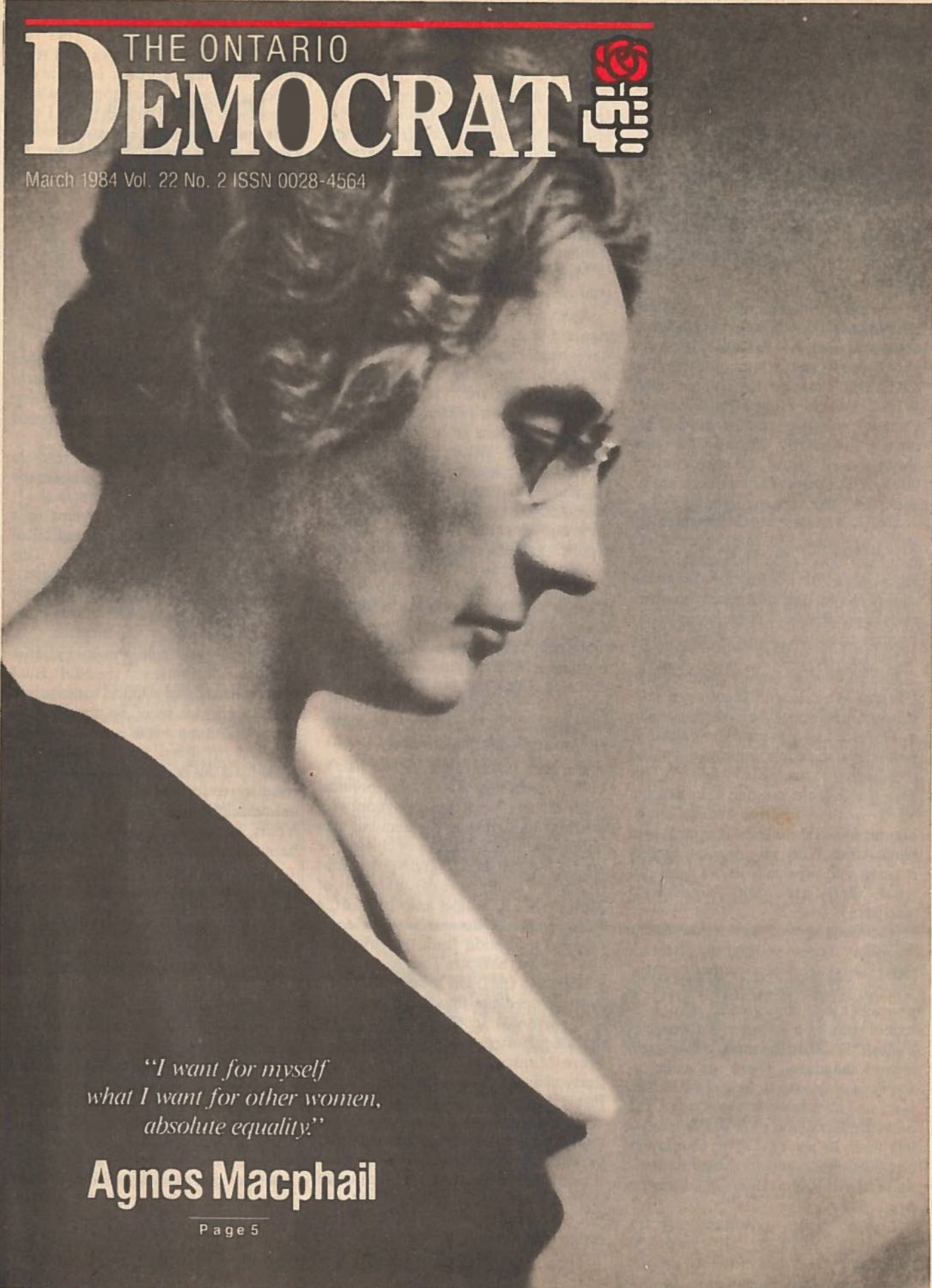

THE ONTARIO DEMOCRAT



March 1984 Vol. 22 No. 2 ISSN 0028-4564



*"I want for myself
what I want for other women,
absolute equality."*

Agnes Macphail

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Greetings from Southern Africa

After engaging in some technical correspondence, the editor asked the author of the following letter for some information about where he lived. His answer is printed below.

You ask me what I am doing in Southern Africa. (Sometimes I ask myself that, but that is really not the same question.)

I retired from teaching in Ontario in 1981, and came as a volunteer with WUSC (World University Service of Canada), a non-governmental agency, mainly funded by CIDA. There are about 30 of us in Lesotho, mostly teachers, but there are four doctors now, and a few other service personnel.

I teach in a small (214 enrolment in '83) secondary school in Maseru. After six months I was made Headmaster, and teach only a little English now. We have a staff of eleven, one Indian, one Ghanian, and the rest Basotho. The school is barely equipped and has classes of up to 50 (in '82 we had one of 62).

Education is in considerable trouble in Lesotho. When Lesotho became an independent member of the Commonwealth in 1967, the teachers were about the only well-educated people in the country, and they moved to run the Civil Service. This was unavoidable, but had a devastating effect on the education system, which had produced the highest literary rate in black Africa. Now, morale is low, the pay is poor, and especially in the rural districts there are many unqualified teachers.

The language of instruction in the secondary system is English. Theoretically, this is supposed to be the case in the last two years of primary school, but in practice most pupils come into high school without a working knowledge of English. Thus English must be taught as a second language. There are country-wide examinations at the end of the fifth year, set and marked in Cambridge. The pass rate is extremely low at this level — less than 20 per cent. The Cambridge certificate grants entrance to the national university at Roma, about 20 kilometres from Maseru.

Lesotho is an agricultural country, very poor, rated by UN yardsticks (metre-sticks?) as one of the ten poorest

in the world. A large proportion (about half, I think) of the male population works in the Republic's mines, and are home seldom or never! Obviously, this has a deleterious effect on a traditionally strong family-oriented society. Unemployment is high, probably 15 to 20 per cent, though I don't think these are reliable statistics. Under-employment is endemic. There is, of course, great inequality. There is a higher percentage of Mercedes on the streets than I've ever seen anywhere.

Apart from agriculture, courting foreign aid is the main industry. I myself have been engaged in this pursuit, in addition to running the school and teaching English. We are trying to build new classrooms and a laboratory. We have secured donations from three sources, including the Mission Administrated Fund of the Canadian Embassy in Pretoria, and are expecting some CIDA aid. I have started a small school library with a generous donation from the British Council and shipments from the Overseas Book Centre in Ottawa. I have also been sent donations from many friends in Canada to help pay fees for needy students. Fees at our school are M207 (about \$215 at present exchange). This is exorbitant for many families. I even got a donation from my last Ontario NDP riding — Grey-Simcoe, and having worked in the CCF and NDP since 1943, I appreciated this one extremely.

I'm sure your readers would like to know something about the political situation here. Lesotho is a kingdom with a British parliamentary system but also taking into account advice of chiefs. The king is Moshoeshoe II, great-great-great (I think it's three greats) grandson of Moshoeshoe I, founder and father of the Basotho nation. Moshoeshoe sought and received protection from the British in 1867 against the Boers. They gained independence in 1967. The Basotho National Party formed the first government. In 1972 there was another election. It was declared aborted for irregularities by the Prime Minister. The Basotho Congress Party claims to have won the election. Prime Minister Leabua Jonathan has ruled since without an election. He has announced an election for this year, probably in September or October. Election predictions have surfaced frequently in the past, but it probably will happen this year, since the opposition BCP leadership is seriously fragmented.

There is much more I could write,

about living conditions here, and relations with Southern Africa. I also am developing some opinions about the whole question of foreign aid. Perhaps I can write again, though this latter question I shall probably keep for my return to Canada at the end of June.

Yours,
(Mr.) G.W. McCullough
Lesotho, Southern Africa

Contribution

To the London Free Press:

At the same time that I mail this letter to you I will mail a copy to the Ontario NDP with a cheque. The NDP is the only party which has consistently opposed extra billing by doctors.

I have always been opposed to extra billing and a recent happening has made me decide to do something practical.

A friend of mine was referred to a specialist and was required to pay a bill of which 80% was covered by OHIP. This friend is 79 years of age, lives in an apartment for the elderly and is in very poor health. The charge her \$20 is in my opinion rapacious and unconscionable.

Originally I thought of making an anonymous contribution to the NDP. But I then realized that a political contribution is an income tax relief. So my cheque is not for \$20 but for \$80.

So, as my friend in her working days subsidized this doctor's training, my contribution to fighting extra billing will be subsidized by him.

Yours,
name withheld by request.

Working Vacation

When a Riding Association faces a big organizational task with virtually no available manpower, it must use its collective brainpower to meet its challenges head-on. That is exactly what happened at the February Executive meeting in the riding of Renfrew South.

The Executive issued a province-wide open invitation to all party activists who enjoy an organizational challenge. Recognizing that our area, including the beautiful communities of Barry's Bay, Eganville, Calabogie, Beachburg and Constance Bay, is a wonderful area for a summer vacation, we offered NDP activists an opportunity to take a working

OWEN SOUND
GREY BRUCE NDP
Presents

DIALOGUE ON DEMOCRACY 1984

Monday, March 19
FAMILY FARMS

Rita Davis, Concerned Farm Women; Alan Wilford, President of Canadian Farm Survival Association; Don Hill, President of Grey County Federation of Agriculture; Mel Swart, NDP MPP
Chairman — Ross Kentner — manager, radio station CFOS.

Monday, March 26
MEDICARE

Dr. Margaret Sanbourne, physician from Chesley; Mary Lynn McGregor RN, Registered Nurses Association of Ontario; TBA representative from Ontario Medical Association; Dave Cooke, NDP MPP.
Chairman — Joanne Shaw — RN, president Grey Bruce NDP.

Wednesday, April 4
JOBS

BLUE COLLAR, WHITE COLLAR
AND JUST PLAIN JOBS

Grace Hartman, retired president CUPE; Michael Lyons, Metro Labour Council; Jo Surich, Ontario Federation of Labour; Shelley Acheson, Ontario Federation of Labour; Bob MacKenzie, NDP MPP.
Chairman — Frank Butler — president of the Owen Sound District Labour Council.

Wednesday, April 11
EDUCATION

David Daniels, principal of Georgian College; Margaret Moore, president of Grey County Elementary Teachers Association; Margaret Wilson, president of the Ontario Teachers' Federation; Michael McKenna, director of education for Grey County; Richard Allen, NDP MPP.
Chairman — Marlon Chambers — president of the Ontario NDP.

Wednesday, April 18
NURSING AND RETIREMENT
HOME CARE

Mrs. E. Best, administrator, Versa Care Nursing Home; Rev. Lloyd Wiseman, director of Lutheran Nursing Home; Jack Nolan, director of Grey County Social and Family Services; Mary Hawkes, newscaster and concerned citizen; Bob Rae, Leader of the Ontario NDP.
Chairman — Dave Carr — broadcaster, radio station CFOS.

Monday, April 30
NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT

Father LaCroix, St. Mary's Church, Owen Sound; W.R.C. Little, Honourable Lieutenant Colonel, Grey Simcoe Foresters; Rev. Clark MacDonald, moderator, United Church of Canada; Richard Johnston, NDP MPP.
Chairman — Lorne Creighton.

For more information please call:

519-371-0725
416-699-6637

vacation in our riding. Not only will activists have an opportunity to enjoy our fine landscape, they will have an invitation to meet our warm and friendly people. The Executive is also prepared to enter into a revenue sharing arrangement with your home riding association.

For full details on a unique vacation opportunity, send your name, address and the name of your home riding association to: Working Vacation, 41 Coumbes Street, Renfrew, Ontario, K7V 2R4. Hey all you dedicated activists, what are you waiting for.

Angus Cameron
President
Renfrew South NDP

Ontario's Solidarity

When labour unions and the citizens of B.C. were confronted with inhuman changes in Legislation there was an instantaneous coming together of unions, associations, citizens groups, and even the clergy. I am sure Bennett was shocked when this happened but surely he must have realized that he would hit a brick wall of opposition. If he hadn't, then all I can conclude is that he was very poorly advised as to the labour relations climate in his province.

Many of us who were unable to go to B.C. during the strike because we were working, supported our brethren with money, letters, prayers and telegrams and I am sure that these ingredients had a small part in the success. Solidarity forced the government to go back to the committee rooms and made them aware that if any of the agreements were violated, the strike would be repeated.

I am sure that we haven't heard the last of Solidarity. For the first time in Cana-

da's history we saw a coalition stop a government in a peaceful manner from dismantling the democratic process and rights which had been in place for many years. It also made government realize that they could not tear up collective agreements and ignore the gains and benefits which had been freely negotiated into them. The Coalition Concept is a good one and one which we in Ontario should seriously consider as we face another year of controls. None of us know what the Davis government has up its sleeve for 1984. If indeed there are further controls being considered, then now is the time to prepare and a good way to begin is to form our own Solidarity movement and prepare some plan of action.

Peter Piddington
CUPE Local 190
London, Ontario

Birthday

Cornwall, one of Ontario's oldest settlements was founded June 1784 by Lt. Col. Sir John Johnson, and the 1st Battalion King's Royal Reg't. of New York. Originally named New Johnstown, the Loyalists renamed the town, in honour of Prince George the Duke of Cornwall.

On behalf of the Cornwall Bicentennial Corporation I would like to invite all past Cornwallites to attend our HOME-COMING WEEK from July 22-29. The week will be kicked off by a parade on July 22 and will then be followed by a variety of public events. For information write:

Co-ordinator
Cornwall Bicentennial
P.O. Box 773
Cornwall, Ontario, K6H 5T5

THE ONTARIO DEMOCRAT

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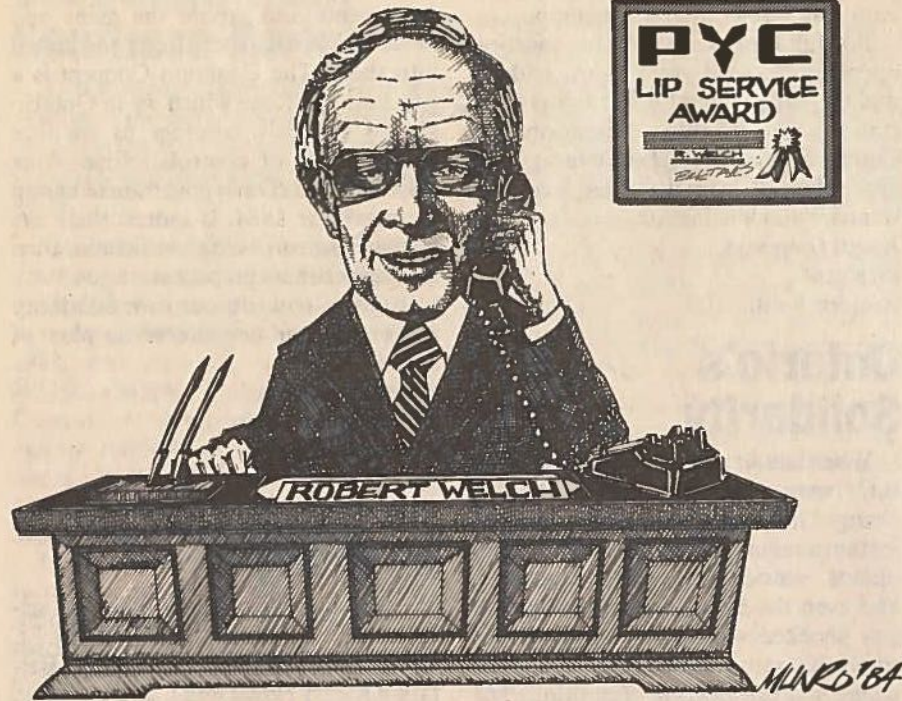
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CALM Canadian Association of Labour Media

Editor:
Claudia Willmovsky

The Podium



That's right Bill, I read it in a book somewhere — some people are created more equal than others.

A fair chance for women

by Bob Rae, leader of the Ontario NDP

It sometimes seems incredible to me that at this period in the history of our country and our province, we are still engaged in such a difficult struggle for simple justice and a fair chance for women.

And that is what women's issues really come down to — a fair chance. A chance to make choices in their own lives. A chance to grow, to contribute in ways chosen as freely as most men now choose. A chance to realize dreams, to produce not just for their families, but for themselves and for others. A fair chance for the same rewards — financial and intellectual and emotional — that men now reach for. We ask no more than that, but we demand nothing less.

Surely a fair chance for women is long overdue. During debate last November of my Private Member's Bill on affirmative action and equal pay for work of equal value, we pointed out that full-time women workers made 63 cents for every

\$1.00 men made. The income of families headed by women was \$13,900 — compared with \$25,400 for families headed by men. In 1979, nearly 40 per cent of female-headed families were classified as low-income, compared with 10 per cent of all Canadian families.

Tories like to argue that the wage gap has to do only with education. Nonsense. The Ontario Manpower Commission found that in 1979, women with university degrees earned an average of about \$13,000, compared with \$24,000 for men with degrees. Women with high school and some post-secondary education earned \$7,500, compared to \$14,800 for men with similar education.

The government's own affirmative action program for its employees decreased the wage gap by 1.6 per cent in 1982 and 2.2 per cent last year. I don't know which is the stronger condemnation: those dismal figures, or the fact that during debate a Tory member used them

with pride!

These facts are why it's sometimes incredible to me that we still have such a battle to win.

Yet, the Tories and Liberals who defeated my Bill don't believe Ontarians are ready to give women a fair chance. I think they're wrong. I think the Minister for Women's Issues, who stayed away from the Legislature rather than be seen voting against the Bill, is wrong. I think the 12 of 32 Liberals who also stayed away are wrong. If those Liberals had shown up, the Bill would have passed.

Those who fight women's demands for economic fairness like to use the excuse of "impracticality" to try to quench an ideal. Those Tories and Liberals talk a good game, approve equal pay for work of equal value in principle, then, always, find reasons why now is not the time. Soon, they say, but not just yet...

There are almost no areas of public policy where words ring so hollow and promises prove so empty.

We'll continue our fight in the political arena. Freedom of choice and a fair chance are ideas not confined to the Ontario Legislature. We'll continue to strengthen our bonds with our allies outside the Legislature who believe in a fair chance.

We have long passed the time for women to be put in their place, kept in their place or even forced to a new place. Women need only one thing — a fair chance. They can do the rest themselves. ■

Unions are best bet

OTTAWA (Labour News) — The best thing women can do about closing the pay gap with men is probably to join a union. Being in a union cuts the pay gap by more than one-third.

New statistics show that women in unions employed full-time earn \$8.59 an hour on the average, versus \$6.69 an hour for women who haven't organized.

Although the gap between the pay of union women and union men was \$1.48 an hour in favour of men, the gap between women and men in the non-union world of work is more than 50% larger. There's a \$2.26-an-hour gap between male and female average rates where there are no unions.

The figures are from a new study of 1981 pay data released earlier this year by Statistics Canada. ■

Political relationships

Women Working with Men

It's time we talked about the problems

by Joanne Kates

Once upon a time men were men and women were women. Men knew their role in politics: Real men took over the meetings, got to do all the talking, developed party strategies and then passed them down the chain of command to the women, who talked less in meetings, made the coffee and believed that women weren't as smart as men. The most a woman could aspire to was being a member's wife. Of course women always had the right to wear out shoe leather canvassing, but it was not until the second great wave of the women's movement, in the early 1970's, that real equality for women and men became a goal shared by the many and not the few.

In the decade that has passed since then, much has changed. But not as much as we like to think. On the left we like to assume that our working relationships with one another prefigure the egalitarian society we're all fighting to build. The myth is that we've got it down pat; the myth says that we've got diplomatic immunity to sexism because we've got the analysis of inequality, and of course the party is against it. The reality is that nobody has diplomatic immunity. We were all raised in a culture that encouraged sexism, and we all (women as well as men!) carry it inside our heads, wherever we go. It's hard to avoid acting in the hierarchical ways that a sexist world has created; and pretending that sexism doesn't exist doesn't make it go away. In fact the pretense, the refusal to take a good long look at our sexism, probably helps the alienation between political women and men to continue. If the Emperor has no clothes on, let's say so, and get on with the discussion about what he might wear.

Women: The Cost of Pessimism

A lot of progressive women have given up on men. It's not that we don't love men: We still do, but we keep them hidden in the closet at home. Some of us live with men but won't work with them in politics. When women get together alone some nasty things get said about men, and the reasons are painfully simple: We

feel burned by male lip service to equal rights for women. We're tired of men who say they support daycare and equal pay, and then crack jokes about using skin pics to get people to read the riding newsletter. That kind of doubletalk is producing feminist pessimism, which in turn is keeping women away from doing politics with men, in droves.

Men: Guilt and Anger

The guilt of the politically progressive male is comparable in volume only to the guilt of the Roman Catholic teenager who has just had sex for the first time. In action, nice guy male guilt involves men being on their best behaviour every minute of every meeting, so they won't get in trouble with the feminist assessment board. Men are trying desperately to remember never to say *chairman* when they mean *chair*, never to speak twice until all the women in the room have spoken. They're walking on eggshells trying to be correct so they won't get in big trouble with women.

The flip side of that scared guilty behaviour is the anger: Many men are furious at women for giving them such a hard time. But because they never have a chance to state the anger cleanly, it sticks in their craw, and doesn't exactly contribute to men's motivation to support feminism. The result is a kind of guilty/angry acquiescence to the feminist rules of order, which is not the same as liberating yourself from old habits because life is better when you do.

The Next Step

Men need to jettison their guilt. Guilt doesn't help anybody do anything. Guilt is the enemy of clarity. Men have nothing to feel guilty about. The truth is that men are not the oppressors of women: The system is. Men need to begin appreciating themselves as men. Feeling guilty about it just leaves you stuck in old habits. Secondly, men had better start talking about how difficult it is to learn to work together with women as equals, about how hard it is to learn not to be sexist. That doesn't mean hanging on to the

sexism, but rather breaking the silence about how difficult it is. The silence is part of what keeps women's credibility gap in place and deepens the alienation between men and women.

Women have to start acknowledging to men how far they've come, and that we understand they are completely re-educating themselves and this is neither a quick nor an easy task. That doesn't mean we don't expect more, but it means we stop dumping on them for being men. The putdowns that we progressive women have been indulging in simply increase their fear of speaking out, and encourage them to mouth more empty pro-feminist rhetoric. We need to encourage dialogue on these issues, and to support men in their changes. In action, that means believing our notion: Men are not the enemy. ■

Agnes Macphail: trail blazer

In 1921 Agnes Macphail was elected MP from South-East Grey, running for the United Farmers of Ontario. She was 31 years old.

The first few years as a member of parliament were not easy. "I was intensely unhappy. Some members resented my intrusion, others jeered at me..."

Undaunted, Macphail ran again five times before being defeated in 1940.

When the CCF was first established in 1932, Macphail became its president.

After a short period of employment as an Ontario CCF organizer, Macphail ran as a CCF provincial candidate in York East in 1943 and won.

She lost again in 1945 but ever the fighter, returned in 1948, elected with the largest vote a provincial candidate has received in Ontario's history.

The *Ontario Democrat* salutes Agnes Macphail as a symbol of courage and a trail blazer in politics, making way for other women to follow. ■

The time is NOW

by Sheila Keenan

It's only through holding jobs and meeting obligations that workers prove their competence, and for half the workforce, that first step of getting the job is often the most difficult.

Women across the province have spoken out about their struggle for equal access to the workplace and their fight against discrimination once they get there.

"We must . . . push for legislated affirmative action," said a London communications worker at one of nine Ontario Federation of Labour forums on affirmative action.

"Generations of prejudiced notions of what is and isn't women's work cannot be removed . . . through voluntarism on the part of employers," she said.

"They've spent a lot of time and money setting up our ghettos and only a very strong voice will force them to tear them down."

The province-wide tour last fall was part of a campaign to gather human evidence of the need for legislation to ensure women equal opportunities to jobs and a fair wage. The forums were the avenue used by the OFL to make a collective voice heard at Queen's Park.

The 170 submissions made to the forums provided a well-documented picture of the economic and social hardships women suffer — an imbalance exacerbated by discrimination in the workplace.

A common thread ran through statements made by a cross section of women and men, community groups and unions: women face pervasive, prevailing discrimination in both the public and private sectors.

Students, teachers, the elderly, white and blue collar workers, immigrant women, sole support mothers, daycare workers. All share the same frustrating experience. Women are under-paid and their skills undervalued, they said. Employers block their advancement and instead shuffle them off to low-paying jobs while their male counterparts move

into higher-paying jobs in administration and other responsibility positions.

"Two of the three major auto makers employ no women either as skilled trades persons or as apprentices, and the third employs only a handful," said the United Auto Workers union in a brief to the Toronto forum.

"Since these companies employ close to half our membership, extrapolation suggests that women hold less than one per cent of these skilled jobs."

Women make up 6.2 per cent of the Canadian auto industry employees, .5 per cent of the assembly workforce and 11.8 per cent of the parts industry, according to the brief.

The danger posed by underrepresentation of women in skilled trades jobs is present in all sectors and threatens to escalate if not answered now. Indications are that women will actually lose ground in the workplace if hiring practices don't change.

"Since technological change will increase the representation of skilled workers in the workforce, women must move into technical and skilled areas or they will fall even further behind men in the metal industries," said the UAW brief.

"The level of women's employment in the metal industries is appalling. They have suffered and continue to suffer from overt and systemic discrimination. The

falling further behind

recession has deepened the crisis and employment trends indicate that the future will not be better. In many cases where women are working, they are not paid according to the worth of their work."

The examples of wide discrepancies between male and female wages are numerous: a textile worker told that women in a particular department in her plant make 26 cents an hour less than men; a telephone operator from London talked

about her long wait to be transferred to a technician's job which pays \$2.50 more an hour; top-paid operators make about 62 per cent of what top craftsmen make; sweepers in one Ontario plant make 24 cents an hour more than sewers, most of whom are female.

While much of the problem stems from a distorted idea of what a woman's 'market value' is, dated and narrow attitudes about why women work also provide an effective stopgap to change.

"In our industry, women have no access to jobs that will eventually head them to the positions at the top of the ladder," said supermarket employee Winnifred Lipman of Hamilton. "Men are protected because companies still have the false impression that men are the breadwinners and that women work for luxuries."

Statistics do not support that dangerous misperception. The number of widows, sole-support mothers, and single women in the workplace have increased markedly in the last decade.

They can not afford to wait until the government and business community feel they can afford affirmative action programs to include fair access to jobs and equal pay for work of equal value.

The lack of success of voluntary affirmative action programs gives women reason to believe legislation is the only answer. Only 44 of 1,100 companies have responded to the federal government's 1979 request for voluntary participation in affirmative action.

Two-thirds of working women are trapped in what have commonly become known as job ghettos — the clerical, sales and service sectors which are low-paying, and are, with technological advancement, becoming de-skilled and dehumanized.

The downgrading of job quality is reason enough for concern, but it's not the worst that could happen. Projections are that up to a million jobs in those sectors could be wiped out by 1990. Reassurances from governments and employers



Photo Lighthouses — OFL

Singer Arlene Mantle and activists involved in the OFL campaigns for affirmative action, join together in song celebrating equality for women.

that more sophisticated, challenging and rewarding jobs will open up in their place are cold comfort for women who have for the most part traditionally been barred from promotion and professional training.

Wage discrimination and job ghettoization were exposed again and again throughout the course of the forums.

For staff members who organized the forums, those accounts were both overwhelmingly and discouraging.

"We heard so many stories from women who have run up against walls, but not given up the fight," said OFL human rights director Shelley Acheson. "Women who took complaints to human rights commissions demanding their rights, women insisting that their collective agreements reflect their concern and skills, women confronting sexual harassment at their workplaces and through the union structures, women moving into non-traditional jobs, and working together in coalitions and on committees to find solutions and give each other support."

The OFL campaign for fair treatment of women in the workplace will escalate this year with more direct pressure on the provincial government for legislation.

The women's committee is planning to work with groups in the nine communities to organize specific actions aimed at employers and politicians.

"Our governments which claim to be the voice of the people must be forced to listen to the voice of women," said Acheson. ■

Reprinted courtesy of Ontario Labour, Fall-Winter 1983.

Sally Barnes Resigns

by Marlon Bryden, NDP MPP

Every Chairman or President of the Ontario Status of Women Council has seen its mandate and her own role differently.

Sally Barnes brought considerable communications talents to the job. Despite this, I and many other disagreed with her conception of her role as representing what she called "the middle" and promoting gradualness in the achievement of social and economic justice for women.

At a time when the women of Ontario are in such an unequal position in so many areas, a stronger push for remedial measures is needed.

Ms. Barnes' resignation gives the government an opportunity to respond to the proposals of the immediate past Chairperson, Lynn Gordon, for restructuring the Council to enable it to fulfill its advisory role more effectively. A full-time President and more adequate funding are essential ingredients of that restructuring.

Now that the Council has been made part of the Women's Directorate under Robert Welch, the Minister responsible for Women's Issues, the independence of the Council must be clearly established. The government can assure that independence by choosing a genuine advocate of women's concerns to be the new President and by selecting appointees who represent a wide cross-section of interests and areas. It must also be prepared to fund the Council adequately so that it can conduct the kinds of research and province-wide consultations women's issues require. ■

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928-0957



Photo Lightwaves

Sisterhood in the Library

The Ontario Democrat reads five new books about women

Hi ho the derry O! Readers who grew up in the 30's will recall the musical circle game "The Farmer In The Dell". Gisele Ireland's excellent book, which draws its title from that lighthearted game is a serious, factual comment on the farm community today. The 80's, like the 30's, have brought hard times to farm families.

The Farmer Takes A Wife presents the results of a 31-page questionnaire circulated among 600 farm women in Grey and Bruce counties. (The questionnaire is included in the book.) Sharp, simple prose is interspersed with photographs, clear, creative illustrations and charts. The focus is on psychological and financial stress and its effect on the farm women surveyed. Researched and written by farm women, about farm women, the book is also a statement of commitment to create a better farming economy for the benefit of their families and their country.

Gisele Ireland writes with objectivity, warmth and understanding. The reader

gains insight into farm problems and becomes aware of the kinship with the soil and creation which holds farm people in a lifestyle fraught with fulfilment and despair.

Concerned Farm Women believe that they can influence the factors underlying their problems. This book is a beginning. *The Farmer Takes A Wife* is a short read. Pick it up after a satisfying dinner. It is time that we took a greater interest in the well-being of those people who supply us with our daily bread. ■

THE FARMER TAKES A WIFE,
A Study by Concerned Farm Women.
Gisele Ireland, 100 pages, sc, \$4.00

For more information contact: Concerned Farm Women, Box 457, Chesley, Ontario, NOG 1L0.

Union Sisters is an attempt to record and analyze the experiences of women in the trade union movement in the 1980's. In the last decade women's activism and influence has increased dramatically in

the union movement and as a result so has their prominence.

Issues such as equal pay, maternity and paternity leave, technological change, work place day care and sexual harassment are being discussed at union meetings now and being won at bargaining tables because women have organized and pushed their unions to be more responsive to their needs.

This book serves as a comprehensive compendium of all the major debates, struggles, and issues which have been happening in the last decade. The articles are all written by well-known women activists in the province, many of whom participated directly in the struggles, which brings an even greater relevance to their stories. Bibliographies of film and materials are included as well. ■

UNION SISTERS
Women in the Labour Movement. Edited
by Lynda Yanz and Linda Briskin,
Women's Press, 425 pages, sc, \$12.95.

Hard Earned Wages, Women Fighting for Better Work is a collection of 13 stories about women in the Canadian workforce. These are women working in steelmills, daycare centres, as telephone operators, heavy-duty mechanics and library clerks. The stories are those of struggle with employers and government, but told with such humour and strength there is nothing depressing about them. In fact, it's a book that makes you proud. Based on interviews, these stories provide fascinating detail of jobs like squid-jigging and what it's like to work the coke ovens at Stelco in Hamilton. One of the most interesting pieces chronicles the work history of a woman who is now working as a mechanic on Caterpillar tractors.

The women in this book want better work and therefore better wages. Naturally this fight involves organizing and unions. There is the painful documentation of forming a union at the cannery in Lizmore, Nova Scotia and the really caring efforts to organize for better wages and working conditions in an Ottawa daycare without striking and therefore compromising services.

Each story is fascinating and as a whole makes you realize how very far we still have to go for equal opportunity and equal pay. The struggles won were hard fought, the struggles to come are many. ■

**HARD EARNED WAGES,
-WOMEN FIGHTING
FOR BETTER WORK**
by Jennifer Penney, The Women's Press,
250 pages, sc, \$7.95.

The Women's Workbook, is a collection of essays based on workshops held in Ottawa in 1982-83.

In its entirety, the book examines stress, sexual harassment, daycare, occupational illness, trade unionism, truisms about why women work (or why they shouldn't work), skills training, job sharing, the micro-chip technology and job obsolescence and the penalties of part-time employment.

All in 111 pages.

Sounds impossible but the book is prevented from reading like "Coles Notes on the Women's Movement", by the fact that each chapter has been drafted by recognized and articulate spokespersons, for e.g., Pat Schultz on daycare, and Constance Backhouse on sexual harassment. They are thoroughly familiar with their subject matter and

present succinct, if sometimes skeletal analyses of the various problems confronting women in the paid workforce.

Probably the most valuable part of the book is the bibliography — heavily weighted in favour of Canadian publications — which allows the reader to pursue any subject of particular interest. ■

THE WOMAN'S WORKBOOK,
edited by Patti Schom-Moffatt and
Cynthia Telfer, sc, 111 pages, \$10.95.

There are approximately 100,000 homeworkers in Canada, most of them immigrant women who work in the garment industry making clothes on a piece-work basis for about \$1.00 a piece. This book tells their story and exposes the conditions in the sweat-shops of today.

Homemakers receive pre-cut bundles of dresses plus a finished sample, at their

home. They are then responsible for the complete assembly of the garment, which can take from a ½ hour to 2 hours. They are paid by the number of dresses they complete. The work is done at home on machines supplied and serviced by the worker. Absolutely no benefits are paid. The jobs are totally unregulated by the government and the workers are completely unorganized.

Throughout the book, the text is interspersed with quotes from the women themselves which are both shocking and heartrending. Hopefully, this book will be a step towards making more people aware of the garment trade conditions. ■

THE SEAM ALLOWANCE
Industrial Home Sewing in Canada.
Laura C. Johnson with Robert E.
Johnson, Women's Press, 128 pages, sc,
\$7.95.

Letter from Norway

Fighting to keep the the gains in women's rights

On September 12, 1983 Ingunn Means was elected to the Provincial Assembly (Fylkesting) of Møre and Romsdal in Norway. A former member of the New Democratic Party, Ingunn recently wrote to ONDP Vice-President Evan Simpson about her success. The Ontario Democrat has reprinted the following portions of her letter.

Dear Evan,

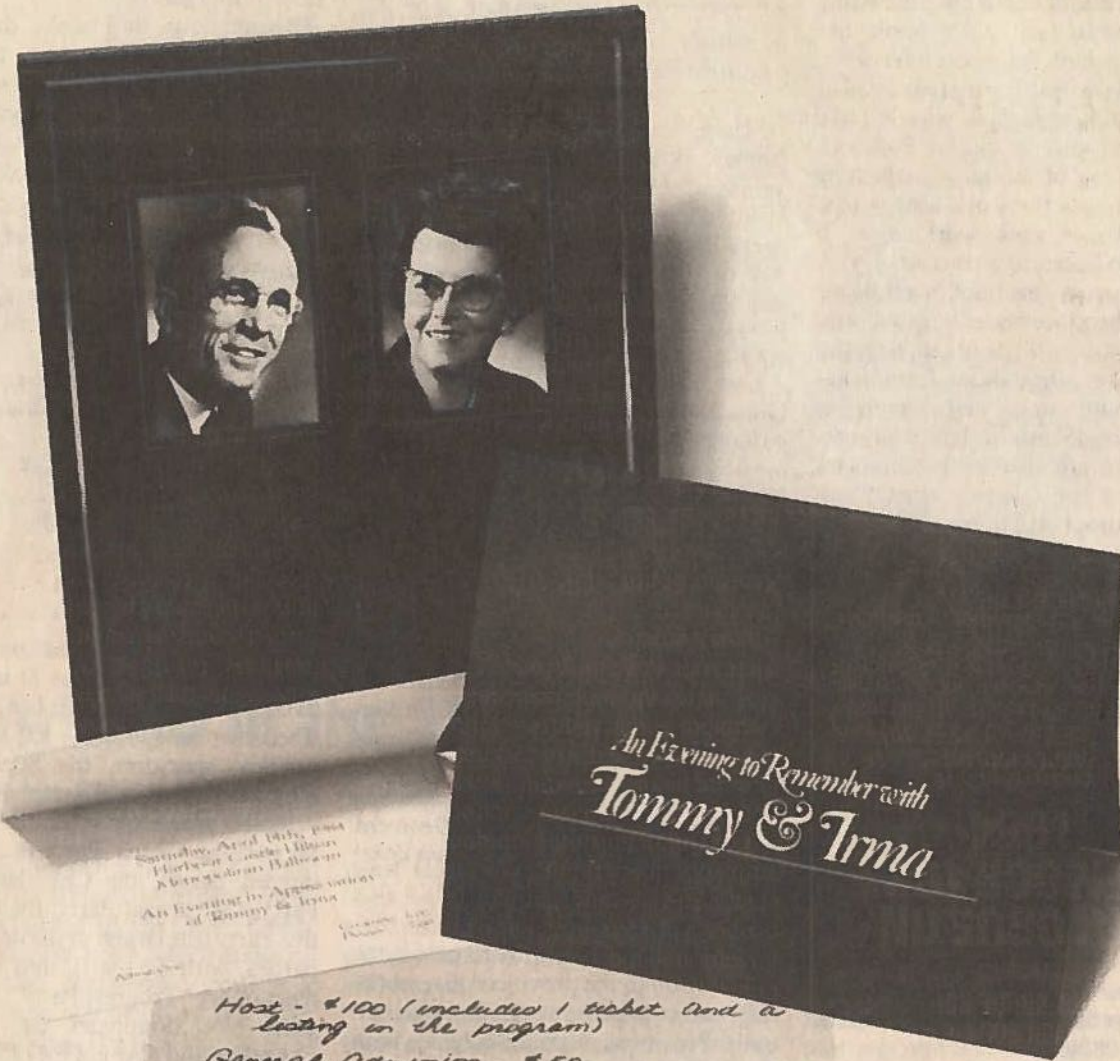
Norway is divided into 18 provinces, and election to the provincial assemblies is by direct popular vote, on a partisan basis. Provincial elections coincide with the election of municipal councils and are held every four years. As these elections are held midway in the 4-year federal (Storting) parliamentary period, they serve as indicators of the electorate's mood and function as a kind of "mid-term election" warning to the national assembly. The important thing about last fall's election was the dramatic decline of the Conservative Party (Høyre) and the gains of the Labour Party (Arbeiderpartiet). Had this been a national election, the bourgeois government, dominated by the Conservative party, would have been toppled.

In Møre and Romsdal Province, the Labour Party has historically not been as strong as in many other provinces. We

are, however, the biggest party in the Assembly, with 21 of the 71 representatives — 3 more than in the last Assembly. The other party on the left side of the political spectrum, the Socialist Left Party, elected three. The remainder of the delegates are elected by several bourgeois parties: the Center Party (an agrarian-interest party), the Christian People's Party, the Liberal Party, the Conservative Party (the largest of the non-socialist parties, with 14 seats), and finally the reactionary "Progress Party". The bourgeois bloc dominates the Provincial Executive and also got the office of Provincial Mayor.

The election system in Norway is party slate — proportional representation — and I was elected as the 6th member of the slate. There are some interesting informal rules that are abided by during the composition of the slate. The province consists of three major areas, each of which is dominated by a city, and there is solid precedent for giving each of the cities one member among the first six on the slate. The rural municipalities from the three areas also get one representative each. In the composition of the committees of the Assembly, as well, one tries to get the various regions represented.

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Saturday, April 14th, 1984
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Political action

Women's Convention 1984

On February 25 and 26, NDP women from across the province met at Hart House, University of Toronto, to prepare resolutions for Convention and to discuss the role of women and women's issues in the coming elections.

Shelly Acheson (OFL), Lynn McDonald, Marion Bryden, Andrea Knight (IWDC), and Mary Rowles opened the Conference on Saturday by reviewing the campaigns and developments of the past year from their perspective in the trade union movement, the federal or provincial legislatures and the women's community.

For the second year in a row, delegates discussed pornography and the actions the NDP should advocate to prevent its spread. Two resolutions were passed. One endorsed the sentiments expressed at last years conference by defining por-

nography (as *distinct from* representations of explicit sex) and calling for changes to the Broadcast Act and the Criminal Code which would prevent the dissemination of this material.

A companion motion was also passed which emphasized action apart from legislation, such as campaigns to heighten public awareness of the social and economic foundations of pornography.

Under the direction of Eleanor MacDonald, from the Elizabeth Fry Society, participants examined the problems facing women in Ontario's correctional system and passed resolutions addressing the situation.

A comprehensive amendment to our policy on health was also adopted which highlights our commitment to vastly improved public education on birth control. The policy makes it clear

that New Democrats favour "informed choice" which will reduce the number of women who must turn to abortion to prevent pregnancy.

A resolution also passed endorsing the new federal NDP policy which explicitly supports provincial campaigns to establish free-standing abortion clinics and supports those who have been prosecuted in the attempt.

The discussions on Sunday concerning the elections ranged freely from the provincial to the federal theatre.

Valerie Preston, new Federal Women's Organizer reported on planning underway for federal campaign advertising and literature. Women who had run, or intended to run for the NDP led a discussion on candidacy.

continued on page 12



photo Lightwaves

Plenary discussion: Anne John-Baptiste elaborates on a point.

Women's Committee

- President**
Mary Rowles (Hamilton)
- Vice President**
Bonnie Alter (Toronto)
- Treasurer**
Judy Rebick (Toronto)
- Secretary**
Jennifer Stephen (Kington)
- Communications Co-ordinator**
Marilyn White (Toronto)
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Kay Macpherson (Toronto)
- Members-at-Large**
Gail Misra (Kitchener)
Lorna Beaudoin (Essex)
Isabelle Bastien (Essex)
Betty Walmsley-Lloyd
(Windsor-Sandwich)
Teri Freeman (Hamilton)
Linda Putman (Essex)
Madelon McKeigan (Sudbury)
Arlene Perly-Rae (York-South)
Abby Pollonetsky (Ottawa)
Marline Maycock (London)
Marg Pilger (Toronto)

Participants were puzzled to learn that no one from the Women's Committee Executive has been invited to participate in the provincial Election Planning Committee. A resolution was passed asking that the President of the Women's Committee or a delegate chosen by the Executive be given a position on this planning committee. Concern was also expressed over the fact that although the party is committed on paper to hiring a women's organizer, funds have not yet been made available. A resolution was passed asking that money be found in recognition of the



importance that women's votes could play in the next election.

Minutes and resolutions are being prepared and will be mailed to all the women on our mailing list. Other requests should be addressed to Mary Rowles, Room 201, North Wing, Main Legislative Buildings, Queen's Park, Toronto, telephone (416) 965-3311, or to the Communications Co-ordinator, Marilyn White, 8 Sweet Pea Path, Weston, M9P 3S3. ■

Inadequate divorce bill

OTTAWA — Lynn McDonald, NDP Justice critic, announced that her party cannot support the proposed divorce legislation (C-12) unless it is amended to protect women and children from economic hardship due to marriage breakdown.

"We strongly support marriage breakdown being the sole grounds for divorce. In fact, it has been our party's policy since 1967. Unless, however, the Minister of Justice is willing to make substantial improvements in the maintenance provisions in the bill, the NDP will vote against it," stated McDonald.

"This bill is inadequate in the objectives it sets for maintenance, and is totally lacking in provisions for the enforcement of maintenance orders." McDonald drew attention to the fact that the bill would worsen the economic position of women, especially long-term homemakers who do not have labour force experience. "It would be unfair to expect them to suddenly become self-sufficient, as required by the bill."

McDonald added, "with approximately 75 per cent of maintenance orders in arrears, the bill does nothing to promote enforcement. A Federal-Provincial Committee Report on Enforcement made specific recommendations as to federal initiatives to promote enforcement. The Minister of Justice has had the recommendations for six months now. Why didn't he do more in the legislation?"

"If the government is sincere about making the process of divorce more 'humane', then it cannot ignore the economic needs of families. The government should withdraw the bill and bring it back with concrete and adequate measure for maintenance. ■

The Provincial Government has responsibility in several major areas: social and welfare policy, education, transportation, environmental protection, and cultural activity. It has no taxing powers and is thus primarily concerned with the administration of centrally determined policy. The education committee, of which I am a member, has responsibility for hiring and firing in the province's high schools, allocation of funds between the various schools and



Ingunn Means

types of programs, construction of new schools and closing of others, and so on. As a link between the central government and local government, the Provincial Assembly has also served as a recruiting agency to the higher levels of the political system.

The main emphasis of the Labour Party is now on creating more jobs, improving the safety net for those without jobs, stemming the efforts of the governing parties to reduce the public sector, improving social welfare and health care, particularly for the elderly, and getting more daycare spaces available. The party is very concerned lest the gains in women's rights be lost now that we are in the midst of economic recession. As regards foreign policy, peace and disarmament, and opposition to further deployment of missiles in Europe have been important issues for the Labour Party recently — mainly due to the women's insistence to put them on the agenda.

Sorry this was put off so long. I have simply been incredibly busy. As for the photograph, there is a flaw in it. You know I *don't* have a scar across my cheek! Very sincerely, Ingunn ■

Great Lakes threatened

TORONTO — The Great Lakes are threatened not only by toxic chemicals, but also by political stagnation, NDP Leader Bob Rae and environment critic Brian Charlton (Hamilton Mountain) told a news conference at Queen's Park.

A full 32 of 96 major industries discharging wastes into the Great Lakes on the Ontario side are violating the Environment Ministry's water quality objectives. Neither Canada nor the United States has met the clean-up targets under the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement signed in 1972. The concentration of certain hazardous chemicals that has been decreasing is now on the rise again.

The two New Democrats called for "user fees" to be levied against industries, based on the volume of their waste discharges into the Great Lakes. The money raised from these special taxes would be used to fight pollution and to improve sewage treatment plants. ■

Farmers pay dearly

OTTAWA — NDP Agriculture critic Vic Althouse called on Minister of Agriculture Eugene Whelan to roll back all Farm Credit Corporation (FCC) loans at least to the 13 per cent level being offered by commercial banks for mortgages.

In a letter to the minister, Althouse pointed out that many farmers who sought interest rate relief through the FCC are now finding themselves paying higher rates than are being offered in the general marketplace.

"Even 13 per cent is too high, but at least FCC rates would be more equitable and we would not be penalizing those farmers who were unlucky enough to get stuck with 16 3/4 per cent for thirty years," said Althouse.

The FCC has estimated the average annual cost of such a roll back at \$10 million.

"There is no way that farms can generate enough income to pay these high interest rates. Farmers are the unwilling victims of the monetarist policies of this government and are being asked to pay dearly for controlling inflation that they did not cause. The whole economy

suffers when agriculture is in the sort of slump we see today."

"At the very least, the minister must extend the 4 per cent rebate for another two years (cost \$29 million) or roll back the interest rate to 13 per cent (cost \$7.7 million) on the special loans provided to farmers in financial distress, many of whom are now facing a return to 16 1/2 or 16 3/4 per cent."

"With farm bankruptcies continuing to rise and commodity prices falling, action is needed now on many fronts to save farmers from bankruptcy. I hope we don't have to wait for a budget to see action in this crucial area," said the MP for Humboldt-Lake Centre. ■

Rip-off

TORONTO — Suite à une plainte écrite de Mel Swart (Welland-Thorold), critique néo-démocrate de l'agriculture, le gouvernement a été contraint d'ouvrir une enquête sur la toute dernière hausse des prix de détail du lait en Ontario.

Bien que la Commission ontarienne de commercialisation du lait ne verse aux fermiers que trois cents d'augmentation par litre de lait vendu en gros, les prix de détail ont augmenté de huit à dix cents par litre. Mel Swart a souligné dans sa lettre qu'il ne s'agit pas là d'un fait exceptionnel: "Depuis 1982, les fermiers ont touché moins d'un tiers des augmentations des prix de vente au détail," a-t-il déclaré.

M. Swart a demandé que, en attendant les conclusions de l'enquête, l'augmentation du prix de détail soit ramenée immédiatement aux 3 cents par litre perçus par les fermiers. Il a également demandé que la loi soit amendée de façon à donner à la Commission de commercialisation l'autorité de contrôler les prix de détail du lait. Mel Swart a fait remarquer qu'à l'exception de la Colombie-Britannique, toutes les autres provinces exercent un certain contrôle sur les prix de détail du lait.

Si le gouvernement n'intervient pas, a dit Mel Swart, le public continuera de croire que les fermiers sont responsables d'une augmentation dont ils n'ont nullement décidé. En bref, les fermiers souffrent alors que les vrais coupables sont les entreprises de conditionnement du lait, dont la concentration s'accroît d'année en année. Depuis 1968, le nombre d'usines de traitement du lait en Ontario est tombé de 163 à moins de 35.

Une compagnie, John Labatt Ltd., contrôle à elle seule plus de la moitié de la capacité de traitement du lait dans la province. ■

Money

OTTAWA — Plans by the Bank of Canada to replace Canadian flax with U.S. cotton in the paper currency of Canada have been roundly condemned by New Democrat MP Stan Hovdebo (Prince Albert).

Hovdebo protested in a letter to Bank of Canada Governor Gerald Bouey and in a statement in the House of Commons that the move would have severe effects on the Canadian flax industry.

"We've cottoned on to your plan and we're giving you flak," said the Saskatchewan MP in the House of Commons.

"Flax straw has always been difficult to dispose of and its use in fine papers such as bank notes is a far better use of the material than burning it," said Hovdebo. "Bouey is asking for 100 per cent Canadian fine paper in our bills. Can he not also insist on as much Canadian content in the constituent raw materials?"

According to the Bank of Canada, the move to American cotton is planned for early this year. ■

Auto plans a mystery

OTTAWA — The government will negotiate an auto agreement with Japan, but exactly what kind of arrangement and when it will be revealed is still a mystery.

NDP MP Ian Deans pressed the Prime Minister to be specific about a Canada-Japan auto agreement, but Trudeau would not even say if the announcement would be made in the next six months.

Deans wanted to know if the agreement would include recommendations from the auto task force report, particularly those relating to Canadian content, but Trudeau told the Hamilton-Mountain MP to wait for the announcement.

The report, prepared by representatives from both the auto companies and auto workers, was presented to the government last year. The government has yet to implement any of the report's major recommendations. ■

Trade union head dies

TORONTO — Fred Dowling, a key figure in the Canadian labor movement during the years of the mass organizing drives and a pioneer in bringing labor into alliance with the predecessor of the New Democratic Party, died in Toronto at the end of January.

Mr. Dowling retired in 1972 after 29 years as Canadian director of the United Packinghouse Workers of America, now part of the United Food and Commercial Workers Union.

He welded a strong, nation-wide labor organization to speak with one voice in bargaining with the Canadian meat packing industry.

Before taking a role in the trade union movement, he served as an organizer for the youth section of the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation, the NDP's predecessor, and later edited a CCF paper.

Mr. Dowling has a housing co-op in Toronto named after him. ■

New publication

MONTREAL — The New Democratic Party of Quebec has produced the first issue of *Le Démocrate*, a periodical to keep Quebec members and other New Democrats across Canada informed about the party in Quebec. NDP members in Quebec receive the publication as a benefit of party membership.

Letters and articles from members outside of Quebec — especially those in French-speaking communities — would be appreciated.

For subscription information write *Le Démocrate*, 5458 rue St-Denis, Montreal, Quebec, H2J 2M5. ■

Ad orgy

TORONTO (Labour News) — A leading advertising man says the next federal election will lead to "an orgy of advertising — the type of advertising we are not happy about."

John Foss, the president of the Association of Canadian Advertisers, said recently that "election advertising is not bound by the restrictions and requirements for truth in advertising that we live by and believe in." ■

British Columbia

The Leadership Race is on!

VICTORIA (Labour News) — Six candidates are off and running for the leadership of the British Columbia New Democratic Party.

Jan. 16 became an unofficial starting date for the race when the party set that deadline for candidates wanting to qualify for a party-sponsored tour of the province — something no serious candidate could miss.

The six who will be on the 12-stop tour over 5 weekends in February and March are: David Stupich, an MLA, a former minister of agriculture and finance in the NDP government from 1972 to 1975; Bob Skelly, MLA, first elected in 1972; Graham Lea, MLA, former minister of highways in the NDP government; Bill King, former minister of labour in the NDP government; David Vickers, former deputy attorney-general in the NDP government, and Margaret Birrell, women's organizer for the B.C. NDP for many years.

The party constitution requires nominations stay open right up to the leadership convention on May 18 to 20. But most insiders believe the list of candidates will stay as it is now — no one will join and no one will drop off.

The official party campaign tour did not begin until Feb. 25. However several candidates were out touring on their own a month earlier.

Most observers concede the early front runners to be King and Vickers. Both men have ties to the labour movement. In fact, King was approached by several leading unionists early on about running for the leadership. He said he had no desire to run.

Later, when he changed his mind, these supporters had gone to other

candidates.

Vickers has been working as a labour arbitrator since he left government. He has also taken a prominent role in the Solidarity Coalition — something that sets him apart from the MLAs in the race. The party has come in for criticism over its stand-offish relationship with the coalition.

Vickers has already received the public endorsement of Rosemary Brown, MLA and one-time federal NDP leadership candidate, and of Dennis Cocke, former health minister in the NDP government.

Art Kube, president of the B.C. Federation of Labour, says it is not likely organized labour will formally endorse or support one candidate.

In the last leadership race, between Thomas Berger and Dave Barret, unions backed Berger. Kube says that experience proved to be "counter-productive."

"It created a schism within the party for a while which wasn't useful to anyone," says Kube.

Barret won and went on to become premier before the Social Credit Party came back to power in 1975. Under Barret the NDP lost twice more, most recently in May, 1983. Berger went on to become a B.C. Supreme Court justice and recently stepped down from that role.

The conventional wisdom says the party is looking for a leader who can bring spark and excitement back to NDP politics, a younger, less shop-worn Dave Barret. Failing that, the rank-and-file may opt for a caretaker leader, somebody who has recognition with the public and who would be accepted until the ideal leader could be found. ■



Photo courtesy Denis Cahill, St. Catharines Standard

Ontario NDP leader Bob Rae performs some short selections of piano four-hand with world famous Canadian pianist Anton Kuerti. The Concert for Peace was held February 25 in St. Catharines, Ontario and was sponsored by the Ontario NDP. More than 900 people attended giving Mr. Kuerti thunderous applause and a standing ovation.

Oublie ses promesses

KAPUSKASING — Selon Bob Rae, Larry Grossman, trésorier de la province, est revenu aujourd'hui sur les promesses de justice qu'il avait faites aux employés de l'hôpital Sensenbrenner à Kapuskasing. Et il a ainsi perdu définitivement toute crédibilité quant à cette affaire.

A l'automne dernier, la Commission de lutte contre l'inflation a ordonné aux employés de l'hôpital (qui sont parmi les travailleurs les plus mal payés de la province) de rembourser une augmentation de 35 cents par heure que leur avait accordé un arbitre. Le trésorier et le premier ministre ont alors tous deux assuré l'Assemblée législative et le public qu'ils ne permettraient pas une telle injustice.

Après plusieurs mois d'attente, durant lesquels il a répété bien des fois que justice

serait faite, le trésorier a annoncé que les employés de l'hôpital n'auraient pas à rembourser cet argent... du moins pas en espèces. Ils le rembourseraient en heures supplémentaires non payées.

"Le gouvernement est d'une insensibilité incroyable," a dit Bob Rae. "Il admet que ces travailleurs sont insuffisamment payés. Il a le pouvoir d'infirmier la décision de la Commission, conformément à la prétendue Loi sur la limitation de l'inflation. Mais il est décidé à faire payer les garde-malades et les infirmières. Il pense peut-être que c'est juste. Moi pas, et je crois que la majorité des Ontariens sont de mon avis." ■

Automatic inquests


TORONTO (Labour News) — Opposition member Bud Wildman's one-man crusade to get coroner's inquests into all deaths on the job may be getting results.

The New Democratic Party member

of the legislature for the northern riding of Algoma says all on-the-job fatalities should have inquests. Now only construction and mining fatalities automatically get coroner's juries.

In December Wildman got the solicitor general, George Taylor (Simcoe Centre), to say that "perhaps we could see our way clear to changing that particular feature." Taylor admitted he cannot "really find any hindrance" to making inquests mandatory in all deaths.

Wildman says the decision of inquest juries could improve working conditions if there were investigations into all fatalities at work. Labour minister Russ Ram-say says he agrees with Wildman. ■



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The Great Debate

Speaking different languages
by Mia Stainsby

TORONTO — Convocation Hall was packed to the rafters on January 26 for "Debate 1984", an event which dramatized the gulf between capitalist and socialist ideologies. Speakers on the side of the capitalists were Dr. Leonard Peikoff, a disciple of Ayn Rand, and Dr. John Ridpath, a professor, and zealous advocate of laissez-faire capitalism. Defenders of socialism were Dr. Gerry Caplan, federal secretary of the New Democratic Party and Dr. Jill Vickers, a feminist, professor, and author. The topic was "Socialism or capitalism? Which is the moral system?"

The capitalist side argued for rational self-interest, individual freedom, reason over compassion, and a laissez-faire system equivalent to survival of the fittest. These ethics, they say, would ensure a prosperous society.

Peikoff's objectivist reasoning held that there is "no reason for equality," that "people are naturally different," that "justice is gained by one's own efforts." Philosophies aside, I wonder how anyone with conscience can ask, "How can the rich get rich on the backs of the poor if they (the poor) have no money?"

Ridpath believes that rational self-

interest will ensure a prosperous society and that man's nature is ultimately benevolent and productive. Such statements seemed questionable, however, coming from someone who also believes that "the poor are poor because they deserve to be."

The socialist side argued for co-operation, a spirit of community, reason alongside compassion, and government involvement. To the argument that socialism meant enslavement of the individual by the state, Vickers rebutted, "Is OHIP slavery? Medicare immoral?" Quoting Jean Jacques Rousseau, she said, "We are a curious species, equally capable of self-love and love of others."

Caplan translated 'love of others' into operative terms: "Democratic socialism is not an ideology. It is a way to organize the world where we can elevate the best in the human soul; it is based on a belief in an egalitarian society, respecting civil rights and liberties, economic and social security, a fair distribution of wealth, and peace for all."

In Orwell's 1984, the Ministry of Peace makes war, and the Ministry of Love directs the Thought Police; "debate 1984" reminded me of the importance of language in shaping societies, rationaliz-

ing beliefs, and creating myths. Terms such as 'prosperous', 'good', 'rational self-interest', 'justice', and so on, are laden with subjective perceptions, beliefs, and interpretations. Most notably, the terms 'socialism' and 'moral' begged definitions. Ridpath and Peikoff narrowed the meaning to totalitarianism; Vickers and Caplan (perhaps not explicitly enough) were talking about social democracy. As a result, the two sides were often talking apples and oranges.

Neither side clearly addressed the topic of the debate because they did not define what, in their minds, constitutes morality; more importantly, they did not explain *why* they consider their system to be moral. Capitalist sympathizers in the audience may quite honestly have wondered why an altruistic system is moral, just as an NDP'er may have been interested in hearing *why* a me-first system is moral.

Unfortunately, while ideological debates drone on, and semantics cloud important issues, nations carry on under both socialist and capitalist systems that have not fully examined, nor, in some cases, care about what is moral and good. ■

Peace Caravan

Winnipeg was the site of a widely representative gathering of peace activists in February to lay down a strategy for the Peace Petition Caravan Campaign.

All of the major peace organizations throughout Canada were represented, and all geographic areas from N.W.T. to Newfoundland.

The campaign is to gain the broadest possible support for three demands: 1. No cruise testing in Canada, 2. Declare

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GETTING READY

The *Ontario Democrat* has been tracking three NDP ridings in Ontario, keeping in touch with what they are doing to prepare for the coming election(s). The ridings and their members represent a fairly wide picture of Ontario — the north, metropolitan Toronto and a southern, more rural riding. One of them has an incumbent running provincially, another is working with a good chance of electing a New Democrat and the other has been building the riding from one with almost no organization, to one with terrific potential. Once again we drop in on Port Arthur, York East and Essex South to find out what has been going on since last December.

PORT ARTHUR

1984 promises to be a busy and satisfying year for Port Arthur New Democrats. Even if the federal and provincial general elections do not occur this year, our preparations for strong campaigns in both will be rewarding.

The Thunder Bay-Nipigon and Port Arthur Associations have both held annual meetings during the past fall and elected new executives. New people were drawn into executive responsibility, and "portfolios were shuffled" to strengthen the organization. The Port Arthur Association has not yet filled the gap left by Jeanne Wilmot's retirement as Membership Organizer but other people have been doing membership work this winter.

A joint Election Planning Committee has recently been constituted. The varied experience of its members will be well-directed under Judy Foulds as chairperson. The first meeting focused on the needs of organization, fund-raising and pre-election strategy. Sub-committees are now at work in each of these vital areas.

The canvass organization requires a great deal of attention. Three years have passed since the last election and people seem to move as much in Thunder Bay as anywhere else. The hunt for canvassers is fortunately not affected by the question of whether the next election will be federal or provincial. The statistical work will be more affected by that question, although the Liberal results in recent elections appear unlikely to be repeated this time.

Preparations for the federal campaign in Thunder Bay-Nipigon remain somewhat unfocused without a declared candidate. The nomination is receiving serious consideration and at least one person is likely to be in the race by the time these words appear in print. The Thunder Bay-Nipigon nomination should attract good candidates, given the general unpopularity of the Liberals and the specific weakness in this riding of the Tories.

A pre-election school in late February, which provides a North-Western Ontario equivalent of the Bolton experience, did more to prepare us all for upcoming campaigns. We are optimistic here about New Democratic wins at both the federal and the provincial levels. Nothing would make New Democrats in the riding happier than to be represented as well in Ottawa as Jim Foulds has represented us in Toronto!

Everyone who would like to help is requested to call Ernie Epp at 807-345-2121 (ext. 305) or 345-1866. ■

YORK EAST

During the fall York Easters helped out with the pre-election canvass in Broadview-Greenwood and did some knock-and-drop in the York East Federal part of our riding.

We are now in the midst of our membership drive. During the first week we renewed 63 members for \$2,070. More contacts are needed to recruit new

members to replace those who've moved or died or dropped out. A major distribution of a tenant's letter and mail-back card is being planned to generate some of these contacts.

A slate committee is working to put together a new executive with a strong contingent of new blood. The Annual General meeting is planned for April 17th and will take the form of a Pot-Luck supper followed by the meeting.

Our candidate Gord Crann continues to be active and visible. The constituency work is a problem as we haven't found enough steady assistance yet.

Plans to have our computer up and running by this time haven't materialized. A small pilot project building a personal mailing list was completed before Christmas. Since then the student who was working on it returned to school at the University of Waterloo. But he has been able to arrange an independent study project for credit, with Jo Surich as his faculty advisor. After moving Kirk Hamilton's programs from Ottawa to Toronto by telephone, our student then transferred them to Waterloo again by telephone. Kirk's programs will form the basis of our system. We're looking forward to testing some very useful friendly routines in the near future.

Peter Worthington's nomination as PC candidate in Broadview-Greenwood should stir up some people. Hopefully, we can take advantage of the expected polarization and strengthen our corps of committed workers. If you want to help please phone 416-425-0995. ■

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ESSEX SOUTH

We embarked on a renewal drive late September-early October and in mid October we started planning and setting up for our Annual General meeting held November 2. We had an excellent turn out and even enlarged our Executive. Dave Cooke and Ron Varley were present along with several members we had not seen for a long time. The meeting started badly with the hydro and heat going out on us, so we held our meeting with only light from the windows and leaving our coats on.

We sent Isabelle Bastien and Lorna Beaudion to the provincial campaign organizing school in December. Dennis Putman attended the Provincial Council meeting in Toronto in December. There were three representatives at the February Women's Conference.

In January we started the rest of our renewals and for two weeks in February we did our new membership drive. During our renewal drive we picked up some new members as well.

The first fund raiser tackled by the new executive was our bake sale, held on February 11, 1984 at the Fort Malden Mall, Amherstburg.

The enthusiasm of the membership was overwhelming. We had offers of help from picking up baked goods, to baking, to setting up tables and cleaning up after, coming from all across our riding. People who couldn't help or bake sent money. It was a great success.

Federally, Essex Windsor's candidate is Steven Langdon and we have started working on campaign donations for this. Federal riding president Sharon Natyshak is organizing the drive.

Essex Kent's candidate is a young man on the Essex County School Board, presently an accountant working for H&R Block in Essex, Peter Toye. No nomination meetings for these candidates are scheduled until May or June.

We are planning a fund raiser in May with a guest speaker and in April Isabelle and Linda Putman are going to attend the Commissions on Election Contributions and Expenses Seminar in Windsor.

We've been very busy so far this year and plan to keep up the momentum. If you want to get involved please call 519-736-4280. ■

Union news

Profits from pensions

OSHAWA (Labour News) — Making profits from pension plans is turning into a respected business practice. Nobody knows that better than the Houdaille company.

The company first managed it here in 1980, as part of their vanishing act back to the U.S. Once back home they did it again for an even bigger pay day.

The procedure is perfectly legal. All that's needed is to convince the government watchdog agencies there's more money in the pension account than there needs to be. The so-called excess becomes the company's to do with as they please.

Wilf Duffield remembers how the company managed it in Oshawa. Duffield is a Houdaille pensioner himself and a retired United Auto Workers staff representative. He serviced Local 222, which included the workers in the Houdaille plant.

Duffield says the 300 workers would have been left flat if they had not occupied the plant to win severance pay and better pensions. The sit-in strike began after the company announced in 1980 it was closing the plant, which made car bumpers.

But the settlements the workers won didn't really cost the company a thing, says Duffield, because Houdaille took the money from the pension plan.

Duffield says Houdaille management claimed they had paid money into the plan before they really had to. They took that money back out and used it for severance. What was left went to older workers eligible for pension pay-outs.

Duffield says the 80 workers who were eligible for pensions "really got short-changed." A worker with 34 years service only qualified for a pension of \$200 a month. Moreover, any workers who chose a pension settlement was not eligible for severance pay.

A recent Houdaille manoeuvre in the U.S. netted the company \$18.5 million. The company made application to the appropriate government agency to take that much money out of the company-run plan because it was more than needed to meet commitments to current and retired employees.

It's an idea that's catching on with many companies. Since 1980, 128 companies in the U.S. have managed to carry through 138 "fund reversions" to pick up at least \$1 million each in excess assets.

Some people call this nothing less than pension piracy. They argue the money should rightly be shared with the workers, who also contributed to the pension fund. The UAW is challenging one of the manoeuvres in court in the U.S. ■

Fighting racism

TORONTO — More than two years after launching its \$100,000 anti-racism campaign, the Ontario Federation of Labour is taking an education program about racism into the workplace.

The second phase of the campaign, launched in January, is designed to develop a strong network of activists in the trade union movement to filter through the membership knowledge of how best to combat incidents of racial discrimination on the job and in the community.

Since the "Racism Hurts Everyone" campaign swung into action in October, 1981, the OFL has used a number of tools to raise the issue and make the public aware of the importance of lessening racial tensions.

The OFL's commitment to fighting racism has included a television commercial, a series of seminars with community and labour leaders, and distribution of material to the OFL's 2,000 affiliates.

Materials to be used in the second education phase include: eight fact sheets in seven languages; a weekend course on combatting workplace racism; and case studies which can be incorporated into regular training for stewards and union counsellors. ■

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People profile

Working to Win

When 5 p.m. arrives the day is only half-over

by Mike Kowalski

Owning the Starship Enterprise would make Tom Suffield happy.

It would substantially reduce the miles he must travel during the year as a provincial organizer and it would give him more time to do what he prefers — working with NDP members to build winning ridings.

"When you put in more than 35,000 miles a year it does get a little draining at times," says Suffield, "... to have something like the Starship Enterprise beaming me from place to place would be great."

If there is one aspect to his job which Suffield does not relish, it is the time he must spend on the road between his home in Toronto and the ridings he services. Scarborough and Durham Region in the east and Hamilton-Wentworth in the west, with an occasional foray into Ottawa.

However, the affable 29-year-old Windsor native accepts travelling as an integral, albeit unenjoyable, duty.

"Using Toronto as a base makes sense for me because I have access to Queen's Park and other resources and I'm about equal distance from Wentworth and Oshawa where I do the bulk of my work," explains Suffield.

Suffield describes his job as "a constant hunt for good people who can provide leadership roles at the riding level and who will work towards the ultimate goal of electing a New Democrat in that riding."

According to Suffield a common problem at the riding level is that people are so busy maintaining the existing base.

"Emphasis has not been on planning. Doing membership work seems to take up the entire year and time for outreach is limited.

"One of the most important things ridings can do is set realistic goals and objectives because people have a limited amount of time and it must be utilized properly."

Suffield stresses that there must also be



an element of fun in whatever activities the riding association undertakes.

"If people don't enjoy what they're doing, they won't come back. It's essential that the social aspects are not overlooked."

A typical day for Suffield, if there can be one for an organizer, is spent on the telephone with party activists, riding executives or union officials, planning anything from a membership drive to an election school.

But when 5 p.m. arrives, Suffield's day is only about half-over. Evenings are set aside for meetings in the ridings.

"It's definitely not a job where you punch a clock. You do most of your work after five. It gets to a point where your social life and work life become one and the same and that can be both good and bad.

"It's good being with riding people, but your home life can suffer. There are few nights when I'm home before 10 p.m. Weekends are often devoted to party work as well."

Whether it be political, union or any type of organizational work requiring long hours away from home, the job can take its toll. Emotional, marriage, alcohol and physical problems are not uncommon among the ranks of professional organizers.

"It's not easy and I don't know the answers," says Suffield, "there is a great deal of frustration involved because anyone who works with volunteers knows he can only ask so much and quite often there's so much more to do.

"It's easy to understand why people run into these problems. It can be mentally and emotionally draining. When you give your all to the job, when you come home there's not much more to give."

Yet Suffield is quick to note the positive aspects of being an organizer.

"I really appreciate the people I work with in the ridings. After a while you find that you'd rather spend a lot of time with them in a social way as well.

"And after a time the province and even the country seems smaller because you know people in many different places. Even if you're in some out-of-the-way corner of the province, chances are good that you know somebody there." ■

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Canada a nuclear weapons free zone, 3. Divert wasteful military spending to productive civilian use.

Plans for the campaign include door to door canvassing, research and education, mass demonstrations, building local community peace organizations, and activating union and church members.

There is great concern in this country about the danger of nuclear war; that concern has resulted in a phenomenal growth of the peace movement. The most encouraging aspect of this growth has been the decision of the labour movement to get involved in a big way.

At the first meeting of the Toronto Coalition for the PPCC more than 70 organizations were represented. There were a number of unions, the CLC, OFL, and the Labour Council of Metro Toronto. Ethnic, cultural and peace groups and Ontario senior citizens were also represented.

UAW advertising

TORONTO — The UAW's Canadian content advertising campaign kicked off in the middle of February in newspapers and on radio stations across Ontario.

"Canadian content could mean 130,000 jobs in Canada," said UAW director for Canada Bob White. "The advertising campaign has been designed to increase public awareness about the job potential of Canadian content."

"People are worried about jobs. They are worried about the stability of our economy. Canadian content is one government response that could work, and we want to make sure that Canadians know about it."

"Public support on an issue is still the best way to pressure government into acting," he said.

White co-chaired a federal auto task force which recommended to federal industry minister Edward Lumley in May that the equivalent of at least 60% of every vehicle sold in Canada should be produced in Canada, making a difference of 130,000 Canadian jobs.

"So far the government has shown little inclination to act on this very important proposal," said White. "They are saying that they want to see if negotiating with overseas automakers will produce

The NDP Federal Caucus has done much to aid the peace movement by exposing the hypocrisy of the government on the issue of Cruise testing. It is also the only party to give clear support to the peace movement.

The NDP Anti-War Committee is asking members of the party and supporters to get involved. Our committee needs help to spread the word. We also would like more Anti-War Committees to be formed in other areas.

The first stage in the campaign is to get as many people involved as possible. We need ridings and any other organizations in which you are involved to endorse the Peace Caravan. April 28th is scheduled as a day of protest across Canada, and we will participate in building that protest as a kick-off for the campaign.

There are many things to do and a number of areas that need help. Information can be obtained from: NDP Anti-War Committee, c/o 184 Main St., Toronto, M4E 2W1. Harry Pain 466-1307, Laura Pascoe 924-4934.

jobs for Canada. We're convinced that without content legislation, these negotiations will result only in token investment on their part," he said.

"Various forms of local content are in place in virtually every auto-producing nation in the world. With 26% of our market taken by overseas producers and with North American automakers threatening to move production out of Canada to overseas, with a potential loss of 20,000 jobs, the government must bring in content laws," he said.

The \$100,000 campaign is being conducted in newspapers and on radio stations across Ontario and will also be extended into the province of Quebec shortly. ■

Municipal Conference

The ONDP Municipal Committee is holding a one-day conference for all municipally elected reps and activists, Saturday April 7, 1984 at:

OFL Building
15 Gervais Drive
(near Don Mills Road and Eglinton Avenue East) Toronto
9:30 to 4:30

Contact:
Marg Wilbur 416-985-2444 Mike Breaugh, MPP 416-965-3215



WORLD NEWS FROM THE DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST PERSPECTIVE.

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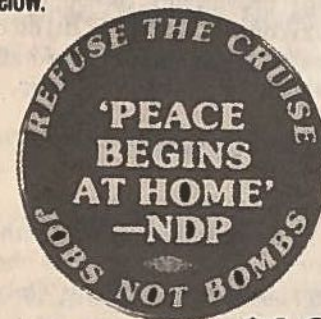
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The NDP ANTI WAR COMMITTEE now has available a new button

It reads "PEACE BEGINS AT HOME"

and is intended as a response to Trudeau's peace initiative. Be the first in your riding to sport this politically meaningful button! To acquire this attractive new button (in 2 colours), simply fill out and return the form below.



\$1.00

I want to send Trudeau a message from the NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT PARTY.

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Phone: _____

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Toronto, Ontario
Telephone: 466-1307

Tax time

Who is paying the tax bill in Ontario?

March is income-tax month for most of us. It's a good time to consider why it seems to hurt so much.

To be blunt, the reasons are political, not economic.

Government's justify huge tax concessions to corporations on the grounds that they encourage needed investment. But most economists agree that they have more to do with appeasing the business community than with an interest in fixing the economy.

In Ontario, provincial taxes fall heaviest on the poorest. The \$15,000-a-year family is taxed more heavily here than in any other province. Even the average \$25,000-a-year family is hit harder than in any province but Quebec. It's easy to see which parts of the population have political clout and which parts don't.

Recently Floyd Laughren, MPP for Nickel Belt, circulated a revealing questionnaire on taxation in Ontario. *Ontario Democrat* readers will find it interesting. The answers tell an important political story. You will find them on page 22 of this issue.

Circle the answer you think is correct. You should know that the average family income in Ontario in 1979 was \$25,000.

- Since the 1981 provincial election the Conservative government has increased the average family's taxes by:
\$0 \$200 \$500 \$700
- In the 1983 budget, for every dollar in increased family taxes the government provided families tax breaks of 14¢. For every dollar in increased corporate taxes, the government provided corporate tax breaks of:
11¢ 27¢ \$3.21 \$5.11
- In the 1983 budget the Conservative government introduced the Social Services Maintenance Tax to help pay for "public programs and new

initiatives to create jobs". The income tax surcharge will apply only to those families earning over:

\$50,000 \$40,000 \$21,000 \$11,000

- It takes the average Ontario family 52 days of work to pay its federal and provincial taxes. How many days earnings does it take the Royal Bank to pay its taxes?
8 13 33 52

- What is the share of the provincial budget which comes from personal income taxes?
7% 18% 27% 36%

- What is the share of the provincial budget which comes from corporate income tax?
7% 18% 27% 36%

- The government owned LCBO provides 3¢ out of every budget dollar. How much do the remaining 250,000 corporations contribute?
7¢ 15¢ 17¢ 21¢

- The Ontario government expects to collect \$1.7 billion in OHIP premiums in 1983/84. How much will they collect in mining profits tax?
\$35 mil. \$161 mil. \$640 mil. \$1.5 bil.

- A family of four with one wage-earner earning \$25,000 a year pays about \$5,000 in income tax. A similar taxpayer who earns \$25,000 a year not in wages but as investment income from the sale of corporate securities would pay tax of:
\$1,500 \$3,000 \$5,000 \$7,500

- The dividend tax credit is an encouragement for people to invest. For families with an income of \$25,000 the average tax reduction from the dividend tax credit is \$107. For families with an income of \$50,000 or more the average reduction is:
\$107 \$985 \$2,040 \$3,374

COMING EVENTS

Meet Bob Rae Night

Halton-Burlington NDP, March 23. Buffet supper, \$3.00 a person, \$5.00 a couple. For information call: Carole Crewson (Milton) 878-2001, Jo Surich (Georgetown) 877-8695, Sharon Foster (Acton) 853-3346.

Beaches

Mark Friday, May 4 in your calendar — Beaches Nomination Meeting. Come and help us kick-off the re-election campaign of Neil Young. Ed Broadbent will be the guest speaker and we will have a cash bar. Danube Swabian Hall, 214 Main Street, just north of Gerrard. 7:30 p.m. For further information contact Sandra Houston 699-6637.

Youth Conference

The ONDP Youth have announced its Annual Conference will be held at Queen's Park on a weekend in May.

Exciting discussions on topical issues are now being planned. In addition there will be an election canvassing school.

If you are 25 or under, you are eligible to attend. Come, meet other young New Democrats and help shape Ontario's future!

In the meantime a Spring campaign on unemployment issues is being organized. To become involved, write: NDP Youth, 184 Main St., Toronto, or contact:

Jennifer Stephen	Laura Pascoe
(613) 389-3610	(416) 924-4934
Dave Mann	Dan Mackenzie
(416) 226-2269	(416) 389-3610

Left Caucus Forum

"A critique of the Laxer Report". Speakers: Mel Watkins, David Robertson, TBA. Provincial Council Meeting, Medical Arts Building, noon hour break, Saturday, March 24. Information Kimberley Wilde 466-1307.

"Social Strategies for the Peace Movement". Speakers: Kimberley Wilde, NDP Anti-War Committee, TBA, Toronto Disarmament Network, Tuesday, April 17. Location, TBA. Information Kimberley Wilde 466-1307.

Tax time

The Answers

1. **Answer: \$700**
The increase includes OHIP, sales and gasoline tax as well as income tax changes.

2. **Answer: \$5.11**
The 1983 budget raised personal taxes by \$396 million and offered a 90 day sales tax exemption worth \$55 million. On the corporate account, \$70 million was raised by increasing corporate income tax while \$358 million was given away in a variety of corporate tax expenditures.

3. **Answer: \$11,000**
Full OHIP premium assistance is available to Ontario families with a taxable income of less than \$3,500. The surtax, however, affects those families whose taxable income is only \$2,178 (\$11,000 annual income). You can be too poor to pay OHIP premiums but not too poor to pay the surtax. Even those on unemployment benefits will pay.

In those other provinces which have used surtaxes (B.C., Manitoba, Saskatchewan) all the revenue comes from those who earn in excess of \$40,000. In Ontario the greatest share will come from those who earn less than \$40,000

4. **Answer: 13 days**
Bank of Montreal — 16 days
Imperial Oil — 28 days
Gulf Oil — 26 days

Although dated these figures illustrate the trend. Indeed the situation has progressed from bad to worse. For the 1982 fiscal year the Royal Bank which had profits of \$357 million paid absolutely no income tax but instead received a tax credit of \$28 million. The Bank of Montreal reported net income of \$252 million which included a \$22 million tax credit.

In 1982 the chartered banks made a profit of \$1.6 billion and paid taxes of \$132 million for an effective rate of 8.1 per cent. A teller on the other hand would have an effective tax rate of 20-25 per cent.

5. **Answer: 27%**

6. **Answer: 7%**
Source is the latest government estimates for the 1983/84 fiscal year. Ontario budget 1983.

If health premiums are added to personal income tax, then the share contributed by individuals jumps to 34 per cent, about five times what corporations provide.

Twenty years ago personal income taxes made up 15.4 per cent of the budget while corporate income taxes comprised 25.1 per cent of the budget.

7. **Answer: 7c**
One provincially owned corporation contributes over 1/3 as much to the provincial coffers as do all the other corporations in Ontario.

8. **Answer: \$35 million.**

9. **Answer: \$1,500**
The discrepancy results from the tax treatment of wages versus the tax treatment of capital gains. Only one half of the profit from the sale of securities is taxed, whereas every dollar of wage income is taxed.

As a result, many wealthy income earners reduce their income tax rates to levels below what is paid by average income earners.

In 1981 the federal Finance Department published a paper entitled "Analysis of Federal Tax Expenditures for Individuals". The report notes:

"There were 152,000 tax filers who were identified as having incomes in excess of \$50,000 in 1979. Of these, some 3,400 had no tax liability and another 21,300 were taxable but paid less than 10 per cent of their income in federal tax. What is even more striking is that there were 740 individuals with incomes over \$100,000 who had so arranged their affairs that they paid no federal income tax in 1979."

10. **Answer: \$3,374**

Source: Revenue Canada Taxation Statistics for 1978 (latest available year).

Ontario NDP Caucus Responsibilities

Bob Rae	965-1764	Leader
Donald MacDonald	965-5948	Chairman of Caucus/ Special Advisor to the Leader
Richard Allen (Hamilton West)	965-6404	Colleges and Universities/ Education/Special Issues In Culture
Mike Breaugh (Oshawa)	965-3215	Intergovernmental Affairs/ Municipal Affairs/Revenue
Marlon Bryden (Beaches-Woodbine)	965-4726	Women
Mike Cassidy (Ottawa Centre)	965-3080	Financial & Commercial Affairs/ Franco-Ontarians
Brian Charlton (Hamilton Mountain)	965-7024	Environment/Deputy Whip
Dave Cooke (Windsor-Riverside)	965-6386	Health
Odoardo Di Santo (Downsview)	965-1349	Energy
Jim Foulds (Port Arthur)	965-1965	Deputy Leader/Industry and Trade/ Treasury
Tony Grande (Oakwood)	965-9071	Culture and Citizenship/ Special Issues In Education
Richard Johnston (Scarborough West)	965-7771	Deputy Chairman of Caucus/ Community and Social Services
Floyd Laughren (Nickel Belt)	965-9357	Natural Resources/ Resource Development
Tony Lupusella (Dovercourt)	965-5644	Workers' Compensation Board
Bob Mackenzie (Hamilton East)	965-2694	Labour
Eile Martel (Sudbury East)	965-2692	House Leader
Ross McClellan (Bellwoods)	965-0622	Whip/Deputy House Leader/ Housing/Social Development
Ed Phillip (Etobicoke)	965-0894	Government Watchdog: Management Board/Ombudsman/Government Services/Provincial Auditor
Jim Renwick (Riverdale)	965-5928	Attorney General/Solicitor General/ Corrections/Justice Secretariat
George Samis (Cornwall)	965-9579	Transportation and Communications
Jack Stokes (Nipigon)	965-9581	Northern Affairs/ Tourism and Recreation
Mel Swart (Welland-Thorold)	965-7714	Agriculture and Food/Prices
Bud Wildman (Algoma)	965-6224	Occupational Health and Safety/ Native Affairs

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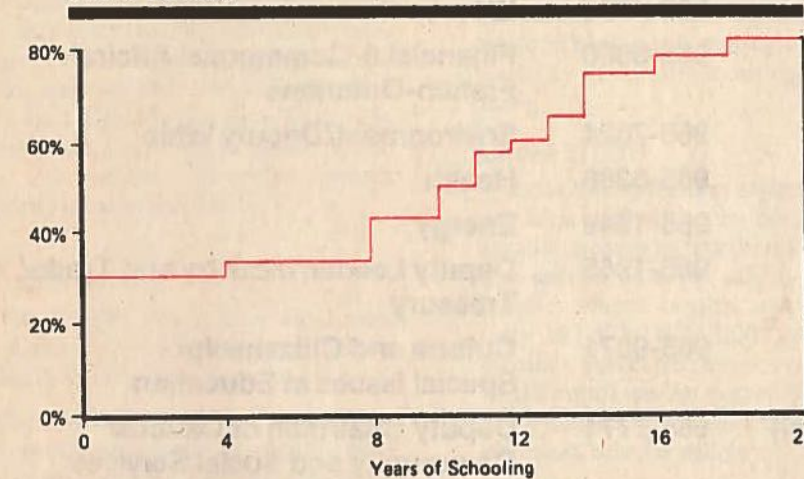
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CHECK POINT

The effects of education

Labour Force Participation, Women Aged 26-34
(1976 Census)



More women are working for pay than ever, and the reason seems to be education. The 1976 Census showed that the more years they spend in school, the more women tend to be in the job market.

Thanks to education — together with the necessity of two incomes in a family and marriage breakdown — women's labour force participation has risen from about 35% to over 50% in 15 years. It may catch up to the rate for men in about 20 more years.

CHECK POINT is made available by the Education Committee of the Ontario NDP.
For more information contact 184 Main Street, Toronto, M4E 2W1.

Classified ads

EMPLOYMENT WANTED

Mature, responsible woman looks for clerical position in West Hill or Scarborough area. Experienced in various duties: typing, reception, dictaphone and word processing operator. Full time preferred. Available to start April 2, 1984. Please call 282-2509 (residence) or 963-0047 (business).

EMPLOYMENT WANTED

Pleasant mature lady photographer looks for part-time work in a portrait studio. Telephone: (416) 488-0539.

WANT A WILL?

But don't know where or how to get one written? If the New Democratic Party is to be one of your beneficiaries we'll be happy to provide you with free legal advice. Contact, in confidence, Steve Thomas, NDP 184 Main Street, Toronto (416) 699-6637.

HELP WANTED

Unemployed people seeking work and employers seeking workers may advertise free (first 50 words) in the *Ontario Democrat* classified ads. Unemployed Help Centres and other community services may also advertise free in these pages. Deadline for the May issue is April 19. Send copy to the editor, 184 Main Street, Toronto, M4E 2W1.

WHY PAY STORE PRICES?

Wholesale accounts for Workers Consumer Groups in several cities include groceries, general merchandise, electronics, cars, auto parts and tires; also factory direct delivery of a union, made-in-Canada appliance, furniture, freezer, water softeners, snow throwers, chain saws, luggage, etc. by order to: Workers Equity Limited. For information packet write: Box No. 7, Postal Station D, Scarborough, Ontario, M1R 4Y7 or phone 447-9000.

VOLUNTEER TUTORS

Did you know that more than one in five Canadians are illiterate? Would you like to help someone learn to read and write? Toronto East End Literacy is a community project based in wards 7, 8, and 9. We train volunteer tutors to work with individuals and small groups. You don't need any experience, only a desire to help. Volunteer an hour or two of your time a week. A tutor-training session starts March 26. People interested in finding out about or joining our Board of Directors or one of our committees, please feel free to inquire. For more information, call 968-6989.

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