

Report on the Trail Status of Women

The Trail Status of Women have met twice this season. Our first meeting was rather unproductive from an official point of view. Everyone was so glad to get together again, and had so many tales of horror and humour to tell that the meeting kept degenerating into riotous conversation and the chairwoman scrapped the agenda for a wine bottle.

I'm not fond of meetings, though I go to a great many of them. Invariably I catch myself hoping that my child will come down with pneumonia, my husband break his leg, the car explode or the dog get lost so I will have a good last-minute excuse to cop-out. But I never have such fantasies prior to our Women's Meetings, and most of our membership seem to turn out with the same enthusiasm.

Our second meeting was a "real" one and the nonsense was kept to a minimum, at least half the time. We decided to sponsor a member to take a video course at Selkirk and hope to utilize our local T.V. channel to do a program at some future date. Members signed up to attend the Kelowna Women's Conference. Our speakers bureau was organized and we now have about 6 prepared talks to give to the community. (ed. note: more on that later..)

Some members are working on a "Put Down" committee. They are designing a series of skits to illustrate typical conversational situations in which the audience is asked to supply pro-women responses. The committee is headed by Madeline.

Two members announced their candidacy in local elections and the group offered their full support. Jennifer Burgess is running for Alderwoman in Rossland and Shirley Hamilton is standing for Alderwoman in Trail...

We are pleased to welcome four new members to our group. (I worry sometimes if new members feel confused or left out. I guess this is a problem all close-knit groups must guard against and I hope we will be careful not to seem exclusive.)

Jennifer Burgess reported on the Day Care situation. About 30 children are now registered but only 10 of these are full-time. The big worry now is to get enrollment up before funds run out.

Susan Charlton gave a fine report on the Council on the Status of Women to which she has been appointed. I finally got straight on what she is doing and what is happening federally, and would suggest that other groups ask her to speak to them on this topic. She then got us all organized to write a whole bunch of letters on the Lavell case.

Ardith Roscie gave a report on the book Our Bodies - Our Selves, which is reported on elsewhere in this issue. I like the idea of having a talk on movement literature at each meeting. Those that read get steered to good stuff and those that don't get exposed verbally to what's happening in the Movement literature. But perhaps my preference is an English Teacher's prejudice.

Suddenly it was ten o'clock, so we didn't get around to a discussion of what the Trail group wants out of the coming year. This will definitely be on next month's agenda, so please give it some serious thought. Next meeting November 6 at 7:30 in the Trail Junior Secondary School Library.