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* WELFARE WOMEN	SECRETARIES	*
* SINGLE WOMEN	NURSES	*
* MARRIED WOMEN	WAITRESSES	*

\* \* \* THE SAME STRUGGLE -- WAGES FOR HOUSEWORK \* \* \*

All women, whether we are self-supporting, on Family Benefits, or living with a man, are housewives. Whether we spend one hour a day or fifteen cleaning our apartments, this society expects us as women to do all the housework, child-rearing, looking after and servicing others that it needs to keep functioning. In other words, to be a woman in this society is to be a housewife. And we all know that to be housewife means to do all this work for no pay.

Men go out and work all day long and get paid for it. Nobody would dare suggest that they should do that work for free. And yet we are expected to do all this housework as an act of love. And because we aren't paid for this work, many of us are forced to get a second job outside the home. And for most of us this means more "women's work" at the lowest wages around.

But women are beginning to change all this. Women are fighting against "women's work" all over the world.

\*\* In Toronto last year, hospital workers (the majority women) and later nurses threatened to go out on strike -- winning 30-50% wage increases.

\*\* In England last year, nurses went on strike demanding paid lunch hours so they would get wages for doing their grocery-shopping at noon.

\*\* In Germany, 3000 factory workers went on strike and won their demand of one paid day off per week to do their housework.

\*\* In Toronto, women in the Mother-Led Union are threatening to go on strike if the government doesn't give them a "wage" increase.

All these struggles are making us stronger. When women on Family Benefits win their demands, it's going to be that much easier for lots more of us to say, pay us for our housework too. It's going to be that much easier for us to demand higher wages when we take jobs outside the home. And it's going to make it possible for more of us to choose whether or not to take a second job outside the home.

And that's why, if the government refuses to meet the demands of the Mother-Led Union, it will have to answer not only to all the women in Ontario on Family Benefits, but to all the women who are fighting for wages for housework -- and our numbers are growing every day.

THE TORONTO WAGES FOR HOUSEWORK COLLECTIVE AND THE WAGES DUE COLLECTIVE  
SUPPORT THE MOTHER-LED UNION!!

(For more information call: Frances at 537-5148 or Judy at 532-4647)

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