

One World

*Excerpts from the Canadian press that
prove it's the same all over*

From CANADA WEEKLY :

Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau announced measures to stem the increase in food prices.

At a news conference in Ottawa the Prime Minister made these points:

The Government is deeply concerned about rising food prices. There is no shortage of food in Canada, nor will any be allowed to develop. There are, however, food shortages in world terms.

As a major trading nation and one of the world's greatest exporters of food Canada cannot be isolated from all the effects of rising world food prices.

Inflation is a world-wide problem that Canada cannot solve alone.

Steps would be taken to produce orderly increases in food supplies in such a way as to enable farmers to plan increases in production with assurance that when the goods came to market they would receive reasonable returns.

The staff of the Food Prices Review Board would acquire additional investigative officers, including officers from the misleading advertising branch of the Department of Consumer and Corporate Affairs.

The Government would ask the Canadian Association of Consumers to mobilize its members to assist the Board in identifying cases of unwarranted price increases.

Where unwarranted price increases were identified the facts would be made public by the Board and given wide publicity.

Parliament would be asked to approve several measures to help the Canadian consumer: Family allowances would be nearly tripled to an average of \$20 per child per month, effective January 1, 1974.

The Canada Pension Plan would be amended, with the concurrence of the provinces, to provide for the full escalation of pensions to protect their purchasing power.



From The Sun, Vancouver, British Columbia (an editorial) :

The critics who affect to be "thunderstruck" by the lavish renovations to the offices of New Democratic Party cabinet ministers betray an ignorance of the power of words.

When the Welfare Ministry was called the Welfare Ministry, for example, threadbare was fitting.

When the Welfare Ministry became the Ministry of Rehabilitation and Social Improvement, something had to be done about those spittoons.

When the Ministry of Rehabilitation and Social Improvement became the Ministry of Human Resources, well, what else but a suite framed in "dark, rich, wooden panelling", new "padded chairs and couch," a new lighting system, and a "desk that would easily sleep three?"

To condemn Norm Levi for "living high on the hog" and "wasteful excess" is to misunderstand his predicament. If he were Welfare Minister Levi, a little tasteful shabbiness would be apropos. As Human Resources Minister Levi, he deserves nothing but the best. And as a man trapped by his title, he is more to be pitied than scorned. Ask any king.



From The Globe & Mail, Toronto (an editorial) :

Why has it come to seem impossible to expect any planning sense, any appreciation of priorities, from the City Hall group charged with investigating and improving Metropolitan Toronto's inadequate taxi industry?

The recommended fare increases may be justified. That's beside the point. The point is that North York Mayor Mel Lastman's review committee was able to get the fare increase recommendations on this week's legislation committee agenda but there are going to be weeks and weeks of waiting before the recommendations on the industry's operation are ready.

In a report produced two months ago, the committee did deal with some of the problems. It recommended increasing the number of licences, because Toronto is short of cabs. They're not to be found in the rain or the snow, they don't exist in the suburbs.

What the committee accepted without questioning was the traffic in cab licences. Why should it cost someone between \$15,000 and \$25,000 to buy out a previous licence holder and put a cab on a publicly owned street? Nobody owns the streets but the public.

And yet, really what is the point of the public becoming exercised over what the committee omitted to do when the recommendations that the committee did make have disappeared from sight? The report is sitting somewhere in limbo, waiting for other reports, waiting for the whole package to be rewritten, re-reviewed, and no doubt finally put together in some glossy, four-colour, calf-skin-bound album and only then sent on to Metro Council for consideration.



The following are letters to The Globe & Mail:

The increasing number of bicycles on our streets is creating dangerous situations every day, not only for bicyclists, but for all road users. On a recent drive downtown I saw several bicycles on the wrong side of the road and going against