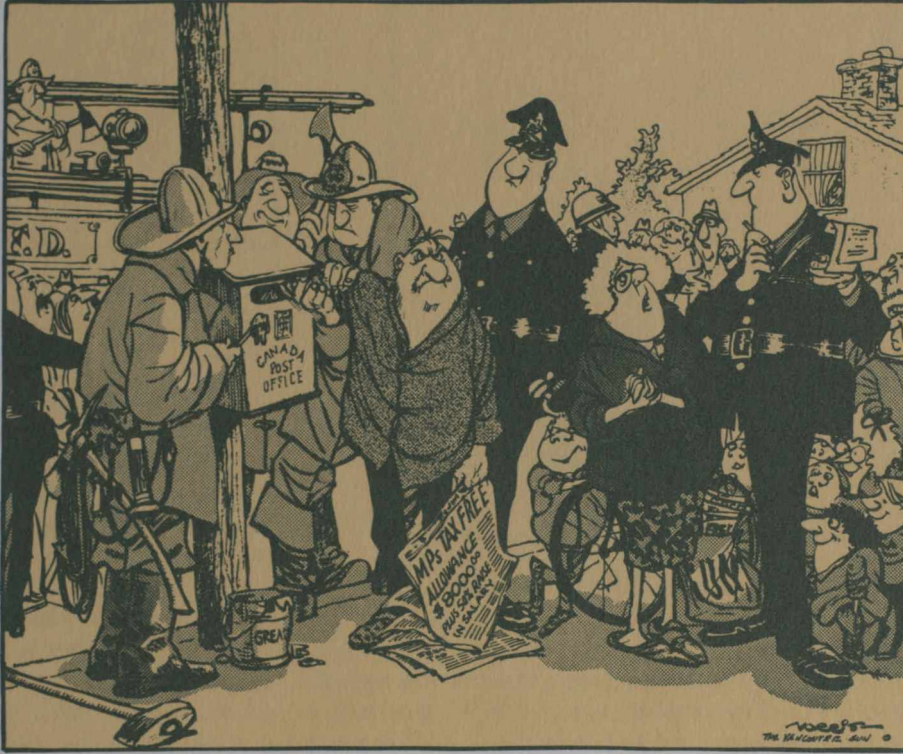


Underdogged

Len Norris is the gentle humorist of the west, determinedly on the side of the average, put-upon Canadian man and his even more put-upon wife. Cartoonists are basically against office holders and high civil servants. Norris is against all elitists.

The Canada Council gives grants to writers, painters and other creative people, and it has been much applauded at home and abroad. Norris, who draws for the *Vancouver Sun*, does not clap, and neither do the somewhat untidy, darkly suspicious, ordinary men and women who inhabit his cartoons. They are suspicious of power centres and beautiful people, but they themselves are not immune to passing fancies — the big world intrudes occasionally into their diaper-filled kitchens. However, the ultimate enemy is not the decadent artist nor the financial wizard; it is

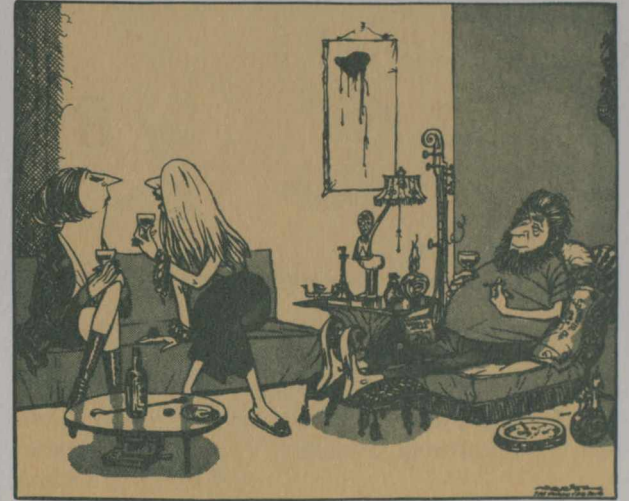
the former fellow citizen who is now a member of Parliament, writing laws that try men's souls. Norris's people never quite win. On the other hand, they never quite lose either.



"... he had just dropped in his income tax when along came the paper boy..." (April 29, 1971)



"Buy gold! Buy gold! Nag, nag! Nag, nag!" (March 16, 1968)



"It's only vin du pays... we're a bit strapped as Cecil is between Canada Council grants." (January 15, 1969)

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