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Carnegie

NEWSLETTER



JUNE 15, 1996.

Things That Make You Go Hmm...

by Tim Jackson



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...And ZERO Displacement

by PAUL R TAYLOR

(This comes from the back page of STREET-VIEWS, a publication of the Wyoming Coalition for the Homeless. It's a monstrous social phenomenon in the States and true street papers

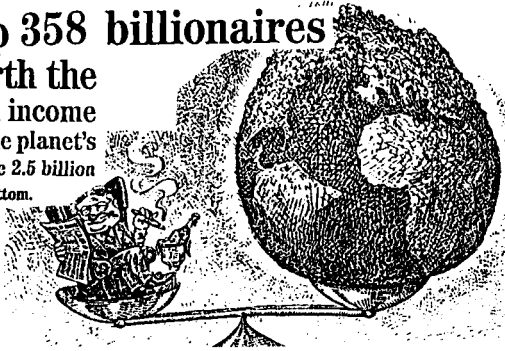
(not like *Spare Change* here) from all over the place are networking. This preamble is just to let Tim Jackson know that his work hasn't been blatantly ripped off. Maybe he'll even read this!)

The local title is ZERO Displacement in the face of all the vultures just crouching and waiting with

greedy eyes. It's not okay for this development and the next and the next to be spoon fed to us when the result of its inclusion in any "plan" will be homelessness for a growing number of people. The vacancy rate is very low, but every high-priced condo going up only reduces it more. This is not news; our brothers and sisters in the States

The top 358 billionaires

are worth the combined income of 45% of the planet's population, the 2.5 billion people on the bottom.



are examples of what greed is doing - 5 years ago Los Angeles had 25,000 homeless people; now the estimate is around 200,000. Virtually every city in America has thousands of people on the streets, with New York having a second population living in the subway system.

Toronto has something like 20,000 people rendered homeless by Mike Harris and his idiotic "common sense" revolution. As to the basic integrity of this sack of shit, he said publicly that "I think that they're legitimate expenses" when anti-poverty activists blew the whistle on him. While telling taxpayers to 'tighten their belts' taxes were indirectly paying thousands of dollars for his golf club membership, suits, dry cleaning, entertaining and meals, and supplementing his already tax-supported accommodation.

Legitimate?

There are a hell of a lot more vultures than the five shown here! But sometimes they go away hungry, even though I've never seen one that died of starvation. The pharmaceutical companies are in bed with the health services corporations just itching to jump into Canada once Medicare is dead, but the whole campaign to fight back and "I Care for Medicare" resulted in a significant victory.

The NAFTA deal had a section that allowed the 3



governments (US, Mexico, Canada) to exclude certain things from the "equal access" provisions. It was a pretty broad definition of things that were "for the public good" and health care activists wanted all health services as well as education and social services on the lists. It was only BC that kept agitating in Ottawa to list all manner of things that are far superior here to counterparts in the US. The original deadline for submitting requested exclusions was 31 Dec 1995, but pressure finally got this extended to 31 March 1996. Part of the reason for the extension was that those doing the negotiating didn't really know what they were supposed to do in defining terms already contained in NAFTA. With 2 days to go, there was an 11th hour decision by Ottawa and a mutual agreement with the US and Mexico to exempt "all services" under provincial and state jurisdiction. The urgency and basic distrust of the federal government went from BC to all provinces except Alberta, and those long lists of exemptions were supremely valuable.

At the end of the report in *Pacific Current* on this, Colleen Fuller quotes an old wisp of wisdom: "No failure is final, no victory is complete".

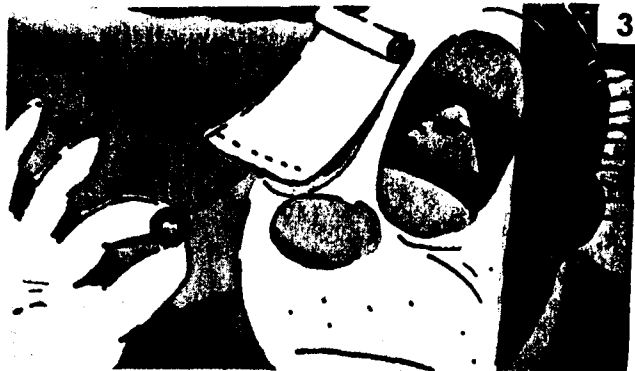
All of these vultures are waiting and their greed just grows. A deep understanding of our predicament with social services is being put forward by Carlos who works at Oppenheimer Park. He has a truly objective view and started talking of us becoming "used to the services" until the system is a whole lot of rules, some known and some not. We get into a "cycle of certitude" wherein service

providers unconsciously start to respond to the epithets of "how wonderful [you are]" when just filling the role of pill-dispenser, food provider, clothing box filler, etc.

Carlos and Steve Johnson see social services on a front-line basis at Oppenheimer, with many months doing counselling for those in the limbo between arrival and getting assistance if necessary. Steve speaks knowingly of individual workers trying to make decisions based on need rather than being boxed in by policy and directives 'up to here' Carlos speaks of our need to get directly involved in critical reflection - on the current amount of money being spent, how it's spent, what is being wasted, what is wanting(!), the growing incidence of crime and AIDS and addiction. He asks himself and wants us all to ask "What are we doing and where is this going?" as cuts are made by faceless bureaucrats elsewhere and in a 'slash & burn' manner.

Carnegie got over \$500,000 a year in federal funding through the Canada Assistance Plan, an act that was killed on 1 April 1996 and replaced by the Canada Health and Social Transfer. Federal funding therefore runs out at the end of this year. We know the uniqueness of this facility and our community and will have to fight like we've never fought before to keep our spirit alive and growing. It is this that Carlos directs his thoughts to - what do we do with what we've got. It is a sore point: people don't want to question how we do things, don't really want to try looking at problems from a completely different direction. He says it's almost like self-deprecation, when the discernible shift in approaches doesn't really waver much from the norm. It's almost a fear of change.

A case in point is having every meeting completely open, with a small core of dedicated and committed people taking things forward. A suggestion that these dedicated and committed people get together by invitation to discuss future directions or planning or strategy on an event or proposal is usually treated with horror. Saying not everyone is somehow synonymous with excluding most..exclusive..elite..secret..... and Carlos just

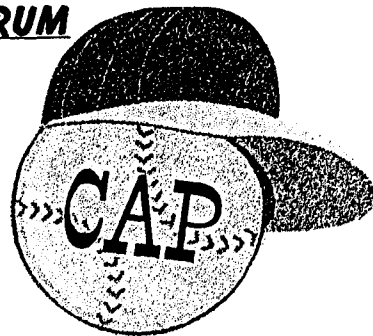


rolls his eyes. Popular education is one model, commitment is a component.

From ZERO Displacement to this and not a heartbeat missed! For any progress in our development - true community development in a sentient way - we have to come together without crudely burying past mistakes only to have them resurface as skeletons in the underbrush.

The vultures are there, and our recent victory over Bad Holme can't be taken as a sweet "...and we lived happily ever after"

AFTER THE CONDOS ***PUBLIC FORUM***



2 - 4 pm

Monday June 17, 1996
At the Carnegie Centre
Third Floor Gallery

Coffee and Refreshments provided
Phone Sarah at 689-0397 for info.

**DOWNTOWN
EASTSIDE
YOUTH
ACTIVITIES
SOCIETY**

**STD CLINIC - 219 Main; Monday - Friday, 10a.m. - 6p.m.
NEEDLE EXCHANGE - 221 Main; 9a.m. - 8p.m. everyday
Needle Exchange Van - on the street every night, 6p.m. -
2p.m. (except Mondays, 6p.m. - midnight)**

1996 DONATIONS

Paula R. -\$10

Win. B. -\$20

Lillian H. -\$25

Sonya S. -\$100

Kettle F.S. -\$16

Hazel A. -\$10

Joy T. -\$10

Bea F. \$30

Frances -\$50

Charley -\$25

Diane M. -\$15

Lorne T. -\$20

Mel L. -\$17

Sara D. -\$20

CEEDS -\$20

Susan S. -\$30

DEYAS -\$100

Brigid R. \$30

Amy E. \$20

Rene F. -\$50

Anonymous \$60

Carnegie

NEWSLETTER

THE NEWSLETTER IS A PUBLICATION OF THE
CARNEGIE COMMUNITY CENTRE ASSOCIATION

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

**Submission Deadline
for the next issue:
26 June
Wednesday**

NEED HELP?

**The Downtown Eastside Residents' Association
can help you with:**

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

**Come into the Dera office at 425 Carrall St. or
phone us at 682-0931.**

**DERA HAS BEEN SERVING
THE DOWNTOWN EASTSIDE
FOR 23 YEARS.**



PROJECT TAKE BACK OUR BOOKS

Every year the library loses about 35% of its book collection. A lot of these losses are explainable: people go to hospital and must leave everything in their rooms; people are evicted; people forget and leave books in offices, restaurants and bars; people move away with our books.

What we are talking about here is books walking out of the room in backpacks and jacket pockets and being sold on the street, or to pawnshops and secondhand bookstores. Everybody suffers! We have less money to buy new stuff and the library staff's time preparing books for the shelf is wasted.

So, what can we do? Just put up with it, or try to change things so all you honest patrons have more choice? We've chosen to try to do something. With the help of Library Committee member Margaret Prevost, who is a volunteer at the neighbourhood safety office, we got a list of all the pawnshops in the area and are writing to owners telling them that if they accept library books, they are probably dealing in stolen property. We have also notified the Pawnshop

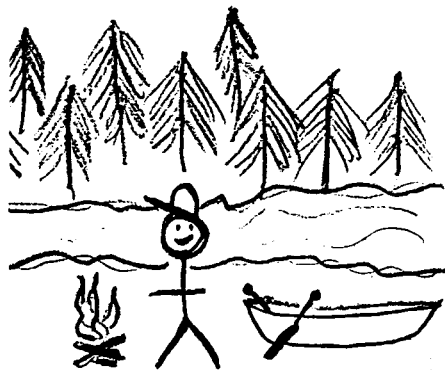


Detail about our books. We hope this will help us track them down and also help us pinpoint where they are going.

How can you help? If you have seen books anywhere, please let us know (we have a witness protection program!!). We'll tell you how things are going in coming issues of the Newsletter and, oh, before I sign-off, many, many thanks to all of you who do consistently return items from the hotels and also to all the desk clerks in the neighbourhood, who routinely send us boxes of strays. And above all, thanks to Margaret for her concern and time on this project.

Eleanor

Singing Pass



Singing Pass Parking Lot - 5 kms North Whistler Up where you belong
NOW KNOW THAT We do by these presents proclaim and declare
THAT ALL BOTTLES in minerals of the realms and territories
by the Grace of God, Defender of the Faith & Commonwealth be
returnable for refund .. we wish

...found a light bulb. These wash up on shore as well; raspberry prickles
and mosquito bites..all for a Silent Sam. Dead Pepsis on the roadway,
stinking to high heaven.

..ALL bodies are to be reported to the Police. - Our See 'Em Pee-pee's.
ISSUE DI SECOURS Pull handle and push here.

There is being mean. Belligerence, Aggrandizing.
..too much dynamite..too much water..rock slides..

Dirty, smelly '96; unplug Brandy Wine falls
so there's water for snow plows and sand trucks

Singing Pass

Taum

Genuine Dialogue is the Beginning of Trust

"The Downtown Eastside is, for the most part, a multi-racial, working class community made up of seniors, youth, children, families, singles, First Nations people, recent immigrants, people with physical and mental disabilities and some extremely hurt people with serious addictions. One characteristic many residents of the Downtown Eastside hold in common is poverty, and there is a



direct relationship between poverty and educational performance.

We need many different kinds of education programs in the Downtown Eastside, but I would like to focus on literacy because many residents in this community have difficulty with reading and writing, and 70% of the people who are illiterate in Canada were born in this country.

The school system stratifies society on the basis of income and wealth. As a general rule, the poorest children drop out of school first and the richest last. If you want to predict a child's success at school, the two most important things to know are the head of the household's occupation and income. (*Coleman Report, 1966*)

Poor children and culturally different children are not dumb but the school system is a much stranger and more threatening place for them than it is for middle class children of the dominant culture. Those children who do not conform to the pattern of school, and quickly, are pushed aside. Some children have learned that they're too "dumb" to go far in school by the end of grade three. Carmen St. John Hunter, one of the most

This statement on education issues in the Downtown Eastside was presented at the Vancouver School Board Education Forum at First United Church, 31 May 1996.

respected adult educators in North America, has said, "Poverty is the underlying cause of illiteracy. Without any proven will to break the chain of poverty, no government has been able to make significant progress toward universal literacy." (*Convergence, Vol. XX, #1, 1987*)

Poverty, therefore, is a major education issue, especially for residents of the Downtown Eastside, and community leaders speak to it every time they call for affordable housing, decent jobs at decent wages, and higher welfare rates.

My concern today, however, is the great need for a community-based literacy program in the Downtown Eastside, and my understanding is that the Education Committee of the Carnegie Community Centre Association has been asking for such a program for quite a while.

A community-based literacy program is one in which members of a community share responsibility for providing space in which learners have real



power over what happens. It teaches reading and language skills in the context of a neighbourhood and its needs. It is not a repeat performance of the teacher-pupil model that did not work for many low-income people when they were children.

People who have learned to fail in school often have a powerful resistance to the education system that undermined their self-esteem. The academic upgrading programs do not work for many citizens who have difficulty with reading and writing, although they are important for the highly motivated students who can handle structured grade levels

and are thinking about post-secondary education. Many adults who have had a bad experience in school will freeze in a classroom, will freeze when given any kind of test, and will freeze when talking to a teacher who relates to them in the manner of the power relationships they remember from school.

The person who makes a good tutor in a community-based literacy program is a person who comes from the same background as the



student or is at least knowledgeable about that background, and is a person who knows how to build a relationship of trust. Without trust all the sophisticated pedagogy in the world isn't worth anything. Genuine dialogue is the beginning of trust.

A community-based literacy program is "informal" in the sense that standards are crafted

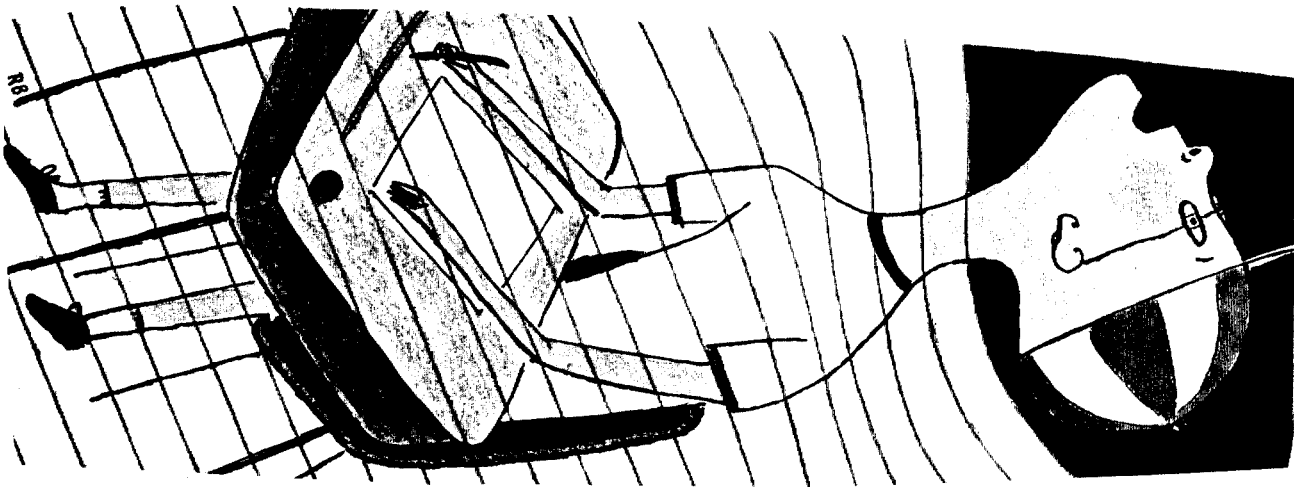
7. by the learners themselves. Formal ABE programs have specific academic goals and credentials that reflect external standards - grade 8 level, grade 10 level, or the GED are examples.

We need a variety of literacy programs in the Downtown Eastside, including mini-programs sponsored by various community organisations. For the purposes of this brief, I recommend that the Vancouver School Board strongly support and finance a community-based literacy program at the Carnegie Centre. The Carnegie is one of this city's busiest community centres. It has many different kinds of programs, and the pursuit of reading and language skills can easily be incorporated into the life of this bustling centre.

Also, the Carnegie Centre had a community-based literacy program at one time. In March, 1987, a group from the Carnegie Learning Centre went to a province-wide Literacy Conference in British Columbia, and the Carnegie members made a vivid impression. In fact, the Carnegie program was hailed as the best example of a successful community-based literacy program in the entire province.

This grand old neighbourhood, the Downtown Eastside, needs unity, not division; respect, not contempt; healing, not annihilation. A community-based literacy program can be an important part of a vigorous community rejuvenation."

By SANDY CAMERON



Is this your latest performance or a helpless statement? A recognition of the conscious and unconscious world... just another addiction like

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT

drugs, alcohol or malignant activities in dangerous arcades. Desert bars where Cacti made of stainless



steel and dirty glass puncture the thirsty. Winter falls - it covers your sinewy limbs with sheets of icy tracks. You can feel the threads of cocaine that have been woven into pillows of cold sand. You can hear them call your name; sleep now my friend, sleep now.

Living has been made of nothing you ever wanted but will always need. As the ultimate consumer of self destruction you will arrive early and search for a clock. The weights you once pressed in front of your reputation have been repossessed along with the rest of your material life.

Time to get another pain killer..the unkind delivered by doctors who would rather be burped by a lady of the streets in the back of fantasy jets. They all rent little offices with sheer curtains. Lightly pierced fortitudes that never reveal anything but the imagined fantasies of falling cloth and fantasy fucks on astro-turf. Discrete physicians who want to become members of the mile high club on their way to Dresden for a quieter and smarter World War 3.

Without objectivity, subjectivity or security guards, reason is only reasonable

for those who

believe in absolutes or a truth that can be discovered for the sake of itself. What do gods worship? Is it a tray of ice cubes full of metaphysical jelly that can float quietly in a

banker's drink while he dreams of the profits and politicians he can only see once a year in photographs from the Laurentian mountains? All this is a thousand miles away from you flitting down Hastings Street on the way to an alley where the sons and daughters of our children grew into a culture that pretends to care about colour, poverty, freedom, equality, education, access, suffering and, of course, someone else's life and death.

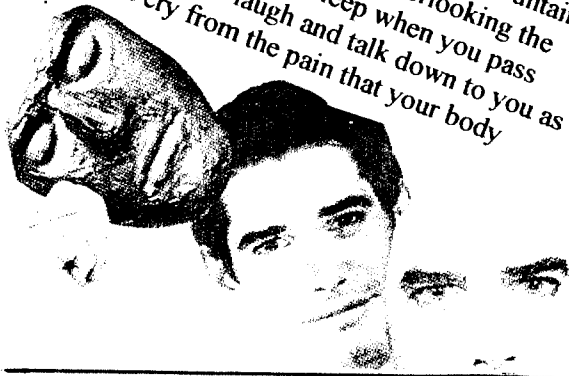
This and many more important realities become petty rituals for the rich and other hysterical humans. They want to keep excluding the poor and disadvantaged from their Sunday brunches and

tupperware parties. With their catered personalities they can call upon passionless airs that will search for a sneer or a vacuous smile that will protect them from our invisible paranoia and negative thoughts. Oh, the nouveau grass roots who lick expensive ice cream cones while sipping exhaust



fumes with a pair of pin on lips that smile endlessly and help acknowledge their own fascile. Where are they right now - those who think more of themselves than anyone else? Are they panhandling army & navy dinners for one hundred and

fifty dollars a plate? Do some of them dream of their self-righteous cabins on Whistler mountain? Do they sit in cocktail lounges overlooking the streets where you have to sleep when you pass out? Do the dealers laugh and talk down to you as you beg and cry from the pain that your body feels?



How long man?
When will you stop being cheap entertainment for sadists who claim to be your friend?
WHAT DO YOU NEED?

By Arthur Nouveau



Carnegie Community Centre Association

Board of Directors

1996-1997

Members:

BRUCE AIKENS
EVA BRITT
LEIGH DONOHUE
DAN FEENEY
ELDON JONES
WAYNE KELLAND
GEORGE NICHOLAS
BUD OSBORN
MIKE RENNIE
PAUL TAYLOR



A Political Story

A few years ago Bill Vanderzalm, as the so-called Premier of BC, suggested a plan to place the HIV positive and AIDS patients on an island as a sort of quarantine.

He thought these afflictions were even more of an anathema (something reprehensible or disgustingly shameful) because he described AIDS as a "self-inflicted" disease.

He also didn't think they should take up hospital bed-space and taxpayers' dollars. But a week after that he went to the hospital for gall bladder surgery due to the wines and rich foods he consumed at all those banquets... which is, as well, a "self-inflicted" ailment. On this point, what about driving down the road in a nice automobile and getting into an accident? What about anorexia? What about a bungy-jumping sprain, or heart problems because of too much exercise? How many patients in hospitals are there because of "self-inflicted" illnesses?

By DEAN KO

President: MUGGS SIGURGIRSON
Vice-President: MARGARET PREVOST
Treasurer: JEFF SOMMERS
Mem-at-Large: LORELEI HAWKINS
Corresponding Secretary: IRENE SCHMIDT





background of an activist

I can just imagine
talking to my family
about the political work I'm doing
all the meetings and speeches and leaflets
and the men in my family looking at me
like I'm crazy?

I can see my stepfather louie shaking his head
pitying me
because he just paid off politicians
to get what he and his community of thieves
wanted from them
or louis would simply
visit whatever hotshot was opposing him
visit the guy late at night
and straighten his attitude out for him

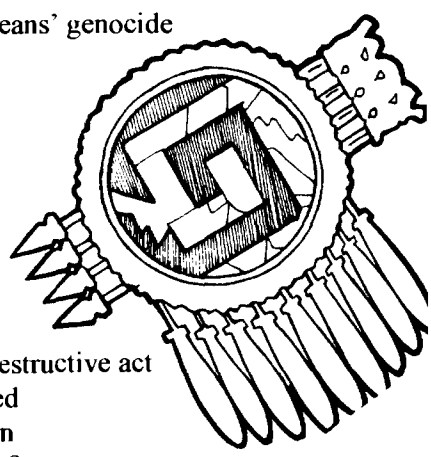
I can see my uncle earl glaring at me
he organized the autolite strike
and took to the streets
in pitched battles
where people were killed
fighting the u.s. army

I can see les my grandfather glaring at me
he was a coal miner in southern illinois
who with his fellow workers
marched scabs at gunpoint
from the strip mine through harrison woods
where 19 scabs were
shot hanged and mutilated

yeah I can just imagine my family
looking at me like I'm crazy
for trying to deal with
the destruction of the community of the poor
in the downtown eastside
so very very safely

when I think about community

when I think about community
I often think about certain north american indian tribes
before the white europeans' genocide
because these tribes
not so very long ago
not far away
held responsibility
for each other's life
in common



if a young person
in one of these tribes
committed a violent destructive act
the entire tribe gathered
and asked one question
'what is wrong with us?
what is wrong with our community that a young person
should do such a thing?'

today
we do the opposite
and everyone
and everything
pays for it
pays for it with our lives

VOLUNTEER COMMITTEE MEETING

~~TUESDAY~~
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18

at 2:00 p.m.

in the Art Gallery

Please help us welcome **RON DAMON** who will introduce his upcoming communications workshops for volunteers.

CHALLENGE A FRIEND
TO
YOUR GAME OF CHOICE
AT

GAMES NIGHT

where: in the Theatre

*when: Friday, June 14
7:00 - 10:00 p.m.*

ENJOY POPCORN WHILE YOU PLAY



Spend a pleasant summer's evening
at

NAT BAILEY STADIUM VOLUNTEER TRIP

Vancouver Canadians

vs.

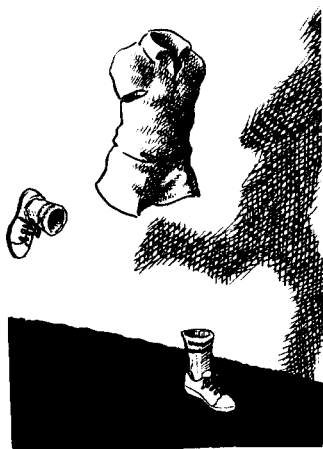
Albuquerque

*Friday, June 21
6:00 - 10:00 p.m.*

Bus fare provided

Meet at the Info Desk on first floor

If interested, please sign up with Sandy or Amy



FREE

AS OF May 23/96. FOR ANY CHANGES PLEASE CONTACT

LOCATION	MEAL	MONDAY	TUESDAY
FIRST UNITED CHURCH 320 E. Hastings St. 681-8365	Soup & Bread	8:30 am	8:30 am
HARBOUR LIGHT SALVATION ARMY 119 East Cordova St. 682-5208	Hot Meals	11:00 am & 6:30 pm	11:00 am
FRANCISCAN SISTERS 385 East Cordova 685-9987	Sandwich	3:30 pm to 5:00 pm	3:30 pm to 5:00 pm
UNION GOSPEL MISSION 616 East Cordova St 253-3323	Hot Meal	1:30 & 7:30 pm	1:30 & 7:30 pm
THE DUGOUT 59 Powell Street 685-5239	Soup & coffee	7:15 am	7:15am
MISSION POSSIBLE 543 Powell Street 253-4469	Drop-in & Snacks	1:30 - 4:00 pm	1:30 - 4:00 pm

MEALS AND DROP-IN

LOCATION	MEAL	MONDAY	TUESDAY
CRABTREE CORNER Y.W.C.A. 101 East Cordova St.	Daily drop in for women with children		
DOWNTOWN EASTSIDE WOMEN'S CENTRE 44 East Cordova 681-4786	Hot Meal or Soup	12:30	12:30
THE DOOR IS OPEN 400 block Cordova	Muffin & Coffee	8:00 am to noon	8:00 am to noon

MEALS

JOANNE AT THE VANCOUVER FOOD BANK AT 876-3601

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
8:30 am	8:30 am	8:30 am	7:00 pm movie then sandwichs	
11:00 am & 6:30 pm	11:00 am	11:00 am & 6:30 pm	6:30 PM	6:30 pm
	3:30 pm to 5:00 pm	3:30 pm to 5:00 pm		2:00 pm to 3:30 pm
1:30 & 7:30 pm	1:30 & 7:30 pm	1:45 & 7:30 pm	7:30 pm	7:30 pm
7:15 am	7:15 am	7:15 am	7:15 am	8:45 am
1:30 - 4 pm 7:30 -9:30	1:30 - 4:00 pm	1:30-4 & 7:30 - 9:30 pm		

FOR WOMEN ONLY:

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
		Lunch for women w/ children		
12:30	12:30	12:30		12:30
8:00 am to noon	8:00 am to noon	8:00 am to noon		

When Does a Child Become a Criminal?

Is it when they break into a car, vandalize a building, take or sell drugs, run away from home, or stand up for themselves against an adult?

Children become criminals when the adults of this society don't acknowledge the crimes committed against them.

The adults of this society continually abuse the rights of children. Adults negate a child's emotional need by saying things like "quit crying or I'll give you something to cry about!" Adults



a line by walt whitman

a line by walt whitman
sometimes occurs to me
a line of resounding beauty and truth

"there was a child went forth every day
and the first object he looked upon
that object he became"

and when I remember that line
I think of what
children today see every day first thing
and what they become

and I think of what I saw
because I know what I became
I became
death
in a hundred forms

Bud Osborn

deny children to voice their opinions by creating punishments for when they do.

The opinions of a child are formulated from their emotional responses to situations. The obligation adults have is to guide the emotion to the logic of what is healthy or not with reasoning, not with fear.

You, the Reform Party, state you will lower the age the courts will be able to convict a child. What does this mean?

You, the Reform Party, speak about bringing Canada into the 21st century, yet are proposing laws that have been known and used since the age of the Inquisition. You propose to improve society by using those same tactics of fear, anger and hatred.

You will only succeed in making this country a place where Nero, Napoleon and Hitler would feel at home.

You, the Reform Party, are proposing that Canadians continue to commit the greatest crime any human can do - the crime of believing that our children are a mere commodity.

When I was young, a two-month-old foster child came into my home. Two months later he was to be adopted. Two weeks after being adopted the social worker asked my mother to take the baby back. I will never forget the pain my mother and all of us felt knowing that this child was not wanted by the adopting parents. The reason: "We can't deal with Jeffrey and want to continue trying to have our own."

This is what you, the Reform Party, are promoting: The selling of not a resource but a life. You are saying 'we own people'; you are saying 'ownership of a life is okay' You are saying "No life can be worth anything if it does not have a price tag."

You believe a tool, which society created, supersedes the life which made the tool. You have put a false god before the Creator. You are doing what you would have done unto you.

You are not reformers; you are status quo.

By ALISON CAMERON

ABUSE, MURDER AND CORRUPTION



Two Survivors of the Native Residential School and Church Tell Their Story and Seek Justice

Harriet Nahanee is a First Nations woman who endured years in the United Church Residential School in Port Alberni, BC, and who witnessed the murder there of a fellow student.

Kevin Annett is a United Church minister who was wrongfully dismissed from his church in Port Alberni in 1995 when he helped to uncover this murder and other unknown abuses at the school. He is on the verge of being expelled from the United Church for his outspoken opposition to the corruption and cover-up still operating within that church.

Harriet and Kevin are now (June) on a public-speaking tour to share with others their story and build support for their campaign to hold a "Citizens' Commission on Inquiry" into the United Church and its relation to First Nations people. This Commission will also investigate the destructive effects of both government and corporate actions in the Port Alberni region.

"The voices of murdered children are crying out for justice," says Harriet. "This church got away with killing them and it's time the truth came out."



As part of his research into the Residential School abuses, Kevin has uncovered previously concealed correspondence between the federal government and the United Church which reveals a decades-long collusion to cover up criminal negligence, pedophilia and murder in the church-run west coast native schools.

These revelations come at an especially important time, now that a class action lawsuit has been launched by fifteen Port Alberni men against the United Church and federal government, for severe damages suffered by them at the Alberni Residential School.

"There are a lot of skeletons in the United Church closet, quite literally," says Kevin. "At least three children were killed in the Alberni and Ahousat schools, and probably more. We'd like to know where their bodies are, and how the church got away with murder for decades."

This speaking tour is designed to raise support and money for the Commission of Inquiry and a related Legal Defense Fund.

To book Harriet and Kevin as speakers, or to find out more information about this campaign, contact them directly at the numbers below in Vancouver:

Harriet Nahanee 985-5817

Kevin Annett 224-3102

*Sponsored by the Justice in the Valley Coalition
Port Alberni, BC*

Remember, Senior Citizens, it's all relative so be of good cheer. To a 5 year-old, a 10 year-old is a 'senior citizen'.

Joe Paul



LEARNING DISABILITIES

When I was growing up during the depression years and into the forties, the school system punished slow learners. My problem was math (arithmetic in those days). Each class of students was pushed through to the next class, except for the really slow ones. Those having difficulties were ignored or an attempt was made once... by then too late.

Those with learning disabilities were considered SLOW, a polite word for DUMB or, worse, STUPID. The Learning Disabled annoyed teachers and this made them shy. I was certainly shy about my problems with arithmetic. Students were forced to drop out when overwhelmed with their own lack of understanding of school work.

Having a problem with any school work marked a child, who would usually grow up feeling inadequate. Few teachers took or had the time to spend with such children.

Nowadays adults can admit having learning problems. Those finding jobs have unique ways of dealing with such problems, especially when jobs involve say, math. I used to call a friend and my son is a math wizard.

For those students attending Carnegie, they have the opportunity for one on one. What a great help that is. The student who was a drop-out can finish their education, do work and, at the same time, feel great about themselves.

Go Carnegie.

By DORA SANDERS

PERMAFROST: HIV/AIDS Advocacy

According to its founder, Roland Koch, this is neither an agency nor a non-profit organization.

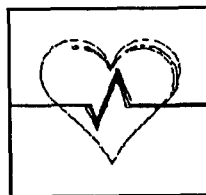
Permafrost is at present a one-person effort in light of the recent surge in seroconversions (rate of infection) of I.V. drug users.

Mandate: To advocate and assist any HIV+ drug user (and recovering drug user) in nutrition, housing and MSS rights. This also includes the provision that we will help the addict whether they are clean or still using drugs; to educate the drug addict on HIV/AIDS issues concerning them; to educate the public, caregivers, social service workers and agencies on these issues.

The purpose within the community includes instigating new projects that will benefit people at risk and to stimulate action in agencies that should be concerned with this issue. Direction in areas of housing, nutrition, advocacy, etc. will come from knowledge and information booklets available.

GET HIGH; GET STUPID; GET AIDS

HIV/AIDS and the I.V. Drug User



PERMAFROST HIV AIDS ADVOCACY

Roland J. Koch
611-129 East Cordova Street
Vancouver, B.C. V6A 1K7.
Phone #669-1248

"Between a Rock and a Hard Place"

PEOPLES GATHERING
FOR COMMUNITY HEALTH
JULY 08/96 TO JULY 13/96

MONDAY, JULY 8th

AT THE CARNEGIE CENTRE THEATRE
THE CARNEGIE "CULTURAL SHARING"
WITH "HEALING OUR SPIRIT"
WILL BE HOLDING A WORKSHOP

AND A HEALING CIRCLE.

1:00pm to 5:30pm WORKSHOP

6:30pm to 7:30pm HEALING CIRCLE

SUBJECT MATTER WILL

FOCUS ON HIV/AIDS IN THE
NATIVE COMMUNITY, AND THE
DOWNTOWN EASTSIDE.



The VIDUS Project

The Vancouver Injection Drug User Study (VIDUS) is a new multi-year investigation of the Centre for Excellence, and a Community Advisory Board, in HIV/AIDS

The project involves the direct and ongoing participation of 1,000 injection drug users in the Vancouver community. This will, for the first time ever, provide a means of tracking the HIV incidence and prevalence among injection drug users over time as well as provide the information necessary to evaluate and recommend outbreak, interventions for this high risk and traditionally under-served group.

In addition to these primary goals, the study will:

- ♦ identify social, demographic and behavioural determinants in participants who have recently tested HIV positive
- ♦ provide ongoing information and support to community members, service providers and government ministries involved in combating this epidemic
- ♦ propose or develop strategies or interventions to address issues and gaps in service
- ♦ provide estimates on the prevalence and incidence of tuberculin skin test reactivity, hepatitis C and possibly G
- ♦ address other social, health and medical issues which affect injection drug users such as overall mortality, overdoses, endocarditis, and access to necessary health services
- ♦ work directly with the affected community to provide additional information and research support where necessary

The VIDUS project is located at 41 W. Cordova Street, across from the Army & Navy. At this site, eligible persons will receive an honoraria for their participation in a confidential HIV test, a baseline TB skin test, and a 45-minute questionnaire by members of our research team. In addition to this, all participants and non-participants will have access to comprehensive medical services, pre- and post-test counselling, condoms, harm reduction education & risk counselling, as well as advocacy and referrals to community resources and services.

Interviews and testing will be conducted Monday through Wednesday from 9 am to 5 pm. Post-test counselling and HIV, Hepatitis C and TB skin test results will be available on Thursdays and Fridays.

For more information, contact Sue Currie. Phone 685-6355.. Fax 685-5533.. 41 W.Cordova St.

WOODWARD'S

Hurry up and wait..the repeating theme in this project. A looong time ago Mike Harcourt, Jim Green and Kassem Aghtai got up before assorted people and media (who are also people of a sort) and announced this deal whereby there would be social housing in the form of a co-op and condo development in the old Woodward's building.

Fair enough.

There were a number of people representing about 15 or more agencies and organisations who had gotten together and formed what came to be called the Woodward's Committee and had various sub-committees as well.

Again, fair enough.

What is happening though? Welllll..uh.. okay. It's not gone to sleep or gathering dust on some shelf. There have been difficulties between Rick,

the head of BC Housing and in this for over \$20 million, and Kassem, who owns the building and wants to make a profit as a multi-millionaire developer. It has something to do with the original deal and the understanding of what things mean, what certain assurances and words intended to the different parties to the deal.

Neither Jim Green nor the community were part of this original deal. We became an official party to it only insofar as the development of the co-op.

On aspects covered by various sub-committees, the design people worked hard and looked at as many details as possible without ever getting to anything tangible, like colours, carpeting, common space arrangement and so on. There was so much work done, in fact, that Kassem and Fama Holdings were caught with not enough done to negotiate on. The meetings between Rick and Kassem are now being conducted between their respective staffs, with few between the principles. Jim Green has met with both separately and it may come to an end soon.

There was hope for a signed, sealed & delivered deal by April 1st, then April 12th, then May 2, then May 12, then at least before the election. The hope now is for a deal - s. s. & d. - by the end of June.

Make no mistake, it's extremely important to get things right the first time. Not doing it right now means no second chance.

In the meantime, and in conjunction with the Carnegie Community Action Plan, anyone having ideas on suite design is welcome to jot down ideas, draw sketches and generally imagine your 'dream suite'. Submit any and all to the Carnegie Newsletter and they'll be given to the Design sub-committee. Also in the meantime, any ideas on public use of some of the space on the first two floors and in the basement of the Woodward's building are more than welcome. Some ideas so far are a therapeutic pool, a gym, daycare.....

WELCOME to the Four Corners

The Four Corners Community Savings is now serving the Downtown Community. Four Corners has one branch, which is at 390 Main Street, on the northeast corner of Main & Hastings. The Branch is open Monday to Friday, 9:30 to 4:00.

Four Corners is open to everyone, but offers no-cost basic accounts to people on low incomes, people over age 55, and people under age 19. Financial services will also be provided at very competitive rates to the general public.

Customers who want to cash GAIN cheques, but do not have enough ID, should visit the Four Corners at least a week before cheque-issue day.

On top of offering basic savings and chequing accounts, Four Corners also offers term deposits and safety deposit boxes.

Four Corners works with the Downtown Community. Community meetings are held once a month, usually the last Friday of the month at Four Corners. If you wish more information, please come and see us.

By PAULR TAYLOR

Early every morning our sparsely populated promenades are transformed into the rivers of modern restraint. With the sounds of rubber, leather and acrylics humming beside them, thousands of people begin to trudge their way down our streets to those suspiciously timely destinations we



call work. Day after day we see ourselves with sleep and confusion in our eyes. We move to and fro without any unity. There are no recognizable patterns that exemplify conscious decision making. Only the informative distortions of the bruised human spirit. For us truth is only the sudden appearance of a stop sign or a wrong way notice.

Something as simple as a smile is out of place in this stream of human dread. Acknowledgment is a serious blight to the frightened. It must not be entertained; it can only cause embarrassments. We all know intuitively that it's guilt that sells, not embarrassment.

We don't have time to exchange anything with anyone. We need all our energy to keep moving. Our arbitrary existence is the only hope we have. We justify our pay-cheques by ignoring someone else's lack of one.

We have to get away from our wives and husbands. We want to get out of the arms of our children and into the clutches of our bosses. We need our social services. Everyone ought to have their own financial aid worker... we call them accountants and administrators. Bosses are one of the most diabolical social services that capitalism has ever created!

It used to be "Hey I've got a new car and you

don't." Then it went to "I've got a new one-seater lawn-mower and yooou don't." Now it's "I found the funkier shirt at the 2nd-hand store and you didn't." Even the poor are shafting each other! Whatever happened to solidarity? Did it pack up and move to pantomime theatre?

I often wonder if anyone sees the ones with their cap in their hand or the ones with the shopping carts or the ones with their nylons torn heading back to the hotel? I wonder if anyone is thinking about that sidewalk their eyes are glued to? I wonder what kind of thoughts other people conjure up while they stare at red or green lights flashing on and off in the daylight? I often wonder if people realize how vulnerable we all are.

Maybe everything has become one giant Tele-view. Once it was said that everyone was an actor on the stage of life but now it seems we are only props for the Rush Limbaugh show.

One thing that does fill us with a strange



happiness is the images we portray to others regarding imaginary ownership. Everyone knows that most of us don't really own anything. We know a lot of things can be bought and that only those with capital (hence capitalist) can buy them.

Buying something means that we can at least pretend to own it, sometime, somewhere.

Prostitutes, drugs, friendship, beer, relatives, art, rooms, lovers, mothers, fathers, child prostitutes, police, firemen, doctors, priests, politicians, Gods violence, knowledge, countries, philosophies, personalities, and yes, maybe even sidewalks.

I guess the things we can pretend we own are needed to help keep us away from each other as

humanizing influences. Do we want to own each other...does everyone dream of having a slave... a wife... a child... a relative... a friend in need... a welfare cheque (they are all welfare cheques whether you get them from a so-called private company or the government of your choice) a hotel room... one more number for our bingo cards or that face in your mirror. Let's all own each other, that will be fun.

Why do so many people still believe they can own a television set?

By MANGY DOUBLOON

When A Lover Dies

Quietly I sit on this lonesome dais,
My mind still filled with a shadowy haze,
Across the room on the cold granite he lies,
I feel only the pain felt when a lover dies.

I can only wish for the days of old,
When his body held fire and not death's cold,
When his armour, like flame, was ablaze,
Now darkness rules on the pyre where he lays.

I remember him astride his great war-horse,
Leading an army, the King's whole force.
Proud as a prince he rode through the masses,
Symbolizing law for the lads and love for the lasses.

But to his love only I held the key,
His passion was shown to no one but me.
Many saw his passion in the midst of a fight,
But only I saw it in the pale moonlight.

He was the most beautiful man I'd ever met,
The noble way his jaw was set,
Sent shivers through my heart and soul,
Burnt in my memory as if with a hot coal.

Now death has painted your face so pale,
That I just shed tears behind my veil,
Can it be that you've gone on so far,
That I've no way of knowing where you are?

DROP - IN LEGAL CLINIC

FREE LEGAL ADVICE

FOR THOSE WHO CAN'T AFFORD A LAWYER



GENERAL LEGAL ADVICE AND REFERRALS AVAILABLE

Carnegie Centre
401 Main Street (at Hastings)
Drop in: Tues 2 - 9, Wed 10 - 4

We're the Law Students' Legal Advice Program.
For more info, give us a call at 822-5791.

I remember with horror the end of your life,
That cold cruel night that started my strife,
It was the night of the storm and flood,
They brought you to me all covered in blood.

The sun turned blood-red, and fell to darkness,
The skies poured down rain of pure sadness,
The heavens roared and light ripped the sky,
Such things happen when princes die.

No prayers could bring you back to me now,
So with a final tear and a kiss on your brow,
I'll lay your hands across your chest,
And leave the Sexton to do the rest.

My dearest love, I'll miss you so,
I wish I did not have to go,
But death has cut the final ties,
Pain's all that's left when a lover dies.

Anonymous



CITY OF VANCOUVER ARCHIVES

The site's original occupant, a photo studio: "delightfully quirky" structure built in 1891

New Gastown project is a lamentable effort

The Van Horne is a new apartment block, designed by architects Kasian Kennedy, nearing completion in Gastown. It's a 140-unit project that rises to eight storeys – but looks like 12 because of studio height ceilings – at the southeast corner of Carrall and Cordova streets. And it is controversial.

The area's height limit is 75 feet, to blend with Gastown's heritage buildings, but developer Brad Holme was allowed 120 feet as a reward for preserving an old CPR right-of-way, which runs through the site, as public space.

This leaves the corner – a triangular piece of land – separated from the rest of block. The corner needs a structure to give it focus.

A two-storey commercial building was planned, not high enough to temper the bulk of the 120-foot building or big enough to define the corner and reinforce Gastown's dense 19th-century urban grid. The average building height in Gastown is four storeys, which is what the corner requires. Two storeys was a compromise.

The project was approved last year by the city's urban design panel, heritage advisory commission, planning department, and city council. It is already setting the tone for

the future – the urban design panel noted that it will be a "catalyst for change" in Gastown and the Downtown Eastside.

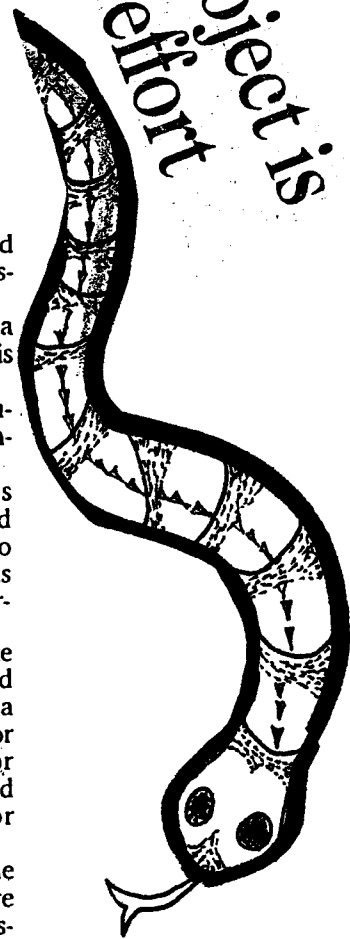
But the developer has now submitted a single-storey design for the corner. This is being considered for approval at city hall.

As a "catalyst for change" it is unfortunate that this latest gambit is such a lamentable effort.

The architects' choice of materials is cheap and an insult to the historic area and planners' attempts to keep it that way. No effort has been made to use the materials that give Gastown its gutsy traditional character.

There is elastomeric paint on concrete (why not just concrete or stone?), stained plywood cladding (why not brick?), a stained plywood cornice (why not steel or tin?), painted wood window and door frames (why not varnished?) and colored vinyl roof covering (why not glass or slate?).

No attempt has been made to determine if what once stood on the site could inspire the new design. If Kasian Kennedy had visited the city archives they would have found a photo of the original building

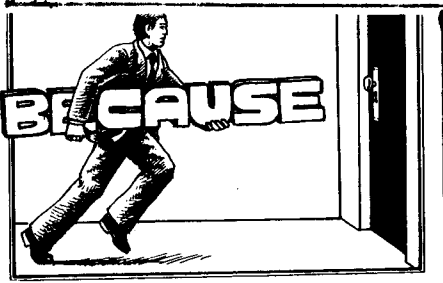


(shown here), a delightfully quirky two-storey brick-and-stone structure built in 1891. It was Vancouver's first purpose-built photography studio and was occupied, successively, by photographers John White, H.D. McKay, and A.E. Savard.

More significant is its architecture and urban design. The luminously glazed portrait studios and living areas upstairs were entered straight from the sidewalk; the busy Oyster Bay Restaurant was on the ground floor. This mixed residential/commercial use was not unusual in 19th-century Gastown and it is a combination that planners are keen to revive. Loft-style living is in vogue, yet this building showed how to do it 100 years ago.

Architect R. Mackay Fripp designed the modest, functional studio building and instinctively defined the corner with a bay window in the flat upstairs and a main entrance to the cafe directly below.

Kasian Kennedy's design is, by comparison, a hodgepodge of self-conscious styling. They and their client should look at Fripp's gem and note how it shines. They might also try to emulate photographer H.D. McKay's studio sign outside the building. It says "Finest Artistic Work Done Well." ♦



which thinks itself, if the heralded leaders & policy makers, the determiners of its present & future & its past are to be believed, as if anyone believes them anymore, as an open, free, egalitarian country, but which is more & more becoming, under the pretext of responding to its national debt crises, which are after all only the latest form of crises, in a long line of crises extending back to the beginning, certainly to the beginning of this country, & which have always provided pretexts for actions against freedom, openness, egalitarianism, regardless of whether they were in fact crises or not, certainly they were pretexts for creating crises...

S.O.S. Hosts *HOST PROGRAM*

Street Orientation Services is the English translation for the front-line service provided at 360 Jackson for Spanish-speaking people. Immigration is a word; refugee is another. Whatever 'category' in which individuals and families are put upon entry, they are almost all in a strange country, not knowing anyone, not speaking the language, having to wait up to six months for paperwork to be completed, having little or no money and unable to legally work until all the paperwork is done.

It is to this continuing reality that S.O.S., with much support from the Latino and support communities in Vancouver, is responding. The *Host Program* is designed like a buddy-system, with individuals and families in the role of "host" to recent immigrants and refugees. There is a lot of detail on what it implies and the inner workings but the idea here is just to let everyone know it's beginning.

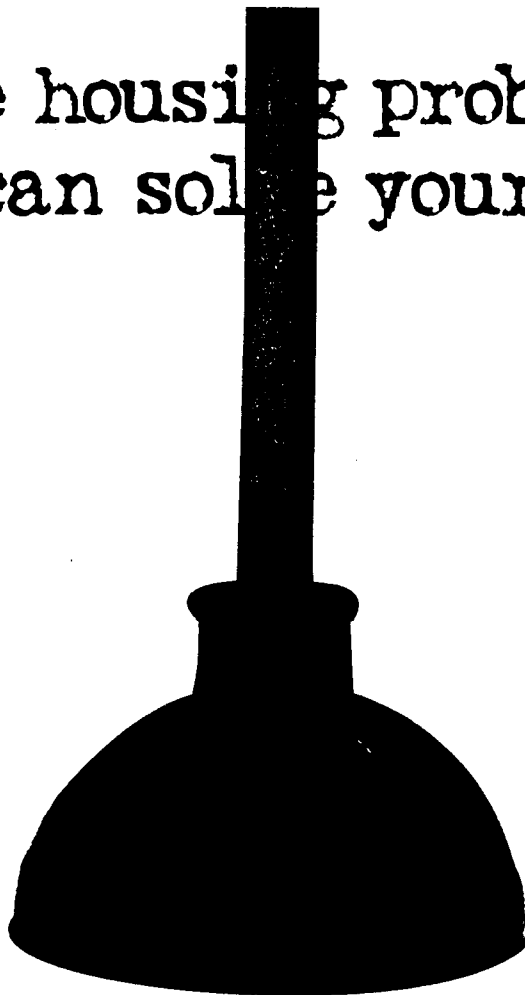
On **Saturday, June 22 at 12 noon**, there is going to be a day-long *rummage sale* outside La Quena Coffee House - 1111 Commercial Drive. If you have stuff to donate, energy to spare, energy to donate or stuff to spare, call La Quena or go over on that Saturday. Or call SOS at **255-4611**.



in words which would mean this while suggesting that, because I would go, because I needed not to go, & therefore arrived somewhere else, where I took some photos, & remembering the order of the colours in my denman island vision (part one), their hierarchical flash, seeing they were easily dispersed into their meanings, when my eyes were opened & not engaged in seeing them, in words which seemed a limitless encrypt, an identity

Dan Feeney

Some housing problems
you can solve yourself.



Others, you need
help with.

TENANT HOTLINE



TENANTS RIGHTS
ACTION COALITION

WITH FUNDING ASSISTANCE FROM

