

Trail Day Care Centre opens September 15!

After a summer of hard, if sporadic, work on the part of most board members and many helpful Trailites the centre at L.J. Morrish in East Trail is nearly ready to go. An excellent staff has been hired, funds collected, equipment gathered and children solicited.

The provincial government came through with a \$2500 grant which goes to pay for major alterations to the two classrooms which were very cooperatively turned over to us by the Trail School Board. Essential equipment is also being purchased out of these monies. The City of Trail gave \$500 and Warfield Council donated another \$100. A fund raising campaign asking service clubs and organizations for money was not particularly successful, with the exception of the B.C. Teachers Association of Trail who gave \$200. We found that summer is a bad time to carry on any major project in the community, and many "rich" organizations are already committed to other good causes.

A raffle is also being held to raise additional funds to carry us over initial financial commitments, such as salaries. Service groups were asked to help the board sell these tickets. Although the centre is planned to be self-supporting eventually, initial low enrolment and slow government rebates make it essential that the board have a couple of thousand dollars on hand to see us through the first few months.

Ms. Jean Lowe of Kaslo, who has spent years in a wide variety of day care situations, was hired as our head supervisor. Dorothy Parkinson from the Selkirk Day Care training program, and Karen Anderson, who has been working in day care in Vancouver, will be her full-time assistants. Wendy Devlin as an arts and crafts specialist, and Yvonne Moore, both of Trail, will be part-time staff members.

Ms. Jo Hobart spent a good deal of her summer organizing equipment for the centre. Under her direction, the construction, repair, collection, and solicitation of hundreds of necessary items was somehow managed. For a while we held evening get-togethers to build and paint furniture in Jo's front yard. Many private citizens and merchants who have no obvious interest in Day Care proved very generous and helpful to us, and made us feel good when times got bad, about how decent people can be. Books, records and toys, especially tricycles and motor type toys are still needed so take a look around your basement. A large rug is also needed.

In fact, we seem at the moment to have got it all together except for the children! Twelve full-time applicants have registered with the centre but our capacity is 25, and that's what the budget is based on. The staff and board are also committed to the idea of taking children on a part-time basis, as long as the enrolment situation permits. Many people seem to feel that day care is solely for the working mother. But we know that all mothers need a bit of a break. Children from these "stable" homes (tho the middle class Mom does get the screaming meanies once a week) provide a good balance to the child in full-time care. And all children can profit from the companionship, play experiences, creative opportunities and peer group learning that Day Care provides. So please pass the word along, that day care is not just for the use of the full-time working mother.

For information, application, donations, etc., you may write to Trail Day Care Society, Box 1334, Rossland. Or phone Virginia Clover 364-2779.

REPORT ON TRAIL STATUS OF WOMEN

The Trail Status of Women has been quiescent (that is officially) over the summer. A small group submitted a brief to the Commission studying post secondary education in the Kootenays but we did not speak in person before the commissioners.

Mid-summer an emergency arose in that the Day Care Society was madly trying to find groups to sell fund-raising raffle tickets. Lilly Popoff and Diane Edmonson took charge of this task and contacted the membership whose response was terrific. Status of Women ticket sales were the highest of all groups which participated. Getting rid of raffle tickets in a hot August in a deserted Trail is no easy task and these women deserve a big thanks.

The raffle ticket stint gave me two thoughts to ponder. Why is it that members were not nearly as likely as everyone else in service clubs

to be at "the lake" for the summer? What is it about Status of Women that makes us so good at soliciting? Anyway, thanks to all who bought and sold.

The first meeting of the Trail group will be around Sept.15.
Officers are:

Virginia Clover (President)
1841 5th St, Trail
364-2779

and

Diane Edmonson (Vice-Pres.)
%Trail School Board Office

Trisha Rasku of Rossland is secretary and Susan Denmarsh of Rossland is treasurer.

The Changing World of Women, an adult education class, will be offered in Trail beginning the end of September. The class will meet from 10 a.m. till 11:30 in a local church, and a baby sitting service will be provided. Using the text The La ce Ghetto (see book review) the class will be basically a discussion of the issues raised by the contemporary women's movement. The class can be both a formal explanation of ideas pertaining to women and a consciousness-raising process - depending on the wishes of the group. Companionship and intellectual stimulation rather than ideology will be given priority. So any woman longing to get away from the kids and talk and listen at an adult level for an hour a week is welcome, and she needn't fear becoming a woman's libber.....Know anyone interested? Contact Virginia Clover, instructor, 364-2779 or Diane Edmonson, director of adult education, Trail School Board

ANNOUNCING.....

Trail now has a Food Co-op going. For details phone

OPEN at the Trail Crisis Centre 368-9114

Book Review by Virginia Clover

The Lace Ghetto by Maxine Nunes and Deanna White and published by the New Press, Toronto, is now out in paper back! I haven't seen the paper back edition, and at \$8 the original book was surely worth its price. If one were to buy only one book on the Women's Movement, I would recommend this book over the dozens I have read. It briefly outlines the entire field of concerns pertaining to women, motherhood, economics etc.

The narrative is often taken from consciousness-raising sessions or interviews with women. But the main impact of this publication lies in its hundreds of illustrations and photographs, each of which are truly worth 1000 words. A conversation piece which everyone who enters your home will pick up and glance through, The Lace Ghetto is the best way to explain what women are all about (if you are not already too tired of arguing!) The total Canadian content is also a blessing to those who feel that the movement is inundated from the south.

To quote from the authors' postscript to their book:

"The greatest hope we have for this book is that it will help bridge the gap between women and the women's movement, and contribute to removing the fallacious distinctions that segregate "Women's Libbers" from other women. While reading the book, we hope you experienced at least once a flash of recognition, a strong sense of identification with women speaking in these pages.....We wanted the book to have the effect of a low key consciousness-raising meeting. We wanted you to feel that you'd taken part in what we found to be the most meaningful aspect of belonging to the movement; the sharing of those experiences and emotions that once seemed unhappily your own problem (and worse, your own fault, resulting from your own weakness) and the discovery of the common threads that link us all in greater understanding - in sisterhood."