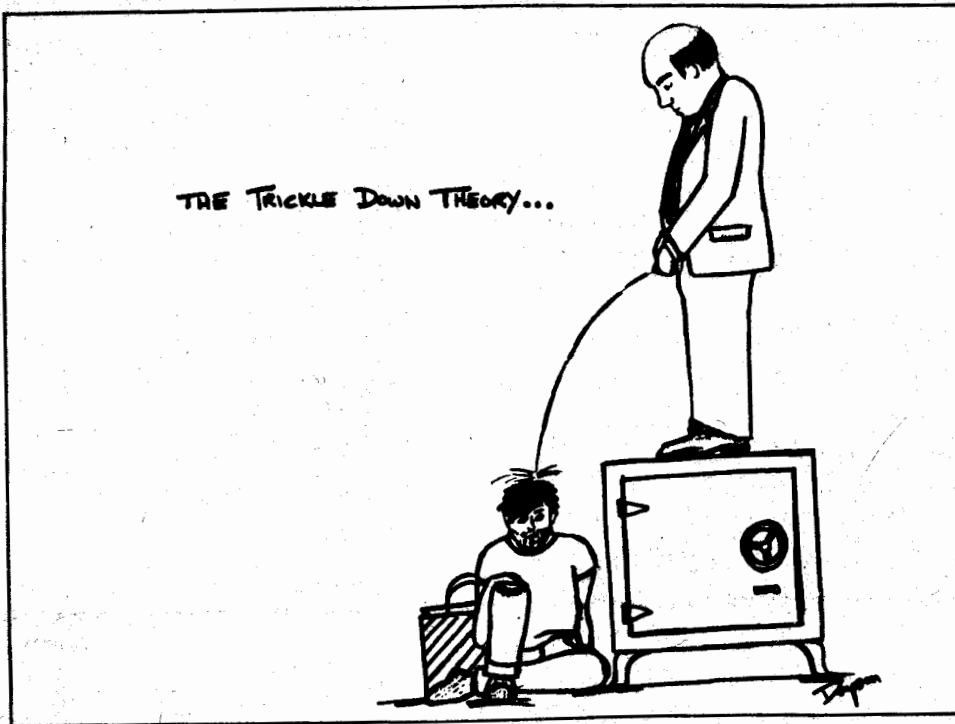


# END LEGISLATED POVERTY

NEWSLETTER

#31

March 30, 1990



## TRICKLE DOWN THEORY

Welfare rates stay at about half the poverty line.

Minimum wage is too low to keep a single person out of poverty.

UI is being cut.

Taxes like the GST make the poor pay more and the rich pay less.

(see story on the next page)

# TRICKLE DOWN THEORY

(Continued from the first page)

People get poorer. Food bank line ups get longer. More people are hungry and homeless.

The Tories and the Socreds and Big Business want low welfare, low wages, low UI, and high taxes for the poor.

How do they justify this?

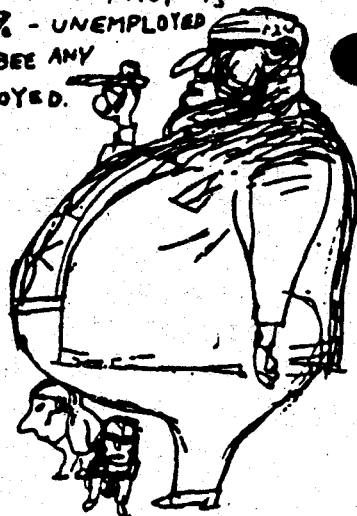
Some economists use the TRICKLE DOWN THEORY. They say that if rich people and corporations get more money, they will use this money to create jobs. Then, the theory says, poor people will get the jobs and we won't be poor any more.

In other words, the riches of the rich will "trickle down" to the poor.

What really happens?

When corporations and wealthy people get more money, do they create decent jobs? Not necessarily. They can take holidays in foreign countries. They can wheel and deal in real estate or stocks. They can buy machines that put people out of work. They can buy up other companies and lay off more people. The "trickle down" theory doesn't work to end poverty.

CORPORATE PROFITS  
UP 45% - UNEMPLOYED  
I CAN'T SEE ANY  
UNEMPLOYED.



# LETTER ASKS DOCTORS TO FORGET FEES

Do you need a letter from your doctor to help prove that you are "unemployable"? MSSH is making people get these letters lately. This puts a strain on people on welfare. Sometimes doctors get irritated too. Doctors also sometimes charge fees for these letters. People on welfare don't have the money to pay for them.

The Front Line Advocacy Workers (FLAW) is a group of welfare advocates. They wrote a form letter to doctors to explain this problem. The letter asks doctors to help by filling out the forms. It asks doctors not to charge patients. If you would like a copy of this letter, call Karen Howe

at First United Church (681-8365).



## DON'T FEEL LONELY

In January there were 216,000 people on welfare in B. C.

Do you think that corporations and rich people should pay more taxes? Do you think the GST is unfair?

On April 7th, the Campaign for Fair Taxes will give you a chance to say "no" to the GST. Volunteers will be getting you to mark cards protesting the GST. They will be in shopping centres, public places, and liquor stores. Some cards will be collected in the Downtown Eastside in the week before April 7th. The Campaign for Fair Taxes is made up of 35 national groups representing over 10 million people. End Legislated Poverty, DERA, First United Church, Public Housing Tenants, and Carnegie are part of this campaign.

If you would like to help out, or if you want

**COUNT ME IN!**  
**A P R I L 7-9**



**C A M P A I G N**  
**F O R F A I R T A X E S**

to know where you can vote against the GST, call 736-7678. The card campaign is just the beginning of the fight for fair taxes.



# WHO DOESN'T PAY TAXES?

In 1988 more than 60,000 corporations paid no taxes. They include:

| CORPORATION   | PROFITS       | TAX PAID |
|---------------|---------------|----------|
| Algoma Steel  | \$80 million  | 0        |
| Bramalea      | \$30 million  | 0        |
| Brascade      | \$64 million  | 0        |
| Brascan       | \$263 million | 0        |
| Confederation |               |          |
| Life Insur.   | \$62 million  | 0        |
| Edper         |               |          |
| Enterprise    | \$52 million  | 0        |
| Fletcher      |               |          |
| Challenge     |               |          |
| Finance       | \$24 million  | 0        |
| Maritime Life | \$34 million  | 0        |
| North         |               |          |
| Canadian      |               |          |
| Oils          | \$30 million  | 0        |
| Ocelot        |               |          |
| Industries    | \$432 million | 0        |
| PWA           | \$30 million  | 0        |
| Standard      |               |          |
| Trustco       | \$13 million  | 0        |
| Tridel        | \$72 million  | 0        |
| Xerox Canada  | \$74 million  | 0        |



# GETTING YOUR CANADA PENSION FOR DISABILITY

Are you going to apply for a CPP disability pension? David Mossop is a lawyer with Community Legal Assistance Society. "A clear letter from your family doctor is the key to getting CPP disability," says David.

David has drawn up a letter for doctors. It tells the doctors how to word their letters to help their patients. To get a copy of the letter, phone David Mossop at 68-LEGAL.



# NEW BOOKLETS ABOUT WELFARE RIGHTS

The People's Law School has three new booklets for people on welfare. They are written in English, Spanish, Punjabi, Chinese, and Vietnamese.

**CHILD APPREHENSION** is a constant threat and growing reality to more low income women. Women who are poor are sometimes wrongly accused of child neglect or abuse. Once the children are taken away, it is hard to get them back. This new booklet

will tell you how to prevent child apprehension.

**WELFARE FOR EMPLOYABLES:** Many people on welfare are confused about what MSSH expects of them. They are told to look for work. But what is a "reasonable job search" when you have no bus pass, no work clothes, and no phone? This pamphlet tells you what your rights are.

**WELFARE FOR UNEMPLOYABLES:** This leaflet is about your rights as an "unemployable" person and how to maintain them.

Get these booklets from the Peoples' Law School, 900 Howe St., Vancouver, B. C. V6Z 2M4. Phone 688-2565.



---

# **DOWNTOWN EASTSIDE SURVIVAL GUIDE**

The Carnegie Centre has just produced a leaflet to help people who live in the Downtown Eastside. The leaflet lists all the services in the area that are for low income people. It has places to get free or low cost goods. It has places to get

shelter and housing, health services and counseling. It tells you where you can get legal and advocacy services.

You can get copies of the leaflet at the Carnegie Centre at Main and Hastings.

## **GET HELP WITH WELFARE FROM THESE GROUPS**

**DOWNTOWN EASTSIDE  
RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION,**  
9 E. Hastings. Phone  
682-0931. Open 9 to 4  
Monday through Friday.

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

**VANCOUVER AND DISTRICT  
PUBLIC HOUSING TENANTS  
ASSOCIATION,** 246 E.  
Broadway. Phone 872-

8648. Open 9 to 4  
Monday through Friday.

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

**B. C. COALITION OF THE  
DISABLED,** 456 W.  
Broadway. Phone 872-  
1278. Open 9 to 5  
Monday through Friday.

---