

Christmas in review - a true meaning . . .

Have you ever tried to purchase a flame thrower in good repair? It's damn hard.

ECKSMUS NINETEEN SEVENTY ONE
two three four

on went the coat and I'm out the door
the day before Christmas; I'm out to find
a lovin' gift for a friend in mind.
Off to the corner, stick out my thumb
after an hour, cursing those bourgeois crumbs
in too much of a hurry to stop for a guy-
"I can't stop now; got some gifts to buy!"
After freezing for an hour or better,
someone stops--I'm off to city centre.
Truckin' on down, and I'm feelin' high
til the sight of First street slaps my eye.
Into the car seats I sink far--
THERE'S A SPIDER ABOUT TO SWALLOW THE CAR!!
but the driver reassures me
that those creatures above are only fantasy
Christmas lights in gala form
that all but mask the hard-lined norm.
The car is mobbed in a traffic jam
so I step out and thank the man.
Off down Jasper to see the sights
(if I can only ignore those grotesque lights)
the sidewalk is crowded with moving feet
that seem to be marching to some distant beat
so I tuck in my elbows, and try to smile
but Merry Christmasses aren't in style
no one reacts with joy or cheer
we don't seem to know just why we are here
as I pass one couple, these words I hear:
"Thank heaven it only comes once a year!"
I enter a store to buy a recording
and the man at the counter seems to be glowing.
He's merry and chuckling (I can guess the cause)
like a Chamber of Commerce Santa Claus
I tell him the name of the disk I desire
and the smile on his face stretches higher and higher.
"I'm sold out," he says, "but I wish I had more"
and he shouts "MERRY CHRISTMAS" as I flee out the door.

Next year, I swear I'm going
to take a flame thrower to those
decorations on First Street.

Was it only my warped
imaginings, or was Christmas this
year even more pathetic an
attempt at unity and peace than
ever? The criterion, even to
Alistair Sim' Scrooge were
present. Christmas was plugged
well in advance, and the Bay
windows were filled with the
usual mediocre stuff that has
come to symbolise the season of
happiness, but the atmosphere
was about as profound as The
Partridge Family, and about a
peaceful as a night out at the
stock car races.

How can one expect to feel
inspired during this season, when
all that pervades is faded, jaded,
and so decadent that it literally
stinks? What meaning have the
cease-fires, the Santa's
Anonymous campaigns, and the
plastic glitter, when the killing
and the invincible, competitive,
self-destructive drives of our
rotten world will begin again
with renewed vigor as soon as
everybody has had a good
snooze? The advertising will
begin anew next September, and
once again, the merchants will
make, excuse the phraseology, a
killing. The true meaning of
Christmas. HA!

1st shepherd: Hey man, The
Messiah was born tonight.

2nd shepherd: Far out.

To most of us, Christ is yet
another institution, locked away
in the droning voice of a droning

man in a droning, decaying
pulpit. How many of us have
even read the complete chapter
of Matthew? No, if there is to be
a spirit of Christmas, it can no
longer come from the Christian
church.

Okay, I've said what I wanted
to say about the decay.

This year, I was completely
devoid of anything akin to
Christmas spirit until the
twenty-third of December, when
I toted home my humble tree,
and called some friends over. We
decorated it with such odds and
ends as we could produce, and
then attached about ten
birthday candles to the outer
branches with pipe cleaners.
When everyone was assembled,

we turned out the lights and lit
the candles. For ten minutes, as
the soft light glowed and
flickered among the spruce
boughs, there was silence
There. We had done it. For a few
moments, without electric
glitter, without television,
without compulsive
consumption, we had achieved a
deep tranquility that was more
like Christmas than anything I
have ever experienced. All
human malady, and all human
good begins . . . with humans. I
would recommend candles for
your Christmas tree next year. If
only you would listen. Bye for
now.

The Village Idiot



EDUVAK SPEED AND EFFICIENCY READING COURSE

Eduvak Educational Services has
developed a multi-media laboratory
approach to speed reading.

This approach has been acknowledged
by experts in the reading efficiency
field.

The reading efficiency program has
been under development for the past
three years and this year a new indi-
vidualized laboratory approach is being
utilized for the first time.

The Eduvak program provides compre-
hensive skill development in the read-
ing area.

Efficiency in perceptual and visual
functional skills are stressed initially
with word recognition and comprehen-
sion skills introduced in developmental
sequence. These include:

1. Comprehension Fundamentals
Recalling, understanding, associat-
ing
2. Interpretation
Inferring, predicting, comparing,
concluding, visualizing, sensing
3. Analytical Reading and Listening
Form, structure, detail
4. Critical Reading and Listening
Relevancy, accuracy, validity, sig-
nificance
5. Appreciation
Sensitivity, interest, taste
6. Reference Skills
Location of information, use of
materials
7. Selective Reading
Skimming and scanning
8. Reading and Study Habits
Approaches, attitudes, interests,
goals

KEY FEATURES OF THE EDUVAK READING EFFICIENCY PROGRAM

CONTENT

The content of the Eduvak program
has been selected to meet the needs
and interests of the student.

CONTINUOUS EVALUATION

During each session evaluation pro-
cedures are provided so the instructor
can identify those students who need
additional help before proceeding.

TACHISTOSCOPIC TRAINING

Word recognition training is provided
by the use of the EDL Tachistoscope.
This machine allows words to be
flashed at a speed of 1/10 to 1/100
of a second.

CONTROLLED READER PROCESSING TRAINING

The EDL Controlled Reader is utilized
in the Eduvak Program to eliminate
regression and to increase speed of
recognition. A story is presented by a
band of light moving in a left to right
movement.

AUDITORY TRAINING

For the first time the Eduvak program
is introducing training in listening skills
into the program. This new addition
will greatly increase the value of the
program.

TRANSFER

Continuous application of skills learned
in the Eduvak program is provided for
through book readings and reading
efficiency checks.

EXTRA PRACTICE

Eduvak is instituting for the first time,
practice periods when students will be
encouraged to come to our offices and
use the machines for practice. This is
in addition to regular class periods.

DURATION AND COST

The Eduvak Reading Efficiency Program lasts
for six weeks. Two one hour periods of instruc-
tion per week.

The cost of the total course (twelve hours of
instruction, six hours of private practice, plus
textbooks and notebooks) is \$47.50. We ask
you to compare this to similar courses costing
up to \$200.00.

Classes Commence Jan.17,1972

Class times

Mon. - Wed.
1. 4:30 p.m.
2. 6:00 p.m.
3. 7:15 p.m.

Tues. - Thurs.
4. 4:30 p.m.
5. 6:00 p.m.
6. 7:15 p.m.

Classes held above Windsor Bowl, 87th Ave. &
109th Street, in office no. 206.

HURRY

Classes have limited enrollment.

See our
demonstration
in C.A.B.
Jan.10 - 13th
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
everyday

ENROLMENT FORM

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____

CLASS WANTED _____

TIME _____

DAY _____

Enclose \$10.00 deposit

Mail to:

Eduvak Educational Services Ltd.
#206 - 8631 - 109 Street
EDMONTON, Alberta
TELEPHONE: 432-8466

ACCEPT NO IMITATIONS