

# The nuclear coin

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system, and deliberately let its civil defense die, all under the assumption that if the civilian populations were defenseless hostages

to nuclear destruction, it would deter war.

What, then, WILL prevent war?

What has unfailingly deterred war through the ages: the will to fight and

the capacity to win. In time, America's technological superiority might let it

regain the capacity to win; but it is the will to define itself that is now being

dangerously sapped by defeatists, damagogues and fear peddlers.

But there has never been a war as terrible as nuclear war.

There has never been a war as terrible as the next one. Yet there have always

been men and women who stood up to evil and risked their lives for their liberty.

But the losses in nuclear war would be so terrible that defense for whatever reason becomes immoral.

The morality of war does not depend on the weapons with which it is fought. You have exactly one life to risk

in the defense of everything that makes it worth living, and it matters little whether you lose it to a spear, a bullet, or nuclear radiation.

Your forefathers risked, and often gave, that one life for your life, liberty and pursuit of happiness. You have no

right to squander their heritage, to invite war by weakness, and to leave your children to the de-meaning cancer of serfdom.

## Career Line

By WILLA STEVENSON

It is true that, in a serious recession, even well qualified workers may not readily find employment. But it is also true that the economy moves in cycles. It only makes sense to work towards having your qualifications ready for the time when conditions improve and fresh opportunities open up.

As for the fatalism detected in the survey results, hard times are the worst times to trust to fate or luck in the search for suitable and satisfying employment. When jobs are scarce, there is limited room for people to drift from one employer to another until they land in a position they like.

In any case, the day has passed when a young person with little formal education or training could parlay ambition and diligence into a successful career, like the hero of a Horatio Alger novel. Except in the case of apprenticeship -- which is essentially a form of education in a working environment -- on-the-job training alone is rarely sufficient to secure a well-paying job offering scope for personal growth. In a wide range of jobs which people once learned as they went along, employers are now demanding prior schooling. To take a random example, ambulance attendants are expected to have completed a course in a community college before they start to work.

Even where on-the-job training is acceptable, employers tend to prefer the applicant with the better general education. In some instances this is a formal rule: recruits into most Canadian police forces, for example, are required to have completed grade 12, or the equivalent in Quebec. In other fields the requirements are informal, but employers quite logically assume that a person who has, say, 12 years of schooling is a harder and more intelligent worker than one who has only 10 years.

So the old-fashioned Horatio Alger notion of a career as something one hits upon as a result of perseverance and good fortune no longer holds water. It is only one of the long-cherished assumptions about the hard light of the new social and economic conditions that have emerged over the past few years.

Another is the assumption that a career is a life-long proposition. Professional consultants estimate that as many as half of all the occupations now practised in Canada will become obsolete or will be altered out of recognition in the next 25 to 30 years. Retraining to keep up with changing techniques and equipment has become a way of life in some trades, and "second careers" for middle-aged workers are becoming increasingly common. Ironically, this is happening at a time of growing specialization. The men and women best-equipped to deal with the future are those who have a thorough grasp of their specialty, but also have a broad enough background to adapt to new methods or to move into different fields.

People will have to work harder in future to keep their careers alive. And the competition, especially in the middle and top ranks of business and public service, will be intense. According to Elizabeth Hartzell on *Personal Journal*, "Those who aspire to the upper echelons of authority and policy-making power will require previously unprecedented qualifications and abilities to make the jump. The ranks of middle management and middle technical workers will swell accordingly."

This is mainly because the average age of the populations is steadily rising. As a result, "the problem of the work force in the '80s will be too many at the top and middle with too few workers breaking into the bottom," Ms. Hartzell writes. This should be good news for young people who will be starting their working lives over the next decade. But to take full advantage of it, they and their parents and teachers may have to revise their ideas of what constitutes success.

## Campus Ministry

The Campus Ministry Team (Barry Hollowell 454-3275; Monte Peters 454-3525 and Marilyn Rose 454-1093) hope you will have time to take in some of the special events at our local churches.

Sunday, November 27th - at 11:00 a.m. there will be a special advent Carol Service held at the Christ Church Cathedral. Come and be a part of the welcoming in of the Christmas season.

Sunday, November 27th - the last in the "Forum on Faith" series will be held at 7:30 p.m. at Saint Paul's United Church (corner of York and George Sts.) The 20-minute presentation will be followed by coffee and discussion. The speaker is Rev. Rod Sykes and the topic is "Faith O Competition": The Christian attitude in a competitive society.

Tuesday, November 29th - The Ten Days for World Development Committee of Fredericton will sponsor a talk at 7:30 p.m. at Wilmot United Church (corner of King and Carleton St.) The speaker is Enríguez Torres, a labour lawyer from Guatemala, who now lives in Vancouver.

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