

NAFTA will take care of our water

Water, water, everywhere
nor any drop to drink.

Coleridge

Ever stop to think what a sacred, precious commodity your everyday, run of the mill drop of water is?

Not spectacular like a rainbow, or awesome like a lion's roar or a whitetail's leap or a newborn's yawn ... but sacred nonetheless.

And about to become more sacred — our good Uncle Sam is looking our way and licking his lips.

Canada, of course has umpteen gazillion tons of water. We've got Niagara Falls and Kakabeka and Nahanni and uncounted rivers full of pure, sweet water coursing over our rocks and bogs, pouring into bigger rivers and ponds and lakes and oceans.

You have to go to other countries to really appreciate what we take for granted, here in Canada — to Ingolstadt in Germany, say, where the famous Blue Danube flows, not so very blue after all — more like a turgid brown scar across the landscape. Or the Rio Grande between Mexico and Texas, a river so polluted you wouldn't want to put your foot in it, much less your tongue.

I think of those desecrated landmarks and remember a nameless river in the nameless depths of northern Quebec where I went canoeing not so long ago. And watched in wonder as my Cree guide scooped a ladle full of water from the lake we were crossing in a canoe — scooped it up and drank his fill, runnels of water streaking through the stubble on his chin.

Such a natural act, stooping and scooping a bellyful of water from Mother Earth. So natural — and now so utterly life-threatening to most of us on this planet.

We've poisoned our own water. It isn't fit to drink until it's been chlorinated and fluoridated and filtered and distilled.

A hundred years ago you could have cupped your hands into just about any body of water in this country and drank your fill without a worry.

This is progress?

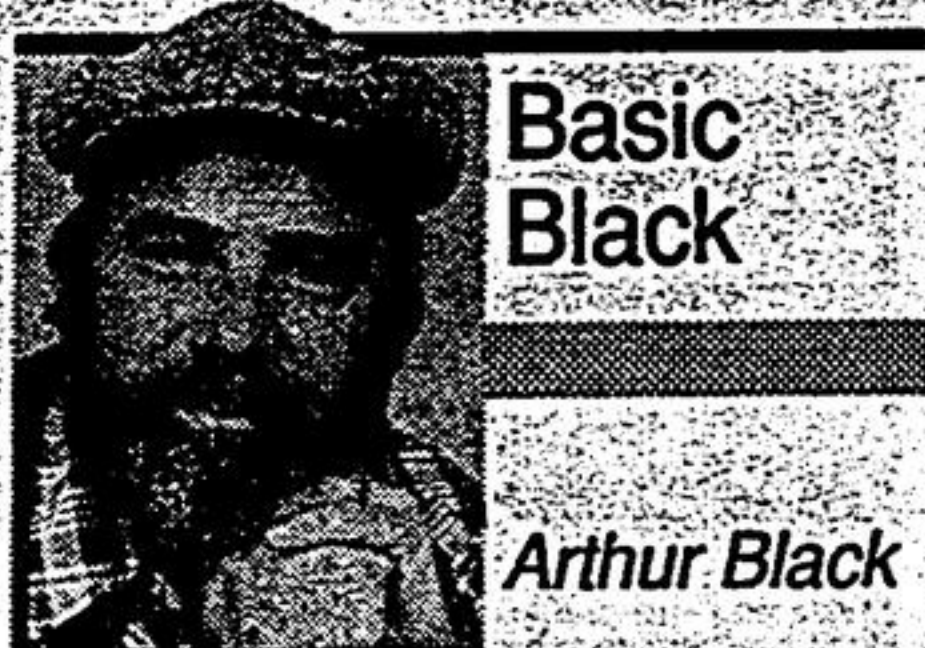
It's not just Canada either. As a matter of fact, we Canucks are better off than most. Experts reckon that by the year 2025, one of three people on this planet will be living in a country suffering from a shortage of fresh water.

Twenty countries are officially listed as "water-scarce" meaning that they can supply less than 1700 cubic metres per person, per year.

That's the break-even point, in case you're interested. Above 1700 cubic metres per year, you're probably showering and not worrying about all that soapy water going down the drain. Below 1700 metres, you're carrying a canteen.

The experts predict that during the next three decades as many as 50 more countries will qualify as "water-scarce" — which means they'll be looking at schemes to import water, no matter how hare-brained. Plans are afoot already to haul icebergs from Antarctica, and tow gigantic plastic bladders of lake water from water-rich nations to water-poor ones.

It's not a problem that we can afford to wax theoretic over. In China, more than 200 cities are



Basic Black

Arthur Black

away. And here in Canada? Well, we live next to a neighbor that believes it has the God-given right to raise avocados in the deserts of California.

No matter how much water it takes.

No matter whose water it takes.

Of course, thanks to Brian Mulroney and his bastard stepchild NAFTA, that's not a problem any more.

Provided you happen to be American.

already chronically short of water. Water tables under Beijing are dropping one to two metres every year. The city is already lining up supply sources more than 1,000 kilometres

Dr. Michael Pollak B.Sc. DDS GENERAL & COSMETIC DENTISTRY

- Special Interest in Cosmetic Dentistry
- Bleaching, Bonding, Implants
- Porcelain Veneers



- Emergency Care • General Dentistry • Children's Dentistry
- Convenient Location - Extended Hours
- (Sunkist Plaza) • Hwy. 48 & 16th Ave., Markham • 472-2454
- FREE DENTAL CONSULTATION

NO GST NO PST NO GST NO PST NO GST NO PST NO GST

NO TAX MATTRESS SALE

OUR LOWEST PRICES EVER



ADJUSTABLE BED

Includes best selling mattress **\$999** Twin

JUNIOR SLEEP
REGULAR SUPPORT
SINGLE MATTRESS

\$89
SET \$149

DOUBLE.....129 SET 199
QUEEN.....159 SET 279

BIOPEDIC
MEDIUM SUPPORT
SINGLE MATTRESS

\$119
SET \$199

DOUBLE.....149 SET 249
QUEEN.....179 SET 299

ORTHOCHIRO
EXTRA FIRM SUPPORT
SINGLE MATTRESS

\$149
SET \$249

DOUBLE.....169 SET 289
QUEEN.....199 SET 349

ORTHOPRACTIC
EXTRA FIRM SUPPORT
SINGLE MATTRESS

\$199
SET \$339

DOUBLE.....219 SET 379
QUEEN.....239 SET 419
KING.....399 SET 639

NO GST NO PST ON ANY MATTRESS SET PURCHASED

DAYBED

Enamel Finish Iron

\$99 Mattress Extra \$169 Complete

ECONOMY BUNK

Guaranteed lowest price, incredible value

\$169 mattress extra \$269 complete

SPACE SAVER BUNK

2" iron twin over double

\$239 Mattress Extra \$347 Complete

FUTON

\$164 Complete

PHONE ORDERS ACCEPTED

HOURS:
Daily 10 am - 6 pm
Thurs. & Fri. 10 am - 9 pm
Saturday 10 am - 6 pm
Sunday 11 am - 4 pm

the **Sleep Factory**

5239 HWY. #7 SEVEN STAR PLAZA

471-9655

SCARBOROUGH
UNIT 103
SHEPPARD E.
MARKHAM RD.
481

4800 Sheppard Ave. E. 293-5191

MARKHAM
HWY. 7
MARKHAM

5293 HWY. #7 471-9655

CANADA'S LARGEST CHAIN OF FACTORY DIRECT MATTRESS MANUFACTURERS SINCE 1973