

# END LEGISLATED POVERTY

NEWSLETTER

#12

May 24, 1988

## ANGRY MOTHERS WIN!!!

Last month the Socreds invented a sneaky way of taking \$50 a month away from single mothers.

But mothers on welfare got angry. They wrote letters to the editor. They started a petition and went on radio talk shows. They also met with NDP MLA John Cash-  
e at the Unitarian Church.

They held a rally on April 25th at Robson Square. Two hundred people came. Many women spoke out

One minute before the rally began, the Socreds announced that some parents would be

able to keep the \$50. These mothers have one baby under six months old. Mothers with two children under six years will also be able to keep the \$50.

So our work did have an effect.

But parents with school children will still face a \$50 cut-back in October. So we still have to fight so those people can keep their \$50.

End Legislated Poverty and CPAC are working on some new plans. If you want to help, call 685-5599.

---

## UPDATE: BUS FARES

Bus fares will go up on June 1st. The new basic fare will be \$1.25.

The Regional Transit Commission decided to raise the fare at their meeting on April 28th.

Many people spoke out against the fare increase at a public meeting early in April.

As a result, the Commission delayed the fare increase for one month.

The Commission plans to raise fares every year to help pay off the cost of Sky Train.

This will continue unless we can make the provincial government pay a larger share of transit costs.

Vancouver City Council voted to agree with the fare increase.

## HOUSING FOR US

Low income people should get half of the new housing that will be built on the Expo lands.

That's what ELP and the Tenants Rights Action Coalition told Bill Vander Zalm.

But so far there is no guarantee that any housing for low income people will be built on those lands.

Meanwhile, 17,268 families and single people are on waiting lists for social housing.

---

# LOW MINIMUM WAGE CAUSES POVERTY

The minimum wage will go up to \$4.50 an hour on July 1st. But a person working at minimum wage will still be way below the poverty line.

The low minimum wage is a big reason that so many people are poor.

A single person who works full time, even at the new minimum wage, will only earn 76% of the poverty line.

A single parent with one child who works at the new minimum wage would only earn 56% of the poverty line.

Years ago, in 1975, the minimum wage was above the poverty line for single people. It was 22% above the poverty line.

If the minimum wage now was 22% above the poverty line, it would be \$7.24 an hour!!!!



# COUNCIL SAYS "NO" TO

City Council will give \$100,000 to the Vancouver Rowing Club. But it won't feed hungry kids.

Council defeated a motion that would have provided \$200,000 for a good food program in four schools. There are thirteen schools that have a large number of children in need.

The Aldermen who voted against the grant were Jonathan Baker, Don Bellamy, Ralph Caravetta, and George Puil.

End Legislated Poverty and the Child Poverty Action Committee thought the motion would pass. Alderman Caravetta had said that he would vote for the motion. A similar motion was passed by the School

Board to supply \$200,000 for food in four schools.

"It was very hard to get funding from the School Board. We had to go back again and again," Said Patricia Chauncey of CPAC.

*The Welfare Cop on a "friendly" visit*



# HUNGRY KIDS (AGAIN)

"City Council needs the same kind of education. CPAC will continue to be very persistent. We can be like an itchy rash that won't go away," explained Mary Ellen Johnstone, another CPAC member.

ELP will also continue to work for food for hungry kids. We will try to get all levels of government to put aside money so that hungry kids can be fed.

If you would like to get involved, call Pat or Jean at 685-5599.

## DIGNITY PLAYERS

### GET GRANT

The Dignity Players have received a small grant from the Van Dusen fund of the United Church. The money will help pay expenses for the players so they can continue to put on plays.

So far the Dignity Players have put on one play about food banks and another play about hungry children.



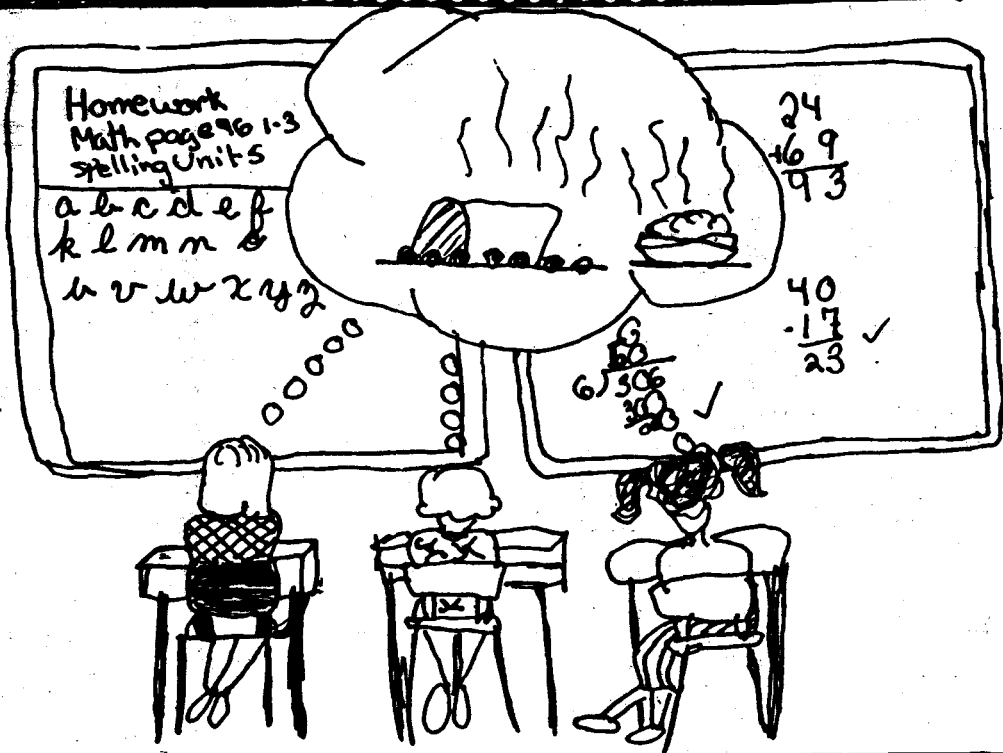


TENANTS RIGHTS  
CLINIC

Every Saturday morning  
9 a.m. till 12 noon  
No appointment necessary.

191 Alexander Street,  
Vancouver

Sponsored by the Tenants Rights  
Coalition with assistance from  
the Legal Services Society,  
Gastown Office.



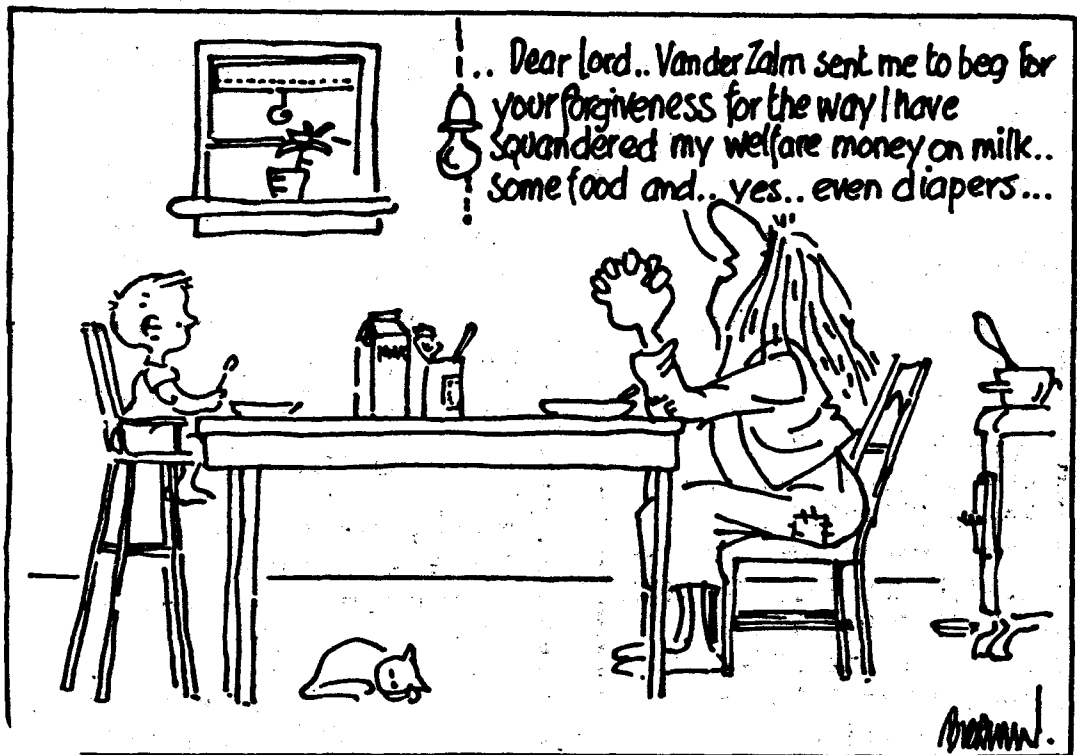
# FOOD BANK WILL HELP YOU REGISTER TO VOTE

On June 22nd, the Food Bank will help people register to vote in the city election.

The city election will be in November. No one

can vote unless they are registered.

The Food Bank will have voter registration forms and volunteers to help fill out the forms.



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.**



**National Action Day  
against 'free' trade**

**June 12th 1pm**

**Walk, bike, bus, or  
come by car to  
Brockton Oval in  
Stanley Park.**

**Bus tickets available.  
Bring a picnic lunch.**