

Equal value bill needs support

By MARION BRYDEN On June 21, I introduced in the Legislature a private member's bill calling for equal pay for work of equal value.

A bill on this subject was introduced by a former NDP member, Ted Bounsall in 1979 and passed second reading and committee Unfortunately, the stage. government did not choose to call it for third reading.

Why introduce another bill on this topic now? Several things encouraged me to give it another try.

The well-attended conference on equal pay sponsored by Organized Working Women and the Metro Labour Council last February indicated a growing interest in this issue among a wide crosssection of the labour movement.

Other groups representing women and the community have stepped up demands for equal value legislation to overcome the huge wage gap between women and men. These included the Equal Pay Coalition, a widespread umbrella group, the Ontario Federation of Labour and even the government's own Status of Women Advisory Council.

Also, we can now point to two jurisdictions in Canada which have adopted equal value laws the federal government and Quebec. Over the past three years they have demonstrated that this kind of legislation can work.

For example, under the federal law, 3,000 food, laundry and general service workers (two-thirds of them women) received approximately \$17-million in adjustments when their wages were compared with other subgroups (mostly male) in the public service. The criterion applied was a composite of skill, effort, responsibility and working conditions.

Labour, Russell Ramsay, is no Also organizations and individlonger saying equal value laws are "impractical and unenforceable". He now says that he accepts the principle but employers can't afford it at this time. I argue that equal value adjustments to. underpaid women workers would be a shot in the arm to our faltering economy.

We have at last convinced Premier Davis to name a senior Cabinet Minister to be responsible for women's issues. I hope the appointment of Robert Welch means that the government will give a higher priority to closing the wage gap and will recognize that equal pay for work of equal value is an essential part of that effort. The gap is about 40% and getting worse under the restraint programs and suspension of collective bargaining in the public sector.

Recent statistics on awards made under the present weak equal pay law in Ontario confirm that the law is useless. Only about one quarter of the 400 complaints filed in the past three years were found to be violations of the Act because its application is so narrow.

Ten years ago Robert Welch put his name on a government green paper entitled "Equal Opportunity for Women in Ontario". It said the Ontario government planned to examine the equal pay law "with a view to broadening the concept of equal pay".

We are still awaiting implementation of this hoary promise. In my bill I have provided Mr. Welch with the necessary changes in the Employment Standards Act to achieve it. But he has recently said that equal value legislation is not on the immediate horizon.

It is up to us to change his mind. A lot of letters must be written to The present Minister of Robert Welch and Premier Davis.

uals will have to undertake extensive lobbying activities if my bill is to reach third reading and become law this year.

I need the help of Organized Working Women and all concerned people. If you would like a copy of the bill, call me at the provincial parliament rep-Queen's Park (965-4726), or my resenting Beaches-Woodbine.

constituency office at 2118 Danforth Ave., (421-1810).

Marion Bryden is member of



Following an 11 week strike 233 workers at Gabriel company were given termination notices and the remaining 300 will be recalled over the next period. The company claims it lost business over the strike period but the International Association of Machinists representing Local 1295 have little doubt that it was a vindictive action on the part of the employer. The strike had been marred with violence as police escorted scabs across the picket line. The strike was mainly over money but the action took place on the background of no fewer than 200 grievances in the past year. The strike settled after an offer of 45 cents and 50 cents and 24 cent COLA was accepted in a two-year agreement. Photo shows OWW members on a solidarity picket with the strikers in July.

Critical decisions face choice movem



Public support will be crucial in pushing Queen's Park to pass bill.

By NORMA SCARBOROUGH The struggle for freedom of choice on abortion has reached a critical point in Canada.

The following cases are pending:

1. Supreme Court of Canada decision on the Borowski case to make all abortions illegal in Canada is expected in the fall of '83.

2. Canadian Abortion Rights Action League's challenge to the abortion law expected to go to Supreme Court of Canada in the fall of '83.

3. The trials of Dr. Morgentaler, Dr. Scott and Dr. Smoling in Ontario expected to go to court in the fall.

4. The Manitoba Coalition has issued a writ in the Supreme Court of Manitoba challenging the abortion law - no date set. 5. The trial of the three doctors

and support staff from the Winnipeg clinic is expected to take place in the fall of '83.

As you can see section 251 of the Criminal Code (the abortion law) is being attacked on a number of fronts and those of us working directly within the pro-choice movement are optimistic that this time we are going to win.

Because of the intense interest in this issue at the present time the **Canadian Abortion Rights Action** League has called for a crosscountry Day of Action for Choice on Abortion — October 1, 1983.

The day will be co-sponsored by various coalitions across the country. The demands are: Defend a Woman's Right to Choose, Remove Abortion from the Criminal Code and Legalize Free-Standing Clinics. Activities from demonstrations to informational

meetings are expected to take place.

Given the polarization around this issue we are calling on the labour movement to support the pro-choice movement in this day of action. We must all work together to make freedom of choice a reality. Planning and strategy meetings are now taking place and we will be intensifying the organizational activities at the beginning of September.

In June, Cliff Pilkey, President of the Ontario Federation of Labour delivered a rousing a supportive speech to the pro-choice rally sponsored by the Ontario Coalition for Abortion Clinics. The terrific response to his presence at the rally clearly indicates that support from the labour movement can make the difference in this struggle.

Continued Page 2

UPDATE



Anti-scab legislation falls short

Legislation which outlaws professional strikebreaking agencies in Ontario has been universally criticized by labour as falling short of what is required to protect workers on a picket line. The law prevents the setting up of strikebreaking agencies such as Securicor Investigation and prevents the employing of agent provocateurs during a strike but does not restrict the crossing of lines by scabs or the use of police to expediate such action.

The law was passed in the furor from labour following the death of steelworker Claude Dougdeen, who was run down by a truck crossing the picketline at Alcan in Toronto. Exposure by the steelworkers of Securicor's role during the strike at Automotive Hardward and the use of its agent David Ivers to provoke violence on the picket line also did much to publicize the need for such legislation.

Where's the new jobs?

Health and Welfare Canada intends to relocate 430 jobs from Ottawa and Toronto to other parts of the country. The department is predominantly female and the majority of the jobs are classified and clerical. As a result the majority of the 430 workers will not be able to move to keep their jobs. The shuffle merely creates unemployment in one area, with minimal effect in others. Despite this the government heralds its action a job creation program.

Mini-Skools settles

The Ontario Public Service Employees Union has settled with Mini-Skools after a long and bitter strike for a first contract. Action by the union including mass solidarity pickets and threats of charging the company with unfair labour practices were instrumental in winning the settlement. The contract was ratified on May 30, with 14 of the original 22 members still holding the picket line. The 15 month contract gave workers a 15% raise effective in May with a further 10% in April of 1983. This will raise the salary of an assistant room supervisor to \$5.16 an hour from a pre-strike level of \$4.08. Mini-Skools lost one of its centres during the strike when workers in the Hamilton centre formed an alternative co-op day care with the parents of the youngsters attending the school.



LABOUR, COMMUNITY, CHURCH JOIN Action for social change

By VAL HUNNIUS

Directions for Canada Conference sponsored by the Labour and Social Planning Councils of Metropolitan Toronto and the Ecumenical Forum, June 16-18, at Ryerson Polytechnical Institute heralded a resurgence of the socialist movement-building optimism of the 60s.

More than 300 participants representing unions, unemployed workers, welfare rights groups, churches, women's groups, disarmament groups, academics, social planners and others accepted the challenge to begin building at the grassroots level in their own constituencies a new vision of social and economic alternatives.

They committed themselves to a long-term political process, through the creation of solidarity networks, coalitions and critique of our productive apparatus and delivery systems, to seek sociopolitical solutions to the crisis that is besetting our economic and political institutions.

The main elements of the crisis were identified by Leon Muszynski and Jeffrey Paterson, Program Directors of the Social Planning Council. Governments at all levels are committed to a policy of high unemployment, projected to remain at 10% for at least five years, coupled with the systematic dismantling of social welfare programs.

Such policies were identified not merely as symptoms of the current economic crisis but as root causes, assisting the transition of capital through the rationalization of production and the introduction of capital-intensive forms of technology.

The tone of the conference was set in a remarkable keynote address by Bishop Adolph Proulx, who elaborated on the historic New Year's Day message of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops. The principles of "the priority of labour" and of "the priority of the needs of the poor over the wants of the rich" together with the question of 'economic recovery for whom?" provided the touchstone against which conference proceedings were evaluated and direction established.

Opening workshops identified myths and realities in relation to economic issues such as microtechnology and unemployment, inflation, productivity and wage controls, the attack on social programs, on labour and education, and the role of military spending. A single workshop on the effect of the crisis on women was seen by participant as a totally inadequate initiative by conference organizers.

Subsequent workshops dealt such as housing, investment or The Social and Economic with a wide variety of strategies to produce alternative social and economic directions. The topics ranged from new forms of investment and social ownership, such as municipal industrial development and community corporation development, the use of pension funds for economic development, and forms of worker ownership, to tactical questions such as job retraining, building alliances, new roles for trade unions, working with the unemployed and general issues, such as industrial policies for full employment and work, leisure and education.

> The agenda for the future includes the convening of a popular assembly to plan specific initiatives around particular issues,

medical delivery systems. Forty participants formed the Toronto Organizing Committee for a Popular Assembly to develop the means whereby organizations working on different issues can find ways of supporting each other in a direct way. It is their plan to meet monthly to provide assistance for new organizations and develop plans for collective social action.

The Committee is co-chaired by Don Lee (979-1882) and Maureen Bolter (251-9036) and the next meeting will take place on September 14. For further information, contact the Social Planning Council or either of the above.

Val Hunnius is a member of **OPEIU 343**.

Pro-choice decisions

of Ontario could take two actions needs your help. Coalition meetto resolve the problem in Ontario. ings take place Tuesday evenings They could drop the charges at 7:30 — Trinity United Church against the doctors and they could — Bloor Street — just west of approve the Toronto clinic as a Spadina. If you can assist with the hospital. Instead, they have cho- Day of Action, please call OCAC sen to ignore the plight of women at (416) 532-8193 or CARAL at - women who believe that they have the right to decide when and how many children they will bear.

The Conservative government CARAL is a member group, (416) 961-1507.

Freedom of choice is possible!

Norma Scarborough is Presi-The Ontario Coalition for dent of the Canadian Abortion Abortion Clinics, of which Rights Action League.

Raids on Morgentaler clinics

The following resolution was passed by the Labour Council of Metroplitan Toronto at its July 7 meeting.

WHEREAS this Labour Council has declared that it is the fundamental right of each woman to choose when and if she will bear children; and

WHEREAS this Labour Council has endorsed a woman's freedom of choice by supporting the right of women to full access to abortion; and

WHEREAS safe abortions have always been available to the wealthy; and

WHEREAS this Labour Council has called for the removal of abortion from the Criminal Code; and

WHEREAS this Labour Council supports the establishment of free-standing medical clinics providing abortions fully covered by provincial medical plans; and

WHEREAS the CLC, the OFL and the NDP also support these positions;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Labour Council of

"I don't care what the manual says, young man. 25 years in one job classification is long enough.'

1983 OFL Public Forums on **Affirmative Action and Women**

As resolved at its 1982 Convention, the Ontario Federation of Labor, in co-operation with community and women's groups will be holding public forums in the following centres in Ontario to build support for mandatory affirmative action legislation:

Sault St. Marie	October 1
Ottawa	October 4
Sarnia	October 11
Kingston	October 13
London	October 15
Guelph	October 17
Sudbury	October 22
Hamilton	October 25
Toronto	October 28 & 29
Women's caucuses and women's group	os in the community are
invited to prepare a five to seven minute p their area outlining their experiences wit	resentation to a forum in

Metropolitan Toronto

(1) condemn the raids on the Morgentaler Clinics in Toronto and Winnipeg;

(2) deplore the harassment of the patients and the employees of the clinics:



UNION WOMA

Union Woman is published four times a year by Organized Working Women. The Editorial Board of the newspaper is the Executive Council of OWW.

Union Woman is free to members of OWW and is available for distribution to union locals on request.

Letters to the editor, opinion pieces and news stories should be sent to: Union Woman, 15 Gervais Dr., Suite 408, Don Mills, Ont. 447-7462.

Gaps in new Health Act

By CATHI CARR

The Federal government is proposing to introduce new legislation at the next session of Parliament entitled the Canada Health Act. Its introduction is in response to widespread concern about current or potential erosion of access to quality health care. Doctors opting out of provincial health plans and extra-billing, user fees and the declining level of services provided in hospitals are jeopardizing the future of medicare.

Many of the Act's proposals are based on the recommendations of Mr. Justice Emmet Hall

for the 1980s — and the all-party federal Parliamentary Task Force on Federal-Provincial Fiscal Arrangements which reported in August 1981.

The new Canada Health Act is intended to clarify and define conditions under which the Parliament of Canada will provide transfer payments to provinces for health insurance programs.

The proposed legislation consists of two parts: the definitions of the basic conditions of health insurance - universality, accessibility, comprehensiveness and

in his 1980 report - Canada's Na- portability; and the potential tional Provincial Health Program mechanisms to assure Parliament that the standards of health care delivery are in practice being maintained and that any dispute with a particular province be settled fairly and responsibly.

Some of the proposals contained in the new act include:

• coverage of 100% of qualified residents of Canada; • a sufficient quantity of insured

services with an equitable geographic distribution of these ser-

vices; availability of insured services when needed;

• acceptable quantity of insured services;

 delivery of insured health services without financial barriers.

Commenting on what would be required to meet these standards, Federal Health and Welfare Minister Monique Bégin stated: "A mechanism should be in place for ensuring reasonable compensation for insured services provided by medical practitioners. There should be no extra-billing or user charges. If the practice of extra-billing continues to spread it will seriously threaten accessibility and gradually erode our health care system.

"Physicians cannot expect to receive adequate compensation from government and extra payments from patients as well. Also the practice of imposing user charges undermines the basic principle that the costs of medically necessary health care should be borne by society so that people are not financially penalized for being sick."

The Ontario Health Coalition which represents over three million health care consumers in Ontario through trade unions, teachers, consumers, Native peoples, senior citizens, church organizations and health practitioners states in its brief to the Federal and Provincial Health Ministers on the proposed legislation that the advent of a Canada Health Act is a major policy iniPROVINCIAL MEDICAL CARE & HOSPITAL PLANS

	FINANCING (PRENIUMS) Monthly as of Jan/82	EXTRA-	ILLING	NDSPITAL USER FEES (as of Jan/82)
PROVINCES/ TEARITORIES		MANNER	E OF DOCTORS* MARCH 1981	
British Columbia	Premiums Single \$11.50 Family \$23.00 or \$28.75	Opting Out	None	inpatients 57.50/day Outpatients 54.00 emergency 57.00 day surge
Alberta	Premiums Single 59.50 Family 519.00	Baiance Billing	44.72	inpatients \$5.00 admin. Chronic Care
Saskatchewan	Funded from Taxes	Extra Billing	30.72	Nons
Nani toba	Funded from Taxes	Opting Out	5.92	None
Ontario	Premiums Single \$23.00 Family \$46.00	Opting Out	15.52	For Chronic, rehab.care
Quebec	Funded from Taxes & employer (3% of payroll)	Opting Out of Hedicare System	0.5 practica outside Medicare	For long-term care
New Brunswick	Funded from Taxes	Extra Billing	13.72	None
Nova Scotia	Funded from Taxes	Balance Billing	52.88	None
Prince Edward Island	Funded from Taxes	Entra Billing	5.82	None
Newfoundland	Funded from Taxes	Opting Out	0.5%	Ward charge for first 15 days (\$3.00 daily)
Yukon	Premiums Single \$18.00 Family \$25.00	Opting Out	None	None
Northwest Territories	Funded from Taxes	Opting Out	None	None

* from National Council of Welfare Document

This chart taken from a Report on Medicars to the Canadian Advisory Council on the Status of Women, March 1983.

tiative in health care. While it concurs with many of the proposals in the Act its brief contains several criticisms including:

• those provinces still employing premium systems should be urged to abolish them and instead fund health services through general revenues and a more progressive income tax system.

• there is an overemphasis on the role of the physician as gatekeeper and arbitrator of the health care system;

it does not recognize that many health services may be effectively delivered from non-hospital facilities:

• it does not recognize that many health services may be effectively

delivered from non-hospital facilities;

• it places undue emphasis on sickness and curative treatment rather than prevention and health promotion.

The Coalition recommends that to be effective from both a utilization and cost benefit basis, socio-health services must be extended into the community. Treating people where they live, work and play requires both a greater integration and major reorientation of existing community services.

Cathi Carr is a steward in the Ontario Nurses Association Staff Union.





Centre for Labour Studies Fall Program

Course name

Work, labour & Canadian Society Sociology of Industrial Relations Your Health & Safety **Understanding Corporate Power** Sexual Harassment — A Union Issue Labour Leadership Work, Racism & Labour **Collective Bargaining I** Instructional Techniques

Labour History I Workers Compensation **Technological Change** Labour Law for Unionists Survival Skills for Unionists Arbitration I

For additional details call 675-3111, ext. 414, 544 or 467.

Beginning September 14 September 15 **October 3 October 4 October 6** October 11 October 12 October 12 **October 15/29** November 12/26 October 17 October 17 **October 19** October 20 **October 20** October 22/23 November 19/20

OISE, 252 Bloor St. West Toronto INFLATION LOW PAY JOBS HE CALLON

	VER Y	OUR CALENDAR
4	September 5	Labor Day Parades & Celebrations Participate in your area
	September 8	Toronto Membership Meeting Pot luck supper. Resolutions preparation for OFL convention 1901 Yonge St. 8th floor, 6:30 p.m.
	September 10	Yard & Bake Sale 113 Madison Avenue. All day. Phone office if you have donations
	October 1	Days of Choice on Abortion Toronto Meeting and March
	October 15	Skills Building Workshop Out of town
	October 29	Toronto Affirmative Action Forum OWW Brief presentation
	November 17	<i>Toronto Membership Meeting</i> 1901 Yonge St. 8th floor, 7:30 p.m.
	November 21-24	
	November 26	Skills Building Workshop Guelph, Cambridge, Kitchener

_abour in the schools

By HOLLY KIRKCONNELL Do you sometimes feel, as an tices within the Board. active unionist, that your children are being educated against you? Have you ever looked at the textbooks or other curriculum materials that your children use at school and been concerned about either the lack of labour content, or seen a blatant anti-labour bias?

The Labour Studies Liaison Committee at the Toronto Board Gi Education shares these concerns and has been actively working to change the situation over the past five years.

The committee is made up of teachers, non-teaching Board employees, representatives from the trade union movement, trustees, and concerned members of the community.

The mandate of the committee is to deal with issues relating to labour studies in the curriculum, apprenticeship programs, worker education and fair labour prac- next step is to get them used in the

The major concentration in the past few years has been development of curriculum materials. To date, the following materials have been produced.:

- A comprehensive overview critiquing the Social Studies curriculum from Kindergarten. to Grade 13 from a Labour perspective:
- A "popularized" version of the overview to introduce labour studies to teachers and parents;
- A grade 4 unit of study, including a filmstrip, entitled "Working in the City";
- A unit of grades 7 and 8 on Social Reform: Trade Unionism'';
- A Media Resource Guide of audio-visual materials appropriate for labour studies for use in the classroom.

Now that several pieces of work have been completed, the

Join OWW! Membership in OWW is open to all women who are mem-

bers of a bona fide collective bargaining unit or a bona fide organizing committee of a union. Membership is \$15.00 per year.

schools. The Board of Education is currently working on this.

You can have the best curriculum materials in the world, but if they are not used, or are taught by someone who does not understand, or is unsympathetic to, the perspective, they will not be effective. During the next year, the committee will be concentrating its efforts on publicizing the curriculum materials produced to date, and assisting teachers in their use in the classroom.

The Canadian Labour Congress has distributed information on this work to labour councils and affiliates across the country. You can also help by asking your child's school if they incorporate labour studies into their curriculum, and if not, pressing for its implementation. This can be done by contacting the teacher or principal directly, or working through your home and school association or parent's council. If you are outside the Toronto Board of Education, you might consider beginning to organize a Labour Studies Liaison Committee in your own Board of Education.

Holly Kirkconnell is President of OWW, and Co-chairs the Labour Studies Liaison Committee, Toronto Board of Education.

Editorial Vomen and unions

Labour Day 1983 provides us with the opportunity to publicly reaffirm our belief that the single most effective way to advance women's position in Canadian society and in the paid workforce is through the collective strength of women and men bargaining as equal union members.

At its 7th Annual Meeting, May 14, Organized Working Women enthusiastically made plans for the coming year to work with women helping them become active unionists and leaders. Our members develop the skills necessary to assess and interpret the contractual relationships at the workplace through participation in our skills building workshops, conferences, membership meetings and our newspaper, Union Woman.

OWW continues to raise women's awareness concerning their position in society, in their unions and in their communities. We help unionists become aware of women's needs and demands for full economic equality. OWW helps to strengthen the ability of trade unions to respond to women's experiences, needs and demands, institutionally and politically through caucuses, conferences briefs and policy documents.

You will find, in this issue of our paper, a bare outline of our 1983 Fall Program. Join us in our work to define institutional barriers and structural inequalities and inadequacies.

Together we will target effective strategies for change to eliminate the negative impact of microtechnology, particularly on women but on all workers. We will press legislators to represent our interests through an industrial policy that redistributes the financial benefits of technological productivity among women and men workers who produce the wealth of the nation. The benefits of technological change must be distributed in a just and equitable fashion to all members of society.

The OWW 1983-84 executive are dedicated to give leadership in these areas. They are:

President Vice-President Secretary Treasurer

Holly Kirkconnell OPSEU Sue Craig SONG Irene Kuusella CUPE Jovce Rosentahal OPEIU

Executive members-at-large: Lois Bedard OSSTF — retired; Cathi Carr ONASU; Val Hunnius OPEIU; Jill Jones UE; Barb Linds OPSSU; Sheila O'McNeill of Guelph Univ. Staff Association; Helen Middlebrooks CWC; Maureen O'Halloran ONASU.

The Struggle Continues — Join Us!

Financial Update Drive a success

In response to OWW's Annual Union Financial Appeal for funds we are pleased — and grateful — to the following unions and unionists for their support:

American Federation of Grain Millers, Local 388

• Brampton-Mississauga & District Labour Council; Labour Council of Metropolitan Toronto and Renfrew & District Labour Council

• Canadian Union of Electrical Workers, Local 3

• Canadian Union of Public Employees: Ontario Division; Local 43; Local 79; Local 134; Local 149; Local 1230; Local 1750; and Local 1989

• Canadian Union of Postal Workers, St. Catharines Local; Thunder Bay Local: Toronto Local, and Hamilton Local

- Canadian Union of Educational Workers, Local 3
- Communications Workers of Canada, Local 29 and Local 50
- Energy & Chemical Workers Union, Ontario Council
- Fur, Leather Shoe & Allied Workers' Union
- Graphic Arts International Union, Local 28-B

• International Union Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers and Local 599

• Office & Professional Workers International Union, Central Ontario Council; Local 343 and Local 468

Ontario Nurses' Associtiation, Local 94

	To join OWW, send in this application form with proof of union membership to the OWW office, address below.		
	Name		
	Address		
	Telephone		
	Union		
	Organized Working Women, 15 Gervais Drive, Suite 408, Don Mills, Ont. M3C 1Y8		
If you are not eligible to join OWW, you are invited to subscribe to UNION WOMAN at \$10.00 per year.			



Ontario Nurses' Association Staff Union

• Ontario Public Service Employees Union, Local 512 and Local 561

• Retail, Commercial & Industrial Union, Local 206.

• Retail, Wholesale & Dept. Store Union; Local 414

• Service Employees International Union; Local 204; Local 220 and Local 532

• United Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers of America; Local 524 and Local 555

• United Food and Commercial Workers Union, Ontario Retail Council and Local 233-F

• United Rubber, Cork, Linoleum & Plastic Workers of America. Local 232

• United Steelworkers of America; Local 3683; Local 3767; Local 5141 and Local 8747

United Textile Workers of America, Local 510

The following activists in the union movement have supported OWW by donating to the campaign: Lois Bedard, OSSTF; Cathi Carr, ONASU; Gary Cwitco, CWC; Irene Harris, George Larter, Janice McClelland, CWC; Peggy Nash, Maureen O'Halloran, ONASU; Nancy Porter, PSAC; Ken Rogers, ECWU; Joyce Rosenthal, OPEIU; Linda Torney, SONG: Morris Zimmerman, BCTWU.

- Joyce Rosenthal, Treasurer **OPEIU 343**