

END LEGISLATED POVERTY

NEWSLETTER

#10

March 15, 1988

THE CONTINUING SAGA OF HUNGRY KIDS

Last April End Legislated Poverty and other groups had a forum on Child Poverty.


Lots of low income people spoke out about poverty and hunger. The newspapers and TV did lots of stories about hungry children.

Early everyone thought that children should be fed in school.

ELP and other groups went to the School Board and asked for a proper meal program in schools. We said that all kids should be able to eat there. No one should be singled out as poor.

The School Board got lots of publicity. They said they were feeding 600 kids. But they only spend \$25,000 to do this. That's only about three meals a month for each of the 600 kids. It is nothing for other kids, too embarrassed to say they're hungry. It's nothing for kids who are afraid of being taken from their families if they say they are hungry.

The federal government said they might pay for half of a good food program. Then, early this month, they said "no".

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THE CONTINUING SAGA OF HUNGRY KIDS

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Vander Zalm said he won't pay either.

ELP and the Child Poverty Action Committee are still working with teachers and parents to get a good food program in school. We also want increased welfare and minimum wages.

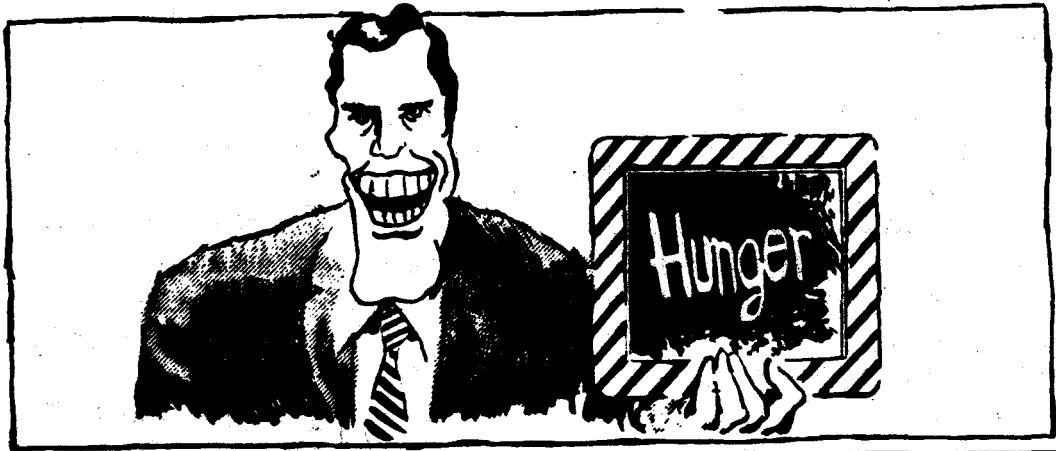
You can help. Write to us and tell us what you

think about feeding kids in school, and about welfare rates and minimum wages. We'll send your comments to the government.

Send your letter to
End Legislated Poverty
#203 1104 Hornby
Vancouver, B. C. V6Z 1V8.

Or, call us at 685-5599.

SOCREDS ERASE HUNGER!!!



VANDER ZALM WANTS HIS NAME

A hungry child left for school today
Wishing that someone would say
"Do You Want to Eat?"
He couldn't ask,
He was too ashamed.
His mother said
"Don't say anything...
They'll take you away."
In the afternoon
He fell asleep
And got a detention.

By Sheila Baxter



If you are on GAIN, here are four important rules to help you out:

1. Learn as much as you can about GAIN: what it means and what you may be entitled to.
2. Always ask your worker when you have questions or concerns about benefits. Be sure to ask if you think you may be eligible for other benefits.



Welfare Right

FOUR RULES FOR GETTING GAIN

3. Always keep your own records. Make notes when you are in an interview.
4. It is your right to appeal decisions you disagree with.

EXTRA MONEY

People on GAIN can apply for extra money for:

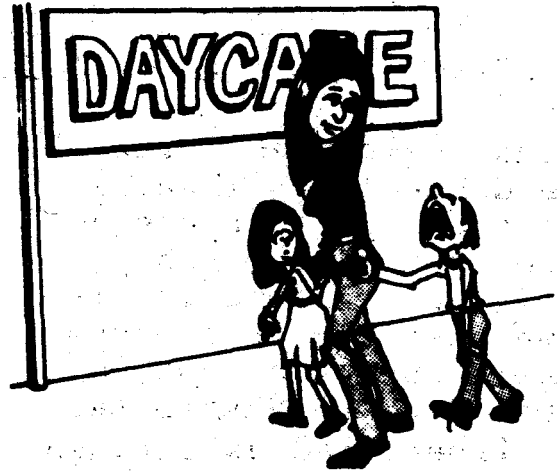
- **Moving costs to a definite job;
- **Transportation costs to move back to your home province or country;
- **Tools or work clothes needed for a

and GAIN

WHO CAN GET DAYCARE?

Any person on GAIN can apply for daycare for their children. You will likely get day care if:

- **you have a job, full time or part-time;
- **You are attending school;
- **You are looking for a job;



**You have to attend some kind of a treatment centre;

**You are now with your children every day and it is really getting you down.

YOU CAN GET

definite job. If you need clothes and bus-fare to apply for jobs, you can ask your worker for this also.

**An extra \$20 a month for any family member on a special diet, prescribed by a doctor, such as a diabetic diet.

**For pregnancy, \$425 a month until the baby is seven months old. Take a note from the doctor to your worker.

**Moving costs up to a total of \$500, if the move is to a home where the total cost of shelter is less than your present cost.

POWER PLAY REPORT

End Legislated Poverty and Headlines Theatre teamed up to create a Power Play. A group of lower income people who use the food banks were involved. David Diamond and Sherri Lee Guilbert led us through a series of trust/co-operation games and relaxation exercises.

We expressed feelings of oppression relating to situations at food banks. A short play was created by combining them all together.

The play took place at Carnegie Centre at 7pm on Feb. 28th. The play was in three steps.

The beginning portrayed a line up outside the food bank. The second part consisted of the situation inside the food bank and the third part was at a bus stop afterwards.

The idea of the play was to run through it once to show it to the audience. Then we started the play the second time. If someone from the audience saw someone being oppressed and felt they could solve a problem, they could stop the play.

They would then become a part of the play by taking another's place. In most cases the problems were solved by co-operation.

Although we are very thankful to have food banks that help us out, the play was merely to show oppression. Not only did many of us become friends, but also it was a learning experience and a lot of fun for everyone involved.

By Anita Ginrich

OUR KIDS AREN'T DUMB!!!

End Legislated Poverty gave a brief to the Royal Commission on Education on March 1st.

We told them how poverty hurts kids.

We told them that we have good kids. They can be creative, co-operative, open.

Sometimes they may be different than middle class kids, but that doesn't mean they are dumb.

We said that the schools should change to help our kids. Schools shouldn't force our

kids to change just to fit into school.

We said that schools need to hire more teachers. They need to respect poor kids and working class values. School fees should end. We need fewer tests.

We also said that government should end poverty. That way our kids could learn better. They would be able to see a half decent future for themselves.



YOU'RE INVITED!!

CHILDREN IN POVERTY:

What will we do?

A PUBLIC FORUM

TIME: 7:30 pm, April 6th

PLACE: Britannia Secondary School
Auditorium, 1001 Cotton

These politicians have agreed
to come :

PHIL RANKIN, School Trustee

LIBBY DAVIES, Alderman

CAROLE TAYLOR, ALDERMAN

JOHN CAHSORE, MLA

MARGARET MITCHELL, MP

(Bus fare will be provided)

(To reserve free childcare, call
685-5599 before April 1)