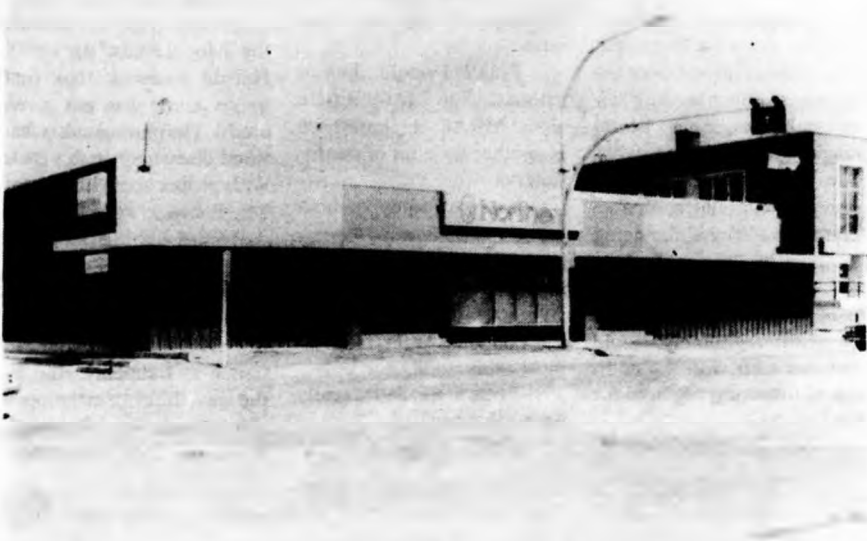


The COMMUNITY VOICE

From the Beaches to the Falls*

50¢(+GST)

Union Calls For Northern Boycott



Northern Store, HWY 11 in Pine Falls

Lorraine Neal, A Wealth of Experience

by Don Norman

Lorraine Neal, the Beaches correspondent for *The Voice*, has done just about everything. From being a telephone operator, to owning her own business to driving a

bus for Winnipeg Transit, she has done it all.

Lorraine was born and raised in Winnipeg and moved out to this area in 1989, where she is now the Care-taker and ice maker for the arena at Pine Falls. But through all of her

varied experiences and different jobs, the one common string was her love of writing.

"I've always had and interest in writing", she said.

Three years ago she took a writing course by correspondence, which she admits she still has not finished, but with her re-newed interest in writing she intends to complete it.

More recently, Lorraine was also a member of, as she puts it "a would be writer's workshop" group, with instructor and mentor Jocelyn Stewart.

Lorraine Neal will have a weekly column in *The Community Voice*, where she will cover news from the Beaches. She will also be submitting other stories of a less restrictive nature to satisfy her creative side.

by Charles Norman

Northern Store Employees in Pine Falls have been told by the company's negotiator David Newman that the store will close May 1st if the union does not make concessions.

The current contract expires April 30th. Northern has asked its employees to take an eight percent wage cut (up to 18% in some cases), work Sunday's at straight time (currently at triple time) and give up job security and seniority benefits.

Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Union Organizer, Bruce Prozyk, said the union has been told by the company that although the company is making money, it will lock out its employees on May 1st unless they agree to reduce their wages eight percent and allow the store to be open on Sundays at straight time rates.

"The North West Com-

pany is a terrible corporate citizen, and an embarrassment to the province, as they are always looking for hand-outs at the tax-payer's expense and care very little for their employees that helped build the company", he said.

He said the union has asked to see the company's books but were refused.

On the evening of Friday April 23, Northern employees posted a leaflet at locations around the community, asking local people not to shop at the North- West Store "until we inform you that they have come to their senses".

Prozyk said he believes the store will open May 1st and any employees who agree to accept the company's conditions will be allowed to work. Others will be locked out.

The Pine Falls store is the only store represented by the Retail, Wholesale, and
Continued on page 3.

Red All Over

by Don Norman

Last Tuesday's issue of *The Voice* carried a back page ad announcing that The Pine Falls Service Centre was holding a gas draw for \$900, which actually should have read "\$100 Gas Draw". In addition, we misspelled "Centre" in the company name. We would like to apologize to the owner Peter Waligura, and any one who might have become overly excited due to our error.

Unfortunately we were unable print this retraction before the actual draw took

place, and since neither *The Voice*, nor Mr. Waligura could come up with the extra \$800 necessary for a draw that would correspond to what the ad read, the draw had to go on as initially intended.

Jaques Dube was the recipient of the prize, and we are sure that he is happy with his winnings despite the depleted jack-pot.

Peter will be running the draw again this week with the same prize, \$100. This time we'll get the ad right!

See back page for details



Lorraine Neal, writer from the beaches

Publisher's Note

by Don Norman

The Community Newspaper Business: It's "No Cake Walk!"

So we've got our own newspaper again. The first issue is out, but certainly not without its fair share (and then some) of misspelled words, typos, and misprints. All week long people have been pointing out my many blunders.

Perhaps it was because I was so overworked. I've never done this sort of thing before.

Putting together a community newspaper is definitely no cake-walk. My butt ached and my eyes bulged after what seemed an endless time sitting in front of a computer type-setting, laying out advertisements, and fiddling with a column inch here or there.

You can put away your violins now. I've finished with the self-pity stuff. I knew basically what I was getting myself into when I started this

project, and to be perfectly honest with you, I enjoyed almost every minute of it.

Well, I'm now going to give everyone the opportunity to run through their copies of last week's paper and have a good laugh at my expense. Take advantage of this now, I doubt you will get another chance to catch me in such a humble mood!

-The Big Draw
I felt like crawling under a rock.

I had just finished dropping off the papers at the various commercial outlets in town. I was feeling rather pleased with myself. On my way home I stopped to get some cigarettes at the Pine Falls Service Centre.

While standing in line I was approached by the owner,

Peter Waligura, holding a copy of the newspaper. I was sure he was going to tell me how happy he was with the back page ad he had bought. I was wrong. Not only had I misspelt the name of his business ("center" instead of "centre"), I had also misread his ad to say \$900 gas draw rather than the intended \$100 gas draw. (See the front page for more on this story).

-Problem with Financing
The next error that was pointed out to me was quite a bit less embarrassing.

Turn now to page one. If you notice the lead story about the Mill Buy-Out, you might be a little confused over the placing of the sub heading "additional financing to be arranged" and the reporter's byline. If you are just glancing over it you could read it as saying "additional financing arranged by Charles Norman."

Well, just to dispel any confusion over this, Charles Norman, regrettably, could not come up with the additional financing required for the buy-out.

And for those of you with

a proofreader's eye, I might as well point out that "financing" was missing the second "n".
-The Republic & Council

OK, turn the page again and look over to page three. The article on the "Cosy council Meeting in Power-view"

No the above sub-head is not some obscure foreign language. Granted, it certainly is not English, but it made sense to me when I wrote it. For those of you who don't own a copy of *Webster's English to Typo Dictionary*, it should correctly read "the public" and "Council".
-Youngsters out "on" the town

Finally I would like you to turn to page 5. In the article on the MRAC, it seems there is another little bit of confusion.

It seems the puppet show last year of *Blueberry Johnson and the Day of the Pies*, brought with it a hoard of youngsters to be let loose "on" the community. In fact, almost every youngster.

I was there, and it really wasn't that bad.

Again, a typo. It should

read "every youngster 'in' the community".

-I'll improve I swear it
I would like to think there will never be another error in this paper for as long as I am working here, but that's probably unrealistic. There may be errors in this issue (or even this article), but I'll do my best to catch them, if only to avoid the embarrassment. I think the answer is to hire a proofreader, that way the blame gets shifted to someone else.

There are just a couple of other things I wanted to mention. A couple of errors of omission. First, I ran a photograph last week to illustrate the "Model Forest" story (p.7). Harold Peacock took that photo and was not given credit. The photograph is featured elsewhere in this issue with proper accreditation for Mr. Peacock. And finally in the banner is written the phrase "From the Beaches to the Falls", which comes from a book by George Lawlor.

Thankyou for your patience and support. And by the way, the error at the top of this column was intentional so please, don't correct me!

Mill Financing

by Charles Norman

Until two years ago, the only financing most people in this community had to deal with was house mortgages and car loans.

Last year mill employees were asked to agree to a plan involving a share of the Mill's before tax profits and 15% equity in the Mill. A series of public meetings were held to explain the plan but after it was all over there remained a great deal of confusion and misunderstanding.

This year, mill employees will soon be asked to decide, individually, whether buying additional shares in the mill is a good investment. Tax implications will be different for almost every employee, and how close he or she is to retirement may also have an impact on the decision.

The Voice plans to run a question and answer series on the whole area of corporate financing as it applies to the mill buy-out. We plan to obtain expert advice where we can but we can't promise to find any tax loop-holes. On tax issues we will rely on advice from Revenue Canada.

We start the ball rolling on the basic question of how corporate tax is calculated; what before and after tax profits are, and the impact of share value on retained earnings and dividends.

For the time being we will assume the company will remain a private company. The possible effect of "going public" will be discussed in a later issue.

Private Company
In Manitoba any business having 50 or less shareholders can be a private company. The Manitoba government's Corporations Branch assume that 50 people can know each other well enough to do business together with out the protection of government.

A business with more than 50 shareholders is a public company. When raising capital this company would have to file a detailed prospectus with Corporations

Branch. Strict rules govern the nature of the prospectus. It can not make any unsubstantiated claims and must identify all the risks involved in the venture. Its purpose is to protect the public from fraud and misrepresentation. A public company has to file financial data with the Branch every year.

In Manitoba there is and intermediate. A private company can have in excess of 50 shareholders if the shareholders of the company are employees. In this case the company does not have to file a prospectus with the Corporations Branch but does have to file annual financial statements with the Branch.

Profits
Profit is not the same thing as cash flow. A company can end the year with more money in the bank at the end of the year than it started with and still not make a profit. The difference is depreciation.

A good example would be a trucking business. Suppose you mortgaged your house, bought a truck for \$50,000, and went into the trucking business. Payments on the Mortgage might be \$6,000 in the first year of which, say \$5,000 is interest. If your trucking business made \$10,000 after expenses you would have \$4,000 more at the end of the year than at the beginning, but you would have made a loss.

Revenue Canada allows about 30% per year for depreciation on vehicles, in this example \$15,000. You would be able to deduct this, plus the interest in calculating your before tax income. you might have \$4,000 in the bank, but you have made a loss of \$10,000.

Revenue Canada manages to make it a lot more complicated than this, but the principle is important when it comes to calculating the book value of the company, especially when the value of shares is tied to book value.

When a company makes a profit it can do one of three

things with it. It can leave it in the bank, it can re-invest it or it can declare a dividend (it can also declare a dividend when it makes a loss, as Abitibi-Price did last year). If the buy-out takes place, the new company plans to re-invest every penny it makes. There will be no dividends. However the book value of the company will increase by the amount of profit re-invested. If the common share value is tied to the book value, the value of the shares will also increase.

It is important to note that profit is calculated *after* interest and depreciation but *before* any principal repayments of loans.

The employee profit sharing plan will pay out regardless of what the board of directors decide to do with the after tax profits. They can re-invest everything the company makes *except* the portion of due to the employees under the profit sharing plan. Not even Revenue Canada can touch it until it gets into the employees pockets.

The profit sharing plan does not kick in until the mill makes a before tax profit in excess of \$10 million. This will take an end to the recession and an increase in the price of newsprint.

Assuming this recession does eventually come to an end, employees will then begin to get a return on the 10% wage concession they have accepted. They will, however, have to accept only a paper increase in the value of their shares until they retire or leave the company.

If the company "goes public" all common shares will have a market price and will be able to be bought and sold at that price at any time, but that discussion will have to wait for a future issue of *The Voice*.

This discussion is only the beginning and probably will raise more questions than it answers.

Write to us (Box 16 Pine Falls) or call us at 367-4466, we need your input.

continued from page 1

Department Store Union. Flin Flon is the only other store in Manitoba which is organized, which is represented by the United Food and Commercial Workers Union.

Prozyk said other stores in Manitoba follow the unionized stores in wage settlements in exchange for keeping out of the union.

Prior to the leaflet's distribution on April 23, the Northern Store union executive met at the Papertown with Union organizers and local representatives from the UPIU, OPEIU, CUPE, and MARN. They were assured of support from union members in the community. That evening leaflets were distributed in the mill.

Management and union are meeting with a labour department conciliator this week (Tuesday and Wednesday) at the Papertown. Union mem-

bers gave no indication that they were prepared to back down.

Refusal to accept the North-West Company's proposal was unanimous. Executive members indicated they were ready for a fight and were prepared for a long one.

One member pointed out that the company's negotiator, was the lawyer involved in the very lengthy dispute at CKY.

Another said "we should have resisted last time, but we were afraid for our husband's jobs. Now we just don't care."

Asked for his opinion on Northern opening Sunday Dick Boyko of Pro Hardware said "its not necessary to open on Sunday period. Not anytime, anywhere."

A North West Company Spokesman could not be reached for comment at press time.

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Victoria Beach Senior's Scene

by Lorraine Neal

The Victoria Beach Senior's Scene monthly Dinner and Dance was held at 6:30pm, at the Clubhouse, Lot 1, Ateah Road Victoria Beach. Attendance was normal with 70 tickets sold.

The menu consisted of lovely ham, meatballs with gravy, mashed potatoes, a wonderful variety of salads, rolls, and dessert was home made lemon pie, or lemon slice. Following the dinner a draw was held for door prizes. The door prizes consisted of two beautiful floral arrangements, and a box of chocolates. Thereafter followed a sing-along, which had all diners participating.

The evening continued with dancing to a good mix of music, including the old stand-bys and ever popular line dancing.

A Dinner and Dance will be held in conjunction with the Bowlers Windup on May

15th. This will be a pot-luck dinner, and tickets will be sold in advance for the nominal sum of \$8.00. They are available from either Ruby Mignon, at 756-8331 or Willa Gilchrist at 756-8918.

The clubhouse is busy every day of the week, with seniors engaged in a variety of projects and programs. These include;

Monday: Greeting card recycling in the morning

Tuesday: Crafts in the afternoon, Meals program at 5:30pm (must give 48 hours notice), and ceramics program in the afternoon.

Wednesday: Yoga and Tai Chi & Lunch Meals Program.

Thursday: Line dancing from 1:30 - 3:30pm (beginners come at 12:30pm). Meals Program at 5:30.

Friday: Bingo at 7:15pm

For further information contact either Ruby Mignon or Willa Gilchrist.

Spring!

by Lorraine Neal

Spring! The very sound of the word conjures up visions of lovelinessbuds, blossoms, birds, and bees. It may, I suppose be safely said that spring feels the same anywhere man has tread upon this globe. Spring on the shores of Lake Winnipeg, however, still looks like winter. The snow is all gone, the cold air replaced by warmer air, but where is the lake water? All we see for miles is ice. Very depressing. So we immerse ourselves in the glories of mother nature.

Did I say Mother Nature? Perhaps this should be changed to Father Nature. As a city dweller, I could recognize such birds as robins, (easy) wrens and owls. After settling in the forested area around the beaches, I noted such birds as blue jays, juncos, redpolls, hummingbirds, orioles, both pine and evening grosbeaks, and a host of other birds to numerous to mention. I mention the birds because in some of the rites of spring there are similarities.

I have discovered that the male of the bird species, during the springtime mating rite, become a much brighter colour. Particularly the male grosbeaks, who are spectacularly gorgeous

From the Beaches

with Lorraine Neal

with their bright red, or yellow-green beaks. The female on the other hand, remains in her usual dowdy colours. Once the rite is done, and the nest prepared, eggs and all, the splendiferous males gather down at some will fermented berry tree and bond. The females are of course(need we ask?) down on the nest, spring cleaning, and sitting on those cotton pickin' eggs.

My next big discovery, now being a country dweller, is that there is a lot of wildlife, and not anywhere near the same as the old city wildlife. I finally saw a fox in its natural habitat... my back yard. Where I suppose the fox families had been homesteading for several foxy generations before the developers made homesteads for us transplanted city folk. I first noticed our fox "Missy Black Socks", in the serious November cold of our first winter. I set out food for her, and thereafter she came to visit each day. Some time after Christmas, we noticed our "Black Socks" brought a visitor with her. Clearly a companion she didn't really want. She rebuffed him, chewed

his legs, and chased him away. He was not discouraged, and seemed intent on showering her with his affection. The male fox accompanies her daily for about three weeks. Late in February he was noticeably absent ... "Black Socks" was visiting us solo again. She began increasing in girth, and by early April we knew she had kits in her den, somewhere close by. "Black Socks" is now a single mom, scrambling for food to feed her babies. Papa Fox is likely down in the bush somewhere bonding with his fox buddies.

I think Mother Nature must have played a major joke on the female of all species. I see males of the human type, gathered in groups beside cars, boats, golf clubs and other things of male.... such as baseball and Stanley Cup Play-offs. Where is the little woman? Mother Nature has bestowed upon her the urge to purge. Women chase dust, rake the yard, plant the garden, and tend to all things tendable.

Don't you think we've been lead down the garden path long enough, Father Nature?

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Reform Party Calls For Federal Cutbacks

by Charles Norman

Federal Reform Party Candidate, Dean Whiteway was in town last Thursday to announce Phase Three of his party's three year plan to eliminate the federal deficit.

To a group of sixteen people gathered in the Golden Leisure Club in Pine Falls, he said the federal deficit had escalated to about \$34 billion a year, and now stood at around \$460 billion. In justifying the need to make cuts he said "We can't increase taxes any more, we have no leverage".

ND Candidate Martha Owen, interjected with a comment about the need to focus on full employment. This would increase tax revenue, reduce UIC pay-outs and in turn, reduce the deficit. Whiteway said he doesn't come from that perspective at all "We can't afford all that we are doing", but he refused to be drawn into the debate, "I'd prefer to leave that to the election campaign", he said.

Whiteway began by recapping the previously announced phases I and II of the party's deficit reduction pro-

gram. He said health care, post secondary education and child benefits will not be cut. Nor will the Guaranteed Income Supplement or Veteran's benefits. Old age security will be limited to households with an income of less than \$54,000 per year (the Canadian average).

The major reduction under Phase I will be the result of making the UIC program self funding. There will be some minimal reduction in equalization payments.

Phase II will result in the elimination or reduction of business and tax concessions, saving \$3.5 billion, and a \$500 million reduction in payments to special interest groups "They should get their money from the people the purport to represent", he said.

Whiteway said Phase III of the Reform Party deficit reduction plan would result in savings of a further \$5.1 billion a year.

The Reform party's Phase III includes:

1. Leadership by example through cuts at the top

levels of government, including 15% cuts in the budgets of the Governor General's Office, the House of Commons, the Senate, The Privy Council Office, and The Prime Minister's Office. With an estimated savings of \$78 million. "There will also be substantial cuts in the budgets of the MP pension plan" Whiteway said.

2. Reduction in the size of the federal cabinet from 35 ministers to 24 or less, yielding savings of about \$16 million.

3. Reduction of the work load and revenue requirements of the federal government by eliminating certain programs and policy objectives. The Reform Party's zero deficit in three year plan would:

a) Eliminate federal funding of multiculturalism. Funding of cultural and linguistic diversity should be primarily the responsibility of individuals and private associations. Reform's plan is to abolish the Department of Multiculturalism altogether for a saving of \$21.5 million annually.

Whiteway said if the Reform Party were elected this

would be the first thing to go. "The announcement would be made as soon as the election results came in, after the polls had closed in British Columbia", he said.

b) Eliminate unnecessary funding of official languages and implement a policy of territorial bilingualism, for a saving of \$400 million. "The current official languages policy has proven to be so divisive and expensive that over two-thirds of Canadians, including 61% of Quebecers, say it has been a failure" Whiteway said.

c) Reduce federal transfers to foreign governments. Foreign aid should be directed through non-government agencies with a proven capacity to relate directly to the people in need, rather than on a government to government basis. Savings would be

around \$700 million over three years.

4. A 15% reduction in non-salary Standard Objects of Expenditure for all federal departments and agencies, including non-salary overheads and contracted services such as professional and special services, rentals, materials, supplies, construction, and acquisition of land. This would have an estimated savings of \$1.8 billion.

5. Reduction in subsidies to crown corporations. "We have already called for major reductions in subsidies to businesses, individuals, and foreign governments," Whiteway said. "Fairness demands that crown corporation subsidies also be reviewed and reduced." He noted that a 25% reduction of this spending would result in a 1.25 billion dollar savings.

Long Service Award for Gordon Sokoloski

by Charles Norman

The Pine Falls District Ambulance Service honoured Gordon Sokoloski for his contribution to the Service at a small reception in the Papertown Motor Inn last Thursday evening.

In making the presentation Ron Pachkowski said in most organizations volunteers burn out after four or five years. He said Sokoloski had joined the Ambulance Crew in 1976 and was active until about two years ago.

"The Board has decided to formally recognize his more than 10 years of service", he said.

Accepting the Award, Sokoloski said there were "A lot of times with a lot of days with little or no sleep", but that he often wished he was still involved.

A lot has changed since Sokoloski joined the crew. Irene Gunter said the Ambulance Service began in 1975 replacing a private service. The first ambulance was purchased in 1976, the year Sokoloski joined.

"At that time", she said "If you had any first aid course

you could become a member of the Pine Falls District Ambulance crew".

Now the entire crew is trained to at least the first responder level requiring 90 hours of training. Half (including Sokoloski) are trained to EMAI (Emergency Medical Attendant) requiring another 100 hours training.

Two of the crew (Ken and Irene Gunter) are North Dakota trained, nationally registered paramedics requiring 1600 hours of training.

The Pine Falls District Ambulance Service now operates two ambulances, a 1987 High Top Van and a Type 3 (Box type). Eight members are trained for extraction (Jaws of Life). Eight attendants are trained for semi automatic defibrillation- the electric shock treatment familiar to viewers of television hospital dramas.

Administration of the Ambulance Service will shortly be moving to the Federal Government building above the Post Office where and apartment is to be converted to office space.



Photograph illustrating last week's p.7 story on the Model Forest, taken by Harold Peacock



Clem and Aurore Coss: married 63 years

Clem & Aurore Coss Celebrate 63rd Anniv.

by Charles Norman

Last Saturday Clem and Aurore Coss celebrated their 63rd wedding anniversary at their home on North Shore Road.

Mr. and Mrs. Coss were married in Estevan Saskatchewan in 1930 and moved to Fort Alexander where Clem Coss worked for the Catholic mission, looking after their cattle.

"In those days you had to work like hell and you got nothing for it", he said. He made five dollars a week plus rent free house.

Later he took advantage of a federal government "back to the land" program and

bought a farm North of what is now the Pine Falls Generating Station. His land was west of HWY 304 from the River to North of Peddens.

"They were happy times", Clem said. "We produced almost everything we needed and traded for the few things we couldn't produce ourselves".

When the Dam was built in 1949, one of the Coss daughters remembers delivering eggs to the small hydro town-site at the dam.

Clem 85, and Aurore 83, have seven children 33 grand children, 65 great-grand children, and one great-great grand-daughter.

Dr. Clinton Esser

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The COMMUNITY VOICE

Publisher & Editor
DON NORMAN

The VOICE is an independant weekly community newspaper, published every Tuesday by the Pine Falls Community Voice, Pine Falls Mb. Printed by the Springfield Leader Ltd. Lac du Bonnet

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

\$20.00 Per year, plus 7% GST & 7% PST* - \$22.80 within 65 km. (40 mile) radius of Pine Falls.

\$40.00 per year, plus 7% GST & 7% PST* - \$ 45.60 all other areas

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PINE FALLS SERVICE CENTRE

OWNED AND OPERATED BY 2375487 MANITOBA LTD.

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