

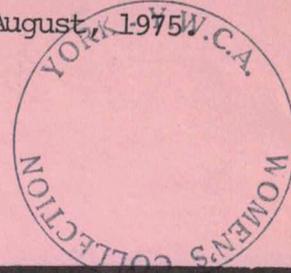
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Y. W. C. A.  
RESOURCE CENTRE

# PRIORITIES

Vol. 3, No. 8

August 1975



A Publication of the  
N. D. P. Women's Committee

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Priorities is published monthly by the Standing Committee on Women's Rights of the B.C. New Democratic Party. Its intent is to provide a means of communication and discussion for NDP women in order to further the interests of the women's movement and of democratic socialism.

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Correspondence and subscriptions to: Priorities  
 c/o 3485 West 15th Ave.,  
 Vancouver, B.C.

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 "The issues and demands raised by the Women's Liberation Movement are intergral to the development of a democratic socialist society. The NDP actively encourages and provides support for women organizing around the demands of the women's liberation movement and commits an NDP government to creating the legislation necessary to realize these demands."  
 ( From the B.C. N.D.P. policy on Women's Rights )  
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### EDITORIAL COMMITTEE:

Janis Carrado,  
 Margaret Beardsley, Melodie Corrigall,  
 Astrid Davidson, Robin Geary, Candace Hanson,  
 Andre Lugsdin, Judy McManus, Andrea Mickelson,  
 Kathleen Orton, Judy Paterson, Linda Storey,  
 Marilyn Walmsley, Marilyn Webb, Sharon Yandle.

Priorities has been typed and laid out by volunteer labour and is printed in a union shop.

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This issue was produced at the Vancouver Area Council Office at 1111 Commercial Dr. The next Priorities meeting will be at the VAC Office at 8 pm, Sept. 8th. You are welcome. For any info you could phone Judy @ 261-8972, or Melodie @ 733-5990.

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 If you are moving please submit a change of address the month before to Priorities, 3485 West 15th Ave., Vancouver, B.C.  
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# LETTERS



Dear Priorities;

Thanks so much for reminding me that my subscription has run out. Please renew and accept the balance as a donation. Your magazine is a credit to the women of the NDP, and a fulfilment of a dream I've always had that some day the women of the NDP would rise up and make known their strength. Being a charter member with my husband of the CCF, I have watched its progress closely and realized the strong part women have played and yet received little recognition and so very few ever elected to office. Those who did have been outstanding.

I kept close to the TV during the filming of the NDP convention in Winnipeg and was thrilled by Rosemary's talks and the support she received. None of the male speakers came near her success in getting over the true philosophy of the NDP, and the true message left by our first leader JIMMY Woodworth. While all the speakers were lauding his (J.S. Woodworth's) virtues and values, I couldn't help but think of the time he stood alone against Canada entering the WAR. His principles meant more than public opinion and VOTES.

I've said more than I intended. Thank you for your untiring efforts and congratulations to all your workers.

(Mrs.) May Campbell, (Victoria)

Dear Priorities;

I just received my July issue of Priorities, and with it an accompanying sense of homesickness, of course. I miss you all.

Before I got to the little article designed to encourage writers like me, who can never quite get the words out right, I had already begun the article that I keep intending to write. It is now on the drawing boards, I hope for the September issue (it must be sandwiched between other activities.. ..so give me a while).

In it I will try to deal with what life is presently like for women in the northwest; what some of the problems are; and then what some of the solutions are. I would like to report there on the Northwest Study Conference '75, which dealt with the major issues facing people in the northwest (primarily local control of local resources, diversity of the economic base, settlement of the land claims and aboriginal rights of Indian people), and with the impending NKK Steel Mill as an example of the gloomy future of the northwest if the above issues are not resolved. These are the things I have been involved in in the last 5 months, and I am crying to be able to share my knowledge and interest and understanding about what they mean. But it is taking time.

This is just to let you know that I haven't forgotten you, and that I really do intend to produce something (between steel mills and port developments and railroads).

In Sisterhood,

Shelly Dillon  
Terrace, B. C.

PRIORITIES 

TRIM DEPT. ! 

Gentlemen: 

Attention: Trim Dept.

We are pleased to advise you that we have acquired the entire stock of the most unusual and beautiful "Ribbons, Braids, Trimmings etc." of the well known importer "Clarence Tobin Co. of New York."

Your name appears on their long list of loyal and satisfied customers of several decades, therefore we are writing you.

Should you be interested in any numbers you have been running, or perhaps new ones from this firm, we welcome your inquiries and orders. We can assure you of the same prompt and courteous service you have always received.

Needless to state, the "Tinsel Trading Company" has been in business since "1933". In addition to a very large and exceptional assortment of the 1930's era, antiques in trimmings and fabrics, as per literature enclosed, our stock also includes "Braids-Cords-Tassels-Fringes and Trimmings" in every category of the present style trends.

Trusting you pay us a visit to our

"Treasure Trove Store" the next time you are in the vicinity,

Sincerely yours,



TINSEL TRADING COMPANY  
New York, New York.



## NO AID FOR SEPARATE SCHOOLS!

Dear Sisters,

I would like to reply to Mr. Eve's letter concerning aid to Independent schools, and refer him back to the original article which appeared in the May issue of "Priorities". In this we were told that out of a total of 114 schools in the Federation of Ind. Schools Assoc., a total of 74 are operated by the Roman Catholic Church, 15 belong to the Nat. Union of Christian Schools and 10 are associated with a variety of religious faiths including a Jewish, Mennonite and a Lutheran school. Mr. Eve states that it is of no import what views or beliefs the schools teach, and this would appear to be the basis of our disagreement, as I think it is of paramount importance. As a feminist I would take great exception to my taxes supporting a school associated with a church which preaches against birth control and abortion. Would Mr. Eve still support aid if the Canadian Nazi party decided to start a school?

I would like to reiterate what I said in my previous letter--WE should be working (continued)

to improve the present public school system and not opting out altogether, and then objecting because the government does not give aid to Independent schools run by a variety of organizations, from the religious to the humanistic and including the militaristic, to propagate their particular views.

In conclusion I would like to quote from Owen Dudley Edwards book "The Sins of our Fathers".."The Irish educational system has done more than any other factor to make for a divided community in N. Ireland. It has created two worlds within the earliest years of childhood. These two worlds have enabled Catholics and Protestants to tell themselves that their children have been preserved in the Catholic or Protestant faith and directly as a result of then the first casualty in N. Ireland has been Christianity.....The history of Boston, of New York, of Liverpool and Glasgow all reflect the sectarian bitterness which can emerge with particular virulence when children grow up in ignorance of each others attitudes and without the decent respect for contrary opinions which only the closeness of longstanding camaraderie can bring."

Yours in sisterhood,  
Kate Dillon

★ **DON'T MOVE!** ★★

From time to time a woman approaches me (even though I have ring-around-the-collar, germ breath and athletes foot, people still approach me!) and says "I met a Priorities subscriber - Mary Smith (not her real name) - at the Conference and she said that although she has been a regular subscriber for years and has sent in donations and complimentary letters galore, she has not received an issue in X number of months (not real number)."

At this point everyone in the room gives me a disappointed look, there are a few tsks and a few sighs. I look to the ceiling,

adjust my collar and respond.

"I'll check into it immediately", or "toute suite" if I'm feeling bilingual.

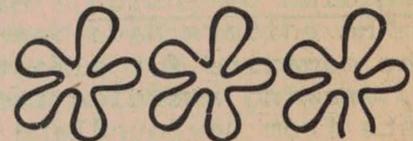
And I do. Within the next number of days I go to the cards and start looking for Mary Smith. No such name. No such person. Put then ahah - I try in the dead Priorities file. Made up of - as they say in the Post Office big "no such's" and "not at's". And there she is, "issue returned" X number of months ago.

You see, dear reader, Mary Smith moved. And worse than that she moved in a secret and clandestine fashion. She did not inform me!

Now I have many talents. I whistle and hum simultaneously. I can carry over 200 lbs on my shoulders (from a standing position only). I can tell the longest joke on record without a punch line. However, I am not psychic. So I do not know when you move and cannot, therefore, readdress your Priorities.

So, dear Mary Smith, when you move or change your name let me be the first to know. If you don't you will find yourself lonely and frustrated filed under the Priorities dead issues file. An unhappy fate.

- Melodie Corrigan,  
"Keeper of the Books"





**hooray**

**a special issue!**



Hooray! An 82 page magazine issue which is the best salute to what International Women's Year should be that I have seen or heard about in Canada: Canadian Dimension's last release, "Women: A Special Issue". "Canadian Dimension is an independent journal of fact and opinion. It is not affiliated with any political party or organization. It receives no government or corporate funds or subsidies". This quote is taken from the first page of the magazine. It is published in Winnipeg and represents more of a socialist-Marxist than social democratic editorial policy. There is often, in fact, a comprehensive Marxist analysis of ideas and national and international events in the articles. This focus can make the reading somewhat heavy going--feet on the floor, elbows on the table, good light and concentration material. The effort is rewarded, in my view, and I am pleased that this excellent magazine exists along with other English Canadian magazines such as Last Post and This Magazine (and, of course, Priorities) to keep me informed and thinking about socialist perspectives in and from Canada.

The women's issue is perhaps the best Canadian Dimension I have read. The editors have been planning the magazine for almost half a year, drawing articles from feminists from Newfoundland to B.C. to give a thorough representation of the women's movement in Canada plus three articles on international issues.

Two articles give the historical background of the fight for women's rights in Canada: "Singing Up the Hill" (Deborah Corhan) and "Nellie McClung" (Gwen Matheson). Both added pieces to the unfinished puzzle in my mind of 'who are the heroines of Canada?' (the public personalities and organizations as well as the everywoman portrayed in Never Done and 'what were the obstacles they faced and fought?'. "The Seeds of the Seventies" (Kay MacPherson) suggests different perspectives on the Canadian movement and some women's organizations which fostered sisterhood before the movement as such became apparent. She concludes:

"Perhaps the most hopeful thing about the women's movement today as compared to twenty years ago, is that we have grown in cynicism. We have fewer illusions. We know that power, if we want it, has to be taken. Appeals to reason, chivalry, and humanity don't mean a thing. No one is going to give up power voluntarily, least of all the men in government. Women are slowly beginning to use effective tactics--votes, money, publicity, even ridicule--in order to gain power. At the same time, many of us insist that to use the tools of male power--force, violence, might and armaments--will not produce the world we want, and that women must

develop more constructive and less wasteful techniques."

I found "Women's Liberation: Opening Chapter Two" (Marlene Dixon, 13 pages) to be the most exciting and challenging to my own political understanding of the articles. Marlene begins by mentioning the beginning of feminist consciousness within the left and the necessity for women to break from the male domination which, despite 'intentions' to the contrary, was consistently apparent. One unfortunate consequence of this break, she feels, was the lack of political focus in the women's movement and the development of "bourgeois" and "reactionary" feminism, neither of which ever "produced a coherent program" of action. The last part of the article suggests a "theoretical base for the future". This base acknowledges women's subjugation in the nuclear family, the manipulation of our bodies in relation to reproduction and the double bind of the working class women. Marlene ends her comments with the observation that the standard of living has improved women's position as men's, but our "super-exploitation and subjugation have remained exactly where they were in 1863".

## **Political-Socialist Focus**

"Women Invent Society" (Margaret Benston and Pat Davitt) traces the process of waning labour prestige for women from the early agricultural societies through to today, stating some hypotheses as to how and why this happened.

"Who Speaks for Working Class Women?" (Z. Farida and J. Kuyek) is a short article which, like

most of the others in this Dimension, stresses the necessity for a political-socialist focus for the women's movement.

Some other articles are "The Prosecution of Dr. Morgentaler" (Margie Cordon and Shelley Cavigan), a brief history and comment; "Women's Impossible Dream?" (Sandra Henneman), a personal experience comment on how women's dependency is moulded with the conclusion:

"The first step, the first word is NO. To say no to what exists. And then to go about changing it."

"Livesay's Choice" (Dorothy Livesay) describes the process behind her editing of Forty Women Poets of Canada; and "Divorce: Newfoundland Style" (Roberta Buchanan) in which the humiliation of women by the courts is reported.

Three excellent perspectives on international women's issues are: "Women and Vietnam" (Claire Culhane); "Women and Imperialism" (Anita Martin); and "Venceremos: Women in the New Cuba" (Margaret Randall). The first describes the strength of Viet Cong women who feel that after their participation in the war and revolution they will not fall back into secondary-prestige as was the case in Algeria. The second article takes three aspects of women's oppression by imperialism and uses three different countries as samples of how they have been achieved: economic production--Africa; sexual exploitation--China and Vietnam; reproduction manipulation--Latin America. The third article is an encouraging report of the slow but sure attempts in Cuba to free a very chauvinist culture from sexism.

I would recommend "Women: A Special Issue" for anyone's reading and also for use in study groups. Bulk orders are available

at reduced prices: 4 to 10 copies, \$1.25; 10 or more, \$1.05, Canadian Dimension, Box 1413, Winnipeg, Manitoba. Like the writers in this issue, I believe that we feminists must grow from our initial raised consciousness observations to an articulate political awareness from which we can formulate specific on-going programs for action. Reading and studying such material as this is a healthy way to start, or to continue, along that route.

-Shirley Miller  
Courtenay



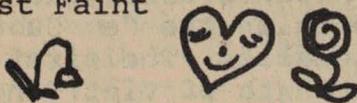
*Mauve Greenly  
advises*

Dear Mauve:



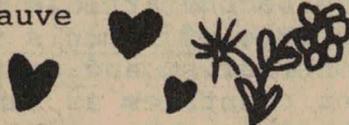
My husband, Bobs, insists on taking shoes off at supper while waiting for desert to be served. He leans back on his chair and puts his sock feet on the table. The smell is horrible. What should I do? - Almost Faint

Dear Almost:



Hubby is telling you in the only way he can that his socks need washing and while you're at it why not be affectionate and wash his tootsies. - Mauve

Dear Mauve:



My son, Bobbsey, is 2 years old. The other day his aunt brought him a stuffed turtle. He loved it and carried it with him all day. His father got furious. He was going to be sissy and cut the turtle's head off with his hunting knife. Now Bobbsey cries for his turtle. What'll I do? - Ears

Hurting.



Dear Ears:

Looks like hubby got the turtle away just in time. Any 2 year old boy that would hug a turtle and cry when its head was ripped off definitely is heading for trouble. Why not give him dad's knife to play with. He'll soon learn to enjoy cutting turtles' heads off. - Mauve

Dear Mauve:



My little Betsy came home from school today and said that the teacher had told them it takes two to make a baby and other such horrid things. Betsy is only eleven and I don't want her mind polluted with all that ugly sex stuff. What's happening to the schools? - For Innocence

Dear Innocence:



It's frightening that children are learning these things in school. Time enough later for such stuff. How about diverting Betsy's attention by getting her interested in T.V. - Mauve



LOWER MAINLAND

NDP WOMEN'S  
COMMITTEE

7:45

1956 W. BROADWAY,  
RM 201

WED. SEPT. 24

# CHAIRWOMAN'S REPORT

On July 26 the Provincial Council, meeting in New Westminster, accepted the proposal from the NDP Women's Committee to split the old single position we had for one women's organizer into 3 permanent part-time positions. We had decided at the Provincial Convention that the job expectation of one women's organizer, responsible for meeting with NDP women all over the province, was unrealistic. We thought that several part-time positions would enable more women to consider applying for an organizer position and it would allow women living in the area they were organizing, and familiar with the special problems of women in that area, the time and financial support necessary to do the job we see that is needed now. That job is to provide the opportunity for the women outside the urban areas to have a greater input into determining strategy and policy of the women's committee.

We were elated that the proposal passed in the Council with such a comfortable majority. I am excited at the possibilities this allows for us in the Women's Committee this year: to see the development of strong regional steering committees and more constituency-based women's groups being established. At the present I am aware of local NDP women's groups in the following areas: Lower Island (including

Victoria, Esquimalt and Saanich constituencies), Kamloops, Lower Mainland (open to women in all the Lower Mainland constituencies), Peachland, Courtenay, and Omineca. Have I left anyone out? If there are any other areas where local NDP women are meeting, please let me know. Local groups are invited to send one voting representative to each central steering committee meeting. Other women from the group are of course invited to attend any steering committee meeting and women who live in areas that do not yet have a functioning group are welcome. The steering committee is meeting in Vancouver in August to discuss our upcoming meeting with the cabinet. We may not meet again until October since the plan is to meet on alternate months so that regional steering committee meetings can be held in the intervening months. In September the Women's Committee will have to make decisions about the part-time organizers to be hired, but perhaps the August meeting will delegate that task to a representative committee.

Under the decision made by the Provincial Executive in June, the Women's Committee was allocated the equivalent salary and expenses of one organizer for the month of July. On June 22 the steering committee met and appointed a committee to select organizers for that one month. Kathleen Orton of Victoria was hired first. Kathleen went to the Federal Convention in Winnipeg and spoke to approximately 35 B. C. women (and some men) about the job of regional organizers. She recommended the hiring of Kathy Hemenway from Kamloops and Rosemary O'Brien from Prince George.

Kathleen and Rosemary are working

in their areas as part-time organizers in July and August. Kathy is only able to work for the first 10 day period, at this writing. From talks with the 3 of them, they have the following work planned:

Kathleen Orton is helping, with the Courtenay women's group, to plan the first regional Island and MacKenzie Women's Meeting in September (see elsewhere in this issue). The Courtenay women have volunteered to host the first meeting and Kathleen will help to get out the word to all NDP women and do other work connected with this early organizing. Women who would like to invite Kathleen to meet with their constituency or their women's group, can reach her at 383-9839, 1240 May Street, Victoria.

Rosemary O'Brien is taking off in her pick-up on August 13 for a trip to various towns in the North. I'm sorry I can't report her itinerary, but she had in mind Dawson Creek in the Northeast and then I think she was going to try to get west to Kitimat or even Prince Rupert. Sounds very ambitious and tiring but Rosemary is full of enthusiasm. She told me that the New Democrats North will be meeting October 10-12 and she will be helping to plan a full morning session on women's rights. She hopes to also have a pre-conference meeting with the women on October 10 before the conference formally begins. She'll be sending in details on this for the September issue of Priorities. The meeting will also give the Northern women a chance to more fully work out the specifics of the general resolution passed at the last Provincial Convention that speaks to the special needs of northern women.

Rosemary's address is Damms and Lerelyn Roads, Box 1, R.R. #7, Prince George, Tel.: 963-9592.

Kathy Hemenway is also on the road: down to visit women in the Okanagan and then over to meet with some contacts in the Cariboo. Again, I have no specific itinerary at this point, but I'm sure Kathy will share her experiences with Priorities readers in the next issue. She is hoping to be able to get a September regional meeting for the Central Interior and Cariboo organized. Kathy is moving to Kamloops this month, so she might be easier to reach through Terri Ash, 1835 Tranquille, Kamloops, Tel.; 376-1348.

Again, just so there's no confusion: Rosemary, Kathleen and Kathy have only been asked to work part-time in this interim (July-Aug.) period. We feel that the part-time positions, now that they have been established as permanent positions, should be opened up for applications from all B. C. NDP women. The motion as it was debated in Provincial Council presupposed that the regional part-time women's organizers would be living in the areas they were hired to work in, but if you feel this is unfair in that you live in an area that has not been designated among the 3, but you are willing to work in one of the 3 areas, please write to me and let me know and I will include your letter with the other interested applicants for consideration.

## WHAT IS AN ORGANIZER ?

Finally, we should all probably think about what it is to be a women's organizer. Some women have said to me that they're afraid the job sounds very formidable and they feel a little unsure about their qualifications to take it on. One woman was worried that she didn't understand adequately the structure of the party--just what the executive "does". This same woman has been organizing food co-ops and housing co-ops for years, as well as a household, child-care, etc. The fact is many of us, if not most, have years of experience as organizers. This is not to say that the job won't be confusing at first, quite unstructured, etc. It's going to be largely a matter of the organizers creating the job, and their own schedule and their own methods. But nobody will be alone. Provincial Office can provide answers to questions about party structure, the Women's Committee will oversee goals of each organizer, and the regional committees can provide the place for organizers to get helpers, information and support. Because the positions have been accepted as part-time, to work the equivalent of 10 working days per month, organizers may work mornings, evenings, week-ends, however the requirements of the job and the individual hired can be harmoniously worked out!

One thing that I think would help all of us would be if we addressed ourselves to the job of getting a little of what we've been doing over the last 5 years into print. We've got Priorities (Thank God!), but wouldn't it be great if some of our decisions, debates, actions, errors, victories, got into print as a history of the women's committee. The rules and procedures we've developed over the years also, such as

composition of the steering committee, standing committees of the steering committee, should be written down for the benefit of new (and old) members. Some people have asked me for a brief statement of principles of the Women's Committee, as distinct from party policy on women's rights, and I wonder if that has ever been grappled with.

There is a secretary of the steering committee and the secretary presently is Judy McManus, 2277 Upland Drive, Vancouver. Judy sends copies of steering committee meetings to each representative to the steering committee as well as other time-consuming jobs. If you would like to receive notices of steering committee meetings, drop Judy a line. I have appointed a pro-tem treasurer of the steering committee, Barb Efrat of Victoria. Barb's address is 1344 1/2 Victoria St., Victoria. The NDP Women's Committee account is kept in order in Victoria by Barb.

That's the end of my spiel. I hope to see many NDP women at regional meetings in September--are women who live in other parts of the province beginning to think about organizing an informal meeting in their areas? What about the Fraser Valley, the Kootenays? We still have over \$600 to our credit in the Federal Party treasury that we can request for regional NDP Women's meetings in B.C. That is the amount that was left unspent from our June meeting in Vancouver and Joyce Nash has told me that the balance will be available for further regional meetings this year.

Candace Hanson  
Chairwoman

# REPORT ON PROVINCIAL COUNCIL MEETING



JULY 26--27

by TERRI ASH

If you have been reading your "Priorities" the last month or two, you will note that there has been much discussion about restructuring the women's committee and the women's organizer position. On July 26th, our Chairwoman, Candace Hanson, gave a report to the Provincial Council and presented a motion to change the Women's organizer position from one full time to 3 permanent part-time in 3 regions - the Island, and Mackenzie, the North, and the Central Interior and Cariboo. Our original proposal to the executive had been very general but on the advice of Joyce Nash, acting Provincial Secretary, we revised it and made it very specific and with no time limit.

The motion which passed reads:

BE IT RESOLVED that the salary and unreceipted expenses of the women's organizer position be allocated to the Women's Committee for payment to 3 part-time regional organizers (hired in consultation with the Provincial Secretary) working and paid on a permanent part-time basis.

In the areas 1) Island & McKenzie, 2) Central Interior and Cariboo, 3) North, part-time workers will be expected to work the equivalent of 10 working days per month. (ie., the usual 30 working days per month divided by 3) for the pro-rated \$358.

Candace gave an excellent report and despite efforts by Lyle Kristiansen to have the meeting deal with the Executive recommendation

which asked for a continuation of the present situation only until October, our motion passed with a strong majority.

It was given strong support from many delegates. I particularly appreciated the words of the council delegate from Skeena, who praised the efforts of Shelley Dillon as previous Women's Organizer, and said he would welcome a women's organizer in the North working especially with Native women.

I also appreciated the presence of women who came to the meeting just to give moral support to those of us who had to speak and argue the case for the change in the position.

It is also my feeling that both Yvonne Cocke and Joyce Nash were helpful to us in getting the resolution through. Thanks to both of them.

One last observation - the Party presently is having difficulty in hiring good organizers for regional positions and I feel that this is due in part to the difficulty the positions present to anyone with family commitments and to the extreme demands it makes on a person's personal life.

The Women's Committee has succeeded in breaking down a structure that was unworkable for women - now, I think the Party should take a look at more flexibility in the terms of reference for organizers within the regular Party structure. As usual the Women's Committee leads the way!

# UP Coming Regional Conference

A regional conference is at present being organized for all NDP women living in the Island and MacKenzie area. It will be held in Courtenay on September 27th and 28th at a location as yet undecided. The Courtenay Women's Group are the organizers and have a tentative agenda including a workshop on Parliamentary Procedure problems of rural women, structure of a regional steering committee and talks by MLA Karen Sanford and Provincial Co-ordinator for the Status of Women, Gene Errington. The conference will begin at 1:00 pm on Saturday and adjourn in the early afternoon on Sunday to enable sisters from out of town travel time. Billeting will be available. The decision was made to invite women who are interested in the NDP to attend the conference, enabling them to better understand our role as feminists within the Party. (Bring your friend!) A small registration fee of \$2.00 - \$3.00 will be charged to provide a travel fund for out of town delegates. Arrangements are being made for daycare but it is essential to know beforehand how many children will be attending. If you have agenda suggestions or need further information feel free to call:

Courtenay- Betty H'Loogoff  
hm. 338-6171  
wk. 334-3865

Victoria- Kathleen Orton  
383-9839



# Women's organizers

Permanent Part-time women's organizers will be hired to work in three areas of the province

1. Vancouver Island & Mackenzie
2. Central Interior & Cariboo
3. The North

The organizers will be expected to work the equivalent of 10 working days per month for \$358.

Tasks will include -

- meeting NDP women
- helping set up regional steering committees
- teaching Roberts Rules
- information on the party
- discussions on party policy

## DEADLINE - SEPT. 10th

Apply - Candace Hanson  
Chairwoman NDP Womens Cnte.  
910 McClure Street  
Victoria  
phone collect 384-2294

or to : (with copy to Candace)  
Provincial Secretary  
NDP Provincial Office  
64- 8th Street  
New Westminster.

Organizers will be hired by NDP Women's Committee, in consultation with Provincial Secretary.



# MARRIAGE CONTRACT

## *as it is today*

(excerpts from 'B.C. family law and guide to drafting marriage contracts'--by R. Flynn Marr)

When a marriage comes to an end, one problem to be resolved is how much should a wife get from the sale of the home. After years of work and effort it may be that she has no hold on the property other than her "entry" in the Land Registry Office under the Wife's Protection Act. The rule of thumb is that in cases of Joint Tenancy the wife gets one-half regardless of whose money is involved. There is a presumption that the one gifted to the other anything put in, but it is a presumption only and can be rebutted by evidence to the contrary. Again, this is a complicated matter and the advice of a lawyer is almost a must. Where the wife is not on the title at all, then she must be able to show that she made some contribution of a monetary nature before she can claim as of right to a share of the proceeds of the sale. This is often very unfair as a wife's contribution can be, and usually is, work and effort that is never reflected in terms of dollars.

Property other than the matrimonial home owned in the name of either husband and wife alone cannot be touched by the other, except by some form of Court settlement.

As a rule, whenever a husband desires to borrow money, the wife must sign the contract as well. This is to ensure that the borrower does not transfer all his assets into his wife's name and then declare bankruptcy. Fine, except that when the marriage breaks down and the husband takes off in the car, the wife is stuck not only with the kids, but with the car payments as well.

The rub really comes when husband and wife separate; usually her credit rating becomes worse, not better. Just when she needs credit to help get re-established, she is unable to get loans or other assistance. Unfortunately, it is not possible to force people to lend money.

The reason for this discrimination is that, in fact, a married woman is in an inferior legal and practical situation and it is often one over which she has little control. For this reason lending institutions, merchants, businessmen, have come to be very wary of extending credit to a married woman, especially after she is separated from her husband. Until the laws and the social structure change substantially, there is really no solution to this credit problem. It is based on a real problem, not an imagined one, and merely reflects good capitalistic business principles.

Excerpts from British Columbia Family Law and Guide to Drafting Marriage Contracts. This booklet written by R. Flynn Marr is one in the Self-Counselling Series. The 1974 edition is available for \$13.50, by writing 306 West 25th Street, North Vancouver or can be obtained at some bookstores.

This booklet includes information on the nature of marriage-formal and common law, separation agreements, police and matrimonial disputes, legal status and maintenance of children etc. This series makes easy reading & in fact is written in order that the public may have a working knowledge of the law.

# Berger Commission

On April 10th, 1975, the Family and Children's Law Commission's Report on Matrimonial Property was tabled in the Legislature.

The Commission proposed a significant change in the law affecting the property rights of married couples. While this proposed change to community of property, the Commission felt that the notion of community of property more adequately reflects the way both partners intend their married life to be ordered by allowing both of them to participate in the relationship as equals.

Although it is true that such a change for an existing system of love based on separate property to a system in which property acquired during marriage is shared poses some difficult technical-legal problems, these technical questions of implementation and integration can be solved without sacrificing the rights of the spouses or third parties. Such systems are working successfully in other jurisdictions. The real question is whether it is desirable to have a legal system of matrimonial property which imposes serious restrictions on the economic role of the wife, as does the existing system of separate property; or whether the legal system of matrimonial property should be one which allows both spouses to participate in and benefit from their marriage equally.

Operating from the beliefs that:-

1. All persons should be equal under the law.
2. Marriage is a partnership of shared responsibilities.
3. The roles of economic provider and homemaker are of equal value to the relationship.

4. Married women are economically competent.

The Commission set out to find or create a system of laws which would satisfy them all and thereby provide a structure in which marriage would be a relationship of equals.

In approaching the problem, the Commission considered two basic matrimonial property systems: separate property and community property.

The consideration of retaining the separate property system focussed primarily on the possibility of amending existing legislation so that the resulting system would adequately reflect the four operative principles. It was concluded that such a result is impossible to attain while retaining the notion of separate property. This is due to the fact that in most marriages one spouse is the primary economic provider, and as long as the system of separate property exists, that spouse will have a significant economic advantage over the spouse who works in the home, because society does not provide economic reward for the homemaker. The notion of separate property was felt to be antithetical to the notion of marriage as an economic partnership of equals and any attempt to modify the existing system to provide more "equity" between the spouses would be nothing more than "protective legislation", which would only reinforce the inequality.

The Commission found the basic notion of community of property, the sharing of all property accumulated during marriage to fit well with the four operative principles. It remained for the

Commission to consider several existing variations of community of property systems in order to determine what type would best allow both spouses to participate in and benefit from their marriage equally.

The system of "deferred" community of property considers all property acquired during marriage (subject to certain exceptions) to be the property of both spouses equally, but the entitlement does not arise until the marriage is dissolved. During the marriage the right to deal with the property remains with the spouse whose name appears on the title. Such a system creates in the non-titled spouse a "future interest" in property acquired during marriage, but it does nothing to render more equitable the positions of the spouses during marriage.

"Full and immediate" community of property provides the same sharing of matrimonial assets that the "deferred" system provides, but the entitlement arises at the time of marriage rather than at the time of dissolution. As a result of this immediate realization of an entitlement to half of the matrimonial property, both spouses may participate in the marriage as economic equals if they wish. Such a system raises some very difficult problems with regard to joint-management of community property during marriage and protection of third party interests, but other jurisdictions have addressed themselves to these problems and have implemented legislation creating systems of full and immediate community of property.

Because the Commission believes it is possible, we recommended the adoption of full and immediate community of property as the system of matrimonial property which best acknowledges the equality of men and women within the institution of marriage. It is a system which allows for equality of responsibility and independence during marriage. It is a system which reflects

the way most of us now order our married lives. It is a system which provides a legal framework to support the commonly held intention of happily married couples that property common to the marriage (such as the family car or television set) is "ours" rather than "mine" or "yours". Finally, it is a system, which, upon breakdown, divides the community property on the basis that it was, in fact, shared equally while the marriage was intact; therefore, it is just and equitable that the division be made final when the marriage dissolves. It is a system which, by making such a division, recognizes that economic input is not the only important contribution to a marriage, that, in fact, both spouses contribute to it equally, in their own ways.

The proposal to change to a full and immediate community of property system would, generally speaking, have the following effects:-

1. All property brought into the marriage by the spouses would remain their separate property. This is as it is now under the system of "separate property."
2. All property acquired during marriage, with the exception of gifts and inheritance, would be community property.

Under the system of "separate property" all property acquired during the marriage remains their separate property.

3. Both spouses would have an equal right to deal with the community property independently with the exception of real estate and transactions over the value of \$2,000. Dealings involving real estate or those major transactions over \$2,000 would require the joint participation or consent of both spouses.
4. Upon separation all property brought into the marriage by either spouse will be returned to that spouse, and all property acquired during marriage will be divided equally between the spouses.



There has been wide response to these events in the form of letters and briefs to the Commission. They come from both men and women, married, formerly married, and never married persons, young people and pensioners. About half are from the urban centres of the lower mainland and Vancouver Island. Others are from the Gulf Islands, from farms and orchards in the Peace River and Okanagan and from interior towns.

Virtually all letters received urge that the laws be changed in the direction of a community system. People whose marriages have ended in death or divorce, people who are dissatisfied with the economic roles of marriage, people who are happy with marriage, and people who are unmarried seem to agree that the present laws are outdated.

Homemakers have been the largest group of persons to write. They discuss the disadvantaged position they find themselves in when marriage breaks down.

....After 28 years of marriage and a lifetime of hard work...my lawyer says "forget it" because the property was in his name only...

....I am 46 years old and will probably never see any monies from this property, with the laws as they are at present. I feel that there should be some law to protect people in my position, and am appealing to you for myself and others like me.

Those who are married and are dissatisfied with the economic roles of marriage emphasized basic inconsistencies in the law. They are mostly women who state that the law discriminates against a wife who works in the home, the orchard, the family business, or similar situations. These statements are all from different women.

....We should change the property system to a community one which would give a conscientious wife and mother a strong sense of being worth more than a mere (unpaid) cleaning lady.

....In our situation we operate an orchard in the South Okanagan, which my husband owns... I have worked hard for many years yet a simple piece of paper ( the deed) states that my husband alone is owner, and should he decide he no longer likes my company I would be forced to fight for what I feel is, or should be, legally mine simply because I have earned it.

...I feel very bitter sometimes that the government is not considering that if all the wives did not help their husbands in small businesses, they would quickly close up.

" I would not have believed that such injustices could be imposed upon anyone by the law that is supposed to protect people and their rights."

-excerpt from letter to Berger Commission

A great many people who are happy in their marriage, or who are unmarried, wrote to say that they see inequalities in the existing laws.

Many do not see marriage breakdown as the primary issue, but stress the need to recognize the economic partnership during marriage.

...The foremost consideration of the law should be human rights, and not the right specifically of a husband or a wife...The law cannot be just and fair when it is inequal and inconsistent.

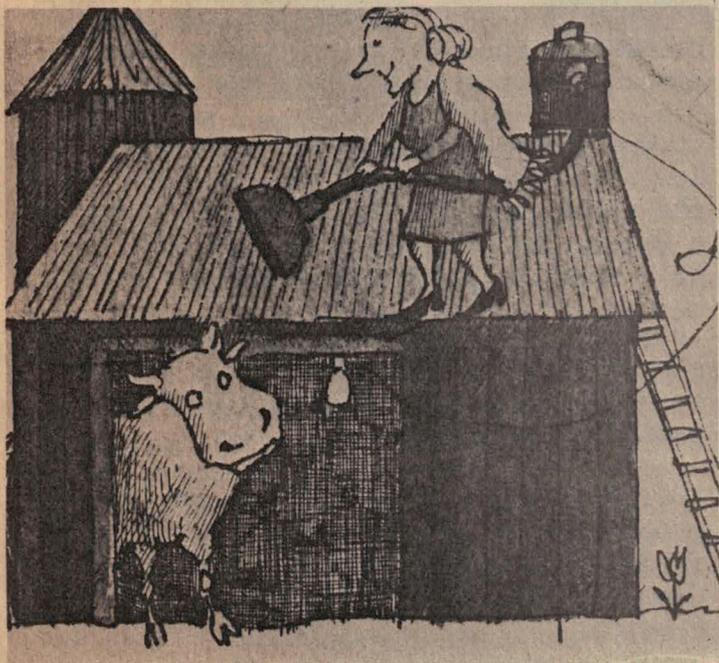
...I am in complete agreement with your working premise that matrimonial property should be established on a 50/50 basis during marriage .

...I urge you to find a way to put the proposal into law and not to be satisfied with poor half measures as evidenced by the Ontario Law Reform Commission.

...I urge you to adopt a system of full and immediate community of property with joint management for British Columbia. The true partnership nature of marriage is best reflected in such a property system. The present system leaves marriage a relationship of dependence in which feelings of superiority and inferiority cannot be avoided. Adoption of this system of property would go far to promote the stability of the family and justice between spouses.

Briefs to the Commission were presented by a number of diverse voluntary, citizen and professional groups. They too, are an indication from a variety of interests that a move to a community of property system would be favourably received in British Columbia.

The Commission has completed its part in the process of the reform of matrimonial property law. The recommendations were tabled in the legislature on April, 10th, 1975. Since that time the life or death of the proposal has been in the hands of the government and the public. Although the views expressed in the briefs and letters sent to the



The farmer's wife cleans the barn

Commission were an integral part of the Commission's deliberations and recommendations, it seems that without a renewed show of public support for the reform of matrimonial property laws the issue and the proposal will be allowed to fade away from the political conscience of our members in Victoria.

Rita MacDonald  
Berger Commission on  
Family and Children's Law

" The present laws cause unjust miseries to so many...the frustrations and anger of being legally robbed...it is a rotten system...I would never marry again until a lot of these laws are greatly changes ...to bring justice to many citizens of this province."

-excerpt from letter to Berger Commission.

"The laws are right out of the middle ages and really are appalling. They must be updated."

-letter to the Berger Commission

" I have worked very hard on a farm and in a motel and feel that I have earned 50% of these assests which he has always controlled. My lawyer tells me that there is no law to protect a woman in my situation."

-excerpts from letter Berger Comm.

## PROTECTING

### MARGINAL MARRIAGES

The Vancouver Sun, June 13/75  
KAMLOOPS- The proposed adoption in B.C. of a "community property" system within marriage could lead to a higher divorce rate, according to lawyers critical of the proposal.

The lawyers spoke against the proposal here Thursday during a panel discussion at the annual meeting of the B.C. branch of the Canadian Bar Association.

Some felt the proposal, a recommendation of the family and children's law commission, would encourage the breakup of rocky marriages because both partners could walk away with equal shares of the marriage property.

Vancouver lawyer Donald Moir noted that the commission proposes that all property be divided equally between both partners, without any consideration as to fault in the breakdown of a marriage. "The law must contribute to family stability, but this proposal will give economic advantage to family instability and marriage breakdown."

Vancouver lawyer John Hurst said submissions to the commission favouring the proposal came mainly from women's groups and were not representative of the whole province. "Instead of saving marriages, the proposed act will promote breakup," he said. "Many subsisting and marginal marriages will be wound up once the spouses are assured of obtaining a 50-50

split." Hurst called the proposal "no fault insurance in reverse" and said its adoption could be a further impediment to second marriages.

Drew Schroeder, a member of the University of B.C. law school, took the critics to task for suggesting that economic considerations would encourage some partners to end their marriages. "If economic considerations are the criteria, then that marriage doesn't deserve to stay together," Schroeder said. "That is not the kind of marriage I would care to preserve."

#### **community property poses legal problems**

What emerged from the panel discussion was the impression that the proposal is socially desirable, but extremely difficult to implement because of technical problems. One lawyer pointed out that the main thrust of Canadian tax law is that income is taxed individually. "If a husband and wife separate, each would be entitled to an equal share of the marriage assets, but the tax burden would fall on the individual who made the most contribution to the community property."

Hurst noted that the proposed community property system will be retroactive to the date of a marriage and compulsory unless one spouse can persuade the other to opt out. He said B.C.'s admirable land registry system will be weakened and cluttered by the requirement that the registrar of titles mail thousands of notices to registered owners under the community property scheme. Hurst said there will be additional expenses to property vendors and purchasers because marriage contracts will have to be searched and opting out certificates verified. He said the system also will result in all people having to make out wills and their preparation will be more costly.

# SEXISM, SCHOOLS & SOCIETY

## Workshop Report

Since April of this year, a pilot project concerning women in education has been underway in North Vancouver and in Trail. It is sponsored by the Department of Education's Provincial Advisory Committee on Sex Discrimination in Public Education. The project is formally titled the Sexism, Schools and Society Workshop project, and was initially developed by the ill-fated Research and Development group. The original proposal for the project runs to 8 singlespace typerwritten pages, and is more than a little jargonistic in style; I will therefore not quote it directly. Stripped of linguistic embellishment, it amounts to this: "In an attempt to generate community action against sexism in education, let us send an organizer into a school district on a short-term basis to do the following--(1) find out what aspects of sexism in education are of particular concern to people in the community, (2) work with people in the community to organize activities around these issues, (3) make available the materials, skills and resources relating to discrimination in education of the Advisory Committee and the Department, (4) do everything possible to encourage and facilitate continued action on sexism in the community after the project itself is over." This then is the frame of reference within which Rita Chud and I have been working as Project directors in North Vancouver and Trail respectively. The two pilot projects terminate on 31 August. By then the Department

of Education is expected to decide whether or not to grant further funding in order that the Advisory Committee may establish similar projects in other school districts.

### **public response needed**

I think that the Sexism, Schools and Society Workshop Project is a worthwhile program and deserves continuation. This kind of active encouragement of teachers, students, parents and other members of the community in their efforts to organize against sexist practices and attitudes in local schools is something we have seen far too little of from this government. Given its lamentable record to date on sex education, the high school women's studies course, and indeed virtually all aspects of women's rights, it seems unlikely that Victoria will readily grant further funding to the project unless some public pressure is applied. The purpose of this article is therefore to describe the work of the project in North Vancouver and in Trail, and to ask Priorities readers who feel that establishing similar programs in other school districts would be desirable to urge the Department to grant further funding. I will say more about Trail, because it is here where I am working, and I know it better; readers who would like more details about the North Vancouver project should contact Rita Chud at 943-9947.

# NORTH VANCOUVER

The principal activity of the Project here in its early stages was a 1 1/2 - day conference, titled a Working Session on Sexism, Schools and Society, which took place on 12-13 June. Over 80 people attended, almost all women; a wide variety of groups, unions and organizations on the North Shore were represented. Two keynote speakers were heard. Dorothy Smith of UBC's Dept. of Anthropology and Sociology spoke on "An Analysis of Ideological Structures and How Women are Excluded." Linda Shuto, executive assistant to the BCTF Status of Women Program, discussed "Hierarchical Decision-making in Schools and Society." Participants in the conference spent the bulk of their time working in small groups. They met thus first to discuss their reasons for attending the Session and what they saw as the major problems before them. With this general discussion behind them, they then met in small groups a second time to identify and prioritize specific issues relating to sexism in North Vancouver schools and to propose actions to deal with them. An enormous number of ideas came out of these groups, plus general statements of principle on which future action should be based. Session group leaders sorted out all the proposed actions into five categories, which were (1) a student committee, (2) a parent committee, (3) a committee on texts and curriculum, (4) a committee to deal with the visibility of women in the community and, (5) a co-ordinating committee. Participants then broke into these 5 groups according to their own priorities of interest, and spent the afternoon making plans for the future activities of their committees. These plans were adopted by a final plenary, and the Session

concluded with a panel of speakers from various organizations involved in working against sexism.

## people plan **ACTION**

I have described this day and a half in some detail because there are two particular aspects of it which I think are important. First, except for the contributions of the keynote speakers and the panel, all the information/ideas/plans/skills generated at this event came from the participants themselves--people from the North Vancouver school district who were knowledgeable about it and its needs. Second, these people were with few exceptions not what this society defines as "experts." They were "only" students, teachers, school staff aides, parents, etc. These two aspects of the Session probably account for the fact that nearly all the committees it established have been actively functioning over the summer, and are making concrete plans for work in the fall term. Activities include preparation of a student survey on the question of integrated classes, discussions of parent-teacher relations, developing a resource file on written and audio-visual materials related to sexism in schools, doing a statistical profile of the women in North Vancouver, trying to establish a women's centre, etc., etc. In other words, the Project has helped to stimulate and coordinate a wide variety of types of work on sexism in education among a wide variety of community members. It should be noted also that this has been possible in spite of the fact that these pilot projects are taking place at the worst possible time of year--schools out for July and August, and many people on holiday and/or out of town.

# Trail

The Project here has also suffered from the poor timing, but nonetheless some worthwhile activities have taken place. First was a one-day conference on the general subject of sexism in education, entitled "The Hidden Curriculum", held on 14 June. This was seen as a general awareness-raising activity, for teachers, students, parents and school administrators. Forty-five people attended. Reva Dexter gave the keynote talk; & discussed textbooks, curricula teacher attitudes and school structure as contributors to sexism in education. Participants then attended 2 of 4 workshops: Socialization of Children, led by Julia Goulden of the Advisory Committee; Counselling, with Marlena Morgan from Kensington Junior High in Burnaby; the Women's Kits, led by Jane King, a UBC graduate student in Education; and Textbooks, with Nadine Allen of the Vancouver Status of Women. We then showed a film, "Anything You Want To Be," about the contradictory messages a young girl receives from those in authority about her future, and a video-tape, "Tomorrow's Leaders." The latter was acted and produced by a group of Marlena Morgan's students. The day concluded with a general discussion on various aspects of sexism in schools.

## working for feminism

One result of the conference was a decision by the Trail District Teachers' Association Status of Women to move in on the annual teachers' conference in their District. We prepared a list of possible seminars, talks, workshops etc., and come fall they will be working to achieve a strong feminist pres-

ence at their conference. Other less tangible results I think included an increased solidarity among District teachers concerned about sexism--which is valuable in a small company town of conservative and blatantly patriarchal character--and increased awareness of the resources (human, printed, audio-visual) available to them in attempts to counter it.

## sex discrimination

Other activities in the early months of the project included four sessions in schools. In one, Linda Shuto conducted two large workshops on sex discrimination and the women's movement for all the students at a small junior secondary school. In the other three, Jane King used materials from the proposed high school women's studies course and the Women's Kit in Grade 10 girls' guidance classes, with great success. Evaluation forms filled in by the students clearly demonstrated the effectiveness of the sessions in encouraging the students to examine the patterns and directions of their lives and the influences to which they are subject, as young women in this society.

Now as we go into the last month of the project two activities are underway. One is the preparation of a resource booklet, which will list the books, audio-visual materials, organizations, etc. which relate in any way to the status of women that are readily available in or near the Trail School District, and will also provide a brief checklist of such resources elsewhere in the province. The second is the organization of a one-day conference on the status of women entering the labour force, which will take place Friday 22 August. Its aim is to bring together a variety of different groupings who are --

or who should be--or who should be made to be--concerned with this issue, i.e., high school counsellors, students, unionists, personnel staff from local industry, teachers, Manpower counsellors, etc. The day will include workshops on legislation re working women (human rights, labour law etc.), on labour studies (the BCTF has just appointed a Task Force to prepare a high school labour studies program), and on career counselling. Community response to the conference has been very good so far, especially from high school counsellors and the Association of Clerical and Technical Employees (the unit for most of the women employed at Cominco), and I think it will be a successful event--although it will undoubtedly once again suffer from the poor timing of the project as a whole, since many potentially interested people will be on holiday. Also, at this point it looks as though the conference will generate several forms of ongoing activity in the community this fall.

## conclusion

This has been a brief summary of the work done under the Sexism, Schools & Society workshop pilot project. On the personal level, I must say that this has been a fascinating experience for me. Having lived all my life in large cities, I have found a summer in a small company town in the Interior of BC immensely interesting, and I've learned a lot from this chance to inspect an unfamiliar aspect of capitalism. Nonetheless I shall be glad to be back teaching this fall and to be with my family again (some other time I would like to write a piece on what it's been like to be alone, for the first time in many years--very lonely, but good in some ways). Also, frankly, I shall be glad not to be working for the government any more. Too many contradictions, too much unpleasant pressure, too much being

perceived by other people in strange ways.

However, to return to the point of the issue. The continuation and refunding of the Project is now up to the Department of Education. I make no claim that the Project is going to bring the revolution tomorrow; but I do think it is a worthwhile effort, particularly in that its aim is to stimulate action against sexism on the part of those within the educational system who are most affected by it, and who have the least say in how that system is run. I think it should be continued, and I hope that Priorities readers who agree will express their views to the Department of Education.



- Cynthia Flood  
Vancouver Centre

# A BOY



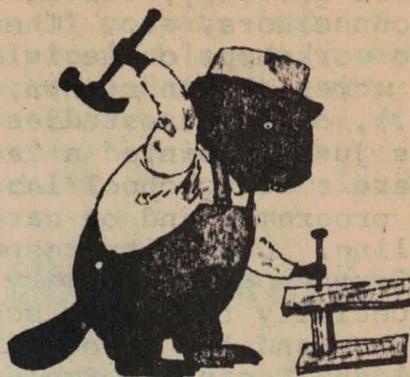
cowboy



farmer



musician



carpenter



train conductor



milkman



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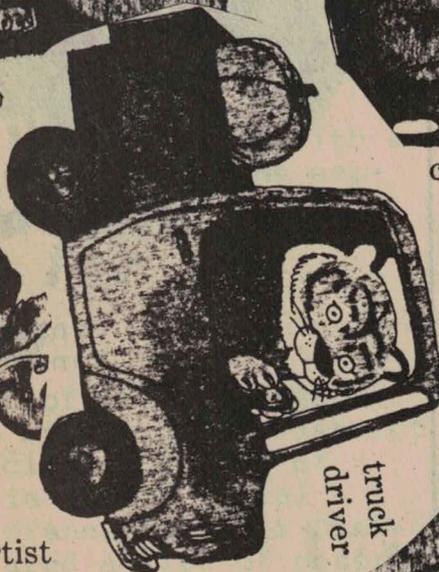
commuter



"good" cook



artist



truck driver



pilot



dentist

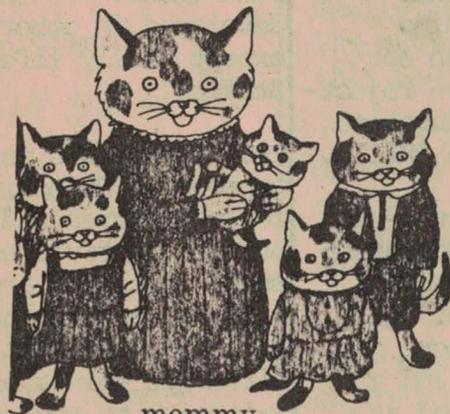
# WHEN YOU GROW UP— A GIRL



nurse



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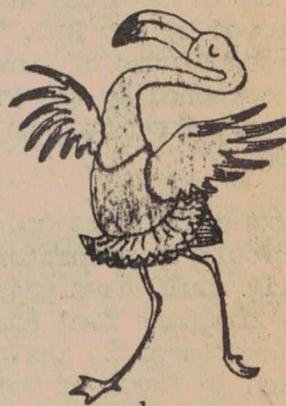
mommy



singer



secretary



dancer

**THE PRESENT  
OPTIONS**

# HIGH SCHOOL WOMEN'S STUDIES rejected

~~1974-75~~

~~1975-76~~

This past week I went to the Vancouver Status of Women office on West Fourth to read through the Women's Studies Course prepared for senior high school students by B.C. teachers. For two school years I, as well as many other teachers, have hoped this course would be approved and printed by the Dept. of Education, and be available as an elective and as a model for other locally developed Women's Studies Courses. Great indeed has been our disappointment that it has been rejected twice by the Minister of Education in B.C., The Honorable Eileen Dailly.

In January 1974, the first course was presented to the Minister of Education and was rejected by the Provincial Secondary Curriculum Committee. It had been prepared by some members of the Vancouver Status of Women and a limited number of copies printed at considerable expense by the B.C. Teacher's Federation. Provisions were made for revisions to be done at a very modest sum this spring.

On June 6, 1975 the rewritten course was again rejected after having been approved by the B.C. Teacher's Federation Status of Women Task Force, and screened by the Provincial Advisory Committee on Sex Discrimination.

In examining this course I find it very difficult to understand how Eileen Dailly could have rejected it again. Many teachers feel that support she has expressed is insincere. She has spoken in favor of Women's Studies courses at public meetings, at conventions, and at joint meetings of the N.D.P. Women's Committee with members

of the B.C. cabinet. She assured us that the revised course would receive her approval. She also stated that in her opinion a well developed course would serve as an incentive for teachers to seek local approval of school district personnel to teach the course.

Oh, the difficulties! The hurdles! The roadblocks! Do these occur with courses developed in other areas? Certainly not, except family life education and Women's Studies!

The course uses an interdisciplinary approach. Objectives are clearly outlined for the course and each unit. Many inquiry oriented activities are suggested for each unit. Included are teacher background material and thorough bibliographies. It is suggested that teachers accept many different points of view and not restrict criticism to any one position. Some of the eleven topics are: learning sex roles, the family, women and the law, literature, politics, and the arts. The rewritten course has attempted to avoid controversial areas. The section on religion was deleted and there are no references to birth control or sex education.

This is a sample of a role playing activity in the unit on Politics:

You are a woman who wants to enter public life:

- a) What issues concern you?
- b) How will you present your campaign to the public?

Write a short article for a newspaper in which you discuss why you have entered politics.

Use these familiar statements and reverse

the roles:

"After dinner, the women retired to the drawing room and the men remained to discuss politics."

"Behind every successful man is a woman."

How has the meaning changed when the roles are reversed?

How were women supposed to contribute to a man's success?

The following are some questions for students to discuss in the unit "Images of Masculinity and Femininity" :

What does "family man" denote?

Why do we not use "family woman"?

Why are there "career girls" but no "Career boys"?

Why do we use the term "forefathers" but not "foremothers"?

These are a few of the activities which serve to raise the very superficial awareness students have of sex stereotyping. This course could be instrumental in stimulating change in courses within the high schools, in educating the educators. Teachers could incorporate ideas into other courses in English, History, Childcare, Home Economics.....

On June 25, 1975, thirty-two individuals representing 13 women's groups attended a public meeting and subsequently a co-ordinating committee met. We reprint here the statement read on Eileen Dailly's behalf at the June 25th meeting. We are also reprinting an address made by the Minister at the World YWCA Council Meeting on July 17, 1975.

X X X  
"I would like to say at the outset that in my nine years in the B.C. Legislature, I have consistently advocated rights for women and the removal of discrimination against women, and I will continue to do so as long as I am a member of the Legislature.

"Recently, I met with members of the Women's Studies Committee to explain to them my reactions to the revised Women's Studies Course.

"I was concerned, for example, that the course contained content which, studied out of context and without the necessary background in such areas as law, economics, language, history and so on, would result in students acquiring knowledge and understanding that was only superficial, and sometimes misleading.

"I also told the Committee members that the course, as outlined, could be interpreted as teaching a particular point of view towards marriage, the family and so on. No other course in the entire curriculum is designed in this manner.

"I also believe that the course is directed at a limited group of students and yet, if the basic educational objectives in doing any study are valid, they should be applicable to every student.

"Any study in this area must have objectives which are defensible on educational grounds and sound learning theory as the basis. I do not feel that the course as presented to me contains these objectives.

"I then informed the Committee members that while I cannot endorse the course as presented, I am anxious to look for alternative ways of using sections of it.

"For example, I believe that the objective of Women's Studies Courses in schools is to make available, to as many students as possible, knowledge about the role of women in society. I believe that the most desirable way to achieve this objective is not to narrow the option down to one elective women's studies course, but instead, to introduce an integrated study of women and their roles throughout the

the curriculum.

"There is no reason why sections of the course could not be incorporated into existing studies in areas such as economics, child care courses, English home economics and social studies.

"In this way, all students, and I repeat, all students, not just a selected few, will have the opportunity to study the role of women in society as an integrated and significant part of the regular curriculum.

"I suggested to the Committee members, who met with me that we would be pleased to have some of the Women's Study Committee members sit on our curriculum model.

"My concern is to see that the students of our province are made aware of discrimination against women and also of the great role that women have played, are playing now, and will play to an increasing degree in the future in our society.

Statement by Hon. Eileen Dailly  
June 25, 1975

X X X

AN ADDRESS BY EILEEN DAILLY TO THE  
WORLD YWCA COUNCIL MEETING JULY 17, 1975

Our government believes very strongly about promoting the rights of women. We have set up a special women's coordinator for international women's year. We are attempting to move through government to give emphasis to the encouragement of employing women in administrative positions in the public service.

As Minister of Education I am very aware of the great challenge I have to give leadership in this whole area of women's rights. I have appointed a special advisory committee on sex discrimination within the public school system. This committee works very closely with me on recommendations for changes in textbooks and changes in

programs and curriculum in the public schools to eliminate discrimination. I have hired a fulltime consultant on sex discrimination to work with this committee. The committee has done an excellent job during the first year it has been in operation. The committee members have been working, not only on analyzing present textbooks in use for revision and change but also on a women's study course which would be put into the schools on an elective basis.

## Curriculum

You can go through the curriculum of most schools, particularly in the secondary schools, and see that there is very little emphasis on women. This must be changed and should be changed. With the help of the advisory committee on sex discrimination and in conjunction with my departmental officials, I am intending to examine all our curricula in the province so that areas that have been notoriously blank re: the contribution of women can be changed.

How many of us left our highschool without having any understanding of the great role, for instance, that the pioneer women played in the development of our province -- the role that women in medicine have played or women in the arts, music, literature, etc.-- all these areas should be looked at very closely and integrated into the curriculum in our public schools.

I accept the fact that a special course on women's studies could be desirable. At the moment, however, we have had some difficulty in creating a course which would put over the objectives of a women's studies course and at the same time be a course which has credibility and acceptance. I am very hopeful that revisions which are now being made to the women's studies course will be such that I myself as minister will be able to endorse a course for use in our public schools.

As minister I have encouraged the school boards of the province to eliminate the former policy that only girls be allowed to enrol in home economics classes and boys

in Industrial Arts. We now are opening this up so that any girl or boy can take whichever course they wish to. We are also presently looking at the whole area of physical education and questioning why it should not be coeducational. Steps will be taken in this area.

Reply & Comment:

If the Minister of Education truly advocates removal of discrimination against women then she must be prepared to print, distribute and defend the Women's Studies course which has gained wide approval. Otherwise knowledge which students already have, as they embark on endeavors in their lives will continue to be misleading. We do not need to have a great background in law to sign legal documents such as the marriage contract, or a background in economics to manage our own affairs, but it certainly would help young men and women to examine questions in these areas. It is our contention that every course teaches a particular point of

view and overlooks women's contributions to history as well as that of labour, unions, minority groups.... Only four courses in the senior grades are core curriculum. The remainder are electives. Both female and male students ought to have the right to choose a women's studies course. The course does have valid content, and objectives which are defensible on educational grounds.

We ask that everyone concerned, especially parents, write letters supporting the position that the Minister of Education print, distribute and defend this course as a valid model for locally developed courses on this topic.

Letters and petitions can be sent to the:

B.C. Teacher's Federation  
105-2235 Burrard Street  
Vancouver, B.C.

for a bulk presentation to the Minister in September.

Margaret Beardsley  
Coquitlam



PRO  
LABOUR STUDIES

AT

Capilano College

John Sayre thinks enough studies of labour from a business management viewpoint are available. He thinks it's time for a course that looks at labour from the trade union viewpoint. Sayre is co-ordinator of a labour studies program to be offered at Capilano College this year - and he makes no pretence of being objective. He said the program will consist of 15 courses, each offering "a definite partisan labour approach." "We're definitely going to serve labour's needs in the best way we can - and we'll leave the definition of those needs to labour," Sayre said.

The courses to be offered this fall include labour economics, labour law, contemporary economics, the history of the labour movement in Canada, women in the work force, Indian land claims and the trade union movement, and working with the mass media.

Sayre said recommendations on new courses and timetables will come from an advisory board to be composed of representatives of the major unions in B.C. chosen through the B.C. Federation of Labour.

Sayre said the courses will range in length from one day to a full semester. Most courses will involve 20 hours of instruction over a four, six or eight week period. "The courses are aimed at people active in the trade union movement now, as in-service training," he said, "But anyone can attend."

WOMEN'S  
HISTORY  
PROJECT

ANY INFO ?

While the war machine of World War II was desensitizing the ranks of the working class, women began to work in shipyards and aircraft plants. It was a first for many women as well as for the employers of these industrial plants. The employers saw it as a golden opportunity to weaken the spirit of solidarity and unionism that had built up throughout Canada during the Depression.

The employers had special facilities built and segregated the female employees from their male counterparts. They encouraged women to be "Stool pigeons" and promised extra benefits if the women would stay out of the unions.

Employers were not to see their Utopia because the women of the shipyards, the aircraft plants and the foundries did join the unions. They encouraged their sisters to join and in the end made the unions stronger for having them.

If you have any information that can be used by the Women's History Project, please contact them at:

Women's History Project  
U.F.A.W.U. - W.A.  
138 East Cordova Street  
Vancouver, B.C.

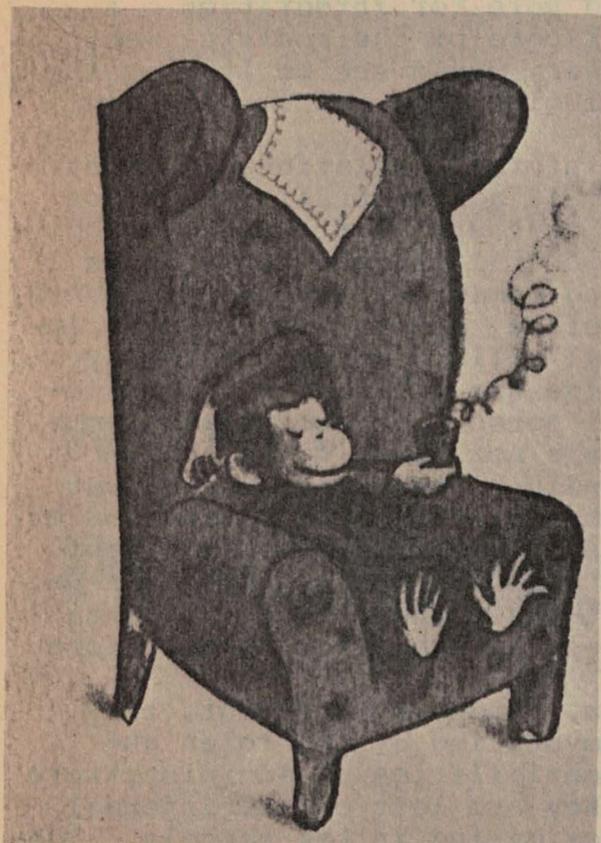


## SEGREGATED SCHOOL STAFF ROOMS -

### -THE LAST BASTION OF MALE CHAUVINISM ?

A now famous anecdote told by Dr. Pauline Jewett, President of Simon Fraser University, points out how ludicrous it is for professional clubs to be off limits for women. Her embarrassment was mixed with indignation when a meeting of university presidents was held at the Vancouver Club, an all male bastion of camaraderie, chauvinism and conservatism.

The image that Club evokes for me is one of overstuffed leather chairs occupied by similarly overstuffed leather men who make crucial decisions about our society over the tinkle of a scotch cube and the waft of a cigar ash.



Feminists who confront anti-integrationists get the old hue and cry - "but boys will be boys, - you know". They need to have their own space in which they can expletive deleted far from the tender ears of young Ms's or throw darts at Playboy centerfolds or tell their jerking French tickler jokes with wild abandonment.

It is sad, but true that those kinds of activities create the male bonding which Lionel Tiger says is an innate primal instinct. Fine, let it never be said that I wish to rob men of primal instincts! The poor dears. Women too have certain rituals that bind them together whether it be a coffee break in the mid morning with other mothers when baby has finally taken a nap or an emotionally intense consciousness raising session.

The difference between women's togetherness and men's is that women's bonding does not exclude men from those areas where they need to and want to be involved.

The issue of integrating staff rooms in high school buildings seems, to many, a very trivial and inconsequential one. However, I believe it is a basic one, basic to the question people in education are finally asking themselves - like why aren't there more women in educational administration? I am not saying that there is a cause - effect relationship between segregated staff rooms and low female participation in administration.

What I am saying however is that the practise reflects an attitude which is based on the assumption that women don't belong in areas of management, politics or administration.

All male staff rooms in schools, like all male clubs tend to have a mysticism about them as many restricted things do. Women conjure up all kinds of top secret or very important business that must go on behind those doors.

## locker-room

### ambiance

However, the conversation is more likely to revolve around the golf game or the fishing trip or the girl who got away. In one school I know of, several men boycotted the men's staff room because it had such a locker-room ambiance about it and when any professional discussion was solicited, the imposer would be slapped down in some humiliating way. Rather than get into territorial warfare these teachers would stop socializing and eat lunch in their classrooms.

If a woman dared enter the lair, she either had to act like "one of the boys" i.e. play a hand of poker or she would be insulted or ordered out.

Out of Vancouver's 18 secondary schools, 12 have segregated staff rooms, 4 have mixed and separate, and only 2 have totally integrated rooms.

These data usually shock teachers groups outside the Vancouver area. It seems that this phenomenon is not widespread enough to justify any explanations based on depart-

mental regulations in planning facilities. No one seems to be able to come up with any rational reasons for segregated staff rooms.

## mainly secondary

### schools

It is interesting to note that segregated staff rooms are not found in elementary schools which have a predominantly female staff, so it is curious to ponder over why they exist in secondary schools.

Over the past few years there has been active movement towards integrating staff rooms. All the activities were begun by women - all the antagonists were men. In some schools, teachers tried to do it democratically by polling opinions. An overwhelming majority would vote for integration. A small core of the powerful men, however, would see to it that the resolution never got implemented.

The informal relationships that the male administration develops with teachers over coffee, lunch and general "horsing around" is denied women. Women staff members, therefore, are not involved in informal policy making until they receive the decision via a bulletin. Moreover, women staff members are not privy to all those friendly hints and contacts that get men climbing the career ladder. The school system is just as rampant with the "who-you-know-in-the-right-position-will-get-you-ahead" concept as are other institutions.

Again, women are left out, they are mystified by the roles and responsibilities of administrators as they are left out of informal policy making in the schools. They

are submissive by nature of their powerlessness and dependent by nature of their lack of knowledge.

**Tear down walls**

**Or Collegiality?**

Educators are getting tired of hearing the cliches "open lines of communications" and "collegiality". They know that they are merely words. How can there be open lines of communications or collegiality amongst a group of so called professionals who can't even sit around a table to drink coffee together? What kind of role model are we providing for our teen-agers who see their own teachers abide by an archaic, irrational practice.

Certainly the integration of staff rooms will not solve all the problems of education. But it would sure be a start.

A not so modest proposal to all school districts to celebrate International Women's Year - "Tear down the walls!"

- Reva Dexter,  
Special Advisor on  
Sex Discrimination  
in Public Education.

**WRITE FOR**

**PRIORITIES**

## **Women's Studies:**

**- a degree program at  
S.F.U.**

Pending approval by the Board of Governors of the university, Simon Fraser will begin offering courses leading to a minor in Women's Studies in January, 1976. The program is the only one in British Columbia which offers advanced work and is one of the few degree granting programs in Canada.

Approval of the program by the SFU Senate early in July culminated a year and a half's work by Simon Fraser feminists. An ad hoc group of students, faculty, staff and alumnae researched existing programs all over North America and designed a set of core courses that take advantage of SFU's unique Faculty of Interdisciplinary Studies. These basic courses, seven in number, are designed to offer an integrated and coherent study of women's position historically and at present.

The basic courses in the first two levels are: Introduction to Women's Studies which focuses on the development of women's work, family and social roles in European and North American society, followed by four courses in somewhat more depth. One of these deals with women in cross-cultural perspective, another with the interplay between individuals and society and the psychological consequences of this, a third deals with women in Canada from earliest colonization through the 19th century, and the last introductory course treats Canadian women in this century. These five courses are to serve as background for in-depth courses that will be developed by various departments at an advanced level and for advanced research seminars in the interdisciplinary program.

The need for women's studies courses as supplemental to the established curriculum arises out of the fact that universities reflect the prevailing sexism of the society.

## SFU-women's studies cont'd

Standard history courses leave women out almost completely (except perhaps for Catherine the Great and Queen Victoria), economics does not deal with the economics of the family or of women's work in any way, anthropology either ignores or distorts women's roles in other societies, etc. Women's Studies programs are an attempt to counteract this tendency and to offer interested women and men the tools with which to critically evaluate their other courses.

In addition, Women's Studies courses raise questions about sexism in the wider community, in the political process, in the arts, etc. Particularly important is the understanding which can be gained by studying the history and scope of women's own struggles against sexism. A more practical consequence of pursuing a Women's Studies program was discovered by the organizers of the Sir George Williams University joint-major Women's Studies program-- employers were delighted at the thought of prospective social workers or personnel officers or the like having an additional degree in Women's Studies.

### -public support needed

One aim of the SFU program is to provide a place for those students taking introductory Women's Studies courses in community colleges to pursue advanced work. Women's Studies is not new in B.C. Almost all of the community colleges offer a wide variety of courses and the University of B.C. offers an introductory interdisciplinary course dealing with aspects of women's problems.

The program at SFU is to be reviewed after three years and a decision made as to whether or not it should be made permanent. A crucial factor in its initial success will be the availability of funding. New staff will be needed to mount the program and new library re-

sources. The program at UBC is seriously threatened by lack of funds and it is a continuing problem in the community colleges. One of the ways support for Women's Studies can be made explicit is by urging the provincial government, in every way possible, to earmark funds for Women's Studies. Another way is to enroll in a women's studies course-- either for credit or for fun.

Further information about the Simon Fraser program can be obtained by calling the Academic Advice Centre at the University.

Margaret Benston

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## Sociology of the Press

You may have noticed, like me, the strange procedure The Sun followed at the Federal Convention in Winnipeg: good informative reporting was done on Rosemary Brown's campaign, but the articles consistently referred to Rosemary, running a feminist socialist campaign, as "Mrs. Brown". I thought it a bit absurd since Rosemary has been Ms. Brown for years. I also thought it was a bit uncharacteristic of Neale Adams' reporting.

Neale said that The Sun has a policy of referring to married women as Mrs. So & So, and is continuing this policy regardless of what individual reporters write in their stories. I pointed out that this policy goes against the guidelines in the revised Canadian Press Stylebook, which I thought was the standard used in Canadian newspapers. Neale said that newspaper decide some of these things for themselves.

This practice might be corrected by directing letters to Managing or Senior Editors Neale said. Lisa Hobbs is an Associate Editor. He thought that it would be easiest if women (as men now are) were referred to by their last name, since some women do object to being referred to as Ms-----.

# vancouver women's bookstore

History, novels, practical guides, periodicals, poetry, biographies—all their stock is of special interest to women. Non-sexist children's books are also carried.

Most running the store are active feminists. Some are working women, some artists, some mothers and some combination of the three.

Open six days a week at—804 Richards  
Phone 684-0523

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday—Noon til 5 pm

Thursday, Friday, Noon til 9 pm

Saturday: 9:30 til 9 pm

\*\*\*\*\*

## UNQUOTEABLE QUOTES

"The chairman wanted to know what the status of the Royal Commission of Women means. In Canada it means that women are equal with men, entitled to the same pay, entitled to the same working conditions. As the Minister of Labour I met more braless delegations from the Women's Lib than any other minister in cabinet. So I insisted on keeping the job."

—Postmaster General of Canada  
Bryce S. Mackasey

(quoted in Status of Women News—May/75)

NO  
COMMENT—

## "HOW A WART ALMOST KEPT ME FROM THE BIG DANCE."



# CARAL ABORTION RALLY

A rally...a march... a week long vigil by the courthouse in Vancouver to once again elicit support for removal of Section 251 of the Criminal Code and, to demand Dr. Morgentaler's release from jail.

The struggle continues to try to prove to parliament and the Liberal Administration that the majority of Canadians do support the policy that abortion should be a private matter between a woman and her doctor.

The rally was held on Saturday, August 9 and the vigil continued each day from August 9-16 with two people taking three hour shifts from 8:30 a.m. until 5:30 p.m. each day. My shift began Monday morning when I helped one of the organizers tape up the purple banner which read, "Canadian Association for Repeal of the Abortion Laws". We set up the card table, the pamphlets and petitions. In the box were all the things the organizers had thought of: stones to weight the papers which fluttered around, tape, and importantly a camera to use to photograph any one hassling us and a list of telephone numbers and names in case of an emergency. The instructions told us it was our democratic right to protest and that the best course was to ignore abusive remarks.

The point of this is that organization of a vigil does not start with a large powerful group but just a small number who devote their time and ideas to something they know is vital for women. Often during the week someone was unable to come for their shift so others stayed for two shifts or

came on short notice. CARAL was formed in Vancouver in June as part of an organization with broad support begun in Ontario and now in almost every province. Signing the petition is one of the easiest actions, joining and working in an organization like CARAL is necessary for as many of us as possible.

I found it a rewarding experience. This was the first time I could have done something like that. Yet I recognized for some it may have been a decision to sign a petition for abortion. Many other women and men would rush over asking, "Where do I sign?" A number of young women did not realize that women in Canada would have difficulty obtaining adequate counselling or be able to reach one of the 259 hospitals out of 1300 which do have Therapeutic Abortion Committees. Some young teenage women welcomed our information. A grandmother visiting from England chatted with us about the situation in England. A young woman from Japan wanted to know about abortion laws in Canada. Almost half of those who stopped were men.

## THREE DOCTORS SIGN

Three doctors attending the convention of the Canadian College of Family Physicians at the Hotel Vancouver signed the petition while I was there. All three said they could not sign as physicians in the column headed occupation. Oh, the

cowardice! It is my contention that only a small number of doctors did approach the table although the CARAL banner was readily noticeable across the square.

## 1500 SIGN

In four or five days approximately 1500 people signed the petition. Two hundred joined CARAL. Perhaps half of those may become active in giving their ideas and time for further action. CARAL now has a steering committee to provide continuity. General meetings are held each Wednesday evening at the Vancouver Status of Women office c/o 2029 W. 4th Ave., Vancouver, Telephone 736-3746.

A group has formed in Victoria. Groups are also forming in Kelowna and Terrace. Contact the above address if you can form a group in your area, if you would like to join the Research Group, or if you need information.

-Margaret Beardsley  
Coquitlam

## SOCIALIST FILM SERIES

The following films will be presented by the Vancouver Area Council of the New Democratic Party.

They will be shown at 8:00 p.m. at the IRONWORKERS' HALL, 2415 Columbia (at 8th), Vancouver.

Programme subject to change without notice.

## FILMS ABOUT WOMEN

third Saturday of every month

Sept. 20th. Angela Davis: Portrait of a Revolutionary.

A close look at the daily work of a committed Marxist-Leninist revolutionary. Made by Yolande Du Luart, a French woman working in the UCLA film dept. and a student of Angela Davis.

\*\*\*\*\* two of the NFB working mother series.

Oct. 18th. A Free Woman. (1972)  
The story of Elizabeth, recently divorced, trying to get custody of her child, and the problems that she faces. The title is ironic since she is at the mercy of lawyers, the courts, and social mores. Made in Germany by Volker Schlöndorff.

Nov. 15th. Sambizanga. (1972)  
Directed by Sarah Muldoro, assisted by her husband, a leader in the Angolan resistance. It focuses on a young black couple who bask in each other's presence until the husband is arrested as a political prisoner. His wife walks with their baby on her back from village to village trying to locate him.

Dec. 20th. The Girls. (1968)  
Fae Zetterling's film about a group of women with a touring company presenting Aristophanes' Lysistrata, who learn something from the theme of the play - rebellion against masculine domination.  
\*\*\*\*\*

## FILMS ON FASCISM

first Saturday of every month

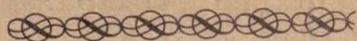
Sept. 6th. The Triumph of the Will

Oct 4th. Night and Fog. (1955)  
The Spanish Earth (1937)

Nov. 1st. The Conformist (1971)

Dec. 6th. Black Holiday (1973)

# BOOK



# REVIEW

## "ROOM of one's own"

- A FEMINIST JOURNAL OF LITERATURE AND CRITICISM - Published quarterly by the Growing Room Collective, 1918 Waterloo St., Vancouver, B. C. Subscription rates are \$5.00 per year, \$1.50 per issue. Outside Canada \$6.00 per year, \$1.75 per issue. The institutional rate is \$8.00 per year.

Canadian women have written literature second to none in the world. One of the best of our contemporaries is Margaret Lawrence. Her latest book The Diviners is the finest Canadian novel I have so far read. Lawrence, like her counterpart Morag in The Diviners found a quiet country cottage where she could write without interruption or, when this failed and her family intruded, write around the interruptions.

Privacy and quiet time are essential for good writing. Privacy and quiet time are not the estate of most women. Men write, women stand by in the kitchen, bedroom and work place. Women write, if they have very understanding husbands or, more likely, no husband or children at all. Virginia Woolf in her essay A Room of One's Own says that for every William Shakespeare there was a sister who never had the leisure or financial help to act on her genius. Today there are sisters who have never had the leisure or money to act on their genius. But not

as many. For today women are getting rooms of their own, writing in those rooms and emerging with manuscripts they expect to be published.

Next question. How? You get published the same way you got those manuscripts in the first place. You do it yourself, when necessary. Helping yourself is what a group of Vancouver women are doing. This year they began publication of ROOM OF ONE'S OWN.

I have before me their second issue, Summer 1975, a neat little magazine about the size of Reader's Digest (no resemblance otherwise) on quality paper. There is a fascinating cover photo related to one of the stories about a woman who decided to live in the family refrigerator. The issue contains poetry, short stories and non fiction including a survey of the role of women in science fiction by Fran Skene and an interview with Margaret Atwood by Gail van Varseveld.

All of the pieces are quality work. If the Collective maintains this standard they should prove a success. It is true that everything written might have been written just a little better but I found the level of achievement in the Summer issue such that I would not hesitate to recommend the magazine to any woman (or man).

The content is revealed in the word "feminist" appearing on the cover. By women, about women - past and present, it will not be appreciated by those who like things as they are. There is great power and prejudice against us, as the magazine reveals. There is a vitality we

give to one another through our words and actions. Especially our words. We need political documents by all means. We need prose and poetry for the love of life.

A Room of One's Own provides the art that brings it all together. It says: "See here, feminism isn't just going to conventions, walking picket lines to free Dr. Morgentaler, battling for equal wages and day care. Feminism is creativity, the right to be an artist, and intellectual." Shakespeare had his day. This is the century for his sister.

The first story called Earthquake by Cherie Stewart is a neatly moulded tale about a young woman who takes off on her own and heads for Alaska. We feel the timid independence of this nameless person as she fights her own fears and the shocked reactions of people she meets en route when they discover she is travelling alone. She reaches Anchorage and there endures an experience that terrifies her and restates the vulnerability of modern women in a culture that lags behind her consciousness.

## stories

Three Fables for Modern Women by Frances M. Duncan are imaginary episodes. Ms. Duncan has used impossible situations to carry her message. There is the incident when Yvonne takes to living in the refrigerator and the reaction of her husband and children to this turn of events. There is the tale about Blanche who discovers on her thirty-third birthday that she is growing old and decides the remedy is by way of the drug store cosmetic counter. The results are astonishing. The last is the eerie story

of Amanda who dies, is buried and finds strange things happening to her body when she awakens in her cramped coffin six feet under.

Sandra Heindsmann deals with prostitution in The Charwoman of Lust:

The charwoman of Lust  
Works in the always night,  
Licking with her ten mile tongue  
The debris of small offices,  
Opening drawers  
Salivating onto balance sheets  
To leave her scent for tomorrow.  
Tomorrow is another day.

Or Vanishing Act by Jean Mallinson:

I do not exist.  
It is terrible, and the worst  
thing is  
I'm not missed.  
I walk down the hall  
And no one sees me at all.

Or my favorite poem in the book Illusion is a Woman by Victoria W. Margesson:

Today there was a leaving-  
Illusion packed her valise/  
wings of gauze grew on her/  
she denied a cup of tea,  
wanting to be empty for flight  
& deftly made arrangements for  
her mail to be answered.

Valise in hand, powder on her  
wings,  
rouge on her transparent cheeks,  
Illusion leaped off the studio  
roof  
from next to the brick chimney.  
The air felt moist and cool on  
her nakedness, but the weight  
of the coral valise was too much  
so she let it go over Saskatche-  
wan, keeping track of her flight  
in a thin black journal.

The house feels empty now,  
rooms seem bigger, Beethoven  
sweeter, sunshine more brilliant,  
tears more salty, food richer,

# PRIORITIES

## Back Issues

The following issues of Priorities are available in single or bulk orders. Single copies are 35¢ each which includes postage. Orders of over 10 copies sell for 30¢ each.

Please be sure to specify number of copies and your return address.

If you subscribe to Priorities and through moving or renewing late missed copies of Priorities, please note this on your request. Regular subscribers will be given preference if only limited copies are available.

January Vol.1.No.1 to January Vol.2.No.1 no longer available  
February Vol.2.No.2 Limited copies

March Vol.2.No.3. "Women on the Island" a supplement by Victoria Socialist NDP Women's Caucus.

April Vol.2.No.4. "Child Care Supplement" and Review of "A Touch of Class" and "Kamouraska."

May Vol.2.No.5. "Facts of Life for Rural Women" by the Upper Island NDP Women's Caucus.

June Vol.2.No.6. "Highschool Women." and "Women's Resolution '74."

July Vol.2.No.7. "Feminism and Socialism". a special supplement by Burrard NDP Women's Group.

August Vol.2.No.8. "Report on NDP Women's Conference in Winnipeg" also review of "Growing Pains" by Emily Carr and "Privilege of Sex" by Eve Zarembo.

September Vol.2.No.9. "Report of the B.C. NDP Convention."

October Vol.2.No.10. "Morgentaler and Abortion."

November Vol.2.No.11. "Sexuality" by Fraser Valley NDP Women's Committee.

December Vol.2.No.12. "Women and Literature."

January Vol.3.No.1 "Two Jobs for the Price of One" and other articles on the status of women, review of Kate Millet's Flying

February Vol.3.No.2 "Capitalism and Feminism" an introductory article

March Vol.3.No.3 The problems of organizing daycare, review of Middlemarch

April Vol.3.No.4 "Women under Capitalism, Part I", organizing daycare part II, review of And Out Goes You

May Vol.3.No.5 "Women under Capitalism Part II", review of Pat Lowther's poetry

June Vol.3.No.6 "Sexism", "Pension Plan for Spouses", "Pay for Housework?" and reports on Provincial Convention

July Vol.3.No.7 Rosemary Brown's Federal Campaign speech and discussion about the Federal Convention

If you know of a Women's Centre, school, information centre, etc., that would make good use of back issues of Priorities send us the address. We'll send along back issues free of charge.



# THANKS



to the following people who have sent in donations  
to help support Priorities:

- Bernice Packford.....Victoria
- Margaret Cook.....Coquitlam
- Frances Beal.....Vancouver
- Susan Surich.....Kitchener
- Robin Geary.....Vancouver
- Janet Ashdown.....Westmount, P.Q.

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