

# END LEGISLATED POVERTY

NEWSLETTER

#15

August 16, 1988

## A SMALL VICTORY!!!!

Five Vancouver elementary schools will provide lunch for students starting in September. Parents who can afford to pay for the lunches will be asked to pay. But low income parents will not have to pay. And hungry children should be able to eat for free.

The School Board has promised that low income children who cannot pay will not be stigmatized.

The schools that will provide lunches for their students are Britannia, Grandview, Seymour, Queen Alexandra, and Queen

Victoria.

If your child goes to one of these schools, give ELP a call in the fall and let us know how the food program works. Our phone number is 321-1202.

The food program is a victory for the Child Poverty Action Committee and End Legislated Poverty who have been fighting for it for a year and a half. Teachers, nurses, parents, churches, and others have helped in the fight. We still need to get food in more schools, but at least this is a start.

# SINGLE PARENTS ARE

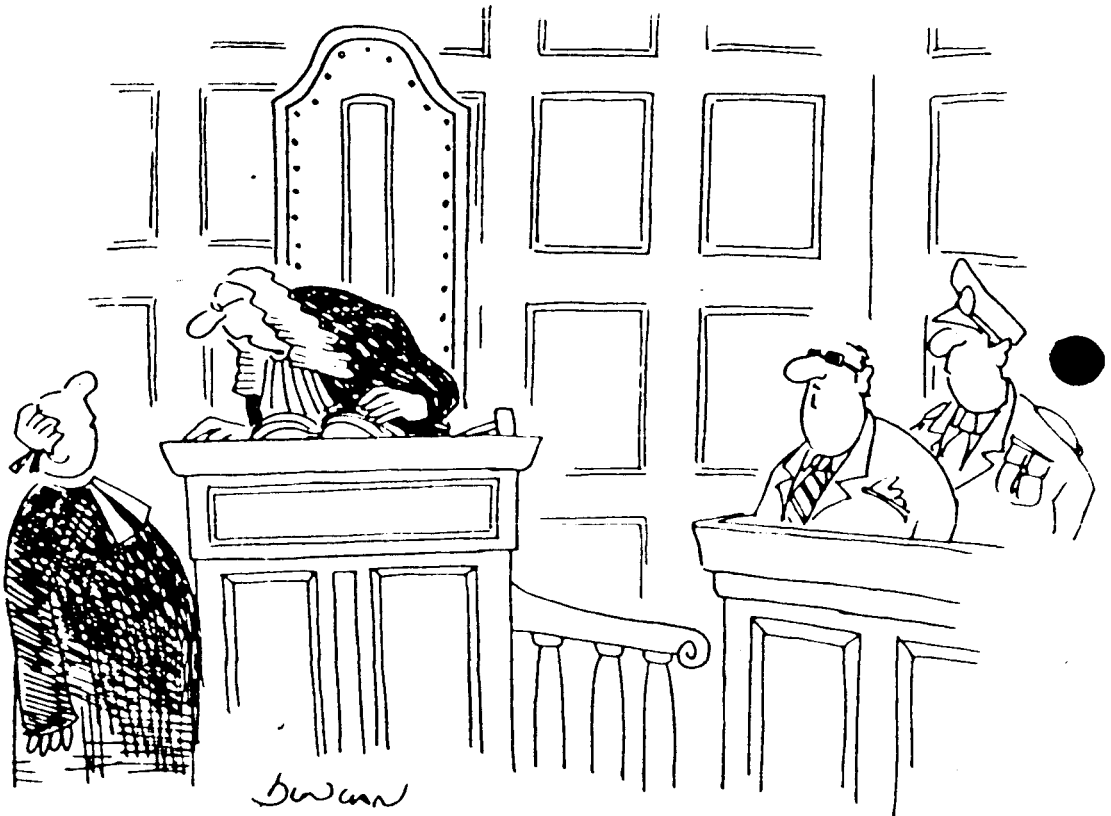
Have you seen this commercial?

It states that it's good for women to stay home and spend time with their children. The woman in the commercial says it is important. The Province of B. C.

says it will strengthen our future.

It only seems to matter if you are married, of course.

But I suppose if you are single, that's another story.



*Burton*

*"Fetch me the law for the rich, will you?"*

# FAMILY TOO

Should you let someone else raise your children while you go to work and struggle to make ends meet? That's what the government wants mothers

on welfare to do.

Single parents should have a choice too.

By Anita Gingrich

# BEWARE...IF YOU ARE ON GAIN AND 60 YEARS OLD

If you are on GAIN and 60 years old, your worker may ask you to apply for Canada Pension Plan benefits.

If this happens, don't do it until you get some legal advice. You can call ELP at 321-1202 and we will try to get you a free lawyer.

The problem is this: If you get a Canada Pension Plan cheque, it will be deducted from your GAIN

cheque. You won't gain anything.

Even worse, when you reach age 65, your CPP will be 30% less if you start collecting it at age 60.

ELP has heard rumours that the provincial government is telling Workers to try to get people to apply for their CPP at age 60. This will save money for the provincial government.

# FEDERAL ELECTION SOON

Our politicians in Ottawa will change again soon. Many people think that Brian Mulroney will call a federal election this month or early next month.

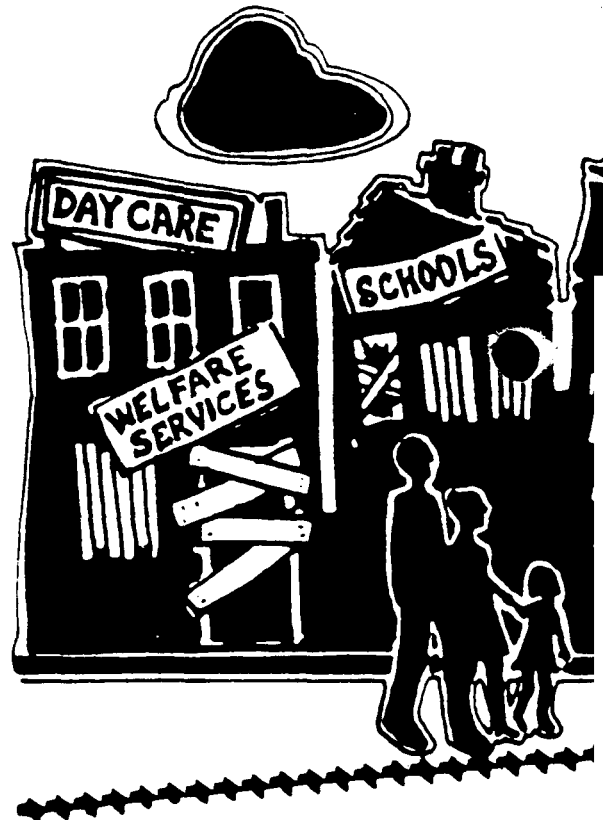
If we have good politicians in Ottawa, they could:

- \*\*create jobs at decent wages;
- \*\*improve childcare;
- \*\*increase taxes for rich people and stop taxing poor people;
- \*\*build decent affordable housing;
- \*\*make provinces raise welfare rates;
- \*\*stop the free trade deal.

That's why it's important to vote in the federal election.

The voters' list for the federal election is different than the city

or provincial list. The federal government will send people to knock on your door and put you on their voters list. This will happen after the federal election is called.



# CITY ELECTION NOVEMBER 19th

You still have a few days left to get on the city voters list.

A good city government could:

- \*\*feed hungry children;
- \*\*build affordable housing;
- \*\*fight for lower bus fares;
- \*\*make landlords fix up crummy housing.

Get your voter forms at City Hall, libraries, community centres, 7-Eleven and Mac's stores, Van City Credit Union or most banks. Mail it in before Aug. 20th.

The city election is for Mayor, Aldermen, School Trustees, and Park Commissioners. It will be on Nov. 19.



**Register To Vote!**

# MEDICAL BENEFITS

Anyone on GAIN can apply for help with medical needs. If you are unemployable and are on GAIN, you will get a medical card, usually within three months. If you are employable, you won't get a medical card, but you can apply for medical help each time you need it.

## WHAT YOU CAN GET

Doctor, hospital, drugs, dentist, glasses, travel for medical reasons, hearing aids, nursing services, physiotherapy, psychiatry, ambulance, and many others.

## HOW TO APPLY

1. If you have a medical card, go to your doctor or dentist directly.
2. If you don't have a medical card, talk to

your Worker before you go to the doctor or dentist.

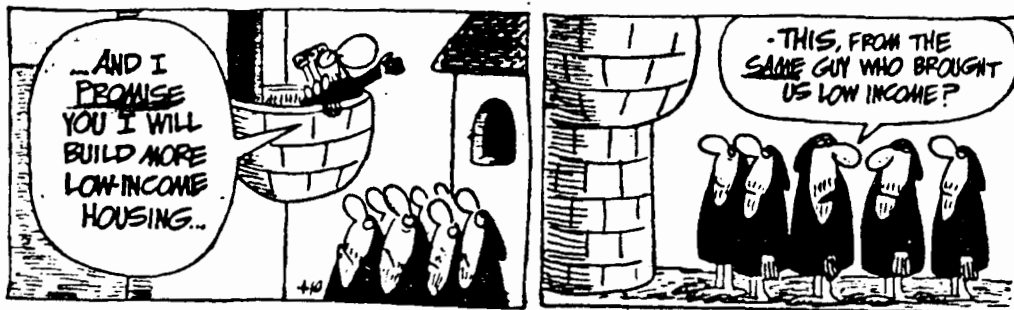
If you have a medical emergency, be sure to ask for help immediately from your Worker.

If you get turned down for medical help, you can appeal this decision (see one of the groups on the back page for help).

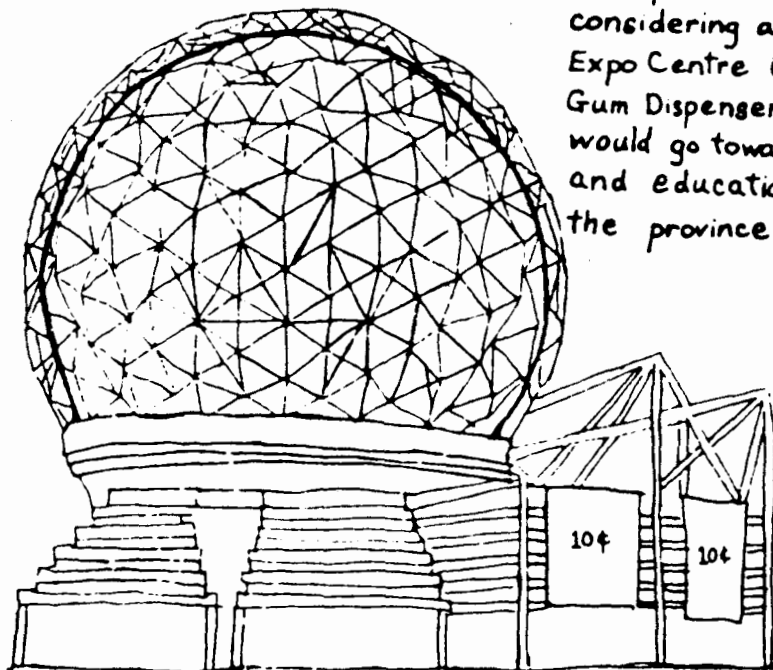
## TEMPORARY PREMIUM ASSISTANCE

If you are making the full payment on your Medical Services Plan, you can apply for a reduced rate. It is called "Temporary Premium Assistance." Write for information and an application form to "Temporary Assistance Office, Medical Services Plan of B. C., Box 1600, Victoria, B. C. V8W 2X9.

WIZARD OF ID



ITEM: The provincial government is considering a plan to convert the Expo Centre into a permanent Gum Dispenser. Revenues generated would go towards amateur health and education facilities throughout the province.



well, you can't be too chewy.



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# SCHOOL ' S BACK . . .

If you are on GAIN and have children in school, make sure your school start up grants are included in your August cheque.

Children from grade 1 through public high school are eligible. For children through age 11, the grant is \$31. For children 12 and

older, it is \$47.

If your children have school costs greater than the grant, don't be afraid to ask your worker for more money. If the answer is "no", tell the worker you want an appeal kit and get help from one of the groups listed on the back page.

These groups will help you with welfare problems:

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DOWNTOWN EASTSIDE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION, 9E. Hastings. Phone 682-0931. Open 9 to 5 Monday through Friday.  
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VANCOUVER AND DISTRICT PUBLIC HOUSING TENANTS ASSOCIATION, 246 E. Broadway. Phone 872-8648. Open 9 to 4 Monday through Friday.  
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FIRST UNITED CHURCH, 320 E. Hastings. Come Monday through Friday, 9 to 11:30 am.  
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LITTLE MOUNTAIN TENANTS ASSOCIATION, 125 E. 37th. Phone 324-0555. Open 10 to 3 Monday through Friday.  
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