

## Books in review

## Understanding inflation

*Inflation It's Your Bag* by Bernhard A. Frischke, Simon & Pierre Publishing Co. Ltd. Toronto, Ontario.

"Inflation is not a product of our time nor the result of the economic changes wrought by the 'Industrial Revolution' at the beginning of the 19th Century; inflation has accompanied the march of mankind through history with the same loyalty as the plague, drought and war."

"Inflation It's Your Bag" is a must for the layperson who wants to understand inflation and its implications for him/her. The book is appropriately divided into three parts: 1) the theory of prices; 2) theory and reality; 3) an economic outlook on the next 25 years.

In the introduction a brief history of inflation is given citing examples from Germany and some South American countries. In the first part price is defined and values are examined. The factors of production are looked at covering the attitudinal change of labour. A number of economists are looked at — from Thomas Aquinas to Karl Marx to Lord Keynes. He looks at the growing political power of labor in our society.

Next he looks at land and

capital — taking a look at Capitalism. From here he turns to the entrepreneur and supply and demand. He discusses the contributions of an economist named Gossen.

Money is next — we are supplied with a brief history of its origin and evolution.

In discussing the limitations of the price theory he defines monopolies and states various kinds.

He then concentrates on what he calls Business cycles. He states "Inflation is not by itself a specific part of the business cycle. It normally bridges two movements. Inflation starts in the latter phase of an upsurge in business activities and leads into depression. It does not necessarily accompany the phase of depression all the way down to its lowest point; in point of fact, it never did before our own time."

In the section on Theory and Reality statistics are provided for Canada and the U.S. He states, "The inflationary potentiality has been vastly increased over the past couple of years. With the termination of North America's recessionary period and the stimulation of consumer demand to approach former levels, cost-of-living increases will occur

at a higher rate than in the past, squeezing present living standards and causing a substantial reduction in present lifestyles."

He next looks at the components of inflation stating that "the deliberate monetary overexpansion is one of the strongest roots of the present North American inflation."

He then discusses various theories on how to combat inflation. He discusses such factors as non-renewable resources and population growth and food supply. He sees these as the biggest problems in the future.

He concludes by stating that inflation is here to stay: "The demands to be met by our economic systems are considerably larger than the possible output — and inflation will be your bag from here on."

I feel that this is a very readable account of inflation and made everything more understandable. Frischke supplies us with a bibliography and glossary at the end of the book for reference.

I feel this book is a must for any citizen who wishes an understanding of inflation without a whole lot of economic jargon. I highly recommend it to both laypersons and those studying economics as a means of understanding inflation better. (Kate)



Brunswick String Quartet performing *Burletta* by Bela Bartok at last Thursday's coffeehouse. Also featured that night were Stephen Paacock and John Lavery, classical guitarists. Next coffeehouse with the Folk Collective is Friday Dec. 2 at Memorial Hall, 8:30 p.m. photo—tremblay

## Listening to children and coping with loneliness

Author Douglas Barry Spencer founded and coordinates PEOPLE FOR EDUCATIONAL PARTICIPATION (PEP) — a network of people discussing and acting on educational issues. From 1967 to 1974, he taught with the Carleton Board of Education (Ottawa) and recently studied with Dr. Ivan Illich in Cuernavaca, Mexico, and has monitored educational innovation in California.

He is the author of the Learning Spaces series, which are directories of urban resources for children. He is currently coordinating a variety of educational projects in Ottawa and Toronto, and compiling books dealing with street children of Latin America and centenarians.

Comedian Bill Cosby, Ed. D. (Mass), a crusader for better understanding between people, and whose interest and work with children is known the world over, was so excited about the concept of Spencer's book that he readily agreed to do the Foreword. In it, he emphasizes the need for questions from children to be answered, in order to strengthen adult-child communication.

QUESTIONS KIDS ASK FOR THOSE WHO CARE TO LISTEN, written by Ottawa born writer Douglas Barry Spencer, includes questions on such topics as friendships, parents, oppression, sex and love, religion, government, divorce, school, teachers, swearing and censorship, growing up, self-image, and many others.

In a fast-moving world we have lost sight of questions. As any sixth grader will tell you, only the answers count. This book deals with questions. There is obviously a genuine concern among young people about the world, the

future, and their place in society, without hypocrisy and with a clear understanding of the existing contradictions.

Some of the questions included in QUESTIONS KIDS ASK FOR THOSE WHO CARE TO LISTEN include: "Why, since my father died, does my brother act like my father?"; "Why do parents say we're supposed to be responsible but always give us the line 'you're not old enough?'; "Will there be another Jesus, or are we going to have to do his job?"; and "Do parents know what their children are taught?"

Also included in the book, which is available in paper back and cloth cover, are over 40 delightful

black and white photographs of children.

Douglas Spencer is available to conduct workshops involving children, as well as straight interviews, discussing the techniques involved in the gathering of the questions from children.

A Population of One — Constance Bergsford Howe, Macmillan of Canada Publisher.

"A Population of One", as the title conveys is the story of a woman's battles with and final acceptance of, the state of loneliness.

Willy Doyle the main character,

is a spinster of 30, who, armed with a PhD in English Lit, finally leaves her parental home in Toronto to teach in a minor college in Montreal, taking her WASP inhibitions and dreams with her. The background setting of a small college during the early 70's, when student unrest was the order of the day, is very well done, and the heroine, Willy Doyle, is

most appealing but the male characters are such poor creatures that one feels the cards were unfairly stacked against them — Willy really deserved better!

This is a very readable and enjoyable book especially recommended as an Xmas gift for those hard to please 'Aunts'.

It is available at Halls Bookstore, Queen St. Fredericton.

**BRUNSWICK STRING QUARTET**

**The Brunswick String Quartet will perform works by Arriaga, Britten and Schumann**

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30th, 1977 8:15 p.m.**

**Memorial Hall Auditorium, UNB**

**Tickets at the door Adults 3.00**

**UNB and STU students, and Senior Citizens, FREE**

**Subsequent concerts**

**January 26, 1978 and**

**February 20, 1978**

The **HARVEY STUDIOS** Ltd.

**ODE TO GRADUATION**

Indoor, outdoor we don't care  
We'll photograph you anywhere  
Come to Queen Street with your smile  
It only takes a little while  
Graduation's a big deal  
and our prices are a steal!  
Yearbook deadline soon will pass  
so hurry up and move your . . . .

372 Queen Street  
Fredericton  
Phone 455-9415

For Diana

COLD DECEMBER

A touch of April  
July and August  
A sweet September  
November not  
Your every sea  
But there's a

It seemed to  
That all the fl  
I thought you  
The dusty sha  
I should have  
About that co

I loved you m  
Through every  
Your loving la  
Your life was

Oh love can I  
I was a fool to  
You always to  
Until you'd ta  
I feel a chill;  
And leave tha

Rico

TO MY

Then  
leaving  
creeping  
each p  
Till  
my last  
my last  
was up  
with a  
Tears c  
with th  
and a s  
I loved  
and stil  
but it's  
I'm her  
They're  
and I've  
the bes  
with pa  
They've  
all left  
to make  
who are  
those I  
I'll be r  
soon  
but I kr  
things w

Debbie  
[alias Sh