

FREE - donations accepted.

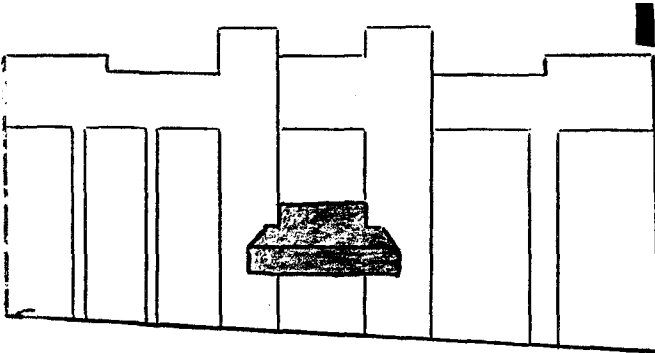
Carnegie

NEWSLETTER



JUNE 1, 1993.

401 Main St., Vancouver. V6A 2T7 (604)665-2289



THE GATHERING PLACE

SHE WOULDN'T TAKE NO

Garry
Gust

..And the voice said, as we moved from one very spacious area to another, "This will be the Weight Room...This will be the Pool Room...The Theatre...The Board games lounge..."

The voice belonged to Diane MacKenzie of "Diane MacKenzie is working Granville Street" fame, and she was showing the product of her work which is tentatively called "Gathering Place;" a modernized version of the Carnegie, located half a block off Granville, for the street people and residents of the "Wild Side."

Diane struggled against close to impossible odds to acquire the brand-spanking-new building, but her work is only half done. What remains is to devise a budget for the City in order to fill the now empty rooms with equipment and staff, and oversee their implementation.

Hopefully by early 1994 the community centre will be in full swing, offering a much needed Carnegie type alternative to taverns or hanging on the corner wondering what to do.

Ghost House

How many houses
flying along the streets
coliding with one another - no -
passing through one another?

Words,
images...

We're not talking
'my apples,
his pines...'
(But yes we are)

Old fence (the white-haired fellow)
good fence
good neighbours.

We have words
to fend
against
harsh winds.

Harsh winds for the young...
for the old....
for the homeless
seeming-strangers

We have words
to stop
the bleeding.

This ghost house is flying atwirl -
its furniture
left and right.

Your house may collide
with mine
and
merds arewixed -

TRESPASSING
PITCHFORKS
The big frown.

Or so it seemed to me
when I was alone and
beginning to comprehend -
what

love
could possibly be.
(so lost)

How many forms of love did I see?
Politics to families
moving
from place to place -
a solitary traveller has
hidden amours and loves

kind-tender-beliefs and
a will o' the wisp step
'mid the crowds
'mid the strangers.
'everybody's all strangers here, Mom.
but I have hold of your hand.'

I remember that
the sun was shining.

And I remember a sparrow
flitting on a branch
of a leafy tree.

and the breeze.

RC'93



OSCAR DERAS

showing works for
mes de junio.

exposición durante el
the month of june.

MUSIC, POETRY, w.
REFRESHMENTS
AND SNACKS.

Musica, poesia, refrescos, v..
nachos y quesito, venga que
no le costara un centavito!

JUNE 6TH 8 p.m

CERAFICAS (WAX & INK)
acrylics
and
OILS (OLEOS)

LA QUENA

COFFEE HOUSE
mon 11 am - 7 pm Tues - sun 11 am - 11 pm
1111 COMMERCIAL DRIVE
VANCOUVER, B.C. V5L 3X3
251-6626

REPLYING to an invitation to a Scientists' Ball:

- * Pierre and Marie Curie were radiating enthusiasm
- * Einstein thought it would be relatively to attend
- * Volta was electrified, and Archimedes was bouyant at the thought
- * Wilbur Wright accepted - provided he & his brother Orville could get a flight
- * Ampere was worried he wasn't up to current research
- * Ohm resisted the idea at first
- * Boyle said he was under too much pressure
- * Edison thought it would be an illuminating experience
- * Dr. Jekyll declined, saying he hadn't been feeling himself lately
- * Watt reckoned it would be a good way to let off steam
- * Stephenson thought the whole idea was loco
- * Morse's reply? "I'll be there on the dot. Can't stop now - must dash."

(Submitted by Gram)

HOUSING FORUM

Community Housing Forum

Sunday, June 13th

7pm - 9pm

at

Carnegie Centre

- * Who decides what kind of housing goes where in the Downtown Eastside & Strathcona?
- * Who decides how much money will be provided to build low cost housing here?
- * What is the difference between community based and client-based housing?
- * What are the alternatives to building institutional housing?

These are some of the questions that'll be discussed at a Housing Forum in the Carnegie Theatre on Sunday, June 13, 7-9pm.

The Forum is sponsored by the Carnegie Association, DERA & the Strathcona Residents' Association.

The Downtown Eastside & Strathcona have the widest disparity of housing in the city. There are over 100 condos that have either been built, are being built or are planned for the near future in the Gastown area. The prices range from \$100,000 to over a quarter million dollars. The asking price for single-family houses in Strathcona is in the \$250-300 thousand range. Places like this are way beyond the reach of most

people in the neighbourhood.

Meanwhile, just up the street, more and more institutional housing is being jammed into the area north of Hastings & east of Main. Places where the staff are service professionals & the residents are their clients are being concentrated along Alexander, Powell & Cordova Streets, on the edge of the light industrial area.

In fact, almost 40% of all the social & co-op housing buildings in the neighbourhood have been constructed in this part of the community. Strathcona & the Downtown Eastside west of Main, where the majority of the people in the neighbourhood live, each have less than 1/3 of all low-rent buildings & far less client-based housing.

These housing trends have developed over the last 10 years with little direct input from neighbourhood residents. We want the Housing Forum to address these issues & to help initiate a community-wide discussion about housing allocation in our part of the city.

A panel with people from BC Housing, the City & the community will discuss trends toward client-based housing & alternatives to it, zoning problems & housing programs and policies.

It is with this Lookout housing project as an example that the HOUSING FORUM is being held in Carnegie on June 13.

Lookout has been a housing resource for 23 years & has persistently advocated for good, affordable housing for all.

Dealing with the homeless & particularly specializing in those who fall between the cracks in the current housing situation - whatever that happens to be at the time. Due to a lack of beds, during the winter we turn away over 100 people per month & cannot locate other shelter.

The provincial gov't has finally recognised homelessness & those at risk of becoming homeless & has developed a housing strategy with funding to address issues.

Lookout has been allocated funding to build 50 units of affordable, self contained 1-bedrooms at 401 Alexander Street.

The target population is local residents of the area who are marginalised in some fashion - who have more difficulty with housing options. Eg. safe, secure housing for women; more housing for the mobility impaired; younger people.

Given that the funding is from a new source, eligibility constraints are more flexible. Under current BC Housing regs, no one under 45 can be housed unless they are disabled.

We want to take advantage of this situation & provide this housing to those most in need. This means we need to develop tenant selection criteria that best meets the local needs within the funding constraints we have.

This tenant selection criteria needs to be developed with the understanding that these are not care beds but housing for people who can live independently in the community. If they require services or support they will have to continue to be provided through existing community agencies & staff. Please be aware that though the provincial gov't, in its press release, stated these were beds for the mentally ill, this is not the case although some tenants may have this disability.



Lookout has struck a committee of local service workers to develop this tenant selection criteria. This will determine such issues as who gets into the housing & what the area boundaries should be to be considered a local resident. Eg. should the boundary be Hastings or Union? Cambie or Granville? Members include a worker from DERA, the Women's Centre, DEYAS and First Church. Carnegie also has a rep & a local businessperson will come. Any suggestions for others?

Like all other Lookout housing projects we will form a resident committee to build a sense of community within the building & to give input into the running of the apartment block.

Volunteers, ideas & help are welcomed!
Contact Karen O'Shannecery at 255-0340.



THE RELIGIOUS RIGHT SAILS ON



MARCH FOR JESUS (?)

City Council has voted to allow the March For Jesus to disrupt the neighbourhood once again.

Yes, folks, that's right. The wishes of Fraser Valley bible thumpers come before those of local residents.

They have the right to stomp through the area with synchronized sound trucks & music blasters, harassing those of us who refuse to follow thier way, and mill about in CRAB Park (ten thousand strong).

DERA representatives, staff of the Pan Pacific Hotel, the Four Sisters Co-op and

the Gastown merchants were unanimous in opposition to the proposed route. 5.

March organizers were asked by City Council to find a compromise solution, but refused to even consider a route along the waterfront which would have been much less disruptive.

They also seemed to think the people of our neighbourhood needed to have their souls saved more than the slumlords, abusers & crafters of planetary destruction in Shaughnessy, Point Grey or West Van.

We must already put up with the Indy, the PNE parade, bicycle races, jazz festivals, two rush hours a day, corporate pub crawlers, football rowdies, roaming packs of 2am beer-soaked neanderthals, film production crews, & so on & so on, ad nauseum.

You can all look forward to this "blessed event" on Saturday, June 12, 1993. Starting around 10am they will march along Hastings, Water & Alexander streets to Main

Since we once again won't be able to enjoy peace in our neighbourhood, residents of the community are encouraged to come out & show our appreciation for both the disruption & the unanimous Council endorsement of one more noisy spectacle on top of the pile we already have.

SHOPPING PROJECT

People in the neighbourhood are fed up with not having access to a reasonably priced grocery store that stocks what they need to buy.

There was a meeting on May 20 at Carnegie to discuss the issue. Community members had several good suggestions: one-stop shopping, job training, nutritional education, services for shut-ins, accessibility, community input in management.

Big chains are not seen as appropriate management of the store, which would be ideally located near or slightly west of Main & Hastings.

There will be more meetings at Strathcona Community Centre & at Ray-Cam in the near future. Watch for flyers or call John Norton on his pager at 893-9340 for info.

COMING TO CARNEGIE LIBRARY May - June

In addition to the services already available at Carnegie you'll be able to:

- * have books checked in & out by computer
- * receive training on how to use the computer catalogue of books
- * apply for a Vancouver Library card at Carnegie (brown plastic card)
- * place holds on books which are at other branches in Vancouver.

***Our policy is still no fines charged on Carnegie-only cards.

If you have any questions please ask!
(665-3010)

CARNEGIE KITCHEN KORNER

So, a while back one of our patrons, a somewhat new, sometime volunteer, became quite agitated toward a couple of our esteemed & hard-working 2nd floor staff. It seems the problem was our habit of "ripping off the poor" of the downtown east-side by charging 30 cents for one piece of toast. Well you can imagine how miffed we were in the kitchen that this was actually going on. So out into the streets I went, armed with only my trusty pen & 40¢, so that I could have a coffee while I was writing down the real prices of cafe-type food in the area.

Straight into Vic's Cafe I stormed. "How much for a piece of toast?" said I.

"Is that with jam, honey?"

"You betcha!"

"That'd be \$1.25 for two pieces of pure white..."

With mouth agape I stumbled out onto the street. Lemme see, at that price one piece would be, mmm, about 63 cents. What a shock! But obviously I started out at the wrong place.

Over to the Ovaltine I sped clutching my 40 cents ever tighter, knowing in my heart that I would find the true price in there.

"Can you tell me how much toast is?"

"Yes please, it is 90 cents for two pieces; also it is 15 cents for a packet of jam or peanut butter."

Egads, I thought, at Carnegie we have bowls of jam, peanut butter & honey that go with the cost of the toast, (not the whole bowl hopefully) & we even let the patrons cook their own bread (100% whole wheat of course).

Off I staggered to the Blue Eagle, the Hastings restaurant, B&J...it was the same story everywhere, & worse: sandwiches ranging from \$1.75 to over \$3.00, bowls of soup from \$1.60 to \$2.25. At our kitchen all our sandwiches are 75 cents, and our delicious soups are only 60¢ a bowl.

Bacon, eggs, hashbrowns & toast went from \$2.55 to \$2.95; our breakfasts cost \$1.50! \$1.65 for a bowl of hot cereal at Vic's; our porridge is 35¢ a bowl. We sell

a complete 3 or 4-course dinner for \$2.50 five days per week!


Trembling & weakened by the experience I lurched back into the Carnegie, barely making it up those spiral stairs onto the 2nd floor..'please be open this time' I thought. Aha it is open & there's June. I peeled my fingers back, exposing my 40¢. "Can I please have a cup of coffee?"

"Sure..& how much is a cup of coffee in the real world, eh?"

"... forgot to ask," I said confidently, slipping back into the kitchen. Some days it doesn't pay to find out just what is happening in the real world, does it?

Just a reminder to anyone wishing to learn how to make delicious Welsh soup, see John & join his soup class every Friday at 9 a.m. (TB test required). Also kitchen volunteer meeting now 2nd Wednesday of the month, & Nat does his cashier training Thursdays at 2 p.m.

'Til next time, Happy Eating...!



OLDER WOMEN'S
1st Tue.
of MONTH **DROP-IN**
REFRESHMENTS
MOVIES
TALKS

3:00 pm - 6:00 pm
509 East Hastings
THE NEIGHBOURHOOD
HELPERS PROJECT 254-6207

STATEMENT OF LEONARD PELTIER

Leonard Peltier has been honored with the request that he provide the commencement speech during the 1993 graduation ceremonies at Evergreen State College in Washington.

The following is the speech he has worked so hard to prepare. We hope you enjoy it!



Greetings to all of you my friends, & a special congratulations to this graduating class. I am truly honoured to have been chosen as this year's commencement speaker. This was both unexpected & exciting for me & I am proud to be one of the voices you will hear to mark the beginning of a new journey in your lives. I wish that I could have been present this day to see you sitting impatiently, waiting to finally burst into the "real" world, to see the start of a new dawn rising in your eyes. It's important to have these ceremonies, even if it begins to get too hot & everyone seems long-winded. Ceremonies are like landmarks in our lives. If you don't see at least a few of them, you get lost.

For many years it seemed that the light in my life was nearly lost. The only light I knew was the spark of hope ignited by my many supporters. Unlike most people trapped in the prison system, I have been fortunate in having a network behind me, keeping me linked to the outside world & keeping the injustice in my case before the public eye. My family & friends never abandoned me & I have made many friends over the years. This has helped me to maintain my strength, spirit & dignity through even the most difficult times. I

have learned so much these last 17 years, but life's most important lesson to me has been that we should care about each other enough to sacrifice for the good of our brothers and sisters.

By the time I reached the average age of those of you graduating in today's ceremony, I had seen many things that I want you to know about. It's not always pleasant to realize that in this land of plenty, the original inhabitants of this country were, and are, being denied their most basic human rights. By the time I had reached my twenties I had seen prejudice, hatred, violence, poverty, hunger, unemployment & addiction. All around me my people suffered. I had been taught, as I certainly hope you have, to help those who are less fortunate. Have I ever regretted my involvement? No.

I have been honored over time with awards for my political activities & struggle to change the poor living conditions on reservations & instill a sense of pride & worth into all indigenous children. These awards have meant a lot to me, but when I look out these barred windows & see so much work still needing to be done, I get a sense of urgency, of needing to physically be there again for my people. I have continued the struggle from here, attempting to secure scholarships for Native law students, fund-

ing a newspaper for Native kids, & helping to institute free health care & health care training on Rosebud Reservation. It's not enough. The unemployment rate is still high. Kids are still drinking & dropping out of school, not to mention the suicide statistics. When will we say, as the combined human family, "enough is enough!"? I pray with all my heart that you, responsible for the future of this country, remember these things & do something about them. An educated person is a fortunate person. I would have given anything to go to college, but the twists & turns of my life did not allow it. Treasure your education enough to share it with the many people who, for one reason or another, have been denied that basic right.

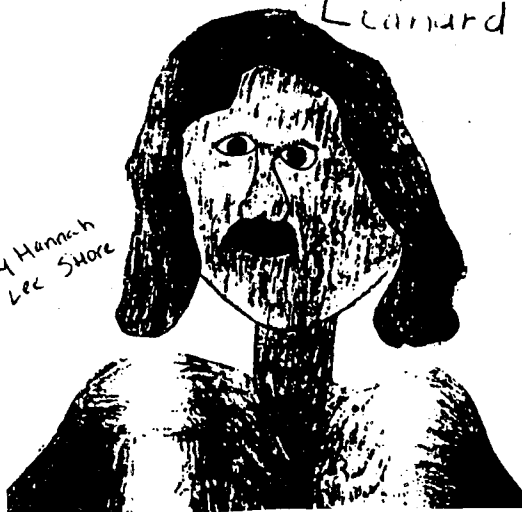
I've had to watch my own children grow up without me. Whether they know this or not, that is the hardest thing about being in prison. I pray for them, worry about them, and hope for their bright futures. It hurts me when they make mistakes & I cannot be there to help them. It hurts me to be a father & yet be denied the opportunity to be a daddy. I now have four beautiful grandchildren. I hope that soon I will be able to be a granddad for them. Maybe I will see them on a day like this one, dressed in cap & gown & waving to me through the crowd. Never could I imagine a prouder moment. I'm sure some of you didn't even want to attend this ceremony, but you had to please your family. Tolerate your parents' excitement this day, and if you can, share it! Be as proud of yourself as they are of you.

And the light is getting brighter & brighter. I feel in my heart that now is the beginning of a true time for healing between our Nations. When someone like myself can be elected as a commencement speaker at a respected institution like this one, well, that certainly illustrates that the tide is changing. Now, perhaps, we will be able to learn about & respect each other.

American Indians share a history rich in diversity, integrity, culture & tradition. It is also rich in tragedy, deceit & genocide. As the world learns of these atrocities & cries out for justice, the light I am seeing will ignite, & together we will

Justice Free
Leonard

By Hannah
Lee Shore



be able to watch it grow until there is justice for all people everywhere. No human being should ever have to fear for his or her life because of their political or religious beliefs. We are in this together, my friends, the rich & poor, the red, white, black, brown & yellow. We share responsibility for Mother Earth & those who live & breathe upon her. Never forget that.

I want out of prison & I am counting on the help of every one of you to ensure my release, but that will only be a new beginning. From that point onward I pray that you will remain active in the struggle for the rights of indigenous people. I hope to gather volunteers who are both educated & dedicated to work, hands-on, on each needy reservation. This is my dream & it can only become reality with your help. We are not the only ones counting on you. Our grandchildren, and yours, are counting on you too.

I want to thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak to you today & for this wonderful honor given me to be with you in spirit as you celebrate this important moment in your lives. Good luck. I love you & will not forget your kindness.

In the Spirit of Crazy Horse,
Leonard Gwarth-ee-las Peltier

Just Like Crazy Horse

by Joe Falco

9.

It happened on June 26, 1975, on the Pine Ridge Reservation
The events of that day would forever change this nation
In no time two FBI agents and a Native American were killed
At the trial that followed, the wheels of justice were stilled.

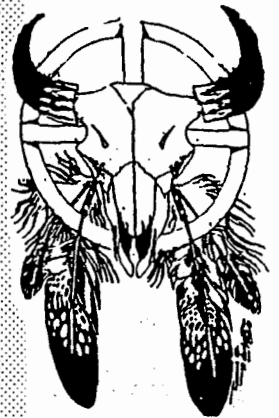
The Feds are not welcomed on Indian lands
Especially when they arrive with guns in their hands
GOON squads had long been terrorizing the people there
The situation was a powder keg, sparks flew through the air.

It all happened so fast and when the smoke finally cleared
The end results were far worse than most people had feared
Soon an intensive manhunt began; someone was to blame
When the dust finally settled, the Feds had their man's name.

Under duress, witnesses identified Leonard Peltier
He was an AIM leader, he could not be in the clear
To this day there is no proof that Leonard fired that gun
Yet despite coerced testimony, he was declared the guilty one.

He was given a double-life sentence with little chance of parole
An innocent man wasting his life in a federal hell hole
Sandbagged by the system, Peltier deserves a new trial
Our government has been doing in the Indian for quite a while.

Broken treaties, poor living conditions, unemployment, arid land
Removal of the bison, diseases, manifest destiny, genocide planned
Lies built upon lies; our government never shows any remorse
In a way Leonard Peltier was done in just like Crazy Horse.



JUNE 26TH: PELTIER DAY!

Leonard Peltier Defense Committee invites you to participate in making June 26th Leonard Peltier Day. We are hoping to see global involvement in remembrance of the 18th anniversary of the shootout at the Jumping Bull residence in Oglala, South Dakota, & to commemorate the years Leonard has sacrificed from his life to bring attention to the needs of Native peoples.



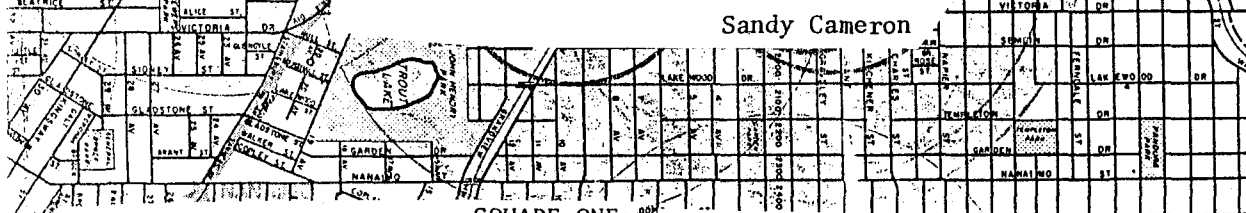
Carmanah

In the Carmanah Valley
the trees are five hundred years old -
and the silence
is older than the trees.

In the Carmanah Valley the Sitka spruce is at home
The small squirrel is at home.
The traveller is at home there.

Carmanah, in its beauty, speaks to us,
and tells us who we are and ought to be.
Whose voice is this which comes from
such a distance
that we can scarcely hear it?

How do we know we're lost
unless we know that there's a place
we've got to get to?
What have we forgotten?



Sandy Cameron

SQUARE ONE:

A painted door leans unhinged
against the wall

Perspectives change
Geometrys rearrange
Sounds are mixed with silence
in a giant theatre where
I'm waiting late at night

In the next room
Earth is being born
Between the thighs of space

War is not between you & me
but between technologically
amplified systems of magic
where TV talks lights go on
lights go off doors slam radios play
footsteps come & go in some
imperfect way that makes
tonight familiar

If we had never invented the first game
would there be real estate?

Would there be corporate security?

If the first chessboard had
fallen into the fire or
into the hands of children
who floated it down the river
for a raft would there be

the grid of
gain or loss?

Would we still have planted
flags on the moon if
the heart of being human
had survived?

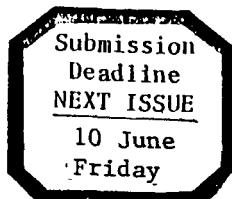
If the way the wind still moves
the trees had settled in the
way we walk & breathe
& the natural yogas of wind & fire
had not piled up in the back room
or had their roots removed by bulldozers!

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

Out-to-Lunch Bunch meets daily at 59 Powell, 10am - 2:30.

1993 DONATIONS

Stuart M. - \$50	Adbusters - \$50
Kettle F.S. - \$16	Wayne H. - \$2.50
Bert T. - \$10	Legal Aid - \$50
Etienne S. - \$50	Mary C. - \$25
Lisa E. - \$10	Abby K. - \$5
Matt - \$20	Paula R. - \$20
Keith C. - \$20	Steve T. - \$15
	Anonymous - \$65
<u>Help in the Downtown Eastside (funds)</u>	
Social Services - \$1,000	
Vancouver Health Dept. - \$11	



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.

NEED HELP ?

The Downtown Eastside Residents' Association
 can help you with:

- * any welfare problem
- * 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's General Membership meeting is on the last Friday
of every month in Carnegie Theatre, starting at 10:30 am.

DERA HAS BEEN SERVING THE
 DOWNTOWN EASTSIDE FOR 20 YEARS.

Masters of mankind: Notes on NAFTA

ESSAY / By Noam Chomsky

* Supranational economic institutions are the generals in the new international class war. Trade agreements are the weapons. Democracy is the loser.

Throughout history, Adam Smith observed, we find the workings of the "vile maxim of the masters of mankind": "All for ourselves & nothing for other people." The invisible hand, he wrote, will destroy the possibility of a decent human existence "unless government takes pains to prevent" this outcome, as must be assured in "every improved and civilized society."

The masters of mankind in Smith's day were the "merchants and manufacturers" who were the "principal architects" of state policy. In our day the masters are, increasingly, the supranational corporations & financial institutions that dominate the world economy, including trade - a dubious name for a system in which some 40 percent of U.S. trade takes place within companies, centrally managed by the same highly visible hands that control planning, production & investment.

The World Bank reports that protectionist measures of the industrialized countries reduce national income in the South by about twice the amount of official aid to the region - aid that is itself largely export promotion, most of it directed to richer sectors (less needy, but better consumers). In the past decade, most of the rich countries have increased protectionism, with the Reaganites often leading the way in the crusade against economic liberalism. These practices, along with the programs dictated by the International Monetary Fund & the World Bank, have helped double the gap between rich & poor countries since 1960.

The international class war is reflected

in the United States, where real wages have fallen to the level of the mid-1960s. Wage stagnation, extending to the college educated, changed to sharp decline in the mid-1980s, in part a consequence of the decline in 'defence spending', our euphemism for the state industrial policy that allows 'private enterprise' to feed at the public trough. More than 17 million workers were unemployed or underemployed by mid-1992. Economic Policy Institute economists Lawrence Mishel & Jared Bernstein report - a rise of 8 million during the Bush years. Of the limited gain in total wealth in the '80s, "70 percent accrued to the top one percent of income earners, while the bottom lost absolutely," according to MIT economist Rudiger Dornbusch.

Structures of government have tended to coalesce around economic power. The process continues. In the London Financial



Ballots are superseded by international financial arrangements and globalization brings about the spread of the Third World social model: islands of enormous privilege in a sea of misery and despair.

Times, James Morgan describes the "de facto world government" that is taking shape in the "new imperial age": the IMF, World Bank, Group of 7 industrialized nations, General Agreement on Tariffs & Trade (GATT) & other institutions designed to serve the interests of transnational corporations, banks & investment firms.

One valuable feature of these institutions is their immunity from popular influence. Elite hostility to democracy is deep rooted, understandably.

It is within this framework that the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) & GATT should be understood. Note first that such agreements have only a limited



relation to free trade. One primary US objective is increased protection for "intellectual property," including software, patents for seeds & drugs, & so on. The US International Trade Commission estimates that American companies stand to gain over \$61 billion a year from the Third World if US protectionist demands are satisfied at GATT (as they were in NAFTA), at a cost to the South that will dwarf the current huge flow of debt-service capital to the North.

Such measures are designed to ensure that US-based corporations control the technology of the future, including biotechnology, which, it is hoped, will allow protected private enterprise to control health, agriculture & the means of life generally, locking the poor majority into dependence & hopelessness. The same methods are being employed to undermine Canada's annoyingly efficient health services by imposing barriers to the use of generic drugs, thus sharply raising costs - & profits to state-subsidised US corporations.

NAFTA also includes intricate "rules of origin" requirements designed to keep foreign competitors out. Two hundred pages

are devoted to rules to ensure a high percentage of value added in North America (protectionist measures that should be increased, some US opponents of NAFTA argue). Furthermore, the agreements go far beyond trade (itself not really trade but in large part intracompany transfers, as noted).

NAFTA is an executive agreement, reached on August 12, 1992, just in time to become a major issue in the US presidential campaign. It was mentioned, but barely. To give just one example of how debate was precluded, take the case of the Labor Advisory Committee (LAC), established by the Trade Act of 1974 to advise the executive on any trade agreement. The LAC, which is based in the unions, was informed that its report on NAFTA was due on Sept. 9. The text of this intricate treaty was provided to it one day before. In its report, the LAC notes; "the administration refused to permit any outside advice on the development of this document & refused to make a draft available for comment." The situation in Canada & Mexico was similar. In such ways, we approach the long-sought ideal: formal democratic procedures that are devoid of meaning, as citizens scarcely have an idea of the policies that will shape their lives.

The LAC concluded that the treaty would be a bonanza for investors but would harm US workers & probably Mexicans as well. One likely consequence is an acceleration of migration from rural to urban areas as Mexican corn producers are wiped out by US agribusiness, depressing still further wages that have already dropped sharply in recent years & are likely to remain low, thanks to the harsh repression that is a crucial element of the highly touted Mexican "economic miracle."

NAFTA "will have the effect of prohibiting democratically elected bodies at all levels of gov't from enacting measures deemed inconsistent with the provisions of the agreement," the LAC report continues, including those on the environment, workers' rights, & health & safety, all open to challenge as "unfair restraint of trade".

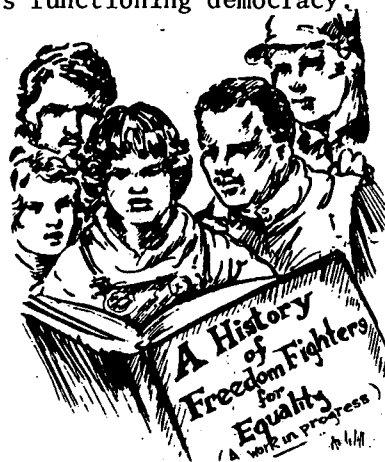
Such developments are already under way

in the framework of the US-Canada "free trade" agreement. Included are efforts to require Canada to abandon measures to protect the Pacific salmon, to bring pesticide & emissions regulations in line with laxer US standards, to end subsidies for re-planting after logging & to bar a single payer auto insurance plan in Ontario that would cost US insurance companies hundreds of millions of dollars in profits. Meanwhile Canada has charged the US with violating "fair trade" by imposing EPA standards on asbestos use & requiring recycled fibre in newsprint.

One consequence of the globalization of the economy is the rise of new governing institutions to serve the interests of private transnational economic power. Another is the spread of the Third World social model, with islands of enormous privilege in a sea of misery & despair. A walk thru any American city gives human form to the statistics on quality of life, distribution of wealth, poverty & employment. Increasingly, production can be shifted to high-repression, low-wage areas & directed to privileged sectors of the global economy. Large parts of the population thus become superfluous for production & perhaps even as a market, unlike the days when Henry Ford realized that he could not sell cars unless his workers were paid enough to buy cars themselves.

Particular cases fill out the picture. GM is planning to close almost two dozen plants in the States & Canada, but it has become the largest private employer in Mexico. It has also opened a \$690 million plant in Eastern Germany where employees are willing to "work longer hours than their pampered colleagues in Western Germany," at 40 percent of the wage & with few benefits, as the Financial Times cheerily explains. The return of much of Eastern Europe to its traditional service role offers new opportunities to corporations to reduce costs, thanks to "rising unemployment & pauperization of large sections of the industrial working class" in the East as capitalist reforms proceed, according to the Financial Times.

These processes will continue independently of NAFTA. But, as explained by Eastman Kodak chairman Kay Whitmore, the treaty may "lock in the opening of Mexico's economy so that it can't return to its protectionist ways." It should enable Mexico "to solidify its remarkable economic reforms," comments Michael Alto, director of economic studies at the Council on Foreign Relations, referring to the "economic miracle" for the rich that has devastated the poor majority. It may fend off the danger noted by a Latin American development workshop at the Pentagon in September 1990, which found current relations with the Mexican dictatorship to be "extraordinarily positive", untroubled by stolen elections, death squads, endemic torture, scandalous treatment of workers & peasants, & so on, but which saw one cloud on the horizon: "a democracy opening in Mexico could test the special relationship by bringing into office a government more interested in challenging the US on economic & nationalistic grounds." As always, the basic threat is functioning democracy.



The trade agreements override the rights of workers, consumers & the future generations who cannot "vote" in the market on environment issues. They help keep the public "in its place". These are not necessary features of such agreements, but they are natural consequences of the great success of the past years in reducing democracy to empty forms, so that the vile maxim of masters can be pursued without undue interference.

Leave cooking wine in grocery stores, says A-G

By Barbara McLintock
Victoria Bureau

Cooking wine should stay on grocery-store shelves, even if some stores irresponsibly sell it to street alcoholics, says Attorney-General Colin Gabelmann.

The A-G says it's up to local government authorities to deal with the stores, perhaps by taking away business licences.

"City licensing has a role to play in ensuring that only appropriate sales are made," said Gabelmann.

Some groups in Victoria want to limit sale of the wines — some of which have an alcohol content of more than 40 per cent — to liquor

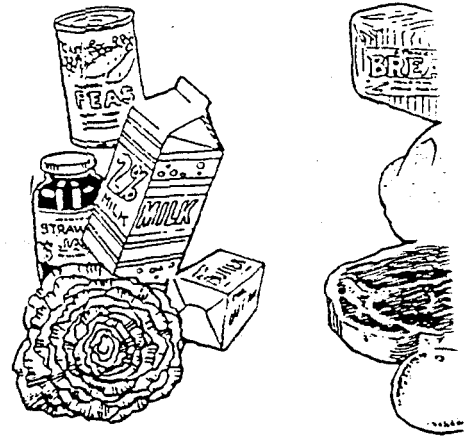
stores.

The wine, which is very salty, is allowed to be sold in grocery stores because it is not considered to be a beverage.

And Gabelmann says he thinks that's where it should stay, because it has an important role in Chinese cooking.

"This is appropriately sold in grocery stores as long as it's properly handled," he said.

Victoria city council has scheduled a hearing to discuss whether it should take away the business licence of a store that has repeatedly sold the wine to street alcoholics despite warnings from police and the Chinese community.



Editor,

I'm a bit if not somewhat confused with the current teacher's strike. I hope it's over by the time this is published but I feel I should talk about it.

Being a staff person I'm in the VMREU so in solidarity I should be on the teachers' (or the union's) side of the issue. But I am not. Education is a fundamental necessity; that literacy is a basic right in the eyes of the United Nations. So why do unions and school boards deny these rights through their own lack of compromise. And Carnegies' users of the Learning Centre & computer room are so distanced by the outcome of this strike yet their international rights to literacy & education are being denied right here in Carnegie? Wasn't a Learning Centre put in here to address the lack of education

facilities in the D.E.! Staff here in the L.C. have a right to support fellow union members, fight for their needs too but should they deny access to the service that, in my opinion, is the most important one here? LC VESTA members in principal should support the teachers demands and in doing so help get some of the benefits they're asking for. But realistically what kind of impact would there be on the School Board to compromise if Carnegies' Learning Centre is closed? I believe this issue is more an issue of denial of peoples' international rights to education & literacy in their own neighborhood rather than a pay increase, or paid sick leave, full time staff or seniority, which most Carnegie Staff as union members don't have.

Steve Rose

The Dauphin

The porpoise he is, bobbing up & down
in the surface of the ocean,
He the Dauphin is smart,
He is smarter than most creatures
of the sea,
Man sensed this a long time ago
The dauphin speaks in his own language
Man communicates back in other ways
In short, the dauphin is a link
to sea creatures of depths below...

Barry Saunders

The Shark

He lurks the oceanbed, preying for
morsels of food,
The smell of blood lures him & his mates
to a feast,
But sometimes the shark is out of sync
and attacks man.
The shark is huge & unlike the lion on land
He, the shark, is king of the ocean depths

Barry Saunders

The Ocean

The ocean & its seawall at the beach
on a sunny day, in the bay,
Ships are docked, mountains' splendour
with thier snow-capped tops
Boats & sailboats do their thing
Seagulls flock together in abundance
around the coast.

The ocean can be kind & beautiful
sometimes,
But it can be dangerous & treacherous too

The ocean - respect its powers
or leave it alone

Barry Saunders

STILLNESS OF THE WATER

The tide of the ocean comes in,
The tranquility of it & the silence alone,
Lights from ships beaming down in the bay,
With reflections like glass beaming back
The sky above with stars abreast of you
It is like a mirror on the wall
But the calmness & the stillness of the water
of kiki birds mating
tranquility and the stillness of the water
Makes the place so calm & peaceful
forever more...

Barry Saunders

The DoGooder's "Lest We Be Found Out"

I have always said Canadians "not to be
mixed up with Native People" are one of
the most discriminating, if not the lead-
ing culprits in treatment of ethnic people.
They put on a front for the whole world to
see of sending billions of dollars overseas
...number one hypocrits as we will know.

Everyday we read in the papers "Discrim-
ination" against Native Peoples. Clean up
your act now Canada! We're fed up with
your bullshit!

A.Militant

American Negro

Time was forgotten
my hand saw life.
There under cotton
She brought me to life.

The years slowly passed
but the season remain
In Dixie I grew up
and worked in the laine.

I knew that she cared
and so tenderly
Old eyes of crying
came tired to the lee.

Rodway Balkwin & Ron Carten

Save CRAB Park
from Tourist Takeover

The man in artist Tora's drawing is shooting up dollar bills. There are many kinds of addictions: Power. Money. Greed.

The driving force for developers of the many megaprojects on the doorstep of the Downtown Eastside may be an addiction. We need human scale development, not megaproject madness - we don't need overbuilt, too high rich ghettos.

The Port of Vancouver Corporation could put the double-pier cruise-ship facility on the North Shore of Burrard Inlet, away from the fragile, family recreational park. Up to 4000 tourists would be getting off these ships. That's far too many out-of-area, upper-income tourists to be landed so near to sensitive birdmarsh areas & children's programs.

We need the pedestrian overpass at Columbia Street - for essential access & contact with our neighbourhood park. Crab Park is a crucial safety valve in the Downtown Eastside.

Let's see an early real promise for low-income, core-needy housing on these Port Corporation lands.

Don Larson



Well folks, here I sit at Crab Park, listening to the geese & other birds. this park attracts.

It's slightly windy right now 'cause a helijet just landed.

This Park brings me so much peace and tranquility..the sky is so blue..the sun is so warm. Air is clear & easy to digest - very little pollution - except when someone walks by smoking a cig.

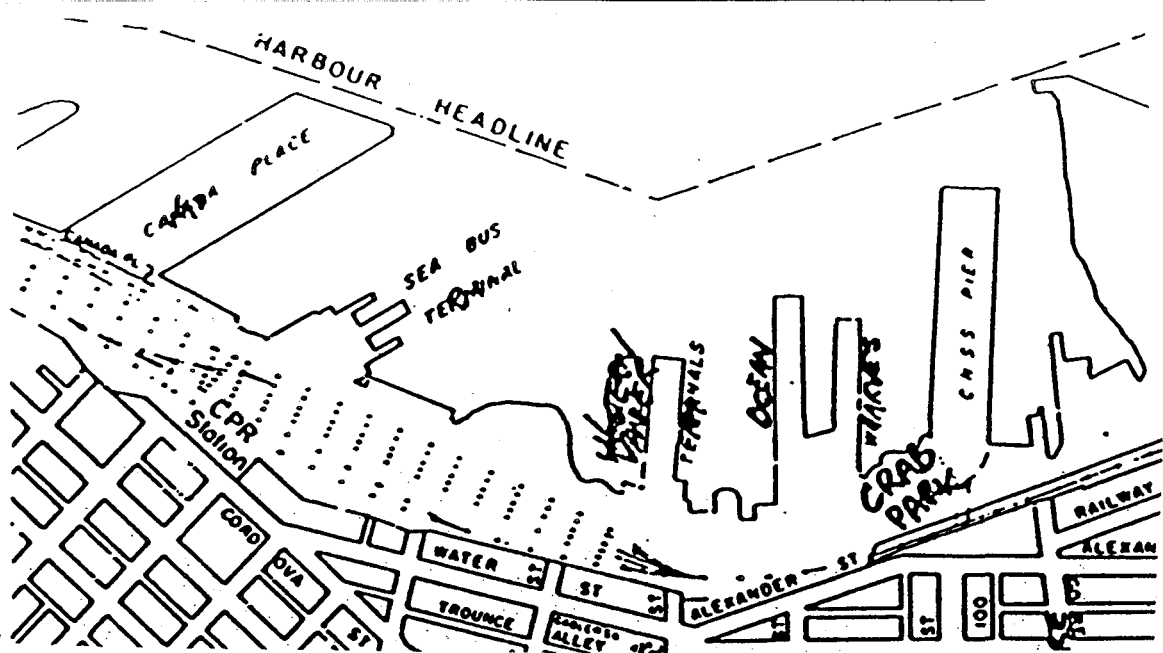
Soon, folks, we won't have a park...if Ports Canada, CPRailways & some City officials have their way.

It's time for us to take our own action. I'm tired of delays for our pedestrian overpass. Talk to myself, Jeff Sommers or Paul Taylor. We are making plans. We had a special meeting after the City had their meeting here in Carnegie. We need to be heard & taken seriously.

No more waiting.

Some people go on strike; some quit or give up. I'm not doing either. I'll fight to the end..come & join us soon!

By MARGARET PREVOST



THE FUTURE OF CRAB PARK

- Public relations reps from the City, the Port Corp. & "the architect" came to a meeting in Carnegie. It was part of the process. About 25 people were there - the meeting was The Future of CRAB Park.

- The Port & City have decided to develop the waterfront. When asked what was in the plans, the answer was "That's what we are hear to find out - from YOU!" (In the Sun, the same day, was a bold headline & story "SECOND CANADA PLACE IN THE WORKS".

- When asked if the water would be filled the answer was "We'll put in some fill" & the PR guy quickly changed the subject.

- It was a fine example of the Port at it's best in an old game. Now, before doing what they want they hold lots of public meetings, let anyone & everyone say their piece, THEN do what they want.

As Jeff Sommers said, "Every time we get involved with the Port we get screwed. It's time we take matters into our own hands to get justice. If we play their game by their rules, we'll lose again."



Three weeks ago one of our volunteers suffered a vicious, cowardly attack while having a beer at the Regent. It started with the theft of some money & when he went to get it back he was sucker-punched. As a result he had a broken cheekbone; an inch closer & he would've lost an eye.

Don has pressed charges & is now being threatened by this same group os jamtarts. He has had to leave his home because they have harassed him there. He is wary of walking in the downtown area.

This letter is to let Don know that we at Carnegie are behind him & are looking out for him. This is to let him know that we will not tolerate any threats made to him in this building. Also, on the street, he has more friends than he realizes.

So come on back Don, & don't worry about these jerks.

One Pissed Guy



POTATO HEADS

by


N. SPOONER

My goodness dear,
what lovely country.
Side!



Oh I'm so glad we decided
to stop for a bit, even
though we're almost there!



Wait till I tell my
friends at the Seniors
centre I picniced
by a beaver dam.
They would love it here!

Wow! Incredible! I'm all out of
breath, hello! ... Could you
hide these potatoes for me? You
could hide them with you!
Stuff here, the cops are after them
don't tell them you saw me!



They're called
Cariboo Potatoes &
they're illegal -
we've got to save the
seed. I gotta go - the
Potatoe Police are right
on my trail. Thanks a lot, bye!

That sign there says 'Welcome to
Trash Creek.' Is this that garbage
dump we've been hearing about?



And all
these logging
tracks, there's
whole forests
going by.
It's like
a mass
funeral!



Look at those
long lines, chief
they're all
headed west
Just get
Potatoes!

Yes that was one of the
comment members you met.
Some others have just
gone to hide some Green
Mountain Potatoes as well.
The potato police are raiding our rest
cellar. And if you could plant
them you'd be saving the Cariboo
Potatoe from extinction!

Milki Spooner May '92

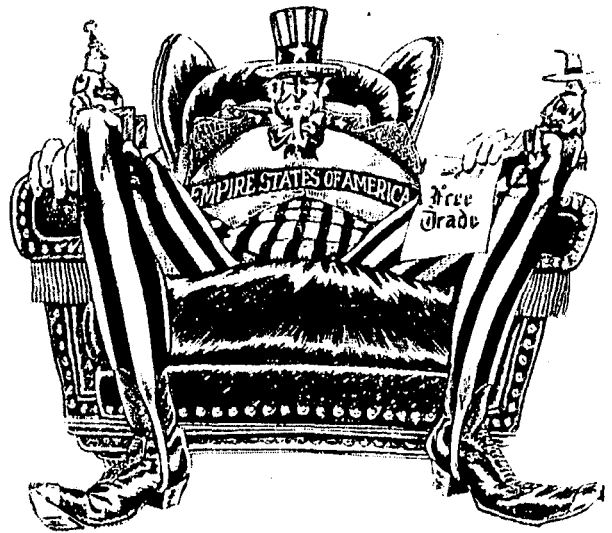
The NAFTA Side-Bar Negotiations -- An Exercise in Political Deception ?

It appears that a political conflict is brewing over the current efforts to negotiate a set of side-bar accords to the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). On the one hand, U.S. President Bill Clinton is demanding a new set of parallel accords on labour rights and environmental safeguards before he submits NAFTA and its implementing legislation to Congress. On the other hand, Prime Minister Brian Mulroney is resisting proposals to include effective labour and environmental provisions, with strong enforcement mechanisms, and is prepared to rush Canada's implementing legislation through Parliament before the side bar deals have been negotiated.

Yet, this emerging political conflict may well turn out to be an exercise of political deception. Sooner or later, it is bound to become clear that NAFTA cannot be "fixed" by side-bar deals. After all, the major components of NAFTA itself have been designed in such a way that they both contradict and cancel out the objectives of a labour commission as proposed by the Clinton Administration. Even if an effective set of labour and environmental commissions were established, with strong enforcement measures, they would necessitate a reopening of the key elements of NAFTA for renegotiation. Clinton has repeatedly assured Mulroney (and Mexican President Salinas) that this is not in the cards.

Labour Rights?

On the surface, President Clinton's proposals for a North American Commission on Labour sound promising.



But when you read the fine print, you see that its final form could range anywhere from a small office "with three fax machines" to a powerful agency with dispute-settling teeth and the ability to impose trade sanctions. At the end of the day, the token fax machine version will likely win out. Why? Because the core of NAFTA -- especially its chapters on investment, market access, rules of origin, and technical standards -- contain provisions which mitigate against the recognition of labour rights.

For example, competition based on cheap labour is a central feature of the free trade model that underlies NAFTA and its predecessor, the U.S.-Canada Free Trade Agreement (FTA). Industries are openly encouraged to move to locations with the lowest wages. To attract and keep profitable investment, governments are compelled to generate lower wage conditions.

The stringent content rules in NAFTA, coupled with extended deregulation measures, will also serve to further weaken Canada's auto, textile, transportation and telecommunications industries, throwing thousands more Canadians out of work.

NAFTA's investment code will prevent our governments from requiring that transnational companies provide jobs in exchange for access to our markets. Nor will they be able to promote local firms (and local hiring) by giving them preference in the government purchase of goods and services. American and Mexican firms, under NAFTA will have to be treated the same as domestic firms.

SAY BOBBA? I CAUGHT TAKEN ILLEGAL CANADIANS TRYING TO SNEAK INTO MEXICO TO FIND WORK.



NAFTA also threatens Canada's worker assistance programs. Government aid for worker training and regional development projects, for example, could all be challenged as "unfair trade subsidies."

Canada's occupational health and safety standards might not pass NAFTA's test of "risk assessment." If, for example, a Canadian government threatened to shut down a manufacturing plant for refusing to meet the higher Canadian standards, the government might have to prove that the health and safety threat to workers was greater than the threat to their livelihood if the plant were not allowed to operate.

Environmental Safeguards ?

The U.S. proposal to set up a North American Commission on the Environment also has serious shortcomings. Its function would be confined to monitoring adherence to NAFTA's environmental goals by the three countries. It would have no enforcement powers, and, even if it did, they would be cancelled out by several sections of NAFTA itself.

The section on energy, for example, in effect, precludes energy conservation through export quota, export taxes or subsidies. The resource section commits Canada to providing the U.S. with a perpetual supply of our natural resources - forest, fish and mineral, as well as oil and gas -- even in times of shortages. Both of these NAFTA components will accelerate the dangers of global warming and ozone layer depletion.

(NOT ANOTHER F-----
TRADE AGREEMENT)



The rush on Canada's resources may even include our water, since NAFTA

treats water as just another "good" to be exported. This raises the spectre of Canada's northern river systems being diverted to the U.S., with the severe environmental damage that could be caused by the flooding of large land tracts and the loss of wildlife habitats.

NAFTA's "risk assessment" method for harmonizing national standards would lower instead of raising environmental protection. If for example, Canada were to prohibit investment in a manufacturing plant because it failed to meet our standards for toxic waste emission, NAFTA would require us to prove that the resulting environmental hazard posed more or a risk to workers than the economic loss of new jobs.

It's true that NAFTA permits a country to encourage "generally agreed environmental or conservation rules or standards." But that clause is qualified by the proviso that such rules and standard "must be the least trade restrictive necessary." It's a proviso that could be used to weaken or even eliminate some of our more effective conservation programs.

Furthermore, the "national treatment" clause in NAFTA will almost surely lead to greater foreign control of our national resources. In British Columbia, for

example, 43 per cent of Crown forest lands already are owned by foreigners. Under NAFTA, that trend could not be curbed, even if our governments wished to do so.

None of these environmental and labour problems inherent in the NAFTA text can be corrected, or even moderated, by parallel accords. The core elements in NAFTA will simply override anything that may emerge from these side-bar negotiations. What's needed, instead, is a whole new round of negotiations aimed at reaching a fair trade agreement in which labour and environmental objectives would have a central rather than a peripheral role.

The Clinton Administration is widely viewed as marking the end of the era of "Reaganomics." But the market-driven philosophy of Reagan-Bush years remains embodied in both the FTA and NAFTA. If President Clinton is serious about launching a more progressive economic policy, he should start by scrapping his predecessors' defective trade deals, rather than trying to make them look better with cosmetic codicils. To do otherwise, would be an act of political deception.

Tony Clarke
National Chair
ACN

PUNCHLINE
BY @CHRISTIAN

SEÑOR, HERE IN THE MEXICAN COUNTRYSIDE 80% OF OUR CHILDREN ARE MALNOURISHED...

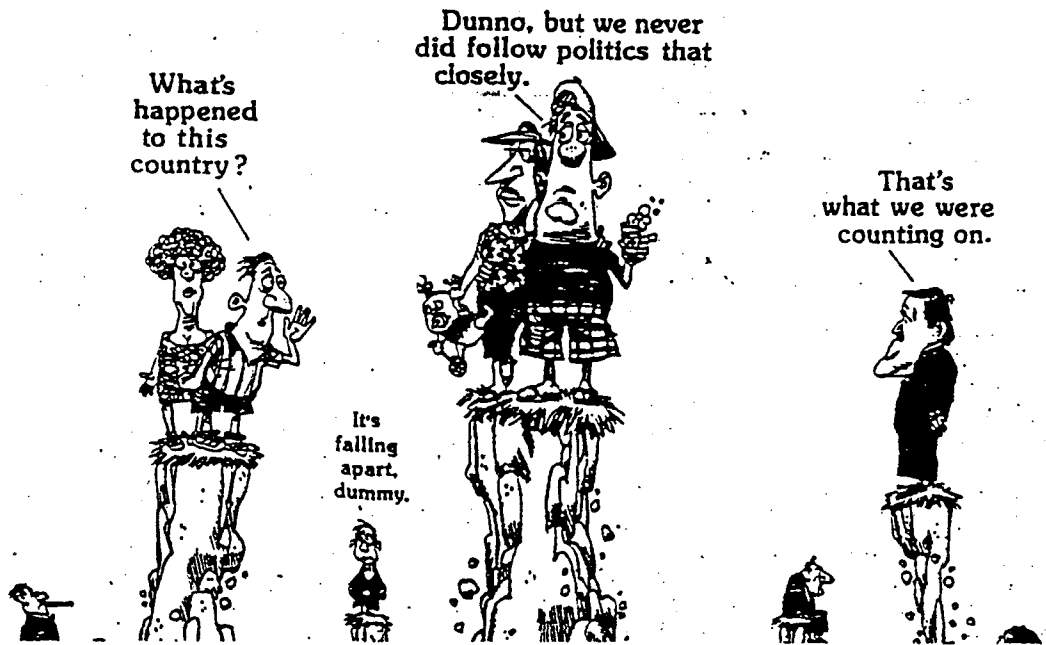
THE BIG HACIENDAS LIVESTOCK CONSUMES MORE GRAIN THAN OUR ENTIRE RURAL POPULATION...

AND MUCH OF THAT MEAT IS THEN EXPORTED TO THE U.S!!

YES I KNOW! THIS IS CALLED THE "TRICKLE DOWN" THEORY OF DEVELOPMENT!!

I KNOW, I'M GETTING USED TO BEING TRICKLED ON...





Fair Taxes Will Decrease National Debt

In an article in The Globe & Mail April 6/93, Murray Dobbin from Saskatoon explained why tax breaks to wealthy Canadians and large corporations were a major cause of the deficit.

A 1991 Statistics Canada study revealed that 50% of our national debt was due to the failure of gov't to collect money (revenue) in proportion to the increase of Canada's wealth.

In 1980 revenue lost from untaxed corporate profits was \$10 billion. In 1987 revenue lost from untaxed corporate profits was \$27 billion.

In 1992 about 60,000 profitable corporations in Canada will pay no taxes.

Mr. Dobbin reminds us that wealthy individuals in Canada face among the lowest taxes of any country in the Organization for Economic Co-operation & Development (OECD). One result of low taxes for the wealthy is that Canada has more billionaires per capita than any other country in the world. Canada & Australia are the only two industrial countries that have no estate tax. Although half the countries of Europe have a net wealth tax, Canada does not have one.

According to the '91 Stats Canada study,

44% of our national debt (deficit) was due to interest charges on the debt, & just 6% was due to increases in gov't spending. Spending on social programs accounted for about 2% of the total national debt.

Yet it is social spending that big business attacks. Such narrow-minded self-interest is breath-taking in its mean-spirited avariciousness. (Greed.)

We need an authentic national debate on the deficit & how to manage it, but it's not likely we'll get a debate in the corporate media. High interest rates, high unemployment, & tax breaks & loopholes for the wealthiest Canadians & largest corporations need to be examined in the light of the common good.

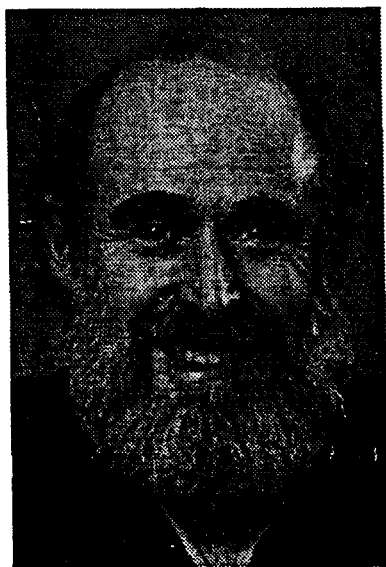
Another national debate we need, & probably won't get in the corporate media, is a debate on Canada's tragic social deficit. It has been well-documented that increasing rates of poverty & unemployment bring increasing rates of family breakdown, family violence, malnutrition, infant mortality, child abuse, youth alienation, alcohol & drug abuse, suicide, mental illness, rape, homicide, and property crime.

We will prevail, though. After all, no lie can live forever.

By SANDY CAMERON

YOU'VE GOT THE WRONG ONE, BABY

*The Commercialization of
Canadian Life American Style
& How We're Blowing It*



Glen Erikson Photo

Come hear the insightful author
and public policy consultant:

HERSCHEL HARDIN

**7:30 pm, Wednesday
June 2nd, 1993**

**Robson Square Conference Centre
N. E. Corner, Robson & Hornby
Vancouver FREE ADMISSION**

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We are dedicated to enhancing and preserving Canadian Sovereignty. We oppose NAFTA, the Mulroney trade deal and its hollowing of our economy and growing unemployment; the undermining of our medical care and social programmes, the attacks upon the CBC, and the devaluing of our political process.

We are proud Canadians, young and old, from every walk of life and from every part of Canada who believe, as much as possible, in today's world, that the decisions affecting Canadian economic, political, cultural and social sovereignty should be made in Canada by Canadians.

Members include Margaret Atwood, David Suzuki, Doris Anderson, Pierre Berton, Maude Barlow, Andrienne Clarkson, Eric Klerans and over 20,000 others who feel our Canada is special.