

# CONNEXIONS

L I T E R A C Y / A L P H A B E T I S A T I O N



VOLUME V, NUMBER/NUMERO 1

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CONNEXIONS is an independent project which supports networks of grass-roots organizations and individuals across Canada who are working to create a just, human and equitable society. It provides a forum for socially active people to communicate through a regular publication summarizing their work. Consultations around specific issues complement this process. Although the impetus and major support come from Church organizations, CONNEXIONS strives to service a broader constituency.

CONNEXIONS is made possible through subscriptions, church grants and the volunteer labour of a collective of about twelve people. French language documentation is usually presented in French.

If you are among those engaged in the struggle to transform society, the CONNEXIONS collective invites you to join in this networking process by sending in materials in any media form (or summaries of same) that:

- a) deserve to be more widely known;
- b) are not published or distributed commercially;
- c) relate to what is happening in Canada or to what Canadians (individuals, corporations or the government) are doing in other parts of the world;
- d) focus on social change for a more just, human and equitable society;
- e) describe proposals, briefs, analyses, strategies and/or reflections on actions.

CONNEXIONS IS NOT A DOCUMENTATION CENTRE. MATERIALS SHOULD BE ORDERED DIRECTLY FROM THE PRODUCER.

CONNEXIONS est un projet indépendant qui a pour but de créer des réseaux de communication entre des groupes et des individus canadiens travaillant pour une société juste, humaine et équitable. Il y a des liens entre beaucoup de personnes engagés dans la lutte sociale à l'aide d'un bulletin résumant leur travail. Des conférences au sujet de questions spécifiques complètent ce processus. Même que ce soit des organisations faisant partie des églises, qui nous font vivre, CONNEXIONS essaie de servir un public plus grand.

CONNEXIONS est rendu possible par vos abonnements, par les dons des églises et par le travail volontaire d'une douzaine de personnes. La documentation francophone est imprimé en français.

Si vous êtes parmi ceux qui luttent pour la transformation de la société, nous vous invitons à participer en nous envoyant des documents (à lire, à écouter ou à regarder) ou les précis de ces documents, pourvu qu'ils:

- a) méritent d'être connu par un plus grand public;
- b) ne soient pas publiés et distribués commercialement;
- c) aient rapport à des événements canadiens ou au travail de canadiens à l'étranger;
- d) aient rapport à la lutte pour un monde juste, humain et équitable;
- e) et contiennent des propos, des exposés, des analyses, des stratégies et/ou des réflexions sur des actions.

CONNEXIONS N'EST PAS UN CENTRE DE DOCUMENTATION. IL FAUT SE PROCURER LES DOCUMENTS ORIGINAUX CHEZ LEURS EDITEURS RESPECTIVES.

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WE'RE SNOOPING FOR DOCUMENTS ON:  
ON CHERCHE DES DOCUMENTS AU SUJET DE:

**W O M E N / F E M M E S**



Please send along whatever you have / Envoyez ce que vous avez, S.V.P.



## Dear Friends,

Over a year ago (in CISS 622) we presented an abstract of a short film about literacy (Starting from Nina). It dealt with the efforts of immigrant workers and school children in a working class neighbourhood of Toronto. In the abstract we said, "The development of English language skills for Portuguese immigrant industrial workers is linked to critical dialogue about their needs and their role in the broader society". This film has had an impact on literacy efforts in Canada. We decided to pursue the issue that abstract opened up by presenting a major focus on the literacy struggle of some 5,000,000 of our neighbours.

We were pleased to find that our research elicited a response from a wide spectrum of experiences all across the country. Throughout our treatment of the struggle for literacy a strong critique emerged of the educational system (CX 1040, 1043, 1049, 1052, 1053). Many efforts at improving literacy have led to the conclusion that the educational system is designed more towards providing teachers with salaries than it is with giving students a learning experience (CX 1040, 1049, 1053). People we talked to in organizations such as Frontier College, the Movement for Canadian Literacy, Participatory Research and the Institut Canadien d'Education des Adultes all agree that an effective educational process can take place just as well with the use of volunteer non-professional teachers and with use of local material (CX 1049, 1053). The important qualification, they say for a

## Chers Amis,

Il y a plus qu'un an (dans le numéro 662 de CISS), nous vous avons présenté un précis d'un film court sur l'analphabétisme (Starting from Nina). Il y traitait des efforts des ouvriers immigrants et des écoliers dans un quartier ouvrier de Toronto. Dans le précis on peut lire, "L'enseignement de l'Anglais aux ouvriers portugais doit être lié à un dialogue critique des besoins et du rôle de ceux-ci dans la société canadienne".

Ce film a fait sentir son influence sur l'enseignement de l'Anglais aux immigrants du Canada.

Dans ce numéro nous allons poursuivre les différents aspects du problème de l'analphabétisme chez 5,000,000 de nos voisins.



Nous sommes heureux d'avoir reçu tant de

réponses venant d'un peu partout au Canada et provenant de groupes très différents. Tous font la critique de notre système éducatif (CX 1040, 1043, 1049, 1052, 1053). Plusieurs des groupes luttant contre l'analphabétisme ont conclu que le système éducatif est désigné à fournir des emplois aux enseignants et des profits aux librairies au lieu d'enseigner les étudiants (CX 1040, 1049, 1053). Frontier College, le Movement for Canadian Literacy, Participatory Research et l'Institut canadien de l'éducation des adultes, disent tous que l'enseignement se fait très bien avec des volontaires non-professionnels et des matériaux d'origine régionale (CX 1049, 1053). La qualification la plus importante d'un bon professeur est l'enthousiasme et le respect pour l'étudiant (CX 1043, 1048, 1049). Plusieurs groupes soulignent l'importance du contexte. On ne peut pas se contenter d'enseigner des lettres, des mots et des constructions grammaticales (comme on les trouve dans les programmes préparés). Selon eux, personne n'apprend à lire et à écrire avec le seul but de lire et d'écrire, mais parce qu'on en a besoin dans d'autres aspects de sa vie:



good teacher is enthusiasm and respect for the student (CX 1043, 1048, 1049). Several groups emphasize that learning to read and write is not just a matter of technical training in recognition of letters, words, and grammatical constructions (strongly emphasized in prepackaged programs widely used), but is much more a matter of the meaning of a concrete experience (CX 1043, 1052). No-one learns to read and write, we were told, just for its own sake, but rather in reference to other important areas of life the student wants to cope with: job, social relationships, political life, etc. (CX 1043, 1047, 1050). In these cases presenting working-class people with material describing middle-class life is both alienating and frustrating (CX 1052).

We were surprised to find that many literacy programs were fairly well supported by government funding and had sponsorship from community agencies (CX 1045, 1046, 1047). Although established organizations supported these programs, they managed to maintain an alternative character. The final abstract of the section (CX 1053) offers an experience which questions the advisability of any program depending on professional teachers and agency programming.

In one other area we would like to underline an important development in an on-going struggle. CX 1060 reveals that in Saskatchewan the development of a uranium-mining industry has become closely linked to the interests of major oil transnationals who have been grabbing up control of this resource. The link between oil companies and resource development indicates the seriousness of the struggle for control of energy taking place throughout the world today.

In solidarity,

THE CONNEXIONS COLLECTIVE  
January, 1980

au travail, dans les relations sociales, dans la vie politique, etc. (CX 1043, 1047, 1050). On n'arrive pas à enseigner des ouvriers avec des textes décrivant la vie de la bourgeoisie. Cela amène seulement à l'aliénation et la frustration (CX 1052).

Nous sommes surpris de que beaucoup des programmes contre l'analphabétisme reçoivent des fonds du gouvernement et des agences sociales. Néanmoins les groupes semblent avoir retenu leur caractère alternatif. Le dernier précis de cette section (CX 1053) met en question la dépendance d'un programme des enseignants professionnels et des agences.

Nous voulons tirer votre attention sur un développement important dans une lutte que nous avons déjà suivie dans d'autres numéros. CX 1060 nous renseigne qu'au Saskatchewan le développement des mines d'uranium maintenant est subordonné aux intérêts des multinationales de pétrole qui sont en train de monopoliser le contrôle de cette matière première.

Le lien entre l'industrie pétrolière et le développement des matières premières montre la gravité de la lutte pour le contrôle des sources d'énergie dans les pays capitalistes du monde.

En solidarité

La Rédaction.

#### ATTENTION:

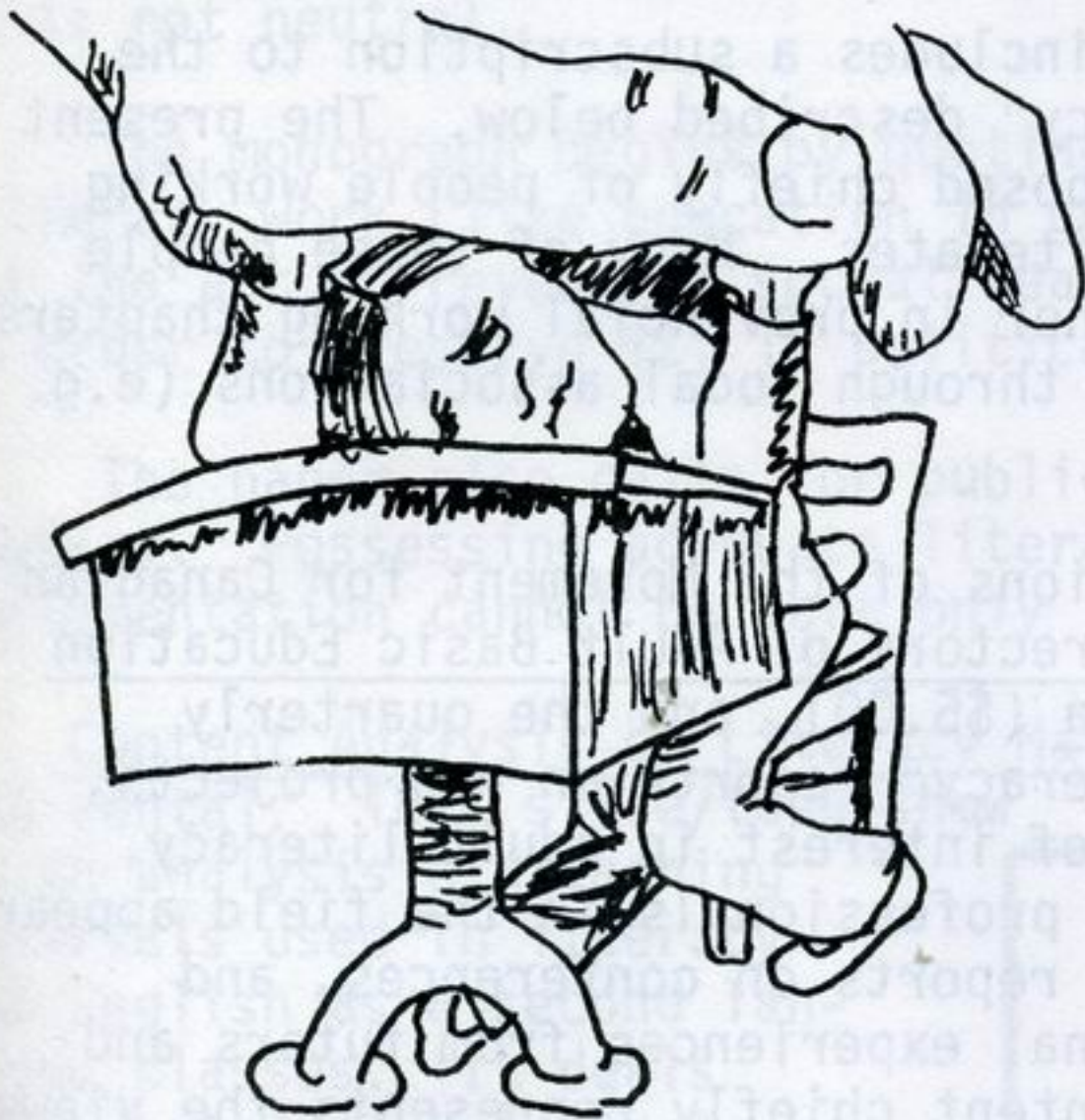
Nous nous excusons pour l'impression que nous avons pu créer avec le précis CX 1023, Broken Spirit, dans le numéro 4, 5. Après avoir réfléchi et discuté entre nous, nous avons conclu que ce qui est écrit dans le précis et dans le livre ne regarde que les peuples autochtones. Nous affirmons notre support des luttes des Autochtones pour se bâtir une meilleure vie, et nous regrettons toute offense résultant de notre précis.



# LITERACY / ALPHABETISATION

CX Rich Witham and Audrey Anderson, Box 647, Red Lake, Ontario POV 2M0  
1040

Red Lake is a mining town populated by immigrants from Europe since the Second World War. Illiteracy has long been a major problem in this community and several programs have been attempted by the Ontario Government without success. The problem is



complicated by the fact that many of the people living in Red Lake do not really speak English. For the past year Rich and Audrey have been living in Red Lake and trying to develop interest and support for another attempt at an English as a Second Language program (ESL). For 5½ months they worked directly under the auspices of Frontier College. Now they have received the support of the Department of Culture and Recreation of the Ontario Government. The present effort differs from previous attempts in that it does not use pre-packaged language programs devised for middle-class urban dwellers. Rather they have opted to draw on local material and local experiences and attempt to assist learning by focusing on concrete living problems of the students which require some capacity to read and write in English. Rich and Audrey believe

it simply isn't enough to provide a linear technology so that the student can handle words and grammar without necessarily understanding the meaning of the experience which is being described. Learning to read and write is really a question of meaning and so when that becomes primary, learning to handle the words to describe it comes quite naturally. They also believe that learning to use a language is largely bound up with the student's self-image. Trust and respect of the student are crucial to the learning process.

CX Neil Webster, 3706 - 55 Nassau, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3L 2G8  
1041

Neil works with groups of prisoners in Manitoba prisons whose focus for learning to read and write is a drivers' manual. The manual which is geared to a grade 4 reading level was produced as a result of work with this same group. Most prisoners in Manitoba, Neil discovered, are in prison for driving-related offenses. Therefore, it seemed like a program related to driving would respond to a very important need felt by the inmates. Much of the success of the program relates to paying attention to the self-image of the inmates and encouraging natural abilities. One prisoner had quite an



interest in drawing although no one had ever encouraged this and the man felt he couldn't do anything right. With encouragement his talent blossomed; among other drawings he has produced a powerfully sensitive drawing of a young native girl. Much of the emphasis in a successful literacy program, involves assisting the student to interpret and take better charge of his/her own world.

CX            The Movement for Canadian Literacy. P. O. Box 533, Postal Station P,  
1042        Toronto, Ontario M5S 2T1. Materials, Prices Listed Below.

The Movement for Canadian Literacy was formed in 1977 to bring together the individuals, groups and organizations who want to promote basic education and literacy in Canada. It provides a place for these people to exchange information, make new contacts, create new initiatives and improve the situation of literacy in Canada by developing a better comprehension and treatment of the problems resulting from illiteracy.



A \$10 membership includes a subscription to the quarterly "Literacy" described below. The present membership is composed chiefly of people working directly with illiterates. Many of these people meet together either in provincial working chapters (e.g. Alberta) or through local associations (e.g. Toronto).

Two publications of the Movement for Canadian Literacy are a Directory of Adult Basic Education Programs in Canada (\$5.00), and the quarterly "Literacy". "Literacy" reports on new projects, books, and ideas of interest in adult literacy. Often articles by professionals in the field appear; also included are reports on conferences, and accounts of personal experiences from tutors and students. The content chiefly represents the views of reading specialists and people using phonics-based content.

CX            Literacy Working Group. Adult Services, St. Christopher House, 84 Augusta  
1043        Ave., Toronto, Ontario

A. A Million and Me. 15 minute slide/tape show, write for details. This slide/tape show serves as an introduction to the problem of literacy in Canada. It begins by focusing on one woman who cannot read, and points out the implications that this has for her family and working life. How, for example, does this woman carry out her shopping, particularly when she wants to purchase the less expensive "No-name" products. She cannot tell what is in each can or box, for there are no pictures, only words which she cannot read.



Various groups in Canada who are involved in teaching literacy are reviewed in the slide-tape show. Such groups include Frontier College, government sponsored skill-training programs, Boards of Education, Libraries and volunteer groups. The show also points out, however, that illiteracy is not recognized in Canada as a Canadian problem. As a result, much of the written material for literacy work is foreign in origin, and often irrelevant to the student's life situations. Some groups are now beginning to address this aspect of the literacy problem in Canada.

**B. Literacy: Charitable Enterprise or Political Right?** 11 pages, 1978, \$2.00

Available in a French translation, *Revue Internationale d'Action Communautaire*, 3, 43 printemps, 1980, c/o Ecole de service social, Université de Montréal, Québec. H3C 3J7. This monograph challenges practitioners in the adult education field to debate a substantive philosophical aspect on education: education is more than techniques, it involves a human relationship. Teachers and students are both learners and readers of the society in which they are immersed. Content is always present in education. It is not neutral.

The monograph begins by quoting a paragraph of the Declaration of Persepolis: "Literacy work, like education in general, is a political act. It is not natural, for the act of revealing social reality in order to transform it, or of concealing it in order to preserve it, is political."

The paper also calls for public responsibility in dealing with literacy in the country. Possessing adequate literacy skills is a human right. Therefore its implementation cannot be left only in the hands of volunteers with good intentions.

**C. Content Analysis of Literacy Materials.** 15 minute slide/tape show, \$75 purchase, \$15 rental. This slide/tape show

is an analysis of teaching materials used in literacy and English as a second language classes. It deals with certain ideological elements that conform to a particular world view favoring the power groups in Canadian society. The analysis shows how ideas, values, attitudes and the socio-economic reality as a whole, pictured and expressed through these materials, are alien to most of the students who would use them. This prevents them from looking at their own reality and engaging in a dialogical relationship with it. Since American materials in this field are heavily represented in Canada, the slide-tape also deals with the problem of cultural identity and cultural invasion.





D. Report from the Adult Literacy Workshop of the Canadian Association of Neighbourhood Services.

E. Literacy Volunteers of America Inc., Basic Reading Teacher Training Workshops.

CX            Espoir 80. Jocelyn Gabriel, 11973 Matte 4, Montréal North, P. Q. H1G 3R4  
1044

In Québec there are 20,000 Haitian immigrants, 4,000 of whom can only speak Creole and are illiterate. In Montréal there is a unique project creating a second chance learning opportunity for many people. Jocelyn Gabriel has previously run literacy projects in her native country, Haiti. In Montreal, with assistance from Frontier College, she has started a program that employs six full time tutors.

At the outset those who needed help in learning to read and write were reluctant to step forward. Using door to door personal approaches, advertising, community radio, and word of mouth within the Haitian community, a large number of students came forward to begin learning to read and write.

The learners were relieved to find the program did not operate like a traditional school. The learning groups were small and the tutors, like the learners, were Haitian immigrants. Having gone through the rather traumatic (and bureaucratic) financial, personal and family difficulties of moving to a new country, the tutors were able to generate much of the content from their shared experience.

Content such as how to find employment, the differing social norms encountered and the family difficulties resulting from such a move provide the basis for powerful and meaningful classes for the learners. They are learning to read by reading, learning to write by writing. In the process they are dealing with very real problems they encounter day to day.

CX            Basic Learning Needs in Labrador. Barbara Case. Dep't of Education,  
1045          Division of Adult and Continuing Education, P. O. Box 910 Paddon  
Building, Happy Valley, Labrador AOP 1E0. Write for details.

This project recognizes that illiteracy in Labrador is a big problem, and aims to make a structure from which future programming can grow. With funding from the Secretary of State, and co-ordination with the provincial division of Adult & Continuing Education, Basic Learning Needs in Labrador is attempting to answer the stated goals of the communities.

The Philosophy of the project is twofold: (1) education is continuous and part and parcel of life's overall goals; (2) programming is decided by each individual community. Research and/or program development has been done in Happy Valley, Nain, Rigolet, Cartwright, Black Tickle, Port Hope Simpson, and Forteau. Some of the challenges include teaching Inuttut-speaking Nainians to read Hydro bills, as well as teaching phonemic Inuttut to keep native language skills alive. Co-operation and integration with existing delivery systems is the key to extending this project. Programs in Happy Valley include instruction to a class of mentally handicapped adults, and a Teacher on Wheels project.



CX 1046 Alberta Vocational Centre. c/o Debbi Ramage, 11702 - 89 Street,  
Edmonton, Alberta. Write for details.

Facing the problem of five million adult Canadians who are without the fundamental education skills to function adequately in society, the Alberta Vocational Centre offers some attempts to solve the problem. Some of their programs are Academic Upgrading, Building Services, Business Education, Nursing Assistant, and English as a Second Language.

A major program recently created is Library Outreach, for illiterate adults. Primarily an up-grading program, the adults themselves play a major role in the program. They determine their own needs and goals, and aim through the program to increase their self-confidence through acquiring basic education skills.



A number of students that attend classes at the Centre are referred by Canada Manpower, Indian Affairs, the Compensation board or the Province. These government programs also sponsor the students financially. The government is also proposing a tax on industry to raise money for literacy education. The government is also willing to give a tax reduction to employers who encourage and provide opportunities for further education. Through such measures, the work of Centres like Alberta Vocational Centre will become more adequate.

CX 1047 Literacy Project. Division of Adult and Continuing Education, P. O.  
Box 4070, St. John's Nfld. A1C 5Y9. Write for details.

The Literacy Project is sponsored by the federal government in co-operation with the Department of Education, Division of Adult and Continuing Education in Newfoundland. The project is being run in four centres in Newfoundland: St. John's, Corner Brook, Grand Falls, and Happy Valley, Labrador. A number of separate programs are included under the Literacy Project, but all have four main objectives:

1. To raise the level of literacy awareness in Newfoundland
2. To support present volunteer activity in the field of literacy and to facilitate expansion of such activity.
3. To experiment with new models of literacy training.
4. To involve non-readers and literacy students in the literacy movement.

The separate programs include Basic Job Readiness Training, Basic Training for for Skill Development, and Teachers-on-Wheels (TOW). TOW is a volunteer movement



dedicated to overcoming the high rate of illiteracy among adults in Newfoundland. This program operates primarily in St. John's. One of its objectives is to recruit and train volunteer tutors who can be matched with individual adults who have reading and writing problems. Another program, Part-time Adult Basic Education Program, is aimed at making it possible for all interested adults to become involved in courses or activities relating to their personal and social development; this program also encourages citizens to become more aware of and more involved in civic affairs.

The workers in the various programs know that an illiterate adult looks no different than a literate adult, but the problems of the illiterate adult are many. They cannot fill out a job application form, they cannot pick out a greeting card, and they cannot write a driver's test or fill out a cheque. Through the various programs, Newfoundlanders are becoming aware of the problem, and the Literacy project is also helping those who want to read and write to do just that.

CX  
1048      Basic Education Departments. Bill Darnell or Meg Blackwell, Basic Education Department, Mt. Pleasant Centre, Vancouver Community College, 225 West 8th Ave, Vancouver, B. C. V5Y 1L9.

This flyer/letter describes the efforts of the Vancouver Community College in conjunction with local 452 of the carpenter's union to organize within its system to teach basic language and math to carpenters. This is the second year of operation. The students involved speak English as a second language and have been in Canada from 2-20 years. Attaining language skills is not an end in itself, but is used as a tool to enable those being educated to have control over their situations individually and collectively.

Some factors that have contributed to the success of the program: 1) the arrangement of on the site visits to speak with job stewards, 2) the instructor's growing awareness and sympathy with respect to language skill needs of their students, 3) full support from the carpenter's union.

CX  
1049      Frontiere College, 31 Jackes Avenue, Toronto, Ontario M4T 1E3.

A. Injured Workers Program, c/o Rafael Ramirez. Several years ago, Frontier College discovered that 55% of injured workers undergoing rehabilitation at the government centre in Toronto are illiterate. Rafael works three evenings a week in a program designed to assist those workers who are interested in improving their ability to read and write or in general upgrading. The goal is to support their progress in their jobs with a personalized service. While they are at the Centre, Rafael can get them started. However, many of them come from other centres or small villages throughout Ontario. Thus provision of follow-up becomes crucial. In places where there are Frontier College personnel present the task of assuring on-going support is relatively easy. In other cases local volunteer assistance is sought from residents in the area where the worker lives. The program relies heavily on the conviction that it is not necessary to have specialized teacher training in order to help someone to learn. Learning will happen, Rafael believes, if the "teacher", a neighbour or fellow-worker, is able to read and write and, most importantly, has the trust of the student and respects the integrity of the student. Rafael points out that these informal settings have been



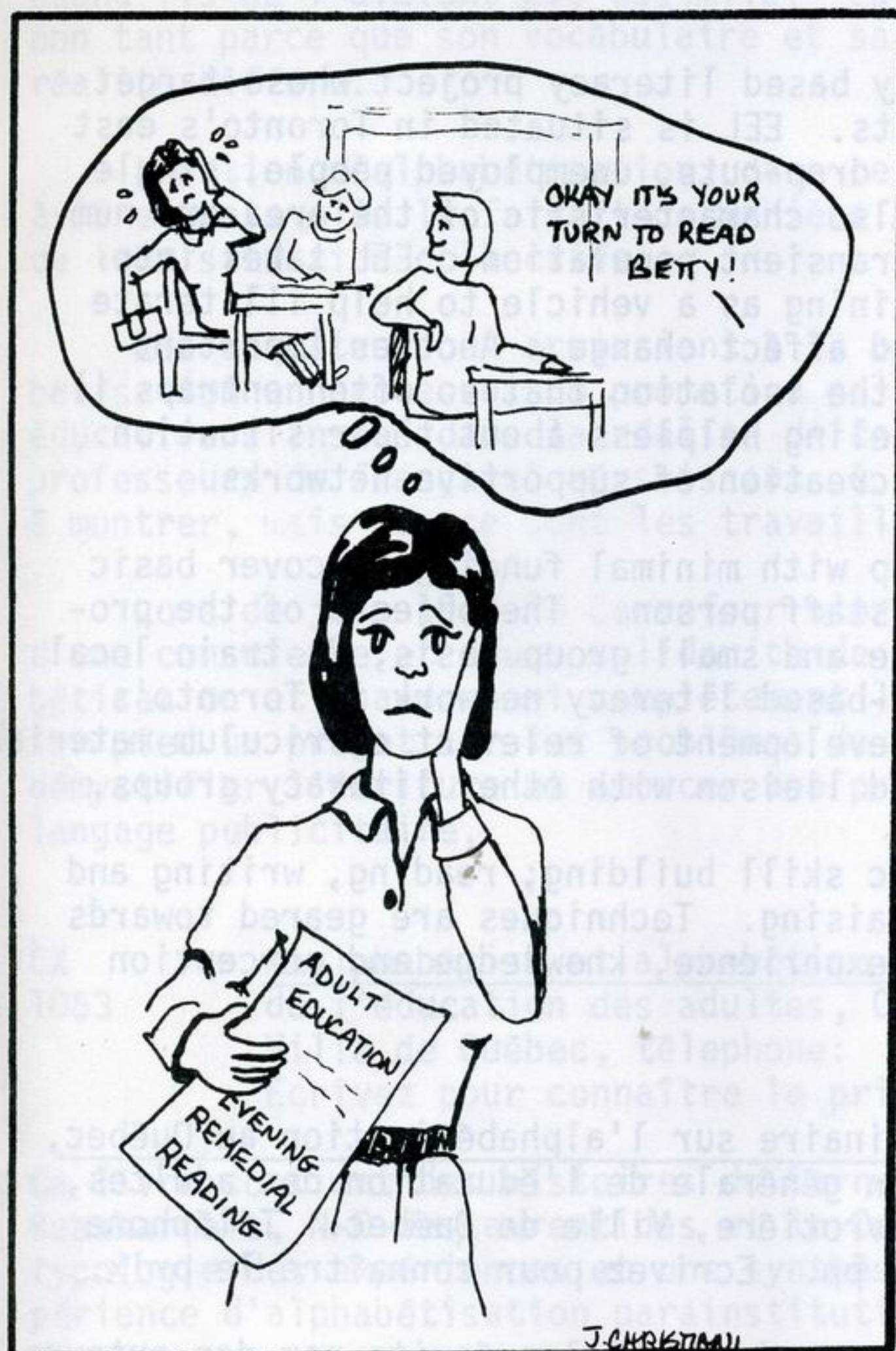
proven equally or more effective than classroom programs with professional teachers and textual aids. He insists that learning to read a chainsaw manual or a tax return guide is often more effective than the expensive texts prepared by publishing companies.

B. Learning and Teaching with Common Sense, by Dr. Marsha Forest. Free and may be reproduced. This booklet is designed to show parents, teachers, workers, and friends

simply and concretely how something can be done for the five million Canadian adults who have less than a grade nine education, and to do so without years of training or large expenditures of money.

In a few pages it offers simple pointers based on stated assumptions and research findings about learning. The key assumptions are that people enjoy learning and will seek responsibility. The research findings suggest that alternative ways of learning are as good or better than the "traditional"; that teaching others is an effective reinforcement to learning; and that motivation is the key to learning.

Dr. Forest also offers some questions that the potential "teacher" might ask of her/himself such as: "Do I want to teach?", "Do I enjoy learning and reading?", "When did I last write a poem or a letter?". She also gives strong encouragement to learn as much as possible about everything to do with the life of the students.



CX 1050 Welfare Rights Group, c/o Doris Keoughan, D'Escousse, Richmond County, N. S.  
BOE 1K0

This group has been meeting and working together for more than a year now in an attempt to discover their real needs and affirm their own capacity to be self-reliant.

Isle Madame, where D'Escousse is located, is a small island off the southern coast of Cape Breton Island. It has a very marginal economy based on a bit of agriculture and fishing. For over a hundred years the island has been bi-lingual. A very large percentage of the people are illiterate in both French and English. An important part



of the purpose of the welfare rights group is to develop literacy and writing ability through their involvement with concrete efforts to develop self-reliance. At present they are gathering second hand clothing and have a depot through which it is distributed. They are thinking about the possibility of a producer's co-op.

CX            East End Literacy, 731 Queen St. E., Toronto, Ontario.  
1050

East End Literacy (EEL) is a year-old community based literacy project whose target population is English speaking illiterate adults. EEL is situated in Toronto's east end where there is a high percentage of school drop-outs, unemployed people, single parent families and many illiterate adults. Also characteristic of the area are numerous public housing projects and a somewhat transient population. EEL takes into account these realities and views literacy training as a vehicle to help illiterate adults to better understand their situation and affect change. Another important aspect of the program is the breaking down of the isolation that so often entraps illiterate adults in cycles of self-blame and feeling helpless about their situation. Students are encouraged to participate in the creation of supportive networks.

EEL is composed of a ten-person work group with minimal funding to cover basic material expenses and one temporary part-time staff person. The objects of the project are to 1) provide tutoring on a one-to-one and small group basis; 2) train local volunteer tutors; and 3) establish a community-based literacy network in Toronto's east-end to support activities including the development of relevant curriculum material, community education, research, fund-raising and liaison with other literacy groups.

The tutoring program incorporates specific skill building; reading, writing and comprehension, in a process of consciousness raising. Techniques are geared towards "Reading for meaning" and building on student experience, knowledge and perception of the world.

CX            Alpha '78: Recueil des textes, Seminaire sur l'alphabétisation au Québec,  
1052        Ministère de l'éducation, Direction générale de l'éducation des adultes,  
             Complex G, 23e étage, rue de la Chevrotière, Ville de Québec. Téléphone:  
             1-418-643-5267. Octobre, 1978, 161 pp. Ecrivez pour connaître le prix.

Cette collection contient des réflexions à travers des articles écrits par des auteurs distincts. Le recueil raconte des expériences concrètes comme celles de Point-St-Charles, Schefferville, le système pénitentiaire. Il y a des réflexions sur la processus de conscientisation, et le droit politique à l'alphabétisation.

Dans l'article de Serge Wagner, il explique le travail du Carre-four d'éducation populaire de Point-St-Charles. C'est une expérience qui se déroulait entre 1968-1973 après qu'un groupe d'analphabètes avait quitté l'école publique où il était inscrit a des cours du soir; il se regroupèrent et formèrent un comité rassemblant, durant cinq années près de 500 analphabètes du milieu.

On examine les textes utilisé au commencement pour faire des cours, manuels adoptés pour l'enseignement des jeunes. Dans le monde des manuels on retrouve un paradis où la nature occupe une large place. On reconnaît parfois l'existence des problèmes. Mais, fort heureusement, on a réponse à tout. Il en va de même ua plan social. On enseigne la productivité et la docilité.



Chez les étudiants on voyait augmenter le sentiment de dépendance, insécurité et de culpabilité. Les professeurs acceptèrent de se remettre eux-mêmes en question. Et l'on a découvert subitement que se les adultes étaient incompetents au plan de la lecture, les animateurs l'etaient au plan social, economique et politique.

Il y avait un problème du langage. A quel bon leurs enseigner le langage bourgeois quand ils ne l'avaient pas assimilé. La majorité populaire parle un langage différent, non tant parce que son vocabulaire et sa syntaxe sont plus pauvres, mais parce que la réalité diffère.

L'action d'alphabétisation, dans ce cas, permettait à des travailleurs d'apprendre à lire, mais elle le faisait de manière à ne pas leur permettre de prendre conscience de leur situation collective.

Les animateurs en arrivaient à la conclusion: si l'on veut faire de l'alphabétisation un processus de promotion collective du milieu, il faut donc que la démarche éducative s'insère dans la réalité de ce dernier. Enfin, il fallait que les "ex-professeurs de français" réussissent à saisir de l'intérieur qu'ils n'avaient rien à montrer, mais que ce sont les travailleurs qui ont quelque chose à s'apprendre.

Lors de juin 1973 le Carrefour s'orienta principalement en favorisant l'annonce d'une conscience et d'une solidarité de classe, retenant un programme minimum d'alphabétisation et abandonnant complètement les préoccupations grammaticales. Il mettait sur pied un projet sur les problèmes de communication dans lequel on voulait démystifier l'écriture et amorcer une prise de conscience critique dirigé sur le langage publicitaire.

CX 1053 Analphabétisme et alphabétisme au Québec, Jean-Paul Hauteceur, Ministère de l'éducation des adultes, Complexe G, 23e étage, rue de la Chevrotière, Ville de Québec, téléphone: 1-418-643-5267. 222 pp. Québec, 1978, Ecrivez pour connaître le prix.

Ce livre contient des histoires du Carrefour d'éducation de Point-St-Charles, Beauharnois, N-D-des-Laurentides et le Centre Ste-Elizabeth. On présente aussi une typologie des expériences et une synthèse projective. Le livre conclue avec "une expérience d'alphabétisation parainstitutionnelle au comité du peuple à Longueuil.

L'analphabétisme vient défini en "degré zéro de connaissance de la langue écrite en usage dans une société donnée. Mais, donné que notre société, culturellement et statistiquement pathologique. En tant que phénomène sociologique, l'analphabétisme est l'attribut des individus qui n'ont été instruits au code normatif élémentaire de leur société. Selon cette définition l'analphabétisme doit être considéré toujours relative à l'histoire et la culture d'un pays.

Il y a des cours qui se font dans les locaux du Carrefour populaire. Au début il n'était même pas question des "professeurs". Le comité avait recruté, dans ses rangs, ses propres moniteurs, avec l'aide professionnelle d'un permanent du Carrefour populaire. On chercha d'abord à enraciner l'apprentissage dans le langage et dans le vécu des acteurs. Ils ont commencé avec deux réunions par semaine et une demi-journée pour leur préparation. Le groupe était divisé en trois parties selon leur capacité.



Il y avait une collaboration entre le Comité et le Service de l'éducation des adultes de la Régionale Chambly. Pendant la deuxième année il y avait des rencontres entre le comité et les nouveaux professeurs retenus par le commission. Le comité demanda si les professeurs allaient parler le même langage que les enregistrés, s'ils allaient accepter les règles de jeu du comité? Après le commencement de l'année scolaire, le comité semblait avoir perdu son autonomie en faveur des professionnels. Il y avait des revendications. Le comité préfère le rôle des moniteurs choisis d'entre le peuple. Les professeurs ont fait une évaluation et on a reorganisés pour descolariser et déprofessionnaliser. Mais la compétence pédagogique des moniteurs ne fut pas reconnu. Le comité et les enrégistrés continue à insister sur le rôle essentielle du moniteur.

Au fin des deux années la commission accepta de payer les moniteurs quelque chose et l'administration du projet a été réorganisé. On considère les questions économiques des assistés sociaux, leur transport, dépenses etc.

L'auteur nous laisse avec cette question: est-ce qu'on cherche à améliorer les conditions pratiques de l'alphabétisation en créant des institutions parallèles, ou bien, est-ce que c'est le concept lui-même d'alphabétisation qui est changé?

Selon l'auteur, c'est en milieu sous-prolétaire que la marginalisation par rapport aux pratiques collectives - l'écriture, la langue - tend à être une pratique culturelle normale et globale. C'est là que le refus de la langue dominante et de l'ordre qu'elle symbolise s'exprime ouvertement et pratiquement. C'est là que des alternatives aux pratiques de vie normative sont les mieux organisées.

#### FURTHER DOCUMENTATION AVAILABLE

Canadian Adult Basic Literacy Resource Kit, compiled by Audrey M. Thomas, The Movement for Canadian Literacy, Box 533, Postal Station P, Toronto, Ontario M5S 2T1. Price \$10.00.

Library Literacy Resource Kit. Public Library Association Literacy Committee, Ontario Library Association, Suite 402, 73 Richmond St. W., Toronto, Ontario M5H 1Z4. Price \$3.00.

Easy Reading for the Family. Toronto Public Library, c/o Gwen Liu, Toronto Public Library, 40 Orchard View Blvd., Toronto. Write for details.

Themes for Learning and Teaching. English as a Second Language Core Group, c/o West End Y.M.C.A., 931 College St., Toronto, Ontario M6H 1A1. Price \$10.00

#### PAST CONTRIBUTORS ON LITERACY

Note: The past contributors listed here are drawn primarily from work done in Education. The contributors have raised a number of issues in education that are raised concerning Literacy, as noted in this issue.

Centrale de l'Enseignement du Quebec, 8225 boulevard St. Laurent, Montreal, Quebec.  
Proposition d'Ecole Plate-Forme Revendlatrive pour une Ecole de Masse a Batir Maintenant. 773



- Community Radio Education Society. 333 Carroll St., Vancouver, B. C. 462.
- Consortium of Ontario Public Alternative Schools (COPAS). 28 High St., Toronto, Ont. M8Y 3N8. A Brief Look at Public Alternative Schools in Ontario. 724.
- Development Education Centre, 121 Avenue Road, Toronto, Ont. M5R 2G3. Telephone 964-6901. Starting from Nina: The Politics of Learning. 662.
- Geschelt, Joan. 300 Edouard Montpetit # 5, Montreal, Quebec. Education Project: Co-sponsored by Education Resource Cooperative (Montreal) and Canadian University Service Overseas Educational Resource Cooperative. 458.
- Hall, Bud L. Participatory Research Project, 29 Prince Arthur, Toronto, Ont. M5R 1B2. Creating Knowledge: Breaking the Monopoly. 553.
- IMMI - CAN. 234 Parliament St., Toronto, Ontario. M5S 3A4. Telephone: 416-363-8119/8110.
- Newfoundland Status of Women Council, Box 6072, 77 Bond St., St. John's, Newfoundland. Bias in Newfoundland Textbooks. 453.
- People for Educational Participation. 787½ Somerset Ave. W. Ottawa. K1R 6R5. Newsletter. 281.
- Participatory Research Project. 29 Prince Arthur, Toronto, Ont. M5R 1B2. 590.

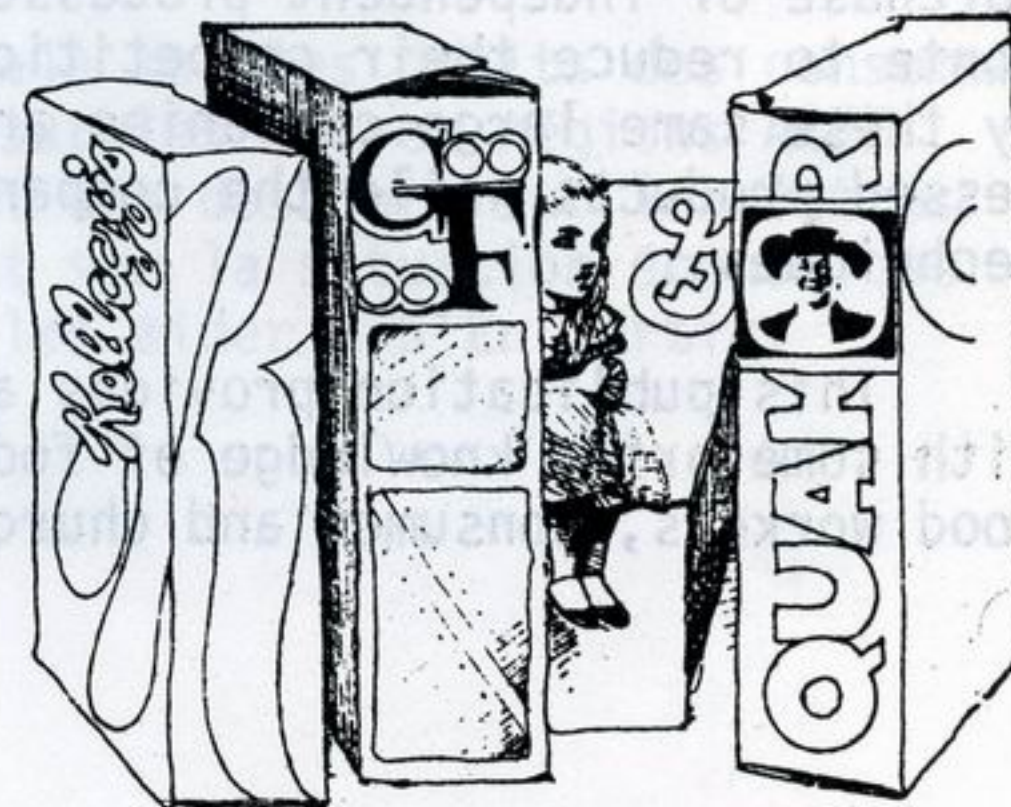
## E C O N O M Y / E C O N O M I E

CX 1054 The People's Food Commission: Ontario, People's Food Commission, 321 Chapel Street, Ottawa, Ont. K1N 7Z2. Write for details.

This regional tabloid is based on the Ontario hearing of the People's Food Commission (PFC). It includes impressions of the process, highlights from the hearings, examples of follow-up action, a book review, and a current up-date on food issues as they surfaced in the press over the summer of '79.

There were about 200 organizers working to make the PFC a reality in Ontario. Over 320 submissions were made and over 1600 people attended the hearings. A sampling of highlights from several Local Working Groups follows below.

In Toronto, many of the briefs echoed themes brought up at other hearings across Canada. Junk food and the impact of the food-industry technology on nutrition were common concerns, as were skyrocketing food prices, the disappearance of farm lands, and the manipulation of consumers by food





advertising. It became clear that food production is dominated by the economic power of agribusiness. Profit, not people's needs, is the organizing principle.

In Kingston it was noted that unless we make self-sufficiency a priority we will find ourselves in a position of dependence on products and prices outside our country and control; self-sufficiency helps our local economy, provides fresher and more nutritious food and makes us less vulnerable to supply problems.

In Sudbury, action arising out of the hearing include the investigation of the food at a local nursing home and the creation of a food committee by the group, Women Helping Women.

The London Group is following up the hearings with a number of "food fairs" that will include displays of local produce, methods of preserving, natural food cooking, and tips on finding your way through a modern supermarket. A main theme of this effort will be direct buying from local producers.

CX 1055      The Tomato Papers. Ontario Public Interest Research Group (OPIRG),  
121 Avenue Rd., Toronto M5R 2G3. Cost per copy - \$2.00, Bulk orders  
(over 10 copies) - \$1.50.



The Tomato Papers is OPIRG's newest publication on the food industry. Tomatoes are the largest crop, in terms of monetary value produced by the Ontario fruit and vegetable industry. Ontario produces almost all of the tomatoes grown and consumed in Canada.

As such, the tomato industry is a fitting case study of what is really happening to the fruit and vegetable industry in general. Symptomatic of an industry in decline, The Tomato Papers tells us that Ontario is no longer producing enough to meet its needs. Instead, we are increasingly dependent on imported tomatoes from the U.S. and the Third World. The necessity of this is questioned in the OPIRG study.

The Tomato Papers is actually a series of studies focusing on four aspects of the industry - producing, processing, marketing (retailing), and a special section on food quality. It includes material on the growth of large corporate farms; the purchase of independent processors by the large companies like Heinz, Libby and Del Monte to reduce their competition; the history of the treatment of independent farmers by these same large companies and the declining quality of food nutrition in processed products while the companies spend their research funds for improved marketing techniques.

This publication provides an in-depth picture of the food industry for individuals with some prior knowledge of food issues and will be of particular interest to farmers, food workers, consumer and church groups.



CX 1056 Wanted: A Roof for Canada's Poor. Presented by the National Anti-Poverty Organization to the Minister responsible for Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, the Hon. Elmer McKay, 196 Bronson Ave, Suite 300, Ottawa, Ont. K1R 6N4. 21 pp. October 16, 1979, write for details.

This brief describes the 6 year history of an attempt by the National Anti-Poverty Organization (NAP0) to develop a role in housing for the poor.

NAP0 originally was a federation of organizations of the poor (tenants, pensioners, welfare recipients, the unemployed and working poor). Now it accepts individual memberships and has nearly 12,000 on its roll, including both regular members (the poor) and associate members (working to eliminate poverty). The change happened because local organizations couldn't survive withdrawal of government funding.

NAP0 believes CMHC should be a major place for the poor to look to for solutions. However, it is hardly known by the poor because generally CMHC programs by-pass the poor.

In 1973 NAP0 applied for funds to study housing for the poor and to develop a role in housing. Two years later CMHC said there was no need. NAP0 tried again in 1976 without result. In March, 1977 NAP0 presented a proposal for a Newfoundland pilot project and further research and development in housing. The Minister replied very positively and discussions took place with officials. What followed were three years of seeking the actual funds - without any results. CMHC was not willing to grant funds to any non-native national group, nor did any local or regional group have the skills or time to carry through a project. Every attempt to resolve the impasse and to turn NAP0's history of commitment to the poor to creative use was frustrated and remains so. Some smaller housing-related efforts have met with some limited success however. The brief asks the Minister to review CMHC policies to benefit the 20% of Canadians who live in poverty.

CX 1057 Association Coopérative d'Economie Familiale (ACEF) de Montréal, 1212 rue Panet, Montréal H2L 2Y7, tél.: 526-0823. 5 numéros par année. Gratuit. Abonnement de soutien \$5./année. 8 à 12 pages.

L'ACEF est une organisation populaire membre de la Fédération des ACEF. Son champ d'intervention: la consommation, mais plus spécifiquement l'endettement et les principales causes et les facteurs qui le favorisent. Dans son journal, l'ACEF de Montréal présente différents dossiers d'intérêt général: le chômage, les services publics, les seuils de pauvreté, la loi de la protection du consommateur, les taux de crédit abusif, vente pyramidale - et met de l'avant les revendications du mouvement face aux lois qui touchent les consommateurs.

On y trouve aussi des articles d'information générale sur les droits des consommateurs, les services offerts à l'ACEF, de l'information sur les autres régions ACEF (il y a 10 régions couvertes par les ACEFs du Québec) et des dossiers sur les luttes ouvrières et populaires. S'EN SORTIR fait donc le point sur la situation économique des travailleurs et les informe des moyens qui peuvent les aider à S'En Sortir.



CX 1058 L'endettement: un problème grave pour de nombreuses familles de notre région.  
L'Association Coopérative d'Economie Familiale (ACEF) de Ste-Thérèse, 30A  
Turgeon, Ste-Thérèse, tél.: 430-2228, 24 pages. Octobre, 1979.

L'endettement touche de plus de familles québécoises et canadiennes. Les mouvement des ACEFs constate une fois de plus qu'il y a illusion d'abondance du monde qui nous entoure cache une réalité de plus en plus sérieuse d'endettement des familles. Dans ce document, l'ACEF de Ste-Thérèse (Banlieu de Montréal) nous présente le résultat d'une enquête effectuée auprès des familles de travailleurs venus utiliser leur service de consultation budgétaire. L'ouverture et le développement du crédit à la consommation est évidemment en grande partie responsable de cet endettement. De 1972 à 1978, la moyenne d'endettement des individus au Canada a progressé de 116%, soit de \$678, par individu en 1972 à \$1465. en 1978. Le document nous présente le portrait-type de la famille endettée et analyse la nature et le pourquoi des dettes. Cette analyse nous révèle, entre autres, que la cause principale de l'endettement des familles de travailleurs est l'insuffisance de revenus, accentuée par les nombreux imprévus liés à la crise économique actuelle: chômage, fermeture d'usine, hausse des prix etc. L'insuffisance de revenus oblige donc les travailleurs à compenser leur manque à gagner en utilisant le crédit.

CX 1059 Press Release, United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America,  
10 Codeco Court, Don Mill, Ont. M3A 1A2, 2 pp. Sept 17, 1979.

The 20,000 member United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers Union has called on Prime Minister Joe Clark and his government to place an immediate moratorium on further increases in the price of domestic oil and gas and on the sale of PetroCan to the private sector.

In a letter to the Prime Minister from the union's president, C. S. Jackson, the labour organization also calls on the government to establish a full public inquiry, with wide powers to call witnesses and secure all relevant statistical information from the oil industry. This would be considered the first step to the development of a national energy policy that would meet Canada's needs and interests.

The union sees the terms of reference for such a public inquiry including:

- . The pricing policies and profit position of the oil and gas industry.
- . The viability of a two-price system for Canadian oil and gas.
- . The availability and extent of present and future oil and gas supplies in Canada
- . Exploration and development.
- . Transmission facilities to Eastern Canada.
- . The question of whether Canadian interests and needs would be better served by bringing the petroleum industry under public ownership and control.



The union also feels that such an inquiry should be held with wide public involvement, including representation from labour, consumer, farmer, and other people-oriented groups.

## Petrocan't



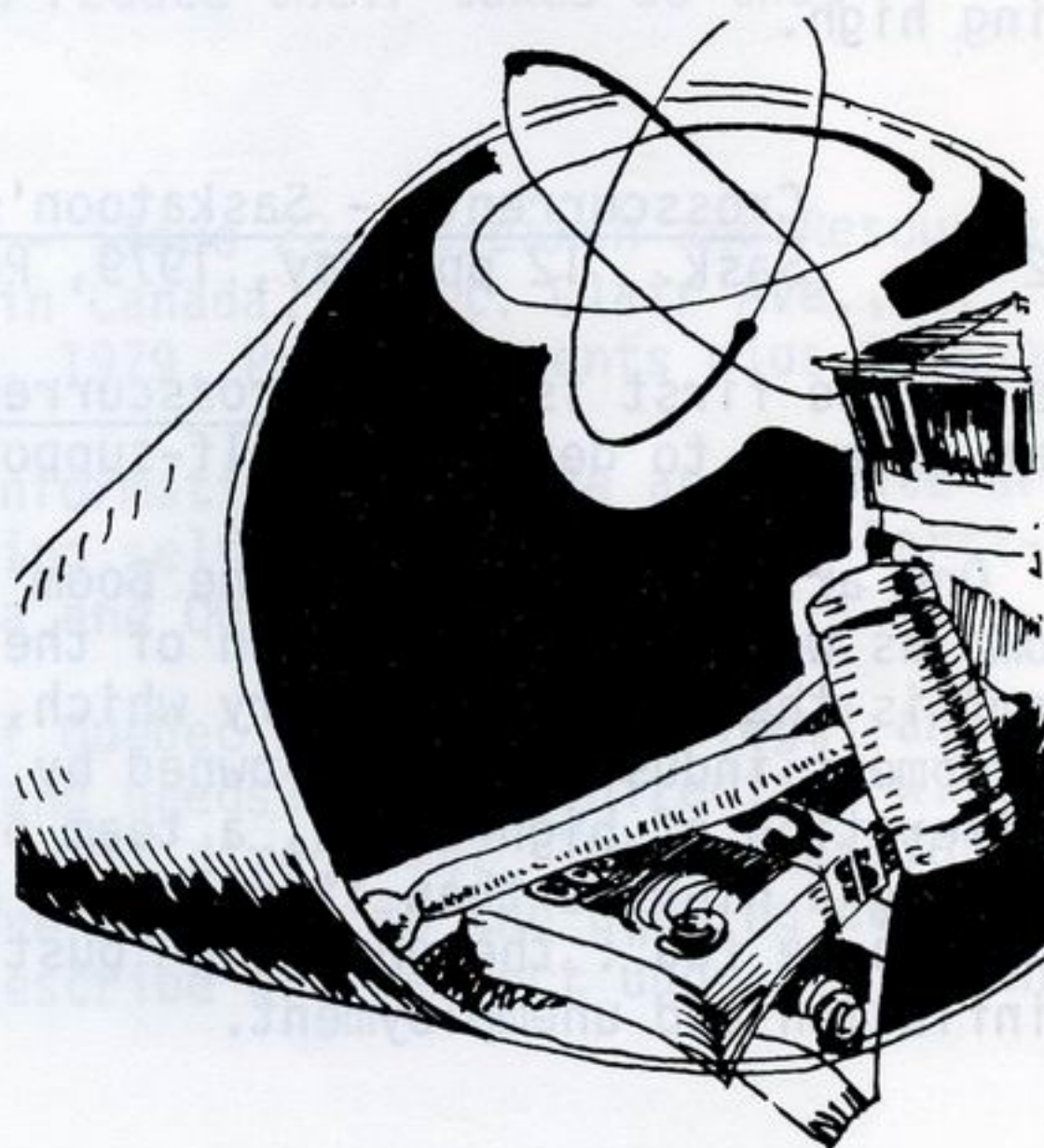
OCCFE Newsletter/6

CX 1060 Nukenomics - The Political Economy of the Nuclear Industry, Bill Harding  
Regina Group for a Non-Nuclear Society, 2138 McIntyre St., Regina, Sask.  
36 pp., 1979, \$2.00 \*25 cents postage/handling.

Bill Harding's second book on Nuclear Energy (see CX 995) is an attempt to answer the question - Why nuclear power at all? The answer lies, according to Harding, in the relationship of the energy industry with political powers and multinational corporations.

Highlighting the history of the energy industry, and how energy policy is determined, the author draws particular attention to the power of the oil companies. The major oil companies in the U.S.A. now control more than oil. They are able to determine energy policy because they are virtually in control of all energy sources. They are now developing solar energy, and are able to reap monopolistic profits because they control the nuclear energy industry through ownership of uranium. This state of affairs has come about without resistance from political powers.

Nuclear power, despite its spiralling costs, and despite the fact that it provides very few jobs in relation to its capital expense, continues because of the vested interests of those who control it. "Why nuclear power at all?" Harding suggests that it is because of an attempt to harness what was initially a destructive energy, atom bombs, for peace for use - an attempt that he says has ultimately failed.





CX  
1061 "Fusion . . . A Bridge to Nowhere?", James Bradburne, The Energy File, 105 -  
2511 E. Hastings, Vancouver, 3 pp, October, 1979, 75 cents per issue.

This article, one among several on nuclear energy in the October issue of The Energy File, questions the growing assumption that nuclear fusion is the "safe" energy path to the future at a time when British Columbia is being seriously considered as the site of the world's first operating fusion reactor.

Especially because fusion produces no long lived radioactive isotopes except tritium, which is recycled as fuel and the worst malfunction would mean not meltdown (as in fission) but in the dissipation of intense heat, some consider it "safe".

The article's focus is on the source of the "safe" theory. It arrives at this focus by first noting that it will be at least ten years before the world has its first test fusion reactor and that the dollar investment per job generated does not look good.

The author accepts that there are two alternative future energy distribution systems: electrical or solar, the one highly centralized, the other largely decentralized. And the electrical future is being favoured because the oil companies own the coal and uranium bridge fuels needed to develop this alternative further; hydro utilities see the financial gain; and governments are bending to the enormous oil and hydro lobbies.

The article ends tongue in cheek, wondering whether the electrical option is better, when it implies centralized, technologically fragile energy system that has historically not laboured to keep rates down, unemployment low, and the standard of living high.

CX  
1062 Crosscurrents - Saskatoon's Community Exchange, Sub P. O. 11, Saskatoon,  
Sask. 12 pp. May, 1979, Price \$10 for 12 issues/1 year.

This is the first issue of Crosscurrents in tabloid form; it marks the beginning of an attempt to develop a self-supporting community newspaper in Saskatoon.

One article, "Lowering the Boom", presents an analysis of the present Saskatoon "boom" as well as a discussion of the effects of a possible "bust". The source of the "boom" is the uranium industry which, like the high-volume industries and urban development industries, are owned by out-of-province interests. In response to the proliferation of high-rises, a team of accountants stated that "it costs a city more servicing a hi-rise than it receives back in taxes". "Once a boom structure is set up it has to be fed": the oncoming "bust" can only mean community breakdown, more police, in inflation and unemployment.





Other articles in this issue deal with the nuclear issue, labour as it is portrayed in the media and the Gay Community Centre of Saskatoon.

CX  
1063      Taxes for Peace, Not War, The Peace Tax Committee, 1831 Fern St., Victoria  
B. C. V8R 4K4 Write for details.

The proposed World Peace Tax Fund is designed to make provisions for the allocation of federal taxes for peaceful purposes. The taxpayer could check an item on his or her tax return to indicate that he or she is a conscientious objector, and the tax authorities would divert the percentage of the tax which would otherwise be spent on "defense" to the World Peace Tax Fund. The Fund would be managed by a board of individuals whose commitment to peace is unquestioned; the board would allocate funds to organizations working on peace research and peace activities.

Several letters have been sent to the new Ministers of Revenue Canada, National Defence and to the leaders of the opposition parties requesting that a Peace Tax Fund be established in Canada. The letter supports many existing government programs but rejects use of tax funds for programs such as promotion of the sale of Canadian-made arms to Third World Countries.

In addition to writing similar letters, the committee suggests another way to express support for peace and opposition to war - the full use of the Charitable Donation deductions item of the Income Tax Return. Donations for peace work not only enable the organizations concerned to work more effectively but also reduce taxable income, and therefore tax. Donors could write letters to the minister of National Revenue when they file their returns, to tell him that they are donating to peace organizations to assist their work and to reduce their taxes so that less would be provided for war purposes.

CX  
1064      Canada/Quebec - Where the Roadmap Ends - Issue 22, Research and Resource  
in Social Issues, Division of Mission in Canada, 85 St. Clair Ave., E.,  
Toronto, Ont. M4T 1M8, 12 pp. October, 1979, Price 10 cents plus postage.

This latest issue was written as a resource for information, dialogue and debate around the Quebec issue. It deals with Quebec's developing self-consciousness, the Parti-Quebecois and the options available to both Canada and Quebec.

Two questions facing the developing nation of Quebec are: 1) what legal and institutional form best represents Quebec's spirit and needs? 2) what direction will the nation and its government take and what interests will direct it? These questions are acute in view of the approaching referendum and are relevant to the growing debate about constitutional arrangements. The authors describe and reflect upon six potential





constitutional arrangements which vary between independence and the present federal arrangement. A "yes" vote in the referendum will force both Quebec and Canada to decide whether sovereignty-association is actually negotiable. If the vote is "no", what strategies would the P. Q. be forced to adopt?

### / WHERE THE ROADMAP ENDS

This document makes it clear that the P. Q. election victory was attributable to more than just the sovereignty-association issue. In 1969 80% of the province's industry was controlled by non-Quebecois concerns. Two effects of this situation were the dominant use of English in business and the generally lower socio-economic level of the Quebecois. Many elements of the working and middle classes felt the P. Q. option gave them an opportunity to "get Clout" (with respect to their interests) and "make Canada hear." Although the unions have given 'tactical' support to the P. Q. they feel the government has shown a non-response to the worker. They are ambivalent about sovereignty-association, fearing it may concentrate U. S. control. Some elements feel the struggle of the working class to achieve an independent socialist Quebec is the real issue.



The issue sheet concludes by asking both English and French Quebecers to respond to the situation in a spirit of openness and justice.

## L A B O U R / T R A V A I L

CX  
1065      Labour's Side - Newsletter # 7, Nova Scotia Labour Research and Support  
Centre, Box 3368, Halifax South Postal Station, Halifax, N. S. 8 pp.  
Nov. 1, 1979, Write for Details.



Labour struggles in the Maritimes are occurring among fishermen, cleaners and rubber workers. This newsletter reports that the Canadian Union of Public Employees local 1392 at Dalhousie University is still battling to prevent Modern Building Cleaners from replacing the University as the real employer of local 1392. The labour people attempting to form a United Rubber Worker's local in the Michelin Tire plant in Granton, Nova Scotia still face the anti-labour Michelin Bill supported by the Nova Scotia government. The Michelin Bill would block the move by the Rubber Worker's to be certified as local 1028.



New Brunswick was the scene of some labour conflict in September. The Maritime Fishermen's Union (MFU) protested the action of the Atlantic Herring Management Advisory Committee (AHMAC). AHMAC decided to open the herring season in September; they decided to increase the fish quotas, and to allow large seiners to use 25 fathom seines. The net result of these decisions is that the herring stock would be radically depleted, and this constitutes a threat to the livelihood of the members of MFU. Members of the MFU attempted to prevent the trawlers from unloading their herring catch. During one protest, the R.C.M.P. were called in, dispersing the crowd with tear gas. Yet, despite this opposition, the MFU has gained some concessions: the trawlers were allowed 25 fathom seines, but a MFU union representative would be present on each seiner to monitor the catch, and once they see that 35% of the catch is spawn fish, the fishing will stop. The MFU has also gained a seat on a committee to set new regulations for the 1980 fishing season.

CX  
1066 Appauvrir les travailleurs - Pour quoi? - Pourquoi? (analyse de la conjoncture économique) Texte issu du travail des économistes de la Confédération des Syndicats Nationaux (CSN), de la Centrale des Enseignants du Québec (CEQ) et de la Fédération des travailleurs du Québec (FTQ) en vue d'une prise de position du Front Commun intersyndical sur la conjoncture économique. On peut se procurer le texte à la CSN, 1001 rue St-Denis, Montréal. 65 pages. Janvier, 1979.

Sept thèmes sont touchés dans cette étude syndicale: 1. les méfaits de l'inflation et la fausse lutte contre l'inflation; 2. le chantage odieux pratiqué par les patrons contre les travailleurs à l'aide du chômage; 3. la réaction concertée des patrons et des gouvernements à la crise, qui débouche sur la réduction des dépenses publiques servant à répondre aux besoins populaires; 4. l'offensive actuelle contre les employés de l'état; 5. la technique de gâstion sociale qui cherche à obtenir des travailleurs leur appauvrissement volontaire; 6. l'augmentation massive des profits comme facteur supplémentaire d'aggravation de la situation; 7. les véritables causes de la crise.

Face à cette situation de crise, le texte présente la nécessité pour les travailleurs de s'organiser et de résister à l'action concertée des gouvernements et patrons qui veulent leur faire assumer seuls les effets de la crise. Ce texte a été présenté dans le cadre des négociations des 350,000 travailleurs des secteurs public et para-public afin que ces derniers imposent à l'Etat leurs revendications pour l'amélioration de leurs conditions de travail et de vie.

CX  
1067 Making a Living - Ten Days for World Development 1980. Leaders' Study/Action Guide to the Work Issue. Ten Days for World Development, Room 219, 600 Jarvis St. Toronto, Ont. M4Y 2J6. 64 pp. Fall, 1979. Write for details.



Ten Days for World Development 1980 will focus on Making a Living - the right of every human being to work. Designed to initiate discussion and organization at the community level, the Leaders' Study/Action guide offers articles to assist groups in analyzing numerous aspects of



this multi-faceted issue. Economic, political, physical and spiritual concerns are examined to help relate personal experience with international reality.

An article by Virginia Smith links the flight of transnational capital from Canada and rising unemployment in Canada and other developed nations to increasing foreign industrialization in the Third World, where low taxes, cheap labour and weak unions are often the norm. The recent INCO strike and world nickel situation are cited as a case in point. Smith argues strongly for international consciousness and solidarity among workers; ultimately they are the only people who can counter the moves of transnational capital - a point reinforced throughout the publication. Numerous articles stated clearly that the only real hope for change must come from the poor. Any picture of reality presented by those who are powerful in society will enslave rather than liberate humankind.

Other articles analyze aspects of the employment crisis in the Third World, calling for labour-intensive production with increased decentralization. Goods produced ought to be those most needed in the local community, rather than ones geared to profit.

CX                      Ottawa Coalition for Full Employment (OCFFE), P. O. Box 4667, Station E,  
1068                      Ottawa    K1S 5B2    8 pp. Sept, 1979. Write for details.

The Ottawa Coalition for Full Employment (OCFFE), now two years old, believes that all Canadians who desire a job should have one: a full time job at a decent rate of pay. Every Canadian who

wants to work is not working. The OCFFE, a coalition of volunteers from local trade unions, community groups, student organizations and other backgrounds, is engaged in various activities aimed to make full employment possible.

The Coalition publishes a newsletter, sponsors seminars and forums, and submits briefs to the federal government; it has produced a cable television programme and has held benefits to raise funds.

Working for full employment means dealing with unemployment insurance (UI) and the UI Commission (UIC). The September newsletter centres primarily on this aspect of unemployment. Two articles discuss the UIC and how an individual or a group may deal with it. What should you do if the Commission terminates your benefits? This question arises from a "former UI Claimant". The appeal procedure is outlined in some detail. The appeal must be made "according to Hoyle", and suggestions are offered for





preparing the appeal. The second issue arises out of some 5000 people in Halifax being informed by UIC that they have been overpaid and that now they must make repayment. The actions of the Halifax Coalition for Full Employment in appealing the repayment demand are described. So far the appeal has been rejected, but the Halifax coalition is determined to continue the appeal.

CX            Les licenciements: .les éviter    éles réglementer    .les compenser.  
1069        Institut de Recherche Appliquée sur le Travail (IRAT), par Lise Poulin-Simon et Zaida Nunez, 3290, rue Lacombe, C.P. 6128, Montréal. Bulletin no. 13. Prix: \$1.25. 96 pages. Février 1979.

Dans la situation économique actuelle, la meilleure sécurité du revenu est évidemment un emploi convenable et surtout un emploi stable. Depuis plusieurs années, les syndicats réclament des gouvernements une politique de plein emploi. Comment protéger les emplois et en garantir de nouveaux? "La protection et la création d'emplois doivent être le fondement d'une politique de sécurité du revenu et toute autre mesure ne peut être que complémentaire". Pour le groupe de travail qui présente ce cahier, limiter les licenciements, c'est protéger les emplois. "Cette étude dont le thème central est le licenciement se veut un instrument de réflexion et d'action destiné à ceux qui peuvent influencer l'évolution des mesures collectives et sociales de sécurité d'emploi et de revenu". Ils examinent donc, à travers trois grands chapitres les dispositions de conventions collectives et les mesures légales pouvant servir cet objectif. \*Peut-on éviter le licenciement? \*peut-on réglementer le licenciement quand il est inévitable? \*Peut-on compenser les travailleurs licenciés?

Les mesures examinées sont quelquefois inscrites dans des conventions collectives canadiennes, américaines ou européennes. Il en est de même pour les mesures législatives.

CX            Nous, les travailleurs immigrants. Union des Travailleurs Immigrants du  
1070        Québec (UTIQ), 3749 rue Jeanne-Mance, Montréal H2X 2K4, tél.: 845-4285.  
26 pages. Prix: \$0.75. 1979.

La loi C-24 a placé les immigrants dans une situation assez précaire. Partout, dans nos syndicats et organisations populaires, nous sommes arrêtés sur les conditions économiques et sociales vécues par ces travailleurs. La brochure publiée par l'UTIQ vise à sensibiliser les travailleurs aux problèmes fondamentaux vécus par les immigrants en particulier dans le monde du travail, et à favoriser une solidarité effective entre travailleurs autochtones et immigrés dans des pratiques concrètes: lutte contre le chômage, la discrimination dans l'emploi, lutte pour les droits de femmes etc.

Le document se veut à la fois un manifeste de l'UTIQ et une présentation des divers appuis d'organisations populaires et ouvrières aux travailleurs immigrés: centrales syndicales, groupes populaires, associations d'immigrants etc. Le document se termine par une analyse de la loi C-24 (loi fédérale sur l'immigration) et ses conséquences pour les travailleurs immigrés.



CX      Nexus, Multicultural Network, 246 Bloor St. W., Toronto, Ont. 6 pp.  
1071      October, 1979. Write for details.

In this issue of Nexus, the Multicultural Workers Network outlines the purposes of the publication. The chief purpose is to provide a much needed link between social workers and the ethnic community. Another interest is to provide information about services that are available in the community. One of the issues raised in Nexus is the importance of cultural orientation and education for those working in ethnic communities. Another issue: How can we improve the experience and status of ethnic workers in predominantly Anglo-Saxon agencies?

One article in Nexus presents a profile of the Native Canadian Centre in Toronto. It explains that with the increase of native people coming to Toronto more services and programs should be available to meet their needs. The native Canadian centre (located at 10, 14, and 16 Spadina Ave, Toronto) presently offers services in the following areas: counselling and referral, manpower counselling, recreation, education and other cultural programs.

## HUMAN RIGHTS / LES DROITS HUMAINS

CX      Law Union News. The Law Union, Box 67, Station H, Toronto, Ontario  
1072      12 pp. June 79, Write for details.

Two articles written by Paul Copeland highlight this issue. The first article, "Federal Human Rights Act Protects the Government" deals with part IV of the human rights act - "Protection of Personal Information". At the time of its legislation in March 1978 a listing of federal information banks was prepared; application forms to request access to individual federal information banks can be obtained at post offices. When the Act

was passed Federal Minister Robert Andras said: "The act establishes for the first time a procedure to obtain access to and have some control over personal information records held about individuals by the Federal Government Institutions." The Author, Copeland, claims that any efforts he has made to retrieve information, including that pertaining to himself, have been in vain. He states that so far the protection of personal information legislation only protects the government from giving out information that it sees fit to accumulate.

**Got a secret,  
like a tax-return,  
a social insurance no.,  
or a health problem?**

**RELAX!**



**We'll keep  
it under  
our hat.**

**PULL IN THE REINS ON  
THE R.C.M.P.**

Copeland's other article, "Disruption Mandate" poses the question - Do democratic rights exist in Canada? This article discusses investigations carried out by the R.C.M.P. security services on the



activities of various groups. The author cites several examples of security service surveillance of groups, for example: the "En Lutte" group in Quebec and a group of Vietnamese Canadians who demonstrated in Ottawa in 1979 against the Chinese invasion of Vietnam. The author states: "A truly democratic country must guarantee the right to dissent and engage in any activity short of violence. The political process rightly includes much more than casting one's ballot - it involves the freedom to advocate ideas and organize people in support of such ideas without government intervention."

CX'            New Men/New Roles. Marjorie Beaucage in Quaker Concern, 60 Lowther Avenue,  
1073            Toronto M5R 1C7. 8 pp. Fall, 1979, Write for follow-up information.

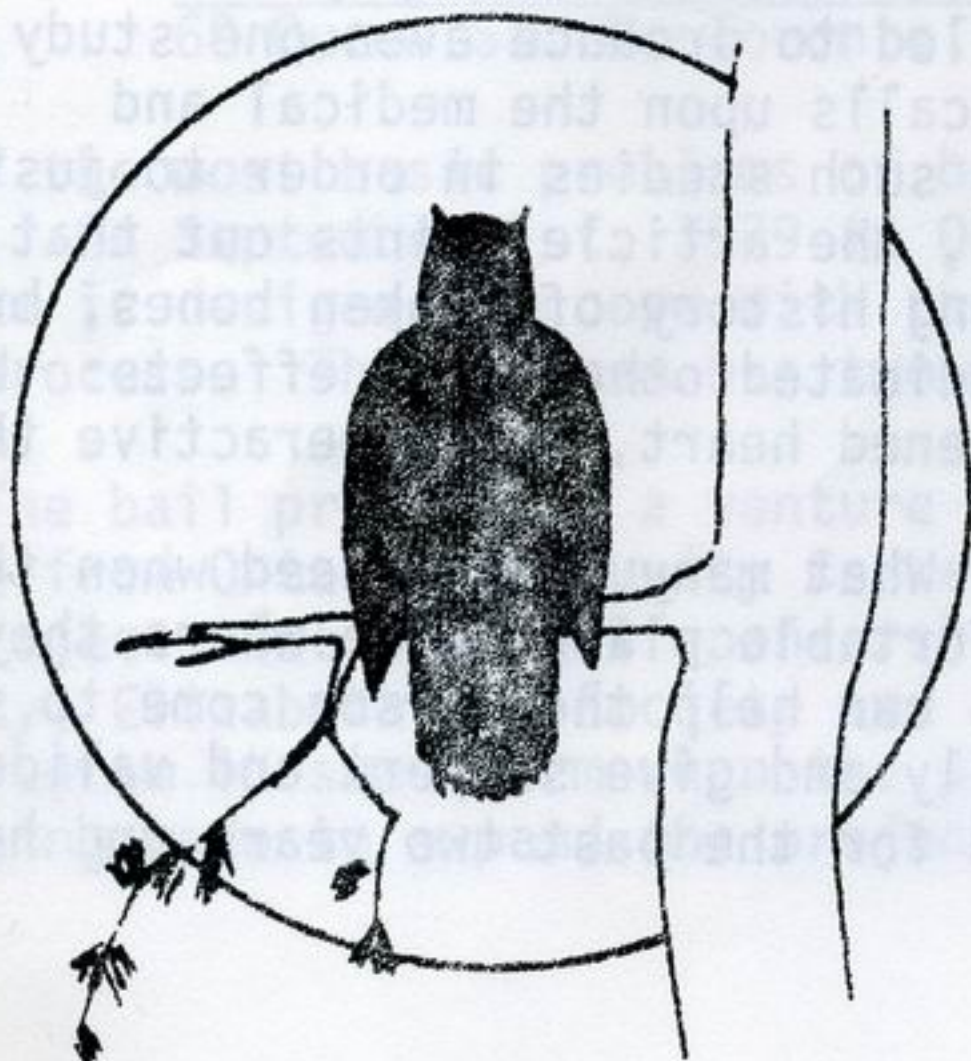
New Man/New Roles is the title of a book by Perry and Elizabeth Yoder; it was also the title of a conference held at the Mennonite Brethren Bible College in Winnipeg. According to the Yoders, the church has not yet realized that the personality traits of the men whom our North American society considers successful are in contrast with the life and teachings of Jesus.

Bryan Teixeira pointed out that intelligent and flexible loving, characterized by the courage to be beyond male and female, is possible when the "Almighty Roles" and other idols of success and power are set aside.

Conference participants spent time in small groups personalizing and sharing their experiences around leadership, peace, sexuality, and success. It became clear as the conference progressed that no amount of human liberation can come about without changing the system of patriarchy which dominates by means of unequal opportunities, rewards, punishments, and the internalization of sex roles.

George Lakey encouraged a community context to develop multi-dimensional relationships and to learn to accept all the love that is available for us. He also reminded the participants that men's liberation is a systemic and not just a personal issue: a reminder that makes the road to change more possible and less destructive of persons.

CX            Quaker Committee for Native Concerns Newsletter, 60 Lowther Avenue,  
1074            Toronto, Ontario M5R 1C7, 8 pp. Autumn, 1979. Free on request.



The articles in this newsletter look at native concerns in Akwesasne, Calgary, and Hamilton. Also included is a report on a petition to Queen Elizabeth by a group of Canadian Indian leaders. The petition concerns the possible patriation of the Canadian Constitution and the desire for Indians to be involved in the process through which the patriation will occur.

The project "Calgary Indian Street Workers project" has existed in Calgary for a year. The object of it is the establishment of an Indian centre that provides many different services to the native people. The centre is



a place where problems encountered by Indians can be dealt with in a co-ordinated and comprehensive manner. This work resulted in something the organizers call Advocacy, which is a means through which individual appeals can be made directly to Indian Affairs and other social institutions. Another service is the Mayor's committee on Urban Indian problems, through which recommendations about native life in the city can be made directly to the city council of Calgary. A women's group has served to motivate some to establish a native women's shelter in Calgary.

CX  
1075      In a Nutshell, Newsletter of the Mental Patients Association, 2146 Yew Street, Vancouver, B. C. 16 pp. Sept., 1979. Write for details.



This issue of the Newsletter of the Mental Patients Association (MPA) focuses on Electro-Convulsive Therapy (ECT), and the work of its Committee to investigate shock treatment. One article in the newsletter describes in detail what is entailed in shock treatment. The following elements of ECT are investigated: fasting, tranquilizers or sedatives, graphite jelly to the temples, intravenously injected anesthetic, muscle relaxant, paralysis, 70-170 volt shock (often repeated from 5 to 15 times), convulsions.

Another article raises questions about the effectiveness and safety of ECT. The MPA Committee to Investigate Shock Treatment has failed to produce even one study which scientifically proves the effectiveness of ECT, and calls upon the medical and psychiatric profession in B. C. to come forward with such studies in order to justify the widespread use of this treatment. As for safety, the article points out that before the advent of a muscle relaxing drug, there was a long history of broken bones, broken teeth, and spinal injuries. Several studies have indicated other side effects: brain damage, memory loss, impaired learning ability, weakened heart, and hyperactive thyroid.

A third article points to alternatives to ECT. What many people need when they are very depressed or upset seems to be a safe, comfortable place to be where they will be physically cared for, and contact with people who can help the person come to some understanding of what is happening to them emotionally and give support and validation. The Vancouver Emotional Emergency Centre has existed for the past two years and has provided just such an environment.



The newsletter also contains a book review of Blue Jolts: True Stories from the Cuckoo's Nest compiled by Charles Stein and published by New Republic Books. Poetry and other articles relevant to the struggle of mental patients are also included in the newsletter.

CX                Quarterly Journal (Vol. 1, No. 3), John Howard Society of Quebec, 515-  
1076            517 Pine Ave. W., Montreal, Quebec H2W 1S4 (Tel: (514)842-3451.  
10 pp. Price \$3.00/year, \$1.50/students.

The Quarterly Journal is a publication of Canada's oldest prisoners' aid and penal reform society. The two main objectives of the agency are: 1) advocacy of prison reform and safeguard of prisoners' rights and, 2) the re-integration of ex-offender into the community. In recent times the Society has become involved in attempting to educate the public to issues of criminal justice and the correctional system as well as promoting change within these systems and community involvement in corrections.



The lead article in this issue provides an overview of harsh community attitudes towards offenders. It points out that very little rehabilitation is attempted in prisons and that rehabilitation cannot be said to have failed when it hasn't even been tried. The author, Josh Zambrowsky, who is president of the Society, points out that there are at least as many people employed by Correctional Services (10,000) as are actually in prison and that very few of these employees have any significant direct contact with prisoners. Most employees are middle management civil servants. In one typical prison of five hundred only three personnel were actually engaged in rehabilitation work. Yet real attempts at rehabilitation show signs of success. An example is the project co-sponsored by McGill and New York State. It offered a therapeutic environment for a "violent and dangerous" group of prisoners. They were provided with a value system geared towards developing insight into their aberrant behaviour. According to the author, this project demonstrated, over five years, that security is not necessary once self-expression is possible.

CX                Old City Hall Bail Project, c/o Ruth Morris, Room 303, Old City Hall,  
1077            60 Queen St. W. Toronto, Ontario. Write for details.

One of the most basic problems of bail is that those with money get out, those without don't. On September 1st, 1979 in Old City Hall in Toronto, a new program began. The program is designed to cope with the financial side of bail and other problems in the bail process. The program has two parts: bail Verification and bail Supervision.

The bail program is a venture in inter-agency co-operation, with joint funding coming from Ontario Community Corrections and the federal Solicitor General's Office. The project also has full sponsorship of three community agencies: the John Howard Society, Elizabeth Fry Society and the Salvation Army. These groups want to continue the program in some form when the pilot project period ends in April, 1980. Plans are being made to expand the project to cover all major bail courts in the Toronto area.



Bail verification means interviewing accused persons as soon as possible after they are arrested regarding the things relevant to bail: stable address, family and community ties, job record, jail record and the nature of charges. Bail supervision substitutes a competent experienced supervisor for bail money. The supervisor tries to ensure the interests of both the accused and the community are met. At present eighty-five persons are on bail supervision.

CX  
1078      Halfway Home Proposed for the Institutionalized, Ruth Morris, Toronto Justice Council, 198 Grandravine Dr. Downsview, Ontario, November, 1979. Write for details.

Members of the Toronto Justice Council are planning a meeting with people from rehabilitation and from Ontario Community Corrections to discuss the possibility of a new kind of halfway home. The home will deal with the chronic minor offenders who are heavily institutionalized. These people take up an inordinate amount of jail space, court time, and every agency's time, and no one seems to want them.

In the belief that we, as human beings are called to respond to the most hopeless, the Justice Council is inviting people to share ideas. The people invited are those with insights from positive peer culture, lifeskills, and existing halfway homes. The kind of problem that must be considered is the person who comes out of a 20 hour-a-day-lock up at a place like Millbrook. In some instances this person may have no idea how to shop for a loaf of bread; yet they are sometimes on the street with scarcely a T.T.C. token, or any idea of how to use it if they had one. They are a threat to themselves and the community in this situation. The Justice Council asks, "Have we no better answer than another round of jails, courts, and prisons for them?" The Council encourages those with some ideas, or those who can offer help to contact the Council at the above address.

## COMMUNITY / COMMUNAUTE

CX  
1079      Les actualités télévisées: le monde recréé au service du pouvoir. (document présenté dans le cadre d'un colloque sur le même thème en octobre '79). Le Front Commun des Communications de l'Institut Canadien D'Education des Adults (ECEA), 506 est rue Ste-Catherine, suite 800, Montréal H2L 2C7. Tél.: 842-2766, 57 pages. Juillet 1979.

Le Front Commun des Communications, groupe de travail au sein de l'ICEA regroupe des organismes populaires et syndicaux de même que des travailleurs en communication.

La recherche qui fait l'objet de ce dossier consiste en une autopsie rigoureuse du journal télévisé. Elle veut fournir un portrait des sujets et acteurs favorisés



par les "nouvelles" télévisées. Les médias électroniques et surtout la télévision sont devenus des instruments de conditionnement de masse pour faire de nous de bons consommateurs et des citoyens dociles.

Le groupe de travail s'est limité à l'étude d'un des aspects de notre conditionnement: l'analyse du téléjournal. Comment l'information nous est-elle présentée? Comment y traite-t-on les interventions des mouvements qui contestent le système établi (Syndicats, organisations populaires)? Quels sont les sujets favorisés? Qui sont les experts? Quelle est la place occupée par la femme? Plusieurs tableaux illustrent le rôle et les objectifs du téléjournal et les moyens utilisés pour déformer l'opinion de l'auditeur. Par exemple: pourquoi aborde-t-on le travail syndical uniquement dans la perspective d'un conflit à venir, d'un conflit en cours, d'un conflit réglé? Plusieurs organisations syndicales et populaires ont été amenées à réfléchir à la question lors d'un colloque tenu en octobre dernier à Montréal. Plusieurs documents suivront ce colloque.

CX            Centre Populaire de Documentation, 1212 rue Panet, Montréal H2L 2Y7.  
1080        tél.: 525-1594.

Le Centre Populaire de Documentation est étroitement lié à la démarche et aux objectifs des organisations populaires et ouvrières du Québec. Ce sont ces organisations qui déterminent la documentation du Centre. Le CPD est un centre de consultation mais il peut référer à des organismes qui interviennent dans le secteur de vos préoccupations ou vous mettre en contact avec des représentants de ces organismes. Le CPD publie régulièrement une liste de ses récentes acquisitions. Les thèmes autour desquels il concentre sa recherche d'information sont les suivants: groupes autochtones, condition des femmes, consommation, culture populaire, économie, éducation, énergie, entreprises, histoire des travailleurs, immigrants, logement, groupes populaires, politiques sociales, revenus, santé, travail etc.

Vous pouvez donc, à la fois y puiser l'information que vous cherchez et y transmettre l'information et la documentation susceptible d'intéresser les organisations populaires et ouvrières.

CX            Kumtuks Alternate Program for Native Indian Students, 1125 McLean Dr.,  
1081        Vancouver, B. C. V5L 3N5.

Kumtuks, the Chinook word for "to teach" or "to learn", is an alternate school for native Indian students. The program began in 1976 when native Indian home-school workers, concerned about the poor school performance of native Indians, made a proposal to the Vancouver School Board.

Like any school, Kumtuks provides regular classes, e.g. English, Mathematics, Science, Physical Education. This facilitates the integration of students into secondary programs when they are ready. Integration follows a four step progression: an elective, an elective plus a regular course, a half day, total integration. An on-going support team follows each student during integration.

Unique elements of the program are its emphasis on native Indian culture and urban skills development. The rationale here is to inform and improve the student's self-



concept. Indian cultural studies replace the usual social studies program each day and emphasize the tribes represented in the Kumtuks program. Students are exposed to organizations and individuals active in the Vancouver native Indian scene. They also practise native crafts, e.g. moccasin making, beadwork. Cultural comparisons through direct contact with specific ethnic bodies, e.g. East Indians, Chinese, also help the student to appreciate the multicultural nature of the city.

The two-room school is administered by Templeton Secondary School and has a ceiling of 20 students. Staff includes a child care worker for home-school liaison.



CX 1082 Cree Way, National Film Board of Canada, 1 Lombard St., Toronto, Ont. M5C 1J6, 16mm, col. 26 min. Write for details.

John Murdoch, principal of the Indian Affairs school at Rupert House, James Bay, and his wife Gerti have initiated a curriculum development project using local people and resources. The materials are drawn from Cree folklore, and mainly in Cree and make use of old photographs, artifacts and books that are written and printed in the community. The school year is organized so that pupils have time to go hunting and fishing with their families. This innovative approach makes local control of education a reality in native communities.

ATTENTION DEAR READERS: We apologize for the impression left by CX 1023, Broken Spirit in Volume IV,5. After some reflection and discussion, the collective realizes that what is said in the abstract and the book is an internal matter for Native Peoples, and as such beyond our expertise. We affirm our support of the Native Peoples' struggles to build a better life for themselves, and therefore sincerely regret any offense that has arisen due to this abstract.



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