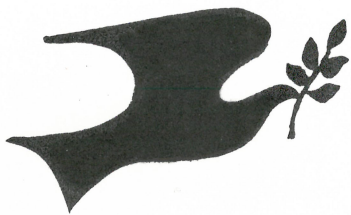


Kamloops~Shuswap



Peace News

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PEACE NEWS is published monthly by the Kamloops-Shuswap Peace Council, P.O. Box 973, Kamloops, B.C., V2C 6H1. Membership in the KSPC is open to any individual or organization, regardless of philosophical, religious or political outlook, which subscribes to the need for a secure and lasting global peace through disarmament. The KSPC is a member council of the B.C. Peace Council and through it, the Canadian Peace Congress and World Peace Council. We welcome your comments or opinions on any material printed in the PEACE NEWS.

EDITORIAL

ARMS BUILD-UP VERSUS HUMANITY

Running up bills of millions of dollars is not a thing we have to worry about in our everyday lives. In this we are totally different from the U.S. Secretary of Defence. It can also be assumed that the man in the street would make better use of these millions of dollars. But as things are, the Secretary of Defence, dwarfing his colleague in charge of social affairs into a back-seat role, is still whetting his appetite. His record budget was boosted to a staggering sum of 1.5 billion dollars till 1985. This is 300,000 million a year. The astronomical dimension of this sum may be illustrated by the following example: If you have one million dollars in 1,000 dollar notes, this would give a bundle 17 centimetres thick. One billion piled up in the same way would give a tower reaching up some 170,000 metres into the skies, almost the height of artificial satellites orbiting the earth.

What is the U.S. Secretary going to do with this money? We all know that it will be used to build the neutron bomb, strengthen the U.S. military presence in the Middle East and the Indian Ocean.

The USA and its allies within NATO are wasting huge material and intellectual resources on the arms build-up which is jeopardizing the security of us all. They force the countries in the regions concerned to take measures against this threat. But these peoples are still facing overwhelming problems challenging all their strength. They are still unable to ensure that all their people can satisfy the five fundamental human needs as formulated by the UN: Food, drinking water, a home, education and work. Progress in solving one of these problems would doubtless improve the overall picture. To give you one example: The World Health Organisation (WHO) has shown that impure water causing infectious diseases is the main factor for the high mortality rate in developing countries. In South East Asia more than 80 per cent of the population in rural areas have no proper drinking water, and in South America the figure is more than 60 per cent. What a tremendous challenge! We know that peaceful international cooperation can be very effective as has for instance been shown by the elimination of small-pox. If we want to approach the goal of guaranteeing drinking-water to all people in the world till 1990, this would mean for the developing countries spending three US dollars per capita in each of the years to come. Current investments for the construction of wells and water-works would have to be increased fourfold. This expenditure is literally dwarfed by the astronomical sum we illustrated earlier by the example of the tower of 1,000 dollar notes reaching up 170,000 meters into orbital regions. They pay the arms build-up which is only profitable for the arms companies. Alternative proposals to avoid this unprecedented waste of human resources have been put forward time and again. Hundreds of proposals have been submitted by other nations to put an end to the useless and dangerous arms race. The USSR insists on banning the neutron bomb once and for all, and millions of people are supporting this demand. Nuclear weapons should be banned from areas like the Indian Ocean where they have not been introduced so far. An overall reduction of nuclear weapons is the most feasible thing to do in the interests of the people. All these are sensible, realistic proposals which should be taken up as a basis for negotiations.

Quote of the Month:

Whoever pretends to create security by making preparations for mankind's nuclear holocaust must accept that people feel alarmed and come to rebel against what is held in store for them. There is an alarming tendency towards rendering nuclear weapons usable for military purposes. Nuclear war will become more likely when there is talk about limiting it to military targets and regions. By saying 'NO' to the NATO arms build-up we say 'NO' to a development which would ultimately lead to self-destruction.

Alfred Mechtersheimer
FRG peace campaigner

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Pause for Peace

Members of the Kamloops Peace Council joined local Kamloops Churches on Christmas Eve for a Pause for Peace. Meeting at the Christian Education Centre members of the Catholic, United, Presbyterian and Anglican churches marched through downtown streets carrying candles and fir boughs in symbols of peace. Met at the steps of the City Hall by Mayor and Mrs. Latta we listened to speeches, carols and prayers from Bishop Exnor and John Snowden, bishop of Cariboo.

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting of the KSPC will be on February the 14th at 7:30 P.M. at the Kamloops Public Library, second Avenue and St. Paul St. Don't forget that the Library is closed so use the side entrance on the East end of the building. A discussion will take place on meeting times and whether it would be more convenient to meet on Sunday afternoon, so if your having trouble making that evening meeting try and attend this one and let us know.

* * * *

Seeger Sings for Peace

Well known folk singer Pete Seeger will be at the Queen Elizabeth Theatre on March 6th in a concert dedicated to Peace. Tickets are available through the B.C. Peace Council office in the Lower Mainland.

Coinciding with this event, the Coalition for World Disarmament is holding a two day province wide conference. More information on this will be available through the KSPC. We urge everyone who is able to attend these events to do so.

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ORGANIZED LABOUR ENDORSES CANADIAN PEACE CONGRESS

Canada's largest Union, the Canadian Union of Public Employees has endorsed the Canadian Peace Congress.

Kealey Cummings, CUPE's National Secretary-Treasurer, in a letter to its 2500 affiliated locals across Canada, termed the Congress a dedicated organization which is attempting to involve every Canadian in the peace movement. Cummings urges all locals to circulate the Peace Congress Petition entitled 'PEACE IS EVERYBODY'S BUSINESS' and concludes that "a good response will provide the organization with firm evidence of the concern of all of us."

Cummings was the principal speaker on the peace question during the recently held Winnipeg Convention of CUPE which saw the some 1100 delegates vote unanimously to endorse a resolution submitted by the Kamloops Local, calling for endorsement of the Peace Congress and its 'PEACE IS EVERYBODY'S PETITION.'

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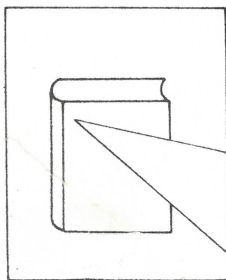
PETITIONING

We are over the ½ way mark on our committment of 4,000 signatures for our 'PEACE IS EVERYBODY'S BUISNESS' petition, having sent in 2500 signatures from the Kamloops area.

With spring just around the corner, Chum Ferguson would like all members of the council to put in an extra effort and fill our quota before Easter. On street petitioning will commence as soon as weather permits so watch for time and location in the March issue. Also, those people who were going to do door to door in their neighborhood should let us know how your making out.



BOOK REVIEW



New Titles for KSPC Library

Capsulized by Val Carey

The KSPC's Peace Library is growing and as we promised in the November PEACE NEWS here are some of our new titles. All books are on loan from the Peace Council Library by phoning 376-7663.

Lapp, Ralph E. The voyage of the Lucky Dragon. Harmondsworth: Penguin, 1957. 175p. The Lucky Dragon was 100 miles from the explosion of a hydrogen bomb on Bikini Atoll in 1954. The crew of 23 were immediately engulfed in an ash fall from the explosion and exposed to high levels of radiation.

Mamontow, Vassili. Disarmament: the command of the times. Moscow, Progress, 1979. 291p. Mr. Mamontov, a top Soviet expert on disarmament, examines the arms race and presents a programme for world peace and security.

The Military-industrial Complex: a threat to peace. Dresden: Peace Council of the G.D.R., 1980, 109p. This book examines the role of the military-industrial complex in the steadily increasing drive to war. The alternative of disarmament is presented with comparisons of military spending versus civilian spending.

Nagoi, Takashi. We of Nagasaki. London: Ace, 1958, 188p. In We of Nagasaki eight survivors of the second Atomic bombing are interviewed. Each of these people is a friend or neighbor of Mr. Nagoi.

Caldicott, Helen. Nuclear Madness. Brookline, Mass. Autumn Press, 1978, 120p. Previously reviewed in the Peace News, Nuclear Madness is about the imminent dangers to the world of the nuclear age.

Book reviews will be continued in the next issue of Peace News. Anyone wishing to contribute to the Library or help by reading and giving fuller reviews is most welcome.

*A thousand faiths with a common dream
A thousand tongues with a common theme
A thousand thoughts with a single plan:
Peace on earth and goodwill to man.*

— Joe Wallace

New Executive:

Annual elections took place at the January meeting of the KSPC. Elected for the following executive positions were:

Chairperson: Val Carey
Secretary-Treasurer: Kathy Gidora
Regional Vice President: Lois Costello
Executive at Large: John Weller
Chum Ferguson

Kathy Gidora was also elected to attend the bi-ennial conference of the Canadian Peace Congress on February 27th and 28th. We will be looking forward to a full report of this conference in March.

Nuclear Awareness Day - 1982:

Plans are already underway to make Nuclear Awareness Day an even bigger success this year. Letters have been sent to all unions, churches, environmental and other organizations that may be interested in joining in, in the first planning meeting. The meeting will be held on February 17th at the Kamloops Christian Education Centre, 421 St. Paul St., 7:30 P.M. in room 103. All interested people are invited to attend. An all out effort by everyone is sure to give us a successful event.





***“Hell, you’re always
going to have
bleeding hearts who
oppose massive
bombing.”***
