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MEMO

NATIONAL ACTION COMMITTEE
on the status of women

LE COMITÉ NATIONAL D'ACTION
sur le statut de la femme

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President's Letter

July 1983

Good news from Meeting with Joyal...

In our June MEMO we reported on cutbacks in funding for the Women's Programme at Secretary of State, and the freezing of the NAC budget for 1983-84. We asked member groups to document any similar problems and get in touch with the NAC regional representatives.

As a follow-up, NAC, CRIAW, CCLOW, NAWL and Relais-Femmes wrote to Serge Joyal, Secretary of State, and Judy Erola, Minister Responsible for the Status of Women, and asked for a meeting. We met with them on Monday June 27 and pointed out the difficulties we were all having with budgets which were frozen at last year's levels (which amounts to a cutback) and the urgent need for more money for women. We also pointed out the heavy increase in reporting, etc., required from the Women's Programme of SOS -- which increases the work load on our already over-burdened staff and volunteers. We asked for \$1 for every female in Canada to be put into the Women's Programme to directly fund women's groups. This would amount to 12.3 million dollars (our current funding for women's groups is 3.2 million).

We felt we got a very favourable reception from Serge Joyal. He promised to "enrich" the Women's Programme -- as he had other programs in SOS such as multiculturalism, natives, handicapped, etc. He also promised to streamline the requirements for funding with clear guidelines from the Women's Program of Secretary of State to groups. We are to meet with him to discuss the matter further, this fall.

We are following up this meeting with letters and phone calls, particularly to members of the Social Development Committee of the cabinet. We urge all member groups to write to their M.P.'s, cabinet ministers, Joyal and Erola to support us in our efforts to improve the funding and reporting procedures for women's groups. This could be an important break-through!

Some of the people you should particularly try to reach are:

Senator Jack Austin, Vancouver South; John Munro, Hamilton East; Jim Fleming, York West; Senator Ray Perrault, North Shore-Burnaby; Romeo LeBlanc, West Morland-Kent, N.B.; John Roberts, St. Paul's, Toronto; Monique Begin, Saint-Leonard-Anjou, Quebec; Francis Fox, Blainville - Deux-Montagnes, Quebec; Mark MacGuigan, Windsor-Walkerville, Windsor; Robert Kaplan, York Centre, Toronto; Charles Lapointe, Charlevoix, Quebec; Lloyd Axworthy, Winnipeg-Fort Garry; and Judy Erola, Nickel Belt, Sudbury.

Have a good summer!

Doris Anderson
President

NAC Mid-Year Meeting

NAC will be holding a Mid-Year Meeting, November 4-5-6 in Regina, Saskatchewan. The meeting is sponsored by the Saskatchewan Action Committee on the Status of Women. Please mark these dates on your calendar and try to attend.

We can pay travel for NO MORE THAN 2 DELEGATES PER PROVINCE. Limited billeting will be available. Applications for travel grants will be accepted, starting September 15, 1983.

Information on programme and travel grant selection will appear in our next MEMO.

Membership

We welcome the following new member groups to NAC:

Durham International Women's Day Committee, Whitby, Ontario
Fernie Women's Resource & Drop-In Centre, Fernie, B.C.
Parmi-Elle, Hearst, Ontario
Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario, Toronto
Women's Action Council (W.A.C.) of Peel, Mississauga, Ontario

survival/future

The Committee plans to employ a coordinator who will contact every NAC member group to ascertain the group's interest and/or involvement in the question of survival, disarmament and related concerns.

The Coordinator will:

- 1) collate experiences and new ideas
- 2) promote communication amongst groups, discuss appropriate action and to ask about and note other issues which are concerning members of the group

The Committee also plans to requesting funding for translation of material in the Survival Kit and to acquire more original French material for the benefit of our francophone groups.

There are all kinds of actions throughout the country -- Hiroshima Day, Peace Camps (Cold Lake, Ottawa, Toronto, etc.), Caravan to Ottawa -- all emphasising opposition to the Cruise and urging more action by Canada for negotiation, confidence building, etc.

Keep up your letters, petitions, phone calls and visit your MP's and local officials. It's up to ALL OF US. Don't let up except to take a little time to relax and build more energy for peace & disarmament.

HAPPY AND PEACEFUL HOLIDAYS -----Kay Macpherson

Employment

At its meeting on June 25, the Employment Committee outlined its priorities for the next few months.

The most immediate and pressing priority is the reconsolidation process presently occurring in the Canada Employment & Immigration Commission. The policy shift is away from targeting groups such as women and instead targeting large industrialized unionized communities and unemployed youth. This ignores vastly the 42% of all unemployed who are women. As well, the programs proposed are directed primarily to traditional "male" work.

It was decided to meet as soon as possible with Employment Minister Lloyd Axworthy on these issues. Other interested groups such as CLOW and Action Travail des Femmes du Quebec will be invited to join in this lobby of the Minister.

Related issues including the National Training Act and alternative job creation arrangements (e.g. reduced work week) will also be discussed.

Over the summer the committee will research affirmative action, parental leave and reduced work week as preparatory work for developing a comprehensive employment position.

Have a good summer ----- Claire-Marte Fortin, Co-Chair -----

Affirmative Action

MORE STUDY, NO ACTION

The government plans to study affirmative action for another three years, rather than take action now. They have been studying affirmative action in pilot programs in three departments since 1980. These programs have contributed very little to salaries, working conditions and opportunities for women in the public service.

In fact, the 6 and 5 program has resulted in a 12% increase in the wage gap between male and female public servants between 1981 and 1982, and this gap will increase in the second year of the program. Treasury Board has not been willing to negotiate paid maternity benefits or health and safety proposals in various bargaining units. The affirmative action proposals are directed toward the promotion of a few women into management positions. This falls far short of a comprehensive affirmative action program to move women out of job ghettos and to attain equal pay for work of equal value for women in the public service.

The announcement for higher training allowances and job openings for women, as well as increased funding under the National Training Act, by Lloyd Axworthy does appear to be aimed at helping women break out of job ghettos.



military political building medicine religion
activism maintenance

FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL RELATIONS - FUNDING

The Committee is working on education materials and sharing information with CLOW on the National Training Act and other educational matters.

We are also gathering information on the cuts in accessibility of social assistance across the country, and on the CAP rules and legal matters.

Our lobbying target now is on Social Services Funding for Women in Metro Toronto, Nova Scotia and the Yukon.

Have a happy summer -----Chaviva Hosek, Chair-----

Justice

Pornography: The Committee had an excellent discussion and made the decision to request the amendments that have been proposed recently by the federal government and to solidify a position which will be presented to the Committee studying pornography and prostitution sometime next year. Our committee is now reviewing positions, research, etc., on the pornography issue.

Comments from individual members and member groups working on the issue would be welcome before September.

Divorce Reform: We are working on a brief to the federal Department of Justice on this topic. A draft should be ready for committee review by the beginning of August.

Badgley Committee: This committee on Sexual Offences Against Children and Youths will be releasing some of its findings in September. We will be watching closely as interested women. Further information is available in this issue of MEMO.

-----Kathy Coffin, Chair-----

Pensions

NAC's Pensions Committee has decided to develop a lobbying kit on pensions for this Fall. The main target would be the members of the federal Parliamentary Task Force on Pensions, who will be deliberating and preparing their report at that time.

If you have access to mailing lists of women to whom such a kit would be beneficial, please forward them to:

Louise Dulude
284 Shakespeare Street
Vanier, Ontario K1L 5M4

The report supporting CPP pensions for homemakers by the Canada Pension Plan Advisory Committee was finally tabled in the House of Commons. Its title is "MORE EFFECTIVE PARTICIPATION OF HOMEMAKERS IN THE CANADA PENSION PLAN" and it is available free of charge from:

Ms. Debby Robinson
Secretary, CPPAC
Brooke Claxton Building, 15th Floor
Tunney's Pasture
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0L4

HAVE A GOOD SUMMER -----Louise Dulude, Chair

Day of Action for **♀**CHOICE on Abortion

In May, the Canadian Abortion Rights Action League (CARAL) issued a call for DAY OF ACTION FOR CHOICE ON ABORTION to take place on OCTOBER 1, 1983

The purpose of this Day of Action is to activate the 72% (according to the latest Gallup poll) who are pro-choice -- to encourage them to make their views known to their legislators. It is also necessary to declare our support for the legalization of free-standing abortion clinics and for the Scarborough legal suit initiated by CARAL.

The Day of Action is being sponsored by CARAL and pro-choice groups and coalitions across Canada. It is anticipated that major actions will take place in every province. Concerned Citizens for Choice on Abortion (CCCA) in Vancouver and the Ontario Coalition for Abortion Clinics (OCAC) in Toronto have agreed to play a role in the national coordination of this event.

demand

The Action should be based on solid demands -- concrete actions that we are asking the government to take. The following three demands have been proposed:

- "Defend a woman's right to choose"
- Repeal abortion from the Criminal Code"
- "Legalize free-standing abortion clinics"

action

It is hoped that public demonstrations (marches & rallies) will be held in the larger centres across Canada. We realize that it is more difficult to mount such actions in the smaller communities. Why not consider a public meeting, an information picket (for instance, at your local hospital if abortions are not performed there), or an information booth in a local mall. Many pro-choice groups in the smaller B.C. communities have been pleased at the positive public response when they have held such events.

In Chilliwack, B.C., Chilliwack Citizens for Choice made a large banner stating "THE CHOICE SHOULD BE YOURS" and took it to a local fair, stood under it, and let people approach them. They then spoke to them about choice and passed out information leaflets and collected donations.

BOTH CCCA and National CARAL have information handouts printed on how to organize such events. Material is available at cost from either group.

Contributions towards the cost of newsletters, organizing, etc, are welcome at:

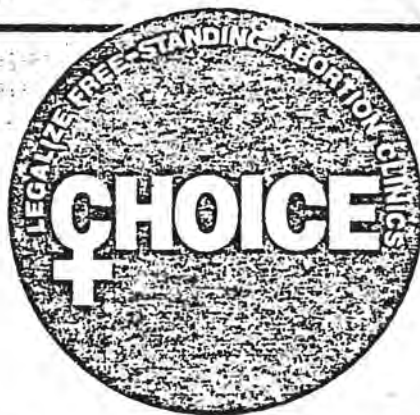
CCCA
Box 24617, Station C
Vancouver, B.C. V5T 4E1
Ph: (604) 876-9920

CARAL
Box 935, Station Q
Toronto, Ont. M4T 2P1
Ph: (416) 961-1507

Ontario Coalition for
Abortion Clinics
Box 753, Station P
Toronto, Ont. M5S 2Z1
Ph: (416) 532-8193

october 1, 1983

The ISSUE is CHOICE...



The CHOICE is YOURS!

ON TUESDAY, JULY 5TH, METRO TORONTO POLICE "RAIDED" THE MORGENTALER CLINIC, WHICH HAD BEEN IN OPERATION FOR THREE WEEKS. DOCTORS ROBERT SCOTT AND LESLIE SMOLING WERE ARRESTED AND SPENT THREE NIGHTS IN JAIL. DR. HENRY MORGENTALER WAS ARRESTED ON HIS RETURN FROM VACATION AND WAS JAILED FOR ONE NIGHT BEFORE THE JUDGE GRANTED BAIL. THE CROWN PLANS TO APPEAL THE BAIL HEARING.

AS WITH THE WINNIPEG CLINIC WHICH WAS RAIDED TWICE, TREATMENT OF A PATIENT AT THE TORONTO CLINIC WAS INTERRUPTED, NURSES WERE TREATED ROUGHLY, AND MEDICAL EQUIPMENT WAS CONFISCATED. THE "RAID" WAS STAGED A SHORT TIME BEFORE THE SUPREME COURT OF ONTARIO REFUSED DR. MORGENTALER'S APPLICATION FOR AN INJUNCTION TO PREVENT THE RAID, PENDING COURT HEARING OF A TORONTO WOMAN'S CONSTITUTIONAL CHALLENGE OF RESTRICTIVE ABORTION LAW.

Drop the charges — keep the clinic open Women need your help

Contribute to:

PRO CHOICE DEFENCE FUND, BOX 935, STATION Q, TORONTO, ONT. M4T 2P1

Volunteer for:

ONTARIO COALITION FOR ABORTION CLINICS — 532-8193

Make your voice heard:

TELEPHONE PREMIER WILLIAM DAVIS — 965-1941

TELEPHONE ATTORNEY GENERAL ROY McMURTRY — 965-1664

Demand that the charges be dropped. Caring physicians should not be prosecuted to protect a cruel, outmoded, unworkable law.

Sign the tear-off below

The ISSUE is CHOICE... The CHOICE is YOURS!

..... Sign —  — Mail

TO: Roy McMurtry, Attorney General of Ontario, 2485-A Yonge Street, Toronto M4P 2H5

I urge you NOT to prosecute the doctors and staff at the new Morgentaler Clinic. These people are providing a necessary service to women.

Signature: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Date: _____

SAMPLE LETTER TO THE COMMITTEE ON SEXUAL OFFENCES AGAINST CHILDREN & YOUTH

(please adapt or write your own)

Dear....

I understand that you are a member of the Committee set up to inquire into the incidence and prevalence of sexual offences against children and youths in Canada, and to make recommendations for improvements in the laws for the protection of young persons from sexual abuse and exploitation.

With the alarming increases in prostitution among children, the increases in the incidences of incest and its 'accepted' portrayal in pornography, and the horrendous exploitation and objectification of young females in the media and advertising, the importance of this research goes without saying. I look forward to this comprehensive Canadian research and to some strong recommendations which will call for the kinds of changes that are necessary to alleviate some very grave problems.

..... and ending

Sincerely,

.....



MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

Judge H.A. Allard
Senior Judge
The Family & Juvenile Courts
of Alberta
620 - 7th Avenue S.W.
Calgary, Alberta T2P 0Y8

Mme. Denyse Fortin, Notary
Board of Notaries
630 Dorchester West, Room 1658
Montréal, Québec H3B 1T6

Monsieur Paul-Marcel Gélinas
Directeur Général
L'Association Canadienne pour
la Santé mentale
Division du Québec
550 ouest, rue Sherbrooke, #410
Montreal, Québec H3A 1B9

Dr. Elizabeth S. Hillman
Professor of Paediatrics
The Dr. Charles A. Janeway
Child Health Centre
Newfoundland Drive
St. John's, Newfoundland A1A 1R8

Mrs. Norma McCormick
Planning & Development Officer
MaryMound
442 Scotia Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba R2V 1X4

Hon. Madam Justice Patricia M. Proudfoot
Supreme Court of British Columbia
The Law Courts
800 Smithe Street
Vancouver, B.C. V6Z 2E1

Dr. Quentin Rae-Grant
Psychiatrist-in-Chief
Hospital for Sick Children
555 University Avenue
Toronto, Ontario M5G 1X8

Madame Lucie Pepin, Président
Canadian Advisory Council on the
Status of Women
66 Slater Street, 18th Floor
Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5H1

Judge Doris Ogilvie
146 Waterloo Row
Fredericton, N.B. E3B 1Z1

Mrs. Sylvia Sutherland
CHEX-TV
Box 659
Peterborough, Ontario K9J 6Z9

Robin F. Badgley
Professor of Behavioural Science
Faculty of Medicine
University of Toronto
McMurrich Building, Room 110
Toronto, Ontario M5S 1A8

The Badgley Committee

(COMMITTEE ON SEXUAL OFFENCES AGAINST CHILDREN AND YOUTH)

This Committee was appointed in 1981 and has been researching since that time. With so much of its work of major importance to women and to feminist research in Canada, we need to know who they are and what they have been doing. We already know Dr. Badgley. He headed the Badgley Committee on the abortion law in Canada (1975) which the Federal government commissioned and then chose to completely ignore. It is important that the results of this report command our attention and are relevant to women. It appears that there will be no preliminary findings but only a final report to Parliament in February, 1984.

The Committee was to inquire into the incidence and prevalence in Canada of sexual offences against children and youths (under 20 years of age) and to recommend improvements in laws for the protection of young persons from sexual abuse and exploitation. The specific issues which the Federal Department of Justice and the Department of National Health and Welfare were to study included:

- 1) documenting the extent of sexual abuse and assaults against children and youths and how more effective treatment and protection could be afforded;
- 2) the more effective managing of individuals committing these offences to reduce their re-occurrence;
- 3) consideration of the problem of juvenile prostitution and how these youths might enter other careers; and
- 4) the extent to which children and youths were involved in the making of pornographic and obscene materials and how accessible these were to children.

While the focus is on all children, we can be sure that the incidence of sexual abuse is higher for females, as is the incidence of female prostitution and the exploitation of girls in 'kiddy porn'. This study is to be the most comprehensive study in Canada on these issues. We should at least have data on juvenile prostitution, the long term effects of incest and the exploitation of women as victims in the production of pornography.

It has been somewhat disconcerting to note that the Committee seems to have focused its research on the professional community. It will be interesting to see how they contacted and interviewed victims and how they sought the opinions of women. They have said that they have contacted 'a broad range of helping services'.

Unfortunately, we will have to wait and see. In the meantime, it is important to let Dr. Badgley and his committee members know that they are accountable to the women of Canada and that we are interested in and awaiting strong recommendations from this report.

Write to Dr. Badgley and to the Committee members in your area to advise them that you are interested and watching. WRITE TODAY as they are now in the process of preparing the final report. For sample letter and the addresses of the committee members, see over.....

Kathy Coffin, Justice Committee Chair



REGIONAL REPORTS

saskatchewan/manitoba

The Women's Division of the Saskatchewan Department of Labour, established in 1976, was dismantled in March 1983, despite protests from the Saskatchewan Advisory Council on the Status of Women, 60 national and provincial organizations and the NDP Opposition in the legislature. The responsibilities of the Women's Division have now been divided between the Public Service Commission and a new department of Advanced Education and Manpower, and responsibility for the Status of Women has been transferred from the Minister of Labour to the Minister of Continuing Education (assisted by a committee of four - Minister of Social Services, Minister of Government Services, the Attorney General and an MLA). In the shuffle, the research unit for education, outreach and affirmative action programs has been lost. In June, the Acting Director of Women's Services Branch in Advanced Education & Manpower wrote women's groups asking for comments on a Women's Outreach Study which had been sent out in February.

The Prince Albert Sexual Assault Centre has joined with the Mobile Crisis Unit; their separate entity was impossible due to lack of funds.

The Prince Albert Women's Work Co-operative is unable to obtain more funding, but they are keeping their Women's Work Resource Centre open through a grant for a survey of Rural Women.

The Saskatchewan Action Committee on the Status of Women has elected a new Board and a decision was made to apply to Secretary of State for a grant. They have hired a coordinator to start work in office in Regina in July and plan to publish Network again. It will be a mix of former newsletter and newspaper format.

The Saskatoon Status of Women (branch of SAC) has dissolved because executive consisted of same as SAC Board.

The Saskatchewan Advisory Council on the Status of Women, which was first appointed in 1974 for two years, now has 10 members (one man, one labour rep, 2 Indian women). The Director of the Women's Division was an ex-officio member and the Council's budget came through Women's Division. They last met in February and all members' terms end in November. Briefs published in 1983 are "Women in Saskatchewan and Technological Change" and a revision of "Children having Children".

----- Jean MacKenzie, Sask/Man Rep -----

bc/yukon

The June MEMO reported that the NDP Women's Caucus in Yukon were sponsoring a fall conference..... Correction: An Ad Hoc Conference Committee, with representatives from many Yukon women's organizations, are organizing the conference.

The BC/Yukon Regional Rep spoke with the Vancouver and Victoria groups and found that much is planned for the fall: the lower Vancouver Women & the Law group are planning a pornography and prostitution conference. They are also monitoring the whole process around free standing abortion clinics. The Status of Women Action Group is looking at whether the judicial system is worth using by women as an avenue of redress. In the fall they will hold a conference on Women and the Changing Family. The Women's Resource Centre is having its 10th Anniversary party; everybody is welcome.

The North Shore Women's Centre has summer students doing work around women and violence. They are also planning an education conference on pornography. There was much support for their newspaper ad on the subject, especially from unions and churches. The Rape Crisis Centre has mounted a boycott of CKVU because of remarks made by Doug Collins about Media Watch.

Jon Leah will be contacting the rural and Yukon Groups around September 5.

-----Jon Leah Hopkins, BC/Yukon Rep-----

newfoundland/labrador

The newly formed Women's Involvement Committee of Upper Trinity Bay South recently held a day long forum on women in fish plants and demanded answers from the Minister of Fisheries, the Fisherman's Union and the fish companies. The committee is struggling with the problem of fish plant closures and has projects underway for alternative employment for women.

Corner Brook: The Committee on Family Violence sponsored a walk-a-thon to raise money for the Transition House that will open in August or September. The committee has raised \$20,000 during their three years of planning.

Grand Falls: A panel discussion on pornography was held

Port-au Basque: The Gateway Status of Women Council has applied for funding for a family day-care project, which will provide care for up to four children in each of 20 homes.

Labrador West: The Women's Centre is closed for the summer months, but the Safe House project will continue.

Mokami (Happy Valley): Has applied for a start-up grant for a Transition House proposal.

Nain: A conference held in Nain resulted in the formation of a new women's group - THE LABRADOR NATIVE WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION. Workshops focussed on concerns of family violence, alcoholism and related problems. The Nain Women's group officially opened their new Women's Centre and Day Care Centre called "Ikajuktauvik".

Gander: A new Women's Council has been formed.

St. John's: The Women's Centre and the NAC rep co-sponsored a public forum on pornography, discussing the pros and cons of censorship. A list of shores selling porn was circulated with the suggestion of a public boycott. Groups across the province will be asked to join in, and we asked that NAC encourage member groups across the country to do the same. The Women's Institutes held their 14th provincial conference and sent delegates to the Associated Country Women of the World conference. The St. John's Women's Network dinner has Linda-Sue Chambers speak on a feminist tour of Greece. The Provincial Advisory Council have been speaking to various groups throughout the province on the subject of pornography and will co-sponsor (with NAC) a day-long conference for community groups. The Council produces a newsletter called "Women Speak" which reports on events concerning women in all areas of the province.

----- Dorothy Inglis, Newfoundland/Labrador Rep-----

x-canada run

Ottawa music teacher Kanchan Stott plans to push her willpower to the limit in a cross-country run that may set a record for the longest distance ever run by a woman. Her run started in Victoria on May 6 and she expects to finish in Halifax in October As we go to press she was headed for Regina.....please watch your newspapers she would appreciate any moral support you can give.... Go and meet her, run with her when she passes through your community.

What they said in the house...

MAY 1 - MAY 31, 1983

Is your MP listed in the following review of Parliamentarians who spoke on women's issues in May? If not, why not? If she/he is listed, find out what was said let your MP know if you agree. Your MP should be able to send you - free - the parliamentary transcripts (Hansard) for the days in question. Or your library should have copies. Letters to MP's sent to the House of Commons, Ottawa, don't need a stamp.

Please note, although as comprehensive as possible, this listing may not be 100% complete. Also, the responses of government MP's to questions, etc., are not indexed unless they are telling something new and positive.

Included in this listing are some topics which, although not specifically "women's issues", affect women profoundly; where the MP speaking on such a topic referred to women, the reference is marked with an asterisk (*).

Disarmament

Paul McRae (Lib) May 2
Bob Ogle (NDP) May 4
Douglas Roche (PC) May 5
Bill Yurko (Ind) May 10

-Cruise Missile

Terry Sargeant (NDP) May 13
Pauline Jewett (NDP) May 10
Ed Broadbent (NDP) May 10

Employment

-Older Women

Margaret Mitchell (NDP) May 3

-Part-Time Workers

Margaret Mitchell (NDP) May 11*

-Technological Change

Jim Peterson (Lib) May 3*
Simon de Jong (NDP) May 3
Gordon Gilchrist (PC) May 4
Cyril Keeper (NDP) May 4,6*
James McGrath (PC) May 5*
Walter McLean (PC) May 6*
Stanley Hudecki (Lib) May 9
David Orlikow (NDP) May 13
Ian Waddell (NDP) May 20

-Unemployment

James McGrath (PC) May 6*

Housing

Margaret Mitchell (NDP) May 3*

Human Rights Act

-Inclusion of Sexual Orientation

Svend Robinson (NDP) May 11
Pat Carney (PC) May 11

Unemployment Insurance

-Maternity Benefits

Maurice Bossy (Lib) May 4
Flora MacDonald (PC) May 11

Income Support

-Benefits to Families

Margaret Mitchell (NDP) May 2
Lynn McDonald (NDP) May 3

Income Tax

-Child Care Deduction

Margaret Mitchell (NDP) May 2,26
Lynn McDonald (NDP) May 3
Vic Althouse (NDP) May 5

Medical Insurance

-Canada Health Act

Bill Blaikie (NDP) May 10,11,30,31

-User Fees

Bill Blaikie (NDP) May 9,11

Pensions

-Canada Pension

Suzanne Beauchamp-Niquet (Lib) May 11*

-Public Service-Credit Splitting

Vince Dantzer (PC) May 10*

Sexual Assault

Svend Robinson (NDP) May 27

Sport

Joe Reid (PC) May 6*

Status of Women

Margaret Mitchell (NDP) May 31

Wages

-Bank Employees

Sid Parker (NDP) May 12*

-Public Service Income Gap

Cyril Keeper (NDP) May 5,26*
Lynn McDonald (NDP) May 26*



Bouquets



On May 6, Walter McLean (PC) devoted most of his remarks in a debate on the inadequacy of research and development funding to the particular problems of women and technological change.

On May 11, Svend Robinson introduced Bill C-676, a private member's bill to amend the Human Rights Act to include sexual orientation as a prohibited ground of discrimination. Pat Carney (PC), who spoke in support of that bill, had previously introduced a similar bill which was talked out.

In all the debate on the Western Grain Transportation Act (the Crow Rate), one MP, Jesse Flis (Lib), pointed out that women as well as men are farmers.

On May 26, Margaret Mitchell (NDP) spoke at some length on the inequities of the system of income tax deductions for child care expenses, and she called for a tax credit to replace the current provisions.

Svend Robinson also introduced a private member's bill on May 27; Bill C-686 proposed amendments to the sexual assault provisions of the Criminal Code to eliminate the defence of "honest but unreasonable belief", which was accepted by the Supreme Court in the Pappajohn case and to prohibit evidence of previous sexual history of the complainant.

And..... bouquets to all those MP's who routinely use non-sexist language in debate.

Brickbats

Some MP's still forget (they can't be unaware) that language discriminates against women. Among the many who imply that only men are involved in business, farming, fishing and paying taxes are the following. Their constituents may consider sending them information on non-sexist language:

- Donald W. Munro (PC) on May 2, extolling the value of tax incentives for business, "those are the solutions which give the man who has the initiative, pride in his work to expand."
- Scott Fennell (PC) speaking on women and technological change (May 5) exhibited a heavy-handed gallantry that detracted from his message. He may be trying, but he's not trying hard enough.
- May 18, Carlo Rossi (Lib) and Ray Skelly (NDP) repeatedly referred to the Canadian voter as "he".
- May 20, J.M. Forrestall (PC) referring to casual employees laid off to free up positions for the Special Recovery Program for U.I. exhaustees: "The government is telling him to go home and meet his obligations, educate his children and feed his family at this lowest level."
- Fred McCain (PC) who, on May 20, referred to a constituent employed by the Department of National Revenue as a "little girl".
- May 25, Denis Ethier (Lib), Garnet Bloomfield (Lib) and Howard Crosby (PC) repeatedly referred to victims of crime as "he".
- May 26, Albert Cooper (PC) described the effects of government spending: "whether we be farmers, businessmen, housewives or Canadians in virtually all walks of life".
- Robert Coates (PC) said on May 26: "Every Member of House, regardless of where he comes from..."
- And.... on May 27, Walter Baker (PC), describing the duties and role of the Lieutenant Governor, used masculine pronouns whenever he spoke generally, despite his acknowledgement that the former Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, the Hon. Pauline McGibbon, and the present Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba, the hon. Pearl McGonigal, are women.

+..... MORE BRICKBATS TO THE HOUSE.....

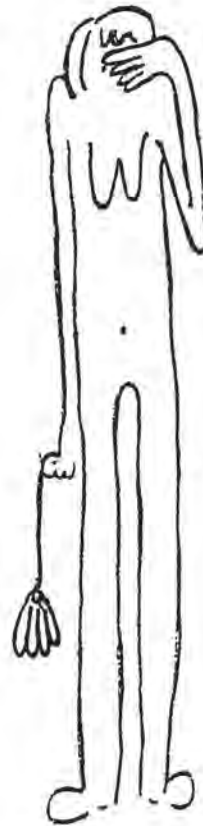
The anti-choice charade in Regina in May prompted statements from several MP's. On May 10 Stanley Hudecki (Lib), speaking as a "pro-life physician" condemned hospital TAC's for using the World Health Organization's definition of health to allow abortions, and said that these committees should be held "legally accountable" for their decisions.

On May 13, Gus Mitges (PC) called for inclusion of the unborn (sic) fetus in Section 7 of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

Jake Epp (PC) criticized the Manitoba Attorney-General for not charging Dr. Hentry Morgentaler for performing abortions in the Winnipeg Clinic. It was on this occasion that Justice Minister Mark MacGuigan stated that his own feelings on this matter were known.

Mr. Epp gets a second brickbat this month for his speech (May 11) against Bill C-676 to amend the Human Rights Act to prohibit discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation. He declared the change to be "wrong despite the amendments having been endorsed by such groups as the Canadian Council of Christians and Jews, the Student Christian Movement, and the Anglican, Mennonite and United Churches of Canada.

Al MacBain (Lib) also spoke against the changes.



NAC TRUST

PROJECT TO DOCUMENT WOMEN'S LOBBY FOR CONSTITUTIONAL EQUALITY

"FILE 28" is now an official NAC Trust Project. Its aim as described in a previous MEMO, is to create archive material for all women to use on the historical lobby for women's equality, 1980-82. From this material will be produced:

- 1) an action pamphlet on making the Constitution work for women
- 2) a book telling the story of the equality lobby, tentatively titled "THE TAKING OF 28".

Principle project organizers are author and journalist Penney Kome and former NAC Executive member, Rosemary Billings.

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED TO FUND THIS WORK!!!

First, the project will cost thousands of dollars. We are counting on raising at least \$1,000 from Friends of NAC and NAC Member Groups. Please send your cheques payable to "NAC TRUST FOR FILE 28", to 40 St. Clair Ave East, Suite 306, Toronto M4T 1M9. Tax receipts are available for donations over \$10 on request.

Second, we need you to tell us about sources of information, people to talk to, what you did during the Constitutional Lobby.

With your help, women's historical struggle and victory will not be forgotten and our rights will not be ignored. Already books by men are ignoring women's role in constitution making and/or getting it wrong. It's up to all of us to make sure that the exciting story is accurately recorded for future generations.

PLEASE HELP..... For further information, contact Penney Kome or Rosemary Billings, C/o the NAC Office.

DES.

The wonder drug
you should wonder about...

if you were born between 1941 and 1971



WHAT IS DES?

DES (chemical name: diethylstilbestrol) is a hormone drug. DES was given to many pregnant women between 1941 and 1971. DES was given in pills, shots, and suppositories. It was sold using many different brand names. Children born between 1941 and 1971 are DES exposed if their mother took DES while she was pregnant. **COULD THIS BE YOU?**

WHY SHOULD YOU WONDER ABOUT IT?

- DES mothers and their children (DES daughters and DES sons) may develop health problems.
- Most DES daughters have changes in their vagina or cervix. **MOST OF THESE CHANGES ARE NOT DANGEROUS.**
- A very small number of DES daughters develop cancer. Also, many DES daughters have pregnancy problems.
- DES sons may have changes in their sex organs. Some DES sons have a low sperm count.
- DES mothers may be more likely to develop breast cancer.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Call or write to:

DES ACTION/CANADA,
P.O. Box 233 Snowdon,
Montreal, Quebec, H3X 3T4.
Tel.: (514) 482-3204

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION FELLOWSHIPS

In May the Department of National Health & Welfare announced details of the annual World Health Organization (WHO) competition for fellowships for Canadian citizens wishing to undertake short-term studies abroad.

All health personnel in medical, paramedical and health related fields, including dentists and dental auxiliaries, veterinarians and veterinary assistants, engineers in the field of sanitary science, nutritionists, laboratory technologists, rehabilitation specialists as well as administrators and teachers in all of these fields are eligible to apply; those engaged in pure research, undergraduate and graduate university students are not.

Applicants for WHO fellowships will be rated by a Canadian Selection Committee on the basis of education, experience, field of activity, proposed area of study and the intended use of their newly acquired knowledge.

The final decision for the award of a fellowship, as well as the proposed areas of study, rests with WHO.

Applications should be submitted before August 31, 1983. Further information and application forms can be obtained by writing to:

WHO Fellowships
Intergovernmental & International Affairs
Department of National Health & Welfare
Brooke Claxton Building, Tunney's Pasture
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0K9 or
Benoit Houle (613) 995-8465

publications

WOMEN'S EDUCATION DES FEMMES, Canada's First National Quarterly on Women & Learning. Spotighting Programs, Issues, Strategies, Resources. Sub: \$15 individual, \$25 organization: Send cheque or Money Order to: CLOW, 692 Coxwell Ave, Toronto M4C 3B6

FINAL REPORT OF KAUSHEE'S PLACE-YUKON TRANSITION HOME FOR WOMEN: project funded by H&W Canada 1979-82... Valuable resource for transition house workers... To order: Yukon Women's Transition Home Society, Box 4961, Whitehorse, YT. Y1A 4S2

ALBERTA MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS 1983 (the ASWAC Handbook)... excellent how-to get into politics resource.... Free from: ASWAC, Box 1573, Edmonton, Alberta T5J 2N7. Ph: 424-3073

WORK-RELATED DAYCARE: 3 papers from Social Planning Council of Metropolitan Toronto: (1) Annotated Bibliography \$5.00 (2) Inventory of Work-Related Daycare in Canada \$5.00 (3) Tax Consequences of Work-Related Daycare Arrangements \$3.00... Send cheques to: Social Planning Council, 185 Bloor Street East, Toronto M4W 3J3: Ph: (416) 961-9831.

WOMEN'S NETWORKS IN CANADA: Organizational handbook, getting started, keeping going, fundraising, publicity, etc.... \$6.00 from Vancouver Women's Network, Centre for Continuing Education, UBC, 5997 Iona Drive, Vancouver, B.C. V6T 2A4. Ph: 228-2181.

WOMYN'S BRAILLE PRESS, INC., P.O. Box 8475, Minneapolis, MN 55408., offers over 75 feminist and lesbian books on tape, for blind or physically disabled women. WBP also circulates several feminist periodicals on tape. Subscribers receive a quarterly newsletter in Braille, print, or on tape. CONTACT THEM.

IF I SHOULD DIE BEFORE I WAKE, a child's-eye view of incest (5 through 17)... explores the victims emotions... tool for individual & group psychotherapy... Author Michelle Morris Box 1498, Costa Mesa, CA 92626. Single Copies \$12.95 + \$1.00 Postage... (\$2 discount for non-profit organizations... Multiple copies \$47.25 for five)...

SEXUAL ASSAULT: the new law, pamphlet published by Department of Justice defining the new sexual assault law Write Public Affairs, Department of Justice, Ottawa K1A 0H8
ABDUCTION: stealing children: also available from the Department. Ph: (613) 995-2569

* ELIMINATION OF SEXUAL STEREOTYPING: Treasury Board Canada Administrative Policy Manual, Chapter 484, December 1982. This policy paper has implications for pornography on pay-tv. Copies are available by calling Treasury Board, Ph: (613) 992-1838.....

* MEMBER GROUPS: We urge you to lobby municipal and provincial governments where you live to adopt similar guidelines.

SIX WOMEN WHO DARED: by Morden Lazarus. An account of a gallant few who have led the fight for social justice & women's rights over the past 100 years. 48 page publication available for \$2.50 copy, \$1.50 1-99, from: NDP Products, 184 Main St, Toronto M4E 2W1.

LA VIE EN ROSE: provides laughter & food for thought for Quebec feminists. Sub: \$24 from 3963 St. Denis, Montreal H2W 2M4.

THE CRIAW PAPERS: from Canadian Research Institute for the Advancement of Women). Feminist research on women in politics, women in sport, women & culture, conference papers, etc. Series of 5: \$20..... CRIAW 415-151 Slater Street, Ottawa K1P 5H3

FILM ROSES IN DECEMBER: The Story of Jean Donovan, lay missioner who, with three American nuns, was brutally murdered in El Salvador. Premieres June 23, 8pm, 147 Danforth Ave Toronto. Available for sale or rent: SALPRESS, 2 Bloor St West #100-343, To. M4W 3E2. Ph: 465-6812.

events

WOMEN IN PRISONS: CANADIAN AND AMERICAN EXPERIENCES (two films)*

Blake Hall Theatre, Justice Institute of B.C., Vancouver Admission: \$
July 21, 1983 --- 7-10 pm
Facilitator: Dr. Karlene Faith

RSVP: (604) 228-9771 ext.224

* "P4W: Prison for Women"
"We're Alive"

REDISCOVER: CANADIAN WOMEN PHOTOGRAPHERS
1841-1941

Exhibition Tour: London
Oakville
Halifax
Willowdale
Toronto

~~MAX~~/thru JANUARY 1984

~~INFO~~ INFORMATION: Laura Jones (416) 461-2106

WOMEN, THE LAW & THE CANADIAN ECONOMY
Conference, University of Calgary
(Focus on Women in the Workforce)

at: Banff Springs Hotel, Alberta
October 14 - October 16, 1983

Speakers: Gloria Steinem
Justice Thomas Berger
Hon. Flora MacDonald

Regn: \$50 (plus room & meals)
Info: (403)284-5447, Kathleen Mahoney

WOMEN & EDUCATION SUMMER INSTITUTE

Families, Personal Development, Work,
Skills, Issues.....

University of Saskatchewan
MONDAY JULY 4 --- FRIDAY AUGUST 12, 1983

INFO: Glenis Joyce (306) 343-5224

THE WIDENING SPHERE An exhibition
From the Public Archives of Canada
depicting the experience of Canadian
women in the late 19th & early 20th
centuries ... the exhibition may
never come to Toronto again...

September 20 - October 21
at O.I.S.E. in Toronto

school tours available... bookings
start early September phone
OISE then for information 923-6641.

THE WELL/LA SOURCE, 6TH ASSEMBLY
WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

Women from around the world
JULY 24 - AUGUST 10

Wellfare, Photography,
Violence vs. Women, etc.

INFORMATION: (604) 224-7011



INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S WRITING GUILD
Skidmore College, Saratoga Springs, NY

JULY 22-29, 1983 (+ JULY 30/31 option)

INFO: Greta Nemiroff, CLOW
Victoria Campus, 485 McGill St
Montreal, Quebec H2Y 2H4

B.C. WOMEN ---- KEEP THIS DATE

STATUS OF WOMEN ACTION GROUP, VICTORIA
11th ANNUAL FALL CONFERENCE
OCTOBER 28-29, 1983

THEME: WOMEN & THE CHANGING FAMILY

INFO: SWAG, Box 6296, Station C
Victoria, B.C. V8P 5L5

52nd Annual Couchiching Conference

COUCHICHING INSTITUTE ON PUBLIC AFFAIRS

THE AGE OF MICROCHIPS: THE NEXT FIVE YEARS

The Human Consequences of the New Technology

SPEAKERS INCLUDE:

HEATHER MENZIES
MONICA TOWNSON
CAROLE SWAN
HON. EDWARD LUMLEY



FULL REGISTRATION: \$345
DAILY REGISTRATION AVAILABLE

FOR MORE INFORMATION: (416) 489-9212

Thursday, July 28 to Monday, August 1, 1983

Geneva Park, Ontario