

agricultural community. Meanwhile, our government has concluded the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) with a lameduck U.S. President George Bush and soon-to-be-former Mexican President Carlos Salinas. NAFTA, it turns out, guarantees that monopoly patent protection in Canada will be harmonized with the Mexican standard of 20 years - all in the name of intellectual property rights!

Its understandable why Wilson would have us believe otherwise. The GATT agenda is, after all, determined elsewhere, in Paris or wherever. It is set by many nations (Note this will be the argument when Canada capitulates on agricultural subsidies.) NAFTA is our government's agenda. It decided last January to participate in the NAFTA talks with Mexico and the U.S., in order to "protect" what was won under the FTA! Hence, this bill is the first indication of how well our government fared at the NAFTA table.

#### IMPACT ON COLLECTIVE BARGAINING

As indicated earlier, prescription drug coverage is negotiated today in most CAW collective agreements. These plans, which apply to both active and retired workers, supplement provincial Medicare coverage where it currently exists.

Under Bill C-22, these plans have come under considerable pressure. As prescription drug prices increased in recent years at 10 - 15 % per annum, more and more companies have tried to reduce