

## Vote on oral contraceptives planned New health plan for Mount students

#### by Suellen Murray and Shelley Murphy

Less than two months before their term ends, the Mount's Student Council is faced with the most contentious issue this year.

At their Feb. 19 meeting, the Council decided to accept a new health plan, the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) Health Plan. The new plan offers several benefits to Mount students, including longer coverage, accident insurance, coverage for dental accidents, and a national range of co-operating drugstores. The CFS plan, which is less expensive than the existing plan, will take effect in September 1986.

After the new plan was accepted, the executive proposed a second motion, which read: "Move to hold are referendum to raise full-time student union fees from \$78 to \$97 in conjunction with the spring elections Mar. 18-19. This increase would allow for a more comprehensive drug plan which would include oral contraceptives."

CFS representative Frank De-Mont explained that the addition of oral contraceptives would work out to approximately \$1.50 per student each month, resulting in an increase of \$19/student. The Council carried the motion with a strong majority.

In an interview Monday, Council president Shari Wall explained the Council's intentions. "We're trying to offer students a choice—whether or not they would like to pay an extra \$19 and be covered for oral contraceptives," she said. "If they decide they do want to do that, we'll opt into that plan. If they decide they don't, that's still fine." Wall stressed that she wants people to realize that Student Council is not pushing oral contraceptives at the Mount. "If they're already here," she said, "then we are trying to make it economically feasible for the students."

Mount president Dr. Margaret Fulton is concerned about the inclusion of oral contraceptives in the Student Union's drug plan. "My objection to the referen-dum is that I do not think that the student body has been given sufficient information about the adverse effects of oral contraceptives," she said. "And I think that all it does is reinforce, in the minds of students who haven't thought through the decision carefully, that it is safe, and everyone is doing it, so why not? That, to me, is totally against what we are trying to do at this university, which is to get our young students to question sexual stereotypes."

The chair of the Corporation of the Sisters of Charity, Sister Paule Cantin, has also expressed her concern about the ramifications of the referendum. "Nothing prevents the students from\_ using contraceptives, and we respect the right of the individual to make that decision," she said. "But if we don't provide it, I think it gives a very strong message about what the university stands for."

"As women, we are sometimes our own worst enemies, and we perpetuate the myth of woman as sex objects," she continued. "I hope the women of this university have the courage to say that while they don't deny the right of women to use contraceptives, that we, as a university dedicated to the education of women, want to project a different image. We want you to see us as human persons, with a great contribution to make, with an intellect, and a heart."

Commission made on improving

effort for women.

After discussing the referendum with the administration, Wall decided to call an emergency council meeting on Tues., Mar. 5, to give Dr. Fulton and Sister Paule an opportunity to speak to the Council. Both stressed that it is not intended as a confrontation, but an opportunity to provide additional information and opinions.

"I don't think we are in a position to dictate to the Student Union," said Dr. Fulton. "It's an autonomous organization. All we can do is suggest reasons and arguments for why this may not be the best thing to do." Sister Paule agrees. "I am very impressed with the people I have dealt with on Council, and I hope we can come to an agreement that is good for the whole university, not just for now, but for students in the future."

**Continued on page 3** 

# Dr. Naomi Hersom — The new president and her plans

#### by Eduardo Espejo

One of the first things newly appointed Mount president, Dr. Naomi Hersom, wants to do when she gets to the Mount is listen to students.

In a telephone interview from her home in Saskatoon, Dr. Hersom said she wants to take the first few weeks to get acquainted with the Mount and its operation, and will continue to promote strongly the advancement of women.

The announcement was made last Saturday, Feb. 22, by Larry Hayes, Q.C., chair of the university's board of governors.

At present, Dr. Hersom is Dean of the College of Education at the University of Saskatchewan and has done extensive research on women's issues. She has been the recipient of many research grants and her areas of special interest include curriculum theory, research, evaluation, teacher education, the role of teachers in curriculum development and women in education.

Dr. Hersom spoke on a range of topics during the interview, including her reaction to the Royal Commission Report on post-secondary education. She agreed with most of the recommendations, including the possible establishment of a University of Nova Scotia, a recommendation which has met with considerable controversy.

"That kind of a system (amalgamation of universities) can work," she said. "The main worry is that the universities will lose their autonomy, but I think it's fair to say that they do manage to retain their individuality."



Hersom was particularly pleased with the effort the Royal

Hersom also said she was sympathetic with Nova Scotia's relatively large number of universities, but says that is a problem that has to be dealt with.

On the issue of the core curriculum and the mandatory study of a second language, she said they are important considerations and that "this is something the whole country has been struggling with. We have to find a balance between training for professions and a sound education in the fine arts."

-Dr. Hersom also has extensive background in the development of distance education capabilities through experimental work with slow scan television, teleconferencing, videotapes, interactive television transmission via satellite and micro-computer networks. With this experience, she is qualified to bring some

Continued on page 3

### Schedule for council leadership With I conference 3197

Sat. March 22, 1986 9 a.m Vinnie's Pub

9:30 a.m. **Board Room** 

Vinnie's Pub

Multi-Purpose Room

10:15 a.m. Vinnie's Pub

10:30 a.m. Board Room

Vinnie's Pub

Multi-Purpose Room

11:45 a.m.

Break

WELCOME

Conference

Are Yours Real?

Anne Derrick,

Dr. Carol Hill,

Janet Fenerty

Donald Murray,

Stress Management

**Group Dynamics** 

Sr. Evelyn Williams,

Associate,

Pat DeMont,

Recreation,

University

Union

Dr. Margaret Fulton, President, MSVU

Shari Wall, President, MSVU Student

Susan Smith, Chairperson, Leadership

Constitutionally Protected Rights:

Partner, Buchan, Derrick and Ring

Accessing the Hidden Job Market

Mount Saint Vincent University

Nutritionist, Mount Saint Vincent

Healthy Body/Healthy Mind

Coffee and Doughnut Break

Your Rights in the Workplace

Stewart, MacKeen and Covert

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Page 2, the Picaro, Wednesday, March 5, 1986

12 noon Cafeteria Lunch

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Residence Representative, Student

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Fundraising at School

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Coffee and Doughnut Break

Entertainment, Publicity and

Shari Wall, 1985-86 Student Union

Janice Pisko, 1985-86 Student Union

Mount Saint Vincent University

N.S. Department of Development

Organizing Special Functions-

Alumnae Association

Working with Volunteers

Leadership and Protocol

Maritime Command

1:30 p.m. **Board Room** 

Don MacNeil Room

Vinnie's Pub

3:15 p.m. Multi-Purpose Room

3:30 p.m. Board Room Vinnie's Pub

Don MacNeil Room

4:45 p.m. Vinnie's Pub

Vinnie's Pub

5 p.m.

Conference Wrap-up

All workshops to be held in Rosaria Centre, Mount Saint Vincent University.

### Picaro positions open

The following positions are open for 1986-87:

Editor News editor Sports editor Entertainment editor **Production manager Business manager** Office manager **Distribution manager** 

Positions are open to any member of the Mount Saint Vin cent University Student Union. Honoraria are offered for all positions.

Elections will be held on Monday, March 24 at noon in Ro-saria 403. Nominations will be received until Friday, March 21. For information on job descriptions please con-tact the editors, Rosaria 403, 443-4450 ext. 195.

## events

Once upon a time, Picaro was a little man who tore through the Spanish countryside proclaiming the news to the people. Today, it is the stu-dent newspaper of Mount Saint Vincent University, published weekly by the Student Union. The Picaro is a member of Canadian University Press, and subscribes to its statement of principles.

the

The Picaro staff positions are open to all Mount students, and contributions are well come. All copy and/or graphics must be submitted by Friday noon, the week preceding publication. Please type all copy double-spaced. Letters to the Editor and Hyce Park Corner must be signed, but names can be withheld by request. The Picaro staff reserves the right to edit all copy for length or legality. We regret that copy cannot be returned.

The Picaro office is tucked away on the fourth floor, Rosaria Centre, in room 403. Drop by to contribute to the paper, or bring us coffee.

Newspaper meetings are held every Monday at noon.

### Co-editors:

STAFF:

**Suellen Murray** Eduardo Espejo **Production Manager:** Katrina Aburrow **Business Manager: David Hallworth** Office Manager: Marina Gerronazzo

News Editor: **Shelley Murphy Entertainment Editor:** Karen Chilton

**Sports Editor: Steve Jennex** P.D. Coffin Graphics Team: Steve Jennex

**Photos: Photopool** 

And this week .... Lisa Bugden Sheila MacNeil Robert Caume Jeff Mann **Natalie Fisher** 

Why just a head? well, lend a thought to what happened if I wasn't wearing a helmet





## Vote on oral contraceptives planned New health plan for Mount students

#### Continued from page 1

Since the Council made their decision in February, the referendum on oral contraceptives has obscured the issue of the new student drug plan and its benefits. During the study break, the Halifax media received information on the impending referendum, and news items appeared in broadcast and print media. The Daily News featured a front page article on the issue erroneously reporting: "Give us free birth control say

Mount Saint Vincent students".

As of the article's Monday publi-

cation date, Mount students, with the exception of Council, hadn't received any information on the referendum, or expressed any opinion. "We thought we would get a lot of publicity," said Wall. "We tried to keep it quiet as long as possible."

According to the Student Union Constitution, a referendum must be held to increase or decrease student union fees. Fifteen per cent, or approximately 300 full-time students must vote in the referendum for it to be binding upon the Council. In the case of a fee change, only a simple majority is needed, rather than the two-thirds required for other referenda.

The Constitution also states that notice of the referendum must be given one month prior to the date of the referendum. The Council was informed of the referendum on Feb. 19, one day short of the month lead time required. The referendum will be March 19 only.

Before a referendum is held, Student Council will be distributing information on the new drug plan, and explaining exactly what the students will be voting for. If Council doesn't receive a majority vote on the addition of oral contraceptives, the CFS plan, with its additional benefits, will still be in effect in September.

#### CFS Health Plan major benefits include:

12 months coverage;

Accidental death or dismemberment coverage;

Reimbursement for accidental injuries;

Dental accident reimbursement;

Ambulance benefit;

A wider variety of drug stores co-operating with plan across Canada;

Complete information on the plan will be available from Student Union.

### The new president and her plans

#### **Continued from page 1**

new ideas for the Mount's distance education via television (DUET) program.

On shaping the Mount's public image, Hersom said she has the same view as Dr. Fulton ''... although 'holistic' isn't the exact word I would use. I want to see a place that respects individuals.'' Holistic is a word Dr. Fulton has used to describe her desired image of the Mount.

Student Union President, Shari Wall, said Hersom is fun and outgoing and close in personality to Dr. Fulton.

"With Dr. Hersom I got the sincere feeling she is interested in what's going on," Wall said.

Frank Demont, student board of governors rep, reiterated Wall's feelings about the new president saying "she's bright and cheerful and she's going to be just wonderful. She seems to really want to fight for students and for a better educational system overall." One of the attributes that warmed the hearts of both Wall and Demont was when Hersom explained that in her spare time she likes to fly kites. "I think I'll send her a kite along with a note of congratulations," Demont said.

This is the first time Hersom has lived in the East and she said she is really looking forward to it. "I've always had a lot of respect for the universities in that area and the scholars who have emerged from them. I'm also drawn by the Maritimes' sense of history," she said.

In the end, though, Hersom explained her ultimate qualifications for being a Maritimer: ''I like lobster, too.''

## Leadership at university and beyond

Leadership at University and Beyond, the Mount's fifth annual Student Union Leadership Conference, will be held Saturday, March 22.

"We're expecting at least 100 university and high school students from across Atlantic Canada to attend," stated Susan Smith, public relations rep. on Student Council and chair of the Leadership Conference Committee. "Already requests from students in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick are pouring in and we expect many Mount students to register throughout the next week."

The conference features 12 workshops ranging from "Accessing the Hidden Job Market" to ''Organizing Special Functions—Leadership and Protocol'' to ''Entertainment, Publicity, and Fundraising at School.''

We hope to appeal to students wanting to make the most out of university life and those preparing to enter the workforce, so we've organized workshops for everyone, no matter what their interest, age or sex," explained Smith.

A \$10 (\$8 for meal plan students) conference fee covers attendance at four workshops and lunch, at which MSVU Alumnae Association President Mary Clancy will speak on motivation.

For further information contact the Student Union Office, 4th floor Rosaria Centre. Registration forms can also be picked up at Seton front desk. Completed registration forms and payment must be returned to the Student Union office by Wed., March 12.

### Students

If you are a student and are interested in applying for your discount card which entitles you to 20% off all perms, colors, cuts, please drop in and see if you qualify.



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### Ernie leads the way

#### by Teresa Carruthers

Here is your chance to meet Ernie, the child study society's adopted child. Ernie has cerebral palsy and cannot walk. The society has been sponsoring events to raise money to help Ernie with an operation which will enable him to walk and gain more motor movements.

The society will be holding a non-competitive "Help Ernie Walk" on Sun. Mar. 9, 1986. The walk will begin at 1 p.m. in front of Seton Academic Centre. It is only a 3 km stroll around the Mount. All proceeds from this event will go to Ernie.

There is a minimum sponsorship of \$5.00 to waive registration fee. Sponsor sheets are available at the Child Study Board on the fourth floor of Seton and the Athletic Centre in Rosaria. Please pick up a sponsor sheet, bring a friend and come participate. This is a meaningful event but it is also a time for fun and to get in shape. Ernie will be there to lead the walk.

## events

#### Women and development network

The Women and Development Committee of the Association of Atlantic Universities is holding a meeting to discuss regional networking on women and development issues. This meeting is open to all groups and individuals (academics and community people alike).

Date: Sat., Mar. 15, 1986, 11 a.m., Room 209, Beveridge Arts Centre (corner of Main and Highland), Acadia University, Wolfville.

Agenda—1) Identification of existing networks, 2) Discussion of the purposes of a regional network.

If you are interested, but cannot attend the meeting, please contact Margie Macdonald (422-9444) or Linda Christiansen-Ruffman at 429-9780 ext. 2534 or 477-5415.

Child-care will be available; please let us know by Mar. 8, if you will be bringing children.

This meeting is timed to fit into the schedule of the meeting of the Atlantic Association of Sociologists and Anthropologists (see attached schedule). Please register for the Conference if you plan to attend more than one of the sessions. Please tell anyone you think might be interested, about this meeting.

The Women and Development Committee is co-sponsoring with the Pearson Institute, the North-South Institute, Mount Saint Vincent and CRIAW-NS a Workshop on Women in Economic Development—Research and Linkages. It will be held from Thurs., Apr. 3, 1986 to Tues., Apr. 8. Please contact Gloria Nikoi, Pearson Institute, 1325 Edward Street, Halifax, B3H 3J5 (424-2142) for more information.



The lip sync champions of North America, audio, video, films, performance, and much much more. The organizers of Audio By Artists present the **1986 Audio by Artists Festi**val. Featuring both local and national talent this year's festival includes 12 different events promising to make March an exciting month for Halifax.

Kicking off the festival will be the "Audio Cabaret", a cabaret extravaganza at the Misty Moon on Mon., Mar. 3. This evening of alternative performance will include the Clichettes (current North American lip sync champions) and Toronto performance artists Tanya Mars and Dan Lander. A diverse range of audio and video work will complete the activities for the evening.

#### Feminism and civil liberties

A public lecture on Feminism and Civil Liberties will be given by Professor Thelma McCormack, Chair of Women's Studies, Mount Saint Vincent University, on Wed., Mar. 12 at 7:30 p.m. in the Seton Academic Centre.

McCormack took up her post as the first Chair of Women's Studies at the Mount early in January, for a period of one year. She is on leave of absence from York University's Department of Sociology, is well known across Canada for her research, and lectures widely on women's issues.

Admission to the public lecture is free.

### Dark lullabies

Dark Lullabies, the powerful Canadian feature documentary about the impact of the Holocaust on Jews and Germans born after the war, will have its Atlantic premiere in Halifax on Thursday, February 27, at 8 p.m., in the Lord Nelson Hotel. Co-director Irene Lilienheim Angelico, herself a child of concentration camp survivors, will be present for a follow-up discussion.

The 80-minute film was directed by Irene Lilienheim Angelico and Abbey Jack Neidik and coproduced by DLI, an independent company, and Studio D of the National Film Board.

#### Women in 19th century photograph

A televised introduction on Women in 19th Century Photography can be viewed on ASN, Thurs., Mar. 20 at 10:30 a.m. and again on Mon., Mar. 24 at 8:30 p.m. This illustrated lecture by Heather Dawkins is on representation of 19th century domestic labour. The lecture is in conjunction with the exhibition Purloined Portraits: Women in 19th century Photography on exhibit at the Mount Art Gallery from Mar. 14 - Apr. 6. For further details call the gallery at 443-4450, ext. 160.

#### Adapt or die

Amnesty International will sponsor the showing of the film 'Adapt or Die' on the struggle of South African trade unions on Friday evening Mar. 7 at 8 p.m. in the Burke Education Centre, Saint Mary's University. Entrance on Inglis St.

#### Taking with kids about sex

Talking with Kids about Sex will be discussed by Anne Bulley of the Planned Parenthood Association at the Mainland South Branch Library in the Captain William Spry Community Centre, 10 Kidston Road on Thursday, March 6 at 7:00 p.m. This is the first in a three-part series for parents of children of all ages. Limited babysitting will be available. Please call 421-8766 if you require this service or other information.

#### Disabled women support group

A support group concerned with meeting the emotional needs of physically disabled young women has been formed in the metro area. The group helps young women, who may feel isolated, get in touch with each other.

When professional advice is needed, the group has access to a resource board made up of a psychiatrist, psychologists, and trained counsellors.

Women who are interested in joining the group, or who would like more information, can contact Ms. Lisa Mahen, 1200 Tower Road, Halifax.

### Women's nutritional needs

Women's Special Nutritional Needs will be discussed at the Main Library, Spring Garden Road on Wednesday, March 5 at 7:30 p.m. All are welcome.

#### My summer vacation

A show of paintings by Andrea lohnson, entitled **My Summer Vacation**, is on display at the Cafe Prague, in the Brewery Market, Halifax, from Mar. 3 to Apr. 30. These paintings are landscape images of a summer holiday in Prince Edward Island.

The public is invited to view **My Summer Vacation** and to enjoy a meal or refreshments in the relaxing atmosphere of the Cafe Prague. Show your support and Solidarity for the People of Nicaragua. In May, 1985, students from Oxford University, England held a fast to show their support for the people of Nicaragua and to protest the United States policy toward Nicaragua.

Students support

peace

This year groups in Europe, North and South America and elsewhere are joining to make the fast an international sign of solidarity. Students from local universities are organizing a fast to take place in Halifax at the Atlantic School of Theology, Mar. 14, 8 p.m. to Mar. 16, 1 p.m.

We are fasting to support peace in Nicaragua and to protest the "Contra" war. All monies raised (through sponsors) will be given directly to support a project in Nicaragua. The fast is open to everyone.

Meetings to plan the event are held each Wednesday at noon at the Dalhousie University School of Social Work—Hancock Hall, Seminar Room 1, corner of Oxford and Coburg Roads, white building.

## Extend-a-family volunteers

Extend-a-Family Halifax would like to hear from families or individuals interested in becoming friends with a disabled child. "There's a need in your neighbourhood"—so please get in touch with the Extend-a-Family coordinator at 423-9464.





#### by Suellen Murray

The accomplishments of women have often been ignored or forgotten in the teaching of history. In honour of International Women's Week, this timetable has been prepared with a small selection of women's contribution, achievements, and victories over the past 3400 years.

- 1480BC Queen Hatshepsut rules for Thutmose II in Egypt until his coming of age.
- 900BC Queen Samurcamat rules in Assyria.
- 800BC A woman is recorded as reigning high priest in Thebes.
- -Amalaswintha, daughter of Theodoric the Great, 526 becomes Regent of Italy.
- 780 Empress Irene becomes ruler of the Byzantine Empire.
- 1136 Matilda, daughter of Henry I, asserts her rights to the throne of England, and is proclaimed Queen in 1140.
- 1172 Queen Eleanor raises Aquitaine against Henry II.
- 1384 Jadviga is crowned "King" of Poland.
- 1428 Sixteen-year-old Joan of Arc leads the French armies against England. She is captured by the Burgundians in 1430, and burned at the stake the next year.

#### 1502 --- Margaret, Comtess of Richmond and Derby mother of Henry VII, founds professorships of divinity at Oxford and Cambridge Universities in England; in 1505, she founds Christ's College, Cambridge.

- 1542 Mary, Queen of Scots, age six days, ascends to the throne of Scotland.
- 1558 Elizabeth I ascends to the throne of England after the death of her half-sister. Under the 45-year reign of "Good Queen Bess" the Golden Age of England flourishes, with the accomplishments of William Shakespeare, Sir Francis Bacon, and the travels of Walter Raleigh and Francis Drake.
- 1587 Mary, Queen of Scots, is beheaded, at the orders of her cousin Queen Elizabeth.
- 1632 Queen Christina, age six years, ascends to the throne of Sweden, but abdicates in 1654 on becoming a Roman Catholic.
- 1634 Anne of Austria is invested with Supreme Power over her country.
- 1660 Women actors first appear on theatre stages in Germany and England.

1702 — Queen Anne of England gives the Royal approval to horseracing, and originates the idea of sweepstakes; in 1711, she establishes the Ascot race.

- 1734 -In her writing "Avis d'une Mera a sa Fille", Mme de Lamber recommends university education for women.
- 1745 Jeanne Antoinette Poisson (Marquise de Pompadour 1721-1764) moves into Versailles with French King Louis XV, exercises considerable power over the country and its affairs of state.

circa -Lady Mary Wortley Montague (1689-1762) a writer, introduces the practice of innoculation against smallpox to England, a practice she had 1747 observed while living in Turkey.

- 1763 Catherine II ("the Great") deposes her brother Peter, and becomes Empress of Russia. Under her rule, the country flourishes in art, medicine, and education, but her reforms were for the upper class, and ignored the peasants.
- 1774 -Ann Lee introduces the United Society 10 Believers in Christ's Second Coming, of the Shakers, to America.
- 1802 Marie Gresholtz Tussaud (1760-1850) establishes her collection of waxworks in England; she learned the craft while she was in prison during the revolution, and forced to make death masks of guillotine victims.
- 1809 Blessed Elizabeth Ann Bayley Seton founds the Sisters of Charity in Emmitsburg, Maryland. She established a Catholic school in Emmitsburg, beginning parochial education in the United

States.

## Some things they

- 1813 —After overhearing American officers plan to attack a British outpost during the War of 1812, Laura Secord (1775-1868) walks 30 km to warn the British officers in Canada. The Americans were subsequently ambushed by Indians, and surrendered to the Brits.
- 1818 Twenty-year-old British writer Mary Wollstonecroft Shelley writes Frankenstein.
- 1824 Seventeen-year-old Julia Hart of Fredericton writes St. Ursala's Convent, the first work of fiction by a native born Canadian to be published in Canada.
- 1837 Victoria (1819-1901) becomes Queen of England, beginning a 64-year reign.
- 1845 —Clara Josephine Schumann introduces the Piano Concerto of her husband Robert, and tours extensively, popularizing the works of many contemporary composers, including Johannes Brahms.
- 1847 Maria Mitchell discovers a telescopic comet, and in 1848 becomes the first woman elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

1850s-Harriet Tubman smuggles 300 black men and women across the Mason-Dixon line to freedom in Canada on the Underground Railroad. During the Civil War, she served the Union Army as a nurse, scout, and spy, and helped free more than 750 staves.

- 1850 Elizabeth Barrett Browning writes Sonnets from the Portugese.
- 1853 Chloroform is established as an anaesthetic in Britain when Queen Victoria permits its use during the birth of her seventh child.
- 1853 Mary Ann Cary becomes the first black woman to establish and edit a weekly newspaper in North America. She founds The Provincial Freeman in Windsor, Ont.
- 1855 Florence Nightingale introduces hygenic standards into military hospitals during the Crimean War.
- 1861 American poet Julia Ward Howe writes the words to Battle Hymn of the Republic to the tune of John Brown's Body.
- 1864 Sojourner Truth visits Pres. Abraham Lincoln in the White House as one of the best known American abolitionists of her day.
- 1865 Mary Surratt is hanged in Washington for assisting in the assassination of Abraham Lincoln. Her boarding house was used as a meeting place for John Wilkes Booth and the other plotters.
- 1865 American writer Mary Mapes Dodge writes Hans Brinker or The Silver Skates.
- 1871 Smith College, an institution for the higher education of women, is founded in Northhampton, Mass.
- 1873 Mount Saint Vincent Academy is founded by the Sisters of Charity in Halifax.
- 1874 —While vacationing in Bermuda, American Mary Outerbridge watches British officers play tennis, and returns to introduce the game to America.
- 1875 Grace Annie Lockhart is the first woman in Canada to earn a university degree, from Mount Allison University in Sackville, N.B.
- 1875 —Wellesley College is founded in Massachusettes by Mr. and Mrs. Henry Fowle Durant to "offer opportunities for education equal to those usually provided in colleges to young men"
- 1879 Radcliffe College for Women founded in Cambridge, Mass.
- -Belva Lockwood is nominated for President of 1884 the U.S. by the Equal Rights Party; also nominated in 1888.
- 1886 Francis Elize Burnett writes Little Lord Fauntleroy.
- 1889 Eliza Ritchie, Halifax feminist, is the first Canadian woman to secure a doctorate (from Cornell) She was the first woman appointed to a Canadian university's Board of Governors (to Dalhousie) in 1919.
- 1893 Lady Margaret Scott wins the first British golf championship.

## forgot

1893 - The National Council of Women in Canada is founded by Lady Aberdeen. (One of its early accomplishments was the establishment of the Victorian Order of Nurses in 1897.)

Women are enfranchised in New Zealand.

1895 -Beatrice Potter Webb (1858-1943) and husband help establish the London School of Economics in England. In 1913, they began publishing The New Statesman, the weekly of the British Labour Party, a political party they were instrumental in founding.

- 1896 —Catherine Breshkovsky (1844-1934), considered the "grandmother of the Russian revolution", founds the Socialist Revolutionists.
- 1900 Women first compete in the modern Olympic Games.
- 1902 American Mary Anderson invents the windshield wiper.
- 1903 Marie Curie of France is co-winner of the Nobel Prize for Physics for research in uranium; in 1911, she is awarded the Nobel Prize for Chemistry for discovering radium and polonium.
- 1904 American Helen Keller, born without sight, hearing, or speech, graduates from Radcliffe College.
- 1905 Bertha von Suttner of Austria wins the Nobel Prize for Peace for her establishment of Peace congresses in Europe.
- 1907 Clara Zitkin co-founds the International Socialist Women's congress. In 1915, she organizes the first International Women's Conference against the War in Switzerland, and the next year establishes Spartakusbund, a splinter of the Social Democratic Party.
  - American suffragette Harriot Stanton Blatch (1856-1940) forms the Equality League of Self-Supporting women, the first American suffrage group to include working class women.
- 1908 International Woman's Day declared for the first time.
  - Women are enfranchised in Australia.

Mary Baker Eddy founds the Christian Science Monitor.

1909 - Women are admitted to German universities.

1912 - Carrie Matilda Derrick (1862-1941) becomes the first full female professor in Canada. She taught morphological botany at McGill in Montreal, and introduced the teaching of genetics at the university.

- 1915 Edith Cavell, a British nurse, assists 200 Allied soldiers to safety over the Dutch borders. She was arrested by the Germans, and executed by a firing squad, becoming one of the great martyrs of WWI.
- 1916 Women are eligible to become magistrates in Canada (the second country after Australia to remove the restriction).

Margaret Sanger establishes the first birth control clinic, in Brooklyn, N.Y.

1917 - Anne Besant becomes President of the Indian National Congress.

> Women in B.C. and Ontario gain the provincial vote.

-Women in Canada gain the right to vote federal-1918 iy.

Women in Nova Scotia gain the provincial vote.

Rosa Luxemburg (1870-1919), German revolutionary, co-founds the Spartacists, and eventualstorms the party into the Communist Party of Germany.

American Sara Teasdale wins the first Pulitzer Prize for Poetry for Love Songs

In Britain, the Representation of the People Act removes disqualification from voting for married women, women householders, and women university graduates over 30.

1919 - The British Qualification of Women Act states that a woman shall not be disqualified by sex or marriage from being elected to or voting as a member of the Houses of Parliament.

## teach you in history class.

1919 — Women in New Brunswick gain the provincial vote.

Women are enfranchised in Germany.

Viscountess Mary Astor is elected as the first woman Member of Parliament in Britain.

1920 —American women gain the right to vote, and be elected or appointed to government.

Oxford University in England grants degrees to women.

- 1921 —Mary Ellen Smith becomes a Cabinet Minister in the B.C. Liberal government, the first woman cabinet minister in the British Empire.
- 1922 Women in P.E.I. gain the provincial vote.
- 1924 —The Edmonton Grads, a women's basketball team, were named world champions at the Federation Sportive Feminine Internationale in Paris. At their retirement in 1940, they held 108 titles, and had a 93% success rate.
- 1925 —Mount Saint Vincent College is granted degreegiving status, the first independent college for women in the Commonwealth.

Nellie Taylor Ross of Wyoming becomes the first woman governor in U.S.

Ontario-born evangelist Aimee Semple Mc-Pherson organizes the International Church of the Foursquare Gospel, which develops into 740 churches and missions throughout the world.

- 1926 —Bertha Landes (1868-1943) becomes the first woman mayor of an American city, of Seattle, Wash.
- 1928 —*Chatelaine* magazine premiers in Canada, with a circulation of 57,000. The French equivalent, *Châtelaine*, premieres in 1960.

American anthropologist Margaret Mead writes Coming of Age in Samoa.

Amelia Earhart is the first woman to fly across the Atlantic Ocean; nine years later she disappears on a Pacific flight.

- 1930 —Cairine Wilson is appointed the first woman Senator in Canada.
- 1931 —Jane Addams of the U.S. wins the Nobel Prize for Peace as founder of Hull House, the first settlement house in the U.S.
- 1934 Dr. Jessie Gray (1910-1978), Canada's 'first lady of surgery' becomes the first woman gold medallist at U of T's medical school. She goes on to be the first woman to earn a Master of Surgery degree, to become a resident surgeon at Toronto General Hospital, to become a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons, to become a member of the Central Surgical Society of North America, and to be elected to the Science Council of Canada. (She was considered to be one of four top cancer surgeons in North America.)

Evangeline Booth is elected General of the Salvation Army in the U.S.

1938 — American Pearl S. Buck wins the Nobel Prize for Literature.

#### 1939 — Austrian physicist Lise Meltner, assisted by her nephew Otto Frisch, splits the uranium nucleus and she publishes the first paper on nuclear fission.

Dorothea Lange (1895-1965) publishes An American Exodus: A Record of Human Erosion, a collection of her celebrated photographs of victims of the Depression in the U.S.

1940 —Wilhelmina Queen of the Netherlands (1880-1962) issues a protest of German invasion of her country, and becomes a symbol of the Netherlands' resistance movement.

Women in Quebec gain the provincial vote.

- 1941 —In the vote in Congress on participation in WWII after Pearl Harbour, Congresswoman Jeanette Rankin (R-Montana) casts the only dissenting vote. She had voted against declaration of war on Germany in 1918 making her the only House Member to vote against both wars.
- 1942 —Anne Frank begins her diary on her 13th birthday. She continues it through the years spent hiding from the Germans in Amsterdam, and ends it three days before she and the others in the "Secret Annex" were discovered by Nazis. She dies in Bergen-Belsen in 1945.

- 1944 —After she discovers the defect that causes the bluish tinge in blue babies, American Dr. Helen Taussig and surgeon Alfred Blalock develop an operation that enables the blood to bypass the blocked artery.
- 1945 —Gabriela Mistral of Chile wins the Nobel Prize for Literature, the first Latin American to win.
- 1947 —Gerty Cori of the U.S. wins the Nobel Prize for Medicine and Physiology for her enzyme research.
- 1948 The Universal Declaration of Human Rights is adopted by the United Nations. American Eleanor Roosevelt was instrumental in its creation.

1948 —Cambridge University in England grants degrees to women

- 1948 —Congresswoman Margaret Chase Smith is elected to the U.S. Senate, the first woman elected to both Houses of Congress. In 1964 she becomes a presidential nominee at the Republican National Convention, the first such nomination for a woman from a major political party.
- 1950 Nancy Hodges (later appointed Senator) becomes the first woman Speaker of a House in Commonwealth History, in the B.C. legislature.
- 1951 —Charlotte Whitton is elected mayor of Ottawa, the first woman mayor of a Canadian city.
- 1953 —Vijaya Lakshimi Pandit becomes president of United Nations General Assembly.
- 1955 Esther Pauline Friedman Lederer ("Ann Landers") writes her first advice column, for the *Chicago Sun-Times*. About 70 million people read her column every day. (She is the twin sister of Pauline Friedman Phillips ("Dear Abby".)
- 1957 Ellen Fairclough is appointed Secretary of State for Canada, the first woman Federal cabinet minister in the country.

1958 — The Hon. Ellen Fairclough is named acting Prime Minister of Canada, for two days, becoming the first woman in Canadian history to be addressed as "Madame Prime Minister".

- 1960 Sirimavo Bandaranaike is elected Prime Minister of Ceylon, the first woman PM in the world.
- 1962 —American Rachel Carson writes *Silent Spring* questioning the use of chemical pesticides and their effect on the environment; her book aroused international concern for environmental preservation.

American Food and Drug Administration inspector Dr. Frances Kelsey receives the President's Award for Distinguished Federal Civilian Service for her research on the drug thalidomide, and her refusal to allow it for sale into the U.S.

1963 —Maria Goeppert Mayer of the U.S. wins the Nobel Prize for Chemistry for demonstrating the structure of the atomic nucleus.

Russian Valentina Tereshkova becomes the first woman cosmonaut.

American historian Barbara Tuchman wins the first of her two Pulitzer Prizes for General Nonfiction for *The Guns of August*.

1964 —British chemist Dorothy Hodgkin wins the Nobel Prize for Medicine for determining the structure of the vitamin B<sub>12</sub> molecule.

1965 — Folk singer Joan Baez founds the Institute for the Study of Non-Violence in the U.S.

Maureen Tucker becomes the drummer for the rock band The Velvet Underground.

- 1966 Indira Gandhi is elected President of India.
- 1967 The Royal Commission on the Status of Women is established in Canada. Its chair is Florence Bird, the first woman to head a Commission.

Martha Webster lands a 410 lb. blue shark in Rockport, Mass., tying the previous world record.

1969 -Golda Meir becomes Prime Minister of Israel.

1970 —Quebec skier Betsy Olifford becomes the youngest ever world champion, winning the giant slaiom championship in Val Gardena at age 17

Ada Louise Huxtable (The New York Times) wins the first Pulitzer Prize for Journalism in Criticism.

American painter Georgia O'Keefe (1887-) receives the Gold Medal for Art from the American National Institute of Arts and Letters.

- 1971 —Singer/songwriter Carole King releases the album Tapestry, which stays on the charts for over 250 consecutive weeks. With husband Gerry Goffin, she penned more hits than anyone except Lennon & McCartney, including Up On the Roof, Take Good Care of My Baby, The Locomotion, and You've Got a Friend.
- 1973 Tennis player Billie-Jean King defeats Bobby Riggs in the tennis "Battle of the Sexes", 6-4, 6-3, 6-3.

Isabel de Peron (1931-) is elected vicepresident of Argentina, and a year later succeeds her late husband as president, the first woman to head a Latin American government.

- 1974 The RCMP first admit women officers.
- 1975 United Nations International Women's Year.
  - Junko Tabei from Japan becomes the first woman to climb Mt. Everest.
- 1976 —Mairead Corrigan and Betty Williams win the Nobel Prize for Peace for their efforts towards Catholic/Protestant relations in Northern Ireland

The Anglican Church of Canada ordains six women as priests.

- 1977 Dr. Rosalyn Yalow of the U.S. co-winner of Nobel Prize for Medicine for her research in hormones.
- 1978 Naomi Jones of England becomes the first woman to sail around the world alone.
- 1979 —Margaret Thatcher is elected Prime Minister of Great Britain.

Mother Teresa receives the Nobel Prize for Peace for her work with the poor in Calcutta, India.

- 1980 —Jeanne Suave becomes the first woman Speaker of the House of Commons; in 1984, she is appointed Governor General.
- 1981 —Women are first included on the International Olympic Committee.
- 1982 —Madame Justice Bertha Wilson is sworn in as the first woman member of the Supreme Court

Iona Campagnola from B.C. is elected President of the Liberal Party of Canada, the first woman to hold that position.

1983 —American Barbara McClintock wins the Nobel Prize for Medicine or Physiology for her genetic research.

American astronaut Dr. Sally Ride makes a sixday flight in the shuttle Challenger as the first U.S. woman in space.

1984 —Linda Thom of Hamilton wins Canada's first gold medal at the Summer Olympics in Los Angeles, for sport pistol shooting.

> Ontario neurológist Roberta Bondar is selected as an astronaut for the Canada Space Program.

- 1985 —Sister of Charity Carmelita Currie wins the Bishop Crowley Award in Montreal for her work managing a foster home for 19 children over nine years. Other projects of the Sisters of Charity have included a home for battered women in New York City, the Seton Foundation housing project in Cape Breton, and two nutrition offinios in Bani.
- 1986 —Union leader Shirley Carr is president-elect of the Canadian Labour Congress.

After a bitter campaign and election, Corazon Aquino is declared president of the Philippines.



## **Dr. Joyce Kennedy Equal Rites for Catholic Women**

#### by Shelley Murphy

At the start of a typical Catholic mass, organ music fills the air and the congregation stands to welcome the procession of priests and altar servers. Besides religion, the procession has something else in commonthey are all male.

#### Currently

studying her Master of Divinity at the Atlantic School of Theology, Kennedy wants to be a Catholic priest.

"When I was a kid the idea of being a priest was something every good Catholic thought about," says Kennedy. "It seemed like the best thing you could do. But I couldn't."

She says that at age 10 she would practice saying the mass in her home and wanted to serve at the altar. "I didn't realize that I couldn't at that point," she said. "I told my parents that I wanted to serve and mother said, 'Well, you can't'. I said, 'Well, why not?'. I'd memorized all the Latin and could reel it off. I knew I hadn't seen any girls do it, but that didn't mean anything. My mother explained that I couldn't because God had set things up so men were priests."

Kennedy was drawn to the priesthood by the liturgy, mystery and closeness to God. She did not view the idea of being a priest as unconventional. "It was something anybody would be drawn to in a way," she says.

"People told me I had a vocation, but this (a convent) is where I should go," she recalled. So at the age of 19 Kennedy entered a convent, but "never felt called to that kind of life.

"I wanted to be where the action was."

Three years ago Kennedy helped found a Toronto-based organization called the Canadian Catholics for Women's Ordination (CCWO). "It started because . . . since Vatican II in the 1960s a lot of talk surfaced about church structures and about the

tion has held two national conferences.

To date, there are no Canadian Roman Catholic female priests. However, in 1976 the Anglican Church of Canada ordained six women priests. "The fact that Anglican women were ordained in a church that has the same concept of ministry (as Roman Catholic's) . . . is hopeful," says Kennedy. Kennedy adds that the idea of women priests has become a "touchy issue" between ' the two churches.

Kennedy says the Papal visit

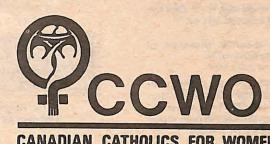


feature

was the end of it. If you went into the church . . . you could have property, become an abbot, and have quite a bit of power because you had money." She feels it was later that women's institutions lost their independence, but today, Kennedy feels the Sisters "have taken things into their own hands a lot

more." She adds there are some Sisters of Charity interested in CCWO.

"The Church is always in need of reforming itself," says Kennedy. "How can it be a leader in the world when it's dragging its feet in a very crucial area.



#### CANADIAN CATHOLICS FOR WOMEN'S ORDINATION

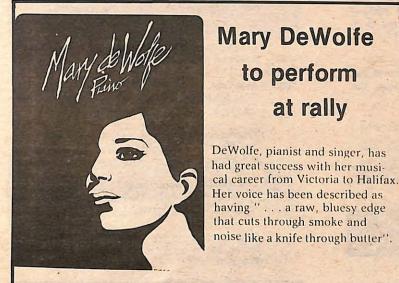
roles of men and women in the church. I think there was an impetus of women who wanted ordination." Kennedy explains that many women had had pastoral experience and felt they also needed the right to perform sacramental rites. "If you're working in a hospital as a Chaplain . . . you're dealing with people, listening and talking to them, and then you have to send for a priest (to perform a rite). The kind of thing that's happening just isn't right." The approximately 200 member organiza-

to perform

at rally

in September 1984, gave CCWO visibility. "The media were looking to use our group as a focus of dissent. That wasn't such a good thing because it looks as if you're an adversary." Kennedy said many CCWO members are well educated professionals that see their focus as an "educational function".

The early women's orders allowed a woman freedom, explains Kennedy. "Once you were married you became subject to your husband and that



laughter from her audiences.

Mount.

### Louise Dulude NAC vice-president guest speaker for rally

Louise Dulude, vice-president of the National Action Committee on the Status of Women, will be the guest speaker for the March 7th Women's Day Rally.

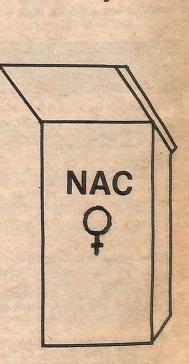
Dulude, an executive member of the NAC since 1982, has been vice-president of the women's organization since 1984. The NAC is the largest women's organization in the country, representing over three million Canadian women.

She is a distinguished researcher and writer on women's issues, and has written ten reports on women, includ-

ing Women and Poverty (for the National Council of Welfare 1979) and Love, Marriage and Money (for the Canadian Advisory Council on the Status of Women 1984).

A former law professor at the University of Ottawa, Dulude was admitted to the Bar of the Province of Quebec in 1971. At present, she is working on a doctoral thesis in the field of human rights.

Women-Together Today is the theme of the 1986 Rally. The Rally will be held on Fri., March 7 at 12:15 in Seton Aud. Α.



Women's Day Rally at the Mount on Fri., Mar. 7 at 12:15.

DeWolfe performs jazz, blues, and R&B with equal fervour and

from a definite women's perspective. She draws her high energy and

Singer Mary DeWolfe will be providing the entertainment for the

The Rally is one of the events planned for Women's Week at the

## feature

## Dr. Thelma McCormack Bringing women's perspective to education

#### by Natalie Fisher

"I think that women's experiences have been largely invisible," says Thelma McCormack, chair of Women's Studies at the Mount.

Thelma McCormack came to the Mount in January for a oneyear "distinguished chair" of women's studies. She teaches one class, Women and Public Policy from her apartment, the Presidential Suite in Evaristus. "There are eight students and it's very relaxed and very pleasant," McCormack said. "The eight are different ages, but they've all had different experiences in life. It's fascinating to see how women of different ages really do relate to each other."

McCormack sees Women's Studies as very important to education. "We hold up half the sky," she said. "Women's experiences have been largely invisible, and very often we are trying to meet men's standards. A good example is in the world of politics, where people say, 'Oh, women are apolitical', or 'they're not political' because they have been looking at members of Parliament. But if you define political in a broader sense, of pressure groups to get stop signs, and signing petitions to deal with certain kinds of social legislation, there's nothing apolitical about women. It's the definition of political that's often the typically male definition of running for office, going to Ottawa, and being involved in that kind of formal politics."

McCormack believes there's a lot of new knowledge that will be generated by Women's Studies programs, training women who are going into the educational, health, and political systems to bring a new perspective. "I think that we have done a very good job so far of making more teachers aware of sexist stereotypes in textbooks," she said, "but there's still a long way to go. You still see Janc and Mother in the kitchen and Bobby and Dad washing the car, in children's books. Whereas, Jane may be washing the car and Bobby may be drying the dishes."

"There's no longer any one single family pattern. We now have multiple family patterns; the nuclear family, the single parent, the remarried family. We're beginning to learn how to live with this. And these different families have different problems and different joys. I think the women's program is going to train a lot of women to help out in some of these transitions.''

In McCormack's opinion the Feminist Movement and the Women's Movement are not the same, but they overlap. "The women's movement is interested in reform but it's not very radical. They want to stop wife battering, they want certain kinds of protection for women from this, but they tend to be women who seek these things as 'reform within the system'. They're not rocking the boat too much, but they're very important."

The Feminist Movement has a more radical apprach. "It assumes we live in a patriarchal society, which means that men have authority, men have privilege, men have status. Given that inequality, we need a more radical kind of change that will give women more control over their own destinies." McCormack says they very often compare themselves to colonies. "Just as colonial countries have had to find themselves and get rid of colonial leaders, this is what liberation really means. It's a more thorough and more structural kind of change. And that's feminism.''

With all the attention the feminist movement has gotten in past years, it runs the risk of people growing tired of the same grievances. "I think there is a danger that women who have been out there pushing will become too aggressive, and antagonize people. And I worry about it antagonizing younger women. And that's not a good idea. It seems to me that we're always telling them that the world isn't so good. And a lot of young women are looking forward to happy marriages, 2.3 children, and nothing's ever going to happen that will be bad.'

"Men are going to be antagonized no matter what we do! But this is because their privilege is being threatened. And it's an extraordinary man who can take that graciously. Men have a great deal to benefit from the women's movement. But they don't see it; they see the short run as very threatening to their power, their manhood, and their jobs," McCormack says. But McCormack believes men are finding it rewarding to be able to express their emotions more spontaneously. "A lot more men are finding equalitarian marriages a lot nicer than the old ones where they were supposed to have so much responsibility and so much authority."

She sees the next 10 years as being much the same for women as they are now. "I see women hanging on to the gains they've made, unless the economy takes a big upturn. We have a Conservative Government which is committed to women, but that commitment is not overly strong. A bad economy means that women are going to get shoved out of the labour force again. And you'll have all this idealization of domesticity again. There would be cutbacks on daycare when it should be increasing. In the short run, we may have some problems hanging on to what we have."

But the future doesn't seem so grim. "In the long run I see this generation as saying we're not giving up those gains. We may not all define liberation in quite the same way. But liberation is a personal dignity, and we're not going to go back to the kind of dependency that our mothers and grandmothers had."

Halifax women's week dates				
Wed., Mar. 5, 7:30 p.m.— Women's Special Nutritional Needs. Diet and osteoporosis, cancer, menopause and pre- menstrual syndrome. Halifax Main Branch Library. Call 421- 7673.	Fri., Mar. 7, 12:05 p.m. – The Human Costs of the Housing Crisis. A booklet of case histo- ries will be presented at Prov- ince House by the MUMS (Mothers United for Metro Shel- ter). Call 435-1567.	8 p.mConcert featuring Arlene Mantle and Four the Moment, followed by Dance YWCA, 1239 Barrington St. Ad- mission \$5 waged, \$3 unwaged. Advance tickets: Red Herring Coop Books	4:30 p.m. – Films: "The Wil- mar 8". Eight bank workers ini- tiate the first bank strike in Min- nesota (1981, 55 min.) "The Treadmill": an examination of the exploitive system of women doing piece work at home (1985, 43 min.) Bell Auditorium, N.S.	ional Wom n's Dance
Thurs., Mar. 6, 12:05 p.m.– Film: "South Africa Belongs to Us". Women in South Africa, featuring an interview with Winnie Mandela. (1980, 35 min.) Deveric, 1649 Barrington St.	2:30 p.m. After Graduation: The Reality of Women's Em- ployment. Speakers and discus- sion, sponsored by Dal Wom- en's Alternative, room 100, Dal- housie SUB, University Ave. Call 425-1209	Sat., Mar. 8, 1-3 p.m.–Rally and Parade. Rally and march for shelter, health and employ- ment. Everyone welcome. Bring your banners! Victoria Park, Spring Garden Rd./South Park St.	For information on subsidized child care call 423-4841. A female town crier will bel- low women's messages at the women's rally and parade and make daily announcements in downtown Halifax throughout the week.	
7 p.m. Women and Techno- logical Change. A film, three speakers, discussion. Labour Temple, 3700 Kempt Road. Call 455-4419.	Death of Freida Kahlo". The story of this Mexican artist and activist (1976, 40 min.) Bell Au- ditorium, N.S. College of Art & Design, 5163 Duke St.	3-5 p.m.—Gallery Reception: "Second Sex, Third Sex". A mixed media installation by Pam Pike. Anna Leonowens Gallery, 1891 Granville St.	Posters \$2, buttons \$1, avail- able at Red Herring Coop Books, 1558 Argyle St., Halifax.	

Page 9, the Picaro, Wednesday, March 5, 1986

# Bryony House provides a home for battered women

#### by Martha McGinn

"... We have found that wife battering is not a matter of slaps and flying crockery. Battered women are choked, kicked, bitten, punched, subjected to sexual assault, threatened and assailed with weapons. Their assailants are not simply men who have had a bad day, or drink and become temporarily belligerent: they are men who, for whatever reason, behave violently towards the women they live with . . . We have been given good reason to believe that every year in Canada one-tenth of the women who live with men as a couple, are battered. Society should not expect or tolerate such behavior.

-excerpt from the "Report on Violence in the Family" by the Standing Committee on Health Welfare and Social Affairs, House of Commons, Canada, 1982

The Nova Scotia Advisory Council on the Status of Women lists numerous reasons women give for not doing anything about being beaten: they are afraid that more violence will result; they are reluctant to leave the man because he is their only source of income; they think that the man will change; they feel guilty, or they just do not know where to turn, what to do.

Halifax's Bryony House, opened in 1978, was the first shelter in Nova Scotia for battered women and their children. Norma Profitt, Director of Bryony House, says that since 1978 the number of women seeking shelter there has increased steadily.

In 1985, 232 battered women and 273 children used its facilities, the majority of them coming from the Halifax-Dartmouth metro area and Halifax County. Today there are also shelters for battered women in Sydney, New Glasgow, Yarmouth and Kentville, with the possibility of a sixth shelter opening soon in Bridgewater.

Bryony House, a member of the Halifax Transition House Association, provides basic food and shelter for its residents for up to a period of six weeks. However, the average length of stay is two weeks. Upon leaving Bryony, some women return to their home situations, while others decide to try setting up a new

home-on their own or perhaps with another woman. A small percentage of ex-residents may choose to apply for one of the 13 apartment units available through W. Williams Non-Profit Housing Association. These units are for the specific use of Bryony House women, and their children, for a maximum period of one year. Although rent here is not cheap, women benefit from realizing they are not alone in their abusive situations. Neighbors use this to create the necessary support system, both practical-for instance, cooperative baby-sitting-and emotional.

Seven Bryony House staff are transition house workers. They counsel the women residents and design and conduct residence meetings and education programs. Counselling is done on a one-to-one basis. It may focus on giving general legal information such as "peace bonds", which are a form of protection through the Family Courts for the woman and her children. Emotional-support counselling is also given.

Monday night is "Group Counselling" at Bryony. The

women share and channel their immediate feelings and experiences. Tuesday evening offers an "Education Program". Discussions are geared towards subjects such as myths about battered wives; why men batter; the historical roots of wife battering and the ways in which it has been perpetuated by society; options for women (for example, legal protection, day care, starting out on your own); films and husbands counselling. On Wednesday night, a woman volun-teer lawyer talks on legal issues or gives a specific presentation on legal alternatives for battered women such as divorce or separation, child custody issues, maintenance, access, property and court appearances. Profitt says there is a roster of such community women lawyers.

And what of the children staying at Bryony House? Two fulltime child-care workers (graduates of the Mount) conduct a daily, professional child-care program which involves creative activities centered around the children's needs. Profitt stresses the program is **not** just a baby-sitting one.

Bryony House has a volunteer

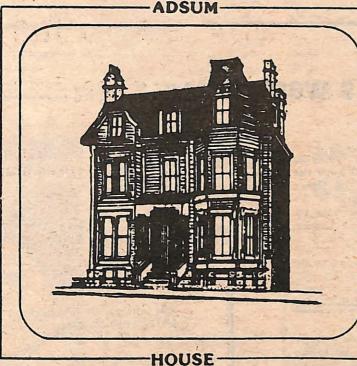
Michae

Board of Directors and committee membership, and volunteers are often ex-residents. Inexperienced volunteers, no matter how willing, are not considered suitable to deal with battered women. Profitt says she receives generous offers from local women to counsel. All thirteen staff interact directly with the women and children.

feature

Profitt feels society's attitudes to wife battering is that "these women are different . . . they come from weird relationships . they are lower-class". The fact is that battered women come from all walks of life; they are ordinary women. Similar elements can be found in relationships of abuse as in relationships of non-abuse. By ignoring these similarities, society distances itself from the battered woman. All attitudes, says Profitt, are related to the way in which women and men are socialized to interact. Wife battering is connected to our social structure-it is not just an isolated incident.





Adsum's Annual Open House Thurs., March 6 2-4 p.m. Adsum House, 2421 Brunswick St., Halifax

Record and Book Sale March 20-22 Scotia Square Donations of books and records can be left at Adsum House, -HUUSE-

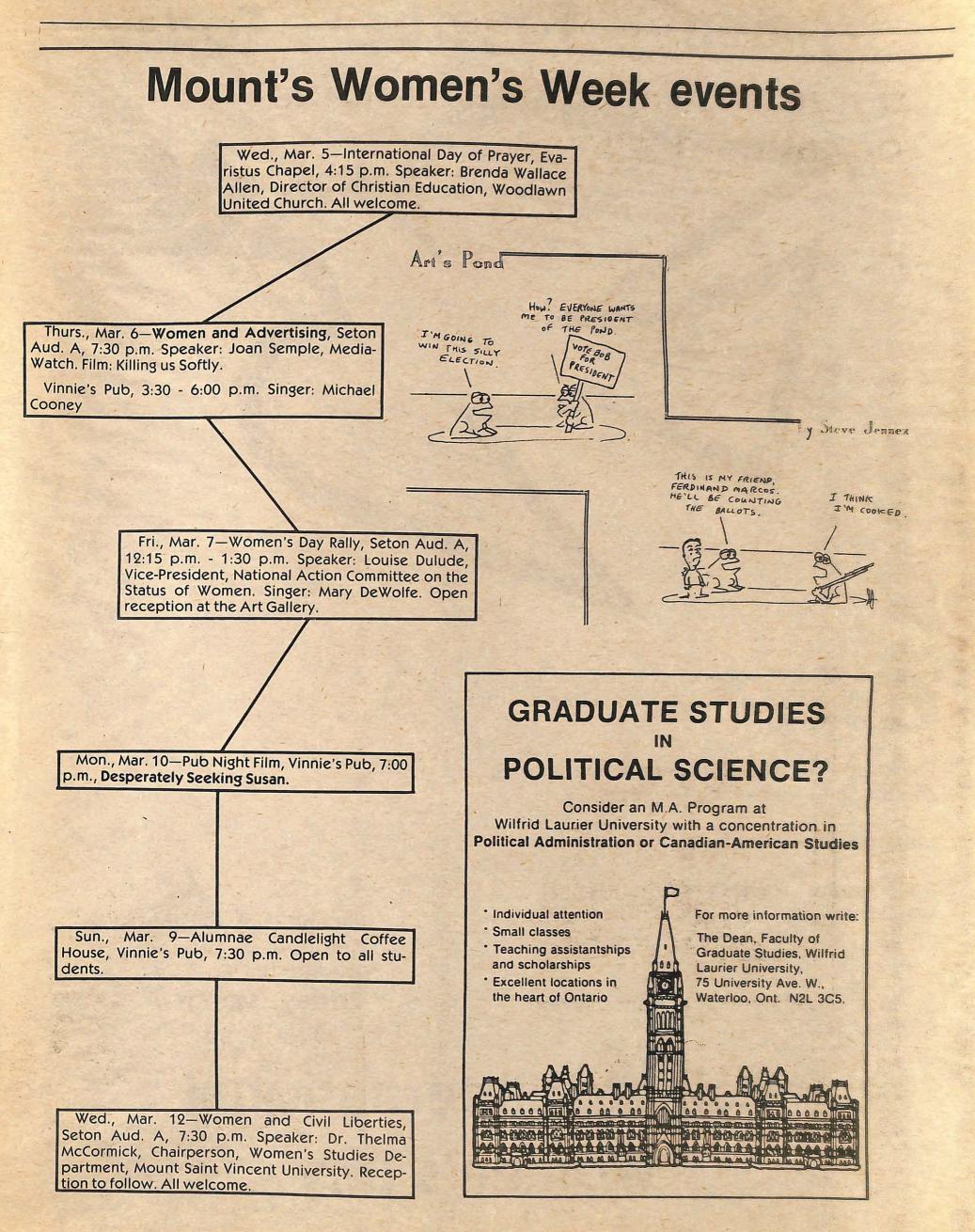
Annual Meeting Tues., March 18 7:30 p.m. St. Reter's Parish Centre, Maple

St., Dartmouth The Association for Women's

Residential Facilities will hold its annual meeting and election of officers as noted above. This meeting is open to all members of the Association and interested persons.

Adsum House is an emergency shelter for homeless women operated by the Association for Women's Residential Facilities, and is funded by per diem fees, grants from municipal, provincial and federal agencies, and donations from individuals and groups.

ooney "Few singers can convey the sheer fun of singing and still under-line his singing with a strong sense of conviction as skillfully..." The chin York Times -Vinnie's Pub, Mount St. Vincent University ~ Thursday, March 6 3:30-6:00 pm.





Together

Featuring: Guest Speaker Louise Dulude, Vice-President, National Action Committee on the Status of Women

Deborah Poff, Women's Studies Department, Mount Saint Vincent University

Singer: Mary DeWolfe

Rose Adams, Town Crier, International Women's Week

Sponsored by the Mount Saint Vincent Student Union Mount Saint Vincent University Seton Academic Centre Auditorium C Friday, March 7 from 12:15 to 2 p.m.

Today

## Rally for International Women's Day