Support grows for equal pay strike

by Esther Shannou

Despite rain, snow and temp­eratures averaging freezing for wom­en of the Steel Plate Engravers Union, local 31, are still on the picket line in the Robert Amer­i­can Banknote Company. They have not lost their determination to win a more equitable settle­ment from their company. The main issue in the strike, which began on October 17, is the low wages paid to the skilled women workers in relation to the high pay given to the less skilled male workers at the same plant. A high pay given to the less skilled worker at the Ottawa-Carleton Day Care Association, for example, to limit the factories where women have it and Minister of Public Work­ing Group, prosecution of Upstream’s structure and making our lay­out with great success. All the graph half-tones, page negatives have to be done, but at last it’s an acknowledgement from City Hall that day care needs attention,” she said.

Upstream takes a break

First, the good news: for the Upstream, Hurrah! And thanks Jane and Nancy.

Now the bad news: we are stopping publication until March. But, it’s not all that bad. Up­stream staff need a holiday. We have been putting out a news­paper for a year now with a completely volunteer staff and have still not quite recovered from working with a very small collective during the summer months.

We would also, like after our first year, to take some time out to do a comprehensive revalua­tion of Upstream’s structure and content. During the break, we will be meeting regularly to find ways of refining the collective structure and making our opera­tions more efficient.

As readers, you can help us immensely with another area of discussion: content. Tell us what you liked and where we have slipped up. We’ll be looking at whether we should remain an essentially Ottawa newspaper or if we should expand to become national with more extensive coverage of the federal govern­ment and reports from across Canada about what women are doing. What do you think? We’d especially like to hear from readers outside Ottawa and outside Ontario.

Finally, there was a need to create time for fundraising. Up­stream has accumulated a $5,000 debt over the past year and we would like to try and get that out of the way before we begin publishing again. We have applied for various grants and will hopefully get a few fundraising events underway, to which ev­eryone is invited. We would like to thank all our readers who have made generous donations, always saving us in the nick of time. If you can keep up that financial support, please do because we’ll be back on the stands before you know it.

For subscribers, if your sub­scription runs out during our break, it will be extended to ensure that you receive 12 copies of the paper.

Now, with the business out of the way, we’d like to tell you what’s been happening at Up­stream over the last year. We started out in October 1976 with a collective of about 40 women and very little newspaper experi­ence. Meetings were held in newswriting, photography and layout with great success. All the layout was done in the Upstream office and finished pages were sent to a printer to have photo­graph half-tones, page negatives and plates made. The printer even put our head­ings in.

Continued on page 5
Mid-year talk on lobbying, social services

New social services plan

When the Act was originally proposed the federal government indicated that part of the real value of the plan was that it would enable them "to share in the initiatives being taken in response to the changing needs of society". The Act was not intended for the aged, the handicapped, or children. Another equally important facet of the original Act was that it would enable them to share in the initiatives being taken in response to the changing needs of society. The Act is intended for the aged, the handicapped, and children.

In June of this year the federal government brought the new Social Services Act before parliament. This act was lauded by the government as one of the main achievements of the Social Services Review which was launched in April of 1973. The Act is intended to replace the Canada Assistance Act and repeal the Vocational Rehabilitation of Disabled Persons Act.

In a press release dated June 29 from Health and Welfare, the federal government stated that the new Social Services Act "will allow the federal government to share with the provinces in the cost of a wider range of social services than is possible at present". The federal government intended to maintain a cost sharing plan with the provinces, paying 50% of provincial costs on any particular social services program developed by the federal and provincial governments. Fifteen categories of services are eligible for federal government contributions under the Act. These services include intervention, information and referral services, family planning, daycare, congregate and employment related services.

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B.C. women in one-industry towns to develop communications network

by Pat Daley

The effects of Canada's dep- red development of single- and discussed in many terms: andkin economic and political independence, a balanced ecology, pollution, labour practices, regional development. But, have you ever heard what it is like in the company town does to women? Women from 42 communities in southern British Columbia and the Yukon talked about their lives November 11-13 at the Conference on Women and Economic Development held in Prince George, B.C. concurrently with the release of the Northern Columbia Women's Task Force Report on Single Industry Resource Communities, published by the Vancouver Women's Resource Centre.

The conference resulted in resolutions on every subject from community research to town planning to day care. It was, as pre-conference materials stated, "not about major resource extraction in the traditional sense. This is a conference of, for and with women who live in single industry and resource towns ... who know what it is like to live there." Much was found in the Task Force Report.

The report gives a sense of a life characterized by loneliness, isolation and, above all, inactivity. For many of the women, lack of day care, public transportation, money and available resources mean spending most of their days at home, alone except for their children.

The section of the Report on Kitimat, for example, admits to a very high incidence of depression among young married women but does not prescribe mood-lifting drugs and tranquilizers. One feels there is little they can do.

"A number of women each year are brought into hospital after having taken an overdose of their prescription drugs in a desperate attempt to forget. Many never see a counselor; one recognizes their problems and help them deal with their situations."

From the three towns studied by the Task Force, Kitimat, Fraser Lake and Mackenzie, it is apparent that company planners concentrated on resources which would keep the working man happy and company productivity and profits high. Unfortunately, they keep the town without a family.

The first problem mentioned in the Report is the weather. Snowfall is very heavy in the winter, and it lingers much of the rest of the year. In Kitimat, the report says, most houses are built without basements which means there is no separate indoor play space for pre-school children during bad weather. There are few covered walkways or bus shelters making it difficult for mothers with toddlers or baby carriages to get around.

Because of the high turnover in the population in each of the three towns, women find it difficult to meet and keep friends, especially immigrant women who are usually the last in their families to learn English. The report on Fraser Lake, a mining town, says, "Several women have felt that the lack of mixing socially is largely due to shift- work. People do not drop in on each other unexpectedly unless they positively invite it. They may interrupt a shiftworker's sleep or catch the family at a bad time."

Others felt left out of certain groups because of their husbands' positions. For instance, women who live in private apartments are taken into account in some cases. In Kitimat, when some women decided to go together for a day trip, the place was the beer parlour where they felt unwanted because it was geared to a male clientele.

Fraser Lake does have a women's centre which provides counselling and information as well as simply a place for women and men to meet and visit. The report says it is used by an average of 250 people a month. A man coming from these women face is lack of daycare and child-minding services. Most of the women never get a break from their young children. Travelling to larger towns for comparative shopping or services such as medical specialists is difficult because of long distances and poor transportation which necessitate a day-long journey or overnight stay.

But the biggest problem would appear, from the Report, to be employment. One resource industry towns, centred around industries such as smelting, mining and lumbering, provide mainly jobs which are non-traditional for women. The Report documents overt sex discrimination in hiring. In Kitimat, 61 of the 2000 hourly paid workers at Alcan are women.

"Mackenzie is not considered to have an unemployment problem. However, there are few jobs for women. We have a local Manpower office which opened in the spring of '76 and they often have over 200 women each month looking for work. To give an example of the competition for jobs, there were 115 applicants who wrote the Civil Service exam for a clerk position at the local Post Office and 88 applicants for four cashier jobs at a supermarket which just opened."

Of available work, much is only part-time. The Report says single women find it difficult to support themselves and as a result many are only very young.

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Emphasising community re- search, delegates decided that, "an encouragement of the kind of work that the Northern Women's Task Force has undertaken is essential to increase knowledge and understanding. There is a need for further coordination of women's interests and work in the continued exploration and decision by women involved in research and planning in conferences such as this one."

"At this time it is imperative that the exclusion of women in decisions regarding economic development is stopped and that a basis is laid for full participation in all stages of that process."

Delegates resolved to hold, at a regional and local workshops to: - educate women on the overall topic of political and economic analysis; - encourage and develop strategies to respond to economic development; - encourage local women groups to become active in these economic development issues; - encourage local women groups to become knowledgeable about the corporations active in their own communities.

A demand was made for input from women, with the assistance of the Northern Women's Task Force, on educational programs to learn necessary planning skills, in decisions about economic development, community design, equal job opportunities, water and sewage systems, transportation, health care, child care and much more. To complement this, a Group formed to study children's services

Some Ottawa citizens are concerned that the recent amalgamation of all services to children in Ontario is an example of a continuing exercise, foreshadowing things to come.

But, the 35 people attending a meeting sponsored by the Children's Rights Association of the Civil Liberties Association, National Capital Region Dec. 7 decided to put that fear aside and make the services and quality of care the issue rather than amalgamation.

A new Children's Services Division has been created in the Ontario Ministry of Community and Social Services, combining special services formerly the responsibility of ministries of health services, correctional services and the attorney-general. These services include child health centres, psychiatric units, training schools, foster homes, mental retardation services and day care centres among others.

The legislation, approved last summer, also set up local committees to take responsibility for intake, placement, monitoring and planning of services. But, it did not say how they would be funded.

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Be dependent and uninformed," delegates moved to establish a Province-wide Task Force, modelled on the Northern Women's Task Force and expanding upon its work. The new Task Force was structured to ensure local representation of women by women.
National plan for equality ratified

by Amy Chouinard

Women - 20,000 strong - rich and poor, young and old, handicapped, from various ethnic groups and from urban and rural areas across the United States moved into Houston, Texas, for four days last month to ratify a national plan of action promoting equality for women. Although only about ten per cent of those attending had voting privileges they had all come to attend a historic event: the National Women's Conference.

Most had come to support their voting sisters and to reaffirm and rejuvenate their commitment to an egalitarian society. Some had come to disrupt the proceedings and block programs.

Both had voting strength because of the mechanism used to select delegates. Meetings had been convened in every state and territory, and all women over 16 had been urged to attend. At those meetings, conference delegates had been elected. In some states, anti-feminists who faced a well-organized structure would prove unacceptable because the women at the conference were tired of pseudofeminists running the show and not sharing the wealth. She said that the proposal was defeated "because women wanted to work on their own instead of having a bureaucratic structure to handle their struggle." A substitute resolution was introduced to deal with rights of women's department.

According to a conference observer from New York's Coalition of Grass Roots Women, Estela Rodriguez, the federal department was perceived as yet another piece of bureaucracy to muddle the women's movements. She said that the structure would prove unacceptable because the women at the conference were tired of pseudofeminists running the show and not sharing the wealth. She said that the proposal was defeated "because women wanted to work on their own instead of having a bureaucratic structure to handle their struggle." A substitute resolution was introduced to deal with rights of minority women, and major amendments to the present welfare plan attacked the Carter administration's welfare policy. The only resolution agreed upon unanimously was one asking for enforcement of the Federal Equal Credit Opportunity Act of 1974.

A Equal Rights Amendment was supported but not without discussion that led far into the night. Of the resolutions considered women's status in the arts and humanities, health services, employment, elected and appointive office, business, international affairs, education, and the media. They also reviewed the special needs of battered women, abused children, home makers, offenders, older women, rape victims, lesbians, etc. In all they totaled more than 100 specific activities to end discrimination against women.

While voting participants dispatched the conference's business, thousands of other women were attending skill sessions, lectures on how-to-succeed, and many cultural and athletic events. Special performances celebrating women took place on Friday and the annual film festival was repeated each day.

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Registration

Registration is by mail or in person at the Office of Continuing Education. First Level, Administration Building, Carleton University, Ottawa, Ont. All classes begin Monday, February 9, 1976, except evening classes (March 9, 1976). Registration fees are non-refundable. Registration fees are non-refundable. No credits will be given for any incomplete courses or withdrawals after an examination date. No refunds will be given for any incomplete courses or withdrawals after an examination date. No refunds will be given for any incomplete courses or withdrawals after an examination date.

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The Office Of Continuing Education

Carleton University

Telephone 225-4400

December 1977
by Deb van der Graacht

Women have traditionally been classified as "cheap or secondary labor" in the work force, Evelyn Armstrong says. But Armstrong, president of the Toronto-based union women's group, Organized Working Women, says women are starting to work together to change the situation.

Armstrong was in Ottawa Dec. 1 to address a meeting sponsored by the Ottawa Committee for Labour Action, a socialist labour group, on "Women and the Trade Union Movement." She spoke to about 30 women and 10 men about the changing status of women in trade unions and OWW.

She said the number of women in the work force has accelerated rapidly in the last 20 years and that this has created new challenges for them. "Forty per cent of Canadian women are now in the work force," she said. "They make up 25 per cent of the trade union movement in Canada and that represents an increase of 144 per cent in the last ten years."

"Women have realized that they themselves must lead the fight for equality. They have become increasingly aware of their struggle and they're starting to express their needs," Armstrong listed equal pay for work of equal value, adequate child care, and maternity leave among the issues that OWW is working on.

"They're (trade unions) beginning to realize that this fight must be a part of their efforts," she said. "The Canadian Labour Congress set up a committee in 1976 and hired a full-time woman to deal with the CLEC executive council of the problems of women in the trade union movement." A number of provincial federations of labor also have women's committees. These are positive steps.

"We are starting to work together to change the situation." Armstrong said in the past women have been said less than men and have been stuck in "job ghettoes" or low-paying jobs predominantly filled by women with little or no chance for promotion.

"The situation still exists in many areas today. The current strike of the all-female Local 31 of the Steelplate Examiners illustrates these discriminatory practices. There, women who have had two years training for their job examining currency and stocks and bonds make less than almost every male in the company. And they rarely get promoted."

"But Armstrong feels women's increased awareness and willingness to voice their concerns, as well as for-profit women's organizations like OWW are already having an effect on the trade union movement. And she regards trade union involvement as a vital stepping stone to full equality for working women.

UIC maternity case at Supreme Court

Stella Bliss was fired from Brown Bros. Ford, Vancouver, in January of 1976 because she was pregnant. She applied for maternity benefits from UIC and was denied them. Section 30.1 of the UIC Act decrees that women be working at the time of conception. Bliss had been out of work that time.

Bliss appealed the firing to the B.C. Human Rights Branch and won. She was soon back at work, and again in March 1977, four days before giving birth to her son.

Six days later Bliss was cleared by her doctor as being ready to work, and had made childcare arrangements. This time she applied for regular benefits from UIC. She was denied regular benefits because Section 46 of the UIC Act decrees that all pregnant workers must wait six weeks past delivery before being eligible for regular, as opposed to maternity, benefits.

Bliss' union, SORWUC (Service, Office and Retail Workers Union of Canada) and the Vancouver Community Labour Assistance Society (VCLAS) lawyers appealed the rejection, and won. Umpire Justice Collier was forced, he said, "to the inescapable conclusion that the impugned section (Section 46) authorizes discrimination by reason of sex."

UIC then appealed Umpire Collier's verdict to the Federal Court of Appeal, which found in UIC's favour. The appeal was heard by Justice Geoffrey Smith and the Court decided in UIC's favor.

Ask the pullout woman to leave appeal, VCLAS and Vancouver Status of Women launched the STELLA BLISS APPEAL FUND, with the endorsement of SORWUC and the B.C. Women's Committee on Violence Against Women. The fund has raised over $400.00 and must raise $3,000 to cover travel expenses and filing fees. Contributions should be made out to the Vancouver Community Legal Assistance Society, Stella Bliss Fund, and mailed to Vancouver Status of Women, 209 4th Ave., Vancouver, B.C. V6B 4S8.

The heavy travel and accommodation expenses for Stella Bliss' UIC case can be reduced with Upstream readers' help. Most of these costs are from Bliss' lawyers. The appeal is expected to cost $3,000. Contributions of any size would be greatly appreciated. Contributions can be sent to the Stella Bliss Appeal Fund, P.O. Box 10006, Station C, Vancouver, B.C., V6B 4S8.

Wouldn't it be nice if... from the Ottawa Citizen

Trustee Dalton McGuinty responded to the appointment of four men to fill principal and vice-principal positions by the Ottawa Board of Education, and the exclusion of women candidates for the jobs by stating: 144

"I'm concerned that the board of trustees, in the absence of women, has made the decision to take the position that no woman is capable of filling the position of principal or vice-principal."

Continued from page 1

Today, it's completely different. There is a core of women who are able to completely co-work all the time. We're able to train new staff in these areas. We have women in Toronto and Montreal regularly sending us articles so that our coverage has been able to expand. And, most exciting "at all," the printer only has to print because one of our colleagues has learned to do the camera work and is now able to teach others.

From you, we have received ever-increasing support. The decision to take a break is not the first time the subject has been raised. But, we were worried before that if we stopped, we would lose everything. We know now that Upstream has gained enough interest and support that neither readers nor staff will desert us if we cease publication until March.

Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Keep in touch and we'll come bouncing back soon.
OBE bypasses qualified women again

by Dorothy Elias

There seemed to be hope for the future of women's equality at an Ottawa Board of Education (OBE) meeting in late November when a motion was presented underlining the need for affirmative action for women in the local educational system.

But in early December the OBE voted to promote four men to fill job openings in the administration, despite efforts by several trustees to have women appointed to at least two of the positions.

A list of 18 qualified women prepared at the OBE's request to supplement the administration's 5-men, 1-woman list of recommended candidates was available at the time the promotions were voted upon.

The Board's request was made after heated debates on the issue of discriminatory hiring practices within the school system. The result was a November 28 motion called for a moratorium on promotions until a list of qualified women candidates was presented to the Board for consideration.

Two of the four openings within the system were created by women retiring, and the motion attempted to ensure that the number of women administrators already below the average, was not reduced further. In Ottawa, according to OBE trustee Helen Slater, there are eight women elementary school principals out of a total of 58, and none among the 25 secondary school principals.

Slater, who personally recommended two of the women on the list, said in an interview that the list of 18 names did not include assessments of the candidates, unlike the shorter list of names presented by the administration. Also, she added, the selection criteria used by the administration in their recommendations were not included in the report to the Board.

Slater expressed disappointment with the Board's decision, which was made even though the qualifications of the two women she proposed were oozing "excellent" by the Director of Education, head of the OBE. Slater also expressed concern about sex-role stereotyping which is fostered in children as a result of a disproportionate number of men in positions of authority compared to the high percentage of women teachers.

Although she felt there was some bias against women in the decision, she also felt that the issue of discrimination had been brought out and was being looked at. Gradually, she hopes, the number of women in administrative positions will increase as more women are accepted for the principals' certificate course, and as more women take over and demand an equal share of responsibility.

Two important factors in the gradual change toward equality, according to Slater, were the "constant questioning of each appointment" by the OBE in the last three years, and the growing concern among women teachers about their own status.

Bank's tactic: wear out union negotiators

VICTORIA (CPA) - Heather McNeil, an officer of the new United Bank Workers Union, says three major Canadian banks are hindering the efforts of the union to get first contracts at 17 BC branches by insisting on negotiating a separate agreement with each branch.

The banks don't really want separate agreement, McNeil charged, but are using the tactic in an attempt to wear us out by using up all the union's resources during negotiations.

The United Bank Workers, a section of the Service, Office and Retail Workers Union of Canada (SORWUC) is seeking joint bargaining sessions with the regional offices of the banks.

The Bank Workers have been body rub parlours amounts to legalization and corporate pimping. They state that parlour owners and government "legally" take a large percentage of the women's wages and profit themselves while leaving the laws against the prostitute intact.

The main issue in the right for decentralization of prostitution, says BEAVER, is economic independence for women. BEAVER points out that "wiping out exploitative work means wiping out potential work for women. Cleaning up Yonge Street means putting women in jail, on welfare, and into competition with other women for regular jobs."

Baba Yaga, founder of BEAVER, says, "Since I was a teenager I have been solicited, not only on the streets, not only on city streets and in nightclubs but on buses, in dirty areas. Small wonder that some of us take advantage of the situation. I always wanted to know, 'Does money objectify sex?' Yes indeed, it does. And if there is anything we need to be more, objective about... it's sex. Women certified by the Canada Labour Relations Board to represent employees at 17 branches of the Bank of Commerce, the Bank of Montreal and the Bank of Nova Scotia in BC, as well as two Royal Bank branches at Gibson and Melfort in Saskatchewan.

The banks' attempt to negotiate separately with each branch is a reversal of the position they held during certification proceedings last year, when they argued organizing should be done on a regional basis.

The Royal Bank attempted to have the Canada Labour Relations Board overturn the right of the unions for certification at individual branches. But the Labour Relations Board upheld the right to single branch organizing, saying the union "is masters of its strength at one set of negotiations and co-ordinating its bargaining effort, is merely following the experience of unions in other industries."

McNeil said branch by branch certification is simply a bargaining tool, and the union wants to negotiate with the regional offices. But she said the Bank of Commerce, which has four widely scattered unionized branches, wants the banks' attempt to wear us out by using up all the union's resources during negotiations.

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The Royal Bank attempted to have the Canada Labour Relations Board overturn the right of the unions for certification at individual branches. But the Labour Relations Board upheld the right to single branch organizing, saying the union "is masters of its strength at one set of negotiations and co-ordinating its bargaining effort, is merely following the experience of unions in other industries."

McNeil said branch by branch certification is simply a bargaining tool, and the union wants to negotiate with the regional offices. But she said the Bank of Commerce, which has four widely scattered unionized branches, wants the banks' attempt to wear us out by using up all the union's resources during negotiations.

The United Bank Workers, a section of the Service, Office and Retail Workers Union of Canada (SORWUC) is seeking joint bargaining sessions with the regional offices of the banks.

The Bank Workers have been body rub parlours amounts to legalization and corporate pimping. They state that parlour owners and government "legally" take a large percentage of the women's wages and profit themselves while leaving the laws against the prostitute intact.

The main issue in the right for decentralization of prostitution, says BEAVER, is economic independence for women. BEAVER points out that "wiping out exploitative work means wiping out potential work for women. Cleaning up Yonge Street means putting women in jail, on welfare, and into competition with other women for regular jobs."

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Female offenders report criticized

by Esther Shannon

In the spring of this year the Report of the National Advisory Committee on Federal Offenders (NAFCO) was presented to government. Since then, in line with the recommendations of the report, a National Planning Committee on the Female Offender has been formed to take action on the NAFCO recommendations, including an evaluation of the NAFCO report, criticizing it for its "soft-line approach to a problem which must be dealt with resolutely."

Elise Rosen, author of the evaluation, states that "it offers little that is original, and where it does stop short of presenting detailed advice on how to set on its own recommendations."

The major recommendation of the NAFCO report, and the one which the ACWF feels is pivotal, is the closing of the Kingston Pension for Women. This recommendation was supported by a writer evaluation Rosen points out that this recommendation is an old one, dating back to 1938, four years before the prison was opened. She says that in view of present economic situation in Canada and the government's fiscal cuts, it is unrealistic to expect the federal government to spend money on new facilities. She points out that this recommendation has more immediate future of the prison uncertain, created difficulties for prison administration in attracting staff and has given government an excuse for denying funds to build desperately needed activities centres.

Rosen believes that it will be years before any new federal institutions for women inmates will be built in Canada. In view of that, she recommends a serious examination of what can be done to improve the existing facilities as the federal government can get to work on some of the measures which are facing women in prisons in Canada.

The NAFCO report outlines two plans, either one of which the government could adopt for use when the Kingston Prison is closed. Rosen's evaluation notes that each of these plans has been suggested in the past, once in 1938 and again in 1969.

Plan one recommends that the federal government retain responsibility for inmates who have been sentenced to two years or more and the provinces retain responsibility for prisoners sentenced to less than two years. Rosen points out that this is already the case.

The second recommendation of Plan one is that the federal government develop small regional institutions for female inmates, under federal jurisdiction. Rosen believes that while this idea sounds good on paper the concept of developing a system would be prohibitive. Given the number of women offenders in Canada there is one institution house "ridiculously few inmates" and could "offer very few programs."

According to Rosen the mechanism to the final three points Plan one either already exists or would be easy arranged. These points are that the federal government would be able to purchase services from provincial governments for inmates who do not require a "secure" setting and vice versa; purchases of services would be available between provinces where institutions in another province meet the particular needs of an inmate.

Plan two which Rosen calls economically feasible, makes the following recommendations:
1. Each province would assume responsibility for incarceration of women offenders, regardless of their term of imprisonment. Rosen states that this recommendation arouses much opposition because of the inequities inherent in such an arrangement, most notably that women inmates in poorer provinces would be at a disadvantage since these provinces wouldn't be able to provide adequate facilities and programs.

2. Certain provinces would undertake to provide and manage small institution which would be available for inmates requiring a "secure" setting. Rosen's objection to this idea is that it is again economically unfeasible and these institutions would not be able to provide extensive programs for the women they house.

3. Provinces would be encouraged to develop a special program or facilities to meet needs of a particular inmate population. Rosen objects that this recommendation is vague. She points out that even at Kingston with a prison population of over 100, there is difficulty in creating programs which appeal to a large number of inmates. She says that this problem would be intensified at a smaller institution.

4. A provincial government would be able to purchase services from another provincial government for an inmate requiring a more "secure" setting or to meet the needs of an inmate. This kind of arrangement was the problem of the need for a its report on the female offender be easily arranged. The of the report, a National planning with one of the recommendations criticizing it for its "soft-line approach to a problem which must be dealt with resolutely."

Another area which the report wants was neglected in the report was the problem of the need for a change in the area of funding. Rosen states that NAFCO should have noted an increase in the allocation of funds to the Kingston Pension for Women so that it would no longer be based on numbers but on demonstrated need.

Rosen concludes that it is unfortunate that NAFCO was largely unable to fulfill its mandate. She concludes her evaluation stating regret that NAFCO missed its opportunity to make its report the female offender "the implicit behind positive changes in the system in favor of the female offender."

Civil Liberties brief charges discrimination

In a draft brief to the National Planning Committee on the Female Offender the Civil Liberties Association (CLA) for the National Capital Region has charged that the relatively small number of female offenders in Canada is not adequately represented in the resultant budgetary and legislative policies. The CLA recommends that the National Planning Committee on the Female Offender "must decide within the next three months to take action on the following long-range plan."

1. A target date must be set for the closing of the federally-run Kingston Pension for Women, preferably 1990.
2. The federal and provincial governments must begin negotiating on setting binding national standards for delivery of service and rights of prisoners by 1985.
3. The federal government and each of the provinces must begin planning to decrease their joint capacity, since the overwhelming number of crimes committed by women are minor and most women are imprisoned because of their inability to pay fines.
4. The federal government must begin developing sentencing guidelines and community alternatives for handling women offenders.

Toronto group forms to protest violence

by Kate Middleton

TORONTO - Women in Toronto have formed a group to protest violence against women on an organized basis. The group, Women Against Violence Against Women (WAVAW), was formed during the week following the November 30 national day of protest on violence against women.

After the main demonstration and march down Yonge Street to city hall on November 5, a group of women went to Cinema 2000 to protest the showing of a "snuff" film. The film, one of the latest fed in the pornographic world, in which death and sex are linked - features a pregnant woman being knifed in the belly, an actor saying "You'll never bring that baby home," and an implied disembowlement of a woman. This film associates sex with violence against women. A WAVAW leaflet states, "Had the testing of a woman's body as an animal, the Humane Society would have protested; had the victim been a Jew, Menorah [British] would have protested; but the victim is a woman and the film's insult and insult to violence against all wom- en is ignored."

Approximately 20 women marched through the streets shouting "It's not our culture," others protested outside. Three women were arrested and will appear in court in January. The cinema was forced to close for that night.

The next day, Sunday, there was an organized picket outside the theatre with over 200 women being kept away by rows of police six deep. Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday a picket was maintained while a delega-
Unemployment hits won
Ottawa begins

by Maureen O'Hara

On Thursday, December 8, more than 150 people came together at a public meeting at McNabb Community centre to discuss the unemployment problem in Ottawa and to plan strategies for dealing with what has become, for thousands of workers across the country an impossible situation.

The meeting was the first public action organized by the newly formed Ottawa Coalition for Full Employment, one of several organizations of unemployed people springing up in Canada.

Speakers from the coalition discussed the reasons for the high unemployment rate of 4.4 per cent, attitudes toward the unemployed, the position of government in regard to the unemployment problem, and the costs of unemployment to the community, in respect of the jobless and to organized labour.

People attending broke into smaller groups to discuss strategies and action for bringing problems to the attention of the government, the media and the general public.

In animated discussions that went on for about an hour the different groups came up with about 20 suggestions for immediate action including public demonstrations on Parliament Hill and in front of the Unemployment Insurance Commission buildings, and picketing the homes of government officials who have put the Unemployment Insurance Commission out of business.

A paper put out by the coalition workers from Sudbury on Parliament Hill.

December 12 and 2:00 pm Friday, December 16. There have been several demonstrations in front of the Unemployment Insurance Commission's office on Cooper Street between 12 and 2:00 pm Friday, December 16.

Other plans include approaching various labour and community groups for support, setting up an office for unemployed people where information about their rights in regard to IG benefits will be available, and a centre for further organizing.

Speaking at the meeting, former president of the Canadian Union of Postal Workers, Joe Davidson, blamed the government, the media and the general public.

He said, "We've been spoiled rotten," he said, "Canadians have been living too high on the hog." Trudeau said, "Find another country."

"We've been spoiled rotten," Cullen said.

"Canadians have been living too high on the hog." Trudeau said, "Find another country."

The coalition demonstrated with laid-off INCO workers from Sudbury on Parliament Hill.

Cullen, who has been living too high on the hog.

This follows the April advice Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau gave to university students concerned about their job possibilities.

"If you don't like it here ... then find another country ... people who live in a free market system have to take the risks that go along with it ... My heart doesn't bleed for you in Toronto. Do you think the government should give you a blank cheque and guarantee you a job? ... The shortage of jobs ... means that there is too many of you."

Half of the more than million unemployed in this country are under 25 years old. Joe Davidson, on the other hand urges jobless young people to be creative when looking for work and look for little-known occupations like marine biology. The minister followed this by suggesting, "There are about 1,000 careers that people can do with a pass B.A."

A paper put out by the coalition organizers discusses other myths about employment in Canada. Government statistics regarding unemployment indicate there are about 870,000 unemployed workers and one out of every 12 Canadians who wants to work is unable to.

The coalition paper says these figures tell only part of the story and don't include:
- Dorothy Drinkwater - those who "have given up looking for work because there just are not enough jobs for them;" - mothers of young children who would work if there were suitable child-care facilities available; - older women who have raised their children and who have no hope of entering the workforce because there are no jobs for them. - Native people on reserves who are unemployed; - welfare recipients who could work if there were more and different kinds of jobs; - a large number of workers who wanted full-time employment but couldn't find any; - people doing volunteer work who would prefer to work for wages of jobs were available (mainly women and young people); - students who would rather work (for pay) than study if jobs were available; - the 200,000 people being trained in various government sponsored programs (for jobs that mostly don't exist). - Twice or three times as many people (2,000,000) would work if jobs were available for them ... the paper states.

In the October issue of Canadian Forum, H.L. Robinson explains this "hidden unemployed" segment. "These hidden unemployed are "hidden" because they do not c statistical definition of used in the monthly labo...
A report issued in February by the Minister of the Canada Employment and Immigration Commission, Bud Callen, called the Comprehensive Review of the Unemployment Insurance Program in Canada, and used as the basis for policy changes in the administration of the Unemployment Insurance Act, is "dangerously misleading in its picture it purports to draw of women's claims."

It should not be used for policy purposes until more thorough and detailed analysis of available information has been undertaken, according to a report about the review put out by the Advisory Council on the Status of Women.

Throughout the Review, statements are made about women which bear no relationship to the data presented. Constant innuendos about the labour force behaviour of women perpetuates widely held myths and fall to take into account recent research on this subject," the Council paper states. "Women are referred to as 'secondary income earners with unstable employment', patterns leaving the reader with the strong impression that their salaries are not an essential part of family income.

When considering women as claimants, the Review points out that women that are unemployed do not look very hard for jobs.

For example, the Review points out that while males and females were both entitled to approximately 41 weeks of benefits, females experienced a longer average duration of unemployment (unemployment) resulting in a higher average utilization of benefit entitlement.

The Review does not examine the possibility that women may simply have a tougher time finding employment.

It goes on to imply that various data leads to "major areas of concern over duration (illegal duration of drawing benefit) centred upon the upper age groups, females and claimants reporting no dependents." From this, the Advisory Council report points out, the reader is led to believe that women are drawing more benefits than they are entitled to.

While the Review draws attention to statistics showing the percentage of females disqualified from receiving benefits is about twice that of males, it ignores the possibility of discrimination against female claimants.

The Advisory Council report makes clear that unemployed women have complained that they are required to make substantially more job searches than men by the Canada Employment and Immigration Commission administrators in order to receive unemployment benefits.

Another discriminatory point is that a married woman with children is required to have a baby-sitter "on call" so that she is called for a job interview on the spur Review infers that women are subjecting themselves to tend to her children. Lack of day care provisions leaves the reader with the strong impression added that unemployed women have considerable additional responsibilities not faced by males.

Although employed, women were made to tend to their children. who have given up looking for work.

The Review presents this picture as the justification for an increase in the standard duration of benefits for women. "It is proposed that a new definition of full employment be 5.3 per cent unemployment, without counting any of the hidden unemployed. It also proposes that the labour force be divided into primary and secondary labour (everyone else). Unemployment among young people is increased by 20 per cent and among adults it is increased by 48 per cent. Unemployment among men is increased by 20 per cent; among women it is increased by 73 per cent.

Among young men unemployment is increased by 38 per cent; among young women it is increased by 88 per cent.

And again government responds - in a paper on the "Changing Character of Unemployment in Ontario" presented to the provincial treasurers, it is proposed that a new definition of full employment be 5.3 per cent unemployment, without counting any of the hidden unemployed. It also proposes that the labour force be divided into primary and secondary labour (everyone else).

In its position paper the Ottawa Coalition for Full Employment says that instead of taking positive measures to reduce the level of unemployment the government has consciously prolonged the problem.

"Its reaction to the loss of income suffered by the jobless has been to worsen it by further limiting the time one can collect unemployment benefits. And its reaction to people looking for work is to draw UI benefits.

Another example of the biased statements about females throughout the review is in that "males were more successful in finding jobs" while "females may have had more trouble finding jobs" because they "might not have actively sought jobs and are more likely to be out of the labour market". No statistical evidence to support this statement is presented.

"It is alarming to think that the 'Comprehensive Review of the Unemployment Insurance Program in Canada' has been used as the basis for changes in the program."

In his Canadian Forum article H.L. Robinson brings out some startling statistics:

- Overall the rate of unemployment is increased by 35 per cent; in the first six months of 1975 the hidden unemployed added 50 per cent to the overall rate.
- Unemployment among young people is increased by 50 per cent and among adults it is increased by 48 per cent. Unemployment among men is increased by 48 per cent; among women it is increased by 73 per cent.
- Among young men unemployment is increased by 38 per cent; among young women it is increased by 88 per cent.
- Among adult men it is increased by 48 per cent, but among adult women it is increased by 88 per cent.

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Dear Upstream,

I have been reading Upstream since it was first published, silently applauding women like you with the skill and determination to bring issues about women to the public and to me, and now pursuing graduate studies, my topic being "her-story"—women's social, economic, legal and political roles from antiquity to the middle ages. I am filled with admiration for the incredible number of women who have achieved so much in politics, literature, art, philosophy, etc. throughout the ages, often despite overwhelming odds against them, and I have become more and more aware of women's accomplishments today, and how the present women's movement is so unique and yet an end result of the efforts of all the women who have come before us.

The reason I am writing this letter is that Upstream has helped me realize that intellectual and political women's rights is not enough. I have been sitting back and applauding the efforts of other women, but only occasionally taking part in my own personal development and that of my daughters was concerned. I will surely be the first to admit that now I see that I must go on from there and turn my intellectual support of other women into active support.

I believe in what you are doing. It's women like you who provide the impetus for women to get out and do something about what we both believe in.

Thank you,
Elizabeth C. Lundy

Dear Upstream,

We are in a time of economic hardship. For some of us the pattern is not new, but for those of us who grew up in the fifties, sixties and seventies the present widespread pressures of economic and other survival are unknowns and hardships, mind you, has always been a reality for those denied a "good education, opportunities, a good job and a safe environment."

When we grew up knowing the系统 are finding that those paths for getting by are closing. We've opened our minds and taken the first step, and we've learned to ask questions and of my daughters was concerned. That surely must be the truth. But since I have not abused the system until now and sure that it will last until the system will not work and people will turn to the old system of what freedom to choose and exercise that freedom.

The money we earn—where does it go when we spend it, who do we benefit? Pretty preachy, eh? I guess I'm over the reader debate of issues they see as important. Upstream would like to provide this space for people to express their concerns and opinions.

The past few years have been a hard year for businesses, and as the smaller ones. They can't compete. And the substance of those choices can and do put smaller ones out of business. They can't absorb the loss and recoup the profits that these larger businesses can.

Workers, what chemicals does it contain, where is it used to produce it. The money we earn—where does it go when we spend it, who do those expenditures support, do banks use our time and money, we can affect some of our own lives. A consciousness is beginning to rise, and faced by the closing jaws of survival, this is a time to reexamine our priorities. But by making conscious choices about how we use our time and money, we can affect changes. Sometimes it appears that our choice is limited to an array of unattractive options. But by broadening our horizon, we can make the least unattractive and voiding your objections you can work towards creating reactions, on a small level, questioning the consumer habits of the day.

Big stores can and do put smaller ones out of business. They can afford to reduce prices on certain items over the long term (they can absorb the loss and recoup it elsewhere), while smaller stores with a limited range of goods cannot afford the loss of such reductions and therefore cannot compete. When we go shopping we make choices and the substance of those choices can be something we are simultaneously aware of. When we are buying a product, or patronizing a store, who are we benefiting?

Happy New Year!

Elizabeth C. Lundy

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I believe in what you are doing. It's women like you who provide the impetus for women to get out and do something about what we both believe in.

Thank you,
Secularized Christmas demanding for women

by Hope Cadieux

Few of us today can actually remember a time when Christmas was genuinely and primarily celebrated as a religious event — our childhood Christmases took place after its secularization had already begun or was well underway. The religious element— if there was at all — was a back seat to the custom of gift-giving, or rather “gift-exchange”, and Santa Claus to the imagination more than Jesus.

This “commercialization” of Christmas has been consistently deplored by religious leaders as the exploitation of what is essentially a Christian feast. But is it? Many of the customs commonly associated with Christmas predate Christianity and it must not be forgotten that the commemoration of the birth of Christ is superimposed upon existing fertility rites and seasonal festivities, adding its mythology to the store of traditions.

All societies have their myths and festivals, and our industrialized one is no exception. It is therefore not surprising that these, being Christian ones, found expression through an existing channel. The secularized Christmas is not only an accretion of the values of the society in which it exists but also an act of faith in the tradition that provides them. If Christmas had not already become a necessity, it would have had to invent one.

The Celebration of Affluence, as this season is often called, is not only a reminder of the material values of our society but of an act of faith in the tradition that provides them. If Christmas had not already become a necessity, it would have had to invent one.

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Women Helping Women

Then there's the story of the two prominent status-of-women types facing off in a posh Ottawa eatery. The waiter approached saying "What you have to drink, girls?" The two who are, as they put it, "mature, and then some," looked at each other with great astonishment and then broke into laughter. Puzzled by the outburst, the waiter asked what they found so funny. "Well, we're not girls you see," said one of the two, "we're women." "Noncomprehension," the waiter said. "It's like this," said the other woman. "How would you feel if we were to call you 'boy'?" This the waiter understood less and then, no doubt, said, "I can't do that: I'm not black.

The past few years, the Royal Bank of Canada (of MacLaughlin and Mary fame), has garnered itself not a little press attention through publishing its monthly forecast of the Canadian economy. The forecaster called the "Trendicator." This highly accurate report was surprise developed by a woman. During one such time she worked on it - research, development, production even - the woman was not allowed to appear on the monthly report to the financial press. Now that she has left the bank, the Trendicator has been taken over by a man. And, guess what, his name appears on the report.

The Royal Bank, by the way, has just issued a newsletter on family life. Very few of them mentioned that their Device, the Diaphragm. It seems that its contents are a reprint of an article dated 1951. Remember 1951, anybody? Women were being forced to work the labour market so that the men back from the war could take over their jobs. As to what this Royal B planning to recommend to stop menstruation, it is a mystery.

In Vancouver, the Department Immigration and Employment is coming into conflict with the provincial government in the working of its investigation officers. If illegal immigrants and the like are to be deported to some pretty dank areas, some of the female investive officers have been raped on the job. This is not a secret - it has been beaten as a result of the same differential treatment. This high recommendation that all officers had through self defense training? No, not true. Instead they might come up with a no female officer could go out, or be doing anything by a man.

And here's another from the good folksimmering in the '70s: the phenomenon sometimes should be noticed, putting on some lines, putting it to what it would put in to the good soil. There is a lot of our attitudes that we would be happy to be ourselves, to find out where we are at the same time.

The answer I have is: I sometimes I feel you really feel bad about what you do. Unfortunately, I have had to be very careful in my own personal life. The way it will happen, I am quite sure that you will look me right through to the back of your eyes. But I find the way I am working through the people I find as a person, it's as though some part of me is portrayed to me on a stage, like a television screen in my mind. And apparently I have been right. I have been working through the people I find as a person, I've been describing the people I find as a person, I would say, "Oh, my gosh, that's ridiculous." That's how you don't realize that I'm not seeing you. I'm working on your ego, not on your mental state.

Okay, I am a little confused about this. I see a problem with the theatre. How do you feel about these quests and the Anthony DiMeo. I am working on those with the people I find as a person, I would say, "Oh, my gosh, that's ridiculous." That's how you don't realize that I'm not seeing you. I'm working on your ego, not on your mental state.

...another example of the difference between the sexes is the fact that she has children in her native land, she could be deported as soon as the warrant finds out in the country. The rules (naturally) do apply to the in-crowd.

Many immigrant women in Toronto are employed by the textile industry in the city, and in fact, in one five acre block, there are over 10,000 of them. That whole area, there is no school, no church, nothing. Merry Christmas.

10 years for... "How to say no?"

A legal opinion prepared for the Ontario Status of Women Council on the film "How To say No," called "How to say no to a Rape at Will," is being reviewed by the Ontario Attorney General's office to determine what action (if any) the department will take on the film. The opinion was presented at a meeting of provincial and federal councils on the subject. According to the opinion, each case under the film's use as an educational or crime prevention aid on rape.

The opinion states categorically that by "putting herself in a position where she is saying yes, what she really means by, 'no', is clearly not the film the film will get no charges laid, if charges are laid, the chances of a conviction are slim, and the chances of a conviction are slim.

A spokesperson for the Ottawa Committee on the Media said that their group will waste no time in exploring these possibilities. She pointed out that in London, Ontario, the university, school board, and police had waited until a rape directly attributable to the film's advice occurred before they suspended its use. "I hope we don't have to wait for the same horror-story to occur here before anything is done about it," she added. "We'll wait and see, but if we don't, we'll be held accountable for what happens, of course." The film's use was said to be supported by the Ontario Committee on the Media which has endorsed a resolution condemning the film.

For the past ten years, the Canadian government has been investigating options for prosecuting its own citizens. The committee on the Media said that their group endorses a resolution condemning the film. "I hope we don't have to wait for the same horror-story to occur here before anything is done about it," she said. "We'll wait and see, but if we don't, we'll be held accountable for what happens, of course." The film's use was said to be supported by the Ontario Committee on the Media which has endorsed a resolution condemning the film.

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The diaphragm: endangered species making a comeback

by Marlene Fish

Overshadowed by the advent of the birth control pill and the IUD, the diaphragm is now regarding old territory in the contraceptive market. Independent research reveals the sales of this form of contraception have increased one third over the course of this past year.

For the generations of women from 1960 to 1980, this mechanical device was revered as little less than a miracle. The technique was a first in contraceptive birth control alternatives. For those who have little knowledge of its technique was a first in contraceptive birth control alternatives. For those who have little knowledge of its

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Whether you are living with a man or about to get married, you choose how your relationship is to be. The choices you make are those of a woman who makes the decisions, who owns the property, how the income is shared, who decides the rules of the house, washing, cooking, laundry. If you do nothing to exercise your right of choice, well, our society and laws will make the contract for you, as they always have.

The ready-made unwritten laws that applied to a man and a woman living together, in or out of marriage, is based on traditional patterns which have functioned stereotypically, and women are restricted in activity to the role of unpaid caregiver. The husband, the wealth and property, and the status all belong to the man of the house, but the woman has none of her own.

For many women, this is no longer acceptable.

You can make your own law and structure your own relationships within the help of a marriage contract that binds each person to specific housekeeping and personal reflection and consent. Such a contract will override existing law if that is the intention of the parties, except for limitations imposed by public policy, and by Ontario’s proposed reform laws which will curtail the freedom to make one’s own arrangements in the areas of custody of children, possession or ownership of the family home, and the obligation to support the other spouse. (Bill 59, the latest version of a family law reform bill, is being discussed and is not expected to become law until third time. But when it will become law is not known.)

If your contract follows Ontario law, it will be valid and legally enforceable, even if the parties are living together outside of Ontario and according to the law of another jurisdiction, such as another province. But certain legal formalities must be observed (more on this below).

Drew up the contract in the early stages of your relationship, if possible. The essence of a private law-making exercise is that you are imposing constraints on each other, and from the perspective of personal dynamics, habits are difficult to break and are often made worse when they are not of your own choosing.

A major point, one that should not be forgotten, is that our law now and even after reform does not apply to all their arrangements. Marriage itself has traditionally been recognized as voidable: a contract can be terminated if the marriage has not been consummated. If the marriage breaks down, however, that means that during the currency of the marriage our present system continues, and the non-owning spouse has no share of assets. Experience suggests that the following should be thoroughly discussed, and decisions should be made concerning possible alternatives, and that the results can be embodied in a written document:

1. expectations and goals of the relationship
2. duration of the relationship
3. property: ownership and/or control
4. debts
5. support and living expenses
6. household arrangements
7. personal and interpersonal affairs
8. relationship with others outside the contract relationship
9. children
10. religion
11. provisions in wills, inheritance
12. procedures for changing the contract
13. resolution of disagreeing
14. penalties for breach of contract
15. dissolution of the contract
16. provisions for a non-exhaustive and each couple can add (or subtract) items. The subclassification under each of these headings can become quite complex.
17. legitimacy of a private contract

LEGAL VALIDITY

The essence of a private contract is that it reflects the terms of the relationship as agreed upon willingly by each party, in the belief that they are fair and just and of benefit to him or her. Some freedom is given up but something of benefit is gained in return. Of course, the essential facts bearing on the contract must be known. Thus full disclosure is essential. If some important fact is not revealed, the contract can be held invalid, for example, the assets or property one party owns — that can be the basis for invalidating the contract.

Certain formalities must be observed:
1. The contract must be in writing, must be signed by both parties and witnessed, and no coercion should be applied in order to get a signature. To safeguard legal validity, include the following provisions:
   a. Describe the identity of each party.
   b. Outline the bargain which is the reason for entering into the contract. (For more on "the consideration.”
   c. Make express that the intention of each party is that the contract be legally enforceable.
2. Each party should waive legal rights in favour of provisions in the contract.
3. Provide that any provisions found to be legally unenforceable must not void the rest of the contract.
4. Choose the applicable law. This could be Ontario law or that of another place, but of course the courts of one province will enforce only those parts of a contract which accord with its own law.
5. Specify conditions for amendment, termination, and cancellation of the whole or any part of the contract.
7. Specify that each party has legal capacity, is mentally competent and adult.
8. Make it express the fact that the document has signed freely, in good faith, and with full knowledge of all necessary facts.

DO YOU NEED A LAWYER?

No, you don’t have to have the contract drawn up by a lawyer, but if you have don’t check over by a professional you could be in for some very unpleasant surprises. The basic job of a lawyer is to see that the client’s rights are protected, and if that is what you have suffered a wrong, a lawyer can interpret the contract on your behalf. But if the language of the contract on one side is not in your favour, it’s game over. And language, which in law, is the law, can be interpreted by a judge quite differently than the laywoman interprets them. A common problem occurs because of the restricted role of the married woman; the law applicable in the domestic sphere is quick and quixotic based on male assumptions. This is not necessarily unfair to women, depending upon your point of view, but the way in which a woman law applicable in Ontario is not elimin­ating the problems.

Also, do not ever forget that a marriage contract need not result in an improve­ment in your status. The use of some mar­riage contracts in the province of Quebec, for example, was to cut down the rights of the wife who otherwise at marriage became equal in property. She was still immeasurably better off than any wife in a common law marriage. A provision in a contract can run to 20 or 30 pages or more. But it’s your life and your personal iden­tity which are defined.

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These have been appreciated and applied for generations in commercial contexts, and an important difference is whether or not such commitment is embodied in a contract. Such a contract can be verbal or written, but only a written contract drawn in accordance with law will be legally enforceable in the case of domestic arrangements. 

One could speculate that without such private contracting, new patterns of conduct couldn’t happen or happen much more slowly. Fortunately, it was over hundreds of years that private contracts came to replace feudal bonds, in the con­text of the industrial revolution. Today, you have an opportunity of testing the ef­ficacy of a domestic contract in your own life. Don’t underestimate the social impact of your action, either.

Of assistance to those who rely on a domestic contract is the fact that, in a "free" society, great importance is placed on the system of private contracting. The problem has been that this importance did not extend to the domestic realm, largely because it was assumed that a woman had no role other than to serve men once she married. It has been a struggle, intensi­fying over the last hundred years, to achieve full contracting capacity for the married woman. Finally, we are on the verge of achieving it as the disabilities that formerly attached to women at mar­riage die out. But as long as dependency and traditions go on, and the women, the disabilities will not have disappeared. Fortunately, you can protect yourself through the use of a private contract. And you can hope, should it ever be put to the test, that our judges and courts will extend to this contracts (the same importance and care that are now extended to commercial contracts).

BREAKING THE GRIP OF THE PAST

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by Shirley Greenberg

December 1977
Women lose numbers game
by Amy Chouinard
Ontario's first and last coordinator for women's programs in sport and recreation ended her contract last March, frustrated, discouraged, and painfully aware that change in the system can't be effected by one person.

Only recently, says Mary Lynne Lotimer, can she talk about her experience without bitterness. Not surprising, if you consider that she was sent with a flyswatter to tell the giant to share his wealth—or else.

The flyswatter was an inadequate budget. The giant was the sports and recreation bodies—overwhelmingly made up of men who have nothing to gain by changing the system. They might be liberal enough to be sympathetic, it is just not in their personal interest to change things.

If somebody has been discriminated against, they can understand and work against discrimination—but she points out that the male establishment simply doesn't understand. "There is only one female recreation director in Ontario."

In other words, men have won the numbers game in sports and recreation at all levels, and until the score is less lopsided, women's programs will suffer. According to Lotimer, one person here and there is not going to make a difference; she feels this most important thing she could have done in her position was to lobby for additional people to work for women's special interests. "First of all, I don't think there should be only one position like the coordination. If change is what is needed, I think there should be a lot of positions like that, especially when you're talking about recreation and sport which has been monopolized by men for years. I think that job should try to create more jobs with a coordinating function."

As it was, she says, the terms of reference of her job were never quite clear. "I think the people who designed the job didn't know what they wanted. They had a hazy idea that something was needed, but it was pretty open-ended. I don't think they knew, and in the end I didn't know. I think my position was a kind-hearted effort on the part of certain individuals who didn't really understand the problem or what they wanted to do about it."

"When I left, I anglicized that a provincial committee be formed in each of the regions, who could bring concerns to a central organizing committee that could set up policies and coordinate programs. My idea was that it should be a volunteer organization, and for attending meetings should be funded by government if government is for change."

She said she made the recommendation to her supervisor and those around here, "but I saw in essence that it would be followed through."

"I've worked for so many women's organizations that draw up recommendations and nothing is done about them... For example, the Ontario Status of Women Council set out recommendations... based on Abby Hoffman's About Face (Toward a positive image of women in sport) and I would bet you a dollar to a doughnut not one thing has been done."

"Really what you need is political pressure. Government only acts in response to pressure from the public... I was trying to work through the system, and it's impossible."

It didn't help that Lotimer's position had no clout with people who count. According to her, "The position didn't carry any authority but I believe in the public eye it carried some credibility. I'm not sure with the people in town councils and recreational directors... The thing at a government level, authority is established through money, and I didn't have a large operating budget. The money I did have I got from other programs."

Dollars can make all the difference—a fact that has been made abundantly clear in the U.S. Says Lotimer, "In the States they passed legislation that says, either you comply or you don't get monies. So the athletic departments in schools comply, but many U.S. institutions see this legislation as punishment, and some people are saying 'OK, well, we'll shut down the whole 6D department.' For this reason, I am somewhat hesitant about that kind of thing. It might just make the whole problem go underground—people padding their budgets and so on. I would like to see a positive approach, with the government offering special monies as incentives—for example, Winter could have a special fund for women's programs."

100-mile ski event set to go
by J. Grande
The Canadian Ski Marathon closed its registration on November 18, by which time the quota of 3,700 entries had been received.

This year, the longest cross-country race in North America, is 160 kilometres. It is run from Lachute (near Montreal) to Hall, over two days. The early closing of the entries testifies to the growing popularity of cross-country skiing in Canada. This year more women are participating in the marathon, some for the fun of it, others to compete for position. One of the attractions of cross-country skiing is the women competing, is that endurance rather than brute strength is a major factor. Also, as more women find themselves in high-stress, high-level jobs, many find that cross-country skiing provides a recreational sport which both relieves tension and is enjoyable.

Age is no restriction either. Last year Florence Burgess of Ottawa, then 67 years old, competed in the Marathon.

This year, more women will be trying for the marathon's individual awards which are usually snapped up by male skiers, include the gold "Coureur de Bois" award for skiing the 100 kilometres in two days and one hour, and the silver "Coureur de Bois" award for the same distance in two days and two hours. For the Killington after the first day's run.

The four-member touring team competition which has half the entries from women. The team compete for the Lachute Trophy. Alison Hooper, a member of the team from Glebe Collegiate who won the trophy last year, says A's tour this year at least two other teams from Glebe to enter this year and that there are still fewer women competing, and at a lower level than before, but that women's interest and involvement in the sport is growing. A team-mate of hers, Mary Margaret McCracken, said that they will be rating again this year as a team, and hope to complete more than the four legs each they did last year. Although the marathon is closed for this year, a similar shorter marathon, "La Randoise de la Riviere Rouge," is still open to skiers of at least intermediate ability. It is 50 km. in length, and is scheduled for Sunday, February 5. The race is from just west of the Rouge River to Lachute. For further information contact: Canadian Ski Marathon, Box 315, Station A, Ottawa, Ontario K1N 8V3. Phone number: (613) 236-3842. And hurray!
Will public schools let girls play soccer?

by Amy Chouinard

Bules forbidding girls in grades 4 to 6 to compete in interschool soccer should be challenged, says an Ottawa Public School Athletic Association committee reporting to its parent organization.

The recommendation was one of 11 in a committee report submitted this month which will be revised and presented to the association's governing board at its annual meeting in May. It was based on findings from two surveys of all members schools about a desegregation experiment under way since September, and consultations on possible physical deterrents.

At present, the OPSAA constitution excludes girls from soccer play at the interschool or "all-star" level. Last year, the policy came under fire when a group from Glasham School was barred from participating in a game. The group was not disbanded, and in response, the OPSAA has introduced an experiment to see whether a constitutional change is possible.

This year, the association is also allowing boys allowed into all-star throw volleyball and girls to play all-star soccer. Now that the girls are being admitted, the statistics are coming in. They indicate the experiment is encouraging, if not an unqualified success. Several girls made their way into all-star competitions, and many more joined soccer house leagues. Although actual numbers who broke into all-star play were not outstanding, in future it is hoped that more girls will develop skills in house leagues and eventually make a comparable showing.

One problem anticipated in desegregating sports, according to OPSAA president Will Thurrow, is the "negative effect on the girls' program. The effect that the girl, perhaps -- the tradition-

al chauvinistic attitude if you like -- want to be the one able to compete with the boys."

Based on that concern, the number of boys allowed into all-star throw volleyball was limited to half the team, although no consideration was given to a maximum for girls in team sports. The reason, says committee member Collin Benson, is "we didn't think the girls would take

over the boys' sport." The opposite was a very real concern, according to Benson.

The problem with this sort of logic is that assigning a maximum to boys but not to girls is an inauspicious way of telling girls they aren't expected to be as good or as interested as the boys. If fewer girls wish to participate in a team sport, the maximum doesn't affect them except to let them know they are expected to be as capable as their male counterparts.

To date, no one is willing to admit that debate on desegregation may be just as much wanted time away due to a recent Human Rights Commission ruling. The commission found that the Ontario Minor Hockey Association could not legally forbid girls to play on its member teams. The OHMHA policy was tested when Gail Cumings of Huntsville, Ontario, was thrown off her team for no reason other than her sex.

Asked what effect the ruling may have on the OPSAA, both Thurrow and Brackenbury said, "I don't know." But, given the OHMHA precedent, the OPSAA is likely to find itself embroiled in a losing legal battle if it attempts to enfore the policy.

On guard!

Louise-Marie Lefebvre, current national champion for women's fencing, just a tie-breaking barrage to Montreal opponent, Pati Bult, and took only second in the MacMillan Fencing Tournament this month.

At right, she does her gear, which includes a metallic vest wired for scoring. Upon contact with the spring loaded tip of the foil, the vest triggers a coloured light and registers a hit. The tone is the only valid target in women's competitions in Canada.

As left, Lefebvre demonstrates the skill that has made her national champ. Her next competi-

tion is the Ottawa Shields Tournament to be held the third week in February.

Sport speculum

by Rose Jones

To pick or not to pick, that is the question -- not for guitar playing or basketball strategy, but for skating technique. It is the basis of a rule that women on hockey teams in Ottawa must wear men's skates, not because hockey is a man's sport but because the picks on women's figure skates.

The bottom pick is considered dangerous because of the way it sticks out - kind of like a sore thumb - which could, in a player's out or infilt a deep cut.

You may ask: do the picks make that much difference in skating techniques? Yes, they do.

There is a big difference, and it's only too obvious when you try to use men's skates after you've been used to figure skates.

When using figure skates, you dig the bottom of the pick -"like a snowbank, running into some-

one, or falling down. But there is an easier way.

When skating forward, you must turn both skates sideways at once, and you'll find your stop is accompanied by a cloud of artificial snow - just like the professionals.

When skating backwards, you must put downward pressure on your legs, causing the skates to be pushed out to the sides. The more pressure applied, the quicker you stop. Backwards stopping is tricky and you may find it's the source of your first wipeout on men's skates.

All this information will be useful if you decide to join a women's hockey league, but don't rush out to buy men's skates. You do have two alternat-

ives: you can file the picks off your figure skates, or you can buy tube skates for women, which are simply a white pair of skates with men's blades (not too widely available, unfortunately).

Then you can contact the Can-
debrary Community Association or Nepean Sportsplex, and offic-

ials there will provide further information on teams.

For only twenty dollars, we'll teach you something you'll never forget.

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If you've ever been interested in cross country skiing, then now is the time to look into a more leisurely pursuit, Fresh Air Experience is offering cross country ski lessons for only twenty dollars.

For the two lessons, you get eight hours of supervised instruction. That includes two hours of theory (indoors).

And six hours on the snow.

Also, all equipment - skis, poles, boots and bindings - will be supplied by Fresh Air Experience. Everything for only twenty dollars.

Is cross country skiing your kind of activity?

You'll never know until you try. Besides, it's only twenty dollars. But it could be the best investment you've ever made in your own physical fitness.

By the way, all lessons are based on your particular level of fitness and athletic ability. However, the main emphasis is placed on recreational skiing. In other words, we want to enjoy ourselves, not be competitive.

Make your reservations now. Whether it's for yourself or a friend, now is the time to make your reservations for cross country ski lessons. So give us a call at 729-3002 and make it to Fresh Air Experience.

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Dorothy Marshall
Card-carrying healer

by Jean Frances

Dorothy Marshall is a reflexologist at the Strathmere Growth Centre where she was leading a week-end session in December. This interview was recorded at her home early in December.

Dorothy, where are you from?
Oh, I’ve lived in many places; first and foremost, I’m a Canadian. Can you tell me about your background?

First of all, I was trained as a research mathematician, and I worked for a while in that field. But I had always studied music and so I went into the music field. I hold teaching and supervisor’s certification in music therapy—my music sight reading is quite good. I’ve been an organist and choir director; I was a superintendent with St. John’s Ambulance at one point, and a Red Cross nurse in a Polish military hospital. I’ve done various things through the years—everywhere I’ve lived I’ve had to be able to hold a job. This enables one to do many different things.

And in Ottawa you were . . .
I am past president of the Business and Professional Women’s Association, and I’m at the moment the president of the Reflexology Association of Canada.

Where was it that you really became aware of the therapies that you now use?

When I was in the Orient. I realized that things were being done in a different way there. Most patients in hospital seemed to have acupuncture, acupressure, massage, reflexology, all sorts of things, and not so much of the drugs and the operation. But now Western doctors are going to the East, and they are bringing some of the Western ways there. But also I find that the Oriental, the Eastern, ways are coming to the West. I hope we will get a good push in their doctrines in this country.

Do you think the Oriental methods that you used will help people in the West than the Western ones are used?

I think they will. It’s a natural therapy. It doesn’t charge her. She had no money, but she always used to come and clear up the sidewalk around the house. And it wasn’t a very, very nice one. It was all a muddy, messy, dirty, yellow sort of looking thing. And I had the feeling that I had to throw this away from her body. So I washed and got rid of the body, and I tore it, literally tore it apart. After that I finished it that I put a very, very nice one. I felt I had to have her here in rose petals. You know, lovely smell, lovely texture, lovely color. And then I surrounded her with the white light of protection (called by some the white light of Christ). And then I heard later that a few days after that she had gone for her last operation, and she had been told that they couldn’t find anything wrong with her. What I didn’t know up to that point was that she had been a terminal cancer patient, and she’d been sent home to die.

There are methods of healing used in other parts of the world, so we must make our own decisions about what we’re going to do, and which pathway we’re going to travel.

How do you feel about being a channel for miracles?

Sometimes it’s hard for me to use those words. Things happen: sometimes I work very fervently with a tumor, and I work a lot on the mental plane — but I really very honestly and very clearly know that one is prepared to use my life in this way, if it will heal people and get them out of some of their earthly problems.

You mentioned miracles performed through you. What did you mean by that?

No, no, we don’t perform miracles. Some of us seem to be open as channels to give to others, to help them.
The life of Canada's domestics: 75 years

Dear Ros,

I never thought to find it so hard to write to you but the work is much harder than I thought. Don't listen to those agents they lie to you. Sometimes I do not stop work until 11 at night. That Mr. Brown said how free meals are here well there are not and nor is the wages so liberal as they promised being $10 a month and money for your passage taken out of that. The work is hard for Mrs. Grant has only me to wash and cook and clean and three children to which I would not mind being accustomed but that little Daphne is a monster. They are all cheeky and spoiled too and when she called me button nose Mrs. only smiles and says don't mind it shes only a child, but I do and if I dared I would box her smartly.

We are working hard to prepare for Christmas. There will be 15 to dinner but I will not have to do it alone. Mrs. Grant is to get someone to cook and I will serve and wear a frilly cap. She has promised I shall have some of the same dinner. I am grateful for it is not so in all homes. She has promised me some fabric for a frock too which my Friend Heather has said she will make up for me, and then I shall go out walking on my ½ day off with the grocers delivery boy. His name is Thomas and I shall feel very smart. Though all is not good I am lucky for Mrs. Grant is a kind woman and Mr. is very civil not like some who forces the girls in the house and one got KILLED for it. She shot him with her own pistol in a drawer and got off too for he'd done it before and it came out at the trial. Toronto is quite exciting though it is very cold and lots of snow but better than the west. Their is a girl at the working girls club who was sent west but she left for it was so lonely, no other house to be seen and no one to talk to but the

Mrs. Who was not a very talking woman. And 10 to cook for everyday plus the chickens and water to be brought in from the pump outside. She is seeking work in a factory where she may earn up to 3 dollars a week if she is good at her own lodging. She has promised I shall stop now for I hear them back but write to me. Fancy I shall be 17 in two weeks.

Your Friend
Carol

No.6DraperSt.,
Toronto,Canada
15thDecember1902.

letter by Florence Worthington

I am a woman, a daughter of Martha, one of those whose business it is to smooth the path of others. My days work begins at six in the morning and ends any time before twelve at night. All day long I serve and scrub and bake and then wash dishes, polish silver, press clothes until well into the night. I wear a frilly headband that seems like a lead weight on my throbbing temples. My shoes are felt soled and light as gossamer but at times, they feel like going cast iron. I say "Yes sir," and "Yes Madame" with a pleasant smile, when I feel like screaming and telling the whole household to go to bed. I am tender with little children and I humor their childish whims; my own are in a foster home and indifferently cared for. But do I it all gladly, and I am well satisfied that my meagre wage is enough to pay for the bite that keeps my children alive.

from a letter by Florence Worthington to the Mail & Empire, Jan. 16, 1914

Domestic Service 1970's

"The second place I worked was terrible... I did go through a lot. I did have to see psychiatrists and all. I was like the wife in the house I would say... in my mind, I was a slave in the beginning because I couldn't get my stay in Canada. I couldn't have been left there because I wasn't free to leave there. I'd get up in the morning around 6:30 or sometime 6 o'clock. By 12 o'clock at night I'm still on my feet. Sometimes even later if they had guests. I lived there of course, so if I didn't feel like going anywhere, I didn't go anywhere. And I didn't know anybody for about six months. So I was always just there.

It was a terrible experience because she was very very very very very... And then for food or anything I didn't have any big difficulties. But she was a very open person which made it very tough. I didn't have any big difficulties. But she depended on me for every single thing. She did nothing. I did everything. I was the wife, the maid. I did the homework with the kids, sometimes I'd sleep with them in their bed. I'd cook. I did everything. Guys used to come there—her friends. They'd make passes at me. Her father attacked me. Her brother-in-law attacked me...

The husband was always talkin' about sex—he didn't say it in the exact words but he said it... I wasn't free to say, "I would like you to leave me alone."... Domestic work is a hell of a thing!"

quoted from The Immigrants, Gloria Montero.

The ideal of domestic service
[from The Archives, Eaton's of Canada Limited]
Records by Kate Middleton

Most of us have grown up under the influence of one woman singer or the other, be it the Andrews Sisters, Billie Holiday, or Joan Baez. A new era of writer-performers has emerged - the woman-identified performer. The reviews that follow describe the most recent recordings of a few of these women.

Meg Christian, "Face The Music" Olive Records, 1977

Olive's first album was "I Know You. It was Olive's initial attempt at making women's music available to the public and incorporating women into major records industry.

Two years later, the attempt has paid off. Not only has Olive produced eight albums, but she has also been seen on television and in publications. In fact, Olive's first album has been released on a major record label.

Olive's music is a combination of blues and jazz, and it's called "Get A Feelin'." The album is a collection of self-penned lyrics and guitar riffs, all written and performed by Olive herself. The album is currently available through major record stores.

When I was a little girl I watched a boy I straightened up behind the stage and wore me corduroy. Everybody thought I only did it to annoy. But I can't seem to be an engineer.

I listened to my mother and I found the toping top.

I listened to my lover and put him through school.

If I listen to the bass, I'm just a bloody foot

and some mad engineer. copyright Peggy Seeger, 1979.

Shelter Music

A mixture of blues and jazz jams is "Get A Feelin'." olive, the lyrics twist and top the rest of the composition in a dizzingly fun way.

The album has the "Witching Hour," the only "heavy" piece on the album. Rock guitar riffs sit side by side with Sweet Honey and the Rock, Linda Tillery, Teresa Trafi, Holly Near and more, all beautifully matched with Olive's classical guitar. 

Cuts such as "Face The Music" and "The Rock Will Wear Away" are bound to become anthems. Both combine strong, simple lyrics with light, laughing rhythm.

Trent Yarrow's first album to this list, available from the Toronto Women's Bookstore or Olive Records for about $7.

Willa Tyson, "Debutante" Wine Woman Enterprises, 1977

To quote Ladyslipper Music, in their catalogue "Debutante" may prove to be one of the best albums of the year by feminist. If nothing else, it totally discounts any charges that feminists are tone-deaf; this record is downright tasty.

Willa's rich voice rises into the back-up vocals and piano on "Stealin' Heart" leaving the lyrics standing out as a humorous contradiction to the mood of the song:

"Debutante" has been one of the few albums coming from the women's movement to appear in the above-ground press (full-page ads and a review in Rolling Stone and other trade journals). Hopefully this will mark a trend in the growing acceptance and popularity of women's music.

Ferone, "Ferone" Lucy Records, 2062 West 22nd Ave., Vancouver B.C. 1977

Ferone is a poet song-writer from the area who sounds like a cross between a young Janis Ian ("Society Girl") and Leonard Cohen. She is a budget album which Ferone recorded in his 15th period in the spring. Ferone is a very complicated, very sensitive person. According to a recent "Body Politic" interview, "Ferone moves through a world of shifting relationships, anguie and demonic voices, prophetic images, terrifying coincidences, transmissions from outside space. Her own shamanistic powers come and go unexpectedly."

She is presently travelling a cross Canada singing, and promoting her album. It is definitely an album worth writing about. Write to Lucy Records for information on cost.

Lily Tomlin, "On Stage" Arista Records, about $7.

Here is Lily, Tomlin, back in vinyl form! The result of her recent performance of her one-woman show at the Bird & Beak theatre, this presentation was one of the most experimentally varied, with the addition of some new characters, particularly "Ginna - A Woman with a Foot"

The format of the album is similar to her last album. Both are experimental and multi-layered. In the former album, the album is a collection of bizarre characters. In "On Stage," she is a new character - the Shopping Bag Lady. A new and similar character is a "Unmarried and Little".

The Shopping Bag Lady and UFO Guy represent two socially unacceptable yet redeeming characters who are struggling to survive. At the end of the show the Shopping Bag Lady meet. Lily at the stage door and offers to give her a lift with the same amount of sassiness and charm as the young girl in "Tell Me Sweeney Goo"

The resemblance in these two characters is remarkable in its subtility.

The major portion of the flip side is "Little" from "Unmarried and Little" - A Child of the Sixties. Here - all the store-type, top-hats and all the above are portrayed through Glenna and her companions with her friend Jane Dope, the War, parents, relationships, and so on. Her women's movement and finally marriage receive equal doses of Tomlin's genius. Unfortunately, this side suffers from a lack of originality and innovation.

Lily Tomlin is one of America's finest comedians. She has adopted a style of schizophonic comedy that has yet to be matched. Where she goes from here is just as much a mystery as her question "What does a wine glass see when it looks into a mirror?". We can only hope the champagne wees something different each time she looks into that bizarre mirror. Her audience is becoming accustomed to change.

Sheaome Emotion" by Phoebe Pharaoh

Sheaome Emotion" is Joan Armatrading's fourth album, and it on her remarkable talent in formulating and based on a subjective edge by Giya John's arrangement which stop short of obsessional. It is her tight, most commercial album to date. The selection is overproduced, and as in the rest of her work, the album is also over-arranged and over orchest rated, even if done with polish and care. The instrumental backing, especially over-emphasised by David Kemper's flute.


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When God was a Woman

by Kate Millett

December 1977

The repeated imagery of the Goddess, her male cohort, and the symbols of her power, the snake and the lion occur frequently in the archetypal remains of these ancient civilizations. Then, after a series of migrations by northern people, the Mesolithic and Neolithic groups, another image appears, the storm god, "lion on a mountain, blazing with the light of fire and lightning. These patriarchs from the south greatly affected the southern matrarchies. There seems to be a definite link between the Hebrew god, who appeared to Moses on the mount, and the Indo-European god. As time went by, the status of the cohort changed and he began to assume more and more power until the northern invaders had completely assimilated or destroyed the Goddess-worshiping societies.

Stone carvings on the Judeo-Christian records dealing with the annihilation of the Goddess-worshipers. It seems that a significant portion of the battles and religious conflicts instigated by the wandering "roam of gods were against these women-led societies. The Adam and Eve myth, in particular, is dissected to expose its role in the conditioning of the early Hebrew tribes who sometimes leaned toward the worship of the Goddess, to the displacement of the highest Godcare, the Lords.

Acrmoning the main text of this excellent work are data charts and an extensive bibliography. This book is required reading for anyone interested in the worship of the Goddess and in basic religious studies. John Bramer, and associate of Robert Graves, states, "When God Was A Woman collects and evaluates the evidence supporting this theme in a way which is clear, consecutive, educative, and prophetic." Prophetic, huh? Hmm.

Poetic chronicle

Salt and Yeast, selected poems by Gert Beadie
Northern Women Journal, 216 Bay Street, Thunder Bay, Ont.
"A poetic chronicle of a woman's half-century on earth."

Firstly it has arrived! For the past three years Gert has been delighting audiencess with her poetry. Now her collection of over forty years of growth and pain has been collected in this attractive edition put out by the Thunder Bay Sisterhood, women actively working in the northern region of Ontario for the benefit of the women there.

As the introduction states, "for years she (Gert) was looking for strength in a protector and finding it in herself."

Through backwoods survival, church affiliation, working in a hospital, constantly reeking, we see a woman alive in her poems in much the same way as audiences come alive when she reads. Everyone who has heard Gert read has their favorite poems. They come from her is the most expansive and delightful manner. As she states herself, "Jupiter rides my mind like a broomstick, dropping images around, spelling words upon the ground, faster than my pen can pick them up."

This book would make a fantastic stocking stuffer for all my friends. Rarely has such a collection of poems sprung so generously from one so deserving of recognition. Available from the Northern Women Journal.

Books

Dorothy O'Connell

CHICLET GOMEZ

Wayne Cheveldyaff

THE BUSINESS PAGE

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D & G

Deneau & Greenberg Publishers

305 Metcalfe Street - Suite 205 - Ottawa, Ontario
understanding
men's
liberation
Three circles
Lie on your palm
You're a new born juggler
With a lot of plans
And its hard to ride a unicycle
And its hard to steal a train
And its hard to listen to a slave
Without running past the words
"Sick and tired"
Cold and wet
And hungry for some solitude
Or some strong hammer
To break my hands"
Esther Shannon

wild birds 2

From an airport in yet another city
your call rushes into my bed this morning
unexpectedly
touching the nerve which misses you
sharp edged like a country and western twang
In my own community a friend's house has burned;
Amantraing spinning on the stereo,
the phone fell off its hook and melted down into itself
to forward no messages,
no hint of the evacuation
Rain pours day after day as arc number two looms in the horizon.
The first red bleeding fall leaves strain against the turbulence
as November comes early this year in a shock of
disappearance,
a breathtaking absence of colour.
Past the torch free manifesto I was reading
I saw you holding your torch high for me.
In the olympics of time honoured poses
your lips blazed like the eternal flame
with words I was shocked to hear.
Is such passion dangerous in this day and age?
Your sweet calling a dagger in my heart?
Ostriches fly from my legs
to bury their awkward eyes,
not realizing they have already been discovered,
followed and recorded.
It is said in Buddhism that the journey from Kamakura
to Kyoto
takes twelve days.
If you travel for but eleven days and cease on the	twelfth,
how can you view the moon over the capital?

Moonflower.
A foot is pointed, A journey is beginning.
A thousand mile journey beginning with a single step.

Alexa DeWitt

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y

Philippa

quiesscent
the ultimate in control
waiting
saying nothing
to alert
the guardians
of fate
muscles in a state of perpetual
readiness
alert for sounds
MOVE!
the time has arrived
we must rise
we who wait
we who move
in night scenes
in time
in space
we the watchers
have seen enough
to fulfill
to fulfill
waiting is full.

wanda

the portuguese employee

All day she works.
At the thankless job
Of serving others food,
Till her mind goes numb
At thought of steak and coffee cups,
And coming home and waking up.
But every night
When she returns, tired and alone,
To her neat and spotless room,
She feels expectant, glad and reassured.
And borrowed pleasure, potent to the touch.

She eats, reads her ancient Bible dutifully,
And then prepares herself for bed.
Already the sordid memories of the day
Are sifted through her head,
And she is lost in calm white sheets,
Waiting for the inevitable wine,
The bread, and sweet communion of the saints.

And there’s no way for her to comprehend
The foolishness of what she sees,
Christians and martyrs, all alike,
Conspire in their false forms,
Have come to claim her self-deluding mind;
Materialized as friends.
And lovers in her bitter loneliness.

She doesn’t realize it would be easier
If she could lie and ponder all alone
The wonder of her blessedness,
Without those spectre proofs who tell
Of what might be, unless, unless.

While nights grow longer and more bleak,
And days are dimming earlier,
And one fine morning,
She’ll wake up to discover snow.
What will she have to show?
For all the summers that have passed so long ago.

Slowly she beds down for the cold,
Intoxicated by what might have been,
And thoughts of sunny landscapes, suntan glow;
Across the oceans of an age
When life was young.

And days were olive-green and dappled gold.
She doesn’t know; how could she know?
Those days are memories to some extent;
They cannot ultimately prove
Her grounded virtue for posterity.

As slow but sure the season’s growing old,
As days and nights could still be dappled gold.

Emily Jane Nunn
Ms. Mufet's fights back

by Rosana Desmedes

In my quest for non-sexist children's literature to review for this article, my first stop was Boys and Girls Department of the Children's Library (after all, a 610 children's library card is a lot cheaper than a big book and makes a great socking stuffer). To my surprise, my nomination of a bibliography and collected a number of bibliographies of allegedly non-sexist children's books, and these lists can be seen, upon review, to reflect the dominant bias in the children's department, although I understand that the library boards do not necessarily provide the same service. One of the bibliographies, entitled "Little Miss Muffet Fights Back," caught my eyes, and Mrs. Pearl Wilner of the Children's Library kindly helped me to locate seven copies of this list among the library's hold. I then interviewed Miss Mufet and asked her what the illustration on the cover of this bibliography is considerably less the same 25 children, five girls, five boys, and a teacher who have drawn this for me, but assuming that my research more accurately reflects my feelings about the books included in the bibliography, can I simply say that the literature is general.

Apparently the only qualification a book has to have to be listed in "Little Miss Muffet Fights Back" is that it be for girls, but for me this is not enough. In my opinion, non-sexist literature must also avoid traditional sexual stereotyping, particularly the sex-specific social roles way too often assigned to the boys and the girls and even the parents, and everything he selects. I can really only recommend these three, all for other children—but these three are in perfect.

Books for children 8 and over

The best of the lot, in my judgement, was Louise Fitzhugh's Harriet the Spy (New York, Harper and Row, 1964). Apparently this book really shocked the critics when it came out: they either loved it or hated it. I loved it, especially its unorthodox, unusual character. Although the adults tend to follow traditional roles, eleven-year-old Harriet wants to become a writer when she grows up. As her best friend, Jane, has a chemistry set with which she makes explosives and plans one day to blow up the world, Harriet's other close friend, and her baseball player when he grows up, at the moment is the chocolate and keeping house and managing the budget for his father. Harriet is wide "west away and has all the money!" All the characters, the minor adult ones as well as two teenagers, are beautifully drawn, with great insight into their conventional attributes, and Harriet's mathematically inclined

Actually, the sex-stereotyped characters in the story are more interesting when they are boys and men, particularly theypressing Harriet and the young and the youngest Swallow sister, Titty (I know, cringe, but oh, my gosh, it's 1969!), and the Swallows'cannot take upon any implications in 1930. The Swallows, like Harriet, exhibit exceptional sympathy and understanding and, in spite of having had five children, whom she is raising largely in the company of her husband is in the navy, she is perfectly capable of ruling all around the lake and knows all about sailing and camping and terns and the donkey-

stop the entries in the spirit of her character's fantasies, especially Titty. Of all the children, Titty is the one who really embodies a sense of adventure. She is the one who wins the war. I hate to say it, but she is the one who wins the war, even if it means even snows or thunderstorms. Not that Titty's stories are always the best, but if even, they were not, they wouldn't admit it. I find this rather admirable. It is often from the way little girls are often characterized in more recent novels. I think that the fault of this book should be blamed on the readers themselves, and not on it. I love, for instance, anything in my many merits and its somewhat more advanced age and it would be possible to explain to a child that almost fifty years ago it would have been expected that John and Roger would go to sea when they were ready, and that the father would not, unless nowadays Susan and Titty and the Amazons could join the navy too, they would. In a lot of ways this book portrays a time when even the sex-diminished aspects of life are so much more possible in life than they were in later children's literature. As early as 1900 we had brave and independent little girls in the picture, in Winnie the Pooh, but we really seem to have come only since then, and that is upsetting!

Happy, there are at least eleven books available on Amazon.com and other websites, and Mrs. Wilner reports that other children of both sexes who enjoy adventure stories have been known to read right through them. For parents who might be reading to children, there is a pleasant sense of nostalgia and some typically British emphasis on life and play. There is also a positive value.

The author also informed me that children who like fantasy often read their way straight through to the boy in the other set of the books. The first book, The House of the Scallops (New York, Doubleday, 1939), introduces the titty-like creature who inhabits the house, a creature of the Old English houses are re preserved like things of Rip van Winkle, particularly the donkey and the donkey-ears. The borrower mother's characters are predictable sex-role oriented, and the plots aren't too exciting either.

Consequently, for younger children, I would recommend to read the book, and for books which present other, more positive models of both boys and girls; if you show initiative, inventiveness, and self-reliance, and boys and girls together who need to the problems of everyday life with confidence, resourcefulness and cooperation. Their paperback editions are very cheap, and even though they may be available in the library, I would urge you to buy them for Christmas presents, because what better little children expect reading the same book over and over again whenever the spirit moves them.

In Rosemary Allison's The Travels of Mr. Beaver, Beaver leaves his family in Belwood, Ontario, to see the world. He now lives on a river, where she damps up the stream in Riverside Park. She is subsequently granted a lake without a license, but at the urging of all the Toronto residents who have benefited from her creation, the lake is legalized, and Beaver is set free and becomes the official life guard.

After some time she has another attack of wanderlust and sets off again to see the rest of the world. This is a charming and amusing little story, and Mrs. Beaver does everything that Mr. Beaver would have done under the same circumstances.

The comments on the next three books are taken from what was written about them in the September 1976 issue of AQA Review. I have had a time to track down a copy, but I would imagine, from the accuracy of the blur on Mrs. Beaver, that they can be trusted.

Shoes! She Sneers! by Heather Keilerhaus! Stewart, is about a girl named Hilary who likes to play hockey; this seems like a (t)iny little book in view of the present controversy about Women and The Great Canadian Game, and the Fuzzy Puck...and Chips, by Jan Andrews, parental roles are reversed, and the father stays home and cooks potatoes for supper, while the mother goes out fishing and ends up with a variety of exotic sea creatures.

In conclusion, I would like to stress that, since concentrated research projects have demonstrated beyond reasonable doubt that characters are portrayed in children's literature as having a definite effect on the attitudes and behaviour of juvenile readers, it is important that children's books have great care. As a reader, you should not rely on pre-screened bibliographies of endless literature until you have sampled their recommendations and are certain that the material is in the standards that you have set for your own child.
dory’s kitchen

by Dory Preston

In the winter holiday season most of us
like to have a celebration meal of some sort,
a satisfying, life-giving affair without
the boast of the traditional holiday sup-
ners. So rather than just talking about it,
I am going to offer this winter feast to warm
the cockles of the heart and which will be
kind to the pocket book in our holiday season.

When your guests come in from the cold
serve them:

Hot Spiced Apple Cider

48 oz. cider
2 cinnamon sticks
6 whole cloves
slices of orange and lemon.

Try warming mixed nuts in the shell for
a pleasant change.

Hors-d’oeuvres

pieces of fresh raw vegetables, like cauli-
flower, green pepper, broccoli, sweet red pepper,

coriander, mushroom, carrot sticks.

Dip

1 cup sour cream
1 cup yogurt
chopped dill, parsley, or curry pow-
der.

Zucchini-Mushroom Quiche

pastry:
3 cups whole wheat pastry flour
1 cup unrefined vegetable oil
4 tsp. sea salt
up to 1/4 cup cold water
(yields 3 pastry shells)
filling:
4 eggs
2 cups milk or cream, scalded
3 eggs beaten into milk
1/8 tsp. white pepper
1/2 cup grated swiss or
gruyere cheese
1 cup finely sliced zucchini
and mushrooms
Bake at 375 for 15-20 minutes.

Garnish with wedges of tomatoes.

Delicious Baked Yams*:
4 large yams, baked
scrape out meats, chop, and put in a greased pan.

1 cup chopped, roasted almonds
mix with yams, sprinkle with 1/3 tsp. salt,
mix 3 tbsp unrefined corn oil with 1 tbsp oil.

Bake in a 350° oven for 15 or 20 minutes,

Soak dried prunes in water for 2 days.
Remove pits and blend, or mash until smooth.
An additional addition; 1/8 tsp. powdered cardamom.

Beets In Orange Sauce

1 lb. beets, cooked, peeled, and
diced

Sauce:
mix in a saucepan:
1/4 tsp. salt and
1/2 tsp. arrowroot or cornstarch

Add:
1/4 cup water
1/4 cup orange juice
1 1/2 tbsp. honey
Cook—stirring all the time—over medium
heat. Reduce heat and add:
2 tbsp lemon juice
grated rind from 1 orange
4 tbsp. butter or margarine.

Add:
Add diced beets, mix and serve garnished
with parsley and an orange twist.

Log Cake

4 eggs, separated
2 cups sugar
1 lemon rind, grated
1 cup date sugar (recipe follows)
1 scant cup whole wheat pastry flour
pinch of salt

Beat egg yolks and add lemon juice and
rind, then sugar and flour. Fold in stiffly
beaten egg whites.Grease a cookie sheet with
shortening, using a piece of brown paper
cut to fit the pan. Turn into buttered
and bake at 375° for 15 to 20 minutes.
Allow this to cool until manageable, re-
move from pan leaving paper on, roll up
and let stand until cold.
Unroll and spread with 1 1/2 cups prune
pures (recipe follows). Roll and place on
platter seam side down. Smother with
whipped cream sweetened with honey
and sprinkle with cardamom chips.

Date Sugar

1/2 cup dates
1/2 cup water

Bring to a boil and mix and mash
until thick and smooth.

Prune Purée

Soak dried prunes in water for 2 days.
Remove pits and blend, or mash until smooth.

For Children

National Museum of Natural
Sciences and History presents
Dino-Pluto, a live dinosaur presenta-
tion, plus other hands-on activities!
Downstairs, 1-3 p.m.
Dec. 26 and 27. 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
For Information: 246-4511.

Gingerbread Workshop at Ottawa
crafts. Meet work of January 10
in the Arts and Crafts, 2 p.m.
Dec. 26 at 10 a.m.

For Children

Herb & Spice Shop
841 Bank Street
Ottawa
233-0979

Dec. 17
The Ottawa Women’s Centre has
a Winter Hat Sale Celebration with
its annual chenille or knit caps
and mittens, and 60 embroidered
scarves. 15-30 w. Orléans St.
Sunday, 2-4 p.m.

Dec. 26
The 19th annual Boxing Day
Black Friday Sale starts at
10 a.m. on the first floor,kart
Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Dec. 27
Town & Country presents Lane-
mark leather goods, 11 a.m. to
5 p.m., Sure Thing, 12-2 p.m.
Nanaimo, 3:30 and 9 a.m.

Jan. 18
Carrefour University Women’s
Centre is having an exhibit of
women’s artwork with
11 a.m.-3 p.m.
Carrefour, 11:45-3:30.

Jan. 9-20
Carrefour University Women’s
Centre is sponsoring an exhibi-
tion of photographs by Ontario
women
10:30 a.m.-3:30, 203-217

Jan. 30-Feb. 10
Carrefour University Women’s
Centre is sponsoring an exhibi-
tion of photographs by Ontario
women
10:30-3:30, 203-217.

Feb. 4
Ontario Society of Women
Geographers poster, on Women’s
Geographers poster Geographers
Legal Perspectives. For more
info, call 222-5353.

For more information, please call
327-8830 or 222-5353.

For Children

Out of the Closets

Plan your winter escape with a half
hour trip to 75 programs over four
Thursdays. Topics and classes
for kids only, call
246-1117.

NATURAL FOOD
Herkis & Spice Shop
841 Bank Street
Ottawa
233-0979

Lanark Farm House
an exceptionally soft and perspicuous watercolour

DE P ART GALLERY
783 BANK ST., OTTAWA ONT. K1S 3V5
TEL. 233-3730

Ottawa’s quality gallery
Hours: 10-5, 3-8 Sunday, Closed Mondays

Interlude Cafe
200 Belvedere (at Bank) 235-0341
Open Mon. to Sat. 11-2 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Specializing in lunches, dinners, homemade pastries
a variety of coffees and teas

FULL-course evening meals served between 5 p.m. - 9 p.m.

BULK
grains - dried fruit - flours
nuts’ seeds - fresh produce
 teas - coffee - spices

CURRENTLY
UPSTREAM
AN OTTAWA WOMEN'S PUB.

THE ECONOMY
Women organize for the new year

EQUAL PAY - UNEMPLOYMENT - DAY CARE