

END LEGISLATED POVERTY

NEWSLETTER

#36

Oct. 24, 1990

CITY ELECTION
WHEEL OF MISFORTUNE

ALL CANDIDATES MEETING

SEE JIM GREEN

TAKE ON GORDON CAMPBELL

Mayor and Council candidates will be there.

TIME: 10 am to 12 noon

PLACE: Carnegie Centre,
corner Main and Hastings

DATE: November 9th

busfare

coffee

ASK
QUESTIONS

Childcare will be provided if you pre-register before Nov 6th. Call 321-1202.

Co-sponsors: Carnegie Centre Community Association
End Legislated Poverty

BUS TRANSFERS TO BE GOOD FOR BOTH WAYS

Starting November 1st bus transfers will be good for traveling both ways. You will be able to buy a bus ticket, get a transfer, ride to the store, and use the same

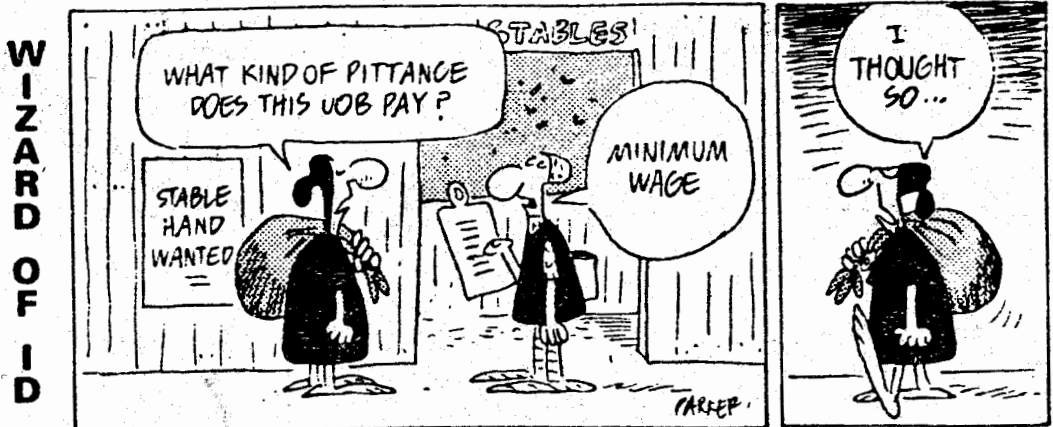
transfer to ride home. But you have to use the transfer within 1 and a half hours of getting it.

This is a trial program for six months.

FREE WELFARE RIGHTS AND GAIN BOOKLETS

The Legal Services Society has published a new edition of Welfare Rights and GAIN. This booklet is a must for everyone on GAIN. It really helps you to know your rights.

If you want a free copy, write to the
 Publications Clerk
 Legal Services
 Society
 Box 3, 1140 W.
 Pender St.
 Vancouver, B. C.
 V6E 4G1



CITY ELECTION ON NOVEMBER 17th

ARE YOU ON THE CITY VOTERS LIST?

Do you have a card that looks like this:



KEEP THIS VOTER IDENTIFICATION CARD

This will certify that
SMITH, MARY
123 ANY STREET
VANCOUVER .

V5K 4Y6
MAY 01, 1990

is a registered Provincial voter as of

CARD NO. 1234567

[Signature]
REGISTRAR GENERAL OF VOTERS

Does it have a Vancouver address on it? If so, you are on the city voters list. The city is using the same list as the provincial government.

If you don't have a card like this, call 873-7681 to see if you are on the city list.

If you aren't on the city list, you can still vote on election day. Take some I D that has your name and address on it.

To vote in city elections you must:

- *be a Canadian citizen
- *be 19 or older
- *have lived in Vancouver for 3 months, in B. C. for 6 months and in Canada for 12 months, or be a property owner in Vancouver



WOMEN FIGHT FOR RIGHT TO CARE

Women on welfare are starting to fight for their right to stay home and raise their own children.

Over 20 women have attended meetings at the Unitarian Church. The meetings were organized by End Legislated Poverty to get women on welfare involved in fighting to stop forced employment.

By the time this newsletter appears many of the women will have presented a brief to Vancouver City Council. The women will ask council to lobby for a change in the GAIN regulations so that single parents on welfare have choice regarding employment outside of the home.

Other women have been

interviewed about their situation for a story in the paper.

ELP is also hoping to get a court case going. Some women are being

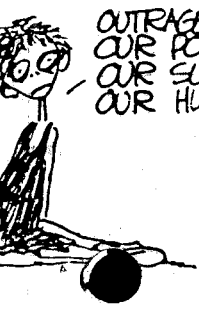


FOR THEIR OWN CHILDREN

interviewed by a lawyer to see if they can take the government to court for forcing them to look for work while their children are young.

GAIN regulations say that women who are not sick and don't have a baby under 6 months old, must look for work, even if they have 7 or 8 children.

FEIFFER



OUTRAGED OVER OUR POVERTY. OUR SUFFERING. OUR HUNGER.



OUR DISEASES. OUR DYING.



GIVING SPEECHES ON TV USING WORDS LIKE "GENOCIDE" AND "HOLOCAUST."



A CRUSADE FOR THE CHILDREN.



PRETTY SOON GOING HOME TO THEIR REAL WORLDS:

MARKETS. BUDGETS. LOCAL WARS. IRAQ.



IF WE COULD EAT CAMERAS...

HOW TO LOSE YOUR DIGNITY IN ONE SHORT TRIP TO THE WELFARE OFFICE

My MSSH office moved to a new location in September. As I approached the new office on cheque day, I was astounded at what I saw. A line up of people standing outside in the pouring cold rain, waiting their turn to enter the office. There were about 20 people standing there getting soaked, while people driving past were looking to see what the crowd was for. I sure am glad that I didn't have pressing business that day which would force me to expose my two young children to the cold rain and humiliation of it all. Furious, I came home.

There were no line ups on my second trip to the MSSH office, but once again I was shocked. I

don't know how I missed it the first time. The FAW offices have one wall made of glass, open for public viewing to the street and passersby. You mean to tell me that if I need to talk to someone in their own private office, I am exposed to the world? How sick!

Boy, if you have any dignity being on welfare, you can lose it fast. It only takes one short trip to the welfare office.

By Anita Gingrich



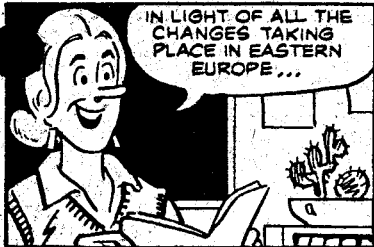
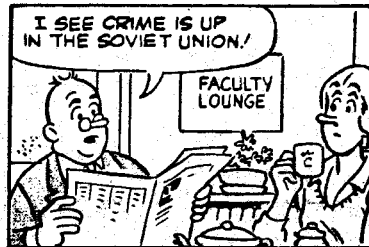
MAINTENANCE ENFORCEMENT PROBLEMS??

Is your worker telling you to sign family maintenance enforcement payments or you will get cut off welfare?

You can say "no". Tell your worker you want to see a lawyer before

signing. Go to legal aid in Gastown at 191 Alexander St. They open at 9 am.

Maybe Legal Service lawyers will be able to help you out.



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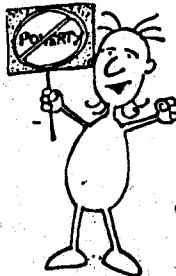
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MIKE HARCOURT
PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS
VICTORIA, B. C. V8V 1X4

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JOIN THE FIGHT AGAINST POVERTY!!!



End Legislated Poverty wants governments to end poverty. We need your help to make this happen. We want poor people and others across B. C. to get involved.

OUR GOAL

We want welfare rates increased to the poverty line. This is about \$1000 a month for a single person. We want minimum wage increased to at least \$7.50 an hour. We want to stop forced employment of single parents on welfare.

OUR THEORY

It will be hard to win these goals. It won't be enough to write one letter to the Premier. It won't be enough to have one demonstration. It won't be enough to go on a talk show. We need to show governments and poor people and our allies are smart. Governments need to know that poor people are getting mad. Governments need to know that we'll vote. Governments need to know that we want them to end poverty.

TURN THE PAGE TO SEE WHAT YOU CAN DO>>>>>>>>>

WHAT YOU CAN DO

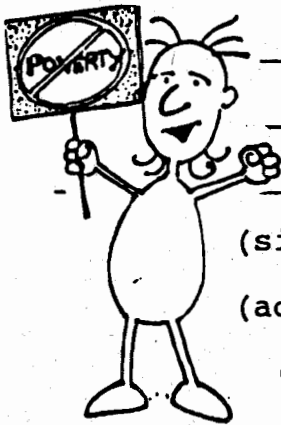
STEP 1: On the next page is a letter to the Premier and Leader of the Opposition (Bill Vander Zalm and Mike Harcourt). Write down your thoughts on having to live on ridiculously low wages or welfare. Don't send the letter to Vander Zalm or Harcourt. Send it to ELP or give it to your local advocate. ELP wants to collect a bunch of letters. Later in the winter we will organize an event to present them to the political parties. We also want to make a book of them. If you write your address clearly, we'll send you the booklet when its done. If you know someone who feels uncomfortable writing, ask if you can help them write down their thoughts.

STEP 2: Sign the letters to Vander Zalm and Harcourt. Fold on the lines and tape or staple. Put a stamp in the corner. and mail to them.

STEP 3: Make sure you are registered to vote in the provincial election. If you don't have a voters card, call 660-6848 to get on the list.

DEAR MR. PREMIER AND LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION,

HERE IS WHAT I THINK ABOUT HAVING TO LIVE ON
RIDICULOUSLY LOW WELFARE RATES OR WAGES:



(signed) _____

(address) _____

(phone) _____

>>please turn over>>>

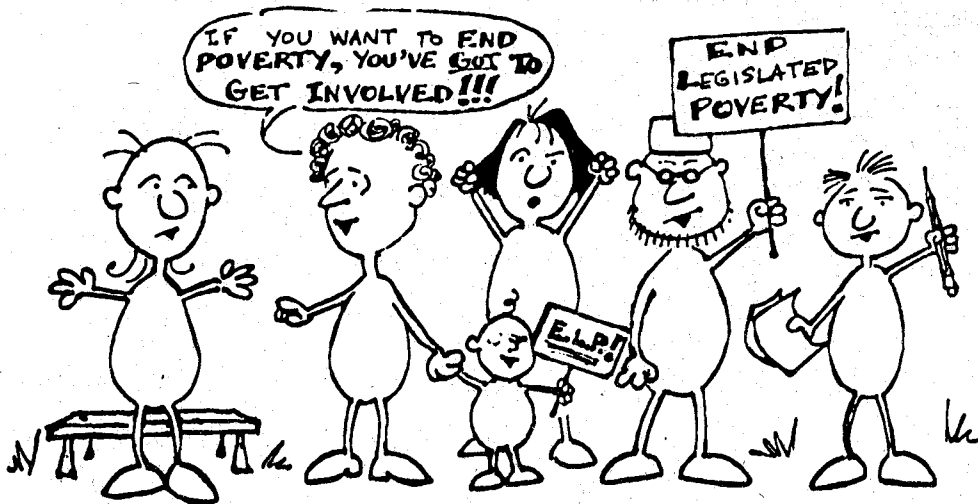
THANKS FOR WRITING THIS LETTER.

You are now part of a broad movement of low income people. We are fighting to get governments to end poverty.

End Legislated Poverty plans to make a booklet out of all the stories we get. If you write a clear address on your message, we will send you a copy of the booklet when it is done.

We also plan to take all the messages to the Premier and Leader of the Opposition later in the Winter. We want to use the messages to get higher welfare rates and wages.

Please give the message to your local advocate or anti-poverty group. Or you can mail it to ELP. Our address is #104 2005 E. 43rd, Vancouver, B. C. V5P 3W8.



DEAR MR. VANDER ZALM,

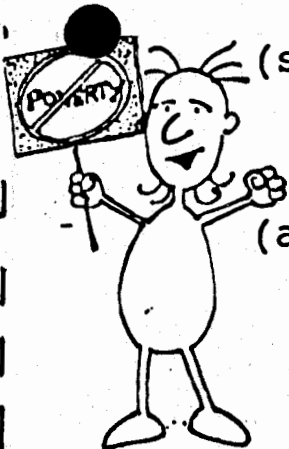
I am a person who tries to survive on low income. This is not easy. Decent jobs are not plentiful. Welfare rates are far below the poverty line.

I want you to raise the minimum wage to at least \$7.50 an hour and to raise welfare rates to the poverty line.

I am registered to vote. In the next provincial election I will vote for the Party and candidate who is committed to ending poverty and shows this with their actions.

(signed) _____

(address) _____



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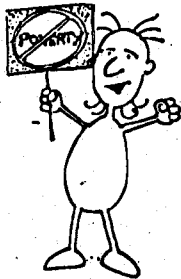
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From:

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BILL VANDER ZALM
PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS
VICTORIA, B. C. V8V 1X4

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DEAR MR. HARCOURT,

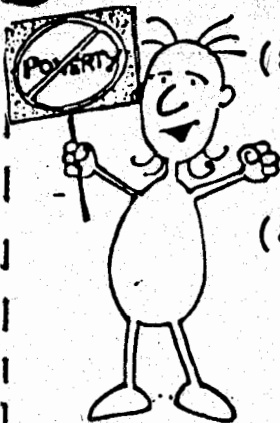
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(signed) _____

(address) _____



CLIP AND MAIL

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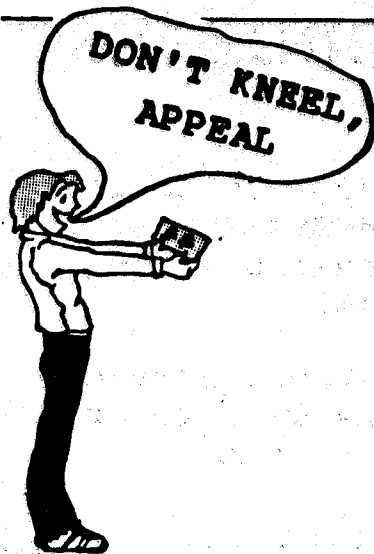
From: _____

put
stamp
here

MIKE HARCOURT
PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS
VICTORIA, B. C. V8V 1X4

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GET HELP WITH WELFARE FROM THESE GROUPS

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

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

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

