

NEWFOUNDLAND STATUS OF WOMEN COUNCIL

NEWSLETTER

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St. John's, Nfld.
A1C 5X8
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Aug./Sept. 1975
Volume II, No. 7

WOMEN'S CENTRE
77 Bond Street

SEX
STEREOTYPING

WOMAN'S
DAY
OF
HEALTH

DAY
CARE
ACT

NATIONAL
ACTION
COMMITTEE

ON
THE
GO

WOMEN
AND
ART



MEMBERSHIP MEETING
August 4, 1975
8:15 pm

WOMEN'S CENTRE
(members and friends)

This is a special meeting focused on laying our plans to put to full use our new grant. Come and learn what's on the go for the next four months.

PROGRAM: Special I/WY
SLIDE SHOW - with sound
"Be what you want to
be."

WOMEN'S RESOURCE
Groups.

On the G ♀ ♀ ♀ ♀ ♀ ♀ ♀

➔ AT THE WOMEN'S CENTRE

ANNOUNCING "A HISTORY OF THE NEWFOUNDLAND STATUS OF WOMEN COUNCIL" prepared by Shirley Goundrey (cover by Kathleen Knowling). This booklet provides us with a good outline of our origins and ideals, and discusses what has been done within subcommittees such as the Women in Public Life Group, the Education Committee, Day Care and Human Rights. It is a valuable addition to our library and every member should have one. Copies can be obtained at the Centre for 50¢. If you wish to have a copy mailed to you please send \$1.00 to help pay mailing costs, and printing costs of additional copies.

The LIP Project finishes the last week of July. We are beginning to collate all the correspondence, calls and information we have been dealing with these last months for the final report to submit to the LIP office. Copies of this report will be available to all our members (sometime in August). Just going through our Log Book it seems that we have handled over a thousand inquiries over the phone and at the Centre in the past six months.

The end of the LIP money means the end of paid staffing at the Centre. Having built up so many contacts and being known as a place to come to for help of any kind, it is essential that our members keep the Women's Centre open as often as possible from now on. If you have a few hours a week to be here answering the phone, etc., please let us know so we can complete the staffing schedule as soon as possible. Please give the Centre a little of your time, between 9-5 weekdays and Saturday afternoons.

Watching our funds disappear with no assurance of more from Government sources after July isn't fun. We therefore drew a collective sigh of relief when one of our members donated \$500 to tide us over for the next period during waiting it out for word on applications to Government for funds to continue working on women's issues. All are grateful to our unnamed donor.

JUNE MEMBERSHIP MEETING:

The subject discussed at our June membership meeting was Volunteerism, but it took a surprising twist. The panel made up of Iris Kirby, Field Worker from Secretary of State's office, Helen Porter, writer, and Fran Innes, broadcaster and home economist planned to present their ideas and then leave the subject for the audience to bat around. However, soon after we started, the audience suddenly swelled with faces never before seen at our meetings. It soon became evident that the newcomers came to defend themselves. These were women who felt threatened if volunteerism was attacked, and they came to defend volunteerism for the sake of volunteerism. To aim for putting the Government on the spot to come up with solutions to Day Care, adequate health care, equal

pay and all the rest, was too radical for them. The position taken by the women's movement is substantially this - volunteer, but make sure that your efforts are towards putting yourself out of a job. Work to educate towards bringing about a change for a better society.

JULY MEMBERSHIP MEETING:

The business of the evening covered many fronts. We heard from Lillian Bouzane, our representative to the International United Nations Meeting on International Women's Year held in Mexico City in June. Lillian has prepared a document for the records on this historic gathering.

Marian Atkinson, Field Worker for I.W.Y. was in town long enough to attend our meeting. She had many interesting comments to make on her impressions of the status of women in Newfoundland. She had both discouraging and good things to say, but one comment stands out - women can be their own worst enemies at times.

A presentation of a gift was made to our most recent member to move away. Elinor Neubauer will be leaving us for the crowded, smoggy, crime infested, wicked city of Thunder Bay. She'll be sorry, even though she will find a strong and active women's movement to join.



ANNOUNCEMENT



FURTHERING OURSELVES

A lot of us have been feeling the need of explicit consideration of the scope and issues of the women's movement. Many of us are sorely aware that our understanding of all the threads of opinion of the activities of the women's movement is too narrow. As remedy, a number of us are forming a study group. We'll start reading Marxism and Feminism, a book put out by the Women's Press in Toronto and which is not nearly so heavy as the title suggests. We will conscientiously examine the many parts of the women's movement and its various strategies.

As well, intermittent evening talks are in the planning - each one to examine some aspect of Feminism. The first session, on Lesbian Feminism, was held in June; others are planned for later in August and through the Fall.

Please let us know what you'd like to hear; meetings are easily arranged. We need your support, and we all need to learn so much.

For more information, contact ELLEN ANTLE at the WOMEN'S CENTRE.

VOLUNTEER WORK

Following is a list of jobs that need doing consistently--VOLUNTEERS! Choose your area of interest. For details please come to the Centre and talk with the coordinator of volunteers.

CLIPPINGS: WHAT'S TO DO:

- (a) Commitment to clip from Evening Telegram and Daily News every day
- (b) Displaying current clippings at Centre
- (c) Keeping clipping files under subject headings as they are taken off board

COURSES: WHAT'S TO DO:

- (a) Maintain list of women interested in courses and what courses they are.
Try to arrange those in which most interest has been shown.
 - (1) Find instructor
 - (2) Arrange for room
 - (3) Notify women
 - (4) Purchase or procure needed supplies for course
 - (5) Open and close up at time of course
- (b) Arrange discussion groups on topics of interest to women and publicize via newsletter, NSWC general meetings, media

COUNSELLING:

A volunteer to answer phones and welcome people as they arrive is an asset.

CORRESPONDENCE:

A volunteer to clip sexist ads and dispatch form letters informing employers.

DAYCARE:

Volunteers could reactivate committee along following lines:

- (1) Contacting Centres and half day programs across the province. Send brief and ask them to support it.
- (2) Possibly help to organize demonstration for capital funding.
- (3) Look into daycare under NIP Area in East End.

EDUCATION:

Vast amounts of education material are waiting for a filer and more comes in all the time. Write letters, etc. Much could be done re children's T.V. and other sources of crap.

Distribution of the book "This is Our Work".

HEALTH DAY:

Letters have to be addressed. AV equipment needed on loan. People needed to make slides. Displays to be made. Food needed. Program writer needed. Media contact, posters, etc. (to be held in October)

LAW:

Women and the Law needs updating. Writing, typing. After the lawyer, retyping, layout and photographs.

LIBRARY:

List new books, pamphlets, articles on master list by topic (& duplicate)
Stamp and initial new books and mark and place reference books
Write up new books for newsletter
Check returned books to see that card is inserted and book placed on shelf.
Notify people of overdue books by phone or postcard.

NEWSLETTER:

Contributions, editing, typing, etc.

MEDIA MONITORING:

We need a good phone system or pyramid of people able to phone during the day to present a strong force of opposition to questionable items on T.V. and radio. Also a good study of women and girls in adult and children's shows.

SPEAKER'S BUREAU:

As groups request speakers, we need one person in charge of the calendar to make sure there are no slip-ups.

STAFFING:

Phone, correspondence, recording in log, meeting visitors. Making sure that what comes in is given to someone who can deal with it. Support staff is needed for xeroxing, mail pick-up, maintenance and supplies, etc.

These are just some of the volunteer tasks. If you can contribute in other pro-fem ways, that's fine, too.



new books in our lending library



Feminism as Therapy by Anica Vesel Mander and Anne Kent Rush. The authors write "about their work, the work of other women in women's consciousness raising, and about using the concepts of feminism as the philosophical base for a new psychological theory/practice".

Politics of Women's Liberation by Jo Freeman. "A case study of an emerging social movement and its relation to the policy process".

The School of Femininity by Margaret Lawrence Greene. Traces the development of female thought as reflected by the creative imagination of women writers in the past and present.

The Single Woman's Guide to Pregnancy and Parenthood by Patricia Ashdown Sharp. Presents all the options open to the single mother and gives information on how to deal with problems. This is a British book but applicable to the Canadian scene in most cases.

Women of Canada - Their Life and Work. Compiled by the National Council of Women for the Paris International Exhibition in 1900. It was reprinted by the NCW in 1975 and is a very comprehensive report on women of Canada at the turn of the century.

HAVE YOU A BOOK OVERDUE? PLEASE RETURN IT AND BORROW ANOTHER ONE.

NEW PUBLICATION

THIS IS OUR WORK

by

the Education Group
N.S.W.C.

* THIS IS OUR WORK consists of interviews with twenty *
* Newfoundland & Labrador women and full page photographs *
* of these women at their work. *
* Geared toward girls at the primary school level, the *
* book was designed to provide them with a wider range of *
* role models than those offered by traditional textbooks. *
* THIS IS OUR WORK includes interviews with a mayor, a *
* photographer, a taxi driver, a fisherwoman, a surgeon *
* and many others. The interviews emphasize the elements *
* of choice and early interests involved in the selection *
* of a career. *

The book is available for \$1.00 a copy from: NSWC (for 10 copies or more, reduced rates), Book Corner, The Weavery, Children's World

On the road with Marian

(Please refer to the June-July NSWC Newsletter for particulars as to the purpose and route of the two IWY Field Officers as they traveled by van throughout the province)

Submitted by IWY Field Worker, Marian Atkinson

Dear editor:

June 3, 1975

Jenifer and I left St. John's on the 20th of May. We first travelled to Port au Port and met with members of the Women's Institute there. These women have a beautiful building, built through a LIP Grant. There they work at handicrafts of all kinds, knitting, sewing, crocheting etc. They are interested in finding ways and means of employment and since there is little industry in the area, handicrafts and natural talents are what they put to use.

We spoke to Vocational School Students, Adult Educational School Students and a group called the Toastmistresses Association in Stephenville. These groups were very stimulating - they were extremely interested in women's issues. Employment policies, pension schemes, health schemes, women and the law, and property rights. Some of these groups have decided to set up study sessions on various areas of interest and thus increase their own awareness.

We spoke to a Rotary Club at their regular luncheon meeting. On this very special occasion, they invited their wives to attend. The reaction was interesting - some baiting, but generally a genuine interest.

In the Cape St. George area we found women who are constantly upgrading themselves but upon completing up-grading courses have little or no opportunity to put their skills to use. They are, however, struggling to overcome this, by principally using the same tactics as those in Port au Port. It's amazing how the isolation prevents so many women from utilizing their talents.

In Corner Brook itself, we spent a day at the Women's Centre and met some very interesting women. This group has some great projects in mind - they are still in the setting-up stage, but I see great potential. It would be helpful to both St. John's and Corner Brook to maintain close liason.

The Women's Institute here in Corner Brook is practically defunct. However, we did help them a little - what they need to do now is help themselves.

More will be submitted as we cover the ground going north and east arriving back in St. John's towards the third week in July.

A report on THE NATIONAL ACTION COMMITTEE OF THE STATUS OF WOMEN

Wendy Williams

The National Action Committee on the Status of Women dates back to 1966. At that time representatives from about 30 national women's organizations (such as Business and Professional Women, YWCA, IODE, National Council of Women) met to explore the possibility of improving the status of women in Canada.

Now the National Action Committee is trying to force the government to implement the recommendations of the Royal Commission on the Status of Women. This year NAC, of which the NSWC is a member, decided to press the Federal Government in specific areas --- family planning and abortion, equal pay for work of equal value, matrimonial property rights and child care.

Five members of NAC went to Ottawa on July 3rd and 4th for meetings with cabinet ministers and other members of parliament. They were Miriam Cropper, Vancouver; Marilyn McGonigal, Winnipeg; Irma Melville, Markham, Ont.; Lorna Marsden, President of NAC; and myself.

On Thursday we met with Marc Lalonde where we presented the resolutions passed at NAC's Annual Meeting in Winnipeg. It was a terrific two hour meeting. Items discussed were:

a) Issue of Abortion. Mr. Lalonde asked for what we want to be included in new legislation when abortion is removed from the Criminal Code. (The NSWC Abortion Comm. is acting on this)

b) Family Planning. Why does CBC not have Family Planning information on the air. (Mr. Lalonde thinks CBC should and will act on it)

c) Day Care. No change in government's position. It is for people on welfare. (Follow-up action needed on provincial level)

d) Equal pay for Work of Equal Value. Mr. Lalonde thought we presently had such legislation. How many more M.P. think the same? (Ask our M.P.'s what they think of this issue.)

e) Matrimonial Property. This is under provincial jurisdiction, but there is a committee for the coordination of legislation composed of all Provincial Ministers of Health. (Action needed: How many of us even know what our property rights are? Let us find out and then we will know what changes we want and can press for them.)

We also saw the Honourable Hugh Faulkner who gives out most of the grants for women's groups. He is concerned that the money is not going for the benefit of the grass roots, i.e. no more funding for such "establishment" groups as Status of Women. We tried to correct his ideas. He also wants to know how to evaluate the spending of grant funds. (Action needed to let him know we are "grass roots" and give Mr. Faulkner some positive indications that the grants we received were well spent. We also discussed Core Funding with him.)

con'd...

NATIONAL ACTION COMMITTEE - con'd

Follow-up

I saw Mr. James McGrath (St. John's West) along with other M.P.'s for breakfast Friday. But to have an impact we have to see our local M.P.'s at home. Action will only come if many M.P.'s agitate for change. Maybe the Women in Public Life group needs to be reactivated.

Editor's note: There IS a real need for the WIPL group to become active. If you are interested in this please come to our next Committee meeting (each Wednesday evening, 8:15 pm) or to our next membership meeting.

For Action Now

The following resolution was passed at the 2nd Annual meeting of the National Action Committee, held in Winnipeg, May 1975.

WHEREAS governments at all levels have undertaken to address themselves to women's needs during International Women Year; and

WHEREAS NAC's priorities have been agreed upon and are being documented and given specific focus in the coming months,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT NAC and its participating organizations and members organize a national campaign which will culminate in the late fall, in lobbies and meetings with all federal, provincial, territorial and municipal elected representatives requiring two things:-

- i) A report of action accomplished personally and by his/her government towards implementing the Recommendations of the Royal Commission on the Status of Women in the priority areas, and on other urgent matters,*
- ii) Specific commitments to further action.*

Note: This campaign might possibly coincide in Ottawa with the final conference of IWY planned by the federal government. Every effort should go towards focusing national attention on the action and issues involved.

Volunteers are needed to lay plans for visiting our federal, provincial and municipal elected representatives in the Fall.
HOW ABOUT YOU?

Reporting on THE ATLANTIC CONFERENCE ON SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Held June 1975 in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Margaret Robertson represented the NSWC.

The Atlantic Conference on Social Development was both frustrating and exciting.

The purpose of the conference was communication so, to facilitate the sharing of ideas, everyone was divided into small regional and mixed groups -- or, one could form a special interest group and go to that instead. I attended a discussion on Women's Issues.

My regional group was disappointing because very little communication occurred. A lot of government people were there and their lips were sealed on so many subjects that many of them weren't talking. On the second day of the conference, when it was nearly over, we discussed this lack of communication and some of the government representatives acknowledged the problem. If we had had another week together we might have broken down some of the barriers.

The other thing which frustrated me about the conference was the shortage of information supplied to the participants before we arrived in Halifax. When I arrived at the conference I had no clear idea of what it was to accomplish, how it would operate, or even who financed my trip. And I discovered that others were in the same position. We wasted valuable time finding out these things. As well, this initial lack of knowledge created unnecessary friction between the participants and the organizers. It was almost as if the information had deliberately been withheld. (This may be unfair. The failing may have been at the provincial level although it happened to people from other provinces too.)

The exciting thing about the conference was the Women's Issues group and it made up doubly for the frustrations. We had two meetings and at both good feelings and ideas were generated. We discussed women's centres, daycare, women and the law, the special problems mothers on welfare and single parent families have. We even did some reverse role playing. Finally, we drew up 13 resolutions which were read to the Conference and because of our discussions, some of the women who were in the group are going to start a new women's centre in Dartmouth. Communication can bring social action!

RESOLUTIONS FROM THE WOMEN'S ISSUES GROUP AT ATLANTIC CONFERENCE

1. The government should make more information more easily available to all communities; there should be a central computer or a call centre where information is given immediately.

2a. It is the government's responsibility to supply adequate day care centres for all children.

con'd...

Atlantic Conference - con'd...

- 2b. A salary should be paid to mothers who wish to stay home with their children instead of putting them in Day Care Centres, or working outside the home.
- 3a. Existing laws concerning maintenance should be enforced.
- 3b. Maintenance payments should be over and above welfare subsidies.
4. Existing laws concerning discrimination against women should be enforced.
5. More women should be used as probation officers in the family court system.
6. There should be more women judges and magistrates.
7. Women should be encouraged to run for political positions.
8. Houses rented by landlords should be given periodic safety and maintenance checks. Rent should be controlled or rent controls enforced.
9. Divorce laws should be re-examined and revamped. They often discriminate against women.
10. The Mental Health Acts should be re-examined.
11. Transition houses or drop-in centres should be established, providing places where people in distress can go.
12. There should be more realistic rental allowance.
13. Women must recognize themselves as self-reliant, efficient, powerful, people and as a power force in political and social change.

*The more that i grow
The less the pains of living hurt me
The less the pains of dying reach me
The more the joy of being holds me*

DAY CARE ACT PASSED BY PROVINCE of NEWFOUNDLAND

An interview with Nancy Teppler, member of the ad hoc planning committee on Day Care:

The Day Care and Homemaker Services Act was passed on June 19, 1975, the third reading being effected at a time when one opposition member was present, Capt. Earl Winsor. The Lack of "quantity" in opposition members present to discuss this Act was certainly no t made up for in "Quality" though Mr. Roberts made reference to his party's stress for quality as opposed to quantity previously during the day the house was in session when the Child Care Act was passed (at the time there was considerable running about to find enough members to form a quorum on another bill). No, the lack of quality was indeed evident as the sole member of the opposition made not one reference to the recommendations proposed by the "Planning Committee for Day Care" in its brief to government members. There was no opposition to the bill being passed as was, without any debate or discussion of improvements prior to passage of the bill taking place. That it was passed, at least, and that we at least now have a Day Care and Homemaker Services Act no one takes exception to. However, had some attention been paid to the recommendations for improvements and had a closer look at the set up of e.g. the Day Care and Homemaker Services Licensing Board of Directors and the Accreditation Board been made, we cannot help but feel we would have made some progress in the right direction. The act being passed as was, together with the lack of adequate funding for proper child care centres merely ensures that the Act itself can have little more than a placebo effect on those sincerely interested in seeing proper child care become available to the women of Newfoundland.

EVENTS LEADING UP TO JUNE 19TH

A Planning Committee for Day Care was formed on the initiation of N.S.W.C. Here is a rundown on their activities.

- A meeting was called for May 22 at the Women's Centre. Present were representatives from unions, the Association of Registered Nurses, Day Care Centres, E.C.D.A., and the public.

It was decided to review the proposed Day Care Act. The group expressed dissatisfaction with:

1. Inadequacy of funding.
2. The set up of the sliding scale of assistance to parents which disregarded the middle income group, (Day Care Centres need to be available to every child and parents pay on the basis of their income)
3. Not enough proportion of persons with experience and knowledge in day care called for to make up the decision making bodies.

A news release was issued outlining the weaknesses of the proposed Act bringing to the public the problem of inadequate funding.

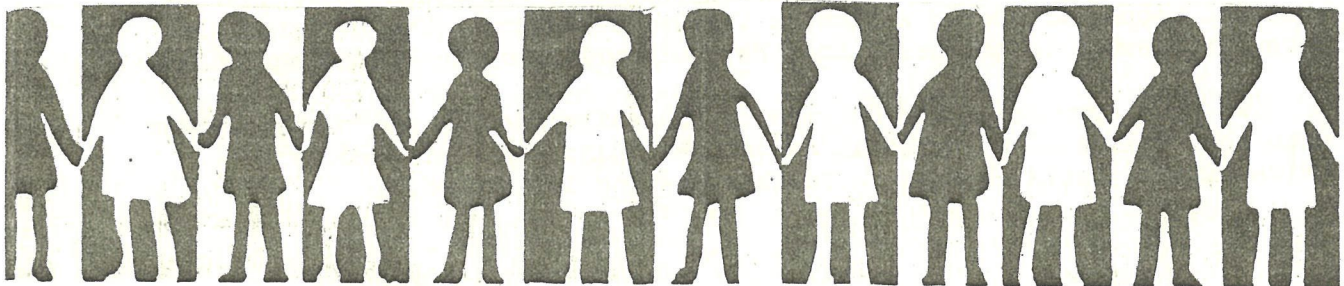
- A second meeting was called for May 29, 1975, at which recommendations for the improvements to the Act and its regulations were made. These were compiled into a brief and it was decided that the Committee would attempt to arrange a meeting with Mr. Ank Murphy, Minister of Social Services, to present him with this brief and discuss the changes involved. Mr. Murphy stated over the phone that he would meet with members of the Committee only after he had been supplied with a copy to study ahead of time. A brief was sent immediately. In spite of further efforts, a meeting with Mr. Murphy was never granted.

- A third meeting was called for June 4th, which had as its purpose the orientation of MHA's regarding the existing problems in day care in Newfoundland and to acquaint them with the committee's recommendations so that informed debate could be carried out on the house floor.

At this meeting the plight of single parents due to lack of adequate day care was vividly portrayed by a mother from the community. She was deeply concerned for her children when the time came for her to return to the labor market.

The one million dollars for day care and homemaker services called for in the brief prepared by the group was termed "reasonable" by Mr. Fred Rowe, one of the MHA's present. (Steve Neary and Robert Wells were also present).

Copies of the Day Care Brief were distributed to all members of the House in order that they might be better informed when the proposed bill came up to debate. In spite of the concentrated efforts of all those working towards the implementation of the recommended changes in the Act and the securing of adequate funding which would make the Act meaningful, the Act was passed on June 19th without any debate or reference made regarding the hoped-for improvements. This was a disappointment. However, interest has not waned and we are determined to continue our demand that government recognize the need for adequate day care facilities in Newfoundland along with the necessary funding.



BRIEF PRESENTED TO EDUCATION MINISTER ON STEREOTYPING

On International Women's Day it was resolved that a committee look into the presentation of women and girls in school texts. In June the report was presented to the Minister of Education and several members of the Department, the School Boards and some members of the Education Faculty at Memorial.

Because Jane Goundrey and the OFY Group are making a detailed study of the high school texts, our committee confined its study to the primary and elementary curriculum, especially readers and social studies materials.

The brief is on hand at the Centre if you want to read it. The main findings were that males outnumber females both in pictures and in leading roles; that women are shown on only a handful of occupations, men in a wide variety, that girls and women tend to be characterized by their appearance, males by their achievements, and that males are shown to define females, often derogatorily. In short, good role models for girls are scarce.

We made three recommendations:

- (a) that curriculum committees focus on this problem when texts are being chosen.
- (b) that workshops for teachers be held where techniques of counteracting the bias of the texts could be shared.
- (c) that MUN offer a course in sex-stereotyping in children's literature, television, etc.

About ten days after the brief was presented, the group met with Dr. Ches Brown, Director of Curriculum for the Province and Dr. Otto Lawrence, Assistant Director of Instruction (Curriculum). Sue Richter came armed with her slides of text-book images and gave a quick run through the kinds of things girls are learning about themselves and their futures from what they read in school.

The Department agreed to our recommendations and asked for a list of resource people who could assist at teacher workshops. The Minister also made a statement to the press that he would write to the offending publishers.

We have approached the University Education Faculty and provided them with the outline of a course in sex-stereotyping being offered by the University of Saskatchewan. A further meeting is planned.

Jean Chadwick

WOMEN and ART

BEVERLEY LAMBERT KELLY, AN ARTIST from Regina, Sask. has completed a portfolio of three limited edition lithographs on women's issues; marital property rights and native women's rights to be displayed and distributed through Women's Centres across Canada.

Information was collected and drawings prepared over a four month period (Jan. - Apr '75). Processing and reproduction of the prints was done at the MUN Extension Print workshop on the Southern Shore (Burnt Cove) with assistance from Heidi Oberheide, resident printmaker during the month of July.

Previously, she has worked in acrylic paints, drawings and ceramics. In recent years she has been studying film-making and printmaking. She plans to do some paintings this winter of women at work.

<u>TITLES</u> "Get it in writing"	(edition of 25 -----\$25.00 each)
"Murdoch"	(edition of 17 -----\$30.00 each)
"For Indian Women's Rights"	(Edition of 18 -----\$45.00 each)

If interested in purchase, please contact:

Beverley Lambert Kelly
252 Leopold Crescent
Regina, Sask.
Ph. 523-9335

These prints are now on display at the Women's Centre. Why not come in and see them?

ARRIVED!!

Individual subs-\$7

Available to the
media at special
rates.

Call NS.W.C

753-0220

FEMINIST NEWS SERVICE!!

THE FEMINIST NEWS SERVICE EXISTS TO PUBLISH NEWS AND NEWS-RELATED MATERIAL BY, FOR AND ABOUT CANADIAN WOMEN FROM A FEMINIST VIEWPOINT. NEWS AND INFORMATION CONCERNING CANADIAN WOMEN CAN BE SUBMITTED BY ANY INTERESTED WOMAN OR WOMEN'S GROUP FOR CONSIDERATION. THE SERVICE WILL PROVIDE MONTHLY NEWS PACKETS TO ALL INDIVIDUALS OR GROUPS THAT SUBSCRIBE. INCLUDED IN THE PACKETS, AT FREQUENT INTERVALS WILL BE RELEVANT GRAPHICS AND PHOTOS BY CANADIAN WOMEN.

FNS STARTED IN DECEMBER 1974. SINCE THAT TIME THE NEWS SERVICE HAS BECOME NATIONAL. AT PRESENT, WE HAVE OFFICES RIGHT ACROSS CANADA. EACH PROVINCE (EXCEPT FOR THE ATLANTIC PROVINCES AND THE TERRITORIES) HAS A PROVINCIAL OFFICE. TO SUBMIT INFORMATION (BE YOU A WOMAN OR PART OF A WOMAN'S GROUP) SEND YOUR COPY INTO THE REGIONAL OFFICE IN YOUR AREA. THE FNS WILL BE PUTTING OUT BOTH FRENCH AND ENGLISH PACKETS. IF YOU WISH, YOU MAY WRITE TO US OR RECEIVE INFORMATION IN EITHER FRENCH OR ENGLISH.

THE FEMINIST NEWS SERVICE WILL CARRY ONLY INFORMATION WRITTEN BY CANADIAN WOMEN.

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IF YOU HAVE INFORMATION THAT YOU THINK SHOULD BE REACHING CANADIAN WOMEN SEND YOUR INFORMATION TO THE OFFICE IN YOUR REGION. IF YOU WANT INFORMATION ON WHAT'S HAPPENING TO THE WOMEN OF CANADA FILL OUT THE SUBSCRIPTION FORM BELOW.

<u>ATLANTIC PROV.</u>	<u>QUEBEC</u>	<u>ONTARIO</u>	<u>MANITOBA</u>	<u>SASKATCHEWAN</u>
LESLEY WATSON	J. MANTHORNE	P. LESLIE	P. ATNIKOV	WOMEN'S LIBERATION NSLTR.
6160 MURRAY PL.	3523 ST. URBAIN	110 ROBERT ST.	1060 GROSVENOR	124A-2nd AVE, N.
HALIFAX, N.S.	MONTREAL, P.Q.	TORONTO, ONT.	WINNIPEG, MAN.	SASKATOON, SASK.
<u>ALBERTA & NWT.</u>	<u>BC & YUKON</u>			
A. HARVEY	D. DOLL			
11011-88th AVE.	552 PANDORA ST.			
EDMONTON, ALTA.	VICTORIA, B.C.			

SEND SUBSCRIPTIONS TO: FEMINIST NEWS SERVICE/K. MIDDLETON/25 DUPONT ST./WATERLOO, ONT.

NAME(GROUP OR PERSON) _____
ADDRESS _____

I/WE WISH MORE INFORMATION ON RATES/SERVICE

I/WE WOULD WISH INFORMATION IN FRENCH

INDIVIDUAL SUBSCRIPTION(\$7.00 per year for a 10 page,
monthly packet)

I/WE REQUIRE OUR PACKETS IN:

ENGLISH

FRENCH

WE WISH MORE INFORMATION ON GROUP SUBSCRIPTION RATES(A QUESTIONNAIRE WILL BE SENT)

THE FIRST PACKET SHOULD BE OUT SOMETIME IN TIME.

FEMINIST NEWS SERVICE!!

(The following news items were made available to use in our Newsletter as subscribers to the FNS)

The NEWS

OTTAWA(FNS)-The Ottawa Rape Crisis Centre maintains a 24 hour emergency line. Since the Centre's opening 4-1/2 months ago, 47 rape cases have been dealt with. Services are provided by a paid staff of 4 and 30 volunteers.

If a woman has been raped the Centre will ensure a medical examination, provide counselling and make professional referrals when necessary. If she wishes to report a rape, a centre worker will accompany her to the police. If charges are laid, a centre worker will provide emotional support through the preliminary hearing and trial.

Another major function of the Centre has been to speak to various public groups and

concerned professionals as to the nature of rape.

The Centre has received the energy and concern of a great number of people in the Ottawa area, including police departments and various social agencies.

Anyone interested in contacting the Centre can phone 238-6666 or write to P.O. Box 3773, Station C, Ottawa, Ontario. ♀

VICTORIA(FNS)-On May 10th women in Victoria marched and rallied during "Outrage Day".

"Outrage Day" originated in Los Angeles where members of NOW(National Organization for Women) were denied sacraments and excommunicated from their Catholic diocese because of NOW's advocacy of abortion reform.

Everywoman's Books and the Victoria Women's Centre co-sponsored the march and rally which met at the Law Courts and proceeded to the Parliament Lawn.

The march was organised to show outrage on the following personal and social injustices:

- 1) Women still do not have equal access to well-paid jobs, nor do they receive equal pay for work of equal value.
- 2) Daycare (childcare) is still sadly inadequate. There are no 24 hour childcare operations, and children under three have few services. The reality is that many mothers with children under the age of 3 have to work and not everyone has a 9 to 5 job.
- 3) Women, especially poor women, still do not have equal rights in family and property law.
- 4) There is still no safe and effective form of birth control short of total abstinence.
- 5) Women are still not free to choose abortion and to make their own decisions regarding their own reproductive processes.
- 6) Rape victims are still treated as criminals.
- 7) Dr. Henry Morgentaler remains imprisoned, not so much for his "crime" as for his outspoken principles.

The march was very successful ♀

SASKATOON(FNS)-The government of Canada has well demonstrated that it has no intentions of making the fundamental changes that are required to partly alleviate the oppression of women in Canada by its refusal to deal with such issues as equal pay for work of equal value, universal access to quality childcare, removal of abortion from the criminal code, safe and effective birth control for all, etc.

Instead, the government is spending \$5 million on an advertising campaign dealing with attitudes, only a symptom of women's oppression; and on conferences which are not action-orientated.

The Saskatoon Women's Liberation Centre was the only women's centre represented at the Consultation meeting regarding the World Conference of the International Women's Year to be held in Mexico in June. The Meeting, May 2nd, was attended by such groups as the Imperial Order of the Daughters of the Empire, the Catholic Women's League, the Girl Guides of Canada, and, to the left, the National Farmers Union.

This meeting was called on very short notice, none of the representatives had received the working papers, the two Mexico delegates did not stay for the entire meeting, the Canadian World Plan of Action has already been written and published.

The meeting was headed by Sylva Gelber, director of the Women's Bureau and delegate to Mexico. Gelber spent sometime in her introductory remarks in explaining that socialist countries are more oppressive to women than western countries. When asked to specify which countries she was referring to, she refused to answer on the grounds that she was making a general statement.

Also heading the meeting was Colleen Campbell, MP replacing Marc Lalonde and head of the delegation to Mexico. Campbell left

after her opening remarks, Gelber had the decency to stay a while, and left after the workshops.

The discussions centred around attitudes, words like abortion and working class were never used.

The term "non-middle class", was used a few times. The gov't decided not to get involved with Item 8 of the agenda which reads, "The involvement of women in strengthening international peace and eliminating racism and racial discrimination." It is felt by our government that this Item is too controversial. When asked if Canada will state what is still left in front of us for the liberation of women, we were answered that we never talk about controversial issues. Our government is perpetrating the image of Canada as being the cream of the crop. In its world plan Canada makes recommendations such as no discrimination on the basis of marital status which is not in effect in Canada and several other recommendations which have not yet been implemented in this country.

When it was expressed that some of the women present were having difficulty in formulating suggestions for international action when so little was being done on a national level they were met with a gasp.

It was pointed out that the cause of women's oppression is economic and that the obstacles to women's liberation are economic ones. (one can see how much attention is being given to this by the government inaction in IWY).

The consultation was just another example of the "serious" manner in which the government is taking IWY.

If you wish to take action on this matter write to:
Status of Women, Social Policy SEC.
Privy Council Office
Room 146, East Block
Parliament Buildings,
Ottawa. ♀

WATERLOO(FNS)-On May 10, women across Canada marched, wrote and petitioned in protest to the government's inaction with the demands of women.

In Edmonton, the Edmonton Women's Place collected over 700 names for a telegram sent to Prime Minister Trudeau and the federal cabinet. It called for the freeing of Dr. Morgentaler, the establishment of comprehensive birth control education programs and information centres across Canada, and the removal of abortion from the Criminal Code.

The 745 names were collected by the E.W.P. members in three hours spent with placards and clipboards on downtown street corners, stopping Saturday shoppers.

"We were amazed at the reaction," said one member, "We had people lining up to sign." Another woman said that people would wave from their cars as they passed by. Some even stopped their cars and got out to sign.

One hundred and fifty dollars was also collected, to help in the sending of the telegram.

"I think this is an example of the feeling of people across Canada. The federal government can no longer choose to ignore the women of Canada," said one E.W.P. member.

Thunder Bay sent a telegram of support to the march in Toronto. They had held a march and demonstration earlier that month which was quite successful. At one time, members of Thunder Bay's finest chased one woman through a large department store trying to arrest her for using a megaphone without permission. The woman escaped.

May 10th in Toronto consisted of a march of over 1,000 women followed by a rally. The march was not uneventful. Women shouted such slogans as, "Lesbian, celibate, straight, we all want money from the state", "equal work, equal pay", "what do we want? Daycare.

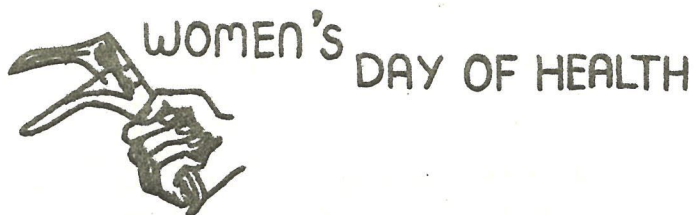
When do we want it? Now!" The section containing the revolutionary Marxist group, the Trotskyists and other socialist groups broke into running marches many times to the dismay of the march marshalls. When the march approached Young St. (the march had been told not to go down the street by the police) the Socialist faction tried to incite the rest of the march into going down the street. Their attempts were ignored by the rest of the marchers.

A constant battle developed between the Wages for Housework women and the Socialist faction. At one point the Socialists were shouting, Socialism, yes! Feminism, no!", to which the women behind them replied in a deafening roar, "Feminism yes, feminism, yes!!"

Bad feelings definitely developed between the women in the march and the socialists who tried to take it over.

Similarly successful marches also occurred in Montreal and Ottawa. ♀

THE FEMINIST NEWS SERVICE WOULD LIKE TO START A SPORTS SECTION. IF YOU HAVE FEATURE-LENGTH ARTICLES ON WOMEN IN SPORTS(2 to 3 typewritten pages long) OR ANY NEWS ITEMS ON WOMEN IN SPORTS PLEASE SEND THEM TO FNS WATERLOO. PICTURES AND GRAPHICS ON SPORTS ARE ALSO WELCOME. ARTICLES WILL BE CREDITED TO THE AUTHOR(PICS AND GRAPHICS TOO). IF YOU ARE INTERESTED ON THE SPORTS SCENE IN CANADA, READ THE NEXT ISSUE. WE WILL ALSO WELCOME ARTICLES, STORIES, ETC. ON ANY AREA OF LIFE IN WHICH WOMEN ARE INVOLVED OR ARE BECOMING INVOLVED IN(eg MUSIC). KEEP THE COPY ROLLING!



WOMEN'S DAY OF HEALTH

Plans are in the making for the Women's Centre and NSWC to celebrate GLOBAL SELF-HELP WEEK. An all day event is being planned for October 18th, the location as yet undetermined.

This day is designed to look at the following questions and other health matters of relevance to women everywhere:

- Do you think you are getting your money's worth at the pharmacy?
- Would you like to know more about the importance of sexual technique?
- How do you cope with stress?
- Would you like to have more information about contraception?

During the day the Centre will be having discussions, displays, films and lectures. We hope to provide information on some of the least discussed areas of women's health - including cystitis, menopause, mental hygiene, dental care, menstrual extraction, venereal disease, anatomy and physiology of reproduction.

NSWC members and friends, let's make this day a success. One that will bring the answers to women suffering from poor health. You can help by providing the planning committee with names to approach to act as advertising sponsors, and by making a financial contribution, no matter how small. Money is needed to pay for publicity, and hall rental

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR OCT. 18th

Women urged to help eradicate breast cancer

By registering with a central agency and supplying simple health information, Canadian women could help to eradicate breast cancer in their own and future generations, says a Vancouver doctor.

Dr. Michael T. Richards, technical adviser with the Vancouver-based Women's Bureau, is in St. John's this week as part of a cross-Canada publicity tour for the bureau's project "keep women alive."

According to Dr. Richards, the project is designed in an effort to discover the causal factors of breast cancer and is not concerned with detection, diagnosis or treatment.

The bureau, he said, was seeking millions of women volunteers to act as cancer researchers by supplying normal data, "which when processed through a computer, will become statistically significant and will provide a base which research lacks at the present."

The data will then be made available to all health research centres and "bona fide investigators."

Surprisingly, Dr. Richards pointed out, only one attempt was made in the past to establish a registry, and this was in Toronto in 1945.

With the incidence of breast cancer developing in one woman in seven, he felt there was a vital need to establish a registry which would provide information on all women, not just those who are victims of breast cancer.

Dr. Richards noted that one significant development in the disease was the lowering of the age of occurrence.

"At one time, breast cancer was a disease of elderly women," he said, "but today

breast cancer hits women in their early 30s."

He pointed out that it often takes up to 10 years for the first malignant cell to multiply and develop into a tumor, "and in that case, we're talking about women contacting the disease in their late teens," he said.

The key to discovering the causes of breast cancer lay in young women, who, he urged, must yield information for research studies.

At present, Dr. Richards said the response to the project was good, with a three-month-old girl their youngest participant.

He urged that Newfoundland women participate in the program by registering with the Women's Bureau, Box 5555, Vancouver, and then by answering questionnaires and supplying other normal health information.

*We urge
all our
women
to take
part in this
project.*

C.G.

Evening Telegram - July 16, 1975

SPEAKER'S BUREAU

There are 12 women on our Speakers Bureau ready to talk on topics of interest to women and men. Four panels have been set up, with three women each, and finally five women are available for group discussions. If you know of a need for a speaker, a panel, or a group discussion leader on a topic related to issues concerning women, call the Women's Centre to have a brochure mailed out which will provide the details.

We have a well organized Speakers Bureau at long last thanks to Jean Chadwick and all those who expressed willingness to provide their services.

WOMEN'S COURSES *during August*

Looking for a way to spend your lazy August mornings? Muffet Knowling has volunteered to teach a course in Yogametrics at the Centre Tuesday and Thursday mornings 10:30 to 11:30. This is Yoga type slim and trim in conjunction with a diet plan to help in weight loss. Fees are \$4.00 with all proceeds to go to NSWC. Call the Centre if you are interested.

Also in August, there will be an auto maintenance course. This is meeting on Tuesday and Thursday nights for the first two weeks (August 5, 7, 12, 14) from 8 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. This is basic auto maintenance including trouble-shooting, tire changing, safety tips, etc. There are a few openings left. If you are interested call or drop by the Centre to pre-register before August 5th. Fees \$6.00.

This issue of the NSWC Newsletter was worked on by Joy Ann Saunders and Sally Davis. Contributions for the next issue should be turned in to the Women's Centre by September 15th. Thanks to Mary Walsh for the typing.

NSWC
P.O. Box 6072
St. John's, Nfld.

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