

THE PEDESTAL

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Ten Cents

women descend on BC legislature

"Strangers in the House"



JOIN THE ABORTION CAMPAIGN CAVALCADE TO OTTAWA! The cavalcade will leave Vancouver April 27 (see story & schedule p. 2) and will stop in major cities, with women joining in along the route. The women will reach Ottawa before Mother's Day demanding that abortion be removed from the Criminal Code. Demonstrations will be held across Canada in support of the Ottawa action. ABORTION IS OUR RIGHT!

(For more news on the abortion campaign see: Trudeau Pukes the Buck, p. 2; Women Confront Loffmark, p. 3; Defend Makaroff, p. 7; Edmonton Joins Campaign, p. 7; Open Letter to Trudeau, p. 8.

At 3:15 Wednesday, March 25, three separate groups of angry women discreetly entered three separate galleries in the B.C. Legislative Assembly.

Health Minister Loffmark looked smugly at the women up in the galleries — then spoke in laughing tones to Attorney General Peterson and other Soared cronies.

The women waited for the appropriate moment to respond. Those seated in the gallery above Loffmark moved first. Red tape came flying down over the gallery on the Soared side. Seconds later two banners reading "Abortion is Our Right" and "Just Society, Good Life — Kills 12,000 Women in North America each year" were lowered from the other two balconies. Bumper stickers reading "Abortion Now" fluttered down.

The women quickly left the galleries. On the floor of the Legislature Health Minister Loffmark rose angrily shouting "There Are Strangers in the House". Another voice yelled out, "it is clear that someone here does not understand the democratic process."

As the women were leaving an attendant grabbed one of the women and with an iron grip pulled her after him down the stairs through the "Golden Gates" and into the Speaker's office.

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militant action brings victory in Toronto

U of T Women Win Day Care

WOMEN'S LIBERATION NEWS SERVICE — TORONTO

Joyous shouts of "all power to the people" and "we won" shook the chandeliers in Simcoe Hall Senate Chambers at University of Toronto Thursday, March 26, when President Claude Bissell granted the demand for a campus community co-op day care centre.

The 500 day care centre supporters crammed into the large hall went wild when Bissell began reading, almost word for word, the first clause of a statement prepared only minutes before by the steering committee of the day care centre.

It was the climax of nine months of long, drawn out negotiations, briefs, letters, meetings, and the day's occupation of the administrative centre of the campus.

The struggle for the survival of the centre started at the beginning of March when Commonwealth Trust, the real estate company which controls the University land, sent a demand for back rent of \$300 "or else". This sum was paid.

Then Lorene Smith, a mother of two children at the

centre, and who had negotiated with the administration in the past, was told by K.S. Gregory, Non-Academic Vice President, that the university considered the centre to be on a month to month lease (although there had been no formalized lease arrangements made); that there was no larger accommodation available as had been previously promised, and that the university policy was to provide private dwellings for single families.

This meant that the centre could be closed at the end of March — when the student support so badly needed to defend it would be diffused.

An emergency meeting of parents, staff and volunteers was held, in which a brief to Gregory was drawn up stating four demands: one, that the centre be guaranteed accommodation; two, that larger, safer accommodations be provided for the centre's expansion; three, that the necessary renovations be made to the 12 Sussex Avenue house; and four, that the rent be free.

Gregory's reply stated that the centre could have the house until it was demolished in 1972, that rent would be \$50 a month, that no large accommodation

was available and that the university would not do the renovations.

Another letter was drafted, agreeing to the rent and stressing the need for the university to undertake the repairs which, at a cost of \$2000, were too much for the centre's budget and the purses of the parents who were mainly support staff at U of T and could not afford more than the \$30 per month per child cost of day care at the centre.

Gregory's reply was brief. No larger accommodation and no renovation. It was not the responsibility of the university to provide day care for its employees and students.

At another emergency meeting a steering committee was elected to decide what to do and how to plan a demonstration. On Wednesday, March 25, a large rally was held in the main foyer of the Sydney Smith Arts Building. Over 350 people marched on to Simcoe Hall to hear President Bissell speak to the demonstrators outside about the fact that the university did not accept the responsibility of day care. A delegation of parents and children were sent in to him. He refused to come out.

At 1:00 pm the occupation

began. Led by women's liberation members, the crowd rushed through the doors and charged up the stairs. In the crash, women and children were shoved and kicked by security guards. The crowd was stopped on the stairs until steering committee member, Terry Thompson, climbed over a banister to Bissell's office. Male supporters pushed through a back entrance and attacked Simcoe Hall piglets and the women broke through and surged on upstairs, occupying the corridor and eventually the Senate Chambers.

Bissell offered to talk to the crowd in Convocation Hall at 2:15 pm but this was voiced down. Another delegation was sent to hear him out but not negotiate. Bissell stated that he might be able to provide the money for the renovations from the Varsity Fund, an alumnae slush fund, but he could not accept the responsibility for day care.

The decision was made by all those present not to accept this offer and to stay in Simcoe Hall until the money for the renovation was assured. At 5:30 pm, Bissell appeared again and told the group he needed time to contact the Board of Directors

of the Varsity Fund, and asked the demonstrators to leave.

The demonstrators voted to stay over night until renovations were guaranteed and began organizing outside support for a rally at noon the next day.

Arrangements were made for food and bedding. Loads of goodies were provided by several sympathetic groups and the men did clean up. The atmosphere was happy and enthusiastic.

In the morning Bissell issued a press release stating that he would not guarantee the money until we left the hall. The vote was taken to remain in Simcoe Hall at least until the noon rally.

The steering committee members stationed themselves around the mike at the rally and controlled the debate.

Then Bissell entered. Victory was ours! The day care centre's existence was ensured, and we now had the base for the further actions of committing the university to the responsibility of providing day care, as well as the wide support of the community. Women's Liberation had engineered the first occupation at the University of Toronto and had made it a success.

All power to the people — especially women!

For nearly sixty years of her life, Elizabeth Gurley Flynn was a political activist, union organizer, fiery orator, political leader and support of women's rights. Born in 1890 into a family of Irish revolutionaries and socialists, she was preceded on the political scene by a grandfather who had been involved in raids to overthrow the British, not only in Ireland, but also in Canada. Her mother, Annie Gurley, was a staunch suffragette who only would allow women doctors to attend the birth of her four children.

In an era when women were denied not only the right to vote but also all legal rights over their children, homes, property and earnings, Elizabeth Gurley Flynn began her political career at sixteen with her first public speech entitled, "What Socialism Will Do For Women." A "high school dropout" at 17 years of age, she began working full time for the Industrial Workers of the World in 1907. This followed her two public speeches and her first arrest in 1906.

She worked for the I.W.W. for the next ten years, during which time she was involved in many important strikes of textile workers.

After World War I from 1918-1922 she worked to free industrial and political prisoners convicted during the war. She fought in vain to save Sacco and Vanzetti from execution and instituted defense funds and legal aid for those imprisoned as a result of the "Palmer Raids". These were part of a policy of the



Elizabeth Gurley Flynn

Women In History

Woodrow Wilson government to round up and deport thousands of "troublesome" aliens, many of whom had been active in the I.W.W.

In 1920 she was a founding member of the national committee of the American Civil Liberties Union, with which she remained associated until she was purged in 1940 because of her membership in the Communist Party. She had joined the CPUSA in 1937. She wrote a weekly column in *The Worker*, was on the national committee and chairman of its woman's commission. She became the first woman to head the CPUSA in 1961.

In her long and active life she had a reputation for being an outspoken and a vociferous orator. She gave literally hundreds of speeches and wrote two books. At the age of 65 she spent 3 years in a Women's Reformatory. Her stay in prison became the subject of one of two books written by Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, *The Alderson Story*. She also wrote a fascinating autobiography of the first part of her life, *I Speak My Own Piece*.

She was married at 17 and divorced in 1920. Her only son, Fred, died in 1940 at the age of 29.

Elizabeth Gurley Flynn died at the age of 74 in Moscow in September of 1964.

The Trial of Elizabeth Gurley Flynn by the A.C.L.U. edited by Corliss Lamont, which is a transcript of the expulsion proceedings, provides fascinating insights into her political life.

LINDA SPERLING

NEWS BRIEFS

BUENOS AIRES — Thirty-seven women and three children were arrested in front of the Ministry of the Economy where they were protesting the high cost of living. They were demanding that the ministry officials limit the power of the monopolies which the women held responsible for the rise in the cost of living.

NEW YORK CITY — A major demonstration and rally was held March 28 in support of four suits to abolish state abortion laws. The action was organized by People to Abolish Abortion Laws, a coalition of women's liberation, civil liberties and civic groups.

REGINA — Women's Liberation presented a brief to the NDP Task Force on Education which dealt with the status of women in the educational system. They said, "slightly less than one third of the students enrolled in universities are women." Women are "from pre-school age that they are not capable of going on in their education. Even if they felt they could, they know that a higher education is no use to a woman, whose 'rightful place' is in the home." Lack of motivation, channeling into women's occupations, lack of day care facilities and the denial of abortions keep women out of higher education.

THUNDER BAY — Women's Liberation is involved in setting up a day care centre at Lakehead University. I.L.U. women are also working on the cross-Canada abortion campaign.

DETROIT — A possible location for a child-care facility has been made available to be developed in cooperation with neighborhood parents and Women's Liberation Coalition of Michigan. The coalition is comprised of women's groups from Detroit and suburbs Pontiac, Ann Arbor and East Lansing. The Coalition is supporting the strikers, 80% of whom are women, at Freuhauf Trucking. Freuhauf has refused to negotiate with their newly-formed union. The women went out on strike Nov. 19, 1969.

Cavalcade Schedule

(TENTATIVE)

- April 27 — Van. to Kamloops
- April 28 — Calgary
- April 29 — Edmonton
- April 30 — Saskatoon
- May 1 — Regina
- May 2 — Winnipeg
- May 3 — Lakehead
- May 4 — Sault Ste. Marie
- May 5 — Sudbury
- May 6 — Toronto
- May 7 — Toronto (publicity, etc.)
- May 9 — Meeting with Trudeau

By BONITA BECKMAN

Speaking of abortion — I and another Women's Caucus member had an intimate 10-15 minute talk with Trudeau the other night. Pat Nelson and myself were sitting around with two other females and four males when we heard of our own Prime Minister arriving that night to ski in our mountains. It was about 8:00 pm when we started throwing the idea back and forth of meeting his plane, fighting cynicism and general pessimism, we persuaded the group to tag along. One radio station said he'd arrived at 7, another said 9:30, so we took the latter's word and shot out to the Women's Caucus office for signs — it was locked. We then zoomed off to a friend's house to see if he had equipment to make a sign. We improvised — one old vietnam poster backwards and 2 shopping bags

stapled together. The time was then approximately quarter to nine, so we climbed back into our car and headed for the airport.

We were just being harassed by the cops when out of the sky, I mean sky, — yes a plane! — and it landed right at the obscure back fence where we were just about to be arrested for trespassing.

He noticed us when I belted "ABORTION NOW! (in my sweetest 'feminine' tenor). He said "Gee — did you come out specially to see me?" He said "which we answered that he hadn't complimented us with the same intention so we had to take the first step.

We demanded legalized abortion — which he explained had already been done. He also suggested we organize our medical people if we want the law changed. He said: Obviously they don't want to do abortions — which we found not very convincing since it's not as much a medical question as it is a legal question, and also especially since there is almost no woman representation in the medical field. We mentioned Dr. Makaroff in connection with his saying the laws on abortion had been changed — to which he said that Makaroff could practice in jail — we pointed out the lack of medical aid in the world and intended it might be difficult to perform abortions in the male section of the penitentiary. He commented on our having stormed the Victoria legislature and seemed impressed by our ability to accomplish such feats.

One quote of Trudeau's was "If we all would keep picketing no one would need abortions" — which is a super realistic point of view — anyway I piped up with Yeah — if everyone sick and picketed we would have no more problems — this lowered us all to the same level of communications leaving the way open for the conversation to deteriorate, and it did — and we left.

Join Cross Canada Abortion Campaign

Women's liberation groups across Canada are preparing for their first nationally co-ordinated action. On April 28th a car caravan will leave Vancouver scheduled to arrive in Ottawa just before Mother's Day, where they will protest Trudeau's so-called "liberal" abortion laws.

The abortion campaign gives women the opportunity to challenge, in a concentrated manner, other areas of their oppression. The issue of abortion raises questions about the nature of the Canadian society. Women's liberation groups in Canada are beginning to research the institutions of this society which perpetuate the oppression of women. Abortion is inseparable from birth control, and hence women's groups are researching

the role of drug companies (are drug companies actively suppressing or discouraging research which might adversely affect their profits?); the educational system (why are most counsellors not providing high school students with birth control information?); and the medical profession (how many doctors do not take adequate precautions when issuing birth control devices?). In addition, research is being done around the hospitals, the present abortion committees and the structure of the medical profession itself.

In Ottawa on May 9th, women plan to hold an open meeting with the Prime Minister, the Ministers of Health and Justice, and with Members of Parliament. At this time, women

will demand that abortion be removed from the Criminal Code. On Mother's Day, May 10th, demonstrations are planned in all major cities across Canada. If the government has not responded to our demands by Monday the 11th of May, 1970, women in Ottawa will declare war on the government and actions will follow.

Not all of the arrangements have been finalized as we go to press. A Women's Caucus member, Dawn Carrell, is on a cross-Canada tour talking to women about the action. Due to money and time she may not be able to visit your area. However, if you wish to be informed of what various groups are planning, write to ABORTION CAMPAIGN HEADQUARTERS, Women's Caucus, 307 W. Broad-

way, Vancouver. Any donations, which are badly needed, may also be sent to that address. In order to make this action effective, every interested woman in Canada must participate! We welcome your ideas, your support, and your presence if at all possible. We will be picking up women as we travel and you may join us at a point closest to your location. The tentative schedule follows but if you wish to join us, please write to get the finalized plans. At each center, we wish to set up meetings, to do guerrilla theatre and to leaflet the city. In addition, we have decided to spend a day in Toronto to build up publicity and to finalize some of the plans for Ottawa. At each place we hoped to have accommodation arranged in advance.

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The Speaker was called out of the House and the woman was sternly lectured. "This is the Highest Court — higher even than the Supreme Court — do you realize the seriousness of your actions?"

The woman remained cool, maintained her dignity, and refused to give any information other than her name and address and the name of her organization.

Another woman forgot her camera in the gallery and when she returned for it was detained but later released.

Why Did We Do It?

Because we were angry, we were angry with Health Minister

Loffmark when we realized our meeting with him served only one useful purpose and that was to let us know he had no intention of changing the medical arrangements in B.C. regarding the inadequacies of doctors' and Abortion Committees in dealing with therapeutic abortions.

Yes, for once we were not going to cover up our anger, we were going to show as many people as we could that we were not satisfied, that we would not be put off any longer, with polite words and token sympathy from a man who refused to act in helping us obtain our medical rights.

After it was all over we returned to our lodging, exhausted but with a feeling of happiness and strength in knowing we had finally acted together against one of the most ruthless types of oppression that faces women. We spent the rest of the evening together going over the action, criticizing our mistakes, and planning future strategy.

Health Minister Loffmark Denies B.C. Women Medical Aid

Fifteen delegates from Vancouver Women's Caucus, several persons from University of Victoria, and the press met with Health Minister Loffmark at 1:30 pm, March 25th, in the Health Minister's board room.

The meeting had been given the women only after several days of pressurizing and repeated requests. On March 10th a letter was sent, on March 19th a telegram, and this was followed by three days of personal contacts with his office and sending additional requests into the Legislative Assembly. On Tuesday when two Vancouver Women's Caucus members did meet with Loffmark regarding setting up the Wednesday meeting he did not think it would be possible to meet with the women on Wednesday as requested.

One of the women then told him that 'under the British North America Act the province

is responsible for the health and welfare of the people within a province. And as Health Minister he should find out why women were not receiving therapeutic abortions or being processed by hospital abortion committees, or why women were not receiving health services which are legally their right under Section 237 of the Criminal Code of Canada' to which he replied angrily 'That is a political issue and I'll meet you on a political platform about that'.

Possibly only persistence and the good coverage of press, radio and TV made Mr. Loffmark find time to meet the delegation of Vancouver Women's Caucus.

Women Confront Loffmark

The meeting between members of the Women's Caucus and Health Minister Loffmark was held in a plush and imposing conference room. Mr. Loffmark also did his best to be imposing and attempted initially to intimidate us and to take absolute control of the meeting. One of his tactics was to demand that we identify ourselves and to ensure that we were all British Columbians. He did his best to make clear to us that it was going to be his show and we could be the docile listeners. As soon as we began to speak, however, we indicated our collective strength and from then on Loffmark definitely was not in control.

No Power

We asked him if he would 'approve' and provide funds for hospitals for the specific purpose of doing abortions. He replied "It is not within my power to do so. There are only two kinds of hospitals: 'accredited hospitals' and those 'designated' by the provincial Health Minister. I have OKed all the facilities I am empowered to 'designate'." We indicated to him that he was quoting incorrectly from the Criminal Code, and that he could approve hospitals for the purpose of that section of the Code (Section 237 b). After debating this, he sent for the Code, discovered that he was wrong, and quickly tried to cover up his mistake.

Reactionary Doctors

We then proceeded to the subject of the medical profession. We stated that the reasons that most doctors would not try to instigate abortion reform were because the Council of the College of Physicians and Surgeons and the government were conservative and would enact sanctions against such doctors. The doctors are forced to accept a reactionary position on abortion, and the women who are affected by it have absolutely no control over its formulation. They are also unable to utilize any channels to fit their very real needs.

We emphasized that in many ways the structure of the College

was the cause of its irresponsibility to the people of B.C. Loffmark said that he had no power over the doctors, and would not tell them what to do. He repeated this throughout the meeting, and this was his reply when we asked him if he would make a recommendation to the Abortion Committees to define "health" as does the World Health Organization, as 'the complete physical, economic, social and mental well being of the person.' He responded by saying only that this could be one definition of health, but he would not recommend it for use by the Abortion Committees.

Definition of Health

Concerning the term health, he waffled: "It's up to my Medical Health Officers to determine a person's health. I don't have anything to do with it." We asked him if he was able to define health in general terms at all. He replied that he was not. Our response clearly indicated the ridiculousness of his position. We asked him what he was doing as Health Minister if he wouldn't even define health. By admitting this he seemed, denying his existence.

Loffmark's standard defense was the morality of the issue. He attempted to divert us by philosophizing on the status (medically and legally) of the unborn fetus. "I have a responsibility to protect the unborn children of B.C."

Saving the lives of Women

We replied that we had come to deal with a medical problem, that we were concerned with saving the lives of women, and that he had a responsibility to the women of B.C. It was obvious that the Health Minister did not take his responsibility seriously. It is ironic that he was prepared to defend the unborn fetus when his government has never assumed a social responsibility for the welfare of the children of B.C.

Law not humane

Loffmark conceded, after pressing questions, that the present law was not humane enough, but at the same time he refused to send a written communique to the federal government urging changes. He revealed that he had had several discussions in the past few years about this situation, but he seemed to think that a conversation with John Munro and a few words in public were all that he needed to do.

He told us that we should approach the medical profession rather than the government, and that we needed some leadership to do this effectively. He refused when we asked him to give us this leadership.

Loffmark's negligence

Towards the end of the meeting we decided to try another approach and draw an analogy between death from illegal abortion and death from cancer. We asked him, "If a person was dying from cancer and was refused proper medical attention, would you, as Health Minister, intervene on the patient's behalf?" His reply was that he had only done so once and that he would be unlikely to do so again. Loffmark's refusal indicates his neglect of the medical rights of the women in this province.

The meeting deteriorated from this point on, and Loffmark was obviously trying to neutralize us by seeming sympathetic (but passive) to some of our demands. He expressed the hope that we would all remain friends after the encounter. We stated that his inaction told us he was our enemy and that he would continue to be so as long as he allowed the women of this province to be brutalized by irrational abortion laws. At that point, we terminated the meeting by leaving the room.



an open letter to Loffmark

Excerpts from a letter RE: ABORTION FACILITIES sent to Health Minister Loffmark & Justice Minister Peterson, March 10th.

Dear sir:

We are writing regarding the lack of the above-noted facilities and to request an open meeting with you, during the next three weeks, regarding same... we request for the women of B.C. the following:

Time Limit

In that in cases where therapeutic abortion has been requested by a woman and when pregnancy has been proved positive, using by the 42nd day after conception, that therapeutic abortion — as allowed by Section 237 of the Criminal Code of Canada — be carried out within 7 days, thus relieving the woman of additional and unnecessary mental and physical stress.

Facilities

That additional facilities for birth control information, pregnancy testing, therapeutic abortion, maternity care, sterilization and vasectomy be set up in the same physical structure as extensions of hospitals and/or clinics and that these facilities be publicly funded and community controlled.

Catholic Hospitals

That Catholic Hospitals receiving public funds no longer be allowed to refuse medical doctors the right to carry out therapeutic abortions, sterilizations and vasectomies.

Rape — Abortion Committees

That the Provincial Government investigate, immediately, why the red tape surrounding the medical profession and hospital abortion committees is a cause of death by illegal abortion. It is well known that many doctors send patients to other countries rather than hassle with the red tape involved in therapeutic abortion. Women's Caucus plans to have ABORTION REMOVED FROM THE CRIMINAL CODE DURING 1970, however, we realize that removing abortion from the Code is only one step and obtaining facilities for medical abortions in order that women can obtain the medical care that is their right is a provincial matter.

Represent Women to Federal Government

That because the Provincial Government under the British North America Act is responsible for the health and welfare of women within the province and due to the fact that the Criminal Code of Canada Section 237 is not conducive to the health of women and in fact this law causes a number of British Columbia women to die each year, we ask that the Government of British Columbia appeal to Ottawa to remove abortion from the Criminal Code.

Medical Profession

That the Provincial Government advise the B.C. Medical Profession that they are neglecting the women of British Columbia when they refuse — because of the time factor involved and red tape — to present women's cases for therapeutic abortions to the hospital Abortion Committees, causing such cases to seek illegal self-induced abortions — which bring silent death to approximately 2,000 Canadian women each year and cause women to spend burdening sums of money to seek abortions in countries with more humane abortion laws and cause women undue mental and physical stress.

WOMEN DIE

*every 4 hours a Canadian woman dies from illegal abortion

*every 2nd day a B.C. woman dies from illegal abortion

*2000 Canadian women die each year

*20,000 women enter Canadian hospitals each year from complications from illegal abortions — 200,000 hospital bed days per year

*women with complications from illegal abortions cost tax payers up to \$10 million per year

*It would take a 500 bed hospital operating 24 hrs a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year to care for women with complications from illegal abortions in Canada today

By JEAN McLAREN

"But I don't like unions," stated Carolyn. "They spoil my incentive to work hard and I don't feel I've accomplished anything."

The Working Women's Workshop of the Vancouver Women's Caucus has been holding meetings twice monthly and recently we distributed a leaflet, pointing out the inequalities and exploitation of part-time women workers. It was directed especially to workers at large agencies such as Office Overload and Office Assistance, and called part time office workers to a meeting of our group.

The ensuing discussion centred around working conditions for women workers and the attitude of trade unions to the organization of women and equal pay for men and women, and how our workshop is attempting to raise the level of consciousness of women.

The above comment of the young woman at our meeting reflected her feeling that set wage increases as negotiated by a union spoiled a person's urge to "work hard to get to the top" — a myth which has been prevalent among office workers for many years. The bosses' methods of dividing workers include giving increases to favored ones, preferably young, attractive, well dressed women (who may have to sleep with him to get their raise, or accept pats and pinches in well placed spots in order to get ahead).

Are these "fringe benefits" preferable to regular increases, medical insurance and better working conditions? We don't think so!

working women organize

A strong campaign must be waged in unions, especially those which have both men and women in them, for not only equal pay for equal work — because this is so often used to put women in a lower category — but for much more equalized pay no matter what the work. Prices are not lower for us.

A fight must be made by the women themselves and this is not always easy. So often "militant" male trade unionists will say, "but your wages are good for a woman" — of course *they* wouldn't accept them, but they are alright for us!

For example: a CUPE (Canadian Union of Public Employees) local in Surrey — which encompasses maintenance, janitors and clerical etc — contracted a 2 year agreement

for a set percentage wage increase for the first year (keeping the different categories further apart) plus \$35 per month for the second year for all employees except the clerical staff who got \$25.

It is time that we demanded equality in all ways. Is out time not as valuable as a man's time? How many of us work a full day and come home, make dinner, wash and iron and clean and then rush out to a meeting. Not to mention seeing to the kids' homework and fixing our clothes and hair so we'll look great for the boss next day.

There are many, many unorganized sisters among us and many of those who are organized also, who must be made to realize the need to struggle together, for the things we need. What unions have helped organize day care centres and nurseries, good wholesome and economical restaurant meals, etc. to help alleviate the strain on working women?

Our fellow male workers should also realize that our struggle to raise the level of our wages is also their struggle because women have traditionally been used to hold down wages. That "tradition" must be broken down.

We cannot expect someone else to solve our problems for us. We must come together to try to find ways of working things out and work together for these ends. If this means you — come out to the Working Women's Workshop at the Community Education and Research Centre — 434 West Pender on Tuesday, April 14 and 28, and every second Tuesday thereafter. Bring your problems. We are planning many interesting discussions around our common or particular problems.

BC Government Discriminates

The following is a letter of resignation from the provincial government, by Betsy Meadley.

It is impossible for me to continue working for the B.C. Government because of the discrimination against women and the fact that it continues in spite of a B.C. Human Rights Bill which was passed by an Order in Council last spring.

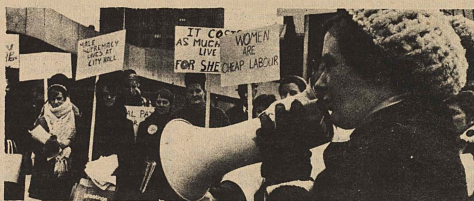
Although the B.C. Human Rights Bill states that a woman may not be discriminated against because of her sex, their own Civil Service continues to do just that.

Women are channelled into the lowest paying jobs, in fact some department heads particularly like married women with responsibilities for these women are trapped into staying for they cannot find anything better and must support their families — therefore, they meekly accept their low salaries.

Both the Office of the Fire Marshall, in the Attorney General's Dept., and the B.C. Civil Service ARE GUILTY of having male chauvinist attitudes toward women and because of this females are not allowed the same opportunity as men. *Women are being used as cheap labor in government offices.*

In the Fire Marshall's Office a woman who managed the office and had been there 48 years was paid \$461.00 per month, another woman who works very hard and THINKS, and has been there over 40 years, receives approximately \$427.00 per month — Yet the youngest male employees start at \$580.00 per month.

My take-home pay was \$251.00 after nearly three years service. I stayed because I honestly believed if I learned enough about



Toronto women protest discrimination at City Hall.

the procedures of the office I would be able to apply and gain a male position — but — after a year of hard struggling to either up-grade my salary (the position is worth more than the classification, however, I am told after waiting one year for reclassification that it will take nearly another year — while I continue to work for a salary far below what the position is worth) or obtain a male position which would start at double my present salary.

Because it was a Government Office I felt that the time was now with me as far as gaining equal opportunity — but I found it was a long hard battle and I could not continue the struggle for equal opportunity any longer. I AM TIRED, DEPRESSED AND ANGRY over the discrimination against women — and governments who allow it to continue.

Although my personnel officer, Mr. Ralph Baker of the Attorney General's Dept., Victoria, did on a number of occasions visit our offices and despite a number of requests

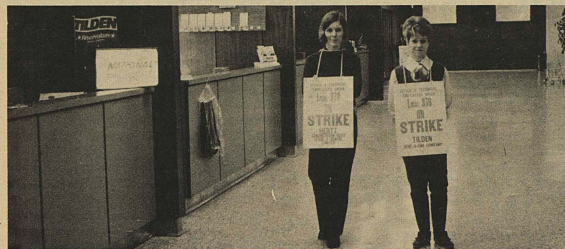
through my supervisors and directly to Mr. Baker, I was unable to speak directly with him regarding the status of women within the office or about my reclassification. In fact, he avoided me like the plague. I think two years is too long for a woman receiving \$251.00 take home pay to wait for reclassification of a mis-classified position.

Communication between employees and personnel officers from Victoria is rather one-sided — the employee asks but does not receive answers.

Office employees are very essential people to any organization *but because office workers are mainly women and women are most undemanding people we are exploited as cheap labor — and the B.C. government stands accused of discrimination against women within its own civil service.*

My battle for advancement was long and hard and I did try go into detail except to say that I did try every conceivable way of bringing attention to the discrimination — and yet it remains.

ON STRIKE



The working women's workshop urges everyone to join the picket line. Call 879-9722

By BARBARA ROBERTSON

Until January 15, 1970 I was a working employee of Tilden Rent a Car. I am now a striking employee, and the girls operating the counter have been hired since the strike to do my job, were union people strikebreaking, or non-union people who chose to cross my picket line. I am one of the fifty-five employees of Tilden, Hertz and Avis who are fighting multi-million dollar corporations to obtain the simple right to free collective bargaining.

Since organizing began in May, 1969 we have been harassed, fired and laid off for participation in the union. A union shop clause is our only protection against such action in the future.

The employees approached the Office and Technical Employees Union, Local 378 and asked for help. We knew there were things wrong, such as discrimination in wages and job advancement, but most of us didn't realize how many rights we had. Since that time we have been attempting to obtain those rights that are supposed to be provided for us by law.

The companies have repeatedly broken the law by: refusing to bargain until six weeks after certification of the union; firing and laying off employees for union participation; refusing to appoint a resident British Columbia negotiator (the negotiator was a Hertz vice-president from New York, and was not available except for short periods of time); offering substantial wage increases during bargaining in an attempt to

buy employees out of the union; transporting non-union workers on company time and at company expense to vote on the strike and attempting to slip in strike votes from some management.

The companies have not bargained in good faith. A couple of weeks ago our local president, Mr. Bone, went to New York and negotiated a contract with the Hertz vice-president, Mr. Metzger. Several copies of this agreement were prepared in Metzger's office and distributed. The vice-president then stalled, explaining that he wished to give Avis and Tilden an opportunity to sign the contract at the same time as Hertz. Over a week had passed when word was received in Vancouver that no contract was being signed, and the situation would therefore remain as before.

We have been picketing the three downtown locations of the companies, the truck centres and the Airport counters. At the Airport in particular though, we have run into a blockade as our pickets are restricted to the area in front of the counters in the terminal building. The companies actually operate in many other areas of the Airport complex. In effect, the Department of Transport is protecting the three corporations, two of which are American owned, in preference of protecting the Airport employees.

One wonders where justice lies when gigantic corporations can break the law, yet fifty-five employees are blocked from obtaining their rights.

Hospital Union For Equal Pay

The following resolution was adopted at the last meeting of the Vancouver General Hospital Unit of the Hospital Employees Union. This is an important step towards committing the entire Hospital Employees Union of B.C. Thousands of women work in B.C. hospitals and suffer discrimination on the basis of sex. Previous issues of the Pedestal have carried reports of the work that women have been doing to achieve equal pay for nurses aides with orderlies, who do essentially the same work but receive about \$100 per month more in wages.

WHEREAS:

it being the traditional policy of labor to promote the equality of all regardless of race, creed, color or sex,

AND WHEREAS:

this Local is comprised mainly of women who fall far short of equality of treatment in the matter of wages and other items relating to income and working conditions,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: this Local, Hospital Employees Union, Local No. 180 (CUPE-CLC) formally declare its adherence to the concept of equality of treatment of the sexes in hospital employment, in regards to wages and job opportunities,

AND THAT:

this principle be incorporated as a clause in the Constitution of the Union.

Shrink says OK to exploit

Larry Buzin runs an agency in Los Angeles which provides transportation for black women who live in Watts and have to travel every day to LA suburbia where they work as maids in white homes. The women are paid \$20 a day, but Buzin charges them \$8 a day for transportation in mini-buses. "At first I felt guilty that I was exploiting these women," he said, "but my psychologist . . . says I have a legitimate service — and if people don't like it they don't have to use it. That makes me feel a lot better."



International Womens' Day Success

To women involved in building a movement, in bringing women together to fight against the discrimination they face in all areas of their lives, proof of the growth of women's liberation locally, nationally and internationally is very exciting.

For the first time since the '30's, International Women's Day was celebrated throughout North America.

In New York, where the 1908 strike by socialist women inspired the original celebration of March 8th, a rally of more than 350 people heard members of the Medical Committee for Human Rights speak on a pending abortion suit against the state of New York demanding the repeal of all abortion laws. In Long Beach, California, a conference on women was held; in Los Angeles, in conjunction with International Women's Day, the 100th anniversary

of the birthday of Rosa Luxemburg was celebrated. San Francisco's women's liberation groups sponsored workshops and heard speeches on "women and sexuality", welfare rights and other topics. A workshop on job discrimination worked out a set of demands including maternity and paternity leave, labor contracts, child care and job rotation for more meaningful work.

Demonstrations, meetings, teach-ins, film showings and leafletting projects during the week of March 8th aimed at building a demonstration March 14 against the American Medical Association conference were held by Chicago women.

A teach-in on March 9 in Seattle attracted 150 people. Two members of Vancouver Women's Caucus were speakers.

In Boston, 600 women marched to Faneuil Hall

where they posted a Declaration of the Rights of Women.

A conference on abortion was held at Wayne State University in Detroit. Houston Texas women held a forum on women in the movement, in the black community, in the Chicano community, on welfare, as professional women and as residents.

The Women's Caucus of Youth Against War and Fascism in New York packed the court house to support three women and three men arrested during a militant confrontation with police in front of the Women's House of Detention. The Black Panther paper reports the arrests were a deliberate political act.

In DeKalb, Illinois, a teach-in which included films and speeches on consumerism, the family, abortion and women in history was held.

the housewife's dilemma

By GEORGINA KOLLONAY

drawing by BONITA BECKMAN

Nov 6-67
8:00 am
A gentle click comes from Dani's door. Marc calls excitedly "Dani's up, Mom." And they both come bounding into Mother's bedroom, dancing and laughing at each other. Dani goes to the desk and begins switching the lamp off and on. Marc follows him and says "How come the light is here. It belongs there," pointing to the nighttable. "Daddy was writing to Grandma." Marc picks up an old letter: "See Dani a letter to Gama." Turning to Mother "I want to write." Mother passes pencil. Marc says "Don't turn the light off, Dani. I can't see to write." Dani shifts his attention to the telephone. Dials it. Does not lift receiver but puts his mouth down close to it saying "ello". Then "Bye". Dani runs out of the room and into the living room. He adjusts the television. Goes to the coffee table. Begins to eat. Marc comes in. "That's mine, Dani." Dani says "No-o." Marc takes a piece of cheese. Dani reaches for it and cries loudly. Mother comes in and picks Dani up saying to Marc "I'll drain a bath for you now." "I don't need one." Marc says. "Indeed, you do." Mother says, "you wet in your bed last night and now you don't smell too good." "I don't stink," Marc is saying. Mother drains the bath and undresses Dani. Marc comes into bathroom. Mother undoes his buttons, then puts Dani in the bath. Marc is slowly taking his underwear off. Mother helps and lifts him into the bath tub.

Nov 6-67
11:00 am
Mother returns from the laundry room, her arms full of clothes.

Dani and Marc are in their room, the door hooked from outside.

Baby Hellen sleeps on her tummy, - head to the right, arms upward, fingers outstretched, - in a bassinet in her own room.

The living room TV set is going.

Marc calls "Mommy, you watching TV."

Mother says: "No. I just came from the laundry room and I am coming in to see you."

She turns off the TV set, puts Hellen's clothes in her room, and goes into the boys' room, saying impatiently: "What a mess! Let's clean it up." Marc is lying on the floor with his blanket, thumb in mouth. Dani is playing under his crib. He crawls out. Mother trips over Marc on her way to their chest of drawers. She yells: "Get up, Marcus! This minute! And put that blanket on your bed!" Marc does very slowly. Mother puts the clothes away. "Pick up your shoes, Dani." Dani looks around, finds one, and tries to put it on.

Mother once. Comes back with a glass of water. Gives Dani a drink. He spills a little. She says sharply "Oh, Dani." Dani puckers but doesn't cry.

Mother turns to Marc. Gives him a drink, saying: "Now help me to clean this room. You pick up your toys and I will make your bed." Marc is saying "I don't want to put my car in the box. I want it up there." "Then put it up there. Just so long as you tidy up. And don't talk to me. I'm too tired to listen." Mother is saying. Dani is picking up toys too and putting them in the toy box.

Nov 6-67
12:00 noon
Everyone is hungry. Mother feels tired and is worried about a marital disagreement.

Marc and Dani have been sucking their thumbs more than usual this morning, she is thinking.

Marc sits on the toilet. "There's a sink in my pants, Mom," he calls, makes a disgusted facial expression and holds up his underwear.

"Oh, Marcus. Not you I hope," Mother says, coming to look at them. She smiles, relieved. "Just a small spot," she says. "We'll put them in the laundry. Want me to wipe you?" "I want to do it myself," Marc says. He takes some paper and cleans himself slowly and thoroughly. He's saying: "Baby Hellen is crying for you, Mom." "She wants her lunch" Mother says.

Dani comes to the bathroom door smiling timidly, his hand rests on the knob and he jabbars to Mother in a quiet tone. Mother smiles. He says "bye" and closes the door.

"I have to go back to the laundry room now," Mother says, "Come and I will serve your lunch before I go." "May we come too?" Marc says. "No, your lunch is ready now," Mother replies. "I like you, Mommy," Marc continues. "I like you too Honey," Mother is saying. Marc says "Then can I come with you?" "No," Mother saying, laughing. Mother goes to the kitchen saying "Prepare your table and stools." Mother puts boiled eggs with cauliflower in sour cream into two melmac bowls and puts it on a tray with two spoons which she carries to their room, and then goes back for Dani. Dani is adjusting his TV set. Mother picks him up and carries him to his table.

"Yes, they are," Marc insists. "I'll go meet Patsy." "You have no shoes on" Mother is saying "and you can't go without shoes."

Dani comes into the baby's room. He climbs up on the bed and tries to sit into the baby lounge, putting his feet in first. He falls, almost into the baby's dish. Mother moves the dish to the other side, which is cumbersome for feeding. Dani arranges the lounge and tries again, this time walking up the back.

Marc goes into the hall where he meets a girl with a whistle. He says in a subdued tone of authority: "Give me that whistle." In a few seconds he is in Hellen's room saying "Look, Mom. I got the whistle." Mother says commandingly: "Go, give it back. It belongs to that little girl, not to you." He goes with reluctance.

Nov 6-67
5:45 pm

Mother is feeding baby Hellen in Hellen's room.

Marc and Dani are finishing off a sandwich in their room. They are seated in the playpen. Dani climbs up on the side and falls over. He cries. Marc says "Go see Mommy, Dani."

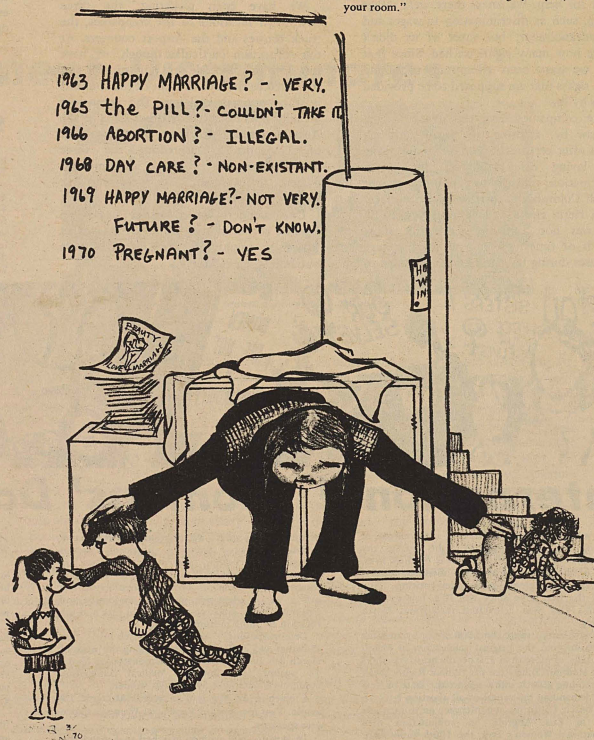
Dani comes into Hellen's room, still crying, and sits on Mother's knee. She pats him soothingly and he stops crying.

Marc appears in the door with a package of cigarettes and a page from a notebook. Mother says "Where did you get those?" a little crossly. Marc shrugs and mumbles unintelligibly. Mother says, more crossly: "on the kitchen cupboard?" Marc nods. Mother says "Put them back, and come here where I know what you are doing." Marc moves out sheepishly. Mother is saying "you know that you are not to touch anything on the cupboard."

Dani runs to the bathroom and comes back with a facecloth. He climbs up on the bed and begins dabbing at Hellen's face. She laughs. He looks pleased and smiles, taking gently to her and patting her hand.

Later: Mother sits Hellen in her chair and goes to kitchen. Marc sits there with father's lunch can, the eye drops, and the package of cigarettes - opened. He looks up: Drops everything! And runs. Mother catches him and shakes him roughly, saying "Go to your room."

1963 HAPPY MARRIAGE? - VERY.
1965 the PILL? - COULDN'T TAKE IT
1966 ABORTION? - ILLEGAL.
1968 DAY CARE? - NON-EXISTANT.
1969 HAPPY MARRIAGE? - NOT VERY.
FUTURE? - DON'T KNOW.
1970 PREGNANT? - YES



Edmonton Women Join Campaign

By LYNN CURRIE

"Seeing that in the past women have been enslaved by their bodies, we affirm now that it is scientifically possible, the right of women to have control over their bodies. This we seek by working to make freely available to all women, regardless of age or social status, birth control information, birth control devices, the right to abortion and the right to sterilization for both men and women, through the establishment of family planning clinics and by encouraging government and industry to channel more funds into research on birth control."

(Demand 2, Edmonton Women's Liberation)

Edmonton Women's Liberation took the first step towards achieving this demand on Friday, March 20.

The newly dynamic group has been together only two months, and this was its first major public action. The action had three major purposes:

- 1) to tie in with the Canada-wide Abortion Campaign
- 2) to unite in some way with the other women's groups in Edmonton
- 3) to activate the WL membership and to attract new members.

To some degree all purposes were achieved.

The evening was planned as an educational on abortion. The film "Abortion and the Law" (a CBS production, available for shipping charges from the Society for Humane Abortions, P.O. Box 1862, San Francisco, Calif. 94101) was shown. Commentary from a panel then pointed up the highlights.

The panel consisted of:

Halyna Chomiak Freeland, as moderator, a third year law student at U of A. Catherine I Fraser, a third year law student at U of A. Dr. Ball, the head administrator at the Student Health Services at the U of A. Dr. Ringrose, a gynecologist attached to the Misericordia Hospital in Edmonton. Dr. Yoneda, a gynecologist attached to the Royal Alexandra Hospital in Edmonton.

In the discussion following the film the direction was made clear towards further pressure for free legalized abortions. The present law affects poor and working women most severely. Wealthy women can fly to Britain or Japan for a safe legal abortion or pay as much for an illegal abortion in Canada. A woman should not be punished with unwanted children because she is poor. Both the panel and the audience felt that since the Canadian Medical Association was controlled politically and the two (out of fourteen) hospitals in Edmonton that do have Abortion Appeal Boards make political appointments to these boards, the obvious next step is to pressure the governments.

For this reason WL had printed up post cards. At the educational we urged people to sign four cards and address them to: Rt. Hon. P.M. Trudeau; Hon John Turner, Minister of Justice; Hon. John Munro, Minister of Health; and their M.P., all in care of the Houses of Parliament, Ottawa, Ontario.

Dear Sir:

Thousands of women die each year from illegal abortions. The new Abortion laws have not changed this fact. We insist on the right of every woman to obtain an abortion on request.

Please reply:

This tactic has two merits: 1) as long as parliament is in session any Canadian has the right to petition (send mail) to his government representatives free of postal charge. 2) it enables WL and non-WL members to participate to some initiatory degree in something they may just be beginning to understand as crucial.

We feel that this tactic should be adopted across Canada in order to put pressure on law makers in government. Only when liberalizing the abortion laws becomes politically expedient will they do so. It is up to us to make them realize that millions of Canadians, both men and women, demand free, legalized abortions.

Solidarity With Vietnamese Women

On March 18 in Vancouver there will be a Peace Parade against the war in Vietnam. The march will start at Thornton Park (CNR Station) at 10:30 am, and will proceed to the court house for a rally at 12:30. Come and express our solidarity with our sisters in Vietnam. For information call 879-7011.

By DIANE SHREK

Throughout the land women young and old have been playing their parts in fighting, organizing and producing to overcome the United States intruders.

In the National Assembly in the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, 66 women disputes constituted 16% of the whole. In the government itself, two of the Vice-ministers for Health and Labour were women. 27% of the provincial people's councils were women, 27.3% of the district people's councils, 20.8% of the village people's councils.

Women comprised 70% of the labour force in agriculture, 47.4% in light industry, 23.4% in heavy industry, 45% in handicrafts, 45% in trade, 37.4% in administration, 40% in education, 50% in literature and art. Since that time even more women have entered the public arena and legislation has made it so. In South Vietnam, women have also come to the fore. Nguyen-Thi-Dinh is a deputy commander-in-chief of the National Liberation Front forces, and Nguyen-Thi-Binh, who has been twice to England this year, is Foreign Minister of the Provisional Revolutionary Government and Deputy Leader of its delegation in Paris.

It is a fact that between June 1967 and October 1968, North Vietnamese militia women shot down 22 American planes. They work in groups with a commander to give the order to fire as soon as a raider comes within a certain range. In such cases concentration of gunfire at

exactly the right time is essential for success.

One young woman of 26, Nguyen-Thi-Ezi, who had been appointed manager-in-chief of her farming co-operative of 289 families and a deputy of the National Assembly for her district; along with her management committee, organized the work for 320 women and 12 men. Work included rice-cultivation, water conservation, storage and use of fertilizers, fish breeding, animal breeding, production of semi-mechanized tools, road-making, institution of a first-class modern children's nursery, a new hospital, to say nothing of a hygiene campaign and a self-defense unit. In keeping with the times there was a home guard of 36 girls between 18 and 24, trained by the district militia, who are by rate, on duty day and night, led by a young woman of 22.

One woman who had met Lai's committee was impressed



Vancouver women picket provincial court.

DEFEND MAKAROFF

Vancouver Women's Caucus held a demonstration on Thursday, March 19 to protest the charging of a local doctor, Dr. Robert Makaroff, with conspiring to procure an abortion.

Women dressed as pregnant men marched in front of the "Public Safety Building" (police station) carrying signs which read "If men could get pregnant, would abortion be a crime?" "Forced Fatherhood?" and "Men = The Judges, Men = The Legislators, Men = Doctors, Men = Mothers?" Another "man", dressed as a dandy with a top hat, was labelled P.E. Trudeau, and carried a sign saying: "If Trudeau had an abortion, would HIS doctor go to jail for life?" Other women carried abortion banners proclaiming that abortion is a woman's right.

The demonstration moved inside briefly for a march through the police station and into the courtroom itself, where police forcibly ejected the demonstrators.

Dr. Makaroff's case was held over for one week, until March 26. When he reappeared in court, many women in the courtroom applauded in a show of support. He was again bound over to Thursday, April 2, at 9:30 when a trial date will be set and a plea entered.

Dr. Makaroff has been charged under Section 237 of the Criminal Code with conspiring to procure an abortion. A police woman, Mary Lynn Hinston, was instrumental

in laying this charge against Dr. Makaroff. Subsequently, two further charges of procuring an abortion have been laid, following a police drive to question many of Dr. Makaroff's women patients. Several women have asked Women's Caucus about their rights in such an event; they have complained of harassment and intimidation on the part of the police. Dr. Makaroff's lawyer has advised that any woman who finds herself in this situation need not answer questions at all, unless she has her lawyer present during questioning.

Vancouver Women's Caucus protest the charging of anyone under the inhuman laws governing abortion. We feel that it is a basic human right to have control over our bodies, to have a real choice whether or not to bear a child. Further, we feel that charging a doctor under this law clearly illustrates the inadequacies of the new law. Since the charge demonstrated a belief that a doctor cannot obtain sufficient access to the legal channels for abortion to fill the needs of his patients.

Women's Caucus will be following this case closely, as part of our general campaign to remove abortion from the Criminal Code of Canada. If you are interested or concerned about this issue, we urge you to attend the court appearances of Dr. Makaroff. For further information, contact Women's Caucus, 307 W. Broadway, 879-9722.

with the freshness of their outlook. Men had for centuries been in charge of the land; son had followed father on the management and new ideas were rarely encouraged. These young women had no such inhibitions. Once they had installed a pump to lessen the labour entailed by carrying water, flailing rice, etc., they planned to use the woman-power released to make a proper road from the high road to their village so that non-wheeled vehicles could bring in and out goods which hitherto had to be carried on shoulder yokes. Once they could use women's work in every field, they had to install properly run creches and kindergartens.

Tuong-Thi-Khue, a 23 year old girl commander of an anti-aircraft team consisting of young men fought in nearly 200 actions. Her team during three years up to the declaration of limited bombing of the North in October 1968, grounded four enemy planes and helped to

down nine others besides capturing four American pilots. Her village's success has been credited largely to Klue's contribution both in combat and in production.

In Vietnam, the aim has been for every man, woman and child to know and understand the nature of the enemy — both external and internal — the means by which he can be defeated, and the kind of society to be established once the liberation war has ended. And this education is very important for it lays the basis for the continued equality of the Vietnamese women once the war is over, and the real work of maintaining and extending their positions begins.

In other countries which have waged liberation struggles this task has been less difficult when women have already achieved a consciousness of women's liberation. For Vietnamese women, whose consciousness indeed seems to exist.

An Open Letter to the Prime Minister

Dear sir:

We are FURIOUS WOMEN in a nation that does not recognize or respect our basic rights as human beings and citizens of Canada.

We charge the Government of Canada with violation of its responsibility and trust to serve all of its citizens. We charge the Government of Canada with the following:

1. Of being responsible for the MURDER BY ABORTION OF 2,000 CANADIAN WOMEN, who die each year from illegal abortions.
2. Of being responsible for the hospitalization and possible mutilation of 20,000 WOMEN, who enter hospitals for treatment of complications arising from illegal abortions.
3. Of being responsible for the psychological, physiological and economic oppression and degradation of thousands of women who are forced into unwanted motherhood and who depend on inadequate medication over which they have no control (the abuses of the pill and lack of adequate research into new methods of birth control and abortion). We understand that the medical profession and the hospitals share this responsibility. But also we recognize that the situation would be greatly alleviated if the Government met our demands.

We, therefore, demand the following:

- A. That Abortion (Section 237) be removed from the Criminal Code of Canada.
- B. That all persons who have been convicted under Section 237 or 150 of the Criminal Code of Canada be pardoned and that current prosecutions arising from this section be nullified.
- C. That methods of safe birth control for women and men be researched by the Federal Government.
- D. That new methods of abortion be researched by the Federal Government, and that both the birth control information and methods of abortion be made public and that this information be sent to all medical doctors and be taught in medical schools.

If another country murdered 2,000 CANADIAN WOMEN the Canadian Government would take immediate steps to stop the murders and should the murdering not be stopped, the Government of Canada would probably call an Emergency meeting and could quite conceivably declare war on that country.

Laws can be changed very quickly in wartime, in a state of national emergency. The deaths of thousands of women and the tragedy of unwanted pregnancies constitute such an emergency.

We, therefore, demand that an Emergency Meeting be called to end such carnage of Canadian women by illegal abortion.

The Vancouver Women's Caucus, along with other Women's Liberation groups have declared the week beginning May 9th as Abortion Week throughout Canada. We will be leaving Vancouver in a cavalcade for Ottawa and will stop in cities and towns along the way where other Women's Liberation groups will join us.

We trust that we will be able to meet with the Prime Minister, the Minister of Justice, the Minister of Health, and Members of Parliament.

The Federal Abortion laws kill 2000 women a year. We consider the government of Canada is in a state of war with the women of Canada. If steps are not taken to implement our demands by Monday, May 11, 1970 at 3:00 pm, we will be forced to respond by declaring war on the Canadian government.

We are angry, furious women and we demand our right to human dignity.

Yours till Repeal,

Vancouver Women's Caucus
M. Hollibaugh
B. Meadley

MARCH AGAINST INHUMAN ABORTION LAWS MOTHER'S DAY ASSEMBLY LOST LAGOON MAY 10 (STANLEY PARK) 1:30 PM

Or JOIN THE CAVALCADE TO OTTAWA leaving Vancouver April 27. Call Marge Hollibaugh 936-9728

Actions will take place in most major cities in Canada. For information contact your local women's liberation group or ABORTION CAMPAIGN HQ, c/o Women's Caucus, 307 W. Broadway, Van. Phone 879-9722

WOMEN'S CAUCUS CALENDAR FOR APRIL

Wed, 1st First in educational series on WHY THE ABORTION CAMPAIGN - "I've got a friend with a problem": A Report from the Abortion Information Service
Fri, 3rd Gagnon speaks, 8:00, Community Educational & Research Centre, 434 W. Pender
Sat, 4th Get together with Evelyn Reed, women's liberationist & socialist from New York 8:00, C.E.R.C., 434 W. Pender
Mon, 6th Abortion Research Workshop Coordinating Committee Meeting (both at the office, 307 W. Broadway)
Tues, 7th Abortion Information Service
Wed, 8th Second of educational series: Dating, Morality & Sex in the School System
Thurs, 9th General Meeting
Mon, 13th Research Workshop, Office

Tues, 14th Working Women's Workshop C.E.R.C., 434 W. Pender, 8:00 Also: Abortion info serv., Office
Wed, 15th Third of ed. series: Hospitals, the Medical Profession & Drug Companies VS Abortion, at the office
Sat, 18th Vietnam March from CNR station 10am to court house 12:30
Mon, 20th Abortion Research Workshop
Tues, 21st Abortion Info Service
Wed, 22 Last of ed. series: Abortion and Women's Liberation
Thurs, 23rd GENERAL MEETING
Mon, 27th CAVALCADE LEAVES FOR OTTAWA!!!
Tues, 28th Abortion Information Service

WATCH FOR: MORE ACTION ON MAKAROFF CASE, A BENEFIT FOR ABORTION CAMPAIGN

NOTES:

Help with research on drug companies, medical profession, etc. Come to Monday meetings or call Marcy Cohen, 298-8430.
Help with fund-raising for the abortion campaign: call Jean Rands, 298-8430
Help with mailings etc for abortion campaign: call Marge Hollibaugh
Help with planning educational: Call Karen Malo 733-6912
All working women are invited to workshop meetings, alternate Tuesdays. The workshop has produced a leaflet on Equal Pay for Equal Work which is available for distribution. Call Women's Caucus, 879-9722 - Come out to the picket line to support the rent-a-car strikers.

THE PEDESTAL will now be published MONTHLY. We're looking forward to articles, letters, etc. from all across Canada.

and subscriptions. We need your help!

(bulk orders of 100 or more, 7 cents per copy.)

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