HAPPY I.W.Y.

kinesis

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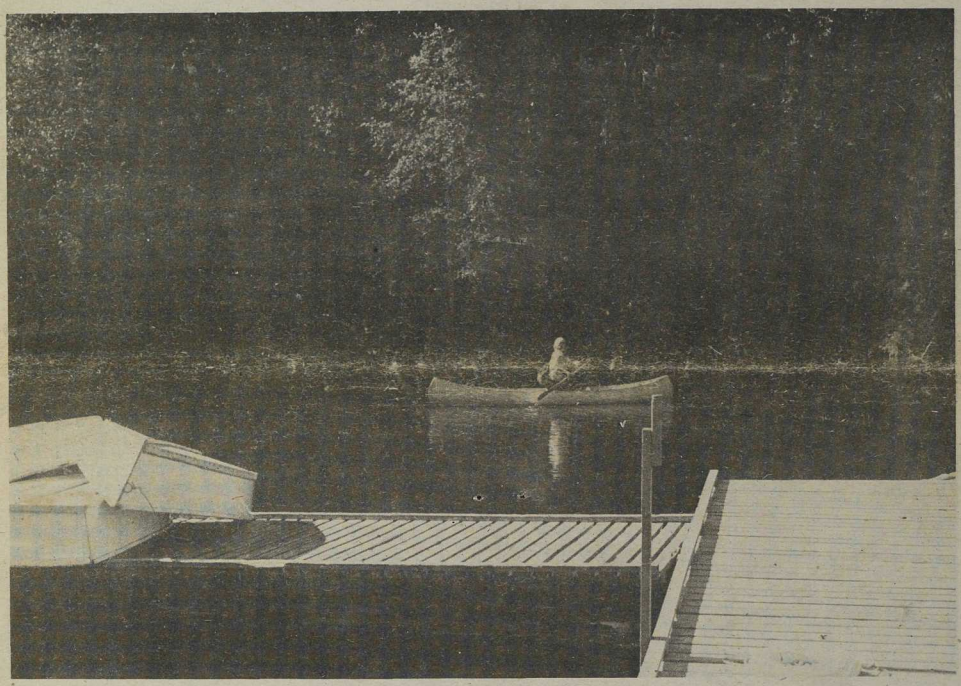

WOMEN'S CENTER CONFERENCE:
SEPTEMBER 27 - 30.

Eight a.m. -- very, very early on a Saturday morning for me -- Linda Hurst from the Downtown Eastside Women's Centre, Janet Beebe from Sault Ste. Marie, and Lee Masters and myself from the Vancouver Status of Women, stuffed our sleeping bags, our briefcases,and ourselves into my '64 Beetle...off to catch the Tsawwassen ferry to the first Women's Centre Conference ever held in B.C.

The Victoria Women's Center were the organizers, Leith Leslie in particular; Gene Errington's office in the Provincial Secretary were the funders (about $5,000 - from IWY sources). The conference was to promote communication among all women's centers in B.C., especially to enable rural groups to share info and problems, as we urban groups can do all year round (although we, too need pushes to communicate). As many women's centers as could be found in B.C. -- the aspiring, the struggling, the thriving --were contacted and offered one or two plane tickets to attend. Also invited were "resource people" - women who are active in particular areas of the women's movement, to give special workshops. The representatives from Vancouver Status of Women were essentially in this group.

The mailing, and pre-conference organization had only been fair (schedule, structure plans etc.), partly due to the (still looming) threat of a mail strike, and partly due to the late notice of who was doing what workshop when. No matter -- of all the conferences I've ever been to, this was still by far the best organized.

So off we were.

The day started off well when we managed to catch the 9 a.m. ferry by a hair's breadth: at the point of being stopped from going on the ferry we raised such a 'hue and cry' that the crew took pity and let us on ... the last car!

The conference was at the Thunderbird Y Camp, about 17 miles out of Victoria, near Sooke. The last 3 miles was a tortuous gravel, one-lane, mountain alley ... into a valley of brilliant sun, lots of trees, and even a little lake. What a wonderful retreat. (at least for us city slickers!) As it turned out, it was also cold (although bearable), for none of the camp bunkhouses had electricity for heat or light. Only the large dining hall was warm and light.

After choosing the least drafty cabin and unpacking, we loaded ourselves with our notebooks, pens, cameras, tape recorders, and trooped into the hall. Lots of women. Great! Some old faces but mostly new (Vancouver really is not

the whole B.C. women's movement). We perused the walls which were lined with schedules and lists of workshop topics and started sorting out what we were going to choose to go to ... starting after lunch.

Lunch was wonderful. Salads and cheeses and breads (home-baked!) and deserts and fruits of all varieties, all only giving an inkling of what was to come for the rest of the three days (i.e. turkey!). Two women had been employed to cook for the conference -- a wonderful contrast to catering, or eating out. Never have I eaten so well in such a large group.

WORKGROUPS

Workgroups consisted of about 8 women each (about 7 groups) and were, for me, the main continuing link of contact and communication throughout the three days. Their purpose was to provide a forum for fairly unstructured discussion on issues, structures, and ideologies of our various groups, and to provide a place for feedback and exchange of our experiences with the workshops of the conference. We were all provided with an excellent 4-page print-out that suggested areas of discussion, mostly centered on internal issues of group working.

Workgroups met once each day, for about two hours. Some groups "clicked", some didn't. The group I happened to be in was a particularly dynamic one. We managed to dispense with the print-out, after the first afternoon, and dove right into some special problems we had been having with collectivism. Over the next two days we dealt with other such "heavies" as volunteerism, subtle heirarchies, group self-development versus responsibility to the outside community, structure - good and bad.

Because of the continuity, work groups sometimes attained the depth in discussions, that the workshops rarely did. At the end of the conference our work group decided to continue our own private communication circle through letter writing, to try to continue sharing our views and our feelings on the types of issues that we had dealt with.

WORKSHOPS

There were a lot of workshops, and only so much time. Always very frustrating. Five different work-shops were usually held at one time, so one could only attend one fifth of them.

Rape Relief
Public Speaking
Ombudsservice
Status of Women groups
Health Issues within a Women's Centre
Community Organizing
Funding
Women's Liberation, Children's Liberation, Daycare
Women's Studies
How to work as a group
Birth Center
Transition House
Country Women
Matrimonial Property (Berger commission)
Power
Vancouver Women's Health Collective
Bookstore

Each workshop had a resource person as the workshop giver. Some of the resource people attended the entire conference, others just came for the particular workshop they were giving. It seemed quite evident that those who were around for the entire three days benefited from that contact; those who weren't had much less time to share their information with all of us (because a lot of the exchanges really took place over meals, and before bed), had much less of a sense of what the particular needs of the workshop "recipients" were, and had a much harder time breaking into the communication we all had already formed with each other.

The workshops varied greatly from one another as to what extent they were discussion, or information, oriented. They also varied greatly in size, some being much more 'popular' than others; some (very few) were not held at all, and some were held more than once. The content of each workshop, and its structure had been held quite loose, no doubt due to the desire to allow for each workshop to define itself by the people who attended, and the person giving the workshop. I found that somewhat frustrating, however, because there tended therefore to be a lack of sufficient preparation on both sides.

The different expectations of those attending a workshop made it even harder for any workshop to take one direction or another. They were nonetheless sometimes excellent forums for the beginnings of dealing with the particular topic.

The Victoria Center is presently compiling the information that was disseminated in and out of the workshops into a summation packet that will be sent out to all who attended. (Anyone else interested in seeing the packet should contact the Victoria group).

OTHER ACTIVITIES

The schedule was so that when we worked, we really worked, but when we didn't, there was ample time to relax, read, sleep, and talk, talk, talk, with each other. On Sunday and Monday evenings we had the pleasure of listening to Ferron from the Vancouver Health Collective sing her wonderfully gutsy and beautiful self-written music, and Pam from a NOW chapter on her guitar. There was even time for some of us to take a spin in a rowboat on the lake ... and some were even hardy enough to take the (odd!) plunge.

AND THE GOODBYES

By Monday evening the energy was quickly disappearing. In spite of careful planning to avoid that happening, it always seems to. Many women began to leave (mostly due to other commitments), as early as Monday afternoon. Those of us who stayed, I'm sure, felt the conference end on a more complete tone; however, we had the burden of feeling quite lonely by Tuesday morning. The Victoria organizers stayed active and always available to the end. The conference was a great first ... and the Victoria group hopefully took a well-deserved rest.

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NEXT MONTH: Some analysis on conferences in general. What they accomplish, what they don't. And why!

- Johanna den Hertog

Photos by Johanna den Hertog

NEWS

Women's Arts and Crafts Studio
A number of women artists and craftswomen plan to set up a communal studio and exhibit space in Vancouver. They are open to suggestions and invite participation from other women. Get in touch with Mae Vicioso, #3- 335 West 15th. Avenue, Vancouver, B.C. or call 874-1839.

NEWS

The Canadian Homemaker League was recently formed in Montreal to promote professional status for homemakers. Those interested should write Doris Christian-Jacobi, P.O. Box 193, Montreal,P.Q. H3G 2K7.

-IWY Secretariat Newsletter

NEWS

Women willing to participate in "Reproduction Research" - a study on the effects of contraception on subsequent pregnancy, are advised to contact Dr. Poland, U.B.C. Dept. of Obstretics, at #9- 855 West 10th. Ave., Vancouver, B.C. or call 873-3110. The study has been underway for a year and requires large numbers of women between ages of 15 and 45.

education

- Nadine Allen

The Vancouver School Board has approved the idea of Consultative Committees to start immediately in all secondary and elementary schools. These elected Committees are to provide a means for parent input in the functioning of their schools. These advisory bodies will be composed of students, parents and staff. The Committees will

- assist in evaluation of innovative programs
- assist individual parents with inquiries about their children
- review curriculum
- assist in establishing program priorities

The proposal outlining guidelines and function will be distributed soon to parents by their principals.

We have a vehicle established to hear our views - Now is a good time to become involved!

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The phrase "affirmative action" has been appearing more and more in VSB material - this is something we should encourage Board members to pursue.

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The Management Coordinating Committee of the Vancouver School Board has recommended to the full board that the most practical way to achieve integration of staff rooms is to integrate existing segregated ones. At the October 6th. meeting, the Board passed a resolution to work for integration of staff rooms. In the past, staff resistance has been a factor in maintaining separate facilities.

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Dr. Lupini, Superintendent of Vancouver Schools recently presented a paper to the Canadian Education Association, entitled "Women in Administration - Where Are They?"

Dr. Lupini stated that there is inequity in administrative assignment between males and females particularly in B.C. which has a lower percentage of women in administration than any other province.

Although 68% of elementary teachers in B.C. are women only 18% are principals and only 3% are vice principals. In the secondary schools females comprise 31% of the teaching force yet there are no women principals and only 5 women vice-principals.

Dr. Lupini asked the delegates to consider the question "to what extent does the educational system contribute to the poor representation of women in leadership position?" He shared with the audience some of the findings of the Women in Teaching textbook survey which documents discrimination against women and girls. He stated that it would be wrong to conclude that this material is responsible for creating societal behaviour. Dr. Lupini believes that the educational system reflects to a large extent, community values. If this situation is to be corrected, schools and society must work together. Lupini outlined a three-dimensional approach which includes changes in personnel policies, educational policies and promotional policies.

Dr. Lupini was one of the educators invited to Ottawa for the one day conference Action - 75 Plus. The aim of the conference was to focus on positive programmes that have been implemented in both the public and private sectors to assist women's fuller integration into the work force. Discussions also centered around action required to overcome the negative effects of current stereotyping of roles for men and women.

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appointments

Julia Goulden, a counsellor in the Burnaby school system for the past nine years, has been appointed the education department's special advisor on sex discrimination in B.C. schools. She replaces Reva Dexter and has been actively involved in the women's movement in British Columbia, both as a member of the B.C. Teachers Federation task force on the status of women in the teaching profession, and chairperson, since January, of the provincial advisory committee on sex discrimination in public education.

Ms. Goulden will act as advisor to Education Minister Eileen Dailly and resources person to the department in areas of teaching practice, policy, structure and philosophy with regard to raising awareness about sex discrimination in the public school system.

Contact: Julia Goulden, Burnaby School Board, 5325 Kincaid Street, Burnaby. Phone: 299-0611.

DIRECTOR OF INDIAN EDUCATION

A former chief counsellor of the Kyuquot Indian band on northern Vancouver Island, Jacqueline Leo, has been appointed director of Indian Education for the B.C. Department of Education. She will work with the Minister of Education's committee in Indian Education in the development, implementation, co-ordination and assessment of educational programs for Indian students within the public school system.

Ms. Leo has been district manager of the Kwawkewlth District Council -- a council of 17 bands with headquarters in Campbell River where she administered social service, community development and other programs. She has also worked in the community family life program for the Union of B.C. Indian Chiefs.

guide

The B.C. Women's Studies Association has notified us that the demand for GUIDELINES FOR SETTING UP WOMEN'S STUDIES PROGRAMME has far exceeded their wildest expectations! They can no longer afford to produce it and give it away free on that scale. So they are having it published and the cost will be $1.50 for single copy and $1 per copy for more than 4.

Contact: Gayla Reid, 749 East Broadway, Vancouver. Make cheques payable to: B.C. Women's Studies Association.

article

THE RAPE OF CHILDREN'S MINDS is the title of a report prepared by the Ad Hoc Committee Respecting the Status of Women, a group appointed by the North York Board of Education. Their report on school readers for Grades 1,2 and 3 described the books as "sexist, racist and full of stereotypes." Copies of the report are available free in limited quantities, English only, from the Board of Education, Borough of North York, 5050 Yonge Street, Willowdale, Ontario M2N 5N8

-IWY Secretariat Newsletter

hearing

Task Force on Opportunities for Women in the Engineering Professions.

Ms. Linda Shuto, Chairperson of the Task Force on Opportunities for Women in the Engineering Professions, has announced that public hearings will be held in Vancouver and Trail at which members of the public are invited to address the assignment of the Task Force.

The Task Force was appointed earlier this year by Highways Minister Graham R. Lea, to determine why so few women enter engineering. The Task Force is to make recommendations which will assist the Department of Highways in providing more senior employment opportunities for women.

The public hearing at Trail will be held at the Union Hotel, November 4, between 7 and 10 p.m., and November 5 between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.

The public hearing in Vancouver will be held at the Blue Horizon Hotel on November 18, between 2 and 5 p.m. and 7 and 9 p.m.

kit

A men's liberation kit, similar to the "Women's Kit," is being prepared by a group of Vancouver men. For use by High School teachers and students, it will examine sports and violence, male health and sexuality, fathers and sons, origins of patriarchy, and the significance of feminism in men's development.

For more information, contact Tony Miles, 1936 Arbutus Street, Vancouver, B.C. or call 736-1463 or 731-8330

On Our Own

PARENTS WITHOUT PARTNERS is a non-profit organization operating in Canada and the U.S. The Vancouver Chapter was formed more than ten years ago and members meet at the Sunset Community Centre, 404 East 51st. Avenue, Vancouver. The specific purpose of the organization is to get single parents together. It is emphasized that PWP is not to be thought of as a "pairing-off" club. It is more than a Social Club. Its aim is to have a place where people with common concerns can come and meet in an environment where they are not "odd-man-out" or "odd-woman-out" because of their single status.

The membership stands at 300 of the Vancouver Chapter and the breakdown has been roughly two women to every man. This, however, is changing, since a great many more men are being given custody of the children in marriage break-ups. There are people of all ages in PWP, the majority being in their 30's and 40's.

There are two general meetings and two orientation meetings every month, and a Dance. At the general meeting after the business is attended to, there is usually a speaker to discuss some topic of particular concern to PWP, such as Children's Aid or Law. One recent speaker was from the Pacific Institute and the topic was "Building Self-Image." Or there may be discussion groups organized. About 12 to 16 people come out to the orientation meetings held for newcomers. One can obtain a Visitor's Pass and attend any of the meetings and/or Social evenings for a month.

Sunday is Family Activities Day, which means camp-outs and picnics in summer, bowling and skating etc. in winter. There is an "adult only" Sunday evening Social time when members can come together for coffee and talk, or dance - from 8 to 10:30 p.m.

Obviously, many single parents have money problems, so budget is always in mind when planning events at PWP. On a recent family trip to Squamish on the "Royal Hudson", all the children had their tickets paid for by PWP. It costs members 50¢ for the Sundaysocial evening, visitors-$1.00.

Membership in PWP costs $12.00 per year. There is a monthly Newsletter called "The Bridge-Builder" from the Chapter, as well as a monthly issue of the "Single Parent's Magazine" which comes from the States.

If you would like to find out more about PARENTS WITHOUT PARTNERS, phone their Answering Service at 266-7624 and someone will call you later with all the information you require and with a warm invitation to come out and join them at one of their meetings or social get-togethers.

Vancouver President is Joan Birchall. Elsie Pomfret, Treasurer, who kindly gave us all the above information, says "single parents need to get out amongst people and build up that self-confidence. As soon as they start doing things, they feel better."

There are PWP Chapters in New Westminster and North Vancouver and the Vancouver Chapter is even forming its own teen-age group.

- Marjorie MacDonald

unattached

UNATTACHED AND OVER 40!

The Challenges Facing Formerly Married Women.
The Department of National Health and Welfare, the YWCA and the United Way have sponsored a research project to explore the interests, needs, problems, and attitudes of women between the age of 40 and 60, who have been married, but due to separation, divorce or widowhood are no longer married.

Members of the project would like to interview as many women as possible from the whole Vancouver area, from various social and ethnic backgrounds.

All the interviews, conducted by a specially trained woman interviewer, will take place in complete confidentiality, at a time and place convenient for the woman who volunteered for the study -- the YWCA office, in her own home or, for instance, in a quiet coffee shop.

Members of the project hope that the interviews will enable them to identify the interests, needs, and problems of this group of women and that we will be able to make suggestions regarding information, services and/or activities which would satisfy their interests, help them solve their problems, and generally meet their needs. They will notify the volunteers of the results of the study.

Women who are willing to be interviewed should contact the YWCA office either by phoning 683-2531, local 254 or write Anne Moore, YWCA, 580 Burrard St. Vancouver, V6C 2K9.

child care

A Day Care Centre will be opening soon in the Sunset area of Vancouver -- 8064 Buscombe, between Fraser and Main at 64th. It will operate from 7:30 am. to 6 pm., 5 days a week and there are openings available for 3 to 5 year olds.
Phone: 325-3817 or 324-7984 for more information.

Child Care Workers' Association
Day care workers have formed the "B.C. Child Care Services Association" to attain professional status and to provide a central group for exchanging ideas about child care. For further information, contact John Scouler, RR #1 Ladysmith, B.C.

rape

RAPE CRISIS CENTRE RECOMMENDATIONS

The first national conference of Canadian Rape Crisis Centres met in June,1975 and subsequently drafted recommendations to effect needed changes regarding rape and other sexual offenses. These recommendations are being submitted to the Federal Justice Committee and to all provincial Departments of Justice. These changes are designed to offer equal protection to all persons, regardless of sex.
For further information call 383-3232.

board of directors

The September meeting of the Board of Directors of VSW was held Sept. 24th in the VSW office. Detailed minutes of the meeting are available at the office for any member who wishes to read them.
A outline for Hiring and Firing Procedures was discussed and accepted by the Board. Hanne Jensen informed the Board of the City Council's Affirmative Action Committee soon to be struck. This would be the firsy committee of its kind in B.C. and would set an important precedent

It was decided to pay Leslie Dixon an hourly wage to continue to organize the VSW library and audio-visual tapes. It was announced that Linda Forsythe has been appointed the new VSW representative to the Provincial Advisory Committee on Sex Discrimination in Secondary Schools.

After the business portion of the meeting, Ed Ryan of the Federal Law Reform Commission and David Cruickshank of the Berger Commission discussed family law.

Ed Ryan felt that "the women's movement is dissipating a lot of its energy. If you want to come to grips with basic discrimination, look at Family Law. Marriage is the basic relationship and the assumptions behind it is what the economy and power structure is based on. You must have legal equality in the marriage relationship or you won't have it outside it.

WOMEN GROWING TOGETHER

Big Sisters

International Women's Year has been an exciting one for Big Sisters in Vancouver. Funding from the United Way, Department of Human Resources and the city of Vancouver has made a full-time staff possible for the first time in Big Sister's 16 year history.

"Big Sisters" is a group of women working with women. They are committed to self-growth, to support of younger women in need of a special friend, and support to the families of these younger women. While 20% of Little Sisters have both parents, 66% come from fatherless homes and 14% from motherless homes. The single parent, whether mother or father, is often faced with the onerous task of providing for several small children, therefore, at times is lacking the necessary energy to meet all the emotional demands of a growing family. Here, the Big Sister can lend support by providing a listening ear, emotional, social and cultural enrichment plus plain old-fashioned fun.

Little Sisters who come from motherless homes often have no female role model. Big Sisters, having themselves grown up successfully, deeply involved in their own lives and the world, can provide a very positive model for a younger woman. Some Little Sisters are recent arrivals in Canada, from diverse ethnic backgrounds, and need help to find their place in a new culture. In these cases particularly, the whole family shares in the enrichment and competence the Big Sister brings. Four Little Sisters and one Big Sister are North American Indians.

Big Sisters is an organization of 87 young women age 20-35 who have volunteered to give 5 hours per week for at least one year, in a one-to-one relationship, as a special kind of friend for a girl aged between 7 and 18. The volunteer hours given by this group total more than 1600 each month. These are very meaningful hours because Big Sisters, are engaged in numerous occupations - secretaries, teachers, nurses, stewardesses, stockbrokers, lawyers, bankers, X-ray technicians, students, physiotherapists. Several are married. All undertake training in peer counselling and communication skills. Because they are successful in their own lives, the Big Sisters are uniquely equipped to help a younger girl struggling to grow up in our complex society.

"The committment of the volunteers gives our organization a feeling of excitment," according to Merne Bruchet Big Sisters President. "We are growing both in numbers of relationships and also in scope. Our most recent undertaking is regular gatherings at Family Place for a varied activity programme for both Big and Little Sisters. C.P. Air Employees Charitable Fund, this summer, gave us a generous sum which we are using for this new activity. We use colourful materials--paints, pastels, yarns and fabrics. We are all learning crafts--macrame, potting, quilt-making, as well as finger-painting and clay sculpture. We sing, talk, eat and play together. We include human potential awareness training in these programmes, drawing on many specialists in the community for leadership."

This programme in no sense replaces the basic one-to-one relationship, but rather supplements and enriches it. Since some of our Little Sisters are shy and uncertain about moving out into the world, we are eager to provide a relaxed and caring atmosphere where they can interact with their peers, each at her own speed. We have a dream that this series will culminate in a week-end "live-in" at Camp Yawaca next Spring. With such support we hope most of the younger girls will feel sufficiently confident to attend camps on their own next summer.

Volunteer Big Sisters make a home visit following a request for a Big Sister, before placement is made. At this time we make clear to the family our aims in the relationship. Our goal is for everyone to gain -- Big and Little Sisters and the family too. Little Sisters are referred to us by school counsellors, public health nurses, social workers, physisians and parents."Big Sisters" welcomes enquiries from parents too, since these particular requests often come before significant problems have developed. The placement of a Big Sister at this time makes great sense in terms of prevention.

The Big Sisters applicant attends an Information Night to learn what being a member entails. We are constantly amazed at the numbers and the calibre of young women who volunteer to be Big Sisters because it is a heavy commitment for women already deeply involved in the world.

At the moment, there are 44 Big Sisters involved in training groups. These are informal and open-ended, tailored to the needs of Big and Little Sisters. We are currently developing an intensive research programme to evaluate our effectiveness. In the future, we hope to establish more unanimity of purpose by developing programmes for parents. Using the Carl Rogers model of the Helping Relationship we seek to develop a cohesive approach to the resolution of individual and family difficulties. The intimate and dynamic relationship which develops between Big and Little Sisters gives us an opportunity to offer real support to the whole family. Our way is in no sense intrusive, but rather invitational. We have skills in communication and are eager to share them.

We welcome referrals of Little Sisters and applications from prospective Big Sisters. Our office is Room 404, 580 Burrard Street and our telephone number 683-2531 - local 257, 258, 259.

- Joan Hendry
Director, Big Sisters.
Photos Glenn Baglo, Vancouver Sun

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important

REMINDER

Members who are interested in running for a position on the VSW Board of Directors for 1976-77 should remember that to qualify they must be members in good standing for six months prior to elections. Elections for the Board of Directors are held at the Annual General Meeting in June and therefore to qualify candidates must be VSW members as of December 1975.

quote:

"I just don't feel there is any discrimination against women. I know my husband feels that way."
- 1970 statement by Mrs. Richard Nixon while she was entertaining members of the Status of Women Commission

Lornex Mines: Beware!

This is a call for strong watchdog tactics, by all concerned with equal rights, on the behaviour of Lornex Mines to their female employees.

Lornex Mines, a large copper mining corporation at Logan Lake, B.C. (near Ashcroft), is continuing to wage a very stubborn battle with the B.C. Human Right Commission and the complaining women employees, to prevent women attaining any semblance of their just and equal status within Lornex.

A sex discrimination case was brought against Lornex early in 1974 by the H.R.C. on behalf of Dr. Claire Bukwa. Lornex would not make camp accommodation available to her, as they did, free of charge, to their male employees. After months of investigation, letters, pressure from women's and labour groups, and Human Rights hearings, Lornex was charged in August 1974 with being in direct contravention of the Human Rights Code. They were ordered to pay Dr. Bukwa $2,713 - in compensation for the accommodation expenses she had incurred, and they were directed to make accommodation available to female employees "on the same terms and conditions" as men, and to ensure that all females in the company would be made aware of this right.

Lornex immediately appealed the dicision ... and that is where the situation still stands!

In September 1974, the Human Rights Commission again became involved with Lornex Mines, this time on behalf of Jean Tharp. (see "Kinesis"- Dec. 1974 issue) Ms. Tharp had just been granted the opportunity to live at the camp (although she had requested it months earlier), but Lornex was making the conditions very unattractive, to say the least. Ms. Tharp had a room in a bunkhouse occupied by 19 men (while there were other trailers at the camp that were empty). She was forced to use communal bathroom facilities, where the urinals showers, and toilets were all in the same open area. She also had to pay for these 'accommodations', whereas the men did not. Health Inspectors forced Lornex to divide the washroom facilities into a men section and a women's section. However, men could continue to walk through Jean's side of the bunkhouse, and as the washroom remained open from her side, she still had little privacy.

Lornex claims that they did supply accommodation to Jean Tharp "on the same terms and conditions" as to the men.

This is, of course, rampantly absurd! Lornex is playing legal and semantic games to maintain their public and legal position, while they struggle against the spirit and intention of the order in fact.

Lornex Mines has been making statements in newspapers all over the country accusing the Human Rights Commission of spending the people's tax money on hearings which only set back the progress of women 50 years. The problems thus created for companies in hiring women will only discourage the employment of women at all, claims Lornex

We must continue to point out the spuriousness of these arguments, and continue, without let-up, to monitor the behaviour of companies such as Lornex.

The amount of money Lornex has spent on battling this issue, and the effort they have gone to, to devise most intimidating circumstances, means that this is not a problem of "understanding" or "innocent ignorance", but simple, wanton disregard of the order's meaning, and a refusal to budge.

But, we too will not give in.

- Johanna den Hertog

Women and Credit

From a news release from the Department of Consumer Services, 20th. June 1975:

The Credit Grantors Association of Vancouver has now issued guidelines to its members to avoid sexual discrimination in the granting of credit.

The Association, the largest in B.C., is a voluntary organization, and its members will not be forced to follow the recommended guidelines. "Nevertheless," Minister Phyllis Young said, "this move is an important first step. The credit industry is in fact recognizing past abuses regarding discrimination against women applying for credit. The industry's association is recommending to its members not to discriminate in the future, and they are spelling out the ways to guarantee fairness."

The basic guidelines to be distributed by the Credit Grantors Association to its members are as follows:

1. No married women shall be denied credit in her own name if her uncommingled earnings or separate property are such that a man possessing the same amount of property or earnings would receive credit.
2. No unmarried woman shall be denied credit if her property or earnings are such that a man possessing the same amount of property or earnings would receive credit.
3. A credit reporting agency shall,upon the request of a married person, identify within the report delivered by the agency both the credit history of each spouse and of their joint accounts, if such information is on file with the credit reporting agency.

Along with these principles, the Credit Grantors Association is recommending that certain specific practices be refrained from, such as:

* refusing to negotiate credit with the wife and insisting on dealing with the husband instead.
* altering an individual's credit rating solely on the basis of the credit rating of the spouse.

Ms. Young cited a few of the most outstanding abuses which, she said, "women have had to confront when applying for a loan or other credit."

* Women are often refused credit, where a man in exactly the same economic position would be granted credit.
* Conversely, even though they could manage it, women are often denied credit solely because of the credit history of their spouse.
* Wives have had to use credit cards in their husband's name, and could often apply for any kind of credit only with their husband's written approval.
* Divorced or separated women are sometimes denied credit solely because it is thought their support payments may stop.
* Widows also are too frequently discriminated against.
* Credit reporting agencies until recently have usually kept files on family units, and credit grantors too often only accepted information about husbands.
  It is understood that separate files are now maintained if requested by the consumer.
* Some people have actually thought that women could not legally be held responsible for debts they incur. That is not true.

The move by the Credit Grantors Association to stop this type of discrimination followed several months of discussion between the Association and officials of the Department of Consumer Services.

"It comes in the middle of International Women's Year," the minister noted, "and I am pleased to see the action of the Credit Grantors Association. We will watch closely to see how these guidelines are followed in practice."

- Reprinted from Federated Anti-Poverty Groups of B.C. Newsletter, October,1975.

ibm

Thanks to member Lee Grills and the IBM Company, workers at the VSW office no longer have to run down the street with dimes clutched in our hands whenever we need a copy made of something.

Lee, an employee of IBM, applied to the company's Community Service Fund on behalf of VSW and lo and behold we received $450 towards a copier! We are very grateful to Lee and to IBM.

Lee has suggested that other members investigate the resources of the firms they work for. Many have Community Service Funds similar to IBM's. If so, a brief could be submitted outlining what VSW does and what it is in need of to carry on this work. We sure could use another typewriter!

Susan Levin is a VSW member who, while she lived in Vancouver, was a regular contributor to Kinesis. Orginally from the USA, she had lived for some time in Israel and a few months ago returned to Israel. She has written a long letter to the women of VSW discussing her feelings about the effects of Jewish religious customs on women and her impressions of women and the women's movement in Israel.

In the few weeks I spent in New York City before arriving in Israel, I got a sense of what to expect from one aspect of the women's movement in Israel. I expected initially the regular sort of setup -- C-R groups, letter writing groups, action on issues such as abortion, salaries, human rights.

But in New York City, I came across an article in a new Jewish magazine called Moment. The article, in the very first issue of the magazine discussed the Jewish women's movement which had evolved from the secular women's movement. To explain -- many Jewish women had participated and worked in the women's movement for several years, but found that the Jewish aspects of their lives (in the home, in religious ceremonies and customs) remainded the same -- frustratingly traditional.

What's so frustrating about Jewish tradition? Jewish tradition, among the orthodox, places women at the back of the synagogue behind a curtain during prayer services (so that men will not be unduly distracted during prayer). Men only, perform religious services, men only have a rite of induction into the people of Israel (circumcision), only men may read from the Torah, wear prayer shawls and intricate prayer wrappings during services. Ten men, not people, constitute the traditional minimum for a public prayer service, etc.etc. Some of these are customs, some written law -- some as extreme as the prayer of orthodox men thanking God that they were created men and not women. (Yes, I was pretty shocked to find such a prayer existed in Judism).

For someone like me who doesn't really identify with public prayer services, these are not issues I feel I have to deal with in my liberation. (Although even as I write this I wonder how much more interested I'd be in ritual and ceremony if all my life I'd felt that my presence in synagogue was valued, was equal.) But for women for whom these rituals and customs are a part of daily life, to see, understand and begin to experience the possibility of equality -- say through the women's movement -- and then return home or go to the synagogue and be denied physical , educational, spiritual equality is intolerable.

All these customs, laws and interpretations are written down -- in the Bible and in volumes called the Halachah (the Way). Why is this important? According to the Moment article, recourse to the Halachah is one avenue religious Jewish women have of reclaiming their spiritual equality. They can take the initiative and study the Halachah (in itself tradition-breaking for women) or approach a sympathetic rabbi thus:"Rabbi we believe that we can sit in the same part of the synagogue as men. Help us to find an interpretation of the law that supports our claim, that shows that we are equal spiritually. We want to be counted as members of the prayer service, Teach us an interpretation that we can use in our congregation that will prove that it is only men's tradition, not the heart of Jewish law, that says we do not count for prayer services." It may look like super nitpicking, as at times it does to me, but a few more brilliant reinterpretations of Moses' laws would be a big boon to the religious women's movement -- in the States and in Israel. And it would make things a lot easier for the secular movement here in Israel as well, since religious traditional law is the basis for marriage and divorce law.

What has the religious women's movement accomplished? They have worn prayer shawls to services and prayer bindings. They have initiated all-women services. They have insisted on being counted for the required minimum participants in synagogue. They have proposed and composed a baby naming ceremony for girl children to parallel the boys' curcumcision. They are questioning the passive roles of volunteer fund raisers and charity workers and are looking for political expression in the synagogue administration. All these are important precedents.

Apologists claim that the Jewish mother of up to seventy years ago was a bastion of strength and honour, not the neurotic butt of jokes she often is today. I'm not convinced that those generations had it so good since so many religious women are working so hard today to take an equal part in prayer services.(If anyone wanted to do some background reading on this Brandeis University put out a special issue of their magazine Response of and by women in July 1973. It is available from Post Office Box 1496, 415 South St. Waltham, Mass. 02154. $2.00).

So that was the eye-opener in New York. I hadn't known all that had been going on for the last few years. Since I've returned to Israel to live I've had my mind blown and my spirit calmed (the latter a result of this holy land -- and I mean the very soil and a sense of history -- not the conditions for women.)

Next month Susan talks about Israel and what it is like to be a woman there today.

women and police

According to the British Columbia Police Commission's Bulletin #2: "During the past year the number of women employed in police work has doubled. Approximately 20 per cent of the recruits at the new B.C. Police College are women. Women are now being deployed in general duty, and all the experience reported to the Commission has been positive.

Attention has been focused on the position of the women victims of crime, particularly rape victims. A research report based on Vancouver Police files has been drafted, and further work in this area is planned for the coming year."

HOWEVER: From what members on the B.C. Police Commission Task Force heard, all the experiences of women in the police forces have not been positive. There has been much resistance among some police chiefs even to employ women, and then when employed, to deploy them in an equal capacity with the men. While attitudes may be improving, they are far from ideal as yet.

Also the B.C. Police Commission Task Force, constituted in May 1974, was given very limited power to conduct research and evaluation on women and police -- women as victims, women as offenders, women as police. The proposal to make this Task Force effective, presented to the Commission by all the women on the Task Force, has so far been quite rudely rejected. There has been only continuous discouragement in setting up forums where the issues in these areas can be researched and evaluated by the women who are themselves involved in the problems. The women of the Task Force are still pressing the B.C. Police Commission to consider this proposal.

questions

QUESTIONS WANTED!

The Women's Communications Centre has now spent four full months investigating the needs for and possible functions of a national women's resource centre.

They now have a solid core collection of resources, lists and referrals for women's groups and issues. In order to test their ability to provide information, they invite you to call or write if you have a question or a problem. They can be reached at the Women's Centre, 392 Markham Street, Toronto, Ontario, or by calling (416) 924-4728, from 9am. to 5 pm. Monday to Friday. Test them until December 1, 1975.

letter lobby

THE WIDENING WAGE GAP BETWEEN MEN AND WOMEN

The causes --

"Is it part of human nature or an inevitable consequence of biology that the average earnings of Canadian women participating full-time in the work force should be about half that of male workers?" asked Hon. Marc Lalonde, Minister Responsible for the Status of Women, in a speech to the House of Commons on October 15, 1974. Concerned Canadian women have been asking that question for years.

Much of our society still views women as being either partially or wholly dependent on men for financial support, and thus not entitled to the same rate of pay as men. There have been some positive changes in attitude in recent years but we still have a long way to go. The effects of years of "conditioning" experienced by females in schools, family relationships and media portrayal, have yet to be erased.

Then there is the biological argument. Iona Campagnola, M.P. for Skeena, spoke most eloquently about this male hang-up in the House on May 29, 1975 -- a day devoted entirely to women's issues. She said:

"Are there 20% price cuts in theatre tickets, for instance, (and I might add shelter, food and clothing) to the hardworking ladies-wear clerk who makes 20% less than the male clerk selling lingerie beside her?

Ah, but the potential employer says gravely: "No matter how competent you may be, you may prove to be unreliable because women have babies." I submit once and for all, so do men. Parenthood is not a unilateral business."(Amen!)

Deficient legislation --

But why should societal attitudes be a factor when most provinces now have legislation designed to deal with wage disparities? Mr. Lalonde shed some light on this in a further statement on May 29th. He said:

"The discrepancy between law and practice is illustrated by the wage gap between women and men which continues to exist despite the fact that in all provinces but one (P.E.I), discrimination in employment is now prohibited by law."

The Minister then compared average salaries before and after the legislation. In 1962, the figures were: men - $5,014 and women - $2,634. In 1971, the figures were: men - $8,513 and women - $4,755. Women were still earning 44% less than men in 1971. The most recent Statistics Canada figures show that in 1975 - International Women's Year - the gap is actually widening. So obviously something is wrong.

A major problem is the wording of the legislation itself. The phrases "equal pay for equal work" and "similar to" are very vague and open to all sorts of abuse and misinterpretation. The Royal Commission on the Status of Women found strong evidence to support the claim that some employers go out of their way to find, or make, a difference in the duties of women and men so that the different rates can be paid within the letter of the law.

And what about the more than 60% of working women who fall into the "job ghettos" that have no male equivalent? For instance, secretarial work -- what is it equal to in the male field, a clerk, a junior bookkeeper, an accountant, or just what? How does a woman even make a case to Human Rights officers when there are no men doing similar work?

In view of this deficient law, women's groups have been advocating a system of job evaluation. This would be done by government-appointed evaluators and would concentrate in the traditionally "female occupations". The Toronto-based National Action Committee stated in its May issue of Status of Women News:

"Equal pay for work of equal value looks at the value of work -- the value to the employer - based on these criteria of skill, effort, responsibility and working conditions. Under such a law, a typist (or sewing machine operator) could lay a complaint with the appropriate government department and challenge the rate she was being paid as compared with the rate of a male accountant (or floor sweeper) in the same firm (or factory)."

The Advisory Council on the Status of Women supports this method even more strongly. They ask that when the federal Human Rights Commission is created, it "be empowered to set guidelines in all sectors of the economy." Such a move would strengthen existing provincial and upcoming federal legislation, and enable Human Rights officers to enforce the law more effectively.

Economic influences --

We should then have an "ideal" solution. But wait -- there is yet another villain. What effect will the worsening economic situation in Canada have on equal pay for women? We can look to England for the answer to this question.

Recently the government of that country had planned to implement the final stages of a five-year program to give women equal pay with men. But the employers pointed out that many women would lose their jobs because of England's depressed economy. So women were given a choice -- equal pay or their jobs. The women (probably out ot sheer desperation) chose their jobs.

This reflects negatively on the male population of England but I can visualize the same thing happening here. We have heard employers crying the blues about large wage increases for men. Can you see them being in a hurry to equalize the salaries of their female employees? If equal pay legislation is enforced, they will just cut back and lay off. Women will once again get the short end of the stick.

It is therefore imperative that all politicians do their utmost to impress on business and industry that in the event of an economic crunch, both males and females must be treated equally. In other words, employers must curb the insatiable wage demands of the predominantly male work force that is already well paid. Only then will they be in a position to equalize female wages without straining the economy beyond its capability.

Possible solutions --

Most of you are by now familair with Prime Minister Trudeau's Thanksgiving Day lunch with the Premiers and the resultant "economic guidelines". Lawyers and accountants have yet to decipher all the implications, but perhaps we have found the "equalizer". It all depends on whether or not the federal government is truly sincere in its stated intention to narrow the wage gap between women and men.

If it is, then the Human Rights Bill introduced by former Justice Minister Otto Lang, on July 21st will receive top priority. Only speedy passage of this Bill -- together with a comprehensive job evaluation program -- will enable women to win wage increases higher than the 8, 10 or 12% permitted under the guidelines. In Mr. Lalonde's words (Ottawa, October 15), the wage guides "make exceptions for the elimination of sex dicrimination in any pay practices."

If the government is not sincere, it will sit on the Bill and do nothing. The Prime Minister and his colleagues have quite a decision to make -- will they use the new guidelines as an "equalizer" to correct wage disparities between women and men? Or will they be reluctant to do so because of the male backlash that will no doubt occur if they act in favour of women? A decision must be made -- and there will be fireworks either way!

Therefore, the Letter Lobby Committee urges all VSW members and their friends to write a letter immediately. Our federal politicians now have the mechanism necessary for positive action -- will they have the guts to follow through? We must find out the answer to this question because women have worked for half-pay long enough!

Hon. Marc Lalonde,
Minister Responsible for the Status of Women
Parliament Buildings
Ottawa, Ontario. K1A 0K9

Dear Mr. Lalonde:

I am deeply concerned, as I believe you are, about the widening wage gap between women and men. Provincial legislation is ineffective except in the most clear-cut cases of wage discrimination. It is of no value to the more than 60% of women who fall into the "job ghettos" that have no male equivalent.

Working women could also be the biggest losers under the new economic guidelines, unless the government is prepared to take further positive action. Your recent statement that the wage guides "make exceptions for the elimination of sex discriminatin in any pay practices" is encouraging. However, I am sure you are aware that only speedy passage of the federal Human Rights Bill -- together with a comprehensive job evaluation program -- will enable women

LETTER LOBBY CONTINUED ON BOTTOM OF PAGE. 9

IS THERE SOMETHING GOING ON AT THE OFFICE YOU DON'T KNOW ABOUT?

Diana Bissell

SEXIST AD KIT & GROUP

Karen Richardson has completed writing a terrific publication for VSW entitled "The Sexist Ad Kit". It sells for $1 and contains ten pages of tips on writing letters of protest to advertisers. It covers tone of letter, analysis of sexism, countering cop-outs, info on regulatory bodies, bibliography of resources and examples of sexist ads tackled in the past by the Media Action Group. Send your $1 today to 2029 West 4th Avenue, Vancouver. AND HERE'S ANOTHER IMPORTANT NOTICE---we need volunteer members to participate in the Media Action Group. Women interested in co-ordinating or joining should contact Karen Richardson at the same address.

COMMUNITY CENTRES

Nadine and Diana are in the middle of the IWY community centre program right now. Basically response has been enthusiastic - but limited. It seems that the women working in the home either doesn't have the time we thought she might have to step out and get involved in a discussion for a few hours, or she is still hesitant about walking into a "status of women" discussion. Our advertising was extensive and "soft-sell" but we are still having problems at some centres. So, we are in the process of contacting already existing discussion groups and inviting ourselves for one or two visits. Never fear folks - feminists will try and get the message through - despite rain, sleet, snow and apathy!

VOLUNTEERS

One positive aspect of the IWY community program that we knew would happen is that we are coming across some homeworkers who are keen on doing some volunteer work around the office. We also meet many women through the orientation meetings who are interested in doing something around the office - but something SPECIFIC. In the past we have found it difficult to arrange volunteers and research projects - usually because of time/energy problems. However, we recognize the need for the extra help, we recognize the value of the input from as many people as possible so we are having a VOLUNTEERS NIGHT on Wed, Nov 12 beginning at 7:30 pm. At this meeting Johanna and I will facilitate discussion about the kind of work/jobs/research that volunteers working in groups can begin. This could range from assisting with the VSW's audio-visual library, taping speeches/lectures of feminists around Vancouver, organizing the Ombuds library, researching out problem areas. That's Wed, Nov 12 - 7:30 pm at the office.

SELF HELP MONEY GROUP

At the first meeting of this group two women showed up - they need some more interested people. If you want to learn about money/stocks/bonds/mortgages/loans please join the group on Tues, Nov 18 beginning at 8 pm.

HIGH SCHOOL WOMEN

We are not holding any office based high school workshops this fall because of the problems encountered last fall with transportation for the students and the problem of getting students out on a Saturday! We are still involved in many high school speaking engagements however, and will assist in any noon-hour presentations that students or teachers might want to organize. Leslie McDonald, who worked on the summer staff with high schoolers wrote a terrific kit entitled "Awareness and Life Planning for Young Women in Secondary School - a panel discussion outline". This kit has been sent to all counsellors in the Vancouver area. If you are a teacher or a student that would like to more about this "portable panel discussion" ask your school counsellor, or call us for a copy of the outline.

STAFF STUFF

JOHANNA and LEE represented VSW and acted as resource people at the recent Women's Centre Conference in Sooke - see pages 1&2 for a report. LEE also flew to Saskatoon to attend the Women & Religion Conference there. NADINE attended the Woman and the Family conference in Vancouver. JO & NADINE went to the opening of the new North Shore Women's Centre and NADINE & DIANA gave a high school women's workshop for the Pt. Coq. Area Women's Centre. NANCY CONROD, our esteemed President attended a Terrace Women's Organization Conference on Human Rights and the Kitimat Bus. & Prof. Women's Club conference on Women and the Law. (She is now an expert on holding patterns over the Terrace airport!) NADINE helped a group of Delta high school women begin a feminist discussion group and MIRIAM spoke to two Argyle School classes on Women and the Law. LEE gave a discourse on the history of the women's movement at Templeton School in Vancouver. JUDY BOURNE and members KAYE YARDLEY and CAROL SINCLAIR are working on a study of provincial recommendations of the Royal Commission Report on Status of Women that have been implemented.
Some of our other office staffers and volunteers haven't been mentioned here but just because they don't go out of the office a lot doesn't mean they aren't working - we couldn't function without the home troops to hold down the fort. So thanks VIOLET, KATHY, JOAN, BOBBIE, LESLIE,& JUDY.

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letter lobby continued

to win wage increases higher than those permitted under the guidelines.

I realize that if the government were to give women this opportunity to "catch up", the move would be unpopular with men. But as long as employers persist in paying women half the wages of men -- and society continues to sanction it -- sexual equality c cannot be achieved. The cost of food, shelter and clothing is the same for both sexes.

You and your colleagues, particularly Labour Minister John Munro and Justice Minister Ron Basford, must make a decision soon -- one way or the other. I look forward to hearing what it will be.

Yours Sincerely,

Send copies -- or better still a seperate letter -- to Mr. Munro and Mr. Basford. Basford is now the new Justice Minister and should be eager to please. Munro is also Chairman of the Canada Labour Relations Council, which has representation from labour, management and government. One of their ultimate goals is developing "a fair and workable incomes policy for Canadians." (Let's make sure that working women will not be left out.) A copy should also go to Dr. Katie Co Cooke, 63 Sparks St., Box 1541, Stn.B Ottawa, Ontario. Let her know that you support the Advisory Council's strong stand on job evaluation.

-Dorothy Holme

The following articles were obtained for KINESIS by Mark Sandison, a Member of C.A.R.A.L.

Paul Sandison is a PhD student of Philosophy in Stockholm, Sweden. Anne-Marie Larsson is an Education student, also in Stockholm. Sandison and Larsson were interested in the position of women in Portugal's current struggles and recently spent three weeks touring Portugal. During this time they attended the International Women's Week in Lisbon.

women's week

The International Women's Week in Lisbon was held from Monday, July 28 to Saturday, August 2. The conference was organized by MLM (Movimento Liberacao Mulheres) the Portuguese organization for the liberation of women, and MCALG (Moviemento para a Contracaepcao e Aborto e livre gratuito) an action-group for free abortion and contraception. The rendevous and information centre for the week was Women's House, a house which was occupied by a group of women after the coup in April 1974.

Representatives from Women's Liberation Movements in several countries arrived to take part in the activities. Among those represented were movements in Belgium, Luxembourg, USA, Holland, England, Germany and France.

An important part of the week's programme was a report on the women's situation in Portugal and the events following the Revolution. Two days were devoted to debate on free abortion and contraception--a highly inflamnable issue in Catholic Portugal where abortion and propaganda in favour of it are illegal. After the revolution, however, nurses began giving abortions on their own, and the government has turned a blind eye to this. An essential part of the debate on abortion and contraception was a meeting with the doctors and workers at St. Maria's Hospital where the role of the medical profession in the abortion question was discussed.

The rest of the week was taken up by debate on the position of women in the class struggle, on international solidarity, and on different forms of oppression which women are exposed to.

In order to co-ordinate the struggle internationally, an International Bulletin will be published each year by a Liberation Movement in a different country. The British Abortion Law Reform Association is responsible for the 1975 bulletin. Anyone interested in the bulletin should write to:-
Abortion Law Reform Association,
186 King's Cross Road,
London WC 1X 9DE

Financial contributions to MLM and MCALG would be very welcome, and can be sent to Madalena Barbosa, (MCALG: Movimento para a contracepcao e aborto e livre gratuito)
Av. Sidonio Pais 28,
Lisbon,
Portugal.

WOMEN IN PORTUGAL

women and the revolution

The International Women's Week began with a report from the Portuguese Women's Liberation Movement (MLM) on the current situation of women in Portugal.

REPORT AS TO THE EVENTS SURROUNDING THE REVOLUTION AND THE SITUATION OF WOMEN IN THE STRUGGLE FOR RADICALIZATION.

At the present moment there is a political vacuum in the government and in the middle classes. The MEA government is still feeling its way forward and has not yet been able to consolidate and apply its new policies. The middle classes are confused and it is to be remembered that the revolution has only just begun, and that there is a strong danger of a counter-revolution.

The working classes are using this time to consolidate and organize a movement towards a democratic people's control of all sections of government; a democracy where they themselves take part in the decision-making process.

Immediately after the coup on April 25, 1974, there was a general move against authority. We began to question the authority of the landowners and the bosses in the factories. Many textile factories are now under the workers' control. The majority of workers in the textile industry are women and they have played a large role in the struggle. Their success is important too, when one remembers that they were also the most underpaid.

We shall describe the situation at some of the factories which the women now run by themselves.

We have noticed that in all these struggles women were not well represented on the committees and were always in the minority, despite the fact that they represented the majority of workers in the factory. The double burden ie. women also run the home, is probably partly responsible for this.

Even where the women had started the fight, it became the men who ran the struggle. The women themselves often elected the men to the workers committees even when the women were in the majority. At Alentejo where the workers have taken over agricultural units formerly owned by large landowners, there are no women on the council at all, despite the fact that the women do precisely the same job as the men. The men claim that the women are incapable of discussion and working on committees.

In a recent editorial in the local newspaper in Alentejo entitled 'Equal Wage for all', it was proposed that a national wage of 190 escudos should be instituted for men, and 140 escudos for women.

Because of the women's absence from the committees, the subjects of maternity, creches, abortion, or salary discrimination are never discussed. Most committees accepted differential salaries, and where the leaders wanted to introduce equal pay the men threatened to strike on the grounds that the women's work was inferior anyway. Some used strikes to get even better wage increases at the expense of the women. After the workers' struggle on the shopfloor or in the country, people started demanding better living conditions. There was a general movement for better living conditions and many occupied houses in the suburbs, especially those who had previously slept in sheds, tin shacks, or in the open. But in this case too, the women only followed what what the men did and nowhere took the initiative. They seem to follow what the men think is best and do not put forward their own problems. In every single revolutionary council the women are in the minority.

In one factory which produces very expensive dresses the women took over production when the bosses fled and left the factory to itself. Although the women had had no previous experience, the factory is running smoothly under their control. The women are also directing the sales and distribution without outside help.

When women take over a factory they often have difficulties over and above the usual. Because they also have to stay and guard the factories at night they can't come home to their families and their men don't like it and exert pressure on them to come home and to quit the job. Many men have deserted their women because they refuse to do what the women have always done; running the home and looking after the children. The women who have been deserted have then been forced to return home to look after the children who would otherwise be stranded, and one particular factory has only 70 women left out of a previous 140.

Because of an economic crisis which is based upon a world recession, an economic boycott against Portugal, and the flight of managerial staff, and former owners, the workers have often been forced to take over factories themselves without any help from the trade unions or from MFA. The choice has been to either allow production to cease or to give it a go on their own.

In a factory which formerly made really expensive handmade goods problems have arisen because the lines of production have had to be changed. In the first place, money is not available for expensive goods and secondly, the demand is for ready-to-wear practical shoes, something which the working classes badly need. This problem is a temporary one, however, for as soon as the stocks of expensive material which the former owner left behind have been used up, the women will be able to turn production over to durable and comfortable shoes for general use. We really must co-ordinate the struggle.

At another factory the women could not get hold of new raw materials because of the international boycott against Portugal. There are only 21 out of a former 120 workers left, and production has all but ceased. Often the workers are left to sort out their problems on their own and at one factory the women ran crying back to their former owner and begged him to come back and help them. The same thing has happened at one of the largest dry-cleaners in Lisbon.

The positive aspect of the struggle has been that women have come together and for the first time talked about common problems; for example, maternity, the oppressive sex-role they are forced to play, sexuality, the need for creches, collective housework, etc. This is at least a first stage, but an active part in the revolutionary and democratic process still has to come. The fact remains that women's problems still are not taken up at the workers' committees. Forty years of fascism has robbed women of the experience of deciding over their own lives and destinies, and of organization, political, social, and economic. The men dominated all the new movements which arose after the revolution.

A politician on the extreme left said recently that women would laugh at him if he took up problems like housework and abortion. But we have had exactly the opposite experience.

There are many laws still existing which were passed in fascist or prefascist Portugal and which have yet to be repealed. For example, abortion is strictly forbidden by law, and even propaganda in favour of abortion is forbidden. These laws have not been changed since 1866. In spite of the anti-abortion legislation 'backstreet' abortions have always taken place and on rather a large scale in a country with a population of under 9 million. It is estimated that at least 150,000 abortions are performed every year. These abortions are performed by very primitive methods which very often lead to infection and death; for example, women in the country perform abortions on themselves with needles. The upper classes, however, have always been able to organize safer abortion, either by traveling to another country or by bribing a doctor 2,000 to 3,000 escudos for an illegal abortion.

Abortion has assumed such a dominant part in the Portuguese society because of the repressive policies of the former regime and because of the oppressive patriarchal attitudes of the Portuguese male towards contraception. The Pill was forbidden by the former fascist government. After the coup in April 25, 1974, the private clinics have begun to write prescriptions for the Pill. They have also begun to perform abortions. Both these developments are still illegal and so despite the fact that the government turns a blind eye to these practices the responsibility still rests with the individual doctor.

Condoms have, however, always been available, probably because it is a contraceptive for men. In order to get hold of the Pill a woman must have a doctor's prescription. Many doctors have a reactionary attitude towards contraception and refuse to write out a prescription. The woman is therefore entirely at the mercy of the doctor. What we need is adequate legislation to ensure free abortion and contraception so that the doctor can only play the medical role and so that the woman herself decides whether she wants the abortion or Pill. Despite vague unofficial support from MFA, nothing has been yet done, and women continue to die and unwanted babies continue to be born.

After the coup a group of nurses began giving abortion on their own, but this is on a small scale, and only reaches those who can afford 200 escudos. One nurse is performing as many as 7 abortions a day. Most men in Portugal have a very reactionary attitude towards women, something which is supported by the remaining fascist legislation. A woman cannot leave the country without her husband's permission. If a man kills his wife because she committed adultry, his only punishment is to leave the district for six months. The man has legal and social power over his wife's body; for example, it is he who decides if she is to live or to die in a dangerous childbirth where the doctors recomment destroying the child in order to allow her to live. He has also legal control over the child before it is born. Some women have up to 14 children, of which half usually die because the woman is too tired and worn by childbearing to care whether they or she survive or not. Most men forbid their wives to use contraceptives and if a woman tried to get condoms from a chemist she would be humiliated.

The Portuguese Communist Party has mentioned liberalisation of abortion in its programme, but the section on abortion is extremely vague and they have made no attempt to influence the government on this question. MDH (Movimento Democracao Mulheres) which is the Communist Party's women's organization, regards the abortion and contraception question as unimportant at the moment because MDM regards the implementation of the revolution as the chief priority. MLM and MCALG, however, regard the abortion and contraception question as a part of the revolution. This concluded the Report and the meeting was then opened to discussion. Some of the questions are reported here.

Q: Although the revolution has happened, the position of the women doesn't appear to have changed at all!

MCALG: I do not agree that the women's situation has not changed at all; one should remember that most of the factories which began striking before April 25 were factories where women were in the majority, and the confidence gained in the struggle is an important factor.

Q: Could you clarify the different political parties' attitude towards the women's struggle?

MLM: The Left supports the women as workers and when they take over factories as workers. But women are often excluded from discussions and the Communist Party is not discussing women's questions at ALL. In fact, the men are maintaining their position of dominance and oppression.

Q: Is there a danger that the conservatives can mobilize the women against MFA in the same way that they mobilized in Chile?

MLM: The women are not politically aware and the Left is against the women's movement. They say they are in favour of abortion, but because the situation is fluid they don't have to commit themselves. Even when the women have something to say at meetings, they have to behave like men to be heard, and they can only speak on men's topics. This hardly raises consciousness.

We feel however that there are great possibilities of MLM growing, despite the fact that the organization is small and the political awareness of the members is little developed. Most politically active women are already enmeshed in party politics and haven't yet understood the necessity of working separately as well, or just haven't the time because they have to do the housework too. It requires a high level of awareness to understand that a women's organization is also necessary. MLM goes out to factories and farms, both individually and collectively, and discusses with the women about their own situation which is the best and most direct way of raising their consciousness.

BOOK REVIEW

WOMEN IN CHINA, Katie Curtin. Pathfinder Press, N.Y. and Toronto. 1975.

While I was at the Women's Center Conference in Victoria a few weekends ago, and browsing through the bountiful display of the Victoria Women's Bookstore, and battling my over-buying tendencies, I came across Katie Curin's book, Women In China. I was an easy customer. Having been an avid reader of Chinese politics and culture for several years now, I feel perennially frustrated over the lack of information and analysis on the present position of women in China. The past, I think, I have a pretty good picture of.

Women in China is a book that begins, finally, to address those questions.

Curtin is critical of the pretense that everything is rosy in China with respect to the Status of Women. She is critical both of the ideological stances used by the Party machinery to perpetrate that, and of the uncritical attitude of many Western visitors towards China. "(There is)... a tendency among radical Western visitors to leave their critical faculties behind when they visit China simply because the revolution has led to advancement in many areas" (51)

Curtin describes in a very concise and organized way the processes, the "ups" and the "downs" of the women's movement in China, tracing the beginnings from over a century before the Maoist revolution of 1949. The first four chapters do deal with history, but try to put the present status of women in China in a wider context than just the pre- and post- revolution situation. Curtin documents the existence of women's brigades, feminist journals, and women's demonstrations in the late 1800's and early 1900's; she also shows how the post-1949 government, in spite of its support of the liberation of women, has continued to change its position on particular women's issues when circumstances make that convenient. In the second half of Women in China Curtin analyzes the consequent status of Chinese women today in the roles they have in education, in labor, in politics, and in the family system, and in the attitudes displayed towards abortion, birth control, and sexuality.

The position of women in China today is not equal to that of men, Curtin says. Part of the cause, she admits, may be that the economic resources are not yet sufficient to liberate women from a forced choice of homemaker, due to the lack of such things as childcare, and communal kitchens. Katie Curtin puts forward the thesis that scarcity is, however, not the primary cause. The economic equality of women is as far as the Party goes in recognizing the liberation of women. A woman's right to self-determination in work and in leisure (life-style) to non-sex-role stereotyped roles is not recognized....sometimes not even by women of the women's brigades. The sexual puritanism that is so pushed by the ideology forces women in a continuously less powerful role than men, by leaving a woman only the choice of marriage if she is to be sexually active, and, in so doing, confining her in many situations to the role of homemaker as her primary task. "In general" says Curtin, "there appears to be little consciousness regarding the sexual determination of employment roles." Women may now be 'equal' --- but still thought of as 'different'. Curtin shows how this attitude is reflected in the restricted roles that women continue to have in all areas of life, despite the tremendous increase in the amount of involvement of women in public life since the revolution.

Women in China is carefully and clearly written. It's major short-coming is its slimness (90pp), due no doubt to a lack of first-hand data ... which is doubly regrettable as Katie Curtin certainly demonstrates that her sharp analysis and reasoned thinking would have been well at home with a far more lengthy and detailed work.

Nevertheless, it is a book which, in its criticalness of the Chinese Communist Party's sincerity in promoting feminism, gives us much food for thought in further questions of political systems (rather than just ideological systems), and how theory and practice really come together.

- Johanna den Hertog

c.a.r.a.l.

The Vancouver Abortion Law Repeal group (CARAL) continues to harry the deaf men in Ottawa on three fronts. A few weeks ago the WOMAN ALIVE program on Channel 10 carried a full half hour discussion by CARAL members on the inadequacies of the law. On Oct 19 BCTV broadcast a semi-documentary on some aspects of abortion in Canada. The program ACCESS was prepared and researched entirely by Van. CARAL members.

On a second front, CARAL members are lobbying all MP's in BC on their knowledge and opinions of abortion. The results of the questionnaire are slowly coming in and will be published in subsequent KINESIS issues. (Watch for this, the ones we have already received make mind-boggling reading).

Who says protest rallies are ineffective? Within six weeks of the CARAL rally and vigil on Aug 9 in front of the courthouse Otto Lang had been relieved of his post - not bad eh?! Ron Basford, MP for Vancou Vancouver Centre is the new Minister of Justice and I'm sure he would appreciate receiving piles of mail expressing your views. Deliver your mail by hand to 595 Burrard St Van. until the mail strike ends, when you can write him (no stamp needed) c/o Parliament Buildings, OTTAWA.

Basford tabled the terms of reference of a Committee to study the operation of Canada's abortion law in the House of Commons on Oct 16. The two women, one man committee is to determine whether the law "is operating equitably across Canada". The results will be made public in six months. (Anyone else could tell Ron the answer in six minutes, but governments often fail to see what is most obvious).

Finally, CARAL Vancouver is hoping to raise money for the legal defense fees of Dr. Henry Morgentaler. An art auction is planned for early December. CARAL needs donations of object d'art, art and human resources to make the benefit successful. In particular if you have some time about now please phone 736-3746 leaving your name & number, or show up at the planning sessions for the auction on Thursdays at 7:30 pm, 2029 West 4, Vancouver. P.S. For anyone interested, CARAL has established a comprehensive file of information on abortions in Canada - this file is available for use at the VSW office.

Andrew Whitaker.

magazines

EVENT magazine has just published a special issue for International Women's Year. It contains poetry, short stories and drawings by women.
EVENT is published three times a year by Douglas College. Individual copies are $2. yearly subscriptions $5. EVENT Magazine, Douglas College, P.O. Box 2503, New Westminster, B.C.

TITLE UNKNOWN, produced by Festival of Women and the Arts, is a magazine of previously unpublished, original material by women from all walks of life. Copies are available for $1 (30% group discount) from 8 Admiral Road, Toronto, Ontario.

TIGHTWIRE. Published every second month, presented by the inmates of the Prison for Women, Kingston, Ont. $2 for 6 issues. Box 515, Kingston, Ontario.

film

The socialist film series presented by the Vancouver Area Council of the New Democratic Party includes The Girls, November 15th. Mae Zetterling's film about a group of women in a drama company, who learn something about their own lives from the play they are putting on. But rhetoric does not always lead to proper political action.

EXTENDING VISIONS

The V.S.W. received funding of $7,413 from the Secretary of State Department, Student Community Service Program 1975, to hire three students for the summer period fr. May 12th. to September 26th.

The project, entitled "Extending Visions," had as its objectives:

a) offering younger women the opportunity to explore their potential
b) compiling tapes and films for an audio-visual library
c) enhancing our organization's visibility in the community.

LESLIE McDONALD, coordinated a learning program for young women. She held five workshops, on various topics, as a general information exchange and to create interest on a personal level. The response to these workshops was not as successful as planned, primarily due to the lack of activity involvement during the summer months. Leslie, nonetheless, acquired a direction of plan from these workshops and wrote a panel discussion outline entitled, "AWARENESS AND LIFE PLANNING FOR YOUNG WOMEN IN SECONDARY SCHOOL."

The scheduling of panels for discussion in High Schools will begin this December. We feel this unique program will be an effective means of informing young women of the realities of life for women in our society, and the need, therefore, for young women to actively plan their lives.

This outline will be distributed to teachers and counsellors through the Vancouver Counsellors Association and the B.C.T.F. Status of Women Program.

LESLIE DIXON, coordinated the set-up of the audio-visual library and purchase of audio-visual materials from a grant of $1,500 from the United Community Services Program. Leslie selected 20 WOMAN ALIVE television shows, covering a wide range of topics, which were transferred onto half inch audio-visual tapes. These tapes were catalogued by topic and speakers, from which a list was compiled and published in "Kinesis" as well as mailed to all the Womem's Groups in B.C. Already we have received many requests for these tapes and we see them as being very valuable resource material especially in B.C. rural areas. Two slide series, 'Mattie Gunnerman' and 'Women in History', were purchased for the library, and arrangements for showing can be made through the office. To build and update our reference library, Leslie initiated a system of receiving feminist books from publishers as complimentary 'review' copies. The formation of the Book Review Group grew out of this new system. Leslie has re-organized the V.S.W. library and a vast amount of resource material is now easily accessible in topic files. Recently a tape recorder was donated to the library and cassette tapes will now be utilized to retain verbal information.

SHEERA WAISMAN, as public relation facilitator, designed a poster which outlines the services and activities of the V.S.W. One hundred copies of this two-colour, hand silk-screened poster were made for school and community displays and will eventually (hopefully) be displayed on B.C. Hydro Buses. To assist with visual displays, at speaking engagements and V.S.W. presentations to the community, Sheera built a folding display board. Sheera organized V.S.W.s participation in 'Kit's Day' and, as over 1,500 people attended, our participation was both educational and profitable. Sheera also designed and cut stencils, made screens for silk-screening 500 t/shirts this summer. The merchandising of t/shirts has proven to be a simple and direct means of conciousness-raising, also bringing in money to finance other V.S.W. projects.

Having Leslie Mc., Leslie D., and Sheera as staff this summer afforded us the opportunity of having extra womanpower to realize ideas and implement plans. Their ideas and enthusiasm constantly fed into V.S.W. staff meetings as they participated in all regular staff activities. As well as making three new friends we have gained three new contact people as Leslie Mc. is keeping us informed via her newsy 3-5 page-long letters from Ontario; Leslie D. is continuing to work on the V.S.W. library on a part-time basis; and Sheera is still to do some 'Nellie McClung' t/shirts.

- Judy Bourne
Photos by Karen Richardson

the avid articler

CHATELAINE, November/75. An IWY Roundup -- "Has Women's Year Laid An Egg?" by Michele Landsberg, an interview with Laura Sabia by Sylvia Fraser, and a 20-question Quiz to test your 'woman-awareness' by Joanna Morgan.

PRIORITIES, Sept/75. -- a 9 page article by Astrid Davidson on Organizing A Women's Committee . Also a tribute to Hilda Thomas and a review of the March 1975 report by the National Council of Welfare on Children in Poverty in Canada, "Poor Kids", and Kate Dillon writes on women in Northern Ireland. PRIORITIES is a publication of the NDP Women's Committee and is available from Priorities, c/o 3485 West 15th Ave., Vancouver. Single copies 35¢.

Once again Carole McQuarrie has come up with some goodies (and a Freebie) for the Avid Articler.

BOOKS IN CANADA -- September/75. A national review of books. Adele Wiseman, Canadian author, "discusses the love that dares now to breathe its name." An interesting discussion of Jane Rule's work and Lovat Dickson's book on Radclyffe Hall. Try Duthies for a free copy.

UNESCO COURIER.-- August-September/75. "Turning Point For Women." For IWY this double issue is devoted to different aspects of the status of women today. Articles range from women painters of India to the situation of women in twelve socialist countries. Available from Information Canada bookstore or borrow a copy from your local library.

THEATRE

THE NEW PLAY CENTRE presents Ms. en Scene -- a festival of theatre and arts by B.C. Women. Three new plays, art, books, readings, video, mime & more -- November 4 - 15 at the Vancouver East Cultural Centre, 1895 Venables, phone 254-9578.

tour

Margaret Randall, author of Cuban Women Now is scheduled to be in Vancouver on a speaking tour the week of November 24 to 27. (if all goes well with visa arrangements). Keep an eye out for publicity posters or call VSW in mid-November for more definite information.

The Boat Day Care Centre on Victoria Drive in Vancouver is a low flat-roofed building with a high wooden fence surrounding a large play area. Inside, everything is bright and open and scaled down -- little tables and chairs, little sinks and toilets. The twenty children who attend the Centre create a constant, low hum of noise as they bounce on the trampoline, or finger paint, or once again dig up the grapefruit seeds to see if they've sprouted yet. Some of the most energetic are out running in the rain and splashing in puddles. Extra sets of clothing and an automatic dryer eliminate damp problems.

There is no feeling of regimentation, but a relaxed involvement between the workers and the children. This is partly due to the fact that the ratio is one worker to every five children -- much lower than the provincial regulation figure of one to eight. As Joy Bradbury, one of the organizers of the Centre and a member of the Board of Directors, states,"Socialization of children, looking after them well is the prime function of a day care centre."

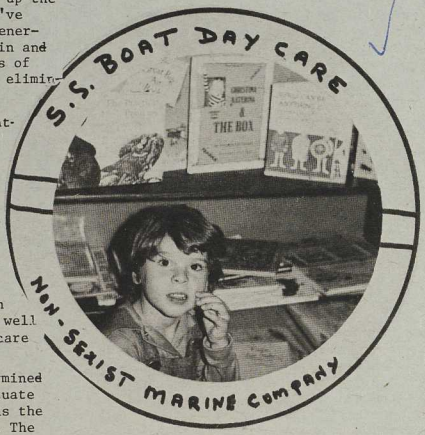
The Board of Directors was determined that the Centre would not perpetuate the sex-role stereotyping that is the root of so many social problems. The staff, the equipment and toys, the books, even the pictures on the wall were chosen with this in mind. A sign proclaims:

pictures of men and women engaged in a variety of occupations adorn the walls, "The Practical Princess" is a popular story, and an 'Imagination Corner' has replaced the traditional girls' doll corner and boys' truck corner. These learning tools change from week to week to reflect the seasons and holidays and different interests but the underlying philosophy remains.

When she officially opened the Centre in September, the Minister of Consumer Affairs, the Honourable Phyllis Young stated that the non-sexist policy of The Boat could serve as a model and precedent for the many badly needed day care centres in the province.

The official opening ceremonies, attended by Ms. Young, Alderwoman Darlene Marzari, MP Simma Holt, members of the media, and twenty nonchalant occupants of the Centre, culminated more than two years of hard work and organizing by a determined group of people.

The Boat Day Care Centre was registered as a non-profit society in June. The society received an initial grant of $2500 from the Department of Human Resources but all operating expenses -- staff wages, electricity, supplies, snacks, insurance, etc.-- must be covered by the fees paid by the parents. It costs $120 a month to send a child to the Centre, and as many



are single parents with limited financial resources, they are subsidized individually by the government through the Day Care Information Centre.

The Board of Directors, which organized the Centre and has acted as a steering committee, is in the process of becoming a shadow board as the running of the Centre is turned over to a Parents' Board.

The Centre's daily staff of five is nominally headed by Supervisor Lesley Field, but operates as a collective with everyone sharing in the planning and decisions.

Only two of the staff are employed full-time -- Lesley who is a qualified Supervisor, and a trained Day Care Assistant -- a position that requires ten basic courses and a practicum. Another qualified Supervisor and an Assistant each work part-time. In addition, a man on a Manpower Training Program who will be taking the Day Care courses in December works as a volunteer every day. Another man works as a VOP volunteer part-time and one day a week a woman volunteer comes in to help the new Canadians with English. For fifteen of the twenty children at the Centre, English is a second language.

The Staff and Board of Directors feel that it is important that the children are cared for by both men and women. However, there is the problem of finding trained male workers -- it hasn't been considered a particularly socially acceptable profession for a man, and the wages are not adequate to support a family. Lesley, a qualified Day Care Supervisor with six and one-half years experience, who is currently completing a degree in Early Childhood Education through the UBC Extension Department, makes much less than a government employed child care worker.

Caring for young children, helping them to learn and grow, is a demanding job requiring love and firmness and endless patience. The amount of training and expertise needed for such a vital job is not reflected in the wages paid Day Care workers.

Lesley Field pointed out that more and more women are entering the work force -- by choice or by necessity. Their children should have a safe, familar place where they are cared for and helped to grow, not just "plunked in front of a TV set." parents should have the security of knowing their children are well-cared for, and freedom from the nightmare round of worry and guilt brought on by unreliable babysitting arrangements and upset children.

Children should be a priority in our society and there is a desperate need for more places for them like The Boat Day Care Centre.

- Jo Lazenby
Photos by Bobbie Patrick

IWY

The Vancouver Pioneer Women, a Jewish women's organization, have have declared Sunday, November 23 their day to pay tribute to International Women's Year. Everyone is invited to join them at the Jewish Community Centre auditorium, 950 West 41st Avenue, Vancouver, from 1-5 pm. Pauline Jewett, president of SFU, will be guest speaker. Refreshments will be served. If groups are interested in display booths they should contact Bertha Solman 731-6744 or Renia Perel 876-9592.

WHAT'S GOING ON?

sfu··burnaby

The SFU-Burnaby Woman's Centre welcomes campus and off-campus women. "The main objectives of the Centre are threefold: to provide a resource centre and information clearinghouse; to offer a comfortable drop-in centre and to provide referral services; and to organize a wide variety of workshops and activities for women in our communities. In addition to these services, a regular newsletter, a series of films, and special radio programs are planned for the coming months."

Women are needed to work on funding alternatives, write grants, etc. Wages are available. Drop by the Centre.

The Centre has applied for a LIP Grant which, if approved, will begin Nov.3. The Collective will then form a Hiring Committee to interview persons referred to us through either SFU or the New Westminster Canada Man(sic)power Centres Centres. Hopefully, there will be positions available for up to six coordinators and a half-time bookkeeper, to be filled by unemployed women in the community.
217 Rotunda near the bank. Phone 291-3670

poco

Any woman interested in getting into a C-R Group before Jan/76 call the Port Coquitlam Area Women's Centre at 941-6311 and leave your name and number.

The Library Committee announces that there are over 100 titles for women to choose from at the Centre...the cream of feminist literature - fiction and non-fiction.

bcfw

The Second Annual Convention of the B.C. Federation of Women will be held Friday October 31 - Sunday November 2 at Capilano College, North Vancouver. Childcare and billeting will be available(included in $5 registration fee). Coffee and two lunches provided on a donation basis.
Agenda topics: Report from Standing Committee on the first year of BCFW and discussion; Constitutional proposals; Policy--Education, Childcare, Lesbian Rights; Election of Standing Committee for 1975-6.

Convention opens with Registration at 7 pm Friday.

For further information contact: Stephanie Tipple 733-1225, Kate Swann [illegible] Phillips 736-7891.

campbell river

The Campbell River Women's Centre at 660 Island Highway (phone 287-9144) has a newsletter and a series of films on women.

north shore

The North Shore is where the action is! The North Shore Women's Centre had a great Open House at the end of September to celebrate moving into their new office and since then they haven't even slowed down!

Nina Westaway has a column in the Citizen newspaper called Focus on Women featuring women on the North Shore. Now that's an example for other community newspapers to follow! If you have suggestions or comments contact Nina at 980-5353.

The Status of Women Committee of the North Vancouver Teacher Association are presenting a brief to the North Vancouver School Board on November 24. The brief deals with 3 areas relating to the status of female students and teachers in North Vancouver: A. Texts and materials B. Courses C. Staffing. The committee hopes that women on the North Shore will lend their support by attending this important meeting. For more information call Pearl Lynn -- Home:988-4859 School: 985-6174.

Interested in joining a C-R group? Call 987-4822.

Membership in the North Shore Women's Centre is $3 yearly and covers the newsletter, notices of special pub night presentations and some of the office expenses. There is a brand new office where you can get information, read a book, work on a project, hold a meeting or just talk. Help in the office is also very welcome. Drop in-- 3255 Edgemont Bvld. North Vancouver, or call 987-4822 or 980-5303.

burns lake

Concerned women in Burns Lake and the surrounding area have organized a Women's Awaremess Group to further the goals of the UN's International Women's Year. The aims of our group are two-fold: to promote the personal growth of members through supportive discussion and consciousness raising, and to bring about change in the status of women in the Central Interior through public education.

Women's Awareness Group is planning a series of films by the National Film Board and the Vancouver Peoples Law School on male/female roles, media images of women, and women's legal rights. The first film is scheduled for late October or early November, with exact dates to be announced. Free child care will be provided at the films to enable women with small children to attend.

Our group is particularly interested in expanding the personal and career ambitions of High School women. We are arranging the showing of a Canada Manpower film on job opportunities to students in the High School. This film was highly recommended by the information officers with the International Women's Year van, and according to Canada Manpower officials, has never before been shown in the Lakes District. We have also obtained a promise by the School District 55, Educational Resource Centre that they will purchase the Women's Kit for the High School. The kit contains material on a broad range of subjects, including women's legal rights, women's history, health and employment information. We are now in the process of investigating the most effective way of presenting this vital information to the students.

Two of our members recently attended the Human Rights Workshop held by the Terrace Women's Organization. There, they had the opportunity of hearing speakers Kathleen Ruff, Director of Human Rights for the Province of British Columbia, Eileen Caner, Director of the Women's Economic Rights Branch of the Department of Economic Development, and Nancy Conrod, a lawyer and the president of the Vancouver Status of Women. The Resource Centre has graciously agreed to purchase the tapes of these important speeches so that others may hear them.

Women's Awareness Group is also looking into the logistics of setting up a women's studies course through the College of New Caledonia and of establishing an abortion committee so that area women could obtain abortions in Burns Lake, instead of having to travel to Prince George.

We are still only a small group and we are always looking for new members. If you would like to join us or help in any of the projects mentioned above, please contact Jan Denne at 692-3093.

delta

Any women in the Ladner, Tsawwassen, North Delta area interested in joining a consciousness-raising group? Call Betty MacPhee 943-4556.

kootenay

The Kootenay Women's Council publishes a newspaper called Images. Box 1200, Castlegar.

kits

The Women's Dance and Festival Committee and Hot Flashes Theatre are presenting An Evening of Women's Music and Comedy with Chris Williamson -- singer, writer, composer for Olivia Records and Comedienne Valri Bromfield, back from engagements with Lily Tomlin, Mike Douglas, and the Saturday Night Show.

Sunday evening, November 2nd at Kits House, 2305 West 7th Ave. Vancouver. 8 pm to 10 pm Everyone Welcome. 10:30 pm to 12:30 pm. Women Only. Tickets $3 at the door.

PROGRAMS

ubc

CENTRE FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION

Creative Divorce -- an educational - information approach to emotional problems, legal considerations, finances, special problems of children, community resources, changing identity from couple to single. Peter Kiviloo & Linda Tribling, plus local resource people.
Lecture -- Friday, November 21, 8 pm. Hebb Theatre, UBC. $4.
Workshop -- Saturday November 22, 9:30 am. to 4 PM.; Sunday November 23, 10 am. to 2 pm. Conference Room, Centre for Continuing Education UBC (bring lunch). $40. Class limited. For further information phone: 228-2181, local 273.

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The Women's Resources Centre, Centre for Continuing Education, UBC, in co-operation with The Vancouver Public Library is presenting FREE noon hour programs on the status of women. Every Tuesday women will talk about how she is bringing about change for women through her position.

NOVEMBER 6 -- Gene Errington, Provincial Status of Women Co-ordinator.

NOVEMBER 13 -- Sue Findlay, Director Women's Program, Secretary of State.

NOVEMBER 20 -- Hon. Phyllis Young, Minister of Consumer Services.

NOVEMBER 27 -- Dr. Pauline Jewett -- President Simon Fraser University

12:10 - 1 pm. Women's Resources Centre Vancouver Public Library, 750 Burrard St. Vancouver. For further information call 685-3934 or 228-2181, local 218.

Information on the range of programs and services is available at the Drop-In Centre on the 3rd floor of the Vancouver Public Library from 10 am to 4 pm, Monday to Friday, and 6:30 pm to 9 pm on Thursday.

ywca

SPECIAL EVENTS

A Christian Feminist Looks At The Modern Women's Submission Movement
Ms. Kathy Storie, Assistant Professor in Sociology at the University of Saskatchewan will present her views of the counter movement evolving in reaction to the Feminist Movement in society and also within the church today. Ms. Storie is actively involved with Canadian Women and Religion. Thursday, November 13, 8-10pm. Fee $3.

Women Of God. Rev. Virginia Briant will discuss the lives of women in the Old and New Testaments vis-a-vis women in contemporary society. Rev. Briant is Deacon of the Anglican Church of Canada, soon to be one of the first women priests.
Thursday, November 27. 8-10pm. Fee $3.

MEN-

WORKSHOP FOR MEN

ON BECOMING A PERSON:BREAKING THROUGH THE ROLES
A Worshop For Men to "explore the ways in which the "Masculinity" and "Femininity" Myths have conditioned us into lifestyles and behaviours that cause conflict in our relationships with w women and keep distance between ourselves and other men."

The basic mode will be encounter, interspersed with Gestalt, bioenergetics, fantasy, free-draw, body work-- whatever feels right at the moment.

Leader of the Workshop will be David Lewis, an experienced practitioner of the growth tools developed by the Human Potential Movement.

November 7,8.9. Fee:$40 ($30 for full time students). The Workshop will be held in Gastown at the Gestalt Studios 4th floor, 139 Water Street, Vancouver. To register send fee to David Lewis, P.O. Box 3986, Vancouver. For more information call: 688-4203. Registration is limited to 16 people.

Suggested reading: The Male Machine by Marc Feigen Fasteau.

people's law school

YOUTH & THE LAW -- Nov.3,4,5
Kitsilano Secondary School

LANDLORD & TENANT PROCEDURES -- Nov. 17,18,19
King George Secondary School

SMALL CLAIMS COURT PROCEDURES -- Nov. 10,12,13.
Tupper Secondary School

CRIMINAL PROCEDURES -- Nov.24,25,26
Technical Secondary School,
Instructor: Alan MacLean, lawyer

ALL COURSES FREE. PRE-REGISTER BY CALLING 681-7532

IWY at UBC

In November the International Women's Year Program at UBC expands the themew Woman, The New Person.

November 7, Friday -- The Changing Function of Women in Modern Society
Dr. Jessie Bernard, distinguished sociologist heads a panel discussion with Freda Paltiel, Nita Barrow, Gene Errington. Student Union Building Ballroom. 8:00 pm.

November 8, Saturday -- Workshops
Follow up to Dr. Jessie Bernard's discussion. Some suggested workshop topics: career opportunities for the New Woman, changes in marriage and family relationships, women and the power structure, etc. Cecil Green Park. 9:00 am to 2:00 pm.

November 13, Thursday -- The Co-Respondents. Give 'Em An Inch: Women and Equality.
A professional readers theatre group which addresses the central issues of the women's movement. Student Union Building Art Gallery. 12:30 pm.

November 13, Thursday -- Newer Trends in Patient Care and Community Health Services
Dr. Esther Lucile Brown, sociologist and health service consultant, challenges health service practices. Woodward Instructional Resources Centre. Lecture Hall 2. 12:30 pm.

November 14, Friday -- Nursing Reconsidered: A Report of Change
Dr. Esther Lucile Brown. Woodwar IRC. Lecture Hall 2 at 8:00 pm.

SPRING 1976 -- Watch for announcements of further programming in 1976. Several projects are being planned, including a major symposium, Sex and Work, which will bring researchers from across Canada to present papers on the technology of work and its effect on women. May 6,7 and 8. For further information about IWY at UBC call Information Services 228-3131

cap college

EXPLORATIONS

A lecture series to introduce women to the role of their predecessors and contemporaries in various areas of society.

Wednesdays, 7:30 to 9:30 pm. Fee: $1 per session.
St. David's United Church, 1525 Taylor Way, West Vancouver.

November 5 -- Buddha, Mohammed , Christ -- chauvinists or liberationists. Women and religion.

November 12 -- "See Dick Run. See Jane Sit." Women and Education. Linda Shuto.

November 19 -- Dabblers but not Mastros. Women and the Arts.

November 26 -- "Prevention is better than cure." Women and Health. Women's Health Collective. Dr. Adrienne Ross.

December 6 -- The Women's Movement -- reformist, revolutionary or reactionist? A debate among Women with different views on the utility and aims of the Women's Movement.

Margaret Roy -- Moderator
Sponsored by the Women's Studies Programme, Capilano College.

members' forum

FUSION - FEMINISM AND SOCIALISM

I wish that I could see a "drift towards the association of feminism with socialist politics" as described in the "Members' Forum" column in September's "Kinesis". Unfortunately I feel that very few women have yet realised such an association as a viable possibility, and most of us are still trying desperately to convince ourselves that individual realisation and more education within the current system is the answer to centuries of sexism.

I understand and emphasize strongly with the idea of self realisation and growth. Women always seem to be on the outside, nibbling at the real world, but rarely making much of a mark. Some women study, work and create, but remain effectively powerless outside of a small circle. Most women feel inadequate and unfulfilled, despite individual efforts to progress. This is confusing and frustrating at best.

Some people can voice their confusion and try to deal with it. Others feel that there is some indefinable thing wrong with them. Some drift unconsciously. We learn to feel something less than whole.

There is a broad political/cultural influence at work conditioning almost all people in our society to be defined (or think of themselves as defined) by their associations. e.g., family, class, profession, education, marital status, body type, strength, salary, gang, running etc.

People are herded and branded in many ways, and women have the added burden of being classified twice - in relation to the system, and in relation to the men who control the system. Before any further labelling is necessary, women are given a title which defines status in terms of association with men in a legal sense.

Many of us are confused about how to realise the concept of "I am" in conjunction with "we are". A major factor contributing to this split is that women are trying to strengthen themselves by endeavouring, as individuals, to combat long-standing social mores and systems formulated and controlled by large groups such as churches, educational systems, governmental processes, employment patterns, and companies which control the economy. Individual awareness and freedom are essential, but only large groups of conscious individuals can make even a dent on the established societal systems and machines.

Consequently, there is a lack of cohesive awareness of, and focus upon, a political solution as a whole. Instead,we use as a base the already present individual or small interest groups to try to effect minor changes in other individuals (e.g. husbands, MPs) or other small groups (e.g. unions). A whole political perspective, in relation to feminism, has to include awareness, among all classes of women, of the economic and cultural exploitation of women as a particular sector of the majority of people exploited by the small elite group owning and controlling most aspects of society. So, it is not enough for an individual woman to attain the dubious glory of becoming a $50,000 a year executive in a society where all people are expected to overconsume and yet struggle to pay for shelter and food. This is a system where it pays the economic moguls to have half the work population's output classified as "unproductive" (i.e. housework), so that the other half has to work without very much choice to support both halves of the population. How free, or just, is a woman who relies on other women, of different class, to clean her house and mind her family, while she realizes her own individual potential, perpetuating the status quo? Liberation is an unqualifiable term. Patchwork and tokenism is no substitute.

But in our society, the idea of individual attainment and worth is rammed down our throats, while individual exploration and creativity are squashed if they threaten any established institutions or ideas. So we think that we are free - free to be the same as everyone else, to conform.

To make it harder, most of us are brought up to deny an interest in politics - a job for "experts". The current craze to "do your own thing" helps to ensure that powerful, cooperative groups either don't form or don't last too long. So we have our small groups of feminists, working very hard, each with its own focus of interest, calling all women sisters. But our groups stay small and separate, and we go along with the mores of the society and its controllers who have kept women in the position we all know so well. But, to be neutral and silent is a political stand, so why not make the stand an active and constructive one?

There are many people (especially women I think) who are awakening to the new possibilities in life, chipping away at the moulds and peeling off the labels. I think that an understanding of socialism, and the implementation of it, is the only logical way to attain true equality and freedom.

Some feminists are trying to explain this approach to their sisters (and brothers), but maybe they are not saying it clearly enough, or to the right people, as so many people still react negatively to the idea of feminism through socialism, while talking of equality and liberation. The common fear seems to be that we would be replacing male domination with governmental domination, using such conservative institutions as the NDP, for example. Socialism is not merely State control of existing establishments and methods of production. Nor is it a bureaucracy of social service handouts. B.C. does not have a socialist government. Neither does Sweden or Britain (examples often touted by right wing politicians to show us the folly of veering too far to the left.) These are State Capitalist and/or Welfare State systems.

In countries struggling to build true socialism in terms of their own cultures (Vietnam, Mozambique, Cuba, Guinea Bissau, China,etc) women have made huge strides forward from their horribly oppressed pasts, and are continuing to demand and work for total equality, able to point out to all people in their societies that this has to be, in terms of what socialism really is. They have leaped centuries in a few decades by being an integral part of the struggle to free and advance their countries.

There are many straightforward, clearly written explanations of Socialism available -- some of them by feminists. And Marx's and Engels' own essays often are the clearest. The basic tenets involve a theory of constant social change, and cooperative control of the methods of production and the resulting goods, by the people who do the work. I think that these ideas strike a response in all oppressed people. The resulting egalitarianism and self confidence would leave each individual human free to control and use her or his own creative potential in an uncompetitive way.

- Kay Ryan

writer

Is there someone out there who would like to get involved in putting together a book on women and poverty? A woman has sent us the notes and rough manuscript for a book entitled "The Poverty Roulette." She has spent 6 years researching the material and finds she is too busy and too tired to complete the book on her own. If you are interested contact us here at the VSW Office. Ask for Jo.

health

VANCOUVER WOMEN'S HEALTH COLLECTIVE

The Vancouver Women's Health Collective publishes a newsletter called Wicca and would be pleased to send a sample copy to anyone wishing to see the newsletter or become more acquainted with the collective. Individual rates are $3 per year. 1520 West 6th Ave, Vancouver.

divorce

Women's Divorce Cooperative

The Women's Legal Aid Clinic of Vancouver is running a cooperative for women to do para-legal work on their own divorces. It consists of several small groups meeting twice monthly to work on each stage of the divorce procedure. Total cost is minimal and some financial aid is available. If you are interested in joining, contact Mary Bigelow, #4- 45 Kingsway Avenue, Vancouver, B.C. or call 874-9105.

media action

Please see the Office Page for our ad for help wanted. We need a media action group organizer and women interested in participating in a sexist ad letter lobby.
Don't forget the "Sexist Ads Protest Kit" is now on sale, 10 pages, for $1.00. Order from the office. In the meantime, we would appreciate it if V.S.W. members would write to the Keeprite Company in Vancouver (in phone book) in regard to the following ad. Thank you.

Canadian Advertising Standards Council
1240 Bay Street, Suite #302
Toronto, Ontario

Dear CASC:
May we draw your attention to the KeepRite Seasonall heating unit ad in the September issue of "Canadian Building" Magazine. This ad plays on a double entendre, an image of women which is insulting.

The woman in this ad is irrelevant to the product except as an eye-catcher for what is presumed to be a strictly male consumer audience. Women are tired of being used in any and every manner to sell products.

The ad implies the only beautiful women are quiet ones and that if not forcibly gagged, women will immediately get mouthy. Both these stereotypes are the product of chauvinist thinking. They are out-moded myths.

It is disappointing to see a manufacturer conduct itself in such an unbusinesslike manner by promoting derogatory images of women. Surely they would not publish an ad showing a black man gagged because it would be racist. We suggest that sexist ads are equally in poor taste.

We commend you for the proposed non-sexist advertisers guidelines and we look forward to seeing them with interest. However, unless they are enforceable under the code of adverising, we do not see that they will be much use in eradicating sexist ads. The trend is too long rooted.

On behalf of 900 members of Vancouver Status of Women in B.C., I would like to know what at present you can do about this ad? Thank you for your attention to this matter.

images of women

"About Face, Towards a Positive Image of Women in Advertising" is a 30-page booklet by the Ontario Status of Women Council giving suggestions on what to do about sexism in advertising. Send $1.00 to Dorothy Aaron, Marketing Consultant, Ontario Status of Women Council, 801 Bay Street, 3rd. Floor, Toronto. Ontario.

The shareholders of Proctor & Gamble have requested the Corporation to publish a special report which will carefully examine the images of women in the corporation's advertising. The report will help the Corporation review the images presented of women in their advertising and help them portray women in a broader range of roles.
For more information: Mary Harvey, Research Director, Interfaith Centre on Corporate Responsibility, Room 566, 475 Riverside Drive, New York, N.Y. 10027. Also available is a 35¢ booklet entitled "Women and Corporation, Issues and Actions", put out by the ICCR's Task Force on Women and Corporations which, among other things such as a chapter on coporate child care, includes a section on how to file a shareholder resolution and how to vote your proxy.

protest

Dear V.S.W.

Recently, I read that the Status of Women was asking women to report any ads or commercials, which they found particularly offensive or belittling to females.

Statements have been flying round lately about the gains the advertising fraternity is making as regards the female's lousy image in advertising. With all the anger and hostility that females have been publicly expressing towards such ads - no company can be oblivious to such feeling. Consequently, ads of this type that still do appear, are a cold, calculated slap at females in general. Most companies have stopped this type of sexist advertising - but there's always the hangers-on. The adolescent-jock mentality displayed is amazing. Regarding the femmes in the attached ad - there are few things more embarrassing than seeing individuals, who are so stupid, as to allow others to exploit and use them.

I showed these ads to a business acquaintance. His disgusted comment: "Every industry has these idiots - they never know when to quit. They make it harder for the majority who are trying to cooperate and change." It's unfortunate, but it's obvious it's going to take some companies a hell of a long time to grow up as far as the image of the female is concerned.

Earlier in the year, I had written a letter regarding their derogatory advertising. They replied, with the usual company statement, saying mine was the only complaint they'd ever received, other than one from a young woman in Victoria in 1972! Their letter stated they'd soon be changing their advertising and would be including males. Since that time their ads, using females only have gotten progressively worse. As well as stopping such trash - women are going to have to push for an investigation into the attitudes and actions of the ones who are responsible for accepting such insulting garbage for newspapers, magazines and television commercials.

Sincerely,
B. Decker

subscribe!

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

_____

PHONE (home) _____ (work) _____

OCCUPATION _____

MEMBERSHIP DONATION $ _____

LIBRARIES, etc. SUBSCRIPTION $10/ YEAR

RENEWAL _____ NEW MEMBER _____

Kinesis is sent to all members in good standing. Membership dues are by yearly donation. In determining your donation we ask you to balance your own financial position and the fact that KINESIS costs approximately $3.00 per person per year to print and mail.

KINESIS is published monthly by the Vancouver Status of Women. Its objective is to provide an open channel of communication between the members of the organization and to promote understanding about the changing position of women in society.

Views expressed in Kinesis are those of the writer and unless specifically stated do not reflect the policy of V.S.W.

PUBLICATION DATE: The third week of each month.

COPY DEADLINE: The 1st of the previous month (e.g. Nov. 1 for Dec. issue).

SUBMISSIONS: KINESIS welcomes submissions from members and will consider those from non-members. All submissions, including letters to the editorial committee, must be accompanied by the writer's name and address. Pseudonyms will be used where requested. Where necessary, the newsletter committee will edit for brevity, clarity, and taste.

CORRESPONDENCE: Send to: KINESIS
Vancouver Status of Women
2029 West 4th Avenue
Vancouver, B.C.
Telephone: 736-3746

THIS ISSUE:

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE: Jo Lazenby, Bobbie Patrick, Monica Mui, Eloah Giacomelli, Viviane Hotz, Diana Bissell

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LAYOUT: Jo Lazenby

PROOFREADING: Diana Bissell, Jo Lazenby.

Letters

KINESIS:

After receiving permission from my wife to read her copy of the October issue of "Kinesis", (I have read others), I feel it is time to write.

First, let me say that I wholeheartedly agree with many of your programmes dealing with the Status of Women in society. I would like to encourage you to continue in your effors for complete and total equality. I also encourage you to continue to seek out and correct the injustices done to females by our so-called male dominated society.

Regarding the article entitled "Men in the Office," it is stated, and I quote, "We enjoy the company of men - at other times and other places, and except for once in a while, we just don't want men in the office." "Can we legitimately be accused of discriminating against them? We think there are legitimate reasons for maintaining something that is precious to us." End of quote. Yes, you are discriminating, but as a male I don't really care. I feel that as an individual you have the right to choose who you associate with and when. You state you have legitimate reasons but fail to state what these reasons are, this failure can cause misunderstanding and mistrust. I suggest that had the situation been reversed, the intruding females would surely have cried "foul" and gone running to the authorities complaining of discrimination. In this instance, it is admitted that the intruding males understood your wishes and suggested that it would be a "learning experience." The important part here is, "understanding" and "learning experience." After all, isn't that what it's all about?

Under the heading of Media Action, you have published a letter addressed to the Hotel Vancouver and written by Karen Richardson. I do not object to a protest about advertizing that is offensive, discriminatory or in bad taste. I do, however, object to the way in which Ms. Richardson writes her letter of protest. I suggest to her that in future she should include with her protest, at least a creative alternative.

I have read with interest (and some amusements), your publications and also talked with some of your members from time to time. One point is constantly brought to my attention. "Males are exploiting females as sex objects," always as an example, "Playboy" magazine is used. Well, be that as it may, females enjoy "Playgirl" and I, as a male, do not feel exploited as a sex object. In both sexes, there are exhibitionists and voyeurs, if they can please each other and create some level of happiness for each other, what is the harm? Who is exploiting who? It really doesn't matter.

The real issue you should concentrate on, is to develop for females a total and complete equality in all areas of society, that is, equality for opportunities in employment, education, leisure and life style. If you could channel your energies, money and talents in the direction of developing a deeper understanding and a learning between the sexes, I am sure we will all be equal and free people with our own identities and personalities, living and working together without one group against another.

I'm sorry to have rambled on so long but I do thank you for listening.

One last comment: You've come a long way "Baby," but the trip isn't over yet. Keep on driving.

Yours for equality,

William D. Keenleyside

KINESIS:

This letter will do two things. First, I want to let you know of my hearty support of your and of the sisters in Vancouver actions demanding a Women's Advocate at the Canada Manpower office. It was a terrific thing to do and did a thing in uplifting my spirits.

Secondly, I want to mention that the article "Men in the Office" by Karen Richardson on Page 6 of the October "Kinesis" certainly clicked for me. I would like to add my two bits. Men and the Women's movement seems to be one of the touchiest problems involved in it. My experience this summer at the Penticton Women's Center, brought this home to me. We had the double problem of while not particularly wanting men at our meetings, also feeling that we could not exclude them as this would be a discriminatory act. The only answer was to subtly discourage their presence. I should add here that there was quite a noticeable difference in the atmosphere and the openness of the women at the meetings if men, especially those who let it be known that they disagreed with these 'libbers', were present. Was it defensiveness or fear that led us at the Center to feel inclined to ban men from our meetings?

No way !

Any group of people continually castigated with irrational condemnations will become protective of their opinions simply as a method of self-preservation. In the movement one of the hardest jobs is to compromise our idealism with the reality of our world. It's hard and it's also a drag. This is why so many women deeply involved in the movement find themselves drained of energy after various periods of time.

So to my sisters I believe that in the area of men and their involvement in the Women's Movement, we have to move slowly and carefully. But for Christ's sake keep the faith. It is important to remember that all feminists have the same problem in this area. Sisters all over support each other. This letter is written out of love and experience.

With Peace,
Chris Dreveny
Penticton Women's Centre

KINESIS:

Please find enclosed money order to cover costs for my renewal of KINESIS.

And I am taking this opportunity to express my gratitude to the Vancouver Status of Women for being in existence and for sending me such an enjoyable readable newspaper every month.

Thank you,
Lorna Black

At last the T-Shirt strike is over (yes, them too!) and we're back in business. Twenty-eight dozen T-Shirts have been printed in the following slogans. The shirts come in GREEN, POWDER BLUE, GOLD, BLACK, NAVY & BURGUNDY, except where noted.

ADULT SIZES -- SMALL, MEDIUM & LARGE

MS. .....small - no burgundy

MS. ..... small - no burgundy

SEXISM IS A SOCIAL DISEASE .....
..... large - no black

SISTER ..... no small
medium - no gold
large - no gold

UPPITY WOMEN UNITE.small - no burgundy
large - no green

IWY 1975 ..... small - no gold
no navy
medium - only black, burgundy, green
large - no gold or burgundy, but available in white

The ADULT sizes are $3.15 each (includes tax). Small CHILDREN'S sizes (4-6x) are $2.each. Larger CHILDREN'S sizes (7 to 14 years) are $2.50 each. Orders are pre-pa paid. Please include 40¢ per T-Shirt to cover mailing expenses.

CHILDREN'S SIZES

MS. & SISTER ..... Size 4 - white only

SEXISM IS A SOCIAL DISEASE ....
Size 6 & 6X - white only

SISTER .....Size 6 - white only

Sizes 7 to 14 years

SEXISM IS A SOCIAL DISEASE .....
.... small - navy only
medium - green & navy only
large - burgundy only

SISTER .....small - navy only
medium - navy & burgundy
large - green & burgundy

PHOTOS BY
Karen Richardson
Bobbie Patrick
Nadine Allen

november

NOV 3 - Feminism & Relationships group, 8 pm, office. Discussion group - open to all.

NOV 5 - KINESIS monthly meeting. anyone interested in helping with newspaper? 7:30 pm, office.

NOV 6 - Writer's Workshop, open to everyone, 7-9 pm, office.

NOV 12 - VOLUNTEER NIGHT - anyone who is interested in helping out with research etc please come! 7:30 pm, office. See p. 9 for more details.

NOV 13 - Writer's Workshop, 7-9 pm, office.

Nov 13 - ORIENTATION MEETING, 8 pm, office. For everyone interested in knowing what VSW is all about and how you can be a part of it.

NOV 17 - Feminism & Relationships discussion group, 8 pm, office. Open.

NOV 18 - SELF HELP MONEY GROUP - Want to know about $$$, loans, mortgages etc? Join this group at 7:30 pm tonight.

NOV 20 - Writer's Workshop, 7-9 pm, office.

NOV 26 - C.A.R.A.L. general meeting, 7:30 pm, office. If anyone wants to help with abortion lobbying please come along.

NOV 27 - Writer's Workshop, 7-9 pm, office.

- OPEN HOUSE/ORIENTATION, drop in to talk, read, browse - 8-10:30 pm.

DON'T FORGET TO WATCH WOMAN ALIVE EVERY WEEK ON CABLE 10 TV, 9 pm EVERY WEDNESDAY NIGHT. THURSDAY NIGHTS ON THE NORTH SHORE.