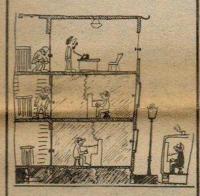


The Companeros, a new band in the city that does more than sing — their lyrics speak for the liberation struggle and tell of the brutality of political repression. See page 7.

Toronto women continue to be harassed when getting abortions. See page 9 for more abortion horror stories.

水水水水水



So you figure we're just paranoid when we run stories about the illegal activities of the RCMP? Well once again they've been caught with their pants down. See page 4.

ale ale ale ale ale

Everyone has a reason and a remedy for the ills of the Toronto Maple Leafs. The Clarion is no exception — we've got one that just may work. See page 12.

York semors sidestep council by forming co-op to save their homes

By Brynne Teall

The senior citizen tenants of Beech-Hall Apartments have voted to form a housing cooperative to buy and maintian their homes, rather than face resettlement throughout Metro by the Borough of York, the apartments' present owner.

The 128 unit complex for senior citizens is the only non-profit housing development owned by the Borough of York. In February, the York Council decided to phase out the complex.

Tenants immediately protested the

decision, and gained the support of Tenant Hotline, Mayor Gayle Christie, and several aldermen, but the Council stuck to its position that they cannot afford to maintain the apartments.

Thus the tenants decided on April 25 to form the Beech-Hall Housing Cooperative. They hired the Co-operative Housing Federation of Toronto to help them set up the co-op structure.

Beech-Hall Housing Co-operative has now put in an offer of approximately \$500,000 on the property. If this book-

value offer is accepted, rents will be about \$125 for a one bedroom apartment.

If the purchase is made, all management services and costs previously provided by the Borough will be assumed by the co-operative. The property will no longer be a burden to York taxpayers, since the co-operative would pay its annual property tax bill.

Most importantly, the tenants will be able to stay in the homes which some of them have occupied for over twenty years.

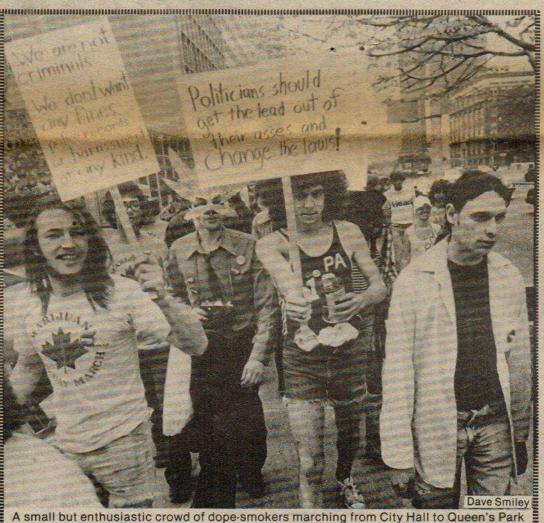
TORONTO C 25 cents

Vol. III No. 10

May 16-May 29, 1979

Metro's Newspaper for Social Change

Sale threatens strike



A small but enthusiastic crowd of dope-smokers marching from City Hall to Queen's Park May 12 were warmly supported by passersby. At Queen's Park Scott Boughner, vice president of the Toronto chapter of NORML said that almost all federal candidates supported the decriminalization of pot. Because the issue is not important to them, however, they must still be pressed, Boughner said.

Del Zotto bros. try old trick on bakery workers

Clarion staff

Nearly 180 striking workers at Hunts Bakery are battling for a new contract — and for their jobs — against the bakery's owners, who have sold the bakery since the strike began.

And it's not the first time that Del Zotto Enterprises, which owns the bakery, has used tactics against its employees which appear to be aimed at breaking their union.

A week after the bakery strike began March 12, Del Zotto listed the factory for sale, and apparently "sold" it a week later, according to Herb Thorne. Thorne is a spokesperson for the bakery workers' union, local 461 of the Retail, Wholesale, Bakery and Confectionary Workers Union.

However, Thorne said he didn't know who the building has been sold to, and Del Zotto isn't telling.

Although the Del Zotto family is very secretive about its financial holdings, the three Del Zotto brothers are believed to control or have interests in more than 250 companies, including real estate, food, construction, and property management firms.

Thorne suggested it is possible that Del See DEL ZOTTO: page 2

CJRT accused of censoring show

By Carl Stieren

Radio programming on the Third World "is a subject matter so delicate that no other radio station in Toronto (except occasionally CBC) would touch it with a 10-foot pole."

Those strong words came from CJRT-FM Station Manager Cam Finley as he explained why CJRT had temporarily suspended airing the weekly program "From a Different Perspective". which deals with Third World problems.

The program, produced by Peter Davies, Robert Clarke, Richard Swift and Allan Ross Gibson of the Develop-

ment Education Centre, (DEC) is still being broadcast on 11 other stations coast-to-coast. The series, funded by CIDA, Oxfam, and CUSO, is carried by the Alberta Government's "Access" network, Co-op Radio in Vancouver, and even the rock station CHEZ-FM in Ottawa.

Without prior notice, CJRT-FM announced after the April 30 program, that the series would not be broadcast the next week.

"It's only off the air temporarily," Finley told the *Clarion*. "It will be back on the air."

The series was suspended because the producers from DEC "just didn't have

enough programs in the bank," Finley said.

"Lead time is required for our Program Guide, so we ask for eight programs in the bank (in advance)," Finley said.

"The bank had fallen down to one program ahead by April 30."

One of the program's producers, however, had a different explanation for CJRT's insistence on a bank of eight programs.

"Without a program bank, if they (CJRT) didn't approve of what we had done, then they'd have to air it anyway, which they would not do, or leave a gap in the program."

Finley hotly denied that the temporary suspension meant any new policy of less Third World programming at CJRT.

"In fact, we have other Third World programs nearly every week through the Committee for Justice and Liberty with Gerald Vanderzande, which was started even before 'From a Different Perspective'," Finley added.

This year, CJRT received \$92,000 in pledges during its on-air campaign—although \$11,000 of that has not yet come in. Its corporate and other donations make up about \$185,000. The Province then matches these con-

See CJRT: page 2



Intestinal fortitude

The latest fast food product has hit the market.

Becker's Milk Stores have decided that their staple product, milk, needs a gimmick. They've come up with a new kind of white stuff called "nu-trish". It's cow's milk with lactobacillus acidophilus culture added. This bacteria aids the digestive process, and Becker's come-on is that the new product "works more efficiently in helping to digest food."

Now I'm sure that the vast majority of us who have no difficulty whatever in digesting food don't need to pay an extra five cents a quart to make our stomachs mulch faster. Nevertheless, by quick calculations, if each Canadian saved ten seconds of gut power per swallow, the energy conservation in this country would exceed federal recommendations by 33.4 per cent.

Anyway, Nu-Trish is invaluable when it comes to digesting other Becker's products: the plastic cakes, the cardboard cookies, the rotgut soft drinks and candies. The company seems to be aware of this, as it advises that Nu-trish is necessary because of "improper eating habits brought on by our modern lifestyle" — to which milk stores have made a hefty contribution.

Big Sister

Bell Canada really knows how to march us into the future. A new scheme of theirs will place 60 high-powered television cameras overlooking Metro Toronto's main arteries to supervise traffic flows. A test system has already been installed on the Don Valley Parkway.

The cameras can be aimed by a call from a telephone.

The company plans to sell its new toys to government agencies including the police. Bell spokespersons are enthusiastic that the system will be a boon to traffic control.

Another selling point, presumably, is the fact that the cameras can also be used to monitor pedestrians.

Crombie in trouble

No one can accuse independent candidate Dr. Hans Blumenfeld of ignoring a key issue in this federal election.

"I am running on a single issue: survival" — he's talking about the arms race, and he has many sensible things to say about this threat to humanity.

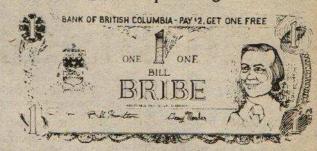
But his strategy to win a seat in Rosedale riding seems a trifle odd.

"Everybody knows," declares his campaign literature, "who Rosedale will send to Ottawa: the incumbent, David Crombie. So, if you favour Dave, you are wasting your vote, because he does not need it. And if you favour any of the other candidates, you are wasting your vote, because they won't get in anyway."

Now, since the good doctor doesn't believe he stands a chance either, it seems the argument is that no one should vote for anyone, and no one gets elected. But this is premised on the calling of the election.

If there is no election on May 22, then all candidates will win (or lose), even though no one votes and Crombie does not run. If there is an election and Crombie wins, then Blumenfeld does not win, so he will no doubt spoil his ballot and/or vote for someone else. Waste your ballot wisely and often.

Dollar diplomacy



The truth about Bill Bennett's election victory in British Columbia is now revealed.

His secret was to use a campaign trick common enough in the days before the century belonged to us and we learned lawn order: it's called bribery.

Here's a sample of the bank note the Socreds printed for the purpose. Our west coast correspondents say B.C. was flooded with them. Back east, however, I've had some difficulty trying to exchange Bennett bucks for the local green.



Neo-colonialism?

The Department of External Affairs recently announced a grant to five Canadian playwrights for a tour this summer of art centres and theatres in England and Scotland.

I wish the writers every success. But I also wish the money could be spent in Canada. There's little enough Canadian theatre as it is and some smaller communities rarely have a chance to see any.

External Affairs says the tour is designed to demonstrate to Europeans the results of "the surge in Canadian theatre over the past ten years."

Del Zotto tactics threaten bakery jobs

From page 1

Zotto Enterprises may have 'sold' the bakery to another family-controlled company.

The strike began after management insisted on weakening seniority and overtime clauses which were in the previous contract.

Management negotiator Tony Michaels has represented other Del Zotto companies in negotiations with construction unions, according to Thorne, who described Michaels as "the worst negotiator I've had to deal with in 20 years."

He said Michaels demanded that seniority provisions be based on length of time worked in a single department rather than total time worked at the bakery, as was the case in the previous contract.

Management also wants overtime to be paid only after employees work 40 hours in a week, rather than after any day in which they work more than eight hours. Thorne said the management demand would mean that bakery workers scheduled to work Sundays and holidays as part of a 40 hour week would lose the overtime they are now paid for those days.

The employees and

management have agreed on a wage increase of 50 cents in each year of a two-year contract, Thorne said.

He said that after the "sale" of the bakery at 67 Walker Avenue, management came up with another offer — to hire 40 of the strikers, chosen by the company, to work in the company's "new" plant.

Michaels told the union that if the offer was accepted, the 40 workers "could start right away, tomorrow," Thorne said. The union declined.

He added that although the company has removed some equipment from the bakery, the bulk of it, including ovens and "\$1 million worth of doughnut-making equipment", remains inside.

Since the strike began, the

bakery workers have "cut 60 per cent of Hunts' business," Thorne said, by calling a boycott of the bakery's products.

When Del Zotto was negotiating its first contract with the Hunts Bakery workers in 1974, the company also threatened workers' jobs by claiming it might be forced to close down the bakery. The company claimed the effects of the 1974 strike were forcing to look for other uses for the land.

"No matter where Hunts Bakeries moves in Toronto, they'll still have to bargain with us," he said.

CJRT Program problems

From page 1

tributions two-to-one, to make up a budget of more than \$900,000

Finley said CJRT's concern with "From a Different Perspective" wasn't motivated by any corporate criticism, nor any criticism from the RCMP.

"We haven't had any nasty notes from corporations — and a lot of corporations support this radio station."

Honest journalism and a clear admission of any bias were the only criteria which CJRT insisted upon in the DEC series, Finley added.

Nevertheless, there was one (and only one) program in the entire series which CJRT didn't broadcast — a two-part program on the Trilateral Commission, a secret association of leaders of multinational corporations and western politicians.

L'EXPRESS

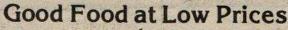
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FOOD CO-OP

363-3309

Toronto Federation of Food Co-operatives and Clubs

Government 'misled' residents

Lead emissions high

By Anna Fraser

Lead emissions from one of Toronto's largest processors of lead continue to exceed the levels permitted by the Ministry of the Environment despite years of effort by concerned residents, workers and after a warning from a government inquiry.

According to figures released by the Ministry, the Canada Metal plant on Eastern Avenue has exceeded the permitted levels on over 25 per cent of the days when samples were taken. These figures are for the period from July to December, 1978 — the most recently available.

But the ministry did not release this information until April 20, over three months after the readings were taken.

John Argue, a staff member of the South Riverdale Community Health Centre, was told by Russ Boyd of the Ministry that "there is no cause for alarm. There is nothing to worry about if the levels are high on individual days, its the mean average over the month that counts."

Boyd neglects to mention that

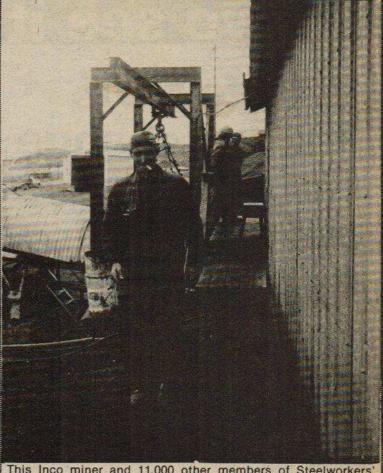
the effects of high lead levels are cumulative.

Local residents have been angered by the apparent attempt by the Ministry of the Environment to 'cover up' the figures.

In a letter to Harry Parrot, the Minister in charge, from Sheila Cram, President of the Health Centre's board of directors, says, "Some people here are angry, and we believe legitimately, since it seems we have all been misled.

"It would be inadequate and inefficient of your Ministry not to identify high lead levels, but when residents of the area, as well as the Health Centre, ask for assurances and are given false information, it is just cause for outrage."

A public meeting will be held at the South Riverdale Community Health Centre, 126 Pape Ave., at 8 p.m. Monday, May 28. Results of the meeting's discussion will be presented to the Board of Health. Environment Minister Harry Parrott will attend the meeting, and Canada Metal president Doug Hutton has also been invited.



This Inco miner and 11,000 other members of Steelworkers' Local 6500 in Sudbury will stay out on strike. Inco's stockpile of nickel has dwindled and the company is willing to make a deal for the first time in months. But the workers are not satisfied with Inco's offer and have thrown it back to management for a better deal in compensation for the months of waiting for Inco to negotiate. They demand "30 and out" — a pension after 30 years service, better vacation pay and a fairer cost of living allowance. Stewards, Wives Supporting the Strike, and a large majority of those who voted are all willing to live on \$33 a week while they wait for Inco to come to terms.

Update

St. Paul's Centre gets grant

The City of Toronto has approved a grant to St. Paul's Centre (121 Avenue Rd.) matching the amount that the Ontario Heritage Board pledged for a current feasibility study of the centre.

The cost of the study is \$6,500, with the city and the Heritage Board each giving \$3,250. The study is due to be completed in early June. It will suggest renovations and upgrading and will outline the mechanical and structural condition of the building.

The city also approved a general support grant of \$2,500, equal to the amount given last year.

Young Canada Works Project has also been approved for St. Paul's. It will pay three workers this summer, plus \$1,098 in materials and expenses.

Parents fight teacher firings

A North York alliance of parents and teachers against the reactionary board of education is shaping up, says one teacher activist.

One thousand parents showed up on Monday May 7 at the North York board to protest the firing of 214 teachers and the resulting cutback in such services as English as a Second language classes. All but three trustees ignored the parents' pleas, however, and went ahead to fire the teachers, despite a surplus in their budget.

"While I am upset by the firing," says Peter McLaren, a member of SNIC (Special Needs Inner City) and a Jane-Finch area teacher, "the solidarity between parents and teachers was impressive."

"We'll be having some public forums in the community. While parents and teachers in North York do not have the pull they have in the city, I can forsee more large parent delegations coming to meet the board."

Lancia strike continues

The strike by Canadian Food and Allied Workers has just completed its 8th week of picketing against Lancia Bravo. Management has not negotiated since their last offer was refused on April 24.

A financial appeal has gone out to all other unions in Ontario.

English as a second language classes are being held at the union hall for members.

Judge orders rent paid

Citing testimony of a by-law enforcement officer that the landlord is completing most of the repairs ordered by the Borough of York, County Court Judge Webb has ordered that rents collected by the Woolner Avenue Tenants' Association be paid to the landlord.

The tenants' lawsuit for rent abatements against Yellow Sun Investments Ltd. and MacDonald Cartier Trust Company was postponed for another 30 days. When the case resumes, the judge will hear evidence that tenants deserve rent abatements for being forced to live in substandard conditions for so many years.

Many tenants believe that their lawsuit and their withholding of rents — more than \$15,000 in rent was paid to the court instead of the landlord — has been a success, since those actions have forced major and long-overdue renairs to be made

The Tenants' Association is now gearing up to fight the landlord's application to Rent Review for increases in rent of up to 40 per cent.

Increased lead dangers revealed in U.S. study

In response to communication from the health centre, Dr. David Parkinson, an expert in the field of industrial and environmental medicine, formerly of Toronto, but now working at the University of Pittsburgh, said, "The results from Canada Metal are somewhat alarming and suggest that there are still major problems at the plant."

I have not heard or seen any reports of lead levels in children recently. I would suggest that a survey as performed previously should be done at both Toronto Refiners and Smelters and Canada Metal. Authorities in the U.S. are becoming increasingly concerned with effects in children." he added.

The studies to which Dr. Parkinson referred in his letter were one from the March 1979 issue of the prestigious New England Journal of Medicine (N.E.J.M.) on the "Deficits in Psychologic and Classroom Performance of Children with Elevated Dentine Lead Levels" and another from the November 1978 issue of the Journal of Occupational Medicine in the "Increased Lead Absorption in Children of Workers in a Lead Storage Plant."

The N.E.J.M. article stated that children with high lead levels in their baby teeth scored lower than children with low lead levels in all intelligence test, verbal tests, hearing and speech processing and had shorter attention span. These results were independent of 39 other variables tested such as income level of parents, ethnic background and parents occupation which would tend to rule out class and income bias.

The article also states that "The defined 'no effect' levels for lead has undergone a steady downward revision over the past three decades as new deta have shown effects at lower doses. Currently the (Atlanta) Center for Disease Control has defined a blood lead level of 30 mg per deciliter as the threshold

for undue lead absorption."

The article cites a recent report which suggests that adverse effects begin as low as blood lead levels of 15 mg per deciliter. The City of Toronto's Department of Public Health follows the 30 mg level as the one at which official concern should be shown.



Controversy over the level of lead absorption in children centres around the Canada Metal plant pictured above.

Anarchists to protest

The American Civil Liberties Union in Detroit will defend the rights of twelve Canadians to enter the United States. The twelve were barred admission on April 13 and charged with seeking to promote anarchy in the USA.

At the time, the twelve were told to appear for a court hearing in Detroit on May 7. The ACLU has requested that the hearing be postponed until May 21, but no word has been received from the US Department of Justice as to the new date of the hearings.

In Toronto, the anarchists charged and sympathizers will stage a picket in front of the US Consulate on University Avenue on May 19 at 2 pm. The aim of the protest is to demand that the US uphold the Helsinki Agreement of 1975, which was signed by both the US and Canada.

The Helsinki Agreement guarantees the free flow of persons and ideas among signatory nations.

At the time of their detention and interrogation at the US border, the twelve were on their way to a conference of the Anarchist-Communist Federation of North America (ACF-NA) in Ypsilanti, Michigan.

When the Canadians were sent back across the border, five US delegates of the ACF-NA joined them in Windsor, and the conference was held on both sides of the border using constant telephone communication.

Pat Parkinson

As we see it

Vote NDP. But real change comes from our own organizing.

Once again politicians promise cures for ailments to the body politic or, failing that, analgesics to soothe the pain. Faced with a ballot containing the names of distributors of the three major brands of political medicine, what ought we do?

We can of course refuse to vote, in the belief that all three choices are equally futile or corrupt. This decision, though not the one to be advocated here, is at least arguable.

But if we decide to vote, we should vote for the NDP. Why? Because their policies are the best or rather the least objectionable? Yes; lowering mortgage rates, for example, does more to lower housing costs than a tax rebate for those who can afford to buy a house.

And, since wages tend more to follow price increases rather than the reverse, it is fairer to regulate inflation by a fair prices commission rather than by controlling wages and merely deploring price increases.

But the main reason we should vote NDP if we vote at all has less to do with what the party can gain for us through parliamentary pressure on the government and more to do with our desire for a different relation between the government and those governed.

The government can counteract somewhat the ills of society which result from monopolized power but it does this only piecemeal, and in grudging response to much external pressure. In practice it will usually continue to support the powerful minority against the dispersed majority.

We seek to make our society truly self-governing. We believe we can feed, clothe, house and govern ourselves freely and collectively through co-operatives and other democratic organizations, and believe that these tasks can be better accomplished by the expansion of such means than by private property producing for profit.

Housing co-ops can be cheaper than apartments, whose rent can rise as high as the market and the landlord will allow. Food co-ops can sell cheaper and healthier food than can the stupormarkets.

These are not the only democratic organizations we can support. Militant unions, environmental organizations, women's organizations and many other groups all work for a more humane society and all need our continuing support.

Such organizations should be nurtured as the prevailing social disorder creates more and more problems and proves itself less and less able to solve them. As alternative organizations grow, they will learn from one another how best to combat the root causes of society's ills.

As they develop their practical criticism of capitalism, they will through their co-operation also develop first models of a new society and ultimately that society itself.

But as the present society disintegrates, government gets tougher and more vicious. It tries to prop up the status quo by giving our tax money to the corporations and by cutting back UIC to force those who need work to take anything the bosses offer. It forces those who are weak and needy to pay for the ills of the economy.

As we co-operate to diagnose and cure Canada's sickness, the dinosaurs will be aroused. That particularly fearsome dinosaur, government, will attempt to crush any movement to true democracy, whenever such a movement becomes a real threat.

Voting for the NDP will not stop such a monster but the monster can be hobbled. A minority government can be forced to pass, however unwillingly, some worthwhile policies. A strong federal NDP, if it is given a lot of support, may oppose reactionary legislation.

Of course the NDP will not end bad government, or press for real social change. After all, the Toronto Star's editorialists would not support the party unless they thought it to be pretty safe.

Our main defence against the boobs and rascals in Ottawa is to realize that we need not be powerless and passive spectators of the misery they and their system inflict upon us. We can democratically and collectively check their violations of our happiness. We can dismantle their system of oppression.





Two British made amplifiers about 15 years old were found tucked behind the baseboard in the third floor of Communist Party headquarters on 24 Cecil St. in downtown Toronto. They were connected to at least seven microphones throughout the building. Has the RCMP been bugging the CP? "No comment" is the RCMP's only reply to queries from the CP Perhaps the CP is not important enough for them to issue a routine denial. Bell admitted over the phone to a CP member that Bell equipment had been used. Will Bell and the RCMP be prosecuted or will the law be changed to legalize what they have done?

As you see it

Limited vocabulary?

To the Clarion

I certainly do not think that a person has to express themself this way to put over a punch line. There certainly must be other words that a person can use.

I think that apology should be printed in your paper. Earl L. Engbloom Toronto.

Hijacker:Take me to a free country.

Pilot: Listen Mac, this is a jumbo jet not a fucking space ship.



Carion Carion

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The staff members are: John Biggs, Marilyn Burnett, Marty Crowder, G. Dunn, Mark Golden, Lolly Kaiser, Marianne Langton, Sally McBeth, Barbara MacKay, Tom McLaughlin, Alan Meisner, Anne Mills, Marg Anne Morrison, Rosalind Place, Elinor Powicke, Terry Regan, Norman Rogers, Peter Rowe, Carl Stieren, Wayne Sumner, Sue Vohanka, Bob Warren, Paul Weinberg, Abie Weisfeld, Ted Whittaker and Ken Wyman.

The following also contributed to this issue: Oscar Rogers, D. Kidd, Bart Kreps, Dave Smiley, Scott Kathan, Emma Pike, Bob McGowan, Sylvia Hawreliak and many others.

96 Gerrard St. E. Toronto M5B 1G7 363-4404

Bus to Darlington for anti-nuclear rally

By Domela Davitti

Bus transportation is being organized for the June 2 antinuclear rally and occupation of the site of the Darlington nuclear power station near Bowmanville, Ontario.

In Toronto, Mobilization for Survival members are planning a Queen's Park rally for the same day to demand a halt to nuclear plant construction and a shut-down of existing reactors. The rally is slated for 11 a.m. so that some people can still get to Darlington for the afternoon rally there.

Transportation to Darlington is being arranged by Greenpeace Toronto, a member group of the Non-Nuclear Network. Buses will leave from St. Paul's Centre, 121 Avenue Road, at 10 a.m.; round-trip fare will be about \$4.00.

Persons wanting to ride the buses to Darlington should call Greenpeace at 922-3011 as soon as possible so that the demand for buses can be met.

Greenpeace will also lead two more civil disobedience strategy sessions for those wishing to join or aid the actual occupation of the power plant site. Sessions are scheduled for the next two Saturdays, May 19 and May 26. Call Greenpeace for more information, or see the last issue of the *Clarion* for a brief summary of the session's contents.

Speakers, musicians, and theatre events are being planned for the Queen's Park rally, and a delegation of cyclists are expected to arrive at the park under their own steam. Persons wishing to inquire or contribute should call Mobilization member Doug Saunders at 656-0023.

The events at Darlington will begin with a noon rally at Darlington Provincial Park. Around 2 p.m., participants will begin the march two miles east to the power plant site.

Marchers will then present the collected copies of a petition which demands that "construction of the Darlington Nuclear Generating Station be stopped immediately."

Mortgages for the rich

Tory plan slammed

By Emma Pike

The Progressive Conservative party's election proposal to make mortgage interest rates tax-deductible was condemned as "inflationary and inequitable" by the Co-operative Housing Foundation of Canada (CHFC), at that group's convention in Winnipeg late last month.

The proposal would make interest payments tax-deductible for mortgages of up to \$50,000.

The proposal is "a complete economic disaster", according to Noreen Dunphy of the Co-op Housing Federation of Toronto, a member group of CHFC. She told the *Clarion* the proposal discriminates against all tenants in favour of homeowners.

"Tenants don't qualify. Homeowners do," she added. Since most of the people who need housing can't afford to buy homes, the \$3 billion in lost tax revenues would be a government subsidy to those who need assistance the least.

The real beneficiaries of the plan, Dunphy explained, would be well-to-do homeowners,



banks, and housing development corporations. Rather than promote new construction, she added, it would tend to increase interest rates and prices for existing unsold housing.

Homeowners who already have paid off all or most of their mortgages can easily take advantage of the plan, Dunphy said, by re-financing their mortgages. The tax deductions they can claim will make their refinanced mortgages a source of cheap money.

The expected spate of refinancings would thus give the banks increased business, without channelling funds into new housing construction. But the increased demand for mortgages from banks will push up interest rates, thus making it more difficult for prospective homeowners starting from scratch.

Most people who can't afford housing now still couldn't afford it under the Tory scheme. But even for those to whom the tax deduction would make a crucial difference, the plan would make more money for those with higher mortgages and more expensive houses. Clearly a regressive tax measure, according to Dunphy.

James Lorimer, author of The Developers, noted that the tax deduction would be "iust another in a series of subsidies to the development industry." He and other critics argue that it would simply channel public money into investment housing, instead of into public housing for those who need assistance the most.

Coalition supports CUPW

A coalition of individuals in Toronto has organized to provide support for working people fighting for their rights.

For the near future, the group, called Canadians in Defence of Labour Rights, will concentrate on supporting the embattled postal workers, domestic workers who are trying to gain basic labour rights, and fishermen in B.C. who are being prosecuted under federal combines legislation.

Spokesperson Debbie Littman said the group was formed when members of the Canadian Union of Postal Workers were legislated back to work by Parliament last fall.

The group has printed stickers saying "I support the postal workers," which it is selling for \$2 for a sheet of 112 stickers.

Littman said money raised by selling the stickers is being used for a series of newspaper ads in support of CUPW. People from across the country are responding to the ads.

Additional activities by the group will depend "on the manpower we have", Littman said.

Canadians in Defence of Labour Rights can be contacted by writing to P.O. Box 683, Station A, Toronto, M5W 1G2. Stickers can also be obtained by sending money to that address.

Labour notes



Strikers gather in downtown Winnipeg during 1919 general strike.

Manitoba Archives

Only once in Canadian history has a large city been split clearly into two opposing classes.

That was Winnipeg, 1919, when the whole city was caught up in a general strike which rocked the politics of Canada.

It began simply with two strikes which started May 1 and 2, 1919, involving building workers and metal trades workers. Wartime inflation had pushed the cost of living up by 80 per cent. Building workers' wages had risen by only 18 per cent since 1914. The war had caused a slump in construction, and this, together with stoppages due to weather, reduced the average time worked to 32 weeks per year. The average salary was \$915 per year while a study showed that an average family of 5 in Winnipeg needed \$1503 to survive.

The building workers asked for an increase of 20 cents an hour (32 per cent increase).

Likewise the metal trades workers demands were reasonable. They asked for:

- •the same wages as those paid to railway workers.
- a reduction from 10 to 9 hours a day.
- •recognition of their own union.

Three metal shops were involved, Dominion Bridge, Manitoba Bridge and Vulcan Iron Works.

On May 1, The Building Trades Council

Union struck, followed by Metal Trades Council on May 2.

After the employers refused to negotiate, the Winnipeg Trades and Labout Council called for a vote of its members on a sympathy strike. The time was ripe. A telephone operators' strike had been barely averted in the last week of April. The Police Union had voted to strike. And the street railway workers, who had voted to strike on April 21, were waiting for the report of a conciliation commission.

The vote result was clear: 8,667 for, 645 against. There were two key issues, a living wage, and the recognition of collective bargaining.

On May 15, 11 a.m., the Winnipeg general strike began.

Within two hours, the whole productive pulse of the city had stopped: 35,000 workers were involved out of a total population of 175,000.

The next day the Winnipeg Citizens Committee was formed to fight the strike. The Committee saw the strike as a step towards revolution, a fear which was shared by Provincial and Federal governments.

The story of the strike, with a summary of the results of the struggle, will continue in our next issue



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Homemade record takes swipe at music industry

By Anne Mills

"They say, 'Are you political, Lou?' Political about what?"

Lou Reed

The Doppler Brothers, Totally Impractical

When I first heard this album I was impressed at the polished sound, the absence of that beginner's what-do-we-dowith-the-other-ten-tracks helplessness.

That was due to the Dopplers' studio experience more than I knew. Names of the personnel will be familiar from the records of the group Horn. The Dopplers (Bill Bryans, Bruce Burron and Gary Hynes) produced this debut album at their own studio, the Sounding

The full sound was achieved despite the limitations of a four track system. Four tracks were recorded, then mixed down to one track, and so on till 16 tracks on 4 tracks were completed. Not unlike the surprise of having a 12 incher of black vinyl that plays at 45.

There isn't a 'band sound' here but rather styles that suit each song like a glove. In these five songs the medium is not only the message but also a central part of the satire. The Tubes come to mind, but the Dopplers are inestimably more thoughtful politically and more mature musically

"I Want to Write for the Muzak Man", with its funky beat and the crooning of the Honolulu Heartbreakers, would be a consumable melody and have a producer of saccharine murmuring, "hmm . . . hit material . . . " until s/he catches the snarky lyrics aimed right at the whole, sleazy musicmarketing biz. "Uh, next demo, please . . .

"Welcome to Canada" is the most biting of the pieces — it's a straight onetwo to the gut of ethnocentrism and the boys at Immigration. It's a cheerful tune, with synthesizer alternately heroic and silly, and it makes you tap your toe when you're on the streetcar.

Welcome to Canada and three squares a day you must be pretty hungry to come all this way you're starting at the bottom but workin' dawn to dusk another generation you'll be almost one of us

(But with controversial lyrics you can bet its airplay will be limited to 3 a.m.,



Like butterflies, the Doppler Brothers have emerged from the cosy Sounding Board (their basement recording studio). Their debut performance will be at Pears Cabaret, Monday May 28. Their first record, which they have produced themselves, is an excellent example of their versatility, talent and sense of humour. If you haven't heard the Dopplers and you're looking for a comparison, think of Steely Dan. But don't stop there. Buy the record and you'll hear that the Dopplers can play in a variety of musical styles, fitting form to content. For the first flight, the Doppler Brothers (Bruce Burron, top left, Gary Hynes, bottom, and Alberto Viofaive, top right) are adding theatrical touches to their music.

from Radio Free West End.)

The vocals of Les Clackett have to be heard to be believed. Leering, hooting and carrying on, he's a wonderful addition to the album.

A limited edition of 500, so grab one fast Available in Toronto only, on Yawn Street (Sam's, Records on

Wheels), at Punktown East (Record Peddlar) and in the Queen Street ghetto (Canadian Spaces, Driftwood) for a paltry \$4 each.

Tongue-in-cheek, the Dopplers say it's totally impractical - but with this shift to the red expanding our little universes, I say it's all relative.

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On April

Compañe

born.

By Jerry McGrath

You would not expect a New Mexico diner on a sleepy Sunday morning to be the place to have your fictions about yourself cauterized. You would expect an inertia that offered few surprises beyond the steak-and-egg special. You might expect a local tabloid to tell you a local thing or two. Beyond that, the business of the rest of the world would be conducted in a place pure with possibility, on a plane of existence above the level of the hog

It is in such a diner that Mark Medoff finally strands most of the characters in this play, uneasily with themselves, left to gather little solace from their imagined projects deferred forever, their untested versions of themselves. The door that opens out of the diner opens out onto a space alluded to by the licence plates of the cars and trucks stopping for gas. Somewhere out there, there is a real geography to which these plates refer. To Steve (Glenn Davidson) the graveyardshift attendant at the diner, Angel (Ann Mullens), the day waitress, and Lyle (Douglas W. Cowan), the crippled gas-station owner, that geography is unknown.

Teddy(James Dugan) is the one



Red and Ted don't see eye to eye.

Marcelo Pi French play lays bare myths of Acadian subjugation

By B. Warren

Acting out the reminiscences of an Acadian charwoman, in Antonine Maillet's La Sagouine, Viola Leger is scrubbing away, for Toronto audiences, a layer of the apathy and ignorance which has long hidden one of Canada's major cultures.

Rich in myth

Maillet, like her creation, is Acadian. Her one-woman play has been acclaimed in French Canada and abroad; Until the end of May it is being presented at Le Theatre du P'tit Bonheur.

La Sagouine is a display of the rich story-telling talents, wisdom and myths of an ancient maritime people. Leger's acting is flawless (she has played this rags and tatters character about 600 times). Down on all fours, La Sagouine washes, rinses and wrings out the life of a subjugated nation oppressed for centuries and understandably still unsure of its place in Canadian society. She speaks in a language rich in metaphor; her French is sometimes as old as that of

Compelled by the desire to save her own culture from obscurity and even

total destruction, Maillet wrote La sometimes gently, sometimes with a bite. Sagouine's poingant collection of monologues to show Acadia's face to the nation and the world. She says, "Fighting destiny does not consist in abolishing time, but catching it in flight and living it fully."

Both Maillet and Leger succeed in capturing the spirit of place, if Toronto audience reaction is any indicator. The crowd at Le Theatre du P'tit Bonheur cry out in side-splitting laughter; the monologues are painfully funny. But the political is also a part of La Sagouine's reality. Her message comes to us

Her didacticism is born of urgency and

Acadia personified

Subtly urging Acadians to take their destiny into their own hands, La this country's the Sagouine faces the audience, her eyes boldly naive. She personifies Acadian Spring, death and history today, for she can only see herself reflected in the dirty waters of other. Maillet has developed this character ex- but she should be tremely well and has managed to make near future (Vene her, like her people, somehow out of be talking to you step with the dominant Canadian she has much to sl

reality. Indeed, I Acadians is steppe

So come to Bonheur and be to interpretation o carefully drawn g muse about wo

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La Sagouine n

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savage visit shakes up locals

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who brings them in touch with themselves. At gunpoint. He drifts in on such a Sunday with his hippie girlfriend, Cheryl (Elizabeth Nuttall). He has a rabid impatience with shame. Steve, who calls himself "Red Ryder", wears a tattoo saying "Born Dead". Teddy throws himaround, diminishes him. He forces him through two or three "takes" of galloping Red Ryder coming in off the range to charm his gal, played by Angel - alternatively called "dumpling" and "sweetgut" and a host of other names by Teddy. That cowpoke simplicity is invoked to mock Red's reluctance and Angel's hesitant desires for him. You are made to feel that the tattoo describes the condition of desire with Red and Angel. It is still-

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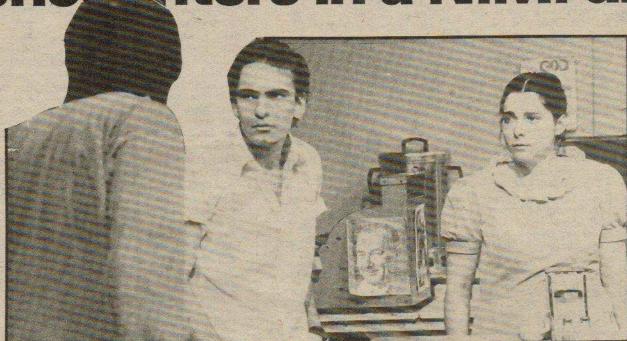
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Lyle is accused of staring at Cheryl's breasts. A nice old cripple, decent by default.

Teddy also moves between Clarisse (Mary Ellis) and Richard (Malcolm Delaney) who happens to stop for breakfast. Richard's verbal skills aren't at all per-



Teddy (left-James Dugan) confronts Stephen/"Red Ryder" (Glen Davidson) and Angel (Ann Mullens) in the Phantom Theatre production of When You Comin' Back, Red Ryder?

choice of rhetoric is a gun. Clarisse is led to doubt him this man who repeats her food order on her behalf. Although she can hold a violin under her chin and presumably play to a

suasive with Teddy, whose own full house, he would tuck in her repulsed by self-deception. napkin for her. He is shown to be an officious, superfluous Daddy.

> ten for Teddy. James Dugan "You can't hit a moving target." carries it off very convincingly. But considering Teddy's attack, His terrorizing traces out a man the rest of the characters are card-

I am reminded of something we used to say when playing Most of the play has been writ- cowboys and Indians, as kids: board profiles with targets painted on them. This is not to fault the players. In a film version their stasis could be relieved by keeping them off-camera some of the time. On stage, they have their stasis written into them.

Teddy is also very democratic. He says to his girlfriend that she shouldn't expect special privileges, that she's functional,

Medoff's critique of what he sees through the fierce eyes of Teddy is a kind of manifesto for a desperate vitalism. Leap up onto that counter! Indict those folks for their inadequacies! Show them who they really are!

When You Comin' Back, Red Ryder? is a title that belongs to the obituary of the Hero, still being written. Steve or Red, just before being gagged and already bound to a diner stool answers

When You Comin' Back, Red Ryder? a Phantom Theatre presentation, is playing at Theatre Passe Muraille until May

Band in exile but music hits home

By Alan Meisner

". . . the objective of this concert is to reassure you that day by day the shout of liberty is growing." Companeros

Compañeros is a band in exile. Like many in Toronto's Greek and Chilean communities, some members of the group came to Canada to escape political repression. Their music recalls the brutal events before exile and evokes a vision of liberation.

On April 28 the Titania theatre brimmed with the jangle of Spanish, Greek and English as the audience awaited Compañeros inaugural Toronto concert, sponsored by the Chile Ontario Information Centre. Banners proclaiming Che Guevara's words, "the struggle for liberation knows no frontiers" bedecked the theatre's

Composed of three Chileans — Marcelo Puente, Richard Rivas and Juan Opitz - and two Greeks Adam Konstantakis and Dimitrius Apostolou - Campañeros met while playing at the Trojan Horse, a late hours coffee house on the Danforth where the music of the Aegean has recently begun to mingle with the songs of Latin America.

The Trojan Horse opened in 1972. It has been a place where one can bask in the sounds of the bouzouki and the lyricism of the eternal Greek song. In September, its owner, Steve Konstantakis, hired the Chilean trio to alternate with the Greek musicians, setting the stage for the blending of Greek and Chilean musical styles that Compañeros represents.

Compañeros are more than mere musicians. They have a commitment to making their music speak out in the cause of human liberation. "This is our music", they say; "the echo of injustice, the voice of political prisoners, the children's cry of hunger, and the hope of liberation."

The curtain opens. Their opening number, "Compañero", written by Puente, who came to Canada from Valparaiso, Chile, is the group's song of songs. It is what their music is about.

"Compañero," they sing, the guitar and bomba (Argentine drum) take up the rhythm, met in melody by bouzouki and South American flute: "You draw such music from the strings of my guitar,/Your light shines purely like early evening star, / They shot you down, but they can't kill the words you say,/Your voice can still be heard today . . . "

The group's repertoire is

enormous. Compañeros draw from the works of Victor Jara, Neruda, Mikis Theodorakis, George Seferis, Manos Lefteriou, and play many of their own compositions. They skilfully incorporate such diverse instruments as the charango and bouzouki in a tableau embroidered by moving lyrics.

The songs are rich in the experience of oppression, jubilant in the will for liberation, and haunting in the lamentation of comrades who have fallen.

Compañeros mix well, but in

some songs heavy bomba overwhelms the bouzouki's melodious progressions. They exchange instruments, with Richard taking up the bouzouki, Dimitrius filling in on bomba and Marcelo singing in Greek. Puente's voice is hard and passionate.

A sometimes counterpointed but mostly erratic slide presentation projected behind the band distracted more than illustrated. The stage light was often pale; and a garish blue spotlight on lead vocalists at times detracted from the group's otherwise

strong stage presence. But the songs themselves were graphic. .

'Up High the Sun is Beating Down" melodically captured the desolation of the miner's life; "Anna, Don't Cry", was a Greek lament about leaving for war; and "Cuba, Cubita", written by Puente, an upbeat Afro latin number had me bouncing in my

High points in the long — three and one half hours - concert included a rendition of Victor Jara's "Luchin", a song about poverty and promise; Puente's own "Song to Valparaiso": "When I left my port city/Only the wind wept for me/and the kiss of the stars stayed behind/with the wind"; and tributes to murdered comrade Manuel Rodriguez, in both Chilean and Greek variations.

Compañeros' musical language has grown from the unity of separate struggles. It is hard not to feel in the music the pain of exile or the longing to return home in freedom.

The concert, promoted by Civil Service Songwriter, Nancy White, is intended as the launching pad of a cross-Canada tour (details as yet unavailable). White, who emceed along with George Papadatos also accompanied on piano and sang a song of her own, "Desaparecidos", a tribute to those who have disappeared in the fascist darkness.

Before their tour, Campañeros can be seen at the Trojan Horse, o 179 Danforth, Wednesdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. They start about 10 p.m. and play into the small hours of the morning.



Marcelo Puente, musical director of Compañeros.

o eye.

reality. Indeed, La Sagouine, like the Acadians is stepped on by it.

So come to Le Theatre du P'tit Bonheur and be treated to the definitive interpretation of one of the most carefully drawn grassroots characters in this country's theatre. Listen to her muse about work, youth, religion, Spring, death and the Canadian census.

La Sagouine now talks to you in an archaic tongue she causes to be reborn,' but she should be back to Toronto in the near future (Venez donc la voir!). She'll be talking to you in English then; and she has much to share.

CALENDAR-

Friday May 18

Robin Tyler, stand-up comic, will be at St. Paul's Centre (121 Avenue Road) tonight at 7 p.m. Admission is \$4, to raise funds for lesbian mothers' defence fund and the Winnipeg women's building. Childcare available.

Revue Repertory (Roncesvalles, 3 blocks south of Bloor and Dundas) is showing Autumn Sonata tonight and tomorrow night. \$2.50, seniors \$1.50.

U of T Film Society (Medical Sciences Auditorium) is showing Looking for Mr. Goodbar at 7 and Marathon Man at 9:20.

Ontario Film Theatre at the Ontario Science Centre is showing Casey's Shadow at 7:30 tonight. Adults \$2, students \$1, children 50¢, seniors free with government card.

The Nylons (featured at Emma's) are a hot new male quartet who will appear at Van Sloten's Cabaret, Dundas and McCaul for two weeks, every night (except Sunday and Monday). Tuesday to Thursday 9 p.m., Friday and Saturday at 9:30 and 11.

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14 Wellesley St. West 967-7115 available at most Toronto ticket outlets for the June 15, 16 and 17 event. Mail order ends May 27. Mariposa Tickets, 525 Adelaide St. East, Toronto, Ont. M5A 3W4.

Saturday May 19

Progressive Drama Circle presents Lies They Told Us, a Bengali drama with English sub-titles at West Park Secondary School (1515 Bloor St. West). \$2 donation requested.

Black Resources and Information Centre offers free legal services every Saturday morning in May, 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at BRIC, 427 Bloor St. West (2nd floor of Trinity United Church). For further information and/or to make an appointment, call Sri-Skanda or Lennox Grant at 960-3697.

The Grenada Association of Toronto is holding its annual cultural exhibition of arts, crafts, entertainment and Grenadian foods at St. Peter's Church Hall, 647 Markham St., 4 p.m. to 1 a.m. Admission and dinner is \$5 for adults, \$2 for children. Call 622-4978 or 762-9245.

Sunday May 20

Revue Repertory (Roncesvalles, 3 blocks south of Bloor and Dundas) is showing *Harold and Maude* at 7:40 and *Up in Smoke* at 9:30 tonight and until Tuesday May 22. Adults \$2.50, seniors \$1.50.

Tuesday May 22

Cross Cultural Communication Centre presentation on the revolution in Iran, followed by discussion of the socio-economic and political factors that led to the revolution. 7:30 at the CCCC, 1991 Dufferin St.

Public Information Meeting for Cathedral Court Co-operative Homes will discuss the advantages of housing co-op membership, design of the housing units, and procedure for becoming a member. 7:30 at the Gooderham Bldg., Suite 401, 49 Wellington St. East. For more information call 869-1249.

Ontario Film Theatre at the Ontario Science Centre is showing Foxtrot at 7:30. Adults \$2, students \$1, children 50¢, seniors free with government card.

Wednesday May 23

Judy Jarvis Dance Company will perform at Hart House tonight and until May 26. Tickets are \$5, available at the Hart House Theatre Box Office (978-8668). Performance time is 8:30 p.m.

Public Meeting on Task Force Report on Bachelorettes with Mayor John Sewell at the Parkdale Library, 1303 Queen St. West, at 7:30. Call 521-2411 for further information.

Bloor and Gladstone Library is having a slide and tape show on the history of Bloor and Gladstone neighbourhood. Today and Saturday at 2:30. Call 536-3402 for more information.

Revue Repertory is showing The Seduction of Mimi at 7:30 and Swept Away at 9:20 tonight and until May 25. \$2.50, seniors \$1.50.

OISE (252 Bloor St. West) is showing Les Enfants du Paradis at 7:30.

Harbourfront has free Brando films every Wednesday at York Quay Centre, 7:30. Tonight Burn and The Ugly American.

Ontario Film Theatre at the Ontario Science Centre is showing Follow the Fleet tonight at 7:30. Adults \$2, students \$1, children 50¢, seniors free with government card.

Thursday May 24

OISE (252 Broor St. West) is showing Black Orpheus at 7:30 and Beauty and the Beast at 9:30. \$2.50 double bill, \$2 second show.

U of T Film Society (Medical Science Auditorium) is showing *The Silver Streak* at 7 and *Silent Movie* at 9 tonight and tomorrow night.

Ontario Film Theatre at the Ontario Science Centre is showing A Town Like Alice tonight at 7:30. Adults \$2, students \$1, children 50¢, seniors free with government card.

Friday May 25

Ontario Film Theatre at the Ontario Science Centre is showing The Other Side of Midnight at 7. Adults \$2, students \$1, seniors free with government card. Restricted.

Saturday May 26

Neighbourhood Information Post is having its third annual Garage Sale and Flea Market on the lawns in front of the information post office at Library House, 265 Gerrard St. East near Parliament. For more information call 924-2543 or 924-

African National Congress (South Africa) women's section is having a spring fund-raising bazaar at St. Barnabus Church basement, 175 Hampton Ave. from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Axle-Tree Coffee House at the Holy Trinity Church behind Eaton Centre presents an evening of poetry and music every second Saturday from 8:30 to midnight. Tonight Ax-Rated Poetry Night featuring bawdy poetry, music and audience participation. \$1 contribution.

The Folklorico Filipino (Canada) will stage its fifth anniversary dance concert today at 3 and 7 p.m. and tomorrow at 7 p.m. at West Park Secondary School Auditorium, 1515 Bloor St. West. For more information call Pete Palomera, 869-1293 or Ditas Boctor, 755-2153.

Revue Repertory is showing Dear Inspector at 7:30 and The Man Who Loved Women at 9:30 tonight and until Tuesday. \$2.50, seniors \$1.50.

Free Community Health Screening Clinic with regard to vision, hearing, blood pressure and nutrition will be held at Harbourfront, 222 Queen's Quay West today from 11 to 5. For more information call 363-2562.

May 26th Festival with Ernie Smith's Roots Revival at Harbourfront (Brigantine Room) 235 Queen's Quay West, 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. Dancing, free food, licensed. Admission \$3 for students and unemployed, \$5 regular, \$10 supporters. Fundraising for Ward 6 Community Organization.

Lancia-Bravo Strike Benefit, 58 Cecil St., Cecil St. Community Centre, 7 p.m. to 1 a.m. \$5. Los Compañeros, Talking Unity and Le Chant du Peuple will entertain. Beer, wine and refreshments. Daycare provided.

Sunday May 27

Axle-Tree Coffee House (Holy Trinity Church behind Eaton Centre) has music and poetry. Tonight Jim Roberts and Available Space.

Folks for Folk Music concert at St. Paul's Community Centre, 121 Avenue Road. Ken Whiteley and Colin Linden plus many more. 8 p.m. Tickets \$3.50, available at Toronto Folklore Centre and Canadian Spaces.

Monday May 28

Bike to Work Week '79 starts today. This event will provide encouragement, information on routes, and commuting companionship. Join a caravan and bike to work! For more information call 367-7903.

Tuesday May 29

Cross Cultural Communication Centre presentation on Iran After the Revolution, tonight at 7:30 at the CCCC, 1991 Dufferin St. The presentation will discuss the different ideological trends of various political groupings in Iran.

Wednesday May 30

Revue Repertory is showing The Enigma of Kaspar Hauser at 7:30 and 9:30 tonight and until June 4. \$2.50, seniors \$1.50.

OISE (252 Bloor St. West) is showing Shanghai Express at 7:30 and Blonde Venus at 9:15. \$2.50 for the double bill, \$2 for the second show.

Ontario Film Theatre at the Ontario Science Centre is showing The Cat People and Curse of the Cat People, first show at 7:30. Adults \$2, students \$1, children 50¢, seniors free with government card.

Harbourfront's last in a series of Brando films. Tonight, *The God-father*, 7:30 at York Quay Centre. Free.

Thursday May 31

OISE (252 Bloor St. West) is showing *Throne of Blood* at 7:30 and *Dodeska'den* at 9:30. \$2.50 double bill, \$2 second show.

U of T Film Society (Medical Sciences Auditorium) is showing In Praise of Older Women at 7 and Swept Away at 9 tonight and tomorrow night.

Ontario Film Theatre at the Ontario Science Centre is showing Simba tonight at 7:30. Adults \$2, students \$1, children 50¢, seniors free with government card.

Friday June 1

Women Learning: Issues and Opportunities. A conference on women in education, at OISE (252 Bloor St. West) today, Saturday and Sunday. (A multitude of sessions and workshops.) Conference program has a limited enrolment and early registration is requested. For more information call the conference office at OISE.

Ontario Film Theatre at the Ontario Science Centre is showing MacArthur at 7:30. Adults \$2, students \$1, children 50¢, seniors free with government card.

Saturday June 2

Kensington Festival all day. Belleville Ave. between College and Oxford St. Sponsored by St. Stephens Community House.

International Cyclists' Day '79.
Cyclists will gather at Greenwood
Park, High Park and Bloor or Lawrence Park at 1 p.m., ride to
Queen's Park for a rally at 2 p.m.,
and then ride en masse to Nathan
Phillips Square for speeches, displays and entertainment. For
more information call 367-7903.

Anti-nuclear demonstrations.
Rally at Queen's Park at 11 a.m. to demand an end to nuclear plant construction and shutdown of existing reactors. Darlington rally and occupation at Darlington nuclear station near Bowmanville. Buses will leave from St. Paul's Centre, 121 Avenue Road, at 10 a.m., round trip fare about \$4. If you want to ride the bus to Darlington, call Greenpeace at 922-3011 early so that demand for buses can be met.



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The Ven. Trungpa Rinpoche is the author of Cutting Through Spiritual Materialism and The Myth of Freedom, President of Naropa Institute in Boulder, Colorado, and the leading spokesman for buddhadharma in the West.

Seminar: May 30 — June 3, 103 Church St., Suite 402 Cost \$75

For more information, call Dharmadhatu, 862-8945

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Write Grindstone Co-op, Ltd., Box 564, Station P, Toronto, Ontario M5S 2T1 Call Carl Stieren, 923-1012 (a.m.) or Susanne Warren, 533-7405

Face 'humiliating' experience

Abortion patients harassed

By Kathleen McDonnell

Abortion is legal in Canada, but many women are being put through unnecessary pain and emotional trauma to get one.

In recent weeks several women have told the *Clarion* their abortion experiences in Toronto hospitals. Their stories echo complaints in last month's *Clarion* story on abortion practices. These complaints were about:

•Pressure by hospital staff to use birth control methods the women considered unsafe or undesirable;

•Unsympathetic, sometimes even belittling treatment by some of the attending staff;

•Extreme pain during the procedure, and inadequate preparation for the fact that the abortion would be done without any anesthetic.

(The latter complaint applies to Toronto General Hospital only. Most hospitals in Toronto use a general anesthetic even for out-patient abortions.)

One woman was so upset by her experience at Toronto Western Hospital four months ago that she sent accounts of it to the director of the hospital, to the Ontario College of Nurses and to several city aldermen.

Carolyn M. (all names in this article are pseudonyms) told the Clarion that a nurse presented her with a three-months supply

of birth control pills shortly before her operation. When she declined them, saying that she had other birth control plans, the nurse became angry and said that her abortion had been granted only on condition that she agree to use the pill.

Dehumanizing

"I had made no such agreement with my doctor, and I told her that," Carolyn said. "She claimed that I would 'be back here in five or six months," and accused me of using abortion as a form of birth control, in spite of the fact that I am 26 and this was my first and, I hope, only abortion."

At one point in the conversation the nurse made a comment that Carolyn felt was an "intentional slur" about the "stability" of her sex life. The whole incident made her abortion a "dehumanizing and humiliating" experience, Carolyn said.

As a result of her complaint the College of Nurses launched an investigation, which resulted in no disciplinary action against the nurse. Carolyn is appealing the College's decision to the Ontario Health Disciplines Board.

Another woman interviewed by the *Clarion*, Frances R., had an upsetting experience with the same nurse at Toronto Western. She said the nurse belittled her concerns about the safety of the pill and dismissed her intention to use the diaphragm.

"She was definitely pushing the pill," Frances said. "With the other women she was very sweet as long as you didn't assert yourself or ask any questions, and if you were going to use the pill.

When Frances objected to the nurse's treatment of another abortion patient, an immigrant woman who appeared not to understand what was being said, she was told, "You don't know how many abortions she's had."

Frances said she was invited to submit a statement to the College of Nurses about the incident but did not, partly because "they told me they weren't interested in my impressions, only in facts and quotes."

Both women said that some of the other hospital staff were "helpful and comforting" but that the behaviour of the offending nurse coloured the whole abortion experience.

The College of Nurses said that no other complaints had been received regarding the nurse. But Joyce Kennedy at the Bay Centre for Birth Control confirmed that she had also complained to a doctor at Toronto Western about the nurse's treatment of another patient, a West Indian woman Kennedy had referred for an abortion.

Another woman who had an abortion at Toronto Western last fall, Susan L., objected when the doctor's secretary asked her to sign a paper agreeing to use one of "three approved methods of birth control"—the pill, the IUD, or sterilization

Although she had already decided on the IUD, she said she questioned why no other methods were considered acceptable and was told the policy was necessary to "prevent abortions."

Being 'punished'

According to Susan, the woman said, "We don't want to become an abortion factory" and that other methods were recognized only in "exceptional cases." Another abortion patient Susan befriended later in the hospital had also had an IUD inserted, but told Susan she agreed to it only because she was afraid her request for an abortion would be denied.

The Clarion also spoke with two more women who complained about pain from their unanesthetized abortions at Toronto General Hospital.

One woman said she was "psychologically and physically traumatized" by the experience and sent letters about it to hospital officials, city aldermen, the Ontario Status of Women Council, and Health Minister Dennis Timbrell.

The other woman said she was completely unprepared for the degree of pain she experienced, and was told to "stop it

and grow up" when she began to move around on the operating table.

All the women interviewed by the Clarion felt that the treatment they received in hospital, added unnecessarily to their anxiety and distress about having an abortion. Several said they felt they were being "punished" for seeking abortions.

Change in service

Birth control counsellor Joyce Kennedy said that some hospital staff attitudes may be due to the strain of constantly dealing with abortion, particularly women seeking repeat abortions. "In this type of work, people need to get away," she said.

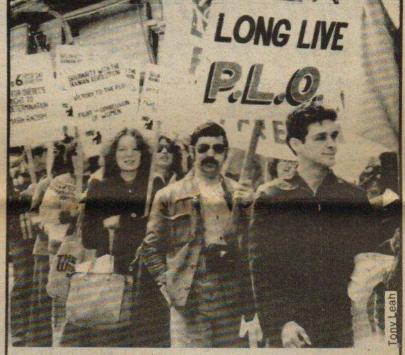
But another birth control counsellor, Michelle Dore, said

that the incidents also reveal the need for a change in the way abortion services are delivered.

"If the staff at these hospitals don't want to be involved with abortion, maybe they shouldn't be," Dore said. "It's not good for them and not good for the women receiving the service."

Dore said two different women's groups tried to come to grips with the problem and have drawn up proposals for clinics, similar to those in parts of the U.S., which would provide first-trimester abortions on an outpatient basis, independent of hospitals.

Comprehensive and sympathetic birth control counselling was a central feature of the planned, women-run clinics, Dore said. Both proposals were turned down by Health Minister Dennis Timbrell.



On May 5, 250 people marched from Christie Park to the Immigration Department and the U.S. consulate. The march was organized by the May Day Committee. In front of the Immigration Department the marchers were told of the expected rescinding of the deportation order against the seven Jamaican mothers. Outside the U.S. consulate, representatives from Iran and Palestine spoke to the marchers.

Need an abortion? Ask these questions



If you find yourself pregnant and don't want to be, get a referral from your family doctor or community clinic to a gynecologist who does abortions.

Be prepared to pay up to \$200, a whopping \$125 above the OHIP rate for therapeutic abortion — most Toronto gynecologists are opted-out doctors. The only way to avoid the extra charge is to get into one of the heavily-used public clinics like Toronto General, where you may have to wait up to three weeks to get your abortion — if you can get an appointment.

Don't delay — a second-trimester (after 12 weeks) abortion is costlier, riskier and more emotionally traumatic than a first-trimester.

When you do find a doctor or clinic that will do your abortion, find out:

•Whether you'll have a laminaria tent inserted the night before to gradually dilate the cervix. Most doctors at TGH and some at TWH use these routinely. Many women experience heavy cramping with laminaria tents. Make sure your doctor prepares you for this.

•Whether you'll have an anesthetic, and what kind. Most Toronto hospitals routinely use a general anesthetic for first-trimester abortions, a costly and, many feel, unnecessarily risky procedure.

At the other extreme, TGH uses no anesthetic at all, and substitutes demerol (a painkiller) and/or valium, a muscle relaxant. If you're fairly calm and have good pain tolerance, deep breathing and relaxation exercises can help you cope.

Few doctors in Toronto use a *cervical block*, a local anesthetic recommended by Dr. Henry Morgentaler and many U.S. clinics.

Be sure to find out exactly what precautions to follow after the operation, to prevent infection. Make sure you are seen for a follow-up check within two to four weeks after the abortion.

If possible, bring your mate or a friend to the hospital for emotional support. If you're going to be awake for the procedure, ask the doctor at the pre-op examination whether your friend can be with you the whole time. Hospital staff may balk, but stand your ground — it's not unheard of.

International Cyclists' Day

June 2nd 1979

Meet at High Park & Bloor,
Greenwood Park or
Lawrence Park at 1:00 P.M.
Ride to Queen's Park for a rally
at 2:00 P.M. with Mayor
John Sewell

Then en masse to Nathan Phillips Square for speeches, displays, and entertainment.

4-way forum

Left debates election

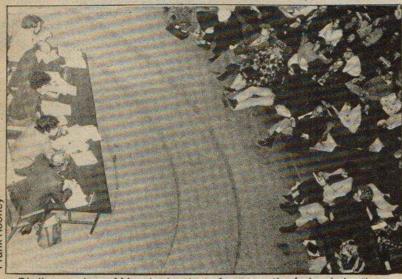
By Abie Weisfeld

The surprise of the week is that sectarians are less sectarian—the political debate presented by the Marxist Institute May 4 at the Innis Town Hall actually turned out to be a debate.

This unprecedented four-way

discussion took place among representatives of the NDP, the Communist Party (CP), the Revolutionary Workers' League (RWL) and En Lutte (In Struggle).

All four organizations are fielding candidates in the federal election. The New



Bird's-eye view of Marxist Institute forum on the federal election.

Planning Board's future in question

Should the Planning Board be abolished? This question is again being raised by City Council (Alderman Richard Gilbert's report), members of the planning board, planning staff and Toronto residents. There are a lot of differing opinions about the Board and how it has affected the citizens it was set up to serve.

The Board was established in 1946 and its structure has not changed since then. It was to be an independent forum for citizen participation in Toronto's planning process. It was to direct its own employees, (the 'planning staff) and to present recommendations to Council.

Some of the Board's major functions recently have been to draft the Core Area Plan for the downtown area and Part II studies for the less central areas of the city. These tasks were set in 1974, when Toronto Mayor David Crombie supported the 45-foot height by-law. A moratorium on building gave the Board a chance to do a comprehensive plan to the downtown area.

Also in 1974 a Residents' Advisory Committee (RAC) was formed, to advise the Board on the Core Area Plan.

During the time that the RAC made submissions to the Planning Board, it received approximately four votes out of the 13 on the Planning Board. Not one of its proposals was passed.

The Ontario Municipal Board on the Core Area Plan was in part a direct reaction to such submissions as those made by RAC and other community groups.

The OMB said that certain areas could not be downzoned because developers that had bought the land with certain plans in mind would lose money. After the decision of the OMB, RAC disbanded. The Planning Board has since been unchallenged by organized opposition.

Alderman Gilbert's report

suggests that an interim way of dealing with the Board is to appoint Buildings and Development Committee members to replace members of the Planning Board whose terms have expired. Council would also seek legislation from the province to allow it to disband the Planning Board. Council does not now have this abolitionary authority.

As one member of the now-defunct RAC commented, "It's better to abolish the Planning Board — to let people see that the political decisions are being made by the people who have been given the power to make them."

Democratic Party provided a focus for much of the debate when each of the three political tendencies defined their election orientation in terms of the NDP

Dan Heap stated the goal of an NDP candidate to be: "When elected, the object is not to legislate utopia, but to polarize issues, occasionally to show the class struggle... Monopoly is at the root of our major problems." Heap called for "peoples' control of natural resources and manufacturings."

In response, RWL member Steve Penner, a former NDP candidate and Waffler, said, "This system can only be overthrown, not by a parliamentary majority, but by the collective organization of the working class," and added "the key issue for revolutionary socialists is how to overcome illusions in electoralism, the union bureaucracy and the bosses."

CP representative Danny Goldstick agreed, saying that "parliamentary elections are not the key area of struggle."

Goldstick also discussed the relationship of the CP to the NDP. "It is not likely that the CP will alone provide the organization to lead the proletariat. The NDP also is such an organization but it cannot represent the proletariat sufficiently." he said.

"An increase in NDP support will show some concern but a hump in the CP vote will show something even more."

Steve Penner claimed that "in terms of the program and actions, the NDP is no different from Liberals and Tories." He later added, however, that "it is necessary to distinguish between the membership and leadership (of the NDP)."

Treat Hull of In Struggle

See ELECTION: page 11

Women lobby for job retraining

Women are continuing their battle against government cutbacks in training allowances and Outreach programs and the particularly devastating effect of those cutbacks on women.

The Canadian Committee on Learning Opportunities for Women (CCLOW) presented a brief on the impact of those cutbacks on women to representatives of the three major federal parties at a public forum held May 14.

The 35-page brief contains 20 recommendations which would improve women's access to retraining and outreach programs, and ensure women's organizations input into government policy changes which affect women's employment and economic development.

The brief points out that "learning opportunities for women are job opportunities for women. Cutbacks to training allowances and Outreach programs further entrench women in low skills, low pay, part-time seasonal and non-union positions; the 'marginal' labour force. Cutbacks consolidate women's economic inequality," it-said.

The Brief's recommendations include:

•the reinstatement of training allowances at former rates and indexing to the cost of living;

•that women be eligible for additional training allowances to cover extra costs of Manpower training, such as daycare, transportation, school supplies, and extra clothing and lunches;

•that women be allowed to remain on social assistance while attending training courses so they can retain assistance benefits such as drug cards, dental cards and so on; and

•a permanent funding mechanism for all effective

Women are continuing their Outreach projects, especially those with specialized services for women.

One appendix to the brief is a letter from a woman taking a retraining course at Algonquin College in Ottawa, which describes the conditions students work under as "financial and emotional strain."

tives of the three major deral parties at a public forum and May 14. The 35-page brief contains 20 commendations which would approve women's access to speak up

A coalition of Metro mothers on social assistance has outlined, in a brief recently presented to provincial Minister of Social Services Keith Nortion, the problems they and their children face.

The brief was prepared by the Family Benefits Work Group because, the group says, "we and our children cannot wait any longer.... We need immediate action on the problems we now face."

The group released the brief at a May 15 news conference, and announced that it wants a meeting with Norton on June 4 to discuss the brief's recommendations.

Spokesperson Monique Burchell told the Clarion the group wants action to increase the inadequate allowance level, to reduce the hindrances which welfare rules and regulations pose to women seeking job retraining, and to give mothers the right to decide when and if they want to return to the workforce.

"Only the mother can decide what is best for herself and her family," Burchell said. "But now the disincentives make her

See NEVER: page 11

Planning needs more dialogue

By Dale Munro

The Toronto Planning Board has often been criticized by neighbourhood groups, downtown residents, progressive aldermen on City Council, and even Ontario government reports, for not being accountable to the public for the decisions it makes in planning matters. The suggested remedy is usually that the Planning Board be abolished, and its functions be transferred to City Council.

After being a member of the Board for three years now, I have to disagree with the abolitionists.

First, a few words regarding the function of the Board. According to Ontario's Planning Act, a planning board is assigned the task of drafting a set of goals and objectives to guide Council in formulating specific policies. This set of objectives is termed the "Official Plan", and usually deals primarily with land use and development policies.

The official Plan must be approved by Council (and then by the Provincial government) before it becomes law. Once the Plan if passed, the Council is limited to passing only those by-laws conforming to the provisions of the Plan. And Council puts the plan into effect by passing zoning by-laws, public works plans, development agreements,

Members of the Planning Board are appointed by City Council for a threeyear term. Most appointees are city residents or businessmen, but a few are aldermen on Council. Council presumably selects people who reflect its general political outlook. Strictly speaking, the accountability of Planning Board members is to Council, at the time of appointment. (Similarly, the accountability of any elected representative to the electorate occurs at election time.) Often though, Board members have close ongoing ties with ratepayer groups, business groups, aldermen, or other interest groups. Any one board member's views on a given planning matter may be assumed if you know the member's political associates.

In fact, Toronto's Planning Board is made up largely of the same types of people as sit on Council, namely, lawyers, professionals and business people. There are no office secretaries, factory workers or department store clerks on the Planning Board. As well, North Toronto and other affluent areas are more heavily represented on the Board than are the largely working class downtown and west centre neighbourhoods of the city.

One result is that development proposals that threaten residential areas in the more affluent districts generally meet with less success at the Planning Board than do those in other areas of the city. Planning statements may overlook the needs and aspirations of other neighbourhoods.

The most effective way to improve the quality of planning decisions in Toronto would be for Council to appoint Planning Board members who represent a wider selection of City residents as a whole. It would help if Council would make appointments according to a more even distribution of the city's population.

If a representative from the Metro Labour Council were appointed to the Board, the housing needs of working people could be voiced more effectively. A union representative on the Planning Board could offer input on the city's industrial policies. A representative from a tenants' organization could draw attention to the problems of the city's tenant population.

If Planning Board members were more evenly representative of the many interests of the people in Toronto (and this means giving more say to the people who work for a living), the accountability of the City Planning Board would not so likely be questioned.

But then, City Council has yet to make any real commitment to such representation.

Teachers score a victory

Euphoric glow fades

In the euphoria of the May 3 meeting, parents believed that they had saved all the jobs of the so-called surplus teachers. They did not know, and purposely were not told, that they did not save all the teachers but only some.

The next day, when no parent delegations were present, trustees carried out what was for many of them an unpleasant duty - they formally terminated the contracts of five probationary contract teachers. The reason? It was argued that if probationary contract elementary teachers were retained, it would set a precedent for the contract settlement with the secondary school teachers. Since there are more probationary teachers in the secondary panel, retaining them would push the Board beyond its financial limits.

Trustee Sheila Meagher, Vice-Chairman of the Board and known as a supporter of teachers, saw it as her job to make the motion to fire: "Somebody had to do it and it looked like I had to do it. I owed something to secondary school teachers. They always say that the Board is only interested in elementary. We have to be consistent." Ned McKeown, Assistant Director of Education, thanked her afterwards for making his job a lot

Prior to the May 3 meeting Board administrators got Trustee Harold Menzies to revise the motion to retain the teachers, ensuring that it referred only to permanent contract teachers. McKeown had wanted to make the distinction clear at the meeting. But Meagher and others had insisted that he not do this; as she explained it, "People needed a sense of victory; we did not want to take the glow off at the meeting." Meagher made it clear that this was a "conscious decision, a decision not to inform. We didn't want to spoil it with a downer, when they had gotten such an upper."

The secondary contract settlement was voted on by the Board at its May 10 meeting. Instead of tenure for all permanent contract teachers, it contains a "grandfathering" clause which gives job security to teachers on permanent contract prior to August 31, 1978. Included is a modest wage increase of 6% a year for the two year life of the contract, with a cost of living adjustment. Although 105 secondary school teachers have received notices that they are "potentially surplus to the needs of the Board", at least 37 of these will be retained, with the possibility of the retention of more. The fate of the 20 or so probationary contract teachers is not yet clear.

Never enough money From page 10

options so limited that she has no choice."

The mothers got a six per cent increase in their allowances last December — the first in a year and a half - which "has still left us far behind the federal government's own standard of poverty." While allowances rose six per cent, food costs rose 26 per cent, housing costs 13 per cent, clothing nine per cent and transportation 10.3 per cent.

"A mother with two children receives a maximum of \$482 a month," the group's statement said. "With a cheque that is \$266 less than the monthly amount required according to the Statistics Canada poverty line, there is never enough money to cover necessities, let alone emergency items. The cheque runs out long before one month does."

The release points out that although the family benefits allowance sets a maximum of \$170 for monthly rent, the average rent for a two-bedroom apartment in Toronto last October was \$299.

Election forum

From page 10

said," "The fundamental question for the working class is that we ask the people to spoil their ballots."

"There is no party of the working class," Hull added.

Dan Heap calmly replied that "it could be that there is no working class party in the Marxist-Leninist sense, but there is a labour party in Canada as seen by a lot of workers and it has to be taken seriously."

Goldstick received the best reception of the evening though, when he summed up the big business parties: "The difference between Liberals and Tories is that Tories advocate a policy like wage controls or controls in the UIC and the Liberals carry it out."

and Tony Woolfson

The Toronto Board of Education meeting May 3 was more like a political rally than a formally constituted gathering. Three thousand people at the Board chambers overflowed into hallways, adjoining committee rooms, underground parking garages, and cafeterias, all of which were tuned into the proceedings by closed circuit

The issue before the Board was whether to fire 108 permanent-contract elementary teachers who had been declared "surplus" for 1979 because of declining enrollments.

At the end of a seven hour meeting the Board voted 15-5 to retain the teachers.

For over five hours, delegation after delegation told its story to the 22 trustees who can vote on matters affecting public elementary schools. Trustees Fisher and Spencer have been temporarily deactivated by conflict-of-interest rulings.

With just one exception, every delegation said the same thing: don't fire our teachers. we need them; far too many programs would have to be cut as a result of laying off

At 1 a.m. Trustee Sheila Meagher stood up and said that she was withdrawing her motion not to fire the teachers, and was seconding a motion to be put forward by one who was much more "able and worthy" than she, the oldest member of the Board, Harold Menzies.

Menzies had decided that enough was enough. "It is time to take a stand and stop laying off vitally needed teachers," he said. At the end of his impassioned speech the Board chamber echoed with loud applause from the crowd. His motion carried, 15 votes to 5.

The right was expecting to be able to make its own motion. The night before, Mary Fraser,

usually one of the hard-core right, expressed the hope that there would be a compromise position reached at the meeting. Tim Rutledge prepared a complicated motion which would have saved only 51 teachers.

Harold Menzies' unexpected motion pre-empted Rutledge's, and, by a ruling of the chair, Rutledge's attempt to place his motion as an amendment to Menzies' was declared out of

When it came time to vote, only trustees Rutledge, Vanstone, Maher, Walker, and Atkinson were willing to go on the record as voting to fire teachers, in front of over 3,000 parents, teachers, and students. Trustees Fraser, Chumak, and Davis, usually part of the rightwing, voted to retain the teachers. Fraser, was visibly enraged at being boxed into a corner where she had no other political choice but to vote for the motion.

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Services

Greenpeace is holding workshops on non-violence at St. Paul's Centre, 121 Avenue Rd. April 28 and May 19 in preparation for the June 2 demonstration and occupation of the Darlington Nuke. For information call 922-3011.

Co-op daycare: subsidies available, healthy food, Call Snowflake Parent-Child Centre. 979-2927, 228 McCaul St. 8 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday to Friday.

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If you are a Canadian nationalist, there is now a political party for you, the National Party of Canada. We can realize the dreams of Macdonald and Laurier. Write to Box 4866, Station E, Ottawa K1S 5J1. Toronto telephone 537-9950

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Two-bedroom duplex apartment available in the Landsdowne Bloor neighbourhood. Phone 535-2808 or 531-9734.

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Musician-composer looking for small room downtown in which he can make noise and not bother people. Call Cameron, 363-2561 or

Publications

A new highway traffic law handbook is now available from Community Legal Education Ontario, 111 Queen St. E. Ste. 310, Toronto M5C 1S2. Cost is \$2 plus 62¢ postage.

A refugee manual can be obtained by contacting lan Morrison of Toronto Community Legal Assistance, 978-6447.

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

Clarion blames the top

Ballard is Leafs' problem



I don't know what was worse, the nuclear scare in my hometown (Harrisburg, Pa.) or playing for Harold Ballard

ex-Ticat Jimmy Jones

Since 1967, Leaf fans and scribes have spent this time of year analyzing the past season and suggesting changes for the following year to improve the hockey club. Usually recent trades are cited as the problem. The coach's system or personality is always looked at. There is the "we are four players away from contention" camp.

Enough.

We the Clarion sports staff suggest the blame lies primarily at the top. The main problem with the Leafs is Harold Ballard.

As he gleefully admits, Ballard's main concern is more money. When Ballard and his late partner S. Smythe got control of the team in 1968, one of their early actions was to disassemble the Leafs' main farm team for cash.

Ballard maintained his opposition to NHL-WHA amalgamation to the end. He was infuriated with the bidding war for players the WHA's presence created. Leafs lost a few key players to the WHA, when Ballard refused to bid for their services. During the pre-Salming days when the team needed a

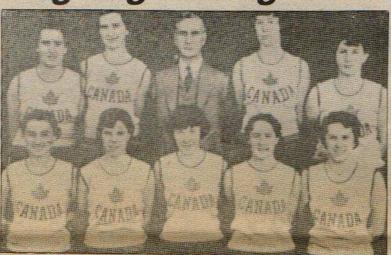
steady defenceman, Rod Seiling was lost to waivers as Ballard refused to pay his salary.

Ballard has kept his priorities straight. Leafs were the only team that was forced to play back-to-back games in the playoffs this year because Ballard's son had scheduled a rock concert for one of the dates. Ballard's first announcement since the Leafs' '79 demise was that he will raise ticket prices next year

He controls the system and the personnel acquired for the team. The Maloney-Hammarstrom sagas are the best examples of this. Inge Hammarstrom was a very gifted winger who was extremely popular in Toronto, but was traded away under Ballard's orders as he was not "intimidating" enough. Dan Maloney had built such a good reputation around the NHL as a fighter than Ballard was happy to give up speedy winger Errol Thompson and two first round draft choices for him.

Due to continuing fan and media pressure Ballard has been forced to build a better team over the last couple of years. He has chosen the physically-intimidating type of team as it is cheaper to assemble and more to his taste. Our only hope for an improvement of the team is its continued demise at the hands of more skilled practitioners of the game. Empty seats at the Gardens would help as well.

Women's basketball league growing in US



One women's basketball team that will never be forgotten—the Edmonton Grads. From 1915 to 1940 they compiled an astounding record of 502 wins with only 20 losses.

The Women's Pro Basketball League (WBL) has just completed its first year in the U.S. and has plans to expand next year. The league started with eight entries; each paid \$50,000 as an entry fee.

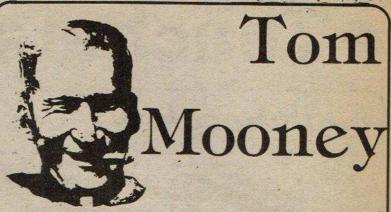
The Dayton team has gone bankrupt but three new teams have paid \$100,000 to join and five more have applied. The league's objective is to have 14 teams next year.

The WBL still faces condescending critics who feel the league isn't justified. "They said we couldn't get off the ground," said league president Bill Byrne. "Everybody said 'Where's the talent?' But there are players out there who nobody has heard of, who can play ball."

The players who turned out to be the stars of the WBL support his statement. The league's second tallest player and leading rebounder with an average of 17 a game, 6-foot, 2-inch Althea Gwyn from Queen's College, was not a nationally recognized player before she joined the league. Neither were the leading scorers — Brenda Chapman and Debra Waddy-Rossow, who scored 27.8 and 24.5 points a game for their respective teams.

The highest salary in the WBL was thought to be around \$25,000, but the average player received between \$5,000 and \$15,000. There were meal allowances, and all of the teams travelled by airplane, except for nearby games.

The Chicago Hustle claimed the league's highest attendance with an average of 3,105 fans watching in their gym. They also had the only local TV contract



Sport may not be as important an issue as ending unemployment and inflation, defending the right to self-determination in Quebec, and so on, but it certainly deserves more play than it has received so far in this election.

There almost seems to be a tacit agreement between the three mainline parties that sport is a technical issue on which there is no disagreement. Which only serves to perpetuate the elitist sports-governing bodies which hide behind the line, "Sport and politics do not mix."

But there is much that is wrong with the Liberals' sports policy, as reaffirmed last week in Iona Campagnolo's White Paper. The Liberals' overriding objective continues to be medals in international competition — not mass participation nor even increased opportunities for athletes to develop to the highest level — just medals. Iona has pushed the emphasis on medals to the point where only those athletes who rank in the top 16 in their events in the world will be sent to the 1980 Moscow Olympics, leaving many popular and gifted national champions behind.

Under this criterion, for example, vaulter Bruce Simpson, who won at the Commonwealth Games last year, would have to stay home because his best 1978 vault of 5.35 (17' 6-3/4") placed him in a tie for 37th on the world list.

While the Libs are demanding more medals, they refuse to provide the conditions — especially the grants for coaches and athletes — for all but a very few to enjoy a realistic shot at an Olympic berth, saying that most of the costs of training and competition must be borne by individual athletes and their families.

Campagnolo has offered \$18.5 million to build new arenas for the NHL-WHA, but at the same time she's cut grants to the Olympic program by \$6.5 million. Her solution to the resulting financial problems is to encourage the sports bodies to sell their best athletes to the advertising managers of the corporations.

It's a steal for the corporations, for sport provides the image of health, vitality and community involvement. It makes a select few athletes well-to-do, while providing no economic support for athletics in general.

The net result of all this is that in the years ahead Canadian "national" teams will continue to be made up of the sons and daughters of the urban upper middle class.

Although the opposition parties as a whole have neglected sport as a political issue, at least one candidate — the NDP's John Smart in Ottawa Centre — has raised some of these questions in his campaign. Smart is a civil servant who first discovered the double standard of another Campagnolo policy — her well-publicized support for employee fitness — when he and his co-workers asked to use the existing showers in the building where they worked, to wash up after a noon-hour workout. They were refused.

He then found out that the federal Treasury Board has ordered all departments not to spend any money on employee fitness and recreation programs and to discourage them as much as possible. If people were to run and play at noon, Treasury Board said, they might take a longer lunch hour.

Ken Dryden is a hero of mine, so it was sad to see him (figuratively) with his pants down (and those of the NHL) during an intermission interview last week. There was one of the most perceptive players in the game, earnestly, painstakingly, explaining to veteran sportscaster Dick Irwin, whose father was one of the League's most successful coaches, why the Habs had recently decided to use videotape for evaluating performance and scouting other players.

"On some goals, the goaltender has absolutely no idea where the shots come from," Dryden was saying, as if he was revealing a new discovery.

His comments illustrate once again just how far behind the NHL is in scientific know-how. Most other sports have been using film and VTR — even at the high school level — for years and years.

Speaking of les Canadiens, if there's a fifth game necessary in their final series against Freddie Shero's Rangers, it'll be played on Monday May 21 instead of the usual Tuesday.

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May 21 will be a lousy night for a game — it's the end of the holiday weekend and those who won't be watching the local fireworks will be inching home along the 400 and 401. But for the Molsons, one factor outweighs all others. It's election eve, and they want to give their old buddy Pierre Trudeau the TV exposure of a box seat at centre ice.

Needless to say, this department wishes the Habs better luck than Trudeau.



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