

FREE - donations accepted.

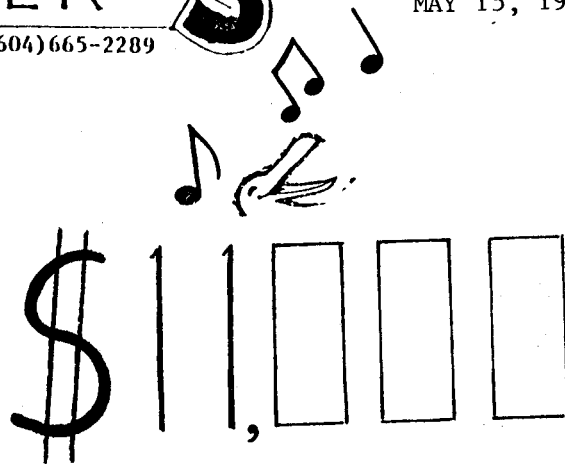
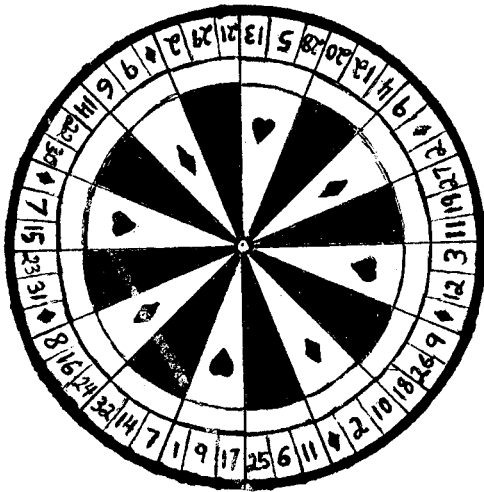
# Carnegie

## NEWSLETTER



MAY 15, 1992.

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



### The Spin Of The Wheel

We learned a lot about roulette & blackjack, we had some fun being together - and we made money for Carnegie so we can get a van this summer.

I'm talking about the Casino that was held the weekend of April 24 & 25 at the Mandarin Centre at Main & Hastings.

We weren't playing at the Casino. We were running it, as a fund-raising event. It was our first Casino. We earned about a total of \$11,000 for the 2 nights. With that money we can lease a van that can take Carnegie & Oppenheimer Park people on outings.

And one of the best things about it is that virtually all the money came from outside of Carnegie. No Carnegie people had to spend any of their own money. This is the best kind of fund-raising for us, because we are not taxing ourselves to pay for our programs.

Thanks to the dedicated crew of volunteers who made it possible: Ed Buhr, Vicki Dutcher, Barb Gudmundson, Garry Gust, Brian Hetherington. Wayne Kelland, Donald MacPherson, Irene Schmidt, Jeff Sommers, Paul Taylor and Bob the Chilimaster.

We're planning on holding another Casino but the way licences go it will probably be later this year or early next year.

Speaking of fund-raising, the new Garden Bingo is now underway at the PNE. It's open noon to midnight, seven days a week & has all bright new equipment. Proceeds go to benefit Carnegie programs - & like the Casino, we don't have to raise the money from inside Carnegie.

It's volunteers who make it possible there too. Our regular volunteers include Ed Buhr, Barb Gray, Abby Kizner, Claude Mortimer, George Nicholas & Irene Schmidt.

By MUGGS SIGURGEIRSON

## WE ARE NOT ALONE!

"This is what I feel needs to happen to succeed - an overall concern for your constituents' Health & Safety.

"All the agencies & support groups need to network..to work in conjunction with each other & not just make referrals. Why? Why have lots of minorities when we could have one majority..we all have one focus.

"There's a terrible information gap; you need to come to the community & talk at our level (informally, please). Being just & overall shows real concern for us.

"Funding needs to go to people who have direct experience & are already talking at our level. I myself feel I have already started networking - phone me for a place and time of any community self-help support group meeting. Would you welcome our ideas rather than having too narrow a definition of what is a valuable activity?

"Also, could you directly ask the Minister of Social Services for me that, while I'm on the Family Social Service Assistance, can I have a social worker along with my financial aid?"

- Kathy

Dear Paul,

This piece (above) is the conclusion of a presentation to Calgary Mayor Al Duerr at a Town Hall meeting on the subject of violence against women. It was presented by a woman with small children from Forest Lawn. In Alberta it is rare to have a social worker.

Yesterday (April 14th) the Tory Budget said "single employables will have a more arduous time in getting social assistance" Before budget the Calgary Poverty Focus Group already has two members completely without income. Obviously this is a moral & human crime. Clearly Tories are not cognizant of our international commitments to social & economic rights. Are they the ones who are illiterate?

In this budget there is no recognition of the loss of programs for upgrading, skill training, stresses on English as a Second Language programs, post-secondary

## KEEP MEDICARE HEALTHY IT MIGHT NOT BE THERE WHEN YOU NEED IT

All of us are concerned about our health. We know that the health care system is there when we need it & we want to keep it that way.

We want the five principles of medicare - universality, accessibility, comprehensiveness, portability & public administration - left intact & strengthened.

We want federal funding levels restored. But we also want to work together to make the system even more effective.

We want provincial governments to abandon user fees & other unfair ways of paying for health care. We must start exploring workable alternatives that don't threaten our health.

To keep medicare healthy, we need to:

1. Stop the fee-for-service treadmill.
2. Give non-physician staff a larger role in patient care.
3. Eliminate health care for profit.
4. Elect hospital boards & democratize health care institutions.
5. Reduce dependency on prescription drugs & make them more affordable.
6. Guarantee that health care is of the highest quality, whether it's provided in the home, community or hospital.
7. Encourage preventive care.

We need medicare. The wealthy are fine under a user-pay scheme, but what about average income earners, the elderly & poor? Medicare is a sacred trust, the most important component of our social safety net. It makes us a unique country. Help us save it and make it better for everyone!



**Coalition to  
Keep Medicare Healthy**

education or the high unemployment rate.

At this rate one could expect the Tories to be without income having an "arduous time", without friends, family or support.

Marilyn Seelye

"I'd burn down the building but I've too much respect for the kids."

"I can't make any money. They're ruining my business."

"The downtown eastside needs more good cops."

"We were here before they were."

"Son of a bitch, eh?"

"What kind of a mother are you? Hooking!"

"It's a bust!"

"She should know better. She's an ex-hooker and a junkie."

It's Saturday, 12:15 am, May 9th, and this is what people are saying near 321 Princess Street, an affordable housing apartment block.

A group of up to nine citizens are singing & laughing, "Jesus loves me, this I know."

A picket sign reads: NO DRUGS NO JOHNS  
Licence plates are called.

Flashlights are shining.

A shopping cart is deliberately overturned in the alley between Cordova & Hastings, west of Princess. A van drives into the cart, pushing it into the street.

A woman is standing across the street near Union Gospel Mission. Six people swarm upon her, saying "Keep moving. Tell her to keep moving." Fingers are pointed at her. She states, "I've got kids to support." One of the group

says, "So do I." She is then rushed south of Princess and Hastings.

A ghost car is in the alley. A civilian car tries to pass. It backs up, goes south on Princess to Hastings, heads west and the ghost car is in pursuit.

Finally, one person says that Union Gospel Mission just wants those who are on a drug rehabilitation program not to be enticed with drugs.

By ANITA STEVENS

## JUST A REMINDER

3.

Remember OKA!

Remember Rodney King.

It could happen here.

It did happen already.

Remember Oka!

Kanada should hang its head.

World leader in other people's politics.

World leader in hypocrisy

Hiding its cancer behind false bravado.

Mulroney should keep his big nose

out of the USA

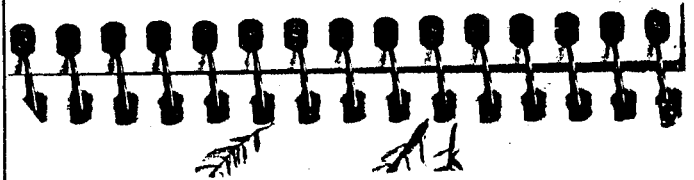
Mulroney knows where to put his nose!

Where are you? Reagan?

Take Heart Kanada.

It's the Mila Reagan Mulroney Hour!

Al M.



## What is Normal?

It is normal for brutal cops to nearly murder Rodney King.

It is normal for Canada's Army or any country's army to legally murder innocent people.

It is normal for politicians to lie.

It is normal when somebody asks "How are you?" to say "fine" when you really are in a bad way.

It is normal to criticize the poor and oppressed.

It is normal to assume that everybody who is hassled by cops has done something wrong or bad.

It is all normal until you feel the oppressor's club on your own body...

Brian Wagget

Dear Mr. Taylor,

Thank you for your recent letter supporting the brief by Mr. Ian Kelsey, Chairperson, Vancouver School Board, regarding the needs of children in the inner city.

The health & education of BC's children will always be of paramount importance to our government. At the same time the gov't must be prudent in balancing its many responsibilities to the voters & taxpayers.

As you know, we have inherited an extremely difficult financial situation from the previous administration. I want to assure you that this gov't is firmly dedicated to fiscal responsibility & to an honest & open public process. The elimination of wasteful spending & the achievement of maximum value for the taxpayer's dollar is a long-term task, one which we take very seriously. However, despite our commitment to efficiency & frugality, we have pledged to maintain vital public services in the areas of health care, social programs & education.

You may be interested to know that education spending in this year's budget has increased by almost \$300 million to a total of \$3.6 billion. This represents an increase of 9.1% - enough to fund projected cost increases & population pressures.

Again, thank you for writing. I appreciate hearing from you.

Mike Harcourt

#### Christianity and Abortion

This is in response to the article in the May newsletter. I am deeply concerned about the misunderstandings about the Christian view and would like to clarify some of the myths.

As Marius stated, the Christian God is a God of choice and he did give us a free will to exercise in this life. However, he being God, through Jesus, his son, tried to show us that each choice we make has consequences, some positive, character building and pleasing to God, and some that produce pain and destruction and the breakdown of our self-esteem and self-respect. These things are called sin because somebody gets hurt and a God of love grieves for our pain. Yes, Marius, "who

are we to presume to know better than our Creator"? (a direct quote).

The Christian view is not so black and white as people think. It is based on statistical data and facts that the media will not allow us to present. The facts are that the abortion also hurts the woman. Post Abortive Syndrome (PAS) is one of these consequences. It is a psychological disorder whose symptoms can be manifested in dreams of babies crying, extreme guilt, deep depression and the inability to bond with future babies or overprotection of them.

Statistics have it that a number of women who abort will become sterile and later have to adopt! Some will have miscarriages due to a stretched uterus and some will have a stillborn baby.

These are facts that pro-abortionists do not want you to hear. They are scary and unpleasant; better to be in the dark and just abort! I think not. Women who abort without understanding the "side effects" are like the women who have had breast implants without knowing the side effects - we have a right to know. Only then do we really make a valid choice based on reality. If you want the facts, read on.

There is much question about when a fetus becomes a human being. It is easy to deny that it already is when it is incomplete, but the fact is that its heart beat began 10 days after conception, brain waves are active and it reacts to light, pain and touch within the first month. It lives in the womb happily sucking its thumb. Abortion blows the baby into pieces which are then sucked out of the womb and repositioned to make sure they are all there. The pain is as real to this fetus as it would be to us.

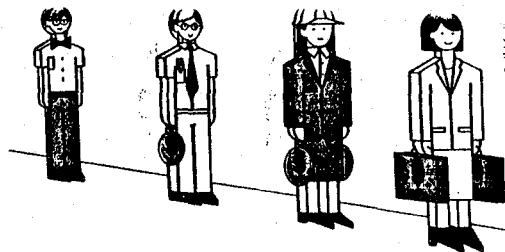
Again, the facts are painful, but denial is not going to help prevent that pain. It does surface--I know women who are in deep grief because they made the decision to abort while in a state of crisis instead of resolving the crisis and dealing factually with all the alternatives. Choice is your right. Choose wisely, however, considering the alternatives and giving equal power to your baby's well-being. Choose love.

An unwed mother

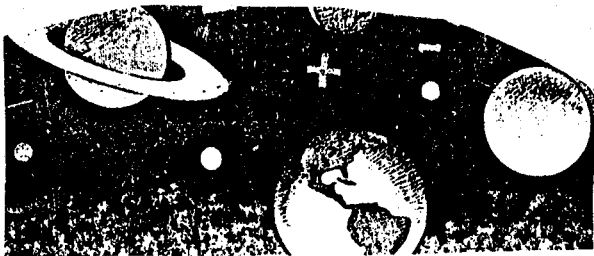
## Devoir

If a jury of 'peers' see no guilt,  
it's a case of new world order.  
If the city burns with a thousand fires,  
you hear the ancestors of a haunted nation.  
If an empire is built on captivity,  
then only by human justice is it delivered.

Garry Gust



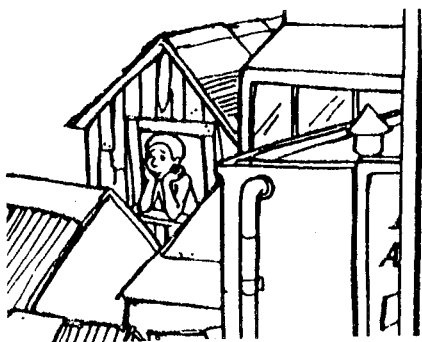
5.



## Encyclopedias State Some Flowers Are Without Scent

Too accepting of authority,  
I may have ambled past people bunched  
on a bench, never aware  
of this man's or that woman's  
honeysuckle dreams  
dying on the sidewalk,  
never detecting whether hope  
still flowers within them,  
never scenting  
in those haunted faces  
the ghosts  
of mayflowers and wild roses.

Maureen McGregor



## There Should Be Drums

There should be drums...  
Earth ever returns to balance.  
for a journey that far, a change so severe,  
for warning, for awe,  
there should be drums,  
the delicate rhythm  
of blood in the ear.  
Structural throbbing.  
Rhythm of eras, ages and eons,  
played out on atoms, photons and quarks.  
Earth ever is the meaning place.  
There should be drums.

Stephen Belkin

## MAY DAY 1992

you broken cities, through blinds of morning  
your bald insurrections, your dreams  
disintegrating along the fire trees  
how the red light hungers for sense  
the terrible colour of this wakefulness  
in its armed surveillances, whispering  
the bottomless declension of concrete  
these fleshly protuberances, brutal targets  
for the emptiness, and you who wear  
your colour like a white bludgeon  
the hollow bone of your lives  
what of your skin will the worms nonour  
when the siren whines for thee?

I want a night so black we cannot see  
anything, and must find each other again  
finally, by touching slowly  
in a wordless forever of moments  
the light we cannot name

Dan Feeney

Hello Paul!

Sometimes it's hard to know who are your friends and who are your enemies. I feel that way after reading Tora's diatribe in the May 1st Newsletter. He dealt with the March 22 forum called to discuss ways of making life safer for prostitutes, 37 of whom have been murdered. The forum was called because, whether or not you agree with prostitution, it is indefensible to stand by & do nothing while a specific group of people, identifiable by their trade & their gender, are beaten & murdered.

First: his libellous accusation that I "wōrk under the deceptive title of the Longhouse Council of Native Ministries." Deceptive title!!! For pity's sake! This is the name of my church, and has been since 1984! We're at 2595 Franklin. Call us on 254-4531 (listed under this title in the phone book) & a voice will reply, "Longhouse Council of Native Ministries Church." Sometimes we're called "The Long house" for short. Sorry we're not called St. Jude's or something equally churchy, but that's how it is. Our Christian congregation is roughly 30% White, 70% Native Indian. Our pastor is Rev. Barry Morris. At no time have I ever made the preposterous & illegal claim, nor have I ever inferred, that my actions are "sanctioned by aboriginal people," which sounds as if I'm claiming to speak for all Native Indians. My actions were sanctioned, however, by the White & Aboriginal members of the Longhouse, at a meeting held March 8, when I was asked to represent them at the March 22 forum. It's not my fault if outsiders fail to check facts and misunderstand the name of my church.

The forum was a success; the only bad event occurring after an invitation was issued to Ina Roelants, (hardworking and much-loved Co-ordinator at the WISH Centre, First United), to be a speaker & to bring a women working the street with her. A woman told Ina she was keen to go. According to some working women, certain others then took offense that the forum was occurring. They announced they would do their best to stop the woman appearing

and threatened to picket the meeting and ask people not to attend. They then spread the word that no prostitute had been invited to speak, and that the meeting had been organized by a "fundamentalist Christian group." (Barry Morris a fundamentalist? That's a hoot!) The woman suitably cowed, never turned up, but the forum went ahead. Many people regard this coercion & threatened sabotage as a tyrannical power trip.

Those who disagree with the forum are perfectly free to organize their own. Second: Tora's warning that I am a "rich white Christian living in British Properties," (or Propertys, as he has it). I hadn't realized that a woman, brought up in the slums, sexually abused as a child and teenager by her violent father, & now concerned about the 37 unsolved murders of prostitutes, had to publicly reveal her financial status, her skin colour, her religion & her residence before aiding at a forum on violence against street women. His warning is elitist, racist and bigoted. However, here goes:

Finances. Husband's employment: 2 jobs. 1) lay United Church minister, \$20,000 p.a. 2) church janitor, \$10,000 p.a. 10% of all wages tithed to church. Also supports 2 children in Africa. Car: 1985 van. Mortgage: now \$20,000. House value: nil, according to Royal LePage, 1991, because of severe structural damage resulting from faulty infill. Value of land: \$163,000. RRSP's: none. Savings: none. Moi: Half-share in land. Last 2 years: rise at 3am, write fiction. Employment: cook-housekeeper. From 6:30am-6pm, Mon. to Fri., clean house, shop, cook & babysit 3 children for a single mum. Wages: supposedly \$75 a week but for 18 months the ex-husband has paid child support only when he feels like it, and I only get paid when he pays. Am now owed \$1823 in back wages. Personal Allowance: \$80 a month, of which \$20 goes to charity. Luxury Limousine: 1988 Firefly. Furs: none. Designer Jewellery: 18 carat wedding ring. Designer Wardrobe: daughter's cast-offs & what I make myself. Beauty Parlour & Hairdresser: never, since I cut my own hair. Antiques: many, value unknown since they've been passed down through our

families & we'll never sell. Gourmet Meal; Pasta a la Mode. Royalties from my book: none til June. Since it's a literary work, not a "bodice-ripper," I'm expecting tiny bucks. Biggest asset: a Hyundai word-processor bought 1 year ago via a tax rebate.

When I finally receive my wages, I shall hold a big party, to which I shall invite Tora, because I believe basically he's a good person, in spite of his alarming habit of machinegunning people first, and asking the dead body, "Friend or Foe?" last. Skin colour: Correct, boring white. Given a choice, I'd be East Indian, because the women are so beautiful.

Resident of: Glenmore Estate, a small pimple protruding out of British Properties' otherwise perfect backside. It allows duplexes & townhouses, which British Properties never allows. It's very pleasant, but I don't want others to ghettoize me there. Religion: Correct, Christian. Christ's 2nd commandment was "love thy neighbour as thy self." I translate this as meaning that since I want justice for myself, I must work for justice for others also, hence my work on the forum, on wife-battering, child abuse, animal rights, racial issues, homosexual rights, housing rights, welfare rights, etc. Anyone care to see my files? I am so popular with provincial & federal government officials.

Tora suspects I am a "specially protected person -- an important figurehead who may not be ridiculed or criticised." A figurehead? Of what ship? The Pinta? The Nina? The Santa Maria? I've been a housewife for 37 years & I'm proud of that. I don't need protection & I don't mind being criticised as long as the criticism is based on truth. Also, I have no hidden agenda -- the only thing for which I feverishly plot & scheme is time, so that I can write my novel without having to rise at 3 a.m.

I thought the enemy was rapists, murderers & those who, in their quest for riches, trample on others? I never realized the enemy was me (or Muggs, who has given so much to her community). But why this waste of precious time & energies on in-fighting? United, we stand; divided, we fall. Isn't our fall what the oppressors & exploiters

want? And what do people's social back-  
grounds matter if they don't exploit others & they're fighting for equal human rights for everyone?! Anyway, if people want to write about me, they should telephone me first at 922-7630 & get the facts, not guesswork. To those hesitant to do so, let me assure you I am always polite - unless you make the mistake of trying to redesign me to fit your favourite stereotype. I'm an individual, and I refuse to live in anybody else's 'pre-packaged, pre-shaped, politically correct pigeon-hole. Have a good day!

Sincerely,

Jancis M. Andrews



Nothing is suddenly real  
No one is entirely alive

Silence offers its explanation  
You hear nothing & you understand

The eyes of the deep soul remain invisible  
A cut flower in a glass of water  
is more human.

Its death is dreamlike  
Its life a silent laughter  
at science & religion

The incomprehensible centre  
Of what you think you know  
& what you think you don't know

This gift must be  
Alive & conscious & unquestionable

Silence offers its explanation  
You hear nothing & you understand  
Learning no lesson

TORA

# BINGO

THEY'RE BAD! THEY'RE REAL BAD! AND WE WANT 'EM!  
DURING THE "ROUND-UP WEEKEND", ENTER YOUR BAD - REAL  
BAD BONANZAS FOR A CHANCE TO WIN CASH!

PRIZE

**FRIDAY  
MAY 15**

WIN THE  
"LOTTERY  
TREE"  
\$100.00  
WORTH OF  
LOTTERY  
TICKETS!

**SATURDAY  
MAY 16**

...THEY'RE  
AT THE  
POST! WIN  
ADMISSION  
TO THE  
TRACK &  
"MAD  
MONEY"

**SUNDAY  
MAY 17**

2 BBQ STEAK  
DINNERS FOR  
TWO!  
YOU COOK IT!  
STEAK &  
POTATOES &  
ALL THE  
TRIMMINGS!

**MONDAY  
MAY 18**

TRIP  
FOR  
2  
TO  
RENO!



JUSTICE IS BLIND...





Rising incidents of police brutality are not confined to L.A. In every city across North America, brutal & even brainless behaviour by law enforcement agencies is becoming the rule rather than the exception.

In Vancouver we've recently witnessed cops blowing away a young man for holding up a Walkman. They said they thought it was a gun. In the last few years there have been numerous incidents of people being shot to death by police officers because the victim was brandishing a knife & the cops were too cowardly or ill-trained to disarm them. In some cases these people were drunk or disoriented so it would be relatively easy for even a first-level martial arts student to render them harmless. Why don't the police use these methods rather than taking a life? My theory is that they would rather take the life of any citizen than risk their own. If this is true, it would be clear evidence that the police force, hired & paid to protect citizens of whatever colour or economic status, have turned to the law of the jungle in the interest of protecting themselves from harm, or even the risk of harm.

Consider how easy it is to murder someone when you have a loaded gun in your hand & they have only a knife or walkman to hang on to.

In the case of Rodney King, the jury claimed the beating was not racially motivated, since King's 4 black companions in the same car with him followed the policemen's orders & were not beaten. The jury said King was beaten because he refused to follow the cops' orders to lie face down with his hands behind his head. In the 81 seconds of video tape played on newscasts around the world, 56 blows with nightsticks can be counted as the victim slowly crawls around on his hands & knees. How many blows landed before & after the video is unknown. Apparently cops are not required to count & report how many blows they inflict on citizens they suspect of being criminals.

We're talking full force blows with lead-weighted clubs here, smashing the victim on his skull, cheekbones, across

the bridge of his nose, on the back of the neck & on the body. Rodney King had multiple fractures & it was determined by his physician that had the beating continued much longer, he'd have been dead.

The cops who beat him were declared innocent of any wrong-doing by an all-white jury. The trial was moved from a racially mixed community to an all-white neighborhood, so racism was clearly involved & even acknowledged by the legal system.

The jury claimed Rodney King was beaten within an inch of his life because he wouldn't follow police orders, & this they accepted as a legal & routine police procedure.

Their decision not only touched off riots & demonstrations in L.A. & most other large American cities, it also sent a message to police forces everywhere that beating a citizen unconscious for not following orders is acceptable/legal.

Myself, I'm not surprised to see this, since I came to the conclusion long ago that governments are closet fascist operations. We are gradually seeing the fascist government mentality emerging from its closet & its target is any individual or group that can be identified as anti-establishment.

Those who have demonstrated & rioted in support of Rodney King have been labelled vandals, looters & hoodlums by the media, who continue to support all legal authority whether it be fascist or otherwise. They know cops are hired, carefully trained & well paid for this work of smashing humanity & grinding its face into the pavement for not following orders.

...& what do cops & fascists do best? They follow orders, of course.

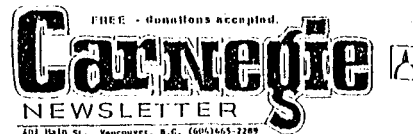
TORA



DOWNTOWN STD Clinic - Monday through Friday, 9am - 5pm.  
 EASTSIDE FREE MEDICAL CLINIC - Mon, Wed, Friday: 5:30-7:30pm  
 YOUTH NEEDLE EXCHANGE - 221 Main; every day 9am-5pm  
 ACTIVITIES Needle Exchange van - on the street Mon-Sat evenings.  
 SOCIETY N.A. meets every Monday night at 223 Main Street.

Out-to-Lunch Bunch meets daily at 451 E.Hastings, 10-2:30.

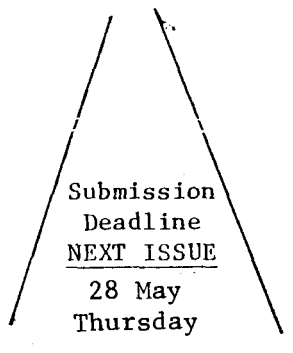
1992 DONATIONS: Cement Masons-\$100  
 Keith C. -\$20 Paula R. -\$20  
 Nancy W. -\$100 Colleen E. -\$25  
 Luba P. -\$10 Stuart M. -\$10  
 Robert -\$10  
 Four Sisters Co-op -\$500  
 DERA -\$500  
 Legal Services -\$200  
 Etienne S. -\$40  
 Forest Lawn -\$25  
 Yvonne C. -\$10  
 Keo -\$5  
 Tom S. -\$5  
 Hazel M. -\$25  
 The Old Sailor -\$40  
 Cecile R. -\$20  
 Jean F. -\$15  
 Anonymous -\$18.00



THE NEWSLETTER IS A PUBLICATION OF THE  
 CARNEGIE COMMUNITY CENTRE ASSOCIATION.  
 Articles represent the views of individual  
 contributors and not of the Association.

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 everyone!



## NEED HELP ?

The Downtown Eastside Residents' Association  
 can help you with:

- \* any welfare problems
- \* information on legal rights
- \* disputes with landlords
- \* unsafe living conditions
- \* income tax
- \* UIC problems
- \* finding housing
- \* opening a bank account



Come into the DERA office at 9 East Hastings St.  
 or phone us at 682-0931

DERA HAS BEEN SERVING THE  
 DOWNTOWN EASTSIDE FOR 19 YEARS.

It is a fine May morning & a honey bee is with me in my apartment. The bee has spent most of his time buzzing back & forth so that each time he turned, his wings touched my face, or whirling around the end of the Erickson nose. For awhile he crawled around on my bare chest.

I watched all of this with interest because I know that if a bee pays that much attention to you, it is bringing you a message - although it may take awhile for the message to get through.

I was reminded of a similar May morning about 15 years ago. Living in Grandview, my landlady, Marge Fountain & I were sitting in her beautiful backyard. Marge was reading mystical & occult books at that time. I don't know anything about the occult or mysticism, but I know that there's a good deal more to reality than is generally supposed. I had been telling Marge about some of my more remarkable experiences with telekinesis, telepathy, time travel and what-not.

At that point, a honey bee came & began whirling around the end of my nose. Getting a little nervous about the bee between us but staying in the spirit of the conversation we had had, Marge said, "Will it away, Eric."

"No," I told her. "When bees do this it's because they're bringing you a message. We'll have to wait & see what it is."

The bee left & our conversation resumed. As it happened, the Fountains had this incredibly shabby old garage at the foot of their lot. On the side visible to us was a small, dusty window. I noticed that a bee was crawling on the inside of the glass; I felt quite worked up about it.

"Marge," I said, "where are your keys? There's a bee trapped inside the garage. I want to let it out." The keys were in the house & Marge didn't feel like getting them. I nagged & hounded her until she got the keys & opened the garage door just to shut me up. I entered the dusty old place but didn't see the trapped bee. There was an old work bench below the window. I laid my hand on it & the bee crawled out from under a scrap of wood & onto my hand. I carried it outside, showed it to Marge &

then sent it off into the beautiful morn.

We went back to our seats & resumed our conversation. "Why don't strange & wonderful things ever happen to me?" Marge wondered. "You've had all these marvellous experiences & there are all those things described in the books..but nothing ever happens to me."

11.

"How can you say that, Marge?" I asked her. "Not more than 5 minutes ago you took part in a strange & wonderful experience. Don't you understand? That bee that whirled around in front of my face...I told you it must be bringing me a message. Obviously one of it's kind was trapped in the garage & needed help. That's why I got so worked up about it, because the bee had telepathically planted the urgency of the situation in my subconscious mind. And did you notice how, so there could be no possible misunderstanding, the bee allowed me to carry it out of the garage & introduce it to you?"



DARWIN SHOODERS

I think all people have strange & wonderful things happen to them from time to time, but their unfortunately rigid & limited view of reality prevents them recognizing such episodes. A great pity! They miss a lot.

So what message did the bee impart to me this morning? I think I know.

Since the beehives appeared at the Strathcona Community Gardens I've paid a lot of attention to the bees & they've taught me a lot, partly through dreams or telepathic visions & partly by showing me.

The following, which they taught me, has

probably not occurred to the naturalists.. Any outdoors person has seen bees buzzing a lot around smelly things like fresh manure or feces or dead animals..even compost. In their words, they do it so "all things will glow with the same light." What they mean is that they are spreading bacteria to those smelly things. The strongest and most efficient bacteria will bring about the quick decomposition of the smelly stuff & the plants which feed the bees will be happy. The light they spoke of is the faint glow put out by composting stuff.

In both past summers, I promised the bees I would work toward telling the world that bees are clever & able to communicate but so far I haven't done a thing. I got to thinking about this & about how some Carnegie people might be interested in it, so I took myself to the typewriter & made a start on this. The bee buzzed me a few more times & flew out the window.

It was while I was typing this that I realized the bee's message had been: "Come on ya lazy bum! Get your act together this year & get that written about bees!"

So here it is.

By ERIC ERICKSON



WHICH  
WAY  
TO  
CARNEGIE?

a pod  
of whales  
swathed  
in their  
mother's  
sorrow  
the children  
toot & squeek  
more stories  
of sorrow

overcome  
they become  
sad  
sorrow  
seek

love .em  
still do  
as they circle  
the lazy waters

2000

### EAT THE ELITE

He ate his shirt.

2 others fondled and caressed  
the shirt  
his epaulets

Having little nibbles here and there  
Noticing that it was truly 100% cotton.  
An Original and "Navy" shirt.  
Mockingly he noticed by baby blue turtleneck.  
It was not 100%...and inedible.

He had invented  
digested with a classist conscience  
our difference

Marilyn Seelye

Marilyn Seelye

In my younger years one could work with Grade Eight education, then workers sung of perks. Now it's a different situation. These days, with Grade Twelve, you can't even dig a ditch.

I'm older now and I've learned well that isn't life a bitch

### THE FUTILE SYSTEM

In my younger days one could work with Grade eight education  
Then workers sung of perks. now it's a different situation  
These days with Grade Twelve, you can't even dig a ditch  
I'm older now and I've learned well that isn't life a bitch

Some folks stayed in school, they felt self-satisfied  
After 20 years, they fell like fools - they're over-qualified  
Some of them did get hired, worked too long to mention  
I've heard they've all been fired before getting pensions

The working stiffs feel idiotic with 4 hour long comutes  
Being replaced with cheaper robotics and gadgets that compute  
"Get leaner" comes from management, "Compete with 3rd World pay"  
It's meaner, they make arrangements, wages a bowl of rice a day

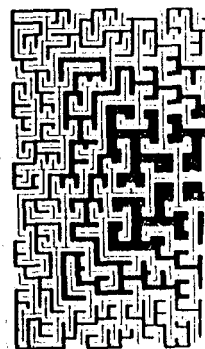
We've got free trade for minimum wage, need 30 years of skill  
Something's wrong, we've been betrayed, only hired to clean oil spills  
Wonder why economy isn't stronger, companies movin' east and south  
Lack of money, breadlines longer, country's losin' there's no doubt

Knowing major companies rule the world, Governments can't compete  
In countries, multinational flags unfurl, corporate schemes complete  
Banks owning every inch of land, the homeless but slave labour  
Too weak to even make a stand, for jobs you'll bid against neighbours

We'll live in decadence & squalour, the rich behind barbedwire baraccaded  
As 1% will own every decent dollar, to our poverty they're dedicated  
One day they'll feel crimes produced, realise the logic was corrupt  
Only 1% can afford to buy products, then the planet is bankrupt

They'll be in lines for bread unbacking, the whole world on strike  
Knowing then Jesus wasn't faking, saying "Share & share alike"

J. La Riviere



### Criminals in Uniform

Police and brutality go together whether American or Canadian. The police traditionally try to put forth a boy scout image of helping little old ladies across the street. Take away their badge and you take away their power to brutalize whomever they want to mistreat. When they beat some one up they usually charge the person with assault or resisting arrest. Everyday the police break the law when they hassle peo-

ple. Occasionally they hassle people without prior records and they have a secret slush fund to pay off potential complainants who could embarrass their flowery boy scout image in a court of law. The worst of the police are arrogant bullies, hiding their criminality behind law and order.

Brian Wagget

## CORPORATE AGENDA ARGUMENTS ...and our answers

1. Don't we have to cut social programs in order to reduce the deficit?

Answer: The deficit is high for two main reasons: Interest rates have been high. Each percentage point adds \$1-1,5 billion to the deficit. The gov't could deal with this by instructing the Bank of Canada, a Crown Corporation, to reduce interest rates.

Secondly, the deficit is high because taxes on corporations & the rich've been drastically reduced over the last few years, & especially since 1984. The federal income tax rate on the top tax bracket has gone from 34% to 29%. The gov't brought in a capital gains exemption & RRSP exemptions which benefit mostly upper income people. The business entertainment deduction allows business people to write off 80% of the cost of "business entertainment" like fancy lunches or hockey games. This deduction alone costs the gov't about \$1 billion.

The gov't could keep & expand social programs if it reduced interest rates & restored taxes on the wealthy and on corporations.

2. Don't we have to have low wages & low corporate taxes in order to compete with countries like Mexico & the Philippines? If we don't, won't corporations simply move there & take jobs with them?

Answer: We have to really think about this argument. Is this the kind of world we want? A world where people in every region & country are forced to take lower & lower wages? At the same time, corporations are paying less & less so we get fewer & fewer of the social programs that we need even more.

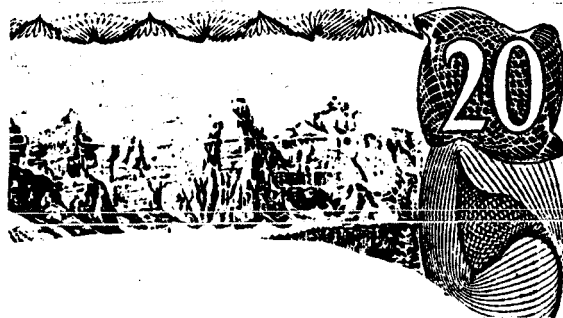
The logic of this argument is what some people have called "competitive poverty". People keep getting poorer & poorer in order to become competitive.

We have to say "no" to this kind of thinking. If humans can put a person on the moon, surely we can develop a system where our success does not depend on someone else's poor health, homelessness, and

even death, due to poverty.

Besides, if corporations want people to buy their products, they have to have customers with money, not customers living in dire poverty.

3. Don't we have to have "Free Trade", low corporate taxes & low wages in order to make "our" corporations strong so they can compete with huge corporations in Europe and Asia?



Let's think about the logic behind this question. It suggests that, in time, we'll have giant corporations in the three regions of the world battling it out with each other for world supremacy. Cargill might end up controlling agriculture. American Express might control finances. Honda might control car manufacturing. IBM might control communications. Soon they might start trying to control each other. Is this competition or monopoly?

Is this democratic? In a democracy the people who make decisions are accountable to the people who are affected by them. Who are the corporations accountable to? Already, according to the United Nations, of the 100 largest economies in the world, 47 of them are corporations. General Motors is about 1/3 the size of Canada (comparing sales/gross domestic product). Toyota is larger than Greece, New Zealand and Portugal.

These aren't "our" corporations anyway. You & I are not the major shareholders. Just because a corporation starts out on a particular continent doesn't mean that it will be loyal to the poor & middle income people on that continent or to anyone on that continent except the people who control it. That's why these corporations are called "multinationals". They transcend national/continental boundaries.

4. Don't we have to attract foreign investment in order to create jobs?

This is another myth. In 1990-91, of the \$15.3 billion in foreign investment in Canada, 97% of it was takeovers. Many takeovers mean layoffs, not job creation.

Eric Kierans, a former Liberal MP and analyst of corporate behaviour, says that the purpose of foreign investment is to take control of a market or a resource and to take more out of a community than is put in.

5. Won't free trade with the U.S. & Mexico help us sell our products in other countries & produce wealth?

The free trade deals are about a lot more than trade. They are about who is going to manage not only trade, but also investment, energy, the environment, wages, health & education, culture, resources. With the free trade deals global corporations get the right to manage all of these things which are crucial to the survival of our communities, to our jobs, services, and environment. With free trade deals, elected governments lose the right to pass laws about processing our own resources, advertising, protecting the environment, promoting our own culture, or having universal childcare programs.

The free trade deal did not give Canadian corporations unlimited access to US markets. Instead, the deal makes it attractive for US corporations to leave Canada & set up in the US, causing further job loss here.

6. Isn't globalization inevitable? If we don't go along with it won't we lose?

In her book, The Quick & the Dead, Linda McQuaig says this about the "globalization is inevitable" argument: "Without it business & gov't leaders would be stuck in the tight jam of trying to popularize an agenda that offers almost nothing to nonrich Canadians... What business is call-

ing for with its new agenda is nothing more complicated than a major transfer of power & wealth to itself... And yet this remarkable request is sparking precious little debate. Instead, we simply have business & gov't leaders lecturing us on the necessity of accepting the changes prescribed."

Globalisation is promoted by global corporations run by people who use various governments, trade deals, & international structures like the International Monetary Fund & the World Bank to get what they want. They are powerful. But their vision of a globalized world where elected governments can make fewer and fewer important decisions, and corporations become bigger & bigger, is not inevitable. People in South Africa, the Philippines, Mexico, & all over the world are grappling with these forces, working together & trying to build a people's movement that will create a more just society.



7. So what can we do to keep & create decent jobs in Canada?

First, we have to cancel the free trade deal with the US. With the deal out of the way, we can use our resources and our markets as levers to keep corporations in Canada. We can say, if you want to sell cars in the rich Ontario market, you have to produce cars here & create jobs. We can say to the foreign factory ships on the West Coast, we will now be processing our own fish in BC, thank you.

Secondly, we have to build up

pools of capital that belongs to us & use that to invest in what we need. Some people call this social capital. The BC government's Working Opportunities Fund is a small example of this. Vancity credit union is trying to use investments to benefit its community. We can try to get more investments under the control of people who want to preserve communities, not just take resources & profits out. We can work to create worker controlled and owned companies that don't rely on the whims of big corporations.

Thirdly, we can elect governments who understand this corporate agenda and will negotiate on behalf of the people & the communities they represent to get more & more control over important economic decisions. We can educate those governments about what people need.

Fourth, we can work with people in other countries to manage trade, wages social programs, taxation, & other important tools for a better life so that people in both countries benefit from exchanges & policies--poor people & middle income people, not just rich people and corporations.

End Legislated Poverty

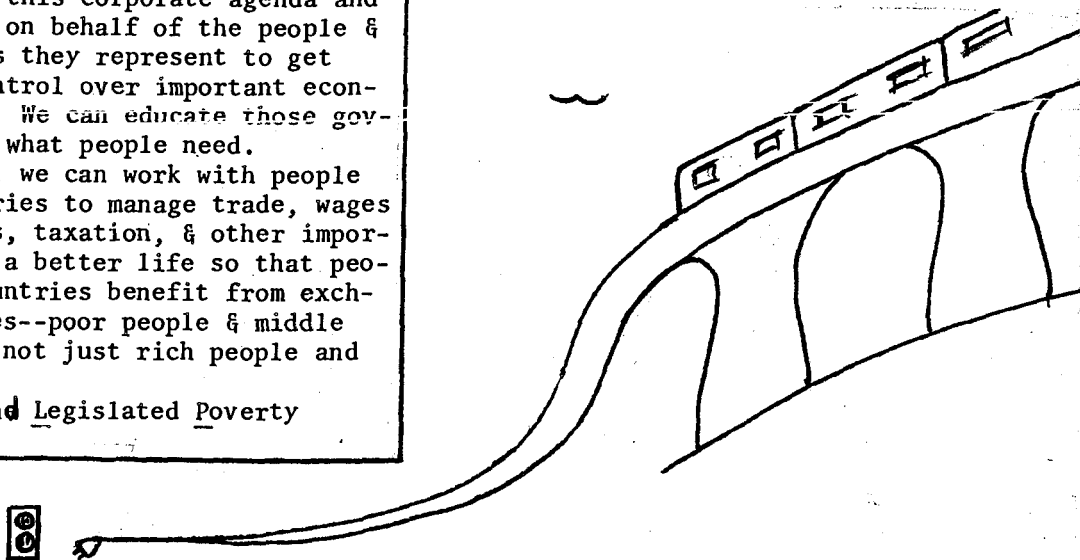
## SKYTRAIN STIGMA

High above a crowd of sitting babble  
is a majestic sound  
Of metal against steel

High above a cloud of faces  
Four-car trains, resembling toys  
Weave in and out, along a winding rail

High above the city streets  
A bit of turmoil, one can feel  
When a needed Skytrain breaks down!

Verna M. Johnston



# A BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION!

*"Jim's Not Quite 50"*

**A Fundraiser**

*"DERA Stops Homelessness"*

**A Party**

*"Men In Labour"*

Date: Saturday May 23, 1992

Place: Ukrainian Hall, 805 E. Pender St.

Time: 8:00 P.M.

Cost: FREE

Draw Prizes, Fun, Dancing, and  
Action-packed Entertainment

For further information contact Jamie at DERA 682-0931.



## IN DEFENSE OF NATURE - C.E.E.D.S.

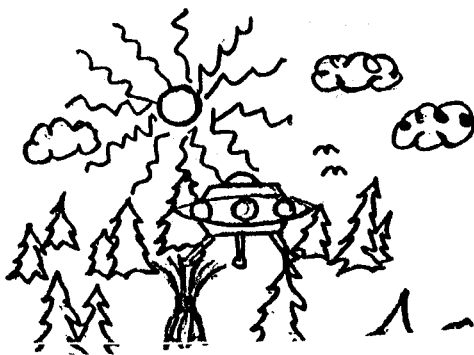
Seven years have gone by since we last published an issue of In Defense of Nature.

It is 7 years ago that we came out of the Borland Meadow, & have been "spreading like knapweed" since. An editorial in the Williams Lake Tribune once made the statement that if we were not stamped out at the Borland Meadow we would spread like "knapweed".

There are now two CEEDS' Communal Farms in Miocene, three on Horse Lake & a garden camp on the North Thompson River. We sell our produce at Farmers' Markets in Williams Lake, 100 Mile House & Kamloops. Most of our sales & bartering takes place at the farm gates.

Our flocks & our herds have increased to the point where we need another farm; preferably one with a land trust arrangement.

We need more people. They are starting to come. More enquiries, more visitors.



In 1978 we collectively wrote & published the Revolutionary Hippy Manifesto. Our basic philosophy has not changed. We are more convinced than ever that the Organic Food Movement will be the driving force that will bring about an agrarian revolution. Does our down to earth theory to bring about 'change' sound too simple? To date we haven't heard of a better way.

Environmentalists should make every effort to see that as much of the food they eat is grown locally & organically. Better yet is to have a hand in producing some of it. Back-yard Survival gardens, Community Gardens, working visits to organic farms, dropping out & taking up organic farming are all ways of participating.

We agree with David Orton's assessment of the Canadian Environmental movement - that it is being watered down by the corporate & gov't funding of environmental organisations. The public has lost confidence in an environmental movement that is not independent.

A recent poll has shown that only 8% of the Canadian population consider the environmental crisis the No. 1 issue. Not long ago 40% of the people thought that it was. However, the depletion of the ozone layer over the Northern hemisphere will again heighten the public's concern for the environment. We agree wholeheartedly with the opinion expressed by the scientists on David Suzuki's program "It's a Matter of Survival". They said that we had 10 years in which to turn things around to prevent the destruction of the planet, That was 3 years ago!

One can hardly comprehend the tragic reality of ozone depletion. The sun has always been worshipped & celebrated - now it is associated with cancer. The risk for humans has been pointed out, but very little is mentioned on the adverse effects on plant & animal life.

The capitalist system, both state & private, with profit-driven technology, is responsible for this.



### The System Must Be Stopped

We believe that the Canadian environmental movement with all its recycling effort only addresses the tip of the iceberg. To be environmentalists we must simplify our lives.

A sage was once asked to give a brief definition of the word 'politics'. His reply was 'food'. We totally agree. Change begins when the food we put on our plates is organic; grown locally in harmony with the earth. CBC's Knowlton Nash, speaking in

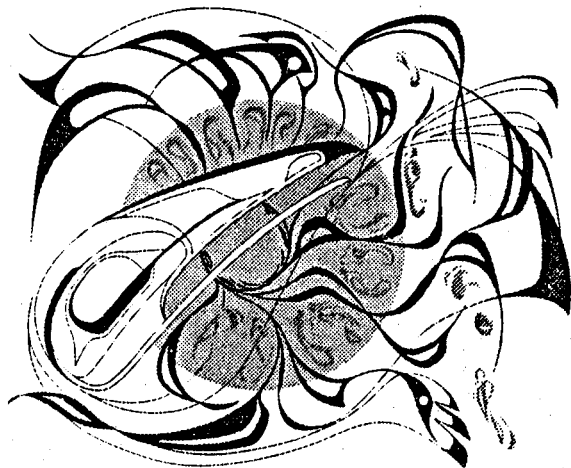
Prince George to a group of farmers & agonomists stated that the debate on agriculture is going to be the hottest political issue of the decade. Our plan is to turn up the heat!

### Hippies In The Hills

The agrarian revolution was started with the back-to-the-land movement of the Hippies in the '60's. Contrary to popular belief, the movement did not fizzle out. Hippies were & are the backbone of the environmental, communal, peace, organic & back-to-the-land movement. There are "hippies in the hills" who are farming organically, living simply & looking for others who want to do the same thing. A land base has been established.

We are CEEDS, a "hippy commune". We have engaged in liberating land & animals for 30 years, honing our organic farming skill in the process. We are now knowledgeable organic growers & good teachers. A growing number of people from different countries are coming to learn from us.

We do not own land. We rent unused farms & have in the past lived on reserves & squatted on crown land. We do not depend on gov't grants for our survival. We thrive because we live as a group. As our saying goes "Drop-out, chip-in & share the wealth" We believe others can do the same & in so doing provide the independent movement David Orton talks of.



### Fiction Is Not An Escape

Hugh Brody is a filmmaker & writer, & in his book Means of Escape (Douglas & MacIntyre, 1991), he has written five fictional stories that illuminate the human condition in the 20th century. In his introduction Brody states, "...many thousands - perhaps millions - live with the eruptive pain of our parents' & grandparents' dis-possession. Holocausts, like nuclear fall-out, poison the coming generations." Although this book is called Means of Escape it demands that we remember. As Brody says "Fiction is not an escape."

In the first story, Family Trees, the English narrator searches out his family history. He goes to his Aunt Sonia, an Austrian-Jewish refugee, for information "as if, in knowing more of the origins the present would make better sense."

Aunt Sonia is reluctant to return to the past for "she buried events under the energies of today." She had left Vienna at the age of 25, a few weeks after the German Anschluss, & never returned. The narrator, however, keeps asking about that history "that, in some measure, was also my own," and with Aunt Sonia's help he draws a family tree with a thin red line through the victims - the ones who had "perished".

As Aunt Sonia remembers the past, she discovers the family tree of murder with names like Heydrich, Eichmann, & Himmler, a tree with roots throughout Europe and North America. She maps the history of the holocaust, & her grief carries her into silence. "Elle se tut," (she shut up) the narrator tells us, "...it could have been an overdose. Perhaps...an accident. Who knows?"

Aunt Sonia has left the narrator a letter in which she quotes from letters the narrator had sent to her, & then poses questions. In response to the narrator's description of the Inuit people he met on a trip to the Arctic, she asks, "Is there, after'all, a system beyond mass murder? Have you travelled to where there is, or was, or can be envisaged, a redemption? You said only a year ago, in a springtime letter: 'The men & women of this camp sit & wait...' What do you think they are waiting for?"

In the third story, Island, the young woman, Marianne, does have the insight & strength to do battle with the forces that imprison her. She flees family ties of hopelessness & paralysis, & she knows that the web of evil is wider than her family. It includes the low flying military aircraft that roar over the island off the coast of Scotland where her mother & stepfather spend the summers.

In the tormented, claustrophobic & murderous relations among mother, daughter, stepfather, & the young Celtic Fisherman on the island, we experience the anguished soul of industrial society. "Things fall apart; the centre cannot hold," as Yeats said in The Second Coming.

Relationships of caring have become relationships of mutual destruction. Dialogue has become warfare, & the walking dead feed on the vitality of their imprisoned young.

Marianne escapes, however, & chooses her act of liberation. Rather, she says she doesn't have a choice. "I'm so full of hatred," she says. "About the world. I can't live with this anger. And it's not a disease. Not some kind of madness!...I don't want patalysis."

Is her action escape? Perhaps, but Marianne says, "At least I can act... Not in freedom, but in my own right." And she does act & feels free in her action.

The fifth story, Wolf, addresses another aspect of the evil that stalks the pages of this book. It takes place in the Yukon where a young couple, John from Russia & Nina from America, have gone to get away from the past, to start over, to be themselves. With them is their dog Lobshka, little darling. She is a town dog, which means that she knows as little of the deep dark forest as do John & Nina.

This story is written in dialogue, & its ritualistic rhythm of poetic prose heightens the atmosphere of mystery & menace. To combat their fears, these two young people hold each other & care for each other, in the forest, in the dark night.

A wolf comes out of the night & tears Lobshka to pieces, & the horrific violence of the scene reflects the violence in the other stories. This lone wolf is a Jungian

wolf, the shadow from which we can never escape, & which we must face personally & in the patterns that shape our life together. The story ends in a positive way, however, with the ever practical Nina saying to John, "Let's have a huge vegetable garden."

These powerful stories are cathartic because we cannot heal ourselves or our society unless we understand that something is terribly wrong. Our century has been a nightmare, & all the technical gadgetry in the world will not address thne anguish, anomie & violence that surround us.

We must remember, & become strong in the strength of our grieving. Instead of an escape, scapegoat mentality, these stories suggest that we all assume responsibility for part of the burden of these tragic times - from one generation to another. Together we can consider Aunt Sonia's question, "Is there, after all, a system beyond mass murder?"

By SANDY CAMERON



Major Lies

Thou shalt not kill. Ha! It applies only to me. Governments find all kinds of excuses to go to war. If this is not killing I do not know what killing is.

Thou shalt not steal. Ha! Government takes taxes out of my pocket without asking me first. If that's not stealing I do not know what stealing is.

The same church that tells me this had the crusades & the inquisition, both being mass murder. The church finances war and collects tithes - 1/10 of your earnings.

Love thy neighbour? Sorry to say but my neighbours are in China, Australia, Europe Asis, Africa, Japan, the north & south poles. The rest are my close family..amen.

Claude Maurice

# RESTORING ECONOMIC FREEDOM

by Maude Barlow

First, it wasn't a recession. No, the government assured us, it was just a "downturn". Then, well, yes, it was a recession, but a minor one, and it would be good for us - shake out the knots in our economy. Then it was pronounced "over" - the government had tired of the "R" word and decided to stop using it. Three years and 500,000 manufacturing jobs later, the government is conceding that Canada's economy is in serious trouble. It cannot answer the stark numbers contained in the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternative's recent report that job losses in Canadian manufacturing are four times the job losses suffered by the U.S. in the same period, and represent

the worst drop since the 1929-1930 Depression.

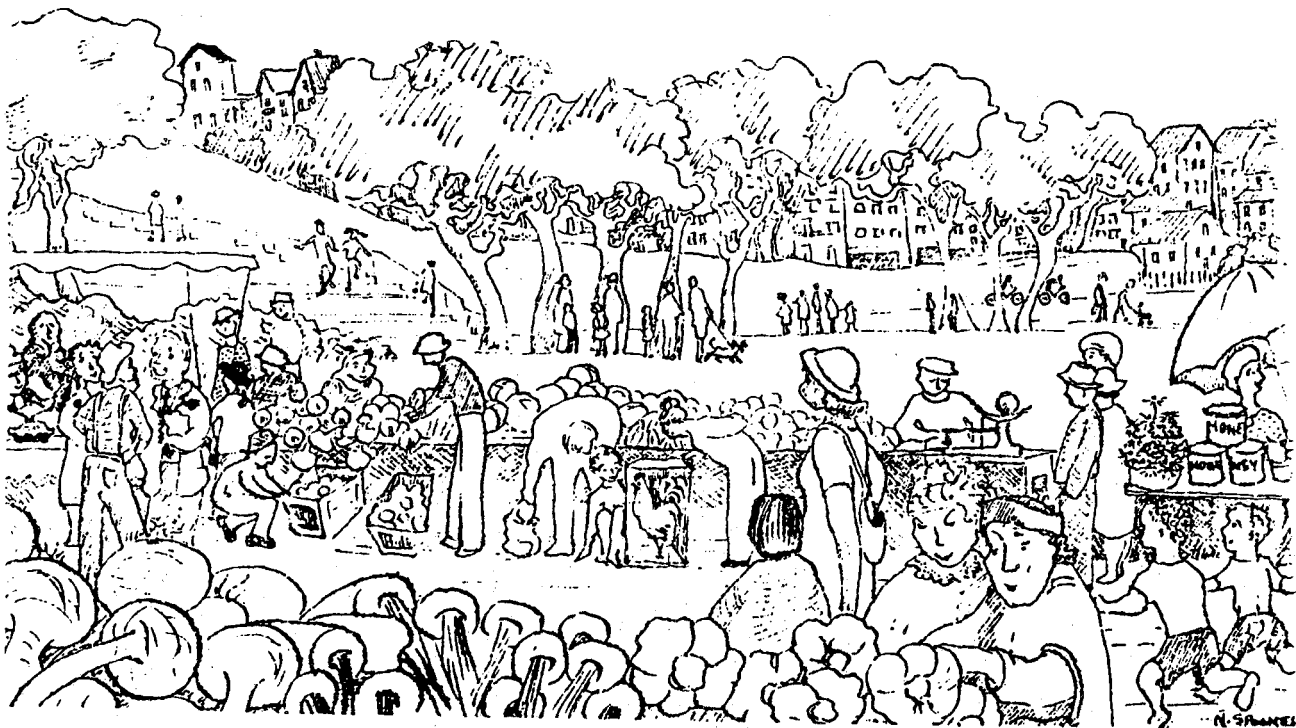
The bottom is falling out of the Canadian economy and the haemorrhaging of our manufacturing base shows no sign of abating. Atlantic Canada is devastated. Saskatchewan is facing its greatest out-migration of the century. Winnipeg has been gutted. Farms are being shut down everywhere. Canada's industrial heartland is being boarded up as the jobs continue to head south. The Economic Council of Canada pointed out that it wasn't just the "bad" jobs that were going, but the "good" jobs. A recent national survey by the Technical Service Council documented that in one year, there were 53% fewer job vacancies for engineers, accountants, scientists, executives, and other profession-

als. Perhaps this bad news was one of the reasons the government shut down the Economic Council - killing the messenger is an old trick.

The simple fact is that the federal government's economic policies of deregulation, privatization, a high dollar, the GST, and most important, free trade with the United States (and soon, Mexico), are destroying Canada. In what amounts to a blanket admission of failure, International Trade Minister Michael Wilson is roaming the country asking "ordinary" Canadians how he can make Canada competitive again. Clearly, the government placed all its eggs in the basket of free trade and made no provisions for the possibility that its critics were right and that thousands of companies would flee south. It had no back up, no adjust-

ment policies, nothing to replace the system it killed.

Canadians have a right to be angry. There are no miracle cures for our economic woes, and Canada must adapt to the enormous economic shifts taking place in the world. Giving away all power to set out our own economic strategy is not the answer. The answer lies in getting out of the straight-jacket of the free trade deal, and setting about the hard way to rebuild our infrastructure. Hard work, co-operation, planning, real tax reform - these are the long-term building blocks of renewal. Let us first set our economic, social and environmental goals and build our trade policy, both continental and global, to fit them. Perhaps we can serve as an international model in these changing times.



...regarding the Cariboo Seed Potato -

In 1977 & '78, when we were living on the Sugar Cane Indian Reserve, we used to buy cull potatoes for our pigs from the late Tom Windt up at Alexandria.

Tom was a commercial potato grower. Then in his 80's & still managing the farm, he told us this story.

The certified Cariboo Potato was developed on his farm in co-operation with the gov't experimental farm in Prince George.

Tom was proud of the Cariboo Potato. He used to sell & deliver potatoes along the Cariboo Highway & in Quesnel. Then, bang, he got a letter from the Ministry of Agriculture advising him to stop growing the Cariboo Potato as it was now decertified! No explanation at all. Tom wrote back thinking there must have been some kind of mistake. It was no mistake.

The reason then given for decertification was because of their tendency to cling to the vine. Too many potatoes were going out with the vines with the big harvesting machines. In other words, agri-biz could not handle the Cariboo potato. Another strong point in its favour.

We wanted to get some of that seed!

Tom did not have a Cariboo potato on the place. He was a certified seedpotato grower & was not allowed to grow any potatoes on his land that were not certified.

However, he gave us a lead. A bachelor by the name of John Ryser who lived up at Nixon Creek was the only person he could think of who might still have some Cariboo seed. We wrote to John & mailed it to Nixon Creek. We learned that John didn't receive the letter; neither was it returned.

In the fall of 1982 I wrote to the Ministry of Agriculture asking for information on the Cariboo. We learned that it is illegal to grow it. This also whetted our interest.

Then as candidates in the Provincial Election of '83, Nixon being in the Cariboo riding, we campaigned there. We asked in the store for directions to John's. The store owner informed us that John was known locally as the potato man. Several miles off the highway we met John on his farm by the Fraser River. It was a nice visit. The bad news was that John, being a

certified seed grower, had no Cariboo seed either. The good news was that he knew an old man up in Vanderhoof who might have some. John suggested we leave the search with him & he'd see what he could do.

In March of '84 John wrote that he had 4 Cariboo seed potatoes for us. Apparently a gov't horticulturist at a meeting in Pr. George had 7 Cariboo potatoes as part of a display. John managed to get 4 of them.

That spring of '84 we planted the 4 potatoes whole..we didn't cut them. We had an excellent yield. We only allowed ourselves one feed, the rest we kept for seed.

Now we grow a few tons each year.

Plans are to offer our customers at Farmers' Markets in Kamloops, 100 Mile House & Williams Lake 4 free Cariboo Seed Potatoes. We will make a point of informing them that growing these potatoes is against the law. I believe this will encourage more people to grow them.

We look upon the Cariboo as a political potato. The multi-nationals, with the co-operation of the gov't, are fast monopolizing the seed industry.

We are indeed pleased as people add the Cariboo to the many others in all gardens.

Love Jerry,

From all of us here at CEEDS.



Cariboo Potatoes

M. Spence

## What I Did On My Spring Break

Well, there I was, exploring the 3rd floor of the Carnegie Community Centre. (Why the CCC you ask? 'Cause anyone who gets screwed around a lot ends up there.) When all at once I spot his royal goyness. (He's too white for me, boy.) So, I'm avoiding this megalomaniac like the Asian Gypsy Moth is avoiding the airborne chemicals. But little did I know that I was gonna get sprayed.

Next thing I know, Alice from the Community (did I say community?) Mental Health Team is on the scene followin' me around & reporting on my movements.

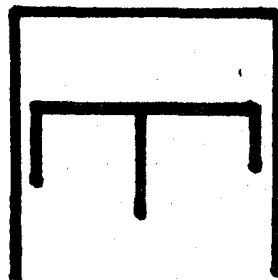
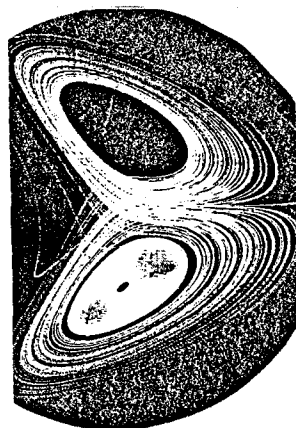
There's a movement goin' on in the bowels of the downtown eastside. There's a rumblin' in the city. I'm gettin' royally pissed.

So I start raisin' my voice & sayin', "Well! You should follow me into the john & observe me leavin' a royal coil on the throne!! And I kick a green garbage can about one foot. It hits the wall & drops. Big Bang. (Oh puhlee's)

Yep. Police arrive. Like they want me to go outside with them. Sure. Yeah. Anything you say. You got the guns & billyclubs.. let's not have another Rodney King repeat.

So once in the alleviator a cop says to me, "Who was that woman?" referring to Alice & I sez "I don't know but she has a cold heart." Like Stephen Belkin would agree that that's the answer to the riddle, "What's an elephant without a turtle?"

By then we're outside on Main Street where there's a paddy wagon & an ambulance & I sez to the cop, "Oh, am I going for a ride in the black parriah?" He sez, "No. You didn't do anything." So, like why am I goin'



for a ride in the ambulance? Well, Hullo VGH e merge.

Now, I'm being told to put on a hospital gown in 2 minutes or they'll send in the men to do it for me. Hmmm. Like I know they ain't gonna pay me first so I does it myself. Then, leather restraints are roughly & tightly being slapped on my wrists & ankles binding me to a journey & I'm saying, "Why are you doing this? I'm not resisting?" I'm not getting any answers. I'm also telling them they're hurting me & they're telling me they're not, & like I'm telling them it's my body & they are.

Three hours later the stiffness is getting to me & here I go raising my voice again yellin' to anyone within earshot, "You can break every bone in my body but you'll never break my spirit!" Then this Asian guy is on the scene kinda sneakin' around my royal suite tellin' me

he's a spy. ooookay. And this traitor to his profession is loosening the straps. (Thanks guy.)

Another two hours go buy. My bones are tellin' me that the straps are gettin' to me. so, silly goose that I am, yep, you guessed it, I start raisin' my voice again. "Hey! You said you'd bring me lunch..it's almost dinner time!"

Enter the hypodermic. "What the hell's that!" "This will make you feel better." "I dont wantit!"

So one of the male nurses, a tall, dark stretch with specs lifts up my hospital gown & exposes my lower extremities to the other male nurses & I get the fix in the arm.

Like, say what? & end up in the rubber room.

Enter Dr. Watson. Head of

the transexual clinic. Oh,  
yeah. Like I'm in here for a  
sex change or what? "You guys  
gonna give me nuts or what?"  
they're always sayin' wimmin  
don't have any balls. And she  
sez to me, "Did you want to  
come here, Anita?" & I sez no  
and by the whey, how's Barry  
who is considering a sexchange  
& like she's tellin' someone  
to blow it out their nose.

Next thing I know, I'm walk-  
ing back to Carnegie Community  
Centre where people get screw-  
ed around alot & where like  
Bob says, "It's a safe place."

The Artless Dodger,  
Anita Aviva Stevens

P.S.: Dear Lorna,  
A Carnegie user on the VGH  
Psych ward with post partum  
depression who doesn't know  
what they did to her in the  
operating room, WE know you're  
in there.

#### ONE

one day, there was no one else  
to pick up the inverted grey spoon  
of the sky, its cotton rolls dripping  
with medication, no one to move  
the veils of haze aside, speaking dreams  
under their breath like half-hearted secrets  
no one to open the grain-filled cupboards  
no one yawning from their stymie  
into a half-empty wakefulness  
trees beyond the yard finally stirring  
bird-wise, no one tapping their fingers  
along the counter, turning suddenly to announce  
the incipience of coffee, shaking  
off the webs of shadow in yellow light  
by the propped up window where the cat  
stretches toward its hunter instinct  
and crows, proclaiming their vocal selves  
in an open air gathering, noisy  
as a market, that gives way  
tp this topical, notorious world  
dressed in its clatter, its owrds  
that could mean anything

Dan Feeney

#### LIFE'S LIKE THAT

Since time and space began  
A journey called life  
We have known ourselves  
One man one woman  
Responsible for all of it  
And we looked deep  
Into each other's eyes  
And we saw a fusion of light  
One eternity deep  
We tickled each other  
And we were here and there  
and gone

In one orgasm of being  
And then we fell into  
each other  
And we dreamt we were  
separated  
and lost on Earth  
And we dreamt we had bodies  
That could feel

and see  
and hear  
and touch  
and taste  
and smell  
and we play  
rich folks  
poor folks  
angry folks  
contented folks  
conceited folks  
and folks on a journey  
to something better  
than the bullshit  
that surrounds us  
Sometimes we run into  
Miracles  
Perfection in love  
How little I understood  
at the time.  
Now I have retraced  
the path

and opened the doors  
to heaven  
to love  
The size of eternity  
Unending

A fire that reaches  
for ever new heights,  
For sameness is dull  
in comparison  
And all I have to do  
is find one girl  
look into her eyes  
and eternity beckons  
with love  
Too bad I didn't get  
her name  
or address  
or phone number  
Now that I understand it  
I can't do anything  
without her  
Ain't life interesting?

Dreamweaver

# Cruise ship largest ever

By Mark Wilson  
Business Reporter

The largest cruise ship ever to visit Vancouver is in port today.

The 70,000-ton Regal Princess is the flagship of the six-vessel fleet P&O subsidiary Princess Cruises is placing on the Alaska run this year.

P&O executive director Tim Harris, who arrived on the ship, said his company will revive Vancouver as a port of call in its around-the-world cruise service, which it will start in 1996.

P&O's once-regular global service, calling at Vancouver, dwindled to twice-a-year cruises between Britain and Australia and ceased altogether in 1980.

Harris said P&O is spending close to \$400 million on a new

67,000-ton ship for the around-the-world service.

"Vancouver will be on there as a port of call because it is a very attractive place to visit," he said.

Construction of the new ship in a German yard will mark P&O's return to fast service.

Regal Princess and her sister vessel the Crown Princess, due to visit in 1993, cruise at 21 knots. The as-yet-unnamed ship for around-the-world sailings will have a service speed of 24 knots.

Harris said the plan is to market complete world-girdling cruises and segments of the trip, such as Florida-Vancouver, by way of the Panama Canal.

Regal Princess paid the heaviest dues ever — \$127,635.03 — for a transit of the Panama Canal on her maiden voyage to Vancouver.



Staff photo

The Regal Princess, the 70,000-ton flagship of the six-vessel Princess Cruise fleet, docks at Canada Place yesterday.

## CRUISING AT OUR CRAB PARK?

What costs \$200 million, weighs 70,000 tons & carries 1590 rich tourists?

The answer is the Regal Princess cruise-ship. This is an example of the size of boat that the federal Port of Vancouver Corporation wants to see beside Crab Park.

In fact, they want to see two such ships beside the fragile local greenspace... a 2-tier cruiseship facility plus another convention centre building. Isn't that just what we need - another sailboat building.

An unknown number of other "urban commercial" buildings are being proposed for the one-block landfill just west of Crab.

The 7 acre waterfront park was fought for by the CRAB/Water-for-Life Society for 5 years for this low-income community. It is very clear that the Port's hidden agenda has been to make the beach/park a tourist only place.

This lowly land grab by the Port is happening. The City of Vancouver NPA members of Council sent us all a clear message when they denied an appeal for \$500 to feed hungry kids at the park; 48 hours later they gave the Tourist Bureau \$650,000. On top of that the NPA also gave the Tourist Bureau revenue from a 2% room-tax -

\$4.5 million this year.

The proposed convention centre & cruise-ship pier should go lesewhere.

Both the 25 species birdmarsh & local children's programs would be destroyed by the proposed Port development. Warships may also berth at these proposed piers.

Don Larson

## MERCHANTS OF MENACE

by Gavin Hainsworth

### COMPETITIVE POVERTY

I don't believe that "competitive poverty" is the answer — there must be a better solution than becoming Mexico North. Despite George Bush's electoral bashing of the Japanese, it is Canada who currently has a \$15 billion trade surplus with the U.S. This makes Canada, and not Japan, the U.S.'s largest trading partner.

Canada is also a world leader in natural resources. By creating worries about its own future viability, a company can weaken union demands. Companies can extract concessions from workers



and governments, by threatening to pull up and go elsewhere, to hire cheap or to de-hire.

Here in B.C. we have seen a recent example of this. The B.C. government was blamed for not giving \$300 million to Cassiar to keep the mine open. The company, in turn, offered nothing. Why, then, didn't the company get any of the community's blame? Surely some company would mine these resources without being paid to do so. Perhaps Canada's economic crisis has more to do with an over-valued dollar, and with poor



government decisions, than with true economic crisis.

### SCARE TACTICS

Recent evidence indicates that the economic scare tactic is not working as planned. A CBC/Globe & Mail poll (Nov. 1991) indicated that 29% of those surveyed thought it was likely they or a family member would lose his/her job this year. About three-quarters said they had little confidence in Canada's economic future this year. The result is that consumer spending is down about 40% over two years.

Are people worse off? Yes and no. The GST has taken more of a bite than we expected (\$1200 a year at average), but personal RRSPs are at a record high of \$100 Billion, and it is estimated that we spent between \$3-5 Billion last year in cross-border shopping, a jump of 17.5% over the previous year. Canadians appear to still have spending money but they have become choosy about where, when, and how much, they are willing to spend. This gives more cause for worry to Canadian businesses and politicians. These strategies are every bit as effective as a boycott or tax revolt. Recent punitive measures will only drive cross-border shopping underground. Arguments of "Buy Canadian", and "money for social services" won't work once you've convinced people that the law of the jungle applies. You can't stick a heart in a vulture.

Changes to the G.A.I.N. Act...

A little light is starting to shine through. It's not the necessary raise to welfare rates..they're still 40-50% below official poverty lines. The changes are in the amount of money a person on welfare can earn before it's deducted off next month's cheque.

For years a single employable person could earn \$50 a month; any more & it was deducted. That has been raised to \$100. A disabled person or a family could earn \$100; that's been raised to \$200.

In the matter of assets, if you were single when applying for GAIN you were allowed to have only \$160 to your name. That has been raised to \$2500. If you're disabled or have a family you may have up to \$5000 before you're ineligible.

Seems that the reality of poverty is seeping into the minds of MLAs. What we as individuals & anti-poverty activists can do is keep the pressure of truth & reality - the principles of fairness in taxation & rational distribution of potentialities - on the NDP government.

## FREE TRADE

### the impact on

# WOMEN

VIDEO: The Global Assembly Line

FORUM: Women representing the Philippines and Canada



La Quena Coffee House  
May 26, 1992  
7:30 pm  
Free Admission

Organised & endorsed by Vancouver Status of Women and Women to Women Global Strategies. For further information contact Vancouver Status of Women at 255-5511.

Psalm 151

There are no seasons in the fiscal year. Money is born by the minute, already wise to the ways of the world. And it never sleeps but circles non-stop, leaping up cataracts of grabbing hands, intent on reproducing itself in stock exchanges or banks. And the powerful feast as fast as they can, stuffing themselves while peering with frightened eyes not only at the poor, but also at their peers. And those who have most hunt as desperately as those who have least, because ever since it wriggled out of the primeval swamp, Money has had two golden rules, and the first is: "THOU SHALT NOT DISCOVER HOW MUCH CONSTITUTES ENOUGH." This is the Great Mystery. Only Money knows, and it's not telling, because this is the source of its power.

Money is officially apolitical, non-racist and non-sexist; unofficially, it prefers the company of already-rich white men, although it will also accept a third-world tyrant calling himself Mr. President. Massive stocks of monies flood to the doors of porn pimps, arms manufacturers and torturers, while a few meagre specimens trickle to the unemployed and the welfare mother, or to the third world peasant stretching out despairing hands to catch one or two slippery shapes.

All over the world, rich people who have never known hunger consult with Money and together they decide what is the poverty line. And if a desperate welfare recipient snatches two dollars, a fat-salaried judge with all four feet in the trough slams him or her into prison, grunting, "Disgusting! Cheater! Your allocation is one dollar!"

In Canada, Money is mostly green, some parts are pink, a smaller part is blue or pale purple, but the protected underbelly has fifty and one-hundred dollar parts in red and brown respectively

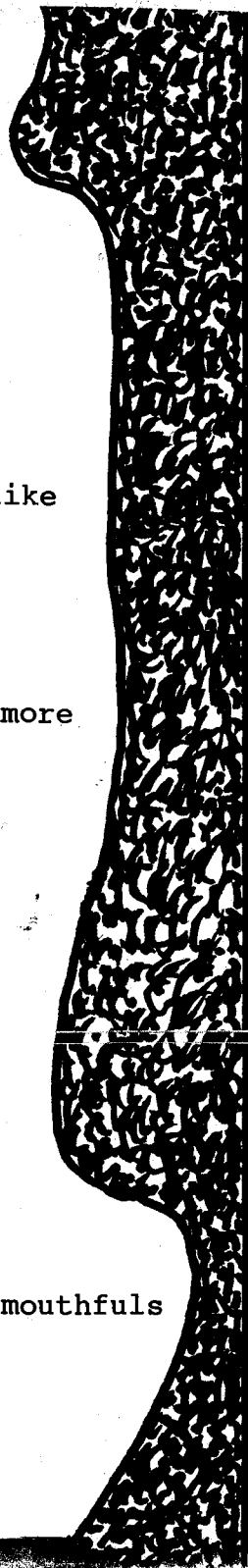
.....

and the most private part is royal purple, at one thousand dollars. The poor doubt that these last three exist because they've never seen them, and seeing is believing.

And before you can put Money in your pocket, government claims the biggest portion and the poorer people are, the more government takes from them because, after all, someone has to pay for programmes advising the poor how to fight their poverty!

Everyone watches Money circling, and rich and poor alike peer anxiously into the murky fiscal depths trying to anticipate where Money will surface next. But those with the biggest nets are government and Big Business, and when workers ask for more they are called "greedy" but if government wants more it is called "responsible" and if Big Business wants more it is called "enterprising." Sometimes, government brings out a White Paper and, in small print, it ruminates maybe this should change: then it gives millions to its friends for "Make Work" projects: millionaire tycoons who then employ ten workers for three months before closing down and obtaining more millions to do the same thing somewhere else.

And Jesus said, "That is not a fish. This is a fish," and He held up the gift of an innocent child and drew its shape in the sand so that the people would remember. Then He shared the fish among ten thousand, making sure everyone got a taste because it made Him ill to see some people swilling down one hundred, one thousand, one million mouthfuls while others sitting within plain view starved and wept, their bellies aching. And no-one went to bed hungry that night, neither did the universe collapse, but some people muttered among themselves and Money overheard and whispered to them his second and most important golden rule:



"THOU SHALT NEVER KNOW THAT THOU ART RICH,  
UNLESS THERE REMAIN IN COMPARISON WITH THEE  
OTHERS WHO ARE POOR."

And the thought of never knowing if they were rich  
terrified the people, and they erased  
the image in the sand, then nailed Jesus  
to wood, and gutted Him, and stretched Him  
out to dry in the hot sun.

And Money grew hungrier, and split his own tongue  
so that he could eat twice as much  
and the right fork he called "Boom"

and the left fork he called "Bust"  
and both sides spoke at once, confusing the people.  
Then Money dipped his tongue into Jesus' blood  
and, climbing to the top of a high mountain,  
wrote his second golden rule  
on a tablet of stone and sent it rolling  
down the centuries.

And even as it crushed many beneath it,  
the second rule garnered holiness unto itself  
because of its venerable age,  
and this is how poor people became utterly essential  
to rich people's economic health.

This is Money, that began life so small  
it could be held in the hand  
but which is now so bloated  
it has spread to the moon  
and is coiling around outer space.  
Now, its shadow looms over all the Earth  
and frightened governments everywhere bend the knee  
and offer up their citizenry  
to this One Whom to question  
is to blaspheme, this One Who, unlike Jesus,  
can never be nailed down,  
and Who is resurrected  
again and again and again  
more rapacious than yesterday.

Maureen McGregor

