

Abortion Action women form political coalition

By TRISH HARDMAN

The Ontario Women's Abortion Action Conference at Jarvis Collegiate on Saturday voted to form a political coalition to work for the repeal of abortion laws from the Criminal Code.

Delegates, representing high school and university students, housewives, professional and working women, endorsed a co-ordinated political campaign for repeal. Suggested tactics include a petition campaign, a letter-writing campaign and a mass demonstration in Ottawa on Nov. 20th. Those women not able to attend may stage local demonstrations.

Speakers from other Canadian

and U.S. coalitions, the Liberal and New Democratic Parties, the Toronto Women's Caucus, the Association for the Repeal of Abortion Laws (ARCAL) lent their support to the conference. Dr. Marion Powell, medical officer for the Scarborough Board of Health felt the activity of women's groups gave professionals more confidence in initiating changes.

Eleanor Pelrine, author of Abortion in Canada condemned the recent abortion reform "that hardly was." She felt abortion was a major political issue on which every politician must stand up and be counted. She called for all forms of

political action to bring the issue to the forefront.

Laura Sabia, chairwoman of the National Ad Hoc Committee on the Status of Women, received a standing ovation for her powerful call to action.

"The enemy isn't men, the enemy is ourselves," she said. Women were ad hoc-ing their way....on bended knees to convince the federal government to repeal abortion laws. Meanwhile Trudeau, was "extremely busy bringing out the Just Society, just for fun," and has ignored these demands. She called for more political pressure groups, more women in places of political power. "We're tired of the in-seminators making decisions for the bearers."

The Ad Hoc Committee represents about three million women. "We'll give you our support — you give us yours, in the name of heaven, to get this thing passed," she said.

The conference approved other policy proposals, grouped around the slogan Abortion — a Woman's Right to Choose. They said once abortion is removed from the criminal code, new government legislation must ensure abortions by qualified personnel in adequate facilities. There must be readily available and extensively publicized information on birth control and abortion facilities.

NEWS BRIEFS

Collision course at U of T

The University of Toronto's student electorate will face an entire slate of 52 boycott candidates in the faculty of arts and science council elections this month. The candidates have pledged to leave the council when elected if the faculty refuse to add another 37 student seats to give parity. The same 75-word biography will represent each candidate running. It states that unless last year's student referendum favoring parity is implemented, they will not serve as members of council. The students represent life sciences, humanities, physical sciences, social sciences, interdisciplinary studies, colleges and extension courses. The Students' Administrative Council has backed the boycott slate. A meeting against the boycott move attracted five SAC representatives and six students.

Canikin test vote denied

The House of Commons failed once again on Monday to speak out against the Canikin nuclear test. Liberal and New Democratic MPs have tried three times in two weeks to have the Commons condemn the proposed U.S. test. To be put to debate or a vote, such motions require unanimous consent. The first motion was denied by anonymous voices, the second by Donald MacInnis (PC, Cape Breton-East Richmond) and the third by Jack McIntosh (PC Swift Current-Maple Creek).

Discount on film books offered

For those students tired of the York bookstore rip-off, David Beard's Ciny Books at 692A Yonge Street says his store offers a 10 percent discount on all course listed film books. Beard says he tries to encourage stores to give students discounts which he is very happy to offer.

VMC criticizes Ottawa

The Vietnam Mobilization Committee will present a letter to the Canadian government next Wednesday asking for an end to Canada's role in the Indochina war. The York branch of the committee is located in N109 of the Ross Humanities Building.

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Too often in our past, we have imported not just foreign capital — a necessary commodity — but foreign ownership as well — a commodity of perhaps more dubious value. Too often we have failed in the task of funding Canadian enterprises and marketing the products of our own ingenuity. (Like the electric organ).



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Investment dealers must now raise three quarters of their capital here. Succession duties have been cut, to curb resale of family enterprises, to keep control here. Small Canadian firms facing sell-out may now draw on a new capital fund, to keep control here. Income tax incentives have been granted Ontario firms prepared to invest in other capital hungry firms, to keep control here.

And the government is doing things to support our Ontario based book publishing industry — an important aspect of our national cultural identity.

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