

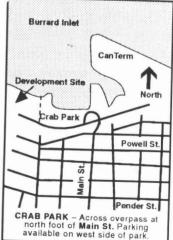


WSLE

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

AUGUST 1, 1994.

Come **SEE** for yourself Sunday, August 7



Is It For Real or is it just a Mirage?

Waterfront Open House and Anti-Casino Celebration

Sunday, August 7 - CRAB PARK Main Events start at 1:00 pm

★ Tours of Site ★ Kids' Stuff ★ Entertainment ★ Refreshments

...come see for yourself

You've heard about, read about it, talked about it.

Now's the time to actually see it.

On Sunday, August 7, come down to Crab Park and take a free guided tour of the site that the high-rollers and fast-buck artists are hoping to turn into Las Vegas North.

Vancouver's waterfront is public land, but the federal Port agency is treating it as its own private preserve, with its plan to build a casino, hotel, convention centre and cruise ship dock.

That's why it's important for the community to actually get down there and see what's at stake.

The perfect time will be August 7, from 1-to-3pm, at the Waterfront Open House and Anti-Casino Celebration, sponsored by the Carnegie Community Action Project.

The event will open with a special welcome by elders of the Musqueam and Squamish First Nations, followed by refreshments and musical entertainment representing a range of east side talent.

During the tours, special graphics prepared for the event will allow you to envision what the project would look like if plunked down next to the quiet retreat of Crab Park, blotting out the view of Stanley Park, towering over the bird marsh.

As you are guided around the site, you will get a better of the vast scale of what is being proposed:

- * It would be the single largest building ever constructed in Vancouver, completely overwhelming the community's only green space on the waterfront, Crab Park.
- * The casino would be one of the five largest in the world, comparable in floor space to B.C. Place Stadium, drawing ten million visitors a year through our neighbourhood, eager for 24-hour-a-day gambling, drinking and carousing, spawning crime and homelessness on our streets.
- * The project would require 15 acres of harbour to be dredged and filled in. Crab Park, the whole thing, is about 7 acres. The plan is to dump enough fill in the Inlet to create a base for building that is over twice the size of Crab!

No wonder the opposition to the project has grown so fast and so wide, spreading from our community all over the city..

To get to Crab Park, you have to go to the

north foot of Main Street, just past Alexander, and take the overpass. (The steep, three-storey-high overpass is another story - one more example of how the Port is trying to make the public's waterfront inaccessible to the public.)

If you can't wait until August 7 to register your opposition, just drop a line to Premier Mike Harcourt, c/o Legislative Buildings, Victoria, B.C. V8V 1X4, or call his Vancouver office at 253-7905.

And if you want more information on any of the above, just call Carnegie at 689-0397.

HURRY MY SILENCE

hurry my silence toward you past cathedrals of sleep to wars and traffic, where last civilians of the embarkation live under glass, and see everything through green windows of forest as thick as limbs hurry my silence to your cool shaded herbals, your wood and incense of time and resignation

speed my words through sunset with nothing but memory to hide them black lines fading where you rest in amber light, a small breath rising at nightfall to the music of departure and hesitation

hurry my blood to your darkness where instincts dream their intermittancy between cold waves and boats set sail with secret cargoes from your fingers to the crimson heart of desire drowning in its destination hurry my blindness to the inadvertent meridians of dawn that fall from your hair like gentle crescents of laughter when the blue wind of the sky rides off beside you into the echo of dust and sunlight

Dan Feeney

EXPERTS

Experts agree, there must be experts; Fountainous, orgasmasexpurts. Impressive, visual, audible, specific. We defer and forget the answer.

Humble me oh humble pie; Mea culpa ice cream and a jackass eye looks back from a cracked outhouse mirror. Devine.

A lovely couch.

As I straighten my clothes I check my shoes, "Out here, everything goes down the hole."

A gravity wave in the stands of matter, We follow. Nothing really counts, "Nothing really matters."

Experts agree.

Clothes are tattered.

Fools agree.

I wipe grease from my mouth, from my face, And quote another expert.

Is it resolved? Do we agree?

Mark Oakley

Dr. Tom Perry MLA

I am writing to tell you I was heartened to read in the Vancouver Sun this weekend that you are coming out against the proposed casino in Vancouver's waterfront.

My wife and I are both artists and activists, and have lived here in the Downtown Eastside for over 10 years. During this time we have seen a steady increase in prostitution, drugs and crime. There weren't hookers on every corner when we first moved in. There weren't people shooting up on our porch, or defecating beside our house, or doing blowjobs between our place and the neighbour's. (Excuse the graphic language but this is how it is.) Women didn't stand in front of our elderly landlady's house, on Cordova St., exposing themselves to motorists. There weren't needles and condoms and puffball wrappers all over the place. And our home, which doubles as our studio, wasn't burglarized...as we were yesterday afternoon when I was out for two hours.

I don't want to move because we have wonderful neighbours and the low rent allows us to pursue our art. But when I look out the window, I think, if the community and the police can't control the existing problems, how on earth is this city going to handle the repercussions of a casino? There are enough addictions around here already.

I simply cannot understand how the NDP could even consider such a proposal. Tommy Douglas must be rolling in his grave. Sure, a casino will bring money, but it will only redistribute (or launder) money. No real production of money will take place. This is elementary economics. Where is the socialist vision here?

I'm afraid that union leaders and NDP politicians who endorse this project because of the lure of capital will lose not only people's respect, but votes as well. Have they been seduced by big salaries, expense accounts and titles? Do they no longer listen to the grassroots?

For my part, I'm going to get involved in the coalition opposed to Mirage.

Yours sincerely, cc: Mike Harcourt Bill Horne

If love is a spark, burn me alive
If love is a secret, tell me no lies
If love is a razor, cut me like knives
If love is a true vision, let me idolize
If love is the heavens, up to the skies.

Elizabeth Thorpe

Day of Plenty

Bless, O Lord, These delectable vittles May they add to Thy Glory And not to our middles.

Joe Paul

TIPS FOR WELFARE FIRST-TIMERS

Get a copy of the welfare rights handbook. Don't expect everything you need to know will be told to you; ask questions.

Don't be late; they punish for tardiness.

Don't expect to be called back when you leave a message for your worker.

Don't miss your name being called when you are waiting (& it helps to know your own name).

If you are waiting in line and you see your worker, initiate contact loudly but politely if you just have a quick question.

Only give information that is asked for; write down questions and record answers.

If you have health problems, see your doctor and ask for a list of your dietary or other special needs.

If your worker is rude or abusive, write a memo directed to the district supervisor and mail a copy to E.L.P. or DERA.

Receptionists will make copies of all necessary documents.

Never say you can't cope with your children. Don't be afraid to ask for an appeal kit.

Ways To Deal With Big Line-Ups

Casually ask the next person if they know when the detonation squad is going to get there...

Eat beans and broccoli for breakfast (broccoli acts to relieve stress and alleviates frustration; it also helps you maintain your personal space (beans can do this last in a slightly different way)!)

Bring with you any Jehovah's Witness or Hari Krishna you meet along the way...

Start reading Soldier of Fortune or any other offensive magazine...

If you can't shorten the line, bring along projects to do while waiting:

- * Clip your toe nails
- * Have a friend come along to do your hair
- * Finish that sweater you started knitting 5 years ago...

...most of all don't feel degraded about being there; it's not your fault there are millions of people unemployed. Remember to stay calm.

Some Of The Rules

They will keep all of your declared income for the first 3 months you are on welfare.

They will keep all of your income tax refund, except the BC sales tax credit, the federal sales tax credit, child tax credit and GST refund.

If you don't have a rent receipt or intend-torent form you won't get a shelter allowance.

If you are living with someone expect to be considered a family unless you specify you are sharing a place with other people and "my share of the rent and expenses is..."

If you are a single parent you can declare someone as a boarder and their share of the rent will be deducted.

If you do family projects to earn some money, kids' money will be deducted from your cheque.

EXTRAS You Ask About:

- * clothing allowance
- * food vouchers
- * volunteer incentive program (\$100/month from the program are not considered "earnings")

* special recreational programs such as camps for your kids may be paid for.

If you have a problem or need advice, contact an advocate at one of these:

- DERA, 9 E. Hastings, 682-0931
- First United Church, 320 E.Hastings or pick up a Help in the Downtown Eastside booklet at Carnegie Centre. You're not alone

From Periodic Outbursts

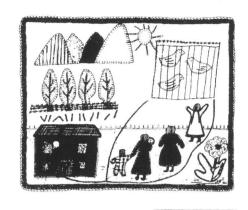
Getting juicy info on corporate profits

I love June. Not because it's summer, but because June is the month that the *Globe and Mail* puts out its Top 1000 list of corporations ad tells us juicy things like how much profit they made and how much assets they have.

When the Top 1000 comes out in June it inevitably follows a year in which we hear all about how the government can't afford social programs, education, health, and no one, of course, can afford to pay more taxes.

Unfortunately the *Globe* neglects to tell us how much in corporate taxes the various corporations pay. I wonder why? They do tell us that Bell Canada, the top earner, made a mere \$871 million in 1993. The Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, number 2, made \$730 million and had assets worth over \$141 billion. Why do I think these corporate giants could afford to pay more taxes--at least more than the person I know who lives on \$9,000 a year, \$6,000 below the poverty line, and still had to pay over \$600 in taxes?

You know how we're always told profits create jobs? Two of the 38 most profitable



corporations, Gaz Metro and Trans Alta Corp, had zero employees. Trans Alta made over \$183 million and Gaz Metro made over \$111 million with no employees!

You know how we're always told that corporations would create more jobs if they didn't have to pay those pesky UI premiums? Bell Canada made over \$17,000 profit per employee, after the wages and benefits were paid. The Bank of Nova Scotia made almost \$24,000 profit per employee. Great West Lifeco made over \$34 million profit per employee! Imperial Oil, with a profit of \$279 million, over \$29,000 profit per employee, just announced that it would lay off 500 staff. What makes the government think that companies that make tens of thousands per employee, even millions, would hire more people if their profits were reduced by about \$1,000 a year in UI premiums? I think they'd pocket the difference, not hire.

If anyone wants to see more juicy corporate details, ask your local library for the *Globe's Report on Business* for July, 1994. Or give me a call at 879-1209.

By JEAN SWANSON From The Long Haul: End Legislated Poverty's Newspaper.

History is What We Remember Vancouver Is A C.P.R. Town - Part

On April 6, 1886, the bill incorporating the City of Vancouver became law. In May, 1886, the first city elections took place and Malcolm Alexander MacLean, a real estate man, became Vancouver's first Mayor. In June, 1886, the entire city, composed entirely of wooden buildings, burned to the ground. Over twenty people died in the fire.

After the fire a new city of brick and stone sprang up from the charcoal of the old.

The city was named Vancouver rather than Granville at the insistence of the C.P.R. The streets were laid out by the C.P.R. and many were named after C.P.R. officials - Abbott, Angus, Beatty, Cambia, Hamilton, McNicols, Marguerite (daughter of Lord Shaughnessy, the third president of the C.P.R.) Matthews, Meal, Ogden, Salisbury & Stephen to mention a few.

Shaughnessy was named after Lord Shaughnessy and Strathcona after Lord Strathcona, formerly Donald Smith of the C.P.R.

From 1886 to the end of 1888 the population

of Vancouver grew from approximately one thousand people to eight thousand people. 7. First Water Street was developed, and many fine hotels could be found on the south side of this street. Then Cordova became the principal commercial street, and had an electric street car by 1890.

The C.P.R., anxious to develop its enormous real estate holdings in the new city, spent \$200,000 in 1886 to finance lot clearing and street paving along Hastings and Pender. In 1887 C.P.R. work crews cut Granville Street through from Burrard Inlet to False Creek and built a luxurious Vancouver Hotel at the southeast corner of Granville & Georgia Streets. As Van Horne, general manager and later second president of C.P.R. wrote to Maj. A.B.Rogers, after whom Rogers Pass was named, on December 8, 1884, "our object should be, of course, to give the greatest possible value to our own lands and therefore the least to any other."

The development of Vancouver with its upper class to the south (Shaughnessy), its middle class to the west, its working class to the east, and its minority ethnic groups to the downtown eastside and Strathcona was deliberate C.P.R. policy. It wanted the highest profits for its lands, and on the west side could be found large lots, large houses, sidewalks, good street lighting, beautiful parks, including Stanley Park which was established in 1888, and no industrial development.

The C.P.R. had no land on the east side of Vancouver, and dozens of small, competing land speculators catered to the needs of working class citizens with small lots, small houses, and fewer parks and sidewalks than on the west side. Also, industrial development was zoned for the east side by City Council,

and industrial pollution was a problem, especially from the many sawmills on False Creek that were on C.P.R. land.

The histories of the Chinese-Canadian and Japanese-Canadian communities in Vancouver are so important that they deserve a special series of articles. Maybe writers from these communities might do something for the Carnegie Newsletter.

The C.P.R. was so successful at selling land in Vancouver that its revenues exceeded the combined sales in all other towns in which it owned land," wrote Bruce MacDonald in his book Vancouver, A Visual History. That's an amazing statement considering the fact that the C.P.R. would have owned land in all the towns and cities on the transcontinental track, and in the west the C.P.R. chose the names, shapes, sizes and locations of all towns on the track from Brandon, Manitoba to Vancouver, British Columbia.

Cordova Street remained the popular street downtown until Charles Woodward built his new store at Hastings and Abbott in 1903. Then Hastings became the popular street for the next twenty years. After that the commercial/shopping centre of Vancouver moved to the Granville/Georgia area, on C.P.R. land...just where the company intended it to be

By SANDY CAMERON

TYRANTS

The morning speaks wearily,
Peace, and a broken back.
4 years of looking;
A blur of horrific rumours,
"My boyfriend brought you home,
After you tried to rape me."
Rape you? Yeah, right.

The phone goes dead. Checking on the state of a beaten man, With no hate in his heart. The dr. says "concussion."

Every muscle in my back Will never be the same. A chill-wind echoes refrains.

My lover comes back, My lover leaves, My lover comes back, My lover leaves, My lover comes back, My lover leaves. My heart, broken, Retreats.

I retreat
They call it running.
Baiting, waiting, waiting, baiting,
Baiting and waiting,
Enough! Begone demon!

"You're crazy, you're sick, you're dangerous, A monster, you're everything we say you are." Over, and over, and over.

My heart is numb.

My lover returns and turns to go.

I swallow my death, I hope. The universe is witchcraft. Christian crows follow me.

Tyrants command; fear, religious superstition. Tyrants, looking for a canvas to paint, With an artist's blood. Your blood. Gods' blood, blood, blood, blood. Tyrants, living on transfusion.

Mark Oakley

EARTH

They walk, as if human. Two eyes, even yet odd;

Uniforms, uni-norms, Unices.

Singular intent myopia.

Propagandists' dream creations' superstitions;

Superstitious, irreligious,

Fear bedecked and clothen.

Drop a rumour in the pond of frustration,

Watch the ripples.

Leading edge led by the cloth 'round

Choked necks, choked dreams, choked beauty.

A mafia of fools decide,

A mafia of religions decree,

A mafia of leper-minds; decaying,

A mafia of ideologues

Paranoid nationalisms, rise and fall,

Rise and fall, again and again.

Only the derelicts and kings remain the same.

Poles in a magnetic flux.

'Round flesh of iron.

"Darwin was a usurper."

Monkey trials and another Galileo is silenced.

9.

For a while.

Yet knowledge creeps,

On moonbeams.

The controllers know controls.

The Templar Knights of patriarchal ignorance

Seed another tragedy.

Divinity is ignored,

Divinity is abhorred,

Divinity is replaced, sterilized, and feared.

Divinity is a smiling face.

A mother to a child, to a father's sweated brow,

To an open hand, gentle judo.

Divinity is a monkey.

Divinity is the sun and stars as openings.

Divinity is joyous music.

Divinity does not need you, yet allows.

The blueprint's within, the so-called

Original sin, the sin of origin.

The sin of woman and man to revel in

Each other's divinity,

As if, human.

Mark Oakley

VANCOUVER CITY COUNCIL

Balmoral's pub licence suspended

JEFF LEE

Vancouver Sun

In a landmark decision, Vancouver city council has suspended the Balmoral Hotel's beer parlor operating licence for two months because the hotel has been a haven for criminal activities.

The suspension, which will run concurrent with a licence suspension by the provincial liquor licensing branch, begins Aug. 2 and is one of at least six measures the skid row

hotel has agreed to.

It is the longest suspension ever levied against a hotel by both the city and provincial government and sets a benchmark for other problem premises in the area, said Paul Tiechroeb, the city's manager of property use. Until recently, the heaviest penalty levied was a one-month suspension by B.C.'s liquor licensing branch against another hotel, he said.

The Balmoral agreement, however, breaks new ground because it is the first time a hotel owner or operator has agreed to be responsible for its employees. In the past, hotel owners have argued that they aren't responsible for the actions of their employees when they get into trou-

ble, Tiechroeb said.

The agreement also requires the hotel's owners to advise potential purchasers of the new operational requirements, to improve lighting in the seating area, to control criminal

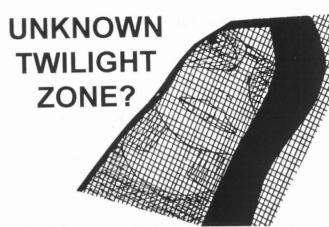
activities and to employ door staff.

"We've made it clear that any breach of these guidelines would bring an immediate review," Tiechroeb told city council on Tuesday. "It is certainly a severe penalty and it will get the attention of operators in the area."

The agreement was reached just before council was to hold a show-cause hearing into why the hotel's puboperating licence should not be taken away. The hotel's operations have been criticized in the past and the city has documented at least 16 serious incidents in the last two years.

In April, council said it intended to hold a show-cause hearing. Since that time, there have been virtually no incidents and the premises have been managed properly, Tiechroeb said.

Suspensions only apply to the hotel's liquor facilities, and not rooms, assistant city manager Judy Rogers said.



We didn't rock him or sock him and he left unruffled. The Chief of Police, Ray Canuel, came to a meeting called by DERA to hear citizen after citizen call him to account for ever-worsening conditions in the community.

People spoke of being afraid to walk down the street, especially in the 100-block of E.Hastings but almost anywhere in the Downtown Eastside, for fear of being hit up or robbed or assaulted. Evening meetings are a thing of the past as many seniors will not come out after dark; break-ins are epidemic, strong-armings are high, assaults are increasing and murder is becoming at least a once-a-month- experience.

As one single mother said, "I have lived in this community by choice for 10 years. I have 3 children and am fed up with being afraid to go outside. The treatment we get by the police and politicians is disgusting because it's like you don't even see us. There are prostitutes and drug users everywhere. How dare you allow these people to prey on the rest of us. My children are learning things that they shouldn't have to learn to survive."

Much was made of recent reports where one or more police stated they had "given up" on enforcing the law in this neighbourhood. This was news to many people who have lived here for years. The recent influx of high-grade

heroin at very low prices has created a magnet for junkies from all over the country. This has increased the exodus of business from the area, has fostered the opening of 24-hour convenience stores, dramatically increased the illegal activities cited above - theft, robbery, assault, and murder.

As Muggs Sigurgeirson said, "Junkies are shooting up all over the place." This adds to the fear residents have; that the police seem to have adopted a policy of 'containment' rather than arrest/charge/confinement. The attitude of the user is 'strength in numbers' but that of the drug dealers is more aggressive. It's having a vicious snowball effect, with people willing to do anything to get the money and the dealers doing everything to keep the supply steady.

Along with the 24-hour convenience stores are new Buy&Sell stores, at least 10, which have opened in the last couple of years. These are just another aspect of being an "entrepreneur" - willing to buy property (stolen or not) from junkies at maybe 1/20th its worth, then sell it for 3/4 of what it's worth and make a good profit.

DERA Executive Director Barb Daniel said that there is no where else in this city that this kind of situation would be tolerated.

Canuel made no statement, did not expand on current policies, did not take any kind of stand. This was almost expected, especially after he responded to an early speaker with "I am not aware of anything like what you're saying...the problem is more one of perception than reality..and, incredibly, "problem-focused policing will take a long time to prove effective" meaning that police are focusing on one "problem" at a time? Is this policese to say that if prostitution is this month's "problem" and you happen to be

engaged in break-ins that they won't bother you?

Okay, increasing the police presence in the neighbourhood will not deal with the poverty, unemployment and recidivist behaviour. Neither is it acceptable for the criminal activity to run rampant with virtually every resident being victimised. It was the clear belief of many at the meeting that police response is being curtailed both by seeming indifference and lack of concern for the stable population. Ask yourself how long the situation on our streets would be tolerated in Kitsilano or Shaughnessy or Point Grey or North Van or West Van or......?

What would be good is for Owen and several councilors to be in the area from about 2pm for an hour then walk the streets from 8-10 one night, cruising E.Hastings and maybe Pigeon Park. They'd last about 10 minutes if they had to do it without a squad of protection ...when they'd just cut and run.

DERA will be engaging in meetings with senior police officials and issuing invitations to Owen, Harcourt and Terrana to send reps. Issues of drugs, knives and prostitution all need immediate attention, the first and last needing decriminalisation with laws against carrying knives needed yesterday. We're not about to wait 2 or 3 years for some 'commission' to make a windy report to someone. Progressive action is needed now.

One other aspect of all this, from the most cynical point of view: The high-grade junk has been brought in to bring a long-standing substance abuse problem out in the open, but with the following scenario as part of the plan:

1. Poverty & unemployment has made some

of the most valuable real estate in the city the home of the poor.

Problem: Cleaning up the area and getting all the inconvenient people out.

2. With new market for condos & the need to attract people to buy in this area, developers want to bulldoze most of the neighborhood. *Problem:* Private plans/profit being curtailed by "social" responsibility............

Solution

- flood the area with cocaine & heroin, increasing the lawlessness, fear, threats to poor residents

- do not increase policing; make the police the scapegoats to get blame for "not doing anything"

- refuse to recognise the neighbourhood as a "community" with a right to its own planning council (making it simple for 'development' to proceed without having to meet the needs of current residents)

- when current residents raise hue & cry to acceptable level, give police extraordinary powers to detain anyone suspected of being a drug user/prostitute/dealer/substance abuser

- accelerate pace of demolishing existing buildings, especially those left vacant or condemned after clearing populace out via police in force or private security army

- continue sweeping streets for anyone identified as transient, homeless or a substance abuser. Enhance press coverage for "brave boys doing their job"

- foment hysteria of poor-bashing and "my community" among new condo owners and hotels serving the new casino/Seaport Centre on the waterfront

- say hello to the new world order......

UPDATE on the Downtown Eastside's Community Health Plan



For the past few months the Community
Health Plan has been the subject of meetings at the old bank building at 390 Main Street.
The purpose of these meetings has been to aid with the development of the "New Directions" health care plan.

Between 30 & 40 people have been coming weekly, discussing and making recommendations on everything from boundaries to the role and functions of Community Health Councils.

In the draft report it is stated that: "The Vancouver Regional Board is to have three major functions - establishing a health plan and priorities, and setting policies and allocating funds in line with these priorities and policies. The region is not only interested in comprehensive and quality clinical care but it will also be placing a special emphasis on disease prevention and health promotion strategies..."

What makes these meetings important to people? The first thing that comes to mind is the key criteria or principles: "Public involvement, effective and efficient use of resources, integrated system, accountability and authorities." While this approach can be viewed as idealistic, it is also the first time that residents of communities have had some realistic input into the way health care is delivered.

Some of the concerns rest on the uniqueness of this neighbourhood; its status as both the poorest urban area in Canada and host to a forest of care-giver services that do not always address the needs of the individual nor of the local community.

A long term resident and active participant in the weekly health plan meetings was asked: "What do you see as the single most important health concern for the Downtown Eastside?"

The answer was, "Health problems get dumped here..all the problems get dumped here."

The third person I spoke to had this to say: "This is a wonderful thing. I just hope they are really committed to making this sort of health program work. Sometimes though, in this community (DTES), we don't always get enough participation from some of the people who are most affected because they are shutins or can't afford to take the time from their day to day survival needs to attend the meetings. We also need more input into the way the dollars are spent. Right now we have 200 service agencies in this community and most of the money goes to administration fees. I'm not saying the providers should not be entitled to a fair wage for their work; I'm saying they should explore the needs of the individual rather than the administration.. Do I see changes happening to the benefit of the individuals in this community? Yes I do, but it will take a lot of work and compromise to get it right."



Dear Fellow Canadian,

You get sick and have to have an operation. In the U.S. you will probably pay \$5,000 to \$10,000 - or more. Here in Canada you show your health card.

You plan to send your children to university. You save enough to help pay for the \$3,000 annual tuition in Canada. But could you afford the \$20,000 for most universities south of the border?

You know when you retire you can count on old age security, health care and other assistance. In the U.S. many seniors spend their retirement years in poverty.

Every day you and I benefit from social programs. Whether it's health cared, old age security, insurance against joblessness, or education, these programs and institutions form the fabric of our society and define us as a civilized and compassionate nation.

That's why I'm writing to you and sending a petition to "Stand on Guard for Canada's Social Programs." Right now Canada needs your help.

The new federal budget shows that many influential Liberals believe, like the Tories before them,., that to control the deficit they must cut back on essential services to citizens.

This budget reduced funding for hospitals, schools, daycares, housing and social assistance which is paid to the provinces. In the meantime the government has struck a committee to review all social programs with the clear aim of making deep cuts. The government is asking for public input over the next several months and will produce a plan by this fall. There is still time to influence the government's course of action.

While we at the Council (of Canadians) recognize that it is possible to make some improvements and changes to our social programs, it is clear that the agenda of at least some members of the government is to go beyond this and make deep cuts in these programs. These severe cuts would seriously hurt millions of Canadians. We can't let this happen.

That's why I'm urging you to make your personal views known to the government by signing the petition and returning it as quickly as possible, The Council of Canadians will personally deliver your petition, along with thousands of others, to the government. Together, you and I can show that most Canadians want our social programs improved, not dismantled.

It angers me to think that you and I are supposed to bear the brunt of deficit reduction, yet tax breaks to wealthy corporations and individuals have caused almost half the national debt. Social programs, meanwhile, have caused a mere six percent.

Fairness

If large corporations and multimillionaires paid their fair share of the \$35 billion in taxes each year (but don't because of loopholes allowed by the government), our social programs wouldn't be on the chopping block!

PETITION

STANDING ON GUARD FOR CANADA'S SOCIAL PROGRAMS

To The Hon. Jean Chrétien, Prime Minister
The Hon. Paul Martin, Minister of Finance
The Hon. Lloyd Axworthy, Minister of Human Resources Development

Whereas I have the right, along with every Canadian citizen, to health care if I am sick, to affordable education if I am training or studying, to a pension if I am a senior, to insurance against joblessness if I am a worker, to assistance if I am poor or homeless, to daycare services if I am a parent working outside the home, and to access to those cultural institutions, like the CBC which bind us together as a nation...

Whereas these social programs form the very fabric of Canada, defining us as a civilized and compassionate nation...

Whereas the struggle to build universal health care, old age security and other valued institutions is a proud part of Canada's heritage...

Whereas deep cuts to social programs will be most hurtful to the three million adults and children living below the poverty line, including many who visit food banks or are homeless...

Whereas cuts to social programs are not necessary, since tax breaks and subsidies to wealthy individuals and profitable corporations have caused close to half the debt, while social programs have caused less than six percent...

THEREFORE I JOIN WITH THE PEOPLE OF CANADA in petitioning the federal Liberal government to fully protect the social programs that are our right and heritage.

SIGNED FULL NAME: (PLEASE PRINT)	ADDRESS		CITY	PROVINCE	DOCTAL CODE
SIGNED - FULL NAME: (PLEASE PRINT)		 			
	SIGNED	•	FULL NAME: (PLEASE	PRINT)	

Count me among the majority of Canadians

who believe Canada's social programs must be preserved and improved, not destroyed.

My signed petition will help remind the government that all Canadians have the right to health care, daycare services, education, old age security, unemployment insurance and other essential programs that make Canada a caring society.

I have enclosed a contribution for the amount indicated below. Please use it to Stand on Guard for Canada's Social Programs.

	\$35 □\$50 □\$75 □\$100 □Other
	I'll pay by cheque 🔲 Visa 🗀 MasterCard Card Number:
Г	CANADA PLAN —
	I'd like to pledge a monthly amount to help the Council keep fighting for our social programs:
	☐ \$10 per month ☐ \$15 per month ☐ \$20 per month ☐ \$30 per month ☐ Other \$ per month
	Please take my monthly contribution from my Chequing account (my first month's cheque enclosed)
	My credit card: □ Visa □ MasterCard
	Card Number:

Standing

Pension

Health fore
Health fisterice
Health fisterice
Health fisterice
Health fisterice
Health fisterice
Health fore
Health for

Signature

Expiry Date: ____/_

With your contribution of \$35 or more you will receive our magazine Canadian Perspectives.
With your contribution of \$50 or more, or when you join the
Canada Plan, you will also receive a Standing on Guard for Canada's Social Programs pin.

The Campaign to Stand on Guard for Canada's Social Programs; Council of Canadians,

904-251 Laurier Avenue West Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5J6 (613) 233-2773



— Please Return Within Ten Days —

I know you are a person committed to fairness and justice. What could be more unjust than a plan which allows the wealthiest corporations and individuals to float above the fray, paying little or nothing to society, while extracting more concessions from middle and lower income Canadians?

What could be more unjust than punishing citizens who need protection most?

Today, three million children and adults live beneath the poverty line, many line up at food banks every day, and thousands of homeless people sleep on subway grates or in back alleys in the freezing cold. This is with a safety net - imagine what will happen without one.

When you send in your petition I hope you will also make a personal donation to the Standing on Guard for Canada's Social Programs campaign. You will be guarding

THE FIGHT FOR CANADA GOES ON



BROKEN PROMISES: "If we can't renegotiate, you know we'll abrogate," Jean Chrétien told voters in 1993.



your own rights to the hard-won institutions that make our country what it is today.

Older generations fought for decades for free universal health care before it was implemented. We can work to ensure that the government, under pressure from big corporations and it's own right wing, can't undo in one year what it took more than a lifetime to build.

Some members of the government are bargaining that you and I will take all of this sitting down. That we'll accept the cuts, believing they are "inevitable." That we'll watch the institutions taken apart before our eyes.

Well, I expect that, like me, you don't intend to sit back, quietly acquiescing, while the very programs and institutions we depend on are demolished.

Our country was built by people who knew how to fight. Now another fight is needed - to guard and defend the institutions that make us what we are today.

Please make a donation of whatever you can afford. Together we can stand on guard for a easing and compassionate nation.

Sincerely, MAUDE BARLOW Volunteer National Chairperson

Terminal doesn't need casino

Vancouver can have a new cruise ship terminal without a casino, says a former University of B.C. economist.

Robert Clark told the Vancouver school board Monday that a head-tax analogous to airport departure taxes would obviate the need for the casino advocated by proponents of the Seaport Centre project.

Both the Vancouver Port Corporation and developer VLC Properties have claimed that it would be impossible to fund the complex without a for-profit casino.

But Clark, who specialized in public finance, said Vancouver airport's levy on departing passengers raised more than \$20 million in its first year.

He warned that if for-profit casino gambling is legalized, the decision could not be reversed, and also urged the B.C. Government to retain its present policy of banning liquor in casinos.

Clark suggested that casino gambling promotes values inconsistent with those that the school board is trying to encourage in children. "Is it in the public interest to encourage, as the Seaport casino proposals do, people to want to get as much money as they can while contributing as little as they can for the benefit of others," Clark asked. "We believe that the answer is 'no'."



Lull

the last footstep echoes in a terminus of uneasy literacy snicker of blueprints and layout

the long drawing up of forces that arrive like suspicions, the persistent itch to demeanor and presence, moments that turn away from us in grimaces of sadness and repetition

a fine blue sand is trickling down
the still architecture of our stations
at night, where motorists drive
one more degree toward their exhausted
truancy from dreams
of summer with its hand
upon your shoulder, your sweater upon the chair
where their fingers have rested
in what's left of intention

if there is another life, it must be strung along the latitudes of your breath the highways of your sleep differently, an attenuated murmur from soliloquy to soliloquy lost in translation, and in the long fields where quiet distances listen

for your paisley rooms humming with light, the two-step then and there, between us, awash with autumn darkness and the soft clamor of bodies, there is perhaps a moment that does not run mad rivers to its crumpled address all its utilities gone

Dan Feeney

PETITION FOR CORONER'S INQUEST

The Assn. For Vehicle Movement Safety respectfully presents the following petition to the Chief Coroner of British Columbia to request that a Coroner's Inquest be held into the death of Okanagan Indian Band member JOHN CARROL STRUTHERS.

This man was a resident of the Vernon area. He died in a motor vehicle accident that occurred on May 12, 1994, on Hwy. 97 approximately 5 miles north of Vernon.

This accident occurred in the midst of a vehicle inspection Roadblock being operated by the RCMP. We believe that there are circumstances relative to this activity that may have caused or contributed to this accident and the untimely death of Mr. Struthers.

These circumstances are as follows:

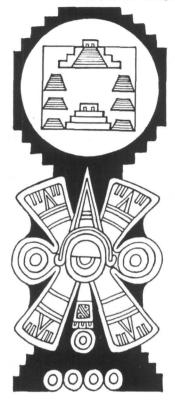
- The positioning of a vehicle inspection Roadblock; (a) on an 80 KPH, high volume, 4 lane highway,

 - (b) prior to or adjoining a curve and an upgrade or knoll in the highway,
 - (c) adjacent to an obscure entrance onto the highway that has previously been the site of other accidents.
- 2. The actions of those individuals operating the Roadblock such as;
 - (a) the use of auxiliary police to direct traffic at a difficult site,
 - (b) the use of police vehicles to dart in front of or to chase those vehicles that refuse to participate in these activities,
- 3. The reason (M.V.A. Regulation prohibiting tinted windows) for which the Struthers' vehicle was attempted to be apprehended does not exist in law. This requirement was struck down in June of 1990 by a B.C. Provincial Court decision.

We, the undersigned, believe that it is in the public interest that the activities and actions that may have contributed to this accident be fully investigated and identified in a public forum. Only by this method can we move to ensure that the same circumstances do not re-occur causing further injury and death.

NAME	(print)	PHONE # or ADDRESS	SIGNATURE

ULTRA SPACE & THE MAYAN DAY-COUNT



The ancient Mayan "calendar" or day-count, was not at all similar to our calendar of today, which measures work-periods, days off, & reminds us of anniversaries & historical events.

The day-count was made to keep track of a subtle interplay of cosmic forces which the Mayans believed emanated from the thoughts & actions of spirits which were created or destroyed by the changing relationship between things.

According to their own unique forms of astronomy, they calculated exact mathematical movements & relationships within the solar system & star fields beyond. Recurring patterns of universal movement were translated into networks of psychic influence by which the Mayans believed the

initiators of life & death created a sacred geometry of transformation.

The subtle changes of the universe were recorded & predicted in a day-count "calendar" so that ordinary humans could consciously follow their pattern & in so doing achieve mythic stature. Through the influence of the day-count a sense of cosmic adventure coloured the everyday actions of the people with an intensity of thought & feeling similar to that experienced by the gods.

The Mayan cosmology was not a closed system, but an open-ended search for greater understanding. Beyond the thirteen gods of Th. sky & the nine gods of the earth, the Mayans conceived other godforms & spirits to be limitless in number, scattered throughout space - here & on other worlds. They believed that beyond the borders of human reality. there were supernatural beings whose influence on human lives was not yet fully understood. Extreme distances in time & space could not, to the Mayan way of thinking, impose any serious limitations on the influence of one system by another, & through the ritualistic quality of their daily lives, they attempted to discover, communicate with & influence these forces at significant moments. This they did in order to moderate if possible, their wrathful tendencys & increase their positive effects.

The idea of a universal medium through which vibrational thought-forms could pass, has been conceived, discarded & re-conceived by humanity many times over. Its most recent title being "aether" or ether" - a word used by metaphysicians & mystics in European traditions - derived from a Greek term for a kind of rarified air,, which Greek philos-

ophers claimed was only breathed by the

gods on Mount Olympus.

Anton Mesmer's doctorate thesis at the University of Vienna was a dissertation on "Psychic Fluid" which he conceived as the primal ocean, or field of existence interpenetrating all forms...a kind of hyperspace, similar to the ancient Egyptian idea of deep heaven, the watery abyss, beyond the sky & below the surface of the visible world, from which all living things are born, upon which their present existence depends, & into which they return upon death.

Modern physics has shown the microcosm within the atom to be a kind of vast "space" in which minute high-energy wave-particles orbit. Yet, according to physics, this space is not the same space inhabited by the stars. This "ultra-space" pervades all of existence, since it is the underlying reality of what appear to be solid forms. The wave-pattern probabilities set up in this sea of inner-space are a complex interplay of random & predictable events, similar, in some ways, to the patterns of cosmic order reflected in the Mayan day-count. It is here that the bridge between psychic & material phenomena exists.



remember

that night all night when I sat on my hands & sweated & watched the clock's hands not move towards 5:30 or those nights you sat in shadows worn-out but vigilant for fear of me passing out & setting the house on fire killing you & me & your kids & the cat or falling out of a window staggering to the bathroom like I did that time or just snapping all moorings & going berserk?

remember

when 5:30 finally arrived & down to the hill-billy bar for shots & beers just to make me well & you smiled & bud powell incredibly came onto the television & I forgot I'd ever been sick & was doing just what I wanted to be doing more than anything else & then left at 8 & got lost & panicked in the middle of the sidewalk with traffic blasting me & little kids going to school surrounding me & staring & your hand out of nowhere soft on my shoulder brought me back?

remember

how I drank & passed out & drank and passed out all that day & decided at 3 in the morning to go to new orleans with a pocket full of librium & nothing else & then tore up the admitting room at the nuthouse at 5 & they strapped me down & I went into deetees & accused you of all manner of ill deeds & betrayal?

remember

when I was released on an afternoon pass & with the sky the trees the sun exploding we made the most beautiful love while a cool gentle breeze dried our bodies that glorious sober day & when the inmates on the ward asked me what we did I started to tell them but they just groaned & walked away?

remember, me dear, those days & nights & other days & nights made seem the least of what we had?

Bud Osborn

DOWNTOWN FASTSIDE YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Lillian H.-\$16

Etienne S.-\$40

Adult LCC -\$12

SOCIETY

STD Clinic - Monday through Friday, 10am - 6pm FREE MEDICAL CLINIC - Mon, Wed, Friday, 5:30-7:30pm.

NEEDLE EXCHANGE - 221 Main; every day, 9am - 5pm. Needle Exchange Van - on the street evenings, Mon-Sat.

N.A. meets every Monday night at 223 Main Street.

1994 DONATIONS Bruce J.-\$10 Bill S.-\$2 Paula R.-\$10 Charley B.-\$32 Stuart M.-\$50 Sandy C .- \$20 Kettle FS -\$16 Cecile C.-\$10 Hazel M.-\$10 Bill B.-\$16

Joy T.-\$12 Diane M.-\$16

Libby D.-\$20

CEEDS -\$50 Carnegie LC-\$30 Margi S.-\$5 Anonymous -\$35 Sue H.-\$35



THE NEWSLETTER IS A PUBLICATION OF THE CARNEGIE COMMUNITY CENTRE ASSOCIATION.

Articles represent the views of individual contributors and not of the Association.

Help in the Downtown Eastside (funding)



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 problem
- finding housing
- opening a bank account

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



DERA HAS BEEN SERVING THE DOWNTOWN EASTSIDE FOR 20 YEARS.

Just sittin' here waitin'
For the one who never comes
For a girl with fingers, lips and things
I'm a man who is all thumbs.

The cost of living can't get worse Or else I'll run right out of verse The cost of beer is copacetic 'Til the time I'm diabetic.

To my love, who now is Rita She's a girl with mucho vita We will win this battle Royal Just as long as she is loyal.

William

We are in need of alternative developments. Where is the power of the individual? The energy expended on a wasteful scheme we all know as the System; I have lived in this Canadian system for 38 years. It is very wrong in many ways and I declare here the loss of creativity, originality, and humanity.

We could be doing so much more for our selves and others in this world and the world to come.

There are alternatives: What I would like to see is the provincial or federal governments support 'eco-villages' on crown land - unique healthy development, educationally creative and based on better value-retention and universal cultural growth where we truly recognize our kinship.

Population is fast outstripping our ability to continue driving cars and paying out massive sums to promote consumption as though there will always be more. Our government could show the world its support for sustainable development; perhaps then we would not be known as one of the greediest countries in the

When in time of need
We try to live the life to lead
We try to give the best we have
We must become the best we can.

Including now we seek the sun especially future we seek the one endangering others is not right people of colour don't need to be white

Elizabeth Thorpe

world. Strong words, yes, but the need for a complete change has been evident for years. We don't act on it in vast numbers because Canada is a very big place. Several hundred million beings could find room in this land.

Will an eco-village work? Yes. I know in my heart when people work together for something good it works. There is no shortage of people willing to contribute to sustainable community development with practical knowledge of herbs, organic agriculture, alternative medicine, music, art, construction, education and spiritual awareness...what is truly wealth providing a life spring for the blossoming of such 'eco-villages'.

There is yet space and time. Creative freedom is just in front of us.

Here, to me, is the answer to many problems - poverty, unemployment, immigration, soil loss, diabetes, housing, human dignity, alcoholism & drug abuse & social stress...... We can change things for the better. Write to your Member of Parliament asking them to support the use of crown land in sustainable development such as 'eco-villages'.

Peace; may your way be fruitful.

By MICHAEL BOHNERT

Stress Management Workshops

It was a need to deal with stress that led tutors to request a workshop on stress management. What resulted was so successful, other workshops were planned. Students from the Drop-In class decided to participate in the Native Healing Circle group before forming their own anxiety group.

Several students sat in a circle and began discussing life in general and those things that cause stress for single parents going back to school. It was made clear that some stress is necessary. We need a certain amount of it in our daily living.

Single parent fathers and mothers have the same problems but they vary as children grow older,. Being a parent can definitely raise your blood pressure.

During one stress workshop, after the men had left the room, a mother of three young children spoke up. She had left her abusive husband. After moving into her own apartment she was shocked to find that the oldest of the three children, a three year-old boy, believed he should take his father's place and in turn beat his mother. He was sure that this was what men did. The mother wanted to know how to make the child stoop hitting her. She was given the names of several agencies. Apparently this child's beliefs are not a new thing.

For teenagers who are becoming single parents at 12, 13, 14, 15, etc., there are many agencies for them and their families, and this alone helps keep these girls' stress low. There are now daycare centres in some high schools, which encourage a teen parent to keep her child with her. Many have redirected their



education to these schools, and continue their education through their pregnancies.

Carnegie has a drop-in centre but no day-by-day daycare for the single parent. There is a nearby daycare centre at 101 E. Cordova.

If a member of Carnegie is in need of a stress management workshop, she or he can ask when the next one is planned for; ask in the Learning Centre.

Helpful hints to ease stress -

- 1) An energy point for promoting a sense of control and having feet firmly on the ground is to be found between the base of the nostril and the upper lip,.. Press a finger against that point.
- 2) Sometimes the left & right sides of the brain are out of sync. Reprogram them by touching opposite elbow to opposite knee for about eight repetitions.
- 3) There is an energy point in each palm called "Calm Tranquil Mind"; pressing it relieves all kinds of mental agitation.



probably

get up early to drive to the veteran's administration hospital in ann arbor & first thing I'm facing laverne & shirley loud filmed live & pat my mother says "I finished that book on francis farmer last night I say "you did?" pat says "yeah am I glad it isn't so easy to get somebody locked up now when I go crazy or I'd never get out" we both laugh both chain smoking hunched over like inmates on a ward "poor francis farmer" pat says "those soldiers coming over from that army base by the hospital & raping her every weekend" "yeah" I say "yeah" pat raped by a drunken bar pick-up in front of me when I was 4 & a cop ramming a long slender metal flashlight up my ass outside los angeles "didn't know whether to jump you or rape you" he said

so we're in the car a hot morning in december foggy raining mist a full moon dawn lights highway 23 past the federal correctional institution "they're expanding that joint" I tell pat she says "oh yeah?" on past the maximum security mental health facility 'prison area don't pick up hitchhikers' past the state maximum security prison for women amid flat desolate fields on an overpass bridge sprayed painted graffiti 'devil children pbb acid rain they love it' trucks passing drowning the suburu pat nervous kicking the plastic pitcher of piss she's bringing for tests she says "I guess I'm scared of trucks from the time we ran into one when I was a little girl in illinois" I say "yeah there's a lot to be scared of from those guys" truckers telling me they like to shake up [people in small cars just for kicks

pat growing up in "little egypt" southern illinois her father in massacre of scab coal miners ku klux klan shooting it out with gangsters almost shooting my mother in her baby carriage the first aerial bombing in north america bootleggers dropping dynamite on the competition from a slow lowflying airplane black lung killing my grandfather who returned from going to vote one day & said "anytime I have to walk over dead bodies to vote I'm gonna give it up" other relatives dying in cave-ins or stabbed to death or gone to prison for theft

& pat's afraid there's more bad check warrants out for her & says "I'm not going back to jail no matter what" & I say "me neither" & pat says "but you probably will" & I say "yeah probably will" and both sigh then talk about when the f.b.i. showed up threatening pat with jail if she wouldn't tell them where I was & my sister leslie remembering special agents banging on the door & how cold they were & how stereotypical & just how nasty

bud osborn



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		-			*****					8					
ANSWERS TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE	9														
Across Down		1							Mile	10	11				
												N.			12
Answers will begin with	13						14				15	16			
next puzzle.		-51-											13.5		
	17								18						
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	1				1			29							

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DOWN

ACROSS

1. Peace of mind (4,7) 1. Spinning (8) 2. Increase speed (10) Bumper plating (6) 8. 3. Explode (6) World Cup hopeful (6,4) Womans name (6) 9. 4. Ready and willing (5) Wile E. Coyote's company (4) 5. 10. 13. Driving hazard (5,4) 6. Mountainside (4) 15. 7. Mideastern ruler (4) Copy (5) 17. Added new information (7) 11. Total (3) 18. 12. Met half way (11) Stray animal (4,3) 19. Church animal (5) 14. Rod (3) 21. Polite quote (song) (3,3,3) 16. Attentive (10) 24. 18. Signs of the future (5) Field (3) Move quickly (3) 27. Fab four (3,7)20. Reach out an arm (6) 22. 28. Iran once (6) 29. Angry response (8) 23. Give up (6) 24. Nickel and copper (6)

25.

26.

The Irish (4)

Linger (4)



THE YOGA OF SOCIAL CHANGE

Tantra Yoga is the science of intuition. In each of us there are three levels of consciousness. The physical part deals with survival, with eating, sleeping, sex, fear. The next level, much more powerful, is the intellect. Here are all aspects of life that thinking, feeling, service, domination, manipulation, empowerment, language, discrimination and reasoning deal with. The third level, the deepest, most powerful level, is intuition.

Most of us live most of our lives with the physical and intellectual parts dominant, and experiences of insight and intuition are rare.

By practicing Tantra, struggle to overcome all obstacles on the path is the essence of life. Every part of existence can be either static (not helpful, decayed, crude, stagnant) or mutative (bringing about change, stimulated movement) or sentient (helpful, positive, enlightening). Tantra, with practices designed to enable the sentient force to dominate, gives each of us the will to overcome anything. Spiritual practice makes realisation easy to those who base theirs on love

How does that help with the world? Pick up a paper, watch the news, pay the rent or just

buy food and the crisis of the day is just one more in a long line - poverty, exploitation, greed, crime, war, starvation, funding for health, education & welfare, injustice, family breakdown, women's dignity, aboriginal and minority rights, the environment, pollution,...

Yoga is personal and individual; social service is a collective, shared responsibility. The global problems hinted at in the short list above will not be solved with the sweep of some magic wand, but despairing is pointless.

At the beginning of July I attended a weeklong conference/seminar/retreat put on by a global organisation called Ananda Marga. The practice of Tantra is intrinsic to all parts of events. The reports included first-hand accounts of service work throughout North America, including education and schools in many Central American and Caribbean countries, feeding and agricultural programs, disaster relief in the U.S., and several regions each giving updates on community organising activities - yoga classes, daycares, cottage industries, magazine publishing, art & street theatre, survival training, farming, computer networks,... It was clear in each report that the threats involved with poverty, homelessness, crime, greed, etc. were immediate and present. From Nicaragua, where the dogma and fear of the Catholic Church brands anything not subservient to it as "of the devil", to Haiti, where the media has a black hole for any objective reporting on why the 'elected' president, Aristede, was overthrown almost immediately and a school is the most vibrant political statement possible, to Los Angeles and disaster relief to the thousands who lost little because they have been living on the streets for years, made homeless by the economic policies of Reagan and Bush and

now Clinton who do what their bosses tell them.

Yoga is the 'yoke', the proven system of linking each individual with the Creator of the universe. The stronger this link, the more steadfast and intuitive we each become and the more resolute we are in bringing about a revolution in the entire human society.

A sentence printed on the back of a T-shirt:

There is only one path but each must walk it in their own way.

By PAULR TAYLOR

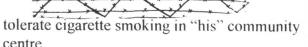
P.S.: Next issue: Capitalism & Communism; Sanskrit, Chakras, Kundalinii.

GLASS HOUSES CARRECTED

A friend of mine - & I still think of him as a friend, in spite of recent developments -is, by his own admission, a racist, homophobic & paranoid. He sees nothing wrong with this, since he thinks others have the same ideas & he is just more honest than they are in admitting it. He blames television for turning him into a racist, & a bad homosexual experience for making him homophobic. The paranoia he blames on karma, believing it proves he's an important person.

This friend is not interested in changing these attitudes, but he is a vegetarian, and although he admits to shooting cocaine & heroin occasionally, he is a non-smoker who is extremely indignant about others who smoke. In fact he has recently made it his business to crusade for a smoke-free Carnegie. He doesn't see why he should





The fact that he shrugs off criticism of his bad habits while fiercely targeting the bad habits of others is sad to contemplate. It reminds me of a woman who sometimes works on the second floor of Carnegie. One day I saw her stridently defending the rights of prostitutes, & the very next day she commented on a young woman passing by & referred to her as a dirty hooker.

Maybe this glass house syndrome is more common than most people think. It's hypocrisy to make yourself look good by mouthing politically correct opinions, while turning a blind eye to personal defects & contradictory actions.

It makes you wonder how much political action - demanding one's rights & neglecting the rights of others - actually is motivated by a false sense of superiority.

Now that scientists claim that smoking causes cancer, many people find a convenient target in their neighbours, & can comfortably dump their anger & frustrations on those who are "dirty" or "unhealthy".

Those with "bad" habits, those who are addicts or find themselves trapped in an unhealthy lifestyle actually deserve more consideration, understanding & tolerance than those who accuse others of ruining their day by smoking, or who are overly proud of their clean, healthy, superior condition.

TORA

ZEN & The Art of Survival

Zen, so you want to write? The moment? The here, the now, beyond the no, below, around, inside of the it,...the word..."Tao". No...this is just Be-ing. How do you write about that which is No-thing?

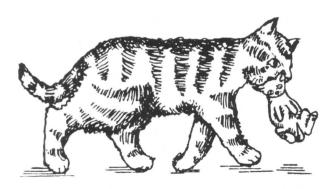
Analogy,/story/metaphorical allegory/symbol for and hopefully of.....

I have a bag of peaches and other fuzzy, sweet fruit. It seems the food bank was privy to the discard of one Best before Date or another Lawsey me. The fruit is sweet, sweet beyond "store bought".

Well I need a good place to eat this fruit so my feet go looking, while I watch people and storefronts, a million items for sale, glide by.

My ears catch my feets prowling as the Band is playing for the Eaton's goers. So the convenient bench, the peaches and apricots, the sun, the music and I commune for the while. The bruise on the next apricot tells me it's time to move. The cloud that covers the sun for a few seconds agrees.

So I wander the north easterly direction that by hook or by crook, by zig zag and meander polk 'n stroke will get me, eventually, back to my little blue room.





What's this?..Little bird, little bird, have you no shame?

I watch the little chickadee, fluffing and pluffing, chirping and blurping happy bird bath songs to himself direct from The Avian Top 40 and smile the smile of body/soul. It takes a small while for the reason to surface, as most body/soul things are wont to do; Here's this little bird, splashing away in the fountain, that a foreign species, a, well, dangerous some would say, species has provided for its own aesthetic reasons. Barely weighing 2 ounces...while all around, behemoths of metal and other substances torn from the earth hurtle and churn smoke. Creatures a thousand times its mass contemplate the horrors of humanity - its commissions, its omissions, its crimes and retributions, its politics, its ... Non.. Sense.

And this little bird is taking a bath, oblivious and unconcerned, singing his songs to the smog clouded sky, then..away..he goes..free.