

**Studs Terkel** talks to the Clarion about his colourful life as an activist from the 30's to the 70's. See page 11



The Clarion is going fortnightly in March. See page 4



**Cuban Film Festival** examined. See page 7

**John Sewell** on housing, taxes and bicycles. The mayor takes on the Province in an interview with the Clarion. See page 5.



# TORONTO Clarion

only 25 cents

Vol. III No. 4 February 15 to March 7, 1979

METRO'S NEWSPAPER FOR SOCIAL CHANGE

## Gun law smokescreen?

### Arms lobby fingers feds with 'leaked' information

Clarion staff

An anonymous document that has been widely circulated by firearms lobbyists suggests that government and police are quietly increasing their power in a way that could greatly threaten people's rights and freedoms.

The five-page document, which appears to be an internal police directive, sets out and comments upon the policy to be followed in handling the public and enforcing recent changes to federal gun control laws.

The document starts by saying "That in face of mass civil disobedience the use of force had limited capabilities . . . That in face of mass civil disobedience any display of available force would not have credibility . . ."

It continues that ". . . as far as an armed and organized public was concerned . . . that it was desirous to ensure that the public be discreetly but effectively disarmed over a period of the forthcoming five years."

The document then describes procedure that police should follow to ensure that applicants for gun permits have been carefully screened, using "all available intelligence checks and services, provincial and local welfare and medical records where obtainable, as well as interviews with persons who are familiar to the applicant."

See Gun page 6

The Police Function in Canada as a Control and Enforcement Agency

In regards to:

- (1) Amendments to the Firearms Section of the Criminal Code of Canada, 1977, as partially proclaimed 01 Jan 78, balance of which will be proclaimed as of 01 Jan 79. ( Originally scheduled for proclamation 01 June 78 )
- (2) Amendments to the Explosives Act, in regards to Ammunition and ammunition Components. ( by Order in Council as of 01 June 78 )

BACKGROUND

As regards the Police Function in Canada, prior to passage of the foregoing it was the opinion of the administrations:

- (1) That in face of mass civil disobedience the use of Force had limited capabilities....
- (2) That in face of mass civil disobedience any display of available Force would not have credibility.....

..... as far as an armed and organized Public was concerned and it was felt in the interests of the Function that it was desirous to ensure that the Public be discretely but effectively disarmed over a period of the forthcoming 5 years.

The foregoing is not entirely the opinion of the administrations of the Function, but is one which has been voiced generally even at the rank and file level.... that being that the absence of firearms in the hands of the Public in general would increase the safety of a Patrolman's work.'

With passage of the Firearms Section of the Criminal Code of Canada Amendments, having been predetermined that in regards to the Function's ability as a Control and Enforcement Agency there was:

- (1) A lack of personnel suitably indoctrinated at specific assignment levels and sectors within the proposed Control Structure.
- (2) A requirement for adequate indoctrination and training time.
- (3) A requirement for time to phase in the various levels and sectors of the proposed Control Structure independantly of one and another in a manner which would not create alarm, nor allow premature rapport.
- (4) A requirement for time to nullify the credibility of alarmists and dissenters.
- (5) The necessity to amend the Explosives Act in conjunction with the Amendments to the Firearms Section in an independant manner.

..... it was therefore established that:

- (1) Firstly, those portions of the Amendments to the Firearms Section which dealt with Definitions, Classifications, Re-classifications etc., not requiring a Public participation would be proclaimed 01 Jan 78, as they contained no real additions to the Act which might draw strong adverse publicity.
- (2) Secondly, those portions of the Amendments dealing with the new Regulatory System involving Public participation, requiring the Control System be phased in prior to proclamation, were assigned a tentative Proclamation date of 01 June 78, later established as 01 Jan 79.

*Don M. Naughton 11/12/79*

### Cop raid 'shocking, ...criminal' judge states

A number of isolated events and observations over the last several months, when looked at together, indicate that people's rights and freedoms are being threatened by recent and upcoming federal government legislation.

Some of these events include:

• Questions raised by MP Arnold Peters (NDP-Timiskaming) in Parliament about the gun control program and problems he had with registering his own gun. On Feb. 2, Peters asked Solicitor-General Jean-Jacques Blais is "... in not supplying a permit as promised in the amnesty, the minister is condoning the seizure of any guns turned in under the umbrella of his amnesty order."

After Blais gave a non-committal answer, Peters responded, "I must therefore assume that what the gun clubs are saying is true, that the minister is in fact seizing these guns under the amnesty program." Blais retorted that "there is absolutely no intention of seizing any guns that can be registered in accordance with the law of this country," and blamed the problem on delays due to the number of guns presented for registration.

Several days later, Peters told the *Ottawa Citizen*, "I've got a lot of people in this riding who believe the federal government is purposely stalling gun appli-

See More page 2

## Shifting alliances stall Board

By Alan MacAllister and Tony Woolfson

Following the February 8 meeting of the Toronto Board of Education, which rejected tenure for high school teachers by a tie vote, two trustees have been charged with conflict of interest in the debate.

Former right-wing trustee from Ward 9, David Moll, who was defeated last November by Susan Hunter-Harvey, a member of the left wing of the present board, has applied to County Court to have Bill Fisher and Bob Spencer declared in conflict of interest. Although the de-

bate was about the secondary school teachers' contract, both Fisher and Spencer are married to elementary school teachers working for the Toronto Board.

The beginning of the debate set the tone for what was to follow, which included, in effect, the collapse of the "left" coalition in the board. Mary Fraser, a member of the new "right" coalition, invited Spencer and Fisher to declare their conflict of interest.

The implications of the "invitation" were clear: if they declared a conflict, then the left would lose the vote; if they

did not and the left won, the contract would be challenged in court. Fisher and Spencer denied the conflict, pointed to their election on a mandate to end teacher firings, and declared that theirs was not a conflict of interest but "a community of interest" with the public good.

After more than an hour and a half of charges of "bad faith" and "lack of integrity" from the right and "intimidation" from the left, the debate on the contract was joined with every indication that, one way or another, the

See Board page 14



# Cindy Fortunata

## The Fiction of Facts

People in Ontario like to have fun; - so I've been informed by the Province's Ministry of Resources and Development. I've just seen a newly published, multi-tomed series entitled *Tourism and Recreational Behaviour of Ontario's Residents*.

The huge survey on which the report is based discovered that swimming, recreational driving (sic), picnicking, attending an annual event, (sic) walking, attending a spectator sport, visiting a private cottage, (but not, I suppose, owning one), attending a live theatre or concert, fishing and visiting a museum or art gallery were the most popular recreational activities.

No doubt one leisure-time activity not reported very frequently was reading government surveys.

These eight volumes have cost us \$250,000 so far. Now, I wonder how far a quarter of a million dollars would go to buy us a few parks, a bicycle path here or a playing field or arena there.....

## Benefit Backfires

I can't resist pointing out that the punk group Battered Wives cancelled their much heralded benefit concert, "Rock against Repression". (*Clarion*,

January, 1979). Instead they jumped at the chance to make some money at a paying gig. So much for principles.

Speaking of principles, I am pleased to report that the Canadian Civil Liberties Association, which had been offered part of the proceeds from the benefit, wouldn't have taken it even if the concert had been held.

The Association's general counsel, Alan Borovoy, said the group's board "preferred not to appear to be endorsing the name the group had chosen."

At least the Battered Wives' greed has had one positive result — the right-wing Ontario Libertarian Party will not receive a cent under the phony guise of opposing repression.

## Pingos on Parade



A typical pingo lurking near Tuktoyaktuk, N.W.T.

At last! We're doing something about pingos! The federal government has finally decided to preserve pingos by creating a new Pingo National Park — the first in the country if not the world.

No, it's not a giant beaver dam, a NORAD radar station or a landing site for alien spaceships; a pingo is apparently a massive core of ice covered with a thin layer of soil and found in the depressions of ancient lake beds.

On the other hand, maybe the feds are fooling us again. It could be a coverup for a housing project gone wrong.

## Worth More Than a Sou

Not many people know that a certain high ranking French official made a secret side-trip to Toronto during his recent state visit to Canada. He came to further trade between the two countries, and saw a splendid opportunity when he was told the TTC might raise its fares again. Barre was reportedly seen slinking through Toronto International Airport with bags and bags of French five centime coins, each of which is almost identical to a TTC token. The coin is worth about six cents. The plan was to hawk them for fifteen cents each — a hefty profit but still below the current price of a token. Informed sources say that the French minister was also trying to set up a black-market pipe line through St. Pierre and Miquelon for future supplies.

## Hoping For an Oil Shortage

My favourite quotation for this issue comes from the annual report of the Toronto Board of Education, published in January. In a public opinion poll about the quality of education, one respondent, broadcaster Bronwyn Drainie confided that:

"If I were teaching today, I would let my students in on a secret. I'd say, 'Look, there's a plot afoot out there in society to turn you all into docile little cogs in a vast machine run by governments and multinational corporations. They want you to keep quiet, pay your OHIP premiums, and not question the dizzying changes our society is going through. If they can convince you to stay in your homes, drink beer and watch television, then these faceless power-mongers with their flow charts and feasibility studies and computers will have won. But you have a powerful and impressive arsenal of weapons to fight this plot: you have curiosity, you have intellect, you have individuality, you have the ability to think for yourself. Now those are all good basic, innate human traits, but they have to be honed, sharpened, refined if you're really going to use them. And that's what education is all about. I'm going to teach you to be a squeaky wheel instead of a smooth cog.'"

# More gun control: more intimidation

From page 1

cations as part of a plan to disarm all Canadians."

•Criticisms of the "misleading" \$800,000 federal publicity campaign around the new gun control legislation.

In mid-November, the *Montreal Gazette* carried a story quoting Richard Levesque, Montreal Urban Community police lieutenant, responding to a television ad carried during the publicity drive.

"The commercial," said Le-

vesque, "shows a police car in the middle of a field where two policemen are being handed firearms by two people. What they should have done is shown the policemen picking up the firearms from somebody's house. The commercial gives the campaign an air of secrecy."

•The results of the gun amnesty, which seem to indicate that the publicity was indeed "misleading and confusing," as National Firearms Association

of Canada director George Miller charged last March. The press has reported that during the November amnesty, 30,000 firearms were turned in, but only about 1,500 of them were in the prohibited category under the new regulations.

•An attempt by Conservative MP Dean Whiteway (Selkirk) to ask the justice minister whether the purpose of public disarmament stated in the anonymous document circulated by the firearms lobbyists "is government policy or in any way authorized by an order in council."

The way Whiteway introduced his motion last November required unanimous consent of the House, which the motion failed to receive.

Research by *Toronto Star* reporter Andrew Szende has revealed that in recent years the

federal cabinet has passed considerably more orders in council than it has published anywhere. In 1976, 3,326 orders in council were passed but only 653 were published; in 1977, 3,746 were passed and 960 published; and up to Oct. 31, 1978, 3,311 were passed and 686 published.

•Cases of harassment of gun owners being collected and documented by the National Firearms Association.

One of the most blatant was a Calgary case in which Kenneth Folkman, a former Calgary policeman, attempted to comply with an order in council converting a rifle he owned to restricted weapon status. After filling out an application to register it, which said it was at his service station, Folkman moved the rifle to his home. Shortly after, police called Folkman to the station in the middle of the

night to help investigate a break-in of his service station.

Moments after he left his home, numerous police arrived and thoroughly searched his house and seized the rifle.

After being refused a registration, Folkman appealed the decision to the courts. The judge hearing his appeal noted in his statement, that "It was proven before me that the City of Calgary police committed the break-in — in fact the damages to the service station were paid for by the city to the owner.

"It is incomprehensible to say the least, and shocking, that the city police would commit a criminal act in the pursuit of their duties to uphold the law . . . Any police officer who has had even the most rudimentary training is aware of the Criminal Code provisions regarding search warrants and that those provisions were not adhered to by the officer or officers in charge of this investigation is not only illogical, but incomprehensible."

•Last August, the federal coordinator for implementation of gun control legislation, James Hayes, urged the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police at their annual conference to take advantage of the new gun seizure power granted by the gun legislation.

Hayes said the law was a vote of confidence in policemen and a sign that parliament wants them "to do a hard-nosed job of using the provisions to control the criminal misuse of firearms. . . . Policemen should be using this power regularly in every detachment across Canada."



## Governor General's Award Committee Reacting To GUT's Nomination For One Gold Medal

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# Union grievance is no teapot tempest

By Sue Vohanka

Women workers at York University have gone to arbitration for what could be a landmark decision on whether they have to make coffee when their bosses tell them to.

The women, members of the York University Staff Association, went on strike last fall to win a new contract. It provided a clause which said employees could file a grievance if "required to perform any duties of a personal nature not connected with the approved operations of the university."

YUSA president Lauma Avens says the "decision that comes down here is very important for all women workers. Whether making coffee is part of women's work comes into question."

During contract negotiations last fall, Avens said the union made it clear that making coffee, balancing personal chequebooks and taking dogs for walks were examples of

work of a personal nature that union members would not have to do under the contract clause.

"Whenever we talked about work of a personal nature and what it meant to us — it always headed the list. Making coffee was number one. And now the very first grievance is around coffee."

She added that if the arbitrator's ruling, expected within three months, goes against the union, the clause dealing with work of a personal nature would be meaningless.

One woman filed the grievance after her supervisor, university bookstore director Rafael Barreto-Rivera, told her she had to keep making coffee for him, even though she cited it as work of a personal nature which she didn't have to do.

Avens said the union has taken the grievance through three internal stages before taking it to arbitration. During the internal steps, the union was essentially told "that any order given by a boss is an approved

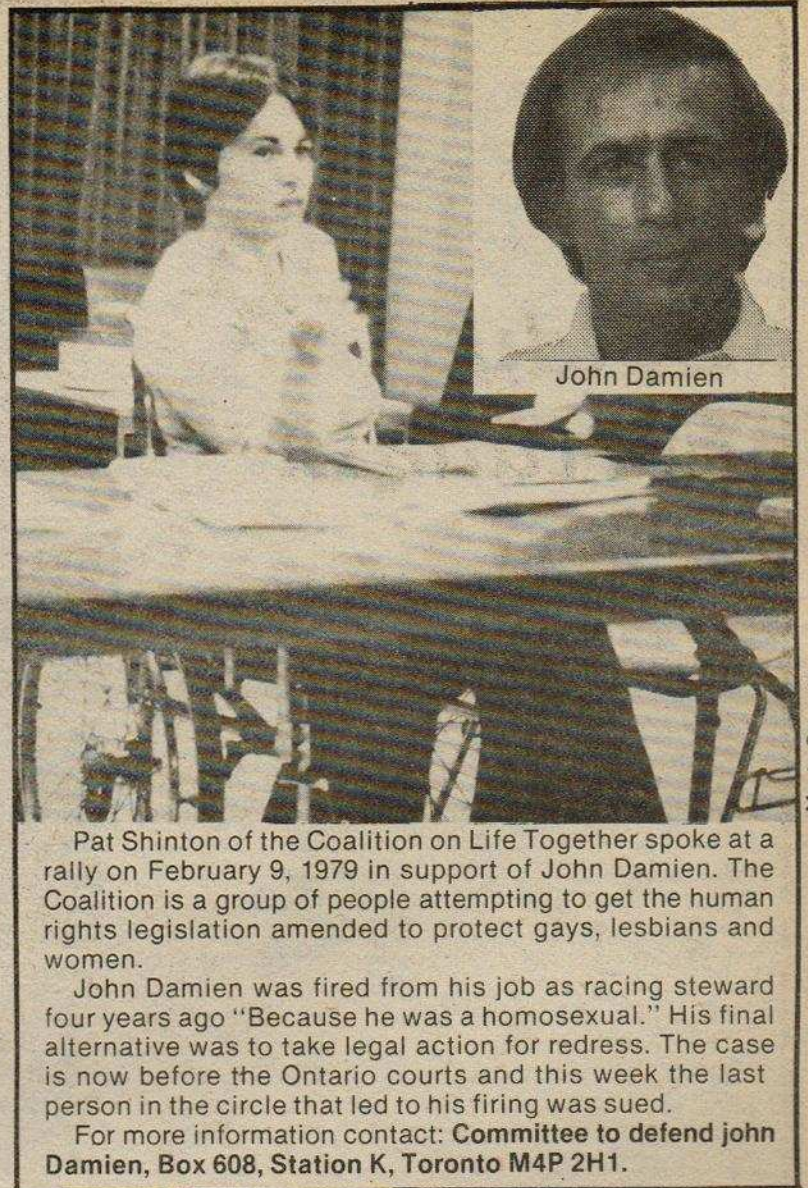
order of the university," she said.

Avens pointed out that the coffee grievance is only one of five cases the union is taking to arbitration since the strike was settled last October. In the previous two years, she said, the union took a total of only three cases to arbitration.

Avens added that the university administration's tough attitude toward grievances may be the beginning of an attempt to financially break the union. "It's also an attempt to constantly keep the pressure on."

Each arbitration case costs the 1,000-member union \$1-2,000, Avens noted. "If this type of thing keeps up, we'll never be able to build up a strike fund."

She also pointed out that the university administration's insistence on pushing the cases to arbitration comes at the same time that "they're calling financial crisis, they're laying off people, and there's lots of work for us to do."



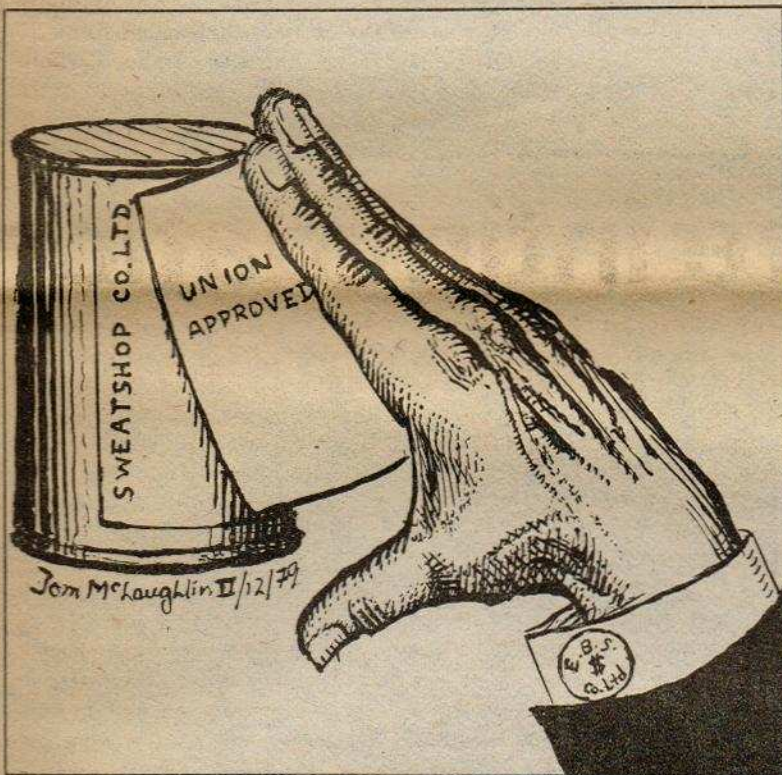
John Damien

Marty Crowder

Pat Shinton of the Coalition on Life Together spoke at a rally on February 9, 1979 in support of John Damien. The Coalition is a group of people attempting to get the human rights legislation amended to protect gays, lesbians and women.

John Damien was fired from his job as racing steward four years ago "Because he was a homosexual." His final alternative was to take legal action for redress. The case is now before the Ontario courts and this week the last person in the circle that led to his firing was sued.

For more information contact: Committee to defend John Damien, Box 608, Station K, Toronto M4P 2H1.



# Metro pays the tab that province shucked

By Bob Warren

Many psychiatric outpatients are forced to live in quasi-feudal conditions because of confused provincial policies on de-institutionalization and restraint.

A whole new type of slumlord has appeared and is profiting from the 1974 government cutbacks in post-institutional care facilities. This in turn is blocking the proposed therapeutic affects that should occur in an attempt to integrate outpatients into society.

Now, instead of provincial funds, Metro is paying out hundreds of thousands of dollars directly to house operators. They keep up to 90 per cent of the welfare cheque to supply beds and food to this vulnerable and virtually captive outpatient market.

No care facilities are provided in these "mini-institutions" and the out-patient often finds himself subject to the whims of an authoritative house structure. That this only serves to increase the rate of recidivism and in turn increase the cost of care to the taxpayer is becoming obvious.

Calling for a special task force to investigate private group home operators, city Alderman Gordon Cressy told the Metro Social Services Committee that these "unapproved group homes" fall into a jurisdictional grey area, with responsibility being shunted anywhere from public health to fire departments.

In some cases 30 people can be boarded in these homes, living a trapped existence. Should a person wish to move out and find more humane living arrangements, the bureaucratic muddle that follows can postpone the move

for up to six months.

Few social workers are willing to have their opinions on this quoted. One who preferred to remain anonymous told the *Clarion* that even though some of the landlords are fine, certain others intimidate their wards with threats such as, "you're sick... you'll always be sick. You're either going to be in the hospital or my house for as long as you're around."

"The fact that post-institutional care is not considered a priority shows the true colours of the present government," stated Patricia Crow, a Toronto social worker.

The government has rationalized that its cutbacks would result in the burden of responsibility for post-institutional care would be taken up by the private sector. However as Crow says, "The fact that most of these people receive only welfare assistance

attests to the poor quality of care and the anti-therapeutic effect of such tight-fisted policies."

Cressy, in a meeting with the Committee, raised the case of a home at 1150 King Street West, where there are chains on the doors and a vicious dog, which has even kept police from entering the home, but stated, "this is only the tip of the iceberg. We should have a report prepared on these places by the end of the next week."

"As I see it," he continued, "there are two main issues to be confronted; that of the rights of these patients being violated by having their cheques sent directly to the operator and that of pinning down the appropriate jurisdictional responsibility that will supervise the homes."

"The fact that Social Services are being used for what appears to be social control instead of providing for people must also be raised by the task force."

# Bug rustling hits the printing trade

By Jim Wright

A pension fund pamphlet for the Ironworkers Union carries a union label, although the job was actually done by a non-union printing shop, according to *Clarion* sources.

The Ironworkers contract this type of work to Eckler, Brown, Segal and Co. Ltd., a Toronto firm which sends the job to the printer of its choice.

According to Jim Sherk of Haddon Press, whose Trade Council Local 14 bug appears on the work, "Eckler, Brown took care of getting the job printed themselves. We never saw it. We do a lot of work for the Ironworkers, but we didn't print this job because we were backed up."

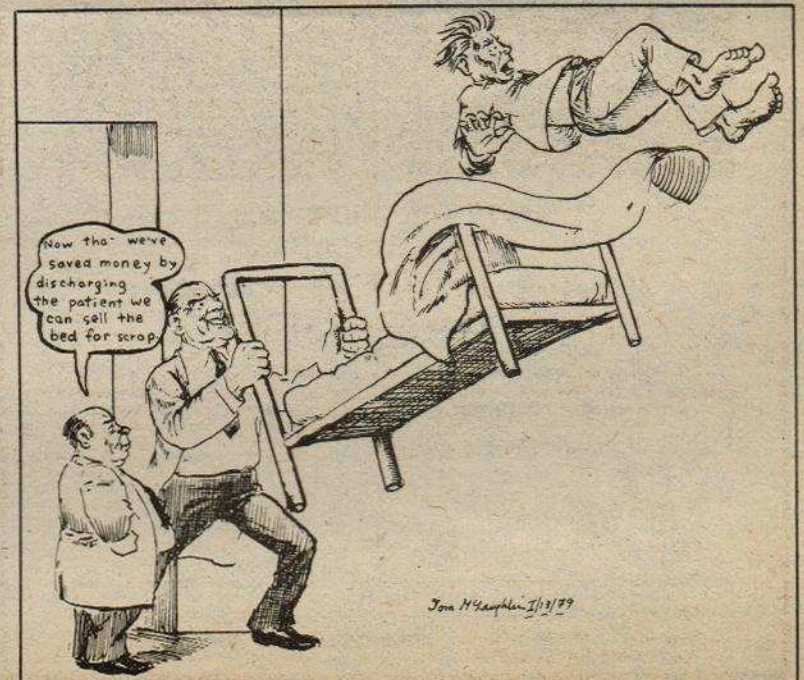
A spokesperson for Eckler, Brown admitted that Haddon Press did not actually do the work, although the union label

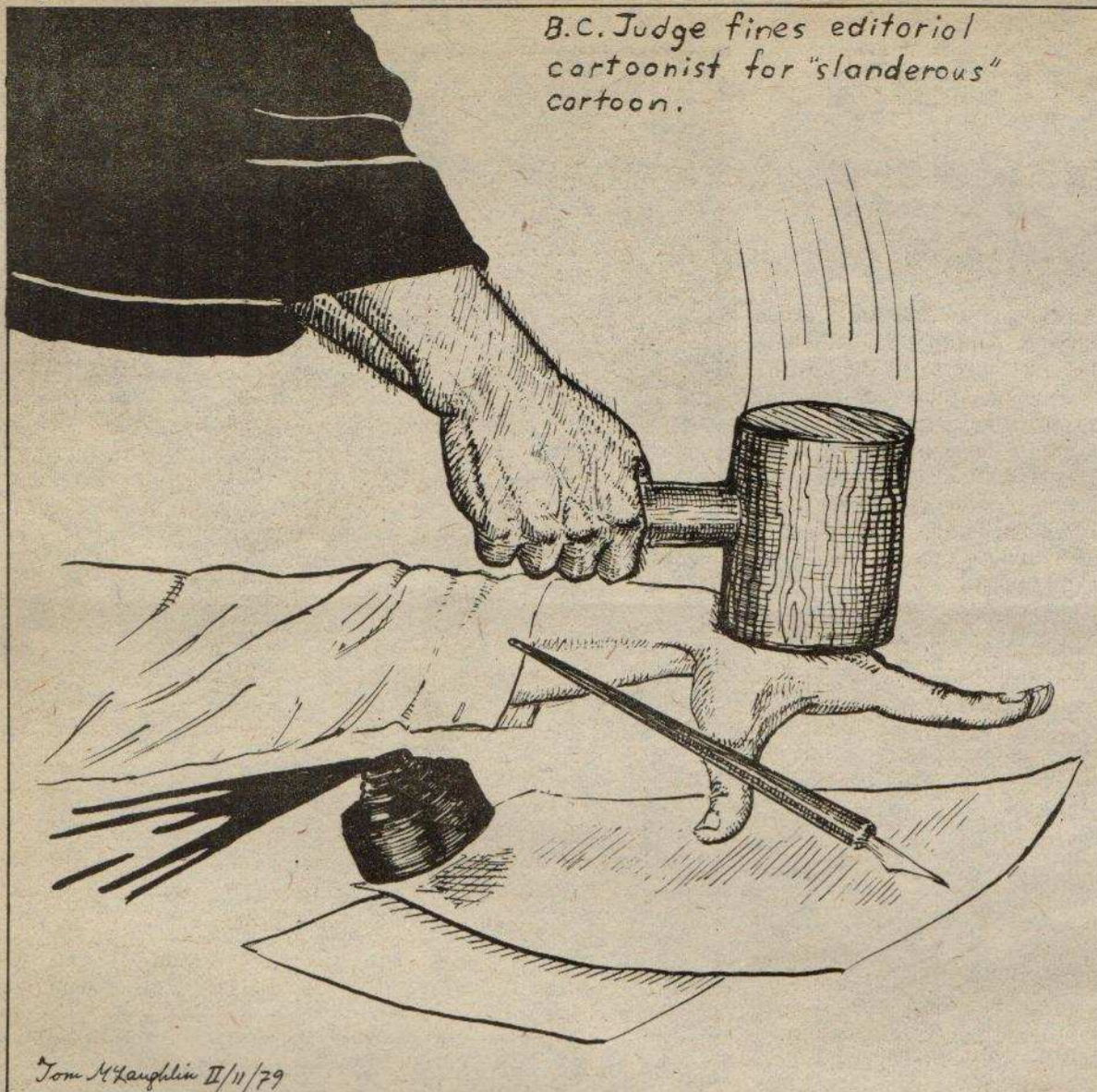
"was so small that I can't read it."

Eckler, Brown refused to name the shop where the job was done or to say whether Haddon Press knew the job was being printed by a non-union shop.

"If they farm a job out, they can't put the label on it, because it wasn't printed by them," said Ken Magnus of the Toronto Allied Printing Trades Council. He said that the trades council will investigate whether the label was used by a non-union shop.

Magnus added that responsibility for the use of a union label is with the company which has the label. Union shops which allow the use of their label by unauthorized shops "face penalties as extreme as expulsion from the trades council," he said.





Tom McLaughlin II/11/79

## Puretex workers win pay increase

The strike at Puretex Knitting Co. has ended after 12 weeks with a settlement reached after 52 hours of mediation.

The 220 Puretex workers, 200 of them women, voted Feb. 6 to ratify a two-year contract providing across-the-board increases of 35 cents an hour in the first year and 30 cents in the second. Before mediation, the company's "final" offer was 48 to 50 cents an hour over two years for most employees.

However, the question of nine closed-circuit cameras which survey the workers, members of the Canadian Textile and Chemical Union, has not yet been settled.

The settlement provides for removal of one camera, beamed at the women's washroom door. An arbitrator, to be mutually agreeable to the company and the union, will decide whether the remaining cameras will be removed.

CTCU secretary-treasurer Madeleine Parent said that while the fight for removal of the cameras continues, "We shall also press for legislation to ban electronic surveillance at work."

The agreement also improves seniority provisions, and gives new re-training rights to employees who want re-training.

"We broke the wage increase pattern in the knitting industry by winning an extra 15 cents an hour," said Parent. "We have won respect and substantially better conditions. It has been proved once again that working women have the courage to strike and win."

## Wanna write good?

The *Clarion* needs writers. Lots of them.

We know that a lot of people find the thought of writing news stories scary and intimidating. But it doesn't have to be that way. It's just a skill, like any other, that you can pick up easily once you know a few simple guidelines.

And we'll help you to learn them. The *Clarion* is beginning a series of writing workshops for people who want to learn how to write news.

The first one will be held in our office at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 20. It'll deal with how to organize and write a news story. You'll find out what a lede is, the real story on the five Ws, and more.

Future workshops will deal with interviewing and with researching stories.

If you're interested, but can't make it at that time — we can arrange other times for workshops. Just call us at 363-4404, or drop into our office in the basement of 96 Gerrard St. East.

We've also begun a series of workshops dealing with a variety of issues, and how we can do better coverage of them. The areas we're planning workshops on are labour (next workshop at 7 p.m. Monday, Feb. 26), science and education.

If you'd like to write about these topics or if you just have ideas on stories that should be written, come to the workshops. Call us about times.

We hope we'll hear from you.

## TORONTO clarion

The *Toronto Clarion* is owned and published by the Western Gap Communications Co-operative Limited, a non-profit co-operative. Individual mail subscriptions are \$12 a year. Display and classified advertising rates are available on request. We reserve the right to refuse ad material we feel is racist, sexist or otherwise unpalatable. Letters to the collective are welcomed but they must be signed for verification; names withheld on request. The *Clarion* also operates a dynamite typesetting and graphics service.

The staff members are: John Biggs, Marilyn Burnett, Gerry Dunn, Diana Fancher, Mark Golden, Abe Goldes, Lolly Kaiser, Marianne Langton, Sally McBeth, Tom McLaughlin, Alan Meisner, Anne Mills, Marg Anne Morrison, Rosalind Place, Elinor Powicke, Terry Regan, Norman Rogers, Peter Rowe, Lesley Stevens, Carl Stieren, Wayne Sumner, Sue Vohanka, Bob Warren, Paul Weinberg, Ted Whittaker and Ken Wyman.

The following also contributed to this issue: Paul Casselman, Adele Massena, Oscar Rogers, D. Kidd, Brian Burke, Scott Kathan, Marty Crowder, Hugh Westrup, Deena Rasky, Ronny Yaron, Vickie Mayeda and many others.

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363-4404

# As We See It

## Our priorities

During the last couple of months we've been doing a lot of talking in the *Clarion* office. We've had a number of long discussions about the issues we cover, the way we approach them, and how we can improve our coverage.

We've taken a step forward as a result of those discussions. Instead of continuing with some kind of implicit understanding of what it means to be "an independent newspaper for social change," we've set out, in writing, several policy statements. We will use them as criteria to help us determine whether to choose or reject stories, determine how important stories are and how much space they warrant, and the way we approach stories when we research and write them.

These policies, and the way we apply them, will be constantly discussed and re-evaluated as we continue. The discussions are continuing, and becoming more specific; we're beginning a series of ongoing, less formal discussions about the way we approach particular areas of coverage, such as labour, science, and education.

There's one thing that's been missing in our discussions — and that's feedback from our readers. Tell us what you think of these policies, of how we apply them in the paper, of stories and issues which you don't think we're covering well enough. Read on and respond.



- The most important stories for us to print are those that help people to organize to gain the maximum control over their own lives — stories which show how people are accomplishing such increasing control, or stories which explore the obstacles which prevent people from gaining control.

- "How to" stories are more important than those which merely mark the passing of an event. We'll try to pass on other people's experience and knowledge to show people how to organize, how to get involved.

- We'll go beyond the kind of scandal mongering and headline chasing that determines news in the dailies. We'll show our anti-authoritarian stance by writing about the injustices that aren't often covered elsewhere because they're legal.

- We'll try to provide information that allows people to make connections between issues and events. We'll present the tie-ins, whether they're corporate, international or historical, so that our coverage of issues is not straight-jacketed.

- Since we're putting out a city paper, we'll concentrate on Toronto events. And we'll relate stories from other places to what is happening in Toronto, to provide information that people can apply here.

- It's important for us to provide analysis, to go beyond the current facts and try to discover and report the implications and consequences of those facts or events.

- At the same time, we'll take a critical and creative approach to issues. Where traditional leftist approaches to issues don't seem to work, we'll challenge them. But we'll try to be constructive and suggest alternatives as well.

- And we'll try to be funny as often as we can.

## Double your pleasure

'More news is good news!'

And the *Clarion* will be providing more news — we're on our way to publishing every two weeks instead of every month.

Our next issue will hit the streets, the stores and the mails three weeks after this one. And after that we'll be appearing every two weeks.

You'll see a slightly smaller paper — we'll be publishing 12 pages every other week, instead of 16 pages a month, as we have been doing. By coming out more frequently, we'll be more able to stay abreast of events.

But we need help from you. If you're currently a subscriber and your subscription has run out, please renew. If you're not a subscriber, please consider becoming one. Subscriptions are a key factor in providing the extra money we need to publish more often.

And of course, we always need volunteers to help with the many tasks that need to be done to get a paper out at all. We need writers, photographers, people to help with production — proofreading, paste-up, headline writing, people to work on classified ads, to do filing, and to help with mailing and distributing the paper.

You don't need experience to help with any of these things — if you're interested, we'll help you learn the skills you need for the kinds of work you want to do around the paper. The box on this page tells you how you can get involved if you're interested in writing for the paper.

Just call us at 363-4404, or visit our office, in the basement at 96 Gerrard St. East.

# A talk with John Sewell

## Of housing, taxes and bicycles: the Mayor takes a long view

*Toronto Mayor John Sewell uses his Office, in part, to keep us all informed of how Queen's Park and Metro tie his hands and also of his plans for cutting the knots. He was interviewed by Clarion staffers Marty Crowder and Carl Stieren.*

*Clarion: As an alderman, you always had a strong community base in Ward 7 and in Trefann Court. Do you still have people phoning up with constituency problems?*

Sewell: In terms of constituency problems, we get a staggering number. And I guess that's because, one, it's the Mayor's office, and two, we've got a relatively good record in solving people's problems. So that they're now flowing in from everywhere. Last week, we had two calls from Sault Ste. Marie.

There are a lot of housing problems, welfare problems, just a giant range of all sorts of things...

It's sometimes more difficult, because this really is the final court of appeal in a lot of people's minds. So problems that no one else has been able to solve, they come to us and somehow expect us to work some magic so that we'll solve them. It means that our rate in terms dealing with them turns out to not be all that good, because we're getting problems you can't solve.

*Clarion: How can City Council, and you as Mayor, do anything about unemployment in the construction trade?*

Sewell: In terms of unemployment in the construction industry, the best thing City Council can do is to build an awful lot more non-profit housing, and convince private non-profit groups to build a lot more.

**We've got a lot of convincing to do to get suburban politicians to agree to policies that will reduce the cost of housing.**

One should remember that about 70 per cent of the housing that's built in the Toronto region is built outside of Metro — not just outside of Toronto. So most of the construction jobs in fact have moved away from Metro itself in the housing field, so our impact is really limited. I'm really interested in getting some policies which insure cheaper suburban housing, but they're going to take a long time to get in place. We've got a lot of convincing to do with suburban politicians, to get them to agree to policies that will reduce the cost of housing. And if you reduce the cost of housing, obviously you're in a position where you can sell an awful lot more of it.

*Clarion: then that fits in with your theory of urban sprawl?*

Sewell: The profit that's made on land is really, really staggering, and if we could kick that out, we could reduce housing costs considerably — 20 to 25 per cent.

We need provincial legislation in order to deal with that in a rational way. My feeling is that it's probably five years away.

My feeling is that it's probably five years away.

The idea of the government being in the marketing business is pretty well established for eggs and for milk and for butter, and I think it should be well-established for land — same thing. It's a basic commodity that we all need...

*Clarion: How many working people will be able to afford the housing units which developers now must build downtown under the Central Core Plan Bylaw?*

Sewell: Well, very few — which I think is one of the problems in the plan.

There are some bonuses for assisted housing that working people can afford, then you get a bonus, and you can build higher density. A number of developers have been trying to take that up, so that some assisted housing is provided.

The provincial government is generally saying it doesn't want any more rent supplement units in downtown Toronto, because there isn't a market for them. Therefore, developers are now finding they can't get the funds to build assisted housing. So therefore, they aren't using the density bonuses.

I think when it comes down to it, the substantial housing that's going to be created for ordinary people is by non-profit companies or by Metro Senior Citizens. And I don't think we're going to see the development industry produce much of it.

Given the high mortgage costs, the development industry has a hard time building anything that's in the range of anyone, and therefore they're building very little housing in the downtown area.

There is one interesting trend in all that, by the way. There's been some thought at the moment that the development industry people should be allowed to build non-profit housing under the same terms as the City non-profit housing company. I think that's perfectly fine. That would be a situation where the development industry is basically saying, 'We'll make our money on the land, and we'll make our money on management, we won't make the money in terms of extra rents for people.'

Interesting that the market has got that bad, that the best they can do is unload the land for non-profit (housing). We'll see if that ever comes about,

though. But certainly the housing market is so bad that they just have to sit there with the land and I think they'd like to get their money out, and take it down to the States, where you can make some more money. So there at least is some encouragement for the development industry to build non-profit housing.

*Clarion: How does your criterion for saving buildings now differ from the Planning Board, the Province, and the Historical Board? Are there any buildings coming up that we should be organizing around?*

Sewell: the first thing I'd like to do, is to get a change in the legislation, so that City Council would at least have the same powers to control the demolition of commercial buildings as we now have for residential buildings.

I think that the demolition control that we've got for residential buildings has worked relatively well — it could be better. It would be nice if we had an absolute prohibition on demolitions, but I don't see that happening this year.

**At the moment, a lot of people feel they aren't getting a fair shake out of the system.**

But I think, if we're lucky, we might be able to get special legislation that really does allow us to control the demolition of commercial buildings. And, of course, when you're dealing with historic buildings, most of the important ones now are commercial, not residential. The residential ones have usually all disappeared... I'll be putting out a letter in the next week or so, to make sure we get that legislation.

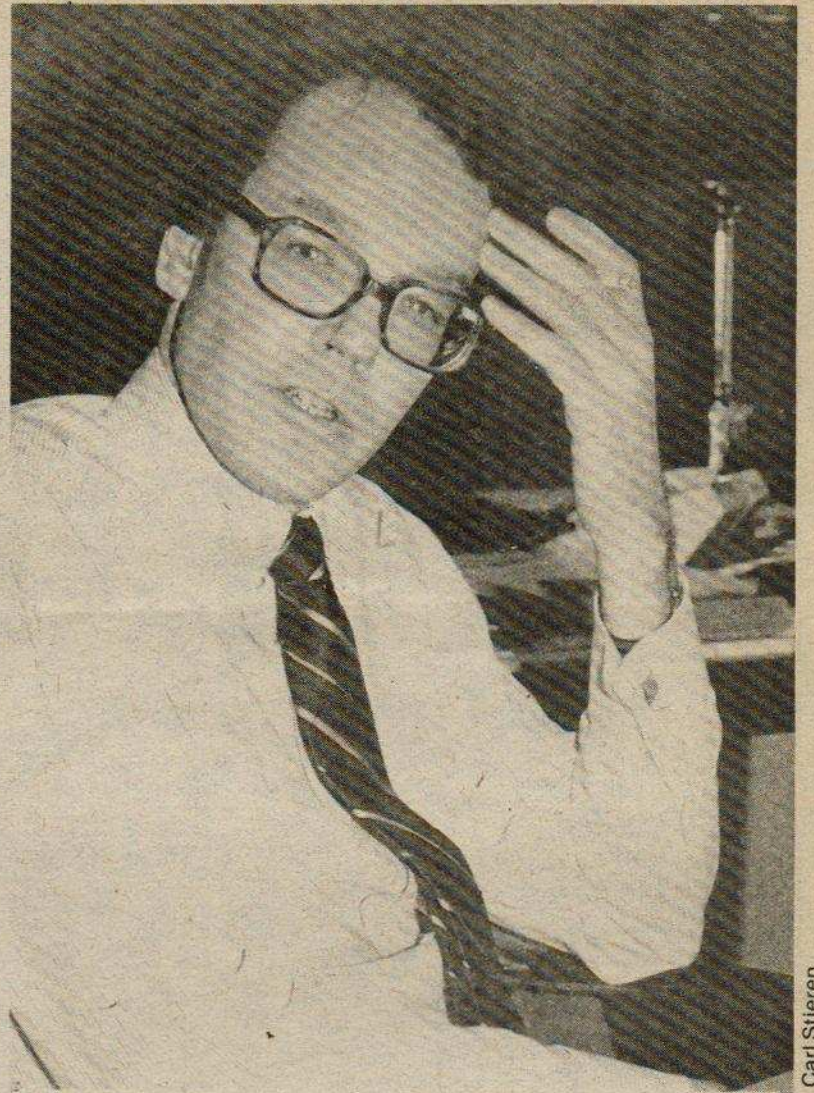
*Clarion: What do you think is the biggest problem the City will have to face in 1979? How should City Council deal with it?*

Sewell: I think the most significant problem we have to resolve is what we do about property tax reform. It's not a very popular issue, but I think it's a very, very fundamental question.

We have to look at the property tax system, figure out how to make it more equitable, figure out how we tie it in with Provincial monies. It's really important, because it has to do with the financial health of the city, and what resources we actually have got to manage over the next decade.

That's a basic priority for me. If we don't deal with that one, most everything else we talk about doesn't mean very much.

*Clarion: Because that affects the money that's available for*



Carl Stieren

*social services, TTC and all other City programs too?*

Sewell: Yes it does, and it also affects how people look at Government — whether they feel they're getting a fair shake. At the moment, a lot of people feel they aren't getting a fair shake out of the system.

It's a system they don't understand; it's a system that doesn't allow us to allocate tax burdens among various classes of property. And I think we've got to get to a situation where that can happen.

So if we decide that we want to tax office buildings downtown more, we should be allowed to do that. Or if we want to tax houses more, I'd like to have a system where we could play around with all that. So that not only would we have

a base that raises money in a way that expresses people's political priorities.

We don't have that now — we've got a very static outdated system.

But it's a real sleeper of an issue, and I think it's one we have to deal with. If you look at all the other issues, whether it's housing, or whether it's transit, it seems to me that it's the property tax system we've really got to get to the root of this year...

*Clarion: Oh by the way, you have a Flying Pigeon bicycle don't you?*

Sewell: No, I don't, as a matter of fact, it's a Dutch bicycle, 'German' is the name; it looks like a Flying Pigeon, though...

*Clarion: thanks Mr. Mayor...*

### A Public Forum on **WOMEN & UNEMPLOYMENT** and recent government actions that affect working women:

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- Reductions in Manpower Training allowances
- Elimination of women as an Outreach project target group

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#### Panel

Frank Mairne (Lib), MP, Wellington, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Employment and Immigration.

Bob Rae (NDP), MP, Broadview.

David MacDonald (PC), MP, Egmont, spokesperson on the status of women.

Mary Eady, National Representative, Women's Bureau, Canadian Labour Congress.

Pat O'Neill, North York Alderman.

Marianne Langton, employment counsellor, Times Change Women's Employment Service.

Moderator: Mary Cornish, lawyer.

followed by discussion from the floor.

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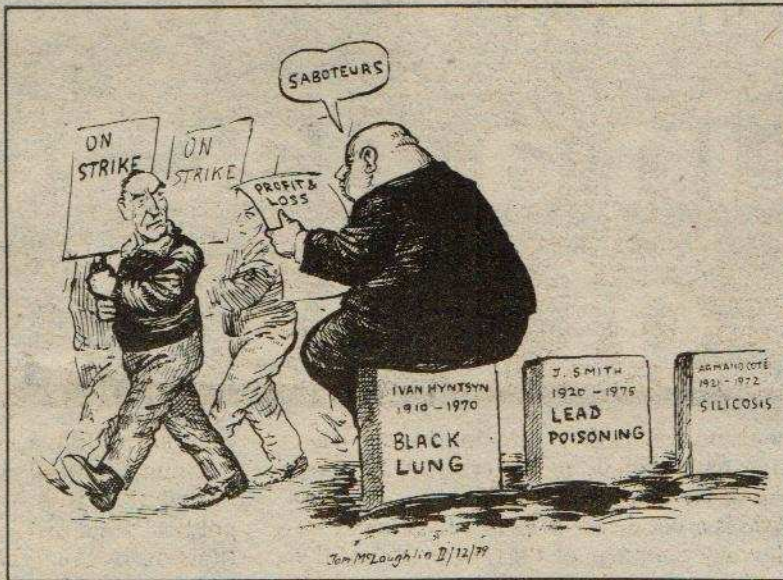


# Disease and accidents top strike losses 6 to 1

OTTAWA (CPA) — About 70 million working days were lost as a result of job-related injuries and illness in 1977 — at least six times the time lost to strikes and lockouts — according to Canadian Labour Congress research.

According to CLC health and safety officer Victor Rabinovitch, the most important single source of lost working time is cancer and other illnesses arising directly from working conditions.

A recent U.S. study on cancer said between 20 and 38 per cent of all cancer fatalities should be blamed directly on the effects of chemicals and other products used on the job. That would mean that between 12,000 and 16,000 Canadian workers die



each year from cancer caused by working conditions.

On the average, these workers are 50 years old when they die; this means that, conservatively, 45 million days each year are lost through cancer deaths alone. And the U.S. study does not include losses to other major diseases for which statistics are unavailable, such as coronary disease, stress-induced illness, heavy metal poisoning and others.

Accident fatalities are the second major source of loss, according to the CLC. An annual average of 1,000 workers have been killed on the job in recent years. Since all workers' compensation boards in Canada use the statistical average of 6,000 lost days for each death, this means that six million days are

lost each year because of fatalities.

And, says the CLC, this figure is rarely mentioned in government reports. Losses due to death are usually omitted in official figures giving annual accident totals, though no reason has been given to explain this error.

Permanent and temporary disabilities are other sources of lost working time. The CLC estimates that 4.9 million working days were lost in 1977 due to permanent disabilities, and 7.2 million days were lost due to temporary disabilities.

Rabinovitch said those four sources account for more than 62 million lost days. He added, however, that accurate total statistics should also take into account such items as:

- accidents and diseases not reported, due to the ignorance of some workers, to carelessness, or to employer pressures and connivance;

- accident and disease claims rejected by local compensation boards, and therefore not included in any statistics;

- diseases which supposedly are admitted for compensation but which most doctors don't know how to diagnose, such as lead poisoning, agricultural diseases, or hearing loss, and

- other diseases which are not yet recognized as originating in the workplace.

During the first nine months of 1978, the total time lost due to strikes and lockouts totalled 5,558,550 days. The figure for the same period in 1977 was 2,535,600.



## Bierman case sets "unjust precedent"

Artists and journalists in Toronto are distributing a petition to support Bob Bierman, the Victoria cartoonist who recently lost a libel suit brought against him for a political caricature he drew for the *Victoria Times*.

Bierman's cartoon depicted British Columbia's former human resources minister, Bill Vander Zalm, sadistically picking the wings off flies. The cartoon was published last June shortly after Vander Zalm announced he wanted to force B.C.'s young native population back to the reserves by refusing them social assistance in the cities.

Vander Zalm sued for libel, and in mid-January the judge hearing the case awarded damages of \$3,000 against Bierman, terming Vander Zalm's statements fair comment and Bierman's cartoon unfair.

Bierman is appealing the decision, and the petition is being circulated to support his "fight for satiric comment."

The petition adds: "We also condemn the arbitrary judgement against you which says in effect, it is fine for a politician to slander the rights of a whole group of Canadians but it is considered an attack on that politician's rights when you comment in their (B.C.'s native people) defence.

"Justice has set a bad priority. Justice must not set an intolerable precedent!"

Petitions and letters of support can be sent to: Bob Bierman, c/o Victoria TIMES, Box 300, Victoria V8W 2N4B.C.

## Gun control

From page 1

It also details how police should deal with people turning in guns during last November's amnesty. It says that although charges wouldn't be laid against people turning in firearms, details should be recorded about people turning in those guns, including whether they are "socially unstable" or have "any other history or background" which could be cause for warrants, searches and resulting charges.

The document concludes: "It is imperative that firearms be seized." It explains that although police intent is "not to return any firearms which have been seized," that police should also not "stretch points beyond their normal elasticity in making seizures which may be ruled unjustified."

The *Clarion* has not been able to verify the authenticity of the document, which is badly typed, and has numerous spelling and grammatical errors. *Toronto Sun* columnist Robert MacDonald claims it was "prepared by two Manitoba police officers from notes taken at instructional lectures."

Instructional lectures were held last August, when 26 police representatives from across Canada met in Ottawa to learn about Criminal Code changes,

including the revisions to the gun laws.

Not surprisingly, the RCMP corporal who was lecture coordinator for the August meeting, E.D. Paquin, has denied that the lectures included any mention of disarming the public. According to Douglas Fisher, a syndicated Ottawa columnist, Paquin "is emphatic."

Fisher also says that RCMP Sgt. Jim Edwards, one of two Manitoba cops at the Ottawa lectures, "is also emphatic" in denying that he heard anything even vaguely connected with disarming the public.

But in a more recent column, the *Sun's* MacDonald claims he's located one of the two Manitoba cops who prepared the document from "lecture notes, legislation examination, events and talks."

MacDonald quotes the officer as saying: "Ottawa and our own police officials have been on a witchhunt to find us and nail us for daring to note some of the longer-range, tougher aims of the legislation."

However, whether the document is authentic or not, it seems the general approach outlined in the document is close enough to official policy and actual events to raise serious questions about what the police are doing.

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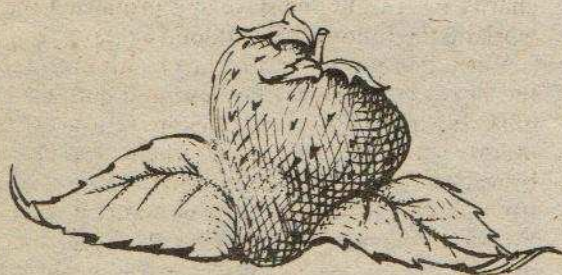


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# Bread & Roses

## Cuban films in a decade of revolution



By Wayne Sumner

Cuban Film Week unfolded as scheduled at the Festival Cinema last month, a patch of blue in an otherwise drab winter for Toronto filmgoers. In a programme organized by New Cinema, seven feature films were screened, all produced in the decade from 1967 to 1977. Since this has been Toronto's only commercial exposure to Cuban films it is impossible to determine how representative they are of the Cuban film industry as a whole. Generalizations about that industry are therefore risky but irresistible.

All the films are overtly political and are about one of two periods in Cuban history: Spanish imperialism and the practice of slavery (*The Last Supper*, *Rancheador*) or the revolution of 1959 and its aftermath (*El Brigadista*, *Giron*, *The Man from Maisinicu*, *Rio Negro*, *The Adventures of Juan Quin Quin*).



The Last Supper

With one or two exceptions the treatment of these political/historical themes is overtly didactic. At their simplest, the latter set of films orders its characters into two exclusive sets: heroes (revolutionaries, peasants, soldiers, teachers, farmers) and villains (counter-revolutionaries, bandits, traitors, emigrés).

The parallel with the moral structure of American films (westerns, war films, gangster films) is extremely revealing. Consider that these films were made in a country which has conducted and consolidated a Marxist revolution a scant ninety miles from the United States. Treated with undisguised hostility by the American government, the country has had to repel one attempted invasion as well as continuous CIA subversion.

It is scarcely surprising that such a country should be preoccupied with history and politics or that its films should display partisan loyalties. If we accept for a moment that film has a political purpose in Cuba, the irony is that this purpose is being served by borrowing a film language which is definitively American.

That language has two essential priorities: the clear identification of good and evil and the use of individual characters to exemplify these opposed forces. The latter convention partitions large-scale historical events into discrete conflicts between individuals, thus suggesting that social change is nothing but the sum of such individual encounters. Its objective is also to create a mythology in which heroes serves as paradigms of "official" or approved values and thus as role models for the confused or the recalcitrant.

The role of cinema of such moral archetypes is straightforward in a society which itself stresses the role of the individual in making history. But what is its place in a Marxist ideology? That film can be political, partisan, and revolutionary without also being individualist is clear from the example of Eisenstein, in whose films the only heroes are the masses. American entertainment has left a mark on Cuban filmmaking which it has not yet been able to erase. While it clearly possesses its own set of (revolutionary) values, it has not yet evolved a unique style appropriate to those values.

The least interesting of the Cuban films thus suffer from two faults: their didacticism crosses over into

blatant propaganda and they attempt to do what American films have been doing better (from a purely aesthetic point of view) for decades.

*El Brigadista* is a good case in point. Its story is set in the great literacy campaign of 1961, in an area of the country in which the loyal charcoal-burners are still menaced by counter-revolutionary bandits, and which becomes embroiled in the Bay of Pigs invasion.

Mario, a boy of fifteen who is sent to teach the villagers how to read and write, must overcome his own fears and earn the confidence of his elders. In the end justice and truth have triumphed: the bandits are vanquished, the villagers safe and — most of all — Mario has become a MAN!

The whole thing has all the subtlety of the catechism. The bandits slobber, grimace, hang innocent boys, and fail to shave. The villagers are strong, loyal, pure of heart, eager to learn, and strongly in favour of agrarian reform. Mario himself is idealistic, clean-living, patriotic, and never gets his uniform dirty.

These characters, by the way, are always male. There is only one major female figure in any of these seven films (Mother Melochora in *Rancheador*) and she is never seen. Cuban history seems to have been made exclusively by men; if Cuban cinema preaches political values then it certainly had better examine its own sexism. This sexism is far more pervasive than even this gender imbalance might suggest. Mario's passage into manhood takes a route which is pure machismo: he learns to kill — first animals and then men.

It is sad but perhaps inevitable that *El Brigadista* is the most popular film produced to date in Cuba. Its faults, however, should not be generalized and some other films with similar themes did better.

*The Man From Maisinicu*, whose hero is an undercover government agent who betrays gangs of bandits to the authorities, until he is found out and murdered, has a gritty black-and-white realism and a semi-documentary style reminiscent of *The Battle of Algiers*.



The Adventures of Juan Quin Quin

Although the story is again derived from American pulp — *I Was A Communist for the FBI* turned neatly inside out — it avoids sentimentality and is told in a lean and economical fashion with effective use of flashback and voiceover narration. It was also made five years before *El Brigadista*; the trend is not encouraging.

For the most part, if these films were overtly revolutionary they were also correspondingly serious. Humour was largely confined to vignettes which themselves made a political point, and so was often forced. There was little sense of irony or play about the revolution, or the Cuban government, or the omnipresent bureaucracy, or any other official object that might have been open to satire.

*The Adventures of Juan Quin Quin* is a partial exception, for here at least we learn that revolution can be fun and some of its practitioners are layabouts and clowns. But the monopoly maintained by an official

government film agency can be expected to reduce to a minimum political satire with genuine bite.

And that is a loss from both the aesthetic and political point of view, for it makes for self-important films on the one hand and an oversimplified view of politics on the other. No institutions, however venerable, are immune to criticism; and humour, parody or satire are most effective ways of ensuring that the incompetent or overly zealous clean up their acts.



The Last Supper

So far, it might seem that watching Cuban films is to be recommended to the politically committed, but not especially to those who simply want to see a good movie and who care little about its subject matter. The picture brightens somewhat when we turn to the two films whose subject is slavery. *Rancheador* again tells a moral tale, this time about a bounty hunter who tracks down runaway slaves and is eventually done in by his employees and by the slave whom he has forced to serve as his guide. But here the simplicity of the good (slaves) versus evil (slaveowners) conflict is mitigated somewhat by the isolation of the sadistic bounty hunter from the white establishment and also by the film's success in communicating a sense of the power and magic of the blacks — a power whose personification is, for once, female.

The one unqualified achievement of the Cuban cinema to date is Tomas Gutierrez' Alea's *The Last Supper*. Based on a bizarre but true incident, it is a dark and tortuous exploration of Christian piety and morality.

On the surface, Christian values seem antithetical to slavery, yet the Church has always managed to reconcile itself to the practice wherever slavery has flourished.

Piety motivates a slaveowning Count to stage a re-enactment of the Last Supper, in which he plays Christ and twelve of his (male) slaves stand in for the disciples. During the event he lectures them on their duty to accept their suffering, but also parades his charity by freeing one slave and promising the rest no work on the following day (Good Friday).

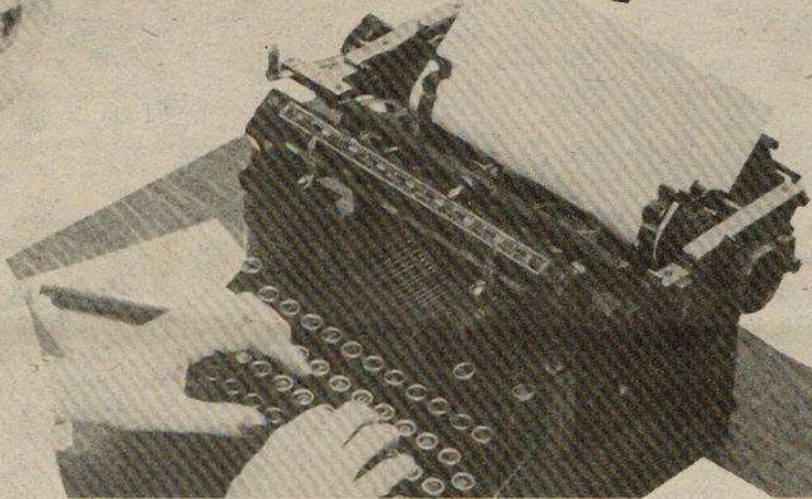
When that promise is revoked by his brutal overseer, the slaves burn down the sugar mill and head for the hills. Infuriated by their obvious refusal to heed his moral teaching, he orders them recaptured and beheaded. In the climactic scene, he celebrates "the triumph of Christianity over bestiality and savagery" by dedicating a new church on a hilltop, surrounded by stakes on which the slaves' heads are impaled — except that of the one who has managed to escape for good.

It is an astonishing scene in an astonishing film. Although the criticism of the Church is undisguised, it has all of the intricacy, irony and attention to detail characteristic of Buñuel at his best. A film industry that has produced one masterpiece in a decade of concerted effort must be doing something right. *The Last Supper* succeeds precisely because it has liberated itself from didacticism and from a crude Manichean moral structure. If it is this film and not *El Brigadista* which points to the future of Cuban filmmaking then we will all have reason to rejoice.

CIVIL SERVICE SONGWRITER - NANCY WHITE

# Nancy White

## Reading the Tribal Drums of our Jungle Record Reviews



By Anne Mills

(Question to Keith Richards, after his trial: Would he think twice before coming back to Canada? "No," he replied; "it could've happened anywhere. Mind you, you should do something about those Mounties, though.")

Nancy White, *Civil Service Writer* (LAT 1057)

Fabulous, fabulous, fabulous!

Nancy White's live album from Pear's, our local political cabaret, is a must-hear for everyone. The lady's nasty wit, in combination with her catchy melodies, makes irresistible listening.

I missed some of my favourites, like the Yonge and Bloor love song, but took consolation in the inspired Post Office medley, and the gem of the disc, "Moutons" ("Dustballs" — simultaneous translation by Mme. Benoit, aka Gabrielle Claitman).

Wonderful stuff, and worthwhile lobbying to get this sort of thing in our local libraries and on our cheez-whiz airways.

The Grateful Dead, *Shakedown Street* (Arista AB 4198)

This is like one of those "What's wrong with this picture?" puzzles, except that everything is wrong. It's a departure so radical from the Dead's earlier work that I think that the group's hinting broadly that the LP's born on the wrong side of the sheets. Even the cover art (rapacious grins directed at the "buyer") gives me a shrewd guess who's really gonna get the shakedown.

My reliable source tells me the Dead took quite a loss on their recent Egyptian concert, and were forced by money difficulties into their current disappointing tour and the premature release of this record.

This goes a long way in explaining why the Dead waded through these lacklustre selections like someone's holding a gun to Bob Weir's head. Much is lost musically in their flirtation with salsa-flavoured disco, and little gained.

The only cure for this bad craziness is to lock yourself up

with, say, *Europe '72*, hope that better times are around the corner, and that the Dead will be able to carve a new place for themselves in the... 80's?

George Thorogood and the Destroyers (*Rounder 3013*), *Move It On Over* (LAT 1054)

Beware! After a proliferation of labels like "punk", "funk", and discojunk, we now have to deal with "traditional rock 'n' roll". And that is George Thorogood. In that southern land of cheap beer and humane drinking laws, there are still bars jumping to old blues and raunchy R & B.

From there a marketable commodity who refuses to be marketed has surfaced — sounds black, looks like a young Jagger and "play guitar just like ringin' a bell."

The phenomenal first album surprised me with the power of this three-piece band that pulls out the stops so explosively on songs like "Can't Stop Lovin'", thanks to Thorogood's violent, teasing, always shimmering guitar work.

The fervour that greeted this

delivery of traditional, 40's, and early 50's blues had the feeling of a cult — a cult that stretched along the eastern side of the continent!

*Move It On Over* lacks some of the sizzle of the debut record but is still superb. Thorogood's vocals are slightly less aggressive and his material is drawn from more recent sources — late 50's Memphis, Chicago, and Nashville. Easily shocked fans have recovered their wits and this LP is now climbing the charts after a slow start.

On record or in person, Thorogood is highly recommended to cure what ails ya. Risking heterosexism, I'd say any man who can make eyes at dozens of women simultaneously, perform acrobatics and still play impeccable slide guitar is jake with me!

Bob Segarini, *Gotta Have Pop* (BOMB 7027)

Age will give almost anything intrinsic interest and even respectability. Pop, revived by punkers, has gained that veneer in the last decade. Historically important, its simplistic themes

are now celebrated for "charming innocence" and three-chord melodies are applauded for their "energy". Age has also softened a tough pubescent critic; so it is that Segarini's addictive record keeps finding its way onto my turntable.

Toronto's adopted son Bob Segarini, formerly of the cult band the Wackers, has written all of the tunes on this LP except one. His sound isn't the same old pop of ten years ago, despite the old favourite pop hooks, background doo-wahs, and sax breaks. It's pop for cynics; for adults amused by "grown-up" concerns, and it's backed by a group of tight and talented musicians.

Lots of fun — and "Don't Believe a Word I Say" is worth the price of the album!

In case you haven't heard: Tony Bird's second album, *Tony Bird of Paradise* (PC 34988) was released a few months ago. From Malawi, Bird plays unique, enjoyable music and is political, too! Buy this one and amaze your friends.

\*\*\*\*\*

# t.o. po-ets' co-op to-do gaga gal-a

By Ted Whittaker

Perhaps you've seen the bluegreen poster. The big print overlaying a view of north Church Street goes like this: "The Toronto Poets' Co-op Presents a Gala Poetry Festival Sunday, February 18, 12 noon till 12 p.m." and then there's a list of 45 poets and five musicians (a couple of them are also reading). The suggested donation is \$2.

There's more. The festival will be held at the 519 Church Street Community Centre (call 923-2778 for further information) and friends of poetry, music and song will be able to buy books, magazines and newspapers, food and liquor to round out the good time.

Two festival organizers, Gwen Hauser and Carol Auld, visited the *Clarion* office recently to tell how the idea for the co-op got started and what their hopes are for mutual aid among Toronto poets, especially beginners and those on the left politically, after this festival is over.



Poetry nights at 519 Church are not new, but they have not done well so far, Hauser said, because not enough people were involved. She, Auld, Krisantha Sri Bhaggiyadatta and Tom Clement began meeting regularly last November, therefore, to plan "a kind of co-operative."

Following the festival, the way to channel available poetic energy will be "a series of readings and hopefully workshops around political topics," Hauser added.

A few well-known poets have agreed to read at the festival — Milton Acorn, Ian Young, Penny Kemp — and whether or not they put a lot of time and energy into the co-op later on, their presence on the 18th will be appreciated by everyone there. Auld noted, "... a lot of people we have coming to the festival are... political... They're all oppressed in a certain way; they're working against that."

Hauser agreed. "We intend a sharing of skills... You can't

ignore the fact that Milton Acorn, for example, has been writing in a very political way for years and he could probably help other poets who aren't as far along... "Women need to work together and help each other," she added. "Penny Kemp has always been very helpful to me and to other women poets."

"The whole poetry scene is a matter of knowing people and finding out how to do things," Hauser said, not ironically.

The organizers and a few of their friends also hope that the festival will result in a good anthology or better, as Hauser described it, "a fairly political poetry magazine, 'cause there aren't too many of those kinds of things. I know a lot of political artists as well as writers and we could do a really beautiful magazine with everybody's help."

Some of the poets reading at the festival will have had little public exposure but this should not deter them or their audien-

ce. Both women agreed that beginning poets need to have their work heard and the festival and the co-op thereafter will promote its members' work vigorously.

The obvious differences between this group of poets and others in Toronto are political. However, Hauser noted, "We hope that people from different groups will feel welcome and will want to belong to it. In fact, it might be rather grandiose, but we thought that one of the things the co-op could do would be to bring together different groups of people. Because with the cutbacks... all poets and all artists are having a hard time."

Auld observed that the festival will be "an attempt to demystify the whole poetry thing that people have problems with, that it's elite. This is poetry for people." Hauser was even more casual. "It should be the sort of thing that almost anybody could enjoy coming to and having a good time at."



# a hit in New York a miss in Reality

By Chris Hallgren

... there can be no doubt that for the discovery of certain parts of truth the wicked and unhappy are in a more favourable position and are more likely to succeed; not to speak of the wicked who are happy — a species about whom moralists are silent.

From *Beyond Good and Evil* by Friedrich Nietzsche

Nietzsche wrote the above paragraph in 1885, some ten years before the imagined beginning of George Walker's *Zastrozzi: The Master of Discipline*, produced by Toronto Free Theatre in december 1977. The play was one of the many hits of the active 1977-78 theatre season in Toronto.

Walker's piece concerns a master criminal from Germany and takes place in "Europe. Probably Italy. The 1890's". The show, however, bears no trace of the historical Italy of 1890; the results of the revolutions that rocked the continent during that century, for example, are nowhere in evidence.

## Cast of characters

This is a melodrama, a story of good and evil in the Romantic tradition, told with the tongue-in-cheek cynicism of the nineteen-seventies. In short, *Zastrozzi* has the makings of a commercial "hit", and such values are becoming more prominent here, now that government subsidy, as we have known it, suffers from drastic cutbacks.

From his initial grand objective of making the entire world accountable to himself, the master criminal Zastrozzi has focused his energy on avenging his mother's murder by killing Verezzi, a simple-minded visionary who has blocked out the memory of the act he committed with his father.

Zastrozzi has an apprentice, Bernardo, and Verezzi a servant named Victor (who is actually his protector). The remaining characters are the raven-haired villainess Matilda (loved by Bernardo, but in love with Zastrozzi) and fair-haired virgin Julia (loved by Zastrozzi but in love with herself).

## International success

The play consists of a series of terse debates on metaphysical issues, two seductions (the beautifully written "talking" rape of Julia by Zastrozzi, and Matilda's seduction of Verezzi in an attempt to make him commit suicide), and resolves itself through a series of murders, leaving only the two principals. Zastrozzi gives Verezzi one day's head start before coming after him. "Because it will keep me preoccupied. Now leave. And hide well."

The play has earned some favourable attention locally for Walker because of its international successes. It ran for three weeks in London, where critics delivered brief but good reviews. Joseph Papp has op-

tioned the play for performance at his Public Theatre in New York next year, and Raul Julia, star of *Dracula* on Broadway, has said he's interested in the part of Zastrozzi.

Despite all claims to the contrary, *Zastrozzi* is a philosophical work. Though its dark comedy is contrived and the resolution of its characters' lives could happen only in a script, it contains highly charged moral and philosophical concepts.

Toward the end of the play the two stereotypes of pragmatism fight a duel to the death. Victor, the "ordinary man", whose improvised and unorthodox wit has kept Zastrozzi at bay for three years, takes on the villainous heir to all the philosophies of evil genius in literature. For a time Victor fends off his attacker.

Zastrozzi

You look silly.

Victor

But I am alive.

Victor can only defend himself, however, and when he attempts an attack, Zastrozzi kills him. Shortly before that, the following exchange takes place.

Victor

All right, forget God. A man is responsible to humanity.

Zastrozzi

And I am part of humanity.

Victor

The irresponsible part.

Zastrozzi

No. It is my responsibility to spread out like a disease and purge. And by destroying everything, make everything safe.

Victor

Explain exactly what you mean by safe.

Zastrozzi

Alive. Untouched by expectation. Free of history. Free of everything.

To the moralist, Zastrozzi is a monster (Nietzsche's wicked who are happy"), but this in no way makes him a rebel. Being "free of history" can only force the self deeper into the nightmares of the unconscious. Devices of black humour, devilry and exorcism are undergoing a resurgence in popular art because of the acute uncertainty about the future among a passive but overstimulated public.

## Hot property

The "self" has limits precisely where the unconscious dream life places the equal and opposite balance between its terrors and its hopes. When terror forces hope into a corner, so to speak, then there is nothing left to life but to watch the unconscious mythic forces play themselves out in a void.

The intensity of the spectacle of *Zastrozzi* is nothing new, but despite its inducement of adrenalin, it has little to do with where we are or how we got here. Therefore the play and its author are "hot property" in a time of social crisis.

## Dramatist's duty

The truly frightening criminals are the empty and repressed people like the 16 year old San Diego girl who recently opened fire on a crowded school yard. Such jaded tastes as hers feed on the attitudes of Romantic villains like the individualist Zastrozzi. "Understanding the truth is understanding that the forces of darkness are constant," he claims. That may be true. But *Zastrozzi* the drama stops where the social responsibility of a playwright begins.



*'a compelling and brilliant expose'*

# A History of Shock Treatment

The History of Shock Treatment  
edited by Leonard Roy Frank  
San Francisco, 1978  
206 pages, \$7 (U.S.)

Reviewed by Don Weitz

Leonard Frank has earned credibility the hard way. He's a former psychiatric inmate ("mental patient") who has survived roughly 100 electric shock and insulin coma treatments. He also writes prolifically and articulately about the abuses of shock treatment and other forced psychiatric treatments.

Frank's *History of Shock Treatment* is a compelling and brilliant exposé of the psychiatric atrocity conventionally called electroconvulsive therapy or "ECT". Frank has organized a wealth of documentary evidence on the history of electric shock, from 47 A.D. right up to 1977.

Nineteen thirty-eight was a fateful year, the year when Italian psychiatrist Ugo Cerletti was the first physician to use ECT on an unwilling, "schizophrenic" man picked up by the police for "observation". The patient was neither asked for, nor gave his voluntary and informed consent.

## All the horrors

The materials which Frank has amassed to document the brain damage, permanent memory loss, paralyzing fear and deaths caused by electric shock are impressive. It's all here; the bland but chilling clinical accounts from medical and psychiatric journal articles and statements by pro-shock doctors extolling the "benefits" of ECT; highly personal accounts from scores of inmate-victims, of what electric shock felt like and did to them; consciousness-raising cartoons,

illustrations and photographs; poems by ex-inmates; obscene ads pushing the latest and most "efficient" shock machines as well as anti-convulsant drugs and muscle relaxants; an "ECT Death Chronology" (reporting 384 deaths directly related to ECT); a partial "Shock Doctor List" which includes the names and hospital affiliations of 265 doctors who've admitted using shock (so far, only nine in Canada mentioned); a 35-page glossary clearly describing many key psychiatric terms and concepts, and two bibliographies on electric shock treatment.

All this evidence clearly shows that electric shock damages human brains, invariably causes some permanent memory loss, frequently causes permanent loss or weakening of certain intellectual abilities, and that informed consent is rarely, if ever, obtained from the patient.

Through this book, Frank has mounted a powerful challenge to psychiatrists' claims that shock treatment is "harmless" or for the patient's "own benefit". In reality, electric shock like other forced psychiatric treatments, is used to control people who are too different or who are "out of control" of the authorities. Remember the shock scene in the book or film *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*? This book is even more horrifying and it forces the reader to take a stand.

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★  
Note: Copies of The History of Shock Treatment can be ordered by writing to: Leonard Roy Frank, 2300 Webster Street, San Francisco, California 94115. Please enclose a cheque or money order — payable to Leonard Roy Frank for \$7 which includes postage and handling charges.

# CALENDAR

### For free listing of your upcoming events send advance notice to Clarion calendar editor

#### Wednesday Feb. 14

**Black Theatre Canada** presents *More About Me*, a multi-ethnic musical foray into the New Toronto, written and directed by Daniel Cavdeiron, as part of Calabash Season 1978/79. Palmerston Library, 560 Palmerston Ave., Feb. 14-18, Wed.-Sat., 8:30 p.m.; Sunday 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Adults \$4, Students/Seniors \$3, Children \$2. Call 656-2715.

**Solar Stage Lunchtime Theatre** offers *Next*, an amusing 40-minute comedy by Terence MacNally. 149 Yonge St. (between Richmond and Adelaide) until March 3: Tues. 12:12 p.m., Wed.-Fri. 12:12 p.m. and 1:11 p.m., Sat. 1:30 p.m. Regular admission \$2, Senior and Students \$1.50. Call 863-9781.

**Toronto Arts Production and the Canadian Housewives Register** present a forum entitled "I haven't worked a day since I got married" All-women panel will discuss attitudes to and rights of housewives. Do they have any rights? St. Lawrence Centre, 27 Front St. E. 8 p.m. Free. Call 366-1656, ext. 28 or 26.

#### Thursday Feb. 15

**Films about Russia:** *Death is Afraid of Us* and *The New Russia*. Bloor-Gladstone Public Library, 1101 Bloor St. W. from 1:30-3:30. Free. Call 536-3402.

**Marxist Institute** winter session begins, continues for six to eight weeks. Each course meets once a week at 8 p.m. at Lord Lansdowne School at 33 Robert St. (one block north of College, one block west of Spadina). \$10 registration fee. Call 536-4569.

**Ethnic and Race Relations**, weekly lecture series at University of Toronto, 1:30-3:30 p.m. Grinding the Mill or Breaking the Crust: Thoughts on Canadianization, Cornelius Jaenen, University of Ottawa. Sociology Lounge, Borden Bldg, 563 Spadina Ave.

**International Folk Dancing.** Every Thursday night. Beginners' class 7:30, more advanced 8:30. Faculty of Education gym, Bloor and Spadina. A chance to have fun and meet people. 50 cents.

#### Friday Feb. 16

**Valentine's Dance** sponsored by Soaring Eagle Dance Troupe at Native Centre, 16 Spadina Rd. (at Bloor), 8 p.m. Disco music, refreshments. Admission \$2. Call 964-9183.

**Funnel Experimental Film Theatre** features independent/experimental cinema by Canadian and international artists. Tonight Toronto filmmaker Bruce Elder will show *A Collection of Work Past & Future* which includes his award-winning film *Barbara is a Vision of Loveliness*. Admission \$1.50. 507 King St. E., first floor at 8 p.m. For further information about showings on Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays, call 364-7003.

**U of T, School of Continuing Studies** presents "Early Black History in Ontario," a slide show and talk by Daniel Hill at Med. Sci. Auditorium, 8 p.m. Admission \$1.50. Call 978-6564.

**Women's Benefit** to raise money for the newly formed Ontario Federation of Women, St. Paul's Centre, 121 Avenue Rd. Admission \$3.50.

**Japanese Film Festival** at Poor Alex Theatre is showing tonight and tomorrow evening *Belladonna* (1973), an animated colour feature directed by E. Yamamoto with English sub-titles. At 296 Brunswick Ave. (at Bloor). 8 p.m., admission \$2, \$1.50 for Three Schools members. Call 920-8373. (Weekly showings of Japanese films.)

#### Saturday Feb. 17

**Development Education Centre Party.** St. Paul's Centre (where else?) 121 Avenue Rd. at 8 p.m. Live band, free food, cash bar. All this for \$3. Call 964-6560.

**Saturday Night Review** at the Poor Alex features amateur and professional actors, dancers and musicians in a relaxed atmosphere. At 10:30 p.m. each Saturday for the outrageous price of \$1. At 296 Brunswick Ave. (at Bloor). If you are interested in performing or finding out more about the Reviews, call Poor Alex at 920-8373.

**Art Theatre Production Company** presents a musical, *Minnie's Boys*, about (you guessed it) the Marx Brothers. At Leah Poslums Theatre until March 10. Wed., Thurs., Sat., Sun. at 8 p.m. Adults \$6, Seniors and Students \$3.50 (weeknights). 4588 Bathurst St. Box office 630-6752.

#### Monday Feb. 19

**From a Different Perspective.** Half-hour weekly radio program about political/economic situation in other countries. Tonight, interview with mayoral candidate in Philippines and background story on Iran. Mondays 7 p.m., CJRT-FM. Call 964-6560.

#### Tuesday Feb. 20

**Unemployment** (everyone's favourite topic!): The Cross-Cultural Communication Centre's continuing discussion series on development and change in Toronto communities features a resource person from the Unemployment Help Centre. 7:30 p.m. at the Centre, 1991 Dufferin St. Call 653-2223.

**Café des Copains** presents Patricia Dalquist, romantic chanteuse, every night except Sunday, until April. At 48 Wellington St. E. \$2. Call 869-0898.

#### Wednesday Feb. 21

**Peoples' Food Commission Hearings** with Ontario commissioners Catherine Morisset, Anne Bishop and Jim Sheldon as well as Bill Margerrison from Saskatchewan. Begin 2 p.m. Wed. at Palmerston Library, 590 Palmerston Ave. and run until Sun. For further information on attending or making presentations, call Wendy Boyd at 961-3935.

**The New Theatre** presents *The Pits*, a bizarre comedy that examines outrageous idiosyncracies of inhabitants of a Toronto rooming house. Written and directed by John Palmer with Claude Jutra, Matt Craven among others. Low priced previews Feb. 21-28, continues through April 1 at Adelaide Court, 57 Adelaide St. E. Call 363-6401 for times and cost.

**Immigration Law:** A symposium for community workers, at St. Paul's Centre, 121 Avenue Rd. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Registration fee \$3.50, limited to first 100 applicants. Sponsored by Community Legal Education Ontario. Call 363-0466.

**An Evening with Margaret Gibson**, author of *The Butterfly Ward* and *Considering her Condition*, at Northern District Library, 40 Orchardview Blvd. (north of Eglinton, west of Yonge) at 8 p.m. Free.

**Black History Conference** sponsored by *Contrast*, begins at 9 a.m. today. Panels will examine the position and role of blacks in the political system. Hart House, U of T. \$2. Call 537-3461.

#### Thursday Feb. 22

**Woodsworth Housing Co-operative** information session for persons interested in co-op living. Woodsworth Co-op is located in St. Lawrence Project (Front and Sherbourne Sts.) and occupancy is planned for July/August 1979. 299 Queen St. W., Suite 501 at 8 p.m. Call 598-1641.

**Anne-Marie de Varrennes-Sparkes** arrives at Glendon College. Don't miss this one-evening performance of honey-voiced song. Phone 487-6132 for more information.

#### Friday Feb. 23

**Chile Movies** sponsored by the Toronto Committee for Solidarity with Democratic Chile. Palmerston Library, 590 Palmerston Ave. 7:30 p.m. Donations, please. Titles: *Money Troubles*, *Salvador*, *Allende* and *Companero Victor Jara*.

**Japanese Film Festival** at Poor Alex Theatre is showing *The Hole* (1964) directed by K. Shindo, English subtitles. Tonight and Saturday, 8 p.m. 296 Brunswick Ave. \$2. Call 920-8373.

#### Saturday Feb. 24

**Cross Cultural Communication Centre Fund Raising Dance.** Come one, come all to 519 Church St. (at Wellesley) to enjoy music, prizes, refreshments and bar and support a worthy cause. Starts 8 p.m. Tickets \$3.50 advance, \$4 at door. Call 653-2223 for tickets.

#### Sunday Feb. 25

**Organizing Meeting** for Ontario Federation of Women to bring together women's groups and further their common interests. 519 Church St., 10 a.m.

#### Monday Feb. 26

**From a Different Perspective.** Half hour weekly radio program. Tonight, conversation with Verne Johnson in South Africa, plus news from Jamaica. CJRT-FM, 91.1 at 7 p.m. Call 964-6560 for upcoming schedule.

#### Tuesday Feb. 27

**CUSO Information Meeting.** Held at regular intervals at International Student Centre, 33 St. George St. 7:30 p.m. For further information, special focus of blacks in this meeting, etc., call 978-4022.

**Media Coverage of Immigration, Immigrant Communities and Racism:** last of Cross Cultural Communication Centre's series on community development and change, features Mark Rosenfeld, co-author of "All the News that's Fit to Print." 7:30 p.m. at the Centre, 1991 Dufferin St. 653-2223.

#### Thursday March 1

**Ethnic and Race Relations** lecture series at U of T. "Race and Ethnicity: A Social Biological Perspective." 1:30-3:30 p.m. in Debates Room, Hart House.

#### Friday March 2

**Japanese Film Festival** at Poor Alex Theatre is showing *The Scandalous Adventures of Burakan* (1970), directed by M. Shinoda, in colour with English subtitles. Tonight and Saturday at 8 p.m. At 296 Brunswick Ave. Admission \$2. Call 920-8373.

#### Saturday March 3

**Community Health Awareness Program** at South Riverdale Community Health Centre is held on first Saturday of each month from 12-4 p.m. at Gerrard Square (Pape & Gerrard). Call Marilyn Walsh at 461-3577 for details.

#### Monday Mar. 5

**Income Tax Clinics** sponsored by Bloor-Bathurst Information Centre for people with low to moderate incomes, 6-8 p.m. every Monday and Wednesday at the Centre, 1006 Bathurst St. Volunteer accountants, Spanish and Portuguese interpreters available. Call 531-4613 to arrange appointment.

#### Friday March 9

**Teaching about Japan.** A two-day workshop for school teachers, sponsored by Centre for Continuing Education at York University, Japan Information Centre, Ontario Teachers' Federation, etc. Pre-registration necessary. Fee \$10. Call 667-2502.

**Ethnic and Race Relations** lecture series at U of T. "After Bakke: The Problem of Preferential Treatment in a Multi-ethnic Society," by Nathan Glazer of Harvard University, 2-4 p.m. in Debates Room, Hart House.

**Japanese Film Festival** at Poor Alex Theatre is showing *Woman of the Dunes* (1964), directed by H. Teshigahara, in b&w with subtitles. At 8 p.m., also Sat. night. 296 Brunswick Ave. \$2. Call 920-8373.

#### Sunday March 11

**Black Theatre Canada** presents a Studio 109 workshop performance of *Melee*, plus special black films. 109 Vaughan Rd., 4 p.m. Members free, others \$2.

## CURTAIN CALL

### A Festival of Canadian Women in the Performing Arts

February 23, 24 and 25, 1979 at the University of Toronto

2 Concerts at Convocation Hall:

**Pauline Julien**, with opening act, Marie-Lynn Hammond, and guest Robin Tyler. Friday, February 23, 9 p.m.

**Sylvia Tyson**, with opening act, April Kassired, and guest Kathryn Moses. Guest host Nancy White. Saturday, February 24, 4:30 p.m.

4 Daytime stages at University College:

Workshops, discussions and performances in the fields of music, mime, theatre, dance, comedy, poetry and fiction.


Saturday, February 24 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. (Saturday programme includes a special, original-cast performance of Pam Brighton's hit production, "Dusa, Fish, Stas and Vi").

Sunday, February 25 from noon to 9 p.m. (Sunday programme includes a special concert with Beverly Glenn Copeland and Rita MacNeil.)

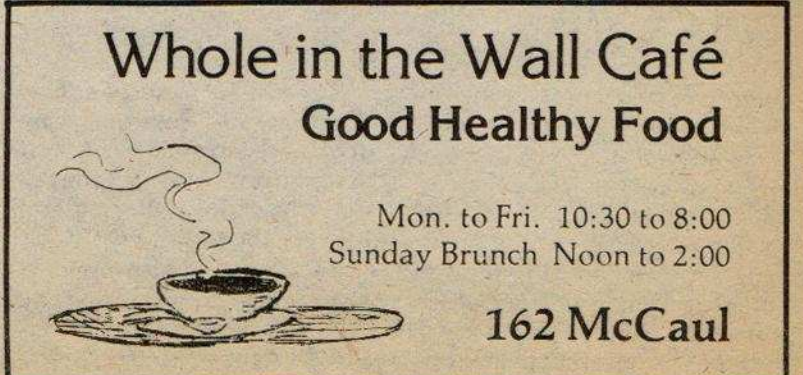
Tickets: \$14/weekend pass; \$6/single concert; \$6/single day programme.

Available at: Canadian Spaces, Toronto Folklore Centre, Toronto Women's Bookstore, the A Muse Inc. office (964-2682) and all BASS locations.

A Muse Inc. in cooperation with the Students Administrative Council of the U. of T.



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**162 McCaul**

# A man who stood his ground

Chicago Journalist Studs Terkel has won prizes from UNESCO for his contribution to world peace in 1962, for his radio programs, and from More Magazine in 1975 for his best-selling book, Working.

As a tireless activist on the left, he spoke for the Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee in the '30s to aid refugees from Franco's Spain; supported the Civil Rights Congress in the late '40s; and was tear-gassed at the 1968 Chicago Democratic Convention, along with thousands of anti-war protesters.

Clarion staffer Carl Stieren interviewed Studs in his studios at WFMT-FM in Chicago over the Christmas holidays, with the help of technician and folk singer Clare Hammann Tabb.

This interview will be broadcast, in part, on CBC-AM radio's Morningside program.

You mentioned jazz and blues brought by the blacks coming up to Chicago from the South. Tell us about that.

Chicago often has been called a seedbed. At the end of W.W.I, many jazz musicians came to Chicago: Louis Armstrong and King Oliver and Earl Hines and many young white musicians in Chicago learned from them — out of it came Benny Goodman and the Austin High School gang. And Chicago's the home of great novelists. Frank Norris and Theodore Dreiser worked here. Sherwood Anderson came here for a while, and of course Upton Sinclair's *Jungle*, the great book dealing with the horrors of the Stockyard, that caused changes, was written about Chicago. And later on came Nelson Algren and James T. Farrell. But Chicago always has been the seedbed of what I'd call culture.

You were blacklisted during the McCarthy Era of the Cold War. How did you survive?

In the thirties and in the fifties, too, I signed a lot of petitions, oh, for full employment and for anti-Jim Crow laws long before the civil rights movement began. And of course, many left-wing people signed those, too. I'm sure many were communists.

Nonetheless, I refused to — how shall I say it — recant.

"Won't you say you were duped? All you got to say is 'I was a fool'. I said I was not a fool. I did it and I'm glad I did...and so my NBC TV program *Studs' Place* was quietly dropped.

How did I get along? Well, here and there. As Nelson Algren would say, I was a 'here and there' fellow.

Oh I'd do a lecture now and then and get paid fifty bucks — a lecture on jazz...but there was a man in town, he was a Legionnaire, he was the head of the Americanism committee of the American Legion. Ed Clamadge, his name was, he ran a flower shop. And I was his pigeon. He made it a point that everywhere I was, he'd follow and threaten the people (who hired me to speak). He'd say I was very dangerous, and wanted to overthrow the country, he'd say not to hire me.

He'd say I was very dangerous, and wanted to overthrow the country.

... so once I decided I'd write him a letter. I said 'Clamadge... it has come to my attention that you're approaching all these clubs where I'm appearing to cancel my appearances. I must tell you, they've now doubled my fee because of what you've done (this is not true, but I said that)... instead of paying me \$100, they're now paying me \$200 thanks to you. And that means I owe you ten per cent commission for the extra \$100.' I understand he went crazy... and then, somehow, the weather cleared.

And of course back in those days I was working for WFMT, to the everlasting glory of the late Bernie Jacobs who founded this station, and his wife Rita. They liked what I did on the air.

And my programs were mostly music, interviewing of folk singers and opera singers,

and reading short stories and playing jazz and folk music... And I've been on ever since.

You were part of a unique experiment in the '30s — the Chicago Repertory Theatre. Did it reach the working people the way Brecht wanted to do?

The Chicago Repertory group came out of the '30s, out of the Depression, that's the first theatre group in which I ever appeared. I never dreamed of being an actor; it was accidental. That group, as a matter of fact, changed my life. I was a law student, in law school, flunked the first bar exam, and passed the second bar.

It was a labour group, playing for unions — the CIO was just being formed in those days, and I was in a play called 'Waiting for Lefty' by Clifford Odets. It dealt with a taxi cab drivers' strike.

And we would take this play out to where the strikes were, to the headquarters, as well as in the theatre we had, too.

And we'd do something called mobile theatre, which is much like street theatre today, or guerilla theatre. We'd play before picket lines, or in union meetings, skits written for the occasion, sketches.

But you asked, did it reach working people? It did at certain moments, those who were in the strike...

... but it's very difficult for live theatre to reach working people because they're tired, and movies are there, and today, of course, TV and radio, and working people haven't been conditioned to theatre.

Yet at the same time there was the WPA Federal Theatre Project. And Hallie Flanagan was the director, a remarkable woman, who defied the House Un-American Activities Committee, who were challenging the Federal Theatre at the time as subversive.

In fact, one of the members of the Committee was asking about a play by Christopher Marlowe... I think *Dr. Faustus* — "Well, what about Marlowe, of what cell is he a member?" — Christopher Marlowe, the Elizabethan playwright!



WFMT photo

What about political activism today? Are people in Chicago today starting to come together on environmental issues or on opposing the Chicago Democratic machine now that Daley's gone?

Of course there's been a splintering of groups, a bewilderment, and a confusion...

But I think things are happening in communities that didn't happen before. Underneath all this there's a grassroots movement...

Chicago had a group called Citizen's Action Program. But now Paul Booth and many others work in these communities, organizing on the Saul

Alinsky technique... fighting for issues on which they can put their hand, something they can have small triumphs in, so this group, called Citizen's Action Program, stopped the expressway from being built through their community.

They said, "Gee, who's home, whose bungalow is going to go first?"

And someone raised the question, "Why should anyone's bungalow go — who needs the expressways except Daley and his friends and the insurance companies and the cement lobby and the auto industry?"

And so they stopped the expressway.

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**Surprise move**

# Gov't denies Cuban visas

By Lolly Kaiser

In a recent surprise move, the federal government stopped a group of six prominent Cubans, including writers, trade unionists, members of the women's movement and a government official, from visiting Canada.

The decision to deny the Cubans visas shocked more than 10 organizations that had anticipated for months meeting with the visitors. The organizations included the Canadian Union of Public Employees, the Ontario Federation of Labour and the Canadian Authors Association.

A meeting with Mayor John Sewell was also scheduled, as was a recital by a group member, guitarist Ildefonso Luis Acosta Escobar, at Ryerson and at York University.

Elizabeth Hill, secretary of the Canada-Cuba Friendship Association, said that her group was told the Cubans were not being allowed visas the day before they were to arrive, which was to have been January 19.

"It was very hard getting information from both the Department of Immigration and the Department of External Affairs," said Hill; "but we finally did receive a letter back from the Prime Minister's Office stating something like the Cubans were instructed that the government here needed more information before they could

come and that they (the Cubans) then withdrew their applications."

Hill said her group received a telegram from one of the Cubans, saying only that they had not received their visas.

"This seems strange to me because it wasn't as if these people were just ordinary visitors. It was a group of prominent Cubans. One of them (Rene Rodriguez Crus) was one of the original exiles that came over with Fidel Castro by boat and is also an elected member of the Cuban National assembly," she said.

The other members of the Cuban group were: Francisco Pividal Padron, an historian and journalist; Rene Fontoina, a representative of the Cuban Federation of Trade Unions; Elsa Padron Dabera, a member of the National Committee of the Federation of Cuban Women; and Carlos Alberto Gonzalez Mena, the Vice Director of the Cuban Institute of Friendship with Peoples.

Canadian writer William Repka, who had a special interest in setting up a meeting with more than 80 Canadian writers, said he phoned the secretary of state to find out what happened. "I got moved around to about six or eight different people until I came full circle."

"It is very strange," says Repka, "after Trudeau was just there (in Cuba).

# "Don't tread on me!"

have gone by . . . thirty minutes — that means half the world's population has passed and still there's nobody more than about three inches tall.

"I expected to wait a while to see people of my own height . . . but forty minutes are up and the tallest marchers can still only reach up to my kness. I can see soldiers from Paraguay and office workers from India all carrying great ledgers under their arms — but all of them dwarfs.

"Only ten minutes to go now and I'm getting anxious that we might not finish on time. At least the faces are a bit more familiar now. Part-time checkout girls from Halifax, old-age pensioners from London, street cleaners from Panama. But they're still only three or four feet high.

"Five minutes left and at least they're looking about my height — schoolteachers, farmers, insurance salesmen. The next group look a good deal more healthy. Lots of Canadians here. Factory managers, department heads I would say. They look well over 6 ft. 6 ins. to me.

"What's happening now? They're getting bigger and bigger. That stockbroker must be 16 ft. tall if he's an inch. This is sensational! Brazilian landowners, corporation vice-presidents in huge gray suits . . . twenty, maybe twenty-five yards high.

"And now yes . . . I can see some famous faces too. Anne Murray. She must be all of 300 ft. And Gordon Lightfoot — a great swaying giant the size of a skyscraper.

"Well into the 59th minute now and it's time for the binoculars. Those oil Sheikhs are really amazing. Way over three thousand feet . . . I think it's snowing up there.

"The final seconds. All the millionaires. They seem to go up for miles and miles. Absolutely stupendous.

"It's getting dark all of a sudden . . . that huge black cloud . . . Good Lord, look out! It's David Rockefeller's foot."

The following is an excerpt from the New Internationalist, 1979.

Have you really thought just how much, or how little we all earn? Well, imagine a world where everyone's height is proportional to his or her income. Let's say you earn just about the average in a rich country. That would make you about 5 ft. 8 ins. tall.

And today is a big event. You're the commentator at a giant march that includes all the world's population. The whole parade is now carefully arranged so that everyone will have passed you in one hour. The flag is down. They're off! And it's over to you.

" . . . Oh . . . has it started? . . . I can't see anything yet . . . Just a minute, yes. Extraordinary . . . thousands and thousands of figures tinier than ants crawling over my feet. But I can't make out what they are yet.

"Ten minutes gone now. I can at least make out people but the marchers are no bigger than cigarettes. Indian farmers riding in bullock carts . . . African women carrying children on their backs and what look like thimbles of water on their heads. There are Chinese too. Burmese. Haitians. All colours and nationalities.

"On and on they come . . . twenty minutes

brick oven. They had died of bullet wounds and are thought to be some of the prisoners who disappeared.

Internews, December 1978

## Opposition welcomes coup

The Bolivian military overthrew Bolivia's president Juan Pereda Asbun in late November and announced that new presidential elections would be held July 1. A junta under army commander Gen. David Padilla Aranciba has taken power.

The army officers behind the coup are reportedly members of the "Generationalist" faction of the military, which has been pressing for a return to an elected government since 1973. The Generationalists have spoken out on several occasions, against the indiscriminate sale abroad of Bolivia's natural resources, and in favour of an independent policy by third world countries toward the industrialized countries.

The new president's first appointments included officials who had served under leftist president Juan José Torres, who was overthrown in a 1971 coup. The ousted president Pereda had himself taken power in a coup last July, after elections which he claimed to have won. The Electoral Court had cancelled the election results, charging fraud by Pereda.

Internews, December 1978

## UFW battles wage guidelines in California lettuce fields

Since the United Farm Workers began their strike on January 19, they have planted red strike flags at 14 of Imperial Valley's 28 lettuce ranches in California. The Imperial County Vegetable Growers Association has responded with convoys of scabs, gun thugs, attack dogs, injunctions and state-wide public relations campaign — all in the name of enforcing U.S. President Jimmy Carter's seven per cent wage increase ceiling.

The UFW contract expired January 1. The growers are offering a seven per cent yearly wage increase over the life of a proposed three-year contract, giving the workers an increase of 26 cents an hour for what one worker described as "one of the hardest jobs in the world". The UFW is seeking a 40 per cent increase and a one-year contract.

According to UFW spokesperson Mark Grossman, "the growers have the unmitigated gall to say that the farmworkers must keep their economic proposals within seven per cent. At the same time, growers have increased the price of lettuce 110 per cent since last season."

San Francisco newspapers are forecasting lettuce at \$1 a head in an effort to kill off community support for the farmworkers. But as Frances Moore Lappé, author of *Diet for a Small Planet*, recently said on listener-supported Pacifica radio, food prices are now the result of 100 per cent increases in the cost of fertilizers, farm machinery, fuel, advertising, transportation and other agribusiness expenses, rather than the result of increased labour costs.

LNS, Feb. 2, 1979

## Border tensions unabated

Heavy fighting broke out again in late January between Tanzanian and Ugandan border forces. Tanzania reiterated its intention to repulse Ugandan forces, but said it had no intention of crossing into Uganda. The present border war between the two countries has delayed negotiations aimed at reopening the borders between Kenya and Tanzania, which have been closed since the breakdown of the East African Community and the takeover by Kenya of what Tanzania considers to be an inordinate proportion of community property and assets.

A Kenyan member of parliament charged that Tanzanian militia have, on more than one occasion, crossed the border, and rustled local cattle, leaving two Kenyans dead. The Tanzanian government is not being blamed for the activity but sources feel it is possible that some uniformed Tanzanians acted on their own.

Africa News, Feb. 2, 1979

## World in Brief



### Worldwide labour boycott planned

Chile's military government is trying to whip up nationalist sentiment against an imminent worldwide labour boycott that could affect about 50 per cent of its total trade. The Inter-American Regional Trade Union Organization and delegates from the AFL-CIO voted to launch the boycott against land, sea, and air traffic with Chile to protest the lack of trade union and workers' rights there. The military government has outlawed most unions and abolished the right to strike.

At a meeting in early February, the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions produced a paper (endorsed by the Canadian Labour Congress) calling on free trade unions around the world to exert pressures, such as a boycott, to bring down the regimes in Chile and Nicaragua.

Pinochet's strategy is to head off the boycott by trying to show that Chile's workers don't support it. A few union leaders (all appointed by the government) have spoken out against the boycott, but leaders of the seven large labour organizations which were outlawed last October have spoken out in favour of the boycott.

Many union leaders and workers are among the hundreds of people who have disappeared since 1973 after being imprisoned by the secret police in Chile.

In December, a Catholic bishop led police and legal officials to a mine near Santiago where 25 partially decomposed bodies were found in an immense

## The saga of Woolner Ave.

# Rent squabble and neglect continue

By Diana Fancher

The three year history of disaster and intrigue which has marred the lives of thousands of tenants passing through the 254 units at 220 and 230 Woolner Road went into a new phase this year. Another new owner was registered and present tenants decided on a rent strike.

The two high rises, part of a complex built on a former garbage dump at Jane and Woolner Rd. in the Borough of York, were the subject of a *Clarion* article in November 1977 when a succession of financial problems resulted in confusing and sometimes violent action between changing owners, mortgagees and a contractor, all of whom were trying

to collect the rent simultaneously.

Lack of maintenance was also a problem, although major repairs ordered by Borough officials had just been completed.

Now, over a year later, conditions in the buildings have deteriorated badly. This is a result of non-existent maintenance and a lack of attention by Borough officials, according to Ken Hale, a lawyer who set up the bank account for tenants joining the rent strike.

Tenant Hotline, Hale's employer, has been assisting tenants with the incredible financial and legal tangles that make it virtually impossible for either tenants of the Borough to sort out who is responsible for what, most of the time.

For instance, although A Drudi Real Estate Ltd. has been collecting rents on behalf of Yellow Sun Investments Ltd. since September, Yellow Sun was not registered as the owner until January. In December, however, a Vesting Order from the Supreme Court of Ontario (part of a case involving the right to sell and various liens) named Yellow Sun as the owner and PHI International Inc. as the sole mortgagee.

Meanwhile Drudi claims to have received an incomplete accounting of rents from Frank Griffo, a contractor authorized by a previous owner to collect rents in lieu of payment for work done on the buildings in 1977. Some tenants say they are receiving eviction notices for rent arrears as a result of Griffo's record keeping.

Other tenants are withholding rent on their own, independent of the Strike Fund because of the lack of maintenance or repair.

According to Drudi, the vacancy rate is 30 per cent. That plus rents withheld equals a loss of \$13,000 for January and February alone. Drudi has written to Simon Mielnczak, a community worker also helping the tenants and to his employer York Community Services threatening to sue both of them if tenants don't turn over monies paid into the strike fund.

Joyce Cardogen, a long time resident of 230 Woolner and a tenant's association executive member, describes her experience in the building this way:

"You talk to the management, you write to them and you don't get anywhere. As soon as a new management comes in they make new promises, but it doesn't change. I had the health department over in 1977, but the problem still isn't fixed. I pay my rent to the tenant's association now."

NEXT ISSUE: Who's behind Yellow Sun Investments and How Many Cockroaches Can Fit on a Butterplate?

## LAWLINE

Last issue we began talking about pensions for a permanent injury. This issue we discuss COLA's and supplements.

Is there any adjustment for cost of living?

Yes there is. The Workmen's Compensation Act was amended to give a cost of living increase to WCB pensioners who were injured before Dec. 31, 1977. (There's always a catch!)

Pensions were increased by a factor of 11 per cent if the injury occurred on or before Dec. 31, 1975; then they are increased by a factor of eight per cent for the period on or before Dec. 31, 1976; there is a further increase by a factor of six per cent for the period on or before Dec. 31, 1977.

So, if you were injured in 1974, you will get all three increases retroactively. If you were injured in, say, June 1977, you will get only the six per cent increase.

The WCB is still calculating the increases due to pensioners. But if you were on *Benefits* (not a Pension), you won't get any increases.

Your pension is too small. Can you do anything?

Yes, sometimes you can.

Often the WCB doctor sets the "percentage of disability" too low, even though the injured worker has lost 100 per cent of earning power.

In this case, go to see your own family doctor, and get a specialist's report to the WCB stating that your percentage is not a fair rating of your disability.

Also, contact the WCB Vocational Rehabilitation Branch for help in finding a "light job." It may be hopeless, but at least it shows the WCB that you are "motivated".

What about a pension supplement?

It is possible to get a supplement sometimes. The permanent pension is based on the extent of damage to your body. But the WCB Adjudication Branch may decide to award you a "pension supplement," which is a *temporary* increase in your pension.

To get this supplement you must co-operate with the WCB in trying to find a "light job." If you get a job, your supplement will be reduced. The supplement is paid monthly. It will be cut off completely when your permanent pension is greater than the different between 75 per cent of your wages in your old job and your new wages plus your pension.

Contact Lawline at 978-7293 if you have questions or need more information.

### Brian Iler and Norman Zlotkin

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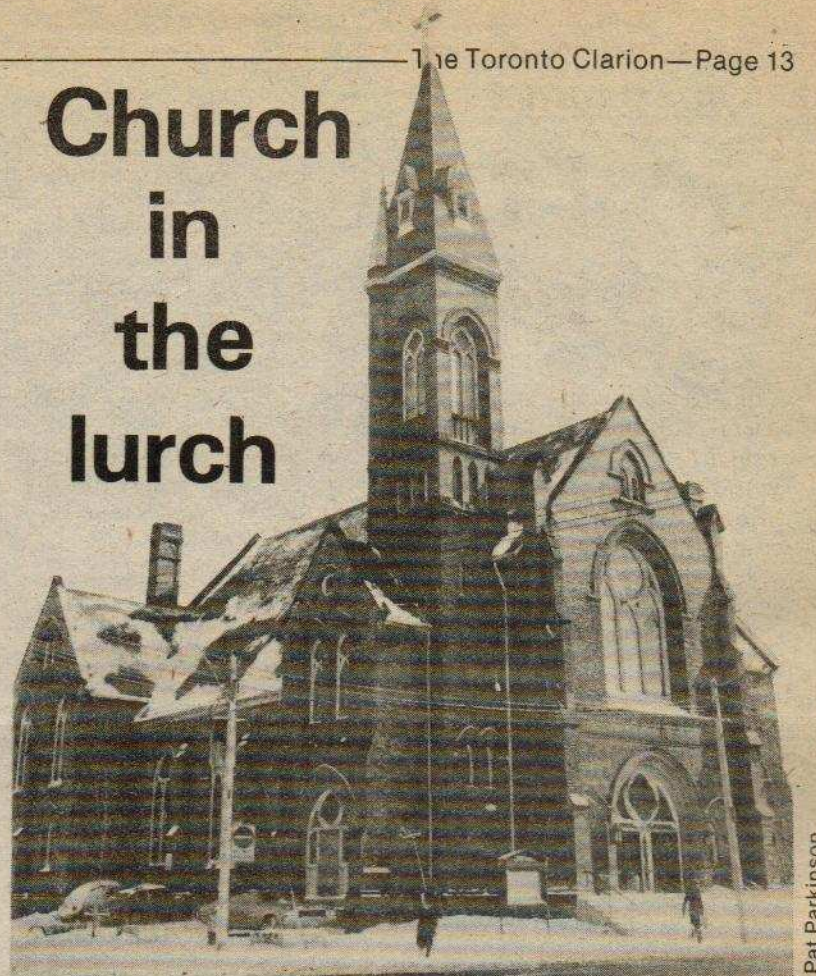
### Sudbury INCO Benefit

And the strike goes on. The strike support committee in Sudbury is holding a **Morale Raising Dinner** for all the strikers and their families. Approximately 15,000 people are expected to attend and they will be served in various halls in Sudbury. They are still \$4,000 short on the food money.

If you can assist in raising morale by sending money to help defray expenses, send it to:

Joan Kuyuk  
260 Edmund St.  
Sudbury, Ontario  
**Please make cheques payable to the Citizen Strike Support Committee.**

## Church in the lurch



Pat Parkinson

By Marg Anne Morrison

There is a real possibility that St. Paul's Centre at 121 Avenue Rd. will no longer be a community centre if the City of Toronto does not agree to give it additional funding soon.

St. Paul's Centre has been facing a financial crisis since last fall. Without city support the centre, which houses 11 permanent cultural and educational organizations (such as Development Educational Centre, TCLSAC, Christian Movement for Peace, Greenpeace and numerous dance and exercise classes) will be forced to disband.

St. Paul's church has said that 1979 will be the last year it is going to give any funding to the centre. In 1978 they granted \$8,000 which, along with a city grant of \$2,500, made up approximately 25 per cent of the total revenue.

Maureen Morris, the Centre co-ordinator, has been meeting with people from city hall and with the alderpeople in Ward 5, Susan Fish and Ying Hope. St. Paul's will need from the city at least as much as the church has given it, if not more, as they have been operating at a deficit, despite a 15 per cent increase in rents. The 100 year old building is in need of renovation and repair.

The Centre has lost substantial revenue in the last couple of years due to cutbacks affecting

theatre groups. In the past it was home to theatrical groups such as the New Theatre, Le Theatre du P'tit Bonheur and the Open Circle Theatre. In 1977 the city provided permanent space at Adelaide Court for these companies.

St. Paul's is a community centre for residents in the area, but is frequently used by groups and people from all over the city. It would indeed be a loss to Toronto if this cultural and information centre were to be disbanded.

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### TORONTO BOARD OF EDUCATION

#### Requests

#### Labour Relations Submissions

The Toronto Board of Education wants to establish a new long-term policy for labour relations. The purpose of such a policy would be to develop a style of negotiations which would reduce the conflict sometimes present in negotiations between the Toronto Board of Education and its various employee groups. This study is being conducted by a committee of the Board called the Collective Agreements Policy Committee. The Committee invites written submissions from any interested parties by **February 28, 1979.**

It is suggested that anyone who wished to make such a submission obtain a copy of Report No. 1 of the Collective Agreements Policy Committee, by calling 598-4931, local 631. Submissions should be forwarded to Dr. J. Fisher, Assistant Superintendent, Negotiations, Toronto Board of Education, 155 College St., Toronto M5T 1P6.

Fiona Nelson,  
Chairman,  
Toronto Board of Education.

Duncan Green,  
Director of Education

## OPSEU members settle with help from friends

Striking members of the Ontario Public Service Employees Union demonstrated late last month at the Casa Loma campus of George Brown College. The support staff for Ontario's community colleges accepted a 6 per cent wage increase February 6, ending the strike. The contract was ratified by a 70 per cent majority.



Marty Crowder

## Bosses try every trick

By Lane Wells

"One time a union organizer talked to a woman at her door for only a few minutes. She was obviously scared. The next day we heard that her husband beat her for daring to talk to a man."

That kind of domestic sexism is one reason why immigrant women are so difficult to organize, according to Evelyn Armstrong, a spokesperson for Organized Working Women. She was addressing a recent conference at Osgoode Hall on women and labour.

Most immigrant women workers, said Armstrong, "are in small plants working in sweatshop conditions for near the minimum wage of \$3 an hour. They're desperate to take jobs. They take anything. They're afraid and run from union organizing."

"The main problem is lan-

guage. Employers play on this — they threaten to deport them and because they don't understand the language and laws of the country, they are intimidated."

This oppression makes organizing difficult — but it also makes for tougher battles even in places where working immigrant women have unionized.

Workers at the Puretex Knitting Co., who are mostly foreign-born women, struck for three months for better wages and working conditions.

Madeleine Parent, secretary-treasurer of the Canadian Textile and Chemical Union, to which the Puretex strikers belong, pointed out that for two years the women have been watched by closed-circuit television cameras — one of which even surveys the entrance to the women's washroom.

The story around Puretex is that owner-manager Gary Satok gives more attention to the feeding schedule of his pet piranha than to the dignity of the women who work for him.

Many of the problems of organizing immigrant women are explored in the film *Maria*, which was shown at the conference.

The film is based on the experiences of a young Italian woman trying to organize garment workers at Puretex.

In the film, Maria turns to the Canadian Textile and Chemical Union after being told to "work hard and keep in touch" by an American union.

While attempting to organize, she faces workers divided against one another by skill, sex, ethnic origin and ignorance.

At the same time, there is continuous pressure from the bosses. Smiles, birthday cakes, new mirrors in freshly painted washrooms and lines like "our employees are like members of the family" alternate with firings, threats to close the plant, and even a knife being held to a worker's throat.

Her father, portrayed as a well-meaning patriarch caught up by Italian tradition, initially opposes her organizing work. He refers to her boyfriend, asking "Do you think he wants a wife who leads strikes?" However, her father eventually supports her after she breaks with the old ways of Italian women.

Although women are joining unions twice as fast as men, only 18 per cent of Canadian women workers are currently unionized, said Armstrong.

She added that although the barriers to organizing working immigrant women continue to be strong, immigrant women are organizing. "But it is very, very slow."

Armstrong cautioned that this kind of organizing shouldn't depend on professional union organizers. Instead, she said the main hope is that immigrant workers with union experience will "carry the message to people from their own group — Greek, Italian, Portuguese."

## Right and left slug it out

From page 1

right would scuttle the contract.

What was all the fuss about? Tim Rutledge, the most eloquent member of the board's right wing faction, spoke of the precedent that would have been set by the proposed "marriage of surplus teachers and tenure," which he regarded as a potential "earthquake".

But Rutledge was prepared to accept figures produced for the meeting, by Roger Wilson, chief negotiator for Toronto's secondary school teachers, Wilson's figures aimed to justify retention of tenure (see box this page).

Irene Atkinson expressed the right's sentiments: "There is no way that we are going to let tenure be in that contract." Joan Doiron, a left-wing trustee, claimed that this indicated the attitude of *resentment* against teachers: "let us not allow anything more to others than we have ourselves."

The right won on the basis of defections and a failure of the left to muster support from the wavering middle. The most serious loss to the left was the defection of separate school representative, Joe Sadowski, the youngest board member. He charged the contract "feather-bedded" teachers.

Serious efforts were made to woo Sadowski back to the left wing fold. At about 11:30 on Thursday night, as the debate was nearing its conclusion, board Vice-Chairman Sheila Meagher was trying to persuade Sadowski to change his mind and vote with the coalition. Sadowski looked worried, almost tearful, like a young man who had bitten off a lot more than he could chew.

Ten minutes later he approached a small group in the lobby that included Susan Hunter-Harvey. He seemed about to speak, but at that moment Mary Fraser came out of the board chamber, cocked a finger at Sadowski and as much as led him back to the chamber.

Harold Menzies, the board's oldest member and sometime ally of the left, chided the coalition for the process by which the tentative contract had been reached. "There is a hatred in this city that I have never detected before."

"Tenure" has become a hate word; teacher baiting has become a respectable sport. For Menzies the blame rests not only with the media but with the coalition. He warned the "young, eager beavers" of the abuse of power and voted against the contract "with great

misgivings."

Arnold Hancock, who seemed to be wavering throughout the meeting, voted against the contract, not so much because it was a bad contract, although he had reservations about its financial implications, but because he felt excluded from the process. Hancock said it would "have been altogether different if we had been consulted."

Bill Fisher, is a leader in the left coalition, identified the issue: "The real issue here is that 13 or so people, representing the most progressive elements of the country, got elected to this board."

### Contract nitty gritty

The Toronto board's contract extended to August 31, 1979 and did not differ substantially from past contracts. The salary increase over last year was only 5.7 per cent, substantially less than the provincial average of 6.4 per cent.

To increase the attrition rate of teachers leaving the system, new provisions were introduced into the contract for part-time teaching, leaves of absence, self-financed sabbatical leaves, and early retirement on a voluntary basis.

All in all, it was a responsible contract, both in terms of the needs of the students served by the board and the taxpayers' pockets. The draft contract was agreed upon after only a week of negotiations and seemed to herald a new level of co-operation between trustees and teachers.

Job security for teachers was the crucial issue. Tenure has been in effect since 1973, and the new contract would only have continued it. Meanwhile the media in Toronto had turned it into one of the hottest issues going.

The chairman of the Metro Board, Gerry Philips warned that if the clause was retained, it would cost up to 146 million dollars throughout Metro. All the major dailies in the city picked up these figures in news articles and editorially attacked the board and the "revolutionaries" who controlled it. Bette Stephenson, on the same day announced cuts in provincial grants to local school boards in the province, warned that the tenure clause was too expensive and called for a taxpayer revolt against the Toronto Board if school taxes were raised.

However at the Feb. 8 board meeting, Roger Wilson, chief negotiator for Toronto's secondary school teachers, produced figures to show that assuming the tenure clause is retained over the next seven years, the real cost would only be slightly more than 16 million at present attrition rates, and 3.4 million with the higher attrition rates projected if the provisions of the contract were carried. Based on the same assumptions, costs throughout Metro and the province would be similar.

### Funds for Social Change Groups

Ontario PLURA has funds available to help groups of disadvantaged people get social change projects started. The Presbyterian, Lutheran, United, Roman Catholic and Anglican churches have made an annual grant available to the Ontario PLURA Committee.

Ontario PLURA assists the Underprivileged in society by funding grass-roots, self-help, low-income groups.

For an application form and additional information contact:

J. Douglas Varey,  
Secretary, Ontario PLURA,  
Room 414, 85 St. Clair Ave. E.  
Toronto, Ontario, M4T 1L8  
Telephone: (416) 964-2124

All applications must be received by the Secretary on or before March 30, 1979.

Disadvantaged fall prey to UIC changes

Benefits shrink again

by Paul Weinberg

Consider two people living on unemployment insurance, Peter and Deborah, months after the federal government has made changes to the unemployment insurance act.

Peter is listed at Canada Manpower as a research assistant. He is male, 28, with a university education, has a couple of years of work experience. He has had four months of benefits and is still looking for work.

Deborah was laid off from her waitressing job. She is single, 23, and earns \$60 a week on unemployment insurance. Before such changes in the federal legislation as the 10 per cent cut in weekly benefits, Deborah was earning \$65. Like many waitresses, Deborah was paid 15 per cent below the minimum wage and lived on her

tips. The federal unemployment insurance scheme does not take into account the Ontario provincial law allowing people waiting on tables in restaurants to be paid less than minimum wage.

Left alone

Peter will probably be left alone by the department of employment and immigration for five months before being called in for an interview, says Keith Oleksiuk, a counsellor for the Unemployment Help Centre operated by the Metro Labour Centre at Bloor and Ossington.

He will be helped by the fact that he is male, over 25 years of age, and is in what the federal government calls "a low demand category" of the job market. Professionals like Peter who are trained for jobs like

teaching, journalism, and research will not be hassled by the department, says Oleksiuk, because there are just not many jobs in their fields.

The same cannot be said for Deborah. She has had a couple of library and waitressing jobs and would like something different. Chances are, says Oleksiuk, she could be called for an interview by the department once a month.

Deborah belongs to the "high demand category", that is, she is unskilled and considered by the federal department to be a good candidate for employment — in an unskilled and probably low-paying area.

The categories existed before the changes in the unemployment insurance legislation. The changes merely emphasize the difference: if you are young, female, immigrant, or unskilled, chances are that the new changes will hurt you.

Women, young workers immigrants are assumed by the federal law to be abusing the unemployment insurance system. That assumption is challenged by the Metro Social Planning Council, which, describes people in these three categories as among the most economically and politically vulnerable in our society.

The new changes to the unemployment insurance rules will mean more of a cut in income for an already low income person. The higher income person on the other hand will be receiving almost the same benefits.

Previously those receiving benefits would be given 66 per cent of their average income; the new act changes that to 60 per cent.

The new act also increases the maximum in insurable earnings from \$240 to \$265.

Lower rates

Previously the highest benefits an individual could receive, was two thirds of \$240 or \$160. Under the new act, a person would get 60 per cent of \$265 or \$159.

"Workers who are organized in unions and have been able to bargain for their wages and have been laid off for lack of work, have a little better chance of not being hassled by unemployment insurance authorities," says Oleksiuk.

Under the old legislation part-time workers must have earned \$48 a week to qualify for unemployment insurance. Under the new act, this is changed to 20 hours a week regardless of the amount of pay. "This rules out," says Oleksiuk, "a lot of

people, particularly part-time waitresses, young and immigrant people getting into the work force, graduate assistants and even airline pilots."

Not affected

One group not affected, he says, are supply teachers. They do not qualify for benefits if they worked less than two and a half days weekly.

"The new act could have a detrimental effect on people in high turnover jobs like clerical or sales."

New entrants struggling to find a secure spot in the labour force will be affected by the changes in the act that deal with a person's employment in the last two years, rather just the previous ten weeks. Students and women who leave work to care for their children will be affected by the new rules.

People with less than 14 insurable weeks in the preceding year before their qualifying period, would have to have at least 20 weeks of insurable employment in their qualifying period to be eligible for benefits.

The government's rationale: a person re-entering the work force "should show that he or she has, in fact, a substantial attachment to the labour force before being eligible for benefits."

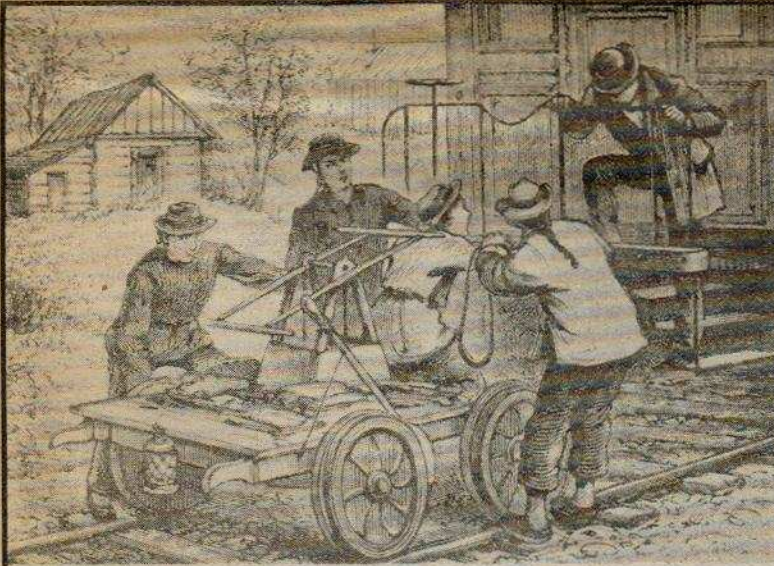
The indoor run

From page 16

Running indoors can be the only reasonable choice when wintry squalls engulf Toronto, making the experience of traversing the greasy streets tedious.

But, when the weather is stable (cold but light winds and

cleared sidewalks), running indoors should only offer a welcome change to the fun of running outdoors. Indoor running, with its tight corners and hard surfaces does not help keep the body injury-free. But it is on occasion worthwhile to escape from Toronto's wild winter.



Don't let them steamroll you!

Hop aboard Emma's and whisk along with her to The Definitive Benefit. The best talent in town will make March 29 come alive in preparation for Emma's, a co-operative night spot being brought to you by the Fantasy Committee. Phone Sue or Bob at 363-4404.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Community printing: bulletins, flyers, brochures. Quantity rates. Plowshare 536-8544.

Co-op house 47 Sullivan St. (Queen-Spadina area) looking for female member, vegetarian, share responsibility for child of house. 363-3889. Ask for Bill, Gail, or Kent.

Beaver is a political advocacy group for prostitutes and other workers of the "flesh." They are setting up a crisis legal service for women in the sex trade. If interested, call Priscilla Platt, 367-4659.

Canada's New Immigration Act, a guide and critical commentary, can be obtained by sending a cheque or money order for \$4 plus 50¢ handling charges to the Law Union, c/o 165 Spadina Ave., Suite 33, Toronto.

The Law Union of Ontario is a group of socialist and progressive lawyers, law students and legal workers. They need volunteers for newsletter, health and safety, national security, and litigation groups and the Law Union collective on workmen's compensation. There may also be a group in the area of family law. For more information phone 869-1368.

A refugee manual can be obtained by contacting Ian Morrison of

Toronto Community Legal Assistance, 928-6447.

Science Fiction & Fantasy, by Canadians, wanted for an anthology to appear Spring 1979. John Robert Colombo, 42 Dell Port Ave, Toronto M6B 2T6.

Mature person needed to assist in expanding business. Call 461-7398 (evenings).

Greenpeace Toronto will occupy the site of the world's largest nuclear power plant in June (Darlington in Newcastle). Information and mobilizing meeting, Feb. 28, 8 p.m., St. Paul's Centre, 121 Avenue Rd., north of Bloor. 922-3011.

Clarion staffer is looking for a one bedroom flat or apartment, preferably cheap and central (who's he kidding?). Call Norman at 363-4404 or 656-5960.

Factory 77 is a non-profit public art gallery aiming to meet the need of artists for an alternative gallery, provide an environment for the public to see and understand the work, and promote student participation. Membership open to all. 77 Mowat St., 2nd floor.

Moving? John's day and night moving. Experienced, skillful and reasonable. Call 533-7234.

The West City YMCA has established a new project aimed at developing better understanding between the various cultural and racial groups in West Toronto. Located at 15 Robina Ave. and St. Clair Ave. W. Will take a multicultural approach to programming with the focus on West Indian and Italian communities. For more information drop in or call 654-4203.

I won't write your paper for you. But I will: 1. Help you organize your basic ideas or themes; 2. Help you outline your paper; 3. Help you research your issue(s) or problem(s); 4. Compile a bibliography or list of references, and 5. Criticize your draft(s). Call Don, 921-8022, day or evening. Rate: \$5/hr.

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Politicized woman seeks others to begin a self-help group for compulsive eaters who are overweight. Call Elaine, 483-6544, nights only.

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Table with 4 rows and 20 columns for classified ad submissions.

Paid classified - any ad by which the advertiser will make money. Free classified - almost anything else (housing wanted, help wanted, people wanted).



Greg Lockhart

# “He who laps last laps longest.....”

By Gerald Feeney

With the Star Indoor Games come and gone, it is a good time to look at the state of indoor running in Toronto.

Ten years ago the only people running indoors were either serious athletes (of the Olympic genre) or the sweat-encrusted “Y” jogger who habitually put in a good five-mile run on the weekends.

But now the indoor running places are bulging at the seams with recently converted runners. Many of these people are not just putting in a leisurely few miles, but are probably doing winter training for the upcoming spring marathon in Ottawa.

To the uninitiated, there probably appear to be few differences between indoor and outdoor running. But a number of

characteristics are peculiar to indoor running.

While outdoor running may involve a certain detachment or escapism, the indoor counterpart provides us with an intensive bombardment of social stimuli. You are usually enclosed on all sides by all sizes and shapes of people who are running at various speeds. It may seem like a very intimidating environment to the novice, but indoor runners are generally very accommodating people.

There are too many indoor tracks to mention here, so I will just focus on a few more notable ones.

## Hart House

The University of Toronto houses the charming and venerable Hart House running track.

Hart House has seen the likes of many Canadian Olympians since it opened in 1922. Such household names as Bruce Kidd and Bill Crothers have graced the “Fish Bowl” of Hart House. This 150-yard tiled board track (12 laps to the mile) is crowded during weekday lunch hours, and overflowing between 4 and 6 p.m. on those same days.

For students and alumni there are lockers and changerooms available at Hart House. Even if you are an “outsider,” you should have no problem changing at home and transporting yourself to the track for an early morning or late evening run. If you ever think you are getting too dizzy with these continuous circles, consider the fact that people have run a marathon (called aptly the Madness Marathon) which requires 302 laps of this track!

## Central Y

Both the prestigious Central and West End YMCAs have suitable venues for running. For the low price of \$175 a year you can cruise around a corked, 26 laps to the mile, track with the soundtrack from *Saturday Night Fever* booming in the background.

The track in both Ys is fairly narrow and crowded at the usual peak periods of weekday lunch and supper hours. The membership fee covers the use of the entire facility, not just the running track. These tracks are small and it is difficult to imagine running more than three miles on them. If it is any compensation, they change the direction of running every day (i.e. clockwise Monday then counterclockwise Tuesday). The theory behind this rule is that you don't overload one side of your body with stress. Actually, you spread the damage to other parts of the body.

## Spadina Y

At the YM and YWHA at Spadina and Bloor, people can run on a large corked track (18 laps to the mile) in a modern gym. The newer northern branch has a larger track (16 laps to the mile) and it even has an air conditioned second track as an extra. The corners are very sharp



# Tom Mooney

There's a great novel or popular history to be written about the Olympic Village. Have you ever wondered what happens to when 8,000 of the world's best athletes from virtually every corner of the globe are locked together — with another barrier attempting to separate men from women — for a month to compete under the spotlight of the world? The intrigues? The psyching? The conversations and adventures?

There're just as many stories to be told about the provision of that accomodation. The first distinct “Olympic Village” in Los Angeles was a new subdivision which was quickly sold, but subsequent villages have had much different histories. The so-called “Village of Peace” in Berlin in 1936 turned out to be the living quarters of the pilots of the Luftwaffe, and the 1964 Tokyo Village had been built to accomodate the U.S. army of occupation. The Lake Placid Village is destined to become a prison.

Several Villages have created major headaches for the communities involved. In Montreal, Drapeau's pyramids swallowed up a chunk of an east-end public Golf Course and in Lake Placid it's bringing an eyesore to a magnificent state park along with likely demonstrations during the Games.

All this has been prompted by reports from the Canada Winter Games in Brandon, Manitoba. Last night the *Clarion* got a call from Brian Peldon, the secretary of the Brandon University Student Union (our beloved sports editor's alma matter). To provide athletic accomodation, it seems, the university has evicted all students and their belongings from residence for two weeks, telling them to take their books home with them so they can make up classes.

For a few, like foreign and native students, who insist upon remaining in Brandon because they can't return home easily, the university is putting bunkbeds in a nearby school that was condemned and closed last year by the province. No wonder lots of people resent highly competitive sport.

(It won't be rosy for the athletes, either. It'll be four to a single room, six to a double.)

But although they've left their protest to the last minute, the Brandon students are learning fast. I asked Pelden if they had any demands. “Well,” he said, “we didn't ask for much at first, but when the university heard we were going to protest, they said they would give us what we wanted. So we've got some new demands and we're hanging tough.”

Negotiations are continuing.

★★★★★★

Last year the University of Toronto decided to “permit” women to play in a number of interfaculty sports which traditionally had been the exclusive preserve of men. This year approximately 20 women have taken advantage of the new rule and their experience indicates that few, if any, of the problems anticipated by the opponents have arisen.

In fact, the expectation now is that as skill levels improve, more and more women will participate against men in such sports as soccer, basketball, volleyball and touch football.

One fear was that male chauvinists would take advantage of the rule to enter women's leagues and run up the score. Three men took part in interfaculty field hockey, once a female-only league.

Two were of average ability and their presence caused little concern.

But in the final game of the season, one college brought in an outstanding male player, who helped his team squeak into the playoffs. Although the Interfaculty Office has said publicly that it would step in and stop such a situation, no formal protest was lodged.

Then, the first game of the play-offs, the opposing team used its biggest player to check this male, and she, in the words of one spectator, “hacked away at his ankles while the official looked the other way.”

It seems that the ringer has decided to give up the women's league. People invariably find a way to straighten things out among themselves.

at both facilities, which makes running uncomfortable. The all-inclusive fee at these places is \$180 a year.

## CNE

The *crème de la crème* of Toronto inside running palaces has to be the CNE South East Industries building. This is the location of the pig and swine exhibit at the Royal Winter Fair. When the fair closes in early November, the pigs and sheep are soon replaced by runners tearing around a 200-metre rubberized board track (that's a

mere eight laps to the mile!).

But a good track draws a multitude of runners to test their abilities. The track's restrictive hours (4-8:30 p.m. Mondays to Fridays) mean that it's usually crowded. The \$20 yearly fee covers all the running you would like to do until mid-April. But for the novice runner, a \$1.25 daily charge might be sufficient to satisfy your curiosity. Fridays are generally a good time to go, as many athletes rest up for competitions on Saturday.

See Indoor page 15

# SCORE!

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