

# END LEGISLATED POVERTY

NEWSLETTER

#7

Dec. 9, 1987

## NEW WELFARE RATES

December welfare cheques should be a little more than November cheques.

If you have been on welfare less than 9 months, or if you are "employable" and have been on over 9 months, these are the new rates:

One person gets \$180 per month for support and up to \$250 for shelter. A 2 person family gets \$320 for support and up to \$320 for shelter. A 3 person family gets \$385 for support and \$486 for shelter. For

4 people, it's \$447 for support and \$526 for shelter.

You can only get the full amount for shelter if you pay it out in rent, hydro, and phone. Landlords will get quite a bit of the new increase.

If you are "unemployable" and have been on welfare for over 9 months, you get a little more for support. One person gets \$230. Two people get \$370. Three people get \$435 and 4 people

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# New welfare rates

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get \$497. The shelter part stays the same.

The rates are a bit different if there is a handicapped person or a pensioner in your family.

The welfare increase

will cost the government only about \$44 million a year. Half of the money will come from Ottawa. Anti-poverty groups have been asking for ten times as much. Welfare rates are still at only 45% to 60% of the poverty line.

## PERILS OF PRIVATIZATION

A COMMUNITY CONFERENCE AND FORUM

TIME: 8:30 am to 2 pm, Dec. 12th

PLACE: Robson Square Media Centre  
800 Robson St.

LUNCH PROVIDED

ALL WELCOME

FREE CHILDCARE, CALL RUTH HOULE, 253-0462

COST: free or pay what you can



## ILLEGAL SUITES

Are you being kicked out of a suite because the city says it's "illegal"?

If so, call the Tenants Rights Coalition at 682-6341.

They may be able to help you.



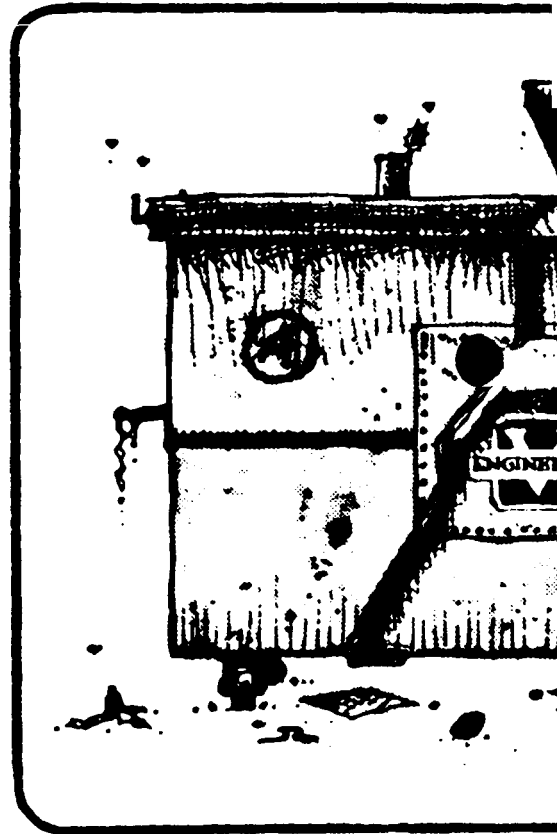
# PUBLIC HOUSING

Is the government planning to sell off public housing?

Anti-poverty groups have some evidence that this is their plan.

For example, Margaret Mitchell, president of the Public Housing Tenants' Association, has a letter from Claude Richmond. He is the person in charge

of public housing in B. C. It says: "If privatizing social housing is the most cost effective way of managing social housing, then we will pursue it."



# NG FOR SALE?

We also have a copy of a 3 year plan to change the Ministry of Social Services and Housing. For the year 1990, it says: "Increase capacity for self-directed purchase

of housing." We think this means: sell off public housing.

This has already happened in England. As a result, there is very little housing for low income people. Many people on welfare are being forced to stay in bed and breakfast rooms like tourists.



## CHRISTMAS HELP

Need extra money for Christmas? Call the Christmas Bureau at 253-7191. They may be able to help.

## NEWS ITEM:

Bill Vander Zalm plans to "decentralize" B. C. He will appoint 8 special Ministers. Each Minister will report directly to Vander Zalm.



These groups will help you with welfare problems: **OR:**

You too can become a do-it-yourself-welfare rights expert. Get this book. Call 321-4355.

DOWNTOWN EASTSIDE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION, 9E. Hastings. Phone 682-0931. Open 9 to 5 Monday through Friday.

VANCOUVER AND DISTRICT PUBLIC HOUSING TENANTS ASSOCIATION, 246 E. Broadway. Phone 872-8648. Open 9 to 4 Monday through Friday.

FIRST UNITED CHURCH, 320 E. Hastings. Come Monday through Friday, 9 to 11:30 am.

UNEMPLOYED ACTION CENTRE, 146 E. Broadway. Open 9:30 to 3 pm Monday through Thursday. Phone 875-8311.

LITTLE MOUNTAIN TENANTS ASSOCIATION, 125 E. 37th. Phone 324-0555. Open 10 to 3 Monday through Friday.

# Welfare Rights and GAIN

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*Your  
Information  
Guide*

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# Christmas Message

Dear Friend,

At Christmas the papers are full of sad stories about low income people. They use the stories to get donations. The donations go to the Empty Stocking Fund or the Christmas Bureau or the Food Bank. And we line up again for a meagre handout.

For the other 364 days of the year, the papers forget us. Worse still, the government claims we're lazy or fraud artists.

End Legislated Poverty doesn't think people should have to depend on charity. Our motto is: JUSTICE, NOT CHARITY. We want a just society. We want jobs and good housing. We want enough money to live on decently and a higher minimum wage. This is what we'll work for in the new year.

Merry Christmas and a JUST New Year from all the ELP members.

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