

THE B.C. VOW  
NEWSLETTER JK1974  
Published V65  
Every 2 months  
BC VOICE OF WOMEN  
K 235, NANAIMO, BC  
Vol 10, No.1  
June 1973

PRESIDENT, EDITOR & TREAS., BOX 235 NANAIMO. MEMB. SEC. BOX 3212 COURTENAY

Does an impecunious peace group really need expensive national meetings in Canada? My answer: only if that group wants to continue to exist as a national entity. I like to keep a clear distinction between those people who are only willing to exercise their responsibilities at a family level; those who wish to function at a municipal level; and those who look yet beyond at provincial, national, and international levels. Let's face it, only a small percentage of us fall into the third category, and they are also active at the other levels. So we get tired, we wish that there was some way out of our self-imposed dilemma. But there isn't any way out, and we can't stop the world to wait while the rest of the population catches up with us. And we must keep in touch by periodic face-to-face meetings.

Fifty of us gathered at McMaster University in mid-May and re-affirmed our commitment to the kind of aims shared by all VOW members: peace in Indo China; an end to torture; improvement of the status of women; and effective environmental policies. We heard Kari Levitt describe the corrupt intermingling of government and corporate interests and we met in workshops to reach consensus on a number of diverse concerns.

For lack of the calibre of national president to which we have become accustomed, we again elected a steering committee of vice-presidents: Marjorie Stewart, B.C.; Jean Priegert, Alta.; Chris Lane, Man.; Martha Goodings, Ont.; and Norah Toole, N.B. I would like you to know that, in my estimation, the average age of the above is well below 50!

Monthly meetings will be held in Toronto of "available" Council members; and Lyn Center continues to be our invaluable executive secretary, thanks to on-going pledges, which could not be going to a better cause. A subscription list for national bulletins will be drawn up to supplement the national quarterly, which will continue to appear four times a year.

Is it worth it? Yes, the new blood is there, we have only to keep going, trusting in the future, when our ideas will finally catch up with their time.

Marjorie Stewart

=0=

PAST-PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: Sure, it's worth it! But few can manage the time for travelling so far, and, sad to say, VOW can't afford to help more than these few financially.

Our own "B.C. Annual", however, is a horse of a different colour. Haney is well within reach of most of us, and organized groups further afield could hardly find a worthier cause than to finance a delegate to bring them home inspiration. And talk about cheap: \$14.00 covers meals and bed for the whole weekend - can you beat that?

When you consider what a few hardworking, hard-thinking VOW's can accomplish when they gather together, you won't hesitate a second. Come on: cut off the form on Page 7 and send it in right away. Be seeing you!

DEENO BIRMINGHAM



# NATIONAL

VOW 12th ANNUAL MEETING  
VOW 12th ANNUAL MEETING

(from the Press Release)  
(from the Press Release)

"...members came from coast to coast and the N.W.T. to renew their efforts towards peace and the alleviation of human suffering.

"Guest speaker Kari Levitt, professor of economics at McGill University and author of 'Silent Surrender' spoke on 'Natural Resources and Economic Nationalism'. She said the brazen and continuing lies of Federal and Provincial governments over the controversial James Bay Hydro Electric Project are misleading the public and obscuring the fact that multinational corporations are exploiting natural resources, the risks and costs being borne by the public.

"The close association between heads of corporations and leaders of government prompted the Voice of Women to pass a resolution calling for legislation to eliminate funding of political parties by powerful corporate interests.

"A major concern of VOW continues to be the current situation in Indo China. Representatives of VOW groups across the country have been working to secure the release of political prisoners in S. Vietnam. The meeting opposed the continued bombing of Cambodia and urged the Canadian government to withhold aid to the Thieu regime until all political prisoners are released and refugees allowed to return to their homes. VOW also urged Canada to remain on the International Commission for Control and Supervision, to adopt a more impartial attitude and to publish full reports of all violations, such reports to include the views of all members of the Commission.

"Because of the growing use of torture techniques on political prisoners throughout the world, VOW supports the current 'abolition of torture' campaign of Amnesty International.

"During the past years VOW members have initiated many co-operative efforts in their communities across the country. Continuing interests include: political prisoners, the status of women and instances where environment is threatened by political decisions.

"In opposing Canada's involvement in any continental energy policy, VOW also called for a moratorium on the operation and further construction of such major developments as the James Bay Hydro Electric Project, the proposed MacKenzie Valley Pipeline and nuclear fission power plants, until the results of adequate research of their effects are known, and until it is deemed that these kinds of developments are necessary and beneficial to the long-term welfare of Canadians.

"VOW re-affirmed its position that Canada should withdraw from NORAD because it is a costly and technologically obsolete agreement which reduces Canada's credibility as an independent power, and restricts her foreign policy. Objection to Canada's involvement in NATO was also re-affirmed.

"To secure our democratic processes, VOW requests the Canadian government to ban private and government use of wiretapping technology and the use of 'dossiers'.

"A message of encouragement was sent by the VOW meeting to the people who are walking from London to Paris as 'Greenpeace London' to protest France's nuclear testing."

→ → → → → → → → → →  
ARROWS are for ACTION throughout these pages → → →



# AID TO THIEU?

Reading the B.C. Voice today, I was a little disturbed to find absolutely no mention of the NDP B.C. government's introduction of a motion to send \$2.25 million medical aid to "set up children's hospitals in North and South Vietnam".

I have sent considerable information along to Karen Sanford to make sure she understood that it is another attempt, similar to C.I.D.A. (Canadian International Development Agency) way of inserting political aid to the present Thieu government - for there is absolutely no other way that it can be handled than that way - unless they wait until after the elections take place (hopefully) in September and a new government is elected which will truly represent the people.

Otherwise, no matter what the motives are at this end - and no one questions them - the facts remain the same, namely, the Canadian government which is presently contributing to the fraudulent stories about "all the violations of the cease fire taking place on the other side" and has already rated sharp criticism from Hanoi since Ambassador Michel Gauvin has just indulged in slander and has had no facts to back up his allegations (about the downed helicopter for example); Canada continues to refuse to investigate the prisoner situation in Thieu's prisons as well.

In the face of such actions, it is inconceivable that we suddenly are going to break out and show concern about children - when we care so little about the children who are imprisoned with their parents - and therefore I do hope every effort will be made to demand far more investigation into the project before the NDP government in B.C. puts through any such measure.

- from a letter (May 9) to Marjorie from CLAIRE CULHANE, Montreal.

## THIEU REGIME NOT THE ONLY CHANNEL

KAREN SANFORD, in a telephone call on June 4, assured the B.C. Voice that there are undoubtedly other channels open for aid to the Vietnamese people.

The B.C. government's \$2.25 million will definitely NOT go via the Saigon government, but through one or more of the established organizations such as CAVC, UNICEF, Red Cross (of North Vietnam), SCF (Save the Children Fund), and Society of Friends (Quakers).

Representatives from all of these (e.g. Dr. A. Inglis of CAVC) have been invited, among others, to take part in the hearings - as have Dr. A. Venemna and another doctor who has very recently been in Vietnam.

At the first hearing, which took place in Vancouver at the end of May, the representative of the Swedish SCF brought assurance that his organization is definitely "in" in North Vietnam, and has been getting funds in, and sending milk etc., to the PRG zones. They work on the principle of following only the requests of the PRG and of North Vietnam - and there have been such requests.

It is hoped by the end of the current hearings to choose channels to all three zones of Vietnam, via one or more of these established organizations. The public of B.C. will probably be called upon to match the amount of the government figure, so that \$4.5 million will - as soon as possible - be spent where it is most needed.

\*\*\*\*\*  
**FLASH!** WAR RESISTERS LEAGUE (WRL) are having their first ever National Conference, as 1973 is their 50th Anniversary (see B.C. Voice, April '73, p.8)  
Time: Aug. 5-7. Place: Asilomar, Calif. Let's make up a group and go! (Monterey Peninsula, two days' reasonable drive from Vancouver). - Mary Cox.



# Group News

## KIMBERLEY

by Myrtle Russell

Voice of Women here held a tag day for Aid to Vietnam on March 23 and collected \$373.00. We were very pleased with the result. The money was sent to Canadian Aid for Vietnam Civilians in Vancouver.

At our meeting recently we decided to send a telegram to the President of France, c/o Canadian Embassy, protesting the nuclear testing by France. The members promised to write letters.

We were interested in the news item from Betty Drew of Nelson. We started with a small membership in 1961 and it has remained quite constant: 7 - 10 members. We gained one new member this year. With our tag day, we feel that we have had one of our best years.

## PARKSVILLE-QUALICUM BEACH

"Our Branch (ex-Parksville-Qualicum) still pay dues - and write letters," writes Sheila Gibson, Nanoose Bay.

(What would VOW be without people like them? All loners PLEASE NOTE you don't have to be in an organized group to be an effective Voice. - Ed.)

## POWELL RIVER - Wilcocks and Rossander on the warpath!

VOW members Sis Wilcocks and Martin Rossander, who are also active in PRAPA (Powell R. Anti-Pollution Assocn.), have been on the warpath against herbicide use in the forest. Having been advised of the proposed "hack and squirt" (sic) treatment with 2-4-D on 200 acres of local forest land, and having been officially given some "background reading material" of an absurdly out-dated nature, they have wasted no time.

On April 27 they sent a strong and well-researched letter to the District Forester (14 copies to government, media et al). Deploing the inadequacy of the literature received, they say: "'U.S.D.A. Forest Service Research Note PNW 116, Feb. 1970' ...deals mainly with 2-4-5-T, and is written in a vein minimizing concern about the use of herbicides. (It states) 'the similarity of the chemistry of 2-4-D and 2-4-5-T suggests they may behave in a similar manner.' No reference is made ... to dioxin, which according to other articles on this subject indicate, is formed when 2-4-5-T is burned or exposed to sunlight, or which is present to some degree within the herbicide as impurity of manufacture.

"From a study of other articles also not provided by Mr. Johnson, I find dioxin linked to genetic deformity and high fetus mortality, with results detectable even where the minutest quantity of dioxin was administered; and that dioxin is 10,000 times more toxic than thalidomide (underlining ours -Ed) ...and that of Sep. 18, 1971, Ottawa laboratories of Federal Food and Drug Directorate found a new type of dioxin which they described as 'the most embryotoxic chemical known to man.'"

The letter ends with ten pointed and extremely pertinent questions to which Sis and Martin obviously expect competent answers - or else!

Alas, lack of space prevents us from quoting another excellent letter written recently by these two dynamoes of action to Minister of Agriculture Dave Stupich. It concerns Bill 42, the dubious safety of lands which might fall outside its definition of the term "agricultural", and the question of what this definition is. Keep it up, Powell River!



# A RATIONAL CANADIAN ENERGY POLICY

Top priorities of the B.C. Environmental Council include, in addition to opposition to the operation of supertankers off the B.C. coast and to the construction of a MacKenzie Valley pipeline, the promotion of a rational Canadian energy policy.

In a brief presented on April 18, 1973 on behalf of the Council to the B.C. Standing Committee on Oil Spills, Irving Stowe urges the following (among other) actions to be taken by the B.C. Government to this end:

"E. The B.C. government should demand that Ottawa adopt a conservative, rational national energy policy.

1. Ottawa has taken no appropriate action to curtail the wasteful and environmentally destructive use of current energy sources. It does nothing to reduce our dependence on polluting energy sources. Instead, it continues to pursue its DEAD END policy (an increasingly expensive one at that) of developing and exploiting non-renewable and polluting energy sources...

2. The national energy policy the B.C. government should require of Ottawa should include, among other features

- stabilizing of further development of energy sources to meet Canadian needs only
- phasing out of exports of energy and energy sources
- conservation of energy (encouraging urban mass transit and the improvement of railways, discouraging large industrial development, etc.)
- encouraging the substitution of relatively non-polluting energy sources for current polluting ones
- immediate full scale research and development of relatively non-polluting and limitless energy sources such as geothermal energy, solar energy, energy from wind and tides etc



"F. The B.C. government should affirm, in deeds and words, that it opposes the continued and accelerated rip-off of our resources, and that B.C. is committed to living within its environmental budget. Some recommendations:

1. It should undertake at once a full and continuous educational program, using all B.C. schools and the media, to reduce the use of energy and the waste and misuse of energy.

2. It can and should set an example by reducing its own consumption of polluting fuels (e.g.)

- requiring that the new buses it has ordered (and new government vehicles) be delivered equipped for propane or liquified natural gas operation....

3. It should now establish a standing committee to finance and ...promote research and development of relatively non-polluting and limitless sources of energy.

4. It should move now to 'provincialize' the sources of such energy so that they can be developed in the public interest."

underlining ours -Ed.

B.C. VOW supports the B.C. Environmental Council. There's plenty of material here on which to keep those VOICES raised.

Keep getting after your M.L.A.! Keep writing to newspapers!



## Another Mother for a Nuclear Moratorium

The Nuclear Peacetime "Bomb" That Keeps Ticking Away (was) the theme for the annual Mother's Day Assembly sponsored by Another Mother for Peace on May 11. Taking place in Los Angeles, the Assembly (was) hooked up by telephone to similar meetings in 7 other cities including Washington, DC and Seattle. Dr. John Gofman, co-discoverer of uranium 233 and author of Poisoned Power, (was) one of the main speakers.

Another Mother for Peace charges the A.E.C. with suppressing the truth and speaking atomic doubletalk. Another Mother for Peace demands that nuclear power be outlawed as a deadly peril to this and future generations, and that a moratorium be declared on the entire nuclear energy program.

- from A.M.P. press release.

PEGGY WALKER of Los Angeles, VOW delegate to the Assembly, writes:-

"Here in California it was a great success - the theatre filled with vastly interested women and men, and every speaker was accorded the full attention of the audience, who also asked good questions... Alas, the telephone connections with other cities were poor... and of course the failure to reach Ralph Nader was much regretted by all...

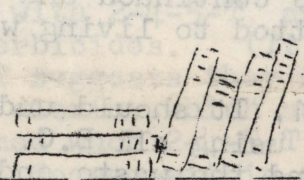
"Dr. John Gofman... is a quite delightful person and handled questions expertly... He appears, with others who are in various ways distinguished in this field, in the film 'How Safe Are America's Atomic Reactors?' which was shown, and at the same time, we were told, previewed before Senators and Congressmen in Washington. I was much impressed by the film and interested in the fact that it appears to be British made, a result of inquiries set afoot in England by the fact that the government there has been considering purchase of American reactors for the manufacture of atomic power. I was told that copies were available (from Granada International Films, N.Y.) for \$250.00 a print.

"It is my intention to type up my notes and start getting them into shape for the report I plan to make next month at our VOW conference... PEGGY!"

Note: Peggy Walker will be reporting to us at our A.G.M. this month. -Ed.

\* \* \* \* \*

## BOOKS



THE ENERGY CRISIS by Lawrence Rocks and Richard P. Runyon. New York: Crown 1972. Distributed by Gen. Publishing Ltd., Paperback Edition \$3.50

How does it go? Truth is stranger than fiction? Perhaps a similar statement can be made regarding realities and surmise and the impact these may have. If so, then THE ENERGY CRISIS stands as a fine example.

Looking quite objectively at what we have in the way of working and available fuel sources, at what must be done to maintain such sources, at what is not being done, and what must therefore be the results, the authors have produced a book of most chilling impact. Probably far more effective than any doomsday warnings they could have proffered. Pessimism enough lies in the facts they outline.

Note, for instance, their Timetable for an Energy Crisis:

Early 70's: Curtailed heating in shopping centres, department stores, theatres, and restaurants.

(continued on page 7)



Late 70's: Curtailed heating in public buildings, schools, houses, and hospitals.

Late 70's if we supply Japan and Europe, otherwise by the 1980's:

Gasoline rationing for everyone.

No pleasure driving.

Car pools and increased public transportation.

By the end of the 70's:

Gov't control of key industries thro' the necessity of rationing energy.

Gov't spending of hundreds of billions of dollars in crash programs for energy procurement.

By the 80's if even half of the anticipated energy shortage materializes:

A "great depression" of 1929 scope.

(... AND SO ON, AND SO ON, AND SO ON...)

Backing these projections with current and clearly understandable data, the whole book shouts of the domina effects (upon nearly all aspects of life) which energy's problems promise to bring.

If you have perchance lost your earlier concern over the seriousness of environmental problems, or haven't been able to find a good chiller lately, by all means read this one.

- from a review by LILLE D'EASUM in Perspective, May 1973.

"All men of goodwill, or rather all men who love life, must form a united front for survival, for the continuation of life and civilization."

ERICH FROMM

## MOUNTAIN MOVING

B.C. VOW ANNUAL CONFERENCE - Timberline Ranch, Haney. JUNE 15-17, 1973

Turn North off Lougheed Highway at 224th St., Haney, drive 3 miles North

Kindly fill in and mail the registration form below to Lin Latham,  
8758 Armstrong Ave., Burnaby 3, B.C. ... Remember, observers are welcome

ing bag) and  
ited)



# LITERATURE

## \* NEW 1973 B.C. VOW LITERATURE LIST

Now being prepared by Mary Cox; will be available at the Annual Meeting (don't forget to pick yours up), and will also be printed in full in the next B.C. Voice (August).

## \* The most IMMEDIATE concern:

NUCLEAR TESTING IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC - reproduced on p.9 (opposite) - 1¢ Available now. We urge you to ACT on it and DISTRIBUTE it, NOW.

## \* How to Get Our Literature:

Just order from Mrs. T.M. Cox, Bowser, B.C.

Usual price is 1¢ per printed side - to keep us solvent!

Help with postage is always much appreciated.

---

## HIGHLIGHTS from the MINUTES (Exec. meeting Apr. 17)

\* Report on Disarmament Workshop (Van. Mar. 23) with Philip Resnick on NORAD. 60-70 attended, letters sent to every MP and many organizations re freeing of S.Vietnam political prisoners.

\* Petitions signed against MacKenzie Valley pipeline construction.

\* Next Jim Lawson Publication: considerable discussion on proposal that Dorothy Livesay (a close friend of Jim's) prepare an anthology of women's poems.

\* Membership: 239 paid-up in 1973, including 22 new members.

\* Newsletter: complimentary copies of B.C. Voice to go to libraries of B.C.'s nine Regional Colleges.

\* Bank Balances: Apr. 17 \$366.78  
May 29 \$377.44

\* Letter from vice-pres. D'Arcy, NDP Caucus. He strongly endorses our protest against nuclear power, but is not in favour of Caucus debate yet.

\* Telegram sent to Mitchell Sharp to get ICCS to see political prisoners.

\* Letter to go (written by Cox) to Mitchell Sharp re bombing of Laos and Cambodia.



## NUCLEAR TESTING IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC

YES! The French Government is planning tests again this June. SAY NO!!!

THE SOUTH PACIFIC FORUM is an organization formed by the governments of 9 countries, on the initiation of Gough Whitlam, Australia's Prime Minister. All of these countries have recently condemned the tests: AUSTRALIA (\*Canberra, Capital Territory); COOK ISLANDS (\*Rarotonga); FIJI (\*Suva); NAURA ISLAND; NIUE ISLAND; NEW ZEALAND (\*Wellington); PAPUA, New Guinea (\*Port Moresby); TONGA ISLANDS (\*Nukualofa); and WESTERN SAMOA ISLANDS (\*Apia). \*Asterisks indicate names of capital cities.

These countries need YOUR SUPPORT, as quickly as possible. Please write - Write - WRITE - W R I T E!! Whenever you have a moment, dash off a letter to one of the following--and do as many as you can:

\*\* (1) The Prime Minister of each of the SOUTH PACIFIC FORUM countries (at capitals, as above) with encouragement, appreciation, thanks.

\*\* (2) The Editors of: Wellington Post, Wellington, N.Z.  
Sydney Morning Herald, Sydney, N.S.W., Australia  
Auckland Star, Auckland, N.Z.  
Auckland Herald, Auckland, N.Z.  
Melbourne Herald, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia

and any other newspapers "down under" that you can ferret out, voicing support of the protest movement in the S. Pacific, known as CND (Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament)/Greenpeace Movement. Assure them that theirs is very much a world movement.

\*\* (3) Canadian Newspapers, pointing out what the P.M.'s of the S. Pacific Forum have done, and that Trudeau should do the same; "the people" are doing their bit--the Government also must act officially on their behalf.

\*\* (4) Rt. Hon. Pierre Elliott Trudeau, P.M. of Canada, House of Commons, Ottawa, WITH COPIES TO Hon. Robt. Stanfield, M.P., Hon. David Lewis, M.P., (no stamps), insisting that the issue of the French tests be raised in the House, a unanimous vote reached (as with the Amchitka test) and an official government protest be lodged.

\*\* (5) Most important of all:  
His Excellency Georges Pompidou, President of France  
c/o The Canadian Embassy (writers please note)  
Avenue Foch, Paris, France  
protesting this crime against the human environment.

\* \* \* \* \*

ALSO: Encourage friends and acquaintances travelling to Europe in May and June to JOIN THE GREENPEACE MARCH TO PARIS, June 1 - 4 approximately. The March will be organized by a Rally in Brussels, May 23. Details of this event may be obtained from: Movement to Stop the French Atomic Test, c/o 14 Gray's Inn Road, London, W.C. 1, England.

\* \* \* \* \*

Canadian Greenpeace contact: c/o J. Bohlen, 3504 West 19th, Vancouver 8.

Copies of this sheet are available from:  
BRITISH COLUMBIA VOICE OF WOMEN, P.O. Box 235, Nanaimo, British Columbia.



# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



I am enclosing \$1.00 to cover a year's subscription to the B.C. Voice. Would you please send it to my friend --.

Your news letter is excellent, well planned and highlighted by arrows. You bring into focus the truths behind the problems which is really hard to find elsewhere. I am proud to be a member of VOW. Sincerely,

Carole Fairweather, New Westminster.



Dear B.C. VOW: re: April issue p.3 "fund raiser" ideas. When I visited in Port Townsend, Wash. at Easter, I bought a handy little fund-raiser for a church: perhaps 50 typed recipe cards, a hole in corner of each, tied together with a red ribbon, the cover a small block-cut of the church. This is handy, as recipe cards found useful could go straight into a recipe file. Also cards could be typed by volunteer labour - the cards tied together as bought are really easier to flip over than a printed "cook-book". I think such a collection could be a good fund raiser.

Clare McAllister, Galiano Island.

XX

\$ FEES! FEES! FEES! \$

Fees were due on New Year's Day. If you have not renewed this year, please will you do so SOON and help keep B.C. VOW ticking? Thank you!

Fees are: Regular.....\$5.00  
Sustaining.....\$12.00  
Youth (under 25).....\$1.00  
Senior (over 65).....\$1.00  
Family.....\$7.50

N.B. You may pay fees to your Group Sec. OR directly to B.C. VOW Membership Sec., P.O. Box 3212, Courtenay, B.C.

## Group Membership Chairmen:

- BURNABY - Mrs. R.B. L'Estrange, 5125 Empire Drive, Burnaby 2.
- NORTH SHORE - Mrs. F. Jennings, 124 E. Kings Rd., N.Van (Regular fee \$6.00)
- VANCOUVER - Mrs. A.P. Howett, 3548 W. 26th Ave. Van. 8 (Regular fee \$6.00)
- VICTORIA - Mrs. Iva Jellicoe, Apt. 3 - 429 Vancouver Street, Victoria.

////////////////////  
Non-member SUBSCRIPTION to B.C. Voice - \$1.00 per year (six issues)  
////////////////////  
PRINTED MATTER ONLY

Return address:  
Editor,  
B.C. Voice,  
Box 235, Nanaimo, B.C.



Ms. Eileen Kenwood,  
3210 Aldridge St.,  
VICTORIA, B.C.