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P.O. Box 38  
Station E  
Toronto, Ontario  
September 5, 1975.

Dear Sisters,

A contingent of 5 or 6 Network women from the U.S. and Canada met in London, following the conference, to work out a new agenda proposal based on responses to the original New York proposal and what we felt needed further discussion after the experience of the London conference. What we came up with is enclosed and we hope it covers all the essentials. We felt that by being as specific as possible about areas of discussion, it would enable the greatest number of women to participate freely in them. Send us your comments.

Because of the tremendous media coverage of the London conference and the use that the POW Collective was able to make of it to kick off the campaign in England we felt it advisable to change the conference location from Chicago to Toronto. We felt that maximum political use could be made of it by a group who has more experience and has already begun their campaign.

The Toronto Committee conferred with the Chicago women who, despite work already in progress, agreed with the London decision to change the location. The date has also been changed to October 18-19-20, to allow for the transition and to accomodate individuals and groups who, for various reasons, preferred it later. We hope neither of these two changes is too inconvenient for anyone. We apologize for the delay in communicating them. Between holidays, overwork etc. we're proceeding more slowly than we had hoped.

We are following Chicago's advice in setting up a registration fee of \$5 per person to cover rental and food costs. If possible please pre-pay when you send in registration forms, which we ask you to do without delay.

We're looking forward to seeing everyone again. We will be sending a further letter in October with details such as meeting places, maps etc.

Love and Power,

Toronto Wages for Housework Committee

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PLEASE RETURN THIS IMMEDIATELY WITH \$5 TO: TORONTO WAGES FOR HOUSEWORK COMMITTEE  
P.O. BOX 38, TORONTO.

Name:

Address:

Phone:

Group:

Special needs: Childcare? Allergies? etc.?

Do you want to be billeted with other women from your group?  
Who and how many?

AGENDA -- TORONTO CONFERENCE

WAGES FOR HOUSEWORK NETWORK

FRIDAY NIGHT, OCTOBER 17

8.00 - 11.00 p.m. Pre-Conference Party

- registration
- Toronto May Day Video
- Wages for Housework songs by Boo Watson and Lissa Donner

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18

9.00 - 10.00 a.m. Registration

10.00 - 1.00 p.m. Opening Session

- A) Presentation: "What Wages for Housework is and is not"  
The political foundations of the wages for housework perspective and the organization practices which flow from it. B Selma James
- B) Discussion: The development of the perspective with reference to post-Montreal position papers on "different tendencies" within the network.

1.00 - 2.00 p.m. Lunch break

2.00 - 6.00 p.m. The Present International Context

A) Presentation: "State Planning in the Crisis"  
Capital's continuing attack in the factory (wage ceilings, unemployment, reconversion, etc.) and the community (inflation, transportation costs, social service cutbacks, etc.) in response to massive working class struggles, internationally, which have upset the basic mechanisms of accumulation e.g. the link between wages and productivity, the dependence of the wageless on the waged, the refusal of development by the Third World, etc. By Silvia Federici

B) Discussion: (1) Significant trends in state planning in different countries which suggest where to make struggles for wages for housework, e.g. trends in Canada such as state proposals for wages for housework, a guaranteed annual income, supplements to the "working poor", state funding for the educated wageless (LIP-JFY), changes in immigration policy (the Green Paper), growing use of part-time female labour, the mediating role of the feminist movement etc.

(2) Reports of trends in working class struggles, e.g. Native People's Movement in Canada, welfare women in Canada and U.S., general working class refusal of jobs during unemployment crisis (soaring costs in Unemployment Insurance Benefits), new sectors e.g. teachers and nurses organizing for higher wages, response of municipal workers to cutbacks in US. cities, etc.

9.00 - 11.00 p.m. Party Time

- Oberlin Theatre Group
- Italian Wages for Housework songs (recorded)
- displays of posters, cartoons, other art work

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19

10.00 - 1.00 p.m. Internal Organization

A) Presentation: "Why we need organization and the lessons of the past year". The political functions of organization in building a movement and the organizational forces developed since the Network began.

By Judy Ramirez

B) Discussion: (1) Structure -- autonomous groups of lesbian women, black women etc. within the Network, e.g. Wages Due in Toronto and London; difference between internal Network groups and wages for housework groups in the movement at large; relation between the two; political cohesiveness in Network as a whole and in each particular group e.g. expulsions, suspensions etc.

(2) Communication and Planning -- How to function as a Network in relation to decisions about such things as the Antioch conference, the Detroit women, the post-Montreal position papers, etc.; contacts between groups for political discussion and clarification e.g. Toronto and Montreal; the newsletter -- need for ongoing general information and circulation of political documents; co-ordinating joint actions internationally.

(3) Finances -- Organizational claim to monies from speaking, media, sale of literature, etc.; state funding for certain aspects of the campaign, e.g. Toronto Bookmobile; generating funds within the Network e.g. how do individual groups support their various initiatives?; general fundraising outside the Network and the coverage of expenses for those who tour etc.

1. 00 - 2.00 p.m. Lunch break

2.00 - 6.00 p.m. How to Build the Campaign

A) Presentation: "Developing a Strategy".

General criteria for where we start (e.g. organizing women who have some power already, such as welfare women and women working in a second job) and how we generalize and circulate that power to those with the least power (e.g. the full-time housewife, the sick and insane, prisoners, children, the aged etc.).

By Selma James

B) Discussion: (1) Political report on the development of the campaign in Italy by Mariarosa Dalla Costa.

(2) Political reports of struggles such as Maimonides, Toronto May Day, New York October demonstration, POW organizing in industrial communities etc.

C) Presentation: "The Development and Use of Political Instruments"

By Mariarosa Dalla Costa

D) Discussion: Simultaneous workshops on (1) Literature and Publications;

(2) Media; (3) Music and cartoons; (4) Theatre and Movies.

E) Plenary Session: "Building Towards May Day 1976"

By Frances Gregory

MONDAY, OCTOBER 20 (All sessions open to observers by invitation)

10.00 - 1.00 p.m. Sexuality as Work

A) Presentations: (1) "All work and no play"

The implications of sexuality as part of the capitalist division of labour for our socialization as women, relations within the nuclear family, friendship, heterosexuality, celibacy, lesbianism, de-sexualization etc. OR our struggle against capital's theft of our sexuality.

By Silvia Federici

(2) "What lesbianism is and is not"

Wages for Housework vs. lesbian separatism.

By Wages Due (Toronto & London)

B) Discussion: Understanding sexuality as a point of exploitation and, therefore, as a terrain of struggle against capital; what does it mean to struggle against sexual work e.g. against heterosexuality as a discipline, and how it is different from the ideology of "creating alternatives" under capitalism.

1.00 p.m. - 2.00 p.m. Lunch Break

2.00 - 5.00 p.m. Third World Panel

A) Presentation: "Against Capitalist Development and For Direct Re-  
Appropriation of Wealth"

An analysis of the struggles of Third World people with reference to the Black American and West Indian movements and the strategic question of women's autonomy within national liberation struggles.

By Wilmett and Margaret  
(Black-feminist group, New York)

B) Discussion: General discussion and closer look at:

(1) Immigration: A cornerstone in capital's international strategy of development-underdevelopment, and the crisis the wageless Third World has created both at home and in the metropolis.

By Beth Ingber

(2) The politics of birth control, sterilization, starvation, and all forms of population control as part of capital's strategy to decimate the ability of the Third World to wage a struggle against "development".

By Selma James

5.00 - 6.00 p.m. Send-Off

-- refreshments and good-byes

Bar del jubor  
via R. Mich. 158  
186 di  
Cno Vitt. E.  
Roma

ADDENDUM

1. Documents

Official conference documents include:

- a) Ruth Hall's analysis of Montreal Conference (50¢)
- b) Long Week-end of Struggle, by Tri-Veneto Committee of Italy (25¢)
- c) Wages Due Paper and Why Lesbians Want Wages for Housework (25¢ each)
- d) Notes on Leninism by Selma James and Silvia Federici (50¢)
- e) Immigration and Population Control by POW Collective (25¢)  
-- in Race Today, July 1975.
- f) Wages For Housework and the Crisis by Silvia Federici (25¢)
- g) London Conference speeches  
-- Selma James on the development of wages for housework  
-- Ruth Hall on Lesbianism  
-- Judy Ramirez on Organization

traduce NA = Ferrara?

traduce  
di Coll. NA

traducendo  
Rosanna di NA

di richiedi  
Rosanna di Napoli  
e Ruth e C. traduce

We strongly encourage everybody to read all these documents before the conference. With the exception of (g) the London Conference speeches, they are all available from Toronto. Please send the money (which covers our costs) with your order. The London Conference speeches can be obtained from Power of Women, London.

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2. Reports

Any individual or group presenting analyses or reports in written form should mail them out to the Network ten days prior to the conference. This will facilitate discussion considerably.

3. Notice

The Anthology "All Work and No Pay" published by Falling Wall Press will be available at the conference. Bulk orders will be accepted for women's study courses, bookstores etc. so come prepared with estimates for your area. \$1.95 a copy.

4. Public Meeting

The Toronto Committee is planning a public meeting (for women only) on Friday, October 24 with an international panel of speakers. We hope as many of you as possible can remain and participate.

5. Area Speaking

In the week following the conference a number of public meetings with various women's groups are being planned in Toronto and vicinity. Please plan to speak and take part if at all possible. We are following London's example where it worked out very well!

6. Miscellaneous

We will be providing lunches for the three days of the conference, and for dinner we will provide you with lists of the many fine and cheap restaurants in Toronto.

Bring copies of all the leaflets, posters etc. that you have done in your area for a display.

Please also bring sleeping bags.