

tive in Montreal, *Last Post* specializes in radical investigative journalism, usually done with flair, wit, and professionalism.

"*The Mysterious East*: Edited for love by a group of academics from the University of New Brunswick whose lack of journalistic expertise has not prevented them from producing a lively, provocative magazine.

"*The 4th Estate*: Is doing for Nova Scotia what *The Mysterious East* is doing for New Brunswick: providing the kind of journalism that the province's monopoly newspapers fail to deliver.

"*Canadian Dimension*: Edited by C. W. Gonick, Manitoba MLA and economics professor, *Dimension* is left-of-Waffle nationalist. Probably the most authoritative and thoughtful of the Volkswagen periodicals, but sadly deficient in a sense of humor. (The Waffle group is a left wing of the National Democratic Party.)

"The fact that these are primarily concerned with left-of-centre politics doesn't mean we think that's the only kind of Volkswagen periodicals there should be. There are a number of others in print now, and there could and should be more."

The hitch, the committee said, is a lack of money.

"The Committee therefore recommends the establishment by the government of a Publications Development Loan Fund, with an available annual draw of not less than \$2 million, that would assist Canadian publishing ventures in achieving eco-

nomnic viability."

The fund, which would be similar to the Canadian Film Development Corporation, would consider assistance to publications only if they have attracted sufficient readership to indicate a readers' need, and only if they secure a substantial portion of the new financing required.

[TIME & THE DIGEST]



"MAGAZINES ARE SPECIAL. Magazines constitute the only national press we possess in Canada. Magazines add a journalistic dimension which no other medium can provide—depth and wholeness and texture. Magazines, because of their freedom from daily deadlines, can aspire to a level of excellence that is seldom attainable in other media. Magazines, in a different way from any other medium, can help foster in Canadians a sense of themselves. But Canadian magazines are in trouble. There are very few Canadian-owned consumer magazines that can claim, with any degree of certainty, that their survival is assured.

"In the whole country there are only four large-circulation consumer magazines whose prospects and financial condition, judged by normal corporate standards, could be described as healthy. They are *Time*, *Reader's Digest*, *Miss Chatelaine* (a teenage fashion magazine), and *Toronto Calen-*

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