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Carnegie

NEWSLETTER



AUGUST 1, 1993.

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

RAW

A dynamic publication has started in Victoria; it's called PERIODIC OUTBURSTS. The people contributing are Readers, Activists & Writers - RAW.

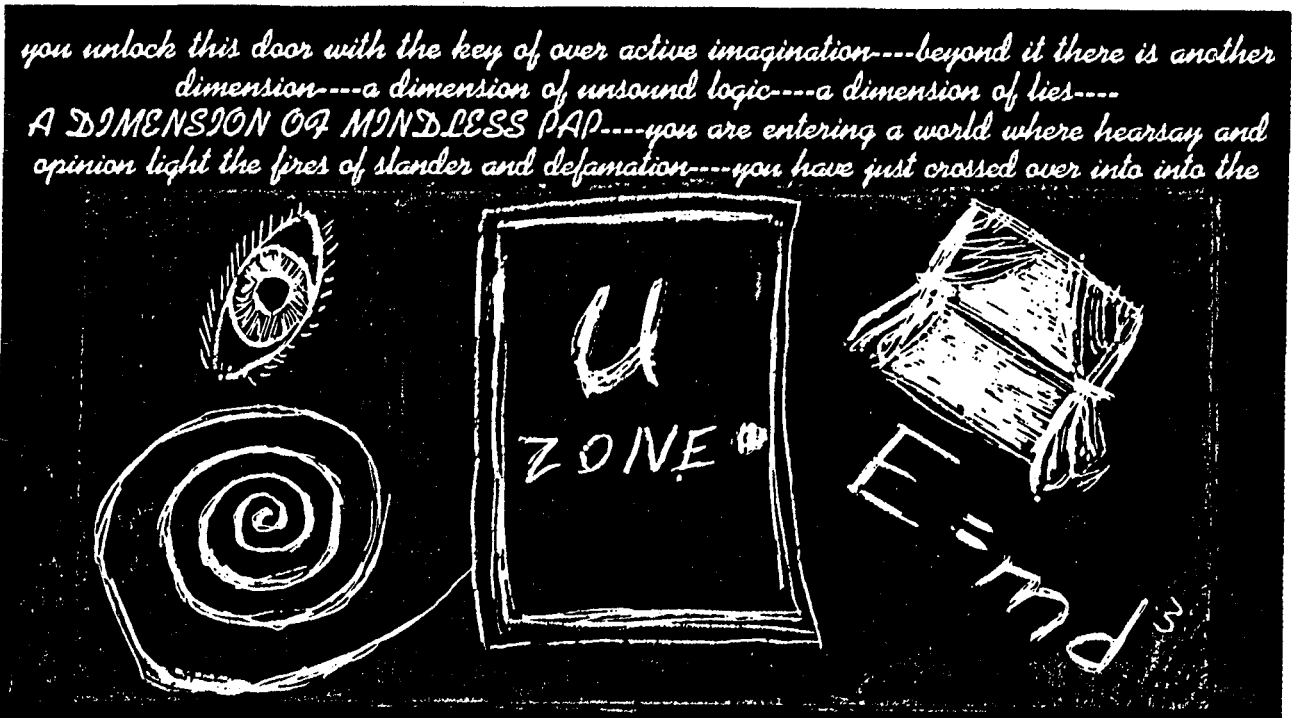
The first edition, while bearing the wisdom of years of experience, contains some incredibly straight talk on matters which, to say the least, most of us are too familiar. The recent class smear started by UTV here in Vancouver, then snowballed by

various media & releases of bugged "reports" all fed the frenzy of poornography.

In the aftermath we can see what was the point, how people's need to blame someone for their own worsening troubles led all too easily to attack those most vulnerable.

In the last few issues there has been a running commentary, but of course it's not going to get the same kind of exposure as the lies & rabid poor-bashing of May & June.

Following are a couple of extracts from Periodic Outbursts:



Y, Y, UTV? by C. A. Delle

PROVINCE	TOTAL INCOME	% OF POVERTY LINE
NEWFOUNDLAND Single Employable	4,319	33%
ONTARIO	8,083	54%
BRITISH COLUMBIA	6,030	40%

Life is already hard for people who depend on social assistance. Now they must contend with increased discrimination as a recent UTV series effectively cast everyone on social assistance in a suspicious light.

In the past 2 months 'Welfare Fraud' was splashed across the front pages of BC's papers, was the topic of radio talkshows, the subject of heated debate in the legislature & was on television news broadcasts.

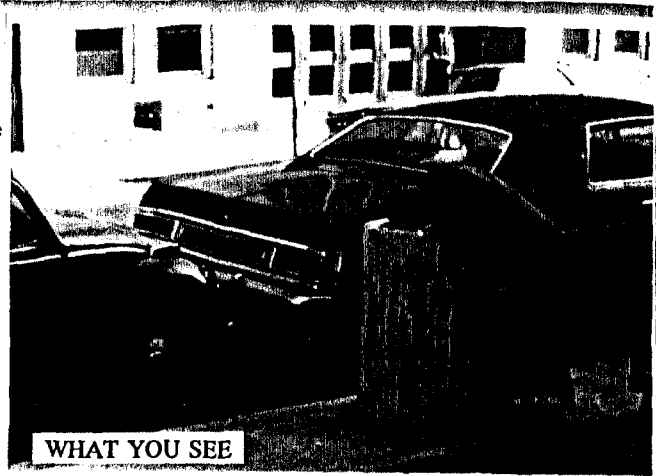
A news series called 'Welfare Fraud - Crime of the Nineties' on UTV (CKVU in Vancouver) began April 19 & aired almost daily until the week of June 9. This series started the media blitz. One would think that for an investigation of this magnitude there'd be an impressive body of evidence on which they based their allegations. Not so. Welcome to the age of National Enquirer journalism.

Day after day UTV offered opinions, speculations & anecdotal evidence starting in the first segment with Inspector Gallagher of the Surrey RCMP. During the interview he stated that he thought welfare fraud "would be in the area of 40%."

UTV repeated this figure throughout their series; other media picked it up. MLAs even quoted it in the legislature. Yet it was not backed up by any data, statistics, numbers or evidence of any kind. In fact a letter of apology from the RCMP to Social Services states:

"'E' Division...does not have the data required to conduct analysis to make any determination of the purported percentage of welfare fraud." This letter was sent April 26th & was made public in May by the Ministry of Social Services. (The letter also states, however, that procedures for reporting lost cheques frustrates the police.)

Over the weeks they conducted interviews with "reputable sources." An anonymous bank teller told UTV that a man came in with a welfare cheque & a small business cheque;



WHAT YOU SEE



LOOK AT IT THIS WAY

It would be easy for Ottawa to tax people on the basis of their wealth through estate taxes and annual net wealth taxes. when compared with the tax systems of twenty other western industrial nations, Canada has the lowest overall tax on wealth.

"Behind Closed Doors"
by Linda McQuaig

"you could tell he'd been working...maybe construction, something like that, he was dirty...." The interviewer concluded: "So obviously he's garnering income that chances are, welfare doesn't know anything about." Bank teller: "Definitely."

This is a good example of UTV logic. They draw a definite conclusion from 1 person's

months, they may keep a portion of what they earn & the rest is deducted.

Other "expert" witnesses included an apartment dweller ("we're paying out millions for nothing"); apartment managers, anonymous financial aid workers & an anonymous postal worker ("there will be 3,5,6 cheques going to one address" and "supervisors will bring in donuts to try to make us feel better on Welfare Wednesday").

And from an anonymous welfare recipient, "I see lots who need it. But I see lots who have paint on their hands, work boots, & they walk in & get a cheque."

UTV also interviewed police officers, Unemployment Insurance investigators, employees of the Fraser Institute, & Social Services Minister Joan Smallwood. She emphasised that all they had was anecdotal evidence & speculation about percentages of welfare fraud. According to the numbers, detected fraud in the system is 1%.

UTV's idea of balance was to allow just under 3 minutes to End Legislated Poverty & three welfare recipients who were insulted by UTV's claims, to air their views.

UTV's only piece of hard evidence came on May 7 when they gained access to an internal audit report from Social Services. They reported that it showed "administrative error...is 3% of the total payout or \$36 million dollars." The actual document stated: "...Audit Services Division suggests that the level of administrative error at the front line approximates 3% of payouts (emphasis added)...This can be translated to approximately \$36 million." Again, they took estimates, speculations, & turned them into facts. It's unfortunate that poor people as a group are not protected under the Human Rights Code. If it

had been any other minority group that UTV had targeted, they would have been held accountable for their defamatory reporting.

It is hate propaganda plain & simple & the people targeted have the fewest resources available to defend themselves. Many, because they have limited access to the media, do not even know the extent to which they are being attacked. Classism is at the root of this attack on the poor.

UTV could have pointed their fraud spotlight a little further up the income ladder; fraud occurs at all income levels (see box). Income tax fraud & evasion, improper declarations by cross-border shoppers, white-collar crime, and corporate tax fraud & evasion are billion dollar problems.

But as Neil Brooks, tax law professor, pointed out in a Globe & Mail article (Feb. 19, 1992), "Welfare fraud is regarded more seriously because the opinion leaders in this country will never be found guilty of it, but we know a fairly large percentage of them may be found guilty of tax evasion."

Focusing on welfare fraud makes people forget about root issues, the problem of unemployment, housing & poverty. An ever growing portion of the population - those on social assistance & those working for low wages - are forced to survive day to day without adequate food or shelter.

There is a mood of anger, frustration & anxiety in society today & making the people at the bottom of the economic spectrum the target for that hostility is just too easy. It's the act of either cunning or cowardice.

Whatever forces compelled UTV to do their series, they were too quick & too eager to "kick them while they're down" & should be held accountable.

CEOs
well rewarded
in Canada,
survey finds

Rich get richer

Gain comes as middle class lose share

3,405 companies paid
no corporate tax on
\$27-billion profit

Money-conscious hospitals
are paying big-time salaries

TORONTO (CP) — Two city hospitals that have laid off staff, closed luxury sedan from the hospital just weeks before the

GROUP
AGAINST

POVERTY

IF YOU WANT TO END

YOU HAVE TO GET INVOLVED!

HELP

CARNEGIE

LEARNERS CONFERENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE

Meets Every Other Monday

AUGUST 9
AUGUST 23
SEPTEMBER 7(Tues)
SEPTEMBER 20

at 1:00 pm

We need help PLANNING - Food, Workshops,
Decorations, Publicity.

All Learners and Students
from the Downtown Eastside Welcome

The Learners' Conference is for all
learners to take part in. GET INVOLVED!
Become a member of the executive of the
conference & take part in the program.

It will happen on September 22nd.
So far, the tentative program is -
10am Introduction, Opening Prayer
(coffee & muffins)

11am-12 noon: Workshop in the Theatre
1pm Lunch
2pm-3pm: Open Forum
4pm Karaoke Theatre

Tables will be set up.
Chairs will be placed around the room.
Brochures may be laid out.
Advertisements may be presented.

Learners can also get involved doing
other things at the Carnegie. Read signs
in the centre, find out what interests
you and become an active participant.

JACQUELINE OF ONT

G. GUST

SISTER JACQ KNOWS
WHERE THE WHISPER WIND BLOWS
AND SHE TAKES YOU DREAMING
IN HER EVERGREEN EYES.

SOFTLY SHE GOES
WHERE THE SWEETEST LIGHT GLOWS
IN THE DEEPEST DARKNESS
OF YOUR SADDEST DISGUISE.

\$99.99

"Hello, sucker..."

We want your money.

One low monthly payment...
through the nose,
You'll be all right

Hallowed eyes
They don't see
Anymore.

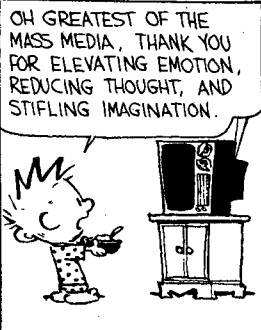
Roger

CARNEGIE

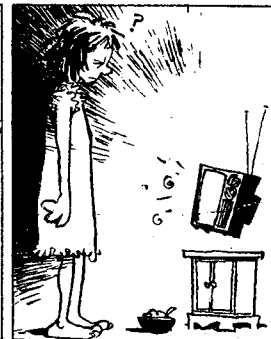
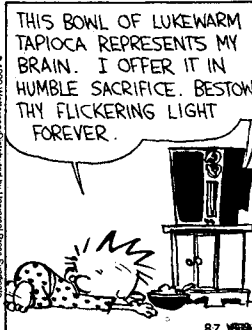
6:30 Wed.

bingo

CALVIN & HOBBS

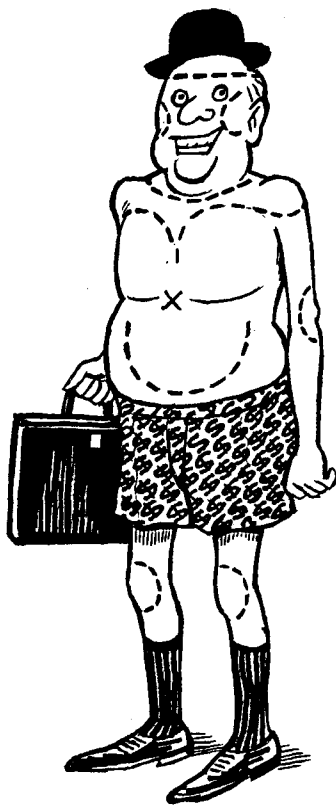


THANK YOU FOR THE
ARTIFICIALITY OF QUICK
SOLUTIONS AND FOR THE
INSIDIOUS MANIPULATION
OF HUMAN DESIRES FOR
COMMERCIAL PURPOSES.



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87 WES



THE NEW
JOB APPLICANT
[cut on dotted
lines]

...HEY, I SAW IT ON TV!

The job freaks are flocking to plastic surgeons...it's true, I was it on TV last night. There they were - getting nose jobs, tummy tucks, body restructuring surgery... they even had a series of operations that could make a male body look like it was more muscular even though most of its tissue was composed of fat... I kid you not.

The reason for this recent increase in business conducted by plastic surgeons, the TV said, was competition in the job market. Appearance was becoming a major consideration in job applications - no longer was it enough that the shoes be shined, the hair combed, the suit pressed, the flesh showered & shampooed, but it was now necessary to have the right kind of nose, to appear physically youthful, tanned & vigorous, as our magazine ads tell us we should be.

The plastic surgeon business in the U.S. & Canada is just beginning to really take off - entrepreneurs are climbing on board like crazy. New experimental techniques

are being developed on citizens who experience extreme anxiety over the possibility that they might become unemployed & thus miss out on the weekly paycheque that keeps the repossession man from the door.

Some career-fixated men are inching their way toward total cosmetic makeover by simply having facial & body hair removed by waxing. More & more Americans are spending big money in the cosmetic restructuring market.

Once they've completely given up on restructuring their souls, the only thing they have left is their bodys, & everyone in North America & in all of North America's business colonies around the world has learned by now, from television, that the only purpose for having a human body is to make money.

No matter what else it might do, the body is the great money-making machine, & our bio-mechanics are standing by, ready to turn you into a perfect replica of the latest world leader, rock star, or heart-throb of teenage America. Time now to start saving saving up your pennies for a job search operation.

TORA

MID-MORNING TRAUMAS

Just when I try to relax
Doing the usual morning meditation
They come --

These early rising creatures
Forever swirl and swoop down
With a deafening screech

They devour almost anything
And have a built-in time system
Which tells them where tasty morsels are

When the noisy dump-truck leaves
These gleaming white gulls
Continue to follow the regular route

But the hungry pigeons remain
Always bill-and-cooing
Whoever said, "silence is golden?"

Verna Johnston

So far and yet so near...



The
Streets
of
Managua

Nicaragua is a little Central American country a long way from B.C. It's so little it would fit into a corner of the province and it's so far that it takes two days to get there, even by jet.

But B.C. has long had a special connection with Nicaragua, all through the days when it was under attack by Reagan's America for having the nerve to assert its sovereignty.

BC is where Tools For Peace started, the organisation that supplied everything from farm implements to ballpoint pens to Nicaragua through the 1980's. And a lovingly hand-crafted fishboat has just hit the water in North Vancouver for its sea trials before heading down to aid the fishers there.

Things have not improved in Nicaragua since the end of the CIA-financed Contra war. In fact, the people are poorer & more desperate than ever. American promises to rebuild the ravaged economy have been just that - empty promises.

Carnegie Community Centre is in the middle of the lowest-income neighbourhood in Canada. But we have started doing our bit by establishing a connection with a co-op of organic coffee farmers on the island of Omotepe in Nicaragua.

Omotepe is in the middle of a huge lake

that contains the only known fresh-water sharks in the world. Long ago the lake was part of the sea but it was sealed off by a volcanic eruption. The sharks gradually became used to fresh water.

Omotepe coffee is now available at Oppenheimer Park - and it's free! By importing it, we are helping the Nicaraguan farmers become more self-sufficient. Profits from each pound of coffee sold are returned to Nicaragua in the form of educational, medical & drinking water supplies. As they say, it's not just coffee, it's JUST coffee.

From August 8-28, Carnegie Newsletter editor Paul R. Taylor will be part of a Tools For Peace delegation to Nicaragua to visit with people who are involved in rebuilding their neighbourhoods & their society, fighting poverty & new threats like the proposed North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA).

When he comes back we will be reading his reports about how we can help through what means we have available.

Come to think of it, Nicaragua is not really that far away. If you look on a map you will see it's actually no farther - as the jet flies - than some parts of Canada, like Newfoundland & the High Arctic. But then, Canada is a really BIG country.

By MUGGS SIGURGEIRSON

Editor,

The finger always directly to the recipients when talking about welfare fraud. The finger should be pointing somewhere else. How many landlords steal damage deposits from their tenants who are poor and defenseless?

How many evict them on a moment's notice so that they become homeless on the spot & are then readily replaced with another welfare recipient who may end up suffering the same fate.

Social Services currently must pay for the deposit(s) & also for some of the costs for arbitration & court cases.

For fear of reprisals I would like to remain anonymous!

Friend,

You're dead right about landlords who exploit people on welfare. At a recent meeting with Joan Smallwood, Minister of Social Services, & reps from the Tenants' Rights Action Coalition (TRAC), this was one of the main issues under discussion.

The ministry pays out \$22 million/year

for security deposits in BC. Of this sum,⁷ virtually none is recovered because it's up to the tenant, under BC law, to prove it was unjustifiably withheld. It takes months of legal hassles, hearings, filing fees & usually a lawyer to show that the landlord is a thief. Of the \$22 million not recovered, over \$14 million is lost in the area north of Broadway & west of Boundary in Vancouver, where most of the low-income housing in BC is located.

It's a vicious scam; landlords also use classist prejudices that say anyone on a low income or welfare is a bad tenant who has damaged their property so badly they keep the few hundred dollars per person they get automatically from the gov't...

Changes are required in the Residential Tenancy Act, to make BC law more like those in Ontario or New Brunswick, where property owners must justify withholding any deposit with concrete proof before a legal department set up specifically to hear both sides. TRAC has laid many specific proposals before the Housing Ministry to make legislation that is fair.

PRT



running notes -

CLAYOQUOT RALLY...a demonstration opposing clear-cut logging in Clayoquot Sound is happening on Monday, Aug. 2 at 12 noon.

The march starts at MacBlo office at 925 W. Georgia, then to the Vancouver Art Gallery for rally. The provincial gov't is allowing clear cutting of 2/3 of the old growth forest at Clayoquot.

running notes -

Apologies to the writer of a letter on the need for good shopping/food store in the community. When it came to finishing the Newsletter, the letter was elsewhere!

running notes -

"Proof? Did I hear someone say they want proof of such outrageous charges? Don't be ridiculous. This is B.C. 1993. I don't need proof when dealing with welfare issues. Innuendo is sufficient these days. I think it, I say it, it must be. Just check the daily newspapers of BC...to see what I mean. Hard solid facts are a no-no for our purveyors of the news." (The Pompous Pauper)

Scapegoat

When things are going wrong in a country those with wealth & power look for people to blame for the troubles of the time.

Today the economy of Canada is in crisis. Who gets blamed by the corporate media for the resulting poverty, unemployment & homelessness? The poor, the unemployed & the homeless of course. This phenomenon is called poornography, and it is a form of hate literature.

One reason the very wealthy hate the poor is that poor people are living proof that much of what laissez-faire free enterprise preaches about prosperity for all is a lie.

Another 30,000 job losses expected by manufacturers
Recession recovery 'slow, painful and mean,' CMA says

Report says, poor at highest risk of not getting enough education

Children suffer under poverty

Cod moratorium will hit 80,000 Atlantic Canadians

Few will escape poverty, long-term study suggests

I've always thought that the collapse of the free enterprise system in the Great Depression of 1929 was one reason for the hatred directed against Jewish people in Germany during Hitler's regime. The aggressive greed so essential to capitalism was projected onto Jewish people. They became the scapegoats for Germany's troubles, and attention was directed away from the real problem - the dynamic of accumulation expressed through empires that set the

stage for both the First & Second World Wars.

Witch persecution is another example of the scapegoat syndrome. Between 1400 and 1650 A.D. approximately 500,000 people were convicted of witchcraft & burned to death in Europe. For the most part these people were poor, elderly women, not well-educated, sometimes beggars, who lived in a state of powerlessness & desperation. They knew nothing of the ecological philosophy of witches, with its links to ancient times, that exists today.

As the social obligations of feudal society broke down to pave the way for the economic individualism of modern times ("the war of all against all"), a conflict grew between traditional village responsibility & individual private property. It was no longer who was supposed to care for the poor & the elderly, and part of the vindictiveness of the supposed victims of witchcraft in prosecuting witches was a guilty conscience. Traditionally, villagers were required to look after poor, elderly, widowed women, and they resented the pangs of conscience they felt when turning a begging woman away (Religion and the Decline of Magic, by Keith Thomas).

It is a small step for a mean-spirited soul to move from resentment to anger, and then to hatred.

In the long change from Medieval to modern, poor people began to lose their status as neighbours and became "the poor", who were hated as a burden to the more fortunate & as a threat to public order. Country folk lost their subsistence plots and family homesteads, and dispossessed peasants went to the towns where they sought employment as wage labourers.

There were many uprisings of poor people in this period from 1400 to 1650. The Great Peasant Revolt took place in 1525. The Anabaptist Movement called for a more equitable distribution of wealth, and in 1649 Gerrard Winstanley established a community of "Diggers" in which private property & class distinction would have no place.

One way authorities fought social unrest was to persecute witches with torture. As the torturers insisted that the accused implicate others, their methods had the

result of increasing the number of people charged. An important result of this witch hunt system was that people believed they were being victimized by witches instead of wealthy elites (Cows, Pigs, Wars and Witches: The Riddles of Culture (M.Harris))

Scapegoating is a system of control by the powerful. It increases fear. It turns person against person. It blames the victim. It side-tracks effective political analysis, and it directs hatred towards powerless minority groups. No wonder the corporate media indulges in poor-bashing, whether it be outrageous claims of welfare fraud, or hysteria about the increasing number of Canadians who are forced to rely on welfare in order to survive. Anything to prevent a solid analysis as to why poverty & unemployment are growing in our land.

It's not poor people, or immigrants, or any other defenceless minority group who are causing the great suffering that we see around us. We have to look at an economic system that uncritically permits 25% of our working people to be either unemployed or underemployed, and allows the richest 5% of Canadians to own 46.5% of Canada's wealth while the poorest 20% own minus .3% of wealth. If we have any courage, we'll fight for a just society instead of bashing our powerless neighbour.

By SANDY CAMERON

**Tax breaks
caused
deficit:
StatsCan**

**Wealthy
Canadians
are still
escaping
income tax
payments**

There's a time to part and a time to meet,
There's a time to sleep and a time to eat,
There's a time to work and a time to play,
There's a time to sing and a time to pray,
There's a time that's good & a time that's blue,
There's a time to plan and a time to do,
There's a time to grunt and show your grit,
But there never yet was a time to quit.

Submitted by Sheila Bell

Dismal picture for Canada's poor

I was looking at the Sun yesterday when by chance I stumbled on an article about the "New Coffin Apartments". I found the subject of this report to be disturbing on several counts. My major concern is that it was written from a biased point of view in favour of development without a thought for social issues.

Coffin Apartments are at best a poor substitute for proper social housing. They are incredibly small. Imagine living in a glorified broom closet. They are also out of reach of the average person on social assistance - rents run between \$500 & \$600 per month. When you consider that the shelter portion of a single person's cheque is only \$325, you can see that it would be impossible to afford such a place.

What disturbs me most about this is that people on welfare are further marginalised because even the cheapest places being built are placed beyond their reach. The cycle of poverty is made worse, & people are forced to live in substandard housing if they are lucky enough to avoid the streets.

What we need to solve this is a change in society's attitude. A home should be considered a right, instead of a commodity as it is at present. Only by joining together will we be able to reverse the tide of unsustained development. We have to stop it before it's too late or we will all be on the streets.

By NIGEL LAWSON

LOVING THE WITCH: after hearing the song; behind which is a path, which one must leave in order to find the witch

July 1993 by Dan'l Feen & Gumption H.

Maybe in a mountain cave (but not necessarily).



Or in a clearing in deep forest. Or in a condominium. Or in a factory lunchroom. Or in a psyche hospital. Or at a polling station. Anywhere; any nowhere else.



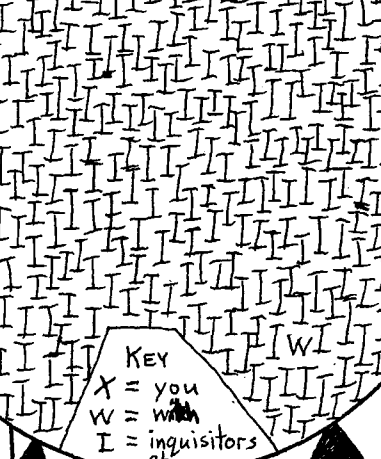
Okay—to explain: the song is a moment of clarity, the path is decisiveness + intention + ratiocination, + the witch is, by golly, what's variously referred to as; love, passion, desire, spirit, intuition, imagination, poetry, wholisticity etc. I'll just say it's what happens when we understand one another joyfully + necessarily.



Time for a happy frame!



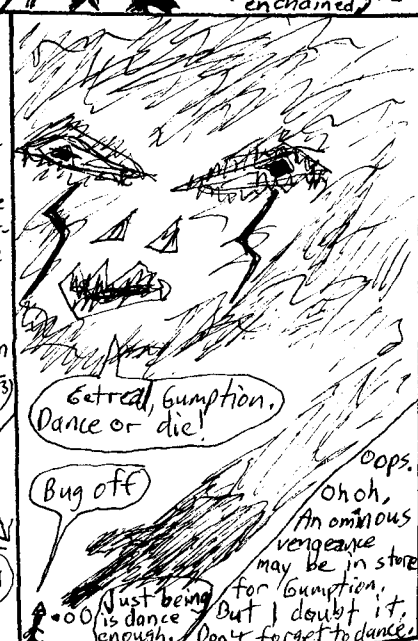
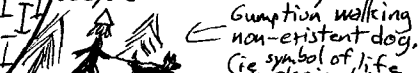
Don't think any of this can be done casually. No siree. On the other hand, forget solemnity—it is non-conducive to witch vigor + witch dance, the enemy of witch sight and witch humor/knowledge. Do you dance? It is one of my short-comings, not being able to dance. I was floating down a churchriver on a tab of bricks, followed by colored lights (maybe darknesses). Dance hall.



So, you think maybe I'm half asleep, half loopy. But on that brick-ratt journey, I first heard the song, by gosh. And I've never regretted the path I discovered behind it, which I have since left for the deep green witch forest. But still I do not dance. I must find someone to teach me the basics of dance.



But what is "loving the witch"? It means knowing that "the way" is where one is, I think—implying that one no longer feels as if life is a series of tangents from tangents, that it "should" mean anything, or that there is any possible equation or tenet complex to make it obey. (See Wm. Blake)



The Deficit 'Facts'

11.

A Speech to the OPSEU All-Presidents' Meeting

May 7, 1993

by Larry Brown

Secretary-Treasurer

National Union of Public
and General Employees

I want to try & put the issue that's in front of us in some kind of a national context. It's common wisdom these days to say that Canada has a debt crisis & the provinces have a debt crisis; that we're running up against the debt wall; that we've been living beyond our means; that we have no alternative but to have deep gov't spending cuts; & more importantly, of course, that we all have to do our part.

Well, is that a fact?

**"Let me remind you
that we've had other
"facts" in history that
have been equally well
known and equally
pushed by those in power."**

Apparently, it must be, if you judge just on the basis of repetition & volume alone; we've certainly heard it often enough.

But first of all, let me remind you that we've had other "facts" in history that've been equally well known & equally pushed by those in power. It was a "fact" at one point in history that we needed child labour in factories to be economically viable. It was a "fact" in our history that women should stay home & if they dared to come to work they should earn less than men. That was an "economic fact" too. It was a "fact" that unions were an illegal conspiracy & restraint of trade; that was an eco-

nomie fact. It was a "fact," in fact, that slavery was of benefit to our society.

**"The facts that we're
dealing with, including
the deficit and the debt,
are, bluntly speaking,
purely ideological positions."**

We've had all kinds of "economic facts" peddled over the years by those who own & control the society, & it's interesting that it's always at our expense. The facts that we're dealing with, including the deficit & the debt, are, bluntly speaking, purely ideological positions.

The debt crisis that we keep hearing about is an ideological weapon that's being wielded by those who obviously believe in less government. Those who believe in more of a role for the marketplace are wielding the debt weapon to achieve their objective. Now I'm not here tonight to talk about the strategy that you should follow. You've got obviously very capable leaders, & your internal forums can get sort of vigorous, so you can decide that.

**"Do we, in
fact, have a
debt crisis?"**

What I want to try to do tonight is counter the tidal wave of propaganda that we've been subjected to about the debt crisis, & I want to present to you some real facts. Let's start with a question: Do we, in fact, have a debt crisis? In answering that question, let's go to the experts. Let's not quote the trade union leaders who have their opinion on it.

Let's go to the people who own & control this economy: the C.D. Howe Institute. You know who they are. They're not quite as far right as the Fraser Institute, but they're nudging the same kind of territory. You know what the C.D. Howe Institute says?

That this is a manufactured crisis. The CD Howe Institute, talking about the fact that we're going to run out of our ability to borrow, says that is wildly exaggerated.

The Globe and Mail: you know, the left-wing union magazine. The Globe & Mail quoted a bond trader within the last week. A bond trader, a guy who makes his money buying & selling debt, & the bond trader said there is very little concern about the quality of provincial debt. The bond trader said that. And they went on to say that European investors regard Canada's problems as small potatoes compared to countries like Italy. The Globe & Mail, in a column called Market Watch, quoted another bond trader: "I think that altogether too much is made of the deficit situation. Canada

"You know what a debt wall is? You run into it and you can't go any further. We're supposed to be running out of our ability to borrow."

is still an outstanding credit in international markets." You know who said that? Somebody who works for Goldman Sachs. That is big money, & you know what he added, which is kind of interesting; he said it's wishful thinking on the part of provincial governments to think that the international marketplace is going to force them to correct their deficit problems.

Within the last 3 months, foreign investors set a record for investing in Canadian bonds. This is in the face of a debt wall. You know what a debt wall is? You run into it & you can't go any further. We're supposed to be running out of our ability to borrow. But the foreign marketplace, the people who make their money investing other people's money, have lined up to get Canadian bonds, including provincial bonds.

Patty Croft, who is a senior economist at Wood Gundy, has said that it's a funny kind of debt crisis when you have foreign investors making record investments in our debt.

The other argument on that, of course,

is that all of these nasty foreigners are coming in to buy our debt. Therefore if we don't have the problem of the debt wall, we've got another problem, which is that there's too much foreign investment in our economy.

"What we do have in Canada is a crisis, and it's called an unemployment crisis."

Even that's not true, because the same article points out that for every dollar that foreign companies are investing in our debt, we're investing in somebody else's debt. The net foreign investment in Canada is no higher now than it was in the early 1960s. It's no higher because for every dollar that's come in another has gone out. (Editor's note: In the previous 5 years 65% of investment other than bonds has been made to take over Canadian companies. Virtually all of this has been US-based transnationals absorbing Canadian business then charging exorbitant fees for services to their new "subsidiaries" & transferring huge profits out while paying almost no tax...to the point of getting gov't assistance in tax breaks, deferrals, etc.)

We've got the bond agencies lining up to buy our debt; we've got the C.D. Howe Institute saying the crisis is wildly exaggerated; you've got the bond company saying that Canada is still a good place to invest - & all that comes from sources other than the trade union movement.

We've been saying it for a long time but it helps to have these financial experts back us up.

What we do have in Canada is a crisis, & it's called an unemployment crisis. We have 11.5% of our people who officially can't find work. It's a minimum of 18% in real terms. Eighteen percent of our workforce can't find a job & our governments want us to look at the debt as our number one problem? Give me a break. The crisis in our country is unemployment,

What are we doing looking back over our shoulders at this debt crisis that economists, foreign investors & others say does

not exist?

Now let me say this, I'm not here to tell you that we don't have a debt problem of any kind. That would be a bit foolish. I'd rather not have any debt personally; I'd rather not have a mortgage. I'd rather take my mortgage paper back to the bank & give

"It seems to me that if you're going to attack the debt problem in any way, you've got to have the right problem."

it back to them, but the problem is they won't let me keep my house if I do that. I would rather that the Canadian gov't didn't have a debt. I'd rather the Ontario gov't didn't have a debt. We do have a debt problem of some kind. The obvious question is, where did that come from?

It seems to me that if you're going to attack the debt problem in any way, you've got to have the right problem. You know, if you go to a doctor & you've got a sore elbow & he puts a splint on your knee, you aren't going to get better very quickly. So what is it that caused our debt problem? Well, when the Tories took office in 1984 they inherited a total national debt - total debt- of \$207 billion. This is after 2 world wars & a depression & all that sort of stuff: total accumulated debt \$207 billion. After 9 years of fighting it using the slash & burn techniques; claiming that everything they did, every ounce of their being was devoted to fighting the debt on our behalf, you know how well they fought it? We now owe \$459 billion & it's climbing.

"How is rolling back your wages, taking money out of your pockets, going to resolve the problem of interest rates?"

Are these people that incompetent? I mean, if they are, they shouldn't be let outside without a keeper. We should take their driver's licences back. Of course most of them don't drive anyway, they've got chauffeurs. But the point's the same.

You know where the increase in debt comes from? Over 100% of the increase comes from interest. If we hadn't had excessively high interest rates in this country in the last 8 years, the federal gov't would've made a \$27 billion profit between income * outgo. The only deficit we have, the only increase in the debt that we have, is because of interest rates.

"The money that used to go to unemployed workers, the money that used to go into social programs in this country, is being ripped off and sent to large investors like financial institutions, by way of public debt payments caused by high interest rates."

Now, you tell me something. How is rolling back your wages, taking money out of your pockets, going to resolve the problem of interest rates? I don't know. Fred Upshaw's a big, powerful trade union leader. Maybe he sets the interest rates. Do you? I thought it was John Crow (Head of the Bank of Canada). It wasn't that long ago that everybody in the country was yelling at John Crow to bring the interest rates down.

Your gov't, every provincial gov't, the financial experts, all of them were saying to this guy, "Bring those interest rates down, you're killing the economy."

Well, he did kill the economy. We did some tracking. We wanted to know where the interest payments went. When you pay interest, who do you pay it to? You know what we found out? Eighty percent of interest payments made by the gov't go to the large

financial investors. Isn't that interesting? Who do you suppose votes for the Tories most often? Do you think there could be a connection? Nah!

The money that used to go to unemployed workers, the money that used to go to social programs in this country, is being ripped off & sent to large investors like financial institutions, by way of public debt payments caused by high interest rates.

We're all paying for it in our social programs. It's a monstrous scam & I'm like Fred. I start to get angry after awhile.

"In the last five or six years the Government of Ontario has paid \$9 billion more than it should have because of high interest rates."

There was another study reported in the pages of the financial newspapers. It said that if interest rates had been kept at their historic level, our net national deficit this year would have been \$5 billion maximum, maybe less. Instead it's \$34 billion & climbing. Do you know how much extra Ontario paid out when it borrowed, because interest rates were too high? Ontario paid out \$9 billion more than it should have. In the last 5 or 6 years the Gov't of Ontario has paid \$9 billion more than it should've because of high interest rates. So why is Bob Rae spending time coming and trying to beat money out of your pockets, instead of going down to Ottawa & beating on the door of John Crow & saying, "Bring those interest rates down because you're hurting me more than my own workers are."

"Nationally, 118,162 corporations — or about one in three — made \$25 billion in profits and paid zip for taxes — zero!"

There is a second major problem in our debt problem: taxation. You know what the

truth of that one is, of course. We're all overtaxed; Canadians are overtaxed; we're paying too much; we've reached the limits of our tax tolerance. You know the Lone Ranger one day was riding along with Tonto & they came to a cliff. They looked back & they were surrounded by hostile Indians, & the Lone Ranger said to Tonto, "It looks like we're in trouble." Tonto said, "What do you mean 'we' white man?"

When they say we are being overtaxed, it is an interesting question. Who do they mean by we? You can bet that it isn't Tom D'Aquino, chair of the Business Council on National Issues. Ten years ago, corporate taxes made up a 17% share of the total in this country. Individuals paid 31% of the taxes. Right now, the corporations are paying 8% & it's been going down, while the individual tax burden has gone up to 48%. Nationally, 118,162 corporations — about 1 in 3 — made \$25 billion in profits & paid zip for taxes — zero!

"They want you to believe that we're in a debt crisis, and they're kissing \$4 billion a year good-bye for no reason at all except that it's their friends again."

We had tellers in banks who literally paid more in taxes than the bank they worked for. Not more in a percentage; more actual cash in taxes the bank they worked for,

Coca-Cola, which can only afford to run ads every 30 seconds or so, made \$24.5 million. They didn't pay a cent in taxes & we gave them a million dollar tax credit.

If corporate tax increases had simply kept pace with personal tax increases, corporate taxes would've been \$16 billion more over the last 8 years, & it would've gone to pay down our debt.

Do you know what they discovered recently? The capital gains tax alone is costing our federal & provincial governments over \$4 billion a year. Do you know what they save when inflation is running at 4%/year freezing the wages of Public Service Alliance members for a year? They save maybe

\$300 million & they do that quite cheerfully. They don't touch capital gains, even though everybody who has ever studied taxation says that you've got to, it's the only way it makes sense.

They want you to believe that we're in a debt crisis, & they're kissing \$4 billion a year good-bye for no reason at all except that it's their friends again. Just to add insult to injury, we've had corporate tax dollar after corporate tax dollar escaping untaxed in this country. In the budget that Finance Minister Don Mazankowski introduced a couple of weeks ago, the one that was full of gloom & doom & restraint & the sky is falling & we're just doing our best to bring the deficit under control - all that bull - in that budget alone they added corporate tax breaks of \$395 million.

Now we've got a debt crisis, they tell us. I don't buy it, but they seem to. They run around making speeches about it all the time. They let another \$395 million in corporate taxes off the hook. Statistics Canada says that close to 50% of our debt is a failure of revenue. Revenue means taxes. And 44% is due to interest rates.

Only 6% of our national debt is attributable to public spending. So what are we attacking? The 6% of course. All of the focus of gov't has been on the 6%, which is virtually economically irrelevant to the problem.

The federal gov't created this debt monster & has used it very successfully to cut unemployment insurance, to cut VIA Rail, to cut the CBC, to cut family allowances, to cut thing after thing that people had relied on.

**"Now where was Bob Roy ...
Rae ... Bob, yeah ... who is
that masked man?"**

Then they turned around & they also visited that on the provinces. The last unemployment insurance cut alone cost Ontario \$534 million a year. It cost because the cut transfers the cost of unemployment insurance, which is federal, to welfare, which is provincial. Now where was Bob Roy

..Rae..Bob, yeah..who is that masked man? Where were those guys when the federal government was once again doing it to unemployed workers & costing them, in addition, \$534 million a year? They were trying to figure out how much they're going to take back from you in wages. It doesn't make sense. The Ontario gov't alone says that they've lost \$11 billion by now as a result of cuts in transfer payments. That's their figure. They've lost \$11 billion, & they say it's \$3.6 billion this year alone, & what are they doing about it? They're coming to you, saying give it back. They want you, presumably, to subsidise their loss from the federal government.

**"If the federal and
provincial governments
do what they say
they're going to do,
where do we end up?
What kind of country
will this be?"**

If all of the provinces got together and said, "We want our fair share," the federal gov't would have to give it to them. Instead of that they're letting the federal gov't completely off the hook, saying nothing about it, & visiting those problems on you.

We have a debt problem of some kind. It's not a crisis. We'd all prefer if it was lower but we'd prefer a lot of things.

I want to end by asking a question. Where are we going with all of this? If the federal & provincial governments do what they say they're going to do, where do we end up? What kind of country will this be? The Ottawa Citizen is not quite as right-wing as the Globe & Mail, but it gives it a close run some days. Do you know what the Ottawa Citizen wrote about a week ago? "The simple-minded destructive platitudes of deficit reduction are doing damage to this country," it said.

There are real problems: problems of the recession & unemployment have to be dealt with. The Ontario gov't in the face of this damage from the federal gov't is saying that

they want concessions of \$2 billion from you. Do you know what that translates into according to Bob Dale, the National Union's economist? He says that that amounts to \$2,225 per public sector worker in Ontario.

That's a pretty healthy subsidy, but that's not all. When you're working in economic terms, the impact is much greater than it may seem at first. Some of you may salt your money away for your retirement, but most of us have to spend it, right?

"Your money gets circulated through the stores and through the community roughly three times. That means when the Ontario Government wants to grab \$2 billion from you, they're deflating the economy by \$6 billion."

We have to buy food & shelter & so on. So the money you get, that \$2 billion, gets recycled in the economy & there's a factor that they call the "multiplier effect." Your money gets circulated through stores & through the community roughly 3 times. That means when the Ontario gov't wants to grab \$2 billion from you, they're deflating the economy by \$6 billion.

"What do you think is going to happen if you take \$2 billion out of your pockets? If you take a whole bunch more out of government spending, what do you think is going to happen to the private sector? You can't resolve the problem of a flat economy by making it flatter."

Now, is the recession really over in Ontario, so we can afford to do that? Are things going so healthy here than you can afford to take \$6 billion out of the economy? I must have missed a deadline or two along the way. It didn't look like it to me. In 1985, the last time we got figures, governments in this country spent \$68 billion buying things from the private sector. You've got the Chambers of Commerce all over the country lining up saying, "Go to it. Kick those gov't workers 'cause they are a bunch of lazy bunch of sods anyway." Those lazy bunch of sods spent \$68 billion buying their products.

What do you think is going to happen if you take \$2 billion out of your pockets? If you take a whole bunch more out of government spending, what do you think is going to happen to the private sector? You can't resolve the problem of a flat economy by making it flatter. That's a contradiction that we learned in the 1930s, and dammit if we aren't being faced with learning it all over again.

"This cut, slash and burn remedy that's being tried now is exactly the same one that the federal government has tried for nine long years now, and it's failed for nine years."

If you laid off every gov't worker; if you stopped every gov't program; you would not solve the debt problem, as long as we are paying the interest rates we are on the accumulated debt. That's something that we've got to get across.

This cut, slash & burn remedy that's being tried now is exactly the same one that the federal gov't has tried for 9 long years now, & it's failed for 9 years. It's making this country worse by the minute: every time they cut another program, every time they lay off another gov't worker. How long does it take these guys to learn that a mistake is a mistake? They are go-

ing in the wrong direction: not just for the people that we represent, in their wages & their own jobs either.

They're going in the wrong direction for the country. The country is getting worse as a result of those kinds of policies.

There are real solutions: Leadership

"If the Ontario government was spending a quarter of the energy they are putting into trying to sucker-punch you guys, working with us against the federal government, to bring them under control, we'd have some real solutions."

from governments.

Full employment; whatever happened to full employment? You remember that, those of you who are old enough to remember full employment? If you can remember full employment you're gonna be ready for retirement. There used to be governments in this country, believe it or not, that had programs to create more jobs. Isn't that staggering? The last time a government in Canada talked about creating more jobs was years ago. They're all focused on the debt.

Making the banks play a positive role would help. Those bloodsuckers have increased their asset base by \$170 billion in the last 4 years alone while the rest of us have been paying for it. Controlling the Bank of Canada: John Crow shouldn't be eligible for unemployment, because he

should be fired for cause.

"If they'd work with us we'd make progress. But if they work against us, all they're going to do is make enemies."

There are positive answers & you've been through some of them yourselves, but I want to suggest this to you. If the Ontario government was spending a quarter of the energy they are putting into trying to sucker-punch you guys, working with us against the federal gov't, to bring them under control, we'd have some real solutions.

If they'd work with us we'd make progress. But if they work against us, all they are going to do is make enemies. Somewhere in this hotel we've got all of the Mulroney wannabees who apparently believe that we've got a debt crisis. Kim Campbell believes that we've got a debt crisis & she wants to spend \$5.8 billion for helicopters that are so advanced they don't even exist yet.

"This debt crisis, this political crisis is being brought to you by the same people who brought you free trade, who want to bring you NAFTA, who brought you privatization, who brought you deregulation and the GST."

Jean Charest says we've got a debt crisis & he only wants to spend \$5 billion to prop up the oil industry. This guy Edwards, he's very serious about the debt. He's going to spend billions of dollars in the Alberta oil fields, & Turner is real serious about the debt & he wants to have mortgage



interest rates deductible; which would cost us a fortune. Boyer is very very serious about the debt but he wants to spend time talking about that important national issue, pornography.

The point is that there are choices being made all the way down the line.

This is not an economic fact. This is a political matter of choice. This is a crisis. But it's not a debt crisis, it's a leadership crisis.

And this debt crisis, this political crisis is being brought to you by the same people who brought you free trade, who want to bring you NAFTA, who brought you privatization, who brought you deregulation and the GST.



Brian Mulroney kept one promise to the Canadian people. He said, "Give me 10 years and you won't recognize this country."

I want to leave you with 2 messages. The first is that the public is a lot smarter than the politicians give them credit for. Because if you go out & do a survey now, after all of the bombardment of propaganda, after all of this alleged fact being dumped on their heads day after day after day, 1 in 10 persons will say that the debt is a problem. Nine out of 10 won't. Even if they're prompted about the debt crisis only one in three will say that it's the top priority for the government. More than that still believe that unemployment is the crisis & that it should be fixed first. The public is a lot smarter than the politicians seem to believe.



I just came in today from Manitoba. I was supposed to speak to them for 15 minutes, I had to literally end the meeting because I had to run to catch my plane to come here. I was at a meeting of Manitoba Federation of Labour's Executive, in the middle of their agenda. They didn't want to let me go because they're hungry for facts; because they know that people out there want this information.

"We've got the hearts and minds of the public because they know that they're paying a good dollar and they want good services for it."

We have a long road ahead of us. But we have got the tools, we've got the people & we've got the public. We've got the hearts & minds of the public because they know they're paying a good dollar & they want good services for it.

At our last National Union executive board, we passed an unequivocal motion of support for OPSEU. I'm not going to tell you that we stand behind OPSEU because that makes it sound like we're somewhere back there.

So, I'm proud to tell you that we stand with OPSEU, shoulder to shoulder.

Hunger strike last resort

Women desperate to work

By BERNIE BINKLEY
Telegram Staff Writer

Fifteen ferryland women are into a third day of a hunger strike, despite the fact they are playing cards in the community centre adjoining the hall. In the past two days they had only water and some tin playing cards in the hall.

40% of hungry are children, survey finds

By LANA MICHELIN
Tele and Mail

Health gap found between rich, poor

Wealthy live longer, report says

Bonuses for bosses anger public workers

PSAC members decry 'double standard'

an said yesterday that the 'm's' 'd'

\$4.4-billion helicopter deal will stand, Campbell says

By JEFF SALLOTT
Post



So, after a whirlwind tour of Ceeds commune, Mum & Dear make tracks back to the downtown east side to get their Caribbees into the ground

N. Spooner

POTATO HEADS
by



running notes -

"Now most of the time the restaurant owners get disgusted with people divind so they put a lock on the dumpster. So the next time you see someone dumpster diving, remember that someday this could be you." (Gary)

— — — — —



A SQUIRREL TALE

The black squirrel paused at the side of the road. She had just left a row of trees growing alongside an apartment building & tried to cross the road, but dashed back as several cars passed. She tried again & made it to the yard opposite where the tenant had parked an old car on a piece of lawn beside his garage, next to a compost box & garbage can. An old truck was parked in front of the garage. Behind the garage was a lawn area, where a barbeque & a wooden table with benches on each side of it were set up, and children played & giggled. An all white house sat in the middle of the neat yeard. Margaret, the mother, was hanging clothes on a line leading from the back porch to a post next to the fence.

The man of the house, working under the rear end of his car, was laying down partly under the car, surrounded by tools. He moved a leg as the squirrel neared him. Startled, the black roent swerved & ran under the other end of the car. A second later it appeared, running faster, chased

by a grey rat which followed it up one side of the garage, over the roof & down the other side. There were trees close by. The squirrel put on a burst of speed and headed for the nearest tree, and outran the rat. The rat stopped on the edge of the lawn. Moments it returned to the compost box, where two other rats joined it. They all went into the compost pile through a hole in the box's top.

The squirrel ran down the tree it had escaped into & over to another tree in the yard, unseen by the children. The man, unaware of the drama, continued to work on the end of his car. The children might have enjoyed seeing the animals, but the woman may have started to worry knowing there were rats in her yard.

Later that day, Margaret started to go out on the back porch with the last of her washing in a laundry basket. She stopped when she saw the squirrel on the inside window sill. It was so cute, sitting there eating an apple she had set there to ripen. She watched the squirrel for a time, then slowly moved out onto the porch so that she might get on with her work.

The animal looked at her but kept on eating. Obviously it wasn't afraid of people. Margaret moved slowly over to the line & began hanging the wash. The animal kept eating, "You'll get a bellyache eating so much," she said. Then she noticed it was keeping a lot of apple in the side of its mouth, "Saying some for later huh? Or maybe you got babies?" When it couldn't stuff any more in its mouth it ran off. She watched it dash over to a tree which had a large hole halfway up in its trunk, "So that's where you live."

Every day for months on end Margaret put out foods she bought just for the squirrel. The family were amazed at the friendship that built up between the animal & Margaret. Her husband, mother, sister, two daughters & son & neighbours all saw the strong bond there. especially when it would sit on her lap to take food or, when she crossed the yard, it'd jump on her dress & race up to her shoulder to take food there.

One day, in jest, Margaret's husband

hit her arm lightly with a newspaper (a love tap) as she hand-fed the squirrel unshelled nuts, while it sat on the back porch shelf. The squirrel immediately jumped on her lap & assumed an attack position. Margaret was amazed. "It's protecting me!" she said.

"Bull," her husband said, and to test the theory he again lightly tapped her arm with the newspaper. The squirrel ran up to her shoulder, jumped over to her husband's arm, bit him twice, then turned and jumped back to Margaret's lap, resuming his attack position.

"I'm going to the doctor's," her husband said, "for tetanus shots & rabies shots. That beast must be rabid." He went into the house to wash his wounds & clean them with disinfectant. The squirrel returned to the shelf & stuffed more nuts in its mouth. Margaret got up to see if Ken was really worried about it having rabies.

"It's just protecting its food source," she said. "It has babies to feed. You can see that by the amount of milk she has. I don't think it's rabid."

"The Government might have 2nd thoughts if I die & they have to pay you a widow's pension. It'll be your fault & they won't want to support you for keeping a rabid squirrel," he teased. His wounds weren't serious & she helped him disinfect them.

The next day the squirrel returned and came right into the kitchen. It jumped up on the counter next to where Margaret was washing the dishes. Margaret took a whole nut out of a bag in a kitchen cupboard, the one where the warped door wouldn't close properly, and gave it to her. The squirrel noticed & later Margaret found it in the cupboard shelling & stuffing peanuts in its mouth. "So you can open a cupboard doors too. Very clever of you," she said. "Careful you don't push your luck," But she was smiling.

(A true tale) By DORA SANDERS

running notes -

"Brian didn't resign, he just had a sex change." (Tim the Tiny)

running notes -

"There are very few countries that are not a prisoner to the corporate machine that keeps us bound to its wretched coattails for our sustenance (livelihood). I do however cringe at the thought of the rich becoming richer & the poor becoming poorer & the eventual elimination of the middle class in North America, the middle class being the buffer zone between wealthy & complete poverty in North America." (P.M. Lancaster)

Mayor and Council:

23/7/93

It is crucial that a social impact assessment of the central waterfront Port megaproject be done before Vancouver Council votes on any policy statement.

Such a policy statement report will be ready by the middle of September 1993 (a rough draft). However, a development recommendation will be before you by the end of October but the funding for the social impact assessment is not being put into place at this time.

The Port has said that it wants a convention centre for up to 10,000 conventioners, a double-berthed cruiseship pier, office buildings, retail stores & luxury condos on the Port lands.

Why is not the money for an independent consultant study on social impacts on Crab (Portside) Park & the nearby communities by the megaproject in place now?

We are concerned about the sheer numbers of people being proposed on the central waterfront area. Further, we are concerned about possible loss of use of Crab/Portside Park for local residents because of the type & scale of the megadevelopment.

Finally, a federal study of the Fullerton Fill, North Vancouver site, as a potential location for a convention centre & pier, must be done again, before Vancouver City Council votes on a policy statement that will set the scale & type of development on the central waterfront.

Don Larson

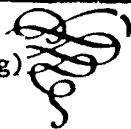
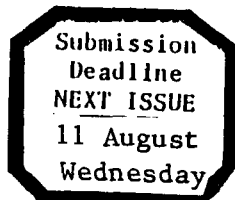
DOWNTOWN STD Clinic - Monday through Friday, 9am - 5pm.
 EASTSIDE FREE MEDICAL CLINIC - Mon, Wed, Friday, 5:30-7:30pm
 YOUTH NEEDLE EXCHANGE - 221 Main; everyday, 9am-5pm.
 ACTIVITIES Needle Exchange Van - on the street evenings, Mon-Sat
 SOCIETY N.A. meets every Monday night at 223 Main St.

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

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Carnegie

NEWSLETTER

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NEED HELP ?

The Downtown Eastside Residents' Association
 can help you with:



- * any welfare problem
- * information on legal rights
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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
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Dyslexia

Hospitals may be creating dyslexia right in the delivery room.

Dyslexia is a learning disability in which children so afflicted see words as jumbles of letters or perhaps with the order of letters reversed...seeing the word 'cow' as 'woc' for example. Curiously, educators have noted that many dyslexic children see the words quite normally if they are printed on coloured paper instead of white.

Neither doctors, psychologists nor educators are able to explain why a few children are dyslexic while most are normal. The following may end their puzzlement if they deign to read it.

The unborn child, the fetus, has a mind, one that has had very little sensory input & no visual input at all until birth. There is no conscious level to the mind at all - the conscious mind will begin to develop several days later as the eyes begin to focus. The fetus-mind is all subconscious.

In a birth that produces a child who will be dyslexic, post-partum events move rapidly in the delivery room. Quickly, the new baby is washed & bundled up in a warm, soft cloth. Slowly, slowly heat is lost & just as slowly the little body's inbuilt mechanisms take up the task of generating more heat to replace that lost. The fetus-mind is still there & in its first experiences with its new-found sense of sight through unfocussing eyes, it sees a blaze of white. White-clad doctors & nurses; white sheets; white enamelled hospital equipment; prob-

ably white walls & ceilings - & this white background continues as the baby is taken into the hospital nursery.

Now, a birth that will produce a non-dyslexic child.

In the moments after birth, events don't proceed at such a headlong, hectic pace. The baby is not bundled up within seconds of leaving the birth canal. It may be exposed to the air for several minutes before being wrapped up. In those minutes its skin cools rapidly & the baby's bodily mechanisms must kick in & begin to energetically supply & circulate heat. This unprecedented event shocks the fetus-mind & it retreats (or perhaps we should say it shrinks); the baby begins to build a baby-mind that can accommodate to changing external conditions.

The fetus-mind of the dyslexic child remains in place & is soon buried under layers of experience. This was because there was no one point when the baby shockingly learned that it was no longer in the womb. The fetus-mind probably remains at the core of the dyslexic child's mind, even into & through adulthood. Perhaps that is why so many dyslexics mature into such warm and wonderful adults.

Why do many dyslexic children only have difficulty with words printed on white paper? Because the white of the paper recalls the whiteness of the delivery room in which the fetus-mind first saw with its eyes & the whiteness calls the fetus-mind to the fore. It is the fetus-mind that is trying to read the words printed on white & because the fetus-mind developed without sight, nothing it sees makes sense.

How can dyslexia be prevented? Delivery room staff & doctors & nurses can see to it that newly-born infants are allowed to lie exposed to the air, naked, for enough minutes to cause their bodily heat generating & circulating mechanisms to kick in & work energetically.

Isn't that simple? Just let newly born babies cool off. Soon - no more dyslexia.

By ERIC ERICKSON

THE WAR ON PERSONAL SOVEREIGNTY:
(Left, Right, Left, Right...etc.)

The first thing I want to know is, does society expect us to become better individuals, or does it want team players?... They can't have it both ways (individuals don't fit in, & team players don't individualize).

Still, the left-wing humanist politician appears on the tube with his/her message of becoming a better individual...a better human being...followed by the right-wing business politician who urges us to climb on board the career machine...forget all that humanist crap he/she says, & become a responsible contribution to the job market.

Those who pursue jobs are offended by those who don't & those who don't work despise those who do - isn't that how it goes? Job-doers will say the way to become a better individual is to get a job, just as humanists will say that becoming a better human being makes you an acceptable player on their team.

I say neither of them has the right to make a judgement call on my life, okay?... but they keep doing it. Actually, their constant warfare with each other over the do's & don't's of my lifestyle amazes me. Is this a form of insanity? Do they want to make sure as many people as possible become infected with it?...Are their ideas contagious? Their thoughts...like microbes sent out to invade other peoples' realities?...only if you play it that way. And let's not forget that they demand you play it that way.

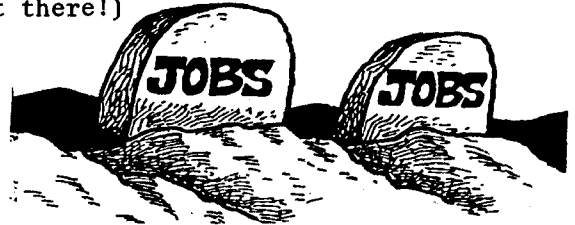
Do I actually have the right within this society to live my lifetime as I see fit? ...I guess not. But that was the big western freedom we sent thousands to die in Europe for during the second world war, wasn't it? - & recently, didn't we send "the boys" over to the Gulf to fight for the rights of Kuwaitis to live their individual lives as they see fit?... (not really, -it was oil & American jobs we fought for...can you imagine fighting a war to protect the jobs of car manufacturers, plastics factory employees & gas station attendants...can you imagine laying down your life, or the life of your son or

daughter for such a noble cause?...well, we did it.)

The Government has one policy for foreign consumption, & another policy for local consumption, & we're all consumers of gov't policy, aren't we? We have to be - because it's the law, & wherever you have law, you eventually have law enforcement following along with a gun in its hand, just doing its job (& well paid at that).

The sovereignty of the individual is a dead issue in the corporate state, & that's unfortunate for me because sovereignty of the individual is one of the things I believe in. Canada constantly ridicules & thumbs its nose at my principles, yet it expects me to support it as my national identity?!

...I mean, smash somebody in the face & offer them a job & they'll take the job to avoid being smashed in the face again, won't they?...or maybe they'll refuse the job no matter what you do. (You-the right-winger out there!)...You could just keep on smashing them until they're dead, & thus reduce the numbers of the unemployed. You could even appear later as a skinhead Canadian politician on a talk show, justifying your brutal attitude to nice little voting pensioners propped up on couches across the country - (you-the right-winger out there!)



Let's not forget that it's jobs that are logging Clayquot Sound. Jobs that create ozone holes & industrial waste. Jobs that fight wars & jobs that sell hamburgers. It's jobs that come in & remove local resources & leave ghosttowns, jobs that evict you from your home to build condominiums.. but most of all, it's jobs that create more jobs, until the whole world is nothing but one big job & everyone's got to do it?...Why? Well, to become responsible individuals, of course, even if there's no individualism left.

Well, the world is not a job. My daily life is a full 24 hours, sunrise to sunrise it belongs to me - every hour, every minute, every second of it - all mine, to do whatever I decide, whenever I decide it. ...who is going to compel me to sell my time & energy to other minds for other purposes?...who is going to humiliate me & call me a lazy fraud for living according to my own principles?

...no matter what I say, they will press forward to invade my sovereignty - seeking to diminish my self-respect. Why? Because deep down they all wish they had the guts to quit their lousy little jobs & establish their own personal sovereignty... "Something's happening here, but you don't know what it is, do you, Mister Jones?"

TORA

pretend you're filthy rich

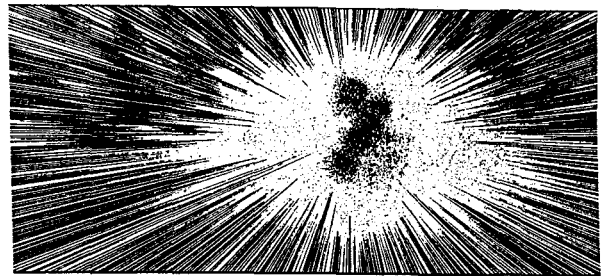
VOTE

PROGRESSIVE

CONSERVATIVE

GUST

IT'S SIMPLE STEVE
WHY DONT YOU
AND YOUR BOYS
JUST GET THE
FUCK OUT OF
THE
OLD GROWTH
FOREST!



ADAPTION AND
COSMOCHEMISTRY
Circa 9000 AD

Garry
Gust

When Nature sensed that the next Ice Age on Earth would lethally obstruct the evolutionary process of living things, it subliminally caused the human species to gradually introduce substances into the atmosphere.

By burning refined fossil fuels in massive amounts for decades on end, an increasing shield of carbon monoxide→dioxide was produced and accumulated above the earth, causing greater retention of the Sun's reflected heat off the planet's surface.

But still the mean temperature below Earth's crust began to cool.

Through Nature's mysterious prompting another substance was created to allow more of the Sun's ultraviolet rays to penetrate Earth's shell, and thus, Ice Ages were no longer possible, and living things continued to flourish in balanced abundance.



Tories' stealth agenda seeks to marginalize the poor

It would be easy to develop the impression that the Conservatives are keenly concerned about the plight of the poor.

Just about every time the Conservative gov't has adjusted the tax system or changed social policy over the past 9 years it has argued vociferously that the change will protect low-income Canadians.

And now, as they move towards the next election, the Conservatives are insisting that protecting the poor is uppermost in their minds. They say this as they step up their campaign to dismantle what's left of our universal social programs.

In fact, the broad outlines of a Conservative strategy towards the poor are just beginning to emerge & it looks like this:

*Eliminate social benefits for all but the poor, slash the benefits & then redefine the poor so that almost no one qualifies to receive the meagre benefits anyway.

Of course it isn't presented this way. Instead, we are told that universal programs should be eliminated so we can target more generous benefits at the neediest, rather than squandering scarce resources on the rich.

But while targeting benefits at the poor may appear at first glance to benefit the poor, it doesn't generally turn out that way in practice.

*In the United States, for instance, there is no universal medicare program but there is a targeted program called Medicaid to



provide free medical coverage for the poor.

So even though some 37 million Americans in the middle-income ranges are completely without health-care coverage, the poor at least appear to be guaranteed access to medical care.

But this is by no means the case.

The problem is that Americans who can't afford medical care for their own families resent paying taxes to provide free medical care for the poor.

As a result, US governments have kept the Medicaid program badly underfunded. Reimbursement rates for doctors are so low that many US doctors simply refuse to accept Medicaid patients.

In Canada, the Conservative gov't cancelled the universal family allowance program this year & replaced it with a new targeted child benefits system which, the gov't insists, offers more generous benefits to the poor.

To illustrate, Ottawa has trotted out numbers to show that some poor families are better off under the new system, while other poor families remain the same.

What the government's numbers disguise, however, is the fact that all poor families will be considerably worse off by the end of the decade because of another Tory initiative - the 1986 decision to let the value of child benefits erode with inflation. Let's take the government's best case scenario - a typical family that benefits from the new system:

*This "lucky" family of four is now receiving \$500 more a year in child benefits

for a total of \$2,753 a year. Within seven years, this family will see those benefits decline by more than \$750 to \$2,002 a year (in constant 1993 dollars), according to calculations by the Ottawa-based Caledon Institute of Social Policy.

In other words, even this "lucky" family will be worse off by the end of the decade than it is today.

An unlucky family, one that receives the same child benefits under the new system as under the old system, will see its annual benefits decline even more dramatically - from \$2,253 today down to \$1,861 by the end of the decade.

This lack of inflation protection has stripped about \$4 billion from the overall child benefits package since 1986, according to Caledon Institute president K. Battle. (This is what the term "claw-back" refers to in the case of seniors' pensions. except that instead of inflation it's direct taxation that wipes out the Tory "dream.")

All this fits interestingly with another idea keenly promoted by the Tories; that the commonly accepted definition of poverty is too generous & should be replaced with a stricter (lower) measure.

This idea, which surfaced in a book published by the conservative Fraser Institute, was promoted last month by a committee of Conservative MPs headed by Barbara Greene. Under the committee's proposed measure, about 2 million Canadians would no longer be classified as poor.

The committee's report was the opening salvo in what promises to be a Conservative campaign to dramatically reduce the number of Canadians considered poor - thereby to dramatically reduce the number of Canadians who would qualify for social benefits under the targeted programs of the future.

It's all part of a coherent strategy that would leave millions of Canadian families, already reeling from unemployment & social assistance cuts, more devastated.

But one thing is clear: the Conservatives will protest like hell that the purpose of the changes is to help the poor.

By LINDA McQUAIG



"The Smith family celebrates by bunny hopping around the kitchen the fact that they are no longer considered poor by a Commons report."

running notes -

Free outdoor concert for NATIONAL PRISON JUSTICE DAY, on Saturday, Aug. 7 at Grandview Park (Commercial & Williams) from noon to 6pm. Call 251-7240 for info.

running notes -

- There is a great fooforaw about the long awaited Columbia Street Pedestrian Overpass to Crab Park. People here protested about the Main Street overpass from the day it was completed. It's too steep for the vast majority of residents to use for a walk to our park. We went through all the proper channels & got sucked into "working with" the powers-that-be...for over 6 years. Now that Campbell, still acting as mayor, has benefitted his buddies enough with carpet approval of huge megaprojects, a new arena, cruiseships, etc. ad nauseum (& refused to stop scores of buildings from being demolished for high-priced condos) he is now headed for provincial politics on the trail of the fabricated 'tax revolt' & media rabies over scapegoating welfare people as the cause of all problems. This overpass, in his own written word, "will be added to a future capital plan of the City." No priority, no commitment...just a campaign promise in an election year.....

PUBLICATIONS REPORT

The Carnegie Newsletter continues as a steady forum for views, poetry, articles, art, humour, politics & more. It began with the first 12-page issue on August 15, 1986. The editor was Al Mettrick, here on a UI top-up to use his experience in getting the paper going. Al's UI ran out & he left in November '86. The fire had been lit!

Sheila Baxter struggled with our common bane - "You aren't capable of..." - and was working on her first book No Way To Live: Poor Women Speak Out. Intrinsic to the nature & spirit of Carnegie, her book won wide acclaim. Sheila's second book, Under The Viaduct: Homeless in Beautiful B.C., was a bestseller for weeks. Her third, A Child Is Not A Toy, has just been released. She believes in herself & what she does, a powerful combination that permeates her work and ours.

The spirit dominant in Sheila Baxter's work is pervasive in all publications issuing from the Carnegie Community Centre. Poetry printed in the Newsletter brought many individual poets to band together and with the help of a grant from the Canada Council, packs of poets travelled to many places in BC, descending on coffee houses, libraries, school classes & even roadside parks. Their inspiration radiated outward, sparking new publications & poetry everywhere they went.

The Newsletter expanded in size & broadened the scope of its content. Community issues, as the seamier underside was exposed, became tied to government policies, elite capitalist scams & the corporate agenda. Poverty, homelessness, child/spouse abuse, drug/alcohol abuse, megaprojects, hunger, street crime, corporate crime... every issue was & remains connected to every other issue. We fight back!

The Downtown Eastside is a self-help community but offices, agencies & authority often intimidate people. The Newsletter began publishing a small resource booklet, Help in the Downtown Eastside, in Apr. 1990. The first one was printed in 1000 copies; they were all gone in 6 weeks. Four months later the 2nd edition was printed, with up-



dates, in 2000 copies. They were all gone in 8 weeks. Five months later a 3rd edition, updated & revised, in 2000 copies, came out & lasted about 10 weeks. Demand was far greater than supply; several people working in swamped agencies began hiding their personal copies just to hang onto 'em. Up to this point the Carnegie Association had paid for all print costs, but the need was too great for us to afford. Agencies in the community were approached to help. So far, funding has been donated by PLURA, First United Church, DERA, the Four Sisters Co-op, the Rotary Club of Chinatown, Legal Services Society (Legal Aid) & the Ministry of Social Services. Starting with the 4th edition a Spanish translation just arrived here one day - donated by MOSAIC. A French translation came shortly after that - donated by Marie at La Boussole. The regular print run is now 5000 English, 1200 French & 1200 Spanish every 4 or 5 months. (It is being translated into Chinese as well this summer.) The 10th edition (June 1993) brings the total to date to over 40,000.

The Learning Centre is producing a dynamic book called Off The Wall, containing writing, poetry & pictures of learners; local people had their work included in The Wind Cannot Read, the publication of Canadians' contributions to the International Year of Literacy; a few "instant books" have come out of the now-annual Learner's Conference here in Carnegie.

"To have no voice is to have no power." We've found our voice, clear & strong.

The Carnegie Newsletter is produced, except for the actual printing, totally by volunteers. Writing, typing, editing, layout, collation, stapling, folding & distribution are all contributed. It's published in a minimum of 700 copies & 24 pages, sometimes going to 750 copies in as many as 44 pages, twice a month - on the 1st & 15th.

A final note - both the Carnegie Newsletter & Help in the Downtown Eastside are free. Donations are accepted.

Respectfully submitted,
PAULR TAYLOR, Editor.