

NATIONAL ACTION COMMITTEE  
on the status of women

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



N  
A  
C

MEMO

Suite 306  
40 av. St-Clair est  
40 St. Clair Ave. E.  
Toronto M4T 1M9  
(416) 922-3246



STOP PRESS !!!!!!!

NOVEMBER 1981

## THE CONSTITUTION IN CRISIS:

### Equality Disappears Step by Step!!!

FEBRUARY 1981 -- Thousands of women told the federal government that equality must be guaranteed in any charter of rights entrenched in the Constitution. The government finally agreed and a special guarantee (clause 28) was added to the charter in the GENERAL section.

APRIL 1981 -- This guarantee of equality for women and men was adopted by all three parties in the House of Commons. Women thought we had a guarantee that all laws in Canada would have to treat women and men equally.

NOVEMBER 5, 1981 -- After three days of negotiations, the premiers and the Prime Minister signed an ACCORD that allows them to over-ride the rights in the charter by using a NOTWITHSTANDING clause. According to the published agreement, federal and provincial governments would be able to over-ride rights in three sections of the Charter:

FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS, LEGAL RIGHTS, and EQUALITY RIGHTS

Women were disappointed that the EQUALITY RIGHTS section (section 15) had been weakened but we believed that clause 28 would continue to protect us. Clause 28, in the GENERAL section, was not to be subject to any over-rides.

Note: The difference between clause 15 and clause 28 is that clause 15 protects us from discrimination on the basis of sex; clause 28 ensures that all rights in the charter are guaranteed equally to women and men. In other words, clause 15 is a specific "rights" clause, whereas clause 28 is a general principle which directs how all the rights in the charter must be applied.

NOVEMBER 9, 1981 -- Our trust that we had this guarantee of equality was shattered when our Prime Minister admitted in the House of Commons that he and the premiers were including clause 28 in their list of rights that they could over-ride.

This weakening of clause 28 means that Canadian laws do not have to apply equally to women and men. By this action, our leaders have told the Canadian people that equality is not a rock-bottom principle in this society. The courts and the governments now have legal authorization to treat women and men differently.

In the past, both the federal and provincial governments of this country have consistently shown themselves reluctant to move forward on women's rights. Why do they want this over-ride power unless they intend to exercise it? If they don't intend to exercise it, why are they anxious to have the power?

### NOW ...

So once again, we must act and act quickly. Our federal and provincial governments must get the message immediately that the women of Canada refuse absolutely to accept a charter that puts our rights to equality at their mercy.

What to do today →



PRESIDENT'S LETTER

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER, 1981

The Mid-Year Meeting in St. John's, Newfoundland, was successfully executed from the point of view of Newfoundland women, and NAC has to give every thanks to Jill Schooley, the Newfoundland and Labrador regional representative on the NAC Executive, and her committee for organizing the first Mid-Year Meeting since Calgary in 1979. Of special mention here are Barbara Lewis, Gerry Rogers, Rosemary Williams and Barb Doran.

We were entertained, educated, fed, "Screeched-In" with that famous Newfoundland elixir (a far from sobering experience!), and sent home with salt cod, hard tack, and warm memories of friendship and strong dedicated women.

Some 200 women gathered for the sessions and the NAC Executive learned a great deal about the local feminist concerns. Members of the NAC also met with local women's groups. Lee Grills visited the Labrador women's groups, Chaviva Hosek spoke to Memorial University on the subject of Women's Studies, and there were informal meetings with women involved in labour unions and other groups.

I was interviewed on radio and television and the meeting was very well covered locally. The whole weekend ended with a successful lobby at the Confederation Buildings, followed by a press conference.

Details of some of the content are attached in the MEMO.

Jean  
Wood

Jean Wood  
President



## PERSONS AWARDS

### GOVERNOR GENERAL PERSONS AWARDS 1981

On November 4, 1981 five women were honoured by the Governor General, who presented them with the Persons Awards for 1981. These medals are given to women who have made an outstanding contribution to the cause of women in Canada. This is the third year in which the awards have been presented, having been established on the 50th anniversary of the date on which the Privy Council in London overturned the decision of the Supreme Court of Canada and declared that Canadian women were indeed persons for purposes of being appointed to the Senate.

This year's recipients are:

Barbara Cadbury of Oakville, Ontario. Daughter of a suffragette; the youngest councillor elected in London elections in Britain; her extensive and continuing work for Planned Parenthood in Canada and internationally, her work towards successfully changing the Criminal Code in 1969 and in organizing the Family Planning Federation, Planned Parenthood Association, have made her a well deserved recipient of the Award.

Agnes Davidson, Regina, has been a pioneer in promoting the status of women in Saskatchewan for over 60 years. She helped found the Regina Status of Women and the Saskatchewan Action Committee, presented briefs on family property law, and has been on the Regina Council of Women, University Women's Club, and also served provincially and nationally. She is the official grandmother of McLeod Public School and has been recognized for her work, by the United Church, for refugees and for native women. \*

Muriel Duckworth, of Halifax, has been active in the creation of more than a dozen community and national organizations all having to do with education, improving the status of women and children, and of international and community co-operation. She has been President of the Canadian Research Institute for the Advancement of Women, Voice of Women, and has been an Executive member of OXFAM, UNICEF, and the Nova Scotia Education Association. She has twice been a candidate for election to the legislature, won the YWCA Halifax Award for her contributions to the community, and received an Honorary Degree from Mount Saint Vincent University.

Florence Fernet Martell, of Montreal, has worked throughout her long life as a writer, broadcaster and teacher. She has worked for the Unemployment Insurance Commission and the Women's Section, National Selective Service, Department of Labour. She worked tirelessly as Secretary of La Ligue pour les droits de la femme in obtaining the vote for women in Quebec.

Cornelia Wood, of Stoney Plain, Alberta, taught school after she graduated at 16 from high school. Her work with the Women's Institutes spans several decades. She chaired the school board in Stoney Plain, wrote a book on how to conduct a meeting, and was elected to the Alberta Legislature, serving 22 years, longer than any other woman. She holds life membership in many organizations including the Consumers Association, Community Planning Association, Canadian Mental Health Association, and many others.

Senator Florence Bird introduced the Award winners to the Governor General and Mrs. Schreyer, and read their citations to the assembled gathering of friends and relatives. One of the first holders of the Persons Award was Therese Casgrain, and Senator Bird spoke movingly of her outstanding contribution to the cause of women in Canada. A reception was held after the presentations.

Several members of the NAC executive were present at the event.

\* Agnes Davidson was the NAC nomination for the award.



# NAC MID-YEAR MEETING

At the Sunday session of the NAC Mid-Year Meeting in St. John's, Newfoundland, a presentation was made by Maureen Orton on "Adolescent Birth Planning Needs". Maureen is a social worker and teaches at McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario. She is also one of the authors of a recent Planned Parenthood Ontario Report.

This presentation was well attended by women from various Newfoundland and Labrador organizations. The following resolution was passed unanimously and later presented to members of the legislature of Newfoundland at the Monday lobby. NAC endorsement has been requested.

WHEREAS adolescent pregnancy is an urgent issue for Newfoundland & Labrador women, and an area of large expense to the community, and

WHEREAS in Newfoundland the minimum adolescent pregnancy rate for 1977 is 66 per 1000 adolescent females aged 15-19, which is twice the national pregnancy rate and, in some parts of the province, three times the national pregnancy rate, and

WHEREAS it has been demonstrated by recent Ontario research that Adolescent pregnancy rates are declining more rapidly in communities where boards of education are delivering courses in human sexuality and birth planning within the context of responsible human relationships and where public health programs are delivering contraception services, and

WHEREAS adolescent pregnancy contributes significantly to the increasing numbers of single parent mothers, and

WHEREAS in Canada in 1976, two-thirds of single parent mothers were living below the poverty line, and

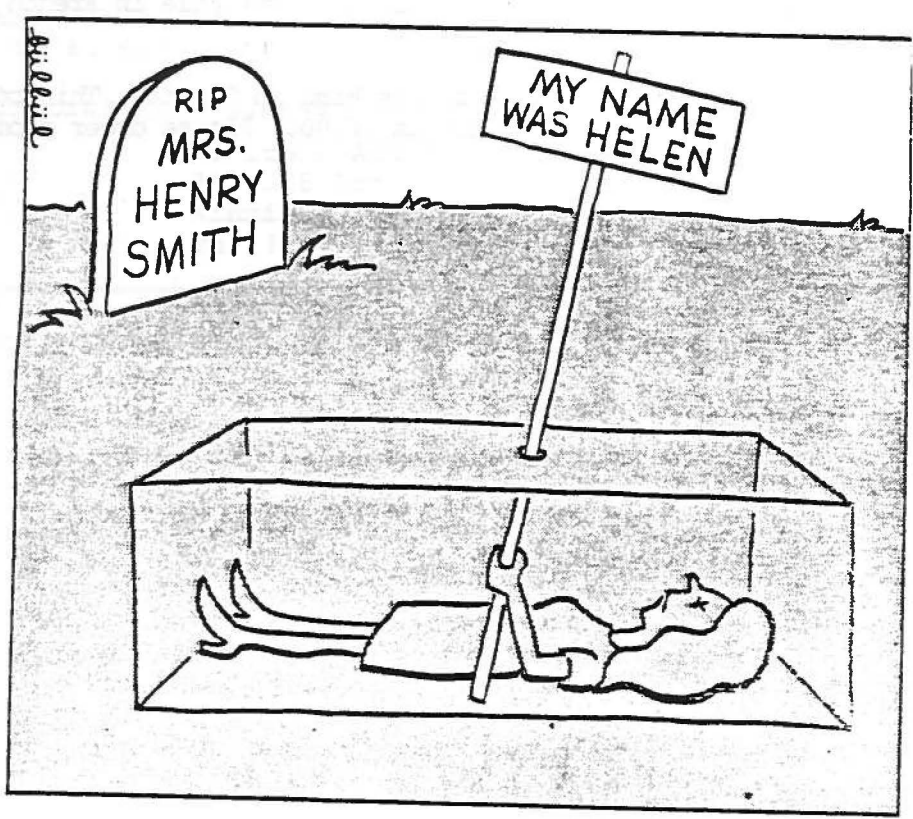
WHEREAS there are no provincial guidelines and standards, leadership on funding for comprehensive family planning services and sex education in Newfoundland, and

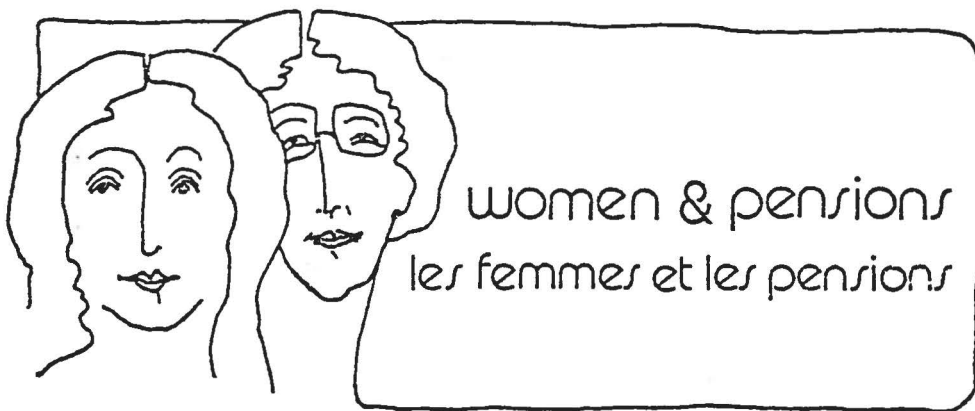
WHEREAS Ontario research has demonstrated that failure to develop community preventative programs results in high expenditures for the consequences of adolescent pregnancy, e.g. abortion services, social assistance and family benefit payments to adolescent single parent mothers,

WE urgently request that government follow through on the position of family planning consultant with the Department of Health and the appointment of a family planning advisory board.

AND further, we recommend that comprehensive family planning services and sex education receive high priority in budget allocations.

The Departments of Health, Education and Social Services each have a responsibility for provision of family planning services and sex education, and we recommend that an Interdepartmental Committee be established to coordinate the ensuing programs and services.





A full presentation of the issues was the focus for the first day of the Mid-Year Meeting in St. John's, Newfoundland, October 24-25.

Monica Townson gave an excellent keynote speech in which she came out solidly for the solution of improvement of the Canada/Quebec Pension Plans as the way to resolve women's concerns.

Her speech was the backdrop to the education portion of the session which dealt with an explanation of the current system, a statement of the problems in the current system for women and a panel of experts giving various perspectives on solutions, from labour, the private sector and the homemaker's point of view.

NAC's lobby to get the issue of Women and Pensions debated across the country is underway. To date, pension seminars have been held in:

Toronto, Ontario	October 17 (70 women attended)
St. John's, Newfoundland	October 23 (200 women attended)

Seminars are scheduled for:

Calgary, Alberta	November 28
Winnipeg, Manitoba	January 23

Saskatchewan wants to hold one in April and Northern Ontario is currently organizing a seminar.

YOU, TOO, CAN GET INVOLVED

NAC lobbied Health & Welfare Canada to make money available for pension seminars and the Minister came through. If you can get a representative group together, you, too, can enter into a contract with Health & Welfare to run a pensions seminar. \$5,000 is available for each seminar application, if approved by the Ministry.

Contact: Freda Paltiel, Senior Adviser, Status of Women  
Health & Welfare Canada  
Room 2100, Jeanne Mance Building  
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0K9

NAC is happy to provide any support it can if you decide to move on this. The Pensions Committee has prepared an educational kit (available in French and English).

The NAC kit is the ONLY educational piece of its kind in Canada. This could be the basis for your seminar. Cost of the kit is \$6.00. Please order from the NAC Office and:

SEND FOR IT NOW!!  
GIVE IT TO YOUR MOTHER FOR XMAS!  
GIVE IT TO YOUR SISTER!  
GIVE IT TO YOURSELF!

WE DON'T WANT THE NEXT GENERATION OF WOMEN TO HAVE THE SAME PENSION PROBLEMS AS THIS GENERATION. TWO-THIRDS OF PEOPLE WHO LIVE BELOW THE POVERTY LINE ARE WOMEN.... DON'T LET THIS HAPPEN TO YOU.....

ALSO AVAILABLE FOR YOUR GROUP -- SLIDE PACKAGE ON THE PROBLEMS OF THE EXISTING PENSION FOR WOMEN.

FOR HIRE: \$10.00, plus delivery charges

This package of slides has already been borrowed by some groups. You too can have it! It outlines the problems and follows the content of the NAC Discussion Paper -- so your group can discuss it, go through it and come to your own conclusions or solutions. English version only available, although, if we get enough demand, we can have it translated. All other pensions documentation is available in both languages.

# WOMEN AND PENSIONS:

Problems & Prospects

a seminar sponsored by:  
NAC\* Trust

in co-operation with the  
**Western Women's  
Committee for  
Pension Reform  
and the University  
of Calgary**

SATURDAY,  
NOVEMBER 28, 1981  
WESTIN INN  
(Calgary Inn)

TO REGISTER: Send \$15 (includes lunch, coffee and Conference Kit)  
to: Faculty of Continuing Education  
University of Calgary  
2500 University Drive N.W.  
Calgary, Alberta T2N 1N4  
ENQUIRIES: Catharine Warren



- 8:30-9:30 a.m. Coffee & Registration  
9:30-10:00 a.m. KEYNOTE ADDRESS:  
"Why Are Pensions For Women An Important Issue?"  
- Monica Townson,  
The Economic Council of Canada
- 10:00-11:00 a.m. "The Pension Scene Today"  
- Mary Frances Taylor,  
The Treasury Board of Canada
- 11:00-11:20 a.m. Break  
11:20-12:15 "Problems For Women In The Current System"  
- Jean Wood, President, The National Action Committee  
- Lynne Sullivan, Treasurer, The National Action Committee
- 12:30-1:30 p.m. LUNCH  
1:45-3:00 p.m. A PANEL PRESENTATION  
"Solutions and Perspectives"  
Georgia Cordes, YWCA  
Dian Bellemare, Univ. Quebec  
Isabel Wegg, CLHIA  
Sheila O'Brien, YWCA
- 3:00-4:30 p.m. DISCUSSION GROUPS  
(Please take coffee to your group)  
"Contributions to 'A Pink Paper on Pensions'"
- 4:30-5:00 p.m. PLENARY SESSION  
"Wrap Up Session".

The sponsors gratefully acknowledge the financial assistance of the Jackman Foundation.



## PENSIONS CONFERENCE

MACSW/NAC will be co-sponsoring a regional pensions conference, January 22-23, 1982, in Winnipeg, Manitoba. KEEP THE DATE OPEN. Plan to attend. You have nothing to lose but future poverty!

For information, please contact:

Manitoba Action Committee on the Status of Women  
209-388 Donald Street,  
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3B 2J2  
Ph: (204) 942-2000

REMEMBER!  
NAC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

MARCH 12 - 14, 1982

HOLIDAY INN  
100 KENT ST.  
OTTAWA, ONT.



# COMMUNICATION

The following is a suggestion raised by Executive Member, Bev LeFrancois, at the Newfoundland meeting where Newfoundland & Labrador women (like the NAC Executive) expressed concern about member groups' communication with the central body. The suggestion received support.

"In order to ensure the most effective use of the contact people we have developed this year in our membership groups, I feel we should have, within the national office, one person who would have an ongoing relationship with these contact people.

Today we disseminate a great deal of information by correspondence and trust that the groups take appropriate action. Unfortunately, I believe that in the majority of cases action is not taken, not because they do not agree with NAC's position or wish to participate, but rather they do not have a working relationship with the NAC Office that is a feedback and encouragement system.

I see the person at the NAC Office being responsible to see what action is being taken in response to MEMO through regular phone calls - at the same time becoming an advisor, friend and helper to the contact people. This would be an exciting and rewarding job beneficial to the central office and member groups.

If NAC desires to be as effective a lobby group as it potentially can be, it is imperative that it be not only a central lobby group, but, more importantly, a grassroots lobby group. This person would ensure that a broad lobby exists and also ensure a vital and vibrant two-way communication process. As an example, we would be aware when a group lobbies an MP and would provide a timely telegram of support to the MP being lobbied. The groups would also do the same for the NAC Executive when they lobby.

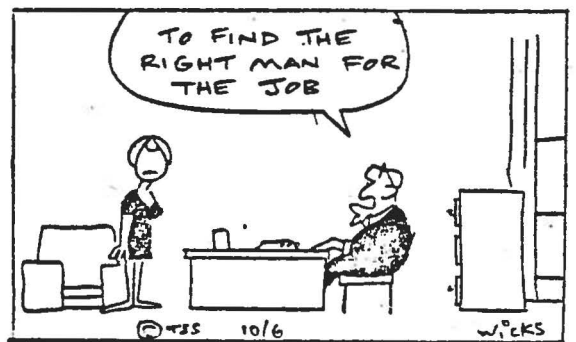
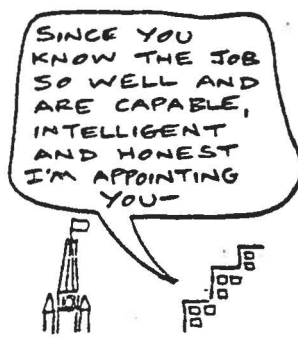
The energy that is expended by this Executive is tremendous and the results substantial; however, I believe we are doing both ourselves and our member groups a disservice if we don't ensure that we seek constant input and provide feedback to the grassroots of this organization.

In summary, the benefits of a central contact person would be:

- 1) an ongoing sense of belonging in member groups;
- 2) a larger and more substantial lobby effort;
- 3) an Executive more in touch with the grassroots; and
- 4) a more efficient lobby effort.

I feel that funding would be ensured if we demonstrate to government through a more massive lobby our numbers and Canadian women's support for NAC. I believe that NAC is the one group in Canada that has the potential to mobilize women. This I see as our strength and ensurance NAC will have funds."

WHAT ARE YOUR THOUGHTS? COMMENTS PLEASE.....



\*\*\* P R A I S E \*\*\*

"Dear Jean Wood et al,  
 May I extend a word of praise for your latest edition of the NAC Newsletter. As a new member of NAC, we at the University Women's Club of St. Catharines, found the newsletter information and beneficial, yet concise. Please see to it that the appropriate women responsible for this piece of communication receive pats on their backs!

Most sincerely, Sandra J. Milner, President 1981-82"

Dear Sandra Milner et al,  
 Many thanks for your encouragement. We really appreciated the pats.  
 Sincerely, Jean Wood et al....



# Native Indian Women

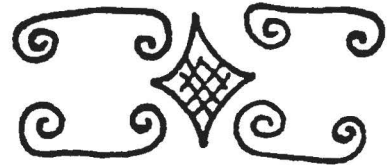
This NAC Committee has launched a campaign against Section 12(1)(b), the clause in the Indian Act which strips a Native Indian Women of rights normally enjoyed by any other registered Indian. The Indian Act is federal law which governs all aspects of Indian life. The Section states: "The following persons are not entitled to be registered, namely (b) a woman who marries a person who is not an Indian."

The committee has produced a pamphlet which gives background and suggests action steps you can take, such as:

- 1) Circulate petitions
- 2) Ask your local politician what her/his stand is on Native Indian Women's issues
- 3) Write to MLA's and federal MP's in support of this campaign
- 4) Urge your church or organization to address the government to abolish the discriminatory law concerning Native Indian Women
- 5) Support the campaign with donations

To order pamphlets, write to:

Cheryl Bear  
Box 9, Site 15, Big Cove  
New Brunswick E0A 2L0  
Ph: (506) 523-9565



+++++

THE WIZARD OF ID

by Brant parker and Johnny how



## PEACE??

"There is no technical basis for a distinction between 'peaceful' and 'military' atoms," declared Marilyn Aarons, of Energy Probe, to an overflow meeting on "WOMEN, WAR, AND THE NUCLEAR NIGHTMARE". Aarons cited evidence to show that civilian technology has become the main source for other nations getting nuclear weapons. In particular, she said, Canada has been responsible for supplying Argentina, India, Pakistan and South Korea.

The gathering at Friends' House in Toronto, October 29, heard music for peace, saw films of Hiroshima and the U.S. Women's peace action, and heard a panel of four speakers who sparked a rousing discussion. Chris Whittal of Rape Crisis Centres compared the violence against the individual woman with the violence of man-made war. Hazel Wigdor, Congress of Canadian Women, shared experiences of the women in Lebanon where she visited last month, and told of the devastation caused by the military.

Marilyn Aarons spoke on the impact of Canada's nuclear export policy on the nuclear arms race and what we can do about it. Kay Macpherson, Voice of Women, concentrated her remarks on the actions of Canadian women for disarmament and cooperation with women around the world for peace.

Participants agreed unanimously with a resolutuion to send a wire to Prime Minister Trudeau and other leaders of political parties "to demand the Canadian government take the initiative for disarmament by declaring Canada a nuclear-free zone, and by ending government support for military production and export of uranium and nuclear reactors".

SUPPORT TELEGRAMS WELCOMED.....

Information: Hazel Wigdor, Ph: (416) 767-7330

+++++

# DAY CARE

## NEWFOUNDLAND

At the NAC Mid-Year meeting, Newfoundland & Labrador women described the Day Care situation in their communities as "desperate", "the lowest of any province", with no funding being shared by the Federal government. At the lobby of the Newfoundland political parties on October 26, the women made the issue of Day Care one of their four priorities. The response from government representatives indicated some ignorance on their part of how funding could be available from Ottawa for the children of Newfoundland & Labrador. Along with that was obvious reluctance to assume responsibility in the provision of Day Care services, with the excuse of lack of financial resources. Their view did not reach to recognize the possibility of social and financial enrichment for families when Day Care services enable mothers to work.

## ONTARIO

The tempo of activity around Ontario gathered momentum as coalitions in several cities and the Ontario Coalition for Better Day Care neared its date for lobbying at Queen's Park. During the build-up period, Action Day Care took the lead and held a Day Care demonstration in front of Queen's Park. Initiated by the Ontario Federation of Labour last spring, the provincial coalition has grown to include, besides CUPE and other unions, some affiliates of NAC such as the Federation of Women Teachers' Association, the Ontario Committee on the Status of Women, the International Women's Day Committee, the Congress of Canadian Women, and several other organizations of nurses, teachers, social workers, the Association for Early Childhood Education, Action Day Care, the Ontario Federation of Students, etc.

ON NOVEMBER 9, 18 member groups of the Coalition met with Premier Davis, Frank Drea (Minister of Community & Social Services), and other Cabinet Ministers to present their brief (see excerpts below). The presentation was followed by a well-organized lobby of MPP's last all day and reaching 50% of the members. The Davis response was friendly but non-committal.

Members of NAC in Ontario are urged to follow up by lobbying their MPP's in their home constituencies, asking them to visit a Day Care Centre and generally supporting the provincial lobby. The brief "DAY CARE DEADLINE 1990" is available from the Ontario Federation of Labour, 15 Gervais Drive, Suite 202, Don Mills, Ontario M3C 1Y8.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

---

### **WHAT THE ONTARIO GOVERNMENT HAS TO DO**

---

#### **i) For Immediate Implementation**

Measures for immediate implementation were called for by the Coalition in a May 5th letter to the Minister of Treasury and Economics. Certain steps are judged to be urgent.

- 1) The implementation of a \$5.00 per day space subsidy to all non-profit daycare centres.
- 2) The creation of 10,000 new subsidized daycare spaces.
- 3) The establishment of a task force to initiate pilot projects to ascertain how specific needs can best be met.

We urge you to give immediate consideration to these short-term emergency measures to meet current critical needs.

#### **ii) For Implementation by 1985**

Our goal is a universally accessible daycare system by the year 1990. We recommend the following changes as initial steps in this evolutionary process: (NAC excerpts only)

- 1) Increase the amount of direct grants, subsidies and capital funding to non-profit programs provide spaces for 15 percent of the child population.
- 9) Implement standards and guidelines requiring that child care services be provided by trained and educated early childhood educators. In addition, establish on the job training programs through which employed early childhood educators' qualifications can be upgraded.

### **WHAT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT HAS TO DO**

---

A national childcare act to demonstrate a federal government commitment to the philosophy of universal

childcare as a public service should be implemented. This act would replace the Canada Assistance Act, as it relates to daycare services, and provide funding on a universal basis.

# MEDIA WATCH

Pay T.V. is Big League, with all of the Big Boys of Canadian Communications vying for the Big Prize. It has been billed as the hottest race in the country. The Winner(s) takes all: Money and Power!! Nowhere in all of the rhetoric created especially for this event has anyone pointed out that the majority of Canadian viewers are women. None of the Players seem to think that their female audience is worth considering in their majestic plans. That is why MEDIAWATCH, a subcommittee of NAC, must be heard. Just because women are almost non-existent on the Boards of these would-be licences does not need to mean that our perspectives, sensitivities and contributions should be overlooked.

Pay T.V. is at the pioneering stages of its development. It is the CRTC's job to choose the 'best' contender for the job. That should not only mean the most financially viable or most Canadianized of the groups, but also the one most aware of its constituents' needs, expectations and sensitivities. It is 'Constitution' writing time for Pay T.V. and we want to make sure that women have an equal say in how that document gets written. We do not want to be put in the position of having to knock on the door ten years down the line and beg or demand entry. We want - no, demand - to be let in on the ground floor. NOW!!!

ACTION -- WRITE TO JOHN MEISEL, CHAIRMAN, CRTC, OTTAWA, ONTARIO K1A 0N2.  
DEMAND THAT WOMEN HAVE EQUAL SAY IN PAY T.V. GROUND RULES AND THAT LICENSES HAVE EXPLICIT EQUAL OPPORTUNITY AND SENSITIVE PROGRAMMING REQUIREMENTS.

SEE LISTEN SPEAK OUT! SEE LISTEN SPEAK OUT!

Do you get angry then frustrated when you see or hear insulting portrayals of women on TV, radio or in print? Well, now you have a chance to be heard . . . and maybe you can even effect some change. Here's why. The advertising and broadcasting industries have promised 'to clean up their acts'. They are doing this only after years of public pressure from people like you who were sick and tired of the inaccurate or narrow stereotypes of women in all forms of the media. This pressure led to the formation of a special Task Force on Sex-Role Stereotyping in the Electronic Media set up by the CRTC (Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission). After two years of negotiations with the public representatives, the Broadcasters and Advertisers have agreed to institute some guidelines through a system of "self regulation". But unless you keep telling them what specific ads or programs offend you, they will not move.

MEDIA WATCH, a sub-committee of NAC (National Action Committee on the Status of Women), is dedicated to keeping up the pressure on Broadcasters and Advertisers so that women need not feel insulted or angry every time they turn on their TV's or Radios. Here's how you can do your bit and get some of that anger off your chest. Every time you see something you don't like, fill out this complaint form and send one copy to the offending body, one copy to the CRTC, one to MEDIA WATCH (so we can keep track of how many complaints are being made), and keep one copy for yourself. Give as much detail as you can on why you find the ad or program offensive. And let MEDIA WATCH know what kind of response you get. *GOOD LUCK* and remember, we women are 51% of the viewing and consuming public so let's make our voices heard in this important and pervasive area.

Please send copies to the following:

1. CBC & Radio Canada (TV and radio, programs and ads)  
c/o Louise Imbeault — Coordinator - Portrayal of Women  
1500 Bronson Ave.  
Ottawa, Ontario K1G 3J5

or

For all Advertisements (private radio & TV, and print)  
(CAAB) Canadian Advertising Advisory Board  
1240 Bay Street, Suite 305  
Toronto, Ontario M5R 2A7

or

----- SEE OVER.....



SEE LISTEN SPEAK OUT! RIGHT NOW! SPEAK OUT! LISTEN

SEE LISTEN SPEAK OUT!

**SEE LISTEN SPEAK OUT!**

Programming for all private Radio and TV Stations  
(CAB) Canadian Association of Broadcasters  
P.O. Box 627, Station B  
Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5S2

2. C.R.T.C.  
c/o Secretary General's Office  
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0N2

3. MEDIA WATCH  
Box 46699 - Station G  
Vancouver, B.C. V6R 4K8

4. One copy for your own records.

ORDER YOUR COMPLAINT FORMS SETS FROM:  
(OR PHOTOCOPY THE ONE BELOW)

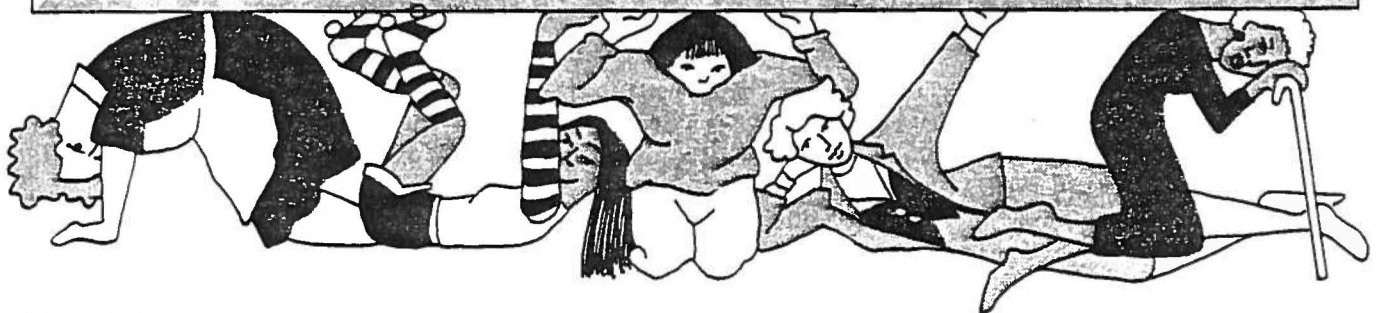
DATE:..... TIME: (if relevant).....

OFFENSIVE AD OR PROGRAM:.....

STATION, CHANNEL OR PUBLICATION:.....  
(CANADIAN ONLY)



OBJECTION (in detail)



NAME .....

ADDRESS .....



Therese Casgrain

## First NDP senator champion of unity

MONTREAL (CP) — Therese Casgrain, a pioneer of women's rights in Quebec and a champion of Canadian unity, has died in her Montreal home. She was 85.

The quick-witted and persistent Mrs. Casgrain was active in politics to the end, fighting for the rights of the underprivileged, native women, and the elderly, and tributes poured in after yesterday's announcement of her death.

Joining other MPs, Commons Speaker Jeanne Sauve said Canada has lost a model for social and political action. Similar sentiments were expressed by Health Minister Monique Begin, NDP Leader Edward Broadbent and Tory MP Flora MacDonald. Quebec's minister of state for women, Pauline Marois, said Mrs. Casgrain spoke for "a whole generation of women."

In 1970 Mrs. Casgrain became the first member of the New Democratic Party to be named to the Senate, where she sat as an independent. When her age forced her to retire from the Senate after nine months, she turned to public appearances and political lobbying, and wrote her memoirs entitled *A Woman in a Man's World*.

"It is rare for anyone to make such a substantial contribution to the Senate's work in such a short time," Senator Jacques Flynn remarked after her departure.

Influenced greatly by her father, Sir Rodolphe Forget, a Montreal financier and Conservative MP, Mrs. Casgrain first entered politics around 1928, spearheading the fight for women's suffrage, a tedious battle that ended with the right to vote in 1940.

In 1942 she was an unsuccessful Independent Liberal candidate for the Charlevoix-Saguenay seat, which had been held for 25 years by her husband, Pierre-Francois Casgrain, before he was appointed a judge of the Quebec Superior Court. In 1948 she joined the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation, forerunner of the NDP, and was an unsuccessful candidate for the party in nine elections.

Her determination and humanitarianism won her many distinctions, including companion of the Order of Canada, officer of the Order of the British Empire, Woman of the Century award from the Council of Jewish Women of Canada, and eight honorary university degrees.

She often worked 18-hour days, and said in her later years: "It's sad to age when you really don't feel old at all."

Always vocal about issues she took on as personal causes, she supported Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau during the 1970 October Crisis, fought for federalism in the last year's Quebec referendum, and backed Ottawa's position in the constitutional debate.

"When I sing O Canada," she once said, "my throat chokes because I love my country. I am a Canadian, and nothing can take that away."

Globe & Mail 4/11/81

**NAC NOTE:** In her book, *"A Women in a Man's World"*, Therese Casgrain, the fighter for women's suffrage, for women's rights, for citizen's rights, the fighter for peace, says a few final words to her (fellow) feminists in Quebec and in all of Canada:

"The true liberation of women cannot take place without the liberation of men. Basically the women's liberation movement is not only feminist in inspiration, it is also humanist. Let men and women look at one another honestly and try together to give society a new set of values. That is the challenge that we, both men and women, must meet".

## Sabia among 6 honored

### Women of Distinction awards fete draws 650

By Louise Brown Toronto Star, Oct. 28, 1981

Amid pomp and glitter, 650 women gathered last night at the Royal York Hotel to honor winners of the YWCA's first annual Women of Distinction Awards.

The winner in each of the six categories was considered both outstanding in her field, and responsible for advancement of women in her field.

The winners were:

□ **Laura Sabia (Public Affairs):** Her history as a lobbyist for woman's rights has included successful lobbying against anti-birth-control laws, and the founding of the National Action Committee on the Status of Women.

□ **Eleanor Sniderman (The Arts):** Her long-standing patronage of theatre and music included lobbying to preserve Eaton Auditorium.

□ **Maria Scarpelli Iori (Business, Professions or Labor):** She is president and founder of the Canadian Textile and Chemical Union's local at the Puretex Knitting Company, where she led a three-month strike of 200 immigrant women workers in 1979. The strike resulted in removal of management cameras monitoring women's washrooms.

□ **Dr. Helen Morley (Health):** Her strong commitment to women's rights in family planning prompted her to open one of Toronto's first birth-control information centres at a time when it was very controversial.

□ **Mildred Redmond (Community Service):** She is a native Canadian social worker whose efforts on behalf of native women include founding one of the first native centres in the city and lobbying for the rights of Indian women.

□ **Jean Gayle Hughes (Communications):** The editor of *Homemaker's* magazine recently won the Mental Health-Metro award for outstanding dedication to the cause of mental health, and whose magazine has won more than 30 awards in various fields.

The winners were chosen from 69 nominees by a committee of three YWCA directors: Pauline McGibbon, Dr. Reva Gerstein and Dawn MacDonald, editor of *City Woman* magazine.



**Laura Sabia:** Former chairman of the Ontario Status of Women Council and defeated Tory candidate in the recent Spadina by-election received YWCA award last night.







**Happenings  
AND OTHER THINGS**



RESOURCES FOR  
FEMINIST RESEARCH/  
DOCUMENTATION  
SUR LA RECHERCHE  
FÉMINISTE

**RFR  
DRF**

RFR is planning to publish a special edition in March 1982 on rural women in industrialized and in developing countries. They need contributions on women in developing countries. Deadline is December 1, 1981. For information contact: Eleonora Cebotarev, Department of Sociology, University of Guelph, Guelph, Ontario N1G 2W1

"PICNIC IN THE DRIFT"  
Science meets Science-  
Fiction. New Medium.  
Nuclear Message.  
Harbourfront's Ice House,  
Toronto, Nov. 3-22  
Contact: Rina Fraticelli  
968-3084  
Jane Farrow  
596-0921

**Abby Hoffman**  
talks about  
**WOMEN IN SPORT**

DEBATES ROOM, HART HOUSE, UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO  
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20  
8.00 PM  
FREE ADMISSION AND COFFEE  
SPONSOR: ONTARIO COMMITTEE ON STATUS OF WOMEN

In Solidarity with the people of El Salvador)  
Womynly Ways Productions presents: )  
WALLFLOWER ORDER DANCE COLLECTIVE )  
& GROUPO RAIZ )  
Friday, November 27th, 8.00 p.m. )  
330 Lansdowne (at College) )  
Tickets \$6 advance, \$7 at door )  
( Available at: )  
( Toronto Women's Bookstore, 85 Harbord Street )  
( Trojan Horse, 179 Danforth )  
( The Milwheel, 2 Elm Street )  
( SCM Bookstore, 333 Bloor Street West )

**Theatre/Women**

A national study is being undertaken under the auspices of Status of Women Canada... a modest but serious attempt to assess the current status of women in Canadian theatre particularly women playwrights, directors and artistic directors.

Your views, experiences and suggestions will help evaluate the available opportunities and to discover obstacles to full participation.

Meetings will be arranged across the country throughout the winter ... if you work in the theatre, have been involved in feminist theatre, have concerns as an audience member about the characterization of women in plays, are aware of any obstacles, and/or can suggest programs, legislation or other action, contact:

Rina Fraticelli  
96a Bellevue Ave, Toronto M5T 3N9



In order to assist in providing an economic base for Canadian women artists, and to help the Womanspirit Artist's Gallery become less dependent on government funding, we are creating a space within the gallery for a shop. Women artists working in all media including clay, fabric, paper, metals, glass, etc and wishing to sell their work on consignment (2/3 - 1/3 through a women's space, or those wanting more information, are invited to write:

ISABELLE ERSKINE,  
WOMANSPIRIT ARTIST'S GALLERY  
359 DUNDAS STREET,  
LONDON, ONTARIO  
N6B 1V5





## Xmas Gift Ideas

MAKE YOUR FRIENDS AND RELATIVES A GIFT OF A FRIEND OF NAC MEMBERSHIP.

This is an excellent way to keep the people you care about up-to-date on the issues, and extend NAC's lobby efforts. Only \$25..... includes subscription to NAC MEMO and Status of Women News....



### NON-SEXIST PLAYING CARDS

Only 44 Days till Xmas...  
Only 39 Days till Chanukah..

Don't be caught without your stocking stuffers, party favours and hostess gifts....

These cards are terrific... (they are going like hotcakes and potato latkes)  
**ORDER NOW!!!!**

Send \$5.50 (includes PST) to:

NAC  
40 St. Clair Ave E.#306  
Toronto, Ontario  
M4T 1M9



## What is happening to women in Canada?

The best way to find out is to subscribe to *Status of Women News*

We will keep you up-to-date on women and the law, pensions for women, women's housing co-ops, work-related day care, books about women, women and technology.

*Status of Women News* is a political magazine with articles, news stories, book reviews, and discussions of controversial issues. It is the official publication of The National Action Committee on The Status of Women.

### Subscription/Abonnement

RATE: \$8.00 for 4 issues      TARIF: \$8.00 pour 4 numéros  
INSTITUTIONS: \$12.00      ORGANISMES: \$12.00  
OVERSEAS and U.S.: \$15.00      OUTRE-MER ou ÉTATS-UNIS: \$15.00

One Year/un an      \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Two Years/deux ans      \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Donation/Contribution      \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Total/ Vous trouverez ci-inclus mon cheque pour le montant de      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name/Nom \_\_\_\_\_  
Address/Adresse \_\_\_\_\_  
City/Ville \_\_\_\_\_  
Province \_\_\_\_\_ Code \_\_\_\_\_

NATIONAL ACTION COMMITTEE ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN  
LE COMITÉ NATIONAL D'ACTION SUR LE STATUT DE LA FEMME  
40 ST. CLAIR AVENUE EAST, TORONTO, ONTARIO M4T 1M9