

END LEGISLATED POVERTY

NEWSLETTER

#9

Feb. 16, 1988

POWER PLAY: YOU'RE INVITED!!

You're invited to a special play on Feb. 28th.

People who use food banks will write the play. They will also be the actors.

The play will be only about 10 to 15 minutes long.

After it is performed, the actors will start to do it again. This time the audience can

stop the play if they see a chance to solve a problem raised in the play..

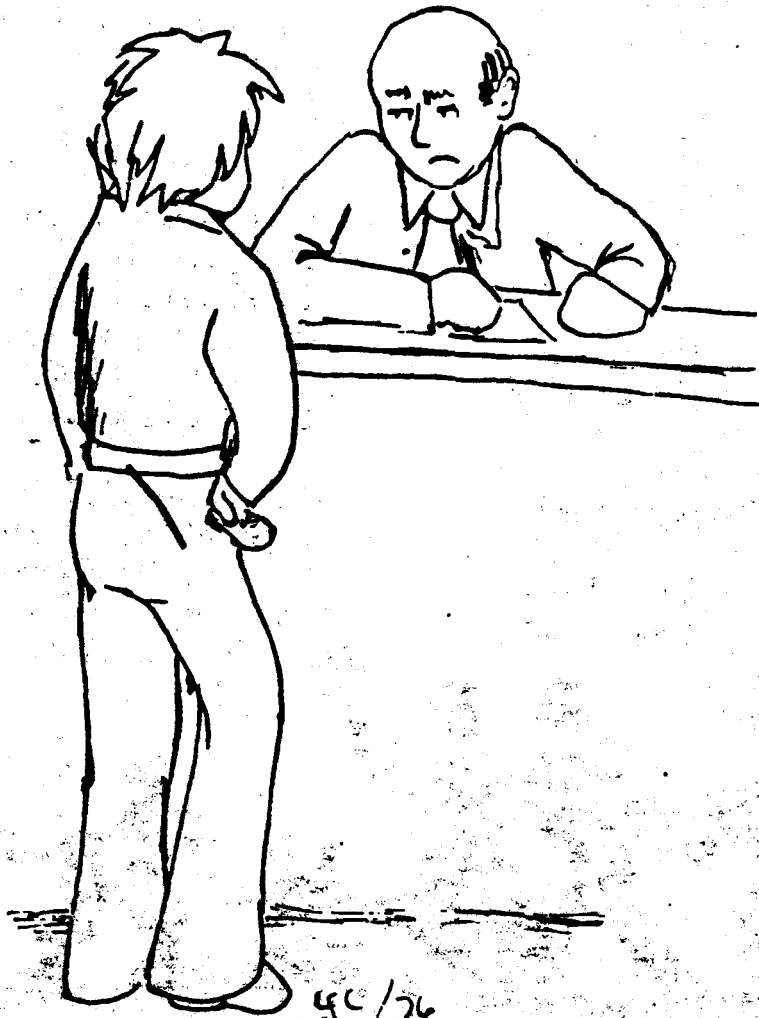
The audience and the actors can both be involved in the play. It should be fun. And, we all might learn more from the actors and the audience.

The play will be at 7 pm at the Carnegie Centre, Main and Hastings. It's free. Busfare will be provided if you need it.



#203--1104 Hornby, Vancouver, B. C. V6Z 1V8 Phone 685-5599

OF COURSE THE GOVERNMENT
IS SINCERE IN CREATING JOBS FOR YOUTH,
CAN I HELP IT IF YOU'RE NOT AN
EXPERIENCED, BILINGUAL, JOURNEYMAN
AARDVARK BREEDER ?



BUDGETING:

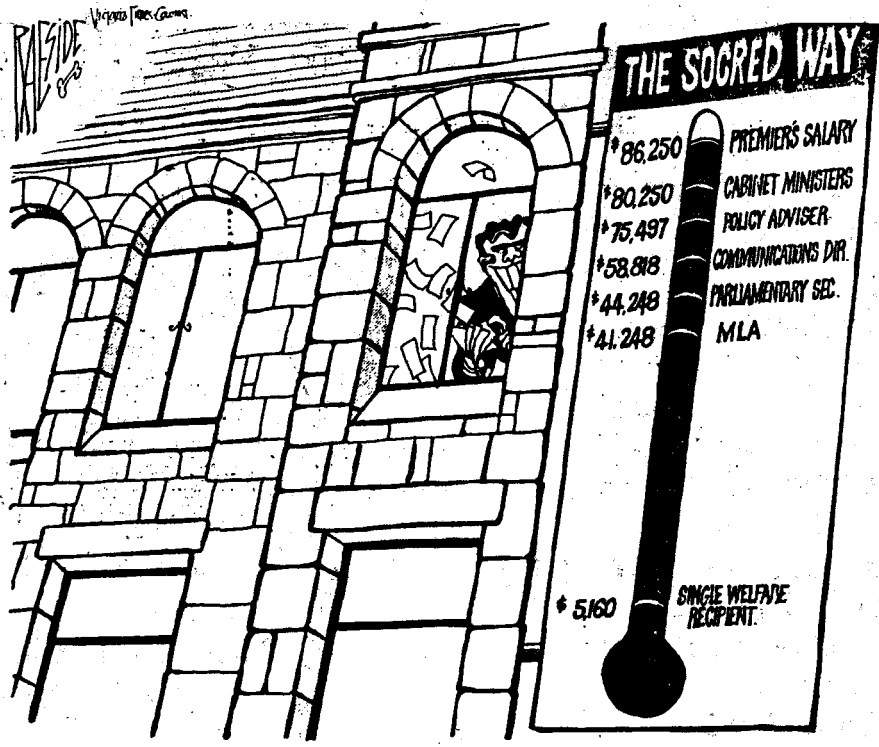
WHO REALLY NEEDS THE LESSONS?

The government says that low income people with hungry children may need budgeting lessons.

Vander Zalm said he would use most of his raise to pay his drycleaning bill.

Last month Bill Vander-Zalm gave himself a \$9,200 raise. (A single mother with one child on welfare gets about \$8784 per year total).

Does anyone volunteer to give Vander Zalm budgeting lessons? We could teach him how to wash his clothes in cold water with dish soap.



THE GOOD NEWS IS...

More and more groups are working for a proper food program in schools.

Poor children would not be singled out.

The government in Ottawa would pay half the cost.

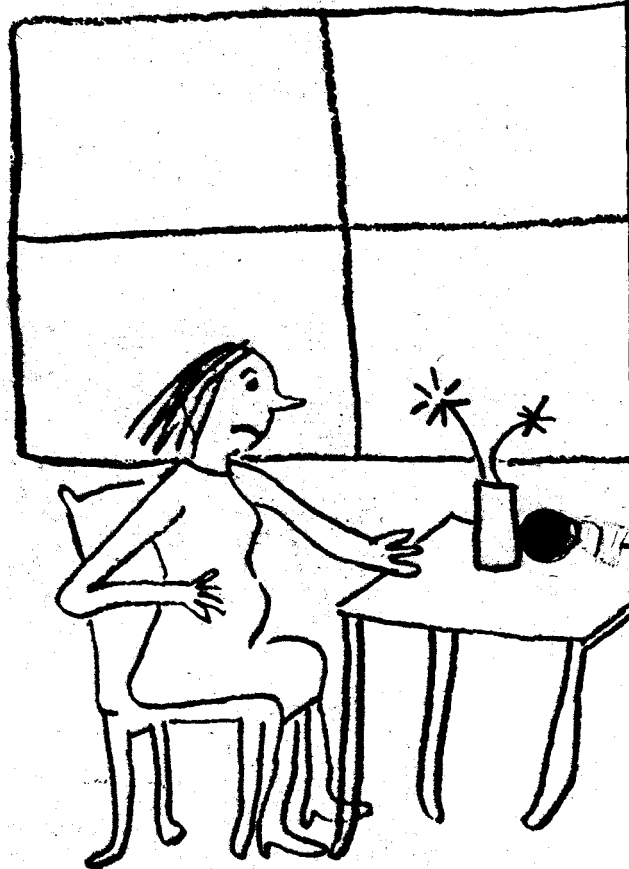
The Vancouver School Board is now (finally) working to put a daily meal in a few schools in low income neighbourhoods.

The city seems to back the idea too.

Groups of teachers, principals, and parents are also working for a decent meal program that won't stigmatize poor children.

End Legislated Poverty and the Child Poverty Action Committee started fighting for food in schools last April.

We also want higher welfare rates and minimum wages and decent jobs.



"What with food costs, we have to live more simply,"

● THE BAD NEWS IS...

Claude Richmond is the government person in charge of welfare. He

said that the government won't give money to feed hungry children.

Instead he wants teachers to tell the government who these children are. Then, he says, social workers will give budgeting lessons to parents.

Or maybe people can get crisis grants, Richmond said.

This is what the Minister didn't say: The law says that the only way to get a crisis grant is if your child would be taken away if you didn't get it.

Fortunately the School Board and teachers have said they will not tell who the children are.



nt, inflation....We'll just
George."

WHAT THE UNION SAYS ABOUT GOVERNMENT THREATS

John Shields is president of the BCGEU. This union represents 4200 social workers and financial workers.

Shields said this about Claude Richmond's threats:

"We all know that income assistance rates are totally inadequate. To suggest that the way to get rid of hunger is to (make) lists of names and give lessons on budgeting is cynical and callous coming from the Minister who has set assistance rates that are more than 50 per cent below the poverty line."

"What benefit could there possibly be for Ministry staff to counsel people on how to budget when they simply don't have enough money? Richmond's

response is nothing but an attempt to divert attention away from the government's failure to raise...rates and provide job training and job creation programs."

ELP WILL HELP IF YOUR FAMILY IS INVESTIGATED

End Legislated Poverty (ELP) will try to help any family that gets investigated by the government because their child asks for food at school.

If this happens to your family, call 685-5599. We will try to get you a free advocate or a free lawyer.

These groups will help you with welfare problems:

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.

AT LEAST YOU DON'T HAVE COCKROACHES.



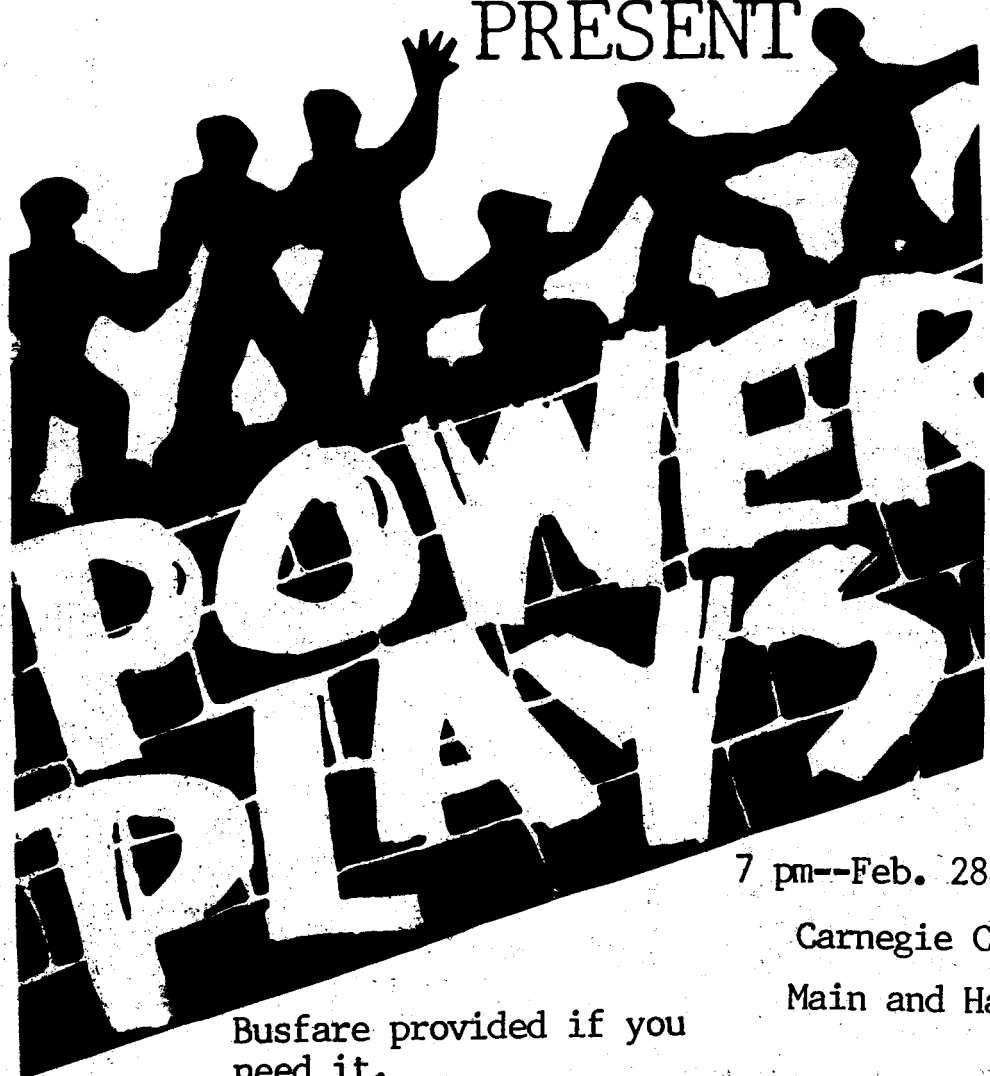
HAVING PROBLEMS WITH YOUR LANDLORD?

Call the Tenants Rights Action Centre at 682-6341. They may be able to help.

TAX CREDIT TIME

Don't forget to apply for your \$50 sales tax credit. Get your income tax form at the Post Office. DERA, Carnegie Centre, and Little Mountain Tenants will help you fill it out for free.

HEADLINES THEATRE
and
END LEGISLATED POVERTY
PRESENT



FREE

FREE

FREE

FREE

7 pm--Feb. 28th--Sunday

Carnegie Centre

Main and Hastings

Busfare provided if you
need it.