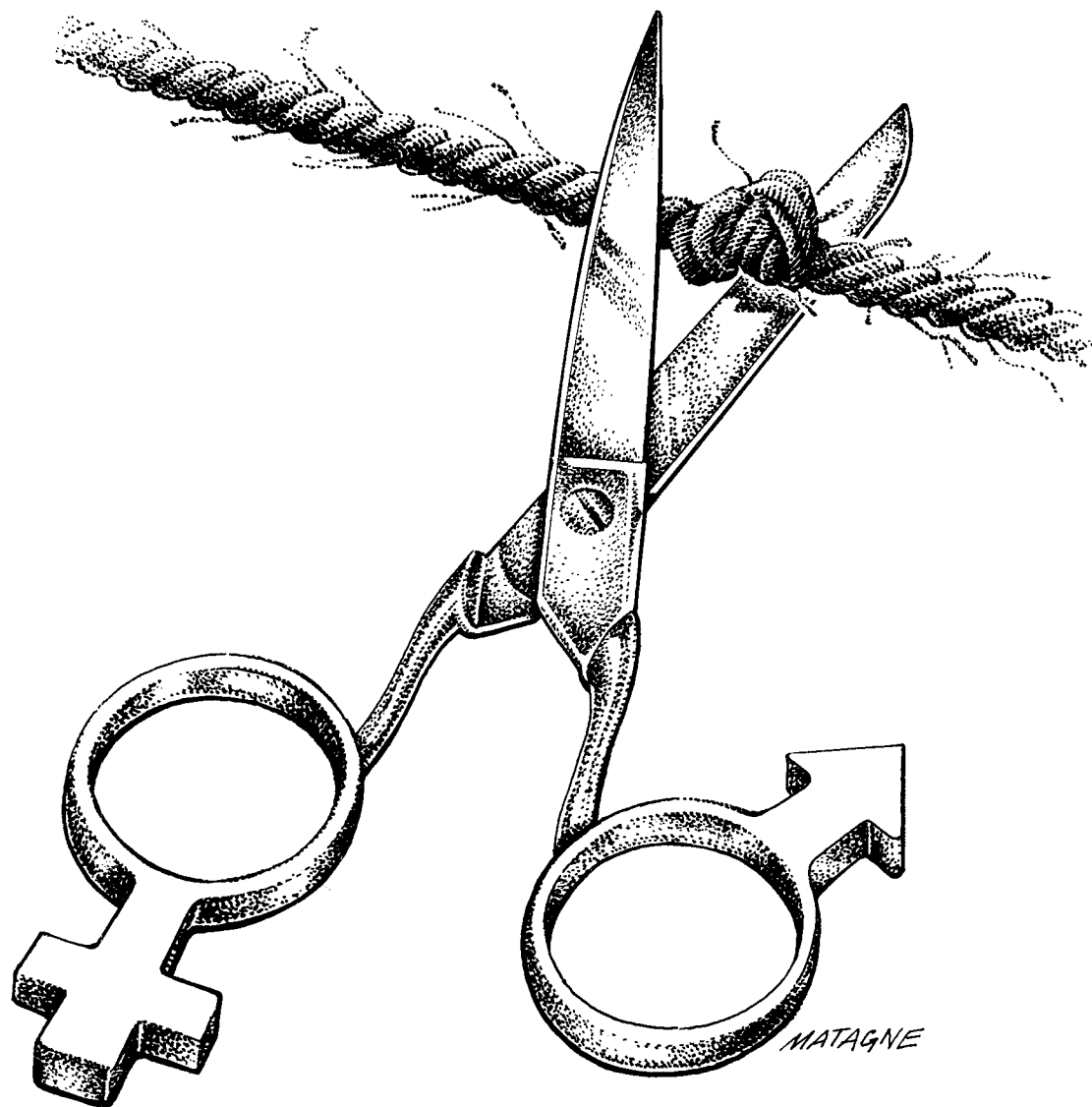


# Women of Europe

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I N      E U R O P E A N      P A R L I A M E N T

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Women's rights

The ad hoc committee on women's rights has now been set up. It is chaired by Mrs. Yvette Roudy and its vice-chairwomen are Mrs. von Alemann, Miss Roberts and Mrs. Squarcialupi. Its rapporteur is Mrs. Maij-Weggen.

The women's rights ad hoc committee's terms of reference are to prepare for a parliamentary debate to be held before the summer parliamentary recess. The starting point for the debate will be the general report to be drawn up by the ad hoc committee in the light of the proposals formulated by the Commission of the European Communities, making use of the work already done or now being done by other parliamentary committees.

A message from Yvette Roudy to Women of Europe readers

Dear friends,

This committee was needed. The structure of society - maintained and buttressed by the current economic situation - and the grave problems facing women today, particularly in the field of employment, have made its existence vital.

This is, however, an "ad hoc" committee. In other words, it is only temporary. There is a great deal to do and little time to do it in. Our committee needs you. It needs your support, your ideas, your suggestions.

It can achieve all that it has set out to do only if it is backed by your resolution, and we are sure that each one of you nurtures that resolution.

The report to be presented by Mrs. Maij-Weggen to European Parliament will reflect the committee's concerns. It will be in three parts:

- a) a survey of the opportunities offered by the Community's fundamental Treaties;
- b) a report on EEC legislation on women already in force;
- c) a survey of women in Europe and employment, participation in economic life, education and information, health and legal status, as well as the condition of the wives of immigrant workers and women in the Third World.

The committee has 35 members, ten of whom are men (exactly the inverse proportion of men to women as in European Parliament), but the parliamentarians have declared their intention to tackle problems "in a totally integrated spirit".

The pages that follow list the members of the ad hoc committee on women's rights.

<u>Chairwoman</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Group</u>
Mrs. Yvette ROUDY	65, Cours de la Liberté <u>Lyons 5 (France)</u> 162, Boulevard du Montparnasse <u>75014 Paris (France)</u>	Socialist
<u>Vice-Chairwomen</u>		
Miss Shelagh ROBERTS	23, Dovehouse Street, Chelsea <u>London SW3 6JY (England)</u>	European Democrats
Mrs. Vera SQUARCIALUPI	Via Losanna 16 <u>20154 Milan (Italy)</u>	Communist
Mrs. Mechtild von ALEMANN	Friedrich-von-Spee-Strasse 3 <u>4000 Düsseldorf 31 (West Germany)</u>	Liberal
<u>Members</u>		
Miss Beata Ann BROOKES	Conservative Office, 3 Llewlyn Rd. <u>Colwyn Bay, Clwyd, N. Wales</u> The Cottage, Wayside Acres <u>Bodelwyddam, near Rhyl</u> Clwyd, North Wales	European Democrats
Mr. Corentin CALVEZ	27 Avenue du Languedoc <u>78450 Villepreux (France)</u>	Liberal
Mrs. Maria Luisa CASSANMAGNAGO- CERRETTI	Via Emanuele Filiberto, 190 <u>00185 Rome (Italy)</u> Via della Mendola, 57 Rome (Italy)	European People's Party
Mrs. Nicole CHOURAQUI	123, Rue de Lille <u>75007 Paris (France)</u> 8 Avenue Pierre 1er de Serbie <u>75116 Paris (France)</u>	European Progressive Democrats
Mr. Francis COMBE	Assemblée Permanente des Chambres de Métiers, 12 Avenue Marceau <u>75008 Paris (France)</u> 17, Rue du Clos de la Ferme Bondoufle, <u>91000 Evry (France)</u>	Liberal
Mrs. Suzanne DEKKER	Burg. Patijnlaan, 470 <u>The Hague (Netherlands)</u>	Non-attached
Mrs. Danielle DE MARCH	Fédération du Parti Communiste Français Le Colbert - Entrée B Avenue Colbert <u>83000 Toulon (France)</u> 1150 A. Chemin de Forgentier <u>83200 Toulon (France)</u>	Communist

<u>Members</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Group</u>
Mrs. Marie-Madeleine DIENESCH	79, Avenue de Breteuil <u>75015 Paris (France)</u> 9, Rue du Commandant Coupeaux <u>22600 Loudeac (France)</u>	European Progressive Democrats
Mr. Derek ENRIGHT	The Hollies, 112 Carleton Road <u>Pontefract, West Yorkshire,</u> <u>WF8 3NQ (England)</u>	Socialist
Mr. Bruno FERRERO	Partito Comunista Italiano Via Chiesa della Salute, 47 <u>10100 Turin (Italy)</u> Strada Moncanino, 63 bis <u>San Mauro, Turin (Italy)</u>	Communist
Mr. Mauro FERRI	Via del Casaletto, 265 <u>00151 Rome (Italy)</u>	Socialist
Miss Norvela FORSTER	c/o Industrial Aids Ltd. 14 Buckingham Palace Road <u>London SW1W OQP (England)</u> 6 Regency House, Regency Street <u>London SW1 (England)</u>	European Democrats
Mrs. Yvette FUILLET	Centre Municipal d'Information Immeuble Léon Blum Allée Léon Gambetta <u>13001 Marseilles (France)</u> Appartement no. 20, Le Corbusier 280 Boulevard Michelet <u>13000 Marseilles (France)</u>	Socialist
Mrs. Paola GAIOTTI de BIASE	Via B. Gosio, 33 <u>00191 Rome (Italy)</u>	European People's Party
Mrs. Mette GROES	Folketinget Christiansborg <u>1218 Copenhagen K (Denmark)</u> Gertrud Rasksvej, 90 <u>9210 Alborg SØ (Denmark)</u>	Socialist
Mrs. Ien VAN DEN HEUVEL	Engelberg, 8 <u>3956 VI Leersum (Netherlands)</u>	Socialist
Mrs. Magdalene HOFF	Zur Höhe 72 A <u>5800 Hagen (West Germany)</u>	Socialist
Mrs. Jacqueline HOFFMANN	8, Rue Francis de Pressensé <u>92800 Puteaux (France)</u>	Communist

<u>Members</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Group</u>
Miss Gloria HOOPER	11, Cleveland Row, St. James's <u>London SW1 (England)</u>	European Democrats
Mr. Paul HOWELL	The Mansion House <u>Hingham (Norwich)</u> <u>Norfolk NR9 4HA (England)</u>	European Democrats
Mr. Stanley JOHNSON	c/o Tickell, 51 Blomfield Road <u>London W9 (England)</u> <u>West Nethercote, Winsford</u> <u>Minehead (Somerset)</u>	European Democrats
Mrs. Marlene LENZ	Hermann Milde-Strasse 2 <u>5300 Bonn 1 (West Germany)</u> <u>Friedrich-Ebert-Strasse 66</u> <u>5300 Bonn 2 - Bad Godesberg</u>	European People's Party
Mrs. Anne-Marie LIZIN	6, Chaussée d'Andenne <u>5202 Huy (Belgium)</u>	Socialist
Mrs. Maria Antonietta MACCIOCCHI	Rue Bonaparte 1 <u>75006 Paris (France)</u>	Independent
Mrs. Johanna MAIJ-WEGGEN	Pieter Bedijnstraat 38 <u>2202 VK Noordwijk aan Zee</u> (Netherlands)	European People's Party
Mrs. Simone MARTIN	Thonnance les Moulins <u>52230 Poissons (France)</u>	Liberal
Mr. Victor MICHEL	14, Rue de la Marjolaine <u>1120 Brussels (Belgium)</u>	European People's Party
Mr. Angelo NARDUCCI	Via Feltre, 71 <u>20134 Milan (Italy)</u>	European People's Party
Mrs. Ursula SCHLEICHER	Bundeshaus <u>5300 Bonn 12 (West Germany)</u> <u>Backoffenstrasse 6</u> <u>8750 Aschaffenburg (West Germany)</u>	European People's Party
Mr. Maurice-René	2, Rue de la Roche <u>26290 Donzere (Drôme) (France)</u> C.D.S. 205 Boulevard Saint Germain <u>75007 Paris (France)</u>	European People's Party
Mrs. Heidemarie WIECZOREK-ZEUL	Michelstrader Strasse 1 <u>6090 Rüsselsheim (West Germany)</u>	Socialist

Mrs. Phibi J. Viehoff (Dutch Socialist) has become a member of European Parliament, taking the seat sadly left vacant by A. Vondeling, who was killed in a car accident on 22 November 1979.

The problem of employment in the Community was discussed at length in Parliament. Introducing the debate, Mr. Vredeling, Vice-President of the European Commission with special responsibilities for social affairs, pointed out that in addition to the official figure of six million unemployed in the Community there are, at the lowest estimate, three million unregistered people who are out of work. He also stressed the need for consultation with both sides of industry, which have a vital role to play in the formulation and implementation of an employment policy.

*During the course of the debate, very many women members took the floor. Women of Europe has neither the space nor the resources to print all their views, but readers who are interested can obtain the transcripts of parliamentary sessions by writing to European Parliament, Secrétariat Général, Division des Comptes-Rendus, Boîte Postale 1601, Luxembourg, or consult the documents at the European Parliament London Information Office, 20 Kensington Palace Gardens, London W8 4QQ (tel. 01-229 9366).*

How can we boost the economy? How should hours of work be regulated? Is technology a threat to employment? Where do women stand vis-à-vis all these problems? These were the main issues that came up for discussion.

Mrs. Tove Nielsen (Danish Liberal) said that we should turn to the private rather than the public sector to reactivate the economy and tackle the problem of unemployment effectively. Mrs. Nicole Chouraqui (European Democratic Group, French) urged fresh investment in production, and she was supported by Miss Shelagh Roberts (European Democratic Group, British) who said that in essence the public sector must improve infrastructure.

Mrs. Else Hammerich (Danish, National Front against the Common Market) noted with regret that the Danish jobless had been right when they voted "no" to Europe in 1972: today, the European Community is a community of the unemployed.

Miss Gloria Hooper (Conservative member for Liverpool) made several suggestions, one that the European Regional Fund should step in to help urban areas. Better coordinated action by the European Funds was urged by Mrs. Marie-Claude Vayssade (French Socialist), supported by Miss Sile De Valera (Irish, Fianna Fail).

Miss De Valera also pointed out that the very recent revolutions in technology have meant that workers have to update their knowledge all the time and allowance should be made in the programmes receiving financial support from the European Social Fund. On the subject of technological progress, Mrs. Heinke Salisch (German Socialist) said that employment is threatened not by technical improvements but by the use that has been made of those improvements.

According to Mrs. Maria Cinciari Rodano (Italian Communist), the Community must deploy every effort to combat the permanent subordination of women workers. To make the struggle more effective, the European Commission must have broader powers, declared Miss Susanne Dekker (Dutch, Democratie '66).

Mrs. Jackie Hoffman (French Communist), speaking on the special condition of women, forcefully called for shorter working hours and a 35 hour week. Mrs. Cinciari Rodano warned that shorter working hours should not just mean a redistribution of the little work available. Discussing this subject, Mrs. Salisch had said that a 35 hour week would create a million new jobs.

Women's unemployment is all too often treated as a "second zone" of unemployment, pointed out Mrs. Anne-Marie Lizin (Belgian Socialist). She pressed for structural measures, greater supervision of the way in which member states apply EEC directives and Community support for facilities and collective services which release women from the burden of certain tasks.

Mrs. Marie-Jane Pruvot (French Liberal) took up the cudgels on behalf of those who work in the arts and cultural fields, whose working conditions are often precarious. The Community must show them, as well as young people, women and the handicapped, that it is capable of imagination and creativity. Taking up the theme of youth, Mrs. Christiane Scrivener (French Liberal) proposed that a "young people's employment pact" should be reached at Community level along the lines of the agreement now being implemented in France.

According to Mrs. Yvette Roudy (French Socialist), caution should be displayed. All too often, part-time work pushes women even further out on the fringe of society. In addition, certain strategies used to counteract unemployment are explicitly based on taking women out of the labour market. To prevent women's isolation, Mrs. Eileen Desmond (Irish Labour) hoped that the educational system would be better adapted to present-day reality, a hope that was shared by Mrs. Paola Gaiotti Debiase (Italian Christian Democrat), who was indignant that the education ministers of the Community countries have not met to formulate what should at last be a coordinated policy. Mrs. Gaiotti Debiase also stressed that the Community had made little more than a token effort to promote the training of women. We should not delude ourselves: more and more women will want to gain access to the labour market - a factor that has by now become a structural feature of that market.

Are consumer protection and environmental conservation too costly? Questioned on this subject by the European Democratic group, Mr. Burke, speaking on behalf of the European Commission, replied that the regulations do not necessarily imply rising costs. We should, said Mr. Burke, ask ourselves what the consequences would be if there were no such regulations.

In the course of the debate that followed, Mrs. May Weggen (Dutch Christian Democrat) said that this is a political choice; European industry has had quite a long time to adapt to the regulations, added Mrs. Squarcialupi (Italian Communist). Mrs. Lieselotte Seibel-Emmerlings (German Socialist) thought that the "bill" for the quality of life was not excessive. There are too many things whose value cannot be estimated: a tree or a river, for instance.

A delegation of Argentine women, led by Mrs. Angelica de Mignone, visited European Parliament, sponsored by Mrs. Van den Heuvel (Dutch Socialist). During a meeting chaired by Mr. Jean Rey (Belgian Liberal), Vice-chairman of the Political Affairs Committee, the delegation launched an appeal for the restoration of democratic freedoms in Argentina.



FACTS, INSTITUTIONS AND LAWS

B E L G I U M

A feminist prime minister

"The time for justice has come," declared Mr. Martens, the Belgian Premier, to the women heads of companies who were celebrating the 30th anniversary of the foundation of their association. "There are still many deep-rooted inequalities between men and women, and these can no longer be tolerated by the people with political responsibilities in our country. Our role is to take the necessary steps to ensure that this legitimate evolution is not only made possible for all women but also becomes a process whereby women can broaden all their aspirations. Only if this is done will the evolution in women's status lead to social, economic and cultural enrichment for society as a whole."

Institute of higher navigation studies

Mr. Chabert, Minister of Communications, who is responsible for the officers' training school, will not allow a woman to enroll in the Belgian institute of higher navigation studies. On being questioned by Mrs. Mathieu-Morin, a senator, Mr. Chabert replied: "I have had the problem of admitting women students to the institute considered thoroughly and my departments have given their formal view in the negative.

"It is, moreover, my own conviction as well as the belief of the naval authorities concerned that the career of officer in the merchant navy is too arduous to be suitable for women. The only post open to them is that of radio officer.

"This being so, I have no reason to depart from the standpoint that women shall not be given access to training for, or the career of, officer or engineer in the merchant navy."

Useful address: Ministère des Communications  
65, Rue de la Loi  
1040 Brussels

A women minister

Following the recent government reshuffle, Mrs. Cécile Goor-Eyben (Christian Socialist Party) has been appointed Minister for the Brussels Region. The fourth woman member of a government led by Mr. Martens, Mrs. Goor is president of the Christian Socialist Party women's group and - until her appointment as a minister - vice president of the Senate.

Gentlemen of the Robe ... and now Gentlewomen too

Although lawyers in Belgium wear a robe, their professional bodies have remained a tightly closed men's club. It was not until the latest elections that the Council of the Brussels Bar admitted women for the first time: Maître Anne-Marie Storrer and Maître Monique Wouters.

Useful address: Conseil de l'Ordre des Avocats de Bruxelles  
Palais de Justice  
1000 Brussels

And a woman wearing a toga

Women in court and women in the university: a woman has been appointed academic secretary to the Louvain Catholic University's Faculty of Law. The first woman to wear this academic gown - the toga - will be Professor Nicole Jeanmart.

Useful address: Faculté de Droit  
Université Catholique de Louvain  
1348 Louvain la Neuve

F R A N C E

A woman at the Academy of Science

For the first time since its foundation in 1666, the Académie des Sciences has welcomed a woman in its ranks: Mrs. Yvonne Choquet-Bruhat, a physicist. Neither of her forerunners in the field of science, Marie Curie and Irène Joliot Curie, had been admitted even though they were both winners of the Nobel Prize.

Of the five Academies making up the "Institut de France", only two have admitted women up to now: the "Académie des Inscriptions et Belles-lettres" (the Academy of Letters), of which Mrs. Jacqueline de Romilly has been a member since 1975, and the "Académie des Sciences Morales et Politiques" (Academy of Moral and Political Science), of which Mrs. Suzanne Bastid has been a member since 1971.

As far as the "Académie Française" is concerned, it appears that Mrs. Marguerite Yourcenar will be elected in the spring.

Useful address: Institut de France  
23, Quai Conti  
75006 Paris

The names of husbands and wives

In reply to a parliamentary question, the Minister of Justice gave the following explanation: "As the law now stands, marriage has no effect on the names of a husband and wife; each one continues to bear the name shown in his or her birth certificate, and public officials are forbidden to call them by another name.

"Nevertheless, the law allows each of the couple to make use of his or her spouse's name for the affairs of everyday life, either instead of or in addition to his or her own surname.

"Current legislation gives very broad scope for taking the expressed intentions of the parties into account in matters of their names."

This is official confirmation that it is habit, not law, that makes a woman exchange her own name for her husband's.

Useful address: Ministère de la Justice  
13, Place Vendôme  
75001 Paris

Discrimination on the grounds of sex

The Socialist group has submitted a bill to the French Senate designed to combat discrimination on the grounds of sex, along the lines of the law against racial discrimination.

If the bill becomes law, it will be possible to take criminal proceedings against those "provoking discrimination, hatred or violence against a person or group of persons by reason of their origin, THEIR SEX or their membership or non-membership of any given ethnic group, nation, race or religion".

As in the case of racialism, representative bodies will be entitled to bring civil proceedings in criminal cases.

In the preamble to the bill, the thought expressed by Condorcet is quoted: "The rights of men arise solely from the fact that they are sentient beings, capable of acquiring moral ideas and reasoning from those ideas. Thus, women having these same qualities necessarily have equal rights."

Useful address: Sénat Français  
Palais du Luxembourg  
75006 Paris

Women's Mercury

"Le Mercure des Femmes" is the title of a new publication being brought out in France, intended to be "the expression of a friendship which it is hoped will be strengthened between women's groups in Africa and women's groups in France and - why not? - in the Europe of tomorrow".

In the editorial for the first issue, Marcelle Devaud (who represents France on the United Nations Committee on women's status) writes to her "African sisters": "Both in your own land and in ours, when it comes to the immense mass of women, despite all the official laws and regulations, despite all the conventions that have been ratified, there are still so many prejudices to overcome, so many behaviour patterns - both male and female - to modify: in your land, the law of custom, undoubtedly enriching but at the same time with stultifying effects; in our land, the attitudes entrenched for centuries and stereotyped concepts which act as unwritten law."

Marcelle Devaud concludes: "May our associations, through the message of this new-born bulletin, harmonize their efforts so that together we can work towards a more humane world".

Useful address: Le Mercure des Femmes  
12, Rue du Quatre-Septembre  
75002 Paris

Enrolling in university without formal qualifications

Based on a proposal by the Minister for Women's Status, the French Government has decided that mothers may enroll in university merely on the strength of an examination to test their abilities, a right that is already held by all wage-earners.

These unusual women students can obtain the "first stage diploma" by taking a course over a longer period than the two years allowed to ordinary students.

Useful address: Ministère délégué à la Condition féminine  
39-43 Quai André Citroën  
75015 Paris

Wives in family businesses

The "Comité du Travail Féminin" - Committee for Women's Employment - has completed a major survey of the problems encountered by women working with their husbands in their family concern, trade or professional work but not shown in official statistics or considered to be working women in the eyes of the law.

Despite the statistical and legal vagueness surrounding their status, it is estimated that there are about 1.2 million such women in France, in other words 20% of married women who work. A large proportion of those women are engaged in part-time work (35%, compared with 23.5% of women in employment in general), and at the same time many have to work very long hours (55% of such women work more than 45 hours a week, compared with 14.2% of women in outside employment).

The Committee points out that the present and future resources of these "aides" are determined more by the quality of their marriage than by the economic contribution they make through their work. In short, the extent to which they "share in the profits" depends mainly on their husbands' goodwill.

In the survey conclusions, the Committee puts forward several proposals, the most important of which is that the wives of self-employed men should be given a legal occupational status so that they can become co-entrepreneurs or co-traders. Some women, however, do not want this status and they should be entitled to become a wage-earner within the family business.

The Committee also proposes that spouses of persons not in salaried employment should enjoy the benefits of professional representation: for instance, by registering with a trade register as is already the case with women traders. Another recommendation is that the contribution made by the wives of self-employed persons should be recognized for tax purposes and that greater emphasis should be placed on their social rights (at the time of maternity and retirement in particular).

Useful address: Comité du Travail Féminin  
1, Place de Fontenoy  
75700 Paris

Stopping and starting work

Evelyne Sullerot, member of the Economic and Social Committee, has drawn up a report on vocational guidance and training on behalf of the Ministry of Employment.

One of its main themes is the lot of women who would like to start work again. In her conclusions, Evelyne Sullerot calls for clearer information on the job opportunities for such women and detailed discussions with counsellors to obtain a realistic picture of their capabilities and the nature of their expectations. Evelune Sullerot would also like specialist departments to retain contact with them after they have gone back to work to find out more about the problems which arise once they are reinstated.

Useful address: Ministère du Travail et de la Participation  
1, Place de Fontenoy  
75700 Paris

G E R M A N Y

Women and the University

The proportion of female students has been rising steadily: while 36% of the total student body in Germany are women, 41% of students enrolling for the first time in the 1979 academic year were girls.

Despite this general progress, female students still tend to take up what have traditionally been "girls' subjects". Two women students out of three enroll in faculties that lead to the teaching profession. Only in the fine arts faculties is there a tendency towards parity between the sexes. In law, medicine and dentistry, the number of women students is growing slowly, but students at faculties leading to careers in engineering still number only 1% girls.

Useful address: Bundesamt für Statistik  
Pressestelle  
62 Wiesbaden

Women and the Mass Media

The audience sitting in front of the television set consists of 53% women, but the people behind the screen, the producers and creators of programmes, are still men. The ABD and ZDF television channels employ no more than 12% women scriptwriters and no woman holds a more senior position, such as programme controller or head writer. The situation is no better in the radio networks.

Many women find their careers disappointing as they see less qualified men promoted over their heads, points out Angelika Gardiner-Sirtl, who works with Bayerischer Rundfunk. Prejudice and stereotyped ideas will never change if radio and TV broadcasting is without exception dominated by men. Every day, the unilateral ideas held by millions of people on the role of men and women in society are reinforced by the media.

Useful addresses: Angelika Gardiner-Sirtl      Helga Dierichs  
Bayerischer Rundfunk      Hessischer Rundfunk  
8000 Munich      6200 Wiesbaden

Madam President

The jurist, Ingrid Mathäus (FDP-Liberal), has been elected president of the Bundestag Finance Committee. Well known for her commitment to the bill to do away with discrimination against women, Ingrid Mathäus has taken over from Lieselotte Funcke (a fellow member of FDP), who has left to take up the appointment of Minister of Economic Affairs for the Land of Rhineland/North Westphalia.

Useful address: FDP - Bundestagfraktion  
Bundeshaus  
53000 Bonn 1

The Protestant Church

Two women have been elected to the fourteen-member Protestant Church Council, both of them university professors.

Women are making up a growing portion of the student body at Protestant faculties of theology - over 30%. They are allowed to become ministers and have the same rights and opportunities as men in the service of the religious community.

### Girls and vocational training

The efforts being made by the Federal Minister of Education to provide more opportunities for girls to take the vocational training courses that have been the traditional preserve of boys are bearing fruit. This table shows the number of girls by comparison with the total number of trainees in major sectors of vocational training in 1976, 1977 and 1978.

	1976		1977		1978	
	total	girls	total	girls	total	girls
Engineering (automobile)	73,284	84	80,373	114	88,633	208
Engineering (general)	11,243	30	11,322	34	11,680	102
Electrical	50,702	57	46,533	63	48,614	105
Telecommunications	11,011	123	10,305	187	12,011	255
Paint	27,311	197	30,048	343	34,370	621
Carpentry	26,481	264	30,079	382	25,139	627

Useful address: Bundesministerium für Bildung und Wissenschaft  
Abteilung Öffentlichkeitsarbeit  
5300 Bonn 1

### Permanent responsibility

A man who divorces, remarries and devotes his time not to a paid job but to bringing up the children of his second marriage is still responsible for the financial maintenance of his children by the first marriage, according to a judgment delivered by the Supreme Court of Federal Germany (reference IV ZR 96/78, 7.11.1979).

Useful address: Bundesgerichtshof  
Karlsruhe

### Housewives' wages

Should a woman who spends her time on domestic tasks be paid a wage, and what form should it take? The issue is still being debated in Federal Germany. Marlies Jutsch, who is responsible for questions relating to women's status, thinks that a wife should receive half her husband's wage packet. The German tax system assists households in which the wife does not have a job by granting an allowance; the higher the husband's earnings, the larger the allowance. A husband with an annual income of DM.150,000, for instance, can deduct an allowance of DM.12,000 in respect of his wife at the time of making his tax return.

Anke Fuchs, Secretary of State for Employment, has asked whether it would not be possible for the tax authority to pay the tax benefit to which a wife has given rise direct to her.

Useful address: Marlies Kutsch  
Bundesministerium für Familie, Jugend und Gesundheit  
53 Bonn 1  
Anke Fuchs  
Bundesministerium für Arbeit und Sozialordnung  
53 Bonn 1

I R E L A N D

A warning to foreign companies

The Women's Rights Work Group of the Socialist Party has written to the Employment Equality Agency to complain that it is not using its powers to institute investigations into discriminatory work practices adequately.

The open letter to the Agency's chief, Sylvia Meehan, refers specifically to discrimination in factories established by foreign companies under the sponsorship of the Industrial Development Authority. Joyce Sarkies, secretary to the Women's Rights Work Group, would like to see all new companies setting up in Ireland formally notified of the law in respect of the equality of women in employment matters.

Useful address: Joyce Sarkies, Women's Rights Work Group  
The Socialist Party  
23 Essex Quay  
Dublin 2, P.O. Box 806

State pays up in family law cases

For the first time, a court has ruled that the State should pay the legal costs and expenses of both a husband and a wife who are opposing parties in a family law case. Up to now, couples taking their family disputes to the High Court in Ireland faced minimum costs of £1,000, and this fact alone meant that access to a fair hearing was denied them.

The European Court of Human Rights had already conceded a claim by Mrs. Josie Airey for free legal aid from the State. Even so, the Minister for Justice has not yet introduced his promised free legal aid scheme for family law cases. The Irish High Court judge has jumped the gun by making his ruling and the Attorney General's office has decided not to oppose applications for costs from either the wife or the husband.

Maternity leave

Ireland is now set to usher in maternity leave legislation by the end of 1980.

Although the details of proposed legislation have yet to be published, recent decisions of the Irish Labour Court have given some idea of the shape of the law: at least twelve weeks' maternity leave on full pay and a guarantee that the job will be kept open after a further period of unpaid leave.

The Labour Court does not usually recommend in favour of claims that have not been generally conceded in industry, but over the past few years the public services and semi-state bodies have agreed to maternity leave claims along these lines and it seems that the trend is being adopted by the private sector.

Nevertheless, the arrangements still fall short of the hopes of the Irish Congress of Trade Unions: forty weeks' maternity leave, including 13 weeks on full pay.

Discrimination against women?

Is the Nationality and Citizenship Act 1956 unconstitutional? It is being challenged in the Irish High Court by a Pakistani-born professional squash player and his Irish-born wife.

The couple claim that the act is discriminatory, as a man who is an alien cannot become an Irish citizen on marrying an Irish woman, although the reverse is not the case. Judgment has been reserved.

I T A L Y

Women in the educational system

Out of a million teachers in Italian schools, about 70% of women. This is one of the figures mentioned in the report on women's status just published by the Italian Ministry of Public Education, in cooperation with the Istituto dell'Enciclopedia Italiana (Italian Encyclopaedia Institute).

According to the report, the growing number of women bringing up their children on their own and the aspirations of women towards a better standard of living are the two main reasons why there are so many women in education in particular and in the world of work in general.

"Woman of the Year"

The St. Vincent international prize for "the woman of the year" has been launched in Rome. The jury consists of the wives of ambassadors accredited to the Quirinale, the seat of Italy's President. The prize is intended to give recognition to a woman who has distinguished herself in her activities, whatever the field in which they are exerted.

The first recipient of the prize is a Senegalese doctor, M. Th. Basse, the director of an institute of food technology in Dakar. M. Th. Basse has done notable work on various plans of action to improve the lot of African women, who have a vital part to play in the campaign against hunger.

Useful address: "La donna dell'anno" - Comitato promotore  
c/o SITAV, Via Felice Cavallotti, 36  
00152 Rome

A progress report on the equal rights law

Mr. Scotti, the Employment Minister, has introduced a preliminary review of the application of "Law 902" which, in pursuance of the EEC directive, established the principle that men and women are equal in their working lives. According to the minister, Italy is gradually moving towards its proper application. Although the statistics are few and far between, it is apparent that many women have been given jobs and promotions from which they would have been excluded had the law on equal opportunities not been passed.

There are still many shady areas, especially in Southern Italy in agriculture, where equal pay is far from being the rule. One of the reasons is that women lack the job qualifications, but they are becoming increasingly aware of their rights and are better able to enforce them.

Useful address: Ministero del Lavoro  
Via Flavia 6  
R o m e



L U X E M B O U R G

Meter maids

Only a few months have gone by since the city of Luxembourg's traffic control department hired ten or so girls to help their male colleagues to teach drivers good parking manners. Since that time, uniformed girls, notebook and pen in hand, have been seen doing their rounds almost everywhere. If drivers thought they could get away with it because the girls were novices, they were mistaken. Experience has shown that they are far more thorough and unyielding than their colleagues when it comes to giving tickets and that any attempt to reach a "friendly solution" is of no avail.

Useful address: Ville de Luxembourg  
Commissariat Central de Police - Service Parking

Until death do us part ...

The number of divorces in the Grand Duchy has been growing steadily year by year. The deep-rooted causes of divorce are a matter of great concern, as revealed by the file compiled by a group of young progressive Christians published in their magazine, Forum. The publication has already caused a great deal of ink to flow because of the issues it has tackled with unusual vigour - for example, the drug problem in Luxembourg and the prison system.

This account of "divorce Luxembourg-style" is probably the first serious and searching analysis of the subject.

Statistics first: whereas the number of marriages that take place every year is more or less constant at about 2,200, the number of divorces has increased almost three-fold over the past ten years, from 199 in 1970 to 533 in 1978. Another trend is that children are no longer considered by so many as a reason for not divorcing. Since 1950, divorces of couples with children have been rising. At the same time, the age of couples whose marriages break down has been falling: in 1976, for instance, 50% of divorced women were under 31. Approximately 30% of divorces are by mutual consent, especially since the major reform of 1975 which made this type of separation easier. The file ends with a detailed insight on divorce in civil law and in church law, and its compilers leave the final word to the union representing divorced women, Unifred.

The aim of this group, formed in 1977, is to defend the material and moral interests of divorced women and to fight for the creation of an "alimony fund" to subsidize women who have been by their husbands. The existence of the group is evidence that divorce reform has not solved all the problems but that there is still plenty to do to provide women with greater security in society.

Useful address: Unifred  
11 C, Rue Beaumont  
Luxembourg tel. 298 88

Feminist buses?

The City of Luxembourg has purchased two new buses that strike a new note in the country. They are "articulated buses", as used in neighbouring countries for some time. The real novelty, however, is that thought has been devoted to women, and mothers in particular. Before now, it has been impossible to take a pram into a bus; the new articulated models have a special entrance more easily negotiated by prams.

Useful address: Ville de Luxembourg - Service Autobus.

N E T H E R L A N D S

Emancipation: a new look

The "Emancipatie-Kommissie" - the Emancipation Commission - founded in December 1974 for a five year period is soon to depart from the Dutch political scene, to be replaced by the "Emancipatie-Raad", or Emancipation Council. This new body, with about 30 members, is to be set up in 1980, as soon as Dutch Parliament has given its consent to the bill.

Each ministry will be under an obligation to consult the Council on all important decisions associated with the emancipation of women and men. Selected for their special knowledge of the subject of emancipation, the members of the Council should meet on one or two days a week to work on the new body. Care will be taken to ensure that the main social and philosophical schools of thought are represented on the Emancipatie-Raad.

Mrs. Jeltien Kraaijeweld-Wouters, Secretary of State for Culture, Leisure and Social Action, who has responsibility for emancipation problems, has asked the Commission to keep working until its successor is established.

Useful address: Ministerie van Cultuur, Recreatie en Maatschappelijk Werk  
Steenvoordelaan, 370  
Rijswijk (South Holland)

Women carpenters

In the eastern part of the Netherlands, a firm working on heavy timber carpentry for the building trade was short of manpower and was finally persuaded by the regional employment office to take on women in this traditionally male line of work.

In looking for applicants, the office quickly found that many girls would like to work with timber. It is now trying to establish a specific training programme, in conjunction with the technical training schools.

In the same spirit, the employment office at Almelo has asked the local authorities to consider girls and young women for jobs as janitors and ushers.

Useful address: Gewestelijk Arbeidsbureau  
Bellavistastraat 1  
Almelo

U N I T E D    K I N G D O M

Married Women and the Inland Revenue

After years of agitation, the Inland Revenue has finally agreed that married women may be taxpayers in their own right. It has agreed to write direct to a married woman about her own tax affairs instead of addressing her through her husband, as has been the case up to now.

A delegation from the Equal Opportunities Commission has also met Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, to press for a tax reform that will do away with all discrimination against women in tax matters. Even now, any income earned by a married woman is considered to be her husband's income for the purpose of tax.

Useful addresses:        Equal Opportunities Commission  
                             Commission House  
                             20, Grosvenor Hill  
                             London W1X OHX  
  
                             Local Inland Revenue Offices  
                             Head Office - Somerset House  
                             The Strand  
                             London WC2

The weight of tradition

Even when there is a shortage of skilled labour in industry, as in the case of the chemical industry, women still find it hard to gain acceptance. Both educational bias and employers' attitudes are at fault.

This is one of the conclusions of a working party organized by the Manpower Services Commission and the Equal Opportunities Commission.

Baroness Lockwood, chairman of the Equal Opportunities Commission, has urged training organizations and employers to make greater use of grants available from the Community Social Fund to train women over 25 in non-traditional work. While some money has been used for this purpose, EOC feels that a good deal more could be achieved.

Useful addresses:        Manpower Services Commission (PD3)  
                             Selkirk House  
                             166 High Holborn  
                             London WC1V 6PF  
  
                             Equal Opportunities Commission  
                             Overseas House  
                             Quay Street  
                             Manchester M3 3HN

M I L I T A N T   A C T I V I T I E S

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Country women the world over

Mr. Carstens, President of the Federal Republic of Germany, has agreed to be the patron of the 16th Congress of the Associated Country Women of the World which is to start on 13 May next in Hamburg.

The inaugural session, as well as the National Day of German Country Women, will be attended by 1,300 women from all over the world and 4,500 women from every corner of Germany.

Useful address:   Deutscher Landfrauenverband e.V.  
                  Godesberger Allee 142-148  
                  5300 Bonn 2

The Fourth World

The international movement, "Aide à Toute Détresse (ATD) Quart Monde" - SOS Fourth World - has brought out a "white paper on the children of the Fourth World", in French, English, German, Spanish and Italian. What is the Fourth World? It is the world of poverty, of shanty towns. In EEC countries alone there are four million such "children of poverty". The white paper lets them speak in their own words: "In this district, nowhere smells good"; "People should give us some real space - space in the school, in the library, and then everywhere".

Useful address:   ATD Quart Monde  
                  107, Avenue du Général Leclerc  
                  95480 Pierrelaye (France)

Businesswomen at the top

The next official event on the calendar of the world association of women heads of companies - "Femmes Chefs d'Entreprises Mondiales" - is a congress at Las Palmas (Canaries) in June next on the theme of "Too much leisure: progress or decline of our civilization?".

The association would like to hear from women at the head of business, whether or not they have formed themselves into groups, in Denmark, Ireland, Greece, Chile, Turkey, Japan and Switzerland. Any information will be gratefully received by the chairwoman, Mrs. A. Dutry.

Useful address:   Les Femmes Chefs d'Entreprises Mondiales  
                  Boulevard Général Wahis, 15  
                  1030 Brussels

International Women's Tribune Centre

Following the meeting in Mexico and in preparation for the meeting in Copenhagen, the International Women's Tribune Centre is publishing a quarterly bulletin addressed mainly to women in the developing nations. Names and addresses, accounts of experience, advice on ways of obtaining grants from international organizations: the bulletin is a guide for women in search of solidarity.

Useful address:   International Women's Tribune Centre, Inc.  
                  Sixth Floor, 305 East 46th Street  
                  New York, N.Y. 10017

Copenhagen: the alternative forum

The United Nations conference on women is to be held in Copenhagen in the second half of July 1980.

A parallel forum will take place in the same city, at which the same points will be discussed as those on the U.N. conference agenda: employment, health and training.

A secretariat for non-government organizations which enjoys consultative status with the United Nations has been asked to plan the forum in New York.

The secretariat is headed by Elisabeth Palmer. A committee has been set up, consisting of representatives of the organization providing support to women in developing countries, to help with the practical arrangements (see Women of Europe no. 11/79).

In view of the general interest aroused by the conference and forum, the organizers have asked everyone concerned to arrange their accommodation before they arrive in the Danish capital.

Useful address: Elisabeth Palmer, Convener  
Room 574, 600 Lexington Avenue  
New York City, N.Y. 10022.

B E L G I U M

Premature births

Every year, 9,000 babies are born prematurely in Belgium and only a quarter manage to overcome the handicap without major or minor problems. It is estimated today that premature births could be avoided in 60% to 65% of cases.

These are the worrying figures published by Vie Féminine, a Christian workers' education movement, in a booklet (Bel.£.100) used as the basis for a symposium on the theme of premature births.

Compulsory and more accessible ante-natal checks, lighter work, the provision of better information and greater participation on the part of the father-to-be during pregnancy: Vie Féminine suggests practical ways of preventing "inequality beginning even before birth".

Useful address: Vie Féminine  
111 Rue de la Poste  
1030 Brussels

Making a fresh start

"For those women who want to BEGIN AGAIN, with more self-confidence, improving their relations with others and finding fresh meaning in their lives, looking at the world with new eyes," the centre known as "Repartir" - "Start Afresh" - is organizing "launching" courses and courses on "preparation for responsibility", with the help of the European Social Fund.

Recognized and encouraged by the authorities, the centre's work is not restricted to organizing courses, but it retains contact with women once they have found a new job. It is of interest that unemployed women who attend the courses are not required to "clock in" daily at the employment exchange, the normal practice for the jobless in Belgium.

Useful address: Repartir  
242, Avenue Albert  
1180 Brussels

Intermedium

The adult training centre, Intermedium, organizes special meetings for women suffering from isolation, so that they can analyze their own situation together and look for solutions.

Intermedium also holds meetings on specific themes such as sociability, working among women and the history of the women's movement in Flanders.

Useful address: Intermedium  
Mechelse Straat 134  
3000 Leuven

Social security

Social security is a complex system that was built up at a time when a woman was still totally dependent on her husband. Now that things have changed it is a matter of urgency that all the rules and regulations be scrutinized to find ways of eliminating all forms of discrimination. This job has in fact been done by women in the Christian Socialist Party and a working group, "Vrouw en Maatschappij" (woman and society), from the Flemish Christian Socialist Party.

The outcome has been two separate working documents with the same objective: doing away with inequality. In addition, a bill has already been submitted to Parliament along these lines by Mrs. Miet Smet, a Flemish Christian Socialist M.P.

Useful addresses: Vrouw en Maatschappij - CVP      Femmes PSC  
Twekerkenstraat 41      Rue des Deux-Eglises 41  
1040 Brussels      1040 Brussels

The daily life of women farmers

Women farmers have to rely on themselves first for their own personal development: "good organization is the woman farmer's key to liberation". Nevertheless, the professional unions representing women on the land - Unions Professionnelles Agricoles Féminines or U.P.A.F. - is calling for a service that will provide someone to step in and run the farm if a woman farmer needs time off. In addition, child care units should fit in better with the hours worked by women on the land.

Useful address: U.P.A.F., Rue A. Dansaert 94-96  
1000 Brussels

Women's seminars

The association called "Le Café des Femmes" in Liège is holding six seminars in which the subjects to be tackled range from professional work to second class citizenship, from relations among women to the field of the arts.

The seminars are cleverly devised in that they combine talks, films, plays, round table discussions and analytical groups linked with each theme. Beginning on 11 January, the sessions are to continue until 12 April.

Useful address: Le Café des Femmes  
8, Rue Nagelmackers  
4000 Liège

An appeal from Belgian housewives

The "Association des Femmes au Foyer" in Belgium is already in touch with its French counterpart association supporting women in the home, the "Association pour le Soutien et la Promotion de la Femme au Foyer", and the "Deutsche Hausfrauengewerkschaft" in Germany, all three of which have common goals. To extend their range of action even wider and to involve all European women in the home, the Belgian association is launching an appeal to all similar groups in the other countries, asking them to make themselves known with a view to cooperation.

Useful address: Association des Femmes au Foyer  
200, Rue de Linthout  
1040 Brussels

Women architects

The "Unie van Vrouwen Architecten van België" is a very youthful organization of women architects, but its membership already includes one out of ten women working as architects in Belgium. In their discussions, thought and exchange of ideas and help, the members do not want to limit their contacts to their colleagues but would like to talk with other women's groups on subjects such as town planning, housing and open space.

Useful addresses: Dita Roque-Gourary                      Emmy Meeus-Bossaerts  
Rue Faider, 67    Ter Rivierenlaan 191  
1050 Brussels    2100 Deurne

A new event

A new arrival on the Belgian market, the weekly magazine called L'Evènement devotes a double page spread every week to the "new woman", under the title of "topical issues". Isabelle Collowald records the shortcomings and the progress made in the status of women in the European Community.

Useful address: L'Evènement  
8, Rue des Drapiers  
1050 Brussels

D E N M A R K

Federation of Housewives' Associations

Samvirkende Danske Hulsholdningsforeninger - the Danish Federation of Housewives' Associations - has about 15,000 members, essentially living in the country, who have joined 230 local associations. Founded in 1921, the Federation has as its aim "to work for the improvement of man and woman in the home and in society". A member of the Danske Kvinders Nationalraad (the National Danish Women's Council), the Federation is affiliated to the Nordic Association of Country Women and the Associated Country Women of the World.

It employs twelve household consultants and publishes a monthly magazine as well as an annual report on its activities. These are numerous and not unoriginal: film shows, lectures, debates, round table discussions, courses, study groups, exhibitions, parties, etc. No fewer than 105,000 people took part in the activities organized by the consultants over the past year: information provided by the consultants on food, health, housing, economics, the family, etc.; debates on subjects linked with life in society such as the role of men and women, employment and democracy, or with cultural subjects (literature, the mass media), or with international affairs such as developing nations and the lot of women and refugees.

The New Year message to the members of the Federation from its national chairwoman, Ester Frandsen, gives some idea of its dynamic energy. This is how Ester Frandsen summarizes its work over the International Year of the Child:

"We had set up a committee to plan our action during the Year of the Child. This committee published a booklet entitled "Focus on the Child", designed for use by discussion and study groups. It has been in very great demand in our own and in outside organizations. Our consultants based a good deal of their work on the theme of children: food, educational toys, sweets and health, etc. We also organized several competitions for children.

"Many of our activities were organized with the help of nurses visiting young mothers in their homes, and with the schools and other bodies.

"At all our large meetings, we distributed or sold information leaflets on children. Although we still do not have all the figures, we know that we have sold books and leaflets discussing children and child behaviour to a value of over 18,000 crowns. At our last annual meeting, we collected a sum of 1,000 crowns, which we gave to UNICEF to channel to the children in Nepal.

"In one of our districts, members knitted small squares and made up patchwork blankets for Mother Teresa. The first batch of 49 blankets was sent off. Then the idea caught on with other members and as of this date at least 5,000 blankets have already been despatched to India.



"In another district, our members also got busy with their needles and the things they produced were sold directly or were raffled. This meant that we could send 1,500 crowns to Mother Teresa."

"During the year to come," declares Ester Frandsen, "we are to continue looking into a whole range of questions. Work does not stop as the Year of the Child draws to a close."

Ester Frandsen ended by urging members to tackle a new problem that is particularly topical in Denmark this year: how to save energy...

Danske Kvinders Nationalraad - the National Danish Women's Council - is a central organization whose members are 40 women's associations. Readers of Women of Europe can write to D.K.N. for any information they may need.

Useful address:                    Danske Kvinders Nationalraad  
    Niels Hemmingsensgade 8  
    1153 Copenhagen                    tel: (01) 14.80.87

F R A N C E

The European Movement

The European Movement's Women's Committee has arranged a meeting between French women members of European Parliament from three of the four parties that have won seats and about fifty different women's associations and women representatives of unions and political movements that have come together on a committee for liaison and information on European questions.

During this encounter, Mrs. Louise Weiss said that she had received more than a thousand letters following her inaugural speech at Strasbourg at the opening of European Parliament. A large number came from women who expressed their deep concern for the future of our civilization. According to Mrs. Weiss, the task that European women might set themselves might be to help to bring about an awareness of European identity. Are we Europeans? In what way are we Europeans?

The meeting brought about by the Women's Committee is all the more important in that - according to French electoral law - France is a single large constituency. This makes it difficult for members of European Parliament to give an account of how they are carrying out their European mandate by meeting their electors, as in the case of their colleagues in national parliaments.

Useful address:    Organisation française du Mouvement européen  
                          Commission féminine  
                          24 Rue Feydeau  
                          75002 Paris

Secretaries get organized

The "Association Française des Secrétaires et Assistantes de Direction" - the French association of secretaries and personal assistants - founded and presided by Mrs. Jacqueline Paillot has the ambition of winning real and specific status for its members, a status that does not depend on the arbitrary whims of an employer.

A.F.S.A.D. has embarked upon research on training for secretarial careers and is to suggest changes that could be made to upgrade this training and make it better suited to the type of office work that exists today.

Useful address: A.F.S.A.D.  
7, Rue Rémy de Gourmont  
75015 Paris

Women's unionization

At a congress of the international federation of free unions held in Madrid on the theme of "educational innovation, the key to changes in women's employment", a few interesting statistics on women and the unions were quoted by Paulette Hofman, the federation secretary to the Force Ouvrière union and chairwoman of the CISL-SPI consultative committee on questions of women at work.

"Over the past four or five years, the figures have shown that women are accounting for a growing portion of union membership. The case of the T.U.C. in Great Britain is perhaps the most typical: in 1968, it had 1,767,000 women members. Today it has 3,411,000, i.e. 28.7% of its membership. Over a period of ten years, the proportion of women members of CISL (the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions) has doubled, rising from 11% to almost 23%.

Useful address: Force Ouvrière  
198 Avenue du Maine  
75680 Paris Cédex 14

The high cost of working

"Antoinette", the women's magazine produced by the Confédération Générale du Travail (C.G.T. - General Confederation of Labour), has pointed out in a recent article that a woman who is both married and holds down a job is an anomaly in the context of the tax and social security system.

Antoinette takes the example of a bachelor earning a net wage of ₣.6,000 a month. At the end of the year, he will have to pay tax of ₣.12,924. If he marries, he will pay only ₣.6,703: in other words, he saves ₣.6,221 a year or ₣.518 a month.

If his wife has a job and earns ₣.4,000 a month, the couple will have to pay ₣.18,968. This means that a wife's job in fact costs ₣.12,265 a year, or ₣.1,022 a month.

Useful address: Antoinette  
50, Rue Edouard-Pailleron  
75019 Paris

Pénélope

Pénélope is the name of a new (not too) academic journal devoted to the history of women. The theme of the first issue is "women and the press". A history journal, Pénélope is not designed solely for women historians but is aimed at anyone interested in women's "place" and changes over a period of time.

Useful address: Pénélope  
Centre de Recherches Historiques, 54 Boulevard Raspail  
75006 Paris

G E R M A N Y

Frauen und Arbeit

A magazine published by the "women's department" of the German trade union, Deutscher Gewerkschaftsbund (DGB), "Frauen und Arbeit" (Women and Work), has brought out an edition devoted to European Parliament.

Maria Weber concludes her editorial with these words: "What we want is a Europe of social progress. That can be achieved only through the efforts of the workers - both women and men - and only if they have a mutual esteem and are able to cooperate. Europe will be what we make of it."

Useful address: Frau und Arbeit - DGB  
Hans-Böckler-Haus  
Düsseldorf

A sleeping giant

In the course of a meeting held in Mainz by Deutscher Frauenrat (the German Council of Women) on the theme of women's role in politics, Günter Verheugen, a member of the German Liberal Party (FDP), compared woman to a "sleeping giant".

According to Verheugen, participation by women in political life is a question not of time but of motivation. He felt that the number of women members of political parties would increase considerably over the next five years. If this does not happen, we would have to think about a system of quotas guaranteeing fair representation for women on the the parties' executive bodies.

Useful address: Deutscher Frauenrat  
Augustastrasse 42  
5300 Bonn 2

After the European elections

Militants in Deutscher Frauenring (the German women's circle) did outstanding work in gathering information to pave the way for the first European Parliamentary election with universal suffrage. The time for the post-mortem is also the time to make plans. Now that Parliament has been elected, Deutsche Frauenring has decided to continue training its leaders who specialize in European matters and also to increase the number of contacts between local and regional sections and women members of European Parliament.

Deutscher Frauenring is also to pay very special attention to the problem of immigrant workers and is to find out more about other Common Market countries, for a better understanding of their difficulties and their concerns.

Useful address: Deutscher Frauenring E.V.  
Ausschuss für Europafragen  
c/o Ursula Hammer, Grabenstrasse 32  
7441 Unterensingen

German Socialist Party: women in top jobs

At the last party conference of the German Socialists (SPD), seven women were elected to the party's management committee, which has a membership of forty. The number of women on the committee is larger than ever, but it still does not reflect the situation in the party as a whole: with women accounting for 25% of its membership, the proportion in the Socialist Party is larger than in any other German political party.

The SPD women persuaded the conference to accept the principle that institutions should be set up to monitor women's equality, to be answerable direct to the head of government of each Land.

Useful address: SPD Parteivorstand  
Frauenreferat  
Ollenhauerstrasse  
53000 Bonn 1

Woman and Society

Helga Wex, chairwoman of the association of women in the Christian Democrat Party (CDU), and vice-chairwoman of the Christian Democrat/Christian Socialist group in the Bundestag, has proposed that a women's research centre be set up under the name of "Frau und Gesellschaft" (woman and society).

Dr. Helga Wex has submitted her plan to the Federal Chancellor in Bonn and to the head of government of each Land. This inter-disciplinary centre would conduct legal, economic, psychological, sociological and political research with a view to finding practical solutions to promote the equality of women in society.

Useful address: CDU-Frauenvereinigung  
Konrad-Adenauer-Haus  
53000 Bonn 1

A feminist first for 1980

The Irish Feminist Information organization has launched its first Irish Women's Diary and Guide Book for 1980 which is far from run of the mill. Prepared by 25 women who devoted their time and skills on a voluntary basis, its 224 pages provide information on a wide range of topics, including sources of legal and financial help, trade unions, women's wages and emergency repair tips. It sells at a price of £1.75 (+ 10% VAT).

Useful address: Irish Feminist Information  
45 Elmwood Avenue, Ranelagh  
Dublin 6

Women swell union ranks

Women account for 32% of all trade union members, according to the Irish Congress of Trade Unions, and 51% of the members of white collar unions.

Of the 606 delegates at last year's annual conference, however, fewer than 8% were women, and only 4% of full-time officials are women. No woman sits on the executive council of Congress or on the executive bodies of the country's two largest unions.

Although the Irish National Teachers' Organization's membership is 70% female, there are only two women on the eleven-member executive. In the same way, the Civil and Public Services Staff Association has a female membership of 75% and yet only 5 of the 14 members of its executive are women.

Useful address: Irish Feminist Federation  
8 Marlborough Street  
Dublin 1

Limerick Battered Wives' Centre closes down

The refuge for battered wives in Limerick has been forced to close its doors. One of the first such homes outside Dublin to be opened; for five years, the centre has been run by the Limerick branch of the Association for Deserted and Alone Parents (ADAPT). Condemned as uninhabitable, there are plans for a purpose-built centre in the city.

Useful address: ADAPT  
Adapt House, Lower Gerald Griffin Street  
Limerick

I T A L Y

Virginia Woolf Cultural Centre

Founded in May 1979, the "Centro Culturale Virginia Woolf" is to study the relations between woman and culture. Since early January 1980, seminars, study groups and research groups have been working on themes as broad-ranging as the psychobiology of sex differences, the status of woman and the family from the 18th century to our own times, women's work from the beginnings of industrialization until today, and woman and domestic space.

"The majority of women are excluded from the formation of culture and the places of cultural production" is the frank reason quoted for the deliberate decision to be one-sided.

Useful address: Centro Culturale Virginia Woolf  
Via del Governo Vecchio 39  
Rome

Appeal for peace

An "Appeal for Disarmament and Peace" has been launched by the journal of the "Comitati Associazioni Femminili" (women's associations' committees) on the occasion of an international meeting on disarmament organized by the World Federation of Veterans, the International Confederation of Prisoners of War and the European Confederation of Veterans.

Useful address: Il Giornale dei C.A.F.  
Corso Vinzaglio, 14  
10121 Turin

Post-surgery rehabilitation

A group of women who have undergone the surgical removal of a breast has set up a "centre for the rehabilitation of mastectomy patients" as part of Trieste University. This venture, whose aim is to help women who have had or are about to have such surgery, will take the drama out of the operation in the eyes of patients and help them to overcome its traumatic psychological effects.

Useful address: Centro di Riabilitazione Mastectomizzate  
Istituto di Semeiotica Chirurgica  
Trieste University

An association with the same goals already exists in Milan, with the name of "Attive come Prima" ("as active as before").

Useful address: Attive come Prima  
Corso Magenta 63  
Milan

Women of Today

"Donneoggi" - "women of today" - is a monthly information magazine designed for women, a newcomer to the Italian publishing scene. Following the general trend in the European women's press, Donneoggi pays special attention to women's social, political and professional activities as they emerge from their "ghetto".

Useful address: Donneoggi  
Via Silvio Pellico 6  
Milan

The child as a consumer

What do you eat for tea? Who chooses your clothes - you or your parents? What make of tennis racket do you use? What make of skis? What about your gym shoes? A questionnaire distributed to schools by the "Associazione Nazionale Donne Elettrici" (national association of women voters) is designed to find out how the youthful consumer reacts.

In cooperation with the "Comitato Difesa Consumatori" (the consumer protection committee), ANDE is trying to take a closer look at the most significant aspects of child consumerism. During the symposium on the theme, Anna Bartolini, the editor of "Altro Consumo", spoke of the pressure brought to bear on our children by sectors such as the food, toy and clothing industry, not to speak of the pressure to use medicines that are not needed. There is concern among psychologists, teachers and the representatives of women's groups: how can parents retain their influence against all the temptations offered to children by advertising and mass media?

Useful address: Comitato Difesa Consumatori  
Viale Montegrappa 8  
Milan

Women's Employment

More than 880,000 women are seeking employment in Italy: this is one of the most striking figures quoted at a symposium on women's employment organized by the Consiglio Nazionale delle Donne Italiane (National Council of Italian Women) in Verona.

In the course of discussions, the point was made that the growing number of women in workplaces often leads to a more critical attitude to working conditions. Whereas men had previously learned to put up with poor conditions, the new arrivals raise issues such as the humanization of work, its compatibility with family and social life and personal growth and fulfilment.

Useful address: Consiglio Nazionale delle Donne Italiane (C.N.D.I.)  
Via E.Q. Visconti 55  
00193 Rome

A televised rape trial

"Un processo per stupro" - "trial for rape" - shown on television was not a play but a report, produced by woman, on a real life trial, without any special effects. Put out at 8.45 in the evening, the peak viewing time, the film was the subject of sober comment by Italian television critics: "a programme that everybody should see". In the trial, the rape victim was treated by both the defence and some of the public as if she were the guilty party.

The film had already been shown on the French and Belgian TV screens. In both countries, the same amazed comment was made: truth really is stranger than fiction.

Adoption and children's rights

The laws on adoption must be reviewed: this is the view expressed by the National Council of Italian Women in a symposium on adoption and the rights of the child in European society.

In Italy, the laws on adoption and affiliation were formulated at a time when divorce was still illegal, and the very spirit of those laws are affected. Now that divorce is possible, the legislation should be reviewed to bring it in line with the changes that have taken place in Italian society.

The National Council would like to see the legislative bodies accept the European Charter of the Rights of the Child and also to address themselves to the problems raised by international adoption, the emancipation of minors, adoption before birth, ordinary adoption and legitimization by adoption.

Useful address: Consiglio Nazionale delle Donne Italiane  
Via Ennio Quirino Visconti 55  
Rome

L U X E M B O U R G

A refuge, help by telephone and other projects

The Women's Liberation Movement is on the move. Following the opening of the first refuge for battered wives and the launching of a similar project in the second largest city in the country, long-standing plans for a telephone SOS service are nearing completion. Through a permanent staff at the women's hostel and an automatic answering machine, women in distress and those faced with a problem of an unwanted pregnancy will be able to obtain advice at any time of the day and night. In addition, a vast campaign is planned for creches. The need for nurseries has been proved once again by the publication of the 1980 budget estimate for the capital. For the third time, the planners have axed a plan for a creche from their list of priorities.

Useful address: Maison des Femmes  
17, Avenue Monterey  
Luxembourg



N E T H E R L A N D S

Aggression

The theme chosen by the Dutch Liberal Party women for their congress was aggression. "Be aggressive, but positive", declared A.C. van Wijngaarden-Terlouw, the chairwoman of the association, with simplicity.

The first problem that springs to mind when discussing aggression is that of women's safety, but it was not the only subject reviewed by the congress. Aggression also means aggressiveness in everyday life. What role can the mass media, the police and the courts play? What can the politicians do to prevent violence in society?

The debate was not wound up but was transferred to the pages of the association's magazine, "De liberale vrouw" (the Liberal woman), to local sections and, no doubt, to families.

Useful address: De liberale vrouw  
c/o W. Pols-v.d. Spruyt  
Van Ostadestraat 19  
2931 EA Krimpen aan de Lek

A 35-hour week

The women members of Federatie Nederlandse Vakbeweging (Dutch trade union federation) are calling for the introduction of the 35-hour week this year, not in 1984 as proposed by the union executive.

The union women would like to see a seven-hour working day. At the same time, they want improvements in community and social facilities. They see no great benefit in other ways of reducing working time, such as early retirement or an afternoon off during the week. These measures make no special impact on the lot of working women, they point out.

They are also sceptical about part-time work, for the arrangement is usually beneficial only to those women who want pin money, not those who need to earn their living.

Useful address: F.N.V. - Vrouwenbond  
Plein '40-'45, 1  
Amsterdam

UNITED KINGDOM

Gingerbread Celebration

Gingerbread, a national organization for one-parent families, celebrated its tenth anniversary at the end of January. With local committees all over the country, its aim is to offer a meeting place and activities for single parents of both sexes (though mostly women) to avoid the loneliness and frustration so often created by bringing up children alone.

In Croydon, near London, a particularly successful group has established a day care centre for children, originally financed by European Community money as a pilot scheme to combat poverty. Because they could safely leave their children, parents were able to take up full-time jobs and escape the poverty trap that often ensnares single parent families. The centre has now become self-supporting.

Useful address: Gingerbread  
35 Wellington Street  
London WC2

Schools for women

To encourage women to become active trade unionists, two unions have held special schools for women. About 60 attended the TASS (Technical and Supervisory Section of the Engineering Workers' Union) school and discussed not only the special needs of women within the union but also the impact of new technology on offices.

The Transport and General Workers' Union (T&GWU) held its first women's school in Scotland, where 17 shop stewards and conveners from the textile and engineering industries met for a week to discuss general problems and, in particular, how to break down divisions between so-called "men's work" and "women's work" in the factories.

Useful addresses: TASS	T&GWU
Onslow Hall	Transport House
Little Green	Smith Square
<u>Richmond, Surrey</u>	<u>London SW1 3JB</u>

Liberal Aims For Women

The Women's Liberal Federation has produced a useful little pamphlet, "Liberal Aims for Women", urging a number of financial reforms that will directly benefit women.

The Federation is one of the most ardent campaigners for tax reform, urging that the state should not discriminate between the sexes, whether single or married; it would like to see the present variety of social security benefits replaced by a single "non-employment" benefit paid for inability to work, whatever the cause, and a "temporary hardship benefit" in special circumstances such as pregnancy, temporary retraining or unemployment.

The Liberals also want more flexible and part-time work for women, more provision for schoolchildren during holiday time and a flexible retirement age between 60 and 70 for both men and women.

Useful address: Women's Liberal Federation  
1 Whitehall Place  
London SW1 A2HE

THE CHANGING EUROPEAN COMMUNITY

The European Social Fund and women

Vocational training of Women may receive aid from the European Social Fund : the news spread rapidly, and especially after the intervention of Mr. Vredeling, Vice-President of the Commission and responsible for Social Affairs, with the governments, aid requests flowed into Brussels.

In 1979, when the amount available was 18 million units of account, the 62 requests for aid received involved a total of over 30 million u.a.

A choice has to be made of priority projects within the allocated budget. Germany received 11,830,000 u.a. for 14 projects, Belgium 6,000 u.a. for one project, Denmark 431,000 u.a. for one project, France 2,347,000 u.a. for 26 projects, Ireland 232,000 u.a. for five projects, Italy 2,376,000 u.a. for five projects, the Netherlands 448,000 u.a. for two projects and the United Kingdom 678,000 for two projects.

The credit allocation for 1980 is estimated at 20 million u.a., but the volume requested already amounts to nearly 35 million. The governments are still expected to submit further requests which will probably total several million u.a. The figures demonstrate the importance of women's vocational training and the concern shown by the authorities and private institutions.

It has been estimated that about 16,000 women have benefited from help given by the European Social Fund in 1979 and it is expected that 20,000 more will be supported by operations starting in the first half of 1980.

Based on the Fund's objectives, priority will be given to projects which aim to bring about greater integration in new trades and in trades in which women have been under-represented up to this time. Let us quote a few examples.

In Italy, 300 women aged over 25 who had already had at least two years' work experience and who wanted to return to the world of work attended twenty-week courses, in groups of thirty. The aim was to train them as middle-rank executives. The Centro Europeo Studi Aziendali (European Centre for Management Studies), which organized the operation, planned the training in two phases: a period of on-the-job training in the company, preceded by group work to give the women an opportunity to clarify their own motivations, learn more about the general running of a company and familiarize themselves with public and private bodies. The promoter was an association of women entrepreneurs and managers: the "Associazione Imprenditrici e Donne Dirigenti d'Azienda".

In France, twenty or so women aged over 25, most of them facing social and domestic problems (widows and divorcées with one or more dependant children), have been able to gain access to jobs traditionally the preserve of men such as wallpapering, house decorating and carpentry, through the offices of the "workers' university" - Université Ouvrière.

During the first phase of training, practical exercises helped the trainees to take a realistic look at the job they had chosen and to find out whether they had the manual skills and the motivation needed. Their instructors also told the young women about the traditions of the trade, its history, its place in the present-day economy and its future prospects. If any of the women found that they were poorly motivated or unsuited to the job they had in mind, despite all their good faith, it was possible for them to drop out during this phase.

On-the-job training and contact with the national employment agency, union bodies and other trade associations then made it easier for the trainees to gain a foothold in the world of work.

In Ireland, it was in a rapidly expanding advanced technology sector - data processing - that women were given the chance of vocational training. Designed for jobless women of over 25, the programme lasted eight weeks and trained skilled word processor operators, a job in which the potential is as great for women as for men.

It is of interest that the organizers of the Irish programme hoped to promote the acceptance of women in the world of work by training and briefing...the employers.

#### Eurobarometer

The first "Eurobarometer" sample survey to be conducted under the auspices of the European Commission following the first European Parliamentary election by universal suffrage has shown that there is some lack of information on the event and at the same time a climate of expectation: people are waiting to see what role Parliament will play.

Only a few months after the elections, the survey - with more than 9,000 people interviewed between 6 and 31 October 1979 - showed that only two out of three Europeans had "read or heard something" about the subject.

On an average, no more than 10% of Europeans feel that the election is "very important"; 31% see it as "important", 37% "not very important" and 12% "not important at all".

Of the 52% of interviewees who had "read or heard something", one fifth had had a more or less poor impression, one third a good impression and over a half were unable to express a view.

Does Parliament have a future? An average of 36% of Europeans believe that European Parliament will play a more important role than in the past, 34% that it will play the same role and 8% that the role will be less important; there were 22% "don't know".

Euro-midwives?

First the doctors, the nurses, the dentists and the veterinary surgeons ... and soon midwives too will be able to settle and work in any country in the Community.

The member states have a period of three years' grace to bring their legislation into line with the two decisions recently adopted by the EEC Council of Ministers. The first decision relates to the conditions governing access to the profession of midwife, stating the studies which must have been completed before a person is entitled to give advice on family planning, give ante- and post-natal care or act as midwife in straightforward births.

The second decision relates to mutual recognition of diplomas and specified the conditions on which a midwife may work in an EEC country other than the country in which she has qualified. The Council has also set up a consultative committee on midwives' training.

Energy: the virtues of sobriety

One way of helping to reactivate the economy is to stop wasting energy. This, very briefly, was the main conclusion in the "Saint-Geours report", which took its name from the chairman of the group of "wise men" asked by the European Commission to look into the consequences of more sober use of energy in Europe.

The report submitted by Mr. Jean Saint-Geours is entitled "Pour une croissance économe en énergie" (towards economical energy growth). It concludes that if society can evolve towards a more economical use of energy it will make an appreciable contribution towards generating the drive needed to boost and maintain economic growth, thus leading to satisfactory levels of employment.

What follow-up action can be taken on a report of this kind? The European Commission has considered the question and formulated several proposals. The first and most obvious step is to ensure that European citizens are properly informed of what is at stake so that, with the help of practical advice, they can become less spendthrift. The Commission is even thinking of arranging a trade fair on the theme of "the world after the oil age". As far as our governments are concerned, the Commission recommends regular reviews of energy price and taxation policies and the compilation of technological data, to be made accessible through a computer network such as Euronet.

A more moderate consumption of energy would make the Community less dependent upon the rest of the world and would also reduce our production costs and perhaps make it easier for us to export. Nevertheless, there are certain sectors which are major energy consumers and here special problems might well arise. The Commission is very much aware of this aspect of affairs and intends to take a closer look at specific cases.

Women immigrants in the European Community

Women immigrants, especially those from non-member states, live particularly precarious lives with regard to employment and they have few opportunities for vocational training.

It is a subject on which light has been shed by a survey conducted in France by I.R.F.E.D. on behalf of the European Commission, now almost completed.

According to the survey, there has been marked progress in the employment situation of immigrant women from the third world over the past few years, although the socio-vocational level of these workers is very low. They are concentrated in some of the sectors that are even more disadvantaged and restricted than the sectors in which EEC women work: cleaning, maintenance and garment-making. They often work on cleaning work sites, in intermediary firms or in small workshops. Their wages are low and moonlighting is a frequent practice. Since this work is combined with the domestic work such women have to do as well and the cultural restraints on their lives, the finding is a matter of very special concern.

In vulnerable sectors of the economy, there is a substantial level of unemployment among women immigrant workers, although there are no statistics on the subject.

To improve their chances in the world of work, immigrant women should be given specific opportunities for vocational training. The facilities available to women workers in general are not suited to their needs, for they are unfamiliar with the language and the structure of society, they lack ambition in their working lives and they are weighed down by their family responsibilities to a greater degree than are Frenchwomen.

Although efforts are being made, they are insufficient and many projects are designed to reinforce their domestic role rather than to train them for a place in the world of work.

The survey concludes that due allowance should be made for the specific needs of women immigrants, although care should be to harmonize any policy designed to improve their working lives with the overall policy for women's training.

The Youth Forum

The Youth Forum is a body which represents youth organizations in dealings with EEC institutions. Its value and its strength lie in its pluralism, a guarantee of its representative nature: it speaks for young Christian workers and scouts, for friends of nature and young trade unionists.

It is of interest that, at the time of its general meeting, the Youth Forum decided to hold a conference on the employment of young women. The plan arose as a result of the finding that young people, and young women in particular, have been very hard hit by the crisis, with 39% of the jobless being under 25 years old.

Planned for the autumn of 1980, the conference on young women's employment will take a look at the practical facts on unemployment and also tackle the job and training problems encountered by girls. Finally, it will consider ways and means of tackling the problem in the short and long term.

The people who run the Forum want to be as practical and realistic as possible, and they intend to invite young women who are or have been coping with the problem of unemployment to recount their stories to the conference.

To ensure that the discussions will not be too vague or wide-ranging, a few specific issues may be put to the conference: the position of girls on the labour market in the context of the economic crisis; legislation and its application - its effects on equality of access to the labour market and the opportunities for social betterment; education (including vocational training); post-school education and work in youth organizations; and the specific role of trade unions in matters affecting young working women.

Useful address: Forum de la Jeunesse des Communautés Européennes  
66, Avenue de Cortenberg, boîte 10  
1040 Brussels

A map of the EEC Member States

A wall map showing the European Community, its Member States, their regions and administrative sub-divisions has been published by the Official Publications Office of the European Communities.

The map measures 57 x 76.5 cm and is available from the Commission's information offices, in the language of your choice.

RESEARCH, MEETINGS, BOOKS

Employers Guide to Equal Opportunities for Men and Women is a practical booklet published by the Northern Ireland Equal Opportunities Commission, designed mainly for small and medium sized firms. Its authors, Dr. John Young and Mr. Maurice Moroney of Queen's University, both have practical experience in working relations. Write to the Equal Opportunities Commission (N.I.), Lindsay House, Callender Street, Belfast BT1 5DT.

Donna di oggi questa sconosciuta (today's woman, this unknown person), by Rocco Vittorio Albaense, is an attempt to state the goals of modern feminism in concrete terms. Day-to-day problems are placed in perspective. Sold by the author (Via Valsugana 46, 00141 Rome) at Lire 5,000.

Inventarisatie Vrouwenstudies (inventory of research on women): the University of Groningen has compiled a comprehensive list (165 publications) of research conducted within its walls on this theme since 1975. Obtainable for Fl.2.5 from "Databank", Academiegebouw, Rijksuniversiteit te Groningen.

Dentro lo specchio (behind the mirror) is a collective publication edited by Franca Bimbi. It is a collection of the papers read at a sociology seminar at Padua University on "domestic work, role reproduction and women's autonomy". Price: Lire 3,500. Published by Mazzotta.

Les femmes et la formation continue en 100 questions (women and adult education in 100 questions) by Marie-Adine Lesterlin sets out the recent legislation and regulations in the field of adult education in clear terms and provides many useful addresses. Published by Chotard et Associés, 33 Rue Beauregard, 75002 Paris.

Femme en voie d'Egalité - Towards Equality for Women is the title of a booklet published by the Canadian Ministry of Women's Status. In addition to a plan of action for the "better-being" of women in Canada, the publication provides an amusing historical review: 1834 - Quebec Parliament takes the right to vote away from women .... 1885 - men of "breeding" are entitled to vote if they own property or if they are married to a woman owning property. In this case, the man votes and the woman pays the land tax. No address is specified in the booklet: it should be requested from Canadian embassies.

Setting up a Workplace Nursery is a manual written both for employers and for workers who want to make a nursery available for the children of women workers. This guide tells how to run a nursery, which authorities should be consulted, what decisions should be taken as plans proceed. Published by the Equal Opportunities Commission, Overseas House, Quay Street, Manchester M3 3HN.

Choisir de donner la vie (choosing to give life) has been brought out as a paperback: it is the first full report on the international symposium organized by the association "Choisir", in Paris in November 1979. Preface by Gisèle Halimi, 566 pages, published by Gallimard.



La casalinga: popolazione non attiva? (the housewife: not a member of the working population?) is a study firmly supported by facts and figures: Isabella Botter Bichieli shows that the work housewives do is socially productive, whatever the "nation's accounts" may say. The author concludes her research, conducted under the auspices of the Federazione Italiana Donne Professioni e Affari (Italian federation of professional and business women), by proposing a statute for housewives, who should no longer be looked on as "non-workers". Published by Istituto Tipografico Editoriale, Venice.

Re-entry of Women to the Labor Force was the theme of the study days arranged by the German Marshall Fund. Research workers and specialists from Europe and the United States compared notes and conclusions. The report of the proceedings has now been published and can be obtained from the German Marshall Fund, 11 Dupont Circle, N.W., Washington D.C. 20036.

Breve storia del movimento femminile in Italia (brief history of the women's movement in Italy) by Camilla Ravera traces the steps of women's emancipation in Italy over the past hundred years. A well known Communist militant, Camilla Ravera discusses the struggles in which she has taken an active part. Lire 3,800, published by Editori Riuniti.

Third World Women Speak Out by Perdita Huston compiles interviews with women in Egypt, Kenya, Sudan, Tunisia, Sri Lanka and Mexico. They talk in simple and lively terms of their families, the evolution of society and their aspirations. 153 pages, US\$4.95: may be ordered from Overseas Development Council, 1717 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W. Washington D.C. 20036.

Per una autentica liberazione della donna (towards an authentic women's liberation) by Claudia Zanon Gilmozzi is a Christian analysis of feminism. Because the feminist question is also a social and political question, a committed philosophical approach is valuable. Published by Cinque Lune.

Women in Changing Societies is the theme of a seminar in Salzburg held from 3 to 22 August 1980 by American university workers. The Salzburg seminar provided an excellent forum for the very high level exchange of ideas, research and studies generated on both sides of the Atlantic. Useful address: Salzburg Seminar, Schloss Leopoldskron, Box 129, 5010 Salzburg, Austria.

Women and the World of Work was the subject of a seminar in Lisbon from 4 to 6 August 1980, promoted by NATO's Scientific Committee. Full information can be obtained from Anne Hoiberg, Naval Health Research Center, P.O. Box 85122, San Diego, California 92138.

Scambi Culturali (cultural exchange) devotes its fifth issue to education and women's status, reviewing the efforts in this field at international level. Published by L'Istituto della Enciclopedia Italiana, Piazza Paganica, Rome, in conjunction with the Italian Ministry of Education.