

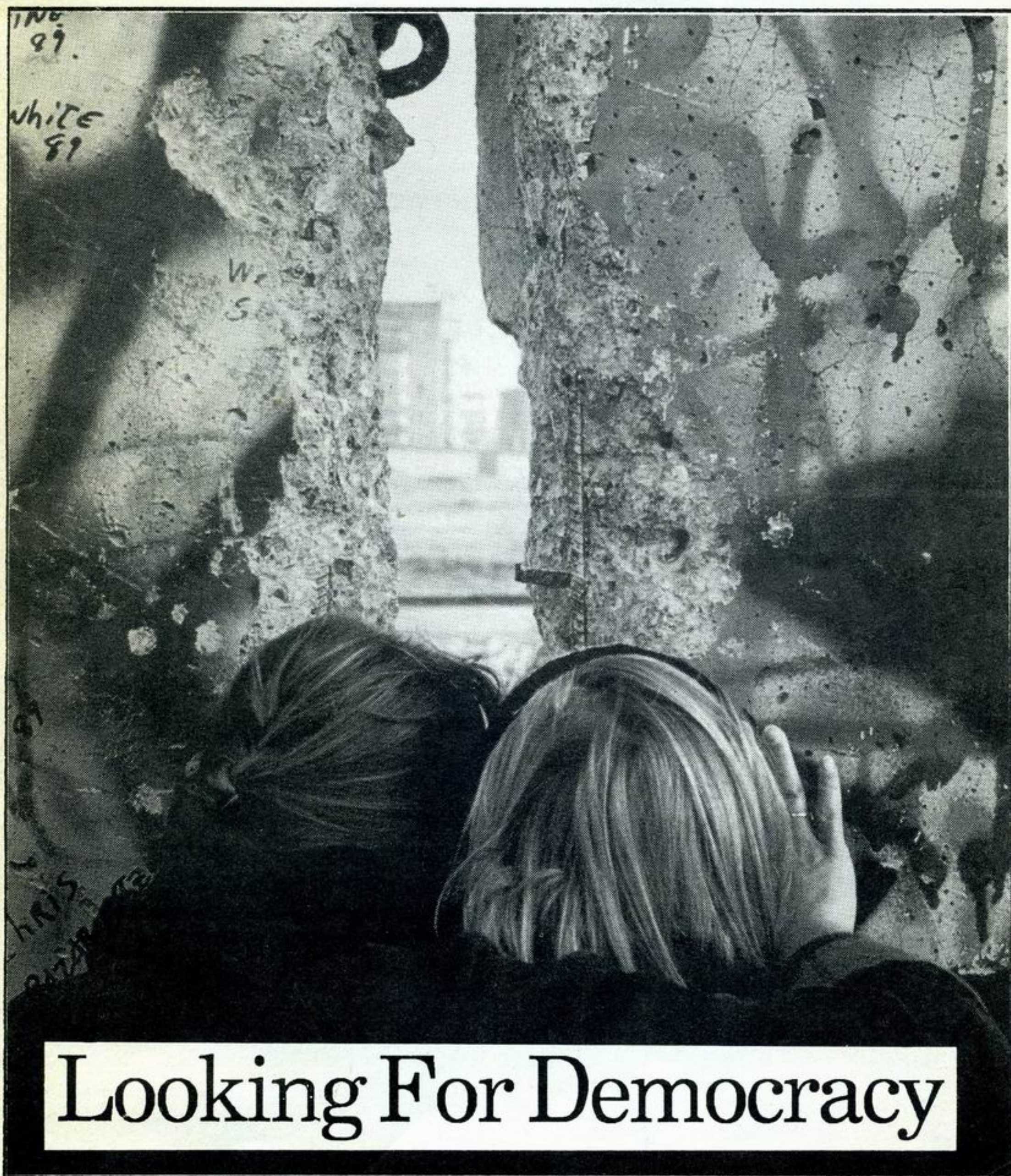
THE

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CONNECTIONS

A Social Change Sourcebook

DIGEST



Looking For Democracy



The Connexions Digest

A Social Change Sourcebook

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The Connexions Digest is published quarterly. Subscriptions are \$25 a year, and include The Connexions Annual. Second class mail registration No. 6666. ISSN 0845-874X.

The Connexions Digest is a collective endeavour. Thanks go to the hundreds of individuals and organizations across Canada who submit materials. Thanks also to the people whose work helped produce this issue: Ulli Diemer, Elizabeth Wall, Karl Amdur, Elaine Farragher, Ethel Mead, Lois Enns, Cynthia Dunham, Rosalie Smith.

What is Connexions?

Connexions is a non-profit organization providing information and services for activist, voluntary, and non-profit groups, and for all those seeking reliable and up-to-date information about issues of social concern.

Connexions works to build links between people who are striving to create positive solutions to critical social, environmental, economic, and international problems. Simultaneously, Connexions endeavours to make the ideas, goals, organizations, and publications of the movement for change and alternatives better known and more accessible to the general public.

The Connexions Digest

The Connexions Digest compiles, organizes and distributes information about projects, groups, publications, and useful resources. The Digest includes articles about how to work for change, a Network News section about events, projects, and activities across the country, a New Resources section with information about publications and other resources, the Activist's Bookshelf, and a variety of other useful information. Subscriptions are \$25 per year, and include The Connexions Annual.

What is included in the Digest?

Materials are selected for the Digest according to these criteria:

They are based on a grassroots social change perspective, or they contain information of direct value to people working for social change.

They relate to Canada, or to international issues of concern to Canadians. Most materials in the Digest originate in Canada; however, materials published abroad are included if they are of relevance, especially if no comparable Canadian publications exist.

There are two indices in the Digest: the **Name Index** (for titles, authors, and organizations) and the **Keyword (Subject) Index**. Items in the Digest are numbered (e.g. CX 3432, CX 3433, etc.) The indices refer to these item numbers, rather than to page numbers.

Cover photo: Looking through the Berlin Wall, November 1989. Photo by Bossu-Syigma.

Send us your materials

If you produce materials – books, periodicals, pamphlets, teaching kits – which readers of the Connexions Digest ought to know about, please send us a copy. If you produce such materials regularly, please put us on your mailing list or review copy list. If you have an upcoming event, announce it in the Network News section. There is no charge for being included.

Are you listed in the Annual?

The Connexions Annual is a special 224-page issue of the Digest. It is a comprehensive reference book on social, environmental and community groups and issues which is distributed across Canada. If your group isn't listed in the Annual yet, write for a questionnaire, or send us the information following the Annual format. Your listing is free. You can order your own copy of the Annual for \$17.95.

Letters, news, ideas, experiences

We are interested in your comments about the contents of Connexions, and in your experiences and thoughts about working for change. Letters and other submissions are welcomed. Please send them to: Connexions, 427 Bloor St. W., Toronto, Ontario M5S 1X7.

Moving?

Subscribers: please let us know if you are moving. And please send us your **subscription label**. If you can't do that, make sure you let us know what your old address was, including the postal code. If you subscribe on behalf of an organization, please include both your own and the organization name.

Become a part of Connexions

Are you interested in encouraging social and environmental alternatives? Do you believe that change requires the active involvement of many people working to transform society from the grass roots up?

Then we invite you to become a member of The Connexions Information Sharing Network. You will be joining other individuals and groups across Canada who share your goals and concerns. You'll be helping the Connexions project expand and improve its support of grassroots activism. And you'll be entitled to the benefits of membership, which include a subscription to the Digest and Annual, discounts on services, other publications, and additional subscriptions for your group, and one or more free books. Both individuals and organizations can be members of Connexions. General Memberships are \$35 - \$50; Supporting Memberships are \$50 - \$100; Sustaining Memberships are \$100 - \$500. See the coupon at the back of this issue for more information.

Volunteer

Connexions depends on volunteer help to accomplish most of what it does. Involvement can range from mailing in information, to helping with typing, filing, and other office tasks, to participating in one or more working groups. We particularly welcome the involvement of anyone interested in gathering and writing about experiences, ideas, and visions of social change.

Mailing Lists

Connexions has extensive lists of groups, libraries and individuals, all of them potentially interested in information, publications and organizations dealing with environmental, peace, women's and social justice issues. You can obtain these lists on labels or on computer disks, and you can select parts of the lists by subject or by geographical location.

Advertising in Connexions

Connexions does not charge for presenting information about social justice resources and activities. However, the space we can devote to any particular item or group is limited. For publishers, service providers, and other organizations with publications, products, services, and causes to advertise, we also offer paid advertising space. Connexions readers read Connexions because they are interested in social issues and alternative lifestyles, and in services, products, publications, tools and resources for creating positive social and environmental alternatives. Advertising rates in the Digest are \$175 for a full page, \$100 for a half page, \$60 for a quarter page, \$35 for one-eighth of a page. Classifieds are 25 cents per word; display classifieds are \$15/column inch.

Services Available

Connexions provides services designed to help non-profits deal with the tasks that eat up an organization's time. We're experienced at organizing large mailings, developing and producing publications, setting up computer systems and data bases, and sitting down with groups and individuals to streamline procedures and develop ways of using your time more effectively.

A Resource for your Group

Connexions can be a useful educational resource for conferences, classes, etc., or to distribute to members, branch offices, etc. We have reduced rates for organizations wishing to purchase subscriptions or individual issues in quantity. Back issues are also still available on the following topics: Arts for Social Change; Rights and Liberties; Housing; Native Peoples; Women and Men; Children; Unorganized Workers; Energy. Individual copies are \$2.50; a complete set of back issues still in print costs \$15. Discounts are available for larger orders.

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Ways and Means

Looking for Democracy

By Ulli Diemer

Some of my friends consider me an incurable optimist. Having themselves grown cynical over the years about the prospects of ever achieving real change, they seem a little exasperated at times by my refusal to give up hope.

For all my hopefulness, however, I have been as astounded as anyone by the dramatic revolutionary upheavals in Eastern Europe. Despite my having insisted for years that the Communist regimes could and quite possibly would be swept aside by their own people one day, I still find myself amazed now that the day has actually arrived. Since the day the Berlin Wall opened, I've been dying to return to Germany (my birthplace) to see and feel the excitement myself, and to get closer to the events sweeping the Eastern bloc.

It's a good bet that the people actually taking part in those remarkable events are every bit as surprised by them as we are watching from the outside. Even two or three months ago, the mood in Czechoslovakia, in Bulgaria, in East Germany, was reportedly one of pessimism and discouragement. Opposition groups were still illegal, and counted only a few dozen or a few hundred members. In the early autumn, some of the people who today hold government posts were still in jail.

And if we think back a few years, before Gorbachev, then we remember an Eastern Europe which appeared to be, from the inside as well as the outside, an immovable monolith. The system of social control, while in some ways crude by Western standards, was total and relentless, and few saw any hope of ever achieving change. Only a tiny minority opposed the regimes, and they suffered for it.

Yet almost overnight, those who but a historical moment earlier had no hope or thought of resistance or rebellion suddenly came together in their tens and then hundreds of thousands, and the powerlessness, passivity, and resignation of the people turned almost instantly into their opposites.

The truly remarkable victories they have achieved should inspire us in our own efforts in working for change in the West and remind us that fundamental change is possible even against formidable odds.

The Western media are now engaged in an orgy of self-congratulation, repeating endlessly that "capitalism" has defeated "communism". Wishful thinking! The people of Eastern Europe

are the ones who have won these victories, with little or no help from the capitalists who are rushing to take the credit.

Confronted with the explosive demands for freedom and democracy in Eastern Europe, the media are able to draw only one conclusion: that the people there want to have exactly the same political and economic institutions which we have here in the West. This too may turn out to be complacent self-delusion.

There are many indications that the working class majorities, in particular, want something else. They fervently want to be rid of their oppressive regimes and of the bureaucratically inept economic system, but many of them are saying very clearly that they *don't* want to replace them with what they see as another evil: a capitalist system that will bring large-scale unemployment, reduced social services, and worsened living conditions for large numbers of ordinary people.

These East Europeans are looking for some kind of third alternative: a freer, more prosperous society than they have now, but one which offers more social justice **and more real democracy** than we have in the West.

It is the desire for freedom, for democracy, which has driven the Eastern Europeans into the streets in huge numbers. While the Western media see nothing except people wanting to imitate our wonderful political institutions, there is apparent for those who care to see, a more fundamental challenge to existing structures. It is entirely possible that some of the Eastern European countries may end up in short order with political systems which are **more** democratic than our own. Certainly the process of political ferment which is happening there now, involving millions of people directly in thousands of communities, neighbourhoods, and workplaces, is far more democratic than anything we have seen here in Canada in our lifetimes.

Instead of sitting on the sidelines congratulating ourselves on how wonderfully free and democratic we are, we should be pressing for a **radical democratization of our own society**.

For example, how democratic is our political system, if something as crucially important to the future of the nation as free trade can be implemented after a decisive majority of voters (57% to 43%) voted **against** it in an election where free trade was the only issue? How democratic is our society if a government, like the current Progressive Conservative one, can, shortly after the election, explicitly repudiate most of the election promises it made, and instead start implementing measures, like the GST, and cuts to unemployment insurance, social and cultural programs, and VIA Rail, which it either never mentioned, or promised would **not** be brought in?

How much real democracy do we have here when decisions affecting the environment, health, and livelihood of thousands of people can be made by corporations which are subject to no democratic controls whatsoever?

We in the West should be putting democracy high on **our** agenda, and trying to get our own society to take its democratic rhetoric seriously.

Democracy in Eastern Europe? Wonderful! Now how about some more democracy here?

(CX3573)

Ways and Means

In the *Ways and Means* section, we present a selection of articles dealing with experiences, issues, and practical information relating to working for change. Our aim is to provide information and also to stimulate thought and discussion by presenting a variety of approaches and experiences. We have selected articles which we think have something of value to say, but we are not 'endorsing' any specific approach. We would appreciate readers' help in suggesting other articles which might be included in this section. We also welcome original articles and letters.

The Need for Alternative Employment

By Gary Moffatt

Those of us who are seriously concerned about social change must find ways to bring it about ourselves, rather than waiting for the state to do so.

This is nowhere more obvious than in the matter of finding people jobs. The state has no intention of allowing everyone to work and never did; there were large number of unemployed even in the "golden days" of the 1950s and 60s, and many politicians are by no means unhappy with the drastic increases in unemployment since then.

None of the major political parties have offered policies which would make more than a slight dent in the numbers of unemployed.

The reasons for this callousness were explained not too long ago with unusual candor (by political standards) by Alberta Manpower Minister Ernest Isley, who told a press conference that unemployment is good for the economy because it controls wage levels and increases productivity (*Globe & Mail* 7-7-84 p. 1). Saying that he would not want unemployment removed from Alberta, he told the reporters that during the period of relatively low unemployment in the 60s "productivity of workers dropped because the pressure wasn't there to do a good job". Unemployment is also good (he said) from a humanitarian point of view because "there's psychological value to successfully finding employment." While admitting that Alberta's present 12 per cent unemployment rate is too high, Isley said he would feel "comfortable" with 6 per cent (that's one worker in every 17).

Few politicians would state this viewpoint so forthrightly, but Alberta being virtually a one-party state its bosses can afford a little candor. So we learn that it is desirable for one worker in every 17 to be without a livelihood "pour encourager les autres," and, if the number rises to one in every eight (the present 12 per cent), this is too bad but our overpaid politicians can live with it; like Liberace, they'll cry all the way to the bank.

The only way we can create basic social changes is by creating the sort of society we envision, not downwards by winning control of the state, but bottom upwards by creating the sort of society for ourselves (and whoever cares to join us) that we ultimately wish for all.

We cannot expect large numbers of people to join our attempt to build an alternative economy until we have demonstrated the possibility of so doing. Those who have steady income don't need it, and those who don't are (not without reason) skeptical of social reformers who come to them with utopian visions.

So we must start by creating an alternative economy among ourselves.

An alternative economy would enable movement people to integrate their bread labour with their social change work. Failure to do this was one of the main reasons the Student Union for Peace Action failed in the mid-60s, despite its valid social analysis, after three year of highly committed activity.

Perhaps three years is the longest people can work together on abstract causes that can't be related to their personal lives. For let's face it, Third World exploitation and the threat of nuclear annihilation are abstractions to us; we hear about them but we don't experience them on a day-to-day basis. If working for social change is something outside the rhythm of our daily lives, something we drop our real lives to do for a while, it will

be pretty impossible to sustain interest once we come to realize that a lifetime's work is required.

An incident in Ottawa brought this situation into focus. Abie Weisfeld, a member of the local peace movement, was sentenced to thirty days in jail for spray-painting the local Litton office during a mass rally against the Cruise test. A couple of days later, visitors learned that he was being grossly mistreated – solitary confinement, starvation diet, cancellation of customary "time off for good behaviour" etc., – because he had refused to fill in a form divulging information he regarded as personal.

Plans were immediately launched, with considerable enthusiasm, for a demonstration and 24-hour vigil focusing not only on his situation but the whole need for prison abolition.

Then word came that Abie would get out of solitary and have his parole restored, and the demonstration and vigil were immediately cancelled. The prison system continues to mistreat thousands of people but because the link to their daily lives was removed (a personal acquaintance was no longer being tortured) people lost interest.

Only by relating the social change movement to peoples' daily lives can we hope to sustain the interest necessary for ongoing commitment to it.

Structures for Co-operative Employment

As the realization spreads that a growing number of people will be denied the opportunity of holding a salaried job, and the more socially aware people begin to question what they have to do in order to obtain a salary, it is predictable that more and more small groups of people will come together to consider some means of becoming self or co-operatively employed.

Some of them will have ideas for a joint enterprise, others will be hoping that someone else has a workable suggestion, all will be asking themselves whether they are seriously prepared to risk energy and capital on whatever plan the group comes up with.

At the outset, they must confront the fact that there is no easy or sure-fire way to set up such a business, or else such businesses would be much more common than they are. A majority of new businesses – some estimates run as high as 80 per cent – fail in the first few years.

It is likely that this group of people who have come together will be composed primarily of young adults of middle-class background. The children of affluent families are usually set up in some relatively secure trade or profession by their parents, and those of poor families rarely have a chance to put together enough capital to start a business (also, they're too busy trying to survive to consider society's need for an alternative economy.) Older middle-class people tend to be already incorporated into the economy, and even those who lose their jobs are likely to be imbued with traditional values which preclude their effective participation in co-operative alternatives.

Since young adults are not notorious for their capacity to remain committed to a project over a period of years, particularly when its immediate returns are few, there must be a high level initial commitment re-enforced by an ongoing joint study program to deepen the members' awareness of the need for fundamental social change and the possibilities of moving in this direction by becoming economically independent of the System.

The people who form such a group should expect to work together for at least a year before actual steps to launch a business are taken. For one thing, it will take a fairly long period of working at menial jobs to accumulate the funds necessary to start. This is probably a good thing, since it will give the participants a chance to test their own and one another's commitment; someone who suddenly decides to blow the money s/he has saved for a business share on a stereo is not likely to make a good working partner.

Also, this time frame will give the people involved time to explore the practical prospects of whatever business they are considering (if possible becoming employed in it). They will also have to consider what form of compact they wish to make with one another. What follows is based on a preliminary research of some of the more basic options open.

Incorporation

Incorporation, like marriage, is an invitation to the state to assume control of the relationship between contracting parties, admitting that our trust in one another is less than our faith in the institutions of a social system we despise. Unfortunately, there is ample precedent for suspecting that people who do not set out in joint business ventures intending to cheat one another often wind up doing so.

Incorporation has certain advantages: If the group wishes to function as a co-operative it can legally call itself a co-operative or co-op only after incorporating (though without incorporation it may still *function* as a co-op.)

The co-operative movement strongly recommends incorporation. It provides a legal status for operations. It clarifies the operation's taxable position. It allows for limited liability, if desired (under a partnership liability of individual partners is unlimited.) It allows for protection of the co-operative and its members, who otherwise are singly responsible for all the organization's debts. In some cases it qualifies an organization for loans or otherwise unobtainable forms of development assistance. The hypothetical group we are considering should not rely on this possibility, but it bears looking into.

Incorporation legally binds the organization to the province's legislation (if it is a co-op, this means the co-operative legislation, which demands yearly reporting and adherence to the Co-operative Act and regulations.) While studying the form their venture will assume, the group must familiarize itself with these laws and decide whether it wishes to commit itself to their observance.

Workers' Co-operatives

Workers can start a co-operative by developing a new business or buying an existing one from its owners. The predominant characteristic of a worker co-op is that each of the workers is a co-owner. There is no outside ownership of voting shares, though there can be outside investment through preferred shares or loans. Each worker has one common voting share. A workers' co-operative is essentially the ownership of the shares, which enables the workers to choose management and make the final decisions.

Like any other form of co-operative: one member one vote, membership open to all, savings are distributed to the members in proportion to use of the co-op rather than investment, there is limited return on member investment, a continuous education program must be pursued by and for the members, co-operatives are expected to co-operate with one another. Many co-ops require a unanimous vote on extremely important

decisions, which sometimes requires long meetings and putting off decisions.

There are three basic sources of capital to start a co-operative business:

(1) The workers themselves buying shares. Under the present Co-operatives Act in Ontario co-ops can only give return on investment of 10 per cent, which means that from an investment standpoint a worker would be better off investing in bonds than a workers' co-op (though the co-op, unlike bonds, offers the prospect of a salary.)

(2) Outside investment capital. This is hard to obtain as outside investors have no voice in the running of a co-operative, no tax incentives and limited return on the investment.

(3) Bank loans. Since banks aren't receptive to alternative forms of management, this is hard to obtain.

At present there are very few alternate channels for worker co-ops to get start-up money. In Ontario, credit unions are not permitted to engage in such enterprises, and there are few government programs to aid workers co-ops. Whereas Quebec and Saskatchewan both have legislation for workers' co-ops which provides a structure and a model for workers who are contemplating a buy-out of an existing business or setting up a new business, Ontario's government is disinclined to pass such legislation despite lobbying by the co-operative movement.

Co-operative legislation in Canada, and particularly in Ontario, has been designed to meet the needs of co-operative associations of consumers, producers, marketers, services groups and financial groups, but not of workers. The concept of workers' co-ops is relatively recent in Canada, though they have been tried with some degree of success in Europe (for instance, France has close to 500 worker-owned businesses, Italy more than 2500.) There is no definition of a worker co-op under present law in Ontario, and since the present Co-operatives Act of Ontario defines a co-op in terms of the service it provides, workers' co-ops must define employment as a service provided for their members.

Many venture choose to incorporate under the Corporations Act instead, but as it does not recognize control of a company based on the membership of the workers this is also unsatisfactory.

Working Co-operatives

A slight variation on the workers' co-operative is the working co-operative, which differs in that each worker invests an equal amount of money (not required for a workers' co-op), and the money goes not directly to starting the business but rather to a central trust company which doubles as a source of capital for new industries and a provider of expert management sources for the new industry, ensuring that it will be failure-free and profitable right from the start. The workers have a "Contract of Association" with the central trust company, and consensus management is used. Managers of various phases of the operation – market research, sales, purchasing, accounting etc. – are chosen on the basis of knowledge, eliminating "status managers".

The most successful such experiment has been in the Basque region of Spain where the city of Mondragon has created a network of about 100 industrial worker co-ops involving 22,000 worker-owners. Since 1956 there have been no business failures, only one strike and only two months in which unemployment insurance was drawn by worker co-operators.

Unfortunately no such central trust companies can exist under present Canadian legislation, and again those lobbying for changes in the law must contend with the reluctance of

politicians to allow people to become self-reliant. Also, the success of a central trust company in planning industries for hundreds of worker-owners each would not necessarily be duplicated in setting up industries for very small groups.

Community Development Corporations

Given the unsatisfactory status of workers' co-operative legislation, this is an alternative path to establishing a legal identity that should be considered. It is expensive and time consuming to start such a corporation, likely requiring an outlay of several hundred dollars even if a sympathetic lawyer willing to donate legal services can be found. Once started, however, the corporation could launch any number of business ventures on behalf of the group of people it had defined itself as serving. Although it is not required to do so, the corporation could provide consultative services to the new businesses similar to those which the central trust company would supply a project such as Mondragon.

This model would not be appropriate for a small group wishing to start several small businesses. For example, the Come Home to the Valley Community Development Corporation was formed to encourage and assist the process of self-directed economic and social development within Renfrew County, and has worked to start up small business there; a corporation could identify a social rather than a geographical unit of society it wished to serve.

A group of people considering starting a self-employment project together should, while accumulating the necessary funds, keep an eye on the progress of those attempting to give workers' co-operatives a legal status and investigate possible structures and sources of advice.

Sources:

Thanks to Ken Kendall and Vicky Davis for personal consultation in compiling this information. Papers used include: Steve Schildroth: *The Story Behind Worker-Co-ops in Ontario*, Catholic New Times, 3 June 1984

T. Webb: *Public in the Co-operative Sector*, published by Tara Policy Alternatives. Association for Creating Enterprises, 245 Queen St. Ottawa: *A Third Way: Community Economic Development*, a resource book on alternative community enterprises in Ottawa.

J.E. Reed: *Resourcing the Co-operative Enterprise*. Co-operative Union Canada 1982.

J.E. Reed: *How to Start a Co-operative*. Co-operative Union of Canada 1982.

A Co-operative Development Strategy for Canada; report of the National Task Force on Co-operative Development. May 1984.

A longer version of this article first appeared in the newsletter *Network*. *Network* is no longer publishing. (CX3574)

Grassroots Cells, Devil's Architects Defend Communities

Northcote Parkinson, in *Parkinson's Law*, gave us a biting guide to the internal workings of bureaucracies. A more modest and less inspired, but handy, companion volume, a guide to fighting bureaucracies, is *The Householder's Guide to Community Defence Against Bureaucratic Aggression*.

This little (64-page) pamphlet outlines the organizational principles and campaign tactics that communities should use in fighting projects or developments being foisted on them by unresponsive government bodies, whether by elected authorities or by civil servants.

With meticulous attention to detail, and frequent resort to dry British humour, the author, Antony Jay, sketches the way in which a local organization can best draw on its community's resources and support to mobilize funds, publicity and experts on its side, and utilize tactical initiatives in fighting the bureaucratic enemy and exploiting his weakness and divisions.

He points out that "the crazy thing about protesting is that the time when you are most likely to succeed is the time when you are least likely to act. It is at the very beginning of the project that you have the best chance.... Do not wait until something firm is announced: firmness is the danger."

Jay advocates a cell structure for the community organization, with different cells responsible for specific functions, such as legal advice, fund-raising, and publicity, as well as "grass-roots" cells responsible for organizing support on the street level.

Heading the structure he has an "Action Committee" which co-ordinates the effort.

He details the various facets of the campaign: attacking the concept of the proposed development itself, as well as the facts and figures used to support it. This is accompanied by the

presentation of an alternative plan. He stresses the value of behind-the-scenes diplomacy for gathering facts and achieving settlements, as well as of frontal public attacks.

He points to the necessity of avoiding, wherever possible, situations which back officials or elected representatives into a corner, giving them no face-saving way to back down from the original plan. By focussing on differences among the 'enemy' and not provoking irrevocable commitments, he says it is often possible to avoid the monolithic opposition of an aroused administration.

He indicates the most fruitful lines of inquiry to be followed up when attacking the plan:

"Is the plan necessary at all? Will it solve the problem it sets out to solve or aggravate it, or create other, greater problems?"

"Has the plan taken into account at all the most advanced thinking the most recent experience the latest technologies? ... examples from foreign countries have a special glamour as well as probably being unknown to the enemy, and hard for them to verify."

"The criteria. Nearly all these plans list, very early on, certain criteria which any plan must fulfil. Miraculously, it turns out that this plan fulfils all of them. You are meant to think that the planners started from the criteria and eventually arrived at the plan. In fact, of course, it happened the other way around. No good planner begins to formulate criteria until the plan is complete: he then evokes them by listing any plausible ones which the plan can be shown to meet. Your answer is to challenge these criteria."

"Hidden alternatives. 'There are two alternatives'; There are three possible approaches' ... a little reflection can usually turn up nine or ten additional alternatives".

"Factual accuracy. Do not expect all the facts to be accurate, and try checking up on any that looks questionable.

When the massive Breeching plan was published by British Rail a Cheshire schoolboy thought there was something funny about their figures for usage of the line behind his house. So he spent a day counting, and found the line enormously busier than the report said."

"The unmentioned facts. The planners will have suppressed a number of facts which damage their case. How can you find them? The best way is to go to all the sources which they have used for their information. They may not willingly disclose them, but a sharp letter denying the accuracy of all assertions will usually elicit chapter and verse, and you can then get to work on other chapters and other verses for the less convenient facts."

"Selective deduction. Related to the hidden alternative. 'The low usage figure shows that there is little public demand...' It may indeed. But it may show that the price is too high. Or that the public does not know about it. Or that it is so inefficiently run that people can't be bothered."

Jay exposes the motivations of the men behind the plan:

"They have been at it for months. It has generated several major internal rows. There have been long negotiated compromises with other departments. The chap who started it all off was promoted half-way through and moved to Edinburgh. The first draft was produced in a tremendous rush because the Minister/Permanent Secretary/Chairman of the Planning Committee didn't give the go-ahead till three months after the deadline date, and some of the flaws did not show up until it was too late to do anything. The policy decision it stems from was taken six years ago, and they are now talking about rethinking the whole policy on a more comprehensive basis, so if it does not go through quickly it may never make it. It has meant a great deal of work and unpleasantness and getting home late for sup-

per, and the thought of going back to square one gives them all nightmares."

"In their internal dissensions lie some of your best hopes: you must do nothing that will make them close ranks"

Jay at his best when proposing tactical manoeuvres. For example, when discussing architects' drawings, he says:

"It will be the usual idealized fairyland picture – one car in the park, two girls in summer dresses, bright sunny day, trees in full leaf, exaggerated perspective, and the building bright and shining in all its glory. You cannot fight pictures with words. You must get an architectus diaboli to do an equally accurate architect's drawing with bare trees under a leaden sky during the rush hour, cars jamming, at the foreground washing hanging out with the paintwork starting to peel and the white stonework staining to grey in patches after a season or two of exposure to smoke and fog."

Or when dealing with a press reluctant to give a campaign event the publicity it needs: "one group of protestors used to get excellent coverage through a member who used to ring the press and television the day before in a hectoring upper-class voice and tell them not to cover this exhibitionist display by a tiny handful of troublemakers, that it would be irresponsible to publicize people who opposed the rightful authority, and that he would make trouble if they sent their cameras and reporters just because the other lot were covering it."

To be sure, The Householders Guide only applies to certain kinds of community organizing. It is a strictly defensive, conservative approach, useful for preserving neighborhoods, but having less value for those seeking to re-structure blighted areas, or those wanting to organize for wider social change.

Antony Jay, The Householders Guide to Community Defence Against Bureaucratic Aggression.

Reviewed by Ulli Diemer
(CX3575)

The Write Stuff: All You Ever Wanted to Know About Letter Writing

This article deals specifically with letter writing on the Temagami issue, but the information it contains applies to any similar issue.

If the abuse of our wilderness makes you see red and feel blue, take heart. You can brighten up your day and the world with a letter. Here's the secret to hitting home with the most effective tactic in the campaign for Temagami.

The enormity of the task makes success look hopeless, but do not underestimate the power of a personal letter. South Moresby was won by the thousands of people who telephoned, wrote letters and sent telegrams to the Premier of British Columbia. In the final days, so many letters were received that his office ground to a halt under the onslaught. This is how we will win in Temagami.

Many people tend to drift toward the ease of a postcard or launching a petition. Politicians recognize this so you need thousands to make an impact. These tactics are effective for the less committed who won't take the time to write a letter. But 20 good letters are big guns, counting for 20,000 votes. There is no overestimating their impact.

One of the biggest hurdles in effective letter writing is the groundless fear that you have to be an expert to discuss an issue. This is a fear that many civil servants cultivate. In fact, it is their

job to help you understand the technical details. Interestingly, the minister himself will likely know less about the issue than you do.

Letters are used to measure constituents' feelings and can serve as a basis for action. The successful letter applies the three R's: be right, reasonable and repetitive.

Rule 1: State your position clearly and identify a specific request. The most common weakness in letters is being unclear about what you want. In some cases, we've seen letters that could have been written by the loggers or conservationists.

Rule 2: Ask specific, leading questions that require a civil servant to write the response. The strategy is not just to let them know your opinion, but to make them work on your behalf, and keep working until they resolve the issue.

Rule 3: Make it clear you expect an answer.

Rule 4: Send copies to other politicians. Copies or a "cc" are not guaranteed to obtain a response. Individually addressed letters will expand your effectiveness with little extra work. After all, you wrote the letter, so spread your impact far and wide.

Rule 5: Keep a copy and send another to the Temagami Wilderness Society.

Expect a long wait. Ministers are notoriously slow. When your letter arrives at Queen's Park, if it addresses specific facts

on the issue, it will be passed down into the bowels of the bureaucracy for some civil servant to respond to.

General letters will be dealt with by a form response written over the Minister's signature. Temagami has become such a large issue that all Ministers have been sent the nearly identical form letter.

What should you expect for an answer?

Response 1: Zero. The Minister has ignored your questions and said absolutely nothing. This is all too frequent.

Response 2: Affirmative, agreeing with your stance. Seldom will you hear this. This is more likely the answer from the Opposition members or a supportive backbencher. If s/he's genuinely on our side, s/he'll appreciate the moral support.

Response 3: Newspeak. This is the current Truth or Policy, which is a selection of the facts in support of their position. Facts to the government are simply whatever can be provided by the bureaucracy. The answer may also take the tactic of trying to overwhelm with technical details.

Now, you've received your response. Ministers live with the fantasy that you'll go away. Here's where the fun begins.

Go back to your first letter and begin a second one. It is this follow-up letter that will be annoying enough to make them take you seriously. This time they will know they can't just brush you off as they have attempted in the first letter.

Tactic 1: Ask again all the questions the Minister didn't answer or didn't answer fully.

Tactic 2: Point out all the inconsistencies between his response and others you have received or with his government's public statements. If you've stuck gold, there'll be inconsistencies within the letter itself. Point them out too.

Tactic 3: Point out the weakness in his arguments.

Tactic 4: Restate your position and make it clear that you expect a response.

Letter-writing is like a slow game of ping pong. It's the second and third letters that start scoring.

A phone call to a politician carries the weight of 100 votes, a letter the weight of 1000. Conventional wisdom!

Sending letters to the Opposition Leaders and critics can often be useful. Sometimes they will warm up and go after the Ministers in the Legislature. Sending to Ministers not directly responsible for Temagami is a sign to the government that everyone is being drawn in and they can no longer avoid taking a stand.

Lest we forget, there is your own MPP. If s/he's a backbencher, his/her days are quiet and lunches sometimes too long. A phone call or two on any issue tells them they've got an issue they must deal with. Fifteen letters and s/he knows s/he's got a hot issue getting out of control. It'll ruin his/her whole day.

You'll likely get a personal reply and it could sound very informed. The MPP's facts are just newspeak from a Minister or his bureaucrats. (You can fantasize over how some faceless bureaucrat is sweating out how to respond without looking silly.) Once you've got your MPP on the run, keep him there.

Letter-writing parties or just passing around paper and stamps at an event is a good way to get the jump. You might want to consider a contest for the most creative or witty letter.

Don't forget letters to the editor. Local papers almost always print letters. The Toronto Star and the Globe and Mail cannot print every letter they receive – the volume is just too great. But don't be discouraged. Keep it brief, especially for the Star, and remember just one letter in the Star will reach over half a million people in one day. That's influence.

But whatever technique, if you can get nine of your friends to write a letter too, then you have just leaned 10,000 votes on a politician. Remember, the pen is still mightier than the sword. Have fun.

From the Temagami Wilderness Society, 62 Lesgay Cres., Toronto M2J 2J1.
(CX3576)



Network News

Actions and Campaigns

Save the Carmanah Valley

The giant logging company MacMillan Bloedel has asked for, and apparently is about to receive, permission to log 92 per cent of British Columbia's Carmanah Valley. Environmental groups, including the **Western Canada Wilderness Committee**, are strongly urging that the entire Carmanah watershed be preserved. To make a donation, or for more information, contact the Western Canada Wilderness Committee at #103, 1520 West Sixth Ave., Vancouver, B.C. V6J 1R2, (604) 731-6716. (CX3579)

Excess Packaging Campaign

Environmental Action Ontario has launched an **Excess Packaging Campaign** to reduce excess packaging in supermarkets and fast-food outlets. The campaign seeks to bring environmental groups and concerned individuals together to tell the large food corporations that we don't want a throw-away society. They are urging the following changes: 1) fast-food restaurants provide reusable dishes and cutlery for sit-down customers, 2) a special tax on disposable take-out containers, with revenues dedicated to waste reduction efforts, 3) supermarkets reduce their excess packaging.

Hoping to tap public support for substantial environmental improvements, participating groups will be approaching unions, church and community groups and municipal councils in their local areas to endorse the demands of the campaign.

Report cards are to be issued at the beginning and end of the one-year campaign which will rank the various fast-food and grocery chains according to the re-usability of their packaging.

The campaign is looking for groups or individuals to co-ordinate the campaign in local communities. Local co-ordinators will receive a campaign kit including background information on the issue and a manual outlining the tasks involved. Local campaigns will include three major components: information gathering, publicity, and lobbying. To participate, for information, or to make a financial contribution, contact Environmental Action Ontario, 263 Howland Ave, Toronto, Ont. M5R 2B7. (CX3580)

Think Rail

A group called **Think Rail** is trying to push the Ontario Government to focus more on rail service, rather than roads, to solve commuter transportation problems. It proposes a new rail network in Southern Ontario, with connections in the first phase to Toronto, Kitchener-Waterloo, Guelph, Oshawa, London, and Niagara Falls. The second phase would extend service to places like Barrie, Stratford, and Cambridge. **Think Rail's** working group, including two engineers and a statistical

analyst, spent two years preparing the report, which is endorsed by Transport 2000, a national lobby group. The report predicts that the proposed service would take 90,000 cars off the roads each day. Cost estimates are \$6 million per kilometre for rail, versus \$15.7 million per kilometre for expressways. (CX3581)

Pesticide residues and waxes

Jeri and Len Preuter of Calgary are conducting a study concerning pesticide residues and waxes on fruit and vegetables. They are sending a questionnaire to organizations across the country to find out their positions on the issue, and to see what alternative approaches (e.g. organic agriculture) exist or are being developed. Contact J. & L. Preuter, 433 13 Street N.W., Calgary, Alberta T2N 1Z3. (CX3582)

Plant breeders' rights

Environmental groups are opposing federal legislation (Bill C-15) establishing "plant breeders' rights". The legislation permits corporations to patent and own particular plants and seeds. Environmentalists object in principle to the idea that anyone can own or patent a living species. They also say that the legislation will lead to a dangerous loss of genetic diversity, with only a few highly marketable species of plants being kept and others being allowed to disappear. The species being retained require high levels of fertilizer and pesticides. GROW, the coalition of groups opposing the legislation, is asking people to contact MPs, the Prime Minister, Agriculture Minister Don Mazankowski, and the media. For information contact GROW, 750-130 Slater St., Ottawa K1P 4E2, (613) 594-8700. (CX3583)

Saving the CBC

Friends of Canadian Broadcasting are trying to mobilize Canadians to resist massive cuts being made by the Progressive Conservative government to the budget of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. The government has cut \$140 million from the CBC budget, and more cuts may be in the works. To make a donation, or for information, contact **Friends of Canadian Broadcasting**, 29 Prince Arthur Ave., Toronto, Ont. M5R 1B2. (CX3584)

Men for women's choice

A new group, Men for Women's Choice, has been established in response to well-publicized recent court cases in which men went to court to try to prevent ex-girlfriends from having an abortion. According to Men for Women's Choice, "No man should be able to force a woman to bear a child against her will." They say that "Men should have equal say and responsibility in a decision to parent. But ultimately, if there is a dispute, the decision to end a pregnancy must be a woman's choice – because it is her body." The group believes that it is important that the opinion of men not be represented "by the sexist views of those who oppose women's right to choose", and is asking for donations to finance running ads in Canadian newspapers presenting this point of view. Contact Men for Women's Choice, 555 Bloor St. W., Toronto M5S 1Y6, (416) 538-3086. (CX3585)

Network News

Network News contains news and information from groups and individuals across Canada. Items for *Network News* should be submitted to Connexions, 427 Bloor St. West, Toronto, Ontario M5S 1X7.

Reclaiming Toronto's Don River

Discussions are underway about ways of reclaiming Toronto's Don River, a badly polluted river flowing through the expressway-scarred Don Valley - the valley that once inspired the early works of naturalist Ernest Thompson Seton. Citizen meetings have been looking at proposals for developing a plan to bring the river back to something approaching its earlier healthy state. Among the visions which have been developed are: making the river accessible again (at present it is cut off by an expressway, a road, two rail corridors, and fences); natural regeneration, restoration, rehabilitation, and reforestation, so that fish and wildlife will find it a friendlier environment; an end to the discharge of pollutants into the river; making Torontonians more aware of the river and its past and potential importance to the city. For more information, contact Jack Layton, Councillor, 2nd floor, City Hall, Toronto, Ontario M5H 2N2. (CX3586)

Justice for Southern Africa

Development and Peace is entering Year II of its campaign, "Southern Africa Under Siege". Development and Peace groups at the Diocesan and local levels are ready to help with ideas and resources for educational events. They have audio-visuals, printed materials, and people who can speak to the issues. For more information, contact your local D&P group, or Development and Peace, 3028 Danforth Ave., Toronto, Ontario M4C 1N2, (416) 698-7770. (CX3587)

Appeals for Support

El Salvador

In response to the current violence in El Salvador, the **Latin American Working Group** is asking Canadians to send a telex, letter, or fax to External Minister Joe Clark, urging the Canadian government to: 1) Press for serious negotiations, through direct bilateral contacts with both the FMLN and the Christiani government, and through multilateral initiatives at the UN and the OAS; 2) Press for an end to U.S. military aid for the government of El Salvador; 3) Not renew Canadian bilateral aid to El Salvador until a negotiated peace is achieved. Write: Joe Clark, Secretary of State for External Affairs, 125 Sussex Drive, Ottawa, Fax: (613) 992-6474. The Latin American Working Group, which has more information on events in El Salvador, can be contacted at P.O. Box 2207, Station P, Toronto M5S 2T2, (416) 533-4221. (CX3588)

Funding for Native education

The federal government has announced that it is implementing new guidelines for Native citizens for post-secondary education. Native groups see these measures as harmful. Native groups across the country have been protesting against the unilateral changes and are calling on the government to put aside the new guidelines and enter into discussions with them. Supporters are being encouraged to write to the Prime Minister and their member of Parliament. (CX3589)

One Sky needs help

Saskatoon's One Sky Centre is urgently requesting financial help. The Centre is facing rising costs, while its funding has not been increased. Contact One Sky, 136 Ave. F. S., Saskatoon, Saskatchewan S7M 1S8, (306) 652-1571. (CX3590)

Comings and Goings

Environment Infoline

The Canadian Environmental Network is working to establish a national network of environmental hotlines. The proposed regional 1-800 numbers are to provide the public with responses to basic consumer-oriented environmental questions. Referrals to experts will be offered for more sophisticated queries. Groups are being invited to participate in planning the hotline system. Contact the **Canadian Environmental Network**, Box 1289, Station P, Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5R3. (CX3591)

Goodwin's Awards

Submissions are being sought for the fourth annual Goodwin's Award for Excellence in Alternative Journalism. The Goodwin's Foundation offers a cash award of \$300 to the winner. It also names three runners-up and three honourable mentions. The MacDonald Citation is given to an alternative publication which has provided extraordinary coverage of an issue or shown outstanding over-all improvement. Any journalist can submit articles; they must have appeared in a Canadian alternative magazine or newspaper during the past year. Alternatives are defined as newsstand publications dedicated to progressive social change. Judges will be looking for articles which had a strong political or social impact and which were influential in promoting progressive social change. Photo or cartoon spreads are also acceptable as submissions. Award submissions must be post-marked no later than November 30, 1989 and should be sent in triplicate to the Goodwin's Foundation, P.O. Box 1043, Station B, Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5R1.

Last year's Goodwin's award winner was Chief Moses Okimaw, for his article *God's River and the Manitoba Government*, which appeared in *Canadian Dimension*. Okimaw's article describes his band's struggle against local exploiters and against the inept provincial NDP government.

Runners-up were Paul McKay, for his *Adding Fuel to the Fire*, on Canada's uranium industry, in *This Magazine*; Bruce Cockburn for *Mars over Mozambique* in *NOW*, and David Coon for *Energy Options: Taking Care of Business* on Canada's search for an energy policy, in *Probe Post*.

Honourable mentions went to Nora D. Randall for her column *Beans in Kinesis*; Erin Goodman for *The Trials of Eric Smith* in *New Maritimes*; Lorraine Begley for *Flipping Land for Fun and Profit* in *New Maritimes*; Lanny Beckman for *U.S. Risk Takers Save B.C.'s Ozone Layer* in *New Directions*; Stan Persky for *Watershed Down* in *This Magazine*; Howard Goldenthal, Glenda Hersh and Nick Fillmore for *Right Winging It* in *This Magazine*; and *Kick It Over* for an interview on a serial murderer in the Green River area of Seattle.

The MacDonald citation went to Victoria's *Monday* for its extensive coverage of environmental issues. (CX3592)

Environment network faces problems

The Ontario Environment Network (OEN), the central networking organization for environment groups in Ontario, is facing financial difficulties which have forced it to cut back to one part-time staff person. OEN is trying to raise funds to pay off its substantial debt and carry on its work, which includes encouraging communication and co-operation between Ontario environment groups, acting as a resource centre, organizing workshops and conferences, and publishing the *Environmental Resource Book*. The OEN can be contacted at 465 Spadina Avenue, 2nd floor, Toronto, Ontario M5T 2G8, (416) 925-1322. (CX3593)

Equality Program

The Metro Toronto Labour Education Centre has initiated an Equality Program which is aimed at strengthening union solidarity through equality. Through special support services and programs, they hope to see a greater integration of immigrant, visible minority members into the labour movement. For more information contact the Metro Labour Education and Skills Training Centre, 954 King St. W., Toronto M6K 1E5, (416) 971-5893. (CX3594)

NIMBI

NIMBI (Now I Must Become Involved) is a floating laboratory operated by the Environmental Hazards Team. NIMBI is based out of Port Maitland on Lake Erie, and will be travelling throughout the Great Lakes region on a timetable determined by bookings of groups and educational institutions. NIMBI features a "child-friendly" environment and facilities for educational instruction, as well as laboratory facilities. For more information contact The Environmental Hazards Team, R.R. 7, Dunnville, Ontario N1A 2W6, (416) 774-4769. (CX3595)

Layoffs at CRIAW

Faced with funding cutbacks from the federal Secretary of State Women's Program, the Canadian Research Institute for the Advancement of Women (CRIAW) has been forced to lay off staff and cut back on support for research. CRIAW is embarking on a fundraising campaign to try to raise additional money. CRIAW can be contacted at 151 Slater St., #408, Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5H3, (613) 563-0682. (CX3596)

Broadside goes under

The feminist paper *Broadside*, which published out of Toronto since 1979, is folding because of lack of funds. *Broadside* had been losing money, and had been informed that its funding from the Ontario Arts Council, a substantial part of its budget, was being cut in half. (The Arts Council imposed similar cuts on many small publications.) (CX3597)

Cayenne folds

The Socialist Feminist bulletin *Cayenne* has ceased publishing. The editors attributed their decision to stop publishing partly to the fact that they were unsuccessful in stimulating the kinds of vivid debates which they wanted to encourage in the pages of *Cayenne*. "Why," they asked, "do activists in movements find it so difficult to find the time to sit down and write to share their experiences and analyses?" (CX3598)

IDRC Reports discontinued

The magazine *IDRC Reports*, published for the last 18 years by the International Development Research Centre, has been discontinued. (CX3599)

Barton awards

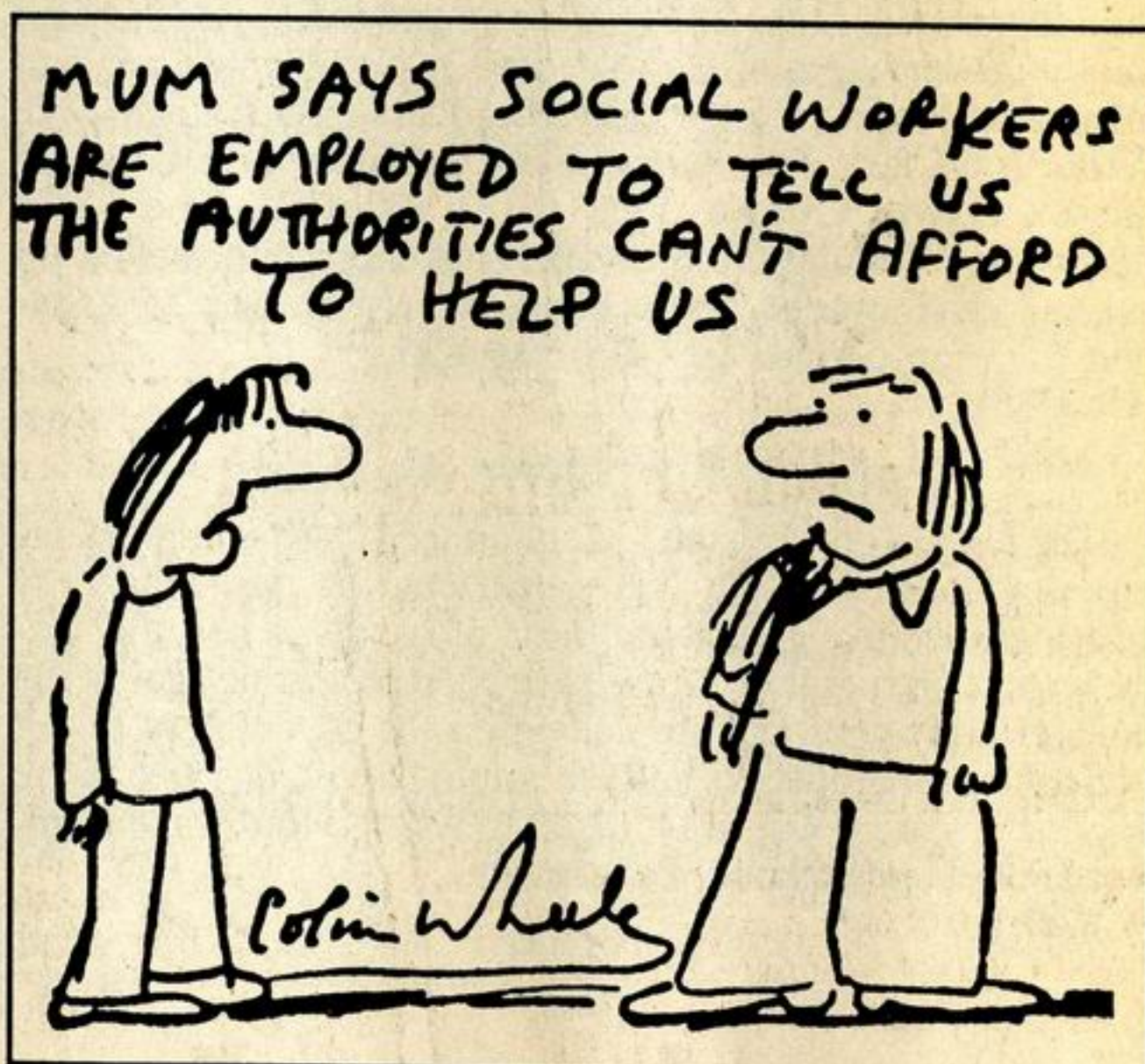
The Canadian Institute for International Peace and Security has announced that it is inaugurating the Barton Awards, intended to promote scholarship and expertise in the fields of international peace and security. The Barton Awards consist of eight scholarships of up to \$14,000 for advanced studies and two fellowships of up to \$30,000 for senior level studies. Professional experience and academic qualifications will be considered equally. The deadline for application is February 1, 1990. For more information contact The Barton Awards, Canadian Institute for International Peace and Security, Suite 900, 360 Albert St., Ottawa, Ontario K1R 7X7, or call (613) 990-1593. (CX3600)

Federalists, Dismantle merge

Operation Dismantle and the World Federalists of Canada have merged; Dismantle will now operate as a committee of the World Federalists. In explaining the merger, the World Federalists note that Operation Dismantle originally started out in 1977 as a committee of the WFC. The time seemed ripe, they said, to re-unite. Contact the World Federalists at #207 - 145 Spruce Street, Ottawa, Ontario K1R 6P1, (613) 232-0647. (CX3601)

Valencia-Mondragon Study Tour

Greg MacLeod, of the Centre for Community Economic Development, University College of Cape Breton, will be leading a study tour to Spain in April 1989. The objective of the two-week tour is to become familiar with the structure and strategies of two successful experiments in community economic development, at Mondragon and Valencia. The approximate cost will be \$3100. Contact Greg MacLeod, P.O. Box 5300, Sydney, N.S. B0P 6L2. (CX3602)



Meetings, Conferences, Events

Healthy Places - Healthy People/Healthy People - Healthy Places

This three day conference, on January 18 - 20, 1990, will examine the relationship between Health, the Economy, and the Environment. Themes are: 'The Healthy City: Examples, Policies and the Future; Business/Industry/Consumer Opportunities in the Healthy City; The Value of an Urban Natural Environment; Promoting the Healthy City. The conference will include community sessions, workshops, displays, seminars, field trips and other activities for the delegate. Fees are \$75 per person for the three-day event or \$300 for five people. Send all enquiries to: "Healthy Places - Healthy People/Healthy People - Healthy Places", City of Sudbury, Leisure Plan, Bag 5000, Station 'A', Sudbury, Ontario M3A 5P3, (705) 671-2231. (CX3603)

Environmental Forum

The Ontario Ministries of Citizenship and the Environment are hosting a forum on "environmental issues in a cross-cultural context" on January 24 in Toronto. Topics include native concerns, waste management, and the provincial round table. For information contact Barbara Malcolm at (416) 323-5077. (CX3604)

Images Festival

Northern Visions is inviting submissions for its Images 90 festival program. Images is a predominantly Canadian festival intended to showcase innovative and contemporary work by independent film and video producers in Canada. Submissions should be made by February 2, 1990 to Northern Visions, 67A Portland St., #3, Toronto, Ontario M5V 2M9. Call (416) 971-8405 for more information. (CX3605)

Health and Safety conference

Focus on the Future: A National Conference on Health and Safety, will take place March 14 - 16, 1990, in Calgary. For more information contact Shelley Koch, Education Services, Alberta Hospital Association, Edmonton Alberta T5J 3C5, (403) 423-1776. (CX3606)

Earth Day 1990

Earth Day is a global event intended to celebrate life, acknowledge our responsibility for the current environmental crisis, and inspire action leading to the healing of our planet. Planning for Earth Day 1990, to take place April 22, is now under way. People who wish to help organize local events, or become involved in some way, may contact Earth Day 1990, P.O. Box 835, Station E, Victoria, B.C. V8W 2P9, (416) 604-1990, fax: (604) 386-4453. (CX3607)

If the AK-47 [automatic rifle] was around back then, Jesus would have ordered his disciples to get one.
- Rev. Charles Mainous, High Street Baptist Church, Columbus Ohio, U.S.A., arguing against gun control

Municipal Solid Waste Management

The University of Waterloo is organizing a conference on Municipal Solid Waste Management on April 25-27 in Toronto. The focus will be on landfilling, incineration, and the "3 R's". For more information contact Dr. Murray Haight, School of Urban and Regional Planning, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario N2L 3G1, (519) 885-1211 x3027 or x3355. (CX3608)

Wildlife conference

The University of Calgary is holding a conference on **Wildlife Running into the Future** on May 3 - 5, 1990, with the focus on wildlife and habitat conservation, and how they are affected by privatization and domestication of wildlife. For more information contact Larry Simpson, University of Calgary, Faculty of Continuing Education, 2500 University Drive N.W., Calgary, Alberta T2N 1N4, (403) 282-5978. (CX3609)

Death and bereavement

Conference on **Death and Bereavement: Creative Strategies for Living**, on May 14 - 16, 1989, in London, Ontario. Details from King's College, 266 Epworth Ave., London N6A 2M3, (519) 433-3491. (CX3610)

Occupational Health congress

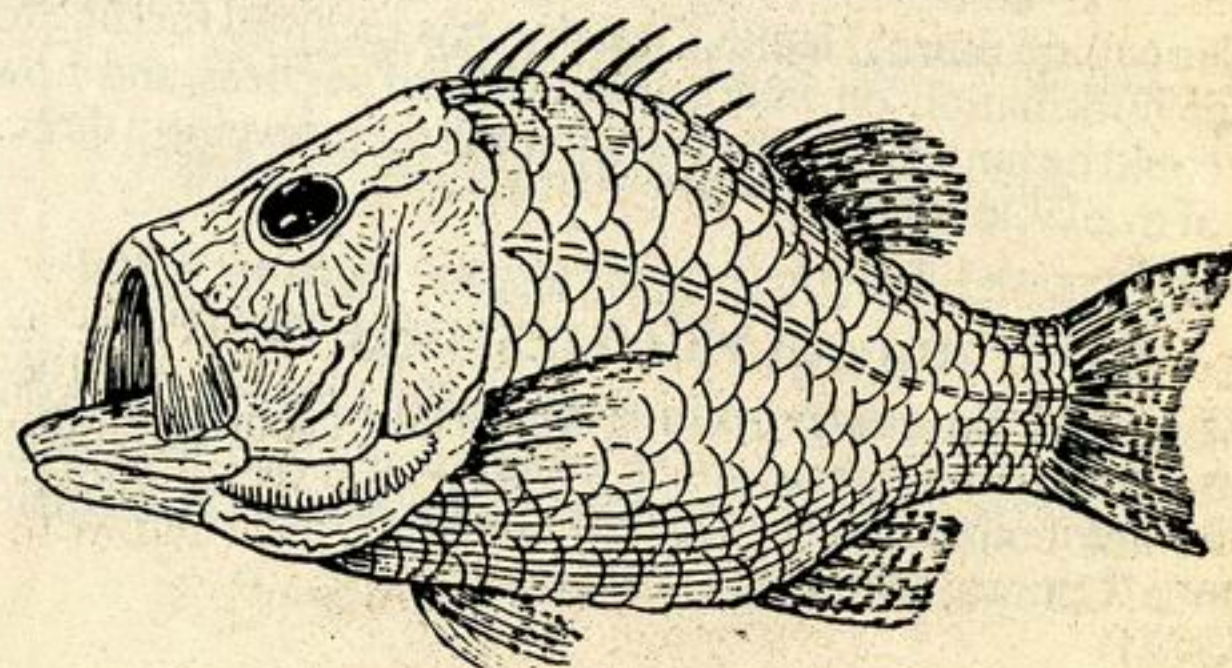
The 23rd **International Congress on Occupational Health** will take place in Montreal September 22 - 28, 1990. For more information contact OCOH Secretariat, 58, rue de Bresoles, Montreal H2Y 1V5, (514) 499-9835. (CX3611)

Women and Environments

The Women and Environments Educational and Development (WEED) Foundation is planning an Ontario-wide conference May 24-26. The conference will focus on environmental issues of special concern to women in their various roles in society. It will emphasize the development of solutions to environmental problems. For further information contact Rosalind Cairncross, 26 Morrow Avenue, Toronto M6R 2J2, (416) 533-4076. (CX3612)

Canadian Environment Network

The Canadian Environment Network is holding its Annual General Meeting May 25-27, 1990. For more information contact the CEN at Box 1289, Station B, Ottawa, K1P 5R3. (CX3613)



Publications and Resources

Tell your story

Equal Justice For All is collecting stories about people's experiences on welfare, to put in a book called *Victories*. Send your story to Equal Justice For All, Box 7676, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan S7K 4R4, or call (306) 664-6636. (CX3614)

Immigrant and visible minority women

The National Organization of Immigrant and Visible Minority Women is requesting items for its publication. Deadline is the 25th of each month. The address is 25 Laurier Avenue West, #1102, Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5J6, (613) 232-0689. (CX3615)

Stage writers

Playwright's Workshop Montreal is looking for women playwrights and writers who are interested in writing for the stage. Contact Svetlana Zylins, Box 604, Postal Station Place d'armes, Montreal, Quebec H2Y 3H8. (CX3616)

Women's Humour

Jokes, stories, cartoons, journal entries, etc. are being sought for an anthology of Canadian women's feminist humour. Send submission with self-addressed stamped envelope to Janice Williams, Department of English, University of Alberta, Edmonton Alberta T6G 2E5. (CX3617)

Environmental Directory

The Canadian Environment Network is planning a directory of Canadian environmental groups which it expects to publish next summer. For more information contact the CEN at P.O. Box 1289, Station B, Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5R3, (613) 563-2078. (CX3618)

Directory of Women and Global Issues

The Canadian Council for International Co-operation is preparing a directory of women specializing in global issues: development, environment, and peace. Send names, addresses, and phone numbers to the selection committee, which will contact each woman who is suggested. Write: Dorothy Goldin Rosenberg, The Women's Directory, c/o Canadian Council for International Co-operation, 1 Nicholas, Suite 300, Ottawa, Ontario K1N 7B7 or phone (613) 236-4547. (CX3619)

Multicultural Health directory

The Multicultural Health Coalition has received funding to gather information on multicultural health services and how they could be improved. The coalition will then develop a directory of available services. (CX3620)

Environment video resource centre

Charles Hodgson is proposing the idea of a national environmental video library from which groups could borrow by mail. He invites comments to: Environmental Video, 200 Daniel Avenue, Ottawa, Ontario K1Y 0C9. (CX3621)

Films, videos, AV materials sought

Educational Communications, Inc., a Los Angeles-based non-profit, is looking for videos, films, and other audio-visual material about the environment to use as segments on its television and radio programs. Its ECONews television series currently airs in over 2 million homes, while its Environmental Directions radio series is broadcast by a network of stations. Educational Communications invites producers and distributors of appropriate materials to submit 1/2" videocassettes for screening, 3/4" videocassettes for editing, audiocassettes and records for airing, and any other items for consideration such as books, photographs, and background literature. For more information, contact Nancy Pearlman, Executive Producer, Educational Communications, P.O. Box 35473, Los Angeles, California 90035, U.S.A., (213) 559-9160. (CX3622)

Family Violence Videos

A collection of videos and films on family violence is being distributed by the National Film Board. They are intended for the general public and for professionals working in this field. Contact your local NFB office. (CX3623)

A Voice of Our Own

A Voice of Our Own is a new documentary about the founding of the National Organization of Immigrant and Visible Minority Women. In it, filmmaker Premika Ratnam challenges the feminist movement's preoccupation with middle class issues. Contact Premika Ratnam at (416) 921-5853. (CX3624)

NFB Video Series

The National Film Board has released a commemorative video series containing 50 of the NFB's best documentary and animation titles. The eight-tape video series can be purchased for \$198. Contact the NFB office in your area. (CX3625)

Women's activism publications

The Vancouver Women's Resource Centre has several publications available: *In Women's Interests: Feminist Activism and Institutional Change* (\$3); *Action Research for Women's Groups* (\$4.50); *Women and the Economy* (\$4.50); and *Evaluation Guide for Women's Groups* (\$7). Order from WRC, 2245 West Broadway, #101, Vancouver, B.C. V6K 2E4, (604) 734-0485. (CX3626)

Books on breast cancer

The YM-YWCA of Winnipeg, with the Health Promotion Directorate of Health and Welfare Canada, has produced a set of five books on breast cancer. The books are *Understanding Breast Cancer*, *Diagnosis and Treatment*, *After Breast Cancer*, *A Time for Sharing*, and *Glossary and Resources*. The books are \$5 each, or all five for \$20. Orders may be sent to Women's Resource Centre, YM-YWCA of Winnipeg, 100-209 Vaughan Street, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3B 2N8. (CX3627)

Recovery from sexual assault

The Sexual Assault Recovery Anonymous Society has available a number of publications and video. Contact SARA Society, P.O. Box 16, Surrey, B.C. V3T 4M4, (604) 584-2626. (CX3628)

Databases

Two collections of CD-ROM full text and reference databases are being offered on women's development and health issues. They are *Health for All* and *Women in Development*, and they are available from REFCORP, 4509 Levy, St-Laurent, Quebec H4R 2L8, (514) 745-5030. (CX3629)

Human rights books

Kluwer academic publishers has released a catalogue of new and recent titles in human rights, humanitarian law, and the law of war. Books in the catalogue include *International Human Rights Law in the Commonwealth Caribbean*, *The International Law of Human Rights in Africa*, *Assisting the Victims of Armed Conflict and Other Disasters*, *AIDS: Public Health and Legal Dimensions*, and *The Battle of Human Rights*. For a catalogue contact Kluwer Academic Publishers, P.O. Box 358, Accord Station, Hingham, MA 02018-0358, U.S.A. (CX3630)

Volunteers Wanted

This vacation do something meaningful

tecNICA (Technical Support Project) is a non-government organization that provides professional and technical assistance to Nicaragua and Southern Africa. Its work is directed towards the exchange of skills which are needed for self-sufficient economic development and greater economic equality among the people and nations of the world. tecNICA arranges short working tours (minimum two weeks) for volunteers to Nicaragua and Southern Africa. Computer professionals, mechanics, electricians, machinists, health care workers and other trades are desperately needed. Longer term placements are also possible. Volunteers are responsible for airfare, accommodation, and placement costs; however, tecNICA points out that this can come to less than the cost of many package tours. For information contact tecNICA, Box 81, Station G, Toronto M4M 3E8, (416) 691-1529. (CX3631)

Overseas placements

Canadian Crossroads International is looking for people who are interested in short term volunteer placements in a developing country. CCI is active in 36 countries and over 70 Canadian communities. A specialized skill is not essential; volunteers range in age from 19 to 73. Contact CCI at 31 Madison Avenue, Toronto, Ontario M5R 2S2, (416) 967-0801 (National Office) or (403) 433-8015 (Edmonton), or (902) 422-2933 (Halifax). (CX3632)

Artists/Photographers wanted

The Connexions Digest is looking for volunteer artists and photographers to help illustrate this magazine. If you have photographs or artwork which you think would be appropriate, or if you would be willing to create them, please call Ulli Diemer at (416) 960-3903 or send samples (preferably photocopies at first) to Connexions, 427 Bloor Street West, Toronto, Ontario M5S 1X7. (CX3633)

Canada World Youth

Canada World Youth is now recruiting Canadians and landed immigrants between the ages of 17 and 20 for exchange programs with developing countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America, and the Caribbean. You'll spend seven months with other young people from across Canada and from the exchange country, doing volunteer work in community development, agriculture, or social services. Application deadline is January 31, 1990. For more information, contact Canada World Youth, 340 MacLaren St. B10, Ottawa K2P 0M3, (613) 234-2137. (CX3634)

United Farmworkers

The United Farmworkers are looking for full-time organizers, office administrators and fundraisers to intensify their boycott campaign against California grapes. Contact United Farmworkers, 600 East Mall, Suite 401, Toronto, Ontario M9B 4B1, (416) 626-6332. (CX3635)

Peace Magazine

Peace Magazine is looking for volunteers to help with production, advertising, and circulation. Contact Kelly McDowell at (416) 533-7581. (CX3636)

Deborah Barndt, author
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News Briefs

Postal cuts threaten magazines

The Progressive Conservative government's spring budget included drastic cuts to the century-old postal subsidy program only 12 months it had promised magazine publishers the program would be retained for at least five more years. The budget cuts \$45 million from the \$220 million subsidy program. According to the Canadian Periodical Publishers' Association (CPPA), "Canada Post provides the critical link between publisher and reader for the overwhelming majority of Canadian magazines. Subscriptions are the backbone of nearly all magazines, because newsstands are dominated by American magazines and account for less than 10 per cent of Canadian magazine revenues. The subsidy program makes periodicals of all types available to readers, no matter where they live. Canadian magazines are at a disadvantage when competing with American magazines because they have the same upfront costs, but have a much smaller market and don't have the economies of scale U.S. publications have. According to CPPA president Lorraine Filyer, postal increases could wipe out the industry's slim profits; in fact, 60 per cent of CPPA member publications operate with no profit margin at all, even with the postal subsidy.

(CX3637)

GST another blow to magazines

The proposed goods and services tax (GST) is expected to have a substantial negative impact on the Canadian magazine industry, according to the Canadian Periodical Publishers' Association (CPPA) and the Don't Tax Reading Coalition. The tax will force magazines to raise their prices by 7 per cent, the amount of the tax, but studies have shown that this will mean an inevitable dropping off of subscribers and purchasers because of price resistance, especially since subscriptions to U.S. magazines will not be subject to the tax. The CPPA is urging readers to write to Prime Minister Mulroney ask that the government not tax reading. Meanwhile, Firefly Books has produced sheets of protest stamps, for use on the outside of letters, bearing the inscription "Hi! I Tax Books", accompanied by pictures of Brian Mulroney and Michael Wilson. Incidentally, the photos of Mulroney and Wilson used on the stamps were provided gratis by their offices. "Any taxpayer can ask a minister's office for a picture and that's what I did," said Estelle Gee of Firefly. "But I didn't tell them what I wanted them for."

(CX3638)

Doublespeak award for Wilson, Tory cabinet

The Doublespeak Commission of the Canadian Council of Teachers of English (CCTE) has announced that Finance Minister Michael Wilson and the federal cabinet have won the second annual CCTE Public Doublespeak Award. Wilson won for his statements justifying the government's refusal to fulfill many of its election promises. Wilson said, "The commitments we made as a government going back to last summer were taken in a context of a program expenditure profile which I think was responsible. I think what we've seen since that time is a significant increase in interest rates, which obviously is colouring the fiscal position for the next year and [other] years if we don't deal with the fiscal problem."

External Affairs Minister Joe Clark was cited for his response to the disclosure that the Bank of Nova Scotia had made a \$600 million loan to a South African-controlled company, despite a ban on such loans. Said Clark, "The loan by the Bank of Nova Scotia is in our judgement in conformity with the language of the Commonwealth ban and consequently the government of Canada's ban."

Also sharing the prize was Defense Minister Bill McKnight, who justified the government's decision to let the U.S. test its advanced stealth cruise missile in Canada. McKnight said that the radar-evading missile "is by no means a 'stealth' cruise missile," just an improved model that "looks very similar to its predecessor."

Also cited was Trade Minister John Crosbie, who said, after it was revealed that his wife and daughter had been given free trips to Thailand, that "it was - I would presume it was - a gift to my wife." The next day he said, "My wife went to represent me and to represent Canada in furtherance of good relationships between the country and Thailand. It is not a gift in the ordinary sense of the word."

The CCTE also gave its George Orwell Plain English Award to Adbusters of Vancouver for the television commercial the group produced. The commercial was designed to give the other side of the story after the Council of Forest Industries televised commercials about its reforestation efforts.

For further information on the awards, or to nominate candidates for next year's awards, write to Prof Richard Coe, Dept. of English, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, B.C. V5A 1S6.

-Source: *Quarterly Review of Doublespeak*

(CX3639)

Private guards block public street

In the Toronto suburb of North York, controversy has erupted over the fact that a developer has been allowed to post a guard on a public road running through a posh subdivision. Only those with appointments are being allowed past the guardhouse built in the middle of Joel Swirsky Blvd. by the developer, Bramalea Ltd. North York has been allowing the developer to restrict access to the area, over the protests of residents who are angry that a private company can block a public road. According to Bramalea Ltd. spokeswoman Maureen McCauley, the guardhouse is justifiable because the homes in the subdivision contain "very, very expensive furniture".

(CX3640)

Federal budget

The federal budget has been severely criticized by grassroots groups since it was released (after first being leaked) in late April. Among the budget's provisions are the cancellation of the promised national child care program, unemployment insurance cutbacks and premium increases, a regressive goods and services tax, and cutbacks in many programs which serve the poor, women, and other disadvantaged groups. Among the contentious items are a "claw-back" of old age security and family allowances, a measure which undermines the universality of social programs. Critics contend a fairer approach would be to tax those with higher incomes at a higher rate, but the government is unwilling to do this.

(CX3641)

Budget spares banks

While many Canadians will suffer as a result of the Progressive Conservative government's budget, Canada's banks had the good fortune to emerge unscathed. Finance Minister Michael Wilson's budget exempted the banks from the new federal sales tax. The sales tax is to be applied to virtually all transactions, whether they involve products or services. However, banks and shares traded from the stock market are being exempted. (Minor banking services such as the rental of safety deposit boxes will be subject to the tax.) It had been estimated that the new tax would have cost Canada's banks about \$500 million had it been applied to them.

By another stroke of good fortune, the banks were also spared the application of a proposed tax on bank profits. According to Kersi Doodha, a bank analyst at Maison Placements Canada Inc., a tax on bank profits might have collected about \$500 million over two years. As a group, Canada's major domestic banks posted a record of \$3.3 billion profit in fiscal 1988. Doodha credited the banking lobby with ensuring that the budget spared them any harsh treatment. (CX3642)

UI benefits to be cut

The federal government is implementing a major overhaul of the Unemployment Insurance system. The changes will cut benefits being paid to unemployed workers. The money being cut is to be used to pay for retraining programs, leading Employment and Immigration Minister Barbara McDougall to deny that Unemployment Insurance was being cut. Critics pointed out, however, that using the funds to pay for a separate program doesn't change the fact that many people will be facing sharp reductions in what they receive. The changes double the number of weeks required to qualify for UI, meaning that some people would be unable to collect benefits at all. Benefits are also to be slashed from 60% to 50%, and the maximum number of weeks that a person can collect UI is to be reduced from 50 to 35. The changes will place a greater burden on provincial and municipal social assistance budgets, because more people will be forced to turn to welfare and to food banks to survive. Low-income workers will be disproportionately affected by the cutbacks: 80 per cent of those affected will have incomes under \$25,000 a year. The Atlantic provinces will be especially hard hit; it is estimated that 12.1 per cent of benefit losses will be in the Atlantic region, which has only 7.7 per cent of Canada's work force. (CX3643)

VIA shutdown meets opposition

The federal Progressive Conservative government's decision to slash train service in half (with a possible complete shutdown of passenger rail service to come) has met with widespread opposition. Critics of the VIA system, who have the ear of the government, have said that VIA's continuing deficit (\$600 million in 1988) is an argument for abandoning passenger rail service. However, defenders of rail transportation make a number of strong arguments. They point out that VIA was originally set up by the government in such a way as to guarantee it would lose money. VIA was carved out of CP and CN, but CP and CN were given ownership of all of the system's track and stations, and VIA has been forced to pay huge sums to 'rent' the use of the tracks, while having to put up with its trains being delayed to accommodate freight traffic. VIA was also saddled with outdated rolling stock, and has never been given the capi-

tal to invest in modern equipment. VIA's loss figures are also greatly inflated because the government requires it to service remote locations which are inevitably money-losers. Rail supporters also point out that air and road traffic receive huge hidden subsidies, such as government-financed roads and airports, many of which are already stretched to capacity. And they note that car and truck exhaust fumes are major sources of pollution, including acid rain and ozone layer depletion, while rail is much less polluting.

Critics of the VIA cuts are also challenging the undemocratic way the decision is being implemented. The government made no mention of cuts during the last election campaign, although they were already being secretly planned at the time. Now it is pushing them through by executive order without holding hearings or passing legislation, using a controversial legal manoeuvre to circumvent the due process laid out in the National Transportation Act.

About 2,800 VIA workers will lose their jobs, together with about 5,500 in other companies directly dependent on VIA. (CX3644)

Ontario allows 'monster' trucks

The Ontario government has decided to allow extra-long tractor-trailer trucks to operate in the province. Size limits for the trucks are being extended to 25 metres (82 feet) long. Railway spokespeople said that the proposed new regulations will give truckers a boost against railway transportation, although railways are environmentally better because they use less energy. According to CN spokesman Mike Matthews, truckers pay only a tiny fraction of the cost of maintaining provincial highways, while railways spend hundreds of millions of dollars maintaining track with much smaller government subsidies. The decision was also criticized by the Canadian Automobile Association, which said that the larger trucks are responsible for more accidents and deaths on the roads. The trucks are already allowed in the western provinces. (CX3645)

Executive salaries rising

Canadian executives' salaries increased by an average of 7 per cent in the year ending July 1989. Workers meanwhile received an average increase of 5.8 per cent.

-From a survey by Peat Marwick Stevenson and Kellogg (CX3646)

Free trade to mean higher pay for execs

The salaries of Canadian business executives should rise by about 35 per cent under free trade, according to Douglas Caldwell, the chairman of Caldwell Partners International, an executive search firm. "Free trade makes it much easier for Canadians to move to the U.S.," said Caldwell. "Canadian companies are upping their salary levels to hang on to their people." (CX3647)

Jobs said lost under free trade

The Canadian Labour Congress (CLC) has released a report saying that 55,500 jobs were lost in the first nine months of free trade. "We are moving from a branch-plant economy to a warehouse economy," said CLC president Shirley Carr. "More jobs are moving south every day." (CX3648)

Canadian magazines worried

The Canadian Periodical Publishers' Association (CPPA) is concerned that legislation which discourages U.S. publishers from selling their Canadian "overflow" circulation to Canadian advertisers is being circumvented in the wake of the Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement. Tariff item 9958 prohibits the importation into Canada of magazines in which more than 5 per cent of advertising is aimed primarily at Canadians. It also specifically prohibits the importation of special, split-run, or "Canadian" editions containing Canadian-directed advertising which does not appear in the main edition from the originating country. This tariff item has helped protect an indigenous Canadian magazine publishing industry. According to the CPPA, some publishers are now exploring loopholes in the legislation (for example, printing their Canadian edition in Canada so they won't have to import it into the country. Others appear simply to be ignoring the legislation in the belief that penalties are not serious enough to worry about. Since the tariff was first imposed in 1964, some magazines have received repeated warnings, but no magazine has actually been turned back no matter how often it has broken the rules. The CPPA fears that such infractions will now increase.

-CPPA Newsletter #128
(CX3649)

Tax breaks only for free traders

Revenue Canada has ruled that corporations which made contributions to the massive pro-free trade campaign will be able to claim their contributions as business expenses eligible for tax deductions, but that businesspeople who opposed free trade, like Edmonton publisher Mel Hurtig, cannot claim the contributions as a business expense. Revenue Canada's ruling is based on the contention that it was good business for companies to support free trade because free trade would lead to increased income for them, whereas opposing free trade was not justifiable in business terms.

The federal government and the business-backed pro-free trade alliances spent about \$60 million supporting free trade. The two main anti-free trade groups, in contrast, spent a total of about \$900,000. In addition, the pro-free trade forces received incalculable amounts of free publicity from the news media, almost all of which backed free trade and slanted their coverage accordingly.

(CX3650)

We all like to save on our taxes

The Bronfman family is arranging for two of its companies to shift \$528 million worth of oil and gas assets, for reasons that may have more to do with tax sheltering than corporate restructuring. Norcen Energy Resources Ltd. will buy most of the energy assets of Westmin Resources Ltd. Both companies are owned by the Bronfman family. At the same time, Westmin will transfer tax writeoffs it has accumulated to Norcen. Westmin has at least \$125 million in potential tax credits which it can't use because its reported income isn't high enough. Norcen will use the credits it acquires to 'shelter' some of its own earnings. Norcen's director of planning, George Kenda, said that "a critical aspect" of the deal is getting a favourable tax ruling on it from Ottawa. "If we do not get the tax ruling, it would set the deal back," said Kenda. Kenda said it was too early to tell whether the corporate reshuffling would lead to layoffs.

(CX3651)

Tax Facts

In the period 1984-1988, an upper-income family with an annual household income of \$122,000 enjoyed a six per cent reduction of its tax burden. During the same period, a middle-income household with an income of \$49,000 faced a ten per cent increase in taxes paid. A working poor household with a \$24,000 income witnessed a 44 per cent increase in its tax burden.

-Canadian Council on Social Development
(CX3652)

Nothing for workers at bankrupt firm

Workers at a bankrupt limousine company in the Toronto area have been told they have no hope of collecting any of the \$625,000 in severance and termination pay which is owed to them. At a bankruptcy hearing for Eureka Coach Company, 130 workers received nothing, while the Toronto-Dominion Bank and a Vancouver-based holding company split the firm's \$1.5 million in assets. "The workers get a kick in the teeth any time a company declares bankruptcy," said Jerry Dias, president of Canadian Auto Workers Local 112, which represented the workers. He urges changes in federal and provincial insolvency laws to ensure that employees receive monies owing to them.

(CX3653)

Post Office workers have some rights

An arbitrator has ruled that Canada Post acted wrongfully in disciplining workers who criticized it publicly or who joined information pickets. The policy threatened disciplinary action against workers who wrote letters, spoke publicly, or picketed against Canada Post, and was used on a number of occasions against workers who participated in the campaign against privatization and service cutbacks organized by the Canadian Union of Postal Workers. Under the policy, one B.C. letter carrier was suspended for five days for appearing before his municipal council asking it to support continued door-to-door mail delivery.

(CX3654)

Unions attack Quebec law

Quebec public sector unions are mounting a campaign against a Quebec law that imposes severe penalties on health-care workers who strike illegally. The law "does not respect fundamental rights. It is repressive and divisive," said Gerald Larose of the Confederation of National Trade Unions.

(CX3655)

Speed-up at Boeing

An electrical installer at Boeing's huge Everett plant near Seattle, Washington has gone public with allegations of quality problems at the plant. Les Warby, who holds a degree in electronic engineering technology, cited failings in training and quality control, and regular misuse of tools. He described the examination given to precision workers at the end of their company training course: "During the exam the teacher said feel free to help one another, and then he left the room." The 20 students then collaborated on the answers to the paper. Only one man, who refused to join in with the others, failed. Routine use of improper tools is rife, according to Mr. Warby. Special crimping tools to connect wires in high-vibration areas such as around engines are regularly ignored in favour of a pair of ordinary pliers. After regular flying these connections could shake themselves apart. "The attitude seems to be we've got a

hundred customers out there all screaming for their planes. Let's meet our quota. If we have a problem, don't worry about it, they'll catch it somewhere else." Mr. Warby was one of a number of Boeing employees and ex-employees to go public with similar allegations. Media attention focused on Boeing, the largest manufacturer of civil aircraft in the world, after several Boeing planes suffered serious and unexplained mechanical problems recently.

(CX3656)

Falling out of the skies

From all over the planet, it seems, reports are coming in of bizarre failures in jumbo jets and their components: an engine stops working over the Pacific, part of a wing tears off a plane over Manila, nine passengers sucked out over Hawaii. Until lately, Boeing, the maker of most large commercial jetliners, tended to insist that it was up to the individual airlines to make sure their planes were safe. Early in 1989, however, Boeing, realizing that its own image was being tarnished by the publicity around plane failures, set up the *Ageing Fleet Evaluation Program*, to try to help deal with the problems of aging airplanes. The program has found that of the 1,649 Boeing 727s in service around the world, fully 435 have amassed more flying hours than they were expected to do in their entire working lives. Boeing is now planning to advise airlines about how to deal with metal fatigue and other problems of ageing, and to pressure airlines not to fly planes that ought to be pulled from service. "It's not these rinky-dink Third World airlines who are to blame," said a Boeing executive. "They usually have their services and inspections performed in Europe, where work is thorough enough. No, it's big corporate airlines that push their planes - our planes - to the limits and beyond. Look at the figures. Read the news." Journalist Simon Winchester, writing in the *Manchester Guardian Weekly*, points out, "The last three incidents involving jumbo jets - the engine failure, the broken wing, the torn fuselage - had three things in common. All involved older 747s, made by Boeing. All incidents took place over the unimaginable vastness of the Pacific Ocean. And all three incidents occurred on jets owned and operated by United Air Lines."

(CX3657)



Planes disabled for servicing

A former employee of Skylink Airlines of British Columbia has testified that he deliberately disabled aircraft to allow necessary maintenance work to be done. Charles Torrey said Skylink president Rafael Zur told him repeatedly that maintenance work was costing too much. Torrey says Zur wanted to keep airplanes flying and keep maintenance to a minimum. Torrey said that he would remove parts from aircraft to ensure they stayed in the hangar until maintenance was done. Seven people died when a Skylink twin turbo-prop crashed in northwestern British Columbia on September 26. The airline's license has since been revoked.

-Source: *Canadian Press*, November 12, 1989

(CX3658)

Cancer, weed-killers linked

The more weed-killer farmers use, the greater their risk of dying from a cancer of the immune system, a federal study has found. The study examined 70,000 Saskatchewan farmers and found that the risk of death "goes up regularly with acres sprayed", according to Dr. Donald Wigle, an epidemiologist with Health and Welfare Canada. The study also found that the risk of dying goes up with the amount of gasoline, oil, and other fuel a farmer used. Saskatchewan was chosen for the study because it has the highest rate of use of 2,4-D and other herbicides in Canada. The study's conclusions are considered preliminary, but coupled with other studies in Sweden and the U.S., they seem to point to a link between pesticide use and cancer risk.

(CX3659)

Toxic dumps in Quebec

At least 66 toxic waste dumps in Quebec pose a risk to human health and the environment, according to a provincial agency, GERLED, which has been studying the problem. GERLED has identified 372 toxic waste dumps in the province. It says that Quebec produces more than 350,000 tonnes of toxic waste a year, about one-third of which is dumped directly into the St. Lawrence River.

(CX3660)

Great Lakes health danger

Health risks are increasing for the 35 million people living in the Great Lakes basin as toxic chemicals continue to accumulate, according to a report from the Conservation Foundation and from the Institute for Research on Public Policy. The report says that much of the toxic pollution entering the Lakes comes through the air. It also identified the runoff of agricultural chemicals as a particularly serious problem.

(CX3661)

Woman fights for pollution information

A Peterborough, Ontario woman is battling to have the provincial environment ministry release information about 11 local polluters. Jeanne Sparling says that both city and ministry staff have refused her request for information about pollution of the Otonabee River by 10 companies and by the city itself. Sparling got a list of the names of the polluters from the ministry through the Ontario Freedom of Information Act, but none of the details contained in the report on the polluters. The city and the 10 companies cited in the report agreed not to release the findings, even though, as Sparling notes, the report "was paid for by taxpayers".

-Source: *Toronto Star*, November 21, 1989

(CX3662)

Environmental labels

A governmental committee is working on implementing a program to label products that qualify as 'environmentally friendly'. The program follows the West German Blue Angel label, started in 1978. The idea is to let consumers know which products are not harmful – or less harmful – to the environment. The committee acknowledges that it is difficult to find products that unequivocally qualify. It has decided that the whole production process has to be taken into account, concluding that it would be inappropriate to recognize products as environmentally sensitive if the manufacturer is causing problems upstream. Julia Langer of Friends of the Earth questioned the value of the new logos, saying that "we're already seeing companies that are marketing supposedly better products using their own logos. But the public has no idea *how much* better they are." She says that people must realize that less consumption is ultimately more desirable than switching brands. (CX3663)

Lost, leaking H-Bomb 'no danger'

Twenty-four years later, the United States has finally admitted publicly that it lost a hydrogen bomb off the southern Japanese coast in 1965 in a plane crash. The U.S. has told Japanese authorities the bomb has leaked radioactive material into the ocean. However, according to a U.S. report there is 'no danger' of an explosion or of environmental contamination.

According to Greenpeace, this bomb is only one of 48 nuclear weapons and seven nuclear reactors which have been lost by the navies of the Soviet Union and the United States. (CX3664)

Oil dollars

The Exxon Corporation is expected to have to pay hundreds of millions of dollars to clean up its Alaskan oil spill and to pay for related damages. Experts predict that the total bill to Exxon will total some \$500 million. Shareholders need not panic, however – \$500 million represents about two days' worth of revenues for the oil giant, whose revenue last year was \$88.6 billion, and whose annual profits were \$5.3 billion. (CX3665)

Farmers resist foreclosures

An organized campaign of resistance to farm foreclosures is under way in rural Saskatchewan. More than 1,500 farmers have attended meetings this fall to plan farm-gate defenses and to organize a boycott of foreclosed land. Two groups, the **Agricultural Action Co-operative**, and the **Christian Farm Crisis Action Committee**, have distributed hundreds of posters and notices to co-ordinate the campaign. "Refuse to buy, rent or lease any land seized by lending institutions," the notices say. "Refuse to allow lending institutions to conduct successful auction sales to dispose of your neighbour's assets...Please do not assist them in destroying our rural sector." Jake Bendal of the Christian Farm Crisis Action Committee estimates that 8,000 to 10,000 farmers in the province are facing a threatened seizure of their land or equipment. "At first they thought it was their fault for being poor managers. But now they realize it's happening to everybody." (CX3666)

Meat inspections slashed

Canada's Agriculture Department has drastically reduced its border inspections of U.S. meat products as a result of the free trade agreement. Only about five per cent of U.S. meat

products are now being inspected, compared with 100 per cent before free trade. Under the new system, Canadian inspectors only make spot checks of meat. The National Farmers Union (NFU) has charged that the reductions prove that food quality standards are being lowered to conform to U.S. levels. Wayne Easter, president of the NFU, said that "this is especially critical with regard to chicken imports, because the production lines in many American poultry processing plants are so fast it is virtually impossible to inspect everything that goes through." (CX3667)

Occupational health centre dumped

The Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety (CCOHS) is to lose all of its federal funding by April 1991, the Progressive Conservative government has announced. The federal Minister of Labour, Jean Corbeil, said that he wants the CCOHS to find independent sources of funding, but this is considered impossible by the Centre, especially given the short time frame. The Centre is an important source of information about workplace health and safety. Among the tasks recently carried out by the Centre have been the development of a national standard for chemicals in the workplace and the drafting of recommendations for national standards for man-made fibres. It recently broadened its electronic data base to include environmental information. Last year it distributed 8,000 compact disks of information, served 1,200 organizations and businesses with its on-line services, and handled 66,000 inquiries. It has sent out over 150,000 technical publications. Most of the data from the centre are available free to workers, unions, the public, and employers. It recovered about \$441,000 last year in sales of printed materials and for conducting workshops. According to Dr. Gordon Atherley, the Centre's president, there is no way the Centre can cover its costs by fee for service. \$1.45 million will be slashed from its budget this year, \$4.625 million next year, and the entire budget will be eliminated by 1991.

According to David Leitch, the director of the Toronto Workers Health and Safety Legal Clinic, even if the Centre could survive by implementing high user fees, user fees will inevitably discourage inquiries, especially from small employers and workers without unions. Leitch points out that if the Centre is successful in reducing the number of workplace injuries and illnesses by even one per cent, it would be contributing direct savings of \$30 million per year to the Canadian economy, several times the cost of its annual budget. And that's without counting the basic human value of lives saved or injuries prevented. (CX3668)

Logger's death

A B.C. logger who was killed on the job earlier this year was working for a company that had been under close scrutiny by the Workers Compensation Board for violating provincial safety regulations, a coroner's inquest has been told. Rodney Tubbs died on July 27 after being struck by a block of cedar logs that had fallen out of a sling on a helicopter. He was employed by G & R Cedar Ltd., an independent contractor working for MacMillan Bloedel. Charles Burrell, a MacMillan Bloedel manager, told the inquest he is not particularly interested in knowing whether companies subcontracted by his firm are violating provincial regulations. He suggested that there may be too many safety regulations in the logging industry. Mr. Tubbs was one of over 150 people to die on the job in B.C.'s logging industry since 1984. (CX3669)

Government backs down on safety bill

The Ontario government is backing away from legislation which would let workers shut down work places they consider unsafe. "We had a breakdown in communication", said Industry and Trade Minister Monte Kwinter. "We were led to believe that there had been consultation [with business] and that they were onside." Business groups have been lobbying fiercely against the proposed bill, and the government has now indicated that key provisions will be changed or watered down. Most labour unions have been supporting the bill.

Ross Dunsmore, chairman of the Metro Toronto Board of Trade labour relations committee, said that free trade makes it necessary to weaken the legislation. "We have to compare the cost of doing business here with Buffalo or Georgia... The more impositions the government makes... the more it will cost and more companies will be pushed to the United States." (CX3670)

Man fired for AIDS gets damages

The Canadian Human Rights Commission (CHRC) has ruled that it is discriminatory for an employer to fire someone because they have AIDS or have tested positive for the HIV virus. The Commission's made its ruling in the case of a Canadian Pacific employee who was fired after he revealed that he had tested positive for AIDS. According to Michelle Falardeau-Ramsay, the CHRC's deputy head, "AIDS is not a moral issue. AIDS is an illness. Would you fire someone if that person had cancer even if that person was able to do the work? AIDS is not contagious except when you are in contact with blood, blood-related products or semen. Education is required. misinformation on AIDS is rampant all over the place." (CX3671)

Barrie deaths investigated

The Ontario Ministry of Labour is investigating reports of deaths and illness said to be linked to a company that operated tanneries in Barrie, Oshawa, Kitchener, and Coburg. The **Simcoe County Injured Workers Association** says that it has received reports of appalling working conditions at the plants, and the dumping of hazardous chemicals into city sewers and creeks. The company, Robson Lange Leather Inc. closed in 1986. Dr. Jim Stopps, chief of health studies services for the Ministry of Labour, said that 44 reports of death and illness are being investigated. (CX3672)

Break-ins against activist groups

Several environmental and peace groups have suffered break-ins at their premises this past year. These include the Ontario Environment Network in Toronto, the Canadian Environmental Law Association in Toronto, the Toronto chapter of Science for Peace, the Green Party of British Columbia in Vancouver, and the Ottawa office of NDP MP Jim Fulton. Fulton headed the NDP's Environmental Task Force which recently held hearings across the country.

The Ontario Environment Network and the Canadian Environmental Law Association both were robbed of information and computer equipment. Nothing was taken from Fulton's office, but files were gone through, and Fulton believes that materials were photocopied on the office photocopier.

Green party spokesman Murray Gudmundson said party officials believe the break-in at their office was politically motivated. "All the filing cabinets were open and had been rifled through," he said. "We're still not sure what's missing.

They left a photocopier and stereo, but stole a computer and hard disk, which held our mailing and membership lists. The office was vandalized as well.

For the most part, expensive equipment such as computers and fax machines have been ignored, while correspondence, mailing lists, financial records, and strategy papers have been gone after.

Federal Solicitor-General Jean-Jacques Blais has said that he has been assured by the RCMP that there is no connection between any of the break-ins. One man has been charged in connection with a break-in at the Burnaby, B.C. offices of LifeForce, an animal rights group. Another man has been charged with the break-in at the Ontario Environment Network.

(CX3673)

Quebec police monitor TV, radio

Quebec provincial police have been monitoring and recording most public-affairs shows on Quebec television and radio, including open-line shows, for the past 19 years, it has been revealed by Justice Minister Gil Remillard. The information emerged when it was revealed that the Surete du Quebec had complained about radio talk-show host Andre Arthur to the Canadian Radio-Television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC). The force sent a letter to the CRTC, along with recordings of 10 shows in which Mr. Arthur was sharply critical of police operations. The letter complained that among other things in Mr. Arthur's shows, police officers were referred to as "little local Pinochets". Mr. Remillard defended the police practice of taping most public-affairs shows. "The air waves are of the public domain; this is not electronic eavesdropping, and everything is done in respect of the guarantees of freedom of speech and information written in the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms," he said.

(CX3674)

RCMP unit disbanded

The special federal inquiries section of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, which has brought several Conservative MPs to trial during the past three years, has been disbanded. The investigators in the unit have been transferred to other branches of the RCMP. The RCMP's senior officer in charge of the division, Rodney Stampler, has taken early retirement. Former Liberal solicitor-general Robert Kaplan has charged that the government deliberately interfered to have the unit disbanded in order to diminish the effectiveness of the special federal inquiries section. The government and the RCMP have declined comment.

(CX3675)

Security service probes Innu

The Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS) investigated the Labrador Innu community last winter as part of a nation-wide probe into native groups, a senior CSIS official has revealed. According to one man who was interviewed by CSIS, CSIS seemed to be trying to find out if the Innu had been infiltrated by Arab extremists. Raymond Boisvert, a senior CSIS official, said that the investigation was done for the federal Solicitor-General. He said that CSIS was "trying to get the pulse of native communities."

(CX3676)

Orthodoxy is the death of intelligence.
– Bertrand Russell

Ottawa tightens information tap

The federal Conservative government has moved to tighten controls on information being made available to the public. A computerized system has been set up to vet all requests under the Access to Information Act. All departments receiving a request for information are being required to search the system to see if there are parallel requests made to other departments and to follow them up by contacting those other departments. They will also be required to identify any requests that involve "major legal or policy issues." The new computerized system follows a previous directive from the Prime Minister's office that all government departments had to contact the PMO before "releasing potentially embarrassing information". (CX3677)

Canadian journalist called FBI informant

Journalist Peter Worthington worked as an informant for the U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) in the 1960's, according to Southam News. According to Southam, Worthington gave the FBI a list of 282 people, including 80 Canadians, who were active in opposing the war in Vietnam. A document obtained by Southam identifies Worthington as an "informant". Worthington has denied that he "consciously" gave information to the FBI. (CX3678)

FBI claims world-wide powers

The U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) has announced that it has been given the authority to seize "fugitives" living in other countries without the consent of the governments of those countries. It claims that it has the right to seize foreign citizens as well as U.S. citizens. The policy would give the FBI the "right", for example, to seize a Canadian citizen on Canadian soil and take him back to the U.S., in a situation where the Canadian courts were refusing an extradition request. Washington observers think that the impetus for the FBI's claim arises out of the U.S. government's desire to lay their hands on Panamanian ruler General Manuel Noriega, formerly on the CIA payroll, but now on the outs with Washington. (CX3679)

Newspaper boycotted for honesty

Canada's 13 largest travel tour operators have been boycotting The Toronto Star newspaper, refusing to place ads in the newspaper until the paper agrees to stop publishing what they call "negative" travel stories. The protest began December 31, 1988, after The Star published an article which related complaints by vacationers about food and accommodations in the Dominican Republic, and another article which focussed on the humorous experiences of a Star editor in hurricane-struck Cancun, Mexico. (CX3680)

Gay activist's slaying commemorated

When gay activist Joe Rose was murdered on a Montreal bus by a group of youths who taunted him about being gay, McGill University's CKUT radio devoted a 15-hour day of programming to discussions about what it means to be gay or lesbian in a homophobic society. The program included taped interviews, radio plays, profiles of homosexuals in history and panel discussions with parents of gays and lesbians. (CX3681)

Temagami ruling dangerous precedent

The Ontario Court of Appeal has rejected the land claim case brought to it by the Bear Island Indian band of the Temagami region of Ontario. The court ruled that the band has no claim to ownership of the 10,360 square kilometres of land it was claiming. The court said that the band's rights to the land had been ceded to the crown for the equivalent of \$25 by virtue of an 1850 treaty. Lawyers and activists in the Native rights field were stunned by the decision, which sets a number of dramatic precedents. The court ruling says that in law, aboriginal land rights are extinguishable at will by governments, whether all the requirements of a formal treaty surrendering those lands were followed or not, and that a Native group can be deemed to have given up its historic lands simply by accepting cash payments and other treaty benefits, whether or not it actually agreed to such a land deal. The ruling also says that a Native group can lose its historic lands and be bound to a treaty by the actions of an individual who may not even belong to that group. The ruling overturns the notion that Canadian governments were and still are obliged to follow a 226-year-old British directive known as the Royal Proclamation, which required British colonies to negotiate and reach agreement with Native groups before taking their lands for European settlement. The Temagami ruling clears the way for Ontario's Liberal government to permit logging roads into the wilderness which Natives and environmentalists have been striving to preserve from logging. The band will seek permission to appeal the ruling to the Supreme Court of Canada, and if necessary to the World Court. (CX3682)

Innu acquittals overturned

The Newfoundland Court of Appeal has overturned the acquittal of four Innu who had been charged for protesting against low-level military flights over their territory. The Innu were acquitted of mischief in April by Judge James Igloliorte, who said that the Natives reasonably believed the Canadian forces base Goose Bay was on their land. Ruling that the judge made a procedural error, the Court of Appeal declared the trial null and void. The Crown must now decide whether to apply for a new trial, and how to proceed against about 200 other Innu who have been arrested in similar protests. (CX3683)

Crees fine government

A Native court has found the Government of Canada guilty of tax evasion and has ordered the government to pay \$50 million to the Ouje-Bougoumou band in Northern Quebec. The Native judges heard testimony that forestry and mining on lands belonging to the Crees had produced at least \$4 billion worth of revenue. The band has been forced to relocate several times since the 1920s by resource companies working on the land with government authorization. The federal government refused to attend the hearing, and has said that it will refuse to pay the \$50 million. (CX3684)

Native land claims make lawyers rich

Ottawa is spending a small fortune paying private law firms to fight native land claims, according to the October issue of Canadian lawyer magazine. "Native land claims pushed fallout from bank failures, ureaformaldehyde lawsuits and even free trade out of the spending spotlight for outside legal services", says the magazine. As an example, it cites Calgary lawyer Brian Malone, who represents the federal government in the Lubicon

land dispute. Malone billed the government more than \$442,000 between April 1, 1988 and March 31, 1989. The Vancouver firm of Koenigsberg and Russell charge Ottawa \$621,546 during the same period for handling three native land claims.

"These are your tax dollars at work," said Lubicon spokesman Fred Lennarson, who maintains the billings are "the tip of the iceberg" in Ottawa's costly efforts to avoid settling native claims. Lennarson noted that in the dispute over the Lubicon's claim, Ottawa is also paying federal spokesman Ken Colby and the Calgary law firm of Walsh Young.

-Source: *Canadian Lawyer*, October 1989; *Calgary Herald*, October 26, 1989

(CX3685)

Indian bands join defence alliance

Eighteen Indian bands have joined together in a mutual defense agreement called the Treaty Alliance of Aboriginal Nations. The pact commits the bands to defend and support each other in the case of outside attack – for example, from the government.

(CX3686)

Moscow sells photos of Canadian base

Another indication of the fact that Canadian authorities haven't quite caught up with the changes happening in the world: There are no photos allowed at Canadian Forces Station Alert, a 'top-secret' communications and listening post on Ellesmere Island. The Toronto Star newspaper asked for but was refused permission to send a reporter to the base this summer. So the Star bought a photograph of the base taken by a Soviet satellite, instead. The Soviets are selling satellite photos through an American company with which it has a marketing arrangement. They have decided that the currency value outweighs the questionable benefits of secrecy. Canada has yet to catch up to the new way of thinking.

(CX3687)

Deaf Canadians march

Deaf Canadians marched in a dozen cities across Canada earlier this year to demand changes in the education they receive. One of their major demands was that American Sign Language (ASL) be used in schools for the deaf. The preference for ASL is widespread among the deaf in North America, who have had to do battle with the educational bureaucracies, which have tended to want to make the deaf concentrate on oral communication and on Signed English. Signed English is a literal translation of English which deaf representatives say does not meet their needs. According to Jim Roots, the executive director of the Canadian Association for the Deaf, "the word butterfly is a perfect example [of the difference between the systems]. In American Sign Language, it is a single sign that copies the fluttering motion of a butterfly's wings. In Signed Exact English, it is two separate signs, one for butter and one for fly. Does that make sense? Does that convey the impression of a butterfly? I think not." Concern is also being expressed about government moves to shut down special schools for the deaf in order to integrate them into regular classrooms. They say that while the desire to integrate them has value, this approach to integration often harms the deaf because they can learn better in classes which are specifically set up to meet their needs.

(CX3688)

U.S. hate groups attacked

A southern U.S. anti-racism organization has been finding success in its battles against hate groups by hitting them in the pocketbook. Danny Welch, chief investigator for Klanwatch, a project of the Southern Poverty Law Centre of Alabama, told a conference of the Council of Foundations in Toronto that there are currently 22,000 hard-core members of about 100 organized hate groups in the United States, ranging from the Ku Klux Klan to the emerging neo-Nazi skinhead movement. Klanwatch was formed to keep track of hate groups and to take civil action against them. The decision to attack the Klan and other groups through civil litigation was in response to the realization that there was only scattered prosecution of Klan activities in various police jurisdictions. Among the group's victories is a \$7-million settlement won recently on behalf of the mother of a Mobile, Alabama man who was murdered by the Klan.

(CX3689)

Elgin Blair

Elgin Blair, a long-time member of the Connexions collective, and an activist in many other causes, died on May 13, 1989. When Elgin joined Connexions, he was already "retired", although Elgin in retirement devoted more time to social justice work and environmentalism than many full-time activists. Elgin liked to describe himself as an "information freak". He believed that information and ideas were crucial if society was to change, and he also took immense pleasure in ferreting out and sharing new publications and new sources of information. He was active in supporting gay liberation, co-founded the alternative book distributor *Books Eh?*, and in the last few years was very active in the Green Party. At Connexions, his contribution included his solicitous concern for the well-being of others. The time and energy he contributed were important factors in developing the project and in energizing others. He will be missed.

Elizabeth Wall writes: We fondly remember Elgin Blair who passed away this year. Elgin was a faithful member of Connexions for a number of years. He gave himself generously to all aspects of Connexions whether taking part in decisions, writing abstracts, contributing information on new groups, or envisioning further projects for Connexions. A prodigious reader of periodicals, he had an eagle eye for connections unifying our diverse social change community. He rekindled our enthusiasm in tough times by sharing his hopeful vision with us.

We are most grateful, however, for having known Elgin as a person. He was patient and caring with everyone and believed in tapping people's essential goodness. He cheerfully did his utmost, inspiring us with his hope and faith. I don't think there is anyone he encountered – even briefly – who was not the better for it. I am sure anyone who knew him misses him, as we at Connexions do, but the spirit he nurtured in us flourishes still.

(CX3690)

George Manuel

George Manuel, who was the first president of the National Indian Brotherhood, died this November at the age of 68. A Shuswap Indian, Mr. Manuel led efforts to gain non-governmental status for Native peoples at the United Nations and was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize. He served as president of the National Indian Brotherhood (later the Assembly of First Nations) from 1970 to 1976, and also served as president of the World Council of Indigenous Peoples.

(CX3691)

Alternative Voices

Tax housing speculators?

Toronto - The city's labour movement is calling on the Ontario government to impose a land speculation tax on all non-owner occupied residential sales (including apartment buildings) to help halt the appalling rise in the price of housing.

At its Feb. 2 meeting, the Metro Toronto Labour Council approved an executive board statement calling on the province to impose a land speculation tax of 100 per cent of capital gains if the apartments or homes are sold within one year of purchase; 75 per cent if the property is sold within two years; 50 per cent within three; and 25 per cent within four.

The MTLTC also calls for the same land speculation tax formula to be applied to all other lands 'to remove the incentive to trade in land as a profit-making commodity creating havoc with both housing and industrial needs.'...

When Ontario did have a land speculation tax law on the books in the 1970s, it was so effective house prices eventually increased by only 3.9 per cent a year, compared to an annual rate of 26.8 per cent prior to enactment.

-*Canadian Tribune, Feb. 20, 1989*

(CX3692)

Another view of the deficit

The moralists who insist on deficit cutting on grounds of unfairness to future generations should ask themselves whether these future generations would prefer to be raised with substandard education and health services and without some protection against potential destitution. Or would they prefer to grow up with access to decent social services, even though the interest obligation is the price? And would the future generations want to inherit a rundown plant for transportation, communication and urban infrastructure? And would they want to inherit a destroyed and poisonous environment?

Even though these questions can be posed only in the abstract, the answer must be clear to any rational person. The reality is that by failing to replace the social capital that we keep using up, and to provide now for the things that will fundamentally affect the welfare of future generations, we in fact redistribute income from them to us. Our responsibility for the future cannot be met by budget cutting.

-*From a statement by 23 Canadian economists, May 1989*
(CX3693)

Impaired businessmen

Researchers at Cornell University found that neckties can compromise blood flow to the head and decrease the brain's ability to respond to visual information. Ties that are only 1/2" smaller than a man's neck can reduce blood flow to the eyes. They also found that 2/3 of businessmen wear their ties too tight and that 12% wear them tight enough to interfere with blood flow and brain function. -*The Patient's Advocate* (CX3694)

Alternative Voices

The *Alternative Voices* section presents excerpts from the alternative press and other sources which offer a different perspective from that usually found in the mainstream media. Producers of alternative periodicals and other materials are invited to send copies to Connexions for possible inclusion.

The market vs. the family

Profits are necessary to business, but are they the only legitimate goal in life? Can all political issues be reduced to dollars and cents? Do all problems pale beside the deficit? This is an idiotic accounting in which people become things, and there is no life beyond work and shopping.

As dumb as it is, the free-market ideology enjoys an appealing, macho simplicity. It is this simplicity that lends itself perfectly to the slogan or the 30-second media clip. Market evangelists need know nothing about anything at all. For example, President Reagan, the Great Communicator, thought that trees caused pollution...

Suddenly it is unfashionable to suggest that the economy should operate to meet human needs. It is positively radical to argue that the economy should serve some greater social purpose.

The truth is, our form of the market or enterprise system has given us jobs, prosperity and an amazing choice of food, clothing, and accommodation. However, it would be hard to deny that market forces have also given us industrial waste, split shifts, ghost towns and broken homes....

The market system can dish up incredible things - videocassette recorders, fax machines and microwave ovens - but there are limits to what the market can do. Left to its own devices, it will never develop the regions, save the environment or nurture children.

-*Tony Penikett, leader of The Yukon territorial government*
(CX3695)

Class exists

I am developing a *class* aversion - and, believe me, *class* does exist! - to deep ecologists whose indifference to technology reveals virtually no concern for the hard materials facts of everyday life. This includes technological substitutes for the scrubbing boards that enslaved women for years and for the poorly heated homes that sent many of them to premature deaths from pneumonia before such chemical 'horrors' like anti-biotics were developed.

-*Murray Bookchin, Kick It Over, March 1989*
(CX3696)

The real costs of transportation

The government should ask itself the following questions: what are the full costs of building and maintaining roads, hospital treatment of accident victims, police and other emergency services, and the damage to health and the environment done by automobile exhausts? What is the full cost per kilometre to the individual owner of operating a car or bus, including the original cost, depreciation, insurance and operating costs? Having taken these costs into account, how does the cost of car or bus travel compare with that of train travel?

What about the airline alternative? At the same time as the government is considering cutting out passenger trains, we in Toronto have an inquiry going on into the serious overcrowding of our airport. What will it be like if there is no train alternative?

-*John M. Cummings*
(CX3697)

Government vandalism

I am simply disgusted by our government's latest act of vandalism against VIA Rail. The bottom line is that the Department of Transport has allowed VIA to run down and accumulate huge deficits. Meanwhile, rail systems in every other industrial democracy have thrived, captured market shares from air and auto and reduced pollution and energy consumption in the process. We either have a case of gross mismanagement, or a deliberate effort by bureaucrats and a rotating cast of gutless ministers to get rid of passenger rail in Canada. Are we to pay for their appalling lack of vision and foresight? In the private sector, such a performance would result in dismissal....

Now we hear of enormous service cuts at a time when the number of riders is growing at record rates. It's no surprise that these reductions come without public hearings or parliamentary debate – how much more obvious it would then be that VIA is not dying of natural causes, but from willful abuse and neglect.

-James Rolfe
(CX3698)

Wish you were born rich!?? Now you can be!

Here's a Once in A Lifetime offer! First, leave You Were Born Rich \$10,000 or more in your will. After you pass away, our professional medium will contact your spirit in the other world. Then you tell us when you're coming back and under what name. Upon your return we will regress you, at age 21, through this lifetime and ask you for your seven-digit account number. Once you give us the number, we'll give you a cheque for your original investment plus interest. The longer you're gone, the more you will receive! You may come back to find yourself a billionaire! Show you future self how much you care – leave a generous 'welcome back' present. We'll take care of the rest.

-Reported in Pagans for Peace Newsletter
(CX3700)

Cast out of Eden

In an effort to preserve it, the West has lavished attention on Africa in the forms of imported wildlife management techniques and aid to establish parks and protected areas.

These Western models pose implementation problems for Africa; efforts to manage wildlife are plagued by inadequate funding and inadequate training of managers. Worse yet, in all these imported techniques, the interests of local people who formerly lived off the land have been ignored – wildlife management decisions have been taken as though there were no people in Africa who made conscious efforts to direct their destinies.

Ironically, this has been one of the contributory factors in accelerating the degradation of Eden. From the time of the arrival of the aristocratic (and not-so-aristocratic) hunters in Africa, local people have been dispossessed – excluded from decisions in serving wealthy hunters from the US and Europe in safari slaughters of game they are forbidden to hunt themselves. The resulting alienation underlies many of the conflicts – such as the serious problem of illegal hunting – which typify present problems....

The process of wildlife management is portrayed as a value-free matter and the regulations set up are deemed rational and objective. The concerns, interests and even the desperate needs of local residents are often treated as irrelevancies, outside the system, outside the scope of management considerations. As a result the majority of rural people – in most cases more than 60

to 70 per cent of the total population – see the wildlife managers as part of a foreign system that is virtually blind to their existence....

The peasants who have been left out, marginalized and alienated could, potentially, direct the skills they have known through the ages toward a common purpose. We have to carry the load together. To date, the peasants have been denied both opportunity and responsibility. They are not ignorant; they have known for all these generations who benefits from wildlife management. The time has come to share with them the benefits and the duties.

-Joseph Z.Z. Matowanyika, *Alternatives*, Vol. 16, No. 1, March-April 1989
(CX3701)

Cancer of economic growth

So which would you prefer? Maintain the rat-race or change it and save the planet? You would rather save the planet. You would also, if it came to the crunch, have clean air rather than a car, wholesome food in three varieties rather than industrialised food in 300, earn less money and have less hassle.

Unfortunately, none of those choices are on offer: the system doesn't allow it....

A new world will dawn when tastes change, when the smart and fashionable thing to do will be *not* to consume what you don't need, *not* to work for what you don't want. But then we shall need a new model, a new dream, something else to believe in.

-Walter Schwarz, *Manchester Guardian Weekly*, Sept. 3, 1989
(CX3702)

Toxic fuel scam

It stems in part from the kind of deregulation which both the federal Conservatives and the Ontario Liberals have been pursuing.... the genius of the private enterprise system is that the low bidder gets the business. Unscrupulous waste-disposal companies sprang up, some with mob connections. These companies are cheaper because they cheat. They do not dispose of toxic chemicals in the approved manner. Instead they dump them illegally in ravines. Or even better, they mix them with diesel fuel, gasoline or fuel oil and sell them. In business terms, it is a brilliant idea. The disposal company is paid to get rid of waste; it turns around and actually sells the substance for fuel.... Any government serious about waste disposal would do one of two things. It would do the job itself, under the theory that public health hazards should be handled by public entities. Or it would regulate private disposal companies so heavily as to minimize cheating.

-Thomas Walkom, *Globe and Mail*, May 15, 1989
(CX3703)

Commercial shoot

A matter of raging controversy here is the "commercial shoot", an unsporting arrangement where tame, hand-fed pheasants are kept on short rations until the Range Rovers roll up. Seduced by the whistling of their feeders, these unfortunate, but gullible, birds rush out from the woods to be fed, only to be shot by aspiring sportsmen. One keeper describes his astonishment on a commercial shoot to see a couple of hundred pheasants running out of the wood to meet him. "Soon they were all around my feet almost pecking at my bootlace eyelet holes. They thought I was there to feed them."

-Jane Ellison, *Manchester Guardian Weekly*, May 7, 1989
(CX3704)

New Resources

Development/International

CX3705

El Salvador: People in Struggle

One Sky Report

136 Avenue F South, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan S7M 1S8
(306) 652-1571

This issue of **One Sky Report** deals with the current situation in El Salvador. The introduction covers the current explosion of the war and explains the background of murder and repression that led to an intensification of the fighting. An article on the new ARENA government points to its moves to heighten repression in the country, while also undertaking economic measures which are guaranteed to produce more unrest. While trade union and political leaders, church workers, students, and campesinos are being murdered, Canada still continues to supply aid to the government.

CX3706

Building Bridges to Central America

Tools for Peace

2138 McIntyre Street, Regina, Saskatchewan S4P 2R7
(306) 569-1098

\$5 per module or \$10 per the set of 4

Learning modules for elementary school grades 3,4,5, and 6.

CX3707

The Issue of ... Peace

Latin American Working Group

Box 2207, Station P, Toronto, Ontario M5S 2T2
(416) 533-4221

The Latin American Working Group, together with the Toronto Conference of the United Church, has published an information sheet entitled "**The Issue of ... Peace**", explaining the Esquipulas Accord for peace in Central America. The four-page paper summarizes the thrust of the accord and what has been done to implement it, and also looks at factors that are inhibiting the peace process, most notably the policies of the United States. It suggests actions that Canadians could take to bring peace in the region.

CX3708

Fresh Water: The Human Imperative

International Development Research Council

P.O. Box 8500, Ottawa, Ontario K1G 3H9

1989, 40 pp, ISBN 0-88936-546-6, ISSN 0714-7279

The International Development Research Council is an example of Canadian taxes put to good use. By supporting projects developed and managed by researchers working in their own countries, and by promoting international research networks, the IDRC aids developing nations.

Fresh Water: The Human Imperative examines global water use in terms of deficiency, development, pollution, delivery and storage, and testing. The booklet relates describes the creative approach the IDRC and foreign scientists have taken when examining global water problems. For instance, a project on Chile and Peru's mountainous desert coasts uses nylon nets to capture rainwater from heavy fogs which blow in daily from the Pacific Ocean.

A list of books and films is also available.

CX3709

Searching: Research in Small Countries

International Development Research Council

Box 8500, Ottawa, Ontario, K1G 3H9

(613) 236-6163

36 pp, 1988. ISBN 0-88936-510-5.

CX3710

One Hundred Innovations for Development

Intermediate Technology Development Group

777 United Nations Plaza, New York, N.Y. 10017, U.S.A

ISBN 1-85339-095-X, \$13.50

I.T. Publications of London, England has published **One Hundred Innovations for Development**, a book which profiles 100 solutions to technical problems in the developing world. The guiding principle is that "technical problems require technical solutions, but however innovative the solution it should also be simple, cheap, robust, easy to handle, maintain and repair, and capable of being manufactured in areas of demand." "The innovator has to be researcher, inventor, entrepreneur and social fieldworker in one person."

CX3711

Growing Together: Women, Feminism and Popular Education

Isis International (Women's Program of the International Council for Adult Education)

Available from Participatory Research Group

#308-396 Euclid Avenue, Toronto, Ontario M6G 2S9

(416) 324-8766, 1988, 96 pp, \$7.50, ISBN 88-85840-02-7

The International Council for Adult Education (ICAE) Women's Program promotes a feminist approach to popular education. **Growing Together** looks at the ways Latin American feminists have focused on popular education as a route to empowerment - be it political, economic, social or cultural. Included are papers written by women living in Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, Mexico, Peru, Dominican Republic and Venezuela.

CX3712

Intifada: The Palestinian Uprising Against Israeli Occupation
Zachary Lockman & Joel Bein

MERIP/Between the Lines, c/o DEC Book Distribution

229 College Street, Toronto, Ontario M5T 1R4

1989, 424 pp, \$16.95, ISBN 0-921284-24-1

New Resources

The New Resources section presents information about publications, teaching kits, audio-visual materials and other resources relating to social, economic and environmental alternatives. Summaries of new resources are intended to inform readers about the materials' contents and approach, rather than to present either an endorsement or a critical analysis of them. All entries are numbered and indexed in the indices in the back of the Digest.

Economy/Poverty/Work

CX3713

Workers' Own

Worker Ownership Development Foundation
#212 - 348 Danforth Avenue, Toronto, Ontario M4K 1N8
(416) 461-6992

50 minutes, for sale or rent

Workers' Own is a video about worker co-operatives shot on location at six Toronto area worker co-operatives in 1988. The video tells the viewer what a worker co-op is, what it does, and how one gets started, while evaluating quality of work life and describing some of the problem of trying to put democracy into practice. Also discussed are how women are faring in worker co-ops and the role of labour unions in worker co-ops.

CX3714

How to Invest Your Money With A Clear Conscience

Eugene Ellman

James Lorimer and Company, 142 pp, ISBN 0-88862-895-1

Eugene Ellman examines everyday finance using ethical criteria and presents alternatives to the mainstream methods for such activities as saving and borrowing, RRSPs, mutual funds and other investments, taxation, financing retirement, and getting financial advice. It is written for a Canadian audience and includes appendices of resources, lists of financial institutions and of Canadian and U.S. ethical mutual funds.

CX3715

The Facts on Free Trade

Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE)
21 Florence Street, Ottawa, Ontario K2P 0W6
(613) 237-1590

Vol. 10, No. of **The Facts**, 1988, 128 pp

This thorough examination of the Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement's impact on Canada looks at a wide spectrum of questions. Issues discussed include national identity, job losses, corporate culture, economic and political integration, the environment, the public sector, industries and natural resources, health care, labour, marginalization, and education.

The booklet was published before the agreement was ratified, but the analysis it presents is becoming more relevant as the effects of the deal become clearer.

CX3716

Taskforce on the Churches and Corporate Responsibility 1987-1988 Annual Report

129 St. Clair Avenue West, Toronto, Ontario M4V 1N5
(416) 923-1758
1988, 86 pp, \$4

The **Taskforce's** mandate originates in 1975 when Canadian churches decided to create a body which would report back on national and international government and corporate activities which may be contributing to the abuse of human rights, or causing harm to the environment. In turn, this Taskforce would relay back church response through briefs and lobbying.

In 1988, the International Issues Committee gave priority to Canadian policy concerning South Africa and Namibia, debt crisis in the Third World and Canadian business in the Philippines. Domestically the Taskforce focused on military production and forest land management policies. The churches continued to support the Lubicon people of Alberta in their land dispute.

CX3717

The Canadian Fact Book on Poverty 1989

David P. Ross and Richard Shilington

Canadian Council on Social Development
55 Parkdale Avenue, Box 3505, Ottawa, Ontario K1Y 4G1
(613) 718-1865

\$15 paper, \$25 hardcover

Presents detailed information about poverty in Canada. Among the patterns identified is the fact that poverty continues to strike particularly hard at women and children, that many Canadians live in poverty even though they are employed, and that the distribution of income in Canada is becoming increasingly inequitable.

CX3718

The 1989 Budget and Social Policy

National Council of Welfare

Brooke Claxton Building, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0K9

The primary purpose of this report is to explain the changes to the family allowances and old age pensions in the new federal budget. It points out shortcomings of the "clawback" and recommends alternatives. The paper also briefly reviews other significant features of the 1989 budget.

CX3719

Whose Money Is It Anyway: The Showdown on Pensions

Ann Finlayson

Viking, Penguin Books Canada, 1988, 278 pp, \$26.95, ISBN 0-670-82282-5

Ann Finlayson makes a convincing case that all is not well on the pension front in Canada. She shows that despite the pension system, many of the old are forced onto welfare; that both private and public pension schemes have discriminated against women, that most Canadians have absolutely no say over how their pension money is invested, and that there is no guarantee that we will ever collect the money we pay into pension plans. She considers the issue of control to be crucial, and demonstrates how corporations repeatedly remove money from employees' pension plans, "quite legally and with the full blessing of weak and ineffectual pension authorities". Many other employers have not contributed a penny to their employees' pension plans in years – again, quite legally. Finlayson argues that needed changes will only happen when Canadians start insisting on more knowledge and more control over their pension schemes. If this were to happen, it could also mean that pension funds could be invested in socially useful priorities such as housing, priorities that would be democratically established by the workers' whose pensions the funds contain.

CX3720

A Pension Primer

National Council of Welfare

Brooke Claxton Building, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0K9
(613) 957-2961

1989, 70 pp

At first they thought it was their fault for being poor managers. But now they realize it's happening to everybody."

– *Jake Bental of the Christian Farm Crisis Action Committee, on the estimated 8,000 to 10,000 Saskatchewan farmers threatened with foreclosure*

Education/Children

CX3721

A Choice of Futures: Canada's Commitment to Its Children

Available from Canadian Child Welfare Association
2211 Riverside Drive, Suite 401, Ottawa, Ontario K1H 7X5
(613) 738-0697

This booklet, and the five fact sheets which come with it document a few basic facts, such as that children make up the single largest group of poor people in Canada. The fact sheets cover family income adequacy, poverty and the child welfare system, children and poverty, children and health, and families and the tax system.

CX3722

Safer Tomorrows Begin Today

Barry MacKillop and Michelle Clarke

Canadian Council on Children and Youth

#14 - 2211 Riverside Drive, Ottawa, Ontario K1H 7X5

(613) 738-0556

1989, \$4, ISBN 0-920786-25-1

"Promoting Safer, Healthier Communities Through Early Investment in Children"

Environment/Nature/Rural

CX3723

The Canadian Green Consumer Guide

Pollution Probe

McClelland & Stewart, 1989, 164 pp, \$14.95, ISBN 0-7710-7162-0

Subtitled "How You Can Help", *The Canadian Green Consumer Guide* bills itself as a guide to "responsible shopping that won't cost the earth". Colourful, with lots of illustrations, (in fact, it's visually so "busy" that it's distracting to read) it provides helpful information for concerned consumers on a range of topics. Chapter headings include Food and Drink, Cleaners, Clothing and Toiletries, Gardening, and Travel and Leisure. There are helpful hints on low-impact camping, water-saving toilets, non-toxic cleaners, lawn care, ethical investing, and much else. There are short explanations of some major environmental problems, such as the greenhouse effect and the garbage crisis. Individual products and suppliers are frequently mentioned (especially Loblaws, whose products Pollution Probe is paid to endorse). Adapted by Pollution Probe from a European book by John Elkington and Julia Hailes, the *Guide* contains useful information for people who are trying to shop in an environmentally conscious way.

At the same time, the *Guide* is also deeply flawed, to the point where it may do as much harm as good. It touts the message that environmental problems are the fault of each of us as individuals, and that we can solve them by shopping more wisely. While no one would deny that it is important for us to be more aware and to make changes in our personal lifestyles, it is misleading in the extreme to suggest that this is where most of the problems, or most of the solutions, lie. For example, it's true that we should each try to make less use of private automobiles, but it's also true that if the government were to toughen vehicle emission standards, and if it were to make public transit more convenient and less expensive, it would have more effect than any amount of pleading with individual drivers

to drive less. Similarly, it's all very well to urge us to try to avoid buying non-returnable pop bottles, but it would be a lot more effective if their manufacture was simply banned. Many environmental problems have a lot to do with bad policies and harmful structures, and need to be dealt with on the level of public policy. If we live downstream from a company dumping poison in the water (as millions of us do), we'd be a lot further ahead if we were able to get together and exert enough pressure to have those responsible jailed, and have the source cleaned up, than we would be each spending \$235 to have our tap water tested, as the *Canadian Green Consumer Guide* suggests. By publishing a popular book that ignores the need for collective action and reduces environmental issues to individual consumer choices, Pollution Probe has made a contribution that is questionable at best.

CX3724

The Nuclear Power Booklet: The Case for a Nuclear-Free Ontario

Clifford Maynes

Nuclear Awareness Project

Box 2331, Oshawa, Ontario L1H 7V4

(416) 725-1565

1988, 40 pp, \$2.50 (\$1.25 for 10-29 copies; \$1 for 30 or more), ISBN 0-9693642-1-0

As the Canadian Nuclear Association steps up its 20 million dollar campaign to sell Canadians on the nuclear industry, the Nuclear Awareness Project works to educate us on points the other groups of power brokers don't talk about. Little information is available about the harmful effects of low level radiation, or radioactive isotopes in the food chain, topics included in this booklet. By reminding us about nuclear hazards evident in uranium mining, unsafe reactors and unclear waste, *The Nuclear Power Booklet* shows how disasters like Chernobyl can happen. But the booklet also talks about solutions and alternatives - like conservation, solar power and natural gas.

CX3725

The Facts About Food Irradiation

Irene Kock

Nuclear Awareness Project

Box 2331, Oshawa, Ontario L1H 7V4

(416) 725-1565

1988, 64 pp, \$4.00 (\$3 for 10-29 copies, \$2 for 30 or more), ISBN 0-9693642-0-2

The Nuclear Awareness Project works to increase public awareness about nuclear issues through research and publication projects.

Facts About Food Irradiation explains what irradiation is, how it affects food, how irradiation is regulated, where it fits into the nuclear system, and crucial economic and social concerns which all consumers should know about. Irradiation preserves foods by exposing them to high doses of gamma radiation for short periods. While foods do not become radioactive, debates about food safety, deterioration of nutrition and quality, economic feasibility and consumer needs continue. As Gordon Edwards of the Canadian Coalition for Nuclear Responsibility comments, "So who needs food irradiation? The answer is the nuclear industry needs it and nobody else."

There is one safeguard known generally to the wise, which is an advantage and security to all... What is it? Distrust.
- Demosthenes

CX3726

Green Web Bulletins

c/o David Orton & Helga Hoffman

R.R. #3, Saltsprings, Pictou County, N.S. B0K 1P0

Green Web is an independent research group serving the needs of the green movement. They have produced three bulletins to date, each mimeographed, three to five pages in length. The topics: *Blueberry Spraying: A Chemical Horror Story*; *Pulp and Paper Mill Pollution: Some Information Sources for Nova Scotians*; and *Christmas Tree Cultivation: Open Season on Pesticides*. The bulletins discuss the problems associated with present practices, and make suggestions for action to confront the problem. **Green Web** requests comments, criticisms, and financial support, as well as help with disseminating the information.

CX3727

Excess Packaging: Strategies for Waste Reduction

Waterloo Public Interest Group

University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario N2L 3G1

\$2.00 plus 10% postage

The proceedings of a forum held at the University of Waterloo in June 1988.

CX3728

The Underlying Threat

The National Film Board has released a new film on groundwater pollution, called **The Underlying Threat**. The film can be rented or purchased. Contact the NFB at 1-800-561-7104 (Atlantic) 1-800-267-7710 (Ontario) or 1-800-661-9867 (western provinces and territories).

CX3729

"The Turnaround Decade Toward Sustainable Development"

The Toxic Waste Research Coalition

Distributed by Alexander and McCormick Communications

483 - 14th Street West, Owen Sound, Ontario N4K 3Y3

\$60 each

"The Turnaround Decade toward Sustainable Development" is a 15 minute video which explains how toxic wastes can be reduced and eliminated by changing industrial processes, materials and plant operations. It is intended for viewing in schools, colleges, and universities, by environmental and community groups, and by industry and local government.

CX3730

Canadian Sources of Environmental Information 1988/Sources canadiennes d'information sur l'environnement 1988

Environment Canada Document and Library Services

Available from Canadian Government Publishing Centre (CGPC), Supply and Services Canada, Ottawa K1A 0S9, or from bookstores associated with the CGPC

1988, 336 pp, ISBN 0-660-54646, Catalogue No. En 21-32/1988

Brought together in this volume are sources of environmental information in government, industry, and universities. The directory is divided into two parts: an alphabetic list of authors, and a subject index.

When people die in a plane crash, it's headlines. But you can get up to 40 loggers a year who are killed, and it's not really news to people.

-Randy Kelbert, Safety Consultant

CX3731

Canada: A Natural History

Text: John Livingston. Photos: Tim Fitzharris

Royal Canadian Geographical Society and Penguin Books, 1988, 200 pp, ISBN 0-670-82186-1

As the foreword states, "increasingly we are realizing that the natural environment is not only fascinating and beautiful, but that its health is vital to our well-being. We are beginning to understand, as well, that we ourselves are part of nature and that we can flourish only when the natural systems flourish." A chapter devoted to preservation and protection of nature surveys successes and failure, noting that "ours is the species that treats the land as though it owned it." **Canada: A Natural History** surveys the varying ecosystems of the northern part of this continent, explaining their characteristics, vividly illustrated by the photographs of Tim Fitzharris. To protect our natural areas, we have to know them. This book helps us to understand the web of life of which we too are a part.

Health

CX3732

Second Opinion: What's Wrong With Canada's Health-Care System and How to Fix it

Michael Rachlis and Carol Kushner

Collins, 1989, 371 pp, \$26.95, ISBN 0-00-215441-2

Second Opinion wades into the debate about the state of Canada's health care system arguing that the problem is not a lack of funds, but a failure to spend money rationally. It calls into question the huge sums spent on doctors, hospitals, and high-tech approaches, and points out how the current system actually encourages inefficiency and overspending, and a lower quality of health care. **Second Opinion** demonstrates that expensive new medical technologies are often introduced before they have been tested for efficacy or cost effectiveness, and that drugs are often inappropriately or unnecessarily prescribed. It challenges the way spending decisions are made, and the way responsibility is abdicated, in a doctor-dominated system. It argues that the current way of paying doctors, the fee-for-service system, encourages wastefulness and unnecessary procedures, while discouraging a more prevention-oriented approach. The authors propose reallocating health care budgets to put more money into community services and social and economic programs, while reducing hospital-based care.

CX3733

Women Talking About Health

Vancouver Women's Health Collective

302-1720 Grant Street, Vancouver, British Columbia V5L Y7

The VWHC has released a book series on **Women Talking About Health**. The five books are *Talking about Periods*, *Avoiding Pregnancy*, *Miscarriage*, *Infertility*, and *Women Talking About Health*. The books are \$12 each or \$55 for all five.

CX3734

Lobbying for Lives: Lessons from the Front

The Canadian Cancer Society, Available from MediCinema 131 Albany Avenue, Toronto, Ontario M5R 3C5

Lobbying for Lives is a half-hour video which uses the battle to pass federal anti-tobacco legislation as a case study in public interest advocacy. **Lobbying for Lives** is intended to be used by other organizations as an educational and motivational tool.

CX3735**Good Medicine**

CAW

205 Placer Court, Willowdale, Ontario M2H 3H9
(416) 497-4110

The CAW (National Automobile, Aerospace and Agricultural Implement Workers Union) has released a song and music video written and performed by Lorraine Segato. The video, *Good Medicine*, is about substance abuse and how to deal with it. It is part of the CAW's substance abuse program, which advocates that reducing drug abuse means dealing with the causes and not simply the effects.

CX3736**AIDS: Trading Fears for Facts: A Guide for Teens**

Karen Hein & Teresa Foy Digeronimo

Consumer Reports Books

51 East 42 Street, New York, N.Y. 10017 U.S.A.

1989, 176 pp, \$4.50, 0-89043-269-4

Human Rights/Civil Liberties

CX3737**The Journal of Prisoners on Prisons**

Box 681, Station C, Toronto, Ontario M6J 3S1

Subscriptions are \$10 for individuals, \$7 low income, \$4 prisoners, \$20 institutions. Single copies \$5

A new journal committed "to encouraging and publishing research by prisoners and former prisoners on the wide range of topics related to the experience and politics of crime and punishment."

CX3738**Human Rights: Can't Get No Satisfaction**Coalition of Provincial Organizations of the Handicapped
926-294 Portage Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 0B9
(204) 947-0303.**CX3739****Human Rights and the Protection of Refugees under International Law**

The Canadian Human Rights Foundation and the Institute for Research on Public Policy

Available from The Institute for Research on Public Policy

P.O. Box 3670, South Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 3K6

\$24.95 + \$2 handling

CX3740**The Charter, The Challenge**The Ontario Council of Agencies Serving Immigrants (OCASI)
#201 - 579 St. Clair Avenue W., Toronto, Ontario M6C 1A3
(416) 657-8777

OCASI has published a special issue of its newsletter dealing with the Charter of Rights and Freedoms. Topics covered include 'How Does the Charter Affect Immigrants and Refugees?', 'Meech Lake Accord: Its Impact and Relevance to Immigrants and Minorities', 'Using the Charter', 'Equality for Immigrant Women', and 'Equality for Immigrant and Visible Minority Persons'.

[Democracy is] exactly what the word means etymologically – rule by the *demos*, the people: the people themselves make the decisions.

– Sir Moses Finley

CX3741**The Charter of Rights**

Ian Greene

Lorimer, 1989, 258 pp, \$16.95, ISBN 1-55028-185-2

An introduction to the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, written for the layperson. The book begins with an explanation of the Charter's origins, and then goes on to describe and analyze it section by section. The bulk of the text is devoted to a discussion of various court decisions interpreting the Charter. The complete text of the Charter is included.

CX3742**Canadian Human Rights Commissions Annual Report 1988**

Canadian Human Rights Commission

90 Sparks St., Ottawa, Ontario K1A 1E1, ISBN 0-662-56527-4

CX3743**The Canadian Constitution: From Patriation to Meech Lake**

David Milne

James Lorimer & Company, 1989, 310 pp, \$7.95, ISBN 1-55028-227-1

An overview of recent constitutional developments and an explanation of what the key issues now being debated are.

Lesbians/Gays

CX3744**Sight Specific: Lesbians and Representation**

A Space, 183 Bathurst Street, Toronto, Ontario M5T 2R7

\$9.95

Sight Specific is the catalogue for an exhibition of the same name. Reproductions of artwork are accompanied by a short statement by seven visual artists.

Peace

CX3745**In Our Own Backyard**

c/o Anne Cubitt

RR4, Courtenay, B.C. V9N J73, (604) 338-1168

Canada has an agreement with the United States that allows the U.S. Navy to conduct anti-submarine warfare systems tests in Georgia Strait on Canada's West Coast. **In Our Own Backyard** is a video which relates the stories of several members of a peace group who used nonviolent direct action in an effort to stop the weapons testing. "The Gandhian method they use extends into all aspects of their lives and the documentary offers a unique glimpse into the motivations and beliefs of a group of people who have organized to deal with global issues at a personal and local level. The colour video, produced and directed by Anne Cubitt, is 24 minutes long, and costs \$40 for peace and community groups.

AIDS is not a moral issue. AIDS is an illness. Would you fire someone if that person had cancer even if that person was able to do the work? AIDS is not contagious except when you are in contact with blood, blood-related products or semen. Education is required. Misinformation on AIDS is rampant all over the place.

– Michelle Falardeau-Ramsay of the Canadian Human Rights Commission, October 27, 1989

CX3746

The Paper Crane

555 Bloor St. West, Toronto, Ontario M5S 1Y6

Subscriptions are \$10 for 4 issues

The Paper Crane is a newsletter whose goal is to network youth peace groups across Canada, seeking to help create an informed student body committed to world peace. According to editor Kelly McDowell, "We recognize that young people had little to do with creating these problems, but have everything to do with the solutions. Our newsletter is an attempt to empower young people; an illustration of their potential as citizens of a democratic society."



CX3747

Lawyers and the Nuclear Debate

Maxwell Cohen and Margaret E. Gouin (eds.)

University of Ottawa Press, 1988, 420 pp, \$35, ISBN

0-7766-0199-7

There are, thankfully, lawyers who are working conscientiously for peace and against nuclear war. A number of them, and other selected dignitaries, came together at the Canadian Conference on Nuclear Weapons and the Law. They discussed topics like: Is there a legal basis for nuclear deterrence theory and policy? and What is the responsibility of the legal profession regarding nuclear weapons issues? Their discussions are reproduced in this book, which contains a number of interesting points and analyses. Still, the reader is left asking why trees died to produce this volume. Much of the discussion, though on a sophisticated level, seems strangely beside the point. Does it matter whether or not it can be shown that a nuclear holocaust would be clear violation of international law? Does showing that nuclear war is 'illegal' make it any less likely to happen? What are the dead to do – hire a lawyer and launch a class action suit? It's hard to avoid the feeling that anti-war lawyers ought to find more practical ways of opposing nuclear war. But it's nice to see that their hearts are in the right place.

CX3748

The First Freedom: Freedom on Conscience and Religion in Canada (Second edition)

Gisela Ruebsaat

Conscience Canada

P.O. Box 601, Station E, Victoria, British Columbia V8W 2P3

1989, 42 pp, \$2

An updated edition of Conscience Canada's booklet on conscientious objection to taxation for military purposes. Much of the space is devoted to legal considerations (including a copy of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms), but the ethical argument forms the core of the booklet.

Women

CX3749

Canadian Journal of Women and the Law

400 - 1 Nicholas Street, Ottawa, Ontario K1N 7B7

Subscriptions \$20 to \$60/year

This journal aims to provide a forum for feminist discussion of law reform and legal issues affecting women and for exchanging research and analysis. Abstracts of each article appear in both French and English while the article itself appears only in its original language.

The editors state that they are "particularly interested in receiving material relating to women and work, women and the criminal justice system, women and the Charter of Rights, women and child custody, and feminist legal/political theory."

The theme of Vol. 3, No. 1, 1989, is Women and Custody. Aspects examined include Native women, lesbians, joint custody, mediation, maintenance, and ideologies of parenthood.

In addition to the eleven articles, case comments, commentaries and book reviews are included, all dealing with some aspect of the custody question, for example, "The Case of 'Baby M'", and reviews of books on divorce and mediation. Commentaries offer more personal contributions such as the account of a participant in a custody suit.

Social Justice: General

CX3750

Moments in Movement: A 1990 Calendar for Social Change Workers

The Moment Project

947 Queen Street East, Toronto, Ontario M4M 1J9

\$3 each

A monthly wall calendar with photographs by Deborah Barndt paying tribute to moments when everyday Canadians have come together in movements for social change.

CX3751

Waiting for Democracy: A Citizen's Journal

Rick Salutin

Viking, 1989, 300 pp, \$24.95, ISBN 0-670-82284-1

Waiting for Democracy is about the free-trade election of 1988 but it is also much more than that: it's a well-written, gripping examination of what democracy is – or should be – all about. Rick Salutin travelled all across the country during the 1988 election, but rather than concentrating on the non-events staged by the political parties for the benefit of the media, he spent most of his time talking to ordinary people about what they thought about politics, elections, and free trade.

Salutin is passionately against free trade, and he is full of anger at the way this crucial issue was dealt with in the 'political process'. Everywhere he went in Canada, he says, free trade was the *only* issue on people's minds, and people on both sides of the issue (as well as the many who were undecided) felt that the media and the political parties were letting them down by filing to provide them with enough real information on it.

Salutin is devastating on the flagrant bias exhibited by the media in covering free trade – not surprising, given that most of the media are owned by the corporate sector which favours free trade. Even the CBC failed to provide impartial coverage,

with *The Journal's* Barbara Frum, for example, going out of her way to show where her sympathies lay, by aiming hostile questions at free trade opponents and sympathetic ones at supporters.

Salutin is particularly scathing on the NDP's performance in the election, reporting, for example, on how NDP canvassers were instructed not to talk about free trade because the issue was controversial, and how Ed Broadbent didn't even mention free trade at his press conference kicking off the election campaign. Even after it was forced to start talking about the issue, the NDP devoted most of its energies to attacking the *Liberals*, a tactic that Salutin thinks may have won the Conservatives the election.

Waiting for Democracy makes a strong case that our political system is anything but democratic, though it offers little hope of changing it.

CX3752

The Struggle for Democracy

Patrick Watson & Benjamin Barber

Lester & Orpen Dennys Ltd., 1988, 320 pp, \$39.95, ISBN 0-88619-176-9

The Struggle for Democracy is the book based on the TV series of the same name. It value lies partly in the historical survey which it offers of the history and development of democracy, and partly in the fact that it raises the question of democracy as something to look at seriously. The chapter on the birth of Greek democracy brings home the fact that democracy as conceived of 2,500 years ago was in some important ways more far-reaching and radical than it is in our present-day, supposedly democratic societies. The Greeks, like the other, undemocratic, ancient societies, still practised slavery and excluded women from citizenship, but they originated the idea that every citizen had the right and obligation to personally participate in making important decisions. Today our idea of democracy is much more limited: for the most part, we have reduced democracy to the periodic election of the people who make the decisions. We no longer believe that the citizens themselves should be the decision-makers.

The Struggle for Democracy also surveys varieties of democratic – and undemocratic – government in different countries. One chapter looks at the crucial issue of "The Tyranny of the Majority" – the continuing and to a large extent inevitable tension between majority rule and minority rights which exists in any society trying to be democratic. A chapter focuses on the rule of law, and another looks at different models of citizenship. Well-illustrated, and filled with a wealth of information, *The Struggle for Democracy* is still ultimately a disappointment because of the questions it fails to consider. There is no substantive discussion of the relationship between democratic government and economic power. Can there be real democracy as long as so much decision-making power is concentrated in powerful corporations not subject to democratic control? Nor is there any criticism of the idea that democracy can simply be equated with people heading off to the polls every few years. Is this really democracy? *The Struggle for Democracy* is an interesting book, but it is intellectually weak and uncritical in its approach to many questions.

The problem with sex shows is not that they are sexual, but that they so often cheapen or belittle sexuality.
– A.S.A. Harrison, *Revelations: Essays on Striptease and Sexuality*

CX3753

The Sixties: Years of Hope, Days of Rage

Todd Gitlin

Bantam Books, 1987-9, 514 pp, \$15.95, ISBN 0-533-34601-6

One of the best books on the Sixties in the U.S., bringing to life the political and cultural currents, including especially the music, which raged during that decade, and setting them in historical context. Gitlin attempts, with much success, to evoke "the spirit of the time from the interior, yet without succumbing to the hallucinatory giddiness of the late Sixties especially, whose sheer wildness, even now, seems the stuff of another century."

His account reaches back to the Fifties as well, noting the stirrings of change which made that decade "a seedbed as well as a cemetery." In the context of our own more conservative times (at least in the Western nations), we will want to take note of Gitlin's description of "the self-satisfied Fifties" as "criss-crossed by underground channels where the conventional wisdoms of the time were resisted, undermined, weakened. It was in these enclaves of elders and subterranean channels, rivulets, deep-running springs – or backwaters and swamps, depending on your point of view – that unconventional wisdoms, moods and mystiques were nurtured."

Gitlin sees the civil rights movement as perhaps the key factor in sparking the political movements of the Sixties, the thing that made pockets of cultural resistance open up into political activism.

CX3754

"Democracy is in the Streets": From Port Huron to the Siege of Chicago

James Miller

Touchstone/Simon & Schuster, 1987, 431 pp, \$9.95, ISBN 0-671-66235-X

James Miller presents a thoughtful and evocative history of the American New Left in the 1960's, looking critically but sympathetically at the struggles and passions of that period. Among the most valuable parts of the book is Miller's detailed description of the organizing efforts of the early New Left, on the campuses, in the anti-war movement, and in the cities. A central theme of the book is "participatory democracy", with the different interpretations that came to be given to that term. To one leading activist, it meant "number one, *action*; we believed in action. ... Active participation. Citizenship. Making history." To another, it "meant an exciting transformation of the meaning of socialism. Not just that it was another code word for socialism, it meant redefining the socialist tradition in terms of the democratic content of it. It meant extending principles of democracy from the political sphere to other institutions, like industry, like the university." Miller writes that "the meanings of participatory democracy multiplied. By 1964, it had indeed come to mean for many activists rule by consensus; by 1965, it was being widely discussed as a radical *alternative* to representative institutions."

In looking at the failings of the sixties New Left, Miller quotes Richard Flacks, who believes that the New Left ultimately disintegrated as a coherent force because of its inability to extend its middle-class base, its preoccupation with immediate "revolutionary apocalypse" rather than long-term organizing, its failure to develop a durable organizational structure. Flacks, still an activist, also wryly comments that "It seemed perfectly natural at that time that we'd know better than these old people. After all, they'd failed. It was obvious. And it somehow seemed intuitively right that if you were younger, you

know more than people who were older. Now that I'm older, I think that it's absurd."

Miller documents the lasting legacies of the New Left, including the role it played in the development of the modern women's movement, and concludes that there is still a great deal we can learn from the New Left experience.

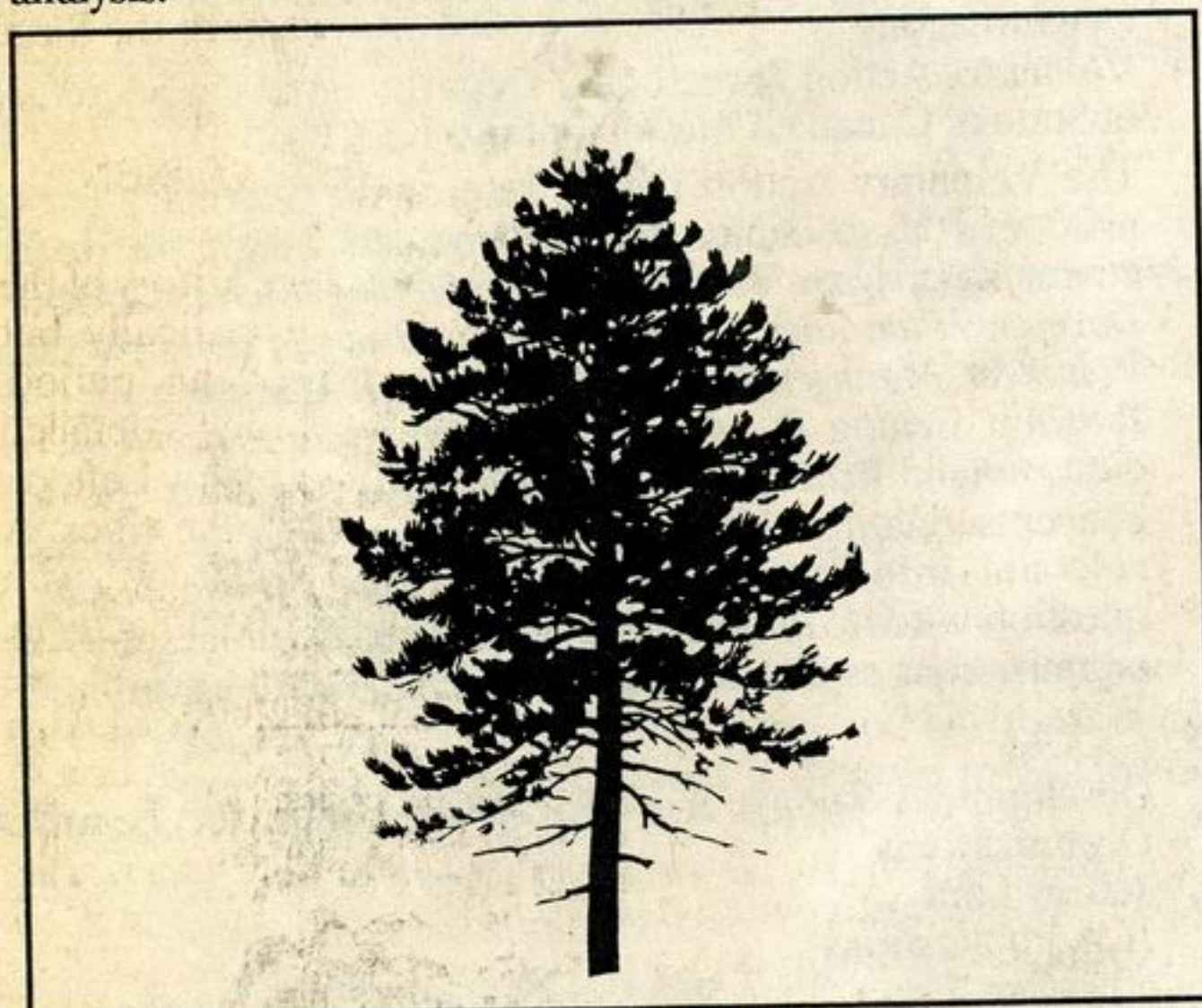
CX3755

68: The Year of the Barricades

David Caute

Paladin, 1988, 464 pp, \$17.95, ISBN 0-586-08750-8

The political, social and cultural upheavals of the 1960's are of continuing interest as we try to resist the conservative pressures of the present. Caute's book looks at the explosive year 1968 (while situating it in the context of what had led up to it). One of the great strengths of this excellent book is that it looks at what was happening around the world: a valuable corrective to the U.S.-centred perspective of so many other books on the period. Caute gives much attention to the relationship between the "New Left" and the sixties "counter-culture", noting the continuing tension (but also fruitful interaction) between the "intellectual platoons" and the "apostles of instinct and feeling". Fundamental to all New Left movements, he says, "was a vision of a world undivided by race, class, or gender", a vision that was ultimately to be fractured by the contradictions of race and gender. **68: The Year of the Barricades** is a lively and instructive history woven through with thought-provoking analysis.



CX3756

Street Fighting Years: An Autobiography of the Sixties

Tariq Ali

Fontana, 1987, 280 pp, \$7.95, ISBN 0-00-637343-7

The memoirs of the activist Tariq Ali take the reader through the fortunes of the British anti-war movement and the other political movements of the Sixties, with frequent references to the international political context of the times. As the events rush by, narrated by Ali, the reader has the opportunity to reflect on the questions he raises in the final chapter: "Where have all the hopes and idealism generated during the sixties disappeared?", and on his answer: "Most of the world is passing through bad times, but however fragile and precarious the advances that have been made sometimes seem, hope itself cannot be abandoned."

CX3757

Revelations: Essays on Striptease and Sexuality

Margaret Dragu and A.S.A. Harrison

Nightwood Editions

Box 1426, Station A, London, Ontario N6A 5M2
1988, 176 pp, \$15.95, ISBN 0-88971-117-8

According to **Revelations**, "from a historical perspective, strippers can be seen as women who are in active revolt against the dictate that their sexuality is shameful." "Strippers and other sexual entertainers undertake the job of pushing on our sexual limits in one way or another – by testing them, defying them, or even just exposing them." **Revelations** rejects the view that sexuality is dirty and should be hidden. It argues that "the problem with sex shows is not that they are sexual, but that they so often cheapen or belittle sexuality." The authors look forward to a day when sexual entertainment evolves and improves, becoming more meaningful for both men and women. They say that "sexual repression in general, and particularly the repression of women's sexuality, is at the base of our sexual distress as a society." "Real equality for women can only come with the acceptance of women's sexuality, and the release of all taboos associated with it."

CX3758

Burning Desires: Sex in America

Steve Chappell & David Talbot

Doubleday, 1989, 400 pp, \$24.95, ISBN 0-385-24412-6

Burning Desires looks at the state of sex in the aftermath of the 'sexual counter-revolution' that marked the 1980's. It chronicles the effects of AIDS and the "strong cultural backlash launched by conservatives, radical feminists, and burned-out sexual liberationists." Described by the authors as a "panoramic tour", **Burning Desires** gives its readers a look at a wide range of sexual behaviours and attitudes, ranging from members of swingers' clubs to Bible Belt Republicans. (The authors take evident delight in chronicling the falls of some of the prominent anti-sex conservatives.) **Burning Desire's** conclusions are optimistic, and pro-sex. AIDS and the conservative backlash haven't killed sex, they happily report.

CX3759

The Secret Museum: Pornography in Modern Culture

Walter Kendrick

Penguin Books, 288 pp, ISBN 0-14010947-1, \$10.95

The Secret Museum is about the concept of "pornography". Kendrick looks at the idea of pornography since the word was coined a century and a half ago, concentrating less on the books and pictures that have instigated battles over "pornography" than on what people thought and felt about them. The author shows that the materials in question have varied immensely, but notes that "with surprising uniformity, arguments about 'pornography' for the past hundred and fifty years have boiled down to a pair of assertions: 'This is pornographic' and 'No, it isn't'". Kendrick goes on to survey many of the major battles and debates over "pornography" over time, through to the attempts to pass anti-pornography legislation in the 1980s, arguing that "the most dismaying aspect of the feminist anti-pornography campaign is its exact resemblance to every such effort that preceded it, from Lord Campbell's and Justice Cockburn's through that of Comstock and all the Societies for the Suppression of Vice, to the modern vigilantism of Leagues and Legions of Decency." **The Secret Museum** is a provocative look at its subject, with a wealth of historical information and an extensive bibliography. Evaluating the continuing debates

through the years, it suggests that "those who feel that no harm is being done are unlikely to form pressure groups in order to advance that view. Contentment and indifference are silent, while fear and outrage bellow; and in the pornography debate, hysteria of the part of a few has traditionally been given free rein by the obliviousness of the many.

CX3760

Socialist Register 1988: Problems of Socialism Renewal: East & West

Ralph Miliband, Leo Panitch, John Saville

Merlin, Distributed by DEC Book Distribution

229 College Street, Toronto, Ontario M5T 1R4

1988, 448 pp, \$19.50, ISBN 0-85036-355-1

Events in the Soviet bloc are moving with astonishing rapidity, and following them through the mainstream media is a frustrating task, because the media are so blatantly ideological in their approach, and simultaneously so ill-formed, that they are rarely able to produce analyses that actually make sense of what is happening. This volume is welcome because the essays it contains offer a much more in-depth look at the actual dynamics of "socialist" societies and parties. Several essays also look at the prospects of socialists in the West, admitting that "the Left is doing badly and faces formidable challenges", but also suggesting that things can be done broaden support for progressive social change. Articles in this volume include *Gorbachev and the Dynamics of Change*, *War and Revolution in Nicaragua*, and *Social Movements and Class Politics in the United States*.

CX3761

Glasnost: The Soviet Union Today

Contemporary Social Issues: A Bibliographic Series No. 13

Reference and Research Services

511 Lincoln Street, Santa Cruz, California 95060 U.S.A.

1989, 60 pp, \$15, ISBN 0-937855-25-1, ISSN 0887-3569

CX3762

Alternative Dispute Resolution That Works!

Ernest G. Tannis

Captus Press, 1989, 160 pp, \$14.50, ISBN 0-921801-44-0

There are alternatives to having the courts deal with disputes: e.g., arbitration, mediation, and negotiation. Such alternatives hold out the promise of dealing with conflicts in ways that are less destructive and more mutually satisfying than the court system. This book contains useful information about the different models used, and provides a partial survey of developments in the field. Unfortunately it is badly written; only those very interested in the field are likely to be able to wade through the stilted deadly prose. Perhaps the secret of successful dispute resolution is putting the disputing parties to sleep?

An interesting twist to this kind of thinking shows up whenever there is sex in legitimate theatre or in art galleries. The sex is "gratuitous", people say. The artistic format is a disguise or ruse. Somebody is trying to get away with something. Why people feel the urge to cover up sex is a question that is answered in the accusation itself. It is, after all, never art that is accused of gratuity. "Picasso retrospective cheap display of gratuitous art," is a story we will never have to read.

—A.S.A. Harrison, *Revelations: Essays on Striptease and Sexuality*

Activist's Bookshelf

CX3763

Guide to Special Events Fundraising

Key Wyman

Voluntary Action Directorate, Department of the Secretary of State of Canada, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0M5

1989, 108 pp

Ken Wyman has written a new addition to the Voluntary Action Directorate's series of handbooks for non-profits: a how-guide to fundraising events. Topics covered include "Selection of Ideas – Winners You Can Use and Losers to Watch Out for", "Getting (almost) Everything Donated to Reduce Your Costs to Nearly Zero", "How to Guarantee Income Before You Sell Your First Ticket", "Auctions Encourage Top Donors to Give the Limit", and "Secrets of Scheduling Time for Maximum Effectiveness". Wyman points out that special events can produce more than money – they can also communicate information about the organization to the public, and can be a way of attracting people who stay involved in the organization. He also cautions that badly planned events can lose an organization money and squander energy. A wide range of special event ideas is suggested, and a five-page quiz for evaluating a proposed special event is also included.

CX3764

Handbooks for Cooperating Associations and Voluntary Organizations

Voluntary Action Directorate, Department of the Secretary of State of Canada, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0M5

The Voluntary Action Directorate of the Secretary of State produced this set of nine practical booklets, ranging in size from 16 to 228 pages. The titles are: *Getting Started: Board of Directors*; *Planning*; *Financial Management*; *Public Relations*; *Volunteer Management*; *Paid Personnel Management*; *Fund Raising: Getting Ready*; *Fund Raising: Ready to Go*; and *Government Relations*. Each handbook explains the basic concepts relating to its subject and provides an outline of relevant information. Several booklets have forms or questionnaires to use as an aid in planning. Beginning and small organizations especially will find these handbooks very useful.

CX3765

Development Today: A Fundraising Guide for Nonprofit Organizations

Jeffrey Lant

JLA Publications

50 Follen Street, Suite 507, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138 U.S.A. (617) 547-6372

1980, 1986. 280 pp, \$24.95, ISBN 0-940374-11-0

Development Today is a practical guide for non-profit organizations engaged in fundraising: in other words, practically all non-profits! A well-organized resource that looks at the planning process, the people and structures needed for a successful campaign, and the written materials required. Many of the major types of fundraising are looked at separately: foundation fundraising, special events, direct mail, and capital campaigns. Perhaps the most useful part of the book is the Samples Section, which features sample letters and documents for almost every fundraising need. These samples, which put the theory into practice, have the potential to save a lot of time even for those who are already experienced practitioners of the art of fundraising.

CX3766

The Canadian Public Affairs Handbook: Maximizing Markets, Protecting Bottom Lines

W. John Wright & Christopher DuVernet

Carswell, 1988, 288 pp, \$65, ISBN 459-52440-2

The Canadian Public Affairs Handbook is concerned with how corporations can sell their company's image and conduct at a time when advocacy groups are questioning the ethics, role, and environmental impacts of corporate behaviour. There are chapters looking at how to manage the media, how to deal with crises, how to stay within the law in practising public relations, how to deal with advocacy groups. (One contributor suggests that the best way to co-opt such groups is to build coalitions with them around issues of common concern.) Those of us who belong to those pesky advocacy groups can get a fascinating look at how the other side thinks from this text.

CX3767

Selling to Government: A Guide to Government Procurement in Canada

Canadian Government Publishing Centre

Supply and Services Canada, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0S9

1989, 276 pp, \$15, Catalogue No. P35-46/1989E; ISBN 0-660-13106-4

This reference guide is intended for businesses (including non-profit organizations) wanting to sell goods or services to government (federal, provincial, or territorial). There is a section on common policies and procedures, an explanation of procurement terms, and separate chapters on federal government departments and on each province, with name and address information for each department.

CX3768

The Connexions Annual 1989: A Social Change Sourcebook: Information and Ideas About Social and Environmental Alternatives

Ulli Diemer (ed.)

Connexions

427 Bloor Street West, Toronto, Ontario M5S 1X7

(416) 960-3903

1989, 224 pp, \$17.95 (Annual subscription \$25)

ISBN 0-9692751-1-0

The Connexions Annual is simultaneously a reference book and an introduction to the world of social and environmental alternatives. The bulk of the Annual is devoted to listings of grassroots groups. The listings are grouped under 13 main chapters including Community/Urban/Housing, Development/International, Native Peoples, Peace, and Women. There are separate listings of Alternative Periodicals and "Useful Sources of Information". The listings are thoroughly cross-indexed, by name, by geographical location, and by subject. The Annual is a useful resource for those active in working for change, as well as for those wanting to become involved. The Annual also contains a series of introductory articles surveying a wide range of social and environmental issues and possible alternatives. These introductory articles when read together become an extended essay on the possibility of achieving meaningful social and environmental change.

I'm not one to believe in coincidences.

— Al Trewin, *Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers*, commenting on the contention of industry representatives that there is no connection between free trade and plant shutdowns

CX3769

Alternative Library Literature 1986-1987

Sanford Berman & James P. Danky

McFarland & Company

Box 611, Jefferson, NC 28640, U.S.A.

(919) 246-4460

1988, 285 pp, \$35.00, ISBN 0-89950-336-5

What is this dryly named book about? On one level, it is an anthology of writings about alternative literature and sources and producers of alternative literature. By 'alternative', the editors seem to mean a wide and stimulating range of materials from writers and presses that challenge orthodoxy, including political alternatives, underground cartoonists, small presses, and perspectives that are rarely found in the mainstream media. At the same time, the book is also about libraries themselves, and about what is happening within libraries (primarily in the U.S.) to make them more relevant and activist in their orientation. The articles are almost all well-written and interesting, and the volume is richly supplied with humour. *Alternative Library Literature* is divided into several sections, on library work, on women, on peace, on censorship, on alternatives, on Service/ Advocacy/ Empowerment, on kids, on audiovisual material, on books and reading. There is a special section featuring articles on Central America, especially Nicaragua, with articles on the role of small presses in presenting information on what is really happening in that part of the world, and on events in Nicaragua itself, especially related to books and reading. You can open this book almost anywhere and quickly become absorbed. It would be an excellent acquisition for anyone interested in alternative sources of information and ideas. As befits a library-oriented book, it's well indexed.

CX3770

Progressive Periodicals Directory: Second Edition

Craig T. Canan

Progressive Education

P.O. Box 120574, Nashville, TN 37212 U.S.A.

1989, 36 pp, \$8, ISBN 935396-03-9

The Progressive Periodicals Directory is a good solid annotated guide to some 600 progressive publications in the U.S.A. Periodicals are grouped in a number of broad categories, and indexed alphabetically in the back. This would be a very useful selection tool for libraries, and a good networking resource for groups or individuals seeking to find out what is being published, and what the emphasis, frequency, and cost of particular publications is.

CX3771

Libraries in an Information Society

Mary Jo Lynch

American Library Association

50 East Huron Street, Chicago, Illinois 60611-2795 U.S.A.

1987, 32 pp, \$4, ISBN 0-8389-7145-8

Libraries in an Information Society is an easy-to-read overview of libraries and their function. It describes how libraries are used, how many exist and the different types of libraries. It surveys what types of people make use of libraries and for what reasons, what kinds of resources and services are provided by libraries, as well as how they are staff, financed, and managed. The purpose of the booklet is to help people understand what libraries are and what they do; useful for anyone working with information.

CX3772

Checklist of Indexes to Canadian Newspapers/Liste de Contrôle des Index de Journaux Canadiens**Sandra Burrows and Franceen Gaudet**

National Library of Canada

Available from Canadian Government Publishing Centre Supply and Services Canada, Ottawa K1A 0S9, or from bookstores associated with the CGPC

1987, 148 pp English + 156 pp French, \$16.95, ISBN 0-660-53735-4, Catalogue No. SN3-230/1987

A useful tool for people doing research, as well as for any library or other organization itself engaged in indexing newspapers. It enables one to find out which indexes there are in Canada, what they index, and, approaching it from the other end, where a particular newspaper is indexed. Included is an introduction explaining methodology, etc., a checklist of indexes, a newspaper index, and a geographical index. The volume is in both French and English.

CX3773

The Ultimate Black Book**Godfrey Harris**

The Americas Group

404-9200 Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90069 U.S.A.

1989, 80 pp, \$6.95, ISBN 0-9355047-05-0

This little directory claims to contain "the only 400 telephone numbers you'll ever need to find most of the information you'll ever want". The assumption is that if the number you need isn't in this booklet, then at least someone listed here can point you to the source or contact you want: "If you can get to 400 people, you can get to anyone in the world". The other assumption, as in most U.S. publications, is that the only people in the world you'd ever want to talk to are Americans. For all that, it is a useful list of U.S. organizations, associations, and key government bodies, under a wide range of headings, and with good subject and name indices.

CX3774

Libel: A Handbook for Canadian Publishers, Editors and Writers**Julian Porter**

Canadian Book Publishers' Council

7th floor, 45 Charles St. East, Toronto, Ontario M4Y 1S2

1987, 30 pp, ISBN 0-920290-25-6

Libel is a peril which publishers of alternative and "muckraking" publications need to be aware of if they are to keep out of trouble. The author systematically defines libel and presents situations in which the publisher must be wary of committing libel. He demonstrates how to identify libel, how to avoid libel, how to assess the risk of being sued, and options to consider when being threatened with a lawsuit. A helpful list of key points to remember is included at the back. This booklet's value is that it makes the complex law of libel and slander clearer for the layperson working in publishing.

One issue that appears to have been overlooked is land use. A typical mile of six-lane highway carrying about 85,000 cars a day (approximately 120,000 passengers) requires about 25 acres of land. However, the same length of double track railway requires about one-quarter the land of the highway, yet can carry more than 200,000 passengers each day. Given the increasing loss of arable land to erosion and soil degradation can we afford to willfully waste any more?

— Larry Hughes, Sandy Scott

CX3775

The Makeover Book: 101 Design Solutions for Desktop Publishing**Roger C. Parker**

Ventana Press, Box 2468, Chapel Hill, N.C. 27515 U.S.A.

1989, 278 pp, \$17.95, ISBN 0-940087-20-0

The advent of computer desktop publishing has led many more individuals and groups to tackle the job of producing their own publications. This democratic and laudable development, however, has led to the proliferation of indifferently or ineptly designed print materials, for the fact that it is now technically possible for anyone with a computer and suitable software to design their own brochures or newsletter doesn't mean that they have the design skills to make a good job of it. **The Makeover Book** is a practical and well put together means for dealing with that problem. Most of the book, some 230 pages, is devoted to "before" and "after" examples of newsletters, ads, brochures, reports, charts, and other documents. In each instance, the author displays the material as originally designed on the left hand page, accompanied by a short commentary analysing why its design shortcomings are. On the right hand page, he presents a redesigned version of the same material, together with an explanation of why he made the changes he did. Each chapter leads off with a short discussion of the considerations involved in designing the particular type of document. (For example, the chapter on newsletters begins with 6 1/2 pages of comments about newsletter design generally.) In addition, there is a chapter on good design which reviews 25 points to consider when designing print materials. **The Makeover Book** is an excellent, intelligently designed resource which would be of value to any group or individual involved in producing written materials through "desktop publishing".

CX3776

Graphic Design Cookbook: Mix and Match Recipes for Faster, Better Layouts**Leonard Koren & R. Wippo Meckler**

Chronicle Books

275 Fifth St., San Francisco, CA 94103 U.S.A.

1989, 142 pp, \$12.95, ISBN 0-87701-569-4

Producing a newsletter, magazine, poster, or ad for your group? If you are looking for some ways of improving their design, this **Graphic Design Cookbook** may be able to help you. It consists of a variety of design samples, over 1,000 in all, grouped by category (e.g. page borders, coupons and clipouts, cropping images). The book's format enables the user to turn quickly to the section s/he needs and immediately see a wide range of different ways (eight to twelve per page) of handling the same design problem. There are five chapters, on structuring space, orienting the page, text systems, ordering information, and pictorial considerations. A useful tool for those involved in designing publications, especially if you are trying to change or improve the design of your publication.

We must love truth for itself, to such an extent that we do not love it for ourselves but *against ourselves*. We must ever contradict ourselves; we must always welcome the opposite of our thought and scrutinize what worth this opposite may have... Every day you must make war also against yourself.

—Nietzsche

CX3777

The Book of Fax: An Impartial Guide to Buying and Using Facsimile Machines

Daniel Fishman & Elliott King

Ventana Press

Box 2468, Chapel Hill, NC 27515, U.S.A.

1988, 134 pp, \$12.95, ISBN 0-940087-22-7

"Do you have a fax?" is a question we are hearing more and more often. As fax machines come down in price they are increasingly becoming a means of communication that is accessible to non-profit organizations with fairly small budgets. If you or your group is trying to decide whether to get a fax, and if so which one to buy, this book is for you. The authors begin by comparing the uses, benefits and drawbacks of fax with those of other means of communication, such as mail, the phone, telex, couriers, and computer networks, and show you how to assess whether fax would be cost-effective for you. They explain the different fax features that you need to take into account if you are going to buy one. These include compatibility, resolution, paper, transmission time, as well as a range of more advanced features. They provide checklists for assessing the features and matching them to your needs and price range. The book also offers some excellent advice on how to manage a fax machine to make sure that it operates well, does what you want it to do, and doesn't unexpectedly cost you wads of money. A practical, straight-forward, easy to understand guide which any group wanting to buy a fax should probably consult before the purchase, and which groups that already have a fax could profitably consult to learn how to use it intelligently.

Just Arrived

CX3778

The Alternative Movement, Press, and Literature of West Germany

Hugo Kunoff, Otto Harrassowitz Verlag, Taunusstrasse 14, Postfach 29 29, D-6200 Wiesbaden 1, 1988, 125 pp, DM 39.80, ISBN 3-447-02808-4

CX3779

As Long as the Rivers Run: Hydroelectric Development and Native Communities in Western Canada

James B. Waldram, University of Manitoba Press, 244-106 Curry Place, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3T 2N2, (204) 474-9495, 1988, 254 pp, \$24.95, ISBN 0-88755-143-2

CX3780

Building Sustainable Communities: Tools and Concepts for Self-Reliant Economic Change

Ward Morehouse (ed.), Bootstrap Press, Suite 9A, 777 United Nations Plaza, New York, N.Y. 10017 U.S.A., (212) 972-9877, 1989, 200 pp, \$13.50, ISBN 0-942850-11-4

CX3781

Buddy's: Meditations on Desire

Stan Persky, New Star Books, 2504 York Avenue, Vancouver, British Columbia V6K 1E3, (604) 738-9429, 1989, 136 pp, \$19.95, ISBN 0-919573-90-8

CX3782

Canadian Human Rights Yearbook 1988

University of Ottawa Press, 603 Cumberland Street, Ottawa, Ontario K1N 6N5, 1989, 298 pp, ISBN 0-7766-0229-2

CX3783

The Canadian Labour Movement: A Short History

Craig Heron, James Lorimer & Company, 35 Britain Street, Toronto, Ontario M5A 1R7, 1989, 188 pp, \$14.95, ISBN 1-55028-191-7

CX3784

Canadians and Central America

Peter McFarlane, Between the Lines, 229 College Street, Toronto, Ontario M5T 1R4, (416) 971-7051, 1989, 248 pp, \$14.95, ISBN 0-921284-11-X, (416) 925-8260

CX3785

Critical Paths: Organizing on Health Issues in the Community

Jennifer Keck, Henriette Dauphinais, John Lewko, Between the Lines, Suite 203, 394 Euclid Avenue, Toronto, Ontario M6G 2S9, (416) 925-8260, 1989, 144 pp, \$11.95, ISBN 0-919946-93-3

CX3786

Democracy for Jobs: Policies for Full Employment and Economic Democracy

Ted Jackson, Richie Allen, Skip McCarthy, Roger Peters, Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives, 904 - 251 Laurier West, Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5J6, (613) 563-1341, 1989, 40 pp

CX3787

Directory of Low Cost Vacations with a Difference (Revised edition)

Compiled by J. Crawford, Pilot Books, 103 Cooper Street, Babylon, New York 11702 U.S.A., (516) 422-2225. 1989, 68 pp, \$5.95. Alternative vacations: home exchanges, student exchanges, senior citizen programs, study groups, vacation work programs, etc.

CX3788

Everything You Need to Know to Get Started in Direct Mail Fundraising

Ken Wyman, Voluntary Action Directorate, Secretary of State of Canada, 1989, 270 pp, ISBN 0-662-16834-8, Supply & Services Cat. No. S2-194/1989E

CX3789

Friends of the Trees 1988 International Green Front Report

Friends of the Trees, P.O. Box 1466, Chelan, Washington 98816 U.S.A., 1988, 196 pp, \$7

CX3790

A Green City Program

Peter Berg, Beryl Magilavy, Seth Zuckerman, Planet Drum Books, P.O. Box 31251, San Francisco, CA 94131 U.S.A., (415) 285-6556, 1989, 70 pp, \$7, ISBN 0-937102-02-4

CX3791

Here to Stay: A Resource Kit on Environmentally Sustainable Development

CUSO, 135 Rideau Street, Ottawa, Ontario K1N 9K7, (613) 563-1242

CX3792

Human Rights in Asia

Canada Asia Working Group, 11 Madison Avenue, Toronto, Ontario M5R 2S2, (416) 921-5626, 1989, 42 pp

CX3793

Investor Beware: Investigating Investments and Scams

Henry B. Rothenberg, Wordware Publishing, Dallas, Texas, 1988, 444 pp, ISBN 1-55622-055-3

CX3794**The Joy of Service**

Ron McCann & Joe Vitale, S.I.S. Publications, #101, 10707 Corporate Drive, Stafford, Texas 77477 U.S.A., (713) 240-4040, 1989, 120 pp, \$10.95, ISBN 0-9617549-2-3

CX3795**Karimlan: A Simulation Game on Sustainable Development**

CUSO, 135 Rideau Street, Ottawa, Ontario K1N 9K7, (613) 563-1242

CX3796**Land and Community: Crisis in Canada's Countryside**

R. Alex Sim, University of Guelph, Office for Educational Practice, Raithby House N1G 2W1, 1988, 230 pp, \$15.00, ISBN 0-88955-128-6

CX3797**Liberties**

John Russell (ed.), New Star Books, 2504 York Avenue, Vancouver, B.C. V6K 1E3, 1989, 246 pp, \$14.95, ISBN 0-819573-91-6

CX3798**Maximum Gifts by Return Mail**

Roland Kuniholm, Fund-Raising Institute, Box 365, Ambler PA 19002-0065 U.S.A., 1989, 262 pp, ISBN 0-930807-08-1

CX3799**The Modern North: People, Politics and the Rejection of Colonialism**

Kenneth Coates & Judith Powell, James Lorimer & Co., 35 Britain Street, Toronto, Ontario M5A 1R7, 1989, 168 pp, \$16.95, ISBN 1-55028-120-8

CX3800**More Than Medicare**

R. S. Reid, Community Health Services Association (Regina) Ltd., 3765 Sherwood Drive, Regina, Saskatchewan S4R 4A9, (306) 543-7880, 1988, 68 pp

CX3801**Naming the Moment: Political Analysis for Action: A Manual for Community Groups**

Deborah Barndt, Carlos Freire, Jesuit Centre for Social Faith and Justice, 947 Queen Street East, Toronto, Ontario M4M 1J9, 1989, 90 pp, ISBN 0-921946-00-7

CX3802**The 1989 Canadian Guide to Profitable Ethical Investing**

Eugene Ellman, James Lorimer & Company, 1989, 170 pp, \$16.95, ISBN 1-55028-232-8

CX3803**No Bankers in Heaven: Remembering the CCF**

Olenka Melnyk, McGraw-Hill Ryerson, 1988, 242 pp, \$22.95, ISBN 0-07-549681-X

CX3804**Northerners: Profiles of People in the Northwest Territories**

Douglas Holmas, James Lorimer & Company, 1989, 225 pp, \$29.95, ISBN 1-55028-215-8

CX3805**Open for Business: The Roots of Foreign Ownership in Canada**

Gordon Laxer, Oxford University Press, 1989, 248 pp, \$16.95, ISBN 0-19-540734-2

CX3806**The Political Economy of Pensions: Power, Politics and Social Change in Canada, Britain and the United States**

Richard Lee Deaton, University of British Columbia Press, 6344 Memorial Road, Vancouver, British Columbia V6T 1W5, (604) 228-5042
1989, 500 pp, \$55, ISBN 0-7748-0318-5

CX3807**Proceedings of the First International Congress on Uranium Mining**

International Uranium Congress, Huston House, 2138 McIntyre Street, Regina, Saskatchewan S4P 2R7, (306) 522-4168, 1989, 54 pp, \$15, ISBN 0-9693846-0-2

CX3808**PWAC Directory of Members 1989**

Periodical Writers Association of Canada, 24 Ryerson Avenue, Toronto, Ontario M5T 2P3, 1989, 192 pp, \$15
ISSN 0829-0857

CX3809**The Role Co-operatives in Childcare**

K.J. McCready, Co-operatives Secretariat, Government of Canada
10th floor, Sir John Carling Building, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0C5, (613) 995-4787

CX3810**Selected Stories of Norman Duncan**

Norman Duncan, Edited by John Coldwell Adams, University of Ottawa Press, 603 Cumberland, Ottawa, Ontario K1N 6N5, 1988, 184 pp, \$11.95, ISBN 0-7766-0205-5

CX3811**Sustainable Community Development: An Introductory Guide**

Nonita T. Yap, Ontario Environmental Network, Box 125, Station P, Toronto, Ontario M5S 2Z7, (416) 588-3842, 1989, 14 pp

CX3812**Together: A Co-operative Community Newsletter**

Editor: George Melnyk, P.O. Box 3683, Station B, Calgary, Alberta T2M 4M4, \$5/4 issues

CX3813**Voluntary Organizations and their Businesses: Issues and Opportunities and Factors Influencing Success**

E.T. Jackson and J.E. McNamara, Voluntary Action Directorate, Dept. of Secretary of State, Ottawa, Ontario, 1987, 1989

CX3814**'What Can I Do?' Citizen Strategies for Nuclear Disarmament**

Elizabeth Woodworth, Cream Books, 3909 Persimmon Drive Victoria, British Columbia V8P 3R8, (604) 383-2417, 1987, 250 pp, \$7.95, ISBN 0-9692928-0-5

In Italy for thirty years under the Borgias they had warfare, terror, murder, bloodshed – they produced Michelangelo, Leonardo da Vinci, and the Renaissance. In Switzerland they had brotherly love, five hundred years of democracy and peace, and what did that produce...? The cuckoo clock.

– *Harry Lime in The Third Man*

Letters

For Our Common Future

We appreciated your article on "What Do We Do Now?" (Connexions #48).... Peggy Taylor, my wife of 47 years, and I enclose \$25 for our subscription. We need more paper coming into our home like we need nuclear submarines, but I got a bit hooked by your article. We get requests from countless organizations for money to save the whales, the wolves, the ozone layer, the water, the soil, the wilderness, mentally handicapped, tortured, oppressed, massacred, victims of genocide, potential victims of omnicide, space, the planet, the hungry and the starving, and so forth. Our donations are many, but tiny in comparison with the enormity of the need. We receive mountainous letters asking for money or for us to write supportive letters of concern. Very few organizations seem to be able to respond, however, to a proposal or an idea. They have proposals and ideas of their own. Here is one I have spent years cultivating, just in case it manages to form any *connexion* with your busy thoughts and/or activities. The "Draft Plan for Our Common Future" [see below] is a one-page product of decades of mental ferment and several years of work on much longer statements.... Most Canadians seem brainwashed by two myths: (1) **Work is scarce; not enough work for everyone;** and (2) **Money is scarce; Canada cannot afford full employment.** Some of us remember the Great Depression and its heavy unemployment. We know that it took only a couple of years in Canada and then in the United States to develop full employment and a booming economy after World War II was declared. Everyone's help was needed "for the duration" of the wartime emergency. Whatever the cost, the resources were quickly available. Our current global crises are infinitely worse. Everyone needs to be needed and everyone is needed. Two enthusiastic research teams could open the way for an obvious idea to become an active demonstrations. What do you think?

Walt Taylor

Draft Plan for our Common Future

Two research projects will make it possible to achieve the "totally impossible" but absolutely necessary goal of keeping this battered planet habitable for the twenty-first century.

The basic idea is quite obvious. In view of the precarious predicament of life on earth today, we need to plan ways for everyone concerned to work together for "Our Common Future." At stake is nothing less than "the security, well-being, and very survival of the planet." (*Our Common Future*, the 1987 Report by the World Commission on Environment and Development, chaired by Madame Gro Harlem Brundtland, Prime Minister of Norway, page 343.)

A. Inventory: Researchers will prepare an inventory of the specific, high priority, life-sustaining work that **must** be done to avoid the unprecedented dangers we now face – including

Brian Mulroney and his team have kept their word. What we promised, we have produced.

– Brian Mulroney, August 19, 1988, speaking in front of the Acton Vale, Quebec, train station, claiming credit for keeping his promise to bring train service to Acton Vale. The train to Acton Vale was on of the VIA routes cut on October 4, 1989.

the possibility of omnicide – and to take full advantage of our unprecedented opportunities to prepare for a higher quality of life on earth than we can now even imagine.

The necessary information – including job descriptions, training and counselling needs, tools, facilities, and budgets – will be obtained from cooperating organizations, coalitions and agencies concerned with environment, human rights, peace, education, forestry, agriculture, fisheries, "sustainable" community economic development, poverty, non-violent conflict resolution, and methods of "changing our modes of thinking" in order to end our "drift toward unparalleled catastrophe" about which Albert Einstein warned us in 1946.

B. Invent-ory: (Place the accent on *vent*.) This research team will invent ways to provide the necessary resources for workers in one or more demonstration communities to earn a living while doing some urgently needed work identified and documented in the **inventory**.

At present the most important work of our generations falls too often on volunteers and "bake sale" funding. It is unreasonable and ineffective to depend almost exclusively on volunteers for the enormous task of safeguarding our common future. It is also unwise and unfair to exclude from this challenging work those people who need to earn a living at it. Dedicated volunteers are essential, but insufficient.

C. Mutual Aid Place: In each demonstration community or region, people who want to earn their living doing life-sustaining work will find appropriate opportunities in the Inventory. A "Mutual Aid Place" may be desirable (under this or some other name) to help connect interested people with whatever training, counselling, or other resources they require in order to get started. Everyone's help is needed. With so much constructive work demanding action now, unemployment has become unnecessary and utterly inexcusable.

Would you and/or your associates be willing to participate in developing this draft into a workable plan that will be implemented?

Walt Taylor

Waging Peace Secretary
Northwest Study Conference Society
Box 446, Smithers, British Columbia V0J 2N0
(CX3815)

What about the Greens?

Thank you for the complimentary copy of the Winter 1989 issue of Connexions. I was rather startled by your article, *What Do We Do Now?*, though. You write of the need for a new movement, ignoring the Green movement, which already exists! If it does not fit the movement as you envisage it, why not tell us the reasons? I am sure you know of us, because you have a news item about us, on p. 19

The Green movement seems to fit the movement you are thinking of, because it has a political arm, the Green Party. There is no sense in having more than one environmental party. Last election, tens of thousands of votes were cast for Green candidates. Municipally, the Vancouver Greens got 40,000+ votes last election!

F. P. Hughes, Hawkesbury, Ontario
(CX3816)

Activism Under Attack

What does it say about democracy in Canada when people can be singled out, arrested, jailed, and kept out of a public place at the arbitrary whim of political organizers or police? What are the implications for all of us when anyone can be jailed just for being labelled an activist?

November 2, 1988, during the federal election campaign, three members of the Nanoose Conversion Campaign – Norman Abbey, Brian Stedman and I – were forcibly removed from a Conservative rally in Nanaimo, searched, arrested, jailed for about two hours, then released with no charges. Our crime? Being "activists".

While the rally had been advertised as a public meeting, the Conservatives and the RCMP cooperated to make it a decidedly Tory-only affair. Mulroney supporters were bussed in from Vancouver P.C. candidate Kim Campbell's campaign, all expenses paid (including hotel rooms and meals), to stack the meeting. The TV cameras would be there and Mulroney's image was at stake – and organizers didn't want a repeat of the previous day's demonstration in Vancouver – so the RCMP sanitized the gathering by barring anyone who might have protested or asked embarrassing questions.

At the time we were seized, we were standing quietly among hundreds of people, awaiting the arrival of Mulroney and Tory candidate Ted Schellenberg. We had attended the rally hoping to be able to question the prime minister on why seven U.S. nuclear-capable warships were at Nanoose Bay. We carried a small pennant that said "Another Canadian for Nuclear-Free Harbours", and were planning to display it when Mulroney arrived. But we never got a chance to make even such a simple statement. Just before Mulroney arrived a local Tory worker pointed me out as an "activist", and the police moved swiftly to remove all three of us. Outside the hotel, we were searched and found to be carrying nothing more threatening than the pennant, but were taken off to jail anyway. Brian and Norm were held in the drunk tank, and I was put in a cell. About two hours later we were released with no charges.

This was not the first such incident at a Mulroney rally, and indeed, seems part of a pattern of "detainments". A similar incident occurred in Toronto in October when two members of the Toronto Disarmament Network were arrested and jailed for attempting to ask Mulroney a question about defence issues. Several other people have been held, including people who wanted to raise the issue of free trade, and no charges have been laid in any of these cases.

We don't want to see this happen again, and so we have launched a suit against the RCMP officers and Tory workers involved in the Nanaimo incident and the Solicitor-General. We are suing for false arrest, assault and battery, false imprisonment, and breach of our rights under the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms (in particular, the right of freedom of association – to be present in a public place).

We believe that this is an important case for all of us, for to allow this kind of abuse to occur again has horrendous implications for anyone trying to work for social change in Canada. After all, when someone can be selectively seized and jailed simply for having views contrary to the government's, does our Canadian "democracy" really give us any more security than people in Chile or Guatemala?

At this stage we are gathering evidence from witnesses and fundraising. We expect to go through the Discoveries Process later this year, in which all parties in the suit will be questioned under oath and the written transcripts will be used in the later

trial. The trial itself will probably not begin before late in 1989 or early next year. Support has been good so far; people seem to understand that it's much easier to defend our rights and freedoms before they're taken away completely than to try to get them back once they're gone. However, we still need further support if the case is to continue, as none of us can afford to pursue it on our own. If you can afford to contribute, please send a cheque to "Nanaimo Civil Liberties Suit." Of course, we would also welcome ideas, offers of help, and questions. Contact us by writing to P.O. Box 122, Gabriola Island, B.C. V0R 1X0, or calling (604) 247-8670.

Laurie McBride
(CX3817)

Resources are Important

I have just had a chance to peruse your Winter issue of Connexions. Although this is your 48th issue, it is the first I have seen and I must commend you on being cognizant of what is important to not-for-profit organizations such as ours – namely listing resources.

Danelle Laidlaw, Executive Director, Bicycling Association of British Columbia
(CX3818)

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- Work: CX3653, CX3654, CX3696
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The Classifieds

Educational

Slides for social change: slide library, slide show rentals & sales, workshops. Kai Visionworks, Box 5490, Station A, Toronto, Ontario M5W 1N7, (416) 964-1278.

Health

Medical Reform Newsletter carries a variety of interesting articles on the social, political, economic, legal, and ethical aspects of health care. 6/year, \$25. Sample \$1. MRG, Box 366, Station J, Toronto, Ont. M4J 4Y8

Help Wanted

Canada World Youth has openings for co-ordinators and group leaders in its international exchange programs with developing countries in Africa, Asia, and Latin America. Co-ordinators, together with their exchange country counterpart, give direction and leadership to the country's programme as a whole. Group leaders are largely responsible for project development. Deadline for applications is December 8, 1989. For more information, contact CWY, 386 Bloor St. W, Toronto, Ont. M5S 1X4, (416) 922-0776.

CUSO needs community development workers, popular communications educators, women's project advisors, and ESL instructors. Contact CUSO CE-11, 135 Rideau St., Ottawa, Ont. K1N 9K7.

Organizations

Do you want a world free of oppression? An environment that isn't poisoned for profit? An end to racism and sexism? Solutions to our housing problems (e.g. squatting)? To prevent authoritarian violence (i.e. cops killing)? Wobblies want a better world for all. For info about the Toronto Branch of the I.W.W. (The Wobblies) write 26A Oxford St., Toronto, Ont. M5T 1N9

Join Us! Become a member of Connexions If you are a person who believes that fundamental change is needed to bring about a more just society, and that such change can happen only if people at society's grass roots join together to bring it about, then consider becoming a member of Connexions. Connexions is a non-profit collective working to bring about a sharing of information, ideas and experiences among those working for social justice. For more information, write Connexions, 427 Bloor St. W., Toronto M5S 1X7 and we'll send you an information package. Or phone (416) 960-3903

Publications

The Moment is a 16-page educational resource on critical Canadian issues, designed for group discussion, analysis and action. Subscriptions are \$8/3 issues. The Moment, 947 Queen St. E., Toronto, Ont. M4M 1J9.

Green Teacher is a resource for teachers, teacher educators, curriculum developers and parents. \$25/6 issues. Green Teacher, 95 Robert St., Toronto, Ont. M5S 2K5

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Naming the Moment: a new resource manual for community groups who want to integrate political analysis into their work for social change. \$14 to Moment Project, 947 Queen St. E., Toronto, Ont. M4M 1J9

Connexions Annual 1989: A Social Change Sourcebook. Comprehensive overview of social and environmental activism in Canada. \$17.95, or \$25 with a subscription to Connexions Digest. 427 Bloor St. W., Toronto, Ont. M5S 1X7

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Media for Social Change is a public relations handbook written for community workers and social change activists. It shows how to write a news release, hold a press conference, create public service announcements, create your own low-cost newsletters, posters, videos. \$7.65 from Connexions, 427 Bloor St. W., Toronto M5S 1X7

Back Issues of Connexions are still available, including theme issues on the Arts and Social Change, Rights and Liberties, Housing, Native Peoples, Women and Men, Children, and Unorganized Workers. \$1 each, bulk rates available. Connexions, 427 Bloor St. W., Toronto, Ont. M5S 1X7

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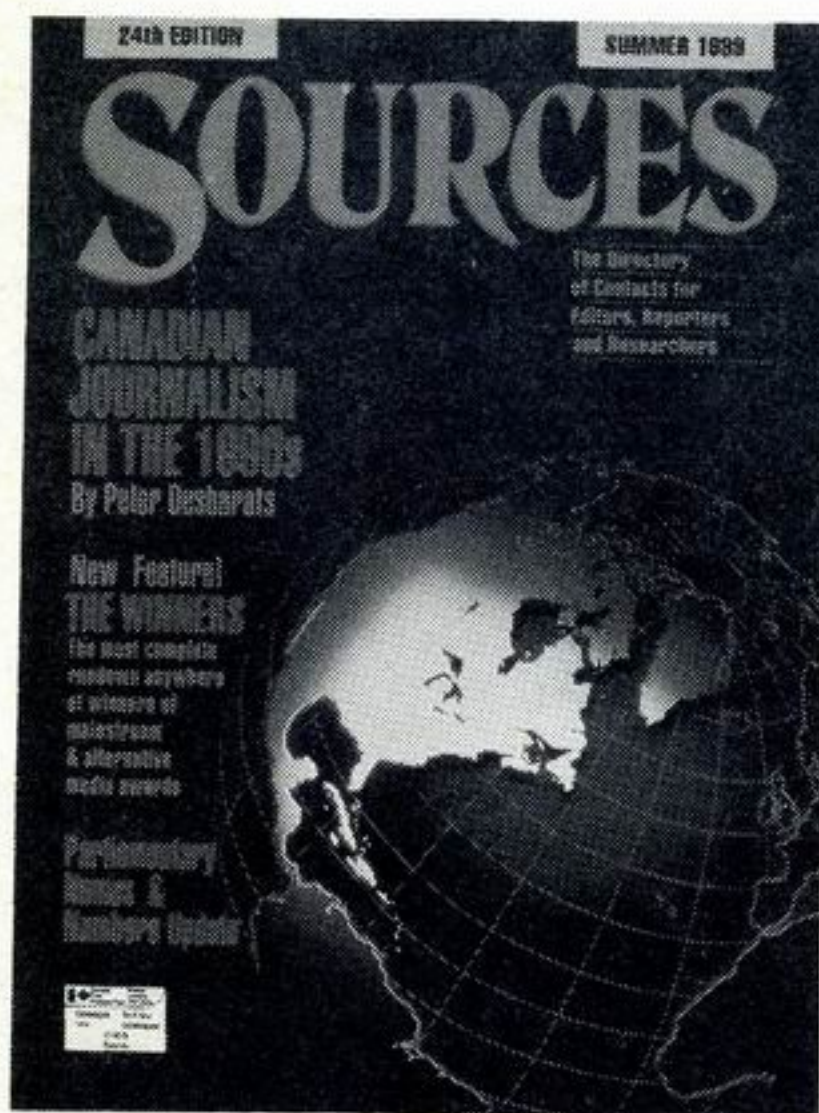
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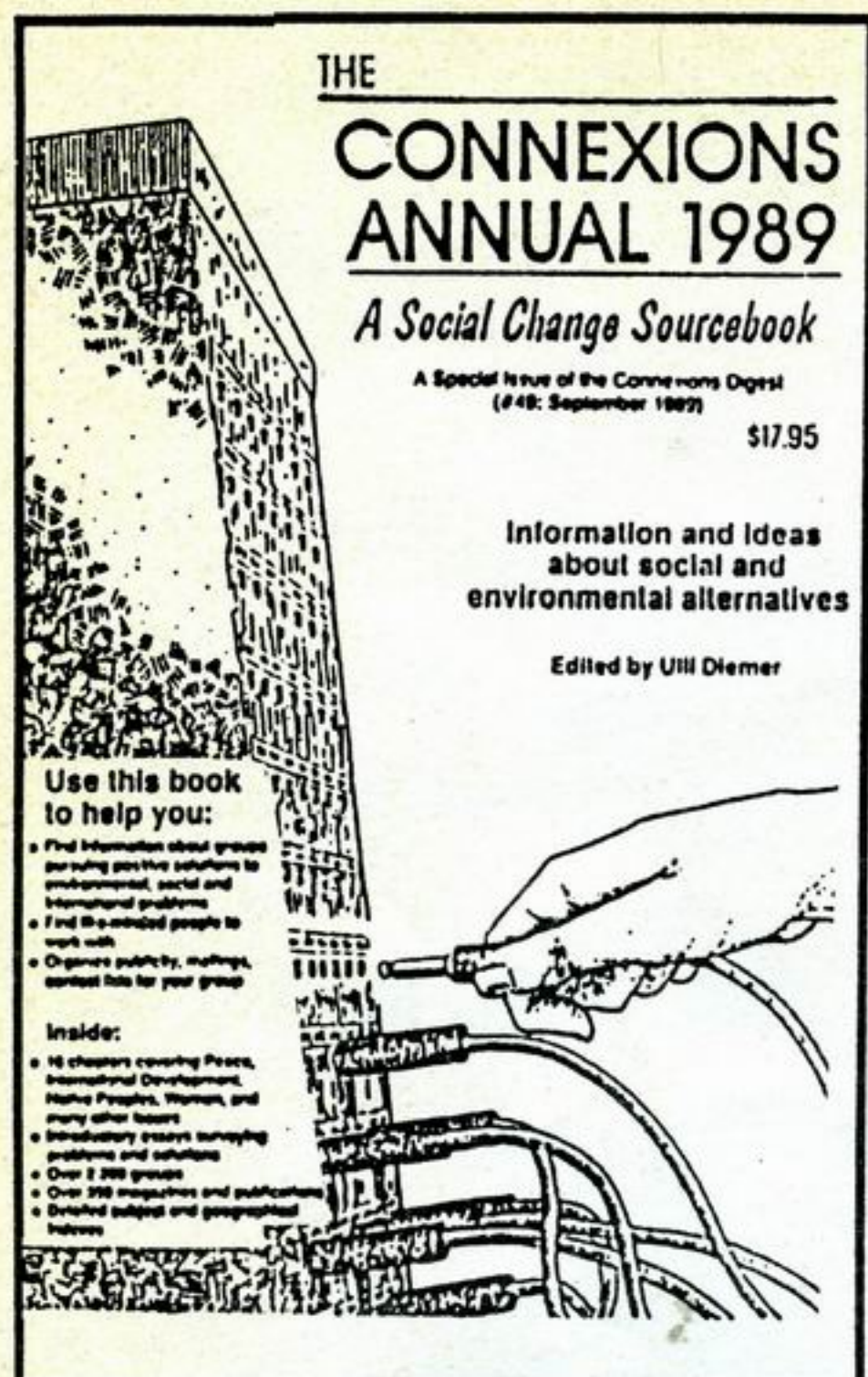
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