

# © . S . © . M . M .

## NEWSLETTER

HI :

The other day, it occurred to me that most women never think about their own personal pensions, until its too late to do anything about it. If we depend on the fact that our husbands will receive a pension to take care of us, we are fooling ourselves. Not only does the possibility exist that some of us may end up divorced after x number of years or that our husbands might die before a pension is earned, but all our years of ensuring that our children are raised with maximum input and love are worth nothing in the eyes of government pension bureaucrats.

Now if your husband happens to be Bryce Mackasey, you've got it made. He receives a couple of good government pensions. No, not the one the military promises, its much better than that. As a matter of fact, after serving as chairman of Air Canada for a mere 5 months, and then being fired, no less, by the new government, he qualifies for a \$25,000.00 a year pension. Not bad for doing nothing eh? Now to think that I contribute to this Man's \$25,000.00 a year pension for the 5 months work he did at Air Canada, which, by the way, is losing millions, with my tax dollars, not only irritates me, but infuriates me and I haven't told you everything yet. Bryce Mackasey also receives a \$50,000.00 a year pension for the time he served as M.P. (And I don't mean Military Police). So here we have a Canadian who receives a \$75,000.00 a year pension from our Canadian Tax dollars while some of us military types have to worry about whether or not we will surpass the poverty level. There is one more good thing about Mr. Mackasey's pension I think you should know. If he dies, Mrs. Mackasey will collect 100% of his pension. Military wives collect only 50% of their husbands hard earned pensions. I wonder why the government thinks that military spouses can survive on 50% of our husband's pension of \$700.00 or so, while Mrs. Mackasey will need 100% of \$75,000.00?

In November 1983 a proposal for a Homemakers Pension was introduced to Parliament by an all-party Special Committee on Pension Reform. This proposal is extremely relevant for military spouses. Military wives are a part of the majority of Canadian women who are shut out of pension plans. Fulltime homemakers in Canada cannot participate in the Canada Pension Plan because they have no income from employment. Military spouses have added disadvantages to contributing to pension plans. Due to the fact that we move with our husbands throughout their careers, we do not spend enough time at one job to build up significant contributions towards company pension plans; and we often end up accepting jobs with low paying wages which earn negligible benefits. Our unique lifestyle as military spouses would be improved considerably with the implementing of a Homemakers Pension. OSOMM looks forward to supporting this proposal.

In conclusion, I would like to mention one more fact. Military members do not earn a pension. They earn an annuity. Do you know what the difference is between a pension and an annuity?

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OSOMM WORKSHOP Everyone invited. Tues. Dec 4 , 7:00p.m. Anderson School  
Topics: Military Pensions and Self Awareness & Assertiveness  
Do you know what to do if your husband dies? What's Bluebook?  
What is a military spouse entitled to if an immediate member of her family is deathly ill in another province? If your mother dies, is your husband allowed to travel with you? Come find out.

OSOMM General Members Meeting: Thursday 1:30 p.m. Community Centre  
Elections, Approval of Constitution, Dental Plan Letter Campaign etc.

Christmas Party, Sponsored by Community Council, Dec. 16, 2 to 4, Jr. Ranks

DISTURBERS ARE NEVER POPULAR- Nobody ever really loved an alarm clock-  
in action- no matter how grateful they may have been afterwards for its  
kind services.

Nellie McClung  
Canadian Suffragist

CO-OPERATIVE DAYCARE

A daycare proposal was presented to the community council at the last meeting. Due to the need to alter a P.M.Q. to meet the provincial requirements of a licensed daycare facility, there will be a delay in providing a daycare centre in Mynarski Park. In the meantime, there will be a meeting for those interested in a co-operative daycare. This will be done in our own homes on a time-sharing basis. (Tokens or tickets instead of money) The meeting will be held on Wednesday, Nov. 21 at 10:00 a.m. at 120 Tamarac Blvd. If you have any questions, call Gayle Siford (mornings) 886-2359 or Lucie Richardson, 886-5308

Whatever women do, they must do twice as well as men to be thought half as good. Luckily its not difficult.

CHARLOTTE WHITTON - First woman mayor in Canada  
1951

ABORTION - Was Morgentaler really innocent?

AMBULANCE PHONE NUMBER FOR RESIDENTS OF MYNARSKI PARK IS:

AMBULANCE - 347-3373

This number connects into the same line as the 3 digit number used in Red Deer. It is not easily found, so make a note of it for emergencies.

Epilogue to The Burning Bed

(Editor's Note: This movie was the Season's highest rated T.V. Show. More than 73 million viewers watched it.)

The only thing new about wife beating is that people are beginning to look at it differently. During the middle ages in Europe, it was considered a man's unquestioned right to beat his wife. A woman, in the middle ages, however, who even threatened her husband could be burned alive. Sir Thomas Seymour in the early 1600's repeatedly beat Lady Seymour to the point that a judge pronounced it "unreasonable." Shortly thereafter, English law recognized the "Rule of Thumb". This rule meant a husband could beat his wife with a whip no thicker than his thumb. In the U.S. in 1864 a husband choked his wife to which the court announced, "the law permits him to use such a degree of force as necessary to control an unruly temper and make her behave herself."

Until recently police were a direct obstacle to battered women seeking protection. What was actually assault was labelled "domestic disturbance" or "family squabble".

One of the reasons men hit their wives is because they can get away with it. It now appears, however, that society will no longer tolerate wife batterings. Women are adults who do not need to be "kept in line".

The situation in The Burning Bed is not entirely unusual or extreme. Unfortunately there are hundreds of thousands of Miceys and Francines in Canada.

SOME MINDS ARE LIKE CONCRETE, THOROUGHLY MIXED AND PERMANENTLY SET.

WOMEN'S RESOURCE CENTRE - on the way, lets all show support for a facility long overdue.