at 879-1209 for your copy. Available by May 1st.

* Come to a **rally and short march on June 1st at the Trade and Convention Centre,** foot of Howe St. at noon. The Coalition Against Free Trade will post our proclamation against the trade deal.

Produced by the Coalition Against "Free" Trade, #211 456 W. Broadway, Vancouver, B. C. V5Y 1R3. Phone 879-1209/875-1769.

DEAR ABBY: I am an ordinary guy and a corporate accountant. A major part of my job is hearing complaints from employees who perceive that errors were made in the area of accounting.

More and more, as I listen to these complainers, I fantasize smashing them with my fists, knocking them to the ground and stomping them to death.

Of course I would never do such a thing in real life, but I enjoy these daydreams so much, I'm becoming concerned about my mental health.

Am I in trouble?

CONCERNED

5175777

GAIN

NOT NEGOTIABLE AFTER SIXTY DAYS

NOT NEGOTIABLE OVER TWO THOUSAND DOLLARS

V
0004

380517 B16 2 022425

ISSUE DATE 0311 24/04/91

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR WORK? YES NO . CAN YOU PROVIDE PROOF? YES_ NO_

NAME

SUPPORT	SHELTER	COMFORT	DIET / NATAL
200.00	268.20		
INCENTIVE	OTHER	DEDUCTIONS	TOTAL CHEQUE
		255.00	213.20

380517 B16104

RATIONE THE UNDERSIGNED, STATE THAT I AM THE APPLICANT AND THE STATEMENTS I HAVE MADE ARE TRUE. I HEREBY GIVE MY P E MINISTRY OF SOCIAL SERVICES AND HOUSING TO VERIFY OR CONFIRM WITH ANY SOURCE THE CORRECTNESS AND ACCURAC MATION CONTAINED IN THIS APPLICATION AND I CONSENT TO A REPORT BEING OBTAINED FROM ANY REPORTING AGENCY FOR THAT PURPOSE

CONCISE OXFORD DICTIONARY:

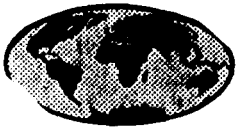
Poor: 1. Not having means to procure comforts or necessitys of life(poor in spirit), ill supplied, deficient (in a possession or quality)(of soil) unproductive.
2. Scanty, inadequate, less or less good than is expected (the crop was poor; had a poor night; is a poor driver; in poor spirits)paltry, sorry (that is a poor consolation); it is a poor look-out if that happens) spiritless, despicable; (he is a poor creature) humble; insignificant (often ironic or jocular; in my poor opinion) take a poor view of; regard with disfavour or pessimism.
3. (Expressing pity or sympathy) unfortunate, hapless, (poor fellow; the poor child is unconsolable).
4. Poor box; money box, especially in church for relief of the poor; poorhouse (historical) workhouse; poor law (historical) law relating to support of paupers; poor man's, inferior, or cheaper substitute for (cabbage, etc.) poor rate (historical) rate or assessment for relief or support of the poor. Poor relation: (figurative) inferior or subordinate member of the group; poor spirited, timid, cowardly; poor white (especially of negroes - derogatory) member of socially inferior group of white people.
Middle English & Old French: pov(e)re, poure; Latin: pauper.

Poorly: 1. Scantily, defectively, with no great success, meanly, contemptible.
2. Unwell;(He is looking poorly)

Poorness: Defectiveness; lack of some good quality.

Poverty: Being poor, indigence, want, (ecclesiastic) renunciation of right to individual ownership of property; scarcity, deficiency, inferiority, poorness, meanness; Poverty line: minimum income level needed to get the necessities of life; Poverty stricken: poor (literal or figurative) a poverty-stricken language.

Oh, you poor "thing"



Poverty is not as simple & one-dimensional as those who wage "war on poverty" believe it is. The image of poverty offered by politics & the media is far from being the whole truth. Self-appointed "experts" on poverty decry the "evils" of it - but the middle class value of "more is better" - the idea that money is the magic remedy to all problems, & that, deep down, all 'poor' people must cling to the same values & economic ambitions as those who talk about "helping" them, is largely untrue.

Although there is much talk about helping the poor by increasing their income, this never happens. As we all know, the purchasing power of subsistence incomes decreases year by year, & the "authorities" on poverty continue to pile on horror storys about how degrading & evil the condition of not having enough money is.

They offer instead of money - "services"

which they say will help alleviate the suffering of "the poor". In order to obtain such "services" those who "suffer" from a lack of money must show some interest in finding a job, adopting middle-class values, or at least say they are try-ing to "clean up their act."

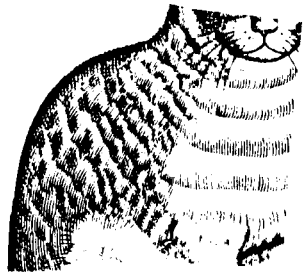
Most of the people who go this route don't really believe in it - they are just telling the well-heeled bureaucrat what they know he wants to hear in order to gain temporarily a little of the "help" he says they are entitled to. In order for "services" to kick in, they know they must demonstrate a desire to join programs, attend classes, follow the directions of doctors, health nurses, psychiatric teams,

probation officers, etc. who are all trying to convert them to middle-class values. Poor people also know that the salarys of these "service" professionals are enormous by their standards - and so their cynicism is honest.

Because most "poor" people seem to lack the ambition necessary to "promote" themselves - to dress in clean, fashionable clothes, present resumes, & adopt the language & mannerisms of "success"...that is because they lack the ambition to misrepresent themselves, & deny the facts of their experience, their value as human beings diminishes in the eyes of those who are paid to "help" them... If natural human values were applied to such a situation, those who were honest enough to refuse the socially acceptable lie, should be rewarded for demonstrating a level of truthfulness that is difficult to achieve & unfortunately rare in humans today.

Those who refuse the lie are instead stigmatized & frozen on "guaranteed fixed" incomes & grudgingly afforded the few essential "services" that might be necessary during life-threatening emergencys.

Much more may be said about the "war" being waged on poverty in this fashion by "service professionals" who are hired to



convert the poor, & "save" them from the personal integrity they have developed out of rough experience, but space is limited, & to understand the real facts of poverty (as opposed to the politically expedient image) we must spend some time exploring the more difficult psychological & ethical factors involved.

In a society that rewards conformity to well-established economic values, "poor" people are the ultimate non-conformists. To say that they are "trapped" in failure, "suffer" from low self-esteem, or suggest that their values are "perverted" simply because they refuse to follow the dominant theme of society, reveals a self-righteous sadism that permeates the attitude of so-called "helpers".

Negative moods, - low self-esteem, depression & despair, are no more prevalent among the poor than they are among the rich. They are just less well-hidden. I have lived the middle-class life & the life of poverty, & I can tell you that among the economically secure, just as much craziness, despair & depression exists as among the poor & I think it's fair to assume, from what we see reported in the media about the antics of the very rich, that they are just as screwed-up as any other class.

So where does this leave the "war on poverty"? - in much the same state as the "war on drugs" or the "war on hunger" or the "war on pollution"... These are not real undertakings - but convenient slogans & images that divert altruistic intentions into well-paid comfortable positions. These jobs create the paperwork that adds an official "reality" to the image, & documented "experts" achieve profitable employment.

As the "war on poverty" claims success, poverty increases & is less well understood. As the "war on drugs" continues, hard drugs become more & more available. As the "war on hunger" progresses, famines & refugee camps proliferate. As the "war on pollution" justifys itself, enormous & catastrophic poisonings of the environment go on.

There is, perhaps, underlying the image of poverty as "failed humanity", a deep & abiding fear of the truths that have been discovered by those who have learned to survive without the elaborate material supports society deems so necessary.

Definition: Middle Class Values

Philosophys & rationalizations maintained for the purpose of supporting economic security, adding to that security, and avoiding economic loss.

Human beings, of whatever stripe, are afraid of change. They cling desperately to what they have, & seek to add more of the same.

They claim to understand that "more is less", then turn around & use it as a slogan to sell compact cars.

The lessons of poverty, which today are probably the most important lessons in the world, go unlearned & unrecognized, because so many "well-intentioned" individuals have accumulated so much social respect & economic benefit from their professional socialism that to reveal the inadequacys of their superficial approach would rock the boat. Their carefully crafted image of "poor" people would be knocked overboard, & drown in a sea of truth.

Undeniably, lack of money in a society that worships the stuff makes life a hell of a lot more difficult - but the terrible twists & turns of psychological thumbscrews - the inhuman & excruciatingly subtle social stigmata that abound everywhere, behind the scenes of this game of "helping" the poor, are far more destructive & everlasting than a mere lack of money.

The "poor" are proud of their lifetimes - as well they should be, & to characterize them as grovelling in the dirt for handouts or forcing them to pretend to believe in the questionable benefits of jobs & education just to get a bus pass, is perpetuating lies & stupiditys that continue to maintain an insidious place in our history... We are responsible, & only in full experience & understanding of what we are dealing with, is there any hope for meaningful change.

TORA

"The first gold star a child gets in school for the mere performance of a needful task is its first lesson in graft."

"...goods add little real ease to life & the total worship of goods, in the end, takes away all peace & security. In a world that is engaged in the reckless rush for mass-produced material objects - whatever the form of government - there will be no security because security comes from man's trust of man - man's confidence in man - & the mills cannot manufacture it & the State cannot guarantee it. Only each man, working within himself to the best of his ability, can create temporal security.

...so long as the few basic hungers in man are contented, more goods cannot add anything to that security."

PHILIP WYLIE

Generation of Vipers (1942)

MY LIFE AS AN ELEPHANT BREEDER

We started the ranch up in the early summer of 1947. By mid-summer all our horses up & died from sunstroke. So we looked for a hardier breed of animal to stock the square with.

Fiddle Sticks was our first mature female elephant, and she was a real pain in the britches until we took on a rogue stud by the name of Dandy who seemed to prefer getting it on with the fence post more than he did Fiddle Sticks, who became so hostile that she ran Dandy off the place & we ain't seen him since.

So, we modernized and went into artificial insemination, which has nothing to do with replacing Palestinians. No, it means grabbing a plastic balloon-like vial and delivering it to the inner regions of Fiddle Stick's private concerns.

Well, Sir, from that humiliating experience came the huge herd we have today, which is some of the finest stock this side of Necerverolia.

So me & Lucricia, that's my old gal, are sitting pretty high on the pile, especially since the elephant selling market hasn't always been that hot a commodity.

So me & Lu, that's my old gal again, have decided to sell shares in the herd at 250 Kopics per.

If you got any interest in getting in on this deal, write me,

HUSKY SMITHRITE,
c/o The Premiers Office,
New Old South Liverpool,
Northern Songs,
Africa. 401 DSJ

GRAND FORKS

Father, Brothers, I remain and you go
to the broad, open valley where the
Kettle & Granby rivers meet.
Where the summers are drenched in
sunshine, and down valley breezes
cool the night.
The breathing air is peerless I hear,
and the winter is of good character.
If I had half your courage, I'd come
with you now. But I'll build for the
day when I make my escape to my
pioneers near Grand Forks.

DEside Joe

Symbols are only the masks
That I see life through
Then I must drop the masks
To see life.

Dreamweaver

untitled

the smoke of pot is just a kick
a hit of acid's a mind trick
the boost of heroin, a bodily harm
But love is life's most favoured charm.

P.H.

A MAZE

reflect the arc of a rainbow;s intrigue
how dazzling that pot of gold may seem
whenever you reach for the sky
and floating worlds may pass you by
you may begin to wonder why
Even daydreams soon become real life
I too reflect the same insight.

P.H.

CENSUS • 1991 • RECENSEMENT

JUNE 4 JUIN

Count Yourself In!

Soyez du nombre !

CENSUS DAY • RECENSEMENT

Statistics Canada | Statistique Canada

Canada

Red-Faced

1. The Newscaster's
   contrite voice

   A tone so...
   not here
   we're O.K.
   It's not so bad
   as some may say

   Oh!
   tread carefully...

   Dirt is my God
   Blue Eagle says

   with stretched palm
   I will go back to my God

   the voice proclaiming
   the importance of...
   business investments
   stocks
   bonds

   red-neck
   where only the sun can touch

   from a formed prison

   read red

2. Red round Angora Mother
   behind 19 coats of lacquer over wood
   telling me of the world's finest
   engineered ovens
   delight and design

   looks plastic

   pregnant
   round and red
   fine and fuzzy
   marble granite plastic countertops
   reflected in 19 coats of lacquer over wood

   shine to blind

3. Red face
   eyes through self
   right
   red-neck
   horror we might be all so familiar
   fear so fundamental
   nasty alligator
   snapping and yawning at intervals
   rolling over; itching to belong

4. Red
   skin
   making
   the lone
   fight

   to belong
   go to plays
   fix teeth

   Red
   face
   Red
   skin
   making
   the lone
   fight

5. Fury
   a red funnel
   swirling
   blowing
   random
   picking a path to smash

   So close and never touch
   Hang on there's one
   them, they

   Fury
   directed to them
   gathering momentum
   sucking more air
   those so low as to rise up
   through the fury of the red funnel

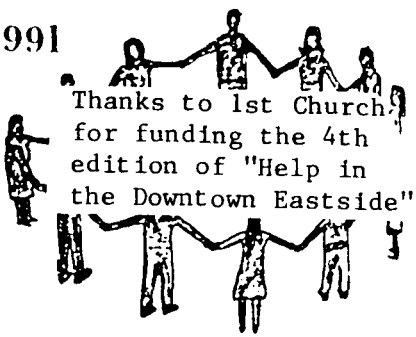
Marilyn Seelye

In Alberta the Aryan Nations demonstrated in Provost. They advocate genocide, attacked a female reporter and shot guns in the air. Phil Frazer, Alberta's Human Rights Commissioner, said there was nothing he could do about the incident. At the same time at the Oldman Dam diversion site Milton Born With A Tooth, a lonefighter protesting the dam, shot 2 shots in the air when the R.C.M.P. came on his land. Milton was jailed 4 months and denied bail before his trial. He has now been charged and given a sentence of 18 months. Milton does not advocate genocide.

This is racism in the justice system, institutionalized racism.

HELP in the DOWNTOWN EASTSIDE

MAY 1991 *4*



FREE OR LOW COST GOODS	1.
SHELTER & HOUSING	3.
HEALTH SERVICES	4.
COUNSELLING, SUPPORT, INFO	6.
LEGAL SERVICES	8.
ADVOCACY RESOURCE LIST	8.
SOCIAL, DROP-IN, RECREATION	10.
YOUTH SERVICES	11, 12.
OTHER SERVICES	13.

CARNEGIE NEWSLETTER
665-2289
FREE - donations accepted.

RE: EXCESSIVE ABSENCES

Due to the excessive number of absences from work, the following rules and procedures will be put into effect immediately.

Sickness: No excuse. We no longer accept your doctor's statement as proof, as we believe that if you are able to go to the doctor, you are able to go to work.

Death (other than your own): There is nothing you can do for them, and we are sure that someone else with a lesser position can attend to the arrangements. However, we will be glad to let you off an hour earlier if the funereal can be held in the late afternoon, provided you can come in a half hour earlier, work through your luch period and skip both coffee breaks.

Leave of Absence (for an operation): We are no longer allowing this practice. We wish to discourage any thought that you may need an operation as we believe that as long as you are an employee here, you will need all of whatever you have and you should not consider having anything removed. Also, we hired you as you are, and to have anything removed would certainly make you less than we bargained for.

Death (your own): This will be accepted as an excuse, but we would like two weeks notice as we feel it is your duty ti teach someone else your job.

Also Entirely too much time is being spent in the restrooms and, in future, we will follow the practice of going in alphabetical order. For instance - 'A' will go from 8:15 to 8:30 and those whose names begin with 'B' will go from 8:30 to 8:45 and so on. If you are unable to go at your appointed time, it will be necessary to wait until the next day when your time comes around again.

The full co-operation of the staff in these matters would be appreciated.

Modern sex: balancing freedom and fidelity

'Sex that is not an evidence of a strong human tie is just like blowing your nose; it's not a celebration of a splendid relationship.'

— Robertson Davies

DOWNTOWN	STD CLINIC - Monday thru Friday, 9am - 5pm.
EASTSIDE	FREE MEDICAL CLINIC - Mon., Wed. & Fri. 5:30-7:30
YOUTH	NEEDLE EXCHANGE - 221 Main , every day, 9am - 5pm.
ACTIVITIES	Needle exchange van - on the street Mon - Sat evening.
SOCIETY	N.A. meetings every Monday evening at 223 Main Street.

Narcotics Anonymous (NA) meets at Dugout, 57 Powell, 7:30 Fri.

1991 DONATIONS:

Oly(Sven) -$20
Mendel R.-$15
Heather M.-$15
Herman L.-$10
Cecille C.-$10
Sandy C.-$20
Terry T.-$200
Brenda - $5
Janet B.-$20
Lillian H.-$20
Charley B.-$30
Cement Masons -$175
Marilyn S.-$36
Darren L.-$50
Forest Lawn -$20
Etienne S.-$20
Nancy W.-$75
Art VL -$5
Vishva A.-$15
Ellen -$5
Sue H.-$50

Next Issue's submission DEADLINE
12 May (Sunday)

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.

at CARNEGIE bingo 6:30 Wed.

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 17 YEARS.

CARNEGIE —

MAY DAY

'WORKERS DAY'

MAY 5th

7:30pm

WRITINGS

POEMS

MUSIC

Invited Guests

Open MIKE

LOW WAGES?
Unemployment?
LOW MIN WAGE?
NO DAYCARE!

401 MAIN ST

INF: VIOLA – SHEILA BAXTER
401 MAIN ST
665.2220