

END LEGISLATED POVERTY

NEWSLETTER

#32

April 30, 1990

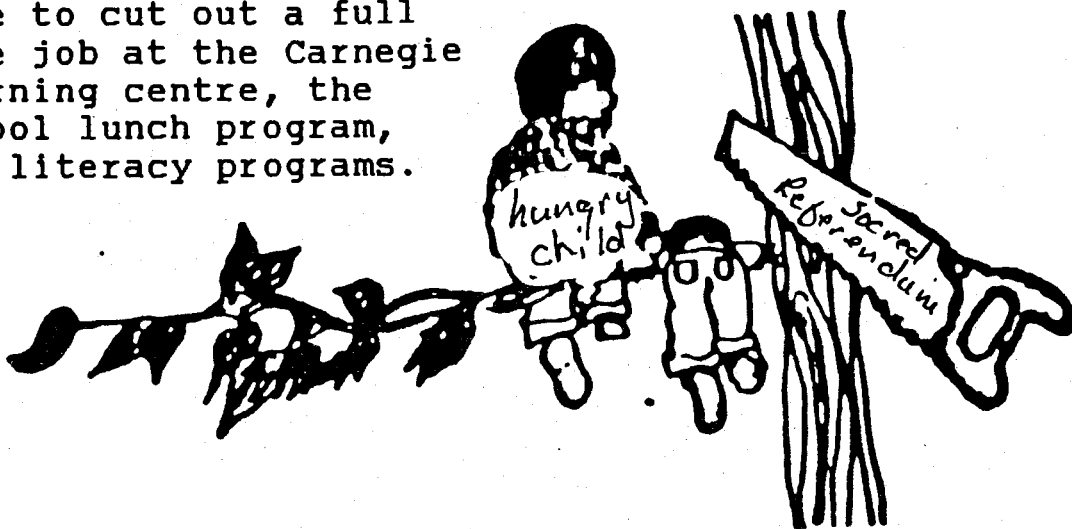
VOTE YES FOR KIDS ON MAY 5TH

On May 5th there will be a vote in Vancouver. The Socreds are forcing school boards to hold a "referendum" to get the money they need to run schools properly.

You CAN vote if you don't own property. This is a chance to vote FOR low income kids by voting YES on the referendum.

If schools don't get enough money, they may have to cut out a full time job at the Carnegie learning centre, the school lunch program, and literacy programs.

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VOTE FOR KIDS

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Phone 873-7681 to find out where you vote. You can register for this vote on election day. Just bring some I. D. showing your present address. A phone or hydro bill and a social insurance card would be good.

End Legislated Poverty has been working with groups in Nanaimo, Surrey, and Victoria. These groups have held

Child Poverty Forums. They have also organized to get school food programs. School Boards in those three places have voted to put money aside for good food programs. BUT all of these food programs are threatened by the referendums. If people vote "no", there won't be food for the kids.

VOTE YES FOR KIDS ON MAY 5TH.



PROVINCIAL ELECTION COMING UP

Many people think that a provincial election is coming soon. Do you want to elect people that will help reduce and end poverty?

In order to vote you **MUST** be on the voter's list. Do you have a card that looks like this?

If you don't have this card, you are probably **NOT** on the voter's list. To get on the list, phone 660-6846.



Elections
British Columbia

This will certify that
SWANSON, J

KEEP THIS
VOTER IDENTIFICATION CARD

VANCOUVER

is a registered Provincial voter as of **MAY 01, 1989**

CARD NO **0664005**

REGISTRAR GENERAL OF VOTERS



DON'T BE AFRAID

You can appeal some decisions that your worker makes. Appeal means asking the worker and the worker's boss to take a second look at the decision. It means asking them to change the decision so you win.

The GAIN Act is the law for welfare. It says that income assistance is to help relieve **POVERTY, NEGLECT, AND SUFFERING**. You can appeal any decision or action by the Ministry of Social Services and Housing that goes against this purpose.

If you DO appeal, you have a chance to get what you want. If you DON'T appeal, you don't have a chance.



THESE ARE SOME THINGS YOU CAN APPEAL:

- being turned down for income assistance;
- having your cheque cut off or the amount reduced;
- asking for a crisis grant and not getting it;
- not getting other special things you ask for (diet allowance, moving costs, for example);
- being turned down because you are under 19;
- being called "employable" when you are "unemployable";
- being turned down when you apply for handicapped pension.

GET HELP WITH YOUR APPEAL

You can do the appeal yourself. But your chances of winning

AID TO APPEAL

improve a lot if you get a group to help you. See the list on the back

page. Most of these groups win over 90% of the appeals they do.

WOMEN ASK FOR BETTER WAGES

On April 10th, a group of women met with Carol Gran at First United Church. Carol Gran is a Social Credit member of the Government in Victoria. She is in charge of Women's Programs.

The women told Gran that the government should do three things:

Raise welfare rates
 Raise the minimum wage to \$8 an hour. This is about what it would be if the socreds hadn't kept it at \$3.65 an hour for six years.

End pay discrimination against women. Women only earn about 60% of what men earn.

Debbie Pelletier, a single mom, spoke up for welfare increases. "It's impossible to improve yourself when you're constantly in a state of crisis," Debbie said.

She went on: "The government insinuates that single parents are lazy and unmotivated and need to be pushed into the workforce." Debbie said this was not true.

Gran said she cared for women. But she did not say that the government would raise minimum wage or welfare. She actually said that students don't want the minimum wage raised.

End Legislated Poverty is having a visual arts show. It is part of Mayworks. Mayworks is almost a whole week of culture and celebration by working people and poor people. The week of the shows and celebration is May 2nd to 6th.

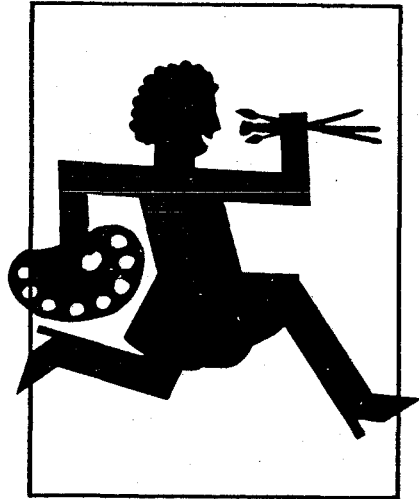
All of the art display in the End Legislated Poverty show is done by people with low incomes. There are quilts, photos, sculpture, paintings, drawings. Most of them deal with poverty, homelessness, and community organizing.

It is happening at the IWA Hall, 2859 Commercial; La Quena, 1111 Commercial; and Octopus books, 1146 Commercial Drive. Come and see what we can create. Maybe next year you can contribute!

The Third Annual Vancouver

MAYWORKS

Festival of Culture and Working Life



Culture as An Organizing Tool

*Music, Theatre, Video
Dance, Photography, Workshops*

May 2-6, 1990

On May 3rd at the IWA hall, the Dignity Players will put on a play about housing. There will be other plays and skits.

SUPPORT THE SQUATTERS

The four buildings on Francis St. were standing empty. Tenants had been evicted by developers who make megabucks. They turn low rental homes into condos that we low income people can never afford to buy.

We are pushed out of our rented homes like cockroaches being exterminated, driven away, out of our communities.

Senior people who have lived here for years are forced to move into strange communities. Children are uprooted from their schools.

So a group of mostly younger people, have occupied these buildings on Francis St. They are living in them. They say the buildings are just sitting there empty, not ready for

demolition yet. Why live on the street when these buildings are liveable and empty?

I interviewed these young people and found them to be really committed to stopping the gentrification of our communities.

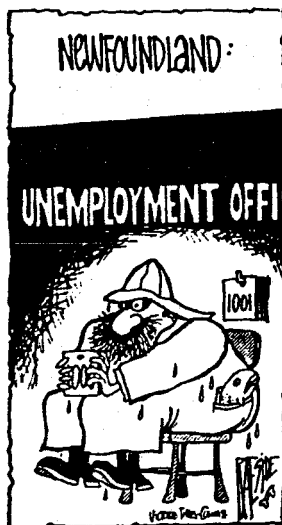
Gentrification means rich developers throwing us out of our homes and building homes that only the rich can afford, not us.

That means the community changes and becomes more expensive. We are driven out. Where to? Let's support the squatters any way we can.

By Sheila Baxter



Canada's
"DISTINCT SOCIETIES".....



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.