



Women protest

Wage controls cripple

Price controls not working

by Patty Gibson and Ron Verzuh

Canadian women bear the brunt of price controls that have not worked and wage controls that have "stopped her fight for a decent wage," says Shirley Carr.

The executive vice-president of the 2.3 million member Canadian Labor Congress says women demonstrated, sacrificed wages and organized protests during the national day of protest October 14, the nation's second general strike.

She calls the day of protest a "fantastic success" with more than a million workers walking off the job to protest wage controls.

"Every union with women members across the country participated in the strike, Carr said in an interview, and although figures were not available, a recent survey by the Ontario Ministry of Labor shows that in 1973 there were 635,861 women in unions.

Of the unions with more than 15,000 women members, the Canadian Union of Public Employees (34.4 per cent women), for example, "was out in full force," Carr said.

CUPE president Grace Hartman shared Carr's enthusiasm on Oct. 14 when she told Winnipeg workers they "should pay tribute to the workers and veterans who marched down these streets 57 years ago in the Winnipeg General Strike that sparked the national labor movement."

"They fought for the right to organize and this is a fight to keep that right. One day's pay is a small price to pay for a strong and free labor movement," said Hartman.

(Other unions with high percentages of women members include the national Federation of Services Inc. (67.3 per cent women), the Service Employees International Union (67.1 per cent), the International Ladies Garment Workers Union (19,566 members in 1973) and the Retail Clerks International Association 50.1 per cent.)

Carr said women have been held in the lower jobs. They are the lowest paid workers and are largely unorganized. In addition, as Canada's primary consumers, women "must deal with price controls which are not enforced."

"She's the one who handles the pay cheque. She's the one who pays the bills. She's the one who is affected and should be aware she's the person up front," Carr said.

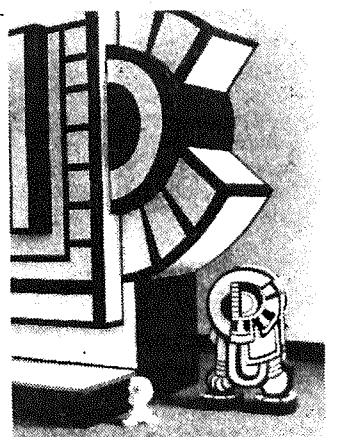
continued on p. 3

Inside Upstream

- Star or slave?
Women in the carnival
p. 8-9
- Shirley Carr and June Menzies
on working women and wage controls
p. 3
- Sports Speculum:
women's sports in Ottawa
p. 15
- Medicine for ourselves
p. 7
- Women helping women
p. 10

- What are
cyclamates?

see p. 13



CURRENTLY

Monday, Oct. 25

CANADIAN MOTHERCRAFT begins 8 weeks of Pre-natal classes for expectant couples. They will be held at 7 locations around the city. For further details call 233-5605.

Thursday, Oct. 28

CANADIAN MOTHERCRAFT starts its 4-week Couple's Refresher Course, a pre-natal course for couples with children. For more information call 233-5605.

Friday, Oct 29

THE OTTAWA PUBLIC LIBRARY will hold a poetry reading by **ALEXA DE WEIL & JOHN BAGLOW**, in the auditorium at Laurier and Metcalfe at 8:00p.m. Admission is \$2.00 at the door.

Saturday, Oct. 30

THE OTTAWA WOMEN'S CENTRE is having a Hallowe'en Party at 8:00p.m., 821 Somerset St. W. Any woman not wearing a costume sill pay a penalty of \$1.00 at the door.

GAYS OF OTTAWA is also holding a Hallowe'en Party at 207 Bayswater (& Gladstone). For more details call 238-1717

Nov.1-6

THE N.A.C. THEATRE is continuing its run of George Feydeau's "A Stitch In Time", as part of the "Love & Marriage" series.

Nov 1

"HEDDA" will be shown at the Towne Cinema at 7:30 and 9:30 p.m. Directed by Trevor Nunn. this film, based on the Ibsen classic, stars Glenda Jackson in the lead role.

Tuesday, Nov. 2

"L'HISTOIRE D'ADELE H" will be shown at the Towne Cinema at 7:30 and 9:30 p.m. This romantic period drama, directed by Francois Truffaut and starring Isabelle Adjani, is about Victor Hugo's daughter who is destroyed by an unrequited passion.

THE ONE-PARENT FAMILIES ASSOCIATION is holding a general meeting in the Overbrook Community Centre, 171 King George St. (& Quill), at 8:00p.m.

November 2,3,5

THE Y.M.C.A.'S "HOUSEWIVES" HOLIDAY gets under way this week. For \$15.00 you may attend once a week, 9:25 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., in a fitness class and swim, followed by a discussion group or participation in your favourite hobby. Baby-sitting is provided at .75 an hour.

Wednesday, Nov.3

CANADIAN MOTHERCRAFT begins a new Mother's Refresher Course. It continues for 4 weeks every Wed., 9:30 - 11:00 a.m. For more information call 233-5605. A Baby Counselling service is available at 450 MacLaren St., Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.

THE RAPE CRISIS CENTRE, in conjunction with The Academy of Self-Defence, will begin a 3-month self-defence course for women. The cost is \$17.50 and classes will be held Mondays, 4:30 - 6:00 p.m. For details call Tony Butler at 238-5312.

THE WOMEN'S CAREER COUNSELLING SERVICE is offering two evenings of discussion with Maudie Barlow on "Resistance To Change & Effective Coping Tactics". The group will be limited to 20 women and will take place Nov. 3 and 10, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. (approx.) For registration call 232-4273.

Friday, Nov.5

"SCENES FROM A MARRIAGE" will be shown at the Towne Cinema at 7:30 p.m. only. It is directed by Ingmar Bergman and stars Liv Ullman.

Tuesday, Nov. 9

THE OTTAWA UNIVERSITY WOMEN'S RESOURCES CO-OPERATIVE is participating in "National Student Day" with a series of workshops dealing with the problems of women as students. For details call 231-6853.

THE CARLETON UNIVERSITY WOMEN'S CENTRE has also designated several workshops for "National Student Day" to discuss the women as student. For information call 231-3779.

Wednesday, Nov.10

CBOT TV will present the ballet "Giselle" as the first production of the "Musicamera" series at 9:00 p.m. Karen Kain and Frank Augustyn will dance the lead roles.

THE PICKERING INSTITUTE begins a 5-week women's assertive group conducted by Suzanne Robinson. It will take **THE RAPE CRISIS CENTRE** is offering a 4-week course for public speaking, Thursdays, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. For registration call 238-6666.

Thursday, Nov. 11

THE RAPE CRISIS CENTRE is offering a free 4-5 week training course for public speaking, Thursdays, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. For registration call 238-666

Saturday, Nov. 13

THE OTTAWA PUBLIC LIBRARY will be showing "The Little Princess", with Shirley Temple, at 2:00 p.m. Metcalfe and Laurier.

November

THE LA LECHE LEAGUE WILL BE holding its meetings on "The Art of Breastfeeding" in 13 locations. For details call 238-5919. There will be a variety of meetings for mothers, fathers and couples.

H.O.M.E. [HOME ORIENTED MATERNITY EXPERIENCE] is now collecting names to start discussion groups and a co-operative child care centre. Those interested call 235-7935.

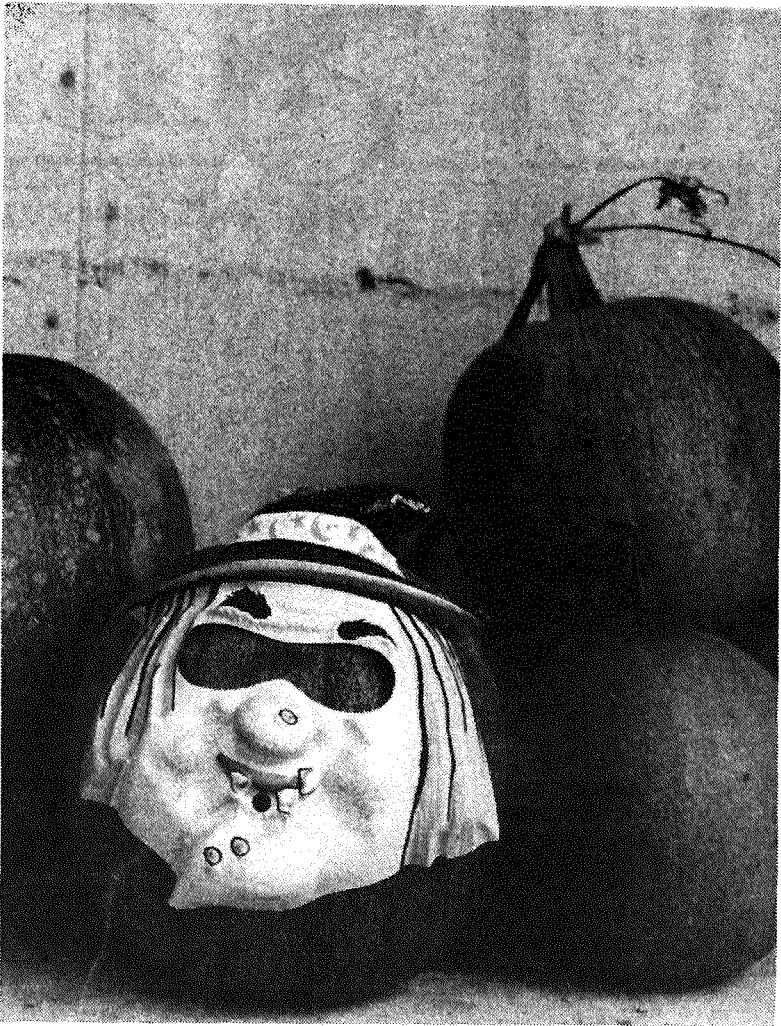
THE OTTAWA WOMEN'S CENTRE is compiling names for a series of "Consciousness Raising" groups to be held throughout the city and at the centre. It also needs volunteers to staff the centre every evening from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00p.m. and would welcome help for the lay-out and graphics of its new handbook. Please call 233-2560 or 235-4035.

THE AYLMER MONTESSORI SCHOOL, sponsored by the Women's Coalition, still has room in the French section starting age is 2 1/2, toilet-trained. For information call 684-9444.

ALGONQUIN COLLEGE'S "WOMEN'S PROGRAMMES" is organizing a French workshop, "Après La Vie A Deux... Quoi?", to begin the first week of November. For registration please call 731-7193. The "Women's Programmes" section is open to ideas from the community for workshops for women in French and English.

THE WOMEN'S CAREER COUNSELLING SERVICE has planned several workshops for this month:

- a) "Career Orientation" - workshop to begin in mid-November and continue for 6 weeks. It will be in French and English and is for the woman who has been out of the work force for some time and is now planning to get back.
- b) "The Underemployed" - a workshop beginning the end of November and continuing for 6 weeks. It is of special interest to the woman presently employed but not reaching her potential.
- c) Resume Writing and Interview Techniques" - this will be held if there is demand. For registration call 232-4273.



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Working women must organize

continued from p. 1

And she was up front during labor's day of protest making herself visible at every level, and in some cases walking off the job "under great duress" caused by employers.

Some employers sent "intimidating letters" to union members, she said, citing a letter received by members of the Public Service Alliance of Canada (29 per cent women). The PSAC did not support the day of protest although Carr says some members participated.

She also said many status of women groups joined the protest across the country, some brought their children or carried babies as they

Ottawa's chapter of the Voice of Women, a national public affairs group, attended the day of protest under their own banner. The national organization endorsed the protest and sent a letter to June Menzies, vice-chairperson of the anti-inflation board, challenging her statement that the wage gap between men and women is tightening.

Quoting from a Revenue Canada survey, the letter said the average income for males in 1974 was \$11,736 and \$6,734 for females. Increases for men during this period were 68.9 per cent compared with 62.2 per cent for women.

Yvette Rousseau, president of the federal advisory council on the status of women, disagrees with Carr.

"I do not believe many unorganized women participated on Oct. 14," she said, and she called the day a success for leaders but not for the rank and file.

"The basic man and woman did not feel solidarity with the union

leadership," the former vice-president of the Confederation of National Trade Unions said in an interview.

However, Carr says the protest "proved we have the capacity to mobilize our people against unjust acts on our society, and it's interesting to note we had almost all factions of the work force applying pressure on the government."

Rousseau and Carr agree that women must organize and the trade union movement must accept responsibility for unionizing women workers.

"We have a lot of cheap labor in Canada," said Rousseau, "and that cheap labor is made up of women." She used the textile, linen and shoe industries as examples which show that unions are the only defense mechanisms for women workers.

Women more than men are afraid to organize, and they often fear losing their jobs. Little intimidation is needed from employers to stop union organizing efforts, Rousseau said.

Women workers in banks or insurance companies, for example are told they are in a "ladies' profession." And of course, says Carr, "ladies do not belong to unions."

Between 1963 and 1973, the number of women in unions has increased 144 per cent, but Carr and Rousseau agree the job is far from done.

Although organized women have made tremendous gains, unions are unable to continue their efforts under the controls program.

"We've been stopped in our tracks," Carr said. Wage controls particularly affect women workers.

Daycare, paid maternity leave

and other benefits are sometimes sacrificed at the bargaining table to bring an over-all settlement into line with anti-inflation board regulations.

What happens to the woman with no maternity benefits? Carr says she may end up on welfare just to feed herself and her family. She loses her contributions to unemployment insurance and pension plans. She cannot contribute to any medical coverage, and her seniority comes to a standstill.

"Macdonald (federal finance minister), says Shirley Carr and Grace Hartman haven't been doing their jobs. Well, Jesus, we are so restricted by legislation we can't organize easily in a lot of areas," said Carr.

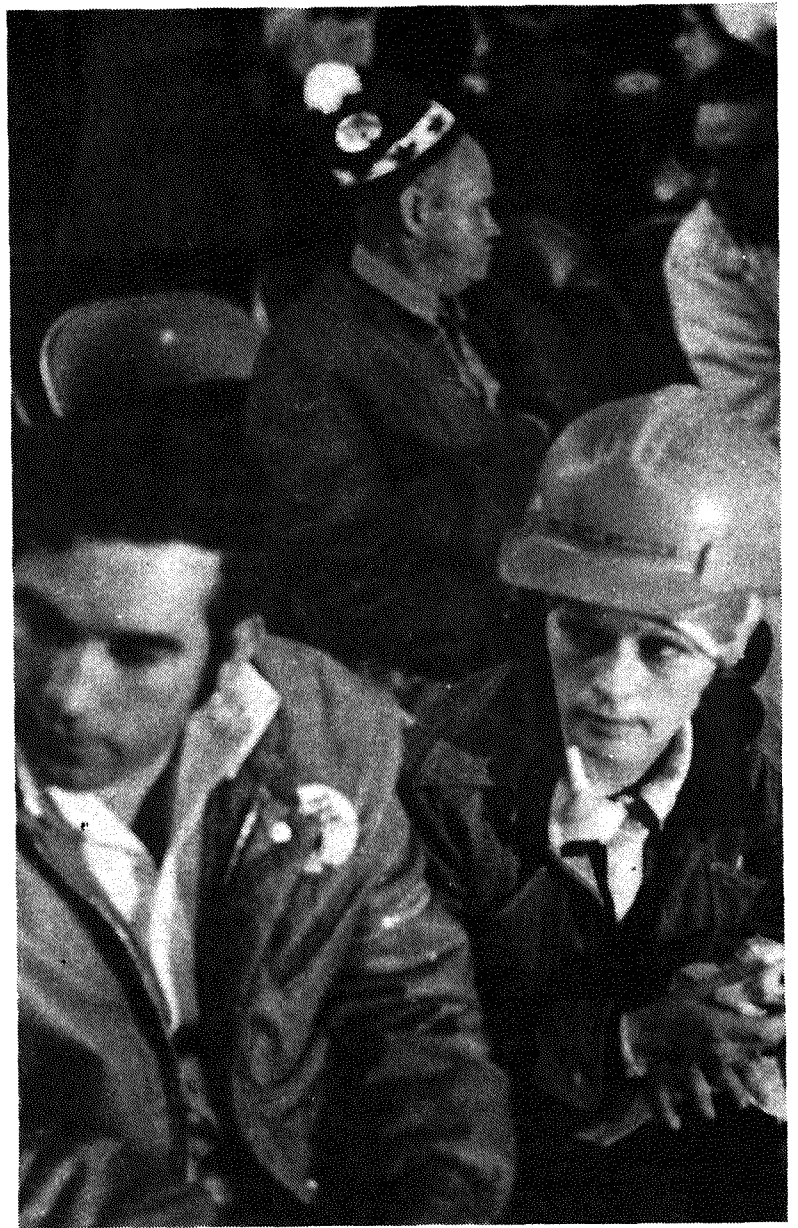
In her attack on the one-year-old controls program, Carr said the federal government has pitted good employers against good employees.

"It's one thing to try and destroy an institution, but it is another to try and destroy people.

"If there are a million people on the streets, the government must ask itself: What have we done?" she said, noting that the people who were out Oct. 14 were "upright citizens mobilized together to make a point.

"There were a lot of people who had a lot of ideas on how to proceed in this time of crisis. But one must work at all avenues and the avenue we chose through careful deliberation was the day of protest."

What next? Carr promises that if the federal government does not end the controls program, the fight will continue. The CLC executive was given a mandate at their spring convention to hold more general work stoppages and if that action is taken, Carr says,



"We'll get more than a million."

"We are determined to withdraw the wage and price controls program," she said. "We're not out to destroy the country. We're not out to be vindictive. We're out to solve problems."

Carr warns the country is in real trouble if the government conti-

nues to threaten democratic rights and freedoms. She criticised those who, in their opposition to the day of protest, chose to wear such buttons as "I Am Working For Canada Today."

"Well, who the hell do they think we were working for?"

Anti-Inflation Board

Menzies says controls are working

BY Pat Daley

When June Menzies left Winnipeg to become Anti-Inflation Board (AIB) vice-chairman, the city's labor council accused her of betraying workers and women.

But Menzies says this isn't so.

"I feel that they (wage and price controls) are working. I think people have more confidence now that they're not going to go under," she said in an interview.

Menzies admits working women are at a disadvantage in the fight against inflation, but says this is not the fault of the AIB.

"The regulations don't discriminate against women. In fact, there are provisions that make special allowance for women in the labor force," she said, citing the guideline which allows women to catch up to the wages of male workers and the right granted all workers to earn a minimum \$3.50 an hour.

"Many women in unions are charging the AIB is discriminatory but it is in fact a situation that existed long before the AIB.

"The problems of ghettoization and job classification really are very detrimental. These are problems that we have to attack directly. We can't say the AIB is to blame because we are wasting our energy."

While Menzies said it is the duty of unions to fight for better wages and working conditions for women she agreed that most working women are not unionized

This is another reason I think



the unions are wrong for attacking the AIB on the position of women because most women are in industries that don't come under the guidelines," she said.

But the fact remains that unionized workers, historically, set wage trends for non-unionized workers. The result is a depression of incomes at all levels, however Menzies maintains "it's important everyone is limited."

"You have to increase incomes of low income people as well, but by holding down incomes and passing this down through decreasing prices... if you don't decrease prices people want higher wages, then the man selling something says he better raise his prices," she said.

The main complaint about the AIB is that does not do a good job of controlling prices. Groups such as the Consumers Association of Canada say the only prices drop-

ping are those not controlled, such as food. But Menzies said the AIB played a part in that decrease.

"It's certainly true there has been a great decrease in the price of food, but when you look at the Consumer Price Index and food, only 42 per cent of the food is under the AIB.

"The other 58 per cent represents packaging, processing, etc. which are under controls. If you lift the uncontrolled part of food, and energy, out of the Consumer Price index, instead of a 6.5 per cent increase we would have a 7.5

per cent increase which means there is considerable control."

What she failed to mention was how many food processing and packaging companies come under the controls, since there are requirements such as having over 500 employees.

The question of whether prices drops are due to controls or not has become so muddled these details are important.

Before she took up the job of defending wage controls, Menzies was vice-chairperson of the federal Advisory Council on the Status of

Women and still talks about solutions for the problems of working

"We need support services for working mothers such as day care, emergency services, realizing the work she's doing is a real economic contribution and the need to provide fringe benefits, equal pay for work of equal value, adequate housing for different kinds of family groups.

We need a whole new look at the role the family plays in the economy and the role woman plays in the family."

Price decrease not due to AIB

The government's experiment in wage and price controls has been an expensive exercise that has to date produced few tangible benefits to consumers, according to Ruth Lotzkar, president of the Consumer's Association of Canada

In a statement following a meeting of the CAC board of directors, the CAC president said her association does not credit the AIB with the recent decline in the growth of the consumer Price Index because the decreases were solely accountable to food prices, which are not subject to control.

Meanwhile, she said, the CAC has received many complaints about the rising cost of housing, energy, transportation and

government services such as the post office, education, day care, and about the cost of the AIB program itself.

"When the effectiveness of the wage and price controls is so open to question, it is not surprising that consumers are objecting to paying for the cost of the program, especially when it includes a \$1.5 million publicity campaign," she said.

Last year when the AIB program was announced, the CAC gave critical support to the program, but warned that it expected the government to take policy actions to ensure that prices were restrained along with incomes

To date, Lotzkar said, the CAC has seen few efforts in that regard

by government and continued neglect of such basic structural defects in the economy as high tariffs, uncompetitive markets and government sanctioned monopolies not subject to public scrutiny.

The CAC statement called for "the early introduction of a full complement of anti-inflation policies to ensure restoration of stable prices and a healthy economy in Canada."

Specifically, the CAC wants "a more open dialogue" on the causes and cures for inflation, reduced tariffs, an investigation of the role of government sponsored monopolies in fostering inflation, and an effective competition policy.

Women and the law:

Guarantee equality in human rights code

by Jane Mingay

Discrimination in employment is the main concern of a recently completed brief by the Ottawa common law caucus of the Association of Women and the Law (AWL), which criticizes proposed federal human rights legislation.

The brief's recommendations try to plug the holes in Justice Minister Otto Lang's Canadian Human Rights Act (Bill C-72). The bill has virtually disappeared since its first reading on July 21, 1975.

Although provincial human rights statutes were in effect when the bill was introduced, there was no comprehensive legislation to prevent discrimination in the federal jurisdiction. When Lang introduced Bill C-72 in July 1975 he said: "Existing anti-discrimination provisions of federal statutes

and regulations are fragmentary... There is no overall body of law at the federal level to which persons may resort when they consider themselves to have been harmed by the discriminatory practices of organizations or persons whose activities fall within the legislative authority of Parliament."

It was a long-awaited and much-needed bill. However, AWL people see many of the same problems with the federal bill as they do with the provincial human rights codes.

According to Christine Blain, chairperson of the Ottawa common law caucus of the AWL, the main weaknesses of the bill lie in its lack of provisions to combat discrimination in employment. The AWL says in its brief:

"We have placed a great deal of stress in criticism of this bill on the

employment provisions. Paying women what they are worth will make them better able to deal with other problem areas like credit discrimination, property rights and other financially related areas. "Poverty is the greatest enemy of equal opportunity..."

The biggest emphasis in the brief is on women receiving equal pay for work of equal value. It is the contention of the AWL that most women work in specialized areas or "job ghettos". "Women

and conditions of work.

In other words, a secretary or bank teller whose job may have the same complexity of skills as a plumber's should be paid the same wages as a plumber.

The brief also criticizes the bill for failing to include "sexual orientation" or "sexual preference" as prohibited grounds of discrimination. Lesbians and homosexual men have been fighting for years for the inclusion of one of these phrases in provincial human rights

when the employer and the person discriminated against. Says Blain, "I can't understand how you can conciliate a bigot and the person they're disagreeing with."

She also says conciliation apparently works well in housing matters, but not in a work situation where an employer stands to gain financially by discriminating against a worker.

Also, the onus is on the person making a complaint to prove the employer is at fault. "It is tradition in labour law that in certain situations the onus is put on the employer to demonstrate that no misconduct has taken place on his part," said Blain. She says this should be the case under the act.

Blain also points out lax penalties for employers guilty of discriminatory practices. The proposed maximum fine is \$10,000.

"I can't see the Bank of Montreal standing on its head for a \$10,000 fine," she said.

At present there are only about 50 copies of the AWL brief in circulation. Meanwhile, Bill C-72 is back at the Department of Justice, ostensibly to be rewritten. The new bill is rumoured to include the recommendations of the Advisory Council on the Status of Women one of which is equal pay for work of equal value.

"I'd like to see it. I'd be delighted to see it," says Blain.

Nothing is planned by the AWL until the bill re-emerges, supposedly this fall. However, since Bill C-72 does not seem to be high on parliament's list of priorities, says Blain, the AWL may print more copies of its brief to get people asking for the legislation.

Blain says the AWL doesn't know of any MPs on its side but hopes opposition critics as well as women cabinet ministers will push for their recommendations.

Ottawa group wants fair laws for women

by Jane Mingay

The Association of Women and the Law (AWL) grew out of a national conference at the University of Ottawa in 1974. There, law students, lawyers and paralegal workers saw the need for a forum to discuss women and the law.

Since that conference, 19 divisions, including one at the University of Ottawa, have grown up across the country.

Although the caucuses vary from place to place, the 50-member Ottawa group has a six person steering committee with specific functions assigned to specific people. However, according to chairperson Christine Blain, people are flexible.

The work of the Ottawa AWL is twofold--review of legislation and preventative law (advising about rights and how to act).

On the legislative side, the Ottawa group compiled the recent criticism of the proposed Canadian Human Rights Act as well as a previous one on family property, put together in 1974 and 1975.

Preventative law efforts include

public speaking--over 75 groups in the Ottawa area have been briefed seminars and workshops. Last summer, the Ottawa caucus received a Secretary of State grant to write and print a series of instructive booklets. This year, Health and Welfare provided money for a reprint.

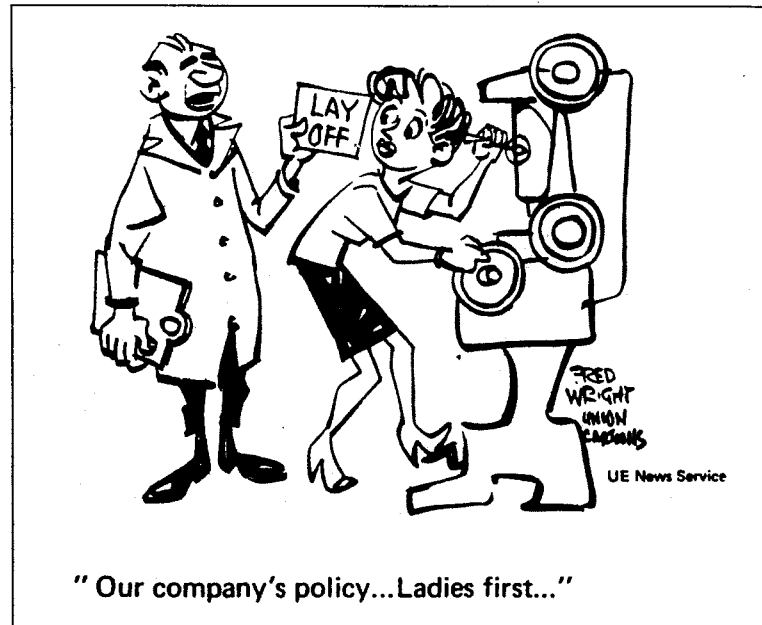
Membership in the AWL is open to anyone, but not many men are joining. There are five in the Ottawa caucus.

"Men who are sympathetic feel it's not their fight," says Blain.

At the University of Ottawa, the AWL is a registered club with the Students' Federation and members must pay a \$3 membership fee.

One of the biggest problems is finding office space. Blain has been trying for a year. As it is, the AWL depends on the law school mailing address and the secretaries to take messages.

The other problem is that most of the people involved in the group are law students and all are volunteers. Blain says they don't have enough energy, money or time to devote to all projects they feel are important.



are still channelled into jobs which because they are classified as 'women's work' are underpaid," says the brief.

Until now attention focussed on equal opportunity for women and equal pay for the same job, and Blain says the "equal pay for work of equal value" concept is really quite revolutionary. It means people would be paid based on four criteria: skill, effort, responsibility

codes.

Other major problems with the bill, according to Blain, are with the procedure and penalties after a complaint is laid. Blain says the process to resolve a complaint is lengthy and secretive -- and arbitrary. The Human Rights Commission need not investigate a complaint if it so chooses.

If a complaint is investigated, the first step is conciliation bet-

Lesbians of Ottawa hold first national conference

by Rosemary Lippert

Lesbians of Ottawa Now sponsored their first major organizational event, a national lesbian conference, Oct. 9-11 at the University of Ottawa.

The new group, (not related to the American national Organization of Women), was formed by the conference co-ordinating committee to facilitate the planning of the Ottawa conference. The cohesive effect of their first endeavor suggests LOON members will have an active future in Ottawa's lesbian community.

320 women attended the conference. Delegates arrived from both coasts and, to ensure a true nationality of the conference, simultaneous translation was provided.

A lesbian feminist lawyer outlined the extent of the law's oppression in addition to illustrating alternatives useful in fighting the hetero-sexuality of the courts with special interest paid to the particularly emotional issue of child custody. A representative from the Centre d'Entraide de Homophile de Quebec spoke of her group's ambition to defend lesbian women publicly harassed by employers, landlords and society in general.

Workshops explored alterna-

women. The caliber of the discussion indicated many lesbian women had made primary

choices in their lifestyles or were at least prepared to consider lesbian issues as most important to them. An encouraging atmosphere of exchange and acceptance of ideas surfaced during workshops and a particular concern was paid to damage resulting from "trashing" sisters in the past.

Most delegates regarded such practices as destructive and isolating and in opposition to the theme of unity the conference was trying to promote.

Specifically, the classrooms yielded ideas. Younger and older lesbians discussed the particular problems characteristic of their age groups. In general, the younger lesbians

felt they were involved in more street hassles and explored self defence as a solution. The problem of coping with heterosexual rituals in schools and peer groups was also discussed.

In contrast, many older women were tired of the fighting and expressed a need for places to meet other than bars. Retreats were proposed.

During the Dyke Culture and Lesbians and the Media workshops the women perceived special images lesbians have of themselves, their humour, dress and style, and then attempted to resolve the dilemma of presenting these to the world. It was suggested

continued on p. 5

thank you!

UPSTREAM would like to thank all who contributed so generously to our benefit concert:

Clark Dairy, 861 Clyde

Crosby Food Services Ltd., 848 Belfast

Lightning Bakery, Bank Street

Balderson's Cheese, highway 7, Carleton Place

Herb and Spice Shop, 409 Bronson

The Sunshine Trading Company, 580 Bank Street

The Wildflower Cafe, Chapel and Rideau Street

Steinberg's

Arthur McGregor

The Jack Purcell Community Centre

The Ottawa Womens Centre



Interval House is needed service

by Karen Fish

Look around you. Look at this community, or any other community for that matter, full of people in need of money advice, support, or shelter. Then look at the services available to meet the needs of the sick, the homeless, the distressed. Listen to all those desperate questions that have no answers.

But every once in awhile somebody recognizes an unsatisfied need appearing again and again and decides to do something about it. For some reason a few undaunted individuals keep pushing causes and preaching needs until finally their efforts produce something concrete like food, counseling, or shelter.

Interval House, a temporary shelter for women and their children, is the result of such process.

Less than two years ago 12 women, all of whom worked for local social service agencies, realized the need for emergency housing was not being met by the municipality or the province. Every day they were confronted by people who had been burned out, evicted or driven by marital problems from their homes. They also realized the vast majority of the people seeking shelter were women, often women with children.

At that time the only assistance available was money - money to buy a few nights in a hotel room or the YWCA.

But how helpful is that temporary shelter, that time away from the domestic atmosphere, when there is no one to hear your problems, give advice, or look after your children? What are the chances of having time to think, to make decisions or to look for a new home?

In most cases the woman in trouble has no money and she returns to the domestic situation



that forced her to leave.

A year ago, Kay Shimizu, Director, Community Centres for Ottawa Carleton, took the initiative to organize this group already aware of the need for emergency housing for women. They incorporated as Interval House of Ottawa Carleton with the intent to buy a house!

CMHC start-up funds partially financed the group in the early stages. But when they finally found a house in Centretown which was reasonably priced and suited their needs. CMHC backed

down on a loan. No money until the organization was registered under the Charitable Institution Act - a procedure that would take several months.

The board chose not to delay any longer and took the only other alternative - renting. Between January and July of this year they raised several thousand dollars through a book sale, a craft fair and many generous donations, the majority of which came from people in the department of Social Services.

"That money is what really got

ties over the summer. They recommended the purchase of a home, possibly a duplex or triplex, similar to a residence for young native men which opened in Ottawa this fall.

Most native students, coming in from the James Bay reserves or central Quebec, are in a room and board situation at present. The homes are mainly non-Indian, said VanEvery-Albert, and although they generally provide a good environment, they are not ideal.

Most students would like to live with their own people, she said.

"Many kids in white boarding homes find it difficult to talk with their houseparents."

"Kids have problems, all kinds of problems, growing up is a problem. They should have a parent there."

So, the residence, she said, would have native houseparents to offer personal and educational advice. She hopes the residence will ease the culture shock many young natives experience when leaving home for the first time to study.

The project is one of the first undertaken by the chapter, which is less than a year old. The group, whose membership is 30 and growing, generally meets once a week to plan activities and projects for native women in Ottawa.

us off the ground," says board member Jean Grant, director of the Social Services department of the Regional Municipality.

With a \$13,500 Local Initiatives Program grant the board could begin the expensive renovations the city requires for any dwelling housing more than 5 unrelated people - \$1,800 for a fire escape, \$2,700 for a fire alarm system and enclosed stairwells, and the expense of extensive cleaning, plastering and painting.

Interval House is far from luxurious, but half the eight bedroom house is now comfortably furnished and can accommodate some women with their children. There are large common areas on the ground floor and a play room for the children above.

The L.I.P. funds ran out in June. Since then some of the overhead has been met by a personal credit union loan taken out by one of the board members.

Interval House gets \$11.00 per person per day through a joint financing program between the province and municipality. While only half the house is in operation, the hostel works on a \$1,500 deficit per month.

The campaign for donations is never-ending. "The time devoted to fund raising takes away from the time needed to develop the project," says Jean Grant. "But this added pressure creates dedication...a solid base. The workers

in the hostel have to be dedicated to continue on L.I.P. salaries."

Grant admits the per diem rate of \$11.00 hasn't changed for many years and is an unrealistic reflection of the operating cost of the hostel.

Since July, Interval House has sheltered at least three women and their children every night. One of the house rules sets a six week limit on residency, but like other rules at the hostel, this limit is flexible.

"It is difficult to know how accountable women should be to us," says one of the workers, "after a certain period they get depressed. It's up to us to get her to leave."

The 12 board members and four workers in the hostel are happy with the atmosphere of Interval House. The house is run cooperatively.

At weekly house meetings menus and chore lists are written up. Everyone plays her part. There is always a worker in the house to counsel, to give information, to chat or to babysit the children.

"Some of the women are so helpful, so competent. If any of us have to leave I think they (the board) should hire some of these women who have come to us for help," says one of the workers.

"They can do so much on their own once there is someone to look after the kids."

If a lassie . . .

LERWICK, SHETLAND-Fire officials in this island community 200 miles north east of Scotland have agreed in principle to allow women to be employed as parttime and volunteer fire persons.

But, the agreement in principle did not come without a fight.

John Janieson, deputy convener of the Shetland Islands Council, lead the attack against women in the fire department.

"It is an idea which does not appeal to me," he said. "We shall have to be very careful in selecting these women."

"Married women would not be suitable because, unlike men, they become pregnant."

"I have nothing against women. In my younger days I enjoyed sex myself. But I do not think women are suitable for this job."

Another official would only agree to the measure as long as the women were not allowed to climb ladders wearing skirts.

The officials have been unable to fill all positions in the fire department because of a shortage of male

applicants. The men prefer to work high paying jobs that have come with the North Sea oil development near here.



Ottawa residence planned for young native women

Local native women are seeking funds to establish a residence for young native women arriving in the capital to attend high school, college and university.

The Ottawa chapter of the Ontario Native Women's Association is planning to provide "at least eight and possibly 20 students with a 'positive environment for study,'" said Chapter president Claudine VanEvery-Albert.

Residence plans have been in the works for several months, she said, and if fund-raising is successful it will be ready for September 1977.

The association hired two students, Nancy Sack and Joselyn Bonspille, to search out possibi-

continued from p. 4

that a network of trusted media people be built. The need for aware therapists, who do not regard a woman's lesbianism as the cause of all her problems was discussed.

These people would also be instrumental in undoing much of the damage already done by the ignorant and in building the credibility of the healthy homosexual.

The workshop focusing on lesbian sexuality was a boisterous and honest meeting with a memorable moment involving

a woman and a flower during a discussion of romanticism.

The unique bonds between lesbian women were illustrated in the Community of Women and the Lesbian wives and Mothers workshops. The sorority of women and their children emerged as a powerful life force.

These workshops also established some vital political precedents. Wages For Housework clarified the economic disadvantages of this sexual preference and proposed a solution. Lesbian feminism was examined as a viable political

choice.

A significant theme surfaced during the workshop entitled Lesbian Autonomy Lesbian Pride; that was the need for an autonomous lesbian coalition in Canada. Primarily, the active discussion that occurred was invaluable in interpreting the meaning of this ambition. The women in attendance agreed that this affiliation was not a separatist unit and did not discourage women in any way from working within the gay or woman's movements but rather provided a vehicle for lesbian women to work together on

issues they feel are most important to them with the knowledge that they can solicit nation wide response.

A proposal for this union was drawn up, read and passed unanimously by the delegates at the closing plenary. "That a national affiliation of lesbians and lesbian organizations be formed, in order to formulate and communicate lesbian issues and concerns..." It was also proposed that another national conference be held in a year's time. In addition, to facilitate a communications network and the involvement of lesbians not

attending the conference, regional officers volunteered to process and promote the priorities of the women in their area. The weekend appeared to be a social success as well since there was a dance, a coffee-house and a brunch. All were well attended. The women who attended the national Lesbian Conference seemed revitalized by the positive focus of the gathering and since that time LOON has received feedback indicating the continuing efforts of women to establish and work on the priorities of lesbians in their communities.

EDITORIAL

Upstream has been months in the making. Putting out this first issue has been full of surprises for all of us for although we realized there is a huge amount of news about women not covered consistently in the daily press, we have found the number of events and issues beyond our wildest expectations.

We have discovered while reporting that those who say the women's movement is dead are way off course. Women are moving out and broadening the degree of their involvement in this society every day. It's time to find out what each one of us is doing.

Upstream is expanding too. Next issue we'll have even more detailed coverage and analysis of current issues that affect women as well as up-to-date reporting on the activities of women in the Ottawa region, the province and the nation.

With your help, this page will become a forum for discussion and debate of issues affecting us all for a broader dialogue on the changing role of women in our society.

You are invited to respond to issues through Upstream's letters section and provide viewpoint or opposition editorial comment.

Sybil assures us that:

Controls are for protection of the people

Prices rise in every supermarket,
Postage phone & hydro rates go up,
Heating's getting more and more
like freezing.

— Got to Fight Inflation and be Tough.

SO

Controls are for Protection of the People,
8-and-1/2 per cent's the magic word.
And anyone who thinks she's being
shafted,
Is very irresponsibly absurd

— so we've heard.

Now some are working for subsistence
wages,
And jobs for some of us just don't exist,
And lots of us consider it outrageous,
That corporate

welfare bummary persists,

BUT

Controls are for Protection of the People
The AIB assures us every day
Though we who make the wages,
not the profits
Just wonder why it's us that has to pay

— All the way

OH YES

Controls are for Protection of the People
And Thank the Powers the AIB is there
Protecting all those feeble profit makers
From money grabbing workers
who might dare

— Want their share.

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

To be sung to the tune of:

The Law is for Protection of the People



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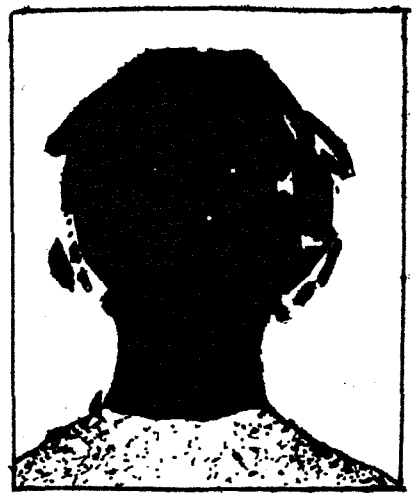
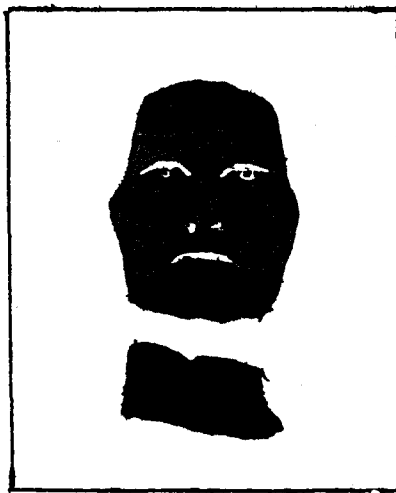
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Upstream is a fortnightly newspaper published by Feminist Publications of Ottawa. The staff is a collective with departmental co-ordinators. Subscriptions: \$4 individuals, \$10 supporting and institutions. Advertising: Bonnie Kilbrick-Evans. Upstream subscribes to Co-operative Press Associates, a national labor news service. We solicit readers' views and opinions. All correspondence should be addressed to Upstream, 227 Laurier Avenue West, Suite 207, Ottawa Ontario K1P 5J7. Telephone: 232-0313.

Are you interested in spending time with Upstream? Your contributions are welcome in any of the following areas:

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Law For Women

Many of our laws give women special treatment. This is a reflection of our past which emphasized a restricted role and function for women, as if other choices were unthinkable.

It is necessary to speak in terms of women's rights, because in the past women had almost no rights. It was expected they would receive protection from husband or father and were, of course, extended protection from assault under the criminal law. Within marriage it was somewhat relaxed and husbands were expected as a matter of course to "chastise" their wives, much as parents and teachers are now permitted to "discipline" children. Husbands still have a right to restrain their wives today, in certain circumstances.

Expected to confine themselves to the home and the realm of private and personal relationships, women did not develop expertise to deal with public affairs. It was also expected that before one could make a valid contribution, one would have to become like a man. A woman's point of view was not seen as valuable, as the head of the Royal Bank of Canada has told us recently.

And so passivity and alienation has been nurtured, preventing women from taking an active part in making the laws of their country, and disabling them from articulating forcefully their own special interests.

This column will address itself to some of the problems arising from these condi-

tions as well as preventing a working knowledge of some of our laws. It has both an educative and a practical objective, and will take a critical approach; if possible, the material will be put into a context that makes it meaningful for women.

Please send in your questions. They need not be restricted to the special "women's issues" but could include employment law, landlord and tenant problems, consumer protection, as well as separation and divorce, responsibilities of homemakers, family property and children.

For a long time women have been asking Parliament for legislation that would enforce "equal remuneration for work of equal value."

In 1951 the International Labour organization adopted the principle as necessary to end discrimination on the basis of sex. Women's groups and the Royal Commission on the Status of Women were successful in promoting the adoption of the principle by all provincial governments and the federal government by 1972.

But no government in Canada has as yet implemented equal pay for work of equal value, or equal remuneration, neither provincial nor federal. Instead we have phrases such as "equal pay for equal work" or for "work that is equal or similar." Such provisions do not answer the problems of sex discrimination.

Equal pay laws have been on the books for over twenty years but they aren't

working. Why not? Because they can't be enforced. Because the largest number of women are not even covered by the legislation.

The disparity between men's and women's incomes has been steadily increasing, men now earning almost twice as much as women, on the average, even where the work is the same. Today two top-notch women can be hired for the price of one man, and an employer need not offer her the same opportunities for advancement, if he is careful how he describes (classifies) her work. It is profitable for employers to hire women in certain fields. In such conditions, employers cannot be expected to voluntarily introduce equality at the workplace.

Given these conditions, the position of the majority of women will be improved only with the help of legislation that eliminates sex bias from the measurement of their work, so that its worth is decided by objective criteria, such as skill, training, effort and conditions of work.

Women are nurses, men are doctors; women are bank clerks, men are managers. Are there situations where the type of work performed by a nurse is equal in value to the type of work performed by a doctor? Can you define some work as less valuable because it is done by one sex or are there other variables at work?

The way to decide is by looking at the work, the effort and skill of the person doing it.

The present legislation fails to cover

most women because they are working in the "sex ghettos"—nurses, secretaries, some clerks and service personnel. Where there is no man for comparison, the provision of equal pay for equal or similar work just isn't applicable. But the phrase "equal pay for work of equal value" does put the focus back on performance.

It has been objected, in the past, that great difficulty would attach to developing criteria and systems of classification. But large industries already have done this and so has the Public Service. The systems are not perfect and will require more attention from women, but a broader concept of human rights and a commitment to remove sex discrimination from our society should promote the kind of change that women must have if they are to take their places as equals.

Enforcement is extremely important, and the significance of human rights legislation is that the government undertakes, as a matter of public policy, to set up administrative and enforcement machinery to help implement the laws. Women should have access to personnel to help them fight their cases without expense, and quickly. The kind of injustice that denies a woman remuneration according to her contribution should no longer be tolerated.

The Government's promise to re-introduce Human Rights legislation this fall will not be forgotten by women. And women will be looking at it carefully to make sure that it answers their needs.

The Healing Arts

by Beatrice Baker

Modern medicine is being threatened by a monster of its own making.

For various reasons, the medical professions have created an ethos in which medicine is an exact science practiced only by licensed experts. The result is a plethora of myths that frequently keep people from participating in their own health care—a condition which can lead to poor health care.

These myths are now being attacked all across the continent. From Mexico, Ivan Illich has written *Medical Nemesis* and *Limits to Medicine*. Both are extreme and radical in their analysis. Periodicals such as *Health Right*, a quarterly magazine put together by a women's health collective, are cropping up in the United States and here in Canada, a syndicated column, "The Doctor Game", written by a doctor under the pseudonym W. Gifford-Jones, expresses common sense criticism of both doctors and their patients.

These are a few critics who are attempting to demythologize and demystify medicine.

Despite differences in style, format and degree of radicalness, their analyses are remarkably similar. Overprofessionalization and, in a sense, industrialization of medicine have created myths about doctors we are only beginning to recognize.

It is a myth, they say, that only a physician is capable of treating illness, no matter how slight. But we've bought it root and leaf. There are few doctors who are not weary of hearing, "Well, I thought it was just a cold but I wanted to make sure."

Perhaps TV medic shows, where every

make mistakes and no, they cannot cure the common cold. Yet we want the security of believing doctors will know what is wrong and what to do about it. And we want results immediately.

Initially medical science had to struggle to get people to accept the first "miracles of modern science". Small pox vaccine, penicillin, even aspirin, were regarded with suspicion and mistrust.

Now we are so convinced of the efficacy of drugs, serums, ointments and just about anything that comes out of a pharmaceutical bottle or box, that too many of us are unwilling to accept non-chemical remedies or situations which call for time, rest and proper eating habits to effect a cure. So we spend too much money and, in the process, teach our children that we are a drug-hooked society.

Perhaps the worst myth mentioned is one that dehumanizes doctors as well as patients. It is the myth of interchangeability. That is, that all doctors are equally skilled technically, equally suited

"Doctors are human beings"

emotionally to their work and that any doctor can treat any patient.

Some doctors are more skilled than others (where is the kid who placed last in Anatomy 101?) and some physicians are better suited to research than to practice. Doctors are human beings. Just like everyone else, they get along better with some people than with others.

If the medical establishment isn't

undeniably a male-dominated field. In fact, over 90 per cent of the doctors in Canada and the U.S. are male.

In a well written booklet called, "Complaints and Disorders: the Sexual Politics of Sickness", Barbara Ehrenreich and Deidre English document from the early nineteenth century some of the consequences of a male dominated medical profession. One of the most crucial of these consequences, then and now, is the treatment of menstruation, childbirth and menopause as abnormalities and illnesses.

At one time women were advised to take to their beds during their periods. It has only been within the last twenty years or so that most women have ceased to

"We must be willing to live without medical myths"

restrict their activities during "that time of the month".

During the nineteenth century physicians fully believed, and presented as scientific fact, the notion that education was bad for women because it would reduce the capability of the womb to bear children successfully. And, of course, it wouldn't do to allow that, because child-bearing was considered a woman's ultimate fulfillment, without which she would be forever unsatisfied.

The cry, "You've come a long way, baby!" tempts many of us to dismiss nineteenth century notions with a shrug or a chuckle. But in *Our Bodies, Ourselves* by the Boston Women's Health Collective, there are examples, from pamphlets still available in obstetrician's offices of doctors' attitude towards women and childbirth.

For example: "A woman is likely to glow and look more beautiful during this period while her body is fulfilling its ultimate physical function." This overly romantic notion of pregnancy can be dangerous. Women who believe it may feel there is something wrong with them when they discover there can be days when they feel fat and ugly.

The glorification of "women's ultimate physical function" is medicine's public attitude toward women. The behind the

scenes attitude is different. Published in a 1973 issue of the *American Journal of Sociology* is a study of medical textbooks: "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Orifice: Women in Gynecology Textbooks." This content analysis by Diane Scully and Pauline Bart shows that medicine feels, thinks and talks about women in very derogatory ways.

The fortress which medicine has placed around itself is indeed under attack by both men and women, for similar and differing reasons. From the growing weight of evidence, the attack seems justified and necessary, yet it would be detrimental to us all if it was allowed to get out of hand.

Science, its technology, specialization and professionalization have benefited us enormously. It would be difficult to imagine our world without smallpox vaccine, sterilization techniques, antibiotics, blood transfusions or the hundred of innovations of the medical establishment.

Without denying medicine its achievements nor hampering further developments, we must return much of health care to the individual and to the home.

As a first step, we must be willing to live without medical myths and to take responsibility for ourselves once again. Most of us know the basics of good health. What we need now is a little common sense and self-confidence. Through common sense we can approach health care in a more human, more realistic, even in a more economically feasible way.

Women have a particularly difficult role to play in changing the nature of health care. We must gather knowledge about ourselves. This knowledge may be tinged with male myth and misunderstanding. Only women can remove the myths and misunderstanding because only women know the reality of menstruation, childbirth and menopause.

Medicine is an exact science practiced by recognized experts. It should also be a healing art practiced by everyone as common sense, healthful living.

"We want the security of believing doctors will know what is wrong"

slight symptom develops into dire and disastrous diseases, have been a contributing factor in our growing mistrust of our own common sense.

But the consequences are escalating health care costs.

It is a myth, they say, that doctors are infallible and omniscient. Yes, they do

already dizzy from criticisms whipped at it, it may start to spin when the criticisms of the burgeoning women's health movement hit it.

Women such as Ellen Frankfort, whose *Vaginal Politics* is already a classic, are detailing and documenting the particular problems women have with what is

A woman's life in the carnival:

STAR OR



by Rustin Steele Levenson

"I'm known as the balloon lady. All the kids call me that. It's nice. You're set apart and people recognize you. It's kinda like being a movie star. You go into town and some kid says, 'Hey mom, there's the balloon lady!' It's really nice." -- the Balloon Lady.

Carnie ladies are very special people. They work hard running games, selling tickets, managing shows. The women consider themselves part of the

entertainment world and are proud of the "flash" they add to the midway.

"I just want a woman. Any woman will do. I don't care who she is. I just gotta have a woman." -- a ride operator.

And yet, they're not special to everyone. In their role as helpmates to men, carnival ladies work as hard behind the midway as out front, making homes for friends and family on the road.

While single men abound on the carnival lot, there are very

few lone women. Carnival ladies are wives, daughters, girlfriends...somehow attached to a male carnie. It is up to these women to supply their comforts.

Women at the top of the carnival hierarchy are generally show managers' wives. They enjoy the glamour of acquaintance with night club owners, press agents, act managers and Fair Board members from various towns. These wives often wield a strong arm behind their husbands, dictating appointments and balancing accounts with a shrewd eye.

(Next are the wives of the owners of individual games, shows and concessions. They work hard on the midway, usually helping their husbands run the operation.

The women who hire onto the concessions, sell tickets, run the rides or wash the dishes follow.

Found on the lot, but not really a part of the carnival itself, are the "forty milers". These workers join up for one or two stops or for a short season. They work until enough money is made or until the labor gets too hard.

In a class by themselves, are the show ladies. Fat, short, thin, ugly or naked, they are the stars.

Few women on the lot are in independent positions. Though carnie daughters are brought up to be money-wise and inde-

pendent, they usually own or run a show with a man and, like many of their mothers, do his bidding.

One lady executive, manager of the World's Fair Fat Lady Suzy Farmer, is the daughter of the family who own Suzy's show and several others. Her job is travelling with the show and making sure Suzy is comfortable, that all the exhibits are set up properly and everyone is paid and working. It's a complicated job that runs 24 hours a day and includes tearing down the shows and moving to the next spot. Not yet 20 years old, she manages all this with great skill.

Suzy herself is a great carnie lady. At 26, she has been fat all over the world for 15 years.

"See more than you expect to see!" reads the marquee. More than you expect includes not only over 500 pounds of bikini-clad Suzy, but a swarm of carnie kids at her feet as well. Suzy is one of the nicest ladies on any lot and the kids flock to her to play with her dog or share her french fries.

Women like Suzy, who are on exhibit, usually have bizarre life stories.

The alligator lady, also clad in a bikini, has a hairless, scaled body. The announcer says she was locked up by her parent for 25 years.

Behind the scenes she spends a lot of time with her dog, hosing off the area around her trailer because she has a low resistance to heat. Many of the

carnies called the alligator lady "stuck up." More likely she is lonely and shy after so many years in captivity.

Not every show lady is even female. A fat lady in Ohio turned out to be in drag. It was given on good authority (whatever good authority is in the carnival) that "big, fat momma" was really a man. The story was that the original fat lady died, leaving an elaborate marquis and grind tape.

The gentleman in question was asked to take over. He began to enjoy being the fat lady and intends to remain one.

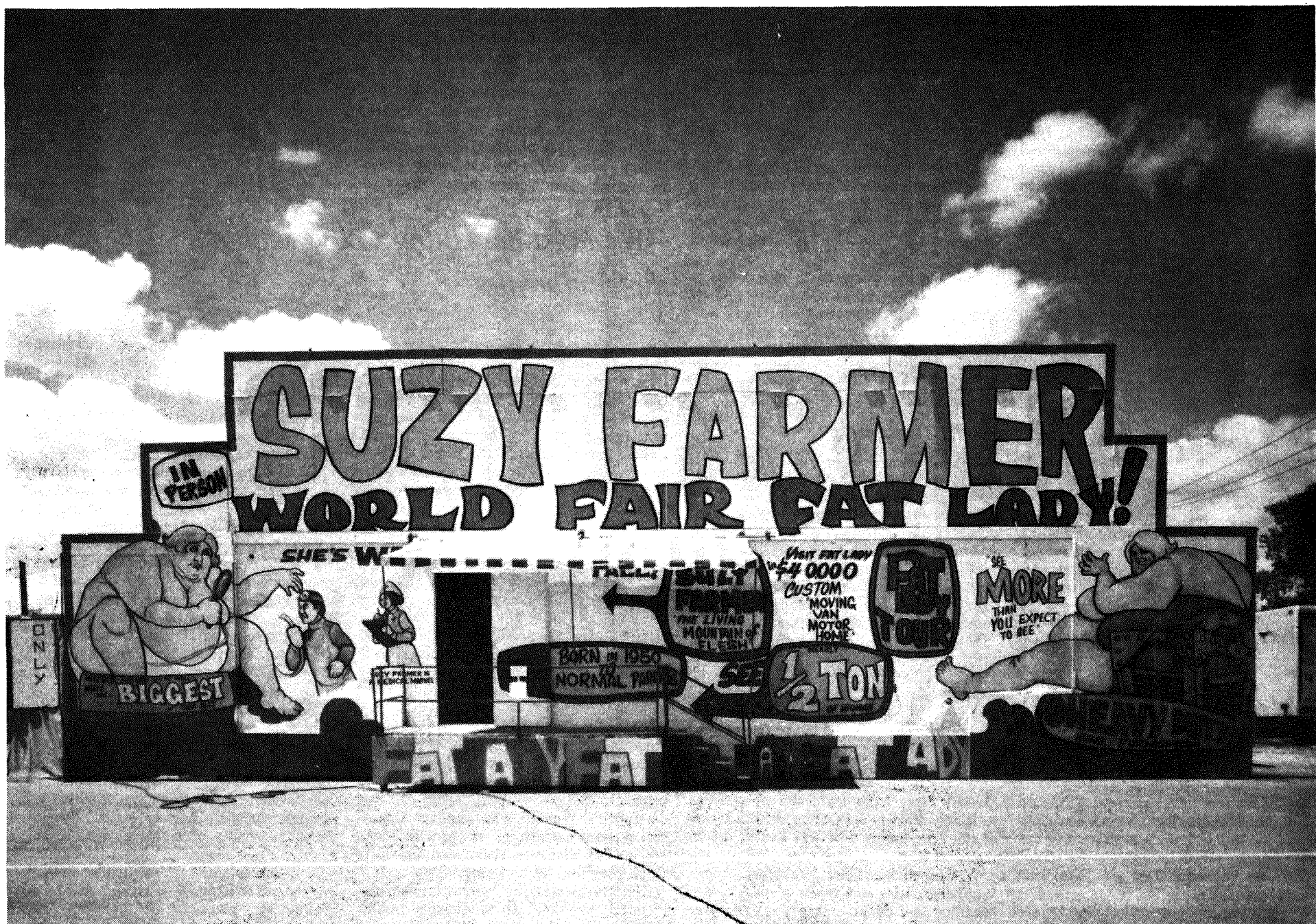
Tiny Tina is yet another extraordinary woman of the carnival. About two feet high, she is one of the shortest ladies in the world and the mother of a baby who is rapidly approaching her size. When she is not busy with the exhibit, her son, the crew or cleaning her trailer, Tiny Tina works on her autobiography.

A different, but still unusual, lady is the Gorilla Girl. According to the grind, she is a princess, discovered in deepest Africa, who can change at will into a 450 pound gorilla.

But, the princess has never been to Africa. In fact, she's from Daytona, Florida. This kind of show is called "illusion."

The carnival of course involves less spectacular working women who make a large contribution to the entertainment of the fairgoer.

The balloon lady and her



SLAVE?

colleagues "do the call" to lure customers and oversee the awarding of prizes. It's a tricky business to keep the level of excitement up and make a winner, who has just dropped ten dollars, feel a small fluffy snake is a worthy prize.

Quieter jobs include the ticket seller and food worker.

Liz sells tickets on the midway cooped up in a coffin-size box. Making the best of her tiny booth, she added a fan, vanity mirror, brush and comb, and a pile of romance novels. Always looking her best, Liz seems to make the right change without even looking up from her book.

Midway work is, of course, not the only aspect of a carnie woman's life. Road living isn't easy. Electric stoves, beds, bathrooms, the mainstays of a comfortable life style, are rare on the carnival lot. With propane, sleeping bags, laundromats and endless rearranging carnie ladies provide a semblance of the comforts of home on the fairgrounds.

Carnie men's expectations of their women range from nothing to miracles.

Some of the men are very undemanding. They sleep on rides, in cars, under machinery or on tarps. They eat corn dogs and candied apples. Some are so speedy that they don't sleep or eat at all. Of course the ladies must adapt to such life styles if they want to stay around.

One who did lived with the ride jock who said "any woman will do." Each morning she was ordered to make the bed. It wasn't really a hard job since the bed was two sleeping bags on packing crates.

Talking later it was apparent she enjoyed her situation. She also didn't seem to mind being beaten up occasionally or severely up braided and sent to bed for flirting with a security man on the lot.

"This is okay. I ain't got no place else to go," she said.

Then there is Lawrence's wife. She never had a name except "Lawrence's wife." She was always busy doing chores for Lawrence. One job was keeping his white show pants sparkling clean. This is no mean feat on a carnival lot where toilets are hard enough to come by let alone a working sink or tub.

Lawrence considered himself a star and was to be catered to like a star. An open beer was handed to him as soon as he sat down in the softest lawn chair. Lawrence's wife was to serve with adoration and watch over the three children, keeping them as much out of the way as possible.

Everyday the white pants would get dirty and torn and Lawrence's wife would rush them off to be scrubbed and mended.

Carnie ladies are often parts of extended families. Aunts, cousins, daughters and even grandmothers can be found doing various chores around the midway.

Faith and her two children were travelling with a show out west. She didn't have a job on the midway except filling in when someone got sick. Her ex-husband was part-owner of the show and during their years of marriage she acquired an addict-

ion to life on the road. She planned to bring her kids out every summer so they could be with their father. A brother and uncle were also involved with the show, giving the summer the look of a summer vacation.

That life on the road includes the occasional marriage.

One wedding took place out west this summer. The groom, who operated a ride called the sizzler, was marrying a local waitress. Included in the wedding party were three of her four children (none of his 8 attended).

They were married on his ride by a carnie who claimed to be a "man of god". The best man was PeeWee, another ride jock. Unfortunately, PeeWee overindulged the night before and was sleeping soundly in the Hall of Mirrors. With considerable screaming, the kids bumped through the glass and mirrors to rouse him. The maid of honor was Suzy Farmer, everybody's friend.

After the ceremony the guests threw tomatoes, found behind the fast food stand, at the newiyweds.

Kids who grow up in the carnival manage fairly well.

"Kids in the carnival learn to hustle. My boy's nine years old and he can scheme like a champ. He can tell you exactly how much money he'll make the next day and damn near always clears it," one proud father said.

But, being a mother on the road isn't easy.

John's wife, for example, had two girls taken away by "the welfare" and put into foster homes.

"I just couldn't manage them on the road," she says sadly. She is still travelling with her husband and preschool aged son.

Carnival season runs from March to November, with most carnies resting and refurbishing the rides and joints in the winter. Some who are addicted or enterprising enough spend the whole year on the route.

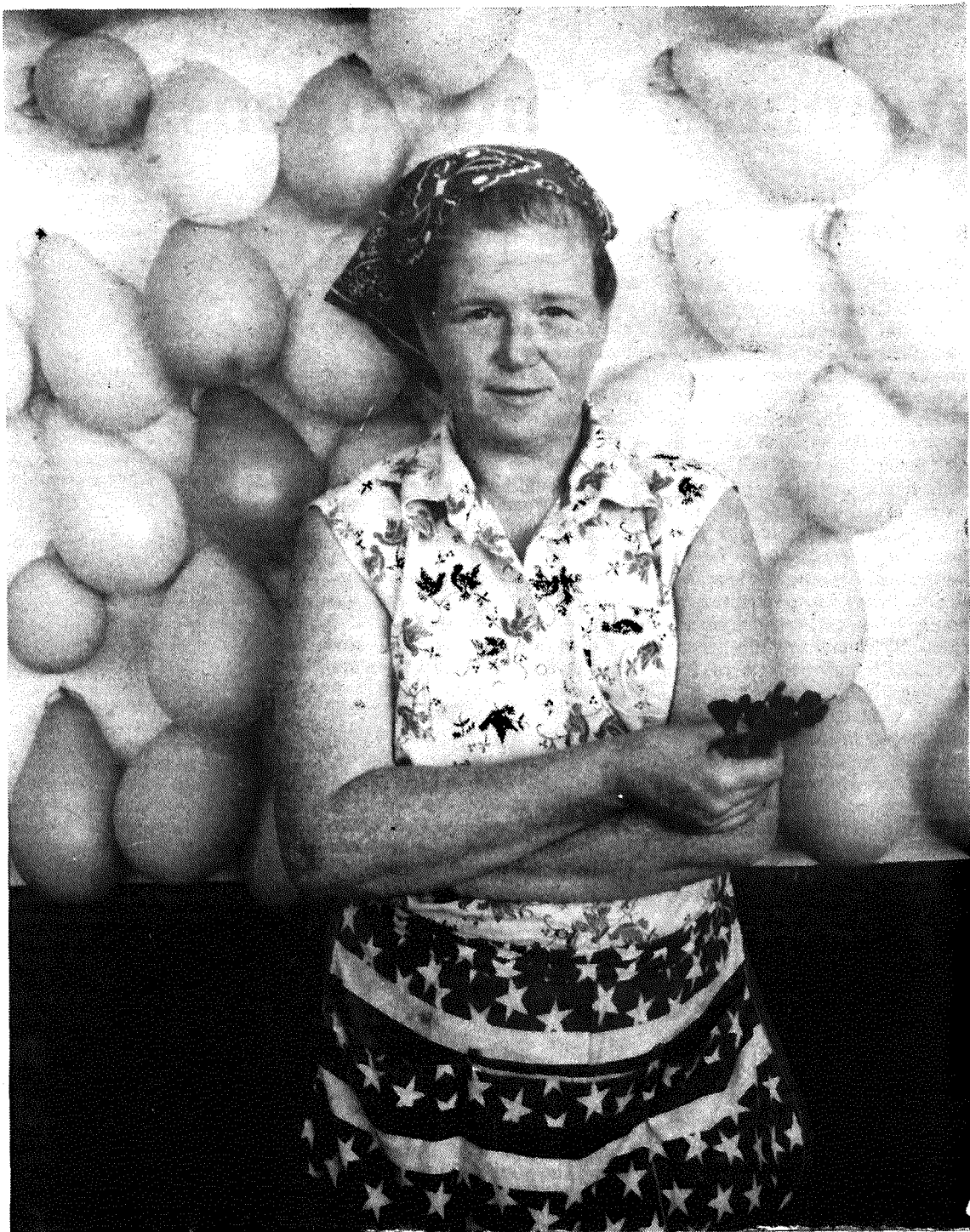
Around Labor Day a truant officer visits the fairgrounds. Children of school age are packed off to board with aunts or grandmothers and attend school. The mother has the choice of "going in" or staying out on the road with her husband. Either way it makes family life difficult.

Sometimes the women will get together to hire a tutor. This usually becomes unmanageable because the children do not always move to the same shows every week.

Besides, one woman explained, "I want my daughters to have a choice between carnie life and sucker life. When my girls get married we'll set them up with a show or we'll set them up in sucker life. But I want them to be able to choose. So I send them in during the winter to go to school.

"I hope they choose carnie life. I think the younger one will. She always knows everybody on the midway. I don't know about the older one though."

Rustin Steele Levenson and Randy Levenson travelled on the carnival circuit this summer. Photographs by Randy Levenson.



Women's Centre opens at Carleton U

by Sandy Garland

Carleton University has a new Women's Centre. Located in room 504 of the Unicentre, it is open from 10:30 to 4:30 weekdays and Tuesday and Thursday evenings until 8:30.

Since the first organizational meeting Sept. 20, half a dozen work groups have evolved to deal with specific projects.

Some of these include consciousness-raising (CR) groups, a peer counselling group (to give advice and assistance to women returning to university), a committee to arrange a film-and-speaker series, a publicity committee and groups to deal with abortion referral and birth control information.

Two women are compiling a bibliography of women's literature and hope to set up a resource centre. An arrangement may be made to borrow reference books for women's studies courses from the Carleton library for temporary display in the centre.

Cate Cochran, one of the organizers and temporary co-ordinator, said a women's centre is needed on campus because many university students are intimidated by the Ottawa Women's Centre on Somerset Street. She said its core of women's movement veterans and its closed-door policy (no men allowed) frighten off newcomers.

"We're rookies," Cochran said. At the university women know what to expect and can develop the Centre at their own speed and under their own rules, she said.

Although most of the women now using the Centre at Carleton are students, several have been

involved in women's groups previously, usually at other universities.

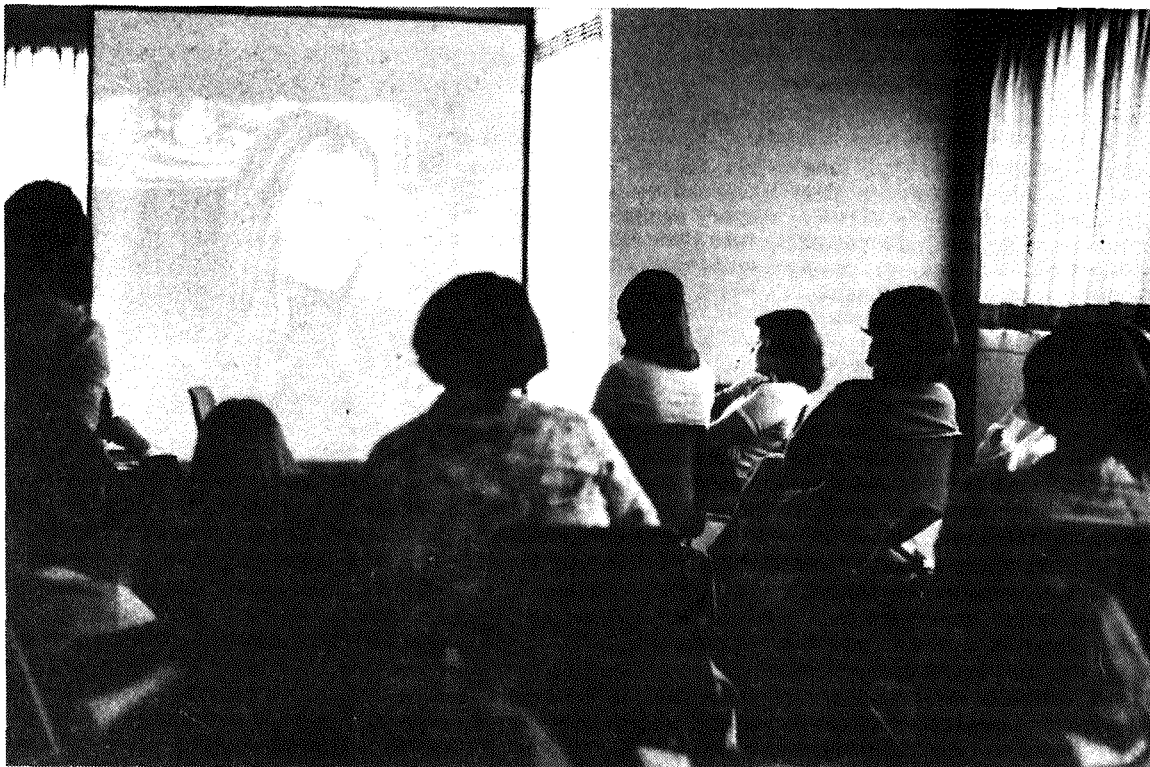
Cochran said the mixture is a real asset and enthusiastically described how the "pros" and the "novices" are working together to get the Centre started.

She said she would like to see the Centre become more than just an information service.

"We should be taking a political stand on women's issues," she said. On National Student Day, Nov. 9, for example, a committee is arranging several workshops on unemployment and student aid and how they affect women.

"These are problems all students have but as usual women are affected more," Cochran said.

She said she is interested in maintaining lines of communication with other groups in the area, some of whom have already given advice and support to the new Centre. They can help each other provide more and better services to women, she said.



High unemployment takes women as victims

By Peter O'Malley

One of the many undesirable consequences of the federal government's wage restraint program has been its tendency to direct the focus of public attention almost exclusively on the plight of people who have jobs and whose wages are forcefully held back by the government.

Meanwhile, the situation of those who are the hardest-hit

victims of the Anti-Inflation Program -- 670 thousand unemployed Canadians, of whom more than half are women -- is frequently, but incorrectly, viewed as another problem altogether.

But it isn't hard to make the case that high unemployment is the ultimate policy objective of federal economic planners, and that women are increasingly becoming their victim.

The Anti-Inflation Program,

Domestic demand is thereby stifled, which may lead to a moderation in price increases, depending on which economists you want to believe. But one thing that the government's slow-growth policy certainly creates is higher and higher unemployment, a fact for which there is no absence of corroborating evidence to anyone who cares to glance at a newspaper.

Something you aren't likely to learn from your daily newspaper, however, is the particular impact the total Anti-Inflation Program is having in terms of the growing number of unemployed women.

The September unemployment figures recently released by Statistics Canada are a case in point. Between August and September, we are told, the size of the labour force increased by a mere thousand, the total number of people with jobs fell by two thousand, and the total number of unemployed rose three thousand, moving the seasonally-adjusted national unemployment rate from 7.2 to 7.3 percent over the month.

Doesn't sound very dramatic, but remember that the changes above are "net" changes in the labour force. The three thousand increase in the total number of jobless is the net difference between a decrease in the number of unemployed men by 21 thousand, coupled with an increase in the number of unemployed women by 24 thousand.

Likewise, the August to September decrease of two thousand in the total number of employed Canadians was the net result of an increase of 64 thousand employed men, and a decrease of 66 thousand employed women.

As for the net change of one thousand in the total size of the labour force, this was the combined effect of 43 thousand men entering the labour force, and 42 thousand women leaving at least as far as stat can estimate go.

The result was that, although the national unemployment rate rose .1 percent to 7.2 percent of the total labour force, the unemployment rate for men actually fell from 6.3 to 6.0 percent for men between August and September, while it rose from 8.7 to 9.4 percent for women during the same period.

Of 1.1 million unemployed Canadians this year about 500 thousand were women and 600 men. Considering there were 4.0 million women and 6.7 million men working in August, it is apparent that the decrease in the number of employed women was not in proportion to that of men.

One explanation for this might be that women workers are concentrated in economic sectors and industries where employment decreases were most severe, and there is some evidence to back this up.

Employment in the service sector, where women are most highly concentrated, did fall more rapidly than in the goods producing sector, where women make up a smaller proportion of the work force. But even within the service sector, and despite the fact that the majority of workers there are men, the drop in the number of women employed was larger than the drop in the number of men employed.

Likewise in the goods-producing industries. Women make up less than quarter of the workforce in this sector, but represented more than a third of the lost jobs in the month of September.

It is really a simple exercise to point out how restrictive economic policies are effecting women adversely in terms of getting and keeping the jobs they need to support themselves and their families.

But to answer the question of why women are effected more adversely than men is more complex, and evolves around such issues as the role which women play in our economic system, the kinds of work they are allowed by the system and the degree of organization of women in the workplace.

One thing is clear, however. Unemployment isn't a "women's problem" per se, as hundreds of thousands of jobless men can well testify. nor is the governments economic program, which is generally aimed at fighting inflation on the backs of the least powerful, specifically anti-women in its intent.

But if "Sisterhood is powerful", then organized Sisterhood is desperately needed now if women are to be more than mere cannon-fodder in the government's war on inflation.

Women Helping Women

This column is about women helping women. It's nothing new. Ugly myth to the contrary, women have always been each other's best friends.

The women's liberation movement has, however, greatly expanded the range and power of our friendships. Formerly, a woman might talk about a problem to just one other woman. The response would be sympathetic but the problem would remain unresolved.

What could one - or even two - women do? Especially if the problem's solution meant objecting publicly to an accepted social arrangement. Objecting in that way could mean being rejected by society. For the sake of herself and her children, the individual woman could not risk such rejection.

Now, however, women are talking in groups with other women. The groups of women are recognizing that a woman's problems are not just individual, but often shared by other women too. The women's groups are analyzing why it is that certain problems are shared mostly or only by women.

They are talking about the effects these problems have on their lives. They are realizing that continuing to put up with these problems is worse than being rejected by society.

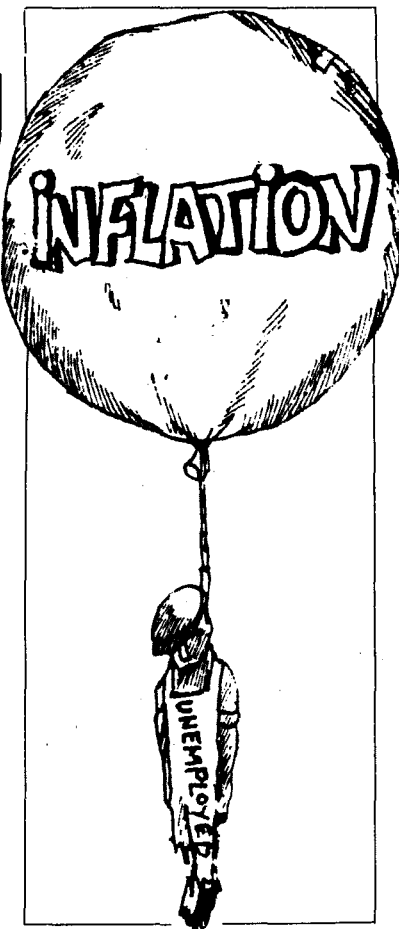
And women are speaking out collectively against these problems. The process is called consciousness-raising or c-r.

The purpose of this column is to give upstream readers regular access to the results of consciousness-raising. (It won't be real c-r; that comes only from working in a group with other women).

The writers of the column - one a law graduate, the other a civil servant, both with wide experience in the women's movement in the Ottawa-Hull area - welcome your questions on anything to do with women in this society.

If you ask, we'll cover topics from housework to the number of women judges to who opens doors for whom these days to information on women-oriented action and resource groups in the community.

We won't, however, give advice. We feel women get enough 'advice' already. We will not reveal the names of those who write to us (unless you ask us to) nor will we print 'agony' letters. One person's pain should not be another's entertainment. And we will not be writing the column by ourselves. Women all over the community (perhaps you) will be asked for your support, your experience, your perceptions, your action. That's what women helping women is all about. Interested women can write Upstream at 207-227 Laurier Avenue West.



by the government's own admission, is more than just wage restraints. The other major components of federal economic policy are tight monetary policy which means keeping interest rates high, and tight fiscal policy, which means restraint in spending on public services.

The end result isn't hard to predict. People are less able and willing to spend because of restraints on their incomes. Government, by choosing to spend less, adds no incentive for increased production. And business borrows and invests less because of high interest rates, resulting in the creation of fewer new jobs.

Agnes Campbell Macphail

A woman in the house

by Oksana Shewchenko

"When I hear men talk about women being the angel of the home I always, mentally at least, shrug my shoulders in doubt. I do not want to be the angel of any home; I want for myself what I want for other women, absolute equality. After that is secured then men and women can take turns at being angels."

The day after being nominated as the United Farmers of Ontario candidate for election to the House of Commons, Agnes Macphail was asked to step down and let a man take her place.

It was 1921 and women in Ontario had received the right to vote and run for election only two years before. While men grudgingly accepted the fact, any woman actually displaying political ambitions was considered outrageous and somehow sinful, especially in the rural community.

Born and bred on a farm, Agnes was well aware of this attitude and, in deference to it, did not actively campaign for the nomination. She maintained a suitable image of modesty and capability.

Once nominated she stood her ground. She had been properly chosen by accredited delegates to the convention. She understood "her people" and was confident of her ability to represent them properly.

That year, at age 31, Agnes Macphail became the first woman

in Canadian history to sit in the House of Commons as a duly elected Member of Parliament.

"Women . . . are direct in their method of approach and have a large percentage of excellent organizers and able administrators. And they put human values first. These are the very qualities we need today."

Because she was virtually an Independent in Parliament, her allegiance was to her constituents and her conscience. Unfettered by party lines, she pressed for the social reforms she felt necessary and was a constant thorn in the side of the government in power.

She was an articulate, witty and often vitriolic speaker. Her ability of getting to the point of her speech by ripping through the arguments of others created many political enemies. But, Agnes spoke her mind frankly and clearly: while the country was in desperate need of progressive social change, the welfare of the individual was being sacrificed to political games.

In her 18 years as an MP, Agnes continually fought to upgrade the standard of living, not only for beleaguered farmers: for the miners whose safety was constantly threatened by corporate negligence; for convicts whose "rehabilitation" consisted of medieval methods of punishment and inhuman living conditions; for the aged who lived their remaining years in squalor because the government would not recognize the need for an old age pension;

and for women, especially rural women, who were denied the opportunity to develop themselves by restrictive legislation, inferior education and suppressive attitudes.

She kept in constant touch with her constituents. Information booklets on government, law and democracy were sent out to schools on a regular basis. During parliamentary breaks, she would hold picnics and make speeches throughout the riding in an effort to educate and involve the people in the process of government.

She never hesitated to reply to a call for help or to use her power as an MP to initiate action for aid. If the problem could not be alleviated through political pressure, she often used her own money and resources.

Despite her generosity with time and money, she was not a "sob sister" as her critics often called her. She was moved by the genuine hardships endured by the people who approached her and every case was researched by her staff.

Agnes Macphail's first session in Parliament was by far the hardest in terms of emotional stress:

"I was intensely unhappy. Some members resented my intrusion, others jeered at me, while a very few were genuinely glad to see a woman in the House."

She had to endure the malevolence of the press as well as the hostile and patronizing attitudes of her fellow members.

While male reporters shuddered over "descending hoards," of

female politicians, women reporters chattered about her "country ways" and the severity of her dress.

For someone dedicated to her career and to the responsibility of her office, this type of press coverage was incomprehensible.

In public, her sharp wit could easily counter any remark, but in private she was very hurt by the treatment she received.

"It seemed strange to me then and it does still, that women who had a pen in their hands or who had the public ear in any way, used it in those early days to make my life more difficult . . . Even if I did things they were displeased with, I at least had opened a door which had always until then been closed to all women. Surely that

fact alone should have arrested their criticism and called out their sympathy."

Although Agnes did not join any social clubs (nor was she encouraged to do so), her social life in Ottawa was active. She enjoyed dancing, entertaining, dressing in beaded gowns and flamboyant capes. Her family and friends often received unexpected gifts. In spite of her frugality with public funds, she was extravagant and enjoyed treating herself to fine and fanciful things. She lived and loved with the same intensity she displayed fighting for a cause.

This intensity made her defeat in the 1940 election an especially bitter blow. Despite the tributes which poured in from all parts of the country, she felt betrayed by her people.

She returned briefly to political life as a Co-operative Commonwealth Federation (CCF) member of the Ontario legislature in 1943, following a brief and ironic stint as a Globe & Mail columnist. There she continued to prod the government for increases in old age pensions, penal reform, a comprehensive health care plan and equal pay for equal work.

the 1951 provincial election signaled the end of Agnes' political career. Disheartened and drained, she died in 1953.

Like so many dynamic women, Agnes Macphail never married, although she had many suitors. Instead of children, she left these words as a legacy to Canadian women:

"... it was always a deep sorrow to me that I couldn't do all that I expect women to do; to be a wife and mother, but also an untrammelled active person finding outlet for her ability in the fields of learning, agriculture, industry, business, the arts or government. Deciding on such a matter can never be final; the whole question has to be thrashed over again and again, according to the success of one's work, the attraction of one's men friend, the lure of children. To have part of life can never be enough, one must have all. That is what I want for women."

Why is it that women like Agnes Macphail and Nellie McClung are buried in Canadian history? The index of history books, under Mac lists MacDonald, Maj.-Gen. Bruce; MacDonell, Gov. Miles; Macpherson, Sir D.L.; MacKay, L.A. But not Macphail, Agnes, not McClung, Nellie. Why not?

The history of women in Canada not only needs to be written, it still has to be dug up -- from newspapers and letters, speeches and diaries, from loving, excited and thrilling memory. Like all "second class" people, we have still to find, interpret and write our own history.



1885: "To working girls"

"Sister workers: The pleasant fiction about our being 'angels' and 'clinging ivy,' is over. Angels don't wash, iron, bake, mend and darn hose. It would wear out their wings and temper. Ivy, that fails to find an oak to cling to, gets along by supporting itself, and often grows beautifully."

This inspired statement entitled "To Working Girls," appeared on Sept. 12, 1885, in what might seem a most unlikely publication -- a Canadian newspaper called **The Palladium of Labor**.

First published on Jan. 13, 1883, under the banner **The Labor Union**, this Hamilton weekly began as an alternative to the daily press. Under the masthead, it boldly declared itself "a journal devoted to the interests of workingmen and workingwomen."

Its publisher, W.H. Rowe, filled the pages of **The Palladium** with outspoken attacks on the capitalist system or what he repeatedly referred to in front-page editorials as "the monopolists."

Not to be outdone by more famous Canadian newspaper radicals like Joseph Howe or William Lyon MacKenzie, Rowe, with **The Palladium** as his sword, lashed out at governments, bosses and the press.

A controversial issue of the times, for example, was the execution of Louis Riel. And the fiery publisher of **The Palladium** criticised with a penchant the federal government's act while supporting the Metis rebellion.

The Palladium became the voice of Canadian Labor in struggles for a shorter work day, an end to child labor and the need for a democratic union movement. It also promoted labor candidates for public office.

Unfortunately, the labor paper also took an infamous stand on the then turbulent issue of Chinese immigration. Conventional wisdom had it that the Chinese would take the jobs of Canadians and stifle the labor movement by refusing to organize and by accepting low wages.

But always, **The Palladium** supplied its more than 5,000 subscribers with material (all too much of it from American newspapers) which Rowe saw as written in the interests of the working classes.

To this end, he took an unprecedented step in the first year of publication by introducing a column called "The Women's Own Department."

The column allotted space for comments about working women, stories and poems by women and some sharp-tongued items on the plight of women workers.

The issues of equal work for equal pay, working conditions in the garment industry and others employing women, and women's suffrage all found a place in **The Palladium**.

Many of the items printed each Saturday viewed women as 'sweet young things' which is perhaps characteristic of the times. Occasionally, flippant articles portrayed women as mantel-pieces seemingly in an attempt to poke fun at male readers.

(It was after all, the 1880s and readers today must to some extent suspend their 1970s consciousness to appreciate the paper's efforts.)

But often there appeared a courageous appeal or a critical essay which examined problems even today we have failed to resolve.

A first sampling of **The Palladium** continues on with "To Working Girls":

"Women must toil, for some are born to poverty; 500,000 self-supporting women in Massachusetts, and 100,000 working women in New York city, we are told. This does not include all the army of private workers, who take work in their own homes, for, being married, it is inferred they are dependents. Right here I pause to ask two questions:

"No. 1 -- If a man pays some other man's daughter or wife \$2.50 and more per week for kitchen work, how much is his own wife entitled to who does all the work, bears and rears three to seven children, and takes care of the 'liege, lord and master?'"

"[Echo or its sister seems to answer: Board and lodging and one calico dress a year.]

No. 2 -- When a wife does her duty, and keeps house and family properly, is she a dependent, or does she earn her living?"

"Sisters: Hon. Depew, of New York, once said, this is the disgrace of our civilization -- that discrimination exists where women and men perform the same and equal labor. It is true that many women receive less pay than men for the same work, and this creates unnatural antagonism, and leads to under pay for general labor. Labor should be paid its full value, regardless of sex. Aught else demoralizes the true relation of capital and labor. 'Naturally our sex aspires to beauty and refinement. As long as vice pays financially better than virtues, and an honest working girl fails to receive the respect she deserves, so long society tacitly offers a premium to dishonor."

"When a girl finds her work poorly paid, and is obliged to face lack of common comforts and necessities, the way of vice is made dangerously easy. Many girls unskilled and skilled in work [and sometimes no work obtainable] find their wages in a city inadequate to meet actual needs. Is it any wonder that they accept the assistance of a gentlemen friend?"

"Who protects them? Not the law. It only arrests and fines them. It does not seek the cause. Not the employer who is only mindful of his own gains. Not the high-born sister woman who scorns, forgets or is ignorant of them. Not the church which welcomes the wealthy defrauder, more readily than the defrauded poor."

"Sisters, by our dignity, co-operation and organization, we must protect ourselves."

by Ron Verzuh

Nest issue: A chapter on squeezing -- How The Palladium works a plug for the union into a story about corsets!

ARTS

German dance powerful; French dull

by Diane Reed

Ottawa is being treated to a veritable feast of modern dance this fall. As well as the Contemporary Dancers of Winnipeg and Le Groupe de Place Royale of Montreal visits from three international companies have been scheduled as part of the autumn season.

The HET Nationale Ballet from Holland arrives at the end of October, and Ballet de Marseille and Cologne Dance Forum have each presented their works. For dance lovers accustomed to the more conventional all to predictably dished up by establishment companies such as Canada's National Ballet, the more off-beat flavour of the French and German companies have had questionable appeal. All the more so since the quality and interest of what has been presented has been, to say the least, uneven.

However, even the most sluggish or incomprehensible of modern works does provide an opportunity to reflect upon the "state of the art."

Roland Petit's Marseille based company visited the Arts Centre from September 7 - 11 and presented five ballets. Two of them, the most enjoyable, were abstract.

Pink Floyd, a four movement work to the music of the well known rock band was an intensely exciting ballet, the only one of Petit's offerings that was really modern in the sense of having moved beyond the bounds of classic dance forms. Pas de Deux, a very short excerpt from Petit's Les Intermittences du Coeur, was pleasing - the only surprise being male partners instead of a man and a woman.

The other three ballets, clearly the more important part of Petit's season, were all works with a plot, and more traditional from a number of perspectives.

Carman (1949) recounts the old and familiar story of the Spanish tart who seduces a local cavalier and torments him to such extreme that he murders her as the final curtain falls. The ballet is highlighted by a bedroom scene reputed to have been quite graphic in its day, but tame by present day standards, and a more deservedly famous tavern set designed by Antoni Clave.

L'Arlesienne depicts the torments experienced by a young man who is haunted by the memory of a woman from his past on his wedding day. This work also ends with a death.

Notre Dame de Paris (1965) is a retelling of Victor Hugo's story of the Hunchback who saves the life of a dancing girl, Esmeralda, and takes her to live with him in the Bell tower of the Cathedral. The story ends in tragedy as the hunchback, Quasimodo witnesses the execution of Esmeralda.

Except for the pas de deux, however, very little dance of great interest is in evidence. The ensemble work is far from memorable at best - in Notre Dame de Paris it was embarrassingly amateurish.

Petit's individual characters seem fascinating by contrast, all the more so when they are given strong performances as they were here. Karen Kain's Carman got everything it could out of the choreography. Elisabetta Terabust did the same with



Esmeralda. Denys Ganio did little with Don Jose, but Rudy Bryans was marvellous as a powerful and calculatedly awkward Quasimodo. The weakness was clearly with the choreography and not the company.

Cologne Dance Forum presented three ballets at the NAC. Two of them Sinfonietta and Requiem in 5 Movements were choreographed by Jochen Ulrich, a German trained choreographer who has been with the company for five of its six-year existence. The third, a much lighter pop-ballet is the work of Gray Veredon, a New Zealander who trained at the Royal Ballet School in England. His work, The Ragtime Dance Company was a humorous gay-nineties melange set in a down and out cafe to a selection of Scot Joplin rags.

Irreverent for the most part, it did take a moment to evoke the sort of dance traditionally associated with ragtime - a stunning medley of routines ranging from soft shoe to bump and grind.

Sinfonietta was a fairly straightforward modern work for four couples. Requiem in 5 Movements was the main event of the evening. A fascinating abstract piece depicting the ritualized existence of the peasant, it culminated in a highly stylized hunt. The creative potential of really modern dance forms were fully revealed here, and nowhere more so than in the trio of bird-like creatures that were the object of the hunt.

Classical ballet may be better suited to embody the still nobility of the swan, but the strutting clucking movements of other fowl, movements which underline their animal rather than human qualities, are so much more effectively conveyed by modern dance.

Perhaps unfairly, the two companies will be seen as representing the direction in which modern dance is developing in their res-

pective countries. However, there is some justification for viewing their offerings from this perspective. Both companies maintain in their repertoire ballets that can only be described as a "classics" of modern dance: Petit's Carman (1949) and Kurt Jooss' The Green Table (1933) are landmarks of French and German dance respectively.

What a shame the Toronto audience and not Ottawa's got to see The Green Table. This commitment to tradition is balanced by the presence of more fanciful and abstract pieces such as Pink Floyd and Requiem. These newer work each testify to the capacity of each company to renew its expression of vital modern forms. If we take these companies as representative then it is clear that modern is much more alive and well in Germany and more in hiding in France.

Why should this be so?

It may be coincidental that the German "classic" The Green Table has, from its creation, enjoyed an international reputation far more substantial than Carman had maintained outside France. But the strengths and weaknesses of each work point to the relative strengths and weaknesses of the two companies.

Jooss was imaginative and daring. He stripped classical forms of their frills and pretensions - Petit did this too in Carman. But Jooss went on where Petit stopped, to explore new kinds of movement, to create images that are at once powerful, horrible and enticingly sensuous. Jooss' magnificent figure of death succeeds in this regard where Petit's unexciting siren and even more ineffectual lover fail. This failure is, not surprisingly, one of dance, not movement.

Collective promotes feminist music

by maureen o'hara

The newly formed Women's Music Collective of Ottawa says it hopes to start bringing women's music to Ottawa women within the next month.

A spokesperson for the collective said women's music, which is essentially music by, for and about women, is foreign to most people "since the media are controlled by men and male interests" and "artists who are permitted to use these media traditionally reflect these interests."

The collective's first planned program is a one and one half hour special on Canadian feminist singer songwriter Rita MacNeil. The spokesperson said the collective hopes to air the special on CKCU in November.

In its statement of purpose the collective says the reason

behind these efforts to bring feminist music to the public lies in "the need for public recognition of feminist music as a preferable alternative to the insulting stereotypes and clichés of mainstream music or 'cock rock'."

The statement also says members of the collective feel the necessity to give feminist artists access to the public since these artists are often denied access to the media on the grounds that they are upsetting or uninteresting to the public.

People who prefer to hear about women and men sung of as human beings rather than 'bitches' and 'midnight rambles' will likely take to this brand of music, the collective suggests.

"...Canadian culture (and particularly Canadian women's

There such an alternative, one pointed to by Jooss and fulfilled by Martha Graham, the American dance legend who is still actively creating works. What really differentiates the German and French companies, then, is the fact that the Cologne Dance Forum has drawn upon the rich source of Graham technique, one of the most viable alternatives to classical dance, to a much greater degree than has Petit's company. Petit's works have moments of great intensity and interest, but on the whole are flawed and dull because they have no consistent philosophy or technique.

Martha Graham did develop a philosophy and technique as coherent and complex as those which, associated with classical ballet, took centuries to evolve.

Classical dance is based on the symmetrical movement of arms, legs, and head around a central immovable torso. This is what gives it that disembodied, unnatural quality. It thrives on distortion legs and arms posed at impossible angles about a calm, dignified trunk. This highly ordered movement has loosened up greatly in recent years, but the basic principles are still there.

Graham created a new language for the body. The disconnected parts were put back together, the trunk became the source of the dance, not the disinterested observer. Graham's movement is generated by impulses at the centre of the back - the contraction / release. The rest of the torso, arms legs and head pick up this impulse and translate it into a whole new repertoire of asymmetrical lines and rhythms. The result is more "organic" and more sensuous than that usually found in classical dance.

Graham technique is very much in evidence in the work of the Cologne Dance Forum. This is what makes their work so unpredictably exciting. It is less evident in Petit's work, and without some other equally substantial alternative to classical dance, his work lacks a strong artistic base.

culture) has been traditionally overshadowed," the collective states.

Promotion of music whose production and sales methods put emphasis on music rather than the profit motif will be a priority of the Women's Music Collective.

Programs will concentrate on the work of specific performers as well as theme shows like women's work songs, said a spokesperson.

The collective is applying for a regular monthly program on Harvey Glatt's new station, CHEZ F.M..

"To provide for women the will to work collectively and survive economically in producing and spreading feminist culture" is another purpose expressed by the music collective in their statement of purpose.

Mount Pleasant: good music and sisterhood

by Maureen o'hara

Mount Pleasant Michigan is a town of about 400 tucked behind Lansing about 60 miles and a safe 180 miles from Detroit. It's not unlike most northern U.S. towns in size, with an allotment of respectable voyageur-type family restaurants, one or two modest shopping centres, and a liquor store.

When carloads of women from all over the States and Canada started streaming into town on that steaming second last Friday in August, residents of Mount Pleasant looked more curious than surprised. Hundreds of women in a steady caravan were angling through this last outpost and then down seven miles of back road to a large natural clearing in the trees. The clearing was slowly being colored with bright tents and women setting up camp to spend a weekend of music by, for and about women.

Ottawa's contingent of 30 women started buying tickets for the Mount Pleasant weekend, organized by a group of Michigan women after a cache of albums was brought back from the successful June Illinois festival to the Ottawa Womens's Centre.

Formerly little, or unknown names like Hollyu Near, Meg Christian, Willie Tyson and Cris Williamson became exceptionally good reasons to travel about 800 miles to a remote little spot in the woods.

The caravan of women, bicycling kids stopped to stare at on Friday continued right through until Saturday when more than 2,500 women and children had registered. As Friday was cooling off and campers just arrived were hurrying to set up before sunset the music started. C.T. and April, two classically trained musicians from Toronto set what could have seemed a precedent for fine quality performances. The audience

was caught and moving in their fluid kind of up tempo jazz-rock

Maxine Feldman, who also performed the first night, did a set of primarily comic and aggressive lesbian oriented pieces. With her song "Amazon Women Rise" she managed to bring out what several women called "an overwhelming feeling of togetherness and solidarity".

"While she was singing all the women there joined hands, stood up and sang with her", said one of the Ottawa women present. "It was one of the nicest things I've ever experienced."

Willie Tyson has one album out on Lima Bean Record called "Full Count". With her own particular brand of tongue-in-cheek commentary on general social attitudes and more personal and intimate ones she worked with the others to provide the thread that linked obvious high spirits and good will already permeating the site.

Afterwards campfires, the sounds of drinking smoking and singing faded slowly to an impeccably clear sky covering hundreds of sleeping women. In Detroit, 180 miles away, there were race riots all weekend.

While breakfasts were being finished and clothing stripped away in an already intense Saturday sun a few carloads of local Mount Pleasant folk were headed for roadside spots either near the front gate or open communal shower in the back. The breakdown was almost exclusively families near the front gate and men only near the shower. The shower gazers were shortly discouraged when the internally organized security set up a wall of vans between the shower and roadside.

One of the Michigan organizers who had been handling registration at the front gate talked about one mother, father and son family that had parked and watched the activities for more than an hour when the

woman suddenly got out of the car and started walking toward her.

"At first I expected she was coming to tell me she didn't approve of swarms of bare-breasted women doing what ever they were doing just seven miles from Mount Pleasant," the organizer said.

"Instead, she come up to me and said, 'You know, I've been

a variety of songs ranging from soft lyrical ballads to more raunchy folk tunes. Cinni Clemens was followed by Andrea Weltman, Margie Adams and the New Sisterhood Harmony Band.

Margie Adams, part of the Olivia Records Women's Collective in California which has recorded Meg Christian and Cris Williamson, added a

through California this year, reaching an estimated 12,000 women.

Canadian feminist songwriter, Rita MacNeil recently moved to Ottawa, delivered some of her energizing political lyrics Sunday. Songs like "Tell it Like It Is Sisters" in Rita MacNeil's strong resounding singular voice had to trouble exciting the audience to singing and in some cases chanting the chorus. The singer, originally from Cape Breton, has one album out called "Born a Woman" on Boot Records.

From Toronto, Sara Ellen Dunlop provided some rich rhythm piano pieces.

Having decided to share their stage time, the women from Olivia Records came on full force Sunday with Meg Christian, who has one album out on Olivia called "I Know You Know", Holly Near, who has three albums out on Redwood Records "Hang In There", "Holly Near: A Live Album" and "You Can Know All I Am", and Theresa Trull.

The performance of Holly Near cut a fine political edge on the festival as a whole pinpointing specific struggles like those of Chicano farmworkers, United Farm Workers and women prisoners.

Most of the women interviewed said the collective Olivia performance stood out as the high-lite of the weekend. In both songs "Harbor Me" and "Natural Woman" all the women present were on their feet holding hands and singing the chorus repeatedly and unrestrained.

By late afternoon tents started to go down and a trickle of cars started to pull away. After dusk and after the square dance organized by a group called Lotta Crabtree, headlights clicked on with increasing regularity and headed back through Mount Pleasant like they had two days before ... off in so many different directions home.



living with those two twits for 20 years now ... I wish I could come in and join you."

Cinni Clemens, who has one album called "Long Time Friends" on Open Door records started Saturday's session with

further charge to the frowning dynamism of the afternoon. An exceptional pianist, songwriter and vocalist, Margie Adams was part of the Women on Wheels concert, produced completely by women, that went

Doodles transformed into striking sculpture



by Lana Ritchie and Joyce Cram

Cyclamutes...a new drug or creatures from outer space? Neither. They are titles given to a group of geometric sculptures by artist, Carolyn Davis, of Ottawa.

These sculptures are described by Davis as three-dimensional objects derived from casual doodles on scrap paper and telephone pads.

She initially translated the 'flat drawings' into small coffee-table sculptures made from laminated pine blocks painted black and white to create the effect of a clean, precise, pseudo-mechanical toy. These miniature Cyclamutes became the inspiration for her progressively large forms.

The later constructions were built of plywood, painted with several coats of glossy white enamel and completed by a black linear design. "I think of them as having a kind of quality of beings from another planet, animated, yet machine-like with their sharp angular shapes and heavy black lines," she said.

To explain the title, Cyclamutes Davis said, "I chose the expression 'cyclam' because of the reoccurrence of the circle in the design and also since this shape reminded me of the Greek myth about the one eyed Cyclopes."

The term, 'mute' refers to the development of the design of each sculpture. The artist begins with a drawing which originates in a simple dot or circle and 'mutates' into a complex three-dimensional sculpture.

The sculptor's most recent work is a large, tubular floor piece made from fibreglass applied over plaster impregnated burlap and placed on a framework of wood and chicken wire to create an armature. Davis discovered that fibreglass permitted greater flexibility and control over the form by producing a rounder, more three dimensional effect which created light and shadow, eliminating the need for black lines previously used.

The artist said fibreglass is exceedingly unpleasant to work with because the fumes are noxious and the glass fibres irritate skin. Working as a props maker for productions at the National Arts Centre has given Davis satisfaction and direction in the development of her sculpture. At the NAC, she does "everything from upholstering a chair to refurbishing puppets."

"I've always been interested in the possibility of my work being used in a theatre setting because of a certain animation the objects seem to possess," Davis said.

Her interest in theatrical sculpture is further encouraged by a commission to create "neutral and 'character' masks for the National Theatre School in Montreal and the University of Ottawa.

The sculptor, a trained physiotherapist, prefers her employment at the NAC because it gives her free time to devote to her art. So far, she cannot support herself and her children from the sale of her sculptures solely. She admits her larger works are "not exactly something you buy for your living room." Public buildings would be a more suitable setting.

Carolyn Davis said she has certain inhibitions about referring to herself as a sculptor. "People tend to think of sculpture in masculine terms, of huge statues, heavy equipment, complicated machinery, something requiring great physical strength."

While refuting the validity of this concept, she said she feels her credibility as a sculptor is sometimes questioned because of the prevalence of this idea.

Davis has had one well-received exhibition at the Wells Gallery in Ottawa and participated in a slide presentation called Scan 74 in Vancouver. She anticipates her next showing will be in Toronto.

Contemplating the Canadian navel

by Dawn Amott

Margaret Laurence could easily be mistaken for a feminist writer. Her best and best-known novels have been about the frustrations, anxieties, pains and limited pleasures of a variety of women enduring the traditional woman's lot, which, like a policeman's, is not a happy one.

It would be more accurate perhaps to suggest they have been about one—well, perhaps more than one, but probably not quite two—women enduring the usual range of traditional women's lots.

Among others, there are the harassed housewife and mother's lot, the modest but randy spinster's lot, the age-enfeebled Valkyrie's lot and the decorative wife yearning to be creative's lot. This last grows into the new role of the gallant woman coping with the world alone.

Not in the least coincidentally, these characters are all closely connected with the Manitoba town of Manawaka, whose existence and general prospect owe much to Laurence's memories of her own home town of Neepawa. Characters and setting alike are part of what she herself calls her "own attempt to come to terms with the past." Laurence is not, therefore, taking a feminist position any more than she is writing a travel guide to Manitoba.

She, like many less talented Canadian, lost-horizon, identity seeking writers, is—or has been—contemplating her very own Canadian navel.

The list of gurus responsible for such introspection is lengthy. Freud, one can always confidently calm is at the back of it all, but among the newer names must be that of Laurence herself as well as many others familiar to the Canadian Lit stream and the occasional dazed strollers on its banks.

The cry is "Back to your roots!" This means psychological roots, naturally, but also geographical — and geographical does not mean Scotland the Brave, or Ivan the terrible, or whatever. It means Neepawa, or Orillia or Carleton Place, but hardly ever Toronto.

For some reason or other most Canadian writers do not have city roots. They seem to have been spawned in small towns, charming but depressingly similar, and dominated by individuals of a wary Presbyterian temperament. One has to admit a certain monotony in Canadian navel descriptions, however brilliantly written.

Self-searching is probably of more value to the writer than the results of it are to the reader. There are exceptions, however. In Laurence's Manawaka novels there is a sense of approaching some centre which ought to be the essence of Margaret Laurence herself. The final focal point was Morag Gunn in *The Diviners* who resembled Laurence in many ways and who seemed to complete the Manawaka cycle.

The search seemed to be over and one was justified in asking, "What next?"

Next, it seems, is a collection of essays, most of which have been published before. In no sense does this collection, *Heart of a Stranger* reflect Margaret Laurence's abilities. It is a pot-boiler.

Many of the essays; "The Wild Blue Yonder", "Inside the Idiot Box", and "I am a Taxi", for example, appeared first in a newspaper, that literally ephemeral medium.

The essays too are slight affairs, worthy to be no more than creatures of a day. Then there are the "Gee, it's really great to be in Scotland / Greece / Egypt" essays. At times they are both ingenuous and crass, and remembering the intelligent perception and understanding that Laurence brought to her African works, so early in her career, one cannot but lament the passage of time.

The best essays in the collection are about Africa, though "The Poem and the Spear" gives evidence of a kind of special pleading which is not very scholarly and is really a bit old-fashioned. The first essay in the book; "A Place to Stand on" gives the Laurence writing credo and so can be said to relate to the heart of someone who is not quite a stranger.

So whatever is coming next, *Heart of a Stranger* is not or ought not to be it. After all that coming to terms with the past it's time for Margaret Laurence to express her findings in terms that are primarily part of the "public world we all share". Those words are from a quotation by Graham Greene which heads "A Place to Stand on" and with which Margaret Laurence agrees.

Good though many of her Manawaka novels are, they are not quite representative of the public world. At best they are concertos for a single instrument with orchestra. In her first novel, *This Side Jordan*, Laurence attempted a symphony.

The very multitude of attitudes, beliefs and prejudices, of races and tribes and allegiances in pre-independence Ghana, which is the subject of the novel, gave its writer an enormous task.

As a Canadian, Margaret Laurence might have seemed to be working in an incomprehensible world when she attempted it. But if one considers the character of Nathaniel Amegbe, a not very good school teacher, caught between the worlds of his village and his town, between the tribal and the Colonial worlds, not very happy with anything but driven on nevertheless, it is easy to see how Laurence's Canadianism informed and animated the character.

Nathaniel is not Margaret as Hagar and Morag are Margaret. He is not part of an inner reality; neither is he an aspect of remembering. He is a creation. This *This Side Jordan* is not one of Margaret Laurence's best novels, but it promised something which has not been fulfilled by navel contemplation and the Manawaka novels. It has certainly not been fulfilled by *Heart of a Stranger*.

Margaret Laurence. *Heart of a Stranger*. McClelland & Stewart. 220 pages. \$8.95



... and women in the mosaic

by Jane Whitelaw

Women in the Canadian Mosaic provides a much needed overview of the position of women in Canadian society and the various groups which have been formed to better that position.

The articles were collected to remedy a deficiency of Canadian feminist literature as opposed to the glut of American and even British information on the movement. Although they are not all inclusive they go a long way toward filling in the gaps.

Fifteen articles discuss women in Canada from the suffrage movement to the present time. Those on McClung and suffrage will be of interest only to readers as yet unfamiliar with the historical background to the Canadian women's movement but they are needed if the book is to form a comprehensive picture of Canadian women. Outlines of the women's movement in Quebec and the organization, Voice of Women, complete the historical introduction.

Articles on the current situation in Canada are in-depth examinations by experts in each field and will prove of interest to both new students and veterans of the movement.

Norma Taylor, member of the National Farmers' Union writes humourously on the status (or non-status) of the farm wife, including facts on property rights, outside employment opportunities, and income tax problems.

Women's role within the schools is discussed in articles on sex-stereotyping, women's studies courses, and a detailed analysis of women in the university by Jill Vickers.

Grace Hartman provides facts on women in Canadian unions and Rosemary Brown, in a reprint of an address to Women for Political Action, discusses the position of women in Canadian politics. Personal pictures of the woman as a writer and a sculptor are provided

by Margaret Atwood and Maryon Kantaroff.

The singular plight of the immigrant women is also outlined. An additional essay on the situation of native women in Canada would have been appreciated — as it is they are only mentioned briefly in a listing of women's associations.

To conclude the collection Lynne Teather provides an overview of the present day women's movement in Canada, its divisions, definitions, strengths and weaknesses. This strong and detailed essay lends the book its focus. It is one thing to see the status of women in various positions. It is another thing entirely to see what has been and is being done to change that status.

These authors are all eminently qualified to provide an accurate picture of the present status of Canadian women, from the top looking down. It might have been interesting to include an articulate underdog relating her experiences from the bottom of the ladder. This and other gaps can be partially filled by using the bibliographies provided as well as the listing of Women's Centres, Newspapers and Associations in existence across Canada.

Not all of these articles will appeal to every reader. They are as diverse in content and attitude as the authors themselves. But that, according to Matheson, is the point.

"No attempt was made to present a uniform viewpoint. Indeed the authors' wide variation in approach, analysis and style is representative of the 'mosaic' quality which characterizes the women's movement in Canada today."

This could be a flimsy excuse to combine a mish-mash of unrelated material and call it a book, but it isn't. It is a valid approach to an extensive topic and results in a collection which forms an excellent introduction to the concerns of the women's movement for Canadians of both sexes.

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SPORTS

Orienteering: the family sport

by Bertie Lawton

More than a third of about 300 competitors from across Canada, participating in the national orienteering championships on Thanksgiving weekend, were women.

The Championships were held at Lac Phillippe, Quebec, and hosted by the Ottawa Orienteering Club, which covers the entire Outaouais region including the Ontario communities around Ottawa.

Heavy rain, snow, and freezing temperatures made the courses challenging. Although fallen leaves made the already soggy ground more slippery underfoot most competitors made a fine showing. Susan Budge of Montreal won the women's elite class and Sheila Mitham of Ottawa placed third. Both ran the difficult Red course, a distance of 5 - 7 kilomet-

ters through dense bush, on Saturday and Sunday.

Megan Piercy was first and Mollie Hale place well up on the slightly shorter Orange course. Winner of the novice open was Gillian Stanforth. All three women are members of the Ottawa Orienteering Club.

A relatively new sport, orienteering was introduced to the Ottawa area about seven years ago by Gordon Hunter, a former Ottawa Sooners football star. Akin to crosscountry running, but staged in less open terrain, runners combine speed in maneuvering through unfamiliar territory with the problem of navigating a course.

Runners also try to keep track of where they are. Each entrant is given a detailed map of the area showing the topological features, and a control description list which provides a verbal description of

the exact location of control points. Controls are marked by red and white triangles and are equipped with a punch for marking the control cards.

The competitor's choice of route between checkpoints depends on her skill in reading the nature of the terrain from the map and choosing the fastest path. In making her choice she must consider the general configuration of the land, surface underfoot, type of vegetation, and her own particular athletic capabilities.

A clever route selection will enable a slow runner to place ahead of a faster runner who chooses a less satisfactory route. Instantaneous decision making is vital for winning.

Orienteering is often called 'the family sport'. Six and seven year-olds cover the novice trails with their parents as an introduction to the sport and babies are frequently seen on even the more advanced courses strapped to a mother or father's back.

An added appeal of the sport is its low cost—one needs only old clothes and a compass, the idea of physical fitness, the beautiful country where events are staged, and the concept of women against nature.

Membership costs set by the Ottawa Orienteering club are \$6 for adults and reasonable family and junior rates. About this time of year the club's interests change to trail skiing along with plans for next spring.

Information about joining is available from Stephanie Hine, 70 Tarquin Crescent, Ottawa K2H 8J9 (828-8555).

Sport Speculum

by Amy Chouinard

Football can be more than a cold, rainy evening on the bleachers or a Miss Ottawa Rough Riders' contest. But you will have to organize something on your own.

In Ottawa, women's football is almost nonexistent.

Students, faculty, and staff at Carleton University can play intramural touch football, and that's all there is.

Scott McClelland PR director for the Ottawa Rough Riders, says they were approached some time ago to sponsor a team in a women's Canadian Football League but that, as far as he knows, the league never materialized. Gerald Rivard, president of Ottawa's senior men's flag football, admits to being asked several times about the possibility and says he is seriously considering it, but right now, no dice. If there's more, it's a well-guarded secret. Tackle football, the Sunday TV variety, requires costly equipment to protect the players; but the traditional padding has been adjusted slightly so this sport is now safe for women, too. However, anyone contemplating a women's tackle football league had better order equipment far in advance, because it's not normally stocked.

A less expensive alternative is flag football, and touch football is free. Both eliminate most of the body contact and rely on screening techniques similar to those used in basketball. Fundamental skills are catch, pass, kick, run, etc., and teams may have as few as six players and as many as 11 on the field—whatever supply and demand dictate.

The object of the game is to move the football from one end of the field to the other and across the goal line. To do that, the team in possession of the ball employs two main strategies: deceiving the opponent and keeping her away from the ballcarrier. Tactics for deceit include forward and lateral passes, handoffs and fake handoffs, and fancy footwork.

When a ballcarrier moves downfield, all her teammates should be engaged in either protecting her or preparing to catch a pass. Those who are providing protection are forbidden to use their hands. In tackle, they block opponents with their shoulders; in flag and touch they stand in the way, forcing the other team to run around.

Meanwhile, the other team aims to get the ball. Catching a pass or recovering a fumble is the quickest way (after a forward pass has touched the ground, the play is over, but it's finders keepers for any other dropped ball). The other way to get the ball is to stop the ballcarrier. This means pulling her down (tackle), taking her flags away (flag), or touching her hips (touch).

A team has three chances either to move the ball 10 yards closer to the goal or to score. These opportunities constitute a "series of downs"—the basis of "first down and 10 yards to go" or simply "first and 10". If the first two tries are unsuccessful, most teams opt to kick the ball downfield so the other team will be in poor field position. This may seem like sour grapes, but it even out in the end and actually provides the kicking team with a scoring opportunity. If the ball can be maneuvered between the poles of the goalpost, the kick is worth 3 points and is called a field goal. If it lands in the endzone, is picked up by a runner who is stopped before she gets out of the endzone, the play is worth 1 point (safety). And, finally, if she runs the ball out of the endzone but is chased back in and downed, it's worth 2 points. For more information about football, refer to the 1976 Canadian Rule Book for Amateur Football, available from the Canadian Intercollegiate Athletic Union, 333 River Road, 11th Floor, Vanier K1L 8B9. Sport Speculum will appear monthly and spotlight both individual and team sports in which women participate.



Two Ottawans enjoy the last sail of the season.

Women's sports around the town

Girl's hockey

Girls' hockey is alive and well in Ottawa but not in centretown. For the past 5 years community house leagues have been operating for girls 15 and under; at the Junior level (9-12) there are leagues in Nepean, Ottawa West, and Overbrook, and Intermediates (12-15) can join teams from Nepean, Kanata, McKellar, Belair, Pinecrest, Britannia and Canterbury.

The Ottawa District Girls Hockey League also started 5 years ago with three teams: Kanata, McKellar Park, and Leslie Park. Now there are five teams at the intermediate level: Kanata, Ottawa West, Nepean, Rockcliffe, and Richmond, and another five for senior girls (19 and under: McKellar Park, Belair, Nepean, Canterbury, and Rockcliffe. But these leagues almost have all the players they can handle just for their own communities. Where does a centretown girl go if she wants to play hockey?

Ladies' hockey

The Ottawa District Ladies Hockey league debuts this year and will give Ottawa women of all ages a chance to play competitive hockey.

One of the four teams in the new league is the Travelways Capitales who have been on the

scene since 1973 when they played in the Rideau Ladies Hockey League. Other teams in that league were from Kemptville, Prescott, Spencerville, and Brockville, but the Capitales clinched the championship for both seasons of the league's short life. When the league folded the Capitales played exhibition games with Ottawa boys' teams and senior teams of the Ottawa District Girls Hockey League. They've also played in tournaments in Picaton and Brampton.

But this season the Capitales are back in regular play. They'll be competing against Webb's Motel Cardinals and teams from Kemptville and Kanata.

Most tryouts are over, but team rosters may not be complete until January 10. League convener Wayne Richardson has more information (995-9409 or 523-3902).

Regular season play starts November 9, when the Cardinals meet the Capitales at Lion's arena, 9:30pm.

Basketball

For the sixth season running, the Ottawa Belles Basketball league will be burning up the court at the Lees campus of Algonquin College from 4-10 pm every Sunday, starting October 24.

This year there are two four-team sections: A division with the Nepean Rookies, Reivers, Good-

team sections: A division with the Nepean Nationals, Algonquin, Saints, and a team called Nameless Play.

The league's "all star" team, the Bytowners, play a more competitive brand of basketball at invitational tournaments across the province. For information contact: Katie Chaput 728-1314.

Field hockey

The 1976 season of the Outaouais Field Hockey Club's women's house league ended October 5 when the White team, captained by Alice Jones, beat out the Blues for the championship, 3-1.

Created in 1972 when the Ottawa Ladies Field Hockey Club and a men's association were amalgamated, the club also fields an all star women's team to compete in a seven-team Montreal league. This year the all stars attended an invitational tournament hosted by Bishop's University on October 16, won their section but were shut out by a St. Lambert team penalty shot. In past, teams from the club have travelled as far as Jamaica and Europe, and an excursion to Bermuda is planned for this spring. Although house league games have finished for the season, play will continue indoors over the winter. Women interested in field hockey at either recreational or competitive levels should contact Esme Forteach 746-2743 or Marilyn Booth 829-6504.

Iona Campagnola on

Fitness for Canada

Iona Campagnola talks of inspiring people to participate in fitness and sport, and when she says it, you can see how it's possible.

The new minister of fitness and amateur sport met with Upstream staff Oct. 19 in her office and fielded questions about her position, the programs in her department, and herself. An edited version of the conversation follows.

Do you feel your participation in status of women activities influenced the Prime Minister in his decision to give you this particular portfolio?

I've never been what is generally called an organized feminist. It seems to me that I've always pursued my goals without hindrance because I was a woman, although I have always had a great interest in women's causes and have tried by example to augment the place of women in society. In my part of the world-as you know, I'm a northwest British Columbian--we haven't had that much in the way of organizations for women. Since my election, we now have something like 300 organized people in the area. Previous to that, when I ran for election, only one declared feminist came out to assist me. It's just not a thing that has been a cause in our part of the world because there are few enough people to go around. If you're capable, you get the job; if you aren't you don't. Now, of course we're more involved in the desires of all women for greater equality. But we've been too busy making a living, raising our families and holding together. I think that, yes, it may have had some bearing on the Prime Minister's thoughts that I am a woman, but to those who say, "you are a token", I always ask: "does that necessarily make me incompetent?"

Do you think Canada's showing in the 1976 summer olympics prompted the establishment of your position?

Oh, yes, I think without doubt the enthusiasm that was engendered by the Olympics, the way in which the community at large reacted, finally, when all the problems were over Canadians were totally proud and delighted. I think that, you know, this enthusiasm has evolved into a real awareness in Canadians of physical activity.

Partly what we meant by this question was that the number of medals Canada won is certainly not in proportion to its size and population. I wonder if your department is going to focus on olympic athletes in the next 4 years.

Oh, certainly we are, but I'd like to correct that impression about the medal-winning capacity of Canada. We took 11 medals; we had 108 points; we moved from 21st place in the Munich Games and the last summer games to 11th in this game. So I don't think that it's anything to be ashamed of. But I do think it's a pivotal point from which we can spring forward to the future. Canadians by and large do not have a very clear philosophy of sport. We have the British tradition of play up, play up, and play the game, and whether you win or lose it's not that important. Then, Canadians, 2 days before the game, suddenly say "oh, we want to win worse than anything; we want to win worse than Russia; we want to win worse than East Germany. This is something that we as Cana-

dians are going to have to deal with - the fact that we haven't decided the dichotomy of our philosophy. I believe my approach to fitness and amateur sport is going to be like Napoleon going forward on two points at one time, excellence in amateur sport and mass participation in fitness and sport.

Should the minister of state for fitness and amateur sport attempt to raise the status of Canada in international sport?

Well, certainly from the beginning we have pursued the object of excellence and mass participation. Excellence is important in view of the national pride and the prestige it brings to our country. It also helps to promote mass participation which in turn creates a greater pool from which top athletes can emerge. The national sport governing bodies that participate in the international competitions are obviously the vehicle for improving Canada's success internationally. Success in international sport is dependent upon the quality of programs in the country and there has to be proper talent identification in Canada. This is an area that really concerns me because there is very excellent talent identification in our major cities. But we have a lot of middle and tiny cities in this country where it is entirely possible that there are some extra talented athletes emerging, but because they live in remote areas, the talent will not be recognized. Or if it is recognized, the facilities for developing it may be so rudimentary to exclude any possibility of this person getting ahead.

What is Game Plan and what is your relationship to it?

Game Plan is the international sport program or high performance sport program, run as a partnership between the fitness and amateur sport branch, some of the provinces, and the Canadian Olympic Association. From 1973-76, 70 to 75% of the funding came from the federal government. In future, it appears that all of the responsibility for funding of this program for Canada will be the federal government's.

What is the maximum funding possible for athletes of Game Plan?

The athlete support program is currently undergoing review to prepare for the next 4 years before the Moscow Olympic Games in 1980. The maximum funding possible now is for college students living away from home - 2400 a year - and, depending on whether they were classified as an "A", "B", or "C" athlete, they would receive in addition \$1000, \$700, or \$300 for training expenses. So the maximum funding possible from the federal government is \$3400. In addition some athletes are eligible for funding from the Canadian Olympic Association and athletes also receive other funds from the federal government for travel and accommodation expenses for national and international competition, attendance at training seminars, etc.

But what happens right at the beginning? Suppose my daughter was interested in some particular sport. She is in grade 6. What does she do from now until she starts winning world competitions?

The national sport governing body of whatever sport she is interested in would receive some funding yearly to keep

their organization. Say she's in judo. You'd be part of a national judo club and most of the expenses would devolve upon you in the early years, as a parent. There would be volunteers; you may even become a volunteer yourself as I did when my children were small. (I became a volunteer figure skating instructor.) When the child becomes a teenager and very proficient, the sport governing body would recommend more and more competitions. There would be assistance in the form of travel grants and so on until such time as the child would move into a higher level of competition. So you see we have partial funding but we do not in fact take over as a state-operated talent school.

That would discriminate against lower income families, especially in the early stages.

Yes, but you'll find that most organizations make allowances for youngsters who have difficulty. The backbone of all amateur sport in Canada in my view is the volunteer. Without them there would be no amateur sport. No one could possibly pay them for the time and devotion they give to the cause. There are some people who say that amateur sport is at the phase now that social work was 20 years ago. Everybody was operating out of their basement and there was a lady-bountiful, do-gooder atmosphere about social work. Now it has become quite a respectable art form. And so perhaps we in recreation and amateur sport and fitness are getting to the stage of respectability.

Do you feel that this is a field where women who want to get involved in some activity outside their homes could become involved or should be encouraged to become involved?

Very much, I am very concerned about the fitness level of Canadian women. The statistics I see show women to be below males in fitness, especially very young women. The study that was done at the University of Saskatchewan was particularly interesting because of the women in the 20-29 age group; 47% were below fitness levels. These are the women who are going to give birth to the next generation. These women are simply not cognizant of the rules of proper nutrition and care. We as a nation seem to think there is something rather indecent about caring for our bodies and you know our bodies are our instrument. The figures in the department of health and welfare are just astonishing. In Canada we spend more of our GNP on health care than any other western nation - \$7 billion was spent on health care last year, 40% is estimated to be due to malnutrition.

Did you have any input into Operation Lifestyle?

No, it was before I was appointed a minister. However, Operation Lifestyle was initiated with the fit kit and I participated in the fit kit program (and passed with flying colors by the way. Mr. Lalonde and I both passed). When I was appointed minister, the first people I spoke to in my department said "oh, yes, we remember you, ma'am, you're the one who passed the fitness test". I thought that was at least one step in the right direction. I will be emphasizing the fit kit in the December mailing of the family



allowance cheques because it's a \$4.95 recording you can use to keep your vascular system in extremely good condition in just 15 minutes a day. We don't need fancy gymnastic equipment. Those are executive toys. You can take care of your own fitness by doing calisthenics in your bedroom. It's your choice. We have a wonderful film for women on sport: it's called *Your Move* and I think that's a good rallying cry for all Canada. If we don't move, we're going to be in very bad shape as a nation.

I wanted to ask you about those films as well. There are a couple of publications and films put out by your department; are they well used by the general public?

Not as well used as I would hope that they would be. I really feel that all the women's groups across the country are involved in the vital issues of the day -- human rights, changes in legislation, and so on--but I think they could also be fruitfully involved in upgrading the health and fitness of their families. I would like to see a good deal more use of the display model we have on sport demonstration. The pamphlet that goes out on the status of women in sport, the poster promoting women in sport (18,000 posters were sent out to schools), and two information booklets-- the "Sociological Aspects of Women and Sport" and the "Psychological Aspects of Women and Sport." There's a slide bank of historical photos of women in sport, and I know as a politician I look with great fondness and with no partisan ship on the women who preceded me in the house.

What program does health and welfare offer its own employees? How many people take advantage of it; how many women?

We had a program in health and welfare that started in 1974 and it was very popular indeed. Then last year when the great cut in spending came, our whole program was killed. But it was so popular that the people involved kept it going on their own and it's still going today. It's an exercise class in a basement room of Tunney's Pasture. This is the kind of thing I like to see happen--we have got to get fitness to the

work place. And not just to the executives. Fitness has a bit of snob appeal at the moment. I think the care to the downtown athletic club roughly corresponds to the key to the executive washroom, and, frankly, I would like to see every worker in Canada have the opportunity to have some direction in fitness for themselves.

Have you ever participated in a women's team sport?

Well, in high school, we were obliged to learn every sport. That's one of my quarrels with the present education system, by the way, is that they do not teach young people participatory action. We had to learn volleyball, baseball, basketball; and I was very glad to learn all those things. But basically, I only compete against myself; I like to ski and I like to skate--I don't have a good time schedule for things like golf. I would go mad on the golf course spending 4 or 5 hours on one game; to me if I can go to the top of a hill and scream down to the bottom two or three times, I feel I've really done my thing. And I'm not a good skier at all.

You said you have a quarrel with the system; is there anything the federal government can do to encourage the educational system?

Well, I'm going across the country to speak to every education minister in every province. I cannot, short of a raid on the federal treasury, offer incentives. I'm opposed to more transfer payments anyway. Now 70% of every federal budget goes into transfer payments to the provinces; the disposable income to the federal government is 21.8%; 8.2% goes into defence. So I don't think that we should go into any more transfer payments, but I do think there is a moral obligation, a national obligation to provide leadership. The physical education of the young is the delivery system for health and fitness and amateur sport in our whole society, so if we get the young people going, then we have to move into the middle sector. Then I have as my special adviser Mme the Senator Casgrain who is now a senior politician, and she will help me with the people of senior age. I want to inspire people.