

END LEGISLATED POVERTY

NEWSLETTER

#2 June 16, 1987

CANADA PENSION PLAN

The federal government has changed the rules for people who get Canada Pension Plan benefits. If you contributed to CPP when you worked, you can now apply to start collecting when you are 60 instead of waiting until you are 65.

But there is a problem.

If you are between 60 and 64 and receiving GAIN, your worker may tell you to apply for CPP. The CPP that you

receive will then be deducted from your GAIN cheque and you won't have any more money than if you were just on GAIN.

What's worse, when you reach age 65, your CPP will be 30% less because you started collecting it at age 60.

If you don't want to apply for CPP before you are 65, give End Legislated Poverty a call. (321-4355). We'll get you some legal help.

c/o #104-2005 E. 43rd, Vancouver, B.C. V5P 3W8 Telephone 321-4355

Welfare rates and unions

QUESTION: What do low welfare rates and Bill 19 have in common?

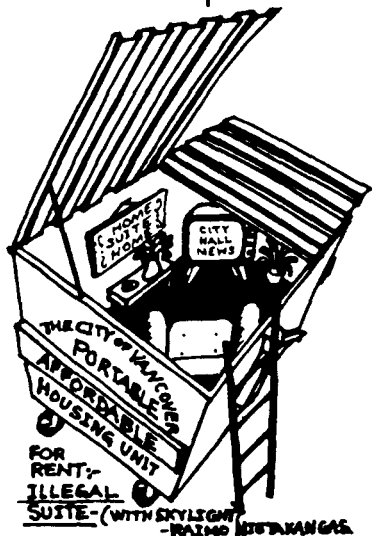
ANSWER: They are both caused by a Socred government that wants people to work for low wages.

EXPLANATION: Bill 19 will weaken unions. That means that unions will have to accept lower wages. It means that non union companies

can pay lower wages and still "keep the union out."

The socreds know that welfare rates are too low to live on decently. But they also know that if rates went up, people would be less likely to accept low wage work.

That means that Bill 19 and low welfare rates both help the companies find low wage workers.



WHAT SHOULD BE DONE? Welfare rates should go up to the poverty line. So should minimum wages.

Labour laws should be changed so that more people can join unions and benefit from getting higher wages and benefits.

Public housing

Are you having trouble getting into public housing? Often low income people try to get in public housing because rents are lower and you have less chance of being evicted. But some people are on the waiting list for years.

That's because we don't have enough public housing. The waiting list for public housing has over 4000 people on it.

What you can do

1. Write to Claude Richmond, Minister of Social Services and Housing, Parliament Buildings, Victoria, B. C. V8V 1X4. Tell him that the government should build more public housing.

2. Call the Vancouver and District Public Housing Tenants Association (872-8648). They will try to help you get into public housing.



— Meeting on child poverty —

An action committee has formed to try to get the government to end child poverty.

come--even if you are not used to going to meetings.

Single mothers' picnic

The next meeting is on June 30th at 2:30 pm at Crabtree Corner, 101 E. Cordova (at Columbia). If you need free childcare to attend the meeting, call 689-2808. Bus-fare will be provided if you need it.

The first annual YWCA single mothers' picnic will be held June 28th in front of the False Creek Community Centre near the water park. It will be between 1 pm and 4:30 pm.

Single mothers and kids are invited. For more information, call Sheena Lowson at 683-2531.

You are very welcome to

GROUPS IN THIS COALITION INCLUDE

Fort Nelson
Advocate and Anti-
Poverty Group

Downtown Eastside
Residents' Assoc.

Vancouver Unemployed
Action Centre

Unemployed Teachers'
Action Centre

Tenants' Rights
Coalition

Little Mountain
Tenants' Assoc.

First United Church

New Westminster
Unemployed Action
Centre

Organization of
Unemployed Workers

Vancouver & Dist.
Public Housing
Tenants' Assoc.

Vancouver Status
of Women

Single Mothers'
Action Committee

Federated Anti-
Poverty Group

B.C. Teachers'
Federation

Branching Out
Dawson Creek

Downtown Eastside
Womens' Centre

B.C. Association
of Social Workers

Dandelions

White Rock Food
Bank Advisory Board