



Readers put *Clarion* on the right TRAC. Toronto Recycling Action Committee, that is. See pages 4 and 5

Chilean political refugees are second-class citizens in Canada. See an article by the Political Rights Working Group on page 10



Ontario

The province's plot to cut back social services takes on a new form. It's called decentralization. See page 9

Canada restricts Chileans' entry

By Art Moses

The federal cabinet has passed a regulation that will significantly increase difficulties faced by Chileans seeking to enter Canada as refugees.

The regulation — enacted quietly seven days after the Conservatives' defeat in the House of Commons — requires a Chilean to apply for a visitor's visa at the Canadian Embassy in Santiago before entering Canada.

No longer will Canada allow Chileans to arrive in Canada without a visa before requesting refugee status or asking to stay as a visitor.

"The powers that be have decided the visa process is a method of controlling non-genuine visitors," said Peter Palmer, program specialist for the Ministry of Employment and Immigration. "It could reduce the flow of Chileans quite substantially."

So substantially that a group of immigration activists, including officials of Amnesty International and several churches, have fired off a protest telegram to Prime Minister Joe Clark and Employment and Immigration Minister Ron Atkey.

"Again Canada is acting to deny its humanist traditions in a measure directed against refugees. The action will close the escape route for the persecuted and tortured," the telegram reads.

"Getting to the Canadian consulate in Santiago is no picnic," says immigration lawyer Jeffrey House. "It is interesting this regulation was brought in when it was, because just days before, there was a story in the *Globe and Mail* about two men who sought refugee status at the embassy and were turned over by

See Refugee page 10

TORONTO clarion

25 cents

Vol. IV No. 7 January 9 — January 22, 1980

Metro's independent newspaper for social change

P.O. admits trucks dangerous but refuses to ban them

By Sue Vohanka

After months of ignoring complaints from its Toronto drivers, post office management has admitted there are serious problems with the gas tank systems of some post office trucks.

A recent management report, which summarizes gas tank related problems in the 130 and 134 series step-vans, says 16 gas tanks have fallen out of the trucks.

There have also been more than 50 cases of gas tank straps breaking *without* resulting in tanks falling off. The November 16 report shows there have been nearly 200 repairs to gas tank systems between January, 1976 and September, 1979.

A covering letter with the report, signed by K.R. Luttrell, fleet manager for the Metro Toronto postal region, admits the investigation "does in fact identify a high evidence of gas tank strap failures".

"But they're quite content to leave the vehicles on the road," charged Simon Allalouf, chief steward for the Toronto drivers, members of Local 1 of the Letter Carriers Union of Canada.

Before the November report, post office management claimed only two gas tanks had fallen out of the trucks, and suggested the real problem was sabotage by drivers.

In late November, a post office spokesperson told the *Clarion* there were no continuing problems with the gas tanks.

Ed Roworth, director of public affairs for the Ontario postal region, told a *Clarion* reporter that complaints about truck safety were coming from a "dissident group" of drivers. He added: "I've got a funny feeling you're being used, or they're trying to use you."

Allalouf said the drivers complained to management about the gas tank problem six months ago. "We were complaining there was a serious problem with tanks falling out. They said, 'We don't believe it; we'll look

See Dragging page 2



Scab Bill Kraynyk works in the bush while Boise strikers picket.

Gerry Dunn

Despite 18 month strike

Boise gets \$1.7m grant

By Sue Vohanka

KENORA — Despite an 18-month strike at its wood harvesting operations here and in nearby Fort Frances, Boise Cascade Canada Ltd. has been awarded a \$1.7 million federal grant.

The federal Department of Energy, Mines and Resources announced the grant, which will help Boise Cascade finance a \$10.3 million project to convert wood waste into energy, in early December of 1980.

In a meeting with area unions

last January, Liberal MP John Reid had promised the Liberal government would not give Boise any grants while the strike continued, according to Wilf McIntyre, picket captain for the striking Lumber and Sawmill Workers Union, Local 2693.

"Our politicians had guaranteed us there would be no grants going to Boise," McIntyre said. "Why don't they give us \$1.7 million to fight Boise? That \$1.7 million just helps Boise fight us."

Terry Meagher, secretary-

treasurer of the Ontario Federation of Labour, termed the grant "absolutely insulting."

"I just think it's horrendous. I think it's an absolute insult to everyone up here," Meagher said. "It would be like the government giving a grant to Radio Shack." (Radio Shack's Barrie employees are striking to win a first contract from the company, which has violated provincial labour law during the dispute.)

The Boise strike began in July 1978 as a wildcat by Lumber and Sawmill Union members in the

Fort Frances area. The union says Boise violated the existing contract when it tried to introduce owner-operators, men who cut and haul wood with their own equipment and sell it to Boise at a fixed price.

In October 1978, the strike became legal and spread to Kenora area operations. Picket lines went up at the company's paper mill in Kenora, and briefly shut down the mill.

However, the United Paperworkers International Union,

See CLC page 3



Cindy Fortunata

More Hot Poop

Next time people call you a turd, be sure to ask what kind.

According to a recent article in the *New Statesman*, "... third world turds weigh in at over a pound a day, food takes only 35 to 40 hours to pass through the body, and diseases of the intestine, including appendicitis, are far rarer than in the West."

In contrast, "British turds are much smaller and stiffer and need much more muscular effort to push along the colon. Digestion and excretion take three to four days among young people and commonly over two weeks (!) among the elderly."

The culprit: white bread, the article said. And the

British "standard loaf" faces other charges. It includes BRT, a chemical which has caused liver enlargement in test animals. And — mixed with high-sugar products like jam — it is the best cavity producer since, well, sliced bread.

(Whole wheat flour, on the other hand, helps prevent cavities, according to the article.)

"I always thought the Queen looked constipated," you say, as you reach for the Wonder Bread. "Tough shit for the British."

And for you? Associated British Foods, one of two firms which control about two-thirds of the British bread market, is owned by George Weston Ltd., the Canadian-based conglomerate which also owns Neilson's chocolate, Eddy, Loblaw's, Donlands Dairy, and Weston Bakeries. Weston sells six brands of white bread in Ontario — Weston, Dietrich, Zehr's, Hollywood, Loblaw's, Wittichs.

In these cases at least, half a loaf *isn't* better than none.

Arsonists And Old Lace

The companies division of the Ontario Ministry of Consumer and Commercial Relations has come under fire lately for the destruction of files on corporate control. (See the *Nexus* supplement in the *Clarion's* last issue.)

Some were burned by persons unknown (not a government department). Others were deliberately destroyed by the division, making research into development and corporate interlocks more difficult.

Meanwhile, division executive-director Benson Howard was awarded the Queen's Counsel title (QC) in the Tories' New Year's honours list.

For a job well-done. Burnt to a crisp, in fact.

The Linens Are Drawn

The boycott of J.P. Stevens, the textile giant which is one of the U.S.'s worst union-busters, was much in evidence at November's NDP and Ontario Federation of Labour conventions at the Sheraton Centre. Booths, buttons, and broadsides all warned delegates off Stevens products.

Halfway through the first day of the OFL meet, Steelworker Cec Taylor pointed out that the hotel's table linen was Simtex — a Stevens brand. Delegates stripped the tables and met around bare table-tops for the rest of the convention.

Stevens products include sheets and pillow-cases (Fine Arts, Taste Makers, Uttica, Meadow Brook, Yves St. Laurent, Angelo Dongin, Suzanne Pleshette, Dinah Shore), towels (Fine Arts, Taste Makers, Uttica), blankets (Uttica, Forstman) and carpets (Gulistan).

Your Morning Smile

Eager for The Woman's View on the late Tory budget, the *Globe and Mail* asked Laurell Ritchie of the National Action Committee on the Status of Women for a comment.

The *Globe* called her a "spokesman."

'A dragging gas tank is a lethal bomb' - steward

From page 1

through the files ourselves.' Now they admit the problem exists, and still aren't doing anything about it," he added.

Luttrell's letter said the trucks would get a full update inspection to determine strap condition, and "Chrysler Canada will be notified to correct the strap situation."

Allalouf said the union has been told that Chrysler is devising some kind of bolt to prevent the gas tank straps from popping out.

He said it's even more dangerous for a truck to drag along a gas tank after a strap has broken than for the gas tank to simply fall out. "What you are dragging is a lethal bomb," he said.

The report also shows that some trucks have had gas tanks fall out or gas tank straps break several times over a period of a few weeks. "Obviously," said Allalouf, "the repairs they're doing aren't adequate either."

"You point that out to them

(management), and first they deny it, then they start passing the buck. In the meantime, weeks and months go by. It's really fortunate no one has been killed in this local," he added.

Allalouf said Local 1 members have filed between 500 and 600 grievances on health and safety issues during the past year, but feel the grievances haven't improved anything.

"It's a really bad atmosphere

that exists right now. Things are getting worse, progressively worse."

Allalouf also said many drivers are dissatisfied with the local union executive's lack of action on safety problems with the trucks. He described union executive members as being in the "twilight zone."

The 700 drivers in Local 1 are trying to leave the local and form a separate local with driv-

ers from other Metro LCUC locals. Allalouf said there are about 1,050 post office drivers in the Metro postal region.

He also said the drivers will hold a referendum on the issue later this month, and if it is successful will ask the union's national executive to sanction a new local of drivers.

"We've got to do something on our own before somebody gets killed," he said.

Opinion

Toronto driver slams union

Things are going from bad to worse for Post Office truck drivers in Metro Toronto. Despite treacherous winter driving conditions, the state of repair of the truck fleet continues to deteriorate.

There are daily delays in moving the mail because of a shortage of trucks. Daily, accidents and breakdowns occur due to poorly maintained and incorrectly purchased vehicles. This endangers the health and safety not only of the drivers but also of the citizens on the streets of Metro Toronto.

At 104 Berkeley St., the street letter-box truck depot, as many as 15 of 56 routes are delayed up to two hours daily. At 393 Front St. E. the five-ton shuttle truck depot, similar delays and problems exist. The tractor-trailer division at Cawthra Rd. hauls trailers that no other outfit would touch — trailers with bad brakes, no tail lights, and overloaded by as much as 25,000 lbs.

"Where is the Local 1 executive and what are they doing about these problems?" any union member might ask. The answer is simply that the executive of Local 1 of the Letter Carriers Union of Canada (LCUC), which represents mailmen and truck drivers, no longer see it as in their interest to defend the drivers and have all but abandoned them.

President Alex Powers has refused to attend grievance hearings for the drivers since his reelection three months ago. (Elections in Local 1 were delayed almost a year while police investigated the theft of \$500,000 from Local 1 and the apparent suicide of the Local 1 treasurer. Powers, a co-signer of all the cheques that passed through the local during the time of the theft, was cleared of any criminal responsibility.) Most drivers feel that Powers should not have run again.

The LCUC national executive, under the presidency of Bob McGarry, would like to see itself at the head of the new Crown Corporation Post Office, freezing out as much CUPW representation as possible. Bob McGarry and

the LCUC national executive have long been supporters of tri-partism and industrial democracy, a position which is exactly opposite to that of CUPW and Local 1 of LCUC.

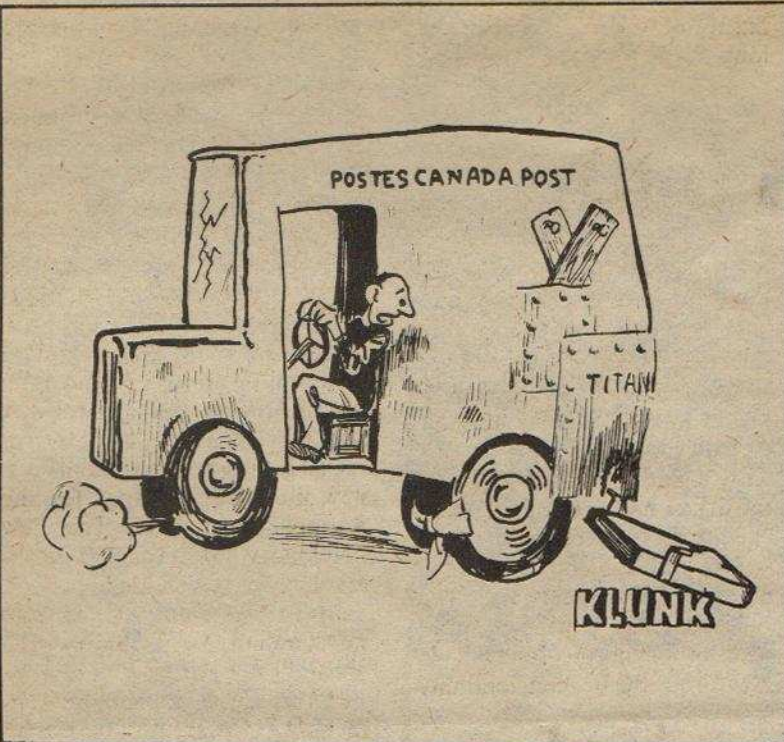
Although rank and file letter carrier support for the 1979 CUPW strike was strong, the national executive of LCUC (despite its public posturing to the contrary) refused to support CUPW in its hour of need.

In late July of 1978 the drivers in Metro Toronto held a wildcat strike to protest the safety of the "115" series step van. Eight shop stewards were suspended for their part in the strike. But at the adjudication hearings in September 1979, all charges against the stewards were dropped. A deal had been made, behind the backs of the stewards involved, between the national executive of LCUC and postal officials to set up an industrial-democracy type committee to deal with all the problems of the transportation division in Toronto.

The committee lasted three weeks, ending in complete failure. Bob McGarry and the national executive of LCUC obviously can find no sympathy for the drivers in Toronto who have been a thorn in their side for some time now.

So, with a treacherous national executive and a bankrupt local executive, where do the drivers in Metro Toronto find themselves right now? By provoking another wildcat strike now and taking advantage of an impotent local executive, postal officials would have little problem in firing whatever rank and file leadership might have developed since the 1978 wildcat. Such a solution would serve the interests of the national executive of LCUC as well.

During the 1978 wildcat strike, the *Toronto Sun* ran an editorial cartoon by Andy Donato of a silly looking postal driver in a step van with a caption saying "The problem is not the trucks but the nut behind the wheel." Nothing could be further from the truth. The problem all begins with the "buckets of bolts" that we are forced to drive.



Are You Interested in the Current Issues Inside Canada's Penitentiaries as Seen by Prisoners?

Then subscribe now!

ODYSSEY NEWSLETTER

Published by the Millhaven Odyssey Group, a Bi-monthly newsletter with critical up-to-date reporting on: the fight for prisoners' rights, problem areas inside penitentiaries, crime and punishment issues, prisoners' viewpoints.

Price: \$4.00 per year

Subscribe to:

EDITOR — ODYSSEY NEWSLETTER — P.O. BOX 280 — BATH, ONTARIO — K0H 1G0

High Park co-op faces battle

By Paul Weinberg

Opponents of housing co-ops in the city's west end are spreading false information among homeowners in the Runnymede-Jane area, says Jo-Anne McNamara, co-ordinator of the High Park co-op.

The 17 members of High Park co-op have talked to the city about using empty surplus subway lands at Glendonwyne and Kennedy on which to build their co-op with Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation financing.

Ward 1 alderman David White says he expects Metro Toronto to sell that particular surplus subway land to the city of Toronto. Other subway lands in the west end are already owned by the

city.

However, the High Park co-op has met vociferous opposition from Irma Pattison, president of the Runnymede-Jane Homeowners Association.

"Co-ops in the form of row housing and semi-detached units would lower the property values in a neighbourhood of people who own their own houses," she says.

A well-kept co-op that is properly built or renovated actually enhances an area, counters White.

McNamara says the High Park co-op members will canvass the Runnymede-Jane area to drum up the support she claims exists there, despite Pattison's organization.

At each of two public meet-

ings on the issue last fall, Pattison was able to bring out 300 west-end residents, many of them from outside the Runnymede-Jane area. McNamara said some local homeowners expressed fears about low-income people moving into their neighbourhood.

"I can tell you that the mood of those meetings was ugly, emotional, and uninformed. There was talk of, 'We don't want those people in our neighbourhood.' They got city non-profit, co-ops and Ontario Housing all mixed up," McNamara says.

She adds that both White and Doug Little, federal NDP candidate for Parkdale-High Park, were shouted down at one meet-

ing when they tried to present their own perspectives on co-op housing.

Pattison claims few members of High Park co-op actually live in the Runnymede-Jane area. However, McNamara says she knows of only three members who do not live in that neighbourhood.

Pattison says the surplus sub-

way lands at Glendonwyne and Kennedy should be used entirely for parking, as local Bloor St. businessmen are frustrated by the shortage of parking space on their street.

Alderman White in a compromise suggests that the surplus land be divided — half would be for parking and half for the High Park Co-op.

Black leader target

Police probe critic

By Paul Weinberg

Harassment is a constant companion of police critics and black community leader Dudley Laws is no exception.

Laws, who is executive director of the 60-year-old Universal African Improvement Association, was invited to speak to students on October 2 at Contact School at Parliament and Gerard Streets on the issue of the police and their relations with civilians.

Contact School is an alternative school located just north of Regent Park, a low-income public housing area. The school is for students who have dropped out and who wish to return.

One month after Laws spoke at the school, police officers entered the premises and interrogated students and teachers about Laws' visit and about what he said.

Police chief Harold Adamson told the *Globe and Mail* that an investigation of Laws was continuing, but he would not elaborate. Toronto Board of Education officials have protested the visit by the officers, who had asked for the phone numbers and addresses of a number of students and teachers.

Laws himself has no idea of what the police are looking for. In fact, says Laws, what he said to the class does not differ substantially from his previous

public statements at various rallies.

"After I spoke to the class, a number of young people — white kids as well as black — came to me afterwards and spoke of their personal experiences with the police. The students were very receptive."

A vigorous critic of the police handling of the Albert Johnson and Buddy Evans cases, Laws says the police have not spoken to him about their investigation.

"I hope the police investigate themselves as well as they are investigating me."

"One should not worry if the police have proof of your guilt or innocence. If they want to get you, they will find something."

Union petitions labour board

Fotomat charged with bad faith

By Marty Crowder

United Steelworkers of America (USWA) charged Fotomat, on January 3, with bargaining in bad faith. The charges were lodged with the Ontario Labour Relations Board for Fotomat's refusal to meet with the union and respond to the union's proposed contract.

USWA was certified in February of 1979, and tried to meet with management until October, when they decided to strike.

The OLRB recently ruled that Radio Shack was bargaining in bad faith and ordered that bargaining meetings begin immediately and the company must present a complete proposal that the union will be able to accept.

Fotomat's union rep Bill Mills said, "We have decided to charge the company for bargaining in bad faith, because of this report. Fotomat has never made us a counter offer."

The 200 employees are scattered around Ontario, with the majority in the Toronto area. Although they were able to close most of the Fotomat booths for a while, new employees have been hired and all booths are again open for business. Fotomat has also launched an advertising campaign offer-

ing a free roll of film with every processing order.

"We have cut down their business quite a bit," says Rick Bigelow, picket captain.

"Police have been threatening to lay charges of petty trespass against picketers in some of the plazas."

"It's frustrating and scary to have three or four cruisers arrive as soon as you start picketing. I've been stopped from going into plazas just to shop. Fotomat must have distributed my

picture to all the booths," continues Bigelow.

In a recent incident, one of the replacement drivers ran into striker Sheila Fountain on the picket line. Fountain, who had to stay home a couple of days with a badly bruised hip, says the driver had previously threatened to hit the picketers.

The union is considering laying civil charges against the driver.

The OLRB hearing is scheduled to begin on January 21. Meanwhile the boycott continues.

Rent strike helps

When Frank Moran, the landlord of 40 Earl St., discovered that the city had instituted a rent and eviction freeze on his new property until next summer, he was shocked. He rushed to city hall and begged the local bureaucrats to lift the freeze. He was told, however, that it would stay until the outstanding repairs on his new building had been done.

"We've suddenly found the landlord to be much more reasonable," said Sean Goetz-Gadon, a community legal worker representing the tenants of the building.

Upon purchasing 40 Earl,

Moran offered extensive repairs to the building, and asked in return for a 20 per cent rent increase and an agreement that the tenants not go to provincial rent review.

Moran, however, did not realize that the previous owner of 40 Earl had got into trouble with the city.

"The landlord freaked out when publicity about his building began to hit the press."

"He thought when he first met the tenants that everybody was happy with the new arrangements he was offering them," Goetz-Gadon said.



Fred Miron (L) and Al Roussin of LSWU.

From page 1

one of five unions inside the mills, voted to cross the LSWU picket line soon after it went up. Six months later, the other unions in the mill had returned to

work, and the picket line moved to Boise's wood harvesting operations, which have been contracted out to scab firms.

The strike has been marked by clashes between strikers and Ontario Provincial Police brought in to help strikebreakers through the picket lines, attempts by the Fort Frances sheriff to collect fines directly from strikers' bank accounts, and illegal search warrants used in raids of union offices and union officials' homes.

Picket captain Wilf McIntyre said the 100 strikers who remain on the picket lines fear Boise will receive additional government grants to help finance a new mechanical pulper for the Kenora paper mill. The new machine would cost 200 workers their jobs, he added.

McIntyre said the federal government is providing the grant money, which will be allocated by the provincial government in February.

The Canadian Labour Congress is organizing a boycott of Boise Cascade products. Ralph Ortlieb, CLC director of organization for Ontario, said the boycott committee will work with the American Federation of Labour — Congress of Industrial Organizations. It will concentrate on pushing the boycott in the midwestern U.S., where about 85 per cent of Boise's paper mills products are sold, he said.

Boise Cascade Canada Ltd. is ranked by the Financial Post survey as one of the top 150 industrials in Canada. It is wholly owned by Boise Cascade Corporation in the U.S., one of the biggest forest products companies in the world.

Trade your loved ones for a free roll of film.

Free film with developing. Bring any colour print roll of family pictures (or any other kind for that matter) to your Fotomat Store for developing before January 12, 1980.



We'll give you a replacement roll of good, fresh Fotomat colour print film absolutely free. That's free. As in free. When you consider that our developing price of \$3.99 for 12 exposure colour print film is already low, you're getting a terrific deal on top of a bargain.



Recent ad in Toronto Star

As we see it

Labour must rely on its own strength, not count on courts

In recent weeks, two labour boards have made rulings widely interpreted as hints of a more "progressive" attitude toward the labour movement and working people.

The federal labour board recently ordered the Bank of Commerce, the Royal Bank and the Bank of Montreal to stop intimidating employees, who are trying to unionize, by denying them salary increases. And the Ontario Labour Relations Board has ordered Radio Shack to bargain in good faith with its striking Barrie employees, and set a precedent by awarding the union legal and organizing costs against the company.

At first glance, these rulings seem to indicate a shift on the part of the boards. But we'd suggest taking a long second look before getting excited about the new sympathies of labour boards.

Although the two rulings were strong and good ones, they come at a time when more and more companies are using increasingly vicious tactics to prevent unions from gaining certifications and contracts. As well, the two rulings come after lengthy disputes, and both Radio Shack and the Bank of Commerce flagrantly violated their responsibilities under labour law: in order to retain credibility, the boards were forced to bring down strong rulings against companies which had previously violated the law and its intent. And, however progressive the rulings may be, in neither instance do they ensure that a contract will be achieved, or even that the companies will bargain in good faith. During the Ontario hearings on Radio Shack, a security guard hired by the company testified that the firm was willing to spend a million dollars to keep the union out — and even the costs award doesn't mean they've spent that much yet.

Michelin bill

Another recent example of labour legislation, the so-called Michelin Bill in Nova Scotia, shows the other, less gleaming side of the coin. Nova Scotia's Conservative government passed legislation saying a company with two or more related plants in the province must be organized as a single bargaining unit — only after the United Rubberworkers of America organized one of the Michelin plants and held a certification vote.

The Nova Scotia legislation follows the example set in October 1978, when Parliament ordered striking postal workers back to work, and then arranged for the jailing of their union president, Jean-Claude Parrot. Those examples have shown that the people who make laws are responsible, and responsive, to corporations rather than working people.

The Michelin Bill and the treatment of CUPW should be a warning to the trade union movement that putting most of its energy and resources into legalistic tactics isn't likely to be effective.

But it's not clear that the trade union movement is listening to the warning signals. Instead, it seems that trade unionists are concentrating on fighting nasty employers through available legal channels — instead of taking on the harder task of organizing support and educational work.

In the case of Radio Shack, the Steelworkers union has been organizing a product boycott as well as fighting the case before the labour board. But the boycott has not been pushed as strongly as it could have been, especially in Toronto; perhaps the reason is that the union hoped the labour board's decision would make the boycott unnecessary.

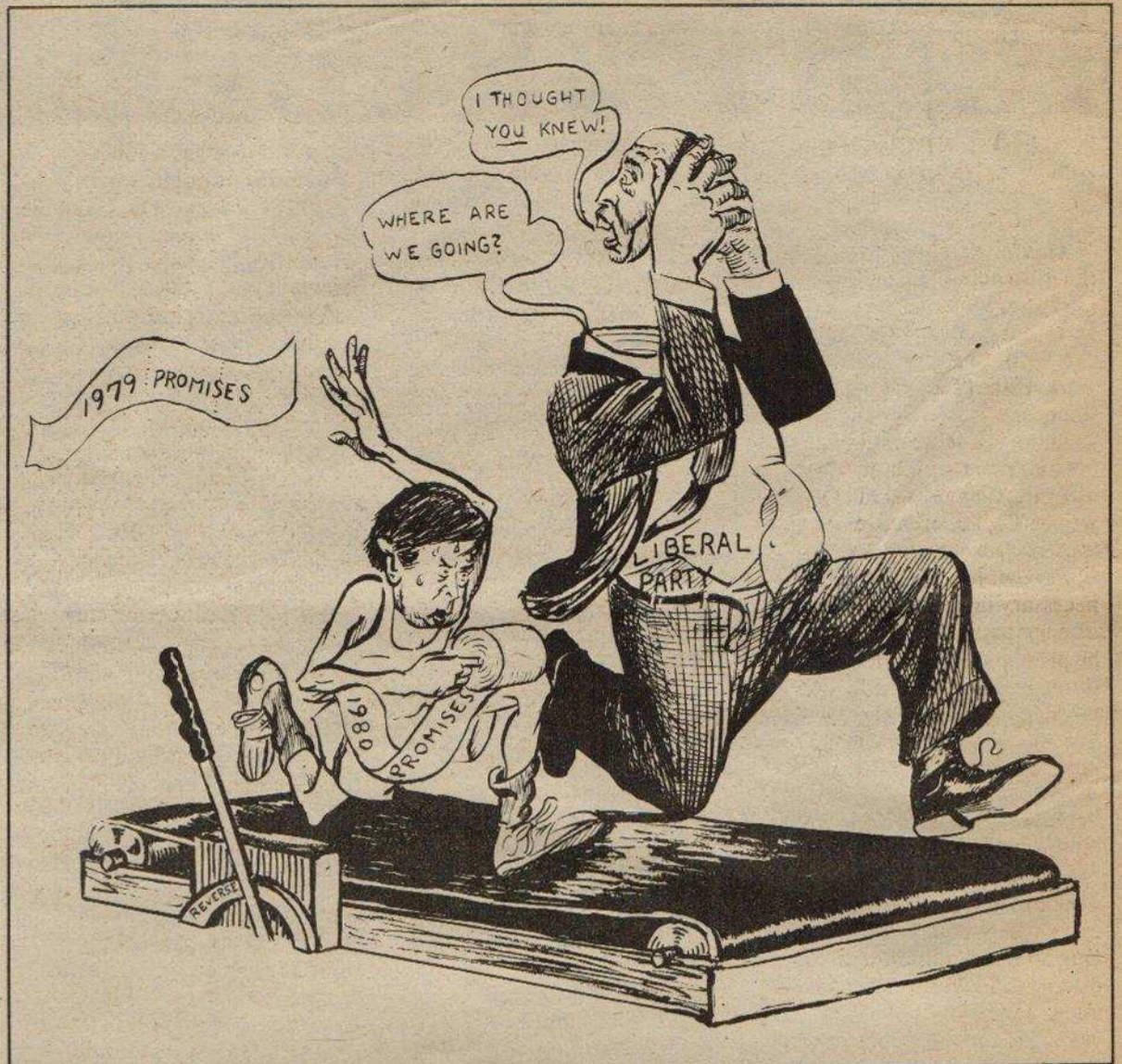
Anti-scab legislation

A similar example is the labour movement's lobby for anti-scab legislation in Ontario. Undoubtedly, such legislation would be a step forward. But the corresponding organizing among unemployed and non-union workers — which is equally necessary — is lacking. Those sections of the workforce will become a growing army of pawns in the hands of management as long as they perceive their interests as different from those of unionized workers.

Trying to solve labour injustices by legislative changes is one route. Perhaps it's the easiest in that legal victories are flashy and get lots of press. But a legalistic approach tends to be elitist: only a few people are aware of the complex legal channels that have to be navigated, and as a result, intelligent decision-making is limited to the few who understand the rules.

What's more, relying on the legal system to redress problems reinforces the idea that you can only play according to the rules that a few people set — and expect justice. That attitude makes it difficult to challenge laws even when they are blatantly unfair, as in the case of the law ending the postal workers' legal strike.

Most important, heavy emphasis on legal routes tends to de-emphasize organizing and education among rank-and-file workers and the general public. That kind of work provides the only way for people to understand the connections between their problems. And it is the only way they can gain the strength to protest — and win — when they're getting shafted. No matter what the laws say.



As you see it

Conserving here just bum steer?

To the *Clarion*:

I have come across an interesting article in your November 27 issue entitled "Conserve Energy." It is of double interest to me. First, because — as is increasingly fashionable — I am and long have been interested in conservation. Second, because it is written by my son Bert Hodgson.

To really appraise his article, it is necessary that the reader have some background information about Bert — a good lad, and a fairly dutiful son. However, when he wrote the story he was within a couple of months of his 30th birthday, and since he always was a precocious kid, it is not surprising that he has reached the "age of unreliability" a little ahead of the average. So it is understandable that in a number of respects his "story" requires some clarification.

True, when he pointed out the wastefulness of heating three batches of dishwasher instead of one, it did make me think (a process, however, which does not normally make me turn pale!). So I conceded that using electricity, which relied heavily on non-renewable fossil fuel, to heat the water was irresponsible.

Indeed, I continued, using electricity for the purpose at all was not necessary. We could use the time saved by consolidating the dishwashing to cut and split firewood to heat the water.

Well, guess who was standing there — no, sitting — looking pale and fumbling for a reply this time! What actually happened was that Bert was so completely demoralized that he had to continue "conserving energy" while a certain physi-

cally fit senior citizen cut, split, and piled enough wood to heat the day's dishwasher.

Ebenezer Hodgson
Toronto

TRAC critic refuted

To the *Clarion*:

Carl Stieren's article (TRAC record questioned, Oct. 31-Nov. 13 issue) is one of the sillier pieces of journalism I have read in the past few weeks.

A story about recycling is very welcome in an era of rising energy costs. However, it is clear from the facile treatment that your reporter accorded the subject that the *Clarion* considers recycling to be a rather low priority.

One wonders why reference is made to an "environmental critic". My guess is that the critic has no more qualification to comment on environmental

issues than any other person. If that's the case, your story should be clear about who the person is.

Your description of Judy Veland's "stunned silence" is a most unkind attack to direct at a person who spends a great deal of volunteer energy attempting to come to grips with the solid waste problem.

Had your reporter been a little more skilled or a little more interested in drawing information out, he may have discovered that a principal problem in establishing more depots around the City is that there are rather strict criteria for their placement.

They must first of all be in areas where the public sees them. They can't be too close to people's houses, because the clattering of bottles is quite disturbing. The best locations are

See IS-FIVE page 5

TORONTO clarion

The *Toronto Clarion* is owned and published by the Western Gap Communications Co-operative Limited, a non-profit co-operative.

Individual mail subscriptions are \$12 a year. Display and classified advertising are available on request. We reserve the right to refuse ad material we feel is racist, sexist or otherwise unpalatable.

Letters to the collective are welcomed but they must be signed for verification; names withheld on request.

The *Clarion* also operates a dynamite typesetting and graphics service.

The staff members are: John Biggs, Marty Crowder, Gerry Dunn, Lynn Goldblatt, Mark Golden, Marianne Langton, Sally McBeth, Bob McGowan, Barbara MacKay, Tom McLoughlin, Alan Meisner, Annie Mills, Marg Anne Morrison, Elinor Powicke, Norman Rogers, Carl Stieren, Wayne Sumner, Sue Vohanka, Bob Warren, Paul Weinberg, Able Weisfeld, and Ted Whittaker.

The following people also contributed to this issue: Jim Campbell, Elaine Farragher, Rob Harris, Al McMillan, Eric Mills, Cathy Pike, Oscar Rogers, Dave Smiley, Mick Lowe, Mike Edwards, Ruth Haworth, Katherine Berry, Bill from Dumont and many others.

Correction: The last issue of the *Clarion* was mistakenly numbered Vol IV No. 4, it should have been Vol. IV No. 5 & 6.

73 Bathurst Street, Toronto M5V 2P6
363-4404

As you see it

TRAC answers critic's flak

To the *Clarion*:

This letter is in reference to the misleading, inaccurate and irresponsible article printed in your November issue regarding the Toronto Recycling Action Committee (TRAC record questioned).

There is a sense of aimless meandering throughout this piece that suggests that the writer, Carl Stieren, desperately wanted to be provocative but, somehow, just did not have the necessary ingredients. Instead of consistent factual research, he presents personal assumptions, baseless innuendo and misleading inaccuracies as the "meat" of a rather tasteless piece of journalism.

First of all, TRAC does not "think(s) that everything would be fine if it could just convince more Torontonians to use one of the 16 glass and metal recycling depots in Toronto." Our attempt at public education of solid waste management issues and options over the years has consistently been that there are various methods and strategies that can be developed

to cope with waste. The use of depots is only one method and as such, is only an *interim* measure being used until multi-material at-source separation and recovery becomes feasible and/or operational.

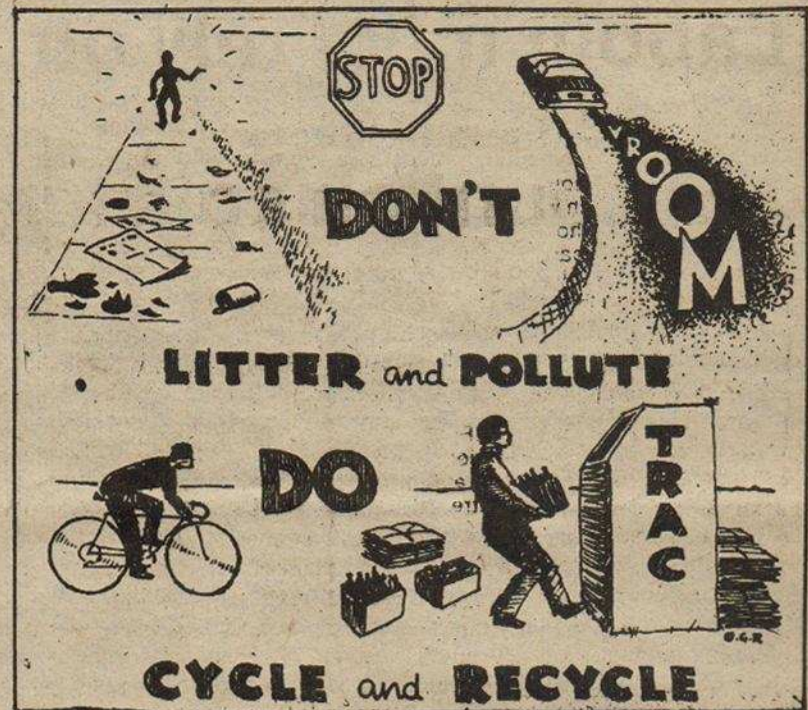
TRAC is committed to depots only insofar as it allows people to become involved as recyclers and in that it also represents a means to an end — curbside pick-up of recyclable materials which is what TRAC is ultimately committed to. If the depots are eventually used to the extent that their overall efficiency is lowered substantially, then the rationale for a curbside pick-up program can no longer be denied by its detractors. We are waiting for that degree of commitment from the public and will continue to promote the depot program until it no longer serves a strategic end.

Stieren's lack of research also forces him to ask of TRAC its reasons for not requesting more funds for depots from the department of public works. An obvious and straightforward question on his part would have informed him that although we work in co-operation with the department of public works, we

are not, however, a sub-committee of public works. Therefore, we have no claim on its budget. TRAC is a special committee of Toronto City Council, and as such, obtains its yearly operating budget from council. The issue here is not more money for more depots, but rather the wise and responsible use of all available resources to inform and campaign, and in the process, to assist in the implementation of the most appropriate combination of means for efficient solid waste management.

Stieren's meandering continues when he criticizes the Is-Five Foundation depot at 477 Dupont Street. Is the implication here that TRAC is somehow responsible for this depot, and thus negligent because the depot consists of three unlabelled drums? Again, were he to investigate, he would find out that that depot is not a city-operated one, and thus not one of TRAC's 16 depots, but one privately managed by the Is-Five Foundation. Whether the drums are labelled or not is a moot point, the material is still recyclable.

Also, is TRAC somehow to



be held responsible for Etobicoke's collection programs as the reporter seems to be implying? The reference to that borough's programs, successful or not, is off-topic at the very least and totally irrelevant to TRAC's programs and record. Let me reiterate that TRAC as a Toronto City Council committee can only operate within the *City of Toronto* and not the whole of Metro. Any recycling programs in adjoining boroughs remain the responsibility of the political bodies of those boroughs.

Perhaps the article's most misleading element is the use of an anonymous "environmental critic" to cast very questionable judgements of TRAC. The use of anonymity is hardly necessary here, and the *Clarion's* decision to use this method speaks for itself. The generality of the description "environmental critic" also says much about that critic's credibility when she/he makes the claim that TRAC is "caught in the mentality of following the bureaucrats rather than taking responsibility and implementing change." I would challenge the critic to re-examine her/his notions as to how change occurs. Overnight, radical changes are impossible and improbable.

There are no magic wands where social and environmental change are concerned. Only in-

formation, education, commitment and concerted effort on everyone's part can get the process of change going. There are many actors in that process and TRAC has a fine record on taking on appropriate responsibility and playing its part in moving the machine of change along. If TRAC must occupy itself occasionally with bureaucratic methods, it must do so because it is by its mandate responsible to City Council and thus the taxpayers for assuring that fair and democratic standards are applied in the disposition of funds as well as program priorities and decisions.

If the *Clarion* wishes to examine the TRAC record, I can only suggest that it address itself to the actual TRAC record, and not some fabrication of it. Also, it should be noted that although Judy Vellend, an active TRAC member, was questioned, her comments were misunderstood and taken out of context.

My expectation is that this letter will appear in your next issue as a letter to the editor, to serve as a correction of the inaccuracies in your article and that a copy of that issue will be sent to the City Clerk's office.

Janice Palmer
Chairman
Toronto Recycling Action Committee

Is-Five research

from page 4

on shopping centre parking lots, but Toronto doesn't have many shopping centres. The school board is concerned about the safety problems created by broken glass, so school properties are usually rejected as sites.

Your reporter might have been less lazy and done a bit of research to find out what some groups are doing.

Is-Five, for example, has been working on a curbside source separation program in East York for some months now. Results are fairly promising in that resident participation has been sustained at a high level. Your "critic" may wish to characterize Is-Five's ongoing assessment of the program as "bureaucratic," however, included in the work is a study on how the workers who

slog the garbage cans might be paid fair wages. Clearly labour costs are one of the major impediments to recycling and no government is going to be interested in funding recycling programs that cost significantly more than conventional garbage collection and disposal.

If Is-Five takes a long time to collect the data, that is unfortunate, but the absence of data will mean that recycling will never occur. I believe that TRAC is not beyond criticism but the criticism should be at least informed and open.

If your "critic" ever gets around to organizing a recycling union, he will have to come out into the open anyway. He might as well start soon. In the meantime, your reporter should ignore him.

David White
Alderman, Ward 1
Toronto

Quebec referendum

To the *Clarion*:

With the referendum drawing closer and closer and with the unprecedented chauvinist campaign being organized, it is more than urgent that democratic forces raise their voices, calling for the recognition of Québec's right to decide its own political future. In English Canada it is important to understand that Quebecers only wish to see their rights respected and that oppression only serves the common enemy of workers both in Québec and in the rest of the country.

We are writing this letter to the *Clarion* because we believe the *Clarion* can play a positive role in the present political situation.

In fact, the *Clarion* can contribute to popularize the

struggle against national oppression by exposing the lines of parties like the NDP, Tories or Liberals that refuse to recognize the rights of the Québec nation. It can publish articles raising examples of national oppression, not only of Québécois, but also of Franco-Ontarians, native people, as well as on the struggle against racism and discrimination suffered by other national minorities and immigrants. The *Clarion* could also publish an invitation to its readers asking their opinion on this important political question. Many things

can and should be done.

We hope that the importance and urgency of this question will not escape the editors of the *Clarion* and that concrete and positive steps are being taken, steps that will demonstrate clearly to workers in Québec that it is possible to struggle, side by side with workers and progressive individuals, against their common enemies, against the real causes of national oppression in our country. The Marxist-Leninist Organization of Canada In Struggle!
Toronto

Carl Stieren responds

The letters of Alderman David White and Toronto Recycling Action Committee Chairman Janice Palmer are welcome to this writer as a continuation of the important debate on recycling, started in my article "TRAC record questioned." White is wrong, however, in stating that "the Clarion considers recycling to be a rather low priority."

Also, contrary to White's assertion, the "environmental critic" I quoted has several years' experience in the very sort of programs that TRAC runs.

In her letter, Palmer takes pains to dissociate herself and TRAC from the "Glass Gobbler" recycling program in Etobicoke. Of course, TRAC is limited to the city of Toronto, but it is dangerous to dismiss the failure of a curbside pick-up program involving more than 1000 homes in a neighboring municipality as "off-topic at the very least and totally irrelevant to TRAC's programmes and record".

On the contrary, in the same letter, Palmer says that glass depots were only "a means to an end — curbside pickup of recyclable materials which is what TRAC is ultimately committed to."

In the Etobicoke "Glass Gobbler" program, Consumers' Glass Company was willing to buy all the glass collected, and had urged the borough of Etobicoke to expand the program to the entire borough. The abandonment of even the pilot project was attributed by borough officials to high costs and insufficient revenue. If TRAC is working toward curbside collection, should it not learn from the Etobicoke failure?

The central criticism in my article was one that was barely touched on by White or Palmer: that the present number of depots and the present amount of publicity done by TRAC are not adequate for even the existing program. I would argue for a larger budget for new depots (possibly from Public Works, which White as an alderman could request) and a larger budget for more publicity, possibly by another agency if Council thought it could be more efficient than TRAC.

— Carl Stieren

Scrap Bill 188 Amend Rights Code

To the *Clarion*:

The recent events between Nov. 30 - Dec. 7, 1979 have been a real blessing in disguise. I might say here that I do not agree with Bill 188, a separate bill to ensure the rights of the handicapped. I and other disabled persons were opposed to this separate bill. Instead of having a separate bill, it should have been an amendment to the Ontario Human Rights Code. Since I have been organizing disabled persons for going on twelve years, it is really the first time that disabled persons and their agencies have united together to defeat a very important issue.

The important thing to remember for future issues is that the maximization of the

See *DISABLED* page 8

The movie Star Trek: papering over a crumbling universe

By Robin Wood

I can summon up little interest in *Star Trek* as an individual movie, but the current science-fiction cycle demands attention as a cultural phenomenon.

What people seemed to love about *Star Wars* (which is not likely to be dislodged as the most popular film of the cycle) was its apparent meaninglessness: it represented "pure escape" into a fantasy-world of comic-strip and delightful gadgetry. Yet every artifact has a cultural meaning; "fantasy" and "comic-strip" cannot exist without meanings.

American ideology (which is but an inflection of western capitalist ideology, amid whose determinations we all have to live) is riddled with internal contradictions.

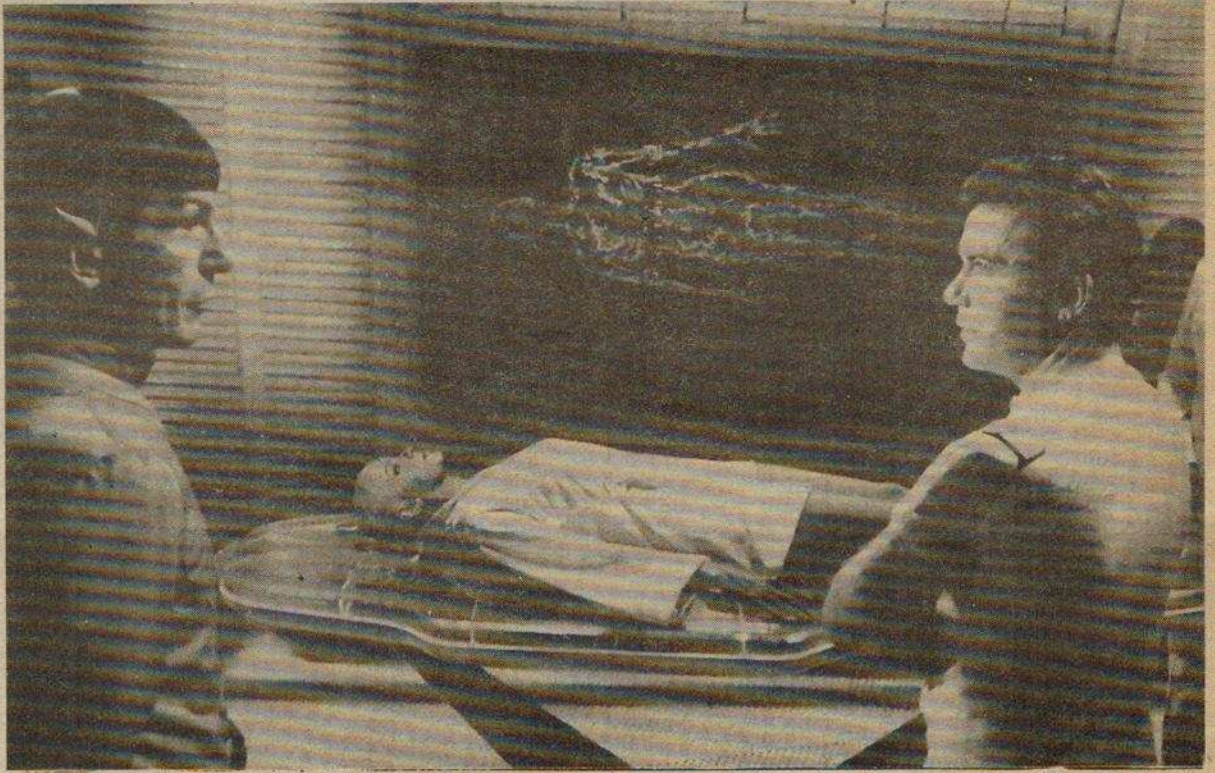
One of the most basic is the valuing, on the one hand, of technological progress, and on the other of the agrarian dream: we are urged simultaneously to ad-

vance to a starry and streamlined future of automation, luxury and leisure, and to retreat to our log cabin in the wilderness.

On our TV screens, *The Waltons* and *Little House on the Prairie* rub shoulders with *Star Trek*, and we gobble up both without noticing the meal's indigestibility.

The building of the cabin — the declaration of the right to private ownership — is of course the beginning of the process of which the supposed technological paradise is the end. Yet the beginning can never be abandoned: linked to notions of the "natural", the log cabin remains, ideologically, the repository of "true human values".

The ideological trajectory of *Star Trek* is very different. The film borrows lavishly from predecessors: the technological paraphernalia derives most obviously from *Star Wars*, but some of the imagery owes a lot to *Alien* and the climactic mystical rebirth of



Mr. Spock and Captain Kirk discuss the anatomy and physiology of the robotized "probe" Elia in the movie *Star Trek*.

the couple strongly recalls 2001's star-child. The fact that it is a romantic couple marks the crucial difference: instead of a new birth in a new wilderness, we have the restoration of True Love under the eye of the Father (Captain Kirk) and the revelation that it's good old human emotion that alone can triumph over the invading mechanical force. It would all be very heart-warming except for the hollowness of the characters and the desperateness of the ideological compromise.

It is obvious that the science-fiction cycle is extremely reactionary, using "futurism" as a disguise for the restoration of a battered and crumbling ideological structure, and that that is its function: the "optimism" of these films must be rejected at all points.

The early 70s, the period of Vietnam and Watergate, was also the great period of the American horror film, which was anything but reassuring, and marked an implicit acknowledgement of the collapse of ideological confi-

dence. Social revolution seemed but a step away.

A partial and temporary confidence has been restored with the Carter administration, but films like *Star Wars*, *Close Encounters*, *Heaven Can Wait* and *Star Trek* are but a papering-over of the cracks, which is acknowledged by the films' artificiality. Couples kiss, patriarchs smile benignly amid displays of special effects signifying wealth, but we all know it's only pretence. The trouble is that so many people continue to enjoy pretending.

Night Shift Life

Texture in Behnan's first album



Michael Behnan, *Night Shift Life* (Mad Dog Records MDR 1001; General Delivery, Gore's Landing, Ontario K0K 2E0).

Reviewed by Al McMillan

Michael Behnan may be familiar to readers as a young artist whose prints and sketches have been exhibited around Ontario. His work reveals a dismayed and vigilant concern for the plight of

expressive, elemental technique indebted to the early 20th century German artist Käthe Kollwitz.

Whatever possessed him to get down and record an album of his own songs, I don't know — but I admire his courage and welcome the attempt. My response is complicated by his standing in another art form. It would not do, perhaps, to consider him a terribly ambitious bottom-rung popstar-hopeful, a complete unknown. I am assuming (safely, I

think, at a moment when anyone can rustle up some backup talent and make a record) that experiment and recreation figure prominently in his motives. Still, how do you react finally to anyone's music, except as music?

Behnan strikes a comfortable collaboration here with players mostly associated with Max Mouse and the Gorillas, an Oshawa-based cadre of rockin' zanies. They give the music a rough, lively texture all its own — nothing like the lush goo typically laid on by the Hollywood crowd.

Indeed much credit must go to Toronto musician Doug Bowes for producing that distinctive Canadian folk-rock sound in full measure for *Night Shift Life*. Scratchy guitars and keyboards, skiffle drums, fairly heavy bass and gutsy vocal harmonies are jelled into clear highs, a firm bottom and a middle entirely reserved for lead vocals.

Unfortunately, Behnan's voice is not yet a strong instrument. He sings with some character, but usually a little off-key; and his phrasing is sometimes awkward.

The lyrics take a hesitant tour through familiar folk territory, and offer nothing new to say about ghetto blight, heedless progress, poverty and indignity and their effects on individuals, the labyrinth of drink, the solitary doom of love in the city.

Two rock numbers, however, stand out from the rest as much in dimension as in tempo. They're

fine songs that succeed because Behnan puts more of himself into them. He's got that r & b thing in his blood and really should get off his stool and shake it more often.

His big problems right now are uncertainty and inexperience; but once he's travelled some, his singing and writing are bound to improve.

And as I said, Michael Behnan's contribution is welcome.

With the arts so contingent nowadays, we all function as dilettantes until we're lucky enough to be claimed by a particular discipline. As the work of pro pop musicians grows ever more dry and formulaic with the advent of success, it is to be hoped that we will continue to be reached and touched by the experiments of thoughtful amateurs. So keep the faith, Michael, and best of luck.

Made for TV movie purpose in p

By Richard Lippe

NBC recently premiered a two hour made-for-television film called *Friendships, Secrets and Lies* which, in keeping with television's policies, will be rescreened on prime time and, eventually, will wind up on late night programming. In other words, there will be many chances to see the film if you missed the original screening.

Friendships, Secrets and Lies, advertised by NBC as a mystery-drama, about six sorority sisters, played by Tina Louise, Paula Prentiss, Stella Stevens, Loretta Swit, Shelley Fabares and Cathryn Damon, who must confront in their private and public lives the fact that twenty years ago one of them aborted her baby and then disposed of it within the sorority house they were living in at the time by throwing it down an abandoned air shaft.

As with most mystery narratives, the plot imposes certain demands on credibility, e.g., that these six women should have remained living in the smallish mid-western town for twenty years;

the fact that the five other cognize/discover the pregnant question.

Actually, *Friendships, Secrets and Lies* is more than just another conventional drama — these plot contrivances are secondary issue. What is important is that it is an ambitious attempt to give women (the film is scripted/acted and has an all-female cast) to make a statement in a fictional n

Reduced to its most basic demands recognition of women's moral and legal sense, to choose an alternative to an unwanted choice was impossible twenty years ago. The film demonstrates, the acknowledgment of women's rights entails the acknowledgment of women's rights, not only by men but a Tina Louise character is a true oppression). These rights in

The
of W
b
Fa
Co
R
After
ings
from
searching
ope, Gen
second b
The O
ical catal
feminist
as a focal
use the w
European
painters
Renaissa
teenth ce

L
Greer
creativity
"lesser
there is
there is so
ments of
painters.
their wo
decay an
soon be l
tolerable
has been
others."
Even
women a
til recent
cess to c
were wor
the upper
portunity
women v
ceived the
Extern
ternity, p
no more
women's
and their
in men's
"Obsta
two secti
ters. The
"The Illu
tion", ar
ably plac
"Dime

Made for TV movie shows unusual clarity and purpose in portraying women's lives

By Richard Lippe

NBC recently premiered a two hour made-for-television film called *Friendships, Secrets and Lies* which, in keeping with television's policies, will be rescreened on prime time and, eventually, will wind up on late night programming. In other words, there will be many chances to see the film if you missed the original screening.

Friendships, Secrets and Lies, advertised by NBC as a mystery-drama, about six sorority sisters, played by Tina Louise, Paula Prentiss, Stella Stevens, Loretta Swit, Shelley Fabares and Kathryn Damon, who must confront in their private and public lives the fact that twenty years ago one of them aborted her baby and then disposed of it within the sorority house they were living in at the time by throwing it down an abandoned air shaft.

As with most mystery narratives, the plot imposes certain demands on credibility, e.g., that these six women should have remained living in the smallish mid-western town for twenty years;

the fact that the five other women didn't recognize/discover the pregnancy of the women in question.

Actually, *Friendships, Secrets and Lies* is more than just another conventional television mystery drama — these plot contrivances become a secondary issue. What is important about the film is that it an ambitious attempt by a group of women (the film is scripted/directed by women and has an all-female cast) to incorporate a feminist statement in a fictional narrative.

Reduced to its most basic statement, the film demands recognition of women's right in both a moral and legal sense, to choose abortion as an alternative to an unwanted pregnancy. This choice was impossible twenty years ago. As the film demonstrates, the acknowledgement of this right entails the acknowledgement of women's rights, not only by men but also by women (the Tina Louise character is a trenchant study in self-oppression). These rights include the choice of

"Dimension" (Chapter Five) explains

career, marriage, motherhood, sexual preference.

Given the challenge the filmmakers have imposed on themselves, producing an entertaining fictional narrative which contains a systematically conceived political tract, they succeed admirably.

This is particularly impressive when we consider that, in the medium of television, the provision of undemanding entertainment is the prime motivation. Intelligence and creativity are marginal.

Theoretically, in addition to entertainment value, such qualities as intelligence and creativity are to be found in theatrical feature films whose makers have greater freedom to express themselves. However, when one compares *Friendships, Secrets and Lies* to the feminist films produced by the Hollywood cinema, e.g., *Alice Doesn't Live Here Anymore*, *Julia*, *An Unmarried Woman*, it is apparent that they lack the clarity of vision, purpose and imagination found in this telefilm.

Paintings, signed by others, damaged by neglect, or decayed because of the artists' ignorant use of their materials. "Each painting or drawing rescued from

been so reduced that their significant detail has been lost. The paintings and their artists are categorized in three chapters: "Still Life and

This sense of commitment to the project, which must have existed on both sides of the camera, is transmitted most directly to the viewer through the disciplined performances given by the six principal actresses who, performing *ensemble*, reflect a concept important to the film's statement — the strength, beauty and joy to be found in women's solidarity.

The film takes care to indicate that women, like blacks and gays, who are also given recognition in the film, need to respect and support each other — not only for the "cause" but also for the pleasure that can be found in the experience.

At times, *Friendships, Secrets and Lies* is a bit too schematic, a bit too obvious in its statement. It could also be argued that the film doesn't do justice to the complex of issues involved in feminism; yet, it is intelligent, it is entertaining and it is a major step in the development of a politicized art form for television.

Greer's investigation inspiring

Clear echoes of women's lost art

The Obstacle Race: The Fortunes of Women Painters and Their Work, by Germaine Greer; New York: Farrar, Straus, Giroux; Toronto: Collins, 1979; 373 pages, \$25.00

Reviewed by Karen Brown

After seven years of excavating paintings from museum storerooms and researching city archives in Western Europe, Germaine Greer has published her second book.

The Obstacle Race is neither an historical catalogue of women's paintings nor a feminist dissertation using women painters as a focal point. Simply, it is an inspired (I use the word deliberately) investigation of European and North American women painters and their art, mainly from the Renaissance up to the end of the nineteenth century.

Lost Achievement

Greer begins by noting that women's creativity has been expressed more in the "lesser arts" but "while recognizing there is more to art than easel painting, there is some point in studying the achievements of those women who choose to be painters. Firstly, it is intolerable that their work is gradually succumbing to decay and all trace of their struggles will soon be lost. Secondly, it is even more intolerable that so much of what they did has been recorded as the achievement of others."

Even the mediocre paintings of these women are triumphs over great odds. Until recently, the only people who had access to drawing and painting materials were working artisans and the members of the upper classes; girls seldom had the opportunity to venture into studios. Most women who were formally trained received their instruction from male relatives.

External obstacles such as poverty, maternity, prejudice and condescension were no more overwhelming perhaps than women's need for acceptance and approval and their general lack of self-confidence in men's domain.

"Obstacles", the first of the book's two sections, is divided into seven chapters. The first four, "Family", "love", "The Illusion of Success", and "humiliation", are self-explanatory and are probably placed in order of importance.

"Dimension" (Chapter Five) explains



Judith Beheading Holofernes by Artemesia Gentileschi

women's past tendencies to work within small areas of board or canvas and the resultant lack of seriousness with which they were considered because of the relatively tiny size of their works.

The next chapter, entitled "Primitivism", offers only a tantalizing sample of what has been the majority of women's painting and their art in general. Greer accurately defines the word "primitive". It refers to innocent, unschooled art, not to be confused with self-conscious attempts at crudity.

Against All Odds

"The Disappearing Oeuvre" is painful to read. Greer tells of the difficulties of finding women's paintings that had been painted over, signed by others, damaged by neglect, or decayed because of the artists' ignorant use of their materials. "Each painting or drawing rescued from

oblivion and obliteration means another spring of hope and self-esteem for the women working now, a fresher understanding of the difficulties and a better chance of solving them."

The second part of the book describes individuals and groups of women artists and their successes or semi-successes. In certain periods, especially in Italy, women painters flourished, often briefly, and sometimes magnificently. It is difficult to describe the paintings here without the plates, especially because none of the works is famous enough for the reader to recall from my mere mention of its title.

The plates, mostly black and white, are of above average quality, but some have been so reduced that their significant detail has been lost.

The paintings and their artists are categorized in three chapters: "Still Life and

Flower Painting", "The Portraitists", and "The Amateurs".

Greer deliberately describes work of varying quality. "The normal approach is to discuss the women with the most considerable oeuvre rather than to marshal a whole crowd of women, some of whom have left a single good work, some no work at all and more a patchy, poorly preserved cluster of forgotten effort. The reasons for such a proceeding include first of all a desire to give some impression of women painters as a group."

Artemesia Gentileschi

The "magnificent exception" Greer discusses is the life and work of Artemesia Gentileschi, an early 17th century Italian painter.

Gentileschi is in Greer's opinion "the female equivalent of a great master." She was famous and her work was sought after in her own time. Gentileschi's life story is most dramatic. Raped at fifteen by her perspective teacher, she was dragged through a sordid court case and was even tortured to "prove" her virtue. However, her notoriety did not prevent her from receiving numerous commissions in her own country. She also travelled to England and worked there with her father.



Self Portrait as "The Art of Painting" by Artemesia Gentileschi.

At a luncheon in Toronto last November, Greer described *The Obstacle Race* as "skeletal" and said she hoped her investigations would be continued by others.

I conclude by quoting from Greer's introduction to *The Obstacle Race*:

"If we look fearlessly at the works of dead women and do not attempt to erect for them a double standard in the mistaken notion that such distortion of the truth will benefit women living and working today, we will understand by analogy a good deal about our own oppression and its pathology. We will see all the signs of self-censorship, hypocritical modesty, insecurity, girlishness, self-deception, hostility towards one's fellow-strivers, emotional and sexual dependency upon men, timidity, poverty and ignorance. All these traits of the oppressed personality are only to be expected; the astonishing and gratifying thing is that so many women conquered all of these enemies within some of the time, most often when they were young, before marriage and childbirth or poverty and disillusionment took their toll. Their defeats can teach us about the nature of the struggle; their successes assure us that we too can do it."

There is no Canadian edition of *The Obstacle Race* and the price of the imported British edition is prohibitively high. Buy the book together with friends or ask your local women's centre and library to purchase copies of it.

movie shows unusual clarity and in portraying women's lives

the five other women didn't recover the pregnancy of the women in

Friendships, Secrets and Lies is more than conventional television mystery plot contrivances become a secret. What is important about the film is its ambitious attempt by a group of film is scripted/directed by women (female cast) to incorporate a feminist in a fictional narrative.

its most basic statement, the film recognition of women's right in both a legal sense, to choose abortion as an unwanted pregnancy. This is possible twenty years ago. As the rates, the acknowledgement of this the acknowledgement of women's by men but also by women (the character is a trenchant study in self- These rights include the choice of

career, marriage, motherhood, sexual preference.

Given the challenge the filmmakers have imposed on themselves, producing an entertaining fictional narrative which contains a systematically conceived political tract, they succeed admirably.

This is particularly impressive when, we consider that, in the medium of television, the provision of undemanding entertainment is the prime motivation. Intelligence and creativity are marginal.

Theoretically, in addition to entertainment value, such qualities as intelligence and creativity are to be found in theatrical feature films whose makers have greater freedom to express themselves. However, when one compares *Friendships, Secrets and Lies* to the feminist films produced by the Hollywood cinema, e.g., *Alice Doesn't Live Here Anymore*, *Julia*, *An Unmarried Woman*, it is apparent that they lack the clarity of vision, purpose and imagination found in this telefilm.

This sense of commitment to the project, which must have existed on both sides of the camera, is transmitted most directly to the viewer through the disciplined performances given by the six principal actresses who, performing ensemble, reflect a concept important to the film's statement — the strength, beauty and joy to be found in women's solidarity.

The film takes care to indicate that women, like blacks and gays, who are also given recognition in the film, need to respect and support each other — not only for the "cause" but also for the pleasure that can be found in the experience.

At times, *Friendships, Secrets and Lies* is a bit too schematic, a bit too obvious in its statement. It could also be argued that the film doesn't do justice to the complex of issues involved in feminism; yet, it is intelligent, it is entertaining and it is a major step in the development of a politicized art form for television.

CALENDAR

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

Thursday, January 10

Light 4 Play, Harbourfront Art Gallery until Jan. 13 - Four man show - call 364-7127 for further details on this unique use of light.

Arts Sake Inc. 284 King St. W. lectures 1:30 p.m. at \$3.

Jan. 10: Rita Letendre - painter - "on her own work"

Jan. 17: Katherine Jordan Lochnan - Curator of prints and drawings, Art Gallery of Ontario - "the care of works on paper"

Jan. 24: Bob McNealy - artist - "Art in its place and time"

Nurse Jane Goes to Hawaii by Allan Stratton - a comedy at the Phoenix Theatre, 390 Dupont St. 922-7835.

Chinese Acrobats and Magicians of Taiwan at the O'Keefe Centre until Jan. 12, 8:30 p.m., Wed. and Sat. 2 p.m. Ticket prices: 923-3080.

Dancemakers, at Solar Stage, 149 Yonge St. **Lunchtime Theatre** until Jan. 19; Tues. to Fri. at 12:12 p.m. and 1:11 p.m., Sat. 1:33 p.m. \$2.50, students and seniors \$2; 368-5135.

Until Jan. 19 - Experimental photography by Ric Amis - free admission at the **Funnel Gallery**, 507 King St. E., 364-7003.

Harbourside Sailing School, a course in **Celestial Navigation** begins at Pier 4 Complex, 245 Queen's Quay West - for details call Pam Juryn at 368-4000.

Three new sculptures of the late **Don Snell** have been constructed by friends after his death, and are on display through March at the **Bathurst Quay**.

Friday, January 11

The Funnel experimental Film Theatre, 507 King St. E. 8 pm \$2, call 364-7003, schedule:



Jan. 11 - Keith Lock - "Everything Everywhere Again Live"

Jan. 16 - Jean Couteau - "La Sang d'un Poete" - free

Jan. 18 - Joe Bernard

Jan. 23 - David Anderson - films and performance

Jan. 25 - Betty Ferguson

Jan. 30 - open screening - bring your own film.

Les Veilles: The French Canadian folk group **Tiguldou** performs at the **Francophone Centre**, 435 Queen's Quay West at 8:30 p.m.

Saturday, January 12

Rumours of Our Death Factory Theatre Lab presents a musical parable, 864-9971 for information.

The Chissamba Chiyuka Dancers bring a West Indian flavour to Harbourfront in a dinner, show and dance 8 p.m. - 2 a.m., \$10., 447-9591, 633-7466 or 364-5739.

Country Dancing live music at the Church of St. George the Martyr, Stephanie and McCaul; 7:30 p.m.; \$2. admission.

Sunday, January 13

Antique Paperweights by D.W. Burns, experienced lecturer and writer for antique publication, free lecture, for further information: 363-9622 or 364-5665.

Monday, January 14

CBC Drama Series Mondays and Tuesdays at 7:30 in the Studio Theatre at Harbourfront - free:

Jan. 14, 15 - Riel, Christopher Plummer

Jan. 21, 22 - **The Winnings of Frankie Walls and Certain Practices**; Al Waxman in the former and Richard Monette and Alan Scarfe, the latter. **Jan. 28, 29** - last season's controversial **Every Per-**

son is Guilty is doubled with Tyler (a TV feature).

Tuesday, January 15

Reading Series - Tom Walmsley, west coast playwright and poet, reads from his works, 8:30 p.m., York Quay Centre, Harbourfront.

Wednesday, January 16

Classical Indian Prayer Dance - Lyn Kendall - **Yoga Centre Toronto**, 2428 Yonge St., Tel. 482-1333, Jan. 16 to Mar. 19, 2 - 3:30 p.m., 10 weeks \$30.

Seniors' Program at Harbour front begins - includes Disco dancing, conversational French and Square dancing lessons - registration information at 364-3726.

Canadian Artists on Film - Studio Theatre at York Quay Centre, Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m., screenings \$1, 364-5665.

Jan. 16 - **The Passionate Canadians:** The Group of Seven

Jan. 23 - **A Path of His Own:** The Story of David B. Milne

Jan. 30 - Jack Bush.

Thursday, January 17

Indigo - starring Salome Bey - will run 8 weeks until March 15 at **Basin Street Cabaret**, 180 Queen St. W., for additional information call 598-3013.

Saturday, January 19

That's Entertainment - Weekend Family Theatre - Harbourfront's Studio Theatre at York Quay Centre, 2:30 p.m. \$1.50 for children, \$2.50 for adults. For reservations phone 364-5739.

Kaleidoscope: Design life-size paper clothes for a clothesline; make paperstrip dolls and animals or make footprints for "funny feet" mural and model with clay, Harbourfront's weekend family craft program, 1 to 5 p.m. at York Quay Centre.

Forum - St. Andrew and St. Patrick **NDP Youth Club** - St. Paul's Church, 121 Avenue Road - minority group-police relations are to be discussed - 8 p.m. - Dan Heap and Pat Sheppard will be present. Information at 531-2905.

Leuten Rojas, Pat Murphy (Producers) and DEC Films (Distributor) cordially invite you to a preview of the film "**Canadian Experience**" at OISE, 252 Bloor St. W., 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, January 24

Keep Fit - Yvonne McKinley - **Yoga Centre Toronto**, 2428 Yonge St., tel. 482-1333 - 8 weeks - 1-2 p.m. - \$24, until March 13.

Peggy McCann Dance Company: Peggy McCann brings her modern dance troupe to Harbourfront's Studio Theatre tonight for a four night run - 8:30 p.m. - Through Sunday - \$3 - advance tickets 364-5739.

Friday, January 25

Canadian Railroad Historical Association - monthly slide show tonight, 8 p.m., York Quay Centre (Harbourfront), free.

Opinion

Breaking the age barrier

By Abie Weisfeld

My mother told me the other day that she had heard that by the age of 35 all people "settle down". That was all — just silence for a period. The rest is obvious; religion, marriage and children, in that order.

I mentioned that I thought that the particular age in question was supposed to be 30. However, she insisted that it must be 35. Actually, it used to be 25 until sufficient numbers of people arrived at the age of 26 and discovered that they had broken through the age barrier.

The generation gap is just an ideological gap or contradiction. Age is a function of ideology. You can still control your mind after the age of 30 as much as you did before the "great divide". Atrophy does not set in. You do not really die.

That actually is the point of the whole age question: dying. Not too long ago, people died by the age of 30 or 35, and still do in great areas of the earth including Canada. This is how religion enters into the question. If you live beyond 30, then you are more likely entering the realm of death. Religion becomes an ideology of aging and a major facet of the generational contradiction.

As an ideology of aging, religion feeds off fear. One of the sets of rules you have to follow to survive is religion, otherwise you are in danger of committing one of the mortal sins and incurring the wrath of "god" — who will smite you, as the cruder religious thought puts it. Fear, then, is the greatest indication of aging.

From what I know of the Jewish religion, only strict observance of "the rules" will enable you to survive and be rewarded with a free pass to heaven. This is actually codified in Jewish religious culture as Yom Kippur, the high holy day of atonement. If you don't atone for your sins, you are likely to die in the coming year. Your death is controlled by "god's" decision — as in the Jewish religion, or by whatever god is up for discussion.

As the agent of death, and as a psychological concept, "god" is death. What other reality does "god" have but that of death — unless (as religion claims) it is that of the alternative to death?

Escaping from death becomes religion, a game in which the stakes are your life. But the odds are heavily weighted in favour of "god"/death since you inevitably lose. However, many still do play this religious lottery with its grand prize of immortality: a permanent membership in an exclusive club called "heaven".

Some already believe they are destined to pass through the gates to the heavenly estate. When this sense of security was subverted in the past by contending theories of existence, the people holding contrary views became the scapegoats of the centres of power. Any religious record confirms this.

Religion is not an alternative to death. Religion is an untenable denial of death, a denial of killing; it is only "god's work", and in any case "I am going to heaven."

Religion, rather than providing an alternative to death, has merely resulted in the drastic shortening of life for millions; the 5 million women who died at the stake accused as witches, the uncouth women who died in forced childbirth, the 6 million Jews accused of conspiracy, the Armenian victims of genocide, the crusaders' victims, the crusaders who died themselves, the Canaanites exterminated by the ancient Israelites, the Palestinians killed and terrorized, and the Zionists who died killing them.

If everyone could say; I don't believe in "god" or "heaven", so that heaven-bound saints would no longer go about killing hell-bound sinners, then killing and death would be taken somewhat more seriously.

Breaking the age barrier is breaking through the ideological barriers assigned to particular age categories by "agists" and authoritarians.

Disabled

from page 5

usage of persons' abilities to deal with crisis situations are utilized only when they are under the gun, and disabled persons were under the gun over Bill 188. It is also amazing the brief period of time that disabled persons mobilized forces to respond to the problem. This is an unprecedented event in the history of disabled persons in Toronto.

It is important to analyze this issue from a political and humanistic standpoint.

The idea that the premier of Ontario got personally involved in this issue is very important. I

am sure that energy was more important in his priorities than Bill 188.

From a humanistic standpoint it demonstrated how people respond to crisis situations; it also demonstrates that crisis brings out the best in persons.

The question remaining is what happens now? Does the coalition of disabled persons continually stimulate interest over human rights? Or will enthusiasm dissipate?

Another issue is how long will disabled persons tolerate living in chronic care hospitals before they lobby Queen's Park?

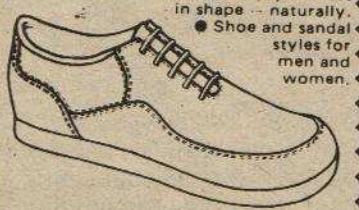
John Kellerman
Toronto

RUNNERS—

ARE YOU WEARING THE RIGHT SHOE DURING YOUR LEISURE HOURS?

Wearing the wrong shoe can lead to foot, leg and back problems. Noted podiatrists and chiropractors are recommending the SHAKTI as the ideal leisure shoe for runners. SHAKTI's super-comfortable, contoured footbed provides full arch and metatarsal support to keep your feet in shape — naturally.

- Shoe and sandal styles for men and women.



SHAKTI SHOES
The Leisure Shoe for Runners
only available at
HOBBIT
14 Wellesley St., West, Toronto
967-7115

Whole Earth Natural Foods

Hours:
Mon.-Wed. 10:30-6p.m.
Thurs.-Fri. 10:30-9p.m.
Saturday 9:30-6p.m.
160 McCaul St.
364-0072

NEW from Natural Affinity

Colour enhancing herbal shampoos & conditioners



- pH 4.5 (like your hair)
- free of artificial colour
- gentle & non-irritating
- biodegradable

You don't eat junk food—so why use junk shampoo?

Camomile & Yarrow Shampoo
Camomile & Yarrow Conditioner
have a natural affinity with light hair — gradually lightening and bringing out golden highlights in blond, light brown or chestnut hair.

Rosemary & Sage Shampoo
Rosemary & Sage Conditioner
have a natural affinity with dark hair — deepening and enriching colour and adding new lustre to all types of brunette hair.

Reasonably priced • Made in Canada
Ask for them in health & natural food stores

Natural Affinity Herbal Products*
P.O. Box 5, Station "O", Toronto, Ont. M4A 2M8
461-3461
*415534 Ontario Ltd.

Operators walk out

Bell resists report

By Tom McLaughlin

"Should Bell operators refuse a raise of 42 per cent to 53 per cent?" Bell Canada asks in a recent issue of the *Globe and Mail*. Bell operators might reply in the words of a picketers' sign: "Bell's wage offer has strings attached."

Although Bell offers to raise wages to the level suggested by a conciliation report and demanded by the employees' union, the Communications Workers of Canada (CWC), it is offering less retroactive pay than the report proposes. The company also insists on the right to fire employees when technological change makes their jobs obsolete and has proposed harsh restrictions on vacation time.

Under the old contract, an operator with three to five years of service gets three weeks vacation time with the option of taking two weeks in the summer and one week in the rest of the year. Bell proposes that any employee at this level of seniority who takes two weeks vacation in the summer should be disqualified from further vacation time.

Similar restrictions have been proposed for almost all seniority levels. Union spokesman Bill Howse says, "If they're not trying to provoke a strike what else are they trying to do?"

Technological changes introduced by Bell have eliminated over 400 operators in Toronto, according to a leaflet published by Local 50 of the CWC. Bell operators want stronger job security language in their contract. Janice McClelland, long distance operator and president of Local 50, adds, "If you're transferred due to technological change we feel that your rate should be frozen. The company refuses to guarantee us that."

According to company spokesman Ron Devaney, this demand is already being met: "Nobody has been forced to leave without Bell offering retraining at company expense." He was less emphatic when asked if wage levels were maintained when employees were transferred because of technological changes. "I dunno," he replied, "that's not a bad question."

The present contract gives employees who lose their jobs due to technological change 30 days to acquire the skills to perform a new job. Bell's latest proposal is that the period be extended to 90 days. However, according to Howse, Bell still "wants freedom to fire employees for administrative reasons."

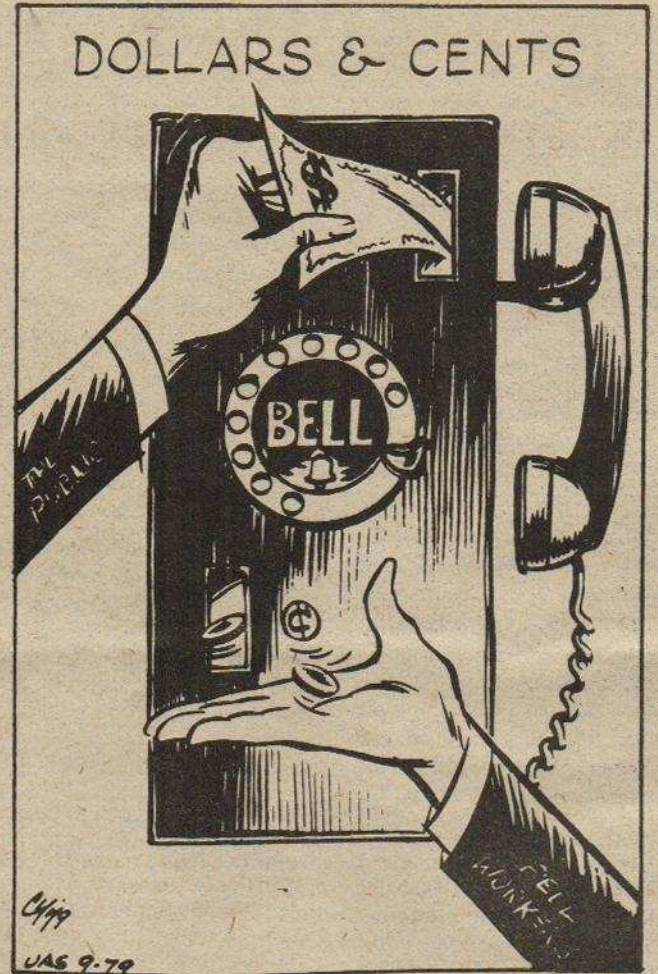
"We can only grieve firings for discipline," adds George Larter, a member of the CWC negotiating committee. He notes that when the union has grieved firings by Bell "they have successfully argued that people have been fired for administrative reasons to promote efficiency. We want people to be fired only for just cause."

Though management requested the conciliation report, it is dissatisfied with it, claiming that the report needs clarification. Howse replies: "We're prepared to refer items requiring clarification to a conciliation board and to accept their ruling." Devaney calls this an unacceptable solution.

"We don't see much point in sending the report to a concilia-

tor if the union and the company can't live with it." He states that the company is dissatisfied with clauses on union security, paid leave, maternity leave,

vacations, and health and safety. Bell operators and dining service workers in Ontario and Quebec are voting on the company's proposal. Howse says voting will not likely be completed before January 20. The union has recommended rejection and many Bell operators have already voted with their feet by walking out. Others are working to rule.



Province cops out on kids services

Keeps money, passes buck

By Paul Weinberg

Youth workers say the provincial plan to decentralize children services, health services, and Ontario Public Housing is in reality a scheme to institute social service cutbacks through the back door.

"Call it local children service committees, district health councils or the Metro Non-Profit Housing Co., they all amount to the same thing," says Joanne McAlpine-Sudac. McAlpine-Sudac works with the Youth Services Network, a Metro-wide non-profit charitable organization. "The province is in fact looking to set up another bureaucratic structure."

As in the case of the district health councils now being set up across the province, the provision of youth and children services for each municipality would be co-ordinated by a local committee.

In a brief presented to a Special Committee preparing recommendations to Metro Council, McAlpine-Sudac and two other members of the Youth Services Network say, "The hidden agenda of the province is to shift blame for an inadequate response to social service needs from itself to the local municipal level."

The controversial cutback of provincial funding for municipal services such as day care and education underlies the response by the Network and other community groups to the plan to "decentralize".

While participating last year in some Metro-wide community forums on the provincial plan, the Network people found there was concern that the local committee would receive flak for all the poor delivery services the province has allowed to build



up as it assumed responsibility for children services.

"There was strong resistance to allowing the Ministry to pull back to any greater degree than it already has from the provision of adequate social services", says Alpine-Sudac.

"When the municipality wishes to improve a particular social service, it may be the property taxpayer, not the province, who will be picking up the bill."

"The province could end up

giving each local committee a restricted amount of funding in this time of financial restraint."

Local boards of education must increasingly turn to the municipal taxpayer to finance special education, as the province decreased its subsidy from 61.5 per cent in 1975 to 51.5 per cent in 1979.

"Ironically a lot of problems we as youth workers identified among young people are related to education which the local childrens' committee will not have any control over," says Alpine-Sudac.

A consultation paper put out by the Ministry of Community and Social Services in 1978 describes the committees as a response to the need for local accessibility.

Yet the local committees will lack any real autonomy if the province still has the final say on overall priorities — as witnessed by the fate of the local district health council in the Brantford area.

(In December 1979 half of the members of the Brant County Health Council resigned after the provincial ministry of health

went ahead and cut the number of available hospital beds.)

The Special Committee on Children Services will be presenting its recommendations on local childrens' services to the Metro Social Services and Housing Committee in February, and Youth Network people are concerned the Special committee will support the provincial plan.

Youth Services Network urged in its brief to the Special Committee that 28 community-based multi-service centres be set up across Metro based on the 28 educational districts.

These centres, unlike the provincial plan of one large local committee for all of Metro, could provide social, legal and health services for the neighbourhoods.

Parents and community residents as well as social service workers could participate in these multi-service centres.




**SUNWHEEL
BICYCLE COURIERS**

**SPECIALISTS IN
DOWNTOWN DELIVERY**

A Viable Alternative
fast and reliable
lowest rates
energy efficient

CALL US
598-0018


WHEEL DO IT BETTER — BY BIKE

**QUIT SMOKING PERMANENTLY
YOUR WAY & SAVE \$720./YR.***

You should choose a method best suited to **your** lifestyle, habits, and circumstances. You can learn how to: quit cold turkey or gradually; avoid weight gain; deal with cravings; relieve withdrawal; overcome the fear of quitting; cope with social pressures; and much more, by sending for the entire M.D. Fitness Inc. "Quit-Smoking Package" which includes **many** different complete programs, tips, and follow-ups for only \$10.00 to: M.D. Fitness Inc., 2942 Finch Ave. E., Suite 105, Scarborough, Ontario M1W 2T4. **Act today** to live happier, healthier, longer, and start saving your \$720.00/year* **forever.**

* (Based on 2 packs/day & \$1.00/pack)

Good Food at Low Prices



Join a
FOOD CO-OP

363-3309

Ontario Federation of Food Co-operatives and Clubs

Harassment continues

Canada still lags on Chile

By Joan Tracy

Six years ago, a U.S.-backed military junta overthrew the government of President Salvador Allende and set up one of the world's most brutal and repressive dictatorships.

The Allende government was hostile to the domination of the Chilean economy by foreign-based firms, including Noranda and Falconbridge. Its overthrow was welcomed by the Canadian government. Canada recognized the new regime almost immediately, and Canada's immigration laws helped delay or deny sanctuary to masses of Chileans, many in fear of their lives, who sought to flee their country. External Affairs minister Mitchell Sharp denied many Chileans sought refuge in Canada at a time when 3000 potential refugees had registered with the UN.

Opposition to the junta is growing both inside and outside Chile. But Canada remains an important source of diplomatic and economic support. And — as the new visa requirement shows — Canada's immigration laws still discriminate against refugees from Chile at the same time as the Canadian government declares its humanitarian concern for the "Boat People" of Southeast Asia.

The following report on the situation in Chile is based on a recent Toronto speech by a representative of the Association of Relatives of Political Prisoners. (4000 of Canada's 7000 Chileans live in Toronto)

The present situation is that civil rights are non-existent in Chile. The most outrageous kind of oppression continues to pervade the whole society. The junta outlaws all political activity contrary to its own interests. It foists its own leaders on the trade unions. The media is censored. Various laws have been passed, such as the one limiting the amount of money an individual can receive from outside Chile. Anyone receiving in excess of \$200 is immediately investigated for conspiring to overthrow the government. With widespread unemployment, it is apparent that many families must be dependent on whatever assistance they can get from outside the country.

Despite the junta's denials there are 135 political prisoners still alive in Chilean jails. There are 2500 "disappeared" whom the junta refuses to acknowledge. And as recently as last August a young school teacher, Frederico Renato Alvarez Santibanez, died of injuries received at the hands of the Chilean National Intelligence (CNI). (The practise of the CNI is to arrest and interrogate people, often using torture, for 10 days, then release them.)

One sign that opposition to the junta is increasing is that prisoners are resolutely refusing to give any kind of information to their torturers.

The mobilization of labour unions is another indication that resistance is growing. The junta's Labour Plan, insti-

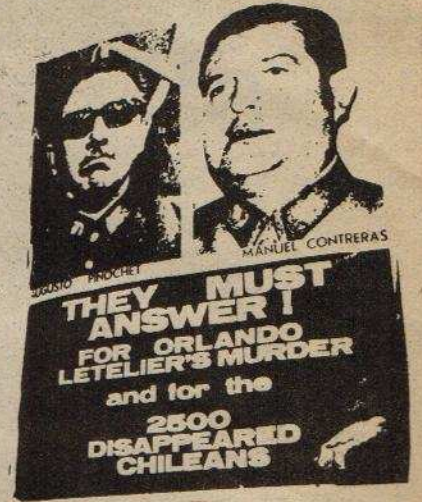
tuted last July, required multiple unions in factories: but it has been unsuccessful in dividing the workers. While unemployment remains high (15% in Santiago) workers have formed Unions of the Unemployed, and members refuse to fill jobs of fired workers.

Last fall, the Commission on Human and Union Rights, the Relatives of Disappeared Political Prisoners, and other groups organized a "Campaign For Freedom". Chileans demonstrated in the streets for four demands:

- return of free elections
- amnesty for all political prisoners
- clarification of the fate of the "disappeared"
- unconditional return of all exiles.

Why should Canadians care about Chile? While our country's economic and political history differs vastly from that of Chile, we should ask ourselves what would happen if Canadians were to elect a government that acted contrary to the interests of big business. The Allende government's nationalization of the huge copper holdings of Anaconda and Kennecott, for example, brought the wrath of Washington upon it in the form of monetary backing for the coup.

International solidarity censuring the junta's brutality has been applied in Chile through pressure exerted by the Church and families of the "disappeared." This pressure resulted in the opening, last month, of over 300 graves by the junta, which has maintained that



mass executions have not occurred. These graves and others that have been discovered since the coup, notably Lonquén, unquestionably account for the mysterious numbers of "disappeared".

Canadian banks and other corporations, especially mining companies, have a large stake in Chile. In turn they provide the junta with economic aid and international respectability.

Canadians can therefore play a major role in supporting the Chilean people.

We can join boycotts of Chilean imports — such as the one organized by the CLC last September — and call for a halt to exports as well. We can pressure Canadian-based mining firms to get out of Chile. We can make bank and government-related loans to the junta an election issue. And we can campaign for a less restrictive policy on Chilean immigration.

For further information on how Canadians can assist the Chilean struggle, contact the Chile Ontario Information Centre, P.O. Box 308, Station L, Toronto, Ontario.

Rights group statement

Immigration law used against left

Both the Immigration Act and the Citizenship Act restrict immigrants' political rights and give the government great powers to keep out progressive people. (For the most objectionable provisions of these acts, see the accompanying box.) These powers can be used to deny political refugee or landed immigrant status, or citizenship, for the very activities which cause immigrants to be persecuted in their own countries.

The vague wording of the deportation and exclusion provisions quoted in the box raises troublesome questions. What is "a democratic government as understood in Canada?" The Somoza or Pinochet regimes? What is the "national interest" in the opinion of the immigration minister? Does someone who contributes money to or attends a meeting about a liberation army "instigate the subversion by force" of a government?

Equally vague are the words "reasonable grounds to believe" and "likely". Such phrases allow government bureaucrats to make arbitrary decisions based on conjecture. Mere membership in a political party "likely" to engage in acts of violence that "might" endanger the safety of people in Canada is grounds for deportation.

This legislation seems designed to make immigrants feel uncertain about their political rights and the consequences of their political activity. They are vulnerable to government intimidation if they are politically active. Such intimidation is made easier by the requirement that applicants for immigration must list all political and social groups they have been involved with since age 16.

The legislation also denies immigrants basic procedural protection in some cases when the government uses procedural grounds to deport them.

When the government's case is based on security or criminal intelligence reports, immigrants receive only a private hearing. They are not informed of any evidence against them if its disclosure is considered "injurious to national security or to the safety of persons in Canada."

Thus protection of government information sources outweighs the individual's political rights. In such circumstances it is almost impossible for immigrants to defend themselves.



Chilean refugee Galindo Madrid

Refugees who have not been granted permanent residence status can be deported by a simple certificate. The immigration minister and the solicitor-General can do this when they find grounds for deportation based on "security and criminal intelligence reports . . . which cannot be revealed in order to protect information sources." Our security police are right-wing and gather intelligence from repressive regimes around the world! These procedures are very dangerous and are open to abuse.

Applicants for political refugee status do not appear before the person who makes the first decision on their case. Nor do they hear any evidence against them. They are not even given reasons for the decision on their application.

These provisions were added to the immigration and citizenship legislation to better serve those who run our economy. By intimidating, deporting, and excluding immigrants who might be critical of Canadian capitalism they hope to protect themselves against demands for social change. To thus rob immigrants of their political rights is to deny us their contribution to making this a more just and humane society.

This is one of a series of articles on civil liberties and democratic rights in Canada, contributed by the Political Rights Working Group. Earlier articles dealt with the War Measures Act and the McDonald Commission on the RCMP.

Immigration Act

Persons who can be excluded or deported include:

- those "who have engaged in or who there are reasonable grounds to believe will engage in acts of espionage or subversion against democratic government, institutions or processes, as they are understood in Canada". (The only exceptions are people who "have satisfied the Minister that their admission would not be detrimental to the national interest".
- those "who there are reasonable grounds to believe will, while in Canada, engage in or instigate the subversion by force of any government" (i.e., inside or outside Canada).
- those "who there are reasonable grounds to believe will engage in acts of violence that would or might endanger the lives or safety of persons in Canada or are members of or are likely to participate in the unlawful activities of an organization that is likely to engage in such acts of violence."

Citizenship Act

Citizenship can be denied by a cabinet declaration that the granting of citizenship would be "prejudicial to the security of Canada or contrary to the public order in Canada."

Refugee barrier

From page 1

the ambassador to the Chilean police.

"It was a big item in the government-controlled press in Chile, and the message was, you can't rely on Canada to grant asylum."

But Gordon Garvin, registrar of the government's Refugee Status Advisory Committee in Ottawa, says there's no problem getting to the Canadian embassy in Santiago.

"The people we interview here usually tell us when they approached the embassy some soldiers got in the way, but we have never heard of people being refused access. Our officials

in Santiago pooh-pooh those stories."

Garvin says of the 1,082 people given refugee status in Canada in 1979, 404 were from Chile. But the vast majority of the Chilean refugees emigrated directly to Canada without approaching the embassy.

Palmer says, "unfortunately in trying to control non-genuine visitors you're making the situation more difficult for the genuine visitors, but you must have controls."

The new regulation simply adds Chile to the list of countries from which visas are required. The list does not include such Latin American countries as Brazil, Argentina, Uruguay, Peru and Venezuela.

More than just a game

The 'Class Struggle' continues

Bertell Ollman, designer of the board game "Class Struggle," was in town recently to promote it. David Rapaport interviewed him in the Clarion offices.

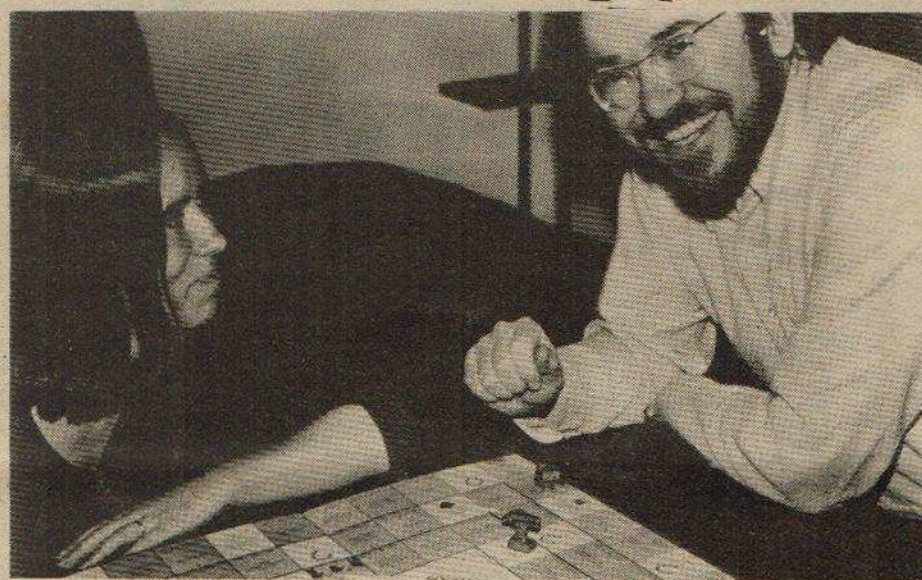
By now, we've all played "Class Struggle." Sales are over 50,000. While travelling through the 84 squares to the final confrontation "REVOLUTION," we've been red-baited, robbed by capitalists, betrayed by trade union bureaucrats, judged by a legal system controlled by the bourgeoisie.

It sounds all too familiar. For the seasoned socialist, it's as useful as a 12th reading of *Wage Labour and Capital*.

But the point of the game is to reach the uninitiated. According to Ollman, "It's a way to build bridges with the 98 per cent who think differently." And the game is a good introduction to the class nature of our world.

The game has a lot of jokes. Many are funny. For example, a Chance card tells a capitalist to miss a turn while thinking what to say to his neighbours after his daughter runs away with the garbage collector. "The humour operates to keep people's defences down," says Ollman.

But isn't there a danger in tri-



Bertell Ollman moves the 'workers' in his boardgame version of the class struggle.

vializing the real class struggle with a funny board game? "My interviews are all very serious," he says. "I don't play the fool and I try to make clear the reality behind the game. There's a thin line I have to be careful not to go over."

Ollman is trying to bridge a gulf between socialists and the rest of the world.

"My feeling is that many socialists have purist attitudes towards their beliefs and leaders, which can only keep us in the ghettos. The game is a way of breaking out of the socialist ghetto. It's a sort of outreach program to talk socialism to

people who normally wouldn't come into contact with socialism. I'm using the market against the market."

Just as the board game was being released in 1978, Ollman was embroiled in a dispute at the University of Maryland. He was chosen by a search committee to chair the department of government and approved by the department. However, the governor of Maryland put pressure on the university president to reject the appointment because of Ollman's Marxist views. While many would consider this a return of McCarthyism, Ollman (now at New York

University) feels that the choice of a Marxist as department chairperson was a major step forward.

Ollman is optimistic about socialism. "I think there are areas where socialism is making real progress in the U.S., particularly in university and intellectual circles. Students are getting a lot more socialist courses. . . . This has to have a tremendous influence."

At this stage of the class struggle (the real one, that is), he sees socialist education as the priority.

"The job of every revolution-

ary is to make more revolutionaries. Education is the most effective thing that socialists are doing. That's why I have a rather catholic approach to the various sects. Where they fight each other, I oppose what they do. Where they teach people why they're opposed to capitalism and why we must move towards socialism, which they're all doing to some extent, I support what they do."

What about the prospects for a broad-based working-class movement for socialist change?

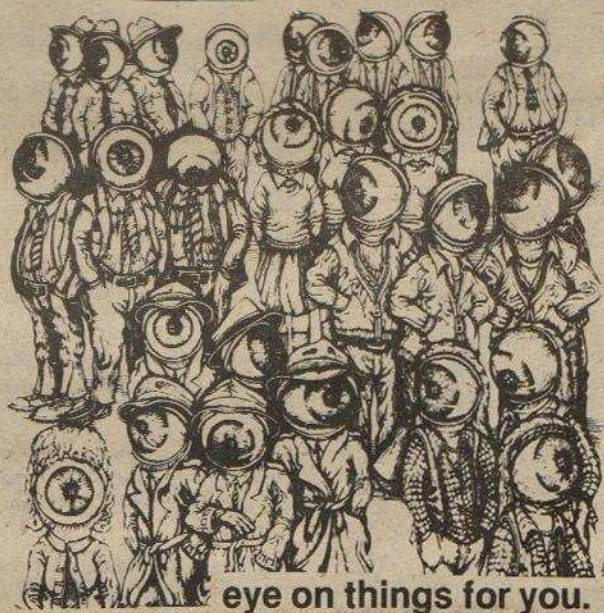
"On the one hand, all this activity is contributing to the development of a socialist consciousness among the working class. It's connected to the ecology and community movements. I can see a coalescence of these various movements developing into a broader thrust towards socialism."

"On the other hand, if this doesn't develop soon, in the working class, among the left caucuses in the trade unions which connect up to this, then this activity by itself will soon wither on the vine."

We can then all ponder the fate of socialism over "Class Struggle" and a bottle of Baby Duck. If we can afford them — the game retails for close to \$20.

TORONTO clarion

Metro's only independent newspaper for social change, now in its fourth year of publication, is still keeping an . . .



eye on things for you.

Subscribe for only \$12 and get 24 issues of the Clarion.

ORDER FORM

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____
 Province _____ Code _____

Mail to: 73 Bathurst St.
 Toronto, Ontario
 M5V 2P6

Please enclose cheque or money order.

Fred Mooney



who lives upstairs. "And they speak better English, too."

* * * * *

The Canadian Press male athlete of the year is involved in sports from the same position as most of us — sitting on his rear.

Gilles Villeneuve's ass moves faster than any TV jockey's. But the choice of a racing-car driver as our top sportsman says a lot about Canadian notions of sports — apparently, anything at which people compete — and physical activity.

And the fact that Villeneuve drives for Ferrari — a foreign car which would be recognized, let alone owned, by very few Canadians — is an indication of the mix of dependency and elitism which marks our culture as a whole.

No doubt Villeneuve is a skilled and courageous driver. He can steer rings around the rest of us. He has the fastest clutch foot in the west. But so much of his success is due to technical and mechanical factors out of his control that he really doesn't count as an athlete in the same way as a skier or swimmer.

Villeneuve is in effect Canada's fastest ad man, driving for the greater glory and profitability of Ferrari and a host of other companies associated with his victories and the auto industry.

And he is involved in a costly campaign. In 1977, Villeneuve crashed into a fenced-off area at the Japan Grand Prix. Two spectators died.

* * * * *

Two proposals of importance to cyclists are coming up at the January 14 City Council meeting.

- Hiring a full-time planner-co-ordinator to help integrate bicycling into the Toronto transportation system.

- To provide \$25,000 for secure bike racks.

City budget chief Art Eggleton (Ward 4 alderman) opposes both proposals. Eggleton has recommended hiring only a part-time co-ordinator and spending just \$12,000 on bike racks.

I think the original proposals are good ones. Toronto is a long way behind cities like Ottawa and Minneapolis in providing lanes or streets for bicycle traffic. If you think so too, phone your councillor before Monday's meeting.

A New York sportswriter claims the Russians don't shower after a hockey game. (They apply a liniment instead. But it's usually the Canadian teams who stink up the joint in international play.

Sure, the NHL did better against the Red Army than the Afghans did. But in general the Canadian game has degenerated into a kind of brutal stoop-and-scoop on skates: players move the puck by dumping it into the corners and wait to pick up garbage goals in front of the net.

Even at that, it's not always the puck Canucks who come out on top. On five NHL teams, Europeans (mostly Swedes) are the scoring leaders.

There's no shortage of people to blame: the players themselves, who are often out of condition, especially at the end of the over-long season; the referees, who ignore anything short of disembowelling; the owners, who would let Hans Brinker take on the Moscow Circus Bears if they could make a buck.

And the coaches. Who would you choose to write the Canadian answer to Tarasov's *Russian Hockey Secrets*: George Chuvalo? The Sheik?

Lack of tactical sophistication is only part of our coaching problem. Recent remarks suggest some coaches can't communicate whatever knowledge they do have:

- Explaining the success of his Philadelphia Flyers, coach Pat Quinn said, "We've got 22 players and they all want to play badly and make a contribution to the team."

- Commenting on the poor Canadian showing at the Lake Placid pre-Olympic tourney, coach Clare Drake said, "We are a little bit disappointed but in a positive way."

"The Russian coaches know a lot more about hockey than our guys," says Tom, the Leaf fan