

N.D.P. Action

Monthly Bulletin of Burrard Constituency

The Case Of The Vanishing Office--People trying to visit the Burrard NDP office at our old location on Fourth Ave. are confronted nowadays with a hauntingly empty, barren store-front. If you tried to phone us in the last week or two, you may have been greeted by a recording telling you that our phone was disconnected.

The explanation for all this is simple: We've moved.

Our new location is at 1520A West Sixth Ave.--just above the Marginal Food Market. Our phone number, which is now working, is the same as the old one: 733-9544. Our hope is that the office can continue operating from noon to nine p.m. seven days a week.

Beer night is still held every Saturday; drop by anytime after four for good beer, good talk, and a good time. And bring your friends.

Rosemarry Brown On The Picket Line--It's not often that you find an elected official on a picket-line but Burrard MLA Rosemarry Brown will be joining a group of striking workers for picket duty at the Shopper's Drug Mart store at 13th. & Granville this Friday June 22.

In taking this action Rosemarry is lending her support to a group of women & men who have been on strike for union recognition and minimal improvements in work & pay conditions for more than three months.

Rosemarry's action puts her squarely on the side of the dozens of rank-and-file NDP members in the Vancouver area who have actively supported the Shopper's Drug Mart strike. NDP rank-and-fillers have joined the strikers on the picket line and have gone to stores which are not officially on strike during peak business hours for the last four Friday nights in a row to inform the public of the strike and of the boycott which is being organized against all Shopper's Drug Mart stores.

If you're interested in doing picket-duty or in otherwise aiding the strike, phone the NDP office at 733-9544.

Repeal Anti-Labour Laws Now--The labour committee of the Burrard NDP believes that the provincial government is directly responsible for many of the problems facing the Strikers at Shopper's Drug Mart.

The members of the committee feel that the failure of the NDP provincial government to repeal the anti-labour laws left to us by the Social Credit government has made things much more difficult for the strikers and may have unnecessarily prolonged a strike which could have been won fairly quickly under more favorable legal conditions.

The problems which anti-labour laws have created for the strikers are spelled out in detail in a letter from the Burrard Labour Committee which will be appearing in the next issue of the Democrat newspaper.

Whistle As You Work--Meetings of the Burrard Labour Committee are held every second Monday in the Burrard Constituency office at 8p.m. Next meeting will be Monday June 22. For further information contact the Labour Committee via the office, 733-9544.

Job Opening in Burrard Constituency--Wanted: a typist/secretary to work part-time, approximately 20 hours a week. Flexible hours. Must be good typist and a member of the Burrard NDP. Salary: \$250 a month. For an interview appointment phone the Burrard NDP office.

How's Your Head?--Plans for a new kind of community mental health clinic in Burrard will be the subject of a public meeting July 2.

Hugh Parfitt, a psychiatrist who is seeking a position with the new clinic, says that the purpose of the new facility is to provide a people-oriented alternative to the existing institutions. "We want," he explains, "to keep people who are disturbed out of Riverview and in their own environment with a minimum of dislocation and a maximum of community support."

Funded by the city & provincial governments, the clinic may be one of the first in Canada to have a large say - if not actual control - vested in the people who sue it and in ordinary people from the surrounding community.

A citizens' committee has come together several times over the last few months to ensure adequate non-professional citizen involvement in the broad mental health program being formulated for the clinic. The citizens' committee is made up of representatives from a good cross-section of community groups & other interested citizens.

To date this committee has had a positive response to its requests for real power in the setting up and long term operation of the project. An overall plan and budget for the project are now being put together by the citizens' committee.

If you want to improve our stone-age mental health facilities, go to the July 2 meeting. For further information call the Kitsilano Information Centre at 736-3431.

Unlisted Phone Numbers - Provincial government numbers listed in the telephone book do not include the numbers which most people want - THE NUMBERS OF THE PEOPLE IN CHARGE.

Here is a list of the direct-line phone numbers to the offices of the NDP cabinet ministers: Consumer Affairs, 387-3696; Housing, 387-3954; Agriculture, 387-6580; Attorney General, 387-6780; Education, 387-6260; Health, 387-6481; Highways, 387-3181; Industrial Development, 387-6781; Labour, 387-6071; Lands, 387-3980; Mines, 387-6240; Municipal Affairs, 387-3200; Provincial Secretary, 387-6601; Public Works, 387-6661; Recreation & Conservation, 387-3980; Human Resources, 387-3603; Travel, 387-6601.

If you can't get anywhere by phoning the office of the appropriate cabinet minister, you might try calling Mark Holtby who works as a sort of executive assistant for the NDP backbenchers, 387-6089. Holtby is known in Victoria as a rather helpful person.

But whether you're dealing with Holtby or another executive assistant, don't confuse him or her with the cabinet minister who is at this stage of things the only one who can really affect the course of what goes on in Victoria.

Delegate Elections for Federal Convention--The NDP Federal Centre Constituency, which includes most people who read this bulletin, will hold a general membership meeting this Tuesday, June 26, to elect 10 delegates to the Federal NDP convention which will take place at UBC from July 18th to 22nd.

The Federal Center meeting will be held at 771A Prior Street, and it will begin at 7:30pm. This is your chance to make your voice heard, via the delegate of your choice, at the Federal level.