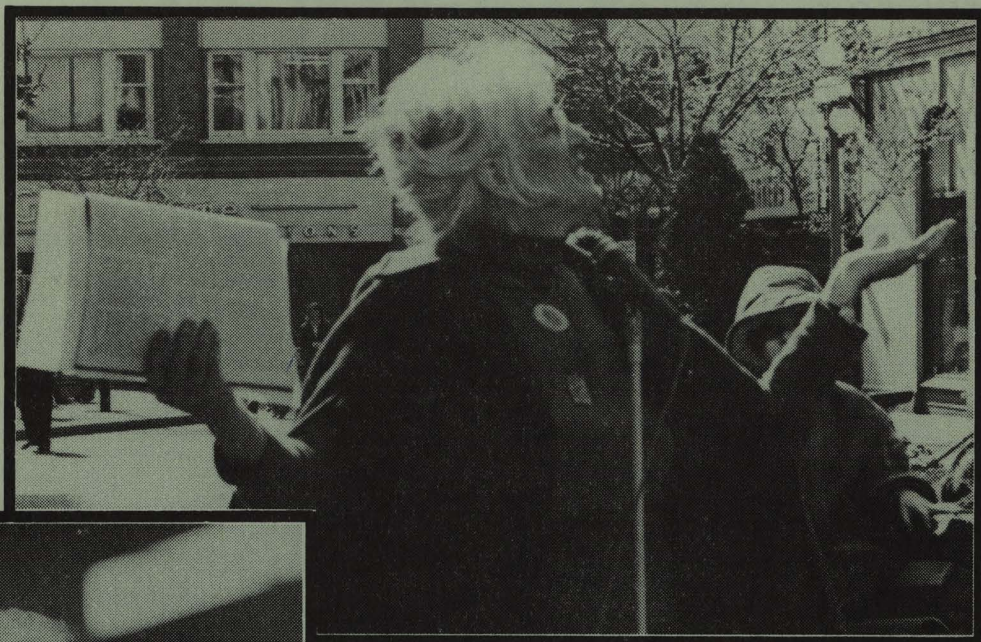
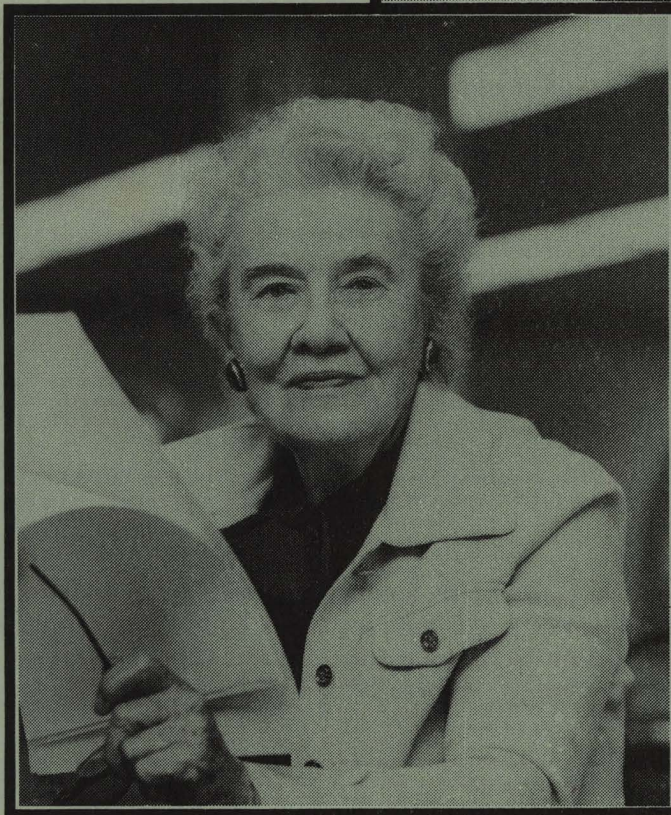


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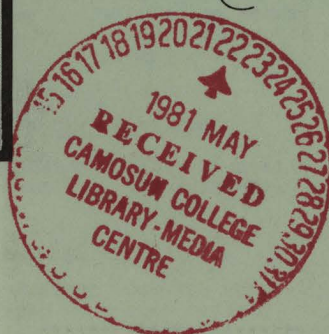
Muriel Gough-Azmier



Bess Forbes

In

Memorial



The Victoria Status of Women Action Group was formed in 1971 in order to work for the implementation of the Report of the Royal Commission on the Status of Women; to foster public knowledge of the rights and status of women and to promote full participation of women in social, economic and political life.

SWAG is a voluntary group, registered as a society with an executive elected annually.

ADDRESS: P.O. Box 6269, Stn. C,
Victoria, B.C. V8P 5L5

Co-ordinator

Lois Vickery
552 Victoria Ave.,
598-1704

Program Co-ordinator

Gwen Bavin
1160 Greenwood
383-2502

Media Co-ordinator

Avis Rasmussen
3050 Uplands
598-3188

Conference Co-ordinator

Liz Bristowe
4834 Townsend
479-0937

Correspondent

Pam Blackstone
9026 West Saanich Rd.,
Sidney, RR#2
656-7776

Recorder

Lynn Gough
893 Leslie Dr.,
384-7825

Treasurer

Diana Butler
2149 Granite
598-6964

Membership Co-ordinator

Sylvia Watson
129 Ontario
V8V 1M8 382-3914

Contact Persons

Each of the Contact Persons has a particular area of interest in women's issues. Members who share that interest or, have a concern or problem in that area are encouraged to make contact.

Contact Persons

Family Law	Gwen Bavin 383-2502
Education	Jean Newton 598-3786
	Marguerite Mousseau 479-1572
Human Rights	Norrie Preston 598-1390
Health	Susan Moger 592-4215
Labour	Stella Lord 595-2542
Feminist History	Alice Albert 382-1536
Archives	Alice Albert
Social Services	Elizabeth Hamlet 595-2569
Newsletter Editorial Board	Lois Vickery, Shirley Avril, Catherine Winter
Editor	Catherine Winter 592-1281 Ext. 378

MEMBERSHIP Entitles you to a subscription to SWAG NEWS (\$10.00 per year) — a completely volunteer effort dependent upon your contributions . . . poems, articles, opinions, reports. **All feminist material welcome.**

Meetings/Workshops SWAG meetings are held the fourth Monday of each month (except when it falls on a holiday) at the James Bay Community Centre, 140 Oswego St., Meeting Room. 2, 7:30 p.m.

WHO?

WHAT?

WHEN?

WHERE?

May 19 - Tuesday

Women in Arms, a film about Nicaragua's women rebels, at 7:30 at the James Bay Community Center. Admission by donation.

May 19 - 29

Shirley Avril will be exhibiting watercolour paintings in an exhibit at Women in Focus Gallery, Broadway and Cambie in Vancouver.

May 21 - Thursday

Rape/Assault Center Volunteer Training Program begins. Join the fight against violence against women. Call 383-5545.

May 23 - Saturday

Women's Building Society Meeting, 9:45 - 11:45 at 733 Johnson St. (Maynard Court) 3rd Floor.

May 25 - Monday

SWAG General Meeting, 7:30 James Bay Community Center. Topic : Sexual Harassment

May 29 - 30 - Friday and Saturday

Women and the Constitution Conference sponsored by the Canadian Advisory Council on the Status of Women in Ottawa. Registration due May 22. Write the Council at 151 Sparks St., Box 1541, Stn. B, Ottawa K1P 5R5

June 2 - Tuesday

SWAG Co-ordinating Committee Meeting 7:45 2149 Granite

June 4-6 - Thursday to Saturday

National Women's Conference in Vancouver. Call 228-2181 in Vancouver for information.

June 11 - 13 - Thursday to Saturday

Learning Opportunities for Women - Leadership in Education Conference at the U.B.C. Conference Center. Registration and information : Denise Hall, B.C.-Yukon L.O.W. Conference, 66513 Summer Rd., Hope V0X 1L0

June 14 - Sunday

Feminist History Group at 3:30 at 453 Moss St. Forum on Prostitution. Call Alice Albert for further info. Meeting followed with a b-b-q. Bring your own liquor.

June 20 - Saturday

Canadian Women in the World - Rights and Responsibilities. Theme of the MATCH Annual General Meeting in Ottawa. Contact Murielle Vachon, 401 -171 Nepean St., Ottawa K2P 0B4

June 22 - Monday

SWAG Barbecue, 6:30 at 893 Leslie Dr. Bring your own food and liquor.

Memberships Due May-June

Betty Andrews
Judith Bell
Freya E. Cook
N. Corstorphine

Pam Edwards
Ann Fraser
Jean Glover
Dianne Grimmer

Bronwen Holland
L. N. Hunter
Carol Lindsay
Irene Lew
Jacqueline Morgan
Lorraine Messer
Heather Vaughan
Marti Wood

Alice Albert
Audrey Campbell

Membership \$8 to March '82

Memberships Due September

Ruth Anderson
Pat Carfra
Ella Davis

Sherry Dubetz
Ella Fender
Anna Franklin

Barbara Hourston
Mathlene Leiding
Cathy Mountain
Catherine Pal

Nora Rowe
Mary Winstone
Membership \$7 to March '82

Memberships Due October

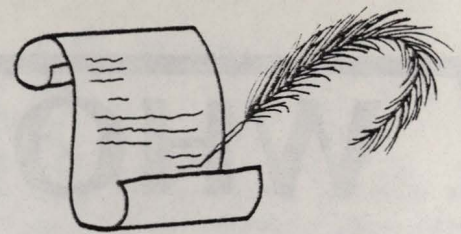
Elizabeth Ballam
Elizabeth Bristowe

Mary Brownscombe
Peggy Foulds

Christina Johnson
Marilyn Meyer
Dorothy Maxwell
Iris Palfrey

Margaret Prevost
Linda Travers
Memberships \$6 to March '82

Letters



April 13, 1981

Correspondence Coordinator
Status of Women Action Group

Dear Ms. Blackstone:

Thank you for your letter expressing support for the 1981-82 fiscal year funding request submitted by the Vancouver Status of Women.

Senior Ministry staff are presently reviewing the brief regarding funding and have had an opportunity to meet with representatives of the Vancouver Status of Women.

I appreciate your taking the time to advise me of your views in this matter.

Yours very truly,
Allan Williams,
Attorney General

April 7, 1981

Ms. Avis Rasmussen
Education Contract Person
Status of Women Action Group

Dear Ms. Rasmussen:

Thank you for your letter of March 3, 1981, which the Honourable Peter Hyndman has forwarded to me as I am responsible for administration of the Residential Tenancy Act.

I understand that Ms. Johansson from our office has responded to your concerns.

The basic reason for using the words "landlord" & "rentalsman" is that these names have specific meaning at law. The Office of the Rentalsman administers the land lord and tenant law in the Province and must be legally precise.

Women that rent residential property refer to themselves as landlords when communicating with us. This terminology has been well established at common law and we have not received a request to date to change this from a woman who is renting property. Also, such a change would be very costly.

The decision makers in our office are "Officers". There is only one person named "Rentalsman", myself. I am appointed for a fixed term that could be renewed. At such time that there is a change in incumbent, the Government may wish to consider the appropriateness of the name for this position.

Yours truly,
J.D. Patterson
Rentalsman, Province of B.C.

April 12, 1981

OPEN LETTER TO THE WOMEN OF VICTORIA

On behalf of the Vancouver Island Haven Society, we would like to express our appreciation for the support we received from you in our demonstration on the need for a home for battered women in Nanaimo at the Parliament Buildings on March 30.

The need for such a house is very apparent to us here in Nanaimo and our frustrations at the delay in opening it are great. Knowing you are behind us helps us and gives us new strength.

Your response was immediate although there was very little notice. It means a lot.
In short -- thank you for being there.

Yours sincerely
Ann Lea Taylor
Box 311, Nanaimo, B.C.

April 24, 1981

Dear Ms. Vickery,

Thank you for your recent letter concerning El Salvador.

Attached is a statement outlining government policy, delivered by the Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Mark MacGuigan, in the House of Commons on March 9, 1981 during a special debate on the situation. You will be interested to know that subsequently, on March 11, at the 37th Session of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights, Canada voted in favour of a resolution calling upon all parties to the conflict in El Salvador to bring about a peaceful settlement and to end acts of violence.

Canada also co-sponsored a resolution expressing profound concern at the deterioration in the situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms in Guatemala.

Yours sincerely,
J.K. Bartleman, Director
Caribbean Division, Department of External Affairs

April 28, 1981

Dear Avis,

I am enclosing, as I mentioned to you the other evening at Chapter Y's meeting, a copy of two brochures from the P.E.O. Sisterhood: 1. P.E.O. Education Loan Fund - this is a fund that is available to high school graduates who wish to continue on in University. This is a loan, at 4% interest; 2. Continuing Education Program - this is a grant (up to a maximum of \$500) which is available to young women who are re-entering the work force, to update their skills.

Because our head office is in Des Moines, Iowa, it takes at least 6 to 8 weeks for these applications to be processed. We are very happy to be able to help women in this area and are very happy that you showed interest in this area.

If you need any further information, please feel free to contact me.

We really enjoyed your presentation to our Chapter and wish you success in your endeavour.

Yours truly,
Judy Kinnear, 1st vp
P.E.O. Sisterhood

(For further information on this contact Jean Newton)

April 23, 1981

Ms. Peggy Monro, Secretary
Victoria Southern Africa Coalition
c/o No 5, 525 Harbinger St.
Victoria, B.C.

Dear Ms. Monro:

This is to advise that the Status of Women Action Group sympathizes with your aims, and will support your campaign to have South African wines & liquours removed from B.C. Government liquor stores. We agree that it is contemptible that, in view of the continued oppression of the country's 20 million blacks under the apartheid system, our government continues to profit from the sale of wines of South African origin.

Sincerely,
Pam Blackstone
Correspondence

April 24, 1981

The Editor,
Monday Magazine
323 Broughton Street
Victoria, B.C. V8W 1E5

Dear Sir:

On behalf of the Status of Women Action Group, I wish to commend Monday Magazine for having the courage and integrity to confront the "taboo" subject of sexuality.

It would seem that this is, in Victoria, an area where angels truly fear to tread -- educators and government alike. Parents are obviously not meeting the need either as evidenced by the high teenage pregnancy rate. We are pleased to see that someone is finally picking up the slack. The community, indeed, has a responsibility to its young people, which has been badly neglected. It is particularly commendable that you are attempting to discuss values and sex roles along with reproductive physiology.

You will have much misinformation, myth, and ignorance to counter, and we wish you luck with your "Close Encounters" column. You will also inevitably encounter censure from the narrow-minded and zealous minority who believe ignorance is bliss. We who know ignorance is tragedy commend Monday Magazine for this bold move.

Sincerely,
Pamela L. Blackstone
Correspondence

April 24, 1981

The Editor,
"Times-Colonist",
2621 Douglas St.,
Victoria, B.C.

Dear Sir/Madam:

We wish to bring to your attention the enclosed article from the April 3rd Globe & Mail, (National Ed.), describing the stance taken by an outspoken Catholic Church leader against the dissemination of anti-abortion "literature" through the Catholic Church.

While this refers specifically to "pro life" efforts to get the rights of the fetus protected under the new Constitution, the Victoria Status of Women Action Group considers it an important development in the local abortion battle. It may be of interest and concern to people - particularly Catholics - struggling with their consciences on this issue. SWAG, therefore, would like to see it reprinted in its entirety. We also wonder why this has not been followed up locally. Has no-one spoken to Victoria's Catholic Church leadership to determine their response to this decision?

The Catholic Church, among others, is presently being used by those calling themselves "pro life" to distribute anti-choice material and solicit hospital society memberships. These people oppose abortion in all circumstances, and their stated aim is to shut down the hospital TAC's (Therapeutic Abortion Committees), and thus effectively eliminate safe, legal abortion in Victoria. Many people believe that Catholics, in choosing to ally themselves with these obsessively single-minded right-wing forces, are dangerously contravening their stated humanitarian goals. (The April 6 issue of "Time" magazine, in its cover story, fully documents the frightening right-wing connections of these groups.)

Yours truly,
Pamela L. Blackstone,
Correspondence

c.c. - The Editor of Monday Magazine

May 1, 1981

Women's Programme,
Department of the Secretary of State,
Ottawa. K1A 0M5

Dear Sir/Madam:

Further to your March 20 news release concerning the availability of increased funding through your department, the Victoria Status of Women Action Group (SWAG) wishes to apply for assistance as follows:

Salary for full-time Co-ordinator	
1,666 X 12	\$20,000
SWAG telephone listing, phone rental, and monthly answering service	\$ 1,000
	\$21,000

SWAG relies completely on volunteer effort, and has survived to date with little or no funding. We provide a valuable resource for this community, via our very popular annual Conference by and for women; our monthly newsletter; and monthly meetings with guest speakers and/or slide/film presentations. SWAG functions primarily as an advocacy, educational, lobbying and information exchange resource. We are, in addition, frequently called upon by women in crisis, and thus act as liaison to the appropriate agency or service. Most of our Executive handle these calls in their homes, in addition to frequent requests for information.

In addition, we support other organizations representing women's concerns, such as the Rape/Assault Centre, C.A.R.A.L., etc. SWAG was instrumental in the implementation of Concerned Women's Courtwatch, which monitors rape and sexual assault cases. Through our newsletter we provide outreach to women in isolated communities, our Conference is an important forum, locally, for the exchange of ideas and concerns. We maintain an extensive archives of material of concern to women. We also maintain liaison with various government agencies, media, etc. Members of our Executive attend national conferences, often at their own expense.

Due to our lack of finances, we are unable to advertise our services to the extent we would like. In spite of this, our membership continues to grow steadily. There is a demonstrated need in the community for the services we provide. Members of our Executive are all badly over-worked. We have thus decided to establish a direct SWAG telephone line, and -- if funding permits--employ a full-time Co-ordinator. We would appreciate your Department forwarding any forms necessary for us to obtain the funding outlined above.

Sincerely,
Lois Vickery, President

Newsletter Themes for 1981

July/August -	Day Care Pensions
September -	History of Work Labour Legislation for Women
October -	The Structure of Work ; Wages for Housework Unemployment ; U.I.C.
November -	Non-traditional Work Affirmative Action
December -	Domestic Work Immigrant Women
January -	Unions and Unionizing Contact Agencies in Government

Anyone wishing to contribute information on these topics is encouraged to do so. The deadline for each issue is the first Tuesday of the month of publication.

IN MEMORY

This issue we are dedicating to two very dear sisters we will all miss. Elizabeth Forbes, with her powerful pen, and Muriel Gough-Azmier, with her powerful presence. International Women's Day passed this year without a column from Bess and I am sure so many felt as Josephine, at the celebration, when she said, "I keep expecting to look up and see Muriel striding in."

Others can give you the details of their many battles fought for fair treatment and equality for their sisters, I can only speak on a personal level of the things I will remember of them. My delight as Bess listened politely to the men's problems, as expressed by some members of the men's collective, and then saying, "But what are you doing? You complain but that seems to be all you do. We complain, but we do something about it and make sure we get action." I first saw Muriel at a SWAG meeting and couldn't wait to meet this beautiful woman with the smiling eyes. The strength and determination of her character drew women to rally around whatever cause she fought for. I love you and I miss you Bess and Muriel. Thank you for being part of my world.

Gwen Bavin.

Elizabeth Forbes : With Enthusiasm, Faith and Courage.

The title of the book that Bess Forbes wrote on the history of the Canadian Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs is called With Enthusiasm and Faith. Adding the word, "courage", makes a title that describes her approach to life. Bess was born on December 13, 1896, and spent all of her working years in the newspaper business. Carving out a career and facing the health problems she did needed a lot of enthusiasm, faith and courage.

Her life is an example to all of us. She must have faced great difficulties establishing a career and changing with the times from her entry into the workforce in the 1920's, through very traditional and conservative times, into the liberated 60's and 70's. Bess worked actively and steadily for women's rights yet never resorted to hostility or aggressiveness. She managed to remain on friendly terms with men and women while expressing her views. "She was firm but never abrasive," a long-term friend has said.

I first met Bess about five years ago and was greatly impressed with her zest for life, new ideas and history. She was keenly interested in people and she helped and encouraged other women to try new ventures and to realize their potential. She was one of the best listeners I have ever met and, of course, an excellent communicator both as Women's Editor of the Victoria Times and a featured columnist after her "retirement" in 1964.

Elizabeth Forbes was born, raised and educated in Victoria. She worked at the Victoria Times right up to her death on February 8, 1981. She started in stenography and moved into advertising before becoming the Women's Editor. Reporting on teas and fashion shows for the women's pages seems out of place today but it must have been something people wanted and Bess did her job well. After more than 20 years as Women's Editor, Bess retired in 1964. She continued to write three columns per week in addition to free-lance writing projects.

Bess took an active part in politics in Victoria, both in encouraging others and getting involved herself. She was the only woman candidate for Victoria in the provincial election of 1963, and was defeated.

The newspaper files record the car accident in which both of her legs were fractured. The accident took place on July 22, 1972, and she was expected to be out of the Nanaimo Regional Hospital in 10 days but actually spent four and a half months in hospital both in Nanaimo and Victoria before going home on December 4th. Bess experienced

great difficulty in getting around on her canes yet always presented a cheerful face and an uncomplaining attitude to her many friends and acquaintances.

Her awards, achievements and honours are many: Founding member of SWAG and a strong supporter of women in all their endeavors; Author of Wild Roses at Their Feet, a series of stories about the lives of 78 pioneer women of Vancouver Island, published 1971; Author of With Enthusiasm and Faith, a history of Business and Professional Women's Clubs from 1930 until 1972, published in 1974; Awarded the Canadian Centennial Medal in 1967 in recognition of valuable services to the nation; Awarded British Columbia's Centenary Medal in 1971 for "outstanding contribution to the B.C. 1971 celebrations"; Freewoman of the City of Victoria; She served as president of a number of organizations - Victoria Business and Professional Women's Club, Vancouver Island Branch Media Club, Lady Laurier Club of Greater Victoria, Victoria Women's Canadian Club; Advisory Member of the YM-YWCA Board; Founding member of the Association of Women Electors of Greater Victoria; Named first woman Lieutenant-Governor for Youth Parliament of B.C., 1974, which was the first year young women were elected as members; Honourary member, City Council, Beta Sigma Phi Sorority, and Honourary Vice-Regent, John Hebdon Gillespie Chapter of the I.O.D.E.; The Business and Professional Women's Club have honoured Bess with a National Life Membership in 1968 and made her Honourary President in 1970.

Elizabeth Forbes will be fondly remembered by all who knew her for her enthusiasm and the quality in her life. She worked tirelessly for women's rights and equal opportunities for equal work through speaking and writing assignments in addition to her personal efforts in women's groups. She was one of the best-liked persons in Victoria, able to relate to men and women of all ages. We shall all miss her. Let's not forget what we can learn from the example she set for us.

Elaine McAndrew and Norrie Preston

Muriel Gough-Azmier

Muriel died on March 11, 1981, the same date and month as her first daughter's birth.

As a role model, she is irreplaceable in the women's community. Muriel achieved a level of integration denied many older women in our society. Her personal honesty, strength, courage, caring, compassion and sense of justice were carried into the everyday political reality of patriarchy and competitiveness.

Muriel fully realized the rape/pollution (conditioning) of our earth (women). She realized the victimization/exploitation of women and minority groups. She saw the fascism of traditional patriarchal religions, other hierarchical structures and the uselessness of wars. Muriel, as a Amazon, carried her woman's sense of caring/co-operativeness into these ugly realities and worked for change.

Muriel was born in Halifax, England on January 1, 1912, the daughter of a strong woman. She left home at 18 to study Art and Drama in London. In 1940 she met Ben and they were married the following year. "She reminded me of the woman with children and a basket found on lavender packages." That image has remained with Ben.

Muriel came to Canada in 1944 and was active in social issues from the time of her arrival. As a member of the Veteran's Housing League, she took part in the sit-in at the Naval Barracks, Ottawa to protest the lack of housing for veterans' families. As the RCMP blocked the front entrance, people were entering by the back. Her statement at the time was that she would not rest until all women were given homes.

She continued with further activities - setting up a Saturday day care for 500 children so mothers could have a day to shop etc.; originating Ballet, Art and Drama for children 5-11 years and taught Drama; founding member of the Canadian Youth Drama Association; Canadian Delegate to the Lausanne Conference of the First Mother's Congress; active in the movement to sweep back prices in the Fifties;

took part in a sit-in on Parliament Hill and was jailed along with some S.U.P.A. (Student Union for Peaceful Action) students; active in the Ottawa Committee for Nuclear Disarmament; active as a volunteer worker at the Civic Hospital when CUPE was organizing; involved in the formation of the Ottawa Women's Centre and active on Grindstone Island a peace education centre.

In 1967 as a member of Non-Violent Action in Vietnam, she travelled to Cambodia where she dined with Prince Sihanouk and then to Thailand where she spent two weeks in jail protesting American presence in South-East Asia.

In 1970 Muriel took part in a non-violent sit-in at Esquimalt Naval Base where the American subs were docked for R & R. She refused to pay the fine and was sent to Oakalla; there she chose to fast for a 2 week period. Appeals to release this "Grandmother" came from all areas of B.C.

Muriel moved to the Victoria area in 1975. She was actively involved with the Justice Council, Voice of Women, Council of Women, Fernwood Community Association, Fernwood Food Co-op, Fernwood Homemakers' Association, John Howard Society, Women in Correction Group, Graham St. Jail, and B.O.L.D. a New Horizons Group producing a slide tape on shattering the myths of ageing, Canada-Vietnam Friendship Society, Women's Building, Autumn Glow, World Federalists, Quakers, Moment for Non-Exploitive New Age, Feminist Party of Canada and SWAG. She always took part in our Fall conferences and International Women's Day rallies.

Good bye for the moment -- to a fighter for social justice, role-model to women, Mother of seven children and a multitude more, Grandmother to seventeen grandchildren and partner to Ben for forty years. In demanding your freedom of choice around dying, you have once more passed on your courage to women. Who of us could be afraid of that step when Muriel is waiting with hand out-stretched?

My own private fantasy is that if things are not as they "should be" at that "final" stage, Muriel will be waiting with a list of injustices that must be corrected. I have learned from Muriel's validation that the highest level of integration for women is fighting against the patriarchal/competitive status quo.

Thank you, Mother/ Friend/ Sister
Lois Vickery

TRIBUTES

My Mother's last gift to me was to share her dying -- with some of the accompanying wonder, ecstasy, pain and sadness that comes from fully living the profound events of life. I thank my Mother and her Mother and Grandmothers & her Father and Grandfathers for this fullness which characterized her living, and this sharing of everyday profound awareness which characterized her nurturing.

A few days before her last, with many twinkles, we wrote her Obituary together. In discussion it expanded to this cancer statement which we later decided wasn't quite right for the newspaper column, but which both she and I would like shared. It is in part direct quotes and in part a synthesis of our discussion.

Muriel Gough-Azmier died at home as she had lived. She chose to experience each fleeting moment as if it were her last during the several years before death was finally included in her life. Muriel chose to live this way and fulfill her commitments as she saw them, recognizing that CANCER brings us to a deeper realization that the more we pollute with our overriding commitment to war, torture and violence abroad, the more we commit suicide at home.

My Mother also recognized the many alternative approaches, as well as orthodox medicine in the treatment of cancer, and that the right to choose should not be muzzled. However, to emphasize the personal approach to one's own cancer is to avoid and lose sight of our individual responsibility to act to transform the cancer in our society.

She had a vision of thousands of cancer victims in stretchers and wheelchairs (with all the drama & immediacy of good street theatre!) and all those who said they loved them (and who may be the next one-in-four to "get" cancer) taking part in a massive cancer rally to win public support for what is lost due to this over emphasis on individual cancers. The transformation of our CANCER will be complete only when each of us actualizes our individual responsibility on all levels...personal, public and spiritual.

Elizabeth Azmier-Stewart

MURIEL GOUGH-AZMIER-feminist, pacifist, wife, Mother, Grandmother, teacher, nurturer, crusader, activist, relentless in the struggle for equality for women and for men; courageous in the advocacy of world peace; a woman of fortitude and endurance; a woman I called friend.

Muriel Gough-Azmier has influenced my life, and for that I am grateful. Her death has activated it.

C.M. Maloney
Calgary Alberta

MURIEL "GRAMA TRUDY"

In May 1980 I attended my first Quaker Half Yearly Meeting in Sorrento with my Grandparents and my sister and brothers. We registered and were put into worship/fellowship groups. Grama Trudy was leader of the Young Children's Group. She enjoyed their company and did a lot of things with them like going to the beach and telling stories. When the Meetings were over, everyone headed to their cabins for lunch. Grama welcomed everyone to our lunch table. She was always very pleasant, always making the best of the worst conditions, always encouraging.

In August the Quaker Yearly Meeting was held in Nelson and I went alone. Quakers from all over Canada participated. I couldn't find my Grandparents right away but when playing tag with a group of friends, I saw my Grandfather and rushed over. My Grandmother came hobbling over later with a swollen ankle. I helped her back to her room and later on she invited me to have dinner with her and to bring along my friend. We arrived at the meeting place to find Grama Trudy was all ears when the teacher was telling of her problems in teaching children and gave her confidence and new strength.

After the Yearly Meeting was over, I decided to go to Victoria with Grama Trudy and Grampa Ben. I stayed four days. One night we went out to dinner and started cracking jokes. One was:

"When God Created Man
She was only joking".

Grampa roared at that because of the way she worked for equality for women.

On the day I left we started out to the airport early so we could go to Sydney and have coffee. When Grampa finished his coffee he went out and got some candy for me to bring back to my family. While he was gone Grama Trudy and I had a girl talk. It was great!! She laughed like a little girl; and we had a great time. I think she had fun, too. When it was time to leave we sat in the airport looking at all the people. Grama was concerned about me and told me if I had any problems to ask the nice, peaceful looking stewardess she had pointed out. I didn't really want to leave them but as school started in two days, I had no choice.

The next time I saw my Grandparents was at Thanks giving. Before dinner we sat in the living room and Grama was the centre of everyone's attention. When she speaks it is of interesting things, telling us of some of her experiences or her thoughts. When she speaks she is so peaceful. She used her hands when she spoke and looked so nice curled up on our couch. The look on her face was so soft. When she laughed, she really laughed. The whole room was bright with her in it. I am sure anyone who met her, loved her. She is a very easy person to like. Her family, especially, loved her very much.

Laura L. Maloney, Age 13
Calgary, Alberta

MURIEL

A very dear old feminist, a grand old woman of the movement. I think of her in mauve at peace and in harmony with her death. I am sad, despite her ability to face it in strength. She inspired me. She was an idealist, a visionary, glorious. She was personal, caring, outspoken. When I was growing up people were supposed to grow cynical or apathetic in old age. Muriel did a lot of things the way they weren't supposed to be done. And she went to jail for believing in those ways.

She had cancer. She said it was natural she would have cancer, because the earth had been so damaged and poisoned, how could she not be part of that?

She was wise -- and she never talked as if we Younger women lacked in wisdom. Often she credited us with a great deal. She talked for old women and yet I've never heard another old woman talk like that.

I did a T.V. show with her a few months ago. We were discussing "what feminism means to me". Muriel stood up regally and said "I am proud to be a woman."

Rowena Hunnisett

ANNECOTE ABOUT MURIEL GOUGH-AZMIER

During 1969 the Peace Action Group in Victoria staged a sit-down at Esquimalt Naval Base, to protest the presence of a U.S. naval warship in harbour for R & R.

When we were asked to move by the patrols, we all did, except Muriel and a young woman with a baby. They were arrested and sentenced to two weeks in jail.

Muriel was supported by many friends who attended the trial. She and the young woman stayed at our place for two nights prior to leaving for Oakalla, as she put it "to enjoy the comfort of a warm bath before having to endure the discomfort of prison".

Also the young Mother was most inexperienced in the care of a baby, and Muriel guided her during their prison stay.

Berta Schmidt

MURIEL GOUGH-AZMIER

I first met Muriel at a Voice of Women meeting in Victoria. Her enthusiasm and energy made a deep impression on me. Later as I came to know her better, I learned to appreciate her determination and courage in witnessing in her day-to-day life the principles which she believed in. Her loving and caring attitude to others especially children and their Mothers was a great inspiration to me.

Her Joyous spirit, lively imagination will be a treasured memory for those of us who were privileged to call her friend.

Wadge Clarke

MURIEL GOUGH-AZMIER

I first met Muriel at a Victoria meeting in the defence of Leonard Peltier, the young Indian from South Dakota who was caught up in the struggle at Wounded Knee -- accused of shooting a F.B.I. Agent, escaping custody, and was captured in B.C. to be held in prison in Vancouver before final extradition to the U.S.

Muriel spoke with such compassion and so clearly: she stood as someone I wanted to know. Wherever support was needed for a just cause, for the betterment of fellow humans, she was there.

In the International Year of the Child her prime concern became that every child should be able to grow up in peace and security. She used her energy to circulate a petition by Grandparents urging world leaders to negotiate national disputes, and abandon the destruction of war.

I noticed whenever encouragement was needed to support and organize work for peace, Ben and Muriel were always there, and their efforts were marked by renewed interest in the cause by others.

Muriel once remarked to me, that she "saw herself not as a leader, but as a link to bring people to work together".

Marjorie Thibodeau

MURIEL GOUGH-AZMIER

I worked with Muriel on the SWAG conference 1980, planning the workshop on the Feminist Part of Canada and preparing the plenary session. As part of that preparation, she and I appeared on a Channel six talk show. Altogether, these meetings with Muriel opened up for me all the positive aspects of sisterhood. In her warm, woman-centred home she was gracious, exciting, charming, expansive and very encouraging. Her ideas about planning the workshops and the plenary sessions were excellent. In public, Muriel's strength, vitality, vision, joy, rage and dignity blazed.

Her deep commitment to women's leadership of the world formed the basis of the Feminist Party workshop. The Feminist Party would be the instrument for bringing together all the ideals she worked for in her life; peace, harmony with the environment, and with other peoples, dignity for all people: beginning with guaranteed income, housing, and creative, self-respecting work for all. In these projects, women came first: women alone, can understand the nature of justice, of love, and what very fundamentally natures life. The Feminist Party was to be the instrument for the coming matriarchy: which is the only option we have besides total destruction.

In the conference's plenary session, Muriel spoke of the joy with which she recognized and celebrated the growing commitment among women to the ideals of feminism. To a future in which women take the lead in establishing the value and dignity of women's lives and other human lives. Women and children first! She urged us on in the fight; fueling our own modest visions with the fires of her own certainty.

I remember little of the talk-show we shared, except that when asked what feminism meant to her, Muriel rose to her feet, holding a flower, and announced "My commitment to feminism, a commitment to a world in which a woman can stand up and say with pride and dignity; "I am a woman!" The host was speechless.

While Muriel showed us just what it is for a woman to speak, what a woman's voice can do, she most importantly showed us what it is for a woman to BE, what a woman's life can be like. Living in a world which treats women's being as treason to the state, Muriel grew in strength, vitality, wisdom, love, joy and rage. No patriarchal structure contained her nor ruled her. She shone like a beacon for us all.

I cherish Muriel because she gave us feminist sisters, a sense of our roots, and thus, a sense of all the real possibilities of our future. She made our bare survival, our struggle, seem quite noble and gave it a sense of direction: we believed that our matriarchy would come.

I also resent the fact that it now lies on our shoulders to continue the fight she lived for: it is now up to us to keep building matriarchy, and to keep the fires of fidelity to our vision alive. I personally do not feel all ready for that. I resent, too, the fact that she has died so young. I understand the exhaustion that comes from resolving oppression and fighting for feminism alone, and Muriel fought too often alone. I resent that Muriel did not have enough support from other women, and none at all from the patriarchy. I resent that she, and I and all of us, have had to fight for our basic dignity.

I would like to have had time to discover from Muriel, how she dealt with being a single parent, how it was for her to bring her children up in a different society, how she dealt with poverty, how she worked through her own personal oppression, how she lived through war. But some things I did learn and chief among them is that it is more important to be faithful than to be successful, and that is what keeps feminism alive and growing.

I see Muriel's cancer as frustrated growth. It is the symbolic lot of those who are doomed to live in a society which does not give any external room for growth; i.e. which is committed to death. Picture Muriel in a matriarchy, rather than living through patriarchy, and we can see a woman who would have lived the full number of her years. I do not celebrate Muriel's death, I feel cheated and resentful about it. But I celebrate her incredible life, her magnificence and her nobility. It will keep me going a long time.

Josephine Payne O'Connor

Naming Ourselves : A Step Toward Becoming Whole

(Ed. Note: Part 1 of this article was in the April issue.)

Part 2: The Process

My decision, upon the finalizing of my divorce last June, to change my surname was an easy one: I had been walking around for seven years with the surname of a man I had not lived with for the last five of them. I knew I did not want to continue to bear his surname; nor did I want to re-assume my "maiden" (father's) surname. The concept of matrilineal naming intrigued me, I wanted a surname I could also give my daughter (expected in September). For many months I had been playing with the idea, with the casual leisure of ample time. The decision as to what the name would be, however, proved much more difficult.

At first, with the luxury of plenty of time, I felt at leisure of experiment. Some of the first surnames I tried on were, of course, those of feminists I respected. Pam Morgan? Pam Daly? Pam Rich? No. Didn't feel right. Then I played with variations on the Goddesses' name(s), because I wanted my new surname to be a tribute to my female heritage. They felt contrived and pretentious (for me, tho I admire wimmin who have had the guts to do this).

Time wore on, and my sense of panic increased. Samantha's birth date grew closer, and still no great inspirations - like lightning - had exploded into my consciousness. I heard "naming" stories from others. One woman gave herself hypnotic suggestions, and dreamed her name. This technique yielded nothing for me. I grew increasingly discouraged.

Someone suggested using my astrological sign as a jumping-off point. Someone else suggested numerologically transcribing my SIN number. What about my ethnic background? What about my mother's 'maiden' surname? ("No, that's just her father's name!" "Oh yeaahh ...") What was my favourite colour? Favourite plant? Wimmin I admired? Men I admired (now that's desperation!)

What was my father's surname anyway? Dickson, originally DelValle. (He changed it on emigrating). "DelValle! That's nice ... flowing, poetic. How about a variation on that?"

"Yeah, ... I've always liked it..."

"How about Del Mar (by the ocean)? Da Silva (by the forest)? Delariviere?"

"It's tempting ... I've always loved the sound of DelValle ... Pamela DelValle ... but it's patriarchal".

And on and on and on, til I was saturated.

"It seems so ironic that you're caught between your two desires; your desire for the poetic, the beautiful, the flowing ... and your desire for philosophical truth" (This from David)

Seems like beauty and truth should be the same thing. Didn't someone say that once.

At some point during that pell-mell summer, the (I thought brilliant) idea struck me to have a brainstorming party with other wimmin. I made it a pot-luck, and invited about 20 wimmin mostly feminists. The party was great fun and several interesting suggestions arose (one of my favourites was "Nugyn" - from my mother!) but again, nothing that felt right. I knew that when I found the name, it would fit like a cherished old coat. I would nevertheless recommend this idea highly for wimmin stuck - like I was - in the process of renaming.

I knew I had to relax and let the name find me, but the more time wore on, the more panicky I became. At one point, with Samantha due shortly - in utter desperation - I resorted to consulting the phone book, thumbing frantically, A-Z, randomly trying whatever struck me. Pam Armstrong? Pam Cummings? Morrison? Ramsay? Svoboda? Tzvetcoff? Ziegenhagen? No, no, no, NO!

Finally toward the end of the summer, the name did, indeed, find me. I was idly leafing through Judy Chicago's "Dinner Party" (which I can't recommend highly enough for the self-naming wimmin ... it contains a wealth of possibilities, the vibrant richness of our wimmin's heritage). The names of all those great wimmin throughout our herstory - from the Goddess on - began to swim before my eyes. Gradually fragments emerged, and formed themselves ... Stone ... Black... Blackstone!

BLACKSTONE

Symbolic

- earliest incarnation of the Goddess
- women of ancient Sumer carried a black stone in a cart drawn by oxen
- goes with the crescent, double-axe, and white egg - all symbols of Amazon.

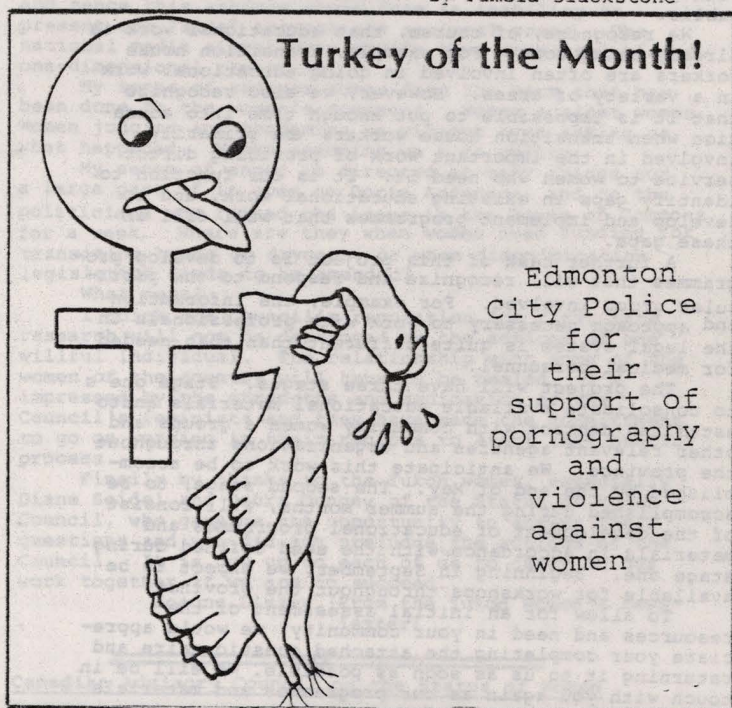
Direct Meaning

- drawn from the names of early wimmin "fighters", wimmin who refused to yield to oppression, even though it meant ridicule or worse.
- Elizabeth Blackwell - first woman doctor
- Alice Blackwell - early suffragette
- Lucy Stone - early suffragette
- Mary Wallstonecraft - feminist writer

Emotional

- I feel a somber weightiness - sadness for the suffering and oppression to the centuries of wimmin who lived, made great achievements (read the "Dinner Party"), and died in obscurity; for the terrible suffering of our foremothers burned as witches.
- Also implies strength - to keep fighting, to continue the struggle. Wimmin have always fought back. There was feminism in the Dark Ages, the Renaissance, the Reformation, even earlier (I discovered a great deal reading Chicago's wonderful book!) Strong wimmin. Rebels. Warriors. Amazon lives!

By Pamela Blackstone



Turkey of the Month!

Edmonton
City Police
for
their
support of
pornography
and
violence
against
women

Pornography Supported by Edmonton Police

"The majority of the paper's got to be sex", police in Edmonton said, explaining why charges weren't laid against the University of Alberta Engineering Society when it published an article advocating that engineering students looking for "unusual sexual challenges" should kidnap young girls, sexually abuse them, murder them, then rape the corpses. Women in Alberta were not so sanguine in their analysis, and a status of women action committee may seek changes in federal hate propaganda laws to prevent future publication of similar violent sex-type material.
(From Briarpatch Apr. 81 p.30)

Rape/Assault Center

Volunteer Training Program begins May 21st. Join the fight against violence against women. Call: 383-5545.

Announcements

BATTERED WOMEN'S SUPPORT SERVICES

Dear Women:

Battered Women's Support Services was founded in 1979 to address and act on the need for support groups and support services for battered women. We are a coalition of women who have worked on the issue in the past, and continue to do so, through such organization as Vancouver Status of Women, Vancouver Transition House, Monroe House (Vancouver's second stage transition house), and the Women's Research Centre.

BWSS has two main objectives: to develop and facilitate support groups for battered women; and to develop and exchange information and educational materials on wife battering.

In line with our second objective, we have recently initiated an education project (with initial funding from the Secretary of State). The purpose of the project is to develop educational programmes and to do community outreach work on the issue of wife battering. Target groups for the project are women's groups who may be interested in developing services for battered women; professional groups who may come into contact with women who have been battered; and the general public.

We recognize, of course, that educational work is already being done. For example, transition house workers are often involved in doing educational work in a variety of areas. However, we also recognize that it is impossible to put enough time into education when transition house workers are primarily involved in the important work of providing direct service to women who need it. It is our function to identify gaps in existing educational work, and to develop and implement programmes that will fill in these gaps.

A further task of this project is to develop programmes that will recognize and respond to the particular group involved. For example, the information and approach necessary to work with professionals in the legal system is quite different than that needed for medical personnel.

The project will have three stages. Stage one's to consolidate available educational materials and to establish contact with community women's groups and other relevant agencies and organizations throughout the province. We anticipate this work to be accomplished by the end of May. The second stage, to be accomplished during the summer months, will consist of the development of educational programmes and materials in accordance with the need defined during stage one. Beginning in September, we expect to be available for workshops throughout the province.

To allow for an initial assessment of the resources and need in your community, we would appreciate your completing the attached questionnaire and returning it to us as soon as possible. We will be in touch with you again as our programmes and materials become available. And of course, if you have any further ideas of information which might be useful to our work, please let us know.

Debra J. Lewis
Programme Development & Community Outreach
Battered Women's Support Services
c/o Women's Research Centre
517 East Broadway,
Vancouver, B.C. V5T 1X4

Lesbians and the Constitution

When Sven Robinson moved that the constitutional committee explicitly prohibit discrimination in employment, accommodation and public services on the basis of sexual orientation, marital status and political belief, the motion was defeated 22-2.

Justice Minister Jean Chretien didn't want sexual orientation cited as a category in the constitution because he says it has an imprecise definition.

(From Kinesis Apr. 31 p.3)

California Leads the Way??

Doctors in California are now required by law to report to welfare officials any suspicion of sexual activity in females under 18 years of age. Failure to report can result in jail terms for doctors. No such requirement is made for boys.

(From Briarpatch Apr. 31 p. 30)

BCTF Annual General Meeting

On April 14 the BCTF voted 412-203 in favour of women's right to abortion. The recommendation did not include the word abortion but the debate made clear that was the issue.

Human Life Bill - U.S. Congress

The Human Life Bill which says quite simply that human life begins at conception would mean that a microscopic embryo would be included in the definition of a person. This would enable Congress to ban all abortions as murder.

At the Senate hearings on the Bill, five scientists testified that life begins at conception. No opposition testimony was heard.

CanLit: Fiction by Canadian Women

A residential weekend at Pearson College organized to give women the opportunity to share insights into Canadian Literature by women. Resource People: Jane Rule, Connie Rooke, Helen Sonthoff. The weekend is June 19 - 21 at Pearson College and the fee is \$85.00. For information call Cynthia Williams, Division of University Extension, UVic, 477-6911 local 4802.

A New Meaning to "Commitment"

Our favourite Justice Minister recently made this commitment to women "...if there is an opening in the Supreme Court, I will be delighted if I can name a woman..." (This is a commitment?)

From NAC Newsletter

Women's Property Rights Setback in Ontario

The Ontario Supreme Court recently ruled that Barbara Leatherdale was not entitled to share in either her husband's retirement savings fund or in company shares he had acquired through payroll deductions, on the grounds that she did not contribute directly and substantially to their purchase. Thus Ms. Leatherdale who contributed to the family through household management, child rearing and paid work during their 18 year marriage cannot share in the family "nest egg" which her contribution, in part, enabled her husband to acquire.

(From Communiqu'elles Apr. 31 p.11)

Midwifery is a Labour of Love

This sourcebook of factual and moral support for introducing quality midwifery services to the province is available from: Midwifery Task Force Treasurer, 1244 Shoreline Walk, Vancouver, B.C. V6H 3T8 Cost: \$8.50 + \$1.00 for postage.

Single Parent Resource Centre

The Centre supports single parents especially through times such as the period following a separation. Services include peer counselling and group programs. Hours: Mon., Tues., Wed., Fri., 10a.m.-4p.m. Thurs. 10a.m.-9p.m. Address: 1611 Quadra V8W 2L5 385-1114

Doris Anderson's Resignation - Yukon Member's Account

As I start to write about the terrible controversy raging around the Canadian Advisory Council on the Status of Women I am filled with sadness, frustration and a deep burning rage.

Doris Anderson has slandered the executive, she has publicly accused the members of being "patsies", knee jerk liberals, ignorant and lazy. She has been patronizing, belittling and has created a distorted impression of events leading up to her resignation as the Council president.

Doris Anderson resigned because she had lost the confidence of her executive and the majority of her Council. She lost our confidence not over any ministerial interference but because she repeatedly failed to consult with the Council and be responsive to its consensus. Doris told us she had failed to "control her executive." She had, I suspect, never worked with women's groups and really didn't understand how the group approach works. She didn't like to be bothered by the concerns of the members and when members expressed their feelings she called us "bitchy".

It's perhaps important here to outline the structure of the Council. It consists of thirty appointed members from across Canada and its function is: to bring to the government and to the public matters of concern to women; and to advise the Minister on matters the Minister or the Council deem appropriate. The Council over the years has played a major role in forcing governments to respond to women's concerns and has built up an excellent research reputation. The executive of the Council consists of an appointed full time President, three full time appointed vice-presidents and two volunteer member's representatives who are elected annually by the membership. I felt honoured to be elected in June 1980 as their anglophone representative on the executive.

It became readily apparent to me that Doris was not concerned with creating a Council of equals. She felt her views were the right ones and did not easily tolerate any opposition. I remember being stunned by the overriding will of this person. For instance in June 1980, the full membership had to force her to present the employment committee's recommendations to the Minister. She thought they might annoy him for they were very critical of the federal government's strategies. We had to fight to remind her that she was obligated to us to present our statements.

The conflict over the timing of the Constitutional Conference brought the simmering discontent to a boil. Doris Anderson, alone, had set the February conference date despite the fact that the two francophones on the executive had been expressing dissatisfaction with a February date as the Quebec women wanted more preparation time.

The Council presented a strong position on the matter of entrenchment of a Charter of Rights in a Constitution to the Joint House - Senate Committee in November of 1980. The position is firmly formulated and many of our concerns have since been acted on. It is important to remember that the issue of the Charter of Rights is only one item in the total picture of Constitutional reform. It was the most pressing, as it would be, under Trudeau's proposal, amended in the Constitution before it is returned to Canada. The National Action Committee has a list of fifteen items of concern for women, included in the list are the entrenchment of human rights, Indian rights, Family law, Economics, and Education. The Federal Government's 1980 priority list of 13 includes the Charter, Family law, Supreme Court, Communications,

At the January 9th executive meeting the decision was made to postpone the conference. It was made for several reasons, one of the primary ones was that the urgency on developing a Charter position had been dealt with. We felt it was time to move on to other issues. Family law and overlapping jurisdictions are now our priority issues and by delaying the conference to May we have obtained more time for proper preparation. I personally was very concerned that our book of publications on the Constitutional issues be available and mailed to women for study before any conference.

The accusations made by Doris Anderson that we buckled under to ministerial pressure are absurd. The executive requested that the Minister meet with the full executive as we no longer were confident that

Anderson would accurately represent the Minister to us or us to the Minister. The Minister's parting sentence was "that it is your decision, it is your conference, I can live with it either way."

We returned to our office to take the 5 - 1 vote. Doris Anderson had several options. She could have refused to accept it; she could have insisted on polling the membership; she could have issued her ultimatum. She did none of these things. She instead asked what we should do about a press release. It should be noted that at this time only the members and between 12-20 speakers had been notified of the February date. Therefore, there was no need to issue a press release and Doris insisted on passing such a motion. She then wanted a new date set, we defeated a motion to that effect stating that the question must be taken to the full membership.

A word about the so called "unedited transcript" of the executive meeting. The secretary was not at the Axworthy meeting. She was at our executive meeting and her minutes do not portray the business of the meeting. There is no recording of why I voted for the conference to be postponed or insistence that the issue go to the general membership even though I asked for that to be recorded.

The meeting adjourned after the items were discussed. I returned home.

The next working day Doris Anderson walked into the Ottawa office, mailed out all the invitations and called in the press.

The smear campaign began. My sense of frustration and hence this article stems from an inability to present our "side" through the national press. The national media almost unanimously have presented biased one-dimensional reporting.

My sense of sadness comes from the harm that has been done to the women's movement. Women against women. Women judging and condemning us without even asking us what happened. Women assuming we are guilty.

My sense of anger is directed at many things but a large part of it goes to Doris Anderson, and to the politicians who raised the issue in the House of Commons for a week. Where are they when women need funding for transition homes or daycare, or when discrimination legislation needs to be amended?

What next?

I think the Council's reputation for first rate research will not be destroyed by the actions of one willful individual. The relationship with some of the women of the country will have to be healed. I'm impressed by the strengths and dedication of the Council's feminists and they have made the commitment to go on working in their regions to start that healing process.

Finally my thanks to the Yukon women, especially Diane Seidel and Debra Dungey of the Status of Women Council, who gave me the opportunity to answer their questions and who did not prejudge the actions of the Council. It is now up to each of us to carry on our work together if we are to succeed.

Joanne Linzey (From the Yukon Women's News-letter)

Canadian Advisory Council on the Status of Women

The Review Committee met in Ottawa April 22-3. The Committee will be making a preliminary report to the full Council at its June 8-10 meeting.

The following are among the major areas which will be examined in detail: appointments to the Council; the interaction between the Executive, staff and part-time Council members and how the members relate to, and respond to the concerns of the women in their respective regions. For further information contact members of the Review Committee. In Victoria: Norrie Preston, 598-1390

Deadline Next
Issue - July 6th

ARCHIVES

RECENT ACQUISITIONS

Feminist Newsletters and Resources:

SWAG (x2) April 1981
Island Women v.1 #2 April 1981
North Shore Women v.6 #8 May 1981
Communiqu'elles v.7 #3 April 1981

Report of the Proceedings : Vancouver Island
Isolation Attack Meeting, Nanaimo, February 21,
1981

Non-Feminist Resource Materials:

Advisory Council on the Status of Women:

Fact Sheet #3 (x2) Wife Battering in Canada
Hidden Victims -- Silent Screams
Fact Sheet #4 (x2) Rape and Sexual Assault
Fact Sheet #5 (x2) Working Together: Women and
Unions
Fact Sheet #6 (x2) Women and Poverty: What are
your Chances?

Publications:

Wife Battering in Canada: The Vicious Circle
Women and the Constitution (x2)
Women and Unions

A Definition of Equity in Marriage. 6 May 1976
Occupational Health Hazards to Women - A Synoptic
View. October 1976
One Parent Family - ACSW Principles and Recommen-
dations. January 1977
Annotated Recommendations on Women and Taxation.
January 1978
Women and Work Five Million Women A Study of the
Canadian Housewife, by Monique Proulx June 1978

The Status of Women and the CBC A Brief to the
Canadian Radio-Television and Telecommunications
Commission. November 7, 1978
Problems of Immigrant Women in the Labour Force
January 1979
Statement on Matrimonial Property Laws in Canada.
February 1979
Background Notes on Birth Planning and Conception
Control. June 1979
CACSW Recommendations on Birth Planning. June 1979

New Directions for Public Policy: A Position Paper
on the One-Parent Family. April 1976
Annual Report. 1979-1980

Discussion Paper on Federal Income Security Programs
for Families with Children. January 1980

Women and Jobs: The Impact of Federal Government
Employment Strategies on Women. June 1980

Women in Prison: Expanding Their Options A Brief
Presented to the Strategic Planning Committee on
the Future of the Correctional Service in Canada.
September 1980

Women with Handicaps: Brief to the Special Committee
on the Disabled and the Handicapped. August 1980

Women in the Public Service: Overlooked and Under-
valued. October 1980

Not How Many But How Few: Women Appointed to Boards,
Commissions, Councils, Committees and Crown
Corporations within the Power of the Federal
Government. October 1980

Part-Time Work: A Review of the Issues A Brief to the
Advisory Council of Employment and Immigration
Canada. November 1980

Women, Human Rights and the Constitution Submission
to the Special Joint Committee on the Constitution.
November 1980

Women Caring and Curing Submission of the CACSW to the
Health Services Review '79. June 1980

Recommendations of the Canadian Advisory Council on
the Status of Women by Subject. January 1981

Critical Skill Shortages: New Opportunities for Women
A Brief to the Parliamentary Task Force on
Employment Opportunities for the '80's. January 1981

Resources:

The New Employment Standards Act: The Act; Pamphlets
on: Maternity Leave: Your Rights and Benefits;
Termination of Employment: Your Rights and Benefits;
A Guide for Employees and Employers

Resource Bulletin, Women's Programme, Secretary of
State no.7 autumn 1980- winter 1981

The Canadian Organizing Committee for 1981 Interna-
tional Year for Disabled Persons Full Participation
and Equality, 1981

Pamphlet literature on fund-raising and promotional
aids

Action v.1 #2 January 1981

v.1 #3 February 1981

Famous Women: Student's Choice The Province Thursday
April 2, 1981

Southern Vancouver Island Hospital Memberships

The Victoria General Hospital elections are to
be held on September 10th, 1981. Last year the Anti-
Choice people won all three seats by a substantial
majority. this year three more seats are up for
election. The Anti-Choice people have run another
successful membership campaign (as of January 1981
they had 2,000 members to our 750 members). If they
win this year they will hold seven of the twelve seats
thus having a majority on the Board. The three Anti-
Choice members are currently bidding their time
waiting until September and their majority before
making a move.

We cannot let this happen! Yes I know you have
your membership! But that is not enough (as witnessed
at last year's elections). You have to take it upon
yourself to actively sell memberships! You have to

keep talking - get your friends and relatives talking,
thinking and ultimately acting. Yes risk being a
pain-in-the-ass but sell memberships. Because we have
no large gatherings of people to espouse our beliefs
to (as do the Churches) we have to take it in ourselves
Unless we do we have lost.

You can pick up hospital membership forms at the
following places: 531 Quadra St.; Victoria General
Hospital; Everywoman's Books, 641 Johnson; Women's
Action Group, Rm 106, Student Union Bldg. UVIC.
Return your memberships to 531 Quadra St., Victoria
V8V 3S4. This office will master list the names of
members so that they can phone them reminding them of
the date of the meeting and pro-choice candidates'
names. This office will also return all memberships
to the Hospital. The deadline for memberships is
August 6, 1981.

Bronwen Holland

RED ROSE THEATRE

Following is an excerpt from the presentation at the NAC Banquet March 14, 1981.
Original script adapted from Ms Magazine - September 1975.

Scene X - Rape Scene

LAWYER: Mr. Smith, you were held up at gunpoint on the corner of First & Main?

SMITH: Yes.

L: Did you struggle with the robber?

S: No.

L: Why not?

S: He was armed.

L: Then you made a conscious decision to comply with his demands rather than resist?

S: Yes.

L: Did you scream? Cry out?

S: No. I was afraid.

L: I see. Have you ever been held up before?

S: No.

L: Have you ever given money away?

S: Yes, of course.

L: And you did so willingly?

S: What are you getting at?

L: Well, let's put it like this Mr. Smith. You've given money away in the past. In fact, you have quite a reputation for philanthropy. How can we be sure you weren't contriving to have your money taken by force?

S: Listen, if I wanted ----

L: Never mind. What time did this alleged 'holdup' take place?

S: About 11 p.m.

L: You were out on the streets at 11 p.m.? Doing what?

S: Just walking.

L: Just walking? You know that it's dangerous being out on the street that late at night? Were you aware that you could have been held up?

S: I hadn't really thought about it.

L: What were you wearing?

S: Let's see now. A suit. Yes a suit.

L: An expensive suit?

S: Well yes. I guess it was relatively expensive.

L: In other words, Mr. Smith, you were walking around the streets late at night in a suit which practically advertised the fact that you might be a good target for some easy money, isn't that so? I mean, if we didn't know any better, Mr. Smith, we might even think that you were asking for this to happen, mightn't we?



Selling Hospital Memberships - Points to Make

The pro-Choice people are up for re-election. They have experience and are genuinely concerned with hospital policy. The Anti-Choicers are inexperienced and single issue candidates.

Legislation does not stop abortions just drives them underground.

Abortion is a personal moral decision to be made by women not legislators.

There is no 100% safe effective birth control. Cut the abortion rate by more research into safer more effective methods of birth control and spend more money on sex education (there are 1000 teenagers becoming pregnant each week in Canada).

announcing

swag

**GENERAL
MEETING**

Monday May 25

SEXUAL

HARASSMENT

7:30

James Bay

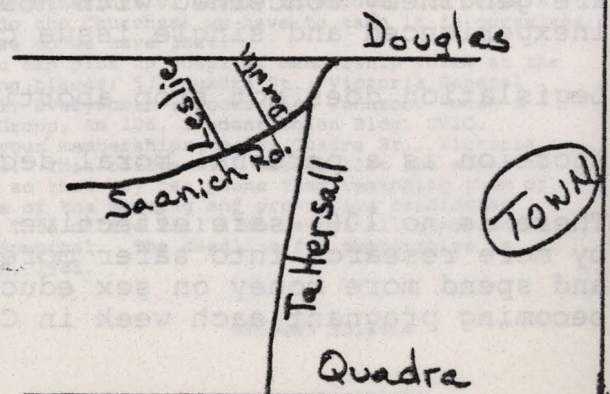
Community Center

Monday June 22

BARBECUE

6:30

893 Leslie Dr.



Membership Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Postal Code: _____

Telephone: _____

Renewal: ☐ New: ☐ Gift: ☐

Membership is \$10⁰⁰ per year due March 8.
Pro-rated until March 1982 it is now \$8⁰⁰.
(Reduced rates available if needed).

Send to: SWAG
Post Office Box 6269, Stn. C,
Victoria, B.C. V8P 5L5

ADS WANTED

SWAG Newsletter will take ads from members beginning in the April issue.
We will have two formats: 1) Display ad — \$10⁰⁰ each. 2) Classifieds — \$2⁰⁰
for 15 words or less.



Deadline for ads: To be received by
the first Tuesday of the month.

10

[illegible]