

Child studies center an asset

by Sheila Mills

The Child Studies Center is a valuable but seldom heard of interdepartmental nursery on the Dalhousie Campus, but it is not a Day Care Center. The Center was organized as a nursery school six years ago and it is located in room 1372 in the Psychology Department of the Life Science Building.

This Nursery Center is the closest thing to a Day Care Center on the Dalhousie campus, but there are significant differences between them. The main purpose behind having the Nursery is so that there will be a place available for children to go on campus while parents who are students or professors attend classes. Unlike a day care center, the three hours the classes spend together at each meeting puts a definite time limit on the educational experience that each child will participate in at the Center. The major reason the enroll-

ment number must remain so small is that there are no facilities available to start a Day Care Center there, or to enlarge the Center.

At the nursery, Stella Campbell and Barbara Short, two full time organizers and teachers, have approximately sixteen children between the ages of three and six in their care for scheduled hours throughout the week. The majority of the children registered are those of Dalhousie professors or students, although there are a few from the surrounding community. After the registration fee is paid, the children are put in one of two groups: the daily Monday to Friday morning class or the afternoon class which is held on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

The directors usually follow a very flexible schedule which includes supervised, free and outdoor play, snack time, story time and a gym session.

Gym time proves to be one of the most exciting activities for the children. Lois MacGregor's Physical Education class at Dalhousie usually meets and is organized into groups with the children in order to play games, exercise and to make new friends.

Students in all programs, and particularly those in Education, Library Science services, Sociology or Psychology programs might make important use of the center, and are free to use it for both practical experience and for observational purposes. The two way mirror available at the Child Studies Center makes this possible.

When parents first register their child in the nursery school, they are informed that their child may be observed, but that attending to the needs of the individual child will be the staff's primary concern. If the instructors or parents feel that any given study to be conducted is not in the best interest of the children, it will not be permitted.

When asked what she thought about the present day care situation at Dal, Stella Campbell stressed that there was a definite need for one on campus. The one at Mount Saint Vincent, she said, is filled quickly and serves a valuable and indispensable purpose.



Dal Photo Eyland

RITA MacNEIL

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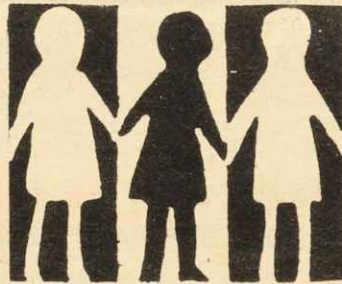
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NFLD daily on strike

HALIFAX (CUP)—Employees of Newfoundland's largest evening daily newspaper, the Evening Telegram of St. John's, have been on the picket lines for 13 weeks.

21 printers were locked out of the paper August 2, and 14 reporters and photographers walked out August 18 after the paper refused to make a wage offer for the union's first contract.

Thomson Newspapers Ltd., owners of the Telegram, responded to the strike—the first in the paper's 100-year history—by bringing in six to ten mainland workers to put out the paper.

The printers', whose contract expired over seven months ago, original offer called for \$10 an hour, 14 days sick leave, and 90 percent of the journeyman rate for women in a one year contract.

The printers, Local 441 of the International Printers and Graphic Communications Union, recently settled for a 27-month contract with a 75-85 percent rate for women. The union had earlier reduced its demands to \$7.50 an hour, no sick leave, and 85 percent of the rate for women.

The print shop workers have agreed not to return to work until the newsroom staff has reached an agreement with the paper.

The paper's circulation has

fallen by 8,000 and the number of pages is down by 50 percent, said Local 441 president Gerald Ennis, in the newspaper the Signal.

The Signal, a tabloid newspaper being put out by the strikers, started publishing September 21. The paper contained provincial and city news, one colour, and about 30 percent advertising.

The union president told the Signal he feels the 35 employees have the sympathy of the public and he hopes it is translating into cancelled subscriptions. The union has also asked advertisers and newsmakers to boycott the Telegram.

Since the call for the boycott a month ago, the Telegram has been making it difficult to stop home delivery by refusing to allow readers to cancel their subscriptions through their carrier, said the Signal.

Instead, subscribers are being told to phone the office during business hours and calls to the circulation department are being put on hold for as long as twenty minutes, the paper said.

Local 441, which does not have a designated strike fund, has received 8,000 donations since the printers were locked out August 2. Half the amount has been used as strike pay (\$50 a week plus \$10 for each dependent).

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