

BAIN NEWS



JUNE 1980

YOURS, MINE, OURS.....

This is OUR newsletter. It is the major tool for communicating with your fellow co-ops, here at Bain, and also the other co-ops in Toronto, even Canada who are on our mailing list.

We welcome all submissions and responses to articles that appear here.

Submissions can be dropped off at the Office, addressed to the Newsletter Committee.

THE MAY BAIN NEWS was put out by the following culprits:

Nik Habermel, Peter Tabuns, Charlotte Morgan, Gail Kenney, Bev Farrell, Lynn Reist, Carol Milon, Susan Barsel, Mike Carr, and a cast of millions.

(Sorry Penney, we've had to hold your article for the next issue.)

MAINTENANCE EMERGENCY / ON CALL

The Co-op has an emergency pager system for maintenance emergencies which occur during non-office hours.

Please realize that our staff have a right to their non-working time just like the rest of us, and do not use this pager unless you absolutely have to.

The Emergency Number to call is 483-1003

Ask for Pager #3322, and leave the following information:

- your name
- your phone number
- your unit number
- where you are calling from
- a brief description of the problem

You will be called back by the staff person who is on call.

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New and Noteworthy this month:

We would like to welcome the following folks to our midst:

Nik Habermel & Jayne Walker, both of whom have already managed to get themselves elected to Council, have moved into 26 the Maples.

At 29 the Lindens, Oliver and Para Watts.

And in 28 the Oaks, Simon Liston has joined us.



Annual Meeting Report

It looked for a while as if there'd be no Annual Meeting for lack of quorum, but by 8:15 the required number of members (50) had arrived and the business of the meeting got underway. A total of 60 people eventually attended and we had to scramble to find adequate seating.

Susan McNamara presented the Audited Financial Statement which confirmed that for the first time in our young history we managed to produce a surplus of about \$7,000! Dan Foster and Jack Cooper, our auditors in trying to explain some of the finer aspects of the art of accounting pointed out that standard accounting procedures had been developed for profit making enterprises, and that only now were procedures developing for non-profit co-ops which would more accurately reflect our needs.

The firm of Cooper, Millson and company were approved as our Auditors again for this year. (This 'formality' is required by the Co-op Corporations Act and our By-laws, so that if we are not satisfied with the job done by our auditors we can replace them with another firm in the coming year.) The Annual Report, prepared by the various committees in the Co-op, was also presented. Copies of the Annual Report are available from the Office.

Nominations to and elections to Residents' Council then proceeded: 16 people came forward to offer their services, and 13 (!?!) were elected due to a three-way tie for last place. At its first meeting, Council will have to decide what to do about this highly unusual problem. After a year where we had experienced a chronic shortage of people willing to sit on Council, we now have too many -- hopefully this is an indication of a trend toward greater interest and involvement at Bain.

Here are the folks we elected, followed by those who ran unsuccessfully and who will be approached should we again find ourselves in a position of needing to fill vacancies on Council:

Karen Richardson
Sue McNamara
Chris Hurst
Angela Edwards
Fred Weinstein
Miriam Wohl
Jayne Walker
Nik Habermel

Paul Pellettier
Linda Forsythe
Jane Maxwell
Elizabeth Rainsberry
Joe Sprock

Susan Robinson
Mimi Shulman
Barb Fraser

Eight of the elected are new to Council, and we look forward to their input and fresh ideas, and congratulate them and the "old hands" on their victory. We also thank the outgoing members who served last year.

Mike Carr presented a motion that Bain send a delegation to the June 7th anti-nuclear demonstration at Darlington, which was approved. Hope to see a large turnout of Bainians, larger at least than last year when we had a respectable contingent.

Doug MacDonald reported on the decision of the Hiring Committee, recommending the hiring of Carol Milon to replace Deborah Wolfe as Rent Supplement Co-ordinator. Deborah is leaving after performing the job for 3 years.

Bruce Woodrow, from the Co-operative Housing Federation of Toronto, briefly described some of the services available to members, and responded to questions from the floor.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30, in the midst of a heated debate over the legality of electing more than the requisite number of Directors, by passing a motion to table the issue for Council to report back on next month.

getting rid of Unwanted Guests.....

Spring is once again here and it incites in us a desire to perform that ancient ritual -- spring cleaning. For those of us who have been plagued by various pests over the year, now is the time to eliminate them.

With the number of felines present in the Co-op, our mouse population should be non-existent. However....! If you are the owner of a well-fed cat that runs away at the sight of a mouse, there are other methods of de-mousing. Traps are inexpensive and available at most hardware outlets (see George). Bait the traps with any food tidbit (mice don't really prefer cheese), set them in out of the way locations and wait. Check the traps daily. When the trap has been sprung, you can dispose of the mouse and re-use the trap or discard both. Since the idea of emptying mouse traps does not appeal to all, poisons are equally effective and can be obtained at the Office. Warfarin causes the mouse to dehydrate and die, removing the possibility of a decaying smell. Place small amounts in containers and, like traps, put behind refrigerators and stoves, under sinks and radiators, etc. While not usually fatal if digested by children and pets, this poison can induce severe cramps and vomiting. It is advisable to ensure only the mice can reach it.

If you have ever been invaded by any of the insect world, namely cockroaches, spiders and ants, you know they are resilient and determined creatures. If it is a truly bad infestation, then fill out a Work Order at the Office to have your apartment sprayed. Particularly with roaches, you will be encouraged to talk to your neighbours to get the whole building sprayed, or those of your neighbours who didn't have the little darlings before will likely find these unwelcome visitors seeking friendlier homes at being evicted from your apartment.

Some preparation is involved before a unit is sprayed. Cupboards must be emptied and open food put under wraps or in the fridge. Also, small children and pets must be kept out of the apartment for three or four hours afterwards. This is however the most reliable and effective way of dealing with roaches. If you are bothered by only the occasional pest, the Office will supply you with an organic fossil flower powder which works well on most common household bugs, and is entirely safe around children and pets.

Ants are easy to get rid of. Simply trace their movements back to the nest and pour boiling water directly on it.

After you have been successful in evicting these unwanted guests, a few preventive measures can be taken to stop them from returning.

Look for holes that allow mice access and stuff them with steel wool. Its not very easy or pleasant to gnaw through. You could also try coaching your cat in the art of mousing, although you'll probably catch more than he will if he's decided that it's really not his bag.

Insects should be eliminated before they multiply. After having an apartment sprayed, be on guard against them and use the fossil powder accordingly.

By following these few simple steps you should be able to enjoy a pest-free home.

- Bev Farrell
88 Bain Ave.

Member Involvement Committee: New Member Canvas Report

Of the 10 new Co-op households canvassed in the last round, four were active participants in the Co-op, involved in yard work, the food co-op or the newsletter. There were a number of reasons offered by those who are not yet involved, shiftwork and childcare difficulties for example. Only one person expressed no interest in becoming involved.

When people were asked if the Co-op was living up to expectations- the answer was, in general, "yes". There were some problems mentioned, however, like the untidy state of some of the courtyards, leaking basements, inadequate play areas for children and the need for more information about time and location of committee meetings. (If you're interested in attending a committee meeting but are not sure where or when it meets, or just want more info, contact the co-ordinator, as listed on the calendar at the back of this newsletter.

Only two of the households canvassed feel that they have been able to meet their neighbors. Those that have not, blame it on the weather. Perhaps when things warm up, we'll get to know each other, but better still, getting active in the work of the Co-op is the best and quickest way to get together.

Most people have attended General Meetings and only one has decided never to do it again. Most felt they were useful and interesting. One elderly household thought they ended too late.

As a result of this canvas, a couple of things have been undertaken on the basis of people's responses. We are compiling a list of babysitters for Co-op members, we're looking at the timing of the newsletter so that people get information about meetings sooner and we're contacting people who expressed interest in becoming involved. The Membership Involvement Committee wishes to thank all of you who helped us with this round.

* * * * *

An important project shouldered by the Member Involvement Committee this month is the organization of a new Reception Committee to work closely with the Membership Committee. Duties of this group are designed to make

sure that moving to Bain is a positive experience for new members. This means making sure the apartments are in good shape for new residents and that we can provide any assistance they might need on moving day and in the weeks that follow as they become adjusted to the neighborhood.

FOLLOW-UPS

Following up on last month's item about On Call Procedures, the following item is reprinted from Insight, the newsletter of Sarcee Meadows Co-op in Calgary.

Report from the Annual Meeting of February 20, 1980:

#8. Motions presented in the Annual Report achieved the following results:

- To control the number of maintenance "Nuisance Calls" the following motion was accepted.

"That members be charged a flat fee for maintenance calls resulting from member neglect or in cases where pre-arranged access is not provided, said fee to be reviewed annually by the Board of Directors and levied at the discretion of the Co-ordinator. Types of calls to include (but not limited to) the following:

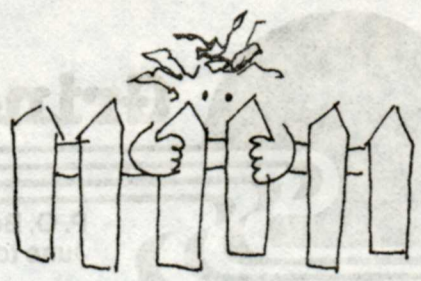
<u>Work Order</u>	<u>Reason</u>
"Taps spraying"	Washers need replacing.
"Lights won't work"	Bulbs need replacing.



"HEY, JOE.... CALL THE MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE! THIS PLACE IS A MESS."

NEAR

YE...



"Don't fence me in" certainly didn't apply to us over the last few weeks. Marvelous progress was made by staff and member volunteers in getting some of the worst old tattered fence down, and some new vinyl-coated chain link up. Special thanks to all the people who made the effort to get out and help out. Who said it couldn't be done?

BAIN BRIEFS:

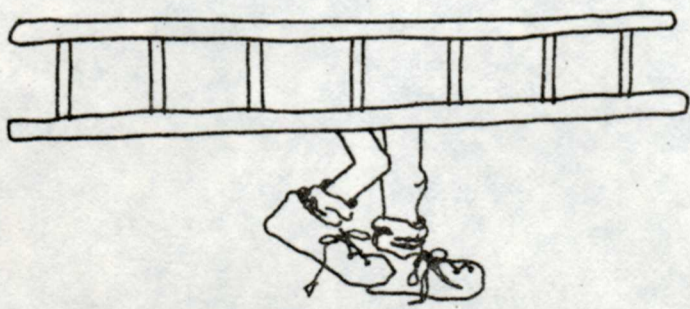
Would the member who "borrowed" my 100' tape measure from the fencing work on April 19th please return it to the Office. - Peter Holland

Some people seem very reluctant to return borrowed step ladders, drop sheets, staple guns, etc. Be aware that the co-op has to purchase new ones to replace the one left sitting idle in your porch or basement. This extra cost shows up in everyone's rent, as well as inconveniencing other members and staff who have to do without this equipment. So please..... return borrowed tools and equipment promptly, and then maybe, just maybe, it'll be there next time you need it.

WARNING... BACK PORCHES MAY BE HAZARDOUS TO YOUR HEALTH

Many of the back porches, especially the lower ones, are rotting. These porches were poorly installed before Bain was a Co-op and our efforts at staining them has not prevented them from deteriorating. Recently, one of our members went right through her porch floor. Please check the floor boards and fill out a Work Order if any danger exists.

Congratulations to Bev Reilly, 23 the Aberdeens, and Gord Keith, 21 the Aberdeens, for tearing up some ugly old asphalt where lawn used to be... and now will be again. The Co-op will be renting a disposal bin in May so other members wishing to beautify their area can borrow a pick axe from the Office and kill some asphalt.



To Freshen Stale Bread:

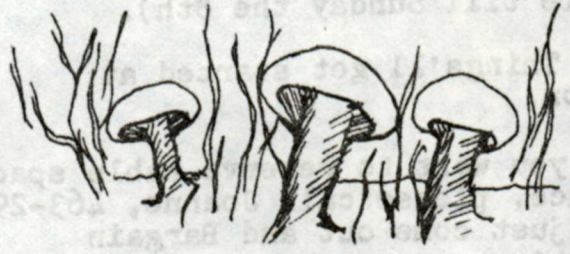
This works with all sorts of bread. from pumpernickel to pita. You'll need a mister such as you'd use on house plants (make sure nothing but water has ever been used in it). Spray sliced bread on each side, then pop it in the toaster just long enough to turn the water to steam -- your bread will be like fresh-baked!

And now that you have a lovely fresh slice of bread in front of you, you might like to try this sandwich. It tastes as good as Mushrooms Stroganoff, so I call it

Stroganoff Sandwich

Spread your bread with herbed cream cheese (the Food Co-op sells it). Top the cheese with slices of really fresh raw mushrooms. Add a sprinkle of salt & pepper, garnish with a little chopped parsley, and serve.

- submitted by
Joyce Allen,
5 the Pines.





Grindstone Co-operative Ltd.

P. O. Box 564, Station "P", Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5S 2T1
June to Sept. Write Grindstone Island, Portland, Ontario, Canada KOG 1V0

The Grindstone Island Centre is a non-profit, charitable organization which is involved in social concerns education. The following is a listing of their Summer '80 programs, at Big Rideau Lake (half-way between Ottawa and Kingston):

Music & Social Change
(June 27 - July 11)

Alternative Children's Camps
(July 6 - 18) -- This may be of special interest to Co-op parents. If so you may view their Camp Program literature in the Office.

Genetic Engineering & Ethics
(July 18 - 21)

Futures Dialogue
(July 27 - Aug. 1)

Media & Working People
(Aug. 1 - 4)

Arms vs. Development
(Aug. 8 - 10)

Canadian-U.S. Safe Energy
Conference (Aug. 29 - Sept. 1)

There are still some week-ends and mid-week periods at Grindstone which are available for bookings.

For more information, please contact Larry Gordon, Grindstone Co-op, P.O. Box 564, Stn. "P", Toronto, M5S 2T1, or call (416) 923-4215 or (416) 533-7405



SPRING yard sale



If you want to join in at selling all those discards of yours, the sale will be held on June 7th (if it rains on Saturday, we'll postpone the sale till Sunday the 8th).

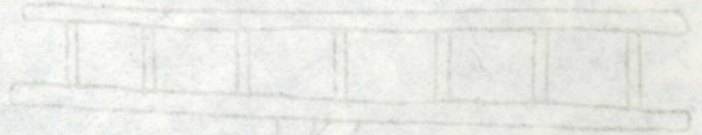
Things'll get started at noon.

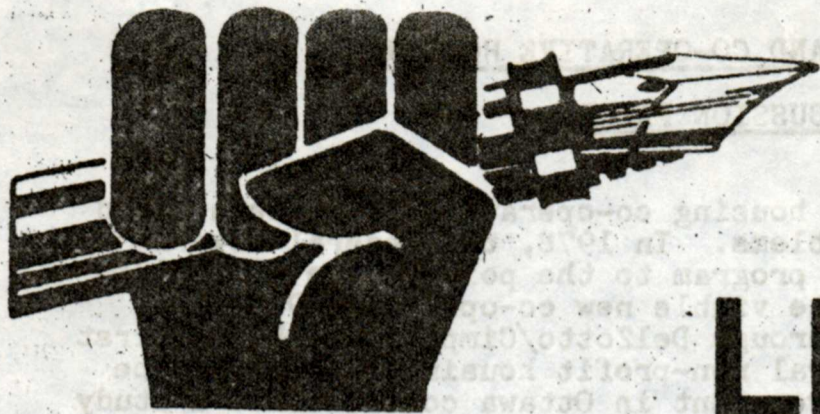
If you want to reserve table space, please call Joanne, 463-2973, or just come out and Bargain Hunt!



Guard Your Garden....Safely!

Please do not put mothballs in your garden to ward off pets. They are very poisonous to children and recently one of our youngsters ate a mothball and had to have her stomach pumped at the hospital.





LETTERS

Dear BaIn Member:

It's spring. The trees are budding and green things are pushing up through the earth. The Cedars courtyard still looks a little bare, but soon we should have all kinds of blooms out. That is, if they get a chance to bloom.

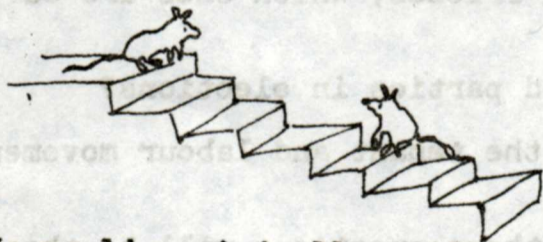
Lately we've noticed children climbing in the crabapple tree, pulling branches off the pussywillow and running and playing in the flowerbeds where new bulbs are coming up. The damage this can cause could ruin the appearance of our courtyard this spring and summer, as well as frustrating the people who work to make the courtyard beautiful.

Cedars policy was made firm on this problem more than a year ago at an area meeting, but since it has come up again, we'll re-state our position. As you know, the courtyards are to be divided into thirds, with one third being allowed for children's play, one third for vegetable and flower gardening, and one third for other activities (barbeques, sunbathing, etc.). The Cedars children have been told they must only play in the area behind the rosebushes where the sandbox is. It seems that the problem is with children who don't live in the Cedars, and the rule was established that only Cedars children and their companions may play in the courtyard; kids from other areas of the Co-op have their own courtyards to play in.

If you live in the Cedars, we'd appreciate it if you'd explain to your child(ren) that there are new plants coming up and that they mustn't play in the flowerbeds, but only behind the rosebushes. If you don't have a child, we'd still like you to be aware of the problem, and to speak to children you see damaging our trees and flowers. If you don't live in the Cedars, please ask your kids to play in their own courtyard; if they come to the Cedars to play with the kids who live here, please ask them to show some respect for the work we do to keep the courtyard a nice place to play in. We appreciate your co-operation and understanding.

Pam Capraru
Cedars Area Rep

465-0808



We would remind all residents to keep the stairs to the back basements, and the hallways, clear of belongings. This can be an extremely dangerous situation. Also, please make sure that children do not play in these areas.

GARBAGE Re: Disposal of Glass, Paint and Other Noxious Substances:

Please remember to carefully wrap or package your garbage. This will keep children and animals out of it, and make the job of the garbage man an easier one. Improperly wrapped garbage ends up, too often, on our walks or blown around our property.

POLITICAL ACTION AND CO-OPERATIVE HOUSING

DISCUSSION PAPER

Over the past three years housing co-operatives have been faced with a number of political problems. In 1978, the Federal Government revised its co-op housing program to the point where it would have been impossible to initiate viable new co-ops. In 1979, the private development industry through DelZotto/Cimpello took its first shot at gaining access to Federal non-profit housing funds. In the same year, the Conservative government in Ottawa commissioned a study on the privatization of CMHC. Provincially, the Conservative government unilaterally revised the administration of the housing charge supplement program. At the same time, they took steps to bring the program more in line with the OHC program, to the detriment of our members.

The first decision was revised in our favour. Co-ops were successful with the second in forcing the Credit Union Central of Ontario to sever their links with Cimpello.

The Mathews Report on privatization of CMHC has not yet been formally repudiated by the new Liberal government. The Province's changes to the supplement program stand as originally dictated.

Political action was vital in resolving the first two issues. In our favour and political action will be critical in ensuring that our interests are looked after with the latter two. Our movement has responded to political problems as best it could, and considering our small numbers, with considerable success. We should recognize however, that our political problems have not ended. Profound problems with government finances will cause further cutbacks and restraint over the next decade. Co-ops will not be exempt from this process.

In order to survive and grow, we must start to plan for greater political activity at every level, municipal, provincial and federal. The effectiveness of our political activity will depend on the clarity of our analysis of our goals and problems and the extent to which our members support a higher level of political action.

The issues we need to discuss are numerous; these I believe are some of the basic ones which we should discuss:

1. Should the co-operative housing movement be committed to social change?
2. What are the major political problems we face now?
3. How do we promote the idea of political activity to our membership?
4. Do we want/need to grow?
5. How committed to growth are established co-ops?
6. Which political parties are our friends; which ones are our enemies?
7. Should we endorse candidates and parties in elections?
8. Should we establish links with the tenant and labour movements? Around what issues?

I hope the discussion provoked by these questions will be the start of a long debate and some action on the whole issue of co-ops and political activity.

- Peter Tabuns.

MOTHERS ORGANIZING MOTHERS

The following article is reprinted from M.O.M. (Mothers Organizing Mothers), the newsletter of the Family Benefits Work Group written and edited by a group of sole support mothers on social assistance. It is devoted to publicizing information on welfare legislation, and the often rather vague rules and regulations so poorly publicized by government offices.

If after reading this article you are interested in getting a copy of the newsletter sent to you, you can contact the Family Benefits Work Group by writing to 33 Charles Street East, Toronto, M4Y 1R9. We thought that this would be an interesting follow up to Pat Schulz's article on Rent Supplement published a few months ago.

GOVERNMENT JAILS MOTHER...

By Dorothy O'Connell, President
Ottawa Tenants Council
345 Frank Street, Ottawa K2P 0Y1

As you may know, the government of Ontario has declared war on women on Family Benefits who are committing fraud. They have spent some \$1 million on a program to track down and jail these women. Their fraud squad is working in conjunction with the O.P.P. on this.

It is the opinion of the Tenants Council and other low-income groups that women are being forced to commit fraud to adequately feed their families, since Family Benefits money is very small.

Evelyn Gigantes is starting to move on this issue, as you will see from the enclosed copy of Hansard; and the Informer, an Ottawa-based TV program, is also interested in the issue.

We are anxious to have women's groups informed about what is happening, and hope that they will help to raise the question of inadequate benefits, and unequal treatment of women. These women are being jailed. Some recent cases include a mother of six sent to jail for four months, and her children to the Children's Aid; and another mother who is serving a month in jail from 6 a.m. Tuesday to 6 a.m. Friday every week, so that she may spend the weekends with her children.

It seems to us much like the middle ages, where starving people have their hands cut off for stealing food. It is a deliberately harsh punishment, which is supposed to serve as a deterrent to other women.

Officials in COMSOC have stated smugly that they are sure it is saving them millions of dollars. Perhaps it is. But what is it doing to the mothers and children involved?

There has been much outcry recently about the inadequate amount of money single senior citizens receive. "How can a senior single live on \$354 monthly?" asks one provincial politician. But a woman on Family Benefits with three children receives only \$13 more monthly than this senior single. And very few people raise their voices in protest.

We are asking that you take a stand against jailing mothers. We are asking you to protest this discrimination against women. A young man would probably get a suspended sentence for this kind of crime, rather than a jail sentence.

Please add your voices to ours. Write to the Honourable Keith Norton, Minister for Community and Social Services in Queen's Park.

Facts & Figures

It is with great pleasure that the Newsletter Committee welcomes back Charlotte Morgan as a regular contributor.

POT CALLS KETTLE BLACK

May 20th, Quebecers go to the polls to vote YES or NO to the Parti-Quebecoise proposal to negotiate sovereignty association with the rest of Canada.

Pierre Trudeau tells Rene Levesque he is sure that if the referendum vote is a YES Levesque will accept the mandate. A NO would bring about another referendum, and another, and another, until the desired YES is obtained. On the other hand, P.E.T. and many of the provincial premiers, including our Bill Davis, made it plain that they won't negotiate sovereignty association anyway.

"The Parti-Quebecoise has done more for women than any other (Quebec) government," says Mair Verthey, principal of the Simone de Beauvoir Institute in Montreal. Levesque's latest effort in the cause of sexual equality is Bill 89, which ensures that wives can no longer have their homes and furniture sold out from under them. The Bill stipulates also that a woman must use her maiden name for all civil transactions, including getting a drivers licence. Feminists are apparently not for Federalism. On the other side of the earthworks is a group of women led by Madeline Ryan, wife of the Quebec Liberal leader Claude Ryan. Publicly taunted as an 'Yvette' (a textbook drudge) by Lise Payette, P.Q. minister responsible for women's affairs, this woman has won more votes for federalism than probably any other single cause. Using the slur as a winning slogan, she has drawn women from across Quebec by dignifying the housewife/mother role. If the NO vote wins, it will have been helped by this opposition that should provide a lesson in distainful attitudes to other political aspirants.

Meanwhile, back in Ontario, that old revolutionary, Bill Davis, has been at it again. He recently shelved equal pay for work of equal value legislation, calling it "A Good Idea Whose Time Has Not Yet Come". Hmmm... interesting, considering it's been in force in Quebec since 1976 and has been implemented by the Federal Government for its employees. Equal Value legislation, introduced by Dr. Ted Bounsell, N.D.P. MPP for Windsor-Sandwich, confronted the issue ignored by present Equal Pay for Equal Work legislation -- the fact that most women are ghettoized into low-paying jobs. Many of these jobs are responsible and necessary, but are poorly paid simply because they have traditionally been considered 'women's work'. Present equal pay legislation can be enforced only when women and men are doing substantially the same work. Well -- we definitely won't vote for him again.....

Latest figures released by the Women's Bureau of the Federal Department of Labour indicate that the gap in dollars paid Canadian men and women increased dramatically during the 1970's. Despite higher percentage increases than men, actual wage rates for women still lag far behind those of men. In 1977, for example, the average wage for the full-time working woman was \$9,143, compared to \$15,818 for a man, a gap of \$6,675. In 1972, the gap between men's and women's wages stood at \$4,289. Sixty-one percent of all working women are single, divorced, or married to men who earn less than \$10,000 per year.

SEND THE BILLS TO BILL (DAVIS).....

- Charlotte Morgan
12 the Cedars

More About Co-ops

1980 CO-OPERATIVE HOUSING FOUNDATION OF CANADA ANNUAL MEETING: REPORT

The conference of the Co-operative Housing Foundation of Canada was held over the weekend of May 9, 10, and 11th in Ottawa. One hundred and thirty people were registered for the conference which brought together co-op housing representatives from all over Canada.

Among the business items covered were the election of 3 directors to fill the vacancies on the Board of Directors, consideration of the Audited Financial Statements, setting the 1981 dues, reporting on and planning responses to some nasty federal government decisions about co-ops, and discussion of a variety of workshops.

Elected to the Board were Bruce Woodrow, formerly a Bain resident and Treasurer, now living at Woodsworth Co-op; Jim Vickory, a member of the Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers Union who is involved with co-op housing in Mississauga; and Karl Evers, a co-op activist from British Columbia.

The Audited Statements were reviewed and discussed in conjunction with the setting up of a risk stabilization fund. The fund, financed by co-ops and co-op financial institutions will help balance the CHF budget and will provide assistance to CHF member co-ops that may run into financial difficulties.

It was decided upon recommendation of the CHF Board to not have any dues increase in the 1981 budget year. All member Co-ops currently pay \$4.00 per unit per year in CHF dues. Under the short-lived Conservative Government last year a report, the Mathews Report, was prepared which recommended the dismantling of most of CMHC and the axing of the co-op program. They proposed as a replacement the institution of a shelter allowance -- more about this later.

Unfortunately, the change of government didn't put a stake through the heart of this report. Although verbally dismissing the report, the CHMC allocation for 1980 construction was used up by March of this year. CMHC plans to allocate no more funds, a move that will cut co-op construction in half this year. Apparently, the shelter allowance discussion is not dead either. Comparable to a portable rent supplement the program would essentially, as planned, be yet another subsidy for private developers which would not result in the building of more homes but would result, through the diversion of funds, in eliminating co-ops. Work groups were established to see that these problems would be dealt with.

Workshops were set up on a variety of topics: the role of paid co-ordinators (staff); construction methods and materials; member services; and co-ops and political action, among others.

As the discussion leader of the workshop on political action, I can report that our workshop agreed that:

- 1) Co-ops should be agents for social change;
- 2) Social change will only come about through action in the political sphere;
- 3) In order to draw our members into political activity co-ops have to address the immediate needs of their members not limiting these to housing needs. Furthermore, co-ops should be looking to move in at least a number of people with political and organizational backgrounds so that those skills will be available to the co-op.

These rather mild suggestions were a minor bombshell when brought back to the full meeting of the members. As government restraint cuts deeper into social programs and political action is seen by more and more people as necessary this topic will become far more important to the movement as a whole.



- Peter Tabuns
Financial Manager.

GENERAL MEETING



SURVIVAL GUIDE:



It is the desire of the Member Involvement Committee to inform/educate the co-op about the Rules of Order to help persuade members that they can effectively participate in the decision-making process.

Members in any organization often complain about their General Meetings. Either they are not orderly enough (they just go on and on and on ...); or they are too orderly.

These are serious problems with no easy answers, however, if we all knew and used the RULES OF ORDER maybe we'd see the other factors better. So:

Agenda:

Items to be discussed at each General Meeting are listed on the agenda, which is circulated prior to the meetings to all members. At the beginning of each meeting the agenda gets approved or amended - things can be added or dropped, or the order can be reset. Proposed policy changes must be circulated 10 days prior to the meeting, or a notice of motion can be made at a general meeting, which means that someone intends to propose a motion for the next meeting.

Minutes:

The next item on every month's agenda is the minutes - a short and concise summary of the previous meeting, recording all motions and votes of the previous meeting. These have to be approved, with or without amendments, by a majority vote and become the official record of that meeting.

Motions:

To cause the meeting to make a decision, you must make a motion. Officially, subjects shouldn't be discussed without a motion on the floor. (I don't know of any organization that strictly upholds this rule.) For example, you may want to commercialise the BAIN NEWS!! (Good luck) To do so you must attend a meeting and get the attention of the Chair when "Other Business" comes up on the agenda. When you are recognized and gain the floor (i.e., when the Chair says "O.K. Fred..?"), and say: "I move that Bain News be sold to members at 10¢ each copy each issue." If anyone supports the idea, someone will say "SECONDED". (If no one's interested then you should spend the next month organizing your support.) The Chair will then let members speak for or against the motion in the order in which they are on the Speakers' List (you indicate that you want to say something by raising your hand, and your name will be put on this list). Individuals should not speak more than once on the motion (it helps if you know what you are going to say). The person who moves a motion has the right to speak twice on the motion - this should be once to introduce it and once to sum up. This rule may be enforced as a POINT OF ORDER, but use your judgement because the Chair may rule against you. If you don't like the ruling of the Chair you can move another motion to be dealt with later. Most would agree that political experience shows: speak clearly, be brief and to the point, and try to judge how others are feeling. If you disagree with the motion, it's not necessary to speak against it, just vote against it. At the end of the debate the Chair should restate the motion before it's voted up (into force) or down (into oblivion).

A word on NEGATIVE MOTIONS: It's not sensible to move that something stay the same. Being silent is just as effective. If someone moves to change something, then vote it down rather than moving that it stay the same.

(To Be Continued
in the Next Issue)

Nik Habermel
for Member Involvement

APRIL 26th COALITION FOR A SANE ENERGY FUTURE

The anti-nuclear, alternative energy movement in Ontario continued to build in strength with the successful march and rally of the April 26th Coalition for a Sane Energy Future. Crowd estimates ranged from 2,500 to 3,000. The Coalition received broad support from a varied range of environmental, church, labour, student and co-operative organizations. Bain sent a contingent of people to the rally. This action was adopted unanimously at the previous General Meeting on a motion by Dick Winters of the Non-Nuclear Network.

Many speakers addressed the crowds. As well, a variety of entertainers helped raise spirits. Rain had been forecast, but once again the sun came through for this pro-solar gathering.

Speakers included city politicians, aldermen Richard Gilbert and Mayor John Sewell. Sewell, who said that he had previously supported nuclear energy, said that new evidence about the dangers of radioactivity, the nuclear waste problem and the rapidly escalating costs of nukes, convinced him to look for sane alternatives in renewable energy forms.

April 26 was an international day of protest. Guest speaker Anna Gyorgy, and anti-nuclear activist from the U.S., and author of a comprehensive book on nuclear power No Nukes described the growing movement in the U.S. and Europe, where hundreds of thousands of people have demonstrated against nuclear power. On April 26th demonstrations were held in Washington, D.C., Japan, Australia, Spain, West Germany, France, Britain, Holland, and Denmark.

Representatives of the Liberal and N.D.P. parties addressed the Queen's Park rally, but the Tory government refused to even send a speaker. Other demands centred on the need to retain and guarantee jobs for all workers affected by a halt to nuclear development and an end to Canada's involvement in the nuclear arms race.

It is obvious that the nuclear industry is very well entrenched in this province, and that it will take many more marches, meetings, fund-raising events and more people - tens, even hundreds of thousands of us to turn the tide against this life-destroying menace. Bain got a good start on April 26. Let's get out even more of us to march against Darlington, the largest nuclear project undertaken by this government, on June 7th. For ourselves, our children, and generations not yet born, we must show our concern for life and safety over the profits to be made by this technological monster.

Mike Carr, 4 the Cedars

MARCH AGAINST

Ontario Hydro's White Elephant

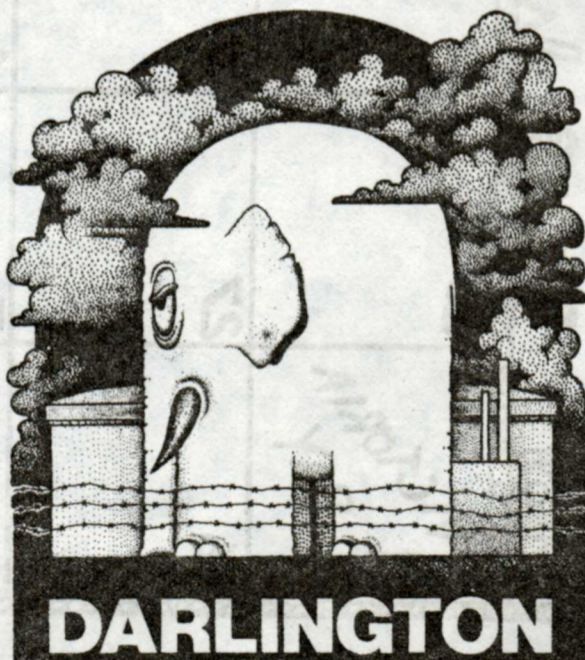
12 NOON

SATURDAY, JUNE 7th

DARLINGTON PROVINCIAL
PARK

Sponsored by the
Non-Nuclear Network

968-3218



Bain Committees



Residents Council: Doug Macdonald
461-4161

Membership:

Food Coop: Clarke Mackey 465-6783

Finance: Helen Sprock 469-0782

Grievance: Marie Fautley 461-5636

Maintenance: David Clark
463-4884

Member Involvement:
Viv Green 465-9183

Social Committee:

Virginia Sangster: 465-9857



MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT	SUN
19 VICTORIA MAY DAY	20	21	22 Newsletter Deadline Maintenance mtg	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	1 JUNE
2	3	4	5 maintenance mtg	6	7 YARD SALE	8
9	10 GENERAL MEETING	11	12	13 NEWSLETTER PRODUCTION	14	15 Fathers Day!
16	17	18	19 maintenance mtg	20	21 1st Day of Summer	22