

# for ms.

## status report on DISCRIMINATION

"We are only happy so long as our life expands in ever widening circles from the upward gush of our early impulses..."

The Status of Women Report is very interesting since it deals with the discriminations toward women on P.E.I. The committee was made up of nine members, only one of these being a male. It is very good to see so many women taking part and showing interest yet I hope that the report is not biased due to the ratio of 8 females:1 male.

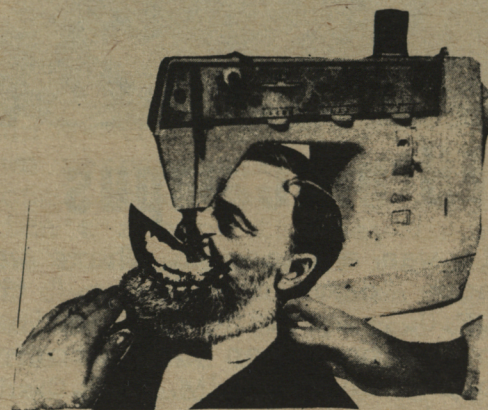
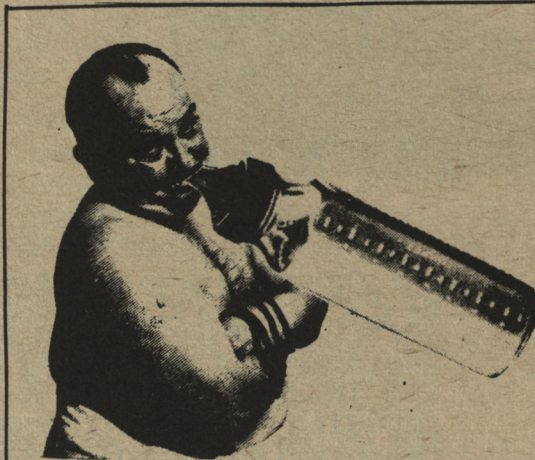
First, the report deals with the question, "Does discrimination of women exist on P.E.I.?" The Royal Commission's report indicated that there was discrimination to Canadian women but did not go into the women of P.E.I. in great detail. The Royal Commission did the general report concerning all women so the Status of Women on P.E.I. Report looked into it in more detail.

The report first goes into "The Economic Participation of Women". The committee explained such things as how many female workers there are and the wages for females. They made recommendations that would help equalize the inequalities that they found in this particular situation.

Some more of the topics that the committee looked upon were; women in public life, family life and community services, women and the law and women and education. In each of these areas they have uncovered many inequalities and make many recommendations to try and correct these mistakes by legislation.

In itself this report is very good in the way that they are able to back up their facts by statistics. It is hoped that the inequalities they found existing on P.E.I. may soon be changed by law but that is not all that must be done. In order for this, changes must be made in order to completely wipe out sexual inequalities (toward females) & there must also be a great deal of changes in our attitudes toward the whole subject.

Females (in general) are the last ones to actually think or even believe that they are being oppressed. Therefore, no matter how many reports are made or la-



ws changed, it will be of little good. Women must first be aware of the problem in order to solve it. The solution must also be their own because they are still being oppressed if someone must and does tell them how to respond.

Therefore I suggest to you to read the Status of Women Report. It can be very helpful since it actually shows the discriminations toward women carried on in P.E.I. After reading this please don't think that the govern-

ment alone can solve all the problems of inequalities that exist. It will be a start to the solution but each female must contribute to rid herself and many more of this inequality of the sex.

"She was created to be the toy of man, his rattle and it must jingle in his ears whenever, dismissing reason, he chooses to be amused."

Mary Wollstonecraft 1792 --  
"A Vindication of the Rights of Women"

Gil Brammer

### WHAT MEANS occupation?

Very often the words used to describe a female's occupation are not correct, in that they are not occupations at all.

An example of this is the veteran's list which asks for the occupations of all vet-ing. Very often words such as; single, married and divorced are used to state a female's occupation. These are not occupations but just words used to describe the female in relationship to a male. You never see a male's occupation put down as single, married or husband so why a female? Isn't this in itself shown how a female is either part of a male or not part of a male. Little interest is put into her actual occupation whether it is housewife or doctor.

Another interesting thing is the way many people acc-

cept a female having the sole occupation of housewife.

Many reports say that she is just a house wife or only a housewife. This, of course, is not true. Being a housewife, if this is your main aim, is not a small job. It takes love, which few people realize. Many husbands come up with the great line; "You were home all day doing nothing but looking after the children so you do this, that or any other thing."

The only job that men have allowed us to do is housewife yet they don't particularly think of that as being work. Since being a wife and mother is so easy in men's eyes, why don't they stay home to scrub, change diapers and so on??

Gil Brammer

### Letters for MS.

FOR MS.

You're Invited to a Party!  
Friday March 8 is the anniversary of the 1908 strike called by women of the garment industry in New York. This day has been declared an international holiday in honour of women's struggles. To celebrate this occasion, we will watch some National

Film Board movies made by women and will begin action to implement some of the recommendations of the status of women on P.E.I. report. Movies will start at 8:30 in Duffy Amphitheatre and will be followed by a party in the Faculty Lounge. Beer and wine will be on sale. SEE YOU THERE.....