

# *Women's Labour History Project*

2534 Cambridge Street,

Vancouver, B.C.

V5K 1L4

(604) 254-5210

AUGUST 1989

## TEN DOLLARS OR NOTHING

Produced and Directed by SARA DIAMOND  
With the Women's Labour History Project

Featuring JOSEPHINE CHARLIE

11 minutes 49 seconds

Colour

1989

Despite the rigours of the last Great Depression, British Columbia's coastal canneries continued their production, employing thousands of white, Native and Japanese workers. TEN DOLLARS OR NOTHING combines oral history, archival film and photography, current video footage and sound track, to recall the history of women workers in the province's canneries. Josephine Charlie, a Native woman who worked in the fishing industry from the 1900's to the 1950's, provides eloquent testimony to the challenges and pleasures of coastal life.

TEN DOLLARS OR NOTHING does not pretend to reconstruct the past as it was. Instead, it places oral tradition and memory upon a backdrop of two layers of simultaneous visual imagery. These images diverge, and align, one moment suggesting history as narrative, the next as texture, as psychological moment, as simultaneity or conflict, and ultimately as present. In visualizing these different histories, TEN DOLLARS OR NOTHING implies the challenge in making *hist* historical work from remaining materials, be these anthropological films, travel photographs, or memories specific to a culture and place.

TEN DOLLARS OR NOTHING is the first part of DAUGHTERS HAVE COURAGE, MOTHERS TAKE HEART, a Women's Labour History Project production about the women and the 1930's in British Columbia.

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The videotape is appropriate for use in gallery, museum, secondary and post-secondary as well as community contexts.

It is available through:

VIDEO OUT 1102 Homer Street Vancouver, British Columbia V6B 2X6  
(604) 688-4336

V/TAPE 183 Bathurst Street, First Floor Toronto, Ontario M5T 2R7  
(416) 863-9897

WOMEN IN FOCUS 849 Beatty Street Vancouver, British Columbia V6B 2M6  
(604) 682-5848

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SCREENINGS TO DATE:

Premiere! in Toronto at V/TAPE in August of 1989  
New American Makers, Los Angeles, 1989  
Vancouver Art Gallery, Vancouver, 1989  
Charles Scott Gallery, Vancouver, 1989  
Hall Walls, Buffalo, New York, 1989

Upcoming:

Grierson Documentary Seminar, Art Gallery of Ontario, Toronto, 1989  
Video Viewpoints, Museum of Modern Art, New York, January, 1990