

FREE
all borders

Issue #41
Dec 13-Dec 27
Circulation 1800

Toronto's Anarchist Bi-Weekly
Ecomedia
BULLETIN

Ecomedia, P.O. Box 915, Stn F, Toronto Ont. M4Y 2N9

All Material Is Anti-Copy right!



You Call This Glasnost?

On October 30, anarchists from around Poland attended the first meeting of a new Polish anarchist network, mostly made up of activists from Freedom and Peace (WiP) and the Movement for Alternative Society (RSA). The meeting, an attempt to coordinate activities on an intercity level, was quickly broken up by the anti-terrorist brigade, equipped with guns, nets for catching people, bayonets and bullet proof jackets. No one was beaten but several were held, the house and people's property were searched. The owner of the house was fined 51,000 zt (a lot). The activists dispersed and regrouped elsewhere to complete the meeting. Since that time harassment of anarchists has continued, more homes have been raided and people taken into custody.

Meanwhile, university students are boycotting military, Russian and socialist political economy lessons, all of which are mandatory. In Warsaw and Krakow they are best organized to resist the indoctrination, with a majority of students participating, but the boycott has spread to Gdansk as well. (all above info from a European Ecomedia correspondent)

A demonstration was held in front of the Polish Embassy in New York on Saturday, Dec. 3. The demonstration sponsored by the group **Neither East Nor West**, was held in solidarity with

Polish anarchists and labour dissidents from the group **Polish Freedom and Peace (WiP)** who were denied passports and travelling papers by the Polish government on the grounds of their political affiliations. The demonstration was attended by 30-40 people, a success for **Neither East Nor West** which is a group working with east block activists.



Klaudiusz Wesolek, Krzysztof Galinski, Adam Jagusiak, Malgorzata Tarasiewicz and Jaraslaw Dubiel all of whom have been denied passports have formed a group called the **Club of Prisoners of the Borders** for people all over the world who have been denied passports or travelling papers by their governments and who want to act in solidarity with one another.

continued on page 3

Council Fire Cry for Help!

Council Fire, the only assistance service for homeless and poor Native people in Toronto, is unable to continue its drop-in centre and life skills programs because they no longer have a space. Their old space is being gentrified, so now they're looking for a downtown building with low rent to open up again. They are also in need of money.

In the Toronto community, for whatever reason [gentrification, maybe?], there are many boarded-up buildings. They are not in use and have not been for some years. Council Fire is appealing for HELP from anyone who has information about a building that might be utilized as a new home for Council Fire. If you would like to help in any way, please contact Reva Jewell at 972-1509 or 928-6838.

ACT UP! FIGHT BACK! FIGHT AIDS!

On Dec 1, AIDS activists held a die-in and picket to bring the demands of People Living With Aids (PLWAs) to a government sponsored working "consensus" conference on AIDS held Dec 1,2 in a Scarborough hotel.

The demo, organized by AIDS ACTION NOW! demanded: open (and free) access for PLWAs and HIV+ people to promising new AIDS treatments and drugs; an end to the use of placebos in AIDS research trials; improved hospital/home care; the setting up of a treatment registry which would bring together all available information on AIDS treatments from institutionalized "scientific" research, community health initiatives and alternative/individually controlled treatments; the setting up of anonymous HIV test sites.

To date the government has licensed only one drug, AZT, for use against AIDS, while ignoring the mounting evidence of the effectiveness of a variety of drugs and treatments used at the grassroots levels in the U.S. and elsewhere.

The conference called under pressure from AIDS activist groups brought together health administrators, AIDS researchers and AIDS activists (including a few PLWAs). While better understandings were reached on the issues, and liberal promises made. AIDS activists intend to increase the pressure on the AIDS bureaucracy.

LOVE SAFE! BLEACH YOUR
NEEDLE! HELP A PLWA!

Crystal Power

Now you have all heard of New Agers, you know the ones, they're the people who are hanging around outside the big carrot, and Noahs with the smug expressions on their faces. Essentially what they are are Yuppies who don't have the guts to call themselves that. Instead they hide their rampant consumerism under the guise of caring capitalism, only buying the right things, as if all that is wrong with the world is that people are giving their money to the wrong companies and religions. The raw stupidity of this, is best exposed by the following piece of news from the latest Utne Reader.

In Aspen Colorado, people can spend \$100 dollars for a one-day workshop on using quartz crystals for self realization. Here in Toronto people can purchase crystals from almost any health food store, and there are at least 2 stores that sell nothing but crystals, that allegedly promote healing thoughts and improved dreams.

I have no idea whether or not

claims of crystal power are real or not. But what is real, is the strain crystal collectors are putting on the environment, particularly in western Arkansas, one of the largest sources of crystals in North America. Legions of eager crystal hounds are descending on the area armed with screwdrivers shovels and bull dozers. According to an area resident it resembles gold rush days. There have been several "how to" articles printed on collecting including one which pictured the author proudly displaying her booty at the bottom of a badly eroded hill side. In addition to plundering legal mines people have been at work in the state forest digging pits six feet deep and then simply abandoning them, which is hazardous for animals, hikers, and promotes erosion. Meanwhile the federal forest service, never known for its love of the wilderness has been granting crystal mining permits left, right and center.

Never mind dear, at least its not from South Africa...

Bookstore in Toronto

A survey regarding community supported projects, recently presented by Ecomedia, resulted in efforts being put forth to develop an anarchist bookstore. Well, we expect to be opening shortly in a second floor location on Augusta Avenue, in Kensington Market.

The store won't bring in enough revenue to cover its rent, so its operation will depend on pledges. If you promised a monthly amount now's the time to send postdated cheques; if you didn't it's not too late. For more info or to send cheques, write to Ecomedia or call the hot line at 536-2514.

Yes, I will donate _____ per month, starting in January, for operation of an anarchist book store in Toronto.

Name

Address

Phone

Anarchy on Trial

Toronto

As some of you may remember there were a number of arrests during the anarchist Survival Gathering held here in Toronto this summer, this is an update for those of you who were wondering just what happened.

First of all, most of the charges will never come to trial, as the accused skipped bail and didn't return for their set dates, this has left the gathering organizers in a bit of a lurch financially, as all that bail money is forfeit. Anyone who owes bail money, or wants to make a donation can send it to A survival gathering p.o. box 435 Stn. P Toronto M5S 2S9.

The charges that did come to trial have almost all resulted in dismissed charges. The two Americans who were charged with immigration infractions early in the Gathering had their charges dropped soon after the

Gathering in return for voluntarily leaving the country.

A Toronto man charged with obstruct police, had his charges dismissed after a day in court.

Another Toronto man who was charged with shouting in public had his charges dismissed.

Last week a Toronto womyn who had been charged with 2 counts of assault police had her charges dismissed because the police officer admitted that she had been falsely charged.

The only case that has come to trial that hasn't been dropped or dismissed, is that of a New York womyn who came all the way to Toronto for her day in court, only to have the court "forget" she was there. Her case was put over to a later date, sometime in March, 1989.

Greece

Two of a group of four anarchists imprisoned in Greece have been acquitted of charges of being involved in the armed group "Anti-State Struggle". The four, arrested in October 1987, had been in custody 14 months until trial; one womyn was held with her 10 month old son. Another man was shot and killed by police during the incident.

On November 24, V. Vogiatzi and G. Boukouvalas were released after a court found the evidence against them to be largely fabricated and insufficient. Boukouvalas, for instance, was suspected of involvement in armed actions due to half a handprint found in a house which was raided, revealing a

cache of weapons. However the landlady of the house said she had seen the house the day before the raid and it had been empty, raising suspicions that the weapons had been planted by police. The charges were suspected to have been laid to convince Greece's allies that they are indeed carrying out some anti-terrorist work.

The other two are still in custody and will likely stand trial early next year. Though their cases are more complicated, the outcome of this trial as well as the large amount of support for them indicates some hope for victory.

You Call This Glasnost?

cont. from page 1

The Club of Prisoners of the Borders in Poland (made up of the above named people) had originally planned to hunger strike until they were granted passports, however with little publicity it was felt that a hunger strike would not be successful at this point. So right now they are calling for international solidarity and support to pressure the Polish government to issue them passports. If international pressure fails then the hunger strike will go ahead until they are granted passports.

The denial of passports to these people is just the beginning of a clamp-down by the Polish government on travel outside the country as well as against polish activists.

To send letters supporting the rights of these people to passports write to:

Ministerstwo Spraw Wewnętrznych
Rakowiecka 21
Warsaw, POLAND

To contact the Club of Prisoners of the Borders, their english contact is:

Malgorzata Tarasiewicz
(48-58)-51-25-48

Further information on their situation will be available through the Ecomedia Bulletin at our address as well as information on Toronto support.



MEDIA WORTH WATCHING

The current issue of **Kick It Over**, number 22, is now available. Highlights are a story of the murder of about one hundred young black prostitutes in Seattle over the past six years, news of which has been suppressed by the mass media. The police are alleged to be responsible. There's also a graphic description of Toronto police's treatment of one young woman arrested during the Survival Gathering in July, some views on the violent demonstration which ended the Gathering, articles on bioregionalism and the struggle in Honduras, theoretical material, poetry and fiction. On sale for \$2 at better newstands.

Open Road (issues #23,24, \$2 for the pair, subs are 2 hours pay from Open Road, Box 6135, Stn G, Vancouver BC, Canada V6R 4G5). OR is one of the better known Canadian anarchist magazines. These issues (published at the same time) feature reports on direct action around

the world and an interview with Gerry Hannah about "The Squamish Five", the movie that trashed Direct Action.

No Picnic (issue 4, \$1 or \$8/4 issues from No Picnic, P.O. Box 69393 Stn K, Vancouver BC, V5K 4W6). No Picnic, a new quarterly from BC, carries lots of direct action news and has a good local focus. An Ecomedia Vancouver contact. Lots of important news on the Gitksan struggle. Most importantly, if you want to keep up on Abigail Van Buren's (Dear Abby) column, you must buy this No Picnic issue!

Bayou La Rose (issue 29, subs \$5 a year from BLR, P.O. Box 2576, San Diego, CA, 92112). BLR focuses strongly on labour and Native struggles and is invaluable information-wise. Very sensible, down to earth and angry. Strongly recommended.

Possessed (issue 2, \$1 or 2 hours wages for 4 issue sub. from 1643 S.

King St., Seattle, WA, 98144). **Possessed** is a new magazine which writes about important issues and actions in a very personal, easy to read style. Even the poetry is cool.

Phoenix Rising (Oct. 1988, available on newstands) This issue of **Phoenix Rising**, a quarterly published by victims of Ontario's psychiatric industry, contains disturbing information about institutional psychiatry in Ontario. Unfortunately this is talked about too little and these prisoners receive little or nothing in the way of justice. Pick up a copy and inform yourself.

Phoenix Rising is published by **On Our Own**, a self-help organization of victims and former victims of psychiatry. For more information, you can call On Our Own at the number listed in the phone book.

Ecomedia Toronto

Ecomedia is an international anarchist/activist "wire service" used as an alternative to the regular media which ignore relevant actions and ideas.

Ecomedia Toronto is involved in three main projects. We do a radio show every Tuesday on CKLN 88.1 FM between 7 & 8 PM on *Word Of Mouth*, and another show called *Desire Armed* which is on CIUT, 89.5 FM every Monday morning at 11.15 am. Also we publish the bulletin you're reading. It comes out every 2 weeks and is available at locations through the city; subscriptions are \$12 (mailed every 2 issues) from the address on front. Make the cheque or M.O. payable to Ecomedia.

MEDIA WATCH

"Is ban on Arafat the first step in U.S. pulling out of U.N.?", the Toronto Star asks on page one (4-12-88.) Of course not. The first step was its withdrawal from UNESCO; the second was its refusal to accept the international law courts' ruling on its sponsorship of murdering thugs (contras) in Nicaragua; the third was its withholding of dues in 1985. The USA liked the U.N. just fine when it was subservient to American policy, and could be used to wage war in Korea or murder Lumumba in Zaire. Now that it's no longer willing to go along with the USA's plans for world conquest, we can expect the USA to do all in its power to undermine and ultimately destroy it.

Congratulations to Metropolis for its expose (Nov. 24 issue) of the Toronto Star's efforts to create a panic over drugs following the death of a middleclass teenager, after largely ignoring similar deaths in the lower classes. It was a campaign of cheap sensationalism worthy of the Scum, and makes one wonder whether the two newspapers' social agendas aren't basically the same.