

WOMEN'S INFORMATION CENTRE

NEWSLETTER

MAR 1976

P. O. BOX 189 STATION 'A' TORONTO

#55

DEAR SISTERS

This may be the last newsletter produced. Those of us putting it out do not have the time or energy (due to other commitments like jobs) to put out as extensive a newsletter as we have been doing in the last 3 months, but we do have the time to continue with a monthly Calendar of Events. So we have decided to reduce the newsletter to two pages of announcements plus inserts from various women's groups periodically.

While dealing with our time crisis, we have also looked at our subscription list. A lot of subscriptions are due in the next few months. Since all the Toronto subscription cards were stolen last spring we have no idea when subscriptions are due but a lot must be overdue and the rest coming due in the next couple of months. So, we are stamping all the newsletters in this category due.

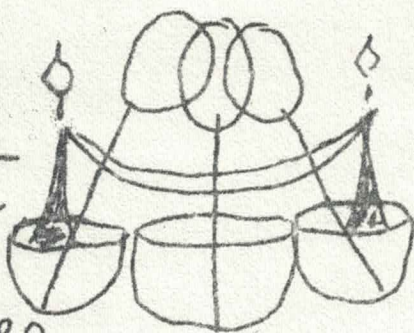
In order to make it worth while to continue the newsletter we have decided that we must hear from at least 500 of you this month. Send in your \$3 or write and tell us you are still not due, or write and tell us you can not afford the \$3, but what ever the case may be please WRITE. If we do not hear from 500 women we will return all your subscription money that we have received in the last 3 months.

Now that W.I.C. no longer has government funds, this newsletter has to be self-sustaining. We have figured out that one subscription will cost \$1.75 (taking cost increases into account). That leaves \$1.25 profit. If we continue, we will accumulate this for awhile in the hope that we can pay someone part-time to do some of the work. We are presently keeping up the bookkeeping, the subscriptions, banking, collection of announcements and production of the newsletter (typing, running off on gestetner, collating, folding, stamping, stapling, addressing).

With your encouragement, money and assistance (call 925-1154 if you are interested) we will continue the announcements and hopefully be able to build up again. Please return the form on the last page, or write a letter.

Sally Cross, Karen Englander, Mary Hassard, Chris Lawrence, Diane Scott

3
of
Cups
Coffee
house
for
Women



Come to the Three of Cups, Saturday evenings 8 to witching hour at 567 Queen St. W.

\$1 membership, \$1 entrance
Food and drinks, music, poetry,
dancing, programmed entertainment
and open mike policy.

Call 532-9047 to schedule an event
for April.

THE NAME OF THE COFFEEHOUSE is taken from a card in the Tarot deck. The Three of Cups Card pictures three women in flowing, colourful robes dancing in a circle raising goblets filled with "the wine of Life", fruits and garlands at their feet. An interpretation: Pledging friendship. Happy conclusion of an undertaking, perhaps in the arts. Sensitivity to others. A healing to come. A place for women to share with women. A place where women can listen to and hear other women. Women may express themselves with pride and be heard with respect. A place where women may tell one another "I don't like it" or "I like it!" Respect: give some and take some. A place where women do not feel intimidated with one another, for a woman to share herself. No place like it!

Our format includes a "quiet time" from 8 to 9 - time to talk, play chess, dominoes, scrabble or your favourite card game. Or just listen to quiet music and read a good book.

PROGRAMME AT THREE OF CUPS - MARCH, 1976 567 QUEEN ST. W.
(2nd floor) (near
Augusta)

MARCH 20 : Music by April Cassirer and Carol Rowe
musicians, chansonnières, poets

MARCH 27 : SPECIAL BENEFIT for The Other Woman Newspaper
\$3 entrance. Dance and music by Rita MacNeil and Sara Ellen Dunlop

THE GREAT EXTRAORDINARY T-SHIRT COMPETITION CONTINUES! We need your designs for the Three of Cups Coffeehouse t-shirt by March 27th. Do not include our address after all. What with all these moves, we find one address is out of date almost before we find another! PRIZES for the design used are one (1) massage OR one(1) bottle of the liquid elixir of your choice OR a copy of Midge Decker's Shoulder to Shoulder (and of course a sample t-shirt!) Please send design proposals to 35 Garden Ave. Toronto. It's your choice to include your signature somewhere on the design.

THE STATE OF THE COLLECTIVE February has seen some changes. Personal reasons have led to several resignations and withdrawals from the collective. The Three of Cups needs your talent-join us! Speak to the women at the door on Saturday, call 532-9047, or come to meetings Sundays at 7 p.m. at 96 Gerrard St. E. in the 22nd floor Reading Room. Also we now have a suggestion book at the door. We appreciate all comments and criticisms, and suggestions for entertainment, format changes you'd like to see.

Finally, the move to Queen St. means any donations are needed urgently. These are needed: cushions, chairs and tables(if you have even table tops we can make the base), cloth, tablecloths, a turntable plants, posters, art work, instruments. Here's the pie-in-the-sky one: a piano?

If you want to be on our mailing list, contact us at 35 Garden Ave. Toronto, or better still come down to the coffeehouse.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Series of Discussions:

SEXISM AND CAPITALISM

Perspectives From the Left on Sexist Oppression of Women and Gays at the Medical Sciences Auditorium - U of T

Tues. March 16th: Sexism and the Labour Movement

Walter Bruno -long time gay activist in Toronto and former shop steward in the Canadian Union of Postal Workers

Lois Watham -trade unionist and member of CUPE

Tues. March 23rd: Psychiatry as Sexist Ideology

Dorothy Smith -author of "Women, the Family and Corporate Capitalism" and professor of sociology

Barry Adams -member of the Gay Academic Union

Tues. March 30th: Sexism and Revolution - Strategies

John Southin -associate professor at McGill Univ. and former resident in Cuba

Chris Bearchell -co-ordinator of the John Damien Defence Committee and activist in the Gay Alliance Toward Equality

Barb Cameron -instructor of women's studies, U of T

LIFE SKILLS COURSE for VOLUNTEER GROUP LEADERS offered by the YWCA. This course will train you as a Life Skills coach; provide an intensive experience in group dynamics; enable you to select from Life Skills material for work with your particular group. It will be held Mondays and Wednesdays, 9:30 to 3:30, April 26 - June 7. Fee: \$100 + \$25 for reading material. For further info. call Ruth Evans or Susa Uilkema at 961-8100

Canadian Housewives Register encourages women to broaden their horizons by providing an opportunity to meet, to participate in stimulating discussion and to pursue common interests. Groups of 5 to 25 meet informally for discussions on non-domestic topics, guest speakers, theatre visits and outings to places of interest. Membership open to all Women. \$5.00 annually. For Info. Call Julia Strickley: 749-1356

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPEN HOUSE at 15 BIRCH AVE. FRIDAY, MARCH 19, 3 to 7 pm. The WOMEN'S COUNSELLING REFERRAL AND EDUCATION CENTRE is now funded and staffed. They plan to begin their community education programmes. In late spring, self-help groups for clients will be started at the centre.

They hope you will come to their Open House to meet them and other interested therapists and community people. They would also gratefully accept any donations. Phone the Centre at 925-1155.

"Discovering Life Skills With Women" is a manual of structured group experiences available through the YWCA of Metro Toronto. The book summarizes the Life Skills approach; describes the YWCA's development of outreach, group maintenance and child care; and more..... Cost is \$12.50 + 75¢ postage and handling. Write to Life Skills Programme, YWCA, 80 Woodlawn Ave. E. Tor.

Montreal Trust has a number of JOBS, clerical, etc. They like mature women going back into the paying work force. Times Change has the details (787-6136) or contact Margot Young at Montreal Trust - 362-6363.

Woman and 3 year old child are looking for a co-op, preferably near Bathurst St. sometime in March. call Karen 698-1101

THE WOMEN'S COUNSELLING REFERRAL AND EDUCATION CENTRE SEMINARS

Immigrant Women and the Counsellor's Role Thurs. March 18th
"The Effects of Feminism on Marriage and the Family" Thurs. April 15th
Held at MacPhail House, 389 Church St., 8:00 pm.
Donations at the Door

SEMINAR FOR COMMUNITY WORKERS Mon. and Tues., March 22 and 23
EFFECTIVE UTILIZATION OF LABOUR LAWS FOR WOMEN
Held at MacDonald Block, Queen's Park. For info. call 965-1537
Registration must be received by March 12th. FREE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WHAT WOMEN CAN DO IN THE FAMILY ALLOWANCE PROTEST

The Toronto Wages for Housework Committee is holding a public meeting

Monday, March 22, 7:30 pm

St. Barnabus Church, 171 Hampton

This is for women interested in joining the Family Allowance Protest. Come to the meeting to find out more, to meet each other and to discuss how we can organize in our different neighbourhoods and workplaces. Childcare provided.

RALLY TO STOP THE CUTBACKS

All Out! on Saturday April 3rd.

Assemble: 11 am, City Hall Square; March: 12 noon, to Queens Park; Rally: 2 pm Queen's Park front steps.

Open Forum:

VIOLENCE IN THE FAMILY, PART 2: BETWEEN HUSBAND AND WIFE

Looks at the difficulties couples have in establishing and maintaining mutually satisfying relationships.

THURSDAY, MARCH 18, 8:00 pm. at ST. LAWRENCE CENTRE, 27 Front St.

Admission FREE - presented by Public Affairs Dept., Toronto Arts Productions in co-operation with Mental Health Dept. Tor.

DISCUSSION ON RAPE

Tues., March 16 - 7pm to 9pm at Mount Sinai Auditorium

Medical, Police, and Legal Responsibilities to Rape Victims
Speakers to be announced.

Admission \$1.00. For further info. call Eileen Coomy 463-0406

Campus Community Cooperative Daycare Centres needs Volunteers

under 2's: 12 Sussex Ave.

925-7495

over 2 : Devonshire and Bloor (rear)

924-7075

PARKDALE COMMUNITY LEGAL SERVICES PRESENTS:

Public Seminars on Law Reform

Welfare

Monday, March 22nd - 7:30 pm

Unemployment

Monday, March 29th - 7:30 pm

Workmen's Compensation

Monday, April 5th - 7:30 pm

All meetings will be held at PARKDALE LIBRARY

1303 Queen Street, West.

For further information, call 531-2411

NON-TRADITIONAL JOBS FOR WOMEN

Many areas are beginning, with a lot of pushing, to open up to women. Times Change Women's Employment Service is starting to look at what kinds of possibilities there are for women, how hard it is to break into each area, how long the training takes, where to get trained, etc.

Some areas are: car mechanic, plumber, radio & TV technician, horticulturist, carpenter, printer, welder etc. The Ontario government provides limited-access apprenticeship programs in all these areas and in many others.

Bell Telephone says they're looking for women phone installers. You need grade 12, preferably grade 13, a basic understanding of electricity, ability to drive a truck & climb poles. Starting salaries are \$139.50 (Gr. 12) & \$150 (Gr. 13).

If you're interested in these types of jobs, call Times Change at 787-6136. The more calls we get, the more we can say there is a demand from women for these jobs.

ANNECDOTE

(For lack of a better title) A woman called the Women's Information & Referral Service the other day asking for a book on women and the law. She was told that the Women's Bureau had a free booklet on the subject. The woman then said that she had that booklet but it didn't appear to be up-to-date, because in it, abortion wasn't even legal yet.

A WOMAN'S NAME is a recent booklet outlining present legislation & raising questions about the law. You can get it from the Ontario Law Reform Commission, 16th floor, 18 King St. E., Toronto, Ontario M5C 1C5.

YWCA OF METROPOLITAN TORONTO WOMEN'S DEVELOPMENT CENTRE

15 BIRCH AVE.
TORONTO, M4V-1E1
925-3137

FILMS at YWCA - 15 Birch Ave. to be shown March 24, 12:30 pm.

It Happens To Us. Using medical data, statistics on birth control and abortions plus interviews with women who have had abortions, the film presents a strong case for liberalizing the existing abortion laws. (30 mins.)

More Than Fair. Traces the herstory of woman's rise to political equality and suggests changes which must be made to give her equal opportunity with men. (28 mins.)

WOMEN AND HEALTH

This course deals with issues in the health-care system which concern women such as the attitude of medical professionals towards women and female sexuality; birth control; lack of services; and self-help concepts. It will be an attempt to educate, and raise our own consciousness as women at the personal and political level.

CARPENTRY

Learn how to use hand tools to build simple projects of your choice. You must purchase your own lumber. Storage and tools available for course duration.

SELF DEFENCE

For every woman, regardless of your level of physical fitness, basic, practical techniques. (Wear clothes that allow free movement)

MOTORCYCLE RIDER TRAINING

In co-operation with the Canada Safety Council, the YWCA is sponsoring motorcycle rider training courses, beginning the first weekend in May and running continuously on weekends through September. Courses will be held at Downsview Air Base, with motorcycles provided by local dealers

HOME REPAIRS

Electrical work, plastering, plumbing . . . save money and enjoy learning new skills.

WOMEN AND PHOTOGRAPHY

Participants will examine images of women in photography and works by women photographers to explore the potential uses of the medium both as an art form and a political tool. Through viewing books from the instructor's collection (the largest in Canada), photographs, course members' photographic projects, participants will have an opportunity to develop their own areas of interest in relation to photography and an awareness of women photographers both past and present. Owning a camera is not necessary for this course.

WOMEN & THE ENVIRONMENT

Films, speakers and printed material will be used to show how our daily habits affect the earth's environment. We will also discuss how we as women can involve ourselves in activities designed to improve and protect our local and global environment. The focus will be on practical involvement — not distant academic issues. Course begins May 6th.

MOTORCYCLE MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR

Learn how to repair and maintain your own motorcycle! Become familiar with the inner workings . . . tune-ups and some major engine work covered. Motorcycles will be available to work on.

TORONTO WOMEN'S NETWORK MEETING MINUTES
February 25, 1976

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, March 31,
8 P.M., 15 Birch Ave.

WOMEN'S LAW FIRM: Cornish, Sacks & Waldman, with Lynn King as counsel, are setting up office at 111 Richmond St. They will be focusing on labour (equal pay etc.), & family & juvenile problems.

C.A.R.A.L. held its 2nd annual meeting with 125 women & men in Ottawa Feb. 9 & 10, and combined it with a full day of lobbying. Morgentaler spoke about his legal persecutions and accompanied CARAL members lobbying. 3 NDP MP's were sympathetic & asked what CARAL was doing to influence other MP's. The MP's said ongoing lobbying is necessary and letters to MP's pro-repeal are absolutely essential. They count the letters pro and con that they receive.

Toronto CARAL is trying to speak to as many groups as possible. Please call Lillian Robinson at 485-6168.

PERSONAL ABORTION EXPERIENCES: The Badgely Committee is bringing recommendations this Spring to the House of Commons re Abortion. They need letters from people who have had or heard about abortion experiences. Submissions should be in by the end of March.

WOMEN'S COUNSELLING COLLECTIVE 15 Birch Ave., downstairs, have received a grant from the Ministry of Health. They're trying to complete a list of non-sexist therapists & do 1½ hr. interviews to check for sexism, racism and classism. Although its hard to assess competence, they check for empathy and pro-women attitudes. They encourage women to try 2 or 3 therapists, and then choose one to see. They want to educate therapists on women's problems—the environmental & social context, & make them aware of the community resources available for women-awareness being especially low concerning black women.

WOMEN'S COMMUNICATION CENTRE The report on need for such a centre is complete but not yet available. Responses from across Canada indicate that a centre is needed but not a centralized one. A group from Emergency Librarian magazine have taken up the project & are trying to raise \$40,000 to

it. They're also applying to the Secretary of State for funds. They would like to do research for women's groups on a fee for service basis if possible. Call or write Sherrill Cheda or Phyllis Yaffe, 46 Gormley Ave., Toronto, 486-0866 evenings and weekends, 491-5050 ext. 384 days.

TORONTO WOMEN'S YELLOW PAGES Four women working on a LIP grant are putting out a second edition. It will include an access guide to help women locate women's services. Anybody wanting to be listed (babysitters, trades etc.) call Wendy King 964-0354 or write P.O. Box 153, Station Q, Toronto.

WOMEN FOR POLITICAL ACTION met last month and decided to concentrate their efforts on getting women into public office. Money left over from their 1973 conference was put into Metro Toronto Women's Credit Union and a donation was made to C.A.R.A.L.

NATIONAL ACTION COMMITTEE ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN 121 Avenue Rd., Toronto, M5R 2G3 is having its annual meeting in Ottawa April 23-25. N.A.C. is looking for new membership groups (\$15). If you are interested, please write. Two delegates from each member group can vote at annual meetings, but any members may attend.

TORONTO
WOMEN'S
BOOKSTORE



85 HARBORD STREET
TORONTO ONTARIO
922-8744

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPERATION FINGER PINKY - a satirical play based on the experience of secretaries at York University. Performed by Theatre Passe Muraille under the sponsorship of the York Women's Centre, Atkinson College & The Atkinson Dept. of Fine Arts. Tuesday, March 16, 8:30 p.m., Burton Auditorium, York University. Tickets: \$2.50 - on sale at York Women's Centre & at door. Discussion follows the performance.

ONE OUT OF MANY ed. by Liz Cromwell, produced by WACACRO is a book of poetry and short stories by 21 black women in Canada. It is available at the Third World Bookstore, 748 Bay St., at College St.

VALORA WAYNER in concert at 355 College St., on March 28. The third part of a series to promote jazz music in Toronto and to provide work for Black jazz musicians. 7 p.m. Admission: \$2.50, students \$1.50. Limited seats so come early. Tickets available at the Third World Bookstore.

THE OTHER WOMAN IS HAVING A BENEFIT MARCH 27 AT THE THREE OF CUPS, 567 QUEEN ST. W. DANCE AND MUSIC BY THE FULTON ST. FUNCK AND SPACE BAND. SUPPORT THE OTHER WOMAN NEWSPAPER.

EVELYN REED the well-known Marxist anthropologist and author of *Woman's Evolution: From Matriarchal Clan to Patriarchal Family* will be speaking Thurs. March 25 at York University, Curtis Lecture Hall "L" at 1 p.m., and Tues. March 30 at the University of Toronto, Innis College at 8 p.m. For further information call 364-5908.