



THE NORTHERN WOMAN

JANUARY 1974 - ISSUE VIII
318 South Marks Street
THUNDER BAY, Ontario

EDITORIAL POLICY

The composition of the Northern Women's Centre group, as a whole, represents different ideological views and approaches to the emancipation of women - i.e. political affiliation (or lack thereof). However, the unifying factor is the sentiment that women should be emancipated. The newsletter itself will serve as an open forum for expression of any and all viewpoints of the women in Northwestern Ontario.

Up until now, the newsletter has served mainly as a bulletin board of events, with little discussion of pertinent issues.

Only by a free and open exchange of opinions and views will we develop a basis for unity which can be used as a basis for action.

N O R T H E R N W O M E N ' S C E N T R E C O R R E S P O N D E N C E

ONTARIO ADVISORY COUNCIL ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

By way of introduction, a letter, plus printed material concerning the Centres' activities was mailed on January 6th, 1974 to Mr. William Saskoley of Dryden. Mr. Saskoley is an appointed member of the Ontario Advisory Council on the Status of Women. Mr. Saskoley is the only Council representative northwest of Sudbury. We invited Mr. Saskoley to come and speak to us (at some future date), on the activities of the Advisory Council.

There was an immediate response from Mr. Saskoley, he was very happy to receive our letter as he was not aware that there was such a women's group serving the women of Thunder Bay and district. At his suggestion, he will be forwarding copies of all the Council meeting minutes to our Centre. It is hoped he will be able to come and speak to our group in the not too distant future.

COFFEE COMMERCIALISM - The Angolan Coffee Boycott . . . is being practiced by many Canadians in an attempt to alleviate the conditions of forced labour in Angola and to reduce part of the Canadian Revenue for Angolan products that help to suppress Angolese Independence Efforts. **BOYCOTT** - General Foods-YUBAN, MAXIM, MAXWELL HOUSE, SANKA, BRIM; Nestles - NESCAFE, TASTERS CHOICE.

STATUS OF WOMEN

At the request of the Premier of Ontario, in 1972 the Provincial Secretary for Social Development appointed an interministerial committee to review and analyze the federal Report of the Royal Commission on the Status of Women in Canada, as it relates to provincial jurisdiction. From this committee came a Plan For Action Green Paper (booklet). For those not familiar with this paper we will be printing some of its recommendations and urge you to respond by writing -

The Honourable Robert Welch
Provincial Secretary for Social Development
North Wing, Main Parliament Building
Queen's Park
TORONTO, Ontario M7A 1A2

Recommendation 3

We recommend that the federal, provincial and territorial governments to:

- (a) make greater use of Women's voluntary associations; and
- (b) increase their financial support to:
 - i) women's voluntary associations engaged in projects of public interest, and
 - ii) voluntary associations working in fields of particular concern to women.

Recommendation 21

We recommend that sex-typing of occupations be avoided in the text and in the illustrations of all federal government publications.

FEEDBACK FROM THE STUDENTS FROM ATIKOKAN HIGH SCHOOL VISITATION January 11, 1974

- destroyed media image of extreme positions
- liked historical presentation
- vocabulary difficult
- interesting to listen to
- informative
- liked some of the ideas
- "lots of good points"
- "changed my mind"
- explained well
- sarcastic response to questions
- silly points re: title of course, mixed bathrooms
- I enjoyed it
- some good points
- I'm becoming more aware of things - history class

NIPIGON TRIP

On Friday, January 19, a bunch of us piled into four cars and headed off to Nipigon, each car loaded to overflowing with displays and materials for an all day workshop. We went straight to Marg Lanchok's house where we ate and drank our fill before dashing off to the school for a showing of the Marion Kantaroff video tape from the Conference. It sparked off a discussion that lasted over two hours - mainly because we had some visitors who had come to provide a united opposition to the movement. To some of us it appeared they were not as diametrically opposed as they seem to think. After the verbal free-for-all we all went back to Marg's for a wine-and-cheese/sauna/pyjama party. A couple of us went out to billet in other homes.

The next day, we put on a magnificent show. We had informative workshops, including CR (Estelle), Memorial Society (Lucy) and Stereotyping in the the Text Books (Susan). The play "A Man Has His Pride" was performed a second time. We had plenty of displays as well (books, crafts, OISE women's kit). Everyone who had a part did a superb job. A special thanks to Marion whose experience with craft exhibits, and whose personal craft collection, were invaluable.

The only saddening note was the relatively poor turn out, but we received suggestions from Nipigon women on how we could keep such a thing happening again (and we will try again). We'll discuss these and other suggestions at our next Women's Centre Meeting.

ONTARIO NATIVE WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION & THUNDER BAY ANISHNABEQUEK

An election was held in December by our local branch. It was decided that a young executive be elected. The following girls were elected:

President	Beverly Sabourin
Vice President	Sarah Sawanis
Secretary	Lillian Alto
Treasurer	Peggy Palkert

The Provincial and local organizations combined forces and hosted a dinner and social hour at the Prince Arthur Hotel for the delegates of the Federation of Friendship Centres who met here in Thunder Bay.

Members of the International Students Organization, located at the Lakehead University were also invited to the social hour. Members from this group represent countries such as Rhodesia, Africa; Guyana, South America; Jamaica and Malaysia.

SEPARATION & DIVORCE

Anyone wishing to become involved in or part of a separation and divorce information sharing group, please telephone Marion at 622-3931. This includes women who are contemplating divorce or separation or is in the process of doing so or has completed one and who would be willing to exchange information, moral support or advice on procedures.

THINK ABOUT IT

"Do you put down other women for being on welfare?.... Stop for a minute and think what would happen if you and your kids if you suddenly had no husband and no savings" from "Welfare Is a Women's Issue".

.....
: Marilyn Dobson and other :
: sisters of Vickers Heights :
: for their generous :
: contribution. :
:

DID YOU KNOW THAT

Dr. Khazen said the Ministry of Health does not offer direct services in family planning. The services are offered through local health units of which there are 44 in the Province; 14 of these offer family planning services. The Department of Health has been in favour of family planning since 1966, before the Criminal Code was changed.

The Ministry cannot force a unit to adopt a family planning program. There is local autonomy and persuasion must be relied upon. Some clinics will not provide services to single girls or to women not referred by a physician.

FIRSTS FOR WOMEN

Margaret Weston - June 1973 made head of Londons - The Science Museum - the first woman director of any major museum in Europe.

Dr. Bette Stephenson - June 1973 elected president-elect of the Canadian Medical Association, first woman ever to head a major national medical organization in the world.

Frances Nokes - October 1973, appointed first woman clerk of the Ontario Legislature. She was formerly secretary to the select committee on company law.

Lita Rose Betcherman (former head of the provinces women's bureau) and Gail Brent, a professor of law at Queen's University were added to the list of 40 men on the Ontario Labour-Management Arbitration Commission to act as arbitrators in labour-management disputes.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

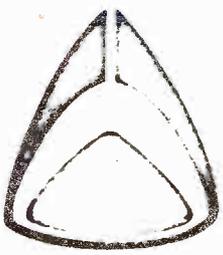
Lets not forget basic issues. Support the National Womens Coalition for the Repeal of the Abortion Laws.

SEND YOUR LETTERS TO:

Paul McRae MP
(Constituency Office)
222 Myles Street
THUNDER BAY F, Ontario

N O T I C E O F T H E N E X T W O M E N ' S C E N T R E M E E T I N G S

JANUARY 31st, 1974
FEBRUARY 7th, 1974
FEBRUARY 14th, 1974
FEBRUARY 21st, 1974
Wesley United Church
130 North Brodie Street
THUNDER BAY F, Ontario
at 8:00 p.m.



castlegreen

a co-operative housing community
P.O. BOX 952, THUNDER BAY "P", ONTARIO, CANADA

Telephone 345 2831

January 17th, 1974

Northern Women's Caucus
318 S. Marks St.
THUNDER BAY "F", Ont.

Dear Friends:

Enclosed please find a short information item which we hope you can include in your regular Membership Newsletter.

If you would like further information, please don't hesitate to call us.

Yours faithfully,

M. Fierito

M. Fierito,
Castlegreen Project Co-ordinator



castlegreen commentary

C A S T L E G R E E N

A real chance for a good home

-----of your own!

The Castlegreen Cooperative Housing Project was started in March of 1973 by a group of local citizens who felt it was time to do something about the housing crisis in Thunder Bay. It now has a membership of about 80 people, A Board of Directors, an Advisory Board, and plans for its first housing project of upward of 200 units. It is looking for more members. The whole idea being to provide good homes and community facilities which people can afford, and which they will run themselves on a co-operative basis.

Co-ops, as non-profit organizations, can build cheaper because of bulk buying of land, appliances, and services such as snow plowing, painting, etc. Co-op members don't have to worry about eviction or rising rents. Rents are geared to the size of house and the family income. The co-op makes its own rules for a safe and pleasant place to live.

If you would like to join the Co-op, or want more information about it - the address is:

Castlegreen Housing Co-operative
Box 952
Thunder Bay 'P', Ont. PHONE 345 2831

December 26th, 1973

The Northern Women's Centre
313 S. Marks Street.
Thunder Bay P, Ont.

Forum 'A'

I am increasingly uneasy about the legalization of abortion and its acceptance as a means to deal with unwanted or problem pregnancies. I see abortion as a non-solution, and concerned about the problems permissive abortion itself might create for women and society. Several points deserve particular attention.

Although abortion irreversibly eliminates one part of the problem- the unwanted baby- it does not deal with the underlying social and economic pressures which cause a woman to so totally reject her unborn baby that she seeks its destruction.

ABORTION DISCOURAGES SEXUAL RESPONSIBILITY. It does not foster acceptance of the reality that sexual participation may result in the creation of a new life with which the participants are entrusted. In an already sex-saturated society, where too often women are considered sex objects and children unwanted complications, permissive abortion makes the possible the final victory of the Playboy philosophy which denies sexual responsibility and glorifies transient pleasure and excitement.

Evidence indicates that legalized abortion discourages the use of family planning techniques. This results in more unplanned pregnancies and an ever-increasing reliance on abortion.



Jeanne Wilmot, 666 Dawson Street
Thunder Bay P, Ont.

Your file Votre référence

Our file Notre référence

Manpower
and ImmigrationMain-d'œuvre
et ImmigrationLocal
Initiatives
Program Programme
des Initiatives
Locales2180 Yonge Street,
Box 48,
Toronto, Ontario.

17 December 1973

Ms. Helen R. Halet,
C/o 318 S. Marks Street,
THUNDER BAY, Ontario.

Re: Application number 3K - 3520

Title: Northern Women's Centre

Dear Ms. Halet,

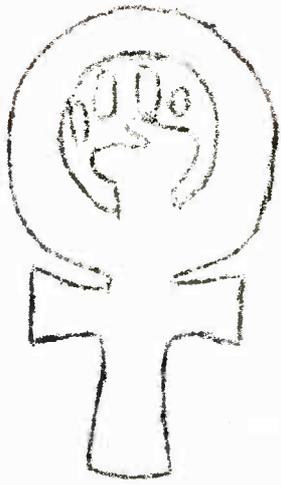
I regret to advise you that all available funds for your area under the Local Initiatives Program 1973-74 have now been committed and no further projects can be considered for approval unless there is a withdrawal or cancellation of a project previously approved.

The response to the program generated many worthwhile projects from which a selection had to be made, and after careful consideration of your proposal in comparison with other applications received, it has been decided that other applications received from your area more closely meet the needs of your community. I regret to advise you, therefore, that your project will not be selected as one which will receive support under the Local Initiatives Program 1973-74.

Thank you for having submitted a proposal.

Yours sincerely


Regional Coordinator



THE NORTHERN WOMAN

1974

FEBRUARY/MARCH/APRIL
ISSUE IX
BOX 314
132 NORTH ARCHIBALD
THUNDER BAY F, ONTARIO.

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N O R T H E R N W O M E N ' S C E N T R E C O R R E S P O N D E N C E

FORUM

Some of you may have seen a recent late-night show the topic of which was political imprisonment and torture. A member of this show's panel was a representative called AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL (This organization has nothing whatever to do with amnesty for "draft-dodgers" of the U.S.). Very briefly, AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL is engaged in assisting and freeing "prisoners of conscience" and their families, whose only crime is who they are or what they say. Governments of Brazil, South Africa, Czechoslovakia, Pakistan, South Vietnam, Greece, U.S.S.R., and Indonesia are only a few of the regimes who have the power to remain in power by torture, mass arrest, mock trial, and indefinite imprisonment of hundreds of thousands of men and women. The way AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL has freed and is freeing many of these people is simply by letting the regime in question know that "Someone is watching", writing letters to high officials and influential people in the jailer governments - they sometimes free the prisoner simply to get the pressure of world opinion off themselves.

I feel that since we as women are especially aware of and subjected to injustice in its various forms, we are morally bound as world citizens to work for or at least support this organization, for as it asks "... if we do not help today's victims who will help us if we become tomorrow's?" If you cannot commit yourself because of moral beliefs, at least the above quote could sufficiently motivate you. Write for further information to this non-political organization to:

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL
Department R, Box 4453
SAN FRANCISCO, California 94101

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

On Sunday March 10th Nancy Pocock from Toronto spoke on Vietnam. She was here to help us celebrate International Women's Day March 8th. This is a special day for women set aside as a result of the militant activity of women in industry in the early 1900's and specifically a strike called by the socialist women of the garment industry in New York. The struggle is far from new as some would have us believe.

The struggle is for people NOT just women alone. But before we can all join together women have to surface from under the heels of the men who make, and fight to retain the barbaric laws which oppress people.

Ms. Pocock spoke of the struggles of women in Vietnam who are trying to raise a new generation out of the rubble of bombings and war. It makes us feel that perhaps some of the things we are struggling for are pretty small.

... continued.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY - continued

She talked of ways we can help. One way is to donate material to make clothes for Vietnamese women and children. There are women in Thunder Bay and across the world who are donating their time, energy and skills - they need material. Another way to help is buying EXQUISITE CARDS DEPICTING ANCIENT VIETNAMESE LEGENDS, FOR SALE AT 50¢ EACH - PROCEEDS TO CHILD'S BOOK*

Decorative motives taken from ancient bronzes of the 3rd century, B.C. have been used in the illustration of four different cards by a Vietnamese artist.

*"One of the most imaginative proposals to come from the 3rd International Assembly of Christians in Solidarity with the Indochinese People, is a book for the children of Vietnam. These books will be illustrated by a Vietnamese artist with motives taken from ancient bronzes to give Vietnamese children a sense of their proud history. These beautiful books will be printed in Paris and given to every child in Vietnam-North, South and in the P.R.G. zones. There are very few books for children because of the war and this lack has been a great sorrow to the parents. The book is planned as a gift (300,000 copies for \$120,000.) from Christians of the world to the children of Vietnam..." Nancy Pocock

Make cheques to the order of, and:

ORDER FROM NANCY POCOCC, 52 Elgin Avenue, Toronto M5R 1G6, Ontario

STATUS OF WOMEN

The following recommendations are from the Plan For Action Green Paper (booklet) on equal opportunity for women in Ontario. Respond by writing:

The Honourable Robert Welch
Provincial Secretary for Social Development
North Wing, Main Parliament Building
Queen's Park
TORONTO, Ontario M7A 1A2

Recommendation 69

We recommend that the provinces and the territories adopt textbooks that portray women, as well as men, in diversified roles and occupations.

Recommendation 73

We recommend that the provinces and territories (a) provide co-educational guidance programmes in elementary and secondary schools, where they do not now exist and (b) direct the attention of guidance counsellors to the importance of encouraging both girls and boys to continue their education according to their individual aptitudes and to consider all occupational fields.

Recommendation 83

We recommend that the provinces and territories and all post-secondary educational institutions develop programmes to meet the special needs for continuing education of women with family responsibilities.

TAKE 30

On February 5th, 1974, on the program Take Thirty portions of a womens conference held in Calgary in 1968 were shown. Women were discussing changes that should be made regarding the Indian Act, removal of abortion from the Criminal Code, more government run day care centres and implementing the Canada Pension Plan for women. Six years later none of these changes have been made. Adrienne Clarkson said she was "fed up" with government inaction and noted that of 167 recommendations in the Report of the Royal Commission on the Status of Women in Canada only 45 minor recommendations had been implemented. She stated she will continue to promote programs, as just viewed and urged viewers to write their M.P.'s

THE ONTARIO COMMITTEE ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN - News Release - 12-02-74

Helen Marie Rathwell of Fort Qu'Appelle, Saskatchewan. Mrs. Rathwell now divorced was married in 1944 and during her 24 years of marriage she actively helped to build up their 1600 acre farm. Her claim to a share in the farm and assets estimated to be worth \$250,000 was rejected and she was denied a half interest in the farm. She was awarded \$250 a month maintenance by the Court of Queen's Bench in Saskatoon.

Irene Murdock, the Alberta rancher's wife who, after 25 years of marriage, was awarded \$200 monthly by the Alberta Court. The Supreme Court of Canada, in a 4-1 decision denied her claim to any interest in the land as well as the ranch business she had helped develop.

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE TO FREE SOUTH VIETNAMESE
POLITICAL PRISONERS FROM DETENTION, TORTURE AND DEATH

1, rue des Ursules, 1000
Montreal, Quebec H3H 1R6
(416) 921-4156

Fall 1973

INSTRUCTIONS FOR WRITING TO AND ABOUT PRISONERS AND

AN APPEAL FOR YOUR HELP

Hundreds of thousands of civilian political prisoners (many reclassified as common criminals) are still being interned in the prisons of South Vietnam. They are relatives of activists, Catholic priests, Buddhist monks and nuns, high school students, children (Da Lat prison in South Vietnam), university students, professors, young Catholic workers, members of women's organizations, union leaders, farmers, old men and women.

Provisions of the Paris Peace Accords have been disregarded by the Saigon Government, as has the Communique concerning prison inspection and negotiated prisoner release. Under the Phoenix program, South Vietnamese police continue to arrest, detain, interrogate and torture thousands of people.

"Many politicians speculate that the election machinery - in which a candidate can be excluded from the ballot on the basis of an unconfirmed police report on his activities - effectively bars powerful opposition." - (New York Times, 15 Sept. 73)

"Thieu has to maintain a war-like atmosphere, has to be tough on deserters, has to be tough on the civilian population. It is not simply that they are men who like to arrest people. But Thieu is in a position where he cannot compete politically with the P.R.G. and thus he has to resort to arrests." - (Fred Branfman)

"LETTERS HAVE BEEN OF GREAT MORAL SUPPORT TO THE PRISONERS" (Saigon friends write us)

Sample letter - to authorities (listed below):

Dear _____ The Agreements signed by all four parties on January 27, 1973 state that the two South Vietnamese parties "will prohibit all acts of reprisal and discrimination against individuals who have collaborated with one side or the other.... ensure the democratic liberties of the people."

The names of thousands of prisoners in Chi Hoa, Thu Duc, Tan Hiep, Paolo Condor (Con-Son), the central Police Station in Saigon, and many other prisons in South Vietnam are known. Details of torture, starvation, tiger-cage confinement, maltreatment and torture of children, women, Catholics, Buddhists and many others whose only crime was to oppose Thieu and ask for peace. These acts are all documented through letters from the prisoners to the I.C.C.S. and the Pope and others.

I am writing to appeal to you to do everything in your power to secure the release of these prisoners.

p.t.o.....

LETTERS ABOUT THE PRISONERS CAN BE SENT TO: (do not mention the name of the prisoner)

Dr. Eric Martin
International Red Cross: 7 Ave. de la Paix, Geneva, Switzerland
Mitchell Sharp, Minister for External Affairs, Ottawa, Canada
Mr. A.E. Sarracoc, Canadian Charge d'Affaires, Villa #1,
Cite Hui Bon Hoa, Blvd. J.-M.-L., Saigon, GRVN
Chairman, International Commission of Control and Supervision (ICCS),
Dal-Lao, Tran-Quoc-Toan, Saigon, GRVN
Gen. Arthur Wrinch, National Headquarters, Canadian Red Cross,
95 Wellesley Ave. East, Toronto, Ontario
Kurt Waldheim, General Secretary, United Nations, New York, N.Y.
President Nguyen van Thieu, Dinh Loc Lap, Saigon, GRVN
Col. Nguyen van Giun, Operation Phoenix, Saigon, GRVN
Col. Huynh Nhoc Diep, Political Security Department, Saigon, GRVN
Tran van Thuyen, Opposition Deputy, National Assembly, Saigon, GRVN
Le Cong Chai, Minister of the Interior, Saigon.

LETTERS TO THE PRISONERS:

Write to our office and ask for a name or two or five. When you have your letter to the prisoner finished, send it to 52 Elgin Avenue, Toronto, M5R 1G6, Ontario. From there it will be sent to the prisoner through our contacts.

The work of all the International Committees is vital to the morale of the political prisoners in South Vietnam. Documentation and mailings must go out. Minimal expenses are needed for a full-time worker, telephone and rent.

Funds are desperately needed to:

1. Money to the prisoners through contacts.
2. Send out mailings of documentation.
3. Urge the Canadian government to bring this issue to the United Nations.
4. Forward letters to the prisoners to boost their morale, while showing the Thieu government that the prisoners are not forgotten.

Some of the groups who are represented on our Committee are:

Canadian Council of Churches	Amnesty International
Anglican Church of Canada	Young Catholic Workers
Presbyterian Church of Canada	Jeunesse Ouvriere Chretienne
United Church of Canada	Toronto Zen Centre
Canadian Friends Service Committee	Voice of Women
United Nations Association in Canada	

I have been reading statistics and facts published by the Alliance for Life organization. It is impossible not to share their angu'sh and protest with them against the destruction of a human organism.

Most heartbreaking to me is the rejection of the healthy unborn whose mothers did not use contraceptives and ended the pregnancy because of economic and social pressures. These women would have made truly wonderful mothers. I would therefore like us to take another step forward, that is, agitate as vigorously for guaranteed incomes for single parent families, as recommended in the Report on the Status of Women in Canada.

Children with single parents can have a happy childhood providing the parent is economically independent and spends a goodly portion of time with them. These children grow up to be self-reliant and sensitive human beings. My guess is that the majority of the 300,000 boys who are crying for Big Brothers are unhappy products of incompatible couples who stayed together too long. Children of an early established single parent family are spared this kind of discord. An unwilling parent should be set free promptly for the sake of the children. For this reason we should also extend the guaranteed income to mothers with daddies in residence, as soon as possible.

If the size of the single parent families where the mother is the sole parent should grow too rapidly, we may anticipate that the government will make all haste to establish birth control and sterilization programmes for irresponsible males.

O.K.

Nunes, Maxine, and Deanna White: THE LACE GHETTO. Toronto: New Press, 1972.

Slick ad copy--"Keep her where she belongs..." or porno flicks--"Hips and tits" --it's all the same in the lace ghetto. (Obviously. Whether you are a rich good nigger or a poor bad nigger, you are still a nigger.)

Come one, come all, step right up--everyone's a victim. Children, men, and women (in alphabetical order) are spotlighted in this life tragedy.

An overview of reasons for the women's movement, "The Lace Ghetto" shows brutal shards of truth in nine major areas, including CR. The authors' interpretations are often suspect, but the raw data are there for you--and certainly need no interpretation. You cannot help but be moved by this showdase of ignorance and heartbreak.

Deprecating advertisements, cartoons, selected quotes, the "hidden persuaders" that distort women's value, are naked on the pages--shown for what they are--along with transcribed discussions, that show what they have done.

The authors do not seek to liberate women into the roles that men now play--and they also recognize that freedom will be a new, and possibly frightening, burden: Perhaps books like theirs will make women courageous enough to risk the bearing of it.

Lace Ghetto is a highly emotional book, and is also easy and fast reading--ideal for newcomers, and rejuvenating those who have begun to feel that "what's-it-all-for, -anyhow, - I'm-just-knocking-my-head-against-a-stone-wall" syndrome.

M.E.

During the month of March several women from Women's Centre attended a meeting put on by the Pro-Life Group in Thunder Bay.

It was felt that the attitude that which once again neglects the rights of women to have control over their own body. It places them in the traditional role of being irresponsible and incapable of making their own decision, therefore, they must be made for them by some responsible (usually male) onlookers.

One alternative to Abortion that is offered by these people is adoption. This alternative is dehumanizing as it forces the woman into the role of "baby-machine" HER body is not her own. It is forced for nine months to prepare itself for the birth of a child who has been spirited away to some nice middle-class family where it will be "well taken care of". But what happens to the mother...?

***** WRITE YOU MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT TO SUPPORT THE NATIONAL WOMENS COALITION FOR THE REPEAL OF THE ABORTION LAWS: Paul McRae M.P. (Constituency Office) 222 Myles Street, THUNDER BAY E, Ontario

A group of women meet at the Human and Welfare Rights Office (above Walker's Store in Fort William) at 10:00 a.m. on Saturdays to discuss the following brief. Any interested women wishing to contribute are welcome to share their ideas.

c o n t r a c t

The Consultant shall, during the period commencing on the 1st day of March 1974 and ending on the 31st day of March 1974 provided the following services to the Minister:

1. Hire a Shelagh Mundy in Kenora and Ava Larson in Nipigon to prepare reports on:
 - (a) the specific conditions which effect the status of women in particular communities of Northwestern Ontario;
 - (b) what direction any specific programmes or recommendations for change would take;
 - (c) which local and outside agencies may be approached for help the funding which may be required.
2. Co ordinate the information obtained from Kenora and Nipigon.
3. Prepare a similar report for the City of Thunder Bay.
4. Outline the type of leadership role which the Northern Women's Centre is prepared to play in defining and approving the status of women in Northwestern Ontario.

DID YOU KNOW

In Canada's Marriage Act there is the consortium clause which when interpreted gives the the husband exclusive use of sexual apparatus with which the bride comes shocked. Examples are, should a wife be sexually incapacitated in a car accident, the husband can sue the driver of the other car for loss of consortium. But should the situation be reversed and the husband was injured, the wife cannot sue. This applies also if the husband finds his wife in bed with another man, the other man can be sued but should the wife find her husband in the same situation she cannot sue the other woman. Should a wife move to another city for a better job, it is considered desertion. If the husband moves to another city leaving his protesting wife, the wife again would be considered the deserter. If you withdraw your "services" from your husband you are breaking the law. Should he withdraw his "services" from you, forget it, or protest Canada's incredible Marriage Act.

If the Federal Parliament is in session no stamp is needed when writing to an M.P. Address it: Mr. John Doe, M.P.
The House of Commons
OTTAWA, Ontario

FIRSTS FOR WOMEN

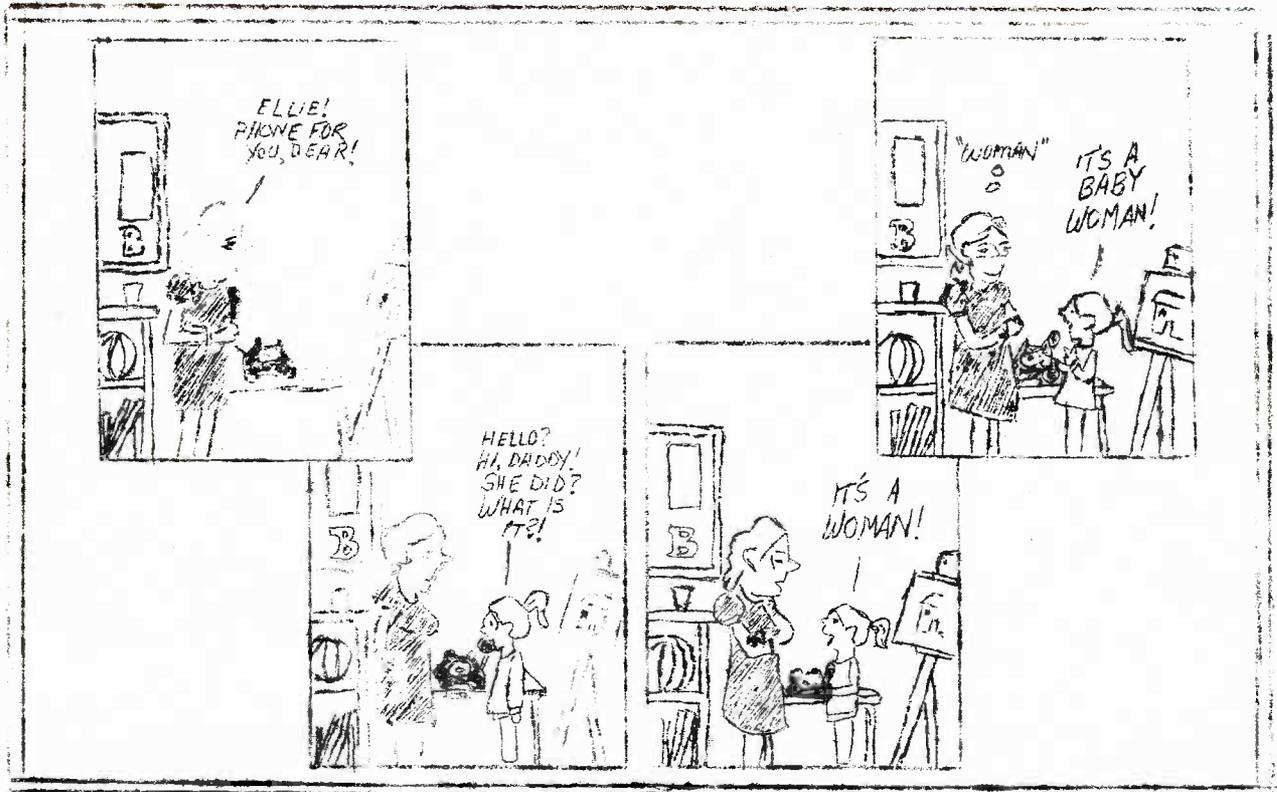
Pauline McGibbon - January, 1974 appointed lieutenant-governor of Ontario, the first woman to hold a viceregal post in Canada.

Raynelle Andreychuk - November, 1973 elected vice-president of the council of Canadian Young Men's Christian Association in Orillia. She will automatically become president of the Y.M.C.A. when the current president ends his term in June, 1974.

Marilyn Dobson - January, 1974 won the distinction of being inducted as the first female toastmaster in Thunder Bay.

Ella White - November, 1973 first woman manager of a credit union office in Thunder Bay.

Estella Friedlander - March 1974 the first woman from the Northern Women's Centre to offer a course on Today's Woman: A New Awareness at Confederation College through the Thunder Bay Parks and Recreation Department.



"I really don't understand the whole idea of chickens."
-B.S.G.

SEXISM IN OUR LANGUAGE - an excerpt from The Peak - University of British Columbia

"About twice a week I hear women referred to as 'chicks.' Each time, I (figuratively) grab the offender and give him (always a him) a quick lecture in barnyard zoology. Chicks are soft, fluffy semibrainless little creatures only a few inches tall. Is he certain this is the image he wants to convey of the person he's speaking about? If so, is he calling her a chick because she's a female and hence by definition soft, fluffy, and brainless, or because she's only a few inches tall with feathery little wings and clawed feet? The answer is seldom encouraging."

I am willing to concede that there are women who fit the first definition of 'chick' (soft, fluffy, and brainless), but I deplore its use in the generic sense. People see the offensiveness of calling a woman a 'broad,' and it is seldom used in intelligent conversation, so why do they cling to the equally offensive word 'chick?'

A conclusion, then. English is undoubtedly a sexist, male-dominated, male-oriented language (not a hard conclusion to come to). But if people will only make a conscious effort to be more careful in their speech and writings, the effect of the built-in biases can be lessened greatly.

NOTICE

THE NORTHERN WOMEN'S CENTRE IS NOW LOCATED ON THE SECOND FLOOR OF THE YMCA BUILDING, 132 NORTH ARCHIBALD STREET, THUNDER BAY F, ONTARIO.

THE WOMEN OF THE CENTRE WOULD LIKE TO SHARE THEIR ENTHUSIASM IN HAVING CELEBRATED OUR FIRST BIRTHDAY, APRIL 7, WITH A WINE AND CHEESE PARTY. WE HOPE THE SECOND YEAR WILL PROVE TO BE EVEN MORE EXCITING THAN THE FIRST.

WE ARE COLLECTING DONATIONS SUCH AS: FURNITURE, DRAPES, CARPET SCRAPS, AND ANY BUILDING MATERIALS WHICH MAY BE HANDY (BRICKS, BOARDS, ETC.)

PLEASE LEAVE YOUR NAME, ADDRESS AND THE TYPE OF DONATION WITH MARION - HUMAN AND WELFARE RIGHTS OFFICE - 622-3931.

PLEASE NOTE THAT OUR MEETING FROM NOW ON WILL BE HELD EVERY THURSDAY AT THE YMCA -OPEN TO ALL WOMEN.

WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE MEMBERS OF WESLEY UNITED CHURCH FOR THE USE OF THEIR FACILITIES DURING THIS PAST YEAR.

B R A V O

The NORTHERN WOMAN wishes to thank Mr. M. L. Graver, regional administrator of the Community and Social Services for his support and assistance in applying for (and receiving) the grant from the Community and Development Branch. Thank you from all of us.

MEETINGS

UP-AND-COMING EVENTS AT THE WOMEN'S CENTRE ARE ON THE FOLLOWING THURSDAYS AND ALL WOMEN ARE WELCOME:

MAY 2nd - SPEAKER FROM MANPOWER
MAY 9th - BIRTH CONTROL
MAY 16th - LESBIANISM

BORROWED BOOKS Anyone having books in their possession with Lynn Sihvonen's name in them, please return them to Lynn, or bring them with you to a Women's Centre meeting.

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE TO END SOUTH VIETNAMESE POLITICAL
PRISONERS, TORTURE, DETENTION, TORTURE, AND DEATH
office: Canadian Council of Churches, Suite 201, 40 St. Clair E.,
Toronto, Ontario M4T 1M9 (416) 921-4156

TO ALL OUR CANADIAN FRIENDS, FROM FATHER CHAN TIN, president
of the Committee for the Reform of the Prison System of South
Vietnam.
(In October, 1973, the Quebec section brought news to Father
Chan Tin about the work done by hundreds of Canadians for
the liberation of the political prisoners. Towards the end
of October a letter came from Father Chan Tin with someone
who was returning from South Vietnam.)

Saigon, October 31, 1973

Dear friends,

It is a great joy for us to learn that in Canada many friends
are working to make our situation known and are pressuring
the Canadian government for the release of the political pri-
soners in South Vietnam, for the re-establishment of peace
and democratic liberties.

We say a big thank you to all our friends, Thank you also
for your work with the Commission on Justice and Peace which
is presided by cardinal Roy, archbishop of Quebec.

As for the letter-writing campaign to the political prisoners,
CONTINUE TO WRITE. For it does much good. The guards respect
more the prisoners who are known on the outside; and they don't
dare to mistreat them too much or to liquidate them, since
they are known abroad.

INTENSIFY the letters campaign for about 100 or so intellec-
tuals and students shown on the list which I enclose for you
in this letter.

Thank you also for the campaign of financial support for our
projects.

Dear friends, once again, in the name of the political pri-
soners, we express our thanks to all our Canadian friends
for this struggle in favor of the oppressed, for this strug-
gle for peace and justice.

In friendship,

(SIGNED) Pere Chan Tin



COFFEE FOR CANADA BLOOD FOR ANGOLA

COFFEE for GENERAL FOODS
means **BLOOD** for
ANGOLA

ANGOLAN COFFEE IS PICKED BY FORCED AFRICAN LABOUR, OFTEN CHILDREN,
WORKING ON STARVATION WAGES

AT LEAST ONE-TENTH OF THE REVENUE FROM COFFEE GOES TO SUPPORT A
BRUTAL WAR OF OPPRESSION

CANADA IS THE PORTUGUESE COLONIAL GOVERNMENT'S THIRD LARGEST CUSTOMER
FOR COFFEE

PORTUGUESE COLONIAL ACTION IN ANGOLA HAS BEEN FREQUENTLY CONDEMNED
BY THE UNITED NATIONS

Southern Africa Information Group, Box 4443-E,
Ottawa, (613) 232-2313

Women's Lib

Many people think men are better than women. And I think women are just as good, and just as smart as men. The reason for thinking like this is, in the past men have not let women try anything to show how smart they really are. Even in a dictionary feminine is listed to mean: like a woman, weak and gentle. The women's Liberation movement is trying to teach women that they can do many things they thought only men could do.

Pandora House Dictionary. The Lase Glietto

Women's Lib is not new. 50 years ago people who were mentally ill people in prison and women could not vote. Many brave women knew this was wrong and decided to fight for the vote. These ladies were called the suffragettes. Many went to jail. But in the end the W.O.N. Now everybody has the vote. Now a days women are still fighting. They want equal pay for equal work, equal chances in work. The most important thing is we want every woman and girl to know she is an important person.

Mimi Drabit Age 9

WHO MILKS WHOM?

Food prices rose 15% in the past 12 months and 50% since 1961. Who benefits?

HERE ARE SOME FACTS ABOUT WHAT'S REALLY HAPPENING IN THE FOOD INDUSTRY

On January 27, 1973, the Toronto Star published a survey of prices of a selection of groceries in Toronto, compared to the prices received by the Ontario farmer. It makes interesting reading.

	Farmer Gets	Supermarket Gets
Boneless sirloin steak, 1 lb.	.71	1.78
Bread, 1 loaf	.03	.28
Cheese, 1 lb.	.53	.99
Apples, 5 lbs.	.25	.89
Can of peaches	.08	.34
P.E.I. potatoes, 10 lbs.	.30	.99
Milk, 3 qt. jug	.51	.86
Butter, 1 lb.	.49	.73
Eggs, 1 dozen	.49	.68
Apple juice, 48 oz. tin	.08 1/2	.43
Carrots, 3 lbs.	.09	.39
Lettuce	.05	.35
Onions	.06	.28
Celery	.07 1/2	.45
Cabbage	.11	.39
TOTAL	\$3.86	\$9.83

SOMEBODY IS MAKING MONEY....

In 1972 the net profit levels of food corporations increased by an average of 31.3%. The 1968 Batten Royal Commission on Consumer Problems and Inflation charged retail food chains on the prairies with "excessive profits" up to 38.5% above the Canadian average. In addition, they charged the grocery trade with excessive advertising costs, and excess capacity in stores. They estimated consumers were paying 4 cents of their consumer food dollar for waste space in supermarkets and that there were almost twice as many supermarket outlets as needed..

The major food conglomerates such as Westons, Safeway and Dominion Stores extract profits at several levels in the food industry, owning their own whole-sale distribution network, transportation facilities and processing plants.

The large chains, whose sales now make up 60 to 80 per cent of the market in cities across Canada, are increasing their share at the rate of 1 to 2% a year at the expense of independent grocers.

THE AGRI-BUSINESS BOX SCORE:

	1972 profits	1971 profits
Swift & Co. (U.S.)	37,003,000	26,110,000
Oshawa Group (I.G.A.)	3,688,000	3,310,000
Massey Ferguson	42,400,000	8,700,000
*Kraftco Corp. (U.S.)	88,300,000	91,300,000
Loblaws	4,308,000	2,412,000

Source: Next Year Country

AND THE FARMER IS GETTING LKSS

Average farm net income in Canada remains under \$4,000. The number of Canadians on farms had declined by 500,000, or 25% since 1966. The producers' gross share of the consumer food dollar has declined from 60 to 35 per cent since 1950, while his net income now represents only 10 per cent of food retail prices.

Canada's rural population has been cut in half since 1961.

THE SAME FOOD CORPORATIONS EXPLOIT THE SHOPPER AND THE FARMER. LOW PRICES ON THE FARM OBVIOUSLY DON'T MEAN LOW PRICES IN THE STORE.

FIGHT BACK.. BOYCOTT KRAFT

