

The Northern Woman  
Presents...



The Birth of International  
Woman's Year  
January 1975

Volume  
II  
Issue No. 1

I AM

I am a deep river  
bedded on rock  
who knows what  
subterranean streams  
have kept me undiminished  
what magic filters  
of the soul still -  
keeps me loving  
Infinite and Indestructable  
I hold the seed  
of the world  
in my rebellious Belly  
only I know  
the strength of the destroyer  
that sleeps in my currents  
only I know how  
much I would risk  
for a calculated Inch

written by Gert Beadle  
(for the International Women's Year  
Planning Seminar, November 1974)

## EDITORIAL

...It was at an international meeting of women in 1971 held in Berlin that the idea of International Women's Year was conceived. It was decided to bring the proposal to the United Nations. This proposal met with favour and at the twenty-seventh session of the General Assembly, it was brought to fruition. 1975 was proclaimed International Women's Year based on the theme Equality, Development and Peace. The machinery to mark this important event has now been set in motion in most areas of the world. Locally the recognition for starting this work must go to Ruth Cunningham of Confederation College and some of the women of the Northern Women's Centre.

I think it is fair to say that having the United Nations act on International Women's Year was a great victory for women everywhere. It recognizes the tremendous contribution women have made to the development and advancement of humanity throughout the centuries. At the same time it provides an opportunity for women throughout the world to step up their work to put an end to the exploitation of women and the discrimination and prejudice against us which still exists in many areas of the world.

International Women's Year should be considered the beginning of a decade of intensified activities to bring equality to women. We hope that 1975, as women work together everywhere, will help all of us to see our problems more clearly and make each of us more conscious of the role we can play in this common struggle.

...We can see at once that the theme of Equality, Development and Peace allows for a wide range in reference to issues which can be covered in discussion, covered by resolutions, and around which projects may be planned.

Many issues have already been raised by women. Among the most urgent are equal pay for work of equal value, adequate daycare, the rising costs of all commodities which are seriously eroding the quality of life, the lack of proper housing in many areas, etc., etc. All these matters and many more are of great concern to women everywhere.

We would urge that we do not allow ourselves to be sidetracked. That we do not "run off in all directions at once"- as someone once said, but rather, that we enter into serious discussion, put forth serious propositions so that together we might come up with a sound program which will capture the imagination of the women of the region. We believe that we have here in North-Western Ontario a unique opportunity to make 1975 a milestone in the struggle for equality for women and at the same time leave a legacy for those who come after and who, hopefully, will derive some benefit from our efforts.

We must not allow International Women's Year to be wasted. Every project must carry within it the kernel which will add something to the struggle for equality for women. We must not allow ourselves to be directed into areas which will not- and I underscore will not- contribute anything to this cause. There are subtle- and some not so subtle- suggestions coming down from the superstructure which have already been imposed on women regarding International Women's Year without women having been consulted. These must be probed and challenged, accepted or rejected. If we accept without question all decisions which have already been made for us ie. setting up of the budget, allotting the budget, deciding what type of activities will get a major portion of funds available, hiring of an advertising agency to do the publicity, etc., etc.

If we submit to this type of treatment without protest, we will ourselves be helping to perpetuate the paternalistic attitude towards women which we profess to be fighting against. I conclude with a parody of a widely used advertising slogan: "By gosh, the time is right!"

(This is the text of Micky Murray's introductory speech at the International Women's Year Seminar, November 29, 30, and December 1 held in Thunder Bay 1974)

THE OFFICIAL UN EMBLEM FOR IWY

A dove for peace,  
biological symbol  
for women, and  
mathematical sign  
for equality.



The work of Valerie  
Pettis, New York  
graphic designer.

# HERSTORY

DECEMBER

- INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S YEAR planning seminar for Northwestern Ontario was held at Confederation College and the NORTHERN WOMEN'S CENTRE for the purpose of discussing and planning joint projects for the women of Northwestern Ont. for International Women's Year (IWY). Twenty-six resolutions were passed. Thunder Bay, 1974 1
- 
- Mayor Jane Bigelow won re-election to a second consecutive term, defeating three opponents. London, Ont. 1974 2
- 
- The Saskatchewan Court of Appeal has upheld a Court of Queen's Bench ruling that rape victims are not obliged to answer questions regarding previous sexual relations. Regina, 1974 3
- 
- The Toronto Women's Yellow Pages, a non-profit directory selling for \$2.00, lists how to find a special woman. Women in trades, crafts, professions, businesses, arts and non-traditional as well as traditional fields are listed for the many people willing to employ qualified women, but have difficulty locating them. The small yellow booklet also includes services and organizations directly related to women. Toronto, 1974 5
- 
- \* Susanna Moodie, author of *Roughing It In The Bush*, a record of her early pioneer experiences in Upper Canada, born, 1803 6
- 
- Senora Hortensia Allende, widow of Chile's late President Salvador Allende, has been lecturing in Canada, urging Canada's government and Canadians to let the Chilean political refugees come in. Toronto, 1973 6
- 
- Reginae Tait of Toronto, and Roseanne Sutherland of Sudbury, are the first lay women among its benchers since its incorporation in 1822. Benchers have the power to disbar or punish lawyers or refuse admission to the society. 1974 7
- 
- \* Members of the House of Commons take home the report of the Royal Commission on the Status of Women, Ottawa, 1970 8
- 
- Janette M. Georgeson, first woman bank manager, was appointed manager of the Toronto-Dominion Bank, Victoria Ave. and North St. She is also the first woman manager in the western division of Toronto-Dominion banks comprising of half of Ont., Manitoba and Saskatchewan. Thunder Bay, 1974 9
- 
- Karen Magnussen voted top Canadian female athlete. 1973 18  
Beryl Plumptre chosen Canada's most newsworthy woman. 1973
- 
- Deana Lee-Smith, first and only woman on the university of Toronto faculty of architecture staff. In Canada, of 3,300 registered architects, only 63 are women. Ms Lee-Smith states women architects have the hardest time of all in North America-- in the classroom, on the job site and in finding work. Toronto, 1973 19
- 
- Jan Tennant, first women to be seen reading the National News on CBC. She also has a new Tv show, *The Fit Stop*. Toronto, 1974 20
- 
- Mary Stewart, swimmer, is named Canada's woman athlete of the year, 1961 21

- Margaret Trudeau was named as the CP woman of the year, 1974 23
- 
- Isabel le Bourdais, author of The Trial of Stephen Truscott, named Woman of the Year 23  
by Canadian Press women editors, 1966
- 
- \* The English translation of The Tin Flute by Gabrielle Roy is published, 1945 24
- 
- \* Marlene Stewart Streit, golfer, is selected Canada's outstanding woman athlete 1963 26
- 
- \* Hon. Judy LaMarsh chosen Canada's most newsworthy woman of the year for the third time, 1967
- 
- Ruth M. Cunningham, appointed to the newly formed position of director of women's 28  
programs, The Confederation College of Applied Art and Technology, Thunder Bay, 1973
- 
- The first ten women, graduates of Armed Forces boot camp at CFB Cornwallis , have 28  
elected to pioneer the entry of women into the Canadian Forces School of Aerospace  
and Ordnance Engineering at Camp Borden, Ont. 1973
- 
- Suzanne Findlay has her job back as head of the women's program in the Secretary of 31  
State's Department after she appealed, and women's organizations supported her vocally  
and in letters and telegrams to the Prime Minister, Cabinet ministers, and members of  
Parliament. There was an audience of 100 people -- something unheard of in civil  
service circles--when her appeal was heard.
- 
- \* Credit to HERSTORY published by the Saskatoon Women's Calendar  
Collective (On sale at The Northern Women's Centre)



5.

Women's Work Comes Alive in '75

International Women's Year, 1975, is the year when women focus creatively and ambitiously on projects and issues that are of special concern and importance to them. A seminar at Confederation College held November 29,30 and December 1 on International Women's year (IWY) demonstrated the enthusiasm and dedication of women in North-Western Ontario to a great variety of projects and campaigns of interest to every woman.

Seventy-five to one hundred women from numerous communities in N. W. Ontario, rural areas and Thunder Bay representing specific women's groups or associations of many political, religious, ethnic and social backgrounds came together to share information about the plans and hopes of N. W. O. women and to provide information on existing or prospective national and regional activities and resources. Out of the discussion of the situation of women in N.W. Ontario- with its positive side and problem areas defined - the delegates formulated recommendations for N.W.O. women in 1975. These recommendations were compiled into a list of twenty-five resolutions that were presented, ammended and voted upon during the final session of the seminar. The delegates then committed themselves to initiating certain projects that particularly interested them. A priority list of resolutions was compiled, based on the number of women who will participate in the area they specified as being the most important to them.

An "Information Caravan" is the project that most women wanted to see materialize. This would travel throughout N.W. Ontario, and include the following programs:

- educational informations i.e. on resources, speakers, contacts...
- research and studies information
- books in a library and for sale
- films
- information on employment practices, day care, birth control, health care, legal aspects of marriage
- craft displays and general entertainment

Accommodations for women in crisis situations that would provide a warm and understanding atmosphere was a high priority among the delegates at the seminar. Eighteen women indicated that they want to create a travelling feminist theatre group, for purposes of entertainment, culture and education.

Many women indicated that a program of political education directed at women is necessary. This would embody such subject matter as party politics government structures and ideologies, looking at all levels of government. This would also serve to encourage women to get into politics, and support women in running for office, and would be offered in all N. W. Ontario communities.

6.

Of special pertinence in this issue is another high priority: a comprehensive study with respect to women and work in N.W. Ontario. This study would encompass the participation reae of women in the work force, unions, wages, hours, working conditions, day care, unemployment and all other related aspects. This information would be published as a report so that it could be available to all interested persons. An information booklet listing films, books, resource people, speakers etc. needs to be printed so that it can be used by the individual groups and organizations in Thunder Bay or surrounding regions.

There are still more projects, such as establishing a scholarship fund, researching into and developing sex education classes in schools, writing a history of pioneer women in N. W. Ontario, that are areas in which any woman can participate.

Aside from project oriented resolutions though, many "campaign resolutions" that involve pressuring the government to change some of its policies affecting women were passed. These resolutions were mainly dealt with by telegrams to appropriate government officials, stating our position on such issues as abortion, the firing of Sue Findlay as director of Women's Programs and day care.

A steering committee of nineteen women, representing most North-western Ontario communities, will co-ordinate these projects that will be born during I.W.Y. Limited funding is available for those projects needing it the most. Hopefully the imagination and dedication of women who participate in these projects will minimize expense and develop them in a self-supporting way, independently of government influence.

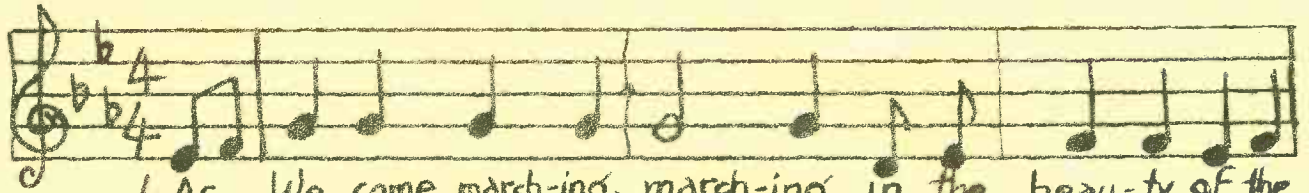
The key to the success of the many exciting and challenging prospects only now in the planning stages is YOUR participation. We need all the womanpower possible to insure that all of these worthwhile plans become reality to better the lives of women in N.W. Ontario. Since the United Nations is so generously granting one whole year for people to focus on the status of 51% of the world's population - women - we must act now to prove that in 1976 that majority (US!) will not be overlooked, ignored or pacified.

Think about what you'd like to see happen to improve your situation, or broaden your horizons, or improve the position of women in N.W. Ontario. Then communicate your ideas or hopes or intentions by phoning: "The Northern Women's Centre" (807-622-3989 or Box 314 Thunder Bay 'F') or Helen Halet (F.W. YMCA Thunder Bay 'F' or 623-8411). Let's make 1975 a year in which women are recognized as an energetic and decisive force for change.

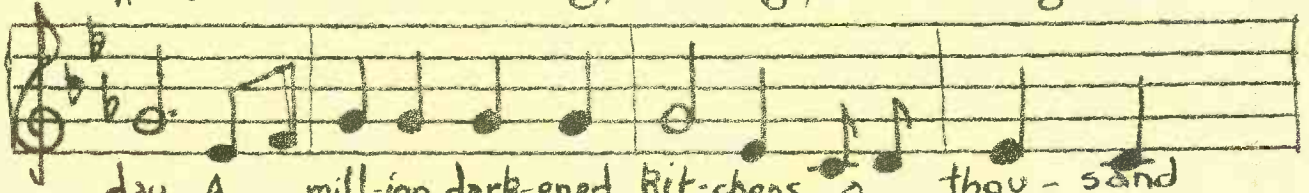
-- Georgina Garrett



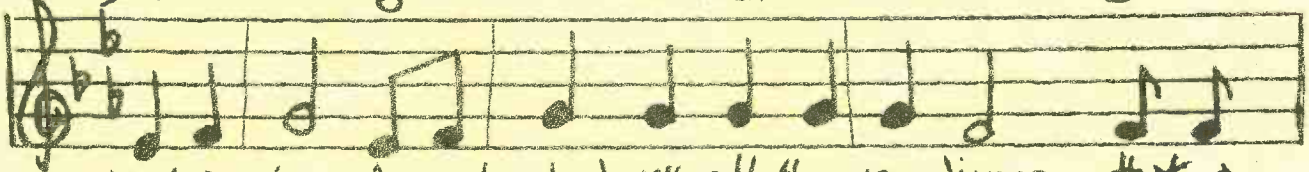
# BREAD and ROSES



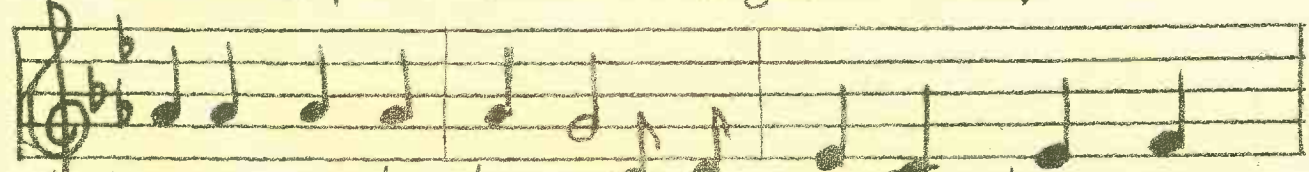
1. As We come march-ing, march-ing, in the beau-ty of the  
2. As we come march-ing, march-ing, we bat-tle too for  
3. AS we come march-ing, march-ing, un-numbered wo-men  
4. As we come march-ing, march-ing, we bring the Great-er



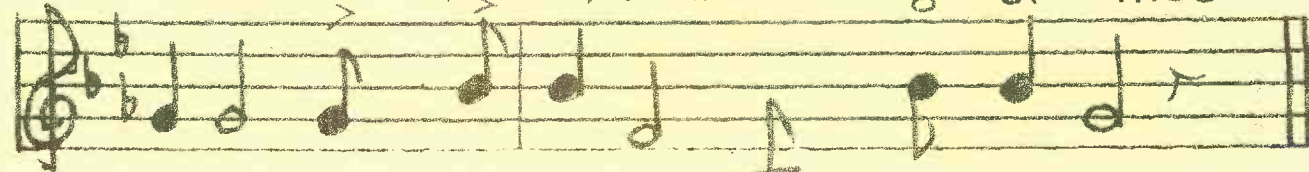
day, A mill-ion dark-ened Rit-chens a thou-sand  
men, For they are wo-men's chil-dren, and we mo-ther  
dead, Go cry-ing thru our sing-ing their anc-ient  
Days, The ris-ing of the wo-men means the ris-ing



mill lofts gray, Are touched with all the ra-diance that a  
them a-gain, Our lives shall not be sweat-ed from  
song for bread, Small art and love and beau-ty their  
of the race, No more the drudge and i-dler; ten that



sud-den sun dis-close-es for the peo-ple hear us  
birth un-til life close-es, Hearts starve as well as  
drudg-ing spi-rits knew, Yes it is bread we  
toil where one re-po-ses, But the shar-ing of life's



sing-ing: Bread and ro-ses; bread and ro-ses.  
bod-ies: Give us bread but give us ro-ses.  
fight for but we fight for ro-ses too.  
Glo-ries Bread and ro-ses, bread and ro-ses.

## AN OPEN LETTER TO SUCCESSFUL WOMEN

I am speaking to all of you who have 'made it' in a man's world. I am speaking to the women bank managers, and the women doctors, and the women race car drivers, and the women athletes, and the women politicians, and the women astronauts, and the women scientists. I am speaking to all you women who have become rich and successful and who are saying things like "I'm not a women's libber" or "I made it so any woman can" or "I believe in femininity" or "I'm already liberated."

I have a few things to say to you that are very important.

First. You did not make it alone. You are where you are today because of the hard work, the sacrifice, the imprisonment and death of thousands of women before you. You owe your position to the women who fought to liberate you from corsets and long skirts and fainting spells and the "the curse" and legal non-existence, and forced ignorance, and idleness, and "women's weakness" and a firm belief that you are incapable of doing a man's job. The women's liberation movement is now new--it has existed for hundreds of years, and you are part of the first generation to reap some of the benefits gained by these brave woman. Do not forget this.

Second. Femininity is not the issue. When women's liberation says that platinum hair and pancake faces and uplift brassieres and girdles and giggles are the symbols of women's oppression, we mean just that. They are SYMBOLS; they are not the source of oppression. You cannot eliminate fascism by banning swastikas any more than you become a fascist by wearing one. Swastikas were a good luck symbol in many cultures. Symbols are different

in different cultures. In North America women do not wear veils. We do not suggest for one minute that a woman is liberated by going without a bra or makeup. It is the media that has made an issue of these things--not us. Women's freedom is not in any way dependent on how we dress, despite what the liberated fashion mongers would have us believe.

Third. Freedom is not the same thing as being successful. When you say you are liberated you are saying that you do not experience the normal prejudices of being a woman. Of course you don't. You have made it in a man's world. But it is still a man's world, and what you call liberation will not be true freedom until it is the right of all woman, not the privilege of a few. Women's liberation does not deal in exceptions--we deal in averages. And the average woman still faces many prejudices in her everyday life. You are not liberated until all woman are liberated.

Fourth. There are still a lot of women who have gained nothing from the long struggles of our foremothers. They are poor women, Indian women, Black women, immigrant women, working class women, very young women, very old women, lesbian women, single mothers, insane women, and "fallen women". The Women's Liberation movement is concerned with continuing the fight for women's freedom until all these women share the security of a good job, like the one you already have. They too are working hard, under adverse conditions and against incredible odds. It is no wonder that women like you are still the minority. We want to keep on fighting against prejudice and ignorance, at whatever cost, until conditions are equalized for all women and men. This is what

Women's Liberation is all about.

Fifth. When you say that you do not support women's liberation, you are standing in the way of these important advances, and negating the advances that have already been made. You are taking advantage of a good thing and forgetting to give credit where it is due. You are not really a self-made woman. Remember this.

Sixth. As a woman who has "made it" you are in a position to do a lot of good. You have money that could go to help the women's movement. You have a hungry press waiting for your pronouncements on anything and everything. This is a plea to you to understand the importance of the women's movement. To read some books and look at it objectively before you pass judgement publicly. To speak with women who work for women's liberation and consider what they are saying. Times are changing and nothing we can do can hold them back. So instead we must start taking control of some of the changes, and do so responsibly by thinking beyond our own lives and our own small circles and our own selfish needs. Women will move ahead with or without your help. History has shown that this is inevitable. But how much smoother, how much less violent, how much easier these changes would be if you would help them.

Think about it.

Sincerely,

Judy Rain

(Canadian Woman's Paper  
The Other Woman)

## book review

THE LACE GHETTO Nunes, Maxine, and  
Deanna White: Toronto New Press, 1972

Slick ad copy—"Keep her where she belongs.." or porno flicks — "Hips and tits" it's all the same in the Lace Ghetto.

An overview of reasons for the women's movement, "The Lace Ghetto" shows brutal shards of truth in nine major areas, including CR. You cannot help but be moved by this showcase of ignorance and heartbreak. Deprecating advertisements, cartoons, selected quotes, the "hidden persuaders" that distort women's value, are naked on the pages— shown for what they are—along with transcribed discussions, that show what they have done.

The authors do not seek to liberate women into the roles that men now play and they also recognize that freedom will be a new, and possibly frightening, burden. Perhaps books like theirs will make women courageous enough to risk the bearing of it.

Lace Ghetto is a highly emotional book, and is also easy and fast reading ideal for newcomers, and rejuvenating to those who have begun to feel that 'what's-it-all-for,-any-how,-I'm-just-knocking-my-head-against-a-stone-wall' syndrome.

M.L.



WHAT YOU MAY HAVE MISSED AT THE WOMEN'S CENTRE MEETINGS

- Jan 2, 1975 Women in Cuban Society. Speaker Georgina Garrett, who was a visitor to Cuba recently
- Jan 9 Open House held at Confederation College to discuss Women's Studies Program.
- Jan. 16 The Mentally Retarded. Speakers Norma Sheridan and Marion Babcock.
- Jan. 23 Special meeting on "A Women's Right to Choose.
- Jan 30 Rape. Speaker Debra Lewis of the Toronto Rape Crisis Centre.
- Feb. 6 Micky Murry on history of International Women's Day. Brainstorming on what should be included in an International Women's Day Program for March 8, 1975

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Thursday night meetings

The regular Thursday night meetings at the Northern Women's Centre will concentrate on organizing an International Women's Day Program up until March 8. We need Womanpower! Please come out, because this special day needs all the support and attention it can get. Each Thursday, 8 pm Northern Women's Centre Planning for International Women's Day, March 8, 1975 followed by informal socialising.

See you there!

STUDY GROUP

A couple of people have expressed interest in joining a study group. The purpose of the group is to get together women who would like to learn more about the women's movement and make friends at the same time. So far I have visualized that the group would meet every week or two to discuss a book that one person has read with a different person being responsible for having read a book at each meeting. The person would describe the book and relate what things in the book related to her and what things she did or didn't like about it. Hopefully this would stimulate conversation around each person's feelings about the book. Any suggestions are welcome. If you are interested or know anyone who is please leave a name and phone number and an indication of which day or evening is best. I have the list.

11.

CONTACT PEOPLE FOR THE FOLLOWING  
NINE PRIORITIES FOR INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S YEAR

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RESOLUTION #1	Information Caravan	Liz Jobbitt 939-2057
RESOLUTION #2	Crisis Housing	Estelle Friedlander 622-3989 (days) Marg Lanchok 887-3343 (Nipigon)
RESOLUTION #3	Theatre	Kate George Georgina Garrett 622-3989 (days)
RESOLUTION #4	Political Education	Bernice Cain 597-4523 (Atikokan)
RESOLUTION #5	Information Booklet	
RESOLUTION #6	Working Women's Study	Shellie Wisner 344-6949 or 577-7707
RESOLUTION #7	Scholarship	Audie Williamson 344-4566
RESOLUTION #8	Sex Education	Shellie Wisner 344-6949
RESOLUTION #9	History of Pioneer Women	Mickey Murray 344-4562

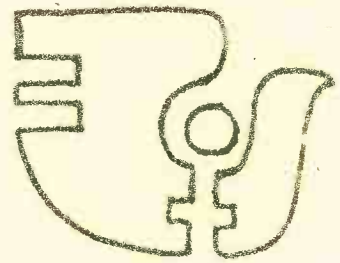
M A I L I N G      A D D R E S S

Northwestern Ontario International Women's Year Council  
P. O. Box 314  
Thunder Bay 'F', Ontario

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RESOLUTIONS PASSED AT THE NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO

12.



INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S YEAR SEMINAR

Held at Confederation College  
and the  
Northern Women's Centre  
the weekend of  
December 1st, 1974

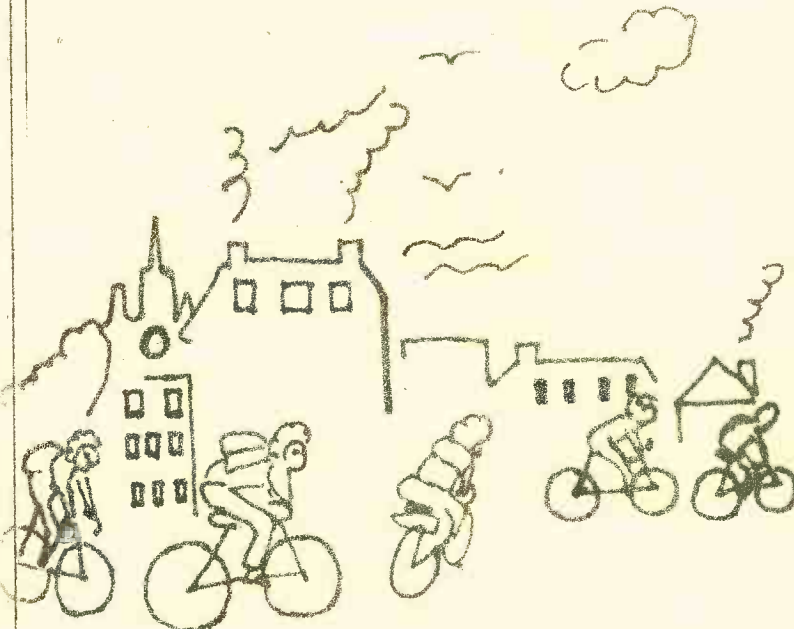
RESOLUTION #1

be it resolved that a co-ordinating council be formed to gather and dispense information and have the responsibility for co-ordinating joint or individual projects for Northwestern Ontario.  
and further that the members of this council will represent all of Northwestern Ontario.  
and that the members of this council be volunteers from, or elected by this conference.  
and that this council should apply for funding for administration, travel and other expenses.  
and that this council be called "the Northwestern Ontario International Women's Year Council".

RESOLUTION #2

be it resolved that an Information Caravan be formed to travel throughout Northwestern Ontario.  
and further that the following programs be included with the caravan.

- (a) research and studies information
- (b) educational information i.e. on resources, speakers, contacts
- (c) books be available for sale
- (d) films
- (e) workshops of different issues to be formed
- (f) include a permanent library collection
- (g) include information on Family and Property Law
- (h) general entertainment for and by women
- (i) information on sex-role stereotyping in family and educational institutions
- (j) information on employment practices
- (k) information on the formation of consciousness raising groups
- (l) information on day care
- (m) information on birth control and natural birth
- (n) information on mental and health, care
- (o) information on "growing old" and problems that surround this phenomenon
- (p) information on crafts and being prepared to display crafts
- (q) information on legal aspects of the institution of marriage
- (r) aspects of International Women's Year be included.



I  
W  
Y



RESOLUTION #3

be it resolved that there be set up a travelling theatre group specializing in feminist theatre for purposes of entertainment, culture and education.



RESOLUTION #4

be it resolved that a project be set up for women in a crisis situation. Accomodation should be found where they may encounter a warm, understanding atmosphere. This would not be a Women's Centre, but a home for women in crisis - young women, aged women, unemployed women, etc.

RESOLUTION #5

be it resolved that an information booklet be printed listing films, books, resource people, speakers, etc. that can be used by the individual groups and organizations in Thunder Bay and surrounding regions.



RESOLUTION #6

be it resolved that a history of our area be compiled, describing the role of pioneer women and outstanding women in various fields up to the present day in order to record the contributions of women to Northwestern Ontario.

RESOLUTION #7

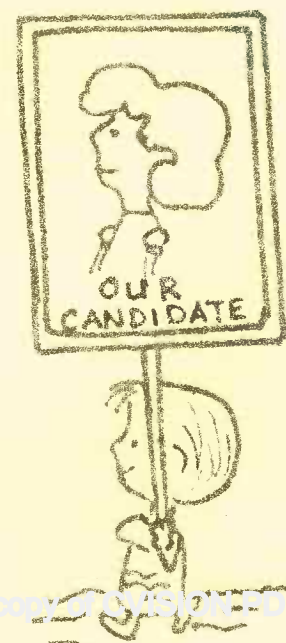
be it resolved that scholarship funds for women be established commemorating International Women's Year, to aid the needy parents with a priority given to single parents who are returning to school.

contact Audie Williamson - 344-4566

RESOLUTION #8

be it resolved that we utilize the resources available in Northwestern Ontario to engineer a program of political education directed towards women, embodying such subject matter as party politics, government structures and ideologies; looking at all levels of government.

and further that it be directed towards encouraging women to get into politics, and supporting women in running for office, to be offered in all Northwestern Ontario communities.

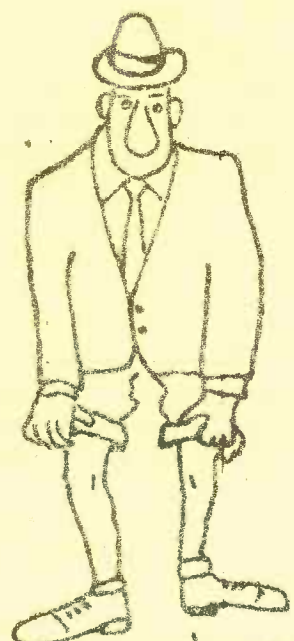


RESOLUTION #9

be it resolved that we utilize all resources and data available to undertake a comprehensive study with respect to working women in Northwestern Ontario.

and further that it would encompass the participation rate of women in the work force, unions, wages, hours, working conditions, day care, unemployment and all other related aspects.

and further that this study be made available to all persons in Northwestern Ontario.



"Hire him. He's got great legs."



RESOLUTION #10 (a)

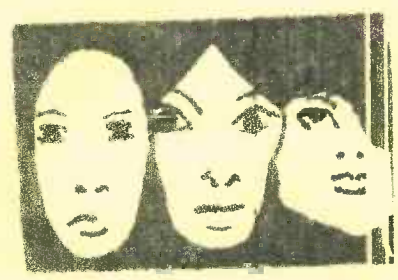
be it resolved that a comprehensive program be developed in the schools with respect to sex education, birth control and V.D. counselling, and all other related aspects of health care.

and we press the Board of Education to make quality education in every area available to every person, regardless of sex, and that course content in programs be evaluated as to their portrayal of women i.e. in history courses.

RESOLUTION #10 (b)

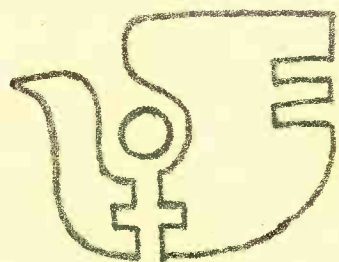
be it resolved that the Boards of Education in Northwestern Ontario be surveyed as to the availability of women counsellors in high schools for planning curriculum programs and career preparation.

and that boards be pressured to hire female staff in May of 1975 where there is no female counsellor available.

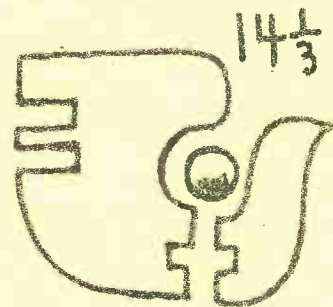


The above ten resolutions deal with projects for International Women's Year. Women who attended the seminar wrote down which project(s) they were interested in working on. These lists were compiled by Helen Halet.





# PEACE EQUALITY



The following resolutions are "CAMPAIGN" issues many of which were immediately dealt with by telegrams, etc.

## RESOLUTION

# 11 protesting the displacement of Sue Findlay from her post as Chairperson of the Secretary of State Department's Women's Program. (See Herstory in this issue re: Sue's appeal).

# 12 protesting the funding for conferences and advertising of IWY and the slogan "WHY NOT?".

# 13 that pressure be put on the Federal Government to upgrade existing child care facilities and develop better child care programs.

# 14 offer support and agitate for high quality health care and information facilities in an out-reaching manner for all Northwestern Ontario, highlighting women's needs.

# 15 that the women of Northwestern Ontario campaign for a Canadian stamp to commemorate IWY.

# 16 protesting Otto Lang's recent stand on abortion and pressure for the removal of abortion from the Criminal Code.

# 17 prior to the enacting of any new Family Property Law, it be subject to the scrutiny and criticism of all Ontario women.

# 18 that the women of Northwestern Ontario campaign to pressure the Department of Labour to take a more active role in prosecuting violators of the Ontario Human Rights Code and the Employment Standards Act to actively seek out and investigate violations of the law.

# 19 pressure for a continuation and stepping up of the campaign for equal work for work of equal value.

## DEVELOPMENT

# 20 pressure for increased awareness and abolition of sex-stereotyping in materials and practices. (From the Federation of Women's Teachers Association, Thunder Bay).

# 21 collective action by women to urge the governments to respond and to cope with inflation and institute an inquiry into the cost of food, housing, etc.

# 22 PLEDGE OF OUR NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO WOMEN'S CONFERENCE AS PART OF THE PROGRAM FOR INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S YEAR - 1975

1. Promoting the peace efforts of women's groups and other national and international organizations and encouraging on the part of all women of the world, the promotion of detente in the world, international peace and co-operation among states.

(a) Combating, colonialism, neo-colonialism, foreign domination and alien subjugation, apartheid and racial discrimination.

(b) The realization of the principal of the right of people to self-determination.

(c) Dissemination of information concerning the United Nations charter and activities as well as the principle of international law.

2. Participation of women in safeguarding peace which would promote economic, social, cultural and political conditions that contribute to the advancement of the status of women and men.

3. Facilitating the free flow of information and ideas among countries having due regard for their sovereignty and non-intervention in their domestic affairs, on the contribution of women as well as men to peace and promoting the exchange of visits by women of different countries to study common problems.

FEMINIST NEWS SERVICE

On December 27th, 28th and 29th, the first National Women's Press Conference was held in Saskatoon. (The second one has been tentatively been scheduled in Winnipeg sometime in March.)

Present at the Women's Press Conference were representatives of Women's Press, Women's Centres, Canadian Women's Educational Press, and newsletters from feminist organizations. We proposed to establish a Feminist News Service (FNS). We will be laying the ground-work for this in the next two months before the National Women's Centre Conference at which there will be a discussion of a news exchange. So, in other words, there are now two distinctly separate conferences being planned for the near future; one a Press Conference and the other a Women's Centre Conference, both of which will be devoting variable amounts of time to the organization of the Feminist News Service.

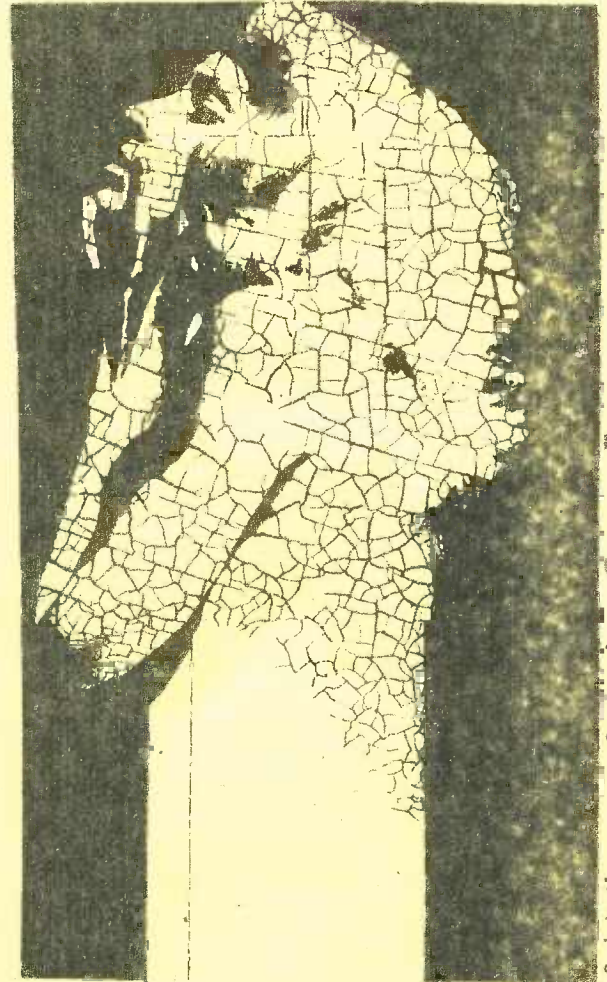
Good communication between women's groups is necessary. Two examples of the need for communication are:

- Otto Lang's interference with the Saskatoon Women's Centre grant from the Secretary of State did not become general knowledge in some cases for several months.
- Women's groups in British Columbia were dissatisfied with what government was doing with International Women's Year. They were informed that they were the only province complaining. It took two months to find out that most of the women's groups across Canada were also unhappy.

The future of the Feminist News Service rests on participation of all women's groups across Canada. Although over 30 women were present at this conference from Victoria to Toronto, we felt that this was not complete enough representation for a national network. Therefore, at the next Feminist News Service Press Conference, we plan to have participation from all the groups in Canada.

... from "The Founding Mothers" of Feminist News Service (FNS), terminal in the Waterloo Women's Centre.

To Be Televised: The Film "Would I Ever Like To Work", followed by a panel discussion on Day Care in Thunder Bay by Bonnie Ward, Helen Halet, Kate Sikerbol, Julie Fels, Rose-Marie Neuman and Sandra Livingston will be televised  
Wednesday Feb. 26 at 6:00 PM  
Thursday Feb. 27 at 8:30 PM  
Friday Feb. at 6:00 PM  
on Channel 7.



Print Magazine, Designed by Tomasz Jura

# HELP IT HAPPEN

## A Visual Arts Project for NWO Women Artists

Two Thunder Bay women, Margeret Smith and Helli Emak, have applied to Secretary of State for funding to contact, organize, assist, and promote women artists from all over North-western Ontario. The need for support and communication between artists of this region has been acutely apparent to these two women, themselves artists and teachers. Female artists in North-western Ontario suffer because of isolation, lack of funding and publicity, and qualified instruction, criticism, and appreciation, as well as encountering the traditional discouragement of serious endeavor of artistic women.

Because this is International Women's Year, there is a budget set aside for this region to allow for the development of programs such as the one Margaret and Helli are proposing. Their project will reach women presently producing visual arts (i.e. painting, sculpture, macrame, pottery, etc.) and will provide encouragement and exposure of their work. A van will travel to all NWO communities to exhibit or collect art, or to allow for the meeting and organization of women artists. The grand finale of this project is to be a week-long festival of NWO's visual arts produced by women. This festival will include workshops, and an exhibit of works that will be appraised in a constructive way by qualified people from all over Canada.

If you have any interest or do any work in the field of visual art, please contact:

Margaret Smith  
58 N. High St.  
Thunder Bay P

Helli Emak  
154 College St.  
Thunder Bay P



Oh, say, can you see...?

Do you want to see more women in politics?

Do you want to learn more about politics?

PHONE: Liz Jobbitt  
939-2057

and become involved

The #1 priority for International Women's Year as decided at the conference in November was to form an Information Caravan to travel throughout North-western Ontario. If this project is to receive money and assistance from the Secretary of State it must be organized immediately. If you have time, energy, or ideas please contact us immediately. The address:  
Committee for Information Caravan,  
North-western Ontario  
International Women's Year Council,  
Box 314,  
Thunder Bay P, Ont

939-2057

## ON PERFECTION

In man's world of skin  
Only face and form  
Are relevant,  
When choosing friend  
Or foe.

And man has said  
That I am beautiful,  
"So close to perfection."

He has said,  
That I should be  
Placed on a pedestal  
And displayed  
As in an auction  
Where the countance  
Counts and gold,  
And feelings fail to  
Sell.

But do not ask me  
"What is perfection?"  
For I do not know,  
Yet in man's world  
Of sanity,  
Only mind-over-matter  
Is relevant,  
When choosing sane  
Or insane.

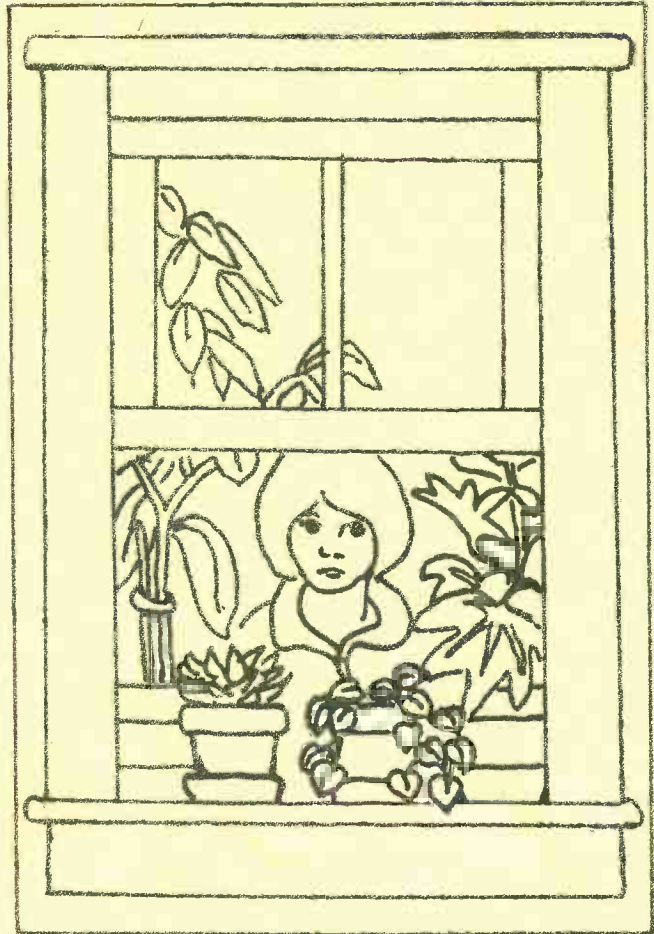
And man has said  
That I am hideous  
Deformity, one he  
Dares not face.

"So out of line"

He has said  
That I should be  
Gotten rid of  
Like a prisoner,  
Cast into a dungeon  
Where living is  
Lying to creation  
And speaking is  
Sinning against  
Perfection

But do not ask me  
"What is perfection?"  
For perfection  
Is inane.

Kate Parkkari



" The duties of a woman,  
because she is a woman,  
are great and she is ex-  
pected to carry them out.  
If you want to be a cre-  
ative artist and a decent  
soul, a "real" woman, and  
a "real" human being, then  
I think you have to work a  
lot harder for it".

Dora DePedery-Hunt  
Eclectic Eve

January - HERSTORY -1975

COMING UP

We are constantly being asked to provide speakers for many different occasions. It would be good if we could fill them all. It's encouraging to see so much interest because it's important that people begin to understand how women have been treated in the past and what we can now do to change it. It is also important that people see that those of us who have begun to learn are not what fear has made us out to be - bra-burning ball-crushers. It's also good in that, by doing these things we can all learn how to present our ideas to people without feeling that we are inadequate for the task. But naturally, that's how we all feel the first few times. For that reason it would be a good idea for people to have someone along for support and even better if that person has done some speaking previously.

Here are the engagements that have been requested. If you can help in any way please call the centre.

February 13 - Estella Friedlander and Lisa Bengston will be going to Atikokan to speak about International Women's Year.

February 22 - There is to be an Intracultural Conference in Kenora. Rose-Marie Neuman and Linda Spenard are attending to participate in a discussion on Rape. Anyone else who is interested in attending please let them know as they could use a ride.

March 14 & 15 - Nipigon is arranging workshops. Estella Friedlander and Lisa Bengston from Secretary of State will speak at the dinner. Jeannette Johnson will be doing the Women in Herstory workshop. Anyone else who wants to go either to speak or listen should see these people.

March 17 - There has been a request for a woman to speak on Women and Abuse. Anyone interested in doing this please call us.

March 25 - Rose-Marie Neuman will be speaking to a class at Westgate High School about Women and Sexuality. Anyone else interested, please call her.

April 16 - Kenora has asked us to arrange workshops for women leaving high school. Topics of interest to them include: non-traditional careers, women in society, working women, women and the law (marriage). Julie Fells will be giving a workshop on Birth Control and Sexuality. Mar Thomlinson will be doing a section on women and the law and a career as a lawyer and Jeff Cryderman will be doing a talk on a career as a horse-woman. Anyone else who is interested in going to speak or just listen and learn and provide us with support please call Jacqui at the Centre.

April ? - Bonnie Hill (623-1918) has requested someone to lead a group discussion for the Women Teachers Federation at a day-long seminar. Anyone interested please call her.

Geraldton has requested speakers for the workshops they are having there for the purpose of starting a centre. We are expecting a letter from them with more particulars. Please call the centre all those who are interested.

#### PROGRAMS

It would be educational, interesting and fun to begin some programs at the centre. Anyone who is interested in participating in learning or teaching or helping to organize such programs please leave your name at the centre.

#### MEETINGS

We are trying to make the Thursday Night meetings educational and sociable. If you have any suggestions on subjects you would like to learn about, contact us and we'll be glad to help you organize a meeting around that topic.

#### INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S YEAR COUNCIL

Next meeting: February 22, 10 am, Confederation College Conference Dining Room, second floor - all welcome.

Last Meeting Progress: Crisis Housing Brief is being presented to City Council soon.

Two Theatre Groups, one amateur and one professional, have applied for IWY funding.

The Council has applied for a grant to hire a part-time secretary. Until then they still need volunteer help... urgently.

Ruth Cunningham attended the Manpower Conference at Quetico about redesigning jobs to employ women.

Publicity help is needed. Atikokan and Kenora already have a publicity committee - we don't - HELP! There will be a meeting February 19 at 7:30 pm at the Fort William "Y".

Hi out there. MOB has several committees formed in preparation for the Flea Market. We're all learning how to make and do NEW THINGS. Come on down any day or afternoon and sit and get acquainted. Remember, new members are always welcome. Our regular meetings are Wednesday night at 7 pm. Babysitting is provided for those from 4 - 9 years. Our clothing depot is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 1 till 4 pm, and anyone on low-income can get clothes FREE.

Maureen

NOTES FROM YOUR ANSWERING SERVICE

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

The general meeting on Thursday, February 6, was devoted to procuring ideas for International Women's Day. The program it was decided to work towards consists of:

Approaching the mayor to have him make an official proclamation to the city of Thunder Bay that March 8 is International Women's Day.

Booking the Labour Centre as a place to have an IWD educational celebration. This has been done but the cost is high - \$ 85 for the meeting room and more for anything else, such as a day care room. Suggestions are welcomed concerning organizations we can approach who may donate the cost as their contribution to International Women's Year.

Creating a theatre program for the morning. A brief has been prepared requesting \$ 245 from the federal IWY funds for costumes, props, etc. The next step is to find some neat women's plays and do some practicing. Anyone who has play suggestions or is interested in being involved, please phone us at the centre. It is important that this be done immediately as there's less than a month left in which to practice.

Preparing an International Lunch. Mickey Murray has approached her group of the Congress of Canadian Women and one other who have agreed to supply some ethnic dishes. Please, we need more, because we hope advertising will bring a good turnout.

And finally, arranging for some women's entertaining in the afternoon. We have received word that there will be some ethnic music and dance groups. In addition, Sharon Lund of Earthshine (623-1492) will be arranging for some women folk singers. At the same time, that afternoon there will be book and craft displays. If you are interested in contributing please call the centre and we'll put you in touch with the appropriate people.

A letter has gone out containing this information to all Thunder Bay women's groups.

WOMEN'S CENTRES CONFERENCE

There is to be a Women's Centres Conference here in Thunder Bay on the evening of February 28, and March 1 and 2, at the Royal Edward Hotel. The money is coming from the federal IWY funds. The purpose of it is to create a federation of Canadian Women's Centres and also to share problems and payoffs in the hope that we can improve the lot of the centres.

Advisory Committee

Paul McRae's office has requested that we form an advosory body to supply him with input. Rose-Marie Neuman has arranged that and their first meeting is to be February 13.

Speaking

On February 6, Jeff Cryderman, Julie Fels, and Estella Friedlander spoke to a group of Jaycettes on the morality of abortion.

Also on February 6, Estella Friedlander spoke to TAB (Take A Break), a women's group, on the women's movement.

B O O \*/#!

On February 5, some 30 men and women picketed the Sports Celebrity Dinner. The issue concerned the Thunder Bay Female Athlete of the Year, Jeannie Tuomi. Ms. Tuomi was to be present at the event to receive her award ... but that's all. Neither she nor her family or friends were allowed to attend the dinner or the festivities afterward, nor, for that matter, could she even be on the main floor of the Ortona Legion, where the event was held. She stayed in the basement with the Boy's Junior Baseball League. Reason given: men's night out - think we should arrange a white's night out. Some somments from men involved: one newsperson said the picketers should be put in cages; Mickey Mantle - guest speaker at the dinner - "We don't have this Women's Lib in Texas". It is the opinion of the picketers that sports is an area of interest to reces, colors, creeds, religions and sexes.

CONGRATULATIONS

On February 11, Lewy Smith was chosen by the Advisory Committee to the Women's Centre to be the new Crisis Worker. The previous worker in that capacity, Estella Friedlander, has moved to the Outreach position, Alison Tett is Child Care Worker, Georgina Garrett is Education Worker and Jacqui Beauregard is Office Worker.

PI



## INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY \* MARCH 8th

How did International Women's Day come about?

It arose out of the early struggles of women in the industrial countries for their rights as workers, as mothers and as citizens. It was on March 8, 1908 that women textile workers in New York went on strike against the exploitation and the intolerable conditions in the fire-trap sweatshops with placards bearing the slogans, "Votes for Women," "Higher Wages got Women," "We want bread and roses." Joined by immigrant mothers of the slum tenements of New York's east side and by the socialist women who were campaigning for votes for women and for women to join the needle trades unions, they gathered and marched on the streets in huge demonstrations.

Jane Addams, the founder in 1899 of the first settlement house in the United States, author of Peace and Bread and outstanding humanitarian, gave leadership and support to the abolition of the sweatshop system and the organization of women workers in unions, realizing that world peace could only be assured under conditions of economic justice. It was on her conviction of the need for ensuring the principles of economic justice and world peace, that, in 1915, she founded the International League for Peace and Freedom.

Jane Addams was one of the most outstanding and vigorous supporters for setting in motion the principles of this demonstration, for unionization, the demand for protective legislation such as workmen's compensation, unemployment and old age insurance, safety and health laws, as well as child labor, wage and hours laws.

The strike of the New York textile workers and the success of the demonstrations came to be felt throughout the United States and other parts of the world. Its effectiveness was recognized at the Second International Conference of Socialist Women in Copenhagen in 1910 attended by women from 17 countries, when Clara Zetkin, the great European socialist champion of women's rights and of peace, and leading figure in the Conference, proposed that March 8 be set aside each year by the women of the world, as International Women's Day, a day in which women everywhere should demonstrate their solidarity against militarism and war, for full equality for women and for the security of the family.

The celebration of March 8 has thus become a great historical tradition-- a demonstration of international importance in the unity of purpose for women everywhere in the struggle for the attainment of a world at peace.

March 8, 1911, was the first International Women's Day celebrated in several countries.

Since the end of the Second World War, which brought the defeat of Nazism, the women's international movement grows stronger from year to year.

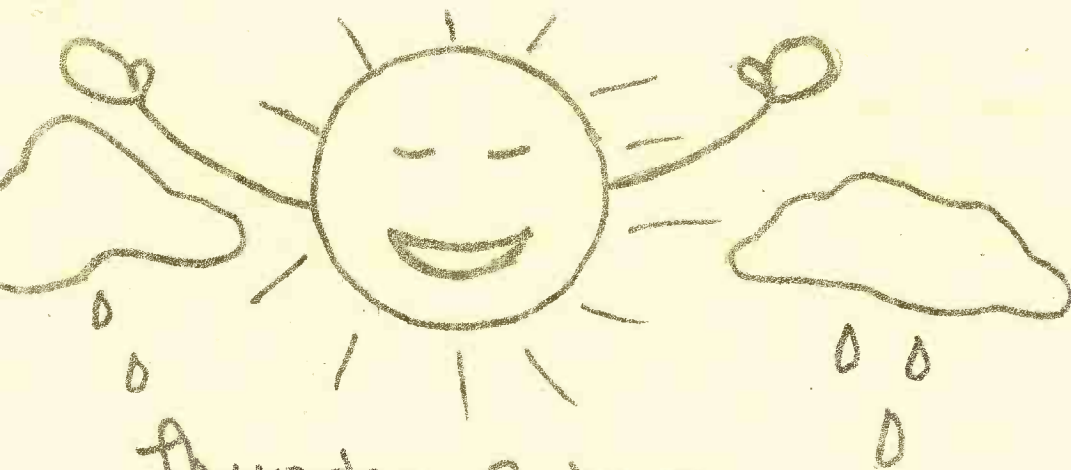
May 1945 saw the greatest impetus in the women's movement immediately on the heels of the victory over fascism, when in the spirit expressed by the women in Ravensbruck concentration camp to end war for all times, women from 14 countries came together in Paris to form the first international women's congress at which the Women's International Democratic Federation was born, pledging to mobilize the women of the world for a lasting peace in the world, to defend the rights of women and to struggle

ceaselessly for the protection of the family and children.

The Women's International Democratic Federation is continuing in its pledge and to date has succeeded in mobilizing over 200 million women from 97 different countries, with 110 affiliated organizations, in its ever broadening program for unity in the struggle for peace, for freedom and independence of people, for equal status of women in economic life, for the security of the home and the human rights of children.

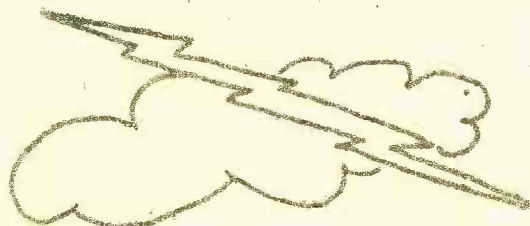
In 1950 during the weekend of International Women's Day, the Congress of Canadian Women held its first convention. Individual women and representatives of women's organizations without regard to race, religion, political beliefs or affiliation, were invited to partake in the program. Their efforts are mainly directed to petitioning for peace, for full employment, equal pay for equal work, higher old age pensions, for a full housing program and for a Canada-wide health plan.

PLEASE NOTE: International Women's Day was modelled after Suffragette Day which fell on the last Sunday in February.

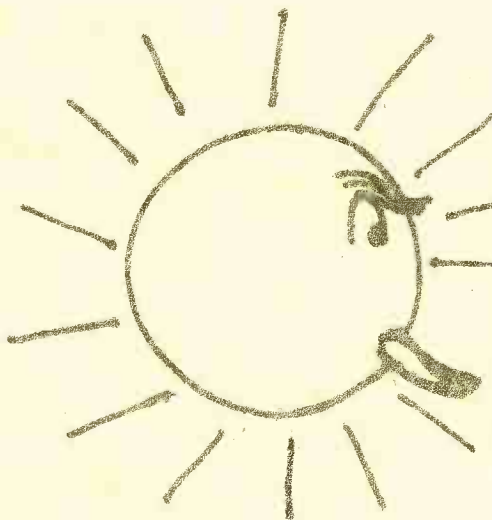


## Thunder Clap

A global thunderclap to the women of the world, who's voices will be heard long after International Women's Year.

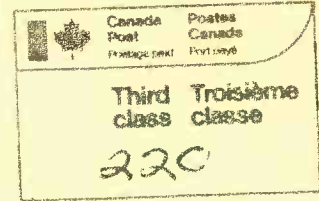


## Thunder Bolt



To the Knights of Columbus. We would like to see your organization spend the money you are wasting on "Fight Abortion" billboards. TV programs and newspaper ads put to use helping children who are living and wanted instead of on the unborn and unwanted.

Return to: THE NORTHERN WOMAN  
BOX 314  
THUNDER BAY P, ONT.  
return postage guaranteed



IN SISTERHOOD, 1975, INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S YEAR

People who did this issue:  
Allison, Doreen,  
Georgina, Janice,  
Linda, Noreen

ink, and postage for  
Northern women. Two dollars  
makes you part of a voice  
that reaches women all over  
North-western Ontario and  
other women's centres in  
Canada.