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# Carnegie

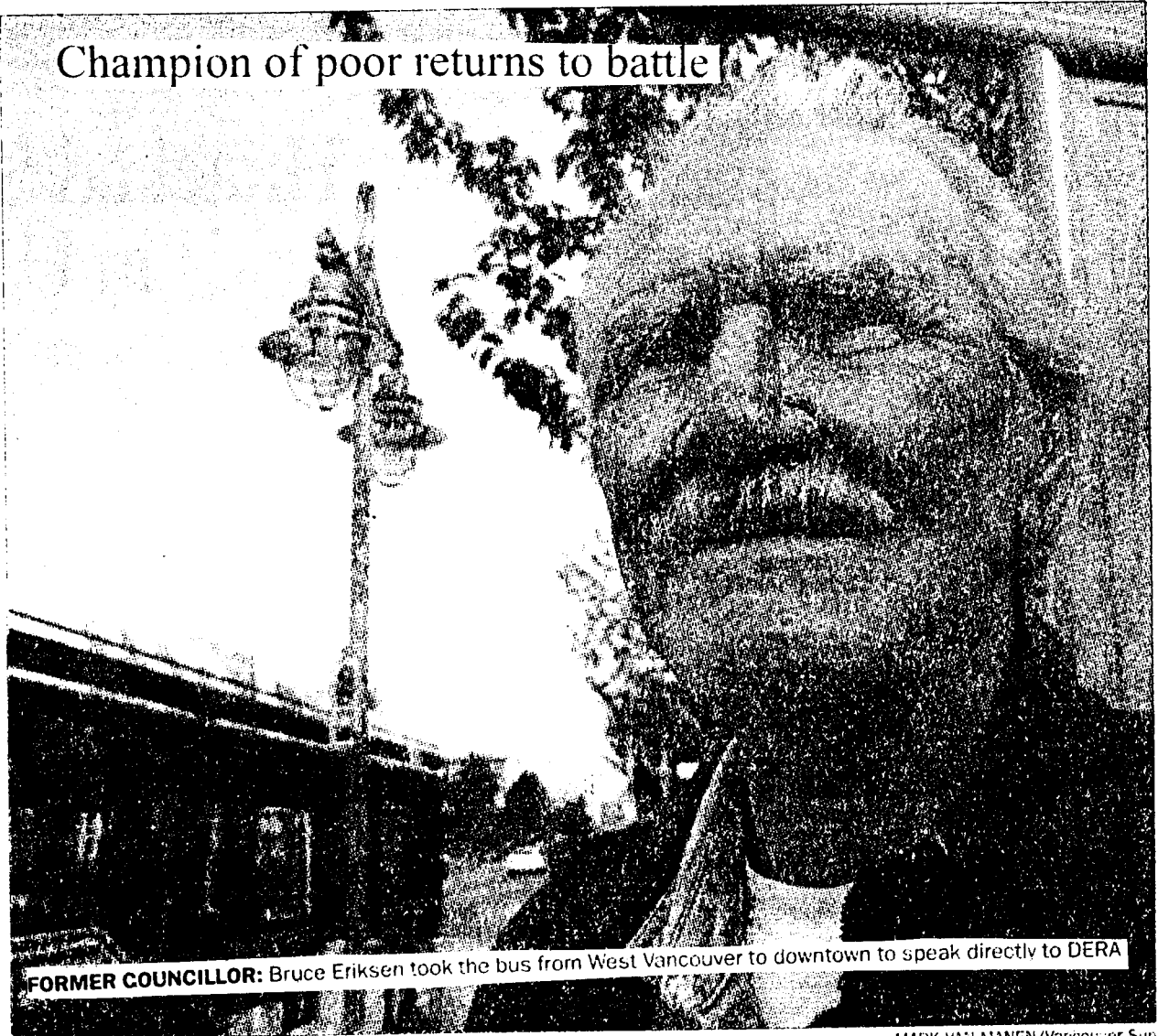
## NEWSLETTER



SEPTEMBER 1, 1996.

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

Champion of poor returns to battle



**FORMER COUNCILLOR:** Bruce Eriksen took the bus from West Vancouver to downtown to speak directly to DERA

MARK VAN MANEN/Vancouver Sun

# DERA founder enters fray despite cancer

DOUG WARD

Vancouver Sun

He's battling terminal liver cancer, but that hasn't stopped Bruce Eriksen from wading into the row tearing apart the group he helped found, the Downtown Eastside Residents' Association.

The 68-year-old former city councillor said Monday he thinks the current DERA board is doing a good job and questions the motivations of the new faction challenging for control of the high-profile community group.

Eriksen read newspaper reports about the dispute on the weekend and, never one to take things lying down, wanted to investigate and speak his mind.

"My liver don't work too good and it gets very painful sometimes. But I don't want to see DERA go down that way," he said.

*"We've always had people trying to come in from the outside to subvert what was going on."*

Bruce Eriksen

"I think this so-called internal split is stupid."

So Eriksen got on a bus in West Vancouver, where he is staying with his mother-in-law, and returned to his former turf.

"I thought if there are any problems, I should try to straighten them out. But from the people I've met, old members of DERA, they've got no complaints about DERA."

Eriksen talked to people at the Carnegie Centre and at DERA. He also dropped in to talk with old friend and ally Harry Rankin, but the former councillor was not in his Gastown law office.

At DERA, he urged executive director Barb Daniels to hold a membership meeting and ensure that all its participants are members, not outsiders.

"We've always had people trying

to come in from the outside to subvert what was going on."

Eriksen was also upset that the new group, which calls itself Friends of DERA, sent out a press release that used his name. The group said DERA should once again become the organization its founder, Eriksen, intended.

"The first thing they should have done is phone me up and said: 'Hey, do you mind if we use my name on this thing — right? They never got a hold of me at all.'"

Dissident leader Thia Walter said her group felt it was inappropriate to

contact Eriksen because of his illness.

Eriksen was diagnosed with terminal liver cancer in March. He was given one month to a year to live. "And I don't know how it's working out. I can't see the damn thing, but it hurts like hell sometimes."

Eriksen dismissed complaints by the new faction that DERA staff members are "poverty pimps."

"Obviously, some of the people at DERA work hard and are getting paid, and there is nothing wrong with that."

Nevertheless, DERA has been criticized by many community activists for not living up to the advocacy standards set by Eriksen and by Jim Green after him. Green and many staff people left DERA in 1992 and Daniels was hired shortly afterwards.

Many feel that under Daniels, DERA has jettisoned its traditions of community advocacy and left-wing politics and become more of a conventional poverty agency.

Daniels was pleased to receive Eriksen's blessing on Monday. "Bruce was steamed. He said if we wanted him to come to a public meeting that he would come."

Eriksen said he was also upset to see that the newsletter was sent out on the legal letterhead of lawyer Connie Fogal,



an activist and Rankin's wife.

Fogal said she was acting as a lawyer on behalf of the dissident group and had not chosen sides. She said her work so far has been legal and not political.

Eriksen said he hopes the row is quickly settled because problems in the Downtown Eastside have wors-

ened since the days when he represented the people around Hastings and Main.

He fought for fire-prevention legislation in the hotels and rooming houses and helped create the Carnegie Centre. A former alcoholic, he also helped engineer the closing of the Main and Hastings liquor store.

His high-profile community activism helped him win election to city council in 1980.

"I'm quite disturbed that all of this would be going on. From my point of view, at one point we were able to stay that the Downtown Eastside is a lot better than it used to be.

"But it seems since I left, the city has backed off and let it go back to where it was. You know that there are 50 pawnshops down there? There used to be only three. It's amazing."

Eriksen said the need for an advocacy group like DERA is even greater than it was 23 years ago when he founded it.

"You know, it's always been my dream that we have a city as beautiful as the tourist magazines make it out to be. We don't need a Skid Road."

Eriksen said his trouble-shooting trip left him optimistic.

"I'm sure they are going to deal with it. I feel a lot better for doing it."

Dear Editor,

I would like to take this opportunity to explain the policy that Carnegie staff are following in booking the theatre at Carnegie to a group of residents from the neighbourhood who are mounting a challenge to the Downtown Eastside Residents Association. In the past few weeks some people have expressed their concern to me that the Carnegie Centre has been allowing a group of people to use our theatre to host meetings that have been critical of the Downtown Eastside Residents Association and in fact have been a forum for a group of people to hold what they consider to be a legitimate election to replace the DERA board with new members. This is a direct challenge to the existing board at DERA and I believe that those involved with DERA are dealing with this situation as a matter of course.

The Carnegie Centre is a City of Vancouver building and a Community Centre for the Downtown Eastside neighbourhood. Use of the space is available to a wide variety of individuals and groups within the City of Vancouver. Priority is given to individuals and groups in the Downtown Eastside. City of Vancouver staff are responsible for room bookings. The Carnegie Community Centre Association does not involve itself in this area of building operations but it has, in its advisory capacity, participated in the development of the criteria that staff use to entertain booking requests. When people approach staff to hold an event or a meeting we consider the following criteria: the meeting must not promote racism or sexism, partisan political meetings are not allowed, residents must not have to pay a fee to enter the meeting and events or meetings must be of a non-denominational nature.

The residents of this community who approached the Carnegie Centre to hold a public meeting do not contravene any of the above criteria in any way and therefore it is the position of staff that we will not deny this group access to the facility. We understand that this type of meeting is of concern to many in the neighbourhood and trust that people will be able to voice these concerns in the appropriate forums in the near future.

This community is under attack from many forces outside the neighbourhood and the importance of having a strong Downtown Eastside Residents Association to advocate for this community cannot be understated. I hope that those interested in the future of DERA become involved and unite around the real issues that threaten the survival of the Downtown Eastside in the coming months and years.

Donald MacPherson  
Director  
Carnegie Community Centre

## concrete rose

walking home  
down through the alley  
she sits on a box alone fixing  
a beauty I'd frequently admired

\* \* \*

as I pass I look at her  
intent in her task  
red mini-skirted legs open  
un-pantied sex seizing me  
in sudden captivation  
like a slap across the face

\* \* \*

I stare for a moment  
before tearing my gaze away  
before risking  
a twisted neck

\* \* \*

'round the corner  
and into my hotel  
her image blurring on my mind  
it's just too much

I turn in my path  
completely obsessed  
back 'round the corner  
this strange gift  
un-caring

robbing me of breath

\* \* \*

I walk past a ways  
unnoticed  
then again turn back  
trembling inside  
lost in lustful desire  
then she raises her head  
speaking to me

\* \* \*

"what?" I ask  
discovered  
and not understanding  
"could you tie me off?"  
she repeats  
"sure" I say



approaching  
crouching before her  
and taking up the sleeve of  
the discarded coat she's using

\* \* \*

I wrap it around her bicep  
and she digs the needle around  
in her arm  
not easily punching the vein  
blood dripping out from her efforts

red drops

\* \* \*

"watch out for my blood  
it's okay I'm clean  
just wash your hands after  
we get some water"

\* \* \*

"perhaps you should try the  
other arm"  
I suggest

she agrees  
and we switch the operation  
over

\* \* \*

she is so beautiful  
finely chiseled face  
and, there,  
grayish lips pouting  
trembling  
'midst fine brown foliage  
I smell the sweaty musk of her  
in the sun  
and battle the urge to  
reach out and  
caress

\* \* \*

this left arm is more fruitful  
the job is quickly accomplished  
"thanks a lot" she says

\* \* \*

"you might like to think twice about  
sitting like that without panties on"  
say I

my eyeballs dizzily full  
"yah I know I shouldn't... whatever"  
says she

"well anyway it looks very nice"  
I offer, standing  
she smiles slightly  
lightly chuckling "oh yah"  
and I leave her  
"hey, really, guy, thanks a lot eh!"  
following me

\* \* \*

after  
while weaving my way through  
blandly generic  
gastown tourists  
I am consumed by despair  
and find myself vowing  
to end my life soon

## Insecure future for city's tenants, study warns

Vancouver's tenants will continue to face an insecure future until reliance on market mechanisms is replaced with a comprehensive affordable housing strategy.

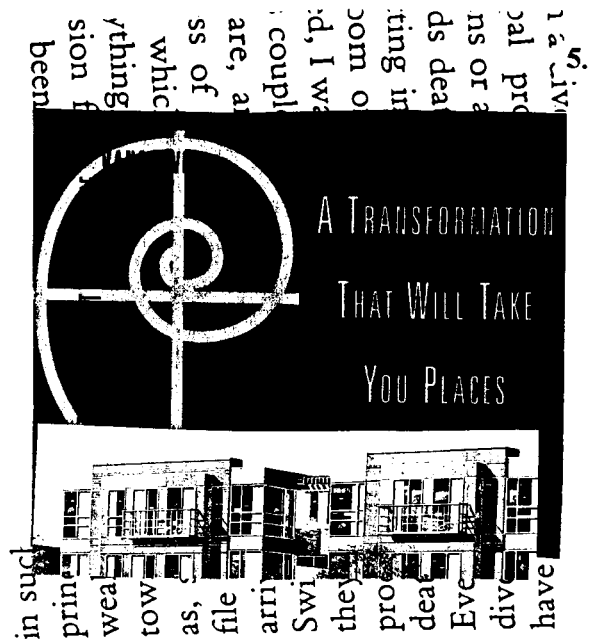
The study, "Rental Housing Trends in the City of Vancouver," by Leslie Stern and Vanessa Geary, was published by the UBC Centre for Human Settlements under joint sponsorship with the Tenants' Rights Action Coalition (TRAC).

New development in Vancouver continues to cater to purchasers who can compete in the city's inflated real estate market, the study says. Future housing options for Vancouver's 120,000 renter households (58% of the city's total) are narrowing.

Following are some key findings of the study:

- Renter apartments are threatened by continuing demolition and condominium conversion, and almost no new construction has occurred in the past decade.
- Secondary suites, which represent one in seven rental units, continue to remain predominantly illegal despite the city's 7 year, \$2.5 million Secondary Suite Review Program.
- The social housing sector will stagnate in the face of federal funding cuts, unless new funding sources are found.
- Residential hotels and rooming houses, the last step before homelessness for many renters, are in a precarious balance because of gentrification and re-development in the downtown core.

"In a city where 58 percent of households rent,



the state of the rental sector should be a major public policy concern," says co-author Stern. "Vancouver's rental sector is not in good shape. We have among the highest rents and lowest vacancy rates in the country, and a continuing influx of both people and wealth. We have more and more households who need to rent housing, yet market forces only cater to those who can compete in our inflated real estate market."

Stern and Geary predict that market forces, left on their own, will lead to erosion of housing standards for renters, smaller apartments, and increasing homelessness.

TRAC

## NOTICE

In consideration of the volume of submissions the Carnegie Newsletter has received regarding DERA and The Friends of DERA, and due to the nature of these submissions and of the conflict itself, the CCCA has decided that, beginning with the next issue, we will be printing a range of opinions in a separate section of the publication. We would like to remind contributors of our editorial policy: *We will not print anything that is racist, sexist, or homophobic, nor will we print defamatory personal invective, religious denominational material, or promotional material from political parties.*

(PS ..or if it just stinks - Ed.)

# GASTOWN TRIBUNE

SINCE 1491

## FALSE PROPHET-FINGER POINTERS POLEAXED

A coup attempt to overthrow <sup>CENSORED</sup> has been defeated. It was engineered by a group of ambitious flunkies on behalf of our Gastown neighbors who want to follow Ontario's lead of converting social housing into market housing.

The coup's leader Bertha Livetick commented "Oh, we were just trying to improve things."

Gastown spokesperson Michael McPhrofit was quoted as saying "Hell yes, we funded this thing. Hot damn, those <sup>CENSORED</sup> folks got a big budget that they's squandering on senior citizens and poor white bubbas; we just wanted a piece of the action, that's all. Next time we'll get it right."

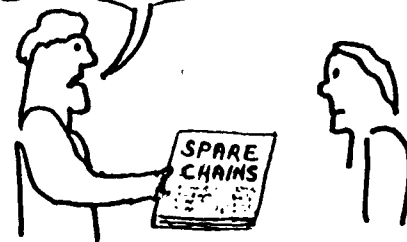
Certain city hall staffers who backed the attempted coup by accommodating the effort at a local community centre were also disappointed in the failure.

"Things would run much more smoothly around here with a diminished <sup>CENSORED</sup>," said an anonymous city haller. "We get forty thousand people a year coming to the area who are eager and ready to pay market prices for those subsidized <sup>CENSORED</sup> apartments. It makes no sense to turn the new arrivals away."

Meanwhile, the coupers have gone back into the wood-work to plot new plans for the next <sup>CENSORED</sup> AGM. Semi-reliable sources say the plans include taking control of the Carnegie Newsletter, establishing a beachhead at the Dugout, and registering their 30 pieces of silver in an R.S.P.

## EMPLOYMENT ON THE RISE

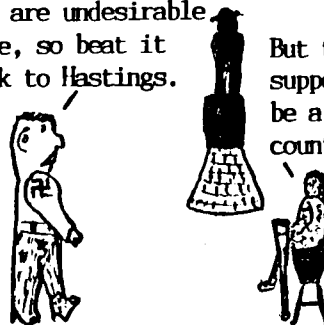
This is how it works, bub:  
You buy these newsletters from me for 50 cents apiece, then you stand out on the corner and try, and sell 'em for more. That's called a profit. Now get on out there, but make sure you stay out of Gastown.



## GASTOWN LANDLORDS RECRUIT GREETERS

You are undesirable here, so beat it back to Hastings.

But this is supposed to be a free country!

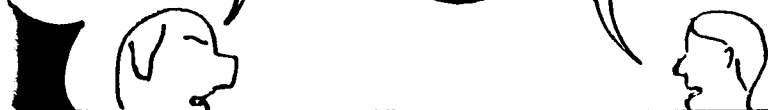


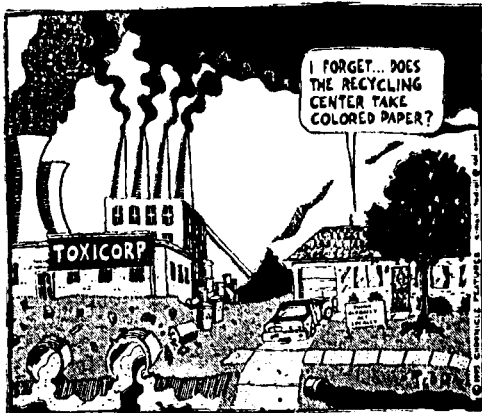
## WIN/WIN BUSINESS DEAL

Listen mayor, how are we supposed to keep building condos if we can't cut trees without being fined?

You don't get it do you?! You cut the bloody trees, you pay us the friggin' fines, and you deduct the loss in your corporate tax dodges.

Ohhhh! Why thanks mayor, I knew you wouldn't let us down.





On the 24th of August, somebody using the name of DERA held a meeting to “Clean House” of its present board members. Although I couldn’t attend the meeting I was there when everything was being set up. In the back by the fire escape was a guy in a black cowboy hat. I watched as he dropped his finished cigarette and stomped it out with his foot. When I asked him to pick it up and put it in the ashtray, he just stared blankly at me and walked away, saying he was there to “clean house”!

Some people just don’t have any class or don’t care about our community centre, I guess.

Just a thought - please respect our library and staff and don’t swipe the books.

Carl MacDonald

## READING ROOM ROUNDUP

By the time you’re reading this, I’m off on holiday in the mountains. Back Sept.23! While I’m away, please welcome Daniela from the Central Library.

Just a few things before I hit the road. We’ve bought some new audio-tapes, so those of you who’ve waited patiently now have a chance to listen again. There is a selection of thrillers, New Age, mystery and biography.

*Literacy Day* will be celebrated on Friday, Sept. 13th (Freaky Friday) from 10-5. The day is being sponsored by the Learning Centre, Library, the Association and VPL’s literacy committee. It will include a giveaway of second-hand books by the Centre’s entrance in the morning; followed by refreshments on the 3rd floor; a reading by Bud Osborn and various learners in the afternoon in the gallery; and bingo at Oppenheimer. Hope everyone has a great time.

Don’t forget the special library committee meeting Sept. 30th at 4 p.m. in the Association office to discuss our ongoing problems with library security. This is an open meeting for all library supporters. Come and help us find solutions for this serious neighbourhood problem.

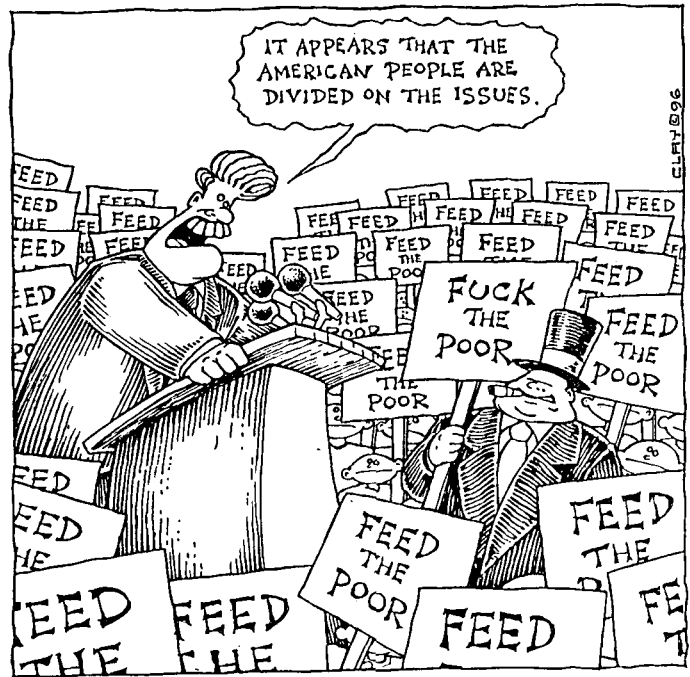
Eleanor





Get ready for love  
 It's coming your way  
 Get ready for divinity  
 It's a bright day  
 Help yourself to help others  
 Help yourself to find a way  
 It is love's remembrance that November day  
 It is fighting's hell we must delay  
 Remember the poor ones who perish each day  
 Remember our cause without delay  
 Reward for killing is hell  
 That we remember well.

Elizabeth Thorpe



## In The Dumpster



A few weeks ago we lost one of our members and friends, Wally Countryman, who had a heart attack and died at the young age of 66 years.

A couple of years ago he'd had a lung removed because of cancer. That changed his whole routine of eating, sleeping and recreation. The once early riser had to sleep most of the day, due to pain and medication. Come 6-7pm he'd feed his cat, then himself, then come down to the lobby or bar of the Dodson and drink coffee.

Wally was good and kind to everyone. His last wish was to be an organ donor so someone else could live but he hadn't left a donor card..

Why did Brad (Shylock) Holme build his condo building behind the Dodson? The noise and

environment created constant stress for Wally, keeping him awake and finally leading to his heart attack. Tell me, Shylock, where are you going to be buried when you die? I'd like to know - in case you go before I do, I can go and crap on your grave.

Wally's death, his funeral and cleaning out his room have really taken a toll on me. This plus all the other horrors that have happened here recently have been too much for Mr. McBinner. I don't have my view of the mountains anymore... I don't even go binning.

*D.E.A.D.* How's this - Downtown Eastsiders Against Development.

In September the BC Government says that people riding bicycles will have to wear wimpy helmets or face a fine. Fine with me. I'll do the jail time. I can't wear one 'cause I hear voices when I have one on. Ask my doctor.

May the bins be with you.

Mr. McBinner



## DO YOU KNOW WHO THIS IS?

On Saturday evening, July 20th, a working woman was picked up at Clark and Hastings by at least two men driving a 1970s green Dodge.

This woman was apparently stabbed, wrapped in a tarp and burned beyond recognition.

Police know very little about her. She was 4'10" to 5' tall with a slim build. Her age is unknown. She was wearing a blouse or short dress, black or blue with small white dots. She was carrying a fairly small black leather purse which may have had buttons pinned on it. Her purse contained two rigs and a strip of condoms.

Two men have been arrested in connection with this murder and the car has been recovered.

If you think you know who this woman is or if you have any information about her, please call Constable Dave Dickson or Deborah Mearns at the Downtown Eastside Neighbourhood Safety Office, 12 E.Hastings: 687-1772 or page Dave at 686-7523. Thanks for your help.

Local people have confirmed that this woman was **Glory Michelle Feddick**. Police are still looking for Glory's roommate. If you have any information, please call the #s above. Thanks.



I want to tell you a story about life as I see it. We live in a society that has every race, creed and colour; some are rich, some are what is called middle-class, and some are poor.

Moneywise, the rich are flooding the market and filling their bank accounts. The middle-class are working folks, '9-5ers', probably mortgaged to the hilt but getting by not too badly. Now we come to the poor: bread lines every day, food banks, always second-hand clothes 'cause they don't have the money for new ones.

I can relate to the poor 'cause I work where there are lots of poor people but they will never be as poor as rich people. They always have a smile and a little joke to tell; the bidders always have some little trinket they want to sell. They aren't afraid to say "Hi. How are you?" when they pass you on the street. They ain't shy about asking you for a buck - they probably want a beer and will catch you on welfare day anyway. If I need a smoke, they'll be the first to hand me one, even if it's their last one.

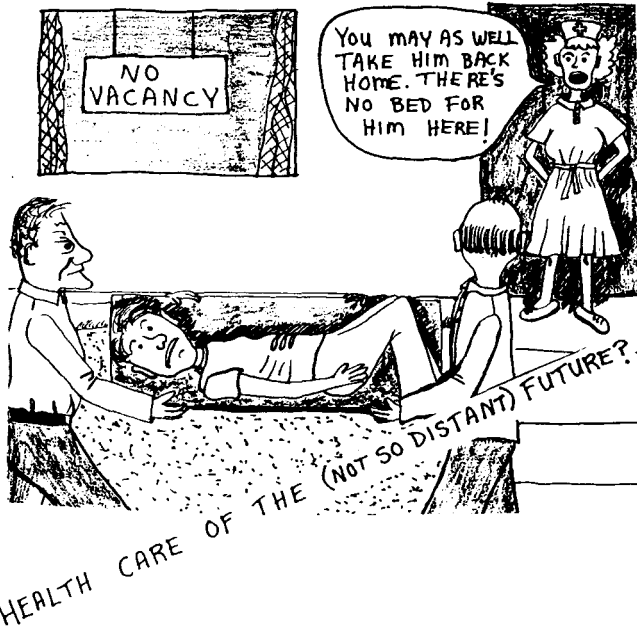
The powers-that-be call those on the 'skids' the lost souls. I say bullshit. To me this is where the real people are 'cause they are just who they are - no pretense, no lies. Everything they do is right up front for the whole world to see. What a shock to those from the 'other side of the tracks'! We are not going to disappear under anyone's carpet.

Now tell me, who is really the poor man?

The downtown eastside will live forever in all of us as long as we maintain who we really are - giving, caring, sharing, loving people.

God Bless Everyone.

Brenda K.



## UNITED CHURCH PASTOR WHO UNCOVERED NATIVE RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL ABUSES FACES PERMANENT EXPULSION FROM THE MINISTRY

On Wednesday, August 28, a public hearing was held in Vancouver to consider a request by a lower-level body that Reverend Kevin Annett be "de-listed" as a United Church minister. No cause has been given for this request.

Kevin Annett was a minister at St. Andrew's United Church in Port Alberni between 1992 and 1995, and was instrumental in helping uncover unreported allegations of murders and abuses at the local native residential school.

Kevin also challenged the local Presbytery over its refusal to return land given to it by the Ahousat band as part of the latter's land claim. As a result, the national church and provincial government were compelled to enter intervene in the dispute.

"This is the final act in the church's railroading of Kevin," said Jack McDonald of the BC Metis Federation, and a former member of Kevin's congregation. "The Presbytery could never forgive him for his speaking out on the residential school murders, or the Ahousat land issue. They fired him without cause, prevented him from working, and even helped his wife in her divorce against him. Now they are kicking him out for good, once again without any evidence or reasons. A lot of us are outraged."

The same Presbytery that fired Annett is recommending that he be de-listed immediately. The request was heard by a panel of the BC Conference of the United Church. A delegation of concerned citizens from Port Alberni attended the hearing to support Annett and challenge the church on its actions.

"What they're doing to Kevin they're doing to us," said Karl Angus, President of Low Income Folks Together (LIFT) of Port Alberni and a leader of the delegation. "The church has slammed the door in our face. We consider it grotesque that the one minister in our area to really help the poor and open a white church to natives is being



expelled from that church. They should have given Kevin a medal for his courage in speaking out, but instead they're hammering him. We want to know why."

Annett has notified the United Church of his intention to commence a major lawsuit for damages against the church if he is expelled from the ministry. Supporters have begun a Legal Defense Fund to assist him in his efforts to win Justice. For more info, call Kevin at 224-3102.



*hastings park haiku*

I'm at home here  
everywhere I turn  
a loser

*racing form haiku:*

"squeezed early  
stumbled  
lost all chance"

we search  
past performance  
for a safe bet now

3 minutes to post time  
we rush to the windows

**summoning**

fearful  
I am sabotaged by shadow's cast  
from the light of living  
by my feebleness of faith  
only the virgin canvas  
of the future  
towering before me  
a colossus from my mind  
sets my timid heart trembling  
leaves me powerless and frozen  
in a puddle of my pee  
slap myself got to  
snap out of the stupour  
I'm happy when I'm  
fully awake  
so the system really sucks



mountains sit in silence

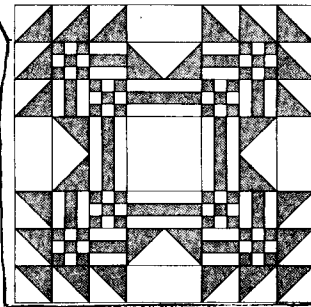
our horse leads  
our horse  
fades

*racing form haiku:*

"trapped  
most  
of the trip"

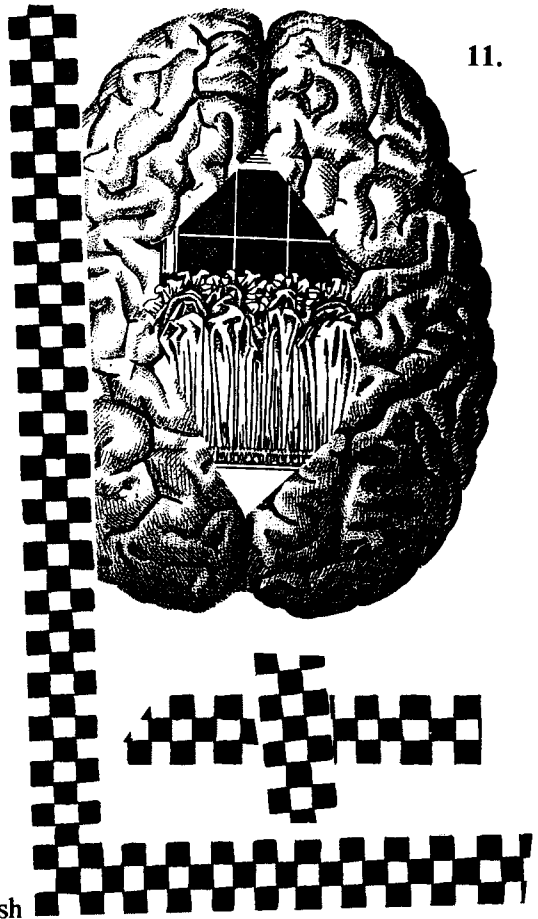
crows  
on the finish line  
eating horseshit

glassed-in  
against the track and the trash  
the clubhouse patrons



I'll not be a willing victim  
no more shame for who I am  
my destiny is freedom  
even if it kills me  
well then...  
finally  
I get to go home

Shawn Millar



beneath the whip  
"sailaway stevie" strains  
for me to win 40 cents

flat on his back  
at the starting gate  
the winner of 3000 races

*racing form haiku:*

"off slow  
closed well  
just missed"

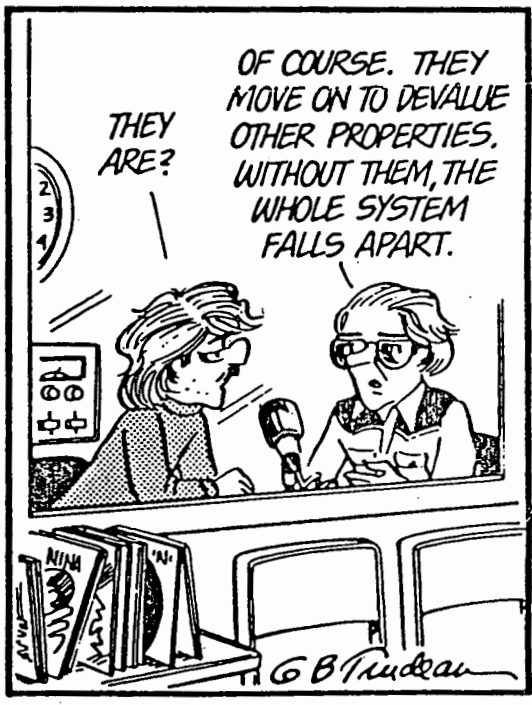
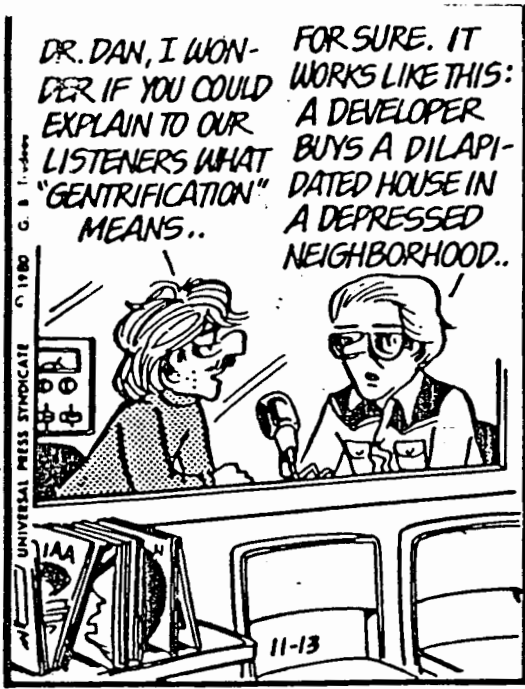
her bright grey eyes  
flash at me like the finish line photo  
and the longest long shot rides in

**Bud Osborn**

## gentrification

...Smoke a cigarette & stare at the highrise crushing my eyes stare into someone's room into their eyes staring back at me it's horrible on the street a scream explodes: "I don't give a damn!" & I scream: "I can't stop drinking!" & marie screams: "you don't want to!" & throws the I Ching & I read poe's vision of a time before "the demon of the engine" when only "the red man trod" & now there are notices of lock changes & rent-in-advance & evictions for dirty bathrooms & a drunken brawl in the bar downstairs & tension between marie & I like magritte's l'anniversaire this giant rock filling a small room & a hyacinth blooms on our frozen windowsill & some kind of hooker chorus sings from the sidewalk: "It's a good night for a hold-up!" poe wrote: "I fled in vain" the outlaws & outcasts revolve through our door a dozen times a day & it gets so you fart you violate somebody's space you belch & that's an accusation & you're finally condemned for being yourself on purpose with no map guides or gyroscopes for the situation these lifetimes like the hotel dope-dealer busting dope smokers smoking dope he's sold them trying to keep his flunky job for the new boss who bought this hotel he said: "to make some money and have some fun" the label tells me to "take one sedative at bedtime" I take 5 to stay awake & in her terrible sleep marie says one word: "angels" ... john threw his mop & bucket at his woman & charlie screamed & slammed the door & walked out on his pregnant girlfriend & lucy down the hall went after her man with a knife & joe beat joyce pretty badly after she broke a bottle over his head dust clouds & paint fumes scorch the air our instincts twisted like scorpions stinging themselves & each other panicked by a burning stick shoved into the nest & another notice bans all pets except I guess the rats & roaches & "shitpants" the old guy in the bar was saying: "change is good it weeds out the undesirables" not realising he's the undesirable to be uprooted overnight & the new boss is giving tours to prospective clientele & complaining to them about the "deadbeats and dopers and welfare bums" making his renovations difficult & outside on the street a sign on the side of a taxicab proclaims: "the intelligence of money" ... I turn on the radio & reola jackson from cumming prison is singing: "I been hurt, same as you" I use the phone a woman says: "I am not a branch, I'm an information centre" & I tell her: "I thought you were a human being" but all that's changed slamming us into distant corners our backs against the punched cracked walls & silence between us like thunder from the mouth of hell after I drank up all our money I tried to stab ron with a pair of scissors but marie shoved him out the door & blackened my eye with a right hook & ron ran down to the front desk screaming: "there's two people trying to kill each other in room 41!" but they told him he was drunk "go away" so ron & I got even drunker & blasted the hotel with his electric keyboards & the harmonica I don't know how to play & when they banged on the door ron threw 2 glasses & the empty bottle at it & I staggered raving into the hallway where marie hauled me into our room & so we narrowly avoided being evicted before we're scheduled to be evicted what a relief ... marie refuses to go to the hospital with me & is too sick to go herself it's the middle of the night middle of the street middle of winter I can't take it anymore grab a bag out the door or torn to pieces screaming "bullshit!" "fuck you!" I crash at our friend heljo's she was officially a "displaced person" during world war 2 & translates a poem for me by juhan liiv estonian poet died in a madhouse: "our room has a black ceiling/ it's black and smoky/ there are cobwebs/ there's soot/ and so much/ so much pain/ o lord have mercy/ our room has a black ceiling/ and so does our time/ which is twisting in chains/ if only it could talk" I say the poem to marie who cries & cries & I don't know what to do katherine the black woman who's cleaned these rooms for years said before she was fired by the new regime: "people in this kinda place got lots of reasons to kill themselves" the construction worker telling loud racist jokes the new owner bragging about: "a dress code. big changes. i want to sell sex.." & a few people who live here are getting drunk who never drank before & a mouse races across the carpet & cold wind & rain rip at the window & finally I bring cold rags to reduce marie's temperature I bring her soup I pound on my head with my fists I sit on the toilet & push a knife point into my belly I shake & hyperventilate & smell gas fumes leaking into the air & I hear laughter from somewhere & a junkie we know bangs on the door & nods off on the floor somebody else needs something else & the hard-to-love dealt down & dirty going down the drain insisting what is happening will never happen not here 'not to me I've been here too long' never change an old blues bar into an upscale fern-dripping sports bar & tourist accommodation but early this dark morning very early this very dark morning I pick a gold coin out of a snowbank what do you know?

*Bud Osborn*



## REMEMBER THE EXPO EVICTIONS?

A little over a year from now, APEC, the Association for Pacific Economic Cooperation, will be meeting in Vancouver. This is an organization that promotes free-trade among the Pacific rim countries. You can bet there will be a lot of hype about how great this will be for our city and the world. They'll be pushing free trade and all the crap that goes along with it.

They'll also be prettying up the city for the visiting dignitaries. If you want an idea of what that can mean for people's lives, just take a look at what's happening in Manila, in the Philippines, where this November the heads of state for all the APEC nations will be meeting. Jean Chretien will of course be there, trying to look like a statesman for the media back home.

But what the Canadian media probably won't show us, nor what the APEC boosters will be talking about, is the price the people of Manila will pay for this conference. Keith Fernandez, from Urban Poor Associates in the Philippines, reports that on June 15 Philippines President Fidel Ramos told the mayors of Metro Manila he wanted 16,000 squatter families removed from the capital city of Manila before the APEC meeting in November. He said the squatters are "eyesores" and have to be removed along with garbage, graffiti, street children and beggars. (This was one day after the UN's Habitat II Global Plan of Action on housing rights was signed in Istanbul. The Philippines and Canada were both party to this agreement.)

By the end of June, up to 350 squatter families had already forcefully been evicted. A judge who was handling the case of these first evictees said that forced removal is justified by the need to impress APEC visitors. Supplies and facilities promised to those families by government officials have not been provided. Children and adults are now suffering from diarrhea, colds, typhoid, cholera and dengue. Two babies had died at the report I'd heard.

Although Philippines law says evictees can only

be relocated to adequate housing, and the government signed the UN's Global Plan of Action for housing rights, its intention is to proceed with the eviction of 10,000 to 16,000 families -- or from 60,000 to 96,000 people. Present relocation sites are all full and it will take up to 4 years (!!!) to prepare sites for the rest of those families who are evicted.

I'm sure they're not thinking of evicting anyone just for the the APEC meeting in Vancouver next year. But they will certainly be trying to make the



downtown area squeaky clean for the visiting dignitaries. The police will surely be out in force making sure that that the "wrong" people don't get into the dignitaries line of vision. It is not likely they'll tolerate graffiti, garbage, street children and beggars, either. Don't want all those world leaders to get the wrong impression, eh?

So get ready for the fall of '97. It could be a rough ride.

PS. If you have access to a fax machine and enough money for a long distance fax, you can tell

President Fidel Ramos how disgusted you are with his government's actions:

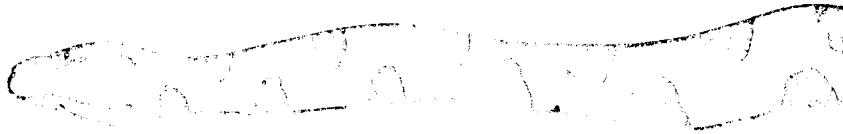
President Fidel V. Ramos  
Republic of the Philippines  
Office of the President  
Malacanang Palace, Manila  
Philippines  
FAX: 63-2-742-1641

And don't forget to let our own government know how you feel. Call Jean Chretien, who will be attending the Manila meeting, or our own MP, Anna Terana and tell either one of them what you think.

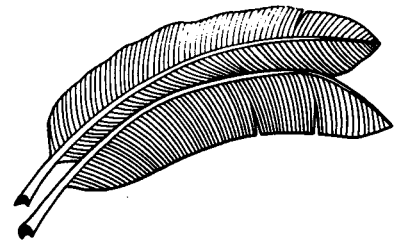
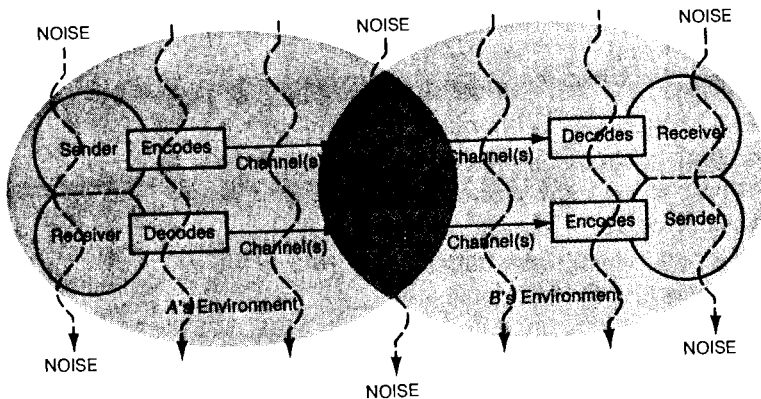
Editor,

About the homeless. I think decent affordable housing should be built on the old PNE grounds, which are due to be vacated next year. The money should come from wealthy corporations and from the pockets of those who benefit from this Canadian economic structure.

Elizabeth C. Thorpe



My grandfather, known for his offbeat sense of humor, adopted a dog that he named Mr. Peeve. I took the bait. "How come you gave him that name?" I asked. "It's very simple," he replied. "This is my pet, Peeve."



We constantly look for someone responsible, or for several persons responsible, in order to make things bearable for ourselves at least for a moment, and naturally, if we are honest, we invariably end up with ourselves.

I looked up and saw the Eagle  
standing on the sky,  
And in that instant I knew  
the Eagle does not fly;  
But merely waits and lets  
the world go spinning by.  
And when I looked through  
the Eagle's eye,  
I learned to let what must  
pass away; go by,  
For nothing that is real can die.

George Sheffield

# MEMORIAL SERVICE for SALVADOR ALLENDE and PABLO NERUDA

We invite you, your family and members of  
your organization to this memorial service.



José Tohá González, izquierda, ministro y vicepresidente de la  
República en el gobierno de Salvador Allende.

Sunday, September 15  
3 p.m.

Wilson Heights United Church  
1634 - E. 41st Avenue  
Vancouver, B.C.

This very important ceremony is sponsored by  
The Latinoamerica Cultural "Simon Bolivar"  
Centro de Informacion de los Pueblos de America

For more information: 434-6826; 439-7762

Organizing Committee:

Jorge Berrios Pardo  
Executive Secretary

Tel: 254-5167; Fax: 254-0157

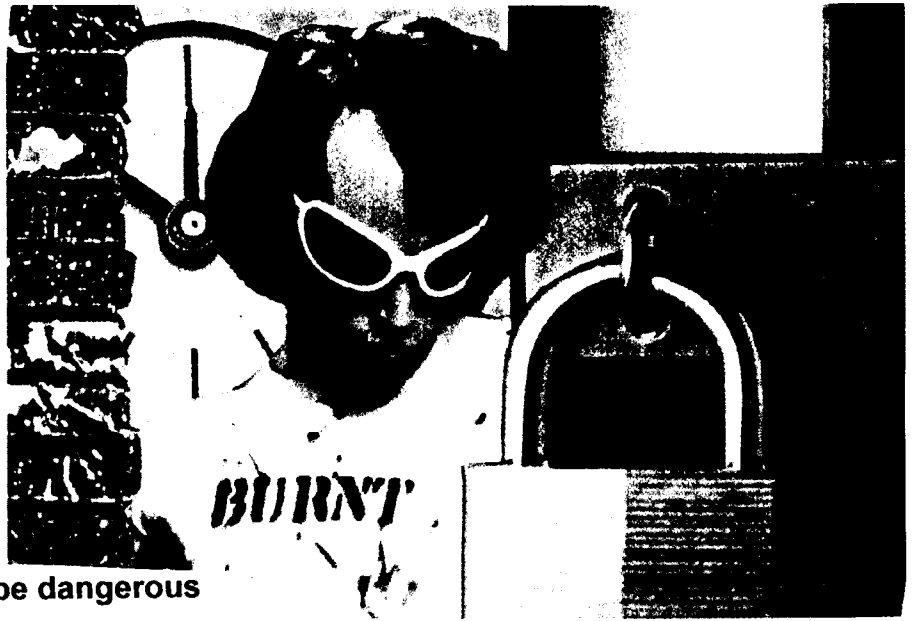
August 12, 1996  
Vancouver, B.C. Canada



## roid pome

wutchu got in yer  
pokits  
traydya fer a  
nukel samwidge  
jest reelaks  
itl all go smooth  
lemmee see  
wutchu got  
in yer pokits

Shawn Millar



## Skytrain stations can be dangerous

There was a small crowd of young people on the sidewalk at the entrance to the 22nd Street station. In front of them, on the road, was a long station wagon with two broken windows. There was some yelling and excitement coming from the area beyond the car but I was in no hurry to investigate.

Suddenly the police arrived. An officer parked his car on the road behind me. A young man came running down the steps toward the policeman and begged him to hurry. People were hitting each other with bats and crowbars and someone had a broken arm.

The officer got his dog out of the car but, in the excitement, it nearly came for me. I screamed out in fear but thankfully the officer controlled it and they hurried to the scene. Other police arrived and one man was forced, face down, onto the hood of a patrol car. A young woman shouted, "You don't have to be so rough with him." The arresting officer shot back, "Shut up or you'll be arrested for interfering."

"They're all friends," someone complained of the young men, presumably the woman trying to lessen the force used on the first young man. "They're just having a slight disagreement.."

An officer walked past with several baseball bats and crowbars the police had found in nearby

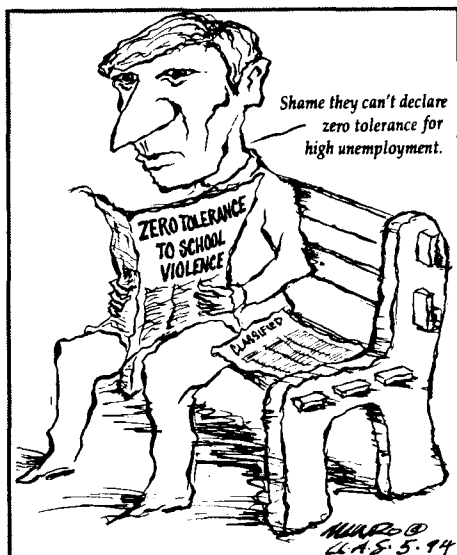
bushes; an ambulance arrived. Tow trucks came next and one hooked up the damaged station wagon, much to the annoyance of the young lady. It was her car. She was told she wouldn't get it back for some time - she was, after all, part of the gang. The trucks also removed a 2nd damaged car. Finally, after the road was swept, we were able to get to our buses an hour late.

You don't have to watch TV to get a sense of violence - it's out there everywhere. I have friends who've had their purses snatched, one by someone in a passing car. The driver used a hooked rod. One person brazenly entered the lobby of my apartment building and took a woman's purse in front of witnesses. His friends stood by and made threats of retaliation if the thief was stopped. People in my low income seniors' building have had their suites invaded and been threatened with pain if they didn't give money.

It is pointless to say this or that should be done. Hopefully the police will wear down the violence. Hopefully.

By DORA SANDERS

## Youth Violence - A Direct Result of Adult Violence



Youth violence is kin to adult violence, and both are related to the violence of poverty, unemployment, family breakdown and community disintegration.

Our economic and political leaders are in a state of denial about the reasons for the disturbing violence in our society. Neo-conservatives tend to blame the welfare state while Liberals blame television.

Race, class, gender, family background and locality are all greater predictors of violence than young age - and the most important predictor of violent crime is poverty (*The Scapegoat Generation - America's War on Adolescents*, by M. Males, p.21). Most people who are poor are not violent, however, as most citizens are not violent. For example, fewer than 1% of the teen population (13 to 19 years of age) are arrested for

a violent crime in any one year (M. Males, p.104)  
Consider the violence directed at children and youth by adults:

- Physical abuse is the leading cause of death among children between six and twelve months of age. (*Time to stop the spanking*, by Mia Stainsby, *Van.Sun*, 22/7/96)
  - Juveniles who receive physical punishment as children are three times as likely to assault non-family members than those who do not. (M.Stainsby, *Van.Sun*, 22/7/96)
  - Every year about seven million children in the United States are victims of a severe violent act (more serious than spanking) inflicted by their parents. Abused children are much more likely than non-abused children to be violent themselves, and family violence is directly related to the stress of poverty. (*The Scapegoat Generation - America's War on Adolescents*, by M.Males, p.22)
  - A 1994 US Bureau of Justice report showed that young people are six times more likely to be murdered by their parents than the other way around. (M.Males, p.22)
  - Two-thirds of all murdered youth in the United States are slain by adults, not by other youths. (M.Males, p.102)
  - Adult violence against children and youth often remains a hidden, family crime. The evidence shows that parents are more violent to their children than to each other - about doubly so. (M.Males, p.115)
  - Poverty, unemployment, household violence against children and teens, and broken communities are the foundations of youth crime. The increase in youth violence over the past twenty years is directly related to the increase in youth poverty (M.Males, p.103)
- The most effective "anti-violence" policy that Canada can adopt is to end poverty, create full employment at decent wages, and build healthy neighbourhoods.

By SANDY CAMERON

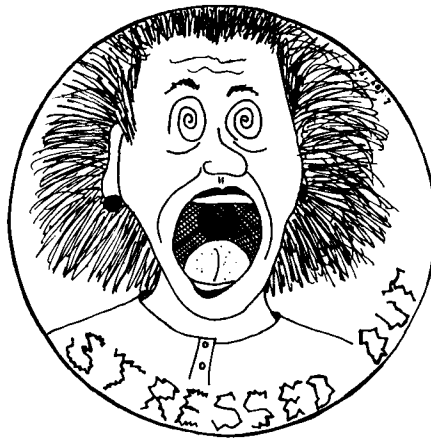
## Streetwalk

one day I walk in sorrow  
the next I walk in joy  
I feel my feeling come  
bouncing off of you  
as my aura  
you briefly borrow

you tell all with your eyes  
convinced no-one hears thought  
your space comes splashing  
across my face  
and denial  
is no surprise

I'm wallowing in muck  
picking my way through goo  
got to filter out garbage  
from flowers and gems  
and all those who may  
give a fuck  
gravity sucks my spirit  
my soul is jostled in flight  
I'm taking a bruising  
and facing the music  
whenever I know where  
to hear it ...

Goblin



## fixed income fix

the middler held out on me  
said my mom wants to see me first  
now I'm shakin inside and freakin  
I need so bad this fuckin can't be  
my last bit got me off good  
felt like things could come together  
but the high is very brief  
then's the slow and twisting down  
I'm doin my best to hang in there  
grin and bear it chin up and shine  
but that grinnin turns to grinding  
inner pain that drives me back  
my man sees me, calls my full name  
I'm tryin not to let on desperate  
but he knows he's got my balls  
there in the mercy of his grip  
he's takin his time and I'm sweating  
can't he just give me what I need?  
"I want to see you myself this time," he says  
"want to check out what you're doin"  
"I'm workin on it," I say, "I'm tryin"  
"I'm doin all those things you asked"  
"That's good," he says, "bring me some proof  
next time." and withat slips me the paper  
"I got to get off of this shit" I swear to myself  
as I head off to the bank  
It's too much suffering just for a welfare cheque  
wish I could come to breaking free

Goblin

## Anachronism

'tis not the age  
to wander in wonder  
the way of the sage  
is thought to be blunder  
knowledge and power  
over wisdom and grace  
to live as a flower  
is to be in disgrace  
the bigger the science  
the better the guns  
directing compliance  
to monetary funds  
miserable billionaires  
convinced of their merit  
cling to what's theirs  
and never will share it  
saint, poet, mystic  
however he/she come  
is only a misfit  
and labeled a bum

Goblin



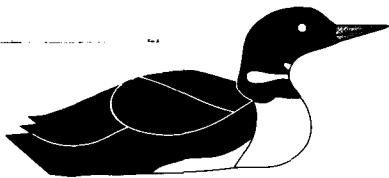
## Contrast Feeling

Sending back the contrast feeling  
Going back to what you're dealing  
I come unto the place you're falling  
It's about time you called me darling  
And I feel it, now you're feeling so nervous  
For a way out of here  
Well I might have called you into me  
Doesn't mean you're always there

It's about time you called me  
It's about time you called me

Ass you leave me  
You return to me  
Where we meet it's never new to me

for QUINN



It's so futile  
cutting a path  
a swath  
to get to you  
this small insignificant patch  
of earth  
to pull at the overgrowth  
leaving the wild flowers  
so tiny, so fragile  
to the wind that sucks the candle dry  
placed there at the head  
of your grave.

It's a calm place; there are others too. They go about their reasons for being here.  
It's a ceremony.

I remember one time at two-thirty in the morning. I crawled on hands and knees, screaming, laughing, both at the same time, for I knew no one would hear me and I wouldn't disturb anyone. At one point I couldn't come to visit. I knew that time had done its deed and what lay beneath was too much to envision. The decay of bones and ash of all my life and blood I'd given you were no more. Then and only then did I give up the dream, the fantasy, of evermore.

**B. Gray**

(From a work in progress: "*In Celebration of Sons and Others*")

'Cause I come unto the place you're falling  
It's about time you called me  
It's about time you called me

I really like you but I'm not gonna show  
I really like you but I'm not gonna show it  
I really like you but I'm not goin' to show  
I really like you, so I'm goingta let go

Sending back the contrast feeling  
Going back to what you're dealing

So I come unto the place you're falling

It's about time, you called me  
It's about time you called me  
Darlin'  
Darlin'  
Darlin'  
Darlin'

*Money*



# AIDS stalks B.C. natives

Monday, August 26, 1996

The Province

## HIV incidence among Indians up to 100 times national rate

By Warren Goulding  
Canadian Press

Canada's aboriginal people are waging a losing war against AIDS — and Vancouver is the worst battlefield.

Official statistics show the aboriginal rate of infection far exceeds that of mainstream society, but natives who work with AIDS victims say even those numbers are low.

Some reserves and tribal groups in B.C. have rates of infection approaching 10 per cent — 100 times the rate in the overall population, said Rod George of Healing Our Spirit, a B.C. group working with infected natives.

Health Canada estimates that one in 1,000 Canadians is infected with HIV, the virus that can lead to AIDS.

"In one study, we found that one of the tribal groups with about 7,000 members had a 10-per-cent infection rate," George said.

Eighteen AIDS-related deaths have been reported in the group so far in 1996.

George said the problem is particularly acute in Vancouver's downtown east side where three people are diagnosed with the virus each week.

"I think the younger generation seems to feel invincible to it," he said. "They seem to have the idea that only gay people or needle users are going to get it."

Denial is a major problem among many aboriginals. George's study revealed half of native women refuse to be tested for HIV or won't reveal test results.

An estimated 600 native women in B.C. are HIV positive, said George.

"Many don't say anything for fear of abuse, violence or being ostracized or shunned — things that native communities do."



Health Canada researchers blame unprotected sex and injection drug use as the leading causes of the high infection rate among natives.

A survey of 658 aboriginal people living on a reserve in Ontario found 14 per cent of respondents had used needles to inject drugs in the previous five years. Three per cent admitted they had shared needles.

Another Ontario study found 90 per cent of natives older than 15 were sexually active and almost half of those engaged in unprotected sex.

Natives are also over-represented in prisons and the sex trade where high-risk activities, including injecting drugs, unprotected sex and tattooing, are more common.

**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	Census
Wm/ B/ - \$20	Employees - \$200
Lillian H. - \$25	Neil N. - \$13
Sonya S. - \$100	Diane M. - \$15
Kettle F.S. - \$16	Lorne T. - \$20
Hazel M. \$10	MeI L. - \$17
Joy T. - \$10	Sara D. - \$20
Bea F. - \$30	CEEDS - \$20
Frances - \$50	Susan S. - \$30
Charley - \$25	DEYAS - \$100
Libby D. - \$40	Brigid R. - \$30
Guy M. - \$20	Amy E. - \$20
Tom D. - \$17	Rene F. - \$50
	Kay F. - \$15
	Anonymous \$67
	Sam R. - \$35

# 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:**

11 September  
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.**



## The Ken Report

United We Can reports many, many new customers. I guess that means summer is still here. They are so busy down there I couldn't get the Binnars Olympics standings, but I got the Pull Tab winner, who was Dave Shobbrook. He guessed 4850 and the correct number in the jar was 4857.

If you can help in any way at U.W.C. please drop in and see Howard. Thanks.

### Trashhopper Says!

Far Out! I just heard about the new bike helmet law for BC. Maybe now the police will also be able to get the drugs out of the DE.

I know it is more important to have baby helmet laws than no drugs on the streets, in the alleys or at schools but one thing at a time.

I think it's time for another trip to Jargon Country or somewhere, as the days are getting shorter.

Take care, loving people of the DE. Let's try to love more instead of killing each other.

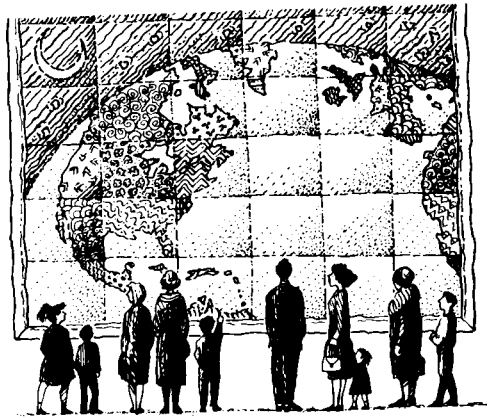
### NEIGHBOURHOOD NEWS

\* No Smoking is in effect on Carnegie's 2nd floor and in it's theatre come September 1st.

\* Completion of renovations at Oppenheimer Park are leading to a whole array of possibilities around what to do and what uses can be made.

\* Along with the rants in a "Free Press" thing that's appeared twice, now there is a petition, which may be in a handful of copies, if that, calling for the removal of Jim Green and Monica Hay from any position involving community representation. It's more of this divide and destroy stuff; the petition carries no group's name or even who is responsible for it. Ho hum.

\* Wider-circulation media (the *Sun & Province*, the *Georgia Straight*...) are doing a service to the area by exaggerating allegations about DERA. Responses from Ian MacRae and Rosalind Breckner, DERA's President and accountant respectively, have helped give correct information.



## IF YOU ARE UNHAPPY

Once upon a time, there was a non-conforming sparrow who decided not to fly south for the winter. However, soon the weather turned so cold that he reluctantly started to fly south.

In a short time ice began to form on his wings and he fell to earth in a barnyard, almost frozen.

A cow passed by and crapped on the little sparrow. The sparrow thought it was the end but the manure warmed him and defrosted his wings. Warm and happy, able to breathe, he started to sing.

Just then a large cat came by and, hearing the chirping, investigated the sounds. The cat cleared away the manure, found the chirping bird and promptly ate him.

### *The moral of the story:*

1. Everyone who shits on you is not necessarily your enemy.
2. Anyone who gets you out of the shit is not necessarily your friend.
3. If you're warm and happy in a pile of shit, keep your mouth shut.

Author unknown.

